



PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF FIJI

MINUTES

of Proceedings of Parliament at Suva on Monday, Seventeenth day of August,
2026

1. The House met at 9.30 a.m. pursuant to adjournment.

2. Hon. Speaker took the Chair and read the Prayer.

3. ATTENDANCE

(a) The Hon. Aliko Bia was absent.

(b) The Hon. Aseri Radrodro, Hon. Dr Ratu Atonio Lalabalavu and Hon. Vijay Nath 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 during the sitting of Parliament –

Hon. Sanjay Kirpal, Hon. Charan Singh, Hon. Shalen Kumar, Hon. Ifereimi Vasu, Hon. Ratu Rakuita Vakalalabure and Hon. Ro Filipe Tuisawau.

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, 17 July 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 to the sitting, those seated in the gallery and those watching the live proceedings on television and the internet. Hon. Speaker welcomed the Australian High Commissioner to Fiji, His Excellency Mr Peter Roberts, and the accompanying delegation from the Australian High Commission.

The Hon. Speaker also welcomed the Navatu Secondary School Under 19 Rugby Team from Cakaudrove in Vanua Levu and the Year 2 Public Law students from the Fiji National University.

The Hon. Speaker addressed three important issues; the first pertaining to the scope of Parliamentary precincts; the second being the news article on Friday's Fiji Sun entitled 'Serve Minister in Parliament, High Court orders'; and the third being the Speaker's ruling on the point of order by the Hon. Jone Usamate against the Hon. Minister Charan Singh.

The Hon. Speaker found the Hon. Minister Charan Singh guilty of disorderly conduct under Standing Order 75, and was issued with a yellow card at 10:11 a.m. The Hon. Charan Singh was ordered to withdraw from Parliament and its precincts for up to one and half hours. The Honourable Member returned to Chambers at 12:20 p.m.

The Hon. Speaker found the Hon. Alvick Maharaj in breach of the Standing Orders and ordered the Honourable Member to write a letter of apology addressed to the Office of the Speaker conveying to the Chair and to the Honourable Members of Parliament, the same sentiments, which shall be entered in the official records.

6. MOTION PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER 130

The Minister for Justice and Acting Attorney-General the Hon. Siromi Turaga moved pursuant to Standing Order 130 that –

The Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defence reviews the following treaties –

- (a) Fiji-Australia Vuvale Union; and
- (b) Ocean of Peace Alliance (*'Veitacini Treaty'*).

Motion seconded.

The Hon. Speaker confirmed that he had received copies of the treaties and written analysis as required by Standing Order 130(2). Pursuant to Standing Order 130(3), the treaties were referred without debate, to the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defence. The Committee may table a report to Parliament at the next sitting period of Parliament.

7. MOTION IN THE NAME OF THE MINISTER FOR FINANCE

The Minister for Finance the Hon. Esrom Immanuel moved a motion for the purpose of section 145(1) of the Constitution and pursuant to Standing Order 131, that Parliament approve –

- (a) for the Government to guarantee Fiji Airways additional borrowings of \$200.0 million, valid for three (3) years, effective from 1 August 2026 to 30 June 2029;
- (b) that Fiji Airways be exempted from paying a guarantee fee; and
- (c) for the Government to guarantee the specified borrowing facilities until their full maturity or discharge.

Motion seconded.

Motion debated.

Question put.

Motion agreed to unanimously.

8. SUSPENSION MOTION BY THE LEADER OF THE GOVERNMENT IN PARLIAMENT

The Leader of the Government in Parliament the Hon. Ro Filipe Tuisawau moved pursuant to Standing Order 6 that so much of Standing Order 23(1) be suspended so as to allow the House to sit beyond 4.30 p.m. to complete the remaining items listed on the Order Paper.

Motion seconded.

Motion debated.

Question put.

Motion agreed to unanimously.

9. MOTIONS FOR DEBATE

- (a) The Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defence the Hon. Lenora Qereqeretabua moved that Parliament debates the 'Review Report on the Fiji Development Bank 2024 Annual Report' which was tabled on 27 May 2026.

Motion seconded.

Motion debated.

Question put.

Motion agreed to unanimously.

- (b) The Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defence the Hon. Lenora Qereqeretabua moved that Parliament debates the 'Review Report on the Ministry of Civil Service 2022-2023 Annual Report' which was tabled on 27 May 2026.

