

WEDNESDAY 30TH APRIL 2014

The Deputy Speaker, Mr Job Dudley Tausinga took the Chair at 2.02pm

Prayers

ATTENDANCE

All Members of Parliament were present with the exception of; the Minister of Education and Human Resources Development; Finance and Treasury; Provincial Government and Institutional Strengthening; Women, Youth and Children Affairs and Member for Fataleka; North-West Guadalcanal; East Honiara; Central Kwara'ae; Central Honiara; Maringe-Kokota; Temotu Pele; West Are'Are; East Are'Are; South Guadalcanal; South New Georgia-Rendova-Tetepati; Roviana; Hograno-Kia-Havulei; North-East Guadalcanal; North Guadalcanal; Ulawa/Ugi and North Vella La Vella

BILLS

Bills Second Reading

The Constitutional offices (Terms and Conditions of Service) (Judicial Reform) (Amendment) Bill 2014

Hon GORDON DARCY LILO (Prime Minister): I rise to move that the constitutional Offices Terms and Conditions of Service (Judicial Reform) (Amendment Bill) 2014 be now read a second time.

This will be the second bill that will represent the reform that we require to be carried out in or judiciary, which is brought into this house so that we put in place appropriate reform measures for our judiciary. The bill is aimed at improving the terms and conditions of services for our magistrates.

This bill seeks to make two minor amendments and in particular to the schedule of the constitutional offices terms and conditions of service act. The first part of the amendment is purposely to add an new position of Deputy Chief Justice to the list of constitutional office holders, so that a regulation can be made, setting out the terms and conditions of service for that position.

The Deputy Chief Justices position was in fact created and made to the amendment that was passed by this house on the 7th of April 2009. And the intention now is for the position to be

filled so that it fulfills the requirements that are made in that particular regulation. In saying that, let me say that it is now high time that we must have the Deputy Chief Justice for our country. After 36 years of being an independent country I think the time is now right so that the role the Judiciary carries out is one that is conducted systematically well by those who are served in our Judiciary.

The second purpose of this amendment is to add the word magistrate to the schedule so a regulation can be made setting out the terms and conditions of the Magistrate, Sir. Last week we passed an amendment to the Constitution so that the status of Magistrates can be included as constitutional post, under the amendment that we had passed last week. What it means is that we basically transition, the Magistracy from the Executive arm to the judicial arm of the government. I want to thank the Parliament for supporting that, because I think it is just the right time, also, for us to pass on the responsibility of our magistracies from the Executive arm to the judicial arm of our government. If these amendments are made then a new regulation will have to be promulgated so that we can provide for the appropriate level improvements to the terms and conditions of service to the Chief Justice, Deputy Chief Justice, Puisine Judges and the Magistrates.

All in all, this reform package will, in a way, help to strengthen the judicial independence in our country and to encourage more of our local lawyers to enter the rank of the Solomon Islands Judiciary. I am sure all of us agree that improving the terms and constitutions of service of all judicial offices is a very, very important step towards building and improving the capacity of our judiciary. Also, achieving a permanent localisation of the Judiciary and moving away from our dependence on our foreign persons to preside over our courts, can be only guaranteed if we do the reform that we are carrying out right now. That is by putting these positions in the right systems within our judiciary so that they can have the fairness and the equity that they would want to feature, in terms of fixing the terms and conditions of those positions that they would serve on.

So this proposal presents a very timely change from a system where the majority of our judiciary is always been tied to the decisions of the Executive. We will work out a path for our judiciary to be truly independent. This also ensures that the Judiciary can attract and return the best legal mind and talent by providing a clear and fair remuneration package that is commensurate with the skills, knowledge and responsibilities of those offices.

I think at this point, it is worth mentioning this, that when it comes to the needs to work towards to improvement of this system of our Judiciary, they do not have the power to do it. It is the legislator and the Executive that will have to make it. And it does not demand too much of our thinking to have that, to be fairly delivered our judiciary. But when we have an empty bench like this, how can we guarantee that? I am truly grateful to these two members on the opposite side of the House who can only be reflected in this Chamber as the true dedicated leaders of our country and who have interest in our Judiciary. We do not expect you to put your

hands up Member for Aoke/Langalanga. But this is our call to you, that you are really a champion in ensuring that we see the essence of the supporting that we to put to our Judiciary and you have freely done that without any consideration at all.

