

**JOURNAL OF THE FIFTH MEETING OF THE NINTH
PARLIAMENT
9TH to 22TH DECEMBER 2008**



**KIRIBATI PARLIAMENT
AMBO TARAWA**

**By Authority
Office of the Clerk of Parliament**

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**COMPOSITION OF THE MANEABA NI MAUNGATABU
9TH TO 22ND DECEMBER 2008**

Hon. Taomati Iuta - Speaker of Parliament

Cabinet

H.E. Anote Tong MP - Beretitenti and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Immigration

Hon. Teima Onorio MP - Te Kauoman ni Beretitenti and Minister of Commerce, Industry and Cooperatives

Hon. Amberoti Nikora MP - Minister of Internal and Social Affairs

Hon. Tetabo Nakara MP - Minister of Environment, Lands and Agricultural Development

Hon. Dr. Kautu Tenaua MP - Minister of Health and Medical Services

Hon. Ioteba Redfern MP - Minister of Labour and Human Resources Development

Hon. Taberannang Timeon MP - Minister of Fisheries and Marine Resources Development

Hon. Natan Teewe MP - Minister of Finance and Economic Development

Hon. Kouraiti Beniato MP - Minister of Public Works and Utilities

Hon. Tawita Temoku MP - Minister of Line and Phoenix Islands Development

Hon. Temate Ereateiti MP - Minister of Communications, Transport and Tourism Development

Hon. James Taom MP - Minister of Education

Hon. Titabu Tabane - Attorney General (Ex-officio Member)

Private Members

Mr. Alexander Teabo MP	-	Butaritari
Mr. Banuera Berina MP	-	South Tarawa
Mr. Bauro Tenano MP	-	North Tarawa
Mr. Bauro Tongaai MP	-	Abaiang
Dr. Harry Tong MP	-	South Tarawa
Mr. Ieremia Tabai MP	-	Nonouti
Mr. Inatio Tanentoa MP	-	North Tarawa
Mr. Jacob Teem MP	-	Kiritimati
Mr. Kabetite Mwetaka MP	-	Tamana
Mr. Kirabuke Teiaua MP	-	Beru
Mr. Kouramaere Kautoa MP	-	Makin
Mr. Kunei Maaka Etekiera MP	-	Nonouti
Mr. Matang Tekitanga MP	-	Kuria
Mr. Mikaere Baraniko MP	-	Kiritimati
Mr. Moote Terukaio MP	-	Nikunau
Mr. Nabuti Mwemwenikarawa	-	North Tarawa
Mr. Patrick Tatireta MP	-	Marakei
Mrs. Rereao Tetaake Eria MP	-	Teraina
Mr. Rimeta Beniamina MP	-	Nikunau
Mr. Taneti Maamau MP	-	Onotoa
Mrs. Tangariki Reete MP	-	Betio
Mr. Teatao Teannaki MP	-	Abaiang
Mr. Teatu Moutu Kaibuariki (<i>Nominated</i>)	-	Banaban Community in Rabi
Mr. Tebuai Uaai MP	-	TabSouth
Mr. Teburoro Tito MP	-	South Tarawa
Mr. Tetaan Mweretaka MP	-	Tabuaeran
Mr. Teiwaki Areieta MP	-	Maiana
Mr. Tekiau Aretateta MP	-	Tabuaeran
Dr. Tetaua Taitai MP	-	TabNorth
Mr. Timon R. Aneri MP	-	Banaba
Mr. Toakai Koririntetaake MP	-	Butaritari
Mr. Tonganibeia Taam MP	-	Betio
Mr. Willie Tokataake MP	-	Abemama

Principal Officers of the Maneaba ni Maungatabu

Hon. Taomati Iuta	-	Speaker
Mr. Eni Tekanene	-	Acting Clerk
Mr. Kirata Komwenga	-	Parliamentary Counsel
Mrs. Terengaiti Tebao	-	Secretary to Parliamentary Committees
Mr. Airata Teemeta	-	Hansard Editor

SCHEDULE OF PAPERS

Date of Presentation	Paper No.	Title of Paper
9 December 2008	22/08	Establishment Register 2009
9 December 2008	23/08	2009 Budget Book
9 December 2008	24/08	Supplementary Appropriation (No. 3) 2008
9 December 2008	25/08	Schedule of Virement Warrants No. 2/2008
9 December 2008	26/08	Special Report of the Auditor General on the backlog of state owned enterprises accounts as at 5 th December 2008
10 December 2008	27/08	Certificate of Urgency signed by H.E. Te Beretitenti certifying the Local Government (Amendment) Bill 2008 as urgent
12 December 2008	28/08	Report of the Auditor General on the accounts of Betio Shipyard for the year ended 31 st August 2005
16 December 2008	29/08	Report of the Public Account Committee on the Government Account for the year ended 31 December 2008
22 December 2008	31/08	Report of the Auditor General on the accounts of Kiribati Oil Limited for the year ended 31 st December 2005
22 December 2008	32/08	Report of the Auditor General on the accounts of Bobotin Kiribati Limited for the year ended 31 st August 2007
22 December 2008	33/08	Report of the Auditor General on the accounts of Captain Cook Hotel for the year ended 31 st December 2007
22 December 2008	34/08	Report of the Auditor General on the Annual Accounts of the Government of Kiribati for the year ended 31 st December 2006 and 2007

SCHEDULE OF BILLS

Mover	Short Title	First Reading	Committee Stage	Second Reading	Date Assent	Serial Number
Hon. Natan Teewe	Supplementary Appropriation (No. 3) Bill 2008	11 December 2008	16 December 2008	16 December 2008	18/12/08	17/2008
Hon. Natan Teewe	Appropriation Bill 2008	15 December 2008	18 December 2008	18 December 2008	23/12/08	18/2008
Hon. Amberoti Nikora	Local Government (Amendment) Bill 2008	16 December 2008	22 December 2008	22 December 2008	23/12/08	19/2008
Hon. Tetabo Nakara	Phoenix Islands Protected Area Conservation Trust Bill 2008	22 December 2008				
H.E. Te Beretitenti	Measures to Combat Terrorism and Transnational Organised Crime (Amendment) Bill 2008	1 September 2008	9 December 2009	9 December 2009	31/12/08	12/2008
H.E. Te Beretitenti	Anti-Personal Mines (Prohibition) Bill 2008	2 September 2008	9 December 2009	9 December 2009	23/12/08	11/2008
H.E. Te Beretitenti	Police Service Bill 2008	8 September 2008	11 December 2008	11 December 2008	23/12/08	15/2008
H.E. Te Beretitenti	Police Powers and Duties Bill 2008	8 September 2008	11 December 2008	11 December 2008	23/12/08	16/2008
Mr. Banuera Berina	Rent Review (Amendment) Bill 2008	29 August 2008	10 December 2008	10 December 2008	23/12/08	13/2008
Mr. Kouramaere Kautoa	Provident Fund (Amendment) Bill 2008	29 August 2008	10 December 2008	10 December 2008	23/12/08	14/2008
Mr. Teburoro Tito	Kiribati Sport Authority (Amendment) Bill 2008	19 December 2008 (rejected)				

REPUBLIC OF KIRIBATI



MANEABA NI MAUNGATABU

Fifth Meeting of the Ninth Parliament

Minutes of Proceedings
for
Tuesday, 9th December 2008

1. Prior to the commencement of Fifth Meeting of the Ninth Parliament, a conch shell was blown in accordance with section 20(1) of the Rules of Procedure and the procession of the Mace led by the Sergeant-at-Arms, Hon. Speaker and the Acting Clerk proceeded into the Chamber. At the conclusion of the procession in the Chamber, the Hon. Speaker proceeded to take his chair and read Prayers.

The proceedings officially started at 10.00 am.

All Members were present except Mr. Kirabuke Teiaua, Mr. Rimeta Beniamina, Mr. Teetan Mweretaka and Mr. Tekiau Aretateta who are on official businesses overseas and Mr. Jacob Teem.

2. **ANNOUNCEMENT BY HON. SPEAKER**

Hon. Speaker gave a short welcome followed by remarks announcing the names of state-owned companies with outstanding annual accounts.

3. **STATEMENT BY H.E. TE BERETITENTI**

H.E. Te Beretitenti made a statement on the Order of Government Business.

4. **PRESENTATION OF PAPERS**

The following Papers were tabled:

By H.E. Te Beretitenti

Establishment Register 2009

Paper No. 22/09

By Hon. Minister of Finance and Economic Development

2009 Budget

Paper No. 23/08

Supplementary Appropriation (No. 3) 2008

Paper No. 24/08

Schedule of Virement Warrants No. 2/2008

Paper No. 25/08

By Hon. Speaker

Special Report of the Auditor General on the backlog of state owned enterprises accounts as at 5th December 2008

Paper No. 26/08

5. ORAL QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

The following Questions were raised to the Government:

5.1 Q.35 by Mr. Tonganibeia Taam MP (Betio)

The Government through the Ministry of Finance deducts service charges payable to BTC and TUC from its employee's salaries. Could the Government assist and encourage its companies and corporations to do the same to their employees' salaries so as to comply with these council's byelaws?

Replied by H.E. Te Beretitenti

Government is prepared to encourage state owned enterprises to observe the requirements of Council byelaws regarding the payment of service charges by their employees.

The Mover raised one supplementary question. Mr. Mikaere Baraniko also raised one supplementary question.

5.2 Q.27 by Mr. Moote Terukaio MP (Nikunau)

Could the Minister responsible allow teachers at Nikunau to take annual leave in addition to their school holidays so that they could be with their family when they are sick or attend to other family matters?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Education

Mr. Speaker, under current arrangements teachers all over the country are supposed to take their annual leave during the Christmas holidays and if there is any outstanding leave entitlements these can be taken at other time.

The Mover raised two supplementary questions.

5.3 Q.23 by Mr. Teetan Mweretaka MP (Tabuaeran) was deferred as the Member is overseas.

5.4 Q.31 by Mr. Tonganibeia Taam MP (Betio)

What is the Ministry of Education policy on the wages of watchmen for JSS?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Education

Speaker Sir, there is no JSS watchmen post in the existing Government Establishment Register.

The Mover raised three supplementary questions while Mr. Teburoro Tito raised one supplementary question.

5.5 Q.19 by Mr. Kabetite Mwetaka MP (Tamana)

When will a replacement to a FAD which has been drifted away from the island at Tamana, could this Government inform this House?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Fisheries & Marine Resource Development

Mr. Speaker Sir, the FAD replacement the MP from Tamana is asking will be replaced once funding for this project is secured.

The Mover raised two supplementary questions. Dr. Tetaua Taitai and Mr. Taneti Maamau also raised supplementary questions.

5.6 Q.34 by Mr. Tonganibeia Taam MP (Betio)

What is Government policy on the cutting down of coconut trees on leased and non-leased lands?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Environment, Lands & Agricultural Development

Speaker, Government would pay compensation to concerned landowners whose trees were cut down on both lease and non lease lands.

The Mover raised three supplementary questions. Mr. Teburoro Tito and Mrs. Tangariki Reete also raised supplementary questions.

5.7 Q.29 by Mr. Moote Terukaio MP (Nikunau)

Could the Minister responsible appoint an Agricultural Assistant for Nikunau to work with the Nurseryman so that more agricultural activities needed on the island are carried out?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Environment, Lands and Agricultural Development

Mr. Speaker, I wish to thank the MP from Nikunau and other MPs who wish also to ask the same question of wanting an Agricultural Assistant to work on their home island.

My Ministry is ready to work on the provision of an Agricultural Assistant to Nikunau to work with the Nurseryman after the recruitment process to fill in vacancies for Agricultural Assistant is complete.

The Mover raised two supplementary questions. Mr. Kouramaere Kautoa, Mr. Taneti Maamau and Mr. Banuera Berina also raised supplementary questions.

5.8 Q.11 by Mr. Bauro Tongai MP (Abaiang)

When would approval be granted for the establishment of Tebunginako Satellite School on Abaiang?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Education

Mr. Speaker, approval for the establishment of Tebunginako Satellite School on Abaiang has yet to be considered.

The Mover raised three supplementary questions.

Question time ended at 11.30 am. All Questions on the Order Paper were covered.

6. BILL – COMMITTEE STAGE

The House resolved into Committee to consider the following Bills:

6.1 Anti-Personnel Mines (Prohibition) Bill 2008

Mr. Chairman proposed that clause 1 stand part of the Bill.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that clause 2 stand part of the Bill.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that clause 3 stand part of the Bill.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that clauses 4 and 5 stand part of the Bill.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that clause 6 stand part of the Bill.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that clause 7 stand part of the Bill.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that clause 8 stand part of the Bill.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that clauses 9, 10, 11 and 12 stand part of the Bill.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that clause 13 stand part of the Bill.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that clause 14 stand part of the Bill.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that clause 15 stand part of the Bill.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that clauses 16 and 17 stand part of the Bill.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that clauses 18 and 19 stand part of the Bill.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that clauses 20 and 21 stand part of the Bill.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that clauses 22, 23 and 24 stand part of the Bill.

Question put: Carried

The Schedule of the Bill was not considered in Committee.

Mr. Chairman proposed that the Long Title of the Bill stand part of the whole Bill.

Question put: Carried

6.2 Measures to Combat Terrorism and Transnational Organized Crime (Amendment) Bill 2008

Mr. Chairman proposed that clauses 1 and 2 stand part of the Bill.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that clause 3 stand part of the Bill.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that clauses 4, 5 and 6 stand part of the Bill.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that clauses 7 and 8 stand part of the Bill.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that clause 9 stand part of the Bill.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that clause 10 stand part of the Bill.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that clause 11 stand part of the Bill.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that clause 12 stand part of the Bill.

Mr. Chairman proposed that the Long Title of the Bill stand part of the whole Bill.

Question put: Carried

The House resumed after committee stage.

7. BILLS – SECOND READING

7.1 Anti-Personnel Mines (Prohibition) Bill 2008

H.E. Te Beretitenti moved:

That the Anti-Personnel Mines (Prohibition) Bill 2008 be read the second time and do pass.

Question put: Carried

7.2 Measures to Combat Terrorism and Transnational Organized Crime (Amendment) Bill 2008

H.E. Te Beretitenti moved:

That the Measures to Combat Terrorism and Transnational Organized Crime (Amendment) Bill 2008 be read the second time and do pass.

Question put: Carried

8. BILL – FIRST READING

Appropriation Bill 2008 – Budget Speech

Hon. Minister of Finance and Economic Development presented to the House the budget speech on the Appropriation Bill 2008.

Pursuant to Rule 58(2), the debate on the Bill was deferred.