Motion seconded.

Motion debated.

Question put.

Motion agreed to unanimously.

- (c) The Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Economic Affairs the Hon. Sakiusa Tubuna moved that Parliament debates the 'Review Report on the Fiji Revenue and Customs Service Annual Report 2023-2024' which was tabled on 27 May 2026.

Motion seconded.

Motion debated.

Question put.

Motion agreed to unanimously.

- (d) The Deputy Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts the Hon. Jovesa Vocea moved that Parliament debates the 'Consolidated Review Report, Whole of Government Audit Reports for the Financial Years 2018-2019, 2019-2020, 2020-2021 and 2021-2022' which was tabled on 27 May 2026.

Motion seconded.

Motion debated.

Question put.

Motion agreed to unanimously.

- (e) The Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Economic Affairs the Hon. Sakiusa Tubuna moved that Parliament debates the 'Review Report on the Fijian Competition and Consumer Commission Annual Report 2023-2024' which was tabled on 28 May 2026.

Motion seconded.

Motion debated.

Question put.

Motion agreed to unanimously.

- (f) The Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defence the Hon. Lenora Qereqeretabua moved that Parliament debates the 'Review Report on the Reserve Bank of Fiji Insurance 2024 Annual Report' which was tabled on 17 July 2026.

Motion seconded.

Motion debated.

Question put.

Motion agreed to unanimously.

- (g) The Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defence the Hon. Lenora Qereqeretabua moved that Parliament debates the 'Consolidated Review Report on the Office of the Prime Minister and Fijian Immigration Department 2019-2020, 2020-2021, 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 Annual Reports' which was tabled on 17 July 2026.

Motion seconded.

Motion debated.

Question put.

Motion agreed to unanimously.

- (h) The Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defence the Hon. Lenora Qereqeretabua moved that Parliament debates the 'Review Report of the Fiji Police Force 2021-2022 Annual Report' which was tabled on 17 July 2026.

Motion seconded.

Motion debated.

Question put.

Motion agreed to unanimously.

- (i) The Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defence the Hon. Lenora Qereqeretabua moved that Parliament debates the 'Consolidated Review Report on the Electoral Commission 2023 and 2024 Annual Reports' which was tabled on 17 July 2026.

Motion seconded.

Motion debated.

Question put.

Motion agreed to unanimously.

- (j) The Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Economic Affairs the Hon. Sakiusa Tubuna moved that Parliament debates the 'Consolidated Review Report on the Fiji Sugar Corporation Annual Reports 2024 and 2025' which was tabled on 17 July 2026.

Motion seconded.

Motion debated.

Question put.

Motion agreed to unanimously.

- (k) The Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Economic Affairs the Hon. Sakiusa Tubuna moved that Parliament debates the 'Review Report on the Sugar Cane Growers Council Annual Report 2022' which was tabled on 17 July 2026.

Motion seconded.

Motion debated.

Question put.

Motion agreed to unanimously.

- (l) The Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Economic Affairs the Hon. Sakiusa Tubuna moved that Parliament debates the 'Consolidated Review Report on the Energy Fiji Limited Annual Reports 2023 and 2024' which was tabled on 17 July 2026' which was tabled on 17 July 2026.

Motion seconded.

Motion debated.

Question put.

Motion agreed to unanimously.

- (m) The Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Economic Affairs the Hon. Sakiusa Tubuna moved that Parliament debates the 'Consolidated Review Report on the Tourism Fiji Annual Reports 2015, 2016 1st January – 31st July, August 2016 – July 2017 and August 2017 – July 2018' which was tabled on 17 July 2026.

Motion seconded.

Motion debated.

Question put.

Motion agreed to unanimously.

- (n) The Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Economic Affairs the Hon. Sakiusa Tubuna moved that Parliament debates the 'Consolidated Review Report on the Investment Fiji Annual Reports 2022-2023 and 2023-2024' which was tabled on 17 July 2026.

Motion seconded.

Motion debated.

Question put.

Motion agreed to unanimously.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The Hon. Speaker thanked all Honourable Members for their contributions and adjourned Parliament until Tuesday, 18 August 2026 at 9.30 a.m.

Parliament adjourned at 11.23 p.m.

Speaker of Parliament

Secretary-General to Parliament

17th August, 2026.