The same applies to our only veteran politician in here including your own self but unfortunately you will not be able to participate in the debate and We understand that. You will preside over and that shows; my brother, the member for East Choiseul, who is a magistrate himself as well. Are you a fifth class or fourth class?

Mr Manasseh Sogavare: *Last klass nao!*

Laughter

Hon Gordon Darcy Lilo: Yes, but as a commissioner of tax he is a magistrate himself. And I cannot in any way at all thank him for all the support in the Bills and Legislation Committee and also he will do so right now to support this particular amendment and to show parliaments support to what we need to do to our judiciary in our country.

But I am really worried when the bench is empty like that. In-absentia I hope that there mind and thinking and spirit are with us and I do hope that is really the intention. Unfortunately it is an empty chair, but what I am saying here is that the judiciary requires the support of the legislator and the executive. Why? Because, they do not serve in this house. The Judiciary cannot come here and our constitution says that this is the place that we make the law that affects the functioning of all the arms of our government. But when it comes to us showing this kind of support; I do not know where it will go to. But nonetheless this is an amendment and in case those who wilfully absent themselves think that they can frustrate the vote, I want to say, this is not a constitutional amendment; this is an amendment to an act to parliament. So it will be passed by this side of the house. For those of you who are listening outside who may have that doubt in your mind; walk in to show your support to our judiciary.

I would like to end with that note that this reform is vitally important to the Solomon Islands as we work towards ensuring a viable and sustainable judiciary in our country. With those remarks sir, I beg to move.

Mr Speaker: Honourable Members it is proposed that the constitutional offices (Terms and Conditions of Service) (Judicial Reform) (Amendment) Bill 2014' be read the second time. We will now commence debate on the constitutional offices terms and conditions of service (judicial reform) amendment bill 2014. I kindly remind members to please adhere to the rules of debate. The floor is open for debate.

Point of clarification

Mr Matthew Wale: Before I speak the point which the Prime Minister says, this is not a constitutional amendment; just for him to clarify for my understanding before I speak. So can the Attorney General clarify that?

Attorney General: Thank you Mr Speaker, the Bill is a bill to amend the second schedule of the schedule to the constitutional officer's terms and condition of service Act cap.84. It is a bill to include the position of the Deputy chief justice, any magistrates to that schedule for purposes of two things; the prescription and for the purposes of their salaries so they can be remunerated and also to have the salaries charged to the consolidated fund. Those positions that you see there their salaries are charged with the consolidated fund.

Mr MATTHEW WALE (Aoke/Langalanga): Thank you Mr Speaker for this clarification. Sir, all that is said by the Prime Minister are all good things. Judicial independence is at the heart of our justice system – it is at the heart of all justice systems that holds dear, impartial justice in any society. So, it is integral to upholding the rule of law and building and sustaining confidence on how justice is dispensed. That is why we continue to uphold judicial independence. It is the surest protection against the abuse of power, because ordinary citizens can have recourse to judicial review to the judicial process for seeking redress.

Sir, we must not take it for granted that here in Solomon Islands, we have a relatively strong record of judicial independence in the law. We can be proud of that fact but we cannot take it for granted. So these reforms are solely needed and are important to advancing the course of justice in our society.

Also, the discourse of a judicial independence in some ways has traditionally overlooked the place and role of the magistracy. When we have talked about that I think the debate has sort of focused more on High Court and Court of Appeal. And magistracy is quite sidelined at the periphery of our vision.

Like the Prime Minister has mentioned in the previous constitutional amendment that was tabled and passed in parliament, he outlined the history of our magistracy. As we are aware, we have several classes of magistrates and they are basically public servants. But during the colonial government the DOs and DCs are magistrates who handle judicial cases. Their training, not all of them, are qualified lawyers, and reside in communities and are exposed to ideas of communities, where they know what is happening in the community and perhaps biases within communities and to that extent, they are susceptible or vulnerable to take on those biases from communities. Historically, magistracy really belongs to the Executive arm of government – it is really not a part of the judiciary.

So, these reforms goes in the direction of taking magistracy and put it right into the judiciary, which is quite separate from the Executive arm of government, and it is a reform that is really important to happen.