Mr. Alexander Teabo made a point of order on the Budget book as the breakdown on the Ministry of Education was missing. Hon. Minister of Finance and Economic Development noted the omission and assured the Members that the missing page will be provided to them before the debate on the Budget.

Mr. Teburoro Tito also made a point of order on the number of Oral Questions put on the Order Paper. Hon. Speaker however informed the House that, that was all the Questions that has been submitted to his office by the Office of Te Beretitenti. Hon. Speaker also reminds H.E. Te Beretitenti to instruct his Ministries to respond to Oral Questions as a matter of urgency so that many questions could be included and be dealt with if there is plenty of time left on government day.

At 12.30 pm all Businesses on the Order Paper were dealt with and the Hon. Speaker adjourned the House and to resume at 10.00 am on Wednesday, 10th December 2008.

REPUBLIC OF KIRIBATI



MANEABA NI MAUNGATABU

Fifth Meeting of the Ninth Parliament

Minutes of Proceedings
for
Wednesday, 10th December 2008

1. Hon. Speaker took the Chair at exactly 10.00 am and read Prayers.

All Members were present except Mr. Kirabuke Teiaua, Mr. Rimeta Beniamina, Mr. Teetan Mweretaka and Mr. Tekiau Aretateta who are on official businesses overseas.

2. **ORAL QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.**

The following Questions were raised to the Government:

- 2.1 Q.14 by Mr. Tebuai Uai MP (TabSouth)**

Speaker, this House may recall that the question regarding the construction of Taku causeway had been so repeatedly raised during the last four years. Government's responses to such questions are not satisfying at all. Could Government confirm to this House and in particular to the people of our island, Tabiteuea Maiaki, when will the construction of a causeway between Taku and Tabuaikia commence?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Internal & Social Affairs

Speaker, I regret to mention to this House that Taku causeway will be deferred again and that Tabiteuea Maiaki Island Council has been informed to submit a different project to replace Taku causeway.

The Mover raised six supplementary questions.

- 2.2 Q.70 by Mr. Taneti Maamau MP (Onotoa)**

When will the science laboratories in the JSS on the outer islands be fully furnished, since this kind of problem is seriously affecting education standard and quality in science and related subjects?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Education

Mr. Speaker Sir the Science Curriculum and prescriptions will be reviewed shortly and the issue of what materials and equipments to be provided for JSS Science will be decided during that review.

The Mover raised three supplementary questions while Mr. Teburoro Tito also raised three supplementary questions.

2.3 Q.17 by Mr. Kabetite Mwetaka MP (Tamana)

Can the responsible Minister inform this House why there is no recording during the hearing of all cases in the Lower Court?

Replied by H.E. Te Beretitenti

Proceedings in the Magistrates Courts are currently recorded manually by the Court Clerks and Presiding Magistrates.

The Mover raised two supplementary questions.

2.4 Q.10 by Mr. Bauro Tonggai MP (Abaiang)

When are we expecting to have a tar sealed road on outer islands?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Internal & Social Affairs

Mr. Speaker, I regret to inform the House that Government will need time to consider constructing tar sealed roads on the outer islands due to various factors and constraints that need to be reviewed and studied carefully.

The Mover raised two supplementary questions. Mr. Tebuai Uaai, Mr. Teburoro Tito, Mr. Toakai Koririntetaake and Mr. Banuera Berina also raised supplementary questions.

2.5 Q.23 by Mr. Teetan Mweretaka MP (Tabuaeran)

The recurring delay in sending seaweed funds from Tarawa create a lot of inconvenience for the people of Tabuaeran since seaweed is the islands main source of income. Could the Minister responsible explain to this House the reason for this ongoing delay and advice on possible solutions?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Fisheries & Marine Resources Development

Mr. Speaker Sir, let me thank the Honourable MP from Tabuaeran for raising this matter which is also the concern of my Ministry. My Ministry does acknowledge that there is a delay in the transfer of funds to the island and this is due to the problem the Atoll Seaweed Company is currently facing at which my Minister will rectify.

The Mover raised two supplementary questions. Mr. Nabuti Mwemwenikarawa, Dr. Harry Tong, Mr. Teburoro Tito and Mr. Tebuai Uaii also raised supplementary questions.

2.6 Q.13 by Mr. Tebuai Uaii MP (TabSouth)

Could Government table a detailed explanation on how they utilized the Taiwan's sponsorship for the 2008 Runga?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Internal and Social Affairs

Mr. Speaker, Government cannot do so at this point in time, but may table a detailed explanation if appropriate later.

The Mover raised two supplementary questions. Dr. Tetaua Taitai and Mr. Kouramaere Kautoa also raised supplementary questions.

2.7 Q.4 by Mr. Teburoro Tito MP (South Tarawa)

Will the Minister responsible inform this House on the progress of the investigation that he assured us at the last meeting of this House that he would undertake on the deportation from New Zealand of about 40 Kiribati workers with a view to seek from appropriate authorities compensation for the losses and suffering that the workers had sustained.

Replied by Hon. Minister of Labour & Human Resources Development

During the recent discussions between our staff and the RSE Team from New Zealand, we were advised that the investigation undertaken has been able to ascertain the amount of money due to our RSE workers. Unfortunately, due to the very high bank charges here in Tarawa, payment has been delayed to allow the NZ department of Labour find alternatives on how to remit the funds and avoid huge transaction costs.

The Mover raised two supplementary questions. Mr. Nabuti Mwemwenikarawa, Dr. Harry Tong, Mr. Teburoro Tito, and Mr. Tebuai Uaii also raised supplementary questions.

2.8 Q.12 by Mr. Tebuai Uaii MP (TabSouth)

When will the construction of the copra shed for Tabiteuea Maiaki which the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Co-operative will fund be commenced?

Replied by Te Kauoman ni Beretitenti

Mr. Speaker, the construction of Tabiteuea Maiaki's copra shed will be undertaken in line with the plan that is now being implemented by my Ministry.

The Mover raised three supplementary questions.

3. **BILL – COMMITTEE STAGE**

The House resolved into Committee to consider the following Bills:

Rent Review (Amendment) Bill 2008

Mr. Chairman proposed that clause 1 stand part of Bill

The following Members asked for clarifications:

Mr. Teburoro Tito
H.E. Te Beretitenti
Mr. Tebuai Uaai
Hon. Taberannang Timeon

Mr. Chairman on observing that there was a consensus to have clause 1 amended to have the time for the commencement of the Bill clearly spelt out, ordered that the committee stage of the Bill be deferred and the Members must come up with an agreed amendment after the lunch break.

Provident Fund (Amendment) Bill 2008

Mr. Chairman proposed that clause 1 and 2 stand part of the Bill

Question Put: Carried.

Mr. Chairman proposed that clause 3 stand part of the Bill

Mr. Tebuai Uaai proposed the following amendments:

“(a) the court shall equally distribute the whole amount standing to the member’s credit in the Fund to his/her offspring.”

The amendment be inserted as (a) of section 3 and lettering of paragraphs be amended as (a) to (b) and (b) to (c).

Amendments proposed and the following Members spoke on the amendments:

Mr. Banuera Berina
Hon. Natan Teewe
Dr. Harry Tong
Mr. Nabuti Mwemwenikarawa
Mr. Kirabuke Teiaua

The House adjourned for lunch break at 12.35 pm and resumed at 2.00 pm.

Committee stage of the Provident Fund (Amendment) Bill continued.

The following Members also spoke on the amendments:

Mr. Alexander Teabo

Mr. Nabuti Mwemwenikarawa eventually proposed that the committee stage of the Bill be deferred. Mr. Teburoro Tito supported the deferment. However the Mover of the amendments finally decided to withdraw his amendments and leave to withdraw the amendments was given.

Mr. Chairman again proposed that clause 3 stand part of the Bill

Question put: Carried.

Mr. Chairman proposed that the Long Title of the Bill stand part of the whole Bill

Question Put: Carried.

Rent Review (Amendment) Bill 2008 resumed.

Mr. Chairman again proposed that clause 1 stand part of the Bill

Hon. Minister of Environment, Lands and Agricultural Development moved the agreed amendments as follows:

“1. Short Title and Commencement date

This Act may be cited as the Rent review (Amendment) Act 2008 and shall be deemed to have come into operation on 1st January 2006.”

Question put on the Amendments: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that clause 1 as amended stand part of the Bill

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that clause 2 stand part of the Bill

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that the Long Title of the Bill stand part of the whole Bill.

Question Put: Carried

The House resumed after Committee.

4. BILLS – SECOND READING

4.1 Rent Review (Amendment) Bill 2008

Mr. Banuera Berina MP (South Tarawa) moved:

That the Rent Review (Amendment) Bill 2008 be read the second time and do pass.

Question put: Carried

4.2 Provident Fund (Amendment) Bill 2008

Mr. Kouramaere Kautoa MP (Makin) moved:

That the Provident Fund (Amendment) Bill 2008 be read the second time and do pass.

Question put: Carried

5. MOTIONS

5.1 Mrs. Tangariki Reete MP (Betio) moved:

Motion No. 1

This House urges Government to take and lay down appropriate measures to address the problems or hardships that the Public is continuing to suffer while admitted at the Betio Main Hospital.

Motion proposed and the following Members spoke on the Motion:

Hon. Dr. Kautu Tenaua
Mr. Tebuai Uaai
Hon. Ioteba Redfern
Mr. Alexander Teabo

At 4.20 pm, Hon. Speaker called upon the Mover to sum up.

Question Put: Carried.

The House adjourned for afternoon break and resumed at 4.32 pm.

5.2 Mr. Teburoro Tito MP (South Tarawa) moved:

Motion No. 4

That this House requests Government to pay out overtime pay on due dates in accordance with National Conditions of Services or best practice models.

Motion proposed; The following Members spoke on the Motion:

H.E. Te Beretitenti
Mr. Banuera Berina
Mr. Taneti Maamau
Dr. Harry Tong

Hon. Taberannang Timeon

Mover summed up at 5.40 pm.

Question Put: Carried.

5.3 Mr. Alexander Teabo MP (Butaritari) moved:

Motion No. 8

This House expresses its deep concern with the Government's decision in allowing a foreign construction company Dai Nippon Construction from Japan to get a refund amounting more than \$200,000 on the port charges for gravels and cements paid from the projects fund without consulting the donor.

Motion proposed and the following Members spoke on the Motion:

H.E. Te Beretitenti.
Mr. Teburoro Tito
Mr. Nabuti Mwemwenikarawa

Hon. Ioteba Redfern interrupted at 6.00 pm.

The Mover summed up at 6.30 pm.

Question Put:

A division was called and the results are:

For= 15 Against= 24 Absent= 7

From the result the Motion was not carried.

Hon. Speaker adjourned the House at 6.50 pm and to resume at 10.00 am on Thursday, 11th December 2008.

REPUBLIC OF KIRIBATI



MANEABA NI MAUNGATABU

Fifth Meeting of the Ninth Parliament

Minutes of Proceedings
for
Thursday, 11th December 2008

1. Hon. Speaker took the Chair at 10.00 am and read Prayers.

All Members were present except Mr. Kirabuke Teiaua, Mr. Rimeta Beniamina, Mr. Teetan Mweretaka and Mr. Tekiau Aretateta who are on official businesses overseas.

2. **ORAL QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

The following Questions were raised to the Government:

- 2.1 **Q.22 by Mr. Teetan Mweretaka MP (Tabuaeran)**

Could the Minister responsible advice this House on the procedures involved in refunding government school's caution fee?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Education

Mr. Speaker sir, since the control and management of caution fees is under control of school management a more detailed explanation can best be sought from the Principals of the concerned schools, however the basic process should be that once the teachers and other school authorities have cleared a student of all losses and damage then the caution fee should be reimbursed if it is verified that student did indeed pay the caution fee.

The Mover raised three supplementary questions. Mr. Taneti Maamau and Mr. Alexander Teabo also raised supplementary questions.

- 2.2 **Q.37 by Mr. Tonganibeia Taam MP (Betio)**

Has the Ministry of Education conducted a final assessment on the Betio Parish College, St Patrick College and if so what are the government plans on this school?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Education

Speaker, two inspections have been undertaken for Betio Parish St. Patrick College and the Ministry is now finalizing recommendations.

The Mover raised three supplementary questions.

2.3 Q.67 by Mr. Alexander Teabo MP (Butaritari)

Speaker, Could the Minister responsible inform this House and the people of Kiribati the followings:

- i. The total amount withdrawn from the RERF that have been made for this year only to balance the 2008 budget?
- ii. The dates the withdrawals were made throughout this year 2008?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Finance & Economic Development

The total drawdown from the RERF for this year is \$25 million. \$5 million was drawn in January, \$5 million in March, \$5 million in May, \$5 million in June, \$3 million in September and \$2 million in October.

The Mover raised five supplementary questions while Mr. Tebuai Uaai raised one supplementary question.

2.4 Q.63 by Mr. Banuera Berina MP (South Tarawa)

When Tarawa Biscuit Co. Ltd was established the government at the time also raised customs duty on imported cabin biscuits so that the price of cabin biscuits produced by Tarawa Biscuit will be comparable with the price of imported biscuits or even cheaper.

Could the Minister responsible explain what caused this government to reduce duty on imported biscuits?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Finance & Economic Development

The move to reduce custom duty on imported cabin biscuits was to give the people more options besides rice and flour.

The Mover raised six supplementary questions.

2.5 Q.25 by Mr. Teetan Mweretaka MP (Tabuaeran)

Could the Minister responsible, explain to this House the reasons for the recurring delay in sending JSC, KNC and PSSC exam papers to Tabuaeran JSS and Meleangi Tabai Secondary School?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Education

Speaker, the main reason for the recurring delay in sending JSC, KNC and PSSC exam papers to Tabuaeran JSS and Meleangi Tabai Secondary School is because of transport problems to the Line Islands.

The Mover raised three supplementary questions. Mr. Mikaere Baraniko, Mrs. Rereao Tetaake Eria and Mr. Toakai Koririntetaake also raised supplementary questions.

2.6 Q.7 by Mr. Teburoro Tito MP (South Tarawa)

Will the Minister responsible inform this House who authorized the Kiribati Football Association and the other sporting associations to exclude teams from the National Championship on account of fees that have nothing to do with the tournament?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Internal & Social Affairs

Mr. Speaker, the Kiribati Sports Authority authorised Sports Federations, including the Kiribati Football Association, to implement the Runga on its behalf?

The Mover raised six supplementary questions.

