

**JOURNAL OF THE THIRD MEETING OF THE THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT  
31<sup>st</sup> MARCH TO 14<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2025**



**KIRIBATI PARLIAMENT  
AMBO TARAWA**

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

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## COMPOSITION OF THE MANEABA NI MAUNGATABU

2<sup>nd</sup> December - 18<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2024

Hon. Willie Tokataake  
Hon. Ruuta Babo Nemta

Speaker of Parliament  
Deputy Speaker

### Cabinet

H.E Taneti Maamau  
Hon. Dr. Teuea Toatu

H.E Te Beretitenti  
Vice President/Minister of  
Finance & Economics  
Development  
Minister of Information,  
Communication and  
Transport

Hon. Alexander Teabo

Minister of Health and  
Medical Services  
Minister of Fisheries &  
Marine Resources  
Development

Hon. Booti Nauan

Minister of Culture and  
Internal Affairs

Hon. Ribanaataake Tiwau

Minister of Environment,  
Land and Agricultural  
Development  
Minister of Infrastructure  
Sustainable Energy

Hon. Harry Tekaiti

Minister of Culture and  
Internal Affairs

Hon. Tokaibure Rabaua

Minister of Environment,  
Land and Agricultural  
Development

Hon. Tekeeua Tarati

Minister of Infrastructure  
Sustainable Energy

Hon. Auria Kitina

Minister of Employment

Hon. Tangariki Reete

Minister of Tourism,  
Commerce and Industry

Co-operative

Hon. Mikarite Temari

Minister of Line & Phoenix  
Islands  
Development

Hon. Ruateki Tekaiara

Minister of Education

Hon. Martin Moreti

Minister of Justice

Hon. Ruth Cross Kwansing

Minister of Women, Youth,  
Sports and Social Affairs

### **Private Members**

Mr. Pinto Katia	-	Makin
Mr. Tinian Reiher	-	Butaritari
Mr. Moannata lentaake	-	Marakei
Ms. Lavinia Jacob Teem	-	Abaiang
Mr. Betero Atanibora	-	Abaiang
Ms. Tessie Eria Lambourne	-	Abemama
Mr. Tebuai Uaai	-	South Tarawa
Mr. Birimwaaka Tekanene	-	South Tarawa
Mr. Tonganibeia Buraieta	-	North Tarawa
Mr. Terieta Mwemwenikeaki	-	North Tarawa
Mr. Choy Freedy	-	Betio
Mr. Dr Tinte Itinteang	-	Betio
Mr. Koraubati Remuera	-	Maiana
Mr. Ruuta Babo Nemta	-	Maiana
Mr. Banuera Berina	-	Kuria
Mr. Ieremia Tabai	-	Nonouti
Mr. Dennis Waysang Kumkee	-	Nonouti
Mr. Taberannang Timeon	-	Tabiteuea North
Mr. Riteta Iorome	-	Onotoa
Mr. England Iuta	-	Beru
Ms. Niiti Itaaka	-	Arorae
Mr. Teriba Tabee	-	Kiritimati
Mr. Jacob Teem	-	Kiritimati
Mr. Bautaake Beia	-	Teraina
Mr. Kaotitaake Kokoria	-	Tabuaeran
Mr. Matanga Aran	-	Tabuaeran
Mr. Tibanga Taratai	-	Banaba

## **Principal Officers of the Maneaba ni Maungatabu**

Hon. Willie Tokataake	Speaker
Mr. Eni Tekanene	Clerk
Mr. Kakiata Tikataake	Deputy Clerk
Mr. George Ueantabo Mackenzie	Parliamentary Counsel
Mr. Airata Teemeta	Hansard Editor
Mr. Naumata Tiika	Committee Secretary
Ms. Kauae Been	Committee Secretary
Ms. Teawa Tuare	Senior Librarian

## **SCHEDULE OF PAPERS**

<b>Date of Presentation</b>	<b>Paper No.</b>	<b>Title of Paper</b>
02/04/2025	01/25	Ana Ribooti te Komete ibukin ana Mwane te Botannaomata iaon ana akaunti Kiribati Insurance Corporation are e a tia n otetanaki ibukin te ririki 2012 nakon 2020.
“	02/25	Ana Ribooti te Komete ibukin ana Mwane te Botannaomata iaon ana akaunti Air Kiribati Limited are e a tia n otetanaki ibukin te ririki 2014 nakon 2022.
“	03/25	Ana Ribooti te Komete ibukin ana Mwane te Botannaomata iaon ana akaunti Kiribati Housing Corporation are e a tia n otetanaki ibukin te ririki 2019 nakon 2022
04/04/2025	04/25	Annual Report of the Ministry for Fisheries and Ocean Resource (MFOR) for the year 2024
09/04/2025	05/25	Airport Kiribati Authority Statement of Intent for the period 2025 to 2027
“	06/25	Air Kiribati Limited Statement of Intent for the period 2025 to 2027

“	07/25	The Broadcasting and Publications Authority Statement of Intent for the period 2025 to 2027
“	08/25	BwebwerikiNET Limited Statement of Intent for the period 2025 to 2027
“	9/25	Central Pacific Producers Limited Statement of Intent for the period 2025 to 2027
“	10/25	Development Bank of Kiribati Statement of Intent for the period 2025 to 2027
“	11/25	Kiribati Coconut Development Ltd Statement of Intent for the period 2025 to 2027
“	12/25	Kiribati Housing Corporation Statement of Intent for the period 2025 to 2027
“	13/25	Kiribati Insurance Corporation Statement of Intent 2025
“	14/25	Kiribati Land Transport Authority Statement of Intent for the period 2025 to 2027
“	15/25	Kiribati Oil Company Limited Statement of Intent for the period 2025 to 2027
“	16/25	Kiribati Ports Authority Statement of Intent for the period 2025 to 2027
“	17/25	Kiribati Green Energy Solution Limited Statement of Intent for the period 2025 to 2027
“	18/25	Plant and Vehicle Unit Statement of Intent for the period 2025 to 2027
“	19/25	Public Utilities Board Statement of Intent for the period 2025 to 2027
“	20/25	Kiribati National Shipping Line Statement of Intent for the period 2025 to 2027
“	21/25	Tourism Authority Kiribati Statement of Intent for the period 2025 to 2027
“	22/25	Te Atinimarawa Company Limited Statement of Intent for the period 2025 to 2027
14/04/2025	24/25	Ana Ribooti te Komete ibukin ana Mwane te Botannaomata iaon ana akaunti te Kiribati Port Authority are e a tia n otetanaki ibukin te ririki 2015 nakon 2022.
“	25/25	Ana Ribooti te Komete ibukin ana Mwane te Botannaomata iaon ana akaunti te Broadcasting Publication Authority are e a tia n otetanaki ibukin te ririki 2016 nakon 2022

## SCHEDULE OF BILLS

<b>Mover</b>	<b>Short Title</b>	<b>First Reading</b>	<b>Committee Stage</b>	<b>Second Reading</b>	<b>Date Assented</b>
Hon.Alexander Teabo	Data Protection Bill 2025	1/04/2025			
Hon Tebuai Uaai	Constitution(Amendment) Bill	02/04/2025			
Hon.Martin Moreti	National Digital Identification Bill 2025	03/04/2025			
Hon Birimwaaka Tekanene	Local Government (Amendment) Bill 2025	8/04/2025			
Hon.Betero Atanibora	Gaming and Lotteries (Amendment) Bill 2025	9/04/2025			
HE.Taneti Mamau	Public Service Commission(Amendment) Bill 2025	10/04/2025			
Hon. Dr Teuea Toatu	State Owned Enterprises (Amendment) Bill 2025	10/04/2025			
Hon.Birimwaaka Tekanene	Election of Te Beretitenti(Amendment) Bill 2025	11/04/2025			
Hon.Dr Teuea Toatu	Value Added Tax(Amendment) Bill 2025	14/04/2025			

## SCHEDULE OF COMMITTEES

### Members of the Public Account Committee

Hon.Tarakabu Tofinga	Chairperson
Hon.Bautaake Beia	Member
Hon.England Iuta	Member

### Members of the Business Committee

Hon.Tauanei Marea	Chairperson
Hon.Tebuai Uaai	Member
Hon.Koraubati Remuera	Member
Hon.Riteta Iorome	Member
Hon.Pinto Katia	Member

### Members of the Councils through expanding licensing opportunities and innovative initiatives to achieve financial sustainability committee

Hon.Tonganibeia Buraieta Koakoa	Chairperson
Hon.Moannata lentaake	Member
Hon.Choy Freddy	Member
Hon. Iakoba Jacob Karutaake	Member

### Members to study and identify ways to increase financial support to health care services enabling in Kiribati committee

Hon.Dr Tinte Itinteang	Chairperson
Hon.Betero Atanibora	Member
Hon.Tawaria Komwenga	Member
Hon.Niiti Itaaka	Member

### Member of the cottage industry committee

Hon.Dennis Waysang	Chairperson
Hon.Tibanga Taratai	Member
Hon.Matanga Aran	Member
Hon.Ruuta Teretia Babo Nemta	Member
Hon.Tinian Reiher	member

**STATEMENTS  
(Index)**

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Presented by</b>	<b>Page</b>
Expression of gratitude to the Government for its continued budgetary provision towards payment of senior citizens' allowances, totaling \$23 million.	Hon.Tebuai Uaai	19
Expressing our gratitude and appreciation to the Government for providing a dialysis machine for our patients suffering from kidney failure.	Hon.Choy Freddy	60
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**Maneaba ni Maungatabu**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of Thirteenth Parliament**

**Minute of Proceedings  
for  
Monday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025**

1. The Speaker took char at 10:00 am and invited Hon. Bootii Nauan to lead the prayers.

**2. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY HON. SPEAKER**

The Speaker welcomed all Honourable Members of Parliament and members of the diplomatic corps who were present at the meeting.

The Speaker informed the House of the recent passing of three former Members of Parliament and requested that a moment of silence be observed in their honour. The House accordingly observed a moment of silence in remembrance of the following:

The Late Honourable Tiarite Kwong

The Late Honourable Mary Taamwi

The Late Honourable Bakaia Kiabo

On a point of order, the Honourable Tessie Eria Lambourne acknowledged presentation of the order of government business and requested whether Tuesday could be allocated for Private Members' business.