Sir, we also see various laws have been passed by this House; it increases the jurisdiction in our magistracy and so they handling a lot more matters than the High Court and the Court of Appeal, because it is almost the first access, the place where people go to first with their complains. The first place to go is to the Magistrate. Of course in rural areas there are local courts and CLAC for land matters, and of course, the chiefs. There are things to be said about those subordinate tribunals as well. But in this Bill and the objective that it seeks to achieve is loadable and it is something that we must support.

Given the increasing jurisdiction of the magistracy, given the increased and perhaps increasing workload, they handling more and more cases and of course given the experience that we have to date, it is important that every Magistrate whatever class must be qualified lawyers. And this too is what this reform seeks to address, and this one is very important. Gone are the days when it was okay, it was good enough to have somebody who is not learned in the law to look into the issues and mediate by giving his judgement, to try and balance the interests that compete in any particular case. Society is gradually becoming a bit more educated, the population has increased and the competition for resources has also increased and the society as a result becomes more complex and therefore, interests and claims will become more diverse and complex. So in dispensing justice, it is really important that we have trained and experienced Magistrates to dispense justice at that level in courts.

When the magistracy moves inside the judiciary and cuts loose its connection with the executive government, a disadvantage about that is, because of the close proximity of the magistracy to the community, the magistrate understands what is going on in the community. So when he makes its ruling, that understanding also forms a bit of backdrop as to how he understands issues brought before. And that is a bit of an advantage, of course the converse of that makes him impartial right from the beginning however objective he thinks he is. That backdrop would have rendered him partial in the first instance, where perhaps some bias and prejudice has clouded his mind regarding the issues brought before him at that level.

As we know, in Honiara if you drive down at half past four or five you will see some of our magistrates standing the other side of the road at the bus stop opposite the United Church, ready to board the bus home. And in evidence before the Bills and Legislation Committee a former Principal Magistrate clearly outlined some of the frustrations of those who serve, out of a good heart for very little pay in the national interests, but cannot sustain it beyond a number of years.

Our magistrates boarded the public bus to and from the work. One day a Magistrate might make a decision that someone might not be too pleased with, and one day upon boarding a public bus and the Magistrate realises that same person sitting behind him in the bus, the

Magistrate might not feel really comfortable. And so that kind of fear might also affect how justice is dispense. So again what this amendment seeks to do is good, to move and safeguard the magistracy from those kinds of pressures.

Sir, I know about magistrates in Auki and Gizo when I was still a child, the Magistrate has a residing in Auki tend to mix with the community. He has to go to the market to buy a coconut and cabbage for the evening meal and so when he moved around he comes into and mixes with the communities. This also opens up avenues for some influence to come.

Also the matter of collection of fines; when a Magistrate goes on his circuit tour to Malu'u, Afio, Atori or the outer stations, they pass judgments and also collect fines. In that way we are exposing our Magistrates to undue pressure from that side of things – pressure from people who pay fines and also pressure as a result of him not being an accounting clerk. So when their imprest to go on tours is held up at the Treasury and when he used the money collected from fines to pay food during tours, we accuse them of corruption. These are situations that happen. So it brings disrepute to our Magistracy because of totally avoidable situations where a little bit of tight administration would prevent and the outcome would be a good name for our Magistracy.

Sir, public expectation is also another thing. It is important that justice must be seen to be dispensed impartially. It is important that it happens in fact, but also that public sees it like that and have confidence in our courts especially at the Magistrates level. Some of the examples that I have given at the first place are some of the things that make the public not to trust our Magistracy. This is an area that we have been struggling with for a while. So those reforms are urgent and important so that we ensure confidence of the public in the magistracy grows and maintained at a very high level.

One of the issues that the Committee has raised is with regards to a couple of things: (1) A Code of Conduct for the Magistracy. The Committee feels that it is very important that there is a code of conduct promulgated to ensure that our judicial officers are not unnecessarily exposed to situations where – had they known or had there been a code of conduct would avoid. One clear area is sexual harassment where we will expect more and more understanding, and therefore more people can invoke their rights at the workplace, especially.

Another thing which is part of the whole regime that secures judicial independence is tenure of office. This is very important. I am not sure if these amendments go far enough in the matter of tenure of office. The reforms are an essential start but I think the government should relook at the tenure of office.