2.7 Q.72 by Mr. Taneti Maamau MP (Onotoa)

The services of the technician to fix the ice plant in Onotoa is in great demand, with over two months of waiting. Could the ministry concerned inform this House when will the technician go to Onotoa?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Fisheries & Marine Resource Development

Mr. Speaker Sir, in response to the Honourable MP question, let me assure the MP that my Ministry will solve the problem as soon as possible.

The Mover raised three supplementary questions while Mr. Matang Tekitanga raised one supplementary question.

Question time ended at 11.30 am.

3. BILL – COMMITTEE STAGE

The House resolved into Committee to consider the following Bills:

3.1 Police Service Bill 2008

Mr. Chairman proposed that clauses 1, 2, 3 and 4 stand part of the Bill.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that clauses 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 stand part of the Bill.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that clauses 11 to 16 (inclusive) stand part of the Bill.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that clauses 17 to 25 (inclusive) stand part of the Bill.

H.E. Te Beretienti moved amendments to section 19; repealing subsection 4 and renumbering subsections (5), (6) and (7) as subsections (4), (5) and (6) and inserting a new subsection (7).

Question put on the Amendments: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that clauses 17 to 25 (including section 19 as amended) stand part of the Bill.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that clauses 26 to 28 (inclusive) stand part of the Bill.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that clauses 29 to 39 (inclusive) stand part of the Bill.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that clauses 40 to 43 (inclusive) stand part of the Bill.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that clauses 44 to 49 (inclusive) stand part of the Bill.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that clauses 50 to 54 (inclusive) stand part of the Bill.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that clauses 55 to 58 (inclusive) stand part of the Bill.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that clauses 59 to 62 (inclusive) stand part of the Bill.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that clauses 63 to 67 (inclusive) stand part of the Bill.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that clauses 68 to 78 (inclusive) stand part of the Bill.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that clauses 79 to 87 (inclusive) stand part of the Bill.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that clauses 88 to 106 (inclusive) stand part of the Bill.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that clauses 107 to 114 (inclusive) stand part of the Bill.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that clauses 115 to 127 (inclusive) stand part of the Bill.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that clause 128 stand part of the Bill.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that the Long Title of the Bill stand part of the whole Bill.

Question put: Carried

3.2 Police Powers and Duties Bill 2008

Mr. Chairman proposed that clauses 1 to 8 (inclusive) stand part of the Bill.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that clauses 9 to 43 (inclusive) stand part of the Bill.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that clauses 44 to 56 (inclusive) stand part of the Bill.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that clauses 57 and 73 (inclusive) stand part of the Bill.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that clauses 74 to 111 (inclusive) stand part of the Bill.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that clauses 112 to 127 (inclusive) stand part of the Bill.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that clauses 128 to 131 (inclusive) stand part of the Bill.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that clauses 132 to 149 (inclusive) stand part of the Bill.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that clauses 150 to 154 (inclusive) stand part of the Bill.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that the Long Title of the Bill stand part of the whole Bill.

Question put: Carried

The House resumed after committee stage.

4. BILLS – SECOND READING

4.1 Police Service Bill 2008

H.E. Te Beretitenti moved:

That the Police Service Bill 2008 be read the second time and do pass.

Question put: Carried

4.2 Police Powers and Duties Bill 2008

H.E. Te Beretitenti moved:

That the Police Powers and Duties Bill 2008 be read the second time and do pass.

Question put: Carried

5. BILL – FIRST READING

5.1 Supplementary Appropriation (No. 3) Bill 2008

Hon. Minister of Finance and Economic Development moved:

That the Supplementary Appropriation (No. 3) Bill 2008 be read the first time.

Bill proposed.

House adjourned for lunch at 12.30 pm and resumed at 2.00 pm.

The following Members spoke on the Bill:

Mr. Nabuti Mwemwenikarawa

Mr. Tebuai Uaai

Mr. Ieremia Tabai

House adjourned at 4.00 pm and resumed at 4.30 pm.

Discussion on the Bill continued as follows:

Hon. Dr. Kautu Tenaua

Hon. Amberoti Nikora

Mover of the Bill then summed p.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Teburoro Tito made a point of order arguing that as he was not given the chance to speak on the Bill, he could not to respond to the comments made by some of the Ministers.

All Businesses on the Order Paper were dealt with but as there is plenty of time left the House proceeded to deal with Oral Questions remaining on the Order Paper.

6. ORAL QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

The following Questions were raised to the Government:

6.1 Q.9 by Mr. Teburoro Tito MP (South Tarawa)

Will the Minister responsible explain the rationale behind the reduction or, in some cases, total abolishment of per diem allowances for people representing Kiribati in regional and international sporting events?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Internal & Social Affairs

Mr. Speaker Sir, explanations regarding the per diem for athletes taking part in

regional and international games can be provided by my office. The current arrangement is that they are given \$10 per day and \$70 per day for transit or stopover.

The Mover raised six supplementary questions.

6.2 Q.40 by Mr. Alexander Teabo MP (Butaritari)

Mr. Speaker, Most Island Cooperative Societies established in all islands have faced difficulties in their operation. Does Government have plans to improve or strengthen the Island Cooperatives Societies or not?

Replied by Te Kauoman ni Beretitenti

Mr. Speaker, One important role of Government through my Ministry is the improvement and strengthening of existing and newly established Cooperative Societies in Kiribati.

The Mover raised four supplementary questions while Mr. Toakai Koririntetaake raised two supplementary questions.

6.3 Q.60 by Mr. Banuera Berina MP (South Tarawa)

As the government will agree it has accepted the motion regarding the way the problem faced by the former settlers of the Phoenix Islands who did not make it to the Solomons was to be accommodated. After the motion was passed these people have complied with the requirements imposed on them before they could be sent to Christmas Island.

Could the Minister responsible clarify what the latest position of the government is regarding these people?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Environment, Lands & Agricultural Development

Mr. Speaker this Government has considered ex-Rawaki request and has agreed that they be included among the priority groups from South Tarawa who would go through the screening and selection process for the 231 Phase 2 Plot Release Programme in Kiritimati.

The Mover raised five supplementary questions while Mr. Tonganibeia Taam raised one supplementary question.

(Hon. James Taom interrupted at 6.00 pm)

6.4 Q.68 by Mr. Taneti Maamau MP (Onotoa)

Is Government planning to close all of BKL's outlet on the remaining outer islands, including the one operating in Onotoa?

Replied by Te Kauoman ni Beretitenti

Mr. Speaker, the Government has no plan to close all of BKL's outlet on the outer islands including the one operating in Onotoa.

The Mover raised two supplementary questions. Mr. Toakai Koririntetaake also raised two supplementary questions.

6.5 Q.5 by Mr. Teburoro Tito MP (South Tarawa)

Will the Minister responsible inform this House whether Government still wishes to fulfill its election promise to provide salary for all pre-school teachers?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Education

I regret to advise that at this time Government has not yet finalized proposals to pay the salaries for pre-school teachers.

The Mover raised six two supplementary questions.

Q.21 by Mr. Bauro Tenano MP (North Tarawa)

Could Government assist to expand the electricity supply to North Tarawa from Nabeina to Buariki?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Public Works & Utilities

Speaker, Government is prepared to assist and collaborate with PUB in finding the Technical Assistant needed to, first of all, carryout the feasibility study on the pros and cons of extending electricity supply to the remaining villages of North Tarawa by PUB. The question as to whether or not the requested extension can be done will depend on the outcome of the feasibility study.

The Mover raised three supplementary questions. Mr. Inatio Tanentoa and Mr. Nabuti Mwemwenikarawa also raised supplementary questions.

Hon. Speaker adjourned the House at 6. 30 pm and to resume at 10.00 am on Friday, 12th December 2008.

REPUBLIC OF KIRIBATI



MANEABA NI MAUNGATABU

Fifth Meeting of the Ninth Parliament

Minutes of Proceedings
for
Friday, 12th December 2008

1. Hon. Speaker took the Chair at 10.00 am and read Prayers.

All Members were present except Mr. Rimeta Beniamina, Mr. Teatu Moutu Kaibuariiki and Mr. Tekiau Aretateta who are still on official businesses overseas.

2. **PRESENTATION PAPER**

By Hon. Speaker

Report of Auditor General on the account of Betio Shipyard Ltd for the year ended 31 August 2005.

Paper No. 28/08

3. **ORAL QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

The following Questions were raised to the Government:

3.1 Q.38 by Mr. Tonganibeia Taam MP (Betio) was withdrawn.

3.2 Q.58 by Mrs. Rereao Tetaake Eria MP (Teraina)

Could the Minister responsible explain to this House the reasons for the delay in establishing KOIL branch on Teraina despite numerous requests on this need and favourable and exciting responses to this request from the Minister responsible?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Public Works & Utilities

Speaker, Government's answer to this question remains the same – i.e the request to establish KOIL's branch in Teraina is supported but implementation will depend on the financial capability of KOIL.

The Mover raised three supplementary questions while Mr. Banuera Berina raised two supplementary questions.

3.3 Q.8 by Mr. Teburoro Tito MP (South Tarawa) lapsed.

3.4 Q.61 by Mr. Banuera Berina MP (South Tarawa)

The people in Temaiku are appreciative of the President's resolve to get a primary school going for their children which was supposed to have to start running from the second term in 2007. Since the school is very much needed by the residents of this village. Could the Government explain what the latest plans are regarding the school?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Education

Speaker Sir, there is need for Government to further discuss the school site with the people of Temaiku to get the agreement of the community that the school will be built on the site already identified by Government.

The Mover raised two supplementary questions while Mr. Teburoro Tito raised one supplementary question.

3.5 Q.69 by Mr. Taneti Maamau MP (Onotoa)

There is a great demand for the national conditions of service by all Government employees working on the outer islands, therefore, could Government provide copies of the National Condition of Service (NCS) to these public employees as soon as possible?

Replied by H. E. Te Beretitenti

Government will provide copies of the National Conditions of Service to the outer islands to address this need.

The Mover raised one supplementary question.

3.6 Q.80 by Mr. Kirabuke Teiaua MP (Beru)

Could the Minister responsible inform this House the latest progress on the Pacific Seasonal Worker Pilot scheme conducted by the Government of Australia and the number so far being recruited from my electorate island – Beru to work under this scheme?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Labour & Human Resource Development

The MOU was signed on 24 November 2008 between the sending Government and the Government of Australia. The selection of workers to this scheme has not been done.

The Mover raised three supplementary questions. Mr. Teburoro Tito, Mr. Kabetite Mwetaka and Mrs. Rereao Tetaake Eria raised one supplementary question each.

3.7 Q.66 by Mr. Teburoro Tito MP (South Tarawa)

Will the Minister responsible favourably consider the problems facing the TUC JSS 1 at Bangantebure as already conveyed by the Principal and the School Committee in past years relating particularly to the need for a watchman, a plumber and a cleaner and the need for a major renovation of the school's toilet blocks?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Education

Mr. Speaker, my Ministry will try and find answers to the problems raised in accordance with Government procedures.

The Mover raised three supplementary questions. Dr. Tetaua Taitai and Mr. Tebuai Uaai also raised supplementary questions.

3.8 Q.18 by Mr. Kabetite Mwetaka MP (Tamana)

I would like to ask the responsible Minister what are his proposal plans for clearing passages which were already blasted and reef blasting for new passages which are needed by fisherman?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Communication, Transport & Tourism Development

Speaker, the question has two parts. Firstly, what Government plans are for clearing passages which had been blasted and secondly, construction of new reef passages for fishermen.

This is my answer for the first part; clearing of passages which had already been blasted, shall be carried out when the "nationwide reef passage project" is implemented.

For the second part, the construction of new reef passages for fishermen will require an assessment of its economic and environmental impacts.

The Mover raised three supplementary questions. Dr. Tetaua Taitai, Mr. Alexander Teabo, Mrs. Rereao Tetaake Eria and Mr. Kirabuke Teiaua also raised supplementary questions.

3.9 Q.24 by Mr. Teetan Mweretaka MP (Tabuaeran)

The ongoing delay in sending telmo's for Government employees' salaries to Tabuaeran causes numerous inconveniences among them. Could Government find ways to improve this and to ensure that these employees receive their salaries on payday without further delays?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Finance & Economic Development

Government will find ways to minimize delays in sending salary telmos to Government employees on the outer islands.

The Member raised one supplementary question while Mr. Tebuai Uaai raised two supplementary questions.

3.10 Q.33 by Mr. Tonganibeia Taam MP (Betio)

Could Government ensure that before a buyer of land is registered on the land he bought, a boundaries determination with the adjoining landowners of the land bought is conducted to determine the boundaries of the land bought?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Environment, Lands & Agricultural Development

Mr. Speaker, the main purpose for the amendment Bill passed in 2000 relating to the Native Lands Ordinance was to ensure that the lands court does not approve any transfer of title over land by sale or other means unless there is evidence of the boundaries of that land being properly determined.

The Mover raised two supplementary questions. Mr. Kirabuke Teiaua and Dr. Harry Tong also raised supplementary questions.

4. MOTIONS

4.1 Mr. Banuera Berina MP (South Tarawa) moved:

Motion No. 3

The Mover sought leave to make a minor amendment. The amendment was accepted by H.E. te Beretitenti.

That this House asks H.E. Te Beretitenti to lay before this House the report of the Commission of Inquiry on the purchase of MV Mataraoi by Kiribati Shipping Services Ltd, a government company.

Motion proposed and the following Members spoke on the Motion:

H.E. Te Beretitenti
Mr. Teburoro Tito
Mr. Tebuai Uaai

The House adjourned at 12.35 pm and resumed at 2.00 pm.

Discussion on the Motion continued as follows:

Hon. Taberannang Timeon
Mr. Tonganibeia Taam
Hon. Amberoti Nikora
Mr. Alexander Teabo
Mr. Patrick Tatireta

Mover then summed up.

Question put: Carried.

4.2 Mr. Taneti Maamau MP (Onotoa) moved:

Motion No. 13

Government is requested to strongly urge the business community who import electronic goods like videos, cameras, musical instruments of various sorts, computers, printers, photocopiers and others to ensure that these goods are imported with adequate spare parts, and to issue warranties as well.

Motion proposed and was replied by Te Kauoman ni Beretitenti.

Mover then summed up.

Question put: Carried.

4.3 Mr. Teburoro Tito MP (South Tarawa) moved:

Motion No. 5

That this House expresses its gravest concern over the huge drop in the value of the Revenue Equalisation Reserve Fund and urges the Government and other responsible bodies to do their outmost to ensure that the Fund does not end up in a disaster

Motion proposed.

House adjourned for afternoon tea at 4.00 pm and resumed at 4.20 pm.