Hon. Lambourne also reminded the Speaker for the official election results to be tabled in Parliament.

**3. ORDER OF GOVERNMENT BUSINESS**

H.E Te Beretitenti delivered a statement on the Order of Government Business in the following manner:

**Monday 31 March:**

- Statement on the order of Government business

**Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April:**

- Data Protection Bill 2025 - First Reading

**Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April:**

- Private members' day

**Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April:**

- National Digital Identification Bill 2025 – First Reading

**Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April:**

- Private members' day

**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> April:**

- Public Holiday – National Health Day

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> April:**

- No business item

**Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> April:**

- Private members' day

**Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> April:**

- Bill: Public Service (Amendment) Bill 2025 – First reading
- State Owned Enterprises (Amendment) Bill 2025 First Reading
- Liquor Bill 2025 – First Reading

**Friday, 11<sup>th</sup> April:**

- Private members' day

**Monday, 14<sup>th</sup> April:**

- Value Added Tax (Amendment) Bill 2025 – First Reading
- Adjournment Sine Dine Motion

#### **4. ORAL QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

The following Oral Questions were asked and answered in the Maneaba ni Maungatabu.

**By Hon. Tebuai Uaai, MP (Tarawa Teinainano)**

**OQ1.** When will the elderly's monetary benefits improve?

**Replied by Hon. Ruth Cross Kwansing, MP (Minister of Women, Youth, Sport and Social Affairs)**

Honorable Speaker, I thank the Honorable Member of Parliament from Tarawa Teinainano, for his question. The Government is currently working to strengthen payment systems and procure a Social Protection Management Information System.

The member asked 3 supplementary questions.

**By Hon. Pinto Katia, MP (Makin)**

**OQ6.** Could Government assist with Tangintearia causeway as it is no longer safe to use it?

**Replied by His Excellency Taneti Maamau, MP (Te Beretitenti)**

I am happy to inform one of MPs from Makin that the Government is ready to assist with this request.

The member asked 2 supplementary Question

**By Hon. Koraubati Remuera, MP (Maiana)**

**OQ9.** I would like to request an update from the Government and the relevant Minister regarding the plans for the full operation of the Maiana Island Council's Mini Hatchery?

**Replied by Hon. Ribanataake Tiwau, MP (Minister of Fisheries and Marine Resources Development)**

I am pleased to inform the Honourable MP from Maiana that the renovation work needed for the Maiana hatchery will commence in the coming weeks.

The member asked 3 supplementary questions

**By Hon. Tebuai Uaai, MP (Tarawa Teinainano)**

**OQ2.** Could the Government enforce KCCI's membership just for those VAT registered businesses?

**Replied by Hon. Tangariki Reete, MP (Minister of Tourism, Commerce and Industry Cooperatives)**

Hon. Speaker, I wish to clarify to the Hon. MP from TUC that Government is ready to consider this request in line with the current KCCI Act 2024.

The member asked 2 Supplementary questions, the third supplementary question was raised by Hon. Choy Freddy

**By Hon. Pinto Katia, MP (Makin)**

**OQ8.** The people from Makin are grateful for the household solar systems that have been received by the Government. However, there are issues with just the solar bulbs which are no longer working. Could the Minister responsible kindly assist with the replacement of solar bulbs?

**Replied by Hon. Tekeeua Tarati, MP (Minister of Infrastructure and Sustainable Energy)**

Honorable Speaker, I am pleased to inform the Honourable MP from Makin that my SOE, the Kiribati Green Energy Solution (KGES) can assist to buy spare parts from the manufacturing company and sell them and can provide repair services to those defected solar kits distributed to households in the outer islands.

The member asked 3 supplementary questions

**By Hon. Tebuai Uaai, MP (Tarawa Teinainano)**

**OQ4.** Can the Government review and improve land zoning and land survey on Tarawa Teinainano Nurturing Land (TTNL)?

**Replied by Hon. Tokaibure Rabaua, MP (Minister of Environment, Lands & Agricultural Development)**

Honorable Speaker, all work around land planning and land survey are in line with the Honorable Member of Parliament question executed in line with the law and the procedures.

The member asked 3 supplementary questions.

**By Hon. Koraubati Remuera, MP (Maiana)**

**OQ10.** Copra sheds running out of storage space is a recurring issue in my constituency of Maiana which can hinder copra farmers by delaying copra sales?

**Replied by Hon. Tangariki Reete, MP (Minister of Tourism, Commerce and Industry Cooperatives)**

Hon. Speaker, I wish to inform the Hon. MP from Maiana that the recurring copra overstock issue in Maiana is driven by the limited of sea-transport to transfer copra from Maiana to Tarawa.

The member asked 2 supplementary questions and third raised by Hon. Ruta Babo Nemta

**By Hon. Tawaria Komwenga, MP (Beru)**

**OQ17.** May I kindly request the Government and the responsible Minister, what is the latest balance for the Beru Island Council Trust Funds?

**Replied by Hon. Dr. Teuea Toatu, MP (Te Kauoman ni Beretitenti & Minister of Finance and Economic Development)**

I am pleased to inform one of the Honorable MPs from Beru that the Beru Island Council Trust Fund balance as of 28 February 2025 is \$161,258.04.

The member asked 3 supplementary questions.

**By Hon. Koraubati Remuera, MP (Maiana)**

**OQ11.** The beacon light on top of the communication tower in Maiana has not been operational for quite some time now. May I ask the relevant Minister what caused this problem?

**Replied by Hon. Alexander Teabo, MP (Minister of Information, Communication and Transport)**

After conducting an inspection of Maiana's beacon on the 15<sup>th</sup> of January 2025, the Marine Division identified the following faults:

1. The beacon light regulator is not working and not repairable.
2. The solar system that powers the beacon light was also malfunctioning and therefore power/energy cannot be stored on the battery.

However, my Ministry will provide a remedy to this issue.

The member asked 2 supplementary questions

OQ No.13 by Hon. Dr. Tinte Itinteang, MP (Betio) was deferred.

**By Hon. Koraubati Remuera, MP (Maiana)**

**OQ12** During a Government visit to Maiana led by Ministers, it was noted that there is equipment available for road maintenance works. I would like to ask the Minister concerned for updates on this project.

**Replied by Hon. Tekeeua Tarati, MP (Minister of Infrastructure and Sustainable Energy)**

Honourable Speaker, I am happy to inform Honorable MP that the medium size machines had arrived in Tarawa. My Ministry is now making preparation to mobilize these medium size machines to designated islands after completing

the training with island council mechanic and operators for operating and maintaining that equipment.

The member asked 3 supplementary questions

**OQ No.15 by Hon. Dr. Tinte Itinteang, MP (Betio) was deferred.**

**By Hon. Tawaria Komwenga, MP (Beru)**

**OQ18.** The Marewe ni Beru has lodged their sublease application for their Maneaba site at the Ananau causeway. May I kindly request the Government and the responsible Minister, what is the update on this application?

**Replied by Hon. Tokaibure Rabaua, MP (Minister of Environment, Lands & Agricultural Development)**

Honorable Speaker, the request is reviewed in line with the existing plan to Government land in Temaiku.

The member asked 3 supplementary questions

**By Hon. Moannata Ientaake, MP (Marakei)**

**OQ19.** Could the Government or the Minister responsible provide a bright light beacon bulb to be installed at Rawannawi and placed on the tower at Island Council?

**Replied by Hon. Alexander Teabo, MP (Minister of Information, Communication and Transport)**

I am delighted to state that my Ministry has plans in place to install navigational beacons (lights) on new communication towers in the outer islands. Marakei's navigational beacon will be installed on the new tower that is currently under construction and anticipated to be completed in the first quarter of this year.

The member asked 2 supplementary questions.

**By Hon. Riteta Iorome, MP (Onotoa)**

**OQ23.** When will the repair works start on the causeways in my constituency Onotoa, given their current deteriorated state deterring vehicles from driving on them?

**Replied by Hon. Tekeeua Tarati, MP (Minister of Infrastructure and Sustainable Energy)**

Honourable Speaker, I am happy to inform Honourable MP that the repair on Aoraereke causeway has decided to carry out second quarter of this year after procuring materials and tools from local suppliers.

The member asked 3 supplementary questions.

**By Hon. Moannata Ientaaake, MP (Marakei)**

**OQ20.** Could the Hon Minister or Government inform this House as to when the Government would be able to rebuild the crescent seawall that proved to have protected sea inundation and rebuilt or maintained beautiful long beach at Rannawi Marakei in the past and have raised the same question here twice previous years, please?

**Replied by His Excellency Taneti Maamau, MP (Te Beretitenti)**

I thank one of the MPs from Marakei for his question and here is the response. In response, the reconstruction of the crescent seawall at Rawannawi is a coastal protection measure that the Government has not yet implemented on any island due to limited technical expertise within the responsible ministry. However, the Government, through the relevant ministry, is committed to exploring international firms with proven expertise in this type of seawall construction. This will enable a comprehensive technical assessment and the development of a sustainable design for the new crescent seawall.

The member asked 3 supplementary questions

**By Hon. Betero Atanibora, MP (Abaiang)**

**OQ27.** Mr Speaker, I wish to ask the Minister responsible, what is the latest update on the construction of a Junior Secondary School in Tanimaiaki, Abaiang?

**Replied by Hon. Ruateki Tekaiara, MP (Minister of Education)**

Speaker, I thank the Honourable MP from Abaiang for his question, and this is Government's response. The land boundary for the plot on which Abaiang second JSS has been determined and so my Ministry is preparing now for the visit to Abaiang to carry out the demarcation survey.

The member asked 1 supplementary question, 2<sup>nd</sup> supplementary question raised by Hon. Tarakabu Tofinga, 3<sup>rd</sup> supplementary question raised by Tonganibeia Buraieta Koakoa.

**By Hon. Riteta Iorome, MP (Onotoa)**

**OQ24.** Could the government provide allowance to cover the costs incurred by recruited mobile workers who are now awaiting mobilization on Tarawa after their initial mobilization date was cancelled?

**Replied by Hon. Auria Kitina, MP (Minister of Employment and Human Resources)**

I wish to convey to the Honourable MP from Onotoa that at this time, there is no allowance provided to cover the costs incurred by successful candidates waiting in Tarawa for mobilization to meatworks and fruit picking or seasonal jobs.