The other matter is pension. When we expect Magistrate or High Court judge or court of appeal, somebody that is expected to uphold the judicial independence, not only do we pay them well, not only do we assure them of never ever going to be demoted or reduced of salary, not only do we assure that they will work a long time; but also after they retire. There should be a non-contributory pension scheme. It should not be like the NPS scheme but like the old

pension scheme in the past. It can be something like the pension scheme for Member of Parliament. I think that will complete the loop of series of reforms that ought to be in place to secure judicial independence in our court system and in particular in the magistracy.

Some research was done and there was a survey between judges from magistracy up to the high court in a neighbouring jurisdiction. They asked about the top seven qualities that they want to see in judges and magistrates. The ranking is as follows:

1. Industry diligence
2. Courtesy
3. Empathy
4. Patience
5. Knowledge of the law
6. Intelligence
7. Sense of fair play

This does not prove which of these is important. What it shows is that all of these qualities help to give us a rounded person who is capable of upholding judicial independence in his court room and ensuring that justice is done in all matters that come before him and that fair play, which should be the core in every judicial process. Fair play should be reflected right from even when the criminal matters are brought before the judiciary.

I am sorry that there is an empty bench on this side as pointed out by the Prime Minister. These are important reforms. The Prime Minister understands why there is an empty bench and is seeking to address those. I will not delve further into those matters but I would like to point out that these reforms are essential because justice is essential, justice foundational to having a fair society. A society that looks after its own including the weakest in its midst and judiciary independence is the key to ensure that such a justice will exist and dispense in our society.

With these few words, I support the motion.

Hon WALTER FOLOTALU (*Minister for Communication & Aviation*): Thank you for allowing me to contribute very briefly to this Constitutional Offices Terms and Conditions of service Reform (amendment) Bill 2014. This Bill seeks to amend the constitutional offices terms and conditions of service Act cap 84 to add a position of Deputy Chief Justice and to include magistrates in the schedule of constitutional offices. Though the Bill has only two clauses the passage of it will bring great impact or significance to the Judiciary.

As we know the primary responsibility of Parliament and Judiciary is governed by respect, since Parliament is for law making while the primary responsibility of the Judiciary is the interpretation and application of law. They cannot make the law and as the Prime minister has stated earlier on, it is us the 50 members that are here excluding the one that has left us, we should come here and make the laws that are good of our people in this nation. Judiciary is the

corner stone of democracy that this nation can rely on, the separation of powers between the legislatures, the executive and the Judiciary is fundamental in ensuring good governance and strengthening the system of checks and balances.

Today this bill which makes provision for the establishment and the appointment of the Deputy Chief Justice and elevates magistrates to constitutional post holders is brought before one of the three arms of the government which is the legislature, consisting of the current 49 parliamentarians. One of us has gone but 49 of us supposed to be here to look at this very important Bill that affect one arm of the government. Today this 9th Parliament will set history that will impact this generation and generations to come with this small amendment and the appointment on the post of the Deputy Chief Justice was not foreseen by founding fathers in 1987 when they made these laws the elevation of magistrates to constitutional post holders was also foreseen. However, as the population grows, crimes increasingly violent, lawlessness escalates to higher heights and corruptions to deeper depths. There must be progressive legislations; adequate human and material resources have to be funded without hesitation. I think last two weeks ago we also pass some systems that will be used in the magistrate's court and then we want to motivate the magistrate's by giving them a good remuneration package. Because they are human resources and material resources which we want to bring in to the system. The amendment to the constitution and its foundation is the future direction to strengthen the judicial system.

Mr Speaker while on the appointments I would like to see more women advocated as judges. Women can use their skills and knowledge to add real value and bring balance to what have been traditionally viewed as a male dominated public role. I want to see women aspires to these positions as judges or sitting at the bench; a lot of women want to become members of parliament but I want to say this place, there is no respect for our dignity. A lot of people say bad things about us, so I think it's good that women aspire to the benches advocating as judges.

Mr Speaker on the remuneration of magistrates, a motivation factor is to consider their employment on a long term, not on short contracts. If they tenure is longer than that will motivate them as part of their remuneration. With these sentiments I support the bill.

Hon Gordon Darcy Lilo: I would like to thank those who have contributed, in particular the member for Aoke/Langalanga and also the minister for Aviation who spoke in support of the Bill, And most importantly to praise the essence of having a reform of this nature to ensure that we continue to work towards strengthening judicial independence of our country. By way of these two very, very short amendments. One would be the creation of the position of deputy or to enable the facilitation of the position of the deputy chief justice to be now formally recognized under the constitutional offices terms and conditions judicial reform amendment act and to include magistrates in the same arrangement of determining the terms and conditions of our magistrates.

