



PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF FIJI

MINUTES

of Proceedings of Parliament at Suva on Monday, Ninth day of March, 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 following Honourable Members obtained approval from the Hon. Speaker for absence from Parliament –

Hon. Sakiasi Ditoka, Hon. Ioane Naivalurua and Hon. Parveen Bala.
 - (b) The Hon. Jese Saukuru was absent.
 - (c) The following Honourable Members obtained approval from the Hon. Speaker for intermittent absence(s) from Parliament –

Hon. Ketan Lal, Hon. Filimoni Vosarogo and Hon. Ratu Rakuita Vakalalabure.
4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Leader of the Government in Parliament the Hon. Ro Filipe Tuisawau, moved that the Minutes of the sittings of Parliament held on Thursday, 4th December 2025 and Monday, 16th February 2026, as previously circulated be taken as read and be confirmed.

Motion seconded.

Question put.

Motion agreed to unanimously.

5. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CHAIR

Hon. Speaker welcomed all Honourable Members to the sitting of Parliament. He also welcomed those in the gallery and those watching the proceedings on television and the internet. The Hon. Speaker also welcomed Mr Viliame Leqa, the Ambassador of the Republic of Indonesia to Fiji His Excellency Mr Dupito Simamora and the British High Commissioner His Excellency Mr Kanbar Hossein-Bor.

Commonwealth Day Acknowledgment

Hon. Speaker commemorated Commonwealth Day and shared with Honourable Members that it reminds us of the shared values, aspirations, and bonds that unite the Commonwealth family. He stated that it is an opportunity to reflect on our collective commitment to co-operation, peace, and sustainable progress, and to reaffirm the principles that guide us toward a more inclusive and resilient future.

Reinstatement of Parliamentary Business

Hon. Speaker informed all Honourable Members, that currently there are 78 Annual Reports and 2 Treaties pending with the Standing Committees, and 6 Committee Reports pending debate. Pursuant to the unanimous decision of the Business Committee at its meeting on Friday, 13 February 2026, these pending Parliamentary business were reinstated to allow the Standing Committees to continue their work from where they left off prior to prorogation in December 2025.

Back-to-Office Reports

Hon. Speaker further informed the Honourable Members, that the back-to-office reports for the following visits were available in the Library for Members' perusal and reference –

- (a) the 28th Conference of Speakers and Presiding Officers of the Commonwealth (CSPOC), which was held in New Delhi, India, and led by the Deputy Speaker the Hon. Lenora Qereqeretabua; and
- (b) the Visit to the UK Parliament.

Fiji Speaker's Visit to the Uk Parliament (Westminster)

Finally, the Hon. Speaker informed the Honourable Members of his recent visit to UK Parliament and shared some insights and learnings.

6. MOTION IN THE NAME OF THE HONOURABLE PRIME MINISTER

The Prime Minister and Minister for Civil Service and Strategic Planning, National Development and Statistics the Hon. Sitiveni Rabuka moved that the Parliament thanks His Excellency the President for his most gracious speech.

The motion was seconded by the Leader of the Government in Parliament the Hon. Ro Filipe Tuisawau.

Hon. Speaker reminded all Honourable Members of the importance of maintaining decorum and order in the esteemed House pursuant to Standing

Orders 58 and 70. He requested all Honourable Members to refrain from any disruptive behaviour, including unsolicited interjections, and to allow their colleagues the opportunity to speak without interruption.

Hon. Speaker further reminded all Honourable Members of the 20-minute speaking times during debate pursuant to Standing Order 68 – the first bell would be rung at 18 minutes and the final bell at 20 minutes.

Debate ensued.

[Speakers: Prime Minister the Hon. Sitiveni Rabuka, Leader of the Opposition the Hon. Inia Seruiratu, Hon. Alitia Bainivalu, Hon. Premila Kumar, Hon. Tomasi Tunabuna, Hon. Aliko Bia, Hon. Viliame Gavoka, Hon. Mosese Bulitavu, Hon. Esrom Immanuel, Hon. Hem Chand, Hon. Manoa Kamikamica, Hon. Sanjay Kirpal, Hon. Sashi Kiran and Hon. Semi Koroilavesau.]

7. 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.

8. CONSIDERATION OF BILLS

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

9. ADJOURNMENT

The Hon. Speaker thanked the Honourable Members for their contributions and adjourned Parliament until Tuesday, 10 March 2026 at 9.30 a.m.

Parliament adjourned at 4.46 p.m.

Speaker of Parliament

Secretary-General to Parliament

9th March, 2026.