The member asked 2 supplementary questions

**By Hon. Moannata Ientaake, MP (Marakei)**

**OQ22.** Could the Government or responsible Minister inform this Maneaba when Marakei would receive the disabled funds that were not paid in December 2024, please?

**Replied by Hon. Ruth Cross Kwansing, MP (Minister of Women, Youth, Sport and Social Affairs)**

Honorable Speaker, I thank the Honourable MP from Marakei for his question, I am happy to inform this Maneaba that Disability Support Allowance for December was processed and paid on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2025.

The member asked 1 supplementary question.

*(The Speaker asked for the Maneaba's indulgence to continue with oral questions after 12:30, as there were only three questions left on the Order Paper, and it was all that was scheduled for the day).*

**By Hon. Birimaka Tekanene, MP (Tarawa Teinainano)**

**OQ28.** I kindly asked the Minister responsible if Government sponsored students who failed some subject and were terminated but have taken up the said course privately and passed them to be readmitted to the scholarship so that they can complete their program?

**Replied by Hon. Ruateki Tekaiara, MP (Minister of Education)**

Speaker, I thank the Honourable MP from South Tarawa for his question, and this is the response. According to the current Scholarship Policy, scholarship students who have failed some of their courses will not be accepted again to get their scholarship, however they can continue their studies through the loan scheme programs.

The member asked 3 supplementary questions

**By Hon. Betero Atanibora, MP (Abaiang)**

**OQ26.** Mr Speaker, I wish to ask the Minister responsible, why is there a shortage of copra funds for Abaiang during the months of January and February 2025?

**Replied by Hon. Dr. Teuea Toatu, MP (Te Kauoman ni Beretitenti & Minister of Finance and Economic Development)**

I wish to inform my fellow Hon. MP from Abaiang that there was no shortage of copra funds for Abaiang during the months of January and February 2025. However, the delay in disbursement resulted from ongoing investigative work.

The member asked 2 supplementary questions.

**By Hon. Birimaka Tekanene, MP (Tarawa Teinainano)**

**OQ30.** I kindly asked the Minister responsible that the feeder and access roads on South Tarawa that are not cemented are poorly maintained, can the Minister consider maintaining them?

**Replied by Hon. Harry Tekaiti, MP (Minister of Cultural & Internal Affairs)**

Honorable Speaker, my Ministry is ready to discuss this issue with the two Councils, TUC and BTC.

The member asked 2 supplementary questions

Speaker adjourned the Maneaba at 12:50

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**Maneaba ni Maungatabu  
3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of Thirteenth Parliament**

**Minute of Proceedings  
for  
Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025**

1. The Speaker took the chair at 10 am and invited Hon Birimaka Tekanene to lead with a prayer.

**2. STATEMENT**

**Hon. Tebuai Uaai, MP (Tarawa Teinainano) delivered a statement on the following;**

Expression of gratitude to the Government for its continued budgetary provision towards payment of senior citizens' allowances, totaling \$23 million.

Question raised for elucidating the statement by Hon. Taberannang Timeon, Hon. Pinto Katia, Hon. Birimaka Tekanene, Hon. Ruth Cross Kwansing, and Hon. Mikarite Temari

**3. ORAL QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

**By Hon. Moannata Ientaake, MP (Marakei)**

**OQ31.** I would like to request an update from the Government and the Minister responsible regarding the status of the Rawannawi solar light project that was surveyed in Marakei in 2023, please?

**Replied by Hon. Tekeeua Tarati, MP (Minister of Infrastructure and Sustainable Energy)**

I am pleased to inform the Member of Parliament for Marakei that the POIDIER project has officially resumed, with the completion of the solar electricity installation for Rawannawi village now underway.

Member raised 3 supplementary questions

**By Hon. Teribwa Taabe, MP (Kiritimati & Kanton)**

**OQ32.** Can the responsible Minister explain the details of the selection criteria on how our youths are selected to the Seasonal Worker Schemes in Australia and New Zealand?

**Replied by Hon. Auria Kitina, MP (Minister of Employment, and Human Resources)**

Selection of workers for work in Australia and New Zealand is based on the policy that Employers provide, and which is finalised by my Ministry in collaboration with the Employers' requirements.

Member raised 3 supplementary questions

**By Hon. Ruta Babo Nemta, MP (Maiana)**

**OQ35.** Is there a plan by the responsible Minister to increase the number of tables and chairs for Tewaiwai JSS Maiana?

**Replied by Hon. Ruateki Tekaiara, MP (Minster of Education)**

Speaker, I thank one of the Honourable MPs from Maiana for her question and this is the response. My Ministry has a plan regarding the provision of tables and chairs for schools across Kiribati, including Maiana.

Member raised 2 supplementary questions

**By Hon. Teribwa Taabe, MP (Kiritimati & Kanton)**

**OQ33.** Can the responsible Minister consider reviving the “Deboning of Milk fish project” on Kiritimati and work in consultation with CPPL to explore its market potential overseas so it can become another value adding fisheries export and income generating activity for the fishermen as well as foreign earnings to Kiribati?

**Replied by Hon. Ribanaataake Tiwau, MP (Minister of Fisheries and Marine Resources Development)**

Honourable Speaker, I am pleased to inform the Honourable MP, that my Ministry is already progressing this project.

Member raised 3 supplementary questions

**By Hon. Ruta Babo Nemta, MP (Maiana)**

**OQ36.** A word of appreciation to the Government for its consideration of the Magistrates in its Manifesto. Could I request clarification on the stated Manifesto No.32 – Enhancement of benefits and allowances for Magistrates.

**Replied by Hon. Martin Moreti, MP (Minister for Justice)**

I thank the Honourable MP from Maiana for the question, and this is the Government's response. I am glad to say that Manifesto No.32 which is the enhancement of benefits and allowances for Magistrates is being considered now.

Member raised 3 supplementary questions

**By Hon. Pinto Katia, MP (Makin)**

**OQ37.** Can I ask the Minister responsible to explain why the Support grant to Makin Island Council is very small at the beginning of this year?

**Replied by Hon. Harry Tekaiti, MP (Minister for Culture and Internal Affairs)**

Honourable Speaker, I am glad to inform the Honourable MP that the first disbursement of \$35,701.00 had been processed to Makin Island Council in January this year but will continue until the full share of \$156,988.00 is fully paid.

Member raised 3 supplementary questions

**By Hon. Ruta Babo Nemta, MP (Maiana)**

**OQ39.** Could the Minister responsible kindly provide information on how many fridges, designated for storing children's medicine, are allocated to each island?

**Replied by Hon. Bootii Nauan, MP (Minister of Health and Medical Services)**

All health clinics and islet clinics should be fitted with fridges for the cold storage of children's vaccines.

Member raised 3 supplementary questions

**By Hon. Pinto Katia, MP (Makin)**

**OQ38.** Can I ask the Minister responsible if it could assist our Makin Island Council regarding the clearance of outstanding payments on maintenance from last year and for the beginning of this year 2025?

**Replied by Hon. Harry Tekaiti, MP (Minister for Culture and Internal Affairs)**

Honourable Speaker, I am glad to inform the Honourable MP that the outstanding claim for Makin must be settled sooner as it has been received recently.

Member raised 3 supplementary questions

**By Hon. Tarakabu Tofinga, MP (Tabiteuea Meang)**

**OQ42.** There was communication sometime back with the Marine Division for erection of navigational beacons along the islets at the south of Tabiteuea North and the passages at the northern part of the island. There was positive reaction from the Division at that time. The question is what is the update on this?

**Replied by Hon. Alexander Teabo, MP (Minister for Information, Communication, and Transport)**

In accordance with this year's work plan, the rehabilitation of beacons at the designated port/channel in Tabiteuea North is scheduled to take place in the fourth quarter of this year. During this period, the team will conduct a comprehensive survey of the specified sites to ensure the safety of navigation. Prior to the installation of the beacons, it is essential to establish that the locations selected for installation are indeed safe for navigation, thus, this study serves as a prerequisite to the installation process.

Member raised 3 supplementary questions

**By Hon. Ruta Babo Nemta, MP (Maiana)**

**OQ40.** Could the Minister responsible consider providing additional transportation for the people of Maiana?

**Replied by Hon. Harry Tekaiti, MP (Minister for Culture and Internal Affairs)**

Honourable Speaker, I thank the Honourable MP from Maiana for her question and my Ministry is ready to review this request.

Member raised 3 supplementary questions

**By Hon. Tarakabu Tofinga, MP (Tabiteuea Meang)**

**OQ43.** The Honourable Minister of Fisheries and Ocean Resources stated that a hatchery for clams and other marine species will be established at Tabiteuea Meang. Could I ask the Honourable Minister if funding for this hatchery has been secured?

**Replied by Hon. Ribanaataake Tiwau, MP (Minister for Fisheries and Marine Resources Development)**

Honourable Speaker, I am pleased to inform the Honourable MP that the establishment of a mini-hatchery in Tab-North will be funded by existing project funds.

Member raised 2 supplementary questions and 3<sup>rd</sup> Supplementary question was asked by Hon. Moannata lentaake

**By Hon. Ruta Babo Nemta, MP (Maiana)**

**OQ41.** we express our appreciation to our government for the improvement in medical services provided through the operational clinics on Tebikerai, Tekaranga, Temwangaua, Buota and Bubutei. However, I wish to request the responsible Minister if he could consider equipping these clinics with adequate lighting?

**Replied by Hon. Bootii Nauan, MP (Minister for Health and Medical Services)**

My Ministry is willing to look into this request.

Member raised 2 supplementary questions

**By Hon. Betero Atanibora, MP (Abaiang)**

**OQ46.** Can I request the Minister of MISE for clarification regarding his statement in the last House that the heavy plants for roads would be dispersed to the outer islands once they arrive. I heard that these heavy plants have just arrived, and a celebration has been done. I wish to enquire when will they arrive in my constituency Abaiang, as recently the major issue is the road?

**Replied by Hon. Tekeeuia Tarati, MP (Minister for Infrastructure, and Sustainable Energy)**

Honourable Speaker, I am happy to inform the Honourable MP that preparation on mobilization of those medium size machines is ongoing now. The medium-sized machines are expected to be delivered to the island within the second quarter of this year.

Member raised 3 supplementary questions

**By Hon. Tarakabu Tofinga, MP (Tabiteuea Meang)**

**OQ44.** A question to the Government and the relevant Ministries if there are still plans to procure a dredger for channels as there's a need for it as repeatedly raised in the last meetings?