The following Members spoke on the Motion:

Hon. Natan Teewe
Dr. Harry Tong
Mr. Taneti Maamau
Hon. Ioteba Redfern

At 5.30 pm, the Mover summed up.

Question put: Carried.

4.4 Mr. Kouramaere Kautoa MP (Makin) moved:

Motion No. 2

That this House urges this government to ensure the medical officers and other nursing officers who are found to have been negligent in the

performance of their duties resulting in the near death or death of patients be punished in accordance with the gravity of their negligence.

Motion proposed; the following Members spoke on the Motion:

Hon. Dr. Kautu Tenaua
Mr. Toakai Koririntetaake
Mr. Alexander Teabo
Dr. Tetaua Taitai
H.E. Te Beretitenti
Mr. Teburoro Tito
(Te Kauoman ni Beretitenti interrupted at 6.00 pm)

The Mover then summed up.

Question put: Carried.

Hon. Speaker adjourned the House at 6.34 pm and to resume at 10.00 am on Monday, 15th December 2008.

REPUBLIC OF KIRIBATI



MANEABA NI MAUNGATABU

Fifth Meeting of the Ninth Parliament

Minutes of Proceedings
for
Monday, 15th December 2008

1. Hon. Speaker took the Chair at 10.00 am and read Prayers.

All Members were present except Mr. Rimeta Beniamina, Mr. Teatu Moutu Kaibuariki and Mr. Tekiau Aretateta who are on official businesses overseas.

2. **ORAL QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

The following Questions were raised to the Government.

- 2.1 Q.41 by Mr. Alexander Teabo MP (Butaritari)**

The need for photocopy machines in the outer islands is still yet to be materialized. Could the office of the Minister responsible assist in finding funds from any available donor to fund the photocopy machines for outer island councils' project that had been listed under unfunded projects in the Development Budget since 2004 up until 2008?

Replied by Hon. Minister for Internal and Social Affairs

Mr. Speaker, we will try to do as requested subject to existing conditions and constraints.

The Mover raised three supplementary questions.

- 2.2 Q.76 by Mr. Taneti Maamau MP (Onotoa)**

Could the Minister responsible explain the main reason to Radio Kiribati, through its AM band within the BPA, has not been operating for quite some time?

Replied by Hon. Minister for Communication, Transport & Tourism Development

BPA's AM transmitter failed due to failure of certain parts, including its capacitor.

The Mover raised three supplementary questions while Mr. Teburoro Tito raised two. One supplementary question raised by the Mover was answered by H.E. Te Beretitenti.

2.3 Q.42 by Mr. Bauro Tenano MP (North Tarawa)

Could Government seek aid funds for the construction of a new Maneaba for the people of North Tarawa to be built on South Tarawa?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Internal and Social Affairs

Mr. Speaker, there are no plans for the construction of a new maneaba for North Tarawa on South Tarawa.

The Mover raised two supplementary questions while Mrs. Rereao Tetaake Eria raised one supplementary question.

2.4 Q.39 by Mr. Tonganibeia Taam MP (Betio)

Section 12 and 13 of the Environment Act provides offences and fines in relation to littering and pig premises. What has Government done to implement compliance to these sections?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Environment, Lands & Agriculture Development

Mr. Speaker, my Ministry had commenced compliances with Section 13 on South Tarawa, however implementation of Section 12 of the Environment Act is still at its early stages.

The Mover raised four supplementary questions.

2.5 Q.75 by Mr. Taneti Maamau MP (Onotoa)

The people on Onotoa are anxiously waiting for the introduction of a telephone, fax and internet system on the island, which they were told would be done after the project on Aranuka was completed. Now that the telecommunication project on Aranuka has been done, could Government inform this House when will the project commence on Onotoa?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Communication, Transport & Tourism Development

Work on Onotoa new telephone system will commence when funding is available.

The Mover raised five supplementary questions while Mr. Timon R Aneri raised one.

2.6 Q.8 by Mr. Teburoro Tito MP (South Tarawa)

Will the Minister responsible inform this House whether Government still wishes to fulfill its election promise about retrospective upgrading of salary scales of all nurses holding a diploma qualification from the Kiribati School Nursing?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Health & Medical Services

My Ministry is currently undertaking a review of post qualification requirements for the nursing profession as part of a wider review of salary grading for nurses.

The Mover raised five supplementary questions and H.E Te Beretitenti answered all supplementary questions raised by the mover.

2.7 Q.84 by Mrs. Tangariki Reete MP (Betio)

Government is asked if it could standardize the amount of leave grant payable to civil servants without considering their marital status nor taking into account the fact that their spouses are also employed by Government or Statutory Companies?

Replied by H.E. Te Beretitenti

Government has already reviewed the leave grant issue many times in the past but is prepared to do so again as raised by the Honourable Member.

The Mover raised two supplementary questions while Mr. Alexander Teabo raised three supplementary questions.

2.8 Q. 56 by Mrs. Rereao Tetaake Eria MP (Teraina)

Could the Minister responsible see the need to have LC Betiraoi replaced as it continues to break down and is not prompt to serve the need of the Phoenix Group especially Teraina?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Communication, Transport & Tourism Development

Government is prepared to review the suitability of LC Betiraoi for the service in the Northern Line Islands.

The Mover raised three supplementary questions.

2.9 Q.93 by Mr. Ieremia Tabai MP (Nonouti) lapsed.

2.10 Q.109 by Mr. Kouramaere Kautoa MP (Makin)

Could the Government in consultation with the solar company reduce the charges for lights in religious and village maneaba on outer islands?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Public Works & Utilities

Speaker, details of the request under discussion have been brought to the attention of the Kiribati Solar Energy Company but, as a matter of procedure, it has to be taken up first to the company's Board of Directors for their perusal and consideration.

The Mover raised one supplementary question. Mr. Tonganibeia Taam and Mr. Kabetite Mwetaka also raised supplementary questions.

2.11 Q.85 by Mrs. Tangariki Reete MP (Betio)

Could Government allow the unoccupied land space situated beside the TKL at Temakin to be used by Betio land-owners to ease overcrowding now experienced by these families in their present allocated zones?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Environment, Lands & Agriculture Development

Mr. Speaker, I regret to inform that Government has already agreed to allocate the site for commercial use but not for residential purposes.

The Mover raised three supplementary questions. Dr. Harry Tong and Mr. Tonganibeia Taam also raised supplementary questions.

2.12 Q.112 by Mr. Kirabuke Teiaua MP (Beru) lapsed.

2.13 Q. 105 by Mr. Matang Tekitanga MP (Kuria)

Mr. Speaker, could Government strictly enforce the laws related to the disposing of rubbish on the beach and in the sea?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Environment, Lands & Agricultural Development

Speaker, my Ministry has commenced compliance with Section 16 (Dumping in sea and lagoon) of the Environment Act 1999 as amended in 2007.

The Mover raised two supplementary questions. Mr. Tonganibeia Taam also raised two supplementary questions.

3. BILL – FIRST READING

3.1 Appropriation Bill 2008 (Budget debate)

The following Members spoke on the Bill:

Mr. Banuera Berina
Hon. Taberannang Timeon

The House adjourned for lunch at 12.36 pm and resumed at 2.02 pm.

Discussion on the Appropriation Bill continued and the following Members spoke on the Bill:

Mr. Teburoro Tito
Hon. Amberoti Nikora
Mr. Alexander Teabo
Mr. Ieremia Tabai
Mr. Tebuai Uaai

House adjourned at 4.00 pm and resumed at 4.20 pm.

The following Members spoke on the Bill:

Mr. Timon R Aneri
Mr. Matang Tekitanga
H.E. Te Beretitenti
Mr. Taneti Maamau
Dr. Tetaua Taitai

(Hon. Kouraiti Beniato interrupted at 6.00 pm).

The Mover was then given the floor to sum up at 6.16 pm.

Question Put: Carried.

Hon. Speaker adjourned the House at 6.49 pm and to resume at 10.00 am on Tuesday, 16th December 2008.

REPUBLIC OF KIRIBATI



MANEABA NI MAUNGATABU

Fifth Meeting of the Ninth Parliament

Minutes of Proceedings
for
Tuesday, 16th December 2008

1. Hon. Speaker took the Chair at 10.00 am and read Prayers.

All Members were present except Mr. Bauro Tongaai, Mr. Rimeta Beniamina, Mr. Teatu Moutu Kaibuariki and Mr. Tekiau Aretateta who are still on official businesses overseas.

2. **PRESENTATION OF PAPER**

By Chairman of the Public Account Committee

Report of the Public Account Committee on the Government Account for the year ended 31 December 2005

Paper No. 29/08

3. **ORAL QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

The following Questions were raised to the Government:

3.1 Q.86 by Mrs. Tangariki Reete MP (Betio)

Could the responsible Minister describe to this House the actual motive behind the increase made on import duty for cigarettes, liquor and beer?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Finance & Economic Development

The main reason for increasing import duty on cigarettes, liquor and beer was to find ways of increasing Government revenue from imports that have adverse health effects on the people.

The Mover raised one supplementary question. Mr. Inatio Tanentoa and Mr. Banuera Berina also raised supplementary questions.

3.2 Q.79 by Mrs. Rereao Tetaake Eria MP (Teraina)

Most of clinics usually run out of medicine. Could the Minister responsible explain what is the solution for this problem?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Health & Medical Services

Mr. Speaker, in responding to the question I wish to inform this House that all pharmaceutical orders from outer islands are processed as a high priority by the Ministry of Health and Medical Services (Pharmacy), so as to ensure essential medicines and medical supplies are available when needed. My Ministry is working towards resolving the issue of shortages of medicine and medical supplies on the outer islands including Teraina.

The Mover raised three supplementary questions. Mr. Tebuai Uaai and Mr. Alexander Teabo also raised supplementary questions.

3.3 Q.108 by Mr. Kouramaere Kautoa MP (Makin)

Could the Minister explain to the Agricultural Cooperative why those who have won prizes in the competition held this year in Makin still have not got their prizes?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Environment, Lands & Agricultural Development

Mr. Speaker, I regret to inform the Farmers Association on Makin that the Agriculture and Livestock Division (ALD) has problems in providing the prize which they requested for their agricultural competition.

The Mover raised two supplementary questions while Mr. Toakai Koririntetaake raised one supplementary question.

3.4 Q.16 by Mr. Kabetite Mwetaka MP (Tamana)

Air fare to Tamana is very expensive could the responsible Minister and Air Kiribati Board of Directors revise their air fares?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Communications, Transport & Tourism Development

Mr. Speaker Sir, I can liaise with the Board Directors of Air Kiribati to review and revise its fares to Tamana but it must be pointed out that Air Kiribati must be able to recover its operating costs for providing the service to Tamana and any other island for that matter.

The Mover raised three supplementary questions. Mr. Teburoro Tito and Mr. Kirabuke Teiaua also raised supplementary questions.

3.5 Q.28 by Mr. Moote Terukaio MP (Nikunau)

Could the Minister responsible allow a court sitting to register late date of births in the register to be held once a month or on a timely basis in Nikunau?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Internal and Social Affairs

The Registrar General, who is responsible for determining court sittings for late registrations, will be asked to look into the request.

The Mover raised three supplementary questions.

3.6 Q.93 by Mr. Ieremia Tabai MP (Nonouti)

Many people on the outer islands now are suffering because of the big drop in the copra production. I want to ask the Minister if he can quickly make the decision to encourage the coconut replanting in the whole of the country.

Replied by Hon. Minister of Environment, Lands & Agricultural Development

Speaker, allow me to thank the MP from Nonouti for a very important question that indeed touches the lives of our people. I wish to inform this House that Food and Agriculture Organization has allocated a sum of money to assist Kiribati in the replanting scheme. Upon receipt of the money which is anticipated to be next year, the scheme will commence.

The Mover raised one supplementary question.

3.7 Q.112 by Mr. Kirabuke Teiaua MP (Beru)

Could the Minister responsible explain was there any action taken by water technical staff in response to the needs of the people of Taborengerenge, Taboiaki Beru in relation with the breakdown of the water solar system in their village?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Public Works & Utilities

Speaker, Yes I can. Upon receipt of our staff's report on the problem from the island on 27th November last month, booking for an official from the Ministry to inspect and fix the reported problem was arranged straight away. This official will depart for Beru on the flight to the island scheduled 15th December 2008.

The Mover raised two supplementary questions.

3.8 Q.119 by Mr. Teiwaki Areieta MP (Maiana)

Could the Minister responsible give an update on the current progress on the re-breeding of the bun in the lagoon of Maiana?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Fisheries & Marine Resource Development

Mr. Speaker, Sir, to update the Honourable MP from Maiana and his island communities I am happy to say that 1,355 pcs of "Te bun" has been transplanted in the lagoon of Maiana.

The Mover raised two supplementary questions.

3.9 Q.65 by Mr. Banuera Berina MP (South Tarawa)

Because of the need to maintain the cleanliness of the water supply for all the people of South Tarawa there is a clear need for a sewerage system that drains waste into the sea, especially in villages where this project has not been implemented.

Does the government view this as a need for the people in South Tarawa?
If so when is the work on it going to embark on the project?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Public Works & Utilities

Government recognizes the importance of improving the management of water and sewerage systems for the people of Kiribati, including the population on South Tarawa. Accordingly, Government is prepared to study the merits of the proposal to extend the coverage of the current sewerage system on South Tarawa.

The Mover raised three supplementary questions while Dr. Harry Tong raised one supplementary question.

3.10 Q.97 by Mr. Tebuai Uaai MP (TabSouth)

Government is requested to explain to this House why Air Kiribati deducted \$7.22 fortnightly from its employees' salary who occupied "F-Grade" houses, owned by the Kiribati Housing Corporation?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Communications, Transport & Tourism Development

Under Air Kiribati's Conditions of Service it is mandatory for Air Kiribati employees who occupy "F" Grade houses owned by the Kiribati Housing Corporation to pay \$7.22 per fortnight for their house rent.

The Mover raised six supplementary questions.

3.11 Q.111 by Mr. Kirabuke Teiaua MP (Beru) was deferred as the Minister replying was absent.

3.12 Q.106 by Mr. Matang Tekitanga MP (Kuria)

Mr. Speaker, could Government liaise with TSKL so that it pay its license to island councils for operating its telecommunication services that is making profits?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Communications, Transport & Tourism Development

In response to the question raised by the Honourable Member from Kuria, I am sorry to say that TSKL has been operating at a loss for over 20 years in providing these important services to the outer islands thus paying license increase this loss to TSKL. For this reason, TSKL will not be able to pay Council Licence until each outer islands operation become profitable.

