

Friday 14th September 2012

The Deputy Speaker, Hon Job Dudley Tausinga took the chair at 10.11 am.

Prayers.

ATTENDANCE

During the Parliament sitting all attend except the Member of Parliament for Shortlands

Announcement.

Speaker: Honourable Members we gave with us today to new members who were elected through bye-election, your guest is here. According to section 63 of the constitution no member is permitted to participate in the proceeding of this House until he or she has taken the oat set out in schedule 1 of the constitution to enable the two new members to participate. We will now proceed with the administration of their oaths.

Administration of Oath

STATEMENT OF GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

MOTIONS

Hon. DEREK SIKUA (*Leader of Opposition*): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Under the provisions of standing order 32 (1), I wish to withdraw the motion of no confidence as it appears in today's order paper.

My reasons for withdrawing the motion; firstly as the Prime Minister has read in the Order Paper we have a Supplementary Appropriation ahead of us and this is money that are needed for the fast delivery of the services to our people and we need to get that out of the way Mr Speaker so that the service can go ahead for our people. Also Mr Speaker, we have the visit of the Royal couple coming up and there is a consideration here that there is no need for us to have any disorder and disquiet as we have the visit of the Royal couple coming up and therefore I respectfully ask leave of Parliament for that this motion to be withdrawn under the provisions of Standing Order 31(1). Thank you Mr Speaker.

Hon. GORDON DARCY LILO (*Prime Minister*): Point of Order Mr Speaker. The discretion for you to accept the notice given by the Leader of Opposition to withdraw the Motion is well respected. But as you can see Mr Speaker, that it is much to the disappointment of this side of the House for the very reason that they delay constitution motion a motion that we have noticed the people of this country of what would happen to the future of a legitimate government elected by the people of this country.

It is so disappointing to note that with all the hot airs, all the developments that is happening in this country and especially over the past 14 days since the motion was noticed, this is what we have deliver to the people of this country. Where is our responsibility to good governance? Where? I can see some people are feeling uneasy because they are really right behind.

Speaker: Point of Order

Hon. Gordon Darcy Lilo: Mr Speaker, you have given me the Point of Order

Speaker: Point of Order Honourable member

Hon. Gordon Darcy Lilo: I have the right to express on behalf of the government and the people of this country.

Speaker: (*interjection*) Let me just make my comment. The motion has been withdrawn therefore, that should not attract any debate on the motion.

I do appreciate that the Prime Minister would want to make comments and perhaps express some disappointments. But the importance is that the motion has been withdrawn and should not attract any debate. In actual fact where the motion is withdrawn it is no longer an issue. It is already dispose of and that I have to put the question to officially dispose that same motion.

So if the Prime Minister wishes to make any comments please do so and make it short and quick and precise.

Hon. Gordon Darcy Lilo: Well I was going to make it short and sweet one. But I was going to drive at that point. And that is to really acknowledge the fact that the Leader of Opposition has considered all the issues and the extent of it is to what has happened to this country as a result of the expectation that we have given to them. And to finally say that, look we have to act responsibly. This side of the House fully understand- to you only, but not to the others- and also Member of Parliament for Aoke/Langa Langa he is looking very agitating

So Mr Speaker, this side of the House acknowledge that and I thank you for your ruling accepting that withdrawal

Motion Withdrawn Agreed to

Motion without Notice:

Motion for Parliament to Resume at 2pm Monday

Hon. GORDON DARCY LILO (*Prime Minister*): Thank you Mr Speaker; I thank you for granting leave to move this motion without notice and the motion to suspension standing order 10 so it is to allow the commencement of business on Monday 17th September 2012, that Parliament will resume at the 2pm.

Sir the suspension standing order 10 is a usual one; it arises when there is an urgent need to over ride the standing orders, to take action. In other words to enable the cause of action to be followed that the standing order would otherwise prevent. And as you would know the suspension of standing order is provided for understanding order 81.

So I am seeking leave and I submit that standing order 10 which provides for the hours of sitting of Parliament specifically states that every sitting other than the first sitting of the meeting shall begin at 9:30am and the sitting shall be concluded at 4:30pm except where the speaker may at any time suspend a sitting or adjourn Parliament or a motion is moved with the consent of the Speaker to suspend this order in accordance with standing order 81.

I therefore, submit that the next sitting of Parliament on Monday the 17th September 2012 that Parliament should resume at 2pm rather than at 9:30am as stipulated under Standing Order 10. And that is to enable the Prime Minister, Cabinet Ministers and other Members of Parliament to attend to important appointments with the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge.

As you know that the nine day tour of far East and South Pacific including the visit to Solomon Islands by the Royal is historical as it is in honour of the Queens diamond jubilee, which is to mark the Monarch's 60 year reign. Solomon Islands is part of the varieties of people and cultures that make up of her majesty's realm and the commonwealth.

It is only fitting therefore that our country and all other dignitaries of this country should attend to the various appointments and events that will mark the visit of the Royals. It is a lifetime opportunity and it is one that I am sure will promote Solomon Islands once again as a Democratic and a free society. Therefore, given this situation, I move that Parliament should resume at 2.00pm on Monday 17th September 2012. Sir, I beg to move.

Open for Debate.

Hon. DEREK SIKUA (*Leader of Opposition*): I thank the Prime Minister for moving this motion without notice. But before I speak on the motion I just want to use this opportunity to congratulate the newly elected members of North Malaita and East Are'Are for their successful election to Parliament. The Government Bench is really full but there are a lot of empty seats at the front bench on this side. On that side you two will seat at the back but on this side you two will be sitting on the front bench. So I am inviting you to move over to this side at whatever time is convenient to you.