**Replied by Hon. Ribanataake Tiwau, MP (Minister for Fisheries and Marine Resources Development)**

I am happy to inform the MP from Tabiteuea Meang that MFOR has been working with Japan Aid and China Aid to secure funding for these dredgers. We expect this equipment to be completed next year 2026.

Member raised 3 supplementary questions.

**By Hon. Bautaake Beia, MP (Teraina)**

**OQ47.** Can I ask this Government to consider increasing the number of special constables on Teraina since stationing one constable for each village is not enough to maintain peace throughout the villages?

**Replied by His Excellency Taneti Maamau, MP (Te Beretitenti)**

Honourable Speaker, the survey on this issue has been done throughout the Kiribati group including the Line and Phoenix group including Christmas Island where the result of this survey will determine whether there is a need to increase the number of special constable or not.

Member raised 3 supplementary questions.

**By Hon. Tarakabu Tofinga, MP (Tabiteuea Meang)**

**OQ45.** A request to the Government, especially the Honourable Minister responsible if he can send civil engineers to inspect the bridges between Tenatorua and Bangai for possible maintenance?

**Replied Hon. Tekeeua Tarati, MP (Minister for Infrastructure, and Sustainable Energy)**

Honourable Speaker, I have a staff who is now in Tabiteuea Meang, and my office can communicate with him to obtain maintenance costs needed for the causeway mentioned in this question.

Member raised 3 supplementary questions

**By Hon. Bautaake Beia, MP (Teraina)**

**OQ48.** Could I ask the Minister responsible to ensure that the recruitment process for any vacant positions in the Island Council is conducted among the people residing within the Island Council's jurisdiction, rather than from Kiritimati or Tarawa?

**Replied by Hon. Harry Tekaiti, MP (Minister for Culture, and Internal Affairs)**

Honourable Speaker, I am glad to inform the honourable MP that my Ministry is ready to consider this request with relevant authorities, in particular PSC to embrace this request when and where necessary.

Member raised 3 supplementary questions

(Speaker adjourned for lunch at 12:32 pm)

After lunch break, the Deputy Speaker took the chair at 2pm and proceeded to the first reading of the Bill.

#### **4. BILL – FIRST READING**

##### **4.1 Data Protection Bill 2025**

**Hon. Alexander Teabo, MP (Minister of Information Communication and Transport) moved:**

That the Data Protection Bill 2025 be read the first time.

Members spoke on the Bill:

Hon. Tessie Lambourne  
Hon. Bootii Nauan  
Hon. Moannata lentaake  
Hon. Mikarite Temari  
Hon. Birimaka Tekanene  
Hon. Pinto Katia  
Hon. Ieremia Tabai

(The Deputy Speaker adjourned for afternoon tea at 3:55pm)

(The Speaker took the chair at 4:25pm)

Members speaking on the Bill Continued:

Hon. Tekeeuua Tarati  
Hon. Ribanaataake Tiwau  
Hon. Terieta Mwemwenikeaki  
Hon Riteta Iorome  
Hon. Tauanei Marea  
Hon. England Iuta  
Hon. Teribwa Taabe  
Hon. Bautaake beia

Hon. Alexander Teabo summed up

Question Put – Carried

Speaker adjourned the meeting at 6:06 pm



**Maneaba ni Maungatabu  
3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of Thirteenth Parliament**

**Minute of Proceedings  
for  
Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2025**

1. The Speaker took the chair at 10:00 am and led the prayers

**2. ANNOUNCEMENT BY HON. SPEAKER**

Speaker welcomed the members and reminded SOEs that have not submitted their outstanding financial reports to the Kiribati Audit Office at the earliest opportunity:

- Bwebweriki Net Ltd - 2024
- Broadcasting & Publications Authority 2024
- Kiribati Provident Fund 2024
- Public Utilities Board 2024
- Kiribati Green Energy Sustainable 2024
- Kiribati Land & Transport Authority 2024
- Kiribati Oil Company Limited 2024
- Airport Kiribati Authority 2024
- Kiribati Housing Corporation 2023-24
- Kiribati Tourism Authority of Kiribati - 2022-2024
- Kiribati Coconut Development Ltd. - 2024

**3. PRESENTED PAPERS**

**By Hon. Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee**

Ana Ribooti te Komete ibukin ana Mwane te Botannaomata iaon ana akaunti Kiribati Insurance Corporation are e a tia n otetanaki ibukin te ririki 2012 nakon 2020.

**Paper No. 01/25**

Ana Ribooti te Komete ibukin ana Mwane te Botannaomata iaon ana akaunti Air Kiribati Limited are e a tia n otetanaki ibukin te ririki 2014 nakon 2022.

**Paper No.02/25**

Ana Ribooti te Komete ibukin ana Mwane te Botannaomata iaon ana akaunti Kiribati Housing Corporation are e a tia n otetanaki ibukin te ririki 2019 nakon 2022.

**Paper No.03**

#### **4. ORAL QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

**By Hon. Lavinia Teatao Teem, MP (Abaiang)**

**OQ51.** Can Government consider exempting VAT on all imported items for all churches?

**Replied by Hon. Dr. Teuea Toatu, MP (Kauoman ni Beretitenti & Minister of Finance and Economic Development )**

I am pleased to inform the honourable MP from Abaiang that in accordance with the VAT Act, only half of the price of imported Church construction materials is subject to VAT.

The member raised three Supplementary questions

**By Hon. Bautaake Beia, MP (Teraina)**

**OQ49.** May I kindly request that the Minister for the Ministry for Justice arrange for his office's assistance by visiting Teraina and helping the people there with their National ID Cards?

**Replied by Hon. Martin Moreti, MP (Minister of Justice)**

I thank the Honourable MP from Teraina for the question, and this is the Government's response. Since Teraina has not been visited including few other islands, I am glad to say that those who really need their ID cards can go to their island clerk who can then liaise with our office on requirements for producing ID cards.

Member raised one supplementary question, 2<sup>nd</sup> supplementary question was raised by Hon. Tessie Lambourne

**By Hon. Teribwa Taabe, MP (Kiritimati & Kanton)**

**OQ55.** Can the responsible Minister review with a view to further improving the current payment processing system and ensuring timely payment especially for those that relate to the government policy such as the monthly elderly benefits, monthly SFU, annual Leave Grant and copra money to ensure consistency schedules to avoid unnecessary delays?

**Replied by Hon. Dr. Teuea Toatu, MP (Kauoman ni Beretitenti & Minister of Finance and Economic Development)**

I wish to inform the Honourable MP from Kiritimati that work is ongoing to improve payments for the mentioned Manifestos.

Member raised three supplementary questions

**By Hon. Lavinia Teatao Teem, MP (Abaiang)**

**OQ50.** The shortage of fuel in Abaiang is a constant problem, could the Government assist in solving this problem?

**Replied by Hon. Tekeeua Tarati, MP (Minister for Infrastructure, and Sustainable Energy)**

Honourable Speaker, I am pleased to inform the honourable MP that my Ministry in collaboration with KOIL and other Ministries or SOEs concerned are working cooperatively to find a sustainable solution to this issue.

The member raised three Supplementary questions.

**By Hon. Dr. Tinte Itinteang, MP (Betio)**

**OQ13.** Can I ask the Minister responsible for their assistance towards proper placement of shipping contains, especially those adjacent to public access in Betio?

**Replied by Hon. Tangariki Reete, MP (Minister for Tourism, Commerce, Industry and Cooperatives)**

Hon. Speaker, I thanked my colleague Hon. MP from Betio for his question, and I wish to inform that my Ministry has constantly work together with concerned line authorities and Ministries to explore the most effective way of addressing this issue.

The member raised two Supplementary questions; the 3<sup>rd</sup> Supplementary question was raised by Hon. Tebuai Uaai.

**By Hon. Lavinia Teatao Teem, MP (Abaiang)**

**OQ53.** What are Government policies in regard to patients being referred to Tarawa for further treatment?

**Replied by Hon. Bootii Nauan, MP (Minister of Health and Medical Services )**

Honourable Speaker, the referral of patients from outer islands for further treatment in Tarawa is guided by the Government's standing Local Referral Policy.

The member raised three Supplementary questions

**By Hon. Dr. Tinte Itinteang, MP (Betio)**

**OQ15.** May I ask the responsible Minister if their Ministry has any form of orientation or preparation workshops for Kiribati employees before they depart for their overseas employment, such as fruit pickers destined for NZ?

**Replied by Hon. Auria Kitina, MP (Minister of Employment and Human Resources )**

I am pleased to inform the Honourable MP from Betio, that there are preparations carried out by my Ministry for Kiribati employees before they depart for their overseas employment, such as fruit pickers destined for New Zealand. These preparations include the Fitness test, the English test, the English Training that runs for five weeks, and the pre-departure briefing.

The member raised three Supplementary questions

**By Hon. Lavinia Teatao Teem, MP (Abaiang)**

**OQ52.** We request the Government if it could clarify how the small grants are distributed?

**Replied by His Excellency Taneti Maamau, MP (Te Beretitenti)**

Hon. Speaker, the 'Government Support for Improving Livelihood', known as Livelihood in short, is managed by my office OB and distributed to all islands using a geometric mean approach, taking into consideration the population on the islands.

The member raised three Supplementary questions

**By Hon. Tebuai Uaai, MP (Tarawa Teinainano)**

**OQ3.** Could the Government provide effective solutions to address and resolve the problem of overcrowding on Tarawa Teinainano Nurturing Land (TTNL)?

**Replied by Hon. Tokaibure Rabaua, MP (Minister of Environment, Lands and Agricultural Development)**

My Ministry is willing to review the question raised by the Honourable Member of Parliament to find ways that will assist with this major issue.

The member raised one supplementary question while the 2<sup>nd</sup> supplementary question was raised by Hon. Choy Freddy.

**By Hon. Pinto Katia, MP (Makin)**

**OQ7.** The installation of the desalination plant on Kiebu is still not yet completed. Can H.E Te Beretitenti and staff kindly clarify if this plant can be completed or not?

**Replied by His Excellency Taneti Maamau, MP (Te Beretitenti)**

I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to the Honourable Member of Parliament from Makin for his question.

In response, I am pleased to reaffirm the Government's commitment to ensuring that the Kiebu desalination plant becomes fully operational. Efforts are underway to address the challenges and expedite its implementation for the benefit of the Kiebu community.