Also it is important that the qualities of appointments to this position as quite rightly and eloquently emphasized by the member for Aoke/Langalanga is very important. And I am sure that these are going to be featured very well in the regulations that will follow suit or will ensure after the passage of this Bill.

Sir, only for those who have decided to boycott the House at this very point in time; this side of the House has taken the word of the Member of Parliament for Aoke/Langalanga that it is never their intention to be absent from this very, very important Bill. Obviously, there are other important issue of fairness and equity that somehow has crept in, in the recent period. But I think that is to themselves, that the fairness to our judicial system is paramount and whatever that we may think to ourselves should be last because the Moto that all of us here stands for is, "To Lead is to Serve."

But I thank all of you for the support and I am sure that today we will complete the expectation that our judiciary have expected of us to ensure that the reform is delivered well and effectively to them. With those remarks I beg to move that the 'Constitutional Offices (Terms and Conditions of Service) (Judicial Reform) (Amendment) Bill 2014' be read the second time.

Bills – Committee Stage

The 'Constitutional Offices (Terms and Conditions of Service) (Judicial Reform) (Amendment) Bill 2014'

Clause 1

Clause 1 agreed to

Clause 2

Clause 2 agreed to

Hon Gordon Darcy Lilo: Sir, I wish to report that the Constitutional Offices (Terms and Conditions of Service) (Judicial Reform) (Amendment) Bill 2014 has pass through the Committee of the Whole House without amendments.

Bills – Third Reading

The 'Constitutional Offices (Terms and Conditions of Service) (Judicial Reform) (Amendment) Bill 2014'

Hon GORDON DARCY LILO (*Prime Minister*): I move that the Constitutional Offices (Terms and Conditions of Service) (Judicial Reform) (Amendment) Bill 2014, be now read a third time and do pass.

Question agreed to

The Constitutional Offices (Terms and Conditions of Service) (Judicial Reform) (Amendment) Bill 2014 is passed

MOTIONS

Date for Election of Governor-General

Mr Speaker: Honourable Members allow me to explain the Motion that the Honourable Prime Minister is about to move.

It is the Government's wish to select the Governor-General Designate so that he or she would be ready for appointment in Independence Day in accordance with our normal practice.

Under the Constitution the Governor-General is to be appointed by Her Majesty, our Head of State, Her Majesty however will only act on the advice of Parliament which made through and address to Her Majesty. The constitution only requires as address of Parliament but does not deal with the selection of Governor-General Designate that is a matter of Standing Order 76. Under that Order Parliament has two options, either to select the Governor-General Designate by consensus or choose to hold an election.

The Parliament considers when an election is necessary, it must use the process set out from election of the Speaker under Standing Order five, except that the nomination period is three days instead of two. We are at this point. The incumbent Governor-General complete his term on the 7th July this year so it is imperative that Parliament selects a person to be appointed as the next Governor-General by Her Majesty on that day.

I have been advice by the Government that on a basis that there may be a number of nominees at the election will essential. As you aware the Honourable Prime Minister giving notice of a Motion that Parliament considered such an election necessary.

I consider the Motion in order. If Parliament passes the Motion an election will be held on the date made in the Motion. Once a person is newly elected Parliament will they need to pass a resolution on a separate motion that the address been made to Her Majesty in accordance with the Constitution. Following that, we will formally forward the address naming the winning candidate to Her Majesty through the Government House.

And so I now call on the Honourable Prime Minister to move the Motion.

Hon GORDON DARCY LILO (*Prime Minister*): Thank you Mr Speaker for making that clarification as to why there is a need for this motion to be adopted by the House. I do hope that it will not raise any doubts or misunderstanding as to the intention of the motion. In that regard, I move that for the purposes of section 27 of the Constitution which deals with the

election of the Governor General, and pursuant to Standing Order 76 that this election of the Governor General designate be carried out by way of an election on Tuesday the 6th of May 2014 in Parliament in accordance with procedure set out in the Standing Order 5 as read with Standing Order 77.