The Mover raised three supplementary questions. Mr. Mikaere Baraniko and Mr. Teburoro Tito also raised supplementary questions.

3.13 Q.118 by Mr. Teiwaki Areieta MP (Maiana)

Could the Minister responsible explain why Taie Tiaon a former worker in Nauru has not received his wages even though his name was listed in the payment list?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Labour & Human Resource Development

Speaker, I regret to inform the Hon. Member from Maiana that the name Tate Tiaon cannot be found on the list of names of those repatriated from Nauru nor the payment list.

The Mover raised five supplementary questions while Mr. Teburoro Tito raised one supplementary question.

Question time ended at 11.30 am.

4. BILL – COMMITTEE STAGE

The House resolved into Committee to consider the following Bill:

3.1 Supplementary Appropriation (No. 3) Bill 2008

Hon. Minister of Finance and Economic Development moved amendments to the figures.

Consideration of the Schedule

Mr. Chairman proposed that the sum of \$89,015.00 under Head 02 Contribution to the Development Fund stand part of the Schedule.

The following Members asked questions for clarifications:

Mr. Tebuai Uaai
Mr. Teburoro Tito
Mr. Kirabuke Teiaua

Hon. Natan Teewe and Hon. Temate Ereateiti provided clarifications.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that the sum of \$106,044.00 under Head 15 Ministry of Internal and Social Affairs stand part of the Schedule.

The following Members asked questions for clarifications:

Mr. Tebuai Uai
Mr. Teburoro Tito

Hon. Amberoti Nikora provided clarifications.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that the sum of \$684,157.00 under Head 22 Ministry of Health and Medical Services stand part of the Schedule.

The following Members asked questions for clarifications:

Mr. Tebuai Uai
Mr. Teburoro Tito

Hon. Dr. Kautu Tenaua provided clarifications.

Question put: Carried

The House adjourned at 12.30 pm and resumed at 2.00 pm.

Committee stage of the Supplementary Appropriation (No. 3) Bill 2008 continued.

Mr. Chairman proposed that the sum of \$108,612.00 under Head 24 Ministry of Communication, Transport and Tourism Development stand part of the Schedule.

Mr. Teburoro Tito asked questions for clarifications and Hon. Natan Teewe and Hon. Temate Ereateiti provided clarifications to the questions raised.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that the sum of \$350,000.00 under Head 29 Ministry of Line and Phoenix Islands Development stand part of the Schedule.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that the sum of \$994,115.00 under Head 31 Subsidies, Grants and Other Commitments stand part of the Schedule.

Mr. Teburoro Tito asked for clarifications.

Te Kauoman ni Beretitenti provided clarifications.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that the Total sum of \$2,331,943.00 stand part of the Schedule.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that clause 1 stand part of the Bill.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that clauses 2 and 3 stand part of the Bill.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that the Long Title of the Bill stand part of the whole Bill.

Question put: Carried

The House resumed after committee stage.

4. BILL – SECOND READING

Supplementary Appropriation (No. 3) Bill 2008

Hon. Minister of Finance and Economic Development moved:

That the Supplementary Appropriation (No. 3) Bill 2008 be read the second time and do pass.

Question put: Carried

5. BILLS – FIRST READING

5.1 Local Government (Amendment) Bill 2008

Hon. Minister of Internal and Social Affairs moved:

That the Local Government (Amendment) Bill 2008 be read the first time.

Bill proposed. The following Members spoke on the Bill:

Mr. Nabuti Mwemwenikarawa
Mr. Tebuai Uaai

Mover then summed up.

Question put: Carried

5.2 Constitution (Amendment) Bill 2008 by H.E. Te Beretitenti was withdrawn.

6. ADJOURNMENT MOTION

Te Kauoman ni Beretitenti on behalf of the Hon. Minister of Finance and Economic Development moved the adjournment Motion but the Hon. Speaker however decided that as there is still plenty of time left, remaining Questions on the Order Paper will be dealt with.

7. ORAL QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

The following Questions were raised to the Government:

7.1 Q.57 by Mrs. Rereao Tetaake Eria MP (Teraina)

The request to improve the passage at Tevalua in Teraina has been raised in the meeting of this House more than three times. I ask the minister responsible what are the plans for a survey which is expected to be conducted in 2008, which is about to end now?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Communication, Transport & Tourism Development

Speaker, as soon as sufficient funds are available, the program for the whole of Kiribati, which includes a survey of Tevalua passage at Teraina, will be finalized.

The Mover raised four supplementary questions.

7.2 Q.2 by Mr. Teburoro Tito MP (South Tarawa)

In connection with the Government's commitment to come up with remedial measures to combat the huge rise in the price of rice and other basic imported food items, as pronounced at the last meeting (in August 2008) of this House, will the Minister responsible inform this House as to the following:

- a) the remedial measures that government has come up with;
- b) the total cost that government has to bear in implementing such measures;
- c) the total amount of government money that has already been paid out in connection therewith;
- d) the source of financing and authority for such expenditure;
- e) the amount, if any, that government owes to each of the importers or wholesalers and other who participate in the implementation of such measures;

Replied by Te Kauoman ni Beretitenti

Mr. Speaker, this is a response to the Honourable Member of Parliament's first question:

I am pleased to report that Government support towards the price of rice through subsidy has already been implemented.

The Mover raised six supplementary questions.

7.3 Q.82 by Mrs. Tangariki Reete MP (Betio)

Could Government pay more tribute to esteemed athletes who had excelled in particular sports and events and thus contributed to the victory of their teams in the Kiribati National Games and those who had brought fame and praise to Kiribati after returning from Regional and International games with Gold, Silver and Bronze medals in recognition of their efforts and achievements by including their names on the list of guests to its functions like what has and is still being accorded to Miss Kiribati?

Replied by H.E. Te Beretitenti

Mr. Speaker, Government can look into this.

The Mover raised one supplementary question.

7.4 Q.92 by Mr. Ieremia Tabai MP (Nonouti)

According to the PACNEWS some Forum Island countries did not vote for the regional candidate as agreed by the Forum for the top regional position in the WHO. I want to ask the Minister how did Kiribati vote on that issue?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Health & Medical Services

Kiribati voted at the recent meeting of the WHO in accordance with our national interests.

The Mover raised one supplementary question.

7.5 Q.96 by Mr. Teatao Teannaki MP (Abaiang)

Could the Minister responsible inform this House what has been done so far in connection with the SWHS Dining Hall at Morikao Abaiang which I raised it at the last sitting of Parliament?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Education

Mr. Speaker, the project document for the SWHS Dining Hall at Morikao Abaiang has been submitted to donors for funding consideration.

The Mover raised three supplementary questions while Mr. Taneti Maamau raised one supplementary question.

7.6 Q.102 by Mr. Matang Tekitanga MP (Kuria)

Mr. Speaker, could Government improve the handling of copra charges from copra sheds to boats?

Replied by Te Kauoman ni Beretitenti

Mr. Speaker, my Ministry is happy to liaise with the Kiribati Copra Cooperative Society (KCCS) to review its current rate for the handling of copra from sheds to boats.

The Mover raised two supplementary questions.

7.7 Q.110 by Mr. Kouramaere Kautoa MP (Makin)

Could the Minister responsible explain why the nursing aid from Makin was late for 1 week in attending the workshop held in August this year?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Health & Medical Services

Mr. Speaker, I regret the late attendance of the Makin Nurse Aid to the Kiri-EU workshop held in August this year was caused from the communication failure between the workshop organizer, Air Kiribati and the Nurse. However, training documents were provided to the Nurse on arrival to ensure she did not miss out completely on the training program

The Mover raised two supplementary questions.

7.8 Q.121 by Mr. Teiwaki Areieta MP (Maiana)

Could the Minister responsible explain why the ice plant in Maiana is closed down?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Fisheries & Marine Resource Development

Mr. Speaker Sir, in response to the Honourable MP inquiry the Ice Plant was closed by the landowner who laid claim on the Ice Plant for the use of the water well and the lease for some part of his land in which some part of the Center is built on.

The Mover raised four supplementary questions.

7.9 Q.114 by Dr. Tetaua Taitai MP (TabNorth)

The Minister concerned in his response to my question during the last meeting of Parliament regarding the use of the new hospital for the Southern Kiribati he said that this is expected early next year. Has there been a change to this reply or it remains the same?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Health & Medical Services

Mr. Speaker, the plan regarding the use of the new hospital for the Southern Kiribati in 2009 remains unchanged.

The Mover raised four supplementary questions while Mr. Teburoro Tito raised one supplementary question.

7.10 Q.123 by Mr. Willie Tokataake MP (Abemama)

Could Government increase copra funds for Abemama?

Replied by Te Kauoman ni Beretitenti

Mr. Speaker, my Ministry is prepared to review the request from one of the Honourable Members from Abemama.

The Mover raised three supplementary questions. Dr. Tetaua Taitai and Mr. Teburoro Tito also raised supplementary questions.

7.11 Q.111 by Mr. Kirabuke Teiaua MP (Beru)

Could the Minister responsible explain how many applications for maintenance that the ministry have received from Beru island councils as from the beginning of this year up to now, and how many have been entertained from that and it's plan for those maintenance needs not yet been achieved?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Internal & Social Affairs

Mr. Speaker, we have received two maintenance claims from Beru and payment has been made for most of the work done. However, payment for part of the claims is being withheld awaiting response from Beru on queries raised on these work, sent to the Clerk. No response has been received from the island on these to date.

The Mover raised three supplementary questions. Mr. Rimeta Beniamina, Mr. Teatao Teannaki and Mr. Ieremia Tabai also raised supplementary questions.

At 4.30 pm after all Questions on the Order Paper were dealt with, Hon. Speaker adjourned the House and to resume at 10.00 am on Wednesday, 17th December 2008.

REPUBLIC OF KIRIBATI



MANEABA NI MAUNGATABU

Fifth Meeting of the Ninth Parliament

Minutes of Proceedings
for
Wednesday, 17th November 2008.

1. Hon. Speaker took the Chair at 10.03 am and read Prayers.

All Members were present except Mr. Bauro Tongaai and Mr. Teatu Moutu Kaibuariki who are on official businesses overseas.

2. **ORAL QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

The following Questions were raised to Government:

- 2.1 **Q.44 by Mr. Rimeta Beniamina MP (Nikunau)**

For Government school teachers transferred for permanent posting to the outer islands, whose responsibility is it to handle and transport their personal cargoes from the shore to safe ground and from safe ground to their housing quarters, and who pays for the handling transportation costs incurred?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Education

Speaker, it is the understanding that the school community where the teacher is to be stationed will assist with handling of personal effects of that teacher to his home while Government will pay for transport costs.

The Mover raised two supplementary questions while Mr. Tebuai Uaai and Mr. Taneti Maamau raised one supplementary question each.

- 2.2 **Q.51 by Mr. Tekiau Aretateta MP (Tabuaeran)**

For the year 2008 National Sports Competition, a few government companies provide donations to teams from BTC and TUC. A question is raised on why the donations were not fairly distributed to teams from outer islands?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Internal and Social Affairs

All donations towards the 2008 National Championships that were directed to KSA were utilized for all sporting events and related activities indiscriminately.

Other donations not directed to KSA were used by those entities that received them.

The Mover raised two supplementary questions while Mr. Rimeta Beniamina raised one supplementary question.

2.3 Q.59 by Mr. Banuera Berina MP (South Tarawa)

At the beginning of this year the Ministry of Works and Utilities advertised vacancies existing within the Construction Division and 5 within the Joinery Division at Bairiki. Screening tests were carried and interviews for those who passed the screening tests were conducted.

Would the Minister responsible explain why the 13 who passed both the tests and the interview were not given permanent appointments but instead were appointed on a 2 month temporary appointment only.

Replied by Hon. Minister of Public Works and Utilities

Speaker, the 13 who passed the selection process (screening test and interview) first have to be employed basis simply because my Ministry does not have the authority to employ them like those whose appointments have been duly approved until their selection has been endorsed by PSC and instrumented by Te Beretitenti, in line with NCS B1 (1996) and Section 99(1) of the Constitution.

The Mover raised one supplementary question. Mr. Teburoro Tito and Mr. Toakai Koririntetaake also raised supplementary questions.

2.4 Q. 52 by Mr. Tekiau Aretateta MP (Tabuaeran)

Could the Minister responsible allow parents to pay their children's school fees using seaweed docketts and thus to be replaced once seaweed fund is available in order to stop the problem of missing classes by students?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Education

Under Financial Regulation Number 63(1), "Revenue **shall** be collected when due and as far as possible be **prevented from falling into arrears.**" Since Government account is currently on cash basis, then all revenue due such as school fees should be paid in cash.

The Mover raised three supplementary questions. One of his supplementary questions was answered by the Hon. Minister of Fisheries, Marine Resources Development. Mr. Rimeta Beniamina and Mr. Teburoro Tito also raised supplementary question.

2.4 Q.81 by Mr. Kirabuke Teiaua MP (Beru)

Does the Government have any plan to review the current price set for local thatches for maintenance of government buildings in outer island with a view to increase it from 60 to 80 cents?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Internal & Social Affairs

Mr. Speaker, it is with great apology that Government can not at this stage accept the increase of rate for cost of thatch (rau) from that being currently used, which is 60 cents.

The Mover raised three supplementary questions. Mr. Tebuai Uaai, Mr. Teiwaki Areieta, Mr. Rimeta Beniamina and Mr. Inatio Tanentoa also raised supplementary questions.

2.5 Q.46 by Mr. Rimeta Beniamina MP (Nikunau)

In view of the hard laborious work involved in the manpower handling of KOIL fuel drums on outer islands as opposed to handling of fuel drums on Betio, can KOIL increase labor charges for laborers handling fuel on outer islands from the ship to the shore, from the shore to KOIL branch and vice versa in the case of empty drums?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Public Works and Utilities

Speaker, currently KOIL has no plan to increase its existing rates for the handling of its fuel drums, full or empty, in the outer islands. However, the requested increase in the fee has been brought to the attention of both KOIL's Chief Executive Officer and Board of Director's Chairman for their consideration and necessary action.

The Mover raised one supplementary question while Mr. Teiwaki Areieta raised two supplementary questions.

2.6 Q.47 by Mr. Rimeta Beniamina MP (Nikunau)

People are allowed to cut down high coconut trees located so close to government buildings (e.g government classrooms or teachers' quarters on outer islands), which are believed to pose danger to the houses and their occupants during strong winds. Can those people who cut down high coconut trees be paid labour charges in recognition of their laborious and dangerous work when cutting down coconut trees?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Education

Speaker Sir, yes people who cut down the high trees that pose a danger to Government buildings such as classrooms and living quarters can be paid labour charges provided that cutting down the trees are verified by the Head-teacher and Court Clerk that they pose a danger and the Ministry has to be informed before the task so that funds can be allocated when the claims are submitted and received.