The member raised one supplementary question

**By Hon. Ieremia Tabai, MP (Nonouti)**

**OQ57.** In its May 2024 report the IMF expressed concern that the change in the RERF withdrawal policy from a threshold of 5% real value to 2% of nominal value increase the risk of gradual depletion of the RERF.

I want to ask the government to explain the reasons for changing the withdrawal policy from 5% real value to 2% nominal value?

**Replied by Hon. Dr. Teuea Toatu, MP (Kauoman ni Beretitenti & Minister for Finance and Economic Development)**

Honourable Speaker, I am pleased to inform this House that the adjustment of the RERF withdrawal policy is based on the performance of the RERF and historical withdrawal patterns. This revised threshold is designed to ensure that the Government has access to sufficient funds to support critical development projects for the current generation, while also preserving the capital of the fund for future generation.

The member raised three Supplementary questions

**By Hon. Tonganibeia Buraieta Koakoa, MP (Tarawaleta)**

**OQ62.** The Government has launched one of its promises to supply 500-litre water tanks to the people of Betio and South Tarawa. Could the Minister responsible provide an update on the progress of the distribution of the water tanks so far?

**Replied by Hon. Tekeeua Tarati, MP (Minister for Infrastructure, and Sustainable Energy)**

Honorable Speaker, I am pleased to inform the Honourable MP from North Tarawa that the funding for the outer island water tank distribution project has been secured. We are now in the process of providing additional information as requested by the Ministry for Finance and Economic Development before starting the project implementation.

The member raised three Supplementary questions

**By Hon. Ieremia Tabai, MP (Nonouti)**

**OQ58.** When the Beretitenti answered my question in the December 2024 meeting on the tribunal that investigates against the Court of Appeal judges, he said there was a delay in the start of their work since members were also members of another tribunal whose report was tabled in April 2024.

I want to ask who from among those members holds or has held high judicial office as required by the Constitution, an issue we have raised in this House before?

**Replied by His Excellency Taneti Maamau, MP (Te Beretitenti)**

Hon. Speaker, my response in April 2023 remains, where I stated that further improvements are required in accordance with the Constitution before the Tribunal commences its work.

The member raised three Supplementary questions

**By Hon. Birimaka Tekanene, MP (Tarawa Teinainano)**

**OQ61.** I kindly asked the Minister responsible for his assistance to the Kiribati Provident Fund regarding its policy on the Statutory Declaration that is now restricted by accepting none other than the one made from the Office of the Public Legal Service; and to allow the same from Private Lawyers and the Court in light of the Statutory Declaration Act?

**Replied by Hon. Dr. Teuea Toatu, MP (Kauoman ni Beretitenti & Minister for Finance and Economic Development)**

I wish to inform one of the honourable MPs from Tarawa Teinainano that the matter will be looked into by the KPF.

The member raised three Supplementary questions.

**By Hon. Tonganibeia Buraieta Koakoa, MP (Tarawaleta)**

**OQ63.** There is a need to expand electricity coverage to Temoritong in Buota. Could the Minister responsible liaise with the Public and Utilities Board to explore the possibility of installing a meter box, enabling residents to access the main electricity grid in this area?

**Replied by Hon. Tekeeua Tarati, MP (Minister for Infrastructure, and Sustainable Energy)**

Honourable Speaker, I am pleased to inform this Maneaba that the project responsible for installing distribution boxes and connecting new customers to the grid is currently underway. I am also happy to inform the Honourable Member of Parliament from North Tarawa that the project will indeed cover Buota as well.

The member raised three Supplementary questions

**By Hon. Bautaake Beia, MP (Teraina)**

**OQ65.** Can I request the Minister of MOE that there is transport provided for school children at Teraina and must be in Teraina, however it has been stayed for longer periods in Kiritimati and seems like no use to be sent to Teraina as it is damaged. A humble request if one new Truck can be purchased and to be transported to Teraina urgently to assist and support school children who always walk to attend school every day?

**Replied by Hon. Ruateki Tekaiara, MP (Minister for Education)**

I thank the Honourable MP from Teraina for raising an important question with regards to the need of students 'transport and this is the response. Sending the transport (truck) for students in Teraina which had been stayed in Kiritimati longer periods, when it is running, was the outcome of the dialogue between my Ministry and Teraina Council held in June 2024 during the visit of Teraina Mayor and Clerk. Now that the question is raised requesting for a new truck, my Ministry is ready to prioritise its purchase through the support of development partners.

The member raised one supplementary question

**By Hon. Tonganibeia Buraieta Koakoa, MP (Tarawaleta)**

**OQ64.** Kainaba has been without electricity for an extended period due to its remote location, far from the mainland. Could the Minister in charge collaborate with PUB to ensure the people of Kainaba gain access to the main electricity grid?

**Replied by Hon. Tekeeua Tarati, MP (Minister for Infrastructure, and Sustainable Energy)**

Honourable Speaker, I am pleased to inform the Honourable MP from North Tarawa that at present, PUB's service area extends only to Nabeina due to constraints in power generation and distribution capacity.

The member raised two Supplementary questions

The Speaker adjourned the Maneaba for afternoon lunch at 12:31 pm

The Deputy Speaker took the chair at 2:00pm

## 5. BILLS - FIRST READING

### 5.1 Hon. Tebuai Uaai, MP (Tarawa Teinainano) moved;

That the Constitution (Amendment) Bill 2025 be read the first time.

The following members spoke on the Bill:

Hon. Martin Moreti  
Hon. Birimaka Tekanene  
Hon. Tessie Lambourne  
Hon. Tangariki Reete

Tea break at 3:58pm

Hon Speaker took the chair at 4:30

Hon. Bootii Nauan  
Hon. Taberannang Timeon  
Hon. Ruateki Tekaiara  
Hon. Teuanei Marea  
Hon. Tinan Reiher  
Hon. Terieta Mwemwenikeaki  
Hon. Teekeua Tarati  
Hon. Mikarite Temari  
Hon. England Iuta  
Hon Betero Atanibora  
Hpn. Riteta Iorome

Hon. Moannata lentaake

Hon. Taneti Mamau

Intervened for adjournment by Hon Tokaibure Rabaua

Sum up by Hon Tebuai Uaai

Question Put – Division called

Division results were:

For - 33

Against - 9

Abstain -1

Absent – 2

Therefore, Question agreed.

The meeting adjourned at 7:44pm.



**Maneaba ni Maungatabu  
3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of Thirteenth Parliament**

**Minute of Proceedings  
for  
Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2025**

1. The Deputy Speaker took the chair at 10:00 am and led the prayers.

The Deputy Speaker noted that only a few members were present in the chamber, therefore she called for a quorum before the meeting could begin.

She further reminded the members to keep their supplementary questions brief and relevant.

**2. ORAL QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

**By Hon. Riteta Iorome, MP (Onotoa)**

**OQ67** Kindly requesting the Honourable Minister concerned to improve scheduling arrangements for chartered ships bringing students back and forth to their home islands during holidays and to avoid recurring cancelations?

**Replied by Hon. Ruateki Tekaiara, MP (Minister for Education)**

I thank the Honourable MP from Onotoa for his question. My Ministry stands ready to work in collaboration with Shipping Companies towards improving the charter schedule.

Member raised three supplementary questions

**By Hon. Bautaake Beia, MP (Teraina)**

**OQ70.** Could I kindly request the Minister responsible to consider providing the people of Teraina with a shredder to facilitate and support their agricultural activities on the island?

**Replied by Hon. Tokaibure Rabaua, MP (Minister of Environment, Lands and Agricultural Development )**

Honourable Speaker, our Ministry is willing to review the request of the honourable Member of Parliament on how to assist to look for support to this request.

Member raised two supplementary questions: 3<sup>rd</sup> supplementary question raised by Hon. Moannata Ientaake

**By Hon. Tauanei Marea, MP (Nikunau)**

**OQ73.** I would like to ask the Minister responsible an update about Nikunau solar lights share?

**Replied by Hon. Tekeeua Tarati, MP (Minister for Infrastructure, and Sustainable Energy)**

Honourable Speaker, I am pleased to inform Hon. MP from Nikunau that my Ministry has not received a firm response from the Chinese Embassy on the provision of more solar lights for the remaining 5 islands including Nikunau.

Member raised two supplementary questions

**By Hon. Bautaake Beia, MP (Teraina)**

**OQ71.** Could the Minister explore the possibility of establishing a satellite primary school for classes 1,2 and 3, located between the villages of Abaiang, Uteute, Mwakeitari and Onouea on Teraina, to meet the current demand?

**Replied by Hon. Ruateki Tekaiaara, MP (Minister for Education)**

I thank the Honourable MP from Teraina for his question, and I am happy to say that it is possible to establish schools, if necessary, in line with the existing relevant policies.

Member raised three supplementary questions

**By Hon. Tauanei Marea, MP (Nikunau)**

**OQ74.** would like to hear from the new Minister for MTCIC about the information of Nikunau mini copra mill?

**Replied by Hon. Tangariki Reete, MP (Minister for Tourism, Commerce, Industry and Cooperatives)**

Hon. Speaker, I wish to inform the Hon. MP from Nikunau that the mini-copra mill project for Nikunau remains in the pipeline awaiting funds.

Member raised two supplementary questions

**By Hon. Teribwa Taabe, MP (Kiritimati & Kanton)**

**OQ34.** The current dump site opposite St. Francis School and closer to Spivey School, as well as communities around the area on Kiritimati Island is posing health hazard to everyone. Can the ministry responsible consider relocating that dump site to an appropriate site outside the residential and school compounds?

**Replied by Hon. Tokaibure Rabaua, MP (Minister of Environment, Lands and Agricultural Development )**

Honourable Speaker, I am pleased to say that the new dump site in Kiritimati has been identified.

Member raised three supplementary questions

**By Hon. Lavinia Teatao Teem, MP (Abaiang)**

**OQ54.** We request Government to build multi-purpose halls on secondary schools at Abaiang?

**Replied by Hon. Ruateki Tekaiara, MP (Minister of Education)**

Speaker, I thank one of the Honourable MPs from Abaiang for her question and this is the response. My Ministry is pleased to consider the request where possible.

Member raised three supplementary questions

**By Hon. Teribwa Taabe, MP (Kiritimati & Kanton)**

**OQ56.** Can the Minister responsible advise and confirm when the current applications for individual and business land leases on Kiritimati be considered and approved?

