



**Major-General (Ret'd) Honourable Sitiveni Rabuka, CF, OBE (Mil),
OSt.J, MSD, Legion D' Honneur (FR), Order of Tahiti Nui, jssc, psc, MSc
(Defence Studies)**

Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs, Civil Service, Public
Enterprises, Strategic Planning, National Development and Statistics

Response to Written Question 204/2025

Parliament of the Republic of Fiji
Government Buildings, Suva

Monday 3 November, 2025
0900 Hours

Question:

204/2025 - Hon. Premila Kumar to ask the Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs, Civil Service and Public Enterprises, Trade, Cooperatives, Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises and Communications – **Can the Prime Minister inform Parliament, on a year-by-year basis from 2023 to September 2025 with respect to the following:**

- (a) how many civil servants are currently under suspension; and**
- (b) the total cost to Government in salaries and benefits paid to them during their suspension periods.**

Response:

1.0 The Civil Service Discipline requires that a Permanent Secretary may suspend an employee at any stage during the disciplinary process if it is determined that:

- i. the presence of the employee could compromise safety in the workplace;

- ii. the presence of the employee could compromise or hinder the investigation; and
- iii. if there are concerns about the preservation or integrity of Ministry information, property or service to the public.

2.0 Officers on any period of suspension while the matter is under investigation by the Ministry will still be on **FULL pay**.

3.0 Should the decision be made to institute Disciplinary Action, then any suspension will initially be on **NO pay** from the date the case is referred to the Public Service Disciplinary Tribunal (PSDT).

4.0 It is critical to note that not all cases require termination thus officers after investigations are issued with warnings and their suspensions lifted. In cases referred to PSDT, the PSDT decides on the course of action.

5.0 For the 2023 - 2025 period, a **total of 47 civil servants across 13 Ministries** were on suspension with pay. This is made up of:

- i. Eight (8) civil servants across five (5) Ministries in 2023,
- ii. 17 civil servants across 8 Ministries in 2024; and
- iii. 22 civil servants across six (6) Ministries in 2025.

6.0 In terms of total costs to Government related to paid salary:

- i. \$153,227.58 was paid in 2023,
- ii. \$ 428,092.84 in 2024; and
- iii. \$429,841.63 in 2025.

END