The Mover raised two supplementary questions while Mr. Kirabuke Teiaua raised one supplementary question.

2.7 Q.15 by Mr. Tebuai Uai MP (TabSouth)

Should a \$20, daily per diem be paid to referees from outer islands commencing from the date they arrived in Tarawa until the date they returned to their islands?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Internal & Social Affairs

Mr. Speaker. A \$20 daily per diem cannot be paid to referees from outer islands.

The Mover raised six supplementary questions.

2.8 Q.83 by Mrs. Tangariki Reete MP (Betio)

Could the responsible Minister explain and confirm to this House that the level of commission and service charges the ANZ Bank is currently using in Kiribati is parallel to similar charges in all its branches in the region or are its charges inflated in Kiribati since it is the only Bank operating in Kiribati?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Finance & Economic Development

The level of commission and service charges the ANZ Bank is currently using in Kiribati is parallel to similar charges in other ANZ branches or other Banks in the Pacific.

The Mover raised one supplementary question. Mr. Rimeta Beniamina and Mr. Tebuai Uai also raised one supplementary question each.

2.9 Q.55 by Mr. Tekiau Aretateta MP (Tabuaeran)

Could the Minister responsible make sure that a proper contract has to be made between the NCL company and all the employees working at the company on Fanning Island as it is believed that NCL will operate very soon?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Communications, Transport & Tourism Development

Honourable Speaker, I am pleased to inform the Honourable Member that my office has already informed NCL in the last annual review meeting of this labour requirement and the need to draw up and enter into a formal employment contract with I-Kiribati employees on Fanning especially, those already engaged on a permanent basis with NCL.

The Mover raised four supplementary questions.

2.10 Q.91 by Mr. Ieremia Tabai MP (Nonouti).

The number of dogs on both South Tarawa and the outer islands is now becoming a problem. Will the Government consider effective methods of addressing this problem?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Internal and Social Affairs

Mr. Speaker, yes Government will consider effective methods of addressing this problem.

The Mover raised one supplementary question. Mr. Tekiau Aretateta, Mr. Toakai Koririntetaake, Mr. Teburoro Tito, and Mr Tonganibeia Taam also raised supplementary questions.

2.11 Q.100 by Mr. Toakai Koririntetaake MP (Butaritari)

Could the responsible Minister enlist the registered Fishermen Association on the distribution list of fishing gears to Island Councils?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Fisheries & Marine Resources Development

Mr. Speaker Sir, in response to the Honourable MP, let me remind the MP that the Island Council whom these gears were destined to is the Government representative on the Island and it is their sole responsibility to decide how these gears are distributed on the island and therefore this request should be directed to the Island Council.

The Mover raised three supplementary questions.

Question time ended at 11.30 am.

3. MOTIONS

3.1 Motion No. 6 by Mr. Tebuai Uai MP (TabSouth) was withdrawn.

3.2 Mr. Tekiau Aretateta MP (Tabuaeran) moved:

Motion No. 11

That this House requests the Government to support, make sure and overseas the smooth and effective running of all its companies so that the benefit gained by the public is maintained.

Motion proposed; the following Members spoke on the Motion:

H.E. Te Beretitenti.
Mr. Banuera Berina
Dr. Harry Tong

The House adjourned for lunch break at 12.35 pm and resumed at 2.03 pm.

The following Members also spoke on the Motion:

Hon. Taberannang Timeon
Mr. Rimeta Beniamina
Mr. Kirabuke Teiaua
Mr. Teburoro Tito
Hon. James Taom
Mr. Tebuai Uai
Mr. Ieremia Tabai
Mr. Mikaere Baraniko
Hon. Temate Ereateiti

The House adjourned for afternoon break at 4.15 pm and resumed at 4.33 pm.

The following Members also spoke on the Motion:

Te Kauoman ni Beretitenti

Mover summed up at 4.48 pm.

Question Put: Carried

3.3 Motion No. 10 by Mr. Rimeta Beniamina MP (Nikunau) was withdrawn.

3.4 Mr. Alexander Teabo MP (Butaritari) moved:

Motion No. 9

This House humbly requests the government to consider a need to carry out a revision of Salary Scales for the Public Service offices that used to be a practice on a biannual basis in the past since 1982 up until 1997 bearing in mind the impact of the prevalent inflation from time to time.

Motion proposed and the following Members spoke on the Motion:

H.E. Te Beretitenti.
Mr. Banuera Berina
Mr. Teburoro Tito
Mrs. Rerea Tetaake Eria

(Hon. Taberannang Timeon interrupted at 6.00 pm)

The Mover was then given the floor to sum up at 6.02 pm.

Question Put: Carried.

3.5 Mr. Taneti Maamau MP (Onotoa) moved:

Motion No. 14

Government is requested to consider introducing an appropriate information system like the Rural Internet Communication System (RICS) or similar systems which would assist in promoting economic development on the outer islands.

Motion proposed and the following Members spoke on the Motion:

Te Kauouman ni Beretitenti

The Mover then summed up.

Question Put: Carried.

The House adjourned at 6.27 pm and to resume at 10.00 am on Thursday, 18th December 2008.

REPUBLIC OF KIRIBATI



MANEABA NI MAUNGATABU

Fifth Meeting of the Ninth Parliament

Minutes of Proceedings
for
Thursday, 18th December 2008

1. Hon. Speaker took the Chair at 10.00 am and read Prayers.

All Members were present except Mr. Bauro Tongaai and Mr. Teatu Moutu Kaibuariki who are on official businesses overseas.

2. **ORAL QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

The following Questions were raised to the Government:

- 2.1 Q.45 by Mr. Rimeta Beniamina MP (Nikunau)**

Are there at present any men of foreign nationals but legally married to I-Kiribati women who have been given full I-Kiribati citizenship status by the Kiribati Citizenship Commission after considering their application to become I-Kiribati citizens?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Internal & Social Affairs

Mr. Speaker, Yes, there are several foreign nationals legally married to I-Kiribati women who have been given full I-Kiribati citizenship status.

The Mover raised two supplementary questions. Mr. Tebuai Uaai and Mr. Banuera Berina also raised supplementary questions.

- 2.2 Q.53 by Mr. Tekiau Aretateta MP (Tabuaeran)**

The only means of obtaining seaweed fund by farmers is when their seaweeds have been transported to Tarawa or to other overseas countries. Could the responsible Minister find other means of improving the trade system?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Fisheries & Marine Resource Development

Mr. Speaker, Sir, in response to the Honourable MP from Tabuaeran question, I am happy to say that my Ministry has come up with a plan that will improve the current trading system for seaweed from Tabuaeran.

The Mover raised three supplementary questions. Mr. Teetan Mweretaka and Mr. Rimeta Beniamina also raised supplementary questions.

2.3 Q.48 by Mr. Rimeta Beniamina MP (Nikunau)

Does Government have a plan to assist Nikunau Island Council improve its road conditions, noting that road improvement works on the island had not been carried out for many years and the worsening road condition is causing problems to vehicles?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Internal & Social Affairs

Mr. Speaker, Government may provide assistance for road maintenance on Nikunau if the Island Council includes this proposal as her top priority.

The Mover raised one supplementary question. Mrs. Rereao Tetaake Eria, Mr. Tekiau Aretateta and Mr. Teetan Mweretaka also raised supplementary questions.

2.4 Q.54 by Mr. Tekiau Aretateta MP (Tabuaeran)

A question to be raised to the Minister concerned on why patients who have eye problems together with ENT patients have not yet been transported to Tarawa for medical treatment?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Health & Medical Services

Mr. Speaker, the plan is to send the ophthalmology team from Australia to Kiritimati.

The Mover raised six supplementary questions.

2.5 Q.30 by Mr. Tonganibeia Taam MP (Betio)

There are a number of toilet blocks which are still intact on Betio, could Government repair these toilets so that they could be used, especially by those living close to them?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Public Works & Utilities

Government is prepared to assess how the toilets blocks referred to by the Honourable Member can be repaired cost effectively and address sustainability issues so as to serve the needs of the people.

The Mover raised three supplementary questions.

2.6 Q.77 by Mrs. Rereao Tetaake Eria MP (Teraina)

Could the Minister responsible explain to this House his plans on the construction of clinics on Teraina as Teraina is not included in the KIRI-EU project?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Health & Medical Services

Mr. Speaker, I wish to inform the Hon. Member from Teraina that plans for the construction of clinics on Teraina (and Tabuaeran) are subject to funding availability.

The Mover raised four supplementary questions while Mr. Teetan Mweretaka raised one supplementary question.

2.7 Q.3 by Mr. Teburoro Tito MP (South Tarawa) lapsed.

2.8 Q.43 by Mr. Rimeta Beniamina MP (Nikunau)

Concerning the purchase and operation of MV Moanaraoi II, may I ask the Minister; (1) Is MV Moanaraoi II a new vessel or second-hand vessel when purchased last year?; (2) How much did the vessel cost?; (3) Was the vessel's condition at the time of purchase worth the purchase?; and (4) MV Moanaraoi II was sent overseas for surveying and reclassing. Why was this done and how much was spent?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Communications, Transport & Tourism Development

The response to the main question raised by the Honourable Member is that MV Moanaraoi II was purchased as a 20-year old vessel.

The Mover raised six supplementary questions.

2.9 Q.62 by Mr. Banuera Berina MP (South Tarawa)

When following up their request to the Beretitenti regarding assistance for the construction of a cemented seawall the people of Temwaiku were informed that the Ministry of Works and Utilities would carry out a survey first at the place where the seawall is to be built. Could the government inform this House as to when the people in Temwaiku could expect the construction of the seawall to commence?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Public Works & Utilities

My Ministry is prepared to consider the request in line with existing policies.

The Mover raised four supplementary questions.

2.10 Q.122 by Mr. Teiwaki Areieta MP (Maiana)

Could the Minister responsible explain why Atoll Seaweed pulled out from Maiana?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Fisheries & Marine Resource Development

Mr. Speaker Sir, in response to the Honourable MP from Maiana, ASCL pulled out from his island when seaweed farming failed.

The Mover raised six supplementary questions.

2.11 Q.32 by Mr. Tonganibeia Taam MP (Betio)

There is an increase in the number of homeless alcoholics living on public properties on Betio, does Government have a plan to assist them as they seem to have no proper home or place where they could be taken care of properly?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Internal & Social Affairs

Mr. Speaker, Government is also concerned with homeless alcoholics living on public properties on Betio. In the meantime, Government regrets to advise that, at this time, there are no plans to provide proper homes for this group of people.

The Mover raised four supplementary questions.

2.12 Q.74 by Mr. Taneti Maamau MP (Onotoa)

To facilitate piloting during night time by canoes, boats and ships, could Government assist in setting up the beacons in the appropriate passages and channels of the island as soon as possible?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Communications, Transport & Tourism Development

Government is prepared to consider this request in accordance with existing policies and resource constraints.

The Mover raised three supplementary questions. Mr. Tebuai Uai also raised three supplementary questions.

The Mover raised three supplementary questions.

Question time ended at 11.30 am.

3. BILL – COMMITTEE STAGE

The House resolved into Committee to consider the following Bill:

3.1 Appropriation Bill 2008

Mr. Chairman proposed that the sum of \$30,000.00 under Head of Expenditure 02 – Contribution to Development Fund stand part of the Schedule.

The following Members raised questions for clarifications:

Mr. Tebuai Uaai
Mr. Kirabuke Teiaua
Mr. Taneti Maamau
Mr. Banuera Berina
Mr. Ieremia Tabai

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that the sum of \$1,066,821.00 under Head of Expenditure 9 – Office of Te Beretitenti stand part of the Schedule.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that the sum of \$1,038,660.00 under Head of Expenditure 10 – Public Service Office stand part of the Schedule.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that the sum of \$1,294,586.00 under Head of Expenditure 11 – Judiciary stand part of the Schedule.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that the sum of \$6,444,212.00 under Head of Expenditure 12 – Police and Prisons stand part of the Schedule.

The following Members raised questions for clarifications:

Mr. Kabetite Mwetaka
Mr. Taneti Maamau

H.E. Te Beretitenti provided clarifications.

Mr. Chairman proposed that the sum of \$186,339.00 under Head of Expenditure 13 – Public Service Commission stand part of the Schedule.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that the sum of \$1,109,128.00 under Head of Expenditure 14 – Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Immigration stand part of the Schedule.

Mr. Nabuti Mwemwenikarawa moved an amendment to reduce the sum to \$938,962.00.

The following Members spoke on the amendments:

H.E. Te Beretitenti

House adjourned for lunch at 12.30 pm and resumed at 2.00 pm.

Discussion on the amendments continued as follows:

Mr. Tebuai Uaai
Hon. Taberannang Timeon
Mr. Rimeta Beniamina
Mr. Ieremia Tabai
Mr. Alexander Teabo
Hon. Natan Teewe

Mover of the amendments then summed up.

Question put on the Amendments: Not Carried

Question put on original sum: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that the sum of \$2,688,324.00 under Head of Expenditure 15 – Ministry of Internal and Social Affairs stand part of the Schedule.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that the sum of \$2,613,402.00 under Head of Expenditure 16 – Ministry of Environment, Lands and Agricultural Development stand part of the Schedule.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that the sum of \$1,755,530.00 under Head of Expenditure 17 – Maneaba ni Maungatabu stand part of the Schedule.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that the sum of \$1,055,246.00 under Head of Expenditure 18 – Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Cooperatives stand part of the Schedule.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that the sum of \$559,368.00 under Head of Expenditure 19 – Kiribati National Audit Office stand part of the Schedule.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that the sum of \$434,156.00 under Head of Expenditure 20 – Office of the Attorney General stand part of the Schedule.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that the sum of \$1,853,156.00 under Head of Expenditure 21 – Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources Development stand part of the Schedule.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that the sum of \$14,216,774.00 under Head of Expenditure 22 – Ministry of Health and Medical Services stand part of the Schedule.

The following Members raised questions for clarifications:

Mr. Tonganibeia Taam
Mr. Toakai Koririntetaake
Mr. Kabetite Mwetaka
Dr. Harry Tong
Mr. Kirabuke Teiaua

Hon. Dr. Kautu Tenaua provided clarifications.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that the sum of \$20,570,695.00 under Head of Expenditure 23 – Ministry of Education stand part of the Schedule.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that the sum of \$3,281,306.00 under Head of Expenditure 24 – Ministry of Communication, Transport and Tourism Development stand part of the Schedule.