**Replied by Hon. Tokaibure Rabaua, MP (Minister for Environment, Lands and Agricultural Development)**

Honourable Speaker, Government will inform those mentioned by the honourable Member of Parliament oral question when the time is right.

Member raised three supplementary questions

**By Hon. Tauanei Marea, MP (Nikunau)**

**OQ79.** I would like to request the Minister for Tourism if she could send tourism personnel to examine, explore and assist our people from Tabomatang village in Nikunau with tourism development programs particularly focused on the village and the island.

**Replied by Hon. Tangariki Reete, MP (Minister for Tourism, Commerce, Industry and Cooperatives)**

Hon. Speaker, I am delighted to inform the Hon. MP that my Ministry is ready to assist Nikunau Island on this request.

Member raised two supplementary questions

**By Hon. Riteta Iorome, MP (Onotoa)**

**OQ68.** When will the repair works on Onotoa's airstrip start?

**Replied by Hon. Alexander Teabo, MP (Minister for Information, Communication, and Transport)**

The rehabilitation of Onotoa airstrip will commence at the beginning of the third quarter of this year.

Member raised three supplementary questions

**By Hon. Tauanei Marea, MP (Nikunau)**

**OQ75.** I would like to ask the new Minister for MISE, when will Nikunau road construction commence?

**Replied by Hon. Tekeeua Tarati, MP (Minister for Infrastructure, and Sustainable Energy)**

Honourable Speaker, I would like to inform the Honourable MP that preparation on road commencement for islands under phase 1 is still ongoing.

Member raised three supplementary questions

**By Hon. Riteta Iorome, MP (Onotoa)**

**OQ69.** We would like to ask the Government to endorse that ships must use Tabuarorae dock when loading copra from and offloading cargoes to Tabuarorae village?

**Replied by Hon. Alexander Teabo, MP (Minister for Information, Communication, and Transport)**

My Ministry acknowledges the historical practice of the Government's vessel calling at the boat passage in Tabuarorae, particularly during the time when there was no causeway connecting this islet. However, it is important to note that, according to current regulations, the officially designated boat passage for Onotoa is at Buraitan.

Nonetheless, my Ministry remains open to exploring the possibility of designating the boat passage at Tabuarorae as a safe and accessible option for usage in the future.

Member raised three supplementary questions

**By Hon. Tauanei Marea, MP (Nikunau)**

**OQ77.** Honourable Speaker, one of the school issues is the inadequacy of schools in relation to the increasing number of students in the country. Therefore, I would like to ask the new Minister for Education, could he build a secondary school for form 4s to 7s on Nikunau island?

**Replied by Hon. Ruateki Tekaiara, MP (Minister for Education)**

I thank one of the MPs from Nikunau for raising an important question and this is the response. The Government recognizes the importance of expanding senior secondary school (SSS) to cater to the increasing number of students. Before another SSS is constructed, a feasibility study should be carried out first so that decisions made are based on the findings and recommendations of the feasibility study.

Member raised two supplementary questions

**By Hon. Tessie Eria Lambourne, MP (Abemama)**

**OQ81.** Copra farmers in Abemama continue to complain about the current moisture level standard used. They feel cheated out of their hard work. They used to dry their copra for three days but now it takes more than a week to meet the standard that the copra hardly weighs anything.

Can Government review the moisture level standard used to allow copra farmers a fair income from their hard work?

**Replied by Hon. Tangariki Reete, MP (Minister for Tourism, Commerce, Industry and Cooperatives)**

Hon. Speaker, I wish to inform the Hon. MP from Abemama, that the current moisture level standard, which is 7% is to maintain the good quality of copra oil for export.

Member raised three supplementary questions.

**By Hon. England Iuta, MP (Beru)**

**OQ87.** Can the Minister responsible clarify its policy on the selection criteria on the overseas employment scheme. If there is a quota between the islands and is there a balancing of selection between new and former recruits during every recruitment process?

**Replied by Hon. Auria Kitina, MP (Minister of Employment and Human Resources)**

The policy on the selection criteria on the overseas employment scheme for the seasonal work schemes is based on the policy that employers provide to my Ministry which is finalized in collaboration with employers' requirements

Member raised three supplementary questions

**By Hon. Tessie Eria Lamourne, MP (Abemama)**

**OQ82.** In the last Maneaba, I raised a motion and question on the new freight refund system that the Government put in place which has continued to cause lots of problems for our small businesses and the public at large. The Government responded at that time that it would change the system back to the original arrangement. I want to ask the Government if it has made these changes and if it has not to explain why?

**Replied by Hon. Dr. Teuea Toatu, MP (Kauoman ni Beretitenti &Minister for Finance and Economic Development)**

I am pleased to inform the Honourable MP for Abemama that, following recent improvements to the freight refund system, there is no longer a need to reinstate the previous system.

Member raised three supplementary questions

**By Hon. England Iuta, MP (Beru)**

**OQ86.** May I kindly ask Minister responsible if they have plans to improve the payment of agency fees for the copra societies in the outer islands since the last payment on Beru was made at the end of last year?

**Replied by Hon. Tangariki Reete, MP (Minister for Tourism, Commerce, Industry and Cooperatives)**

Hon. Speaker, I am happy to inform the Hon. MP from Beru that KCDL is ready to consider this request.

Member raised three supplementary questions

Break for lunch at 12:29pm

Speaker took the chair at 2:00pm

### **3. BILL – FIRST READING**

#### **3.1 National Digital Identification Bill 2025**

**Hon. Martin Moreti, MP (Ministry for Justice) moved;**

That the National Digital Identification Bill 2025 be read the first time.

The following Member spoke on the Bill:

Hon. Tessie Lambourne

Hon. Alexander Teabo

Hon. Birimaka Tekanene

Hon. Mikarite Temari

Hon. Teribwa Taabe

Hon. Bautaake Beia

Hon. Pinto Katia

Hon. Tonganibeia Buraieta

Tea break at 4:00pm

Speaker took chair at 4:30

Hon. Dr Teuea Toatu

Hon Tauanei Marea

Hon. Ruth Cross Kwansing

Hon. Tebuai Uaai

Hon. Kaotitaake Kokoria

Hon. Tangariki Reete

Hon. Niiti Itaaka

Hon. Tawaria Komwenga

Hon. Riteta Iorome

Hon Bootii Nauan

Sum up by Hon Martin Moreti

Question Put – Carried

Speaker adjourned the meeting at 6:33 pm



**Maneaba ni Maungatabu**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of Thirteenth Parliament**

**Minute of Proceedings  
for  
Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2025**

1. Speaker took chair at 10:00 am and followed by word of prayers.

**2. ORAL QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

**By Hon. Tessie Eria Lambourne, MP (Abemama)**

**OQ84.** Pre-school teachers are still anxiously waiting for the payment of their leave grants for 2024 which the Minister of Education said it would be paid by the end of the year. It has been three months after the end of the year and the payment has not come through. Payment of the 2025 leave grants is also due.

I want to ask the Minister of Education why the Pre-school teachers' leave grants for 2024 and 2025 have not been paid?

**Replied by Hon. Ruateki Tekaiara, MP (Minister of Education)**

I thank the MP from Abemama for her important question and this is Government's response. It is true that last Parliament I said the leave grant for pre-school teachers will be paid by end of 2024, when everything is according to the plan. The non-payment of leave grant for pre-school teachers in 2024 is due to the need for a thorough scrutiny of names, ID number, bank details to ensure that there is no double payment to one teacher and the correct amount is paid to individual teachers since some teachers do not work within a given year, while others commence work in the middle of the year or towards the end of the year. A thorough assessment and verification are required in line with the Financial Regulations. Now that all has been done, I am pleased to say that the disbursement of leave grants for pre-school teachers is currently in progress.

**By Hon. England Iuta, MP (Beru)**

**OQ88.** When will the recruitment of a new special constable at Taboiaki village be conducted which has been vacant for quite some time?

**Replied by His Excellency Taneti Maamau, MP (Te Beretitenti)**

I am pleased to inform the Honourable MP from Beru that the Police will organise recruitment for special constable at the earliest.

**By Hon. Terieta Mwemwenikeaki, MP (Tarawaieta)**

**OQ89.** Pre-school teachers are still waiting for the payment of their leave grants. Can I kindly ask the Government to provide update on this?

**Replied by Hon. Ruateki Tekaira, MP (Minister of Education)**

I thank the MP from North Tarawa for his important question and this is Government's response, I am pleased to say that the disbursement of leave grants for pre-school teachers is currently in progress.

**By Hon. Tessie Eria Lambourne, MP (Abemama)**

**OQ83.** We thank Government and PUB for their efforts in ensuring continuous power supply. We thank New Zealand and China for their help in providing generators for PUB. Even though over \$700,000 was spent in calibrating the Chinese generator to align it to existing generators, it still does not work. Even though the Minister said that things are back to normal when the rented generators were installed, we still have power outages. Can the Minister kindly explain when the power outages will stop for good?

**Replied by Hon. Tekeeua Tarati, MP (Minister of Infrastructure and Sustainable Energy)**

Honourable Speaker, I am pleased to inform this House that power supply has been steadily improving following the installation of rental generators compared to the days prior to the arrival of these generators. We also acknowledge that more than \$700,000 was allocated to accelerate the installation and commissioning of the Chinese generators but this was PUB's commitment to speed up the work. We also acknowledge that outages persist, and we are actively working on stabilizing the power supply while exploring long-term solutions to strengthen the grid and meet growing demand.

**By Hon. Terieta Mwemwenikeaki, MP (Tarawaieta)**

**OQ93.** What is the update on the delivery of heavy plants to North Tarawa Council which will assist the Council in maintaining its road before the implementation of the Government's Road rehabilitation project in North Tarawa?

**Replied by Hon. Tekeeua Tarati, MP (Minister of Infrastructure and Sustainable Energy)**

Honourable Speaker, I am happy to inform the Honourable MP that machines are here in Tarawa and are expected to be delivered in the second quarter of this year to outer islands.

**By Hon. Terieta Mwemwenikeaki, MP (Tarawaieta)**

**OQ94.** As the sea ambulance is still not arriving and available to provide sea transportation for patients who need to be sent to Nawerewere hospital, the need to hire privately owned boat by individuals and church communities for transportation continues to exist. Can the Government provide DW to Eutan Tarawa Council (ETC) for expediting payment purposes by the Council?

