



PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF FIJI

MINUTES

of Proceedings of Parliament at Suva on Wednesday, Sixteenth day of July, 2025

1. The House met at 9.30 a.m. pursuant to adjournment.
2. The Hon. Deputy Speaker took the Chair and read the Lord's Prayer.
3. MEMBERS PRESENT
 - (a) The Hon. Premila Kumar, Hon. Shalen Kumar, Hon. Ketan Lal, Hon. Sanjay Kirpal, Hon. Sachida Nand and Hon. Naisa Tuinaceva conveyed their apologies to the Hon. Speaker for being unable to attend the sitting of Parliament.
 - (b) The following Honourable Members obtained approval from the Hon. Speaker for intermittent absence(s) during the sitting of Parliament –

Hon. Viliame Gavoka, Hon. Viliame Naupoto, Hon. Charan Singh, Hon. Sitiveni Rabuka and Hon. Manoa Kamikamica.
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 Tuesday, 15 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

The Hon. Deputy Speaker welcomed all Honourable Members, those in the public gallery and those watching the live proceedings on television and the internet.

Hon. Deputy Speaker informed the Honourable Members of the decision of the Business Committee with respect to the voting procedure during the Committee of Supply stage.

6. CONSIDERATION OF BILLS

The Hon. Deputy 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 a 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. Inosi Kuridrani, Hon. Lynda Tabuya, Hon. Faiyaz Koya, Hon. Ifereimi Vasu, Hon. Virendra Lal, Hon. Jese Saukuru, Hon. Alvick Maharaj, Hon. Filimoni Vosarogo, Hon. Jone Usamate, Hon. Viliame Naupoto, and the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Finance and Strategic Planning, National Development and Statistics the Hon. Prof. Biman Prasad delivered his right of reply.

Hon. Speaker informed Honourable Members that pursuant to Standing Order 99(3), the 2025–2026 Appropriation Bill 2025 (Bill No. 10 of 2025) had been read a second time and without any question being put, the Bill and the Estimates stood referred to the Committee of Supply.

8. COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY ON THE 2025–2026 APPROPRIATION BILL 2025 (BILL NO. 10 OF 2025)

Parliament resolved into Committee of Supply on a 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.

Hon. Speaker vacated the Speaker's Chair and convened the Committee of Supply as Mr Chair.

Members debated and voted on the following –

Head 1 – Office of the President

Question put on Head 1.

Head 1 agreed to unanimously.

Head 2 – Office of the Prime Minister

Question put on Head 2.

Head 2 agreed to unanimously.

Head 3 – Office of the Attorney-General

Question put on Head 3.

Head 3 agreed to unanimously.

Head 4 – Ministry of Finance and Strategic Planning, National Development and Statistics

Question put on Head 4.

Head 4 agreed to unanimously.

Head 5 – Ministry of iTaukei Affairs and Culture, Heritage and Arts

Amendment in the name of the Hon. Alvick Maharaj.

Amendment seconded.

Amendment debated.

Question put.

Amendment defeated.

Question put on Head 5.

Head 5 agreed to unanimously.

Head 6 – Ministry of Defence and Veteran Affairs

Question put on Head 6.

Head 6 agreed to unanimously.

The Hon. Speaker suspended the Committee of Supply and resumed the Speaker's Chair.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Speaker thanked all Honourable Members for their contributions and adjourned Parliament until Thursday, 17 July 2025 at 9.30 a.m.

Parliament adjourned at 7.24 p.m.

Speaker of Parliament

Secretary-General to Parliament

16th July, 2025.