

## PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF FIJI

# **MINUTES**

of Proceedings of Parliament at Suva on Tuesday, Fifteenth day of July, 2025

- 1. The House met at 9.30 a.m. pursuant to adjournment.
- 2. Hon. Speaker took the Chair and read the Lord's Prayer.

#### 3. MEMBERS PRESENT

- (a) The Hon. Jese Saukuru was absent.
- (b) The Hon. Shalen Kumar, Hon. Viliame Naupoto and Hon. Naisa Tuinaceva conveyed their apologies to the Hon. Speaker for being unable to attend the sitting of Parliament.
- (c) The following Honourable Members obtained approval from the Hon. Speaker for intermittent absence(s) during the sitting of Parliament
  - Hon. Inia Seruiratu, Hon. Mosese Bulitavu, Hon. Ketan Lal, Hon. Sitiveni Rabuka, Hon. Ro Filipe Tuisawau, Hon. Dr Ratu Atonio Lalabalavu, Hon. Manoa Kamikamica, Hon. Charan Singh and Hon. Ifereimi Vasu.
- (d) The Hon. Premila Kumar obtained approval from the Hon. Speaker to virtually attend the sitting of Parliament.

#### 4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Leader of the Government in Parliament the Hon. Ro Filipe Tuisawau moved that the Minutes of the sitting of Parliament held on Monday, 14 July 2025 as previously circulated, be taken as read and be confirmed.

Motion seconded.

Question put.

Motion agreed to unanimously.

#### 5. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CHAIR

Hon. Speaker welcomed all Honourable Members, those in the public gallery and those watching the live proceedings on television and the internet. The Hon. Speaker also warmly welcomed the Year 6, 7 and 8, students and teachers of Gospel School for the Deaf.

The Hon. Speaker informed the Honourable Members that the secretariat had received the written response from the Hon. Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Finance and Strategic Planning, National Development and Statistics to Written Question 59/2025 asked by the Hon. Premila Kumar – the response had been conveyed to the Hon. Premila Kumar and a copy uploaded on the Parliament's website.

The Hon. Speaker highlighted and commended the ongoing good works by the members of the United Pasifika Council of Victoria, which his delegation had the opportunity to meet with during the official visit to the Parliament of Victoria in June.

The Hon. Speaker also extended a warm welcome to the Hon. Speaker of the Tuvalu Parliament Sir Iakoba Italeli and Acting Clerk Ms Faitotoa Kulene.

#### 6. <u>CONSIDERATION OF BILLS</u>

The Hon. Speaker informed all Honourable Members that there were no Bills for consideration.

### 7. RESUMPTION OF DEBATE ON THE SECOND READING OF THE 2025–2026 APPROPRIATION BILL 2025 (BILL NO. 10 OF 2025)

Parliament resumed debate on the Second Reading on the Bill for an Act to appropriate a sum of four billion, two hundred fifty three million, thirty thousand, five hundred and sixty two dollars for the ordinary services of Government for the year ending 31 July 2026.

The following Members contributed to the debate –

Hon. Premila Kumar, Hon. Dr Ratu Atonio Lalabalavu, Hon. Vijay Nath, Hon. Ioane Naivalurua, Hon. Viam Pillay, Hon. Maciu Nalumisa, Hon. Sachida Nand, Hon. Rinesh Sharma, Hon. Joseph Nand, Hon. Ratu Josaia Niudamu, Hon. Lenora Qereqeretabua, Hon. Aseri Radrodro, Hon. Kalaveti Ravu, Hon. Penioni Ravunawa, Hon. Taito Rokomatu, Hon. Jovesa Vocea, Hon. Charan Singh, Hon. Agni Singh, Hon. Siromi Turaga, Hon. Pio Tikoduadua, Hon. Sakiusa Tubuna, Hon. Alipate Tuicolo and Hon. Ro Filipe Tuisawau.

## 8. <u>ADJOURNMENT</u>

Hon. Speaker thanked all Honourable Members for their contributions and adjourned Parliament until Wednesday, 16 July 2025 at 9.30 a.m.

Parliament adjourned at 7.40 p.m.

## **Speaker of Parliament**

## **Secretary-General to Parliament**

15<sup>th</sup> July, 2025.