**Replied by Hon. Bootii Nauan, MP (Minister of Health and Medical Services)**

I am pleased to say that a DW to cater for the needs of patients referred to Tarawa is already in place.

**By Hon. Tawaria Komwenga, MP (Beru)**

**OQ16.** China is one of our major development partners. May I kindly request the Government and the responsible Minister, how much funds we received annually from China and how this fund distributed to the outer islands?

**Replied by Hon. Dr. Teuea Toatu, MP (Kauoman ni Beretitenti & Minister of Finance and Economic Development)**

Mr Speaker, I wish to inform this Maneaba that PRC's Annual Grant for livelihood projects amounts to \$6.7 million on top of funding for large projects. From this amount, \$1 million is allocated for the outer islands project known as upgrading of social facilities and livelihood project of \$1 million.

**By Hon. Riteta Iorome, MP (Onotoa)**

**OQ25.** When will the Government start issuing pensions to former and retired church missionaries?

**Replied by Hon. Ruth Cross Kwansing, MP (Minister of Women, Youth, Sport and Social Affairs )**

Honourable Speaker, I am happy to inform this Maneaba especially one of the MPs from Onotoa that my Office is now ready to work on this.

**By Hon. Terieta Mwemwenikeaki, MP (Tarawaieta)**

**OQ90.** Can I kindly ask Government to consider building the multi-purpose court for the IHC, Taborio North Tarawa?

**Replied by Hon. Ruateki Tekaiara, MP (Minister of Education)**

Speaker, I thank one of the Honourable MPs from North Tarawa for his question and this is the response. My Ministry is happy to consider the request.

**By Hon. Birimaka Tekanene, MP (Tarawa Teinainano)**

**OQ59.** I kindly asked the Minister responsible, if assistance could be provided to those who missed out some of their payment for SFU, Elderly and Disability Grants due to issues such as:-

1. Expired ID
2. Sick during the payment but unfortunately passed away after
3. Payment was miss-posted and was fraudulently collected without their knowledge.

**Replied by Hon. Ruth Cross Kwansing, MP (Minister of Women, Youth, Sport and Social Affairs)**

Honourable Speaker, I thank the honourable MP from Tarawa, Teinainano for his question, this is the Government's response. I am glad to say that my Ministry continuously works to address issues for unclaimed payment.

**By Hon. Tauanei Marea, MP (Nikunau)**

**OQ76.** I would like to ask the Minister for Sports if she could provide a coach (coaches) to train Nikunau youths in these particular sports, football, volleyball, basketball, tennis and weightlifting?

**Replied by Hon. Ruth Cross Kwansing, MP (Minister of Women, Youth, Sport and Social Affairs)**

Honourable Speaker, I am happy to inform one of MPs from Nikunau that my office is now ready to consider this proposal/request at the earliest convenient time.

**By Hon. Tonganibeia Buraieta Koakoa, MP (Tarawaieta)**

**OQ96.** I would like to ask the Minister concerned if he has plans to increase wages for special constables in North Tarawa and the rest of Kiribati?

**Replied by His Excellency Taneti Maamau, MP (Te Beretitenti)**

In response to the question raised by the honourable MP from North Tarawa, special constable's salary review will be considered along with other civil servants.

**By Hon. Tauanei Marea, MP (Nikunau)**

**OQ78.** I would like to request the new Minister for MWYSSA if she could kindly assist people from Nikunau with their long outstanding SFU or backpay. There is a list of names that I sent to her email for her information and assistance.

**Replied by Hon. Ruth Cross Kwansing, MP (Minister of Women, Youth, Sport and Social Affairs)**

Honourable Speaker, I thank the Honourable MP from Nikunau for his question. I am pleased to confirm that outstanding payments from 2020-2023 have been cleared. We are prepared to address individual cases. Each case will be thoroughly investigated and resolved, provided we have received complete and accurate information.

**By Hon. Tonganibeia Buraieta Koakoa, MP (Tarawaieta)**

**OQ97.** I would like to ask the Honourable Minister responsible to provide updates regarding the mobilization of young women and men from North Tarawa to their designated companies for work in Australia and New Zealand?

**Replied by Hon. Auria Kitina, MP (Minister of Employment and Human Resources Development)**

I am pleased to inform the Honourable MP from North Tarawa, that mobilization for young women and men from North Tarawa to work in Australia and in New Zealand, is still ongoing. This year, 2025, a total number of young women and men from North Tarawa who have already been mobilized, and who are yet to be mobilized, will be around a hundred and twenty-four (124).

**By Hon. Terieta Mwemwenikeaki, MP (Tarawaieta)**

**OQ91.** Can I kindly ask the Government to provide pathways for youths in the outer islands to be included in the selection process for overseas competitions which are usually attended by Kiribati?

**Replied by Hon. Ruth Cross Kwansing, MP (Minister of Women, Youth, Sport and Social Affairs)**

I thank the Honourable Member of Parliament from Tarawaieta for his question. I am pleased to inform the Honourable Member that my Ministry is now prepared to partner with National Federations to implement athlete selection cycles nationwide.

**By Hon. Tonganibeia Buraieta Koakoa, MP (Tarawaieta)**

**OQ98.** I would like to ask this Government; who is responsible for erosion along shorelines caused from the construction of the Buota to Tanaea bridge?

**Replied by Hon. Tekeeuia Tarati, MP (Minister of Infrastructure and Sustainable Energy)**

Honourable Speaker, I am pleased to inform the Honourable MP that my Ministry is ready to work this out with the contractor.

**By Hon. Terieta Mwemwenikeaki, MP (Tarawaieta)**

**OQ92.** In the last term I raised the request to MWYSSA to establish new positions within all island councils which aims to develop youths and sport on outer islands. Can I ask Government to consider this request, again during this term.

**Replied by Hon. Ruth Cross Kwansing, MP (Minister of Women, Youth, Sport and Social Affairs)**

Mr Speaker, this is a response to a question posed by one of the MPs from Tarawaieta. Youth and Sport officer is already integrated into MWYSSA's strategy and is currently conducting research to provide recommendations to the Government.

**By Hon. Terieta Mwemwenikeaki, MP (Tarawaieta)**

**OQ95.** The problem in relation to the poor conditions of residential houses for Government's seconded employees stationed on outer islands such as teachers, nurses, police officers and clerks is still existing and greatly felt, especially in North Tarawa. What can the Government do to address this problem?

**Replied by Hon. Harry Tekaiti, MP (Minister of Women, Youth, Sport and Social Affairs)**

Honourable Speaker, I thank my colleague MP for his concern on the dilapidated conditions of living quarters for Government seconded staff. However, Honourable Speaker, I am glad to inform my colleague MP that maintenance works for these quarters on our constituency North Tarawa is ongoing.

**By Hon. England Iuta, MP (Beru)**

**OQ100.** Can the Minister responsible please clarify why the elderly and disability allowances for BTC and TUC were paid on the exact due date on the 15<sup>th</sup> of March and the rest of the islands were not?

**Replied by Hon. Ruth Cross Kwansing, MP (Minister of Women, Youth, Sport and Social Affairs )**

Honourable Speaker, I am happy to inform one of Hon MPs from Beru that due to slack in financial systems causes delays across outer islands.

### **3. BILLS - FIRST READING**

#### **3.1 Hon. Birimaka Tekanene, MP (Tarawa Teinainano) moved;**

That the Local Government (Amendment) Bill 2025 be read the first time.

Hon. Harry Tekaiti  
Hon. Tessie Eria Lambourne  
Hon. Bootii Nauan  
Hon. Mikarite Temari  
Hon. Ruateki Tekaiara  
Afternoon Tea  
Hon. Koraubati Remuera  
Hon. Teribwa Taabe  
Hon. Tebuai Uaai  
Hon. Tangariki Reete  
Hon. Taberannang Timeon  
Hon. Tinian Reiher  
H.E Taneti Maamau  
Hon. Terieta Mwemwenikeaki  
Hon. Kaotitaake Kokoria  
Break 15 minutes  
Hon. Alexander Teabo  
Hon. Choy Freddy  
Hon. Birimaaka Tekanene Sum up

Question Put – Rejected

Hon. Auria Kitina interruption 7:30

Meeting adjourned at



**Maneaba ni Maungatabu**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of Thirteenth Parliament**

**Minute of Proceedings  
for  
Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2025**

1. The Speaker took the chair at 10:00 am and invited Hon. Ruateki Tekaiara to lead the prayers.

**2. REVISED ORDER OF GOVERNMENT BUSINESS**

His Excellency made a statement on the Revised Order of the Government Business in the following manner:

**Monday 31 March:**

- Statement on the order of Government business

**Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April:**

- Data Protection Bill 2025 - First Reading

**Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April:**

- Private members' day

**Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April:**

- National Digital Identification Bill 2025 – First Reading

**Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April:**

- Private members' day

**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> April:**

- Public Holiday – National Health Day

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> April:**

- Motion to consider and accept the PAC report for the Kiribati Housing Corporation accounts for the years 2019 – 2022
- Motion to consider and accept the PAC report for the Air Kiribati Limited accounts for the years 2014 - 2022

- Motion to amend Rule 64 of the Rules of Procedure

**Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> April:**

- Private members' day

**Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> April:**

- Bill: Public Service Commission (Amendment) Bill 2025 – First reading
- State Owned Enterprises (Amendment) Bill 2025 First Reading
- Liquor Bill 2025 – First Reading

**Friday, 11<sup>th</sup> April:**

- Private members' day

**Monday, 14<sup>th</sup> April:**

- Value Added Tax (Amendment) Bill 2025 – First Reading
- Motion to approve Rule 64 of the Rules of Procedure
- Motion to amend the Rules of Procedure Rule 64(3)(b) and 64(5)(ii).
- Adjournment Sine Dine Motion

### **3. PRESENTED PAPER**

**By Hon. Minister of Fisheries and Ocean Resources**

Annual Report of the Ministry for Fisheries and Ocean Resource (MFOR)  
for the year 2024

**Paper No. 04/25**

### **4. ORAL QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

**By Hon. Tawaria Komwenga, MP (Beru)**

**OQ102.** There is visiting team from Fisheries who used to undertake repair to aluminium and fiberglass boat on the outer Islands, may I kindly request the Minister concerned when this team is scheduled to visit Beru?

