



PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF FIJI

MINUTES

of Proceedings of Parliament at Suva on Wednesday, Fifth day of November, 2025

1. The House met at 9.30 a.m. pursuant to adjournment.
2. Hon. Deputy Speaker took the Chair and read the Prayer.
3. ATTENDANCE
 - (a) The Hon. Ketan Lal obtained approval from the Hon. Speaker for absence from Parliament.
 - (b) The following Honourable Members obtained approval from the Hon. Speaker for intermittent absence(s) during the sitting of Parliament –

Hon. Filimoni Vosarogo and Hon. Sitiveni Rabuka.

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, 4 November 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 as well as those seated in the gallery, and those watching the proceedings through television and online platforms.

6. PRESENTATION OF REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

(a) Standing Committee on Social Affairs

- (i) The Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Social Affairs the Hon. Iliesa Vanawalu tabled the Committee's Consolidated Review Report on the 2019-2020, 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 Consumer Council of Fiji Annual Reports.

The Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Social Affairs moved a motion without notice pursuant to Standing Order 121(5) that a debate on the content of the report would be initiated at a future sitting. The motion was seconded and agreed to unanimously.

- (ii) The Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Social Affairs the Hon. Iliesa Vanawalu tabled the Committee's Consolidated Review Report on the Fiji National Provident Fund 2023 and 2024 Annual Reports.

The Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Social Affairs moved a motion without notice pursuant to Standing Order 121(5) that a debate on the content of the report would be initiated at a future sitting. The motion was seconded and agreed to unanimously.

- (iii) The Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Social Affairs the Hon. Iliesa Vanawalu tabled the Committee's Review Report on the 2023 Fiji Airways Annual Report.

The Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Social Affairs moved a motion without notice pursuant to Standing Order 121(5) that a debate on the content of the report would be initiated at a future sitting. The motion was seconded and agreed to unanimously.

(b) Standing Committee on Natural Resources

The Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Natural Resources the Hon. Kalaveti Ravu tabled the Committee's Consolidated Review Report on the 2019–2020, 2020–2021 and 2021–2022 Water Authority of Fiji Annual Reports.

The Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Social Affairs moved a motion without notice pursuant to Standing Order 121(5) that a debate on the content of the report would be initiated at a future sitting. The motion was seconded and agreed to unanimously.

7. MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

- (a) The Minister for Agriculture the Hon. Tomasi Tunabuna delivered a Ministerial Statement. The Hon. Rinesh Sharma responded.

- (b) The Minister for Justice and Acting Attorney-General the Hon. Siromi Turaga delivered his first Ministerial Statement. The Hon. Faiyaz Koya responded.
- (c) The Minister for Justice and Acting Attorney-General the Hon. Siromi Turaga delivered his second Ministerial Statement. The Hon. Premila Kumar responded.
- (d) The Minister for Finance, Commerce and Business Development the Hon. Esrom Immanuel delivered his first Ministerial Statement. The Hon. Alvick Maharaj responded.
- (e) The Minister for Finance, Commerce and Business Development the Hon. Esrom delivered his second Ministerial Statement. The Hon. Faiyaz Koya responded.
- (f) The Minister for Youth and Sports the Hon. Jese Saukuru delivered a Ministerial Statement. The Hon. Jone Usamate responded.
- (g) The Minister for Women, Children and Social Protection the Hon. Sashi Kiran delivered a Ministerial Statement. The Hon. Virendra Lal responded.
- (h) The Minister for Fisheries and Forestry the Hon. Alitia Bainivalu delivered a Ministerial Statement. The Hon. Semi Koroilavesau responded.

