



PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF FIJI

MINUTES

of Proceedings of Parliament at Suva on Tuesday, Twenty-fifth day of November, 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) The following Honourable Members obtained approval from the Hon. Speaker for absence from Parliament –

Hon. Charan Singh, Hon. Ifereimi Vasu, Hon. Jese Saukuru, Hon. Alipate Tuicolo, Hon. Inia Seruiratu, Hon. Premila Kumar and Hon. Faiyaz Koya.
 - (b) The following Honourable Members obtained approval from the Hon. Speaker for intermittent absence(s) from Parliament –

Hon. Sitiveni Rabuka and Hon. Manoa Kamikamica.
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 Monday, 24 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. Speaker welcomed all Honourable Members to the sitting, as well as those seated in the gallery, and those following the proceedings through television and online platforms.

The Hon. Speaker also welcomed the Japanese Ambassador His Excellency Rokuichiro Michii and the students, teachers and parents from Kabara District School in Kabara, Lau.

The Hon. Speaker informed all Honourable Members that the secretariat had received the response from the Hon. Minister for Fisheries and Forestry to Written Question 264/2025, which had been conveyed to the Hon. Ratu Isikeli Tuiwailevu and a copy uploaded on the Parliament's website.

Hon. Speaker further informed that the Hon. Manoa Kamikamica had been elected as the Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts on 10 November 2025 and the Hon. Jovesa Vocea remains the Deputy Chairperson of the Standing Committee.

6. PRESENTATION OF REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The Hon. Speaker informed all Honourable Members that there were no Committee reports for tabling.

7. MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

- (a) The Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Tourism and Civil Aviation the Hon. Viliame Gavoka delivered a Ministerial Statement. The Hon. Semi Koroilavesau responded.
- (b) The Minister for Justice and Acting Attorney-General the Hon. Siromi Turaga delivered his first Ministerial Statement. The Hon. Jone Usamate responded.
- (c) The Minister for Justice and Acting Attorney-General the Hon. Siromi Turaga delivered his second Ministerial Statement. The Hon. Alvick Maharaj responded.
- (d) The Minister for Women, Children and Social Protection the Hon. Sashi Kiran delivered a Ministerial Statement. The Hon. Virendra Lal responded.
- (e) The Minister for Fisheries and Forestry the Hon. Alitia Bainivalu delivered a Ministerial Statement. The Hon. Semi Koroilavesau responded.

8. QUESTIONS

Oral Questions

- 298/2025 Hon. Virendra Lal to ask the Minister for Multi-Ethnic Affairs and Sugar Industry – Can the Minister update Parliament on the status of the Call for Tender for the construction of a sugar mill in Rakiraki.
- 267/2025 Hon. Ratu Rakuita Vakalalabure to ask the Minister for Employment, Productivity and Workplace Relations – Can the Minister update Parliament on the current status of the third-party insurance scheme for maritime passengers.
- 268/2025 Hon. Joseph Nand asked the Minister for Employment, Productivity and Workplace Relations – Can the Minister inform Parliament if there are any plans to develop a Social Protection Scheme for workers in the informal sector.
- 269/2025 Hon. Kalaveti Ravu asked the Minister for Public Works, Meteorological Services and Transport – Can the Minister update Parliament on the latest Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC) International Maritime Organisation (IMO) developments in terms of transition to renewable energy.
- 270/2025 Hon. Hem Chand asked the Minister for Education – Can the Minister inform Parliament on the enrolment criteria used by Government Secondary Schools to enrol Year 9 students.
- 271/2025 Hon. Inosi Kuridrani asked the Minister for Fisheries and Forestry – Can the Minister inform Parliament if there are plans to evaluate and provide inventories for all potential marine products for all *iQoliqoli* boundaries around Fiji.
- 272/2025 Hon. Alvick Maharaj asked the Minister for Housing and Local Government – Can the Minister update Parliament on what is the Government's specific strategy, for the construction and delivery of genuinely affordable public housing units over the next three years to meet the demand from young families and first-time buyers.
- 273/2025 Hon. Lenora Qereqeretabua asked the Minister for Women, Children and Social Protection – Can the Minister update Parliament on the Proxy Means Test model and how it will enhance the targeting of support to Fiji's most vulnerable households.
- 274/2025 Hon. Jone Usamate asked the Minister for Health and Medical Services – Can the Minister update Parliament on what Health Inspectors are doing to ensure that the meat sold in supermarkets meets quality criteria.

275/2025 Hon. Iliesa Vanawalu asked the Minister for Agriculture – Can the Minister update Parliament on how the Ministry is addressing the detection of Fruit Fly (*Bactrocera facialis*) in Nanuya Island in the Yasawa Group.

Written Questions

276/2025 Hon. Hem Chand asked the Minister for Education – Can the Minister update Parliament with respect to the following –

- (a) how many Early Childhood Education Centres were visited by Early Childhood Education Advisors and Ministry staff in Terms 1 and 2 of 2025 and what was the purpose of the visit; and
- (b) how many Primary and Secondary schools in the Eastern Division were visited by Education Advisors and Ministry staff in Terms 1 and 2 of 2025 and what was the purpose of the visit.

277/2025 Hon. Ratu Rakuita Vakalalabure asked the Minister for Public Works, Meteorological Services and Transport – Can the Minister update Parliament on the following –

- (a) how many desalination plants are in operation throughout Fiji; and
- (b) their location per Division.

278/2025 Hon. Jone Usamate asked the Minister for Policing and Communications – Can the Minister inform Parliament how many Police Officers have been convicted of drug and sexual offences from January 2023 to 30 October 2025.

The responses to the Oral and Supplementary Questions were provided by the respective Ministers. The Hon. Speaker informed that Oral Question 298/2025 was deferred to Monday, 1 December. The Hon. Speaker further informed that Oral Question 267/2025 had been withdrawn. The response to the Written Questions 276/2025, 277/2025 and 278/2025 were tabled by the respective Ministers.

9. CONSIDERATION OF BILLS

The Minister for Housing and Local Government the Hon. Maciu Nalumisa moved a motion pursuant to Standing Order 51 –

- (a) That the Town Planning (Amendment) Bill 2025 (Bill No. 38 of 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; and
- (d) That the Bill must be debated and voted upon by Parliament on Thursday, 27 November 2025, but that 1 hour be given to debate the Bill, with the right of reply given to him as the Member moving the motion.

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 Wednesday, 26 November 2025 at 9.30 a.m.

Parliament adjourned at 3.25 p.m.

Speaker of Parliament

Secretary-General to Parliament

25th November, 2025.