The following Members raised questions for clarifications:

Mr. Kirabuke Teiaua
Mr. Tonganibeia Taam

Hon. Temate Ereateiti and H.E. Te Beretitenti provided clarifications.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that the sum of \$2,416,141.00 under Head of Expenditure 25 – Ministry of Finance and Economic Development and Social Affairs stand part of the Schedule.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that the sum of \$2,695,278.00 under Head of Expenditure 27 – Ministry of Public Works and Utilities stand part of the Schedule.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that the sum of \$3,106,177.00 under Head of Expenditure 28 – Ministry of Labour and Human Resources Development stand part of the Schedule.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that the sum of \$3,244,549.00 under Head of Expenditure 29 – Ministry of Internal and Social Affairs stand part of the Schedule.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that the sum of \$ - under Head of Expenditure 30 – Debt Servicing stand part of the Schedule.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that the sum of \$12,354,034.00 under Head of Expenditure 31 – Subsidies, grants and other commitments stand part of the Schedule.

The following Members raised questions for clarifications:

Mr. Tebuai Uaai
Mr. Nabuti Mwemwenikarawa

Mr. Teburoro Tito also proposed that the \$10,000.00 be deleted from Output 57 – Commission of Inquiry.

The House agreed that the amount be deleted.

Mr. Toakai Koririntetaake
Mr. Kirabuke Teiaua
Mr. Mikaere Baraniko
Mr. Alexander Teabo
Mr. Tonganibeia Taam

Hon. Natan Teewe, Hon. Kouraiti Beniato, Hon. Amberoti Nikora, Hon. Tawita Temoku, Hon. Temate Ereateiti and H.E. Te Beretitenti provided clarifications needed.

Question put on the new sum of \$12,344,034.00: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that the new total sum of \$84,003,846.00 stand part of the Schedule.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that clause 1 stand part of the Bill.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that clause 2 as amended with new figure of \$84,003,846.00 stand part of the Bill.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that clauses 3 and 4 stand part of the Bill.

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that the Long Title of the Bill stand part of the whole Bill.

Question put: Carried

The House resumed after committee stage.

4. BILL – SECOND READING

Appropriation Bill 2008

Hon. Minister of Finance and Economic Development moved:

That the Appropriation Bill 2008 be read the second time and do pass.

Question put: Carried

5. ADJOURNMENT MOTION

Hon. Tawita Temoku MP (Kiritimati) moved:

That the House is now adjourned.

The Hon. Speaker however decided that the House must proceed to deal with remaining Questions on the Order Paper as there is plenty of time left.

The House adjourned at 4.20 pm and resumed at 4.50 pm.

6. ORAL QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

The following Questions were raised to the Government:

6.1 Q.87 by Mrs. Tangariki Reete MP (Betio)

In reply to a question raised by former MP Reete Bokai regarding the need to build more toilets on Betio, the responsible Minister informed this House that government will work together with Betio Town Council to identify areas where additional toilets will be constructed and funds to build them.

Could the responsible Minister update this house on the progress so far on the required toilets?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Public Works & Utilities

Mr. Speaker, the latest development on construction of toilets on Betio is that BTC has identified nine areas around Betio where toilets will be built.

The Mover raised two supplementary questions.

6.2 Q.98 by Mr. Tebuai Uai MP (TabSouth)

Can government consider a daily per-diem for old men and a chairperson of the "Runga" who have been appointed in accordance with the set number for the up-coming Runga in 2010?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Internal & Social Affairs

Mr. Speaker, Allowances only are paid according to the National Sport Tournament Act and the Regulations and these follow normal government procedures for those entitled to such allowances.

The Mover raised three supplementary questions.

6.3 Q.117 by Mr. Rimeta Beniamina MP (Nikunau)

The police office and prison cell at Nikunau built under project funds was completed last year, except for the two iron-bar doors of the prison cell which cannot be locked properly. May I ask the Minister responsible to send someone to Nikunau to check the prison cell doors at the police office and do whatever is necessary so both doors can be locked properly whenever they are needed?

Replied by H.E. Te Beretitenti

I thank the Honourable Member for his question. I am pleased to report that the Kiribati Police Service will be taking the necessary steps to ensure that the cell doors can be locked properly as soon as possible.

The Mover raised two supplementary questions.

6.4 Q.101 by Mr. Toakai Koririntetaake MP (Butaritari)

Could the Minister for MISA reimburse registration fees of \$5.00 per player for Butaritari players for the recent National Sports Competition which government had accepted the suspension of such fee, Mr. Speaker, Sir?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Internal & Social Affairs

Mr. Speaker, Government will re-assess the need for the \$5 registration fee for the benefit of all players in Te Runga.

The Mover raised three supplementary questions. Mr. Alexander Teabo and Mr. Tebuai Uaai also raised supplementary questions.

6.5 Q.120 by Mr. Teiwaki Areieta MP (Maiana)

Could the Minister responsible consider erecting a light house on Tebikerai, an islet of Maiana facing Tarawa so that the number of fishermen fishing between Tarawa and Maiana missing at sea is reduced and avoided as well reducing Government expenses in search and rescue?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Communications, Transport & Tourism Development

Speaker, Government will look into the request to confirm or otherwise the need for such a lighthouse.

The Mover raised three supplementary questions.

6.6 Q.107 by Mr. Kouramaere Kautoa MP (Makin)

Why did the fares for food stuffs brought by those attending the national sport competition from outer islands not refunded?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Internal & Social Affairs

Mr. Speaker, Government will consider the need for refund of freight of food items brought from outer islands for the consumption of players during Te Runga.

The Mover raised one supplementary question.

6.7 Q.126 by Mr. Moote Terukaio MP (Nikunau)

Could the Government inform this House the progress on the breeding of milkfish in Neinriki in Nikunau?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Fisheries & Marine Resource Development

Speaker Sir, I am happy to inform one Honourable MP from Nikunau that a team led by the Ag. Director of Fisheries and Taiwan Aquaculture Expert has returned from Nikunau after spending a 1 week fact finding mission on the

island. All findings collected during the mission are now being incorporated into the project document as part of the final stages of the formulation process.

The Mover raised one supplementary question.

6.8 Q.124 by Mr. Teiwaki Areieta MP (Maiana)

In the last meeting of the House, I submitted 3 oral questions for answers. The first is on the seawall of Tebikerai asking why work on it suddenly stopped. The second is on the seawall of the Catholic on Tebiauea asking when funding will be ready and the third is on the island council office asking why Phase II have not started. I want to ask why my three questions were not answered.

Replied by H.E Te Beretitenti

Responses to the Honourable Member's oral questions were submitted to the Office of the Clerk to Parliament as follows:

Oral Question 175 – 8 September 2008;
Oral Question 177 – 9 September 2008; and
Oral Question 179 – 9 September 2008

The Mover raised three supplementary questions.

6.9 Q.26 by Mr. Moote Terukaio MP (Nikunau)

Every year there is rough sea on the western side of Nikunau making it impossible for boats to come ashore. During this rough sea, ships use one spot on the eastern side. Could the Minister responsible blast a passage in this eastern spot to make it usable and to avoid danger to lives?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Communications, Transport & Tourism Development

Government is prepared to consider this request once an assessment of its economic and environmental impacts is available.

The Mover raised one supplementary question while Mr. Rimeta Beniamina raised two supplementary questions.

6.10 Q.50 by Mr. Tekiau Aretateta MP (Tabuaeran)

Could the responsible Minister help to solve and stop the problems confronted by the employees of the Fanning Island Council including NCL employees in which their contributions to KPF continuously to be incorrect for the past years?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Internal & Social Affairs

Speaker, my Ministry can assist the Tabuaeran Island Council by working with KPF to correct any inconsistencies with the Council staff's Provident Fund contributions. With regards to the NCL employees, it is the responsibility of that company to deal with any issue related to its employees' KPF.

The Mover raised four supplementary questions while Mr. Teetan Mweretaka raised one supplementary question.

6.11 Q.95 by Mr. Teatao Teannaki MP (Abaiang)

At the last sitting of this House I raised a question concerning the installation of public phones on small islets being isolated from the main land. Could the Minister responsible inform this House the development progress on this request?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Communications, Transport & Tourism Development

I am happy to advise that all equipment for these public phones have been received (phones and batteries) except for the radio sets which are expected to arrive this month. Beside that TSKL has made a visit early this month to the Island Council to discuss this project and agree on the locations of these two islets.

The Mover raised two supplementary questions. Dr. Tetaua Taitai, Mr. Tebuai Uaai and Mr. Kirabuke Teiaua also raised supplementary questions.

6.12 Q.99 by Mr. Ieremia Tabai MP (Nonouti)

There are people on Nonouti that are owed money for the work they do on the repair and maintenance of houses. Can the Minister ensure that those people that are owed money are paid as soon as possible?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Internal & Social Affairs

Mr. Speaker, according to our records, no outstanding claims for maintenance work from Nonouti, remains unsettled. However, new claims will be settled timely, as soon as they are received and verified by appropriate authorities.

The Mover raised one supplementary question.

6.13 Q.103 by Mr. Matang Tekitanga MP (Kuria)

Mr. Speaker, could Government improve the handling of copra charges by its shipping companies?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Communications, Transport & Tourism Development

My Ministry has referred the request to Kiribati Shipping Services Ltd for consideration. KSSL has, however, increased the cost of handling copra on the outer islands by \$2.00 to \$8.00.

The Mover raised two supplementary questions.

6.14 Q.129 by Mr. Jacob Teem MP (Kiritimati) was deferred.

6.15 Q.132 by Mr. Kunei Maaka Etekiera MP (Nonouti)

Could the Minister responsible explain why requests for land boundary surveys for leased and to be leased lands from the Lands Court and Island Council in Nonouti have been ignored?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Environment, Lands & Agricultural Development

Mr. Speaker, we have carried out the councils request when our survey team visited Nonouti in June 2008. We have also received survey requests from the Court Clerk. These requests have not been carried out as yet since there are clarifications required from the Island Council. It is possible to organize another visit to Nonouti once the information and clarifications needed are received.

The Mover raised two supplementary questions while Mr. Toakai Koririntetaake raised one supplementary question.

6.16 Q.104 by Mr. Matang Tekitanga MP (Kuria) was withdrawn.

At 6.20 pm, all Questions on the Order Paper were dealt with and Hon. Speaker adjourned the House and to resume at 10.00 am on Friday, 19th December 2008.

REPUBLIC OF KIRIBATI



MANEABA NI MAUNGATABU

Fifth Meeting of the Ninth Parliament

Minutes of Proceedings
for
Friday, 19th December 2008.

1. Hon. Speaker took the Chair at 10.00 am and read Prayers.

All Members were present except Mr. Bauro Tongaai and Mr. Teatu Moutu Kaibuariki who are on official businesses overseas.

2. **PRESENTATION OF PAPER**

By Hon. Speaker

Report of the Auditor General on the account of Tarawa Biscuit Company Ltd for the year ended 30 June 2008.

Paper No. 30/08

3. **ORAL QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

The following Questions were raised to the Government:

- 3.1 **Q.20 by Mr. Tebuai Uaai MP (TabSouth)**

There are often times that the Speaker ruled out or advised a mover of a motion, under the roof of Parliament, to pursue court proceedings because in the Speaker's view the mover of the motion should seek judicial review or the Speaker believes that Parliament has no mandate to make resolution on the motion. Could Government pay any incurred expense that the court may charge the mover of such motion?

Replied by the H.E. Te Beretitenti

I regret to advise that Government is not in a position to pay court expenses incurred in cases such as that referred to in this question.

The Mover raised four supplementary questions while Mr. Tonganibeia Taam and Mr. Teburoro Tito raised one supplementary question each.

- 3.2 **Q.35 by Mr. Willie Tokataake MP (Abemama)**

What is Government plan for the development of road in Abemama?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Public Works & Utilities

Speaker, my Ministry will undertake a country-wide survey for all public roads in the outer islands including Abemama in 2009. The findings of this survey will assist Government in prioritizing the outer islands need for road maintenance and determining the kind of maintenance work that is better suited for each island, including the cost estimate for the needed road maintenance work.

The Mover raised one supplementary question. Mr. Teiwaki Areieta, Dr. Tetaua Taitai, and Mr. Teatao Teannaki also raised supplementary questions.

3.3 Q.88 by Mr. Toakai Koririntetaake MP (Butaritari)

Rumours are spreading that the number of work experiences for Form 6 School leavers is very minimal. Could the responsible Minister inform this House why is this happened?

Replied by H.E. Te Beretitenti

Budgetary provisions determine how many students can be taken on under the Work Experience/Work Attachment scheme.

The Mover raised three supplementary questions.

3.4 Q.94 by Mr. Ieremia Tabai MP (Nonouti)

It appears that some Island Councils are greatly disadvantaged when dealing with certain businesses because of lack of relevant data/information. Can the Minister responsible make the appropriate arrangements to ensure that the councils are well informed before they take the decision?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Internal and Social Affairs

Mr. Speaker Sir, yes my ministry is prepared to liaise with Island Councils to ensure that councils are well informed before they take the decision and to ensure future arrangements or provision of data/information regarding certain businesses should be provided beforehand.

The Mover raised two supplementary questions as well as Mr. Banuera Berina and Mr. Teatao Teannaki.

3.5 Q.113 by Dr. Tetaua Taitai MP (TabNorth)

During the last meeting of Parliament, Te Beretitenti in reply to my question on the need to increase of prices for copra and local materials to match the corresponding increase in imports is that Government will consider increasing or producing more income generating projects for them. What is the progress on this?

Replied by the H.E. Te Beretitenti

Government has already implemented various income generating activities, beside copra, and plans are being finalized for more revenue generating projects for the people in the outer islands.

The Mover raised two supplementary questions while Mr. Banuera Berina and Mrs. Rerearo Tetaake Eria raised one supplementary question each.

3.6 Q.49 by Mr. Rimeta Beniamina MP (Nikunau)

Nikunau normally receives by warrant \$30,000 as copra fund which is just sufficient to last long enough to meet the \$0.60 per kg copra price. When the amount warranted suddenly decreases to \$8,000 on 30/10/08 (warrant No.179/08) and \$10,000 on 03/11/08 (warrant No. 184/08) the copra funds were quickly used up during copra weighing forcing copra cutters to be without money until arrival of a \$30,000 new warrant later. Why the sudden decrease in copra funds to Nikunau on 30/11/08 and 03/11/08?