8. QUESTIONS

Oral Questions

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| 220/2025 | Hon. Viam Pillay asked the Minister for Multi-Ethnic Affairs and Sugar Industry – Can the Minister inform Parliament on the current estimated tonnage of cane remaining to be harvested in the Rarawai Mill area. |
| 221/2025 | Hon. Ratu Josaia Niudamu asked the Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs, Civil Service and Public Enterprises – Can the Prime Minister update Parliament how the Ministry is creating pathways for alternative forms of fund raising or access to finance for MSME's. |
| 222/2025 | Hon. Premila Kumar asked the Minister for Housing and Local Government – Can the Minister inform Parliament on why the Special Administrators in Suva and Nasinu are still acting as Chief Executive Officers and what is the timeline for appointing substantive CEO's. |
| 223/2025 | Hon. Jovesa Vocea to ask the Minister for Agriculture – Can the Minister update Parliament on the recently launched First Agribusiness Incubation Centre aimed at boosting youth, women and MSME's in Fiji's Agriculture Sector. |
| 224/2025 | Hon. Hem Chand asked the Minister for Education – Can the Minister inform Parliament on the administrative measures put in place by the Ministry to ensure external examinations are conducted fairly. |

- 225/2025 Hon. Sachida Nand asked the Minister for Finance, Commerce and Business Development – Can the Minister inform Parliament on how Government ensures that local Fijian workers and businesses, especially MSME's, benefit from the 212 investment projects valued at around FJ\$6.2 billion.
- 226/2025 Hon. Joseph Nand asked the Minister for Lands and Mineral Resources – Can the Minister update Parliament on the Savusavu Port foreshore lease dispute which is creating operating challenges for tourism operators.
- 227/2025 Hon. Lenora Qereqeretabua asked the Minister for Women, Children and Social Protection – Can the Minister update Parliament on the key performance indicators for the Fiji National Policy on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and strategies to address the shortcomings in improving their lives.
- 228/2025 Hon. Faiyaz Koya asked the Minister for Finance, Commerce and Business Development – Can the Minister inform Parliament why the Westin Project owned by FNPF and developed by Fletcher Construction came to a halt.
- 229/2025 Hon. Shalen Kumar asked the Minister for Health and Medical Services – Can the Minister update Parliament on the launch of the National Family Planning Policy 2025-2030.

The Hon. Speaker informed Honourable Members that Oral Question 223/2025 had dropped from the Order Paper as it had been addressed through the Ministerial Statement by the Hon. Minister for Agriculture. The responses to the Oral and Supplementary Questions were provided by the respective Ministers.

9. CONSIDERATION OF BILLS

The Minister for Fisheries and Forestry the Hon. Alitia Bainivalu moved a motion pursuant to Standing Order 51 –

- (a) That the Fisheries (Amendment) Bill 2025 be considered by Parliament without delay;
- (b) That the Bill must pass through one stage at a single sitting of Parliament;
- (c) That the Bill must not be referred to a Standing Committee or other Committee of Parliament;
- (d) That the Bill must be debated and voted upon by Parliament on Thursday, 6 November 2025, but that 1 hour be given to debate the Bill, with the right of reply given to her as the Member moving the motion.

Motion seconded.

Motion debated.

Question put.

Votes cast –

Yes	–	39
No	–	12
Not Voted	–	4

Motion agreed to unanimously.

10. MOTION PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER 130

The Minister for Justice and Acting Attorney-General the Hon. Siromi Turaga moved that the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defence review the following –

- (a) Protocol Relating to an Amendment to Article 50(a) of the Convention on International Civil Aviation; and
- (b) Protocol Relating to an Amendment to Article 56 of the Convention on International Civil Aviation.

Motion seconded.

The Hon. Speaker confirmed that he had received copies of the treaty and written analysis as required by Standing Order 130(2). Pursuant to Standing Order 130(3), the treaty was referred without debate, to the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defence. The Committee may table a report to Parliament no later than 30 days.

11. ADJOURNMENT

The Hon. Speaker thanked all Honourable Members for their contributions and adjourned Parliament until Thursday, 6 November 2025 at 9.30 a.m.

Parliament adjourned at 4.30 p.m.

Speaker of Parliament

Secretary-General to Parliament

5th November, 2025.