



PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF FIJI

MINUTES

of Proceedings of Parliament at Suva on Monday, Thirteenth day of July, 2026

1. The House met at 9.30 a.m. pursuant to adjournment.
2. Hon. Speaker took the Chair and read the Prayer.
3. MEMBERS PRESENT
 - (a) The Hon. Aseri Radrodro and Hon. Ketan Lal 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. Faiyaz Koya, Hon. Sanjay Kirpal, Hon. Prof. Biman Prasad and Hon. Charan Singh.
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 Friday, 26 June 2026 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. 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 acknowledged the Hon. Tania Rattray, Independent Member in the Legislative Council of the Tasmanian Parliament.

The Hon. Speaker informed the Honourable Members that the secretariat had received the following written responses, which had been conveyed to the Honourable Members and copies uploaded on the Parliament's website –

- (a) from the Hon. Prime Minister, and Minister for Civil Service, Strategic Planning, National Development and Statistics, to Written Question 38/2026 asked by the Hon. Premila Kumar; and
- (b) from the Hon. Minister for Finance, Commerce and Business Development, to Written Questions 109 and 110 of 2026 asked by the Hon. Jone Usamate, and Written Questions 25, 81, 82, 96, 107 and 122 of 2026 asked by the Hon. Premila Kumar.

The Hon. Speaker further informed the Honourable Members that the Business Committee at its meeting on Tuesday, 23 June 2026, had reached a unanimous decision on the following matters –

- (a) that the shadow minister for Finance in delivering the response to the Budget Address, would speak for the same length of time as the Hon. Minister for Finance, which in this case was 2 hours and 22 minutes;
- (b) that the Minister for Finance would be exempted from the ordinary speaking time limitations for his Right of Reply on Wednesday, 15 July 2026;
- (c) all remaining Honourable Members would have 20 minutes to respond to the Budget Address;
- (d) Parliament would sit extended hours into the evenings during the week;
- (e) Parliament would take limited breaks including lunch and dinner at the discretion of the Speaker;
- (f) in the event, business for any given day was concluded earlier than scheduled, that business could be brought forward accordingly, and vice versa, if business was delayed, it could be carried over to the next day, as appropriate;
- (g) the speaking time provisions would be suspended during the debate on the consequential Bills on Friday, 17 July 2026; and
- (h) as was the ongoing practice, the Parliament sitting for July would be dedicated only to Budget-related business and select urgent matters.

Hon. Speaker also informed the Honourable Members that the Business Committee had unanimously approved for the votes taken during the Committee of Supply stage with respect to the segments, programmes, activities, each respective Heads, Schedules 1 and 2, and Clauses 1, 2 and 3, would be conducted through acclamation. However, the vote on the Third Reading of the Appropriation Bill would be conducted electronically.

6. CONSIDERATION OF BILLS

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

7. SECOND READING OF THE 2026-2027 APPROPRIATION BILL 2026 (BILL NO. 13 OF 2026)

The Minister for Finance, Commerce and Business Development the Hon. Esrom Immanuel moved that a Bill for an Act to appropriate a sum of four billion, two hundred thirty seven million, seventy three thousand, two hundred and fifty two dollars for the ordinary services of Government for the year ending 31 July 2027 (Bill No. 13 of 2026), be read a second time.

The motion was seconded.

The following Members contributed to the debate –

Hon. Inia Seruiratu (Shadow Minister for Finance), Hon. Sitiveni Rabuka, Hon. Parveen Bala, Hon. Alitia Bainivalu, Hon. Premila Kumar, Hon. Alikia Bia, Hon. Sanjay Kirpal, Hon. Mosese Bulitavu, Hon. Kalaveti Ravu, Hon. Sakiasi Ditoka, Hon. Ratu Isikeli Tuiwailevu, Hon. Viliame Gavoka, Hon. Alipate Tuicolo, Hon. Manoa Kamikamica, Hon. Viliame Naupoto, Hon. Sashi Kiran, Hon. Virendra Lal, Hon. Shalen Kumar, Hon. Hem Chand, Hon. Inosi Kuridrani, Hon. Joseph Nand, Hon. Dr Ratu Atonio Lalabalavu and Hon. Vijay Nath.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Speaker thanked all Honourable Members for their contributions and adjourned Parliament until Tuesday, 14 July 2026 at 9.30 a.m.

Parliament adjourned at 9.25 p.m.

Speaker of Parliament

Secretary-General to Parliament

13th July, 2026.