Sir that is the reason I withdraw the motion because all of us will be involved in the whole occasion regarding the upcoming visit. So this side of the house does not have any problem that is moved by the Prime Minister.

Hon. JOHN MANENIARU (*Leader of Independent*): I would also like to take this opportunity to thank this Honourable Prime Minister, a motion moved without notice.

It is a very important motion Sir, as we all know the Royal visit is historical and one that is very important to our country. At this juncture I on behalf of my people of West Are'Are would also take like to take this opportunity to congratulate the two newly elected MPs, Mr Andrew Manepora for East Are'Are and Ms. Vika Lusibaea for North Malaita. Welcome to the Parliament. We have a big responsibility for our Nation and our people.

Sir, this visit marks an important historical era in our nation, and it is only fitting that we take time to participate as leaders of this country, representing our people who are in our constituency. So I would like to encourage the 49 members of Parliament to participate fully in this weekend's program.

We have participated as a tiny country in the commonwealth in Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee theme song video to honour Her Majesty the Queen.

Solomon Islands was selected as the fifth—country in the commonwealth to have the privilege to participate in this honour.

I stand to thank the government of NCRA for allowing one of our cultural groups -the Narasirato to participate in this jubilee. It would not have been possible and it would not have been a task completed to satisfaction without the Government support. And I congratulate the Prime Minister to allow and facilitate the No. 1 artist of UK, Gary Barlow and the BBC crew to actually travel to Oterama in West Are'Are to actually have a feel of what Solomon Islands is. Not in Honiara a place that is just the town and is dusty, similar to UK. But when they are out there they took movies and that is real Solomon Islands. And I would like to congratulate the Prime Minister to facilitate this thing because they come when there is cyclone. They couldn't make it and so it would not also complete fully the task of Solomon Islands participating.

I would like to thank you for the opportunity to comment on this important motion and highlights, why we should appreciate the motion been moved by the prime minister. With that I support the motion.

Mr. DANNY PHILIP (*South New Georgia/Rendova/Tetepari*): Thank you honourable speaker, I would like to congratulate the Leader of Opposition to show his grace and understanding on the matters of the state to withdraw the motion this morning. He wasn't hard pressed to do this. He actually got the conscientious of this side of the House to withdraw the motion- for the reasons that he mentioned to parliament this morning.

I also like to withdraw my intervention to the honourable Prime Minister but the motion wasn't meant to be debated, it requires a statement from the chair.

I also like to express my gratitude and congratulations to the two Honourable members of parliament who have been elected recently in the bye elections. East Are'Are and North Malaita for their success in getting themselves to this House. Especially to the Honourable Vika Lusibaea who have demonstrated to all of us that there is the hope for women is not altogether lost, that she has manage to get it through with the support of her husband and constituents to get her into this House.

I would like to acknowledge and express my deep sympathy to the number of people who have left us in recent times to the late father of Honourable Bodo Dettke who has passed in the last few days, and he has been put to rest- he has to his given and also contributed to the countries development in the field of commerce and industry. Also to the founding father of Solomon Star, Mr John Lamani, who has also left his family and has been put to rest. Also late and former member of parliament for Shortlands Honourable Taneko who has also been laid to rest as well and a business man who has a quite prominent in the team industry, here and Solomon Islands in terms of processing, Mr John Wesley who has been put to rest as well. It looks like this week is for business people only, politicians will have to wait. With that over tone I would like to congratulate and thank the prime minister for the motion without notice to facilitate government business term Mr Speaker sir.

I would like to congratulate and thank the Prime Minister for the motion without notice to facilitate government's business as we proceed through the week. It's a normal motion and that has been accepted by the chair and we on this side of the House supported it and also the pursing agenda of the government as we go through the week from Monday onwards.

So with those few words Mr Speaker sir, I would like to support the motion.

Hon. CLAY SOALAOI (*Minister for Foreign Affairs*): Thank you Mr Speaker. Let me also join my colleagues in thanking the Prime minister for moving the motion and also to congratulate our two new members of parliament who have just joined us. And farther congratulate them for joining the government. And you know there is still more spaces on the other side, but I want to congratulate them for joining this side of the house.

Mr Speaker let me also encourage the Leader of Opposition and the Leader of Independence to accept the invitations and honour that we leaders have been invited to. I thank you two for your understanding. And many a times I fail to notice them around and Mr Speaker this time around...

Hon. Derek Sikua: (*interjecting*) because you are mostly out of the country!

Laughter

Hon. Clay Soalaoi: This time around because of the very historic visit by the royals let me encourage them to attend on behalf of our people. Because many of our

people are in the rural areas, therefore do come on their behalf. Solomon Islands Mr Speaker is a country that still holds a very special relationship with the Great Britain since independence. We are still the only largest pacific country that still recognises the queen as the Head of state. And let us do so by showing our respect to our head of state by attending on behalf of our people.

Therefore Mr speaker I would only wish to mention that and you all understand the reason why this motion has to be moved and I think this morning, I would also like to thank the Leader of Opposition for his understanding in seeing that the very reason why we have to really take to heart the business that is very necessary to the smooth running of this country and had withdrawn this motion. So thank you to the Leader of Opposition but two of the chairs on this side, we have removed; because we will need to look around for someone else to fill it up. But I think it will be left empty, and therefore thank you once again Mr Speaker for giving me this small opportunity to contribute. Thank you

Mr Speaker: Thank you Minister of Foreign Affairs. Right looks like we do not have any more members who would wish to speak unless the honourable Prime minister has any farther comments, or I will put the question. Prime Minister?

Motion agreed to

House adjourned until Monday 17th September