Replied by H.E. Te Beretitenti on behalf of Te Kauoman ni Beretitenti

Mr. Speaker, the reduction in copra funds was applied not only to Nikunau but to all islands. This was necessary to improve proper control on the copra fund.

The Mover raised three supplementary questions.

3.7 Q.64 by Mr. Banuera Berina MP (South Tarawa)

A number of employees in the public service have been employed as temporary employees for nearly ten years or over ten years. Boutokaan te Koaua Party campaigned in 2003 that it would employ those temporary employees who have been employed for a long time on a permanent basis.

Could I ask the Government to explain what its current policies are regarding such employees?

Replied by H.E. Te Beretitenti

Government had already regularized the employment of persons who had been employed on a temporary basis for a long time.

The Member raised five supplementary questions while Mr. Teburoro Tito raised one.

4. BILLS – FIRST READING

4.1 Kiribati Sports Authority (Amendment) Bill 2008

Mr. Teburoro Tito MP (South Tarawa) moved:

That the Kiribati Sports Authority (Amendment) Bill 2008 be read the first time.

Bill proposed and the following Members spoke on the Bill.

Hon. Amberoti Nikora

House adjourned for lunch at 12.30 pm and resumed at 2.00 pm.

The following Members spoke on the Bill.

Mr. Nabuti Mwemwenikarawa

Hon. Ioteba Redfern

Mr. Tebuai Uaai

Mr. Kirabuke Teiaua

The Mover of the Bill summed up at 3.20 pm.

Question put: Division called.

For = 16 Against = 23 Absent = 7

From the result of the Division the First Reading of the Bill was not carried.

Hon. Speaker adjourned the House for afternoon break at 4.00 pm and resumed at 4.30 pm.

5. MOTIONS:

5.1 Mr. Teetan Mweretaka MP (Tabuaeran) moved:

Motion No. 7

That this House requests Government to consider making provision under the Freight Levy fund to meet the freight shipping cost of cargo to the Linnix group.

Motion proposed and the following Members spoke on the Motion:

Hon. Natan Teewe

Mr. Mikaere Baraniko

The Mover then summed up.

Question Put: Carried.

5.2 Mr. Mikaere Baraniko MP (Kiritimati) moved:

Motion No. 19

That this House asks Government to see the inequality caused by, and the need to revisit, its policy in relation to the requirement for new training recruits to MTC to pay their seafarers first and for the same to be refunded at the end of the training to those who passed the training only.

Motion proposed; the following Members spoke on the Motion:

Hon. Iotebwa Redfern
Mr. Tebuai Uaai

The Mover then summed up.

Question put: Carried

5.3 Mr. Tonganibeia Taam MP (Betio) moved:

Motion No. 20

That this House requests Government to formulate improvement plans for Betio Shipyard so that it could perform its objectives that are more beneficial to the people and the Government of Kiribati.

Motion proposed; the following Members spoke on the Motion:

Hon. Temate Ereateiti
Mr. Banuera Berina
Mr. Timon R Aneri
Mr. Tebuai Uaai
Mr. Taneti Maamau
H.E. Te Beretitenti
Mr. Teburoro Tito

Hon. Kouraiti Beniato interrupted at 6.00 pm on behalf of Te Kauoman ni Beretitenti.

The Mover then summed up at 6.25 pm.

Question put: Carried.

Hon. Speaker adjourned the House at 6.30 pm and to resume at 10.00 am on Monday, 22nd December 2008.

REPUBLIC OF KIRIBATI



MANEABA NI MAUNGATABU

Fifth Meeting of the Ninth Parliament

Minutes of Proceedings
for
Monday, 22nd December 2008

1. Hon. Speaker took the Chair at 10.00 am and read Prayers.

All Members were present except Mr. Bauro Tongaai and Mr. Teatu Moutu Kaibuariki who were on official businesses overseas.

2. **PRESENTATION OF PAPERS**

By Hon. Speaker

Report of the Auditor General on the accounts of Kiribati Oil Limited for the year ended 31st December 2005

Paper No. 31/08

Report of the Auditor General on the accounts of Bobotin Kiribati Limited for the year ended 31st August 2007

Paper No. 32/08

Report of the Auditor General on the accounts of Captain Cook Hotel for the year ended 31st December 2007

Paper No. 33/08

Report of the Auditor General on the Annual Accounts of the Government of Kiribati for the year ended 31st December 2006 and 2007

Paper No. 34/08

3. **ORAL QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

The following Questions were raised to the Government:

3.1 Q.127 by Mr. Jacob Teem MP (Kiritimati)

Could Government explain fully why Air Pacific flights between Fiji and Kiritimati ceased?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Communications, Transport & Tourism Development

I would like to thank the Member from Kiritimati for bringing up this important question. It is also the intention of my Ministry to explain fully the reason for Air Pacific ceasing flights between Nadi and Kiritimati. The reason is purely technical and is beyond the Ministry's ability to resolve in a timely manner with Air Pacific. This is to do with the state of the runway which Air Pacific could no longer accept as safe for operations.

The Mover raised four supplementary questions while Mr. Mikaere Baraniko raised one supplementary question.

3.2 Q.90 by Mr. Ieremia Tabai MP (Nonouti)

At the time when the work on the Tebuange/Matabou causeway ceased, many workers were owed unpaid wages. I want to ask the Minister responsible if the outstanding wages can be paid before the end of this year?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Public Works & Utilities

Speaker, my Ministry confirms that, due to the insufficient amount of money initially estimated and allocated for the project, there are remaining wages and allowances for the project workers which are yet to be paid. I wish to assure the Honorable MP that once the project's top-up funding is secured all of these outstanding remaining wages and allowances will be paid out by my Ministry, if not before the end of this year then early next year.

The Mover raised three supplementary questions.

3.3 Q.134 by Mr. Willie Tokataake MP (Abemama)

Could Government quickly provide account staff for Abemama Island Council?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Internal & Social Affairs

Mr. Speaker Sir, yes, my Ministry will provide account staffs as soon as the recruitment process has finished.

The Mover raised four supplementary questions.

3.4 Q.129 by Mr. Jacob Teem MP (Kiritimati)

Does Government have plans to assist Captain Cook Hotel with its financial problems?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Line & Phoenix Islands Development

Mr. Speaker, government has not received any request from Captain Cook Hotel in relation to assistance with its financial problems.

The Mover raised three supplementary questions. Mr. Rimeta Beniamina, Mr. Ieremia Tabai and Mr. Tekiau Aretate also raised supplementary questions.

3.5 Q.36 by Mr. Tonganibeia Taam MP (Betio)

What is the update on the investigation on the release of containers which resulted in the dismissal of some of the Kiribati Port Authority workers at the beginning of this year (February)?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Communications, Transport & Tourism Development

Police investigations into the case are still on-going.

The Mover raised four supplementary questions while Mrs. Tangariki Reete and Mr. Kirabuke Teiaua raised one supplementary question each.

3.6 Q.130 by Mr. Ieremia Tabai MP (Nonouti)

Women who are about to give birth sometimes seek/prefer the assistance of people in the village who are known for their expertise in this area. I want to ask the Minister whether it is possible to consider some financial reward for this kind of service.

Replied by Hon. Minister of Health & Medical Services

Around 20 percent of our women have been assisted voluntarily by local midwives in Kiribati. This includes women who have sought assistance from local midwives and assisted by qualified and registered midwives when giving birth. I regret to say, however, that there are no plans at this time to reward local midwives who have kindly volunteered to assist in this task.

The Mover raised one supplementary question. Mr. Kabetite Mwetaka, Mr. Taneti Maamau, Mr. Teburoro Tito and Mr. Kirabuke Teiaua also raised supplementary questions.

3.7 Q.128 by Mr. Jacob Teem MP (Kiritimati)

Could Government explain the reasons behind the change of Air Kiribati agent in Honolulu?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Communications, Transport & Tourism Development

In response to the question raised by one Honourable MP from Kiritimati, the answer is that the Ministry is experiencing problems with the past Agent in Honolulu and after a meeting with the Agent, it was resolved that a new Agent will be appointed. This will hopefully resolve the problem.

The Mover raised one supplementary question while Dr. Harry Tong and Mr. Teburoro Tito raised one supplementary question each.

3.8 Q.131 by Mr. Willie Tokataake MP (Abemama)

Could the Minister responsible inform this House as when will repair work on the bridge at Tabotone in Abemama commence?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Public Works & Utilities

Since the last survey and costing on the repair work required for the Kenna or Tabotone bridge was done in 2006, coupled with weaknesses observed in this initial costing, there is a need to do the survey and costing of the damage again before decisions, as to when repair work on the said bridge may be started, could be finalized.

The Mover raised three supplementary questions.

3.9 Q.116 by Dr. Tetaua Taitai MP (TabNorth)

Would the Minister responsible consider urgent repairs to the bridge at Bangai, Tabiteuea North as it is not useable during high tide?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Internal & Social Affairs

Mr. Speaker, Government may take on the urgent repair to the bridge at Bangai, Tabiteuea North and will consult with the Council on it.

The Mover raised one supplementary question.

3.10 Q.89 by Mr. Ieremia Tabai MP (Nonouti)

What is the latest situation regarding the request of Nooa Reete, I raised also in the last House?

Replied by H.E. Te Beretitenti

I regret to inform the Honourable Member that, as the relevant records for Mr. Nooa Reete's claim date back more than 20 years ago, efforts to trace his salary and KPF payments are on-going.

The Mover raised three supplementary questions.

3.11 Q.133 by Mr. Teburoro Tito MP (South Tarawa)

Will the Minister responsible explain to this House why the OECC is exempted from payment of port charges and other related fees?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Communications, Transport & Tourism Development

Mr. Speaker, OECC is exempted from paying port charges and other related fees as it is provided for in the contract.

The Mover raised three supplementary questions.

3.12 Q.71 by Mr. Taneti Maamau MP (Onotoa)

In Onotoa, several clinics were relocated but unfortunately no consultations were made with landowners who have benefited from the land leases according to the agreement. Could Government compensate for the sudden loss of revenue to these landowners from the time the clinics were removed until the time when the lease agreement was supposed to end?

Replied by Hon. Minister of Health & Medical Services

My Ministry is prepared to consider the request in line with the requirements of sections 18 and 19 of the Native Lands Ordinance, Cap.61.

The Mover raised two supplementary questions and the supplementary questions raised were answered by the Hon. Minister of Environment, Lands and Agricultural Development.

Question time ended at 11.30 am and all Questions on the Order Paper were dealt with.

4. MOTION

4.1 Hon. Minister of Environment, Lands and Agricultural Development moved:

Motion No. 16

That this House approves the suspension of Rule 50(1) of the Rules of Procedure of the Maneaba ni Maungatabu in order to enable the first reading of the Phoenix Islands Protected Area Conservation Trust Bill 2008 to take place in this session of the Maneaba ni Maungatabu.

Motion proposed and the following Members spoke on the Motion:

Mr. Banuera Berina
Mr. Teburoro Tito
H.E. Te Beretitenti
Dr. Harry Tong

The Mover then summed up.

Question put: Carried

5. BILL – FIRST READING

5.1 Phoenix Islands Protected Area Conservation Trust Bill 2008

Hon. Minister of Environment, Lands and Agricultural Development moved:

That the Phoenix Islands Protected Area Conservation Trust Bill 2008 be read the first time.

The House adjourned for lunch at 12.30 pm and resumed at 2.00 pm.

Bill proposed; The following Members spoke on the Bill:

Mr. Banuera Berina
Mr. Taneti Maamau
H.E. Te Beretitenti
Mr. Teburoro Tito
Hon. Taberannang Timeon

The Mover of the Bill then summed up.

Question Put: Carried.

The House adjourned for afternoon tea at 4.00 pm and resumed at 4.30 pm.

6. BILL – COMMITTEE STAGE

The House resolved into Committee to consider the following Bill:

Local Government (Amendment) Bill 2008

Mr. Chairman proposed that clause 1 stand part of the Bill

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that clauses 2 and stand part of the Bill

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that clauses 5 and 6 stand part of the Bill

Question put: Carried

Mr. Chairman proposed that the Long Title of the Bill stand part of the Bill of the whole Bill

Question put: Carried

The House resumed from Committee.

7. BILL – SECOND READING

7.1 Local Government (Amendment) Bill 2008

Hon. Minister of Internal and Social Affairs moved:

That the Local Government (Amendment) Bill 2008 be read the second time and do pass.

Question put: Carried

8. MOTIONS

8.1 Hon. Minister of Finance and Economic Development moved:

Motion No. 15

That this House approves the 2009 Development Budget in the sum of \$81,963,662 and the Supplementary to the 2008 Development Budget in the sum of \$8,390,220 as presented in the 2009 Budget report from pages 44 to 71 and the accompanying attachment.

Motion proposed and the following Members spoke on the Motion:

Mr. Teburoro Tito
Mr. Alexander Teabo
Mr. Tebuai Uaai
Mr. Ieremia Tabai
Mr. Taneti Maamau

The Mover then summed up.

Question put: Carried

8.2 Mr. Kouramaere Kautoa MP (Makin) and Member of the Public Account Committee moved:

Motion No. 18

That this House accepts the Report of the Public Account Committee on the Government Account for the year ended 31st December 2005 tabled as Paper No. 29/08 and to approve the Committee's recommendations contained therein.

Motion proposed and the following Members spoke on the Motion:

Hon. Natan Teewe
Mr. Banuera Berina
Mr. Rimeta Beniamina
Mr. Teburoro Tito

The Mover summed up.

Question put: Carried

9. ADJOURNMENT SINE DIE MOTION

H.E. Te Beretitenti moved:

That this House do now adjourn sine die.

Motion proposed and the following Members spoke on the Motion:

Mr. Nabuti Mwemwenikarawa

Dr. Tetaua Taitai

Question put: Carried

Following that, the Hon. Speaker then adjourned the House sine die.

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LIST OF ACTS PASSED AND ASSENTED

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11/2008	Anti-Personnel Mines (Prohibition) Act 2008	23/12/08
12/2008	Measures to Combat Terrorism and Transnational Organized Crime (Amendment) Act 2008	31/12/08
13/2008	Rent Review (Amendment) Act 2008	23/12/08
14/2008	Provident Fund (Amendment) Act 2008	23/12/08
15/2008	Police Service Act 2008	23/12/08
16/2008	Police Powers and Duties Act 2008	23/12/08
17/2008	Supplementary Appropriation (No. 3) Act 2008	18/12/08
18/2008	Appropriation Act 2008	23/12/08
19/2008	Local Government (Amendment) Act 2008	23/12/08