As you know that it has always been the practice that we have given the choice to Members of Parliament to carry out the selection of the Governor General before Parliament makes an address to Her Majesty on the actual candidate that is designated to fill the position, which I believe is a democratic one. Reaching a decision by way of consensus because of the highly partition situation we have in this House, it is not always practical for us to achieve a consensus decision. But in a way it allows Parliament to stand together as one body to make their choice and this side of the House is willing to engage that side of the House in this whole process so that it becomes a bipartition approach in making that selection that is reflective of the choice of this House. That is simply the essence of this motion, so that we can have a time nominated and that we can all dedicate ourselves for that period until the date that is being nominated for us to come and then we make that process in this House in the most democratic and effective way before a formal address can be made to Her Majesty on this election of the Governor General.

For that reason, I move this motion so that we can make a date which will be the Tuesday the 6th of May 2014, and it will be done in accordance with the procedure that is prescribed under Standing Order 5 of the Standing Orders of the National Parliament of Solomon Islands. But more than that is that we put our country on notice as who will serve in the position of (FTR 15:01:11) in our country and to represent Her Majesty as our Head of State. It should be a time that we should share with all our citizens so that we can make ourselves that moment to pray about it, to give our thoughts as to this election of those candidates. So this is a very democratically healthy process and I see that it is well justified within our practice within the spirit of our democracy.

For those reasons Sir, I move that, for the purpose of section 27 of the Constitution and pursuant to Standing Order 76, the selection of the Governor general designate be carried out by way of an election on Tuesday 6th of May 2014 in Parliament in accordance with the procedure set out in Standing Order 5 and as read with Standing Order 76. I beg to move.

Mr MATTHEW WALE (*Aoke/Langalanga*): Although this side of the House is empty, we have much appreciation of the intentions and the spirit of this Motion, which further democratise this process. It is a good thing.

Many countries around the world, especially in the Commonwealth family have an ongoing debate to look at the position of the Governor General. Some opt in favour of a president to be the nominal head of the Executive. Some opt for a president that combines the role of Prime Minister and the Governor General together. As we head to this process, it is

probably also time for us to start thinking about those issues. Of course if it is a debate to be had, it needs to be a well-informed debate for us to be aware of the pros and cons of such change and whether it would advance or not good governance in the country.

Our people prayed for the government every Sabbath and Sunday. They mention the Governor General, the Honourable Prime Minister, the Speaker and all the ministers. It is a good thing that our people are praying for us. Our people pray for us with expectation. We need to reflect on the expectations of our people.

Our people always pray for the Governor General. They also have expectations when they pray as to qualities, capacity, characteristics and so forth. They pray for the good things that a Governor General should have.

I am sure that when we begin the process of canvassing and lobbying and horse trading, who these candidates will be, that we will ponder upon the prayers of our people and reflect upon the thoughts and expectations that they have towards that positions. Let us also pray that their expectation and thoughts also moderate our thoughts as we enter into that process on Tuesday next week.

But as far as the motion goes, it is just straight forward and laudable for the Prime Minister to first bring it as a form of motion so that the rest of the process can take place in time for July when the actual appointment will be done. So I whole heartedly embraced this motion.

Hon Gordon Darcy Lilo: I do not have further comments to make except to thank the member for Aoke/Langalanga for those very important remarks that he has made and to put us on notice that whether or not we would have the choice in the future about the status of our country, whether it will remain as it is a constitutional monarch or we move towards becoming a Republic. I think we can only be reminded of that fact, currently there is a work being carried out especially in this Federal constitution development program and it is now underway and almost towards the end.

Also there are some arrangements that have been recommended that we need to consider but I think there is already a wide consultation that has been carried out and currently been considered by the constitutional congress and the Eminent persons Advisory council who are also helping the constitutional congress by providing some in depth thinking into what are the fundamental and philosophies behind rearrangements of the system.

But for now, it is the next item and this side of the House wants to engage the other side of the House. In fact under the Constitution and in accordance to the standing order 76, this side of the House can do it, at the cabinet level and then I will just come here to seek the address of Parliament to recommend to her majesty. You see this is how fair we are and in spite of that fairness that we have demonstrated, the only thing that we receive is an empty bench. And that is quite an unfortunate situation and we do not want that to happen. But our heart goes to those on the other side who have sat with this side of the House in deciding that this is the

arrangement that we have to do in the choosing of the next Vice Regal of our country. With those remarks, I beg to move.

Question agreed to

ADJOURNMENT

Hon Gordon Darcy Lilo: I move that Parliament do now adjourn.

Question agreed to

The Parliament adjourned at 3.13pm