



PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF FIJI

MINUTES

of Proceedings of Parliament at Suva on Monday, Tenth day of March, 2025

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) All Honourable Members were present.
 - (b) The following Honourable Members obtained approval from the Hon. Speaker for intermittent absence during the sitting of Parliament –

Hon. Dr Ratu Atonio Lalabalavu, Hon. Siromi Turaga and Hon. Sashi Kiran.
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, 7 March 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. Speaker welcomed all Honourable Members to the sitting of Parliament, those seated in the gallery and those watching the live proceedings on television and the internet.

Hon. Speaker wished all Honourable Members a happy Commonwealth Day and the theme for this year is 'Together We Thrive'.

6. PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND CERTAIN DOCUMENTS

The following reports were tabled and referred to the relevant Standing Committees –

(a) Standing Committee on Economic Affairs

- (i) Fiji Rice Pte Ltd – Annual Report 2018;
- (ii) Fiji Rice Pte Ltd – Annual Report 2019;
- (iii) Fiji Rice Pte Ltd – Annual Report 2020;
- (iv) Fiji Rice Pte Ltd – Annual Report 2021;
- (v) Fiji Rice Pte Ltd – Annual Report 2022; and
- (vi) Fiji Rice Pte Ltd – Annual Report 2023.

(b) Standing Committee on Public Accounts

- (i) Report of the Auditor-General of the Republic of Fiji – 2023 Audit Report – Infrastructure Sector; and
- (ii) Report of the Auditor-General of the Republic of Fiji – 2023 Audit Report – Economic Services Sector.

(c) Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defence

- (i) Fiji Revenue and Customs Service – Annual Report 2020–2021;
- (ii) Fiji Revenue and Customs Service – Annual Report 2021–2022; and
- (iii) Civil Aviation Authority of Fiji – Annual Report 2023.

(d) Standing Committee on Natural Resources

- (i) Ministry of Lands and Mineral Resources Annual Report 2022–2023.

Hon. Speaker informed Honourable Members that the following reports were for information only and would not be referred to any Standing Committee –

- (a) Reserve Bank of Fiji – Quarterly Review – September 2024; and
- (b) Medium Term Fiscal Strategy – FY2025–2026 to FY2027–2028.

7. MOTION BY THE LEADER OF THE GOVERNMENT IN PARLIAMENT PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER 97

The Leader of the Government in Parliament the Hon. Ro Filipe Tuisawau moved, pursuant to Standing Order 97, that the following Bills be restored to the Order Paper –

- (a) Audit Bill (Bill No. 17 of 2024);
- (b) Access to Business Funding Bill (Bill No. 18 of 2024); and
- (c) Sugar Industry (Amendment) Bill (Bill No. 23 of 2024).

Motion seconded.

Motion debated.

Question put.

Motion agreed to unanimously.

8. CONSIDERATION OF BILLS

The Attorney-General the Hon. Graham Leung moved a motion pursuant to Standing Order 51 –

- (a) That the Code of Conduct 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 be immediately referred to the Standing Committee on Justice, Law and Human Rights;
- (d) That the Standing Committee must report on the Bill at the April sitting of Parliament; and
- (e) That upon presentation of the report on the Bill by the Standing Committee, the Bill must be debated and voted upon by Parliament, with the right of reply given to the Attorney-General as the member moving this motion.

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 'Consolidated Review Report of the Legal Aid Commission 2018 to 2023 Annual Reports' which was tabled on 3 December 2024'.

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 following reports—
- (i) Consolidated Review Report of the Office of the Attorney-General 2006–2013 Annual Reports’ which was tabled on 3 December 2024;
 - (ii) Consolidated Review Report of the Office of the Attorney-General 2014–2022 Annual Reports’ which was tabled on 3 December 2024; and
 - (iii) Consolidated Review Report of the Office of the Attorney-General 2022–2023 Annual Report’ which was tabled on 3 December 2024.

Motion seconded.

Motion debated.

Question put.

Motion agreed to unanimously.

10. 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 12.30 p.m. to complete the remaining items listed on the Order Paper.

Motion seconded.

Motion debated.

Question put.

Motion agreed to unanimously.

11. ADJOURNMENT

The Hon. Speaker thanked all Honourable Members for their contributions and adjourned Parliament until Tuesday, 11 March 2025 at 9.30 a.m.

Parliament adjourned at 12.42 p.m.

Speaker of Parliament

Secretary-General to Parliament

10th March, 2025.