**Replied by Hon. Ribanaataake Tiwau, MP (Minister for Fisheries and Marine Resources Development)**

Honourable Speaker, I am pleased to inform the Honourable MP from Beru that my Ministry is planning to visit Beru to assist first with fiberglass boat repair in the next available flight to Beru.

The Member raised three supplementary questions.

**By Hon. England Iuta, MP (Beru)**

**OQ101.** Can the Minister responsible clarify government's future plans over the next 4 years to improve the conditions of its caregiving to patients and for the welfare and wellbeing of its staff compared to current conditions?

**Replied by Hon. Bootii Nauan, MP (Minister for Health and Medical Services)**

I am pleased to inform this Maneaba that this Government has existing plans and strategies for improvement towards the Ministry for Health and Medical Services. Among these policies and plans, there are goals and priorities achievable within the short-term and those that are long-term.

The Member raised three supplementary questions

**By Hon. Betero Atanibora, MP (Abaiang)**

**OQ105.** I would like to ask the Hon. Minister of Education why scholarship students in Fiji are not receiving their stipend or allowance payments on time.

**Replied by Hon. Ruateki Tekaiara, MP (Minister for Education)**

I thank the Honourable MP from Abaiang for his question. I am pleased to inform this Maneaba that the majority of students received their allowances in a timely manner. However, there were a few cases where processing and payment took longer due to unexpected circumstances and my Ministry's control.

The Member raised three supplementary questions

**By Hon. Riteta Iorome, MP (Onotoa)**

**OQ104.** I would like to ask the Minister responsible to provide updates and plans on the construction of a new clinic in Tanaeang?

**Replied by Hon. Bootii Nauan, MP (Minister for Health and Medical Services)**

As per the workplan activities, there is maintenance work to be done to some of the clinics on Onotoa however, there has been no information or request submitted to the Ministry for the construction of a new clinic in Tanaeang.

The Member raised three supplementary questions

**By Hon. Moannata Ientaake, MP (Marakei)**

**OQ21.** The Government is requested as to when the fishing and speed boats channels will be completed for Koubabati at Rawannawi as well as for the three additional channels for Tekarakan and Raweai, Bainuna and Naurauea and Tekuanga and Antaai. This matter was previously raised here during my first term in August 2020 and has been reiterated in August 2023. I respectfully request at this point in time since these machines are available for our causeway construction on Marakei, please?

**Replied by Hon. Alexander Teabo, MP (Minister for Information, Communication, and Transport)**

I regret the delay in addressing the matter of boat passages, which has been influenced by the unavailability of suitable machinery. I am, however, pleased to share that we have initiated plans to secure the necessary equipment. Additionally, my Ministry has developed comprehensive strategies to enhance the rehabilitation of boat passages in the outer islands.

With regards to this plan, we will prioritize rehabilitation efforts on designated boat passages, beginning with those in Rawannawi, Marakei. Consideration for the rehabilitation of non-designated boat passages will follow, once the work on the designated passages has been successfully completed.

The Member raised three supplementary questions

**By Hon. Birimaka Tekanene, MP (Tarawa Teinainano)**

**OQ60.** I kindly asked the Minister responsible, to explain the policy concerning I-Kiribati who were front liners during the COVID-19 lockdown and have not been paid?

**Replied by Hon. Bootii Nauan, MP (Minister for Health and Medical Services)**

In accordance with the provisions of the COVID-19 allowance, I can confirm that payments have been made to civil servants who assisted during the COVID-19 lockdown.

The Member raised three supplementary questions

**By Hon. England Iuta, MP (Beru)**

**OQ108.** Can Government assist recompensing Beru Council employees who were charged to take over from their government brethren during annual leave and have not been properly compensated to date?

**Replied by Hon. Harry Tekaiti, MP (Minister for Culture, and Internal Affairs)**

Honourable Speaker, my Ministry is ready to expedite relevant assistance for this concerned staff.

The Member raised three supplementary questions

**By Hon. Betero Atanibora, MP (Abaiang)**

**OQ107.** I kindly request the Minister for Health & Medical Services to reconsider the policies regarding dialysis patients in Fiji. Upon our team's arrival in Fiji, we were informed that they would be relocating to apartments acquired by the Government. I kindly ask the Honorable Minister to take into account that, based on your Ministry's initial guidance, dialysis patients should remain at their current accommodations when determining future housing arrangements?

**Replied by Hon. Bootii Nauan, MP (Minister for Health and Medical Services)**

My Ministry will review the current arrangements in place for dialysis patients in Fiji.

The Member raised three supplementary questions

**By Hon. Taberannang Timeon, MP (Tabiteuea Meang)**

**OQ110.** Tabiteuea North's share of solar lights for private households have not yet reached the island despite the fact that most islands in the south have reached their share, could the Minister responsible address this problem?

**Replied by Hon. Tekeeua Tarati, MP (Minister for Infrastructure and Sustainable Energy)**

Honourable Speaker, I regret to inform Hon. MP that my Ministry hasn't received a firm response from the Chinese Embassy on the provision of more solar lights for the remaining 5 islands including Tabiteuea North.

The Member raised three supplementary questions

**By Hon. Niiti Itaaka, MP (Arorae)**

**OQ117.** Could I kindly ask the Minister concerned to provide an update on the progress made regarding the need for a desalination plant, which I raised in the last parliamentary meeting?

**Replied by His Excellency, MP (Te Beretitenti)**

I am happy to inform Honourable MP from Arorae that the desalination machine is expected to be fully operational by end of next month.

The member raised 2 supplementary questions.

**By Hon. Taberannang Timeon, MP (Tabiteuea Meang)**

**OQ111.** Could Government improve the timing for the monthly payments of the elderly funds?

**Replied by Hon. Ruth Cross Kwansing, MP (Minister for Women, Youth, Sport and Social Affairs)**

Honourable Speaker, I thanked one of the Honourable Members from Tabiteuea North for his question and this is the Government response. I am pleased to inform this Maneaba that my Ministry is actively working on measures to enhance monthly payments for senior citizen's allowance

The Member raised three supplementary questions

**By Hon. Niiti Itaaka, MP (Arorae)**

**OQ116.** Could the Minister liaise with the relevant unit in his department to ensure that repairs to the Arorae icemaker/plants are carried out at the earliest opportunity, so it can be used again?

**Replied by Hon. Ribanataake Tiwau, MP (Minister for Fisheries and Marine Resources Development)**

Honorable Speaker, I am pleased to inform the MP from Arorae, that my Ministry will provide support as required for repair work of the ice maker in Arorae.

The Member raised three supplementary questions

**By Hon. Taberannang Timeon, MP (Tabiteuea Meang)**

**OQ112.** Is renovation work for Kieia Ataei Hospital remain on track as announced by the Minister in the last meeting of Parliament?

**Replied by Hon. Bootii Nauan, MP (Minister for Health and Medical Services)**

I am pleased to convey that renovation works for Southern Kiribati hospital on Tabiteuea North, have already commenced.

The Member raised three supplementary questions

**By Hon. Taberannang Timeon, MP (Tabiteuea Meang)**

**OQ113.** Terikiai, Tab-North, is increasingly being used as port of call for ships going to and returning from the Southern Island. Could Government widen the boat passage and built a wharf there?

**Replied by Hon. Alexander Teabo, MP (Minister for Information, Communication, and Transport)**

My Ministry recognizes the importance of the boat passage at Teriakai, Tabiteuea Meang, and for that, its rehabilitation was initially incorporated in our work plan.

I am also delighted to state that rehabilitation work will be carried out and funded by KPA.

The Member raised three supplementary questions

**By Hon. Banuera Berina, MP (Kuria)**

**OQ119.** There is a grave need by the people of Kuria because of the delay and the shortage of the copra funds. Could I ask the Minister concerned to explain why there is now a big delay in relation to the receipt of the copra funds by the copra cutters?

**Replied by Hon. Dr. Teuea Toatu, MP (Kauoman ni Beretitenti & Minister for Finance and Economic Development)**

I am pleased to inform Honourable MP from Kuria that there is no shortage of copra funds, however, the delay in disbursement resulted from ongoing investigative works.

The Member raised three supplementary questions

**By Hon. Taberannang Timeon, MP (Tabiteuea Meang)**

**OQ114.** There was a request for the setting up of a hatchery for the 'were' at either Kabuna and Tauma on Tabiteuea North. What is the status of this request please?

**Replied by Hon. Ribanaataake Tiwau, MP (Minister for Fisheries and Marine Resources Development)**

Honourable Speaker, I am pleased to inform the Honourable MP that the establishment of a mini-hatchery in Tab-North will be funded by existing project funds.

The Member raised three supplementary questions

**By Hon. Niiti Itaaka, MP (Arorae)**

**OQ118.** The copra shed on Arorae has been in disrepair for quite some time now. Could the Minister responsible kindly liaise with relevant authority in his department to consider undertaking repairs so that it can be used again?

**Replied by Hon. Tangariki Reete, MP (Minister for Tourism, Commerce, Industry, and Cooperatives)**

Hon. Speaker, I wish to inform the Honourable MP from Arorae that it is the sole responsibilities of all copra cooperatives in outer islands including Arorae to look after and maintain their respective copra sheds up to the standard.

The Member raised two supplementary questions

**By Hon. Banuera Berina, MP (Kuria)**

**OQ120.** Has Cabinet now decided on how to improve “the unemployment benefit?

**Replied by Hon. Ruth Cross Kwansing, MP (Minister for Women, Youth, Sport and Social Affairs)**

Honourable Speaker, I thank the Honourable MP for his question, and this is Government's response. I am glad to confirm that my Ministry is working on improving the support fund for the unemployed.

The Member raised three supplementary questions

Break for lunch at 12:30pm

**5. MOTIONS**

**5.1 Hon. Tarakabu Tofinga, MP (Tabiteuea Meang & Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee) moved;**

**Motion 14**

That this Maneaba consider and accept the PAC Report and all its recommendations, tabled on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of April 2025 as Paper number 03/25 on the Government's SOE Accounts for the Kiribati Housing Corporation for the years 2019 to 2022.

The following Members spoke on the Motion:

H.E Te Beretitenti Taneti Mamau

Hon. Tessie Lambourne

Hon. England Iuta  
Hon. Teribwa Taabe

The Member sum up  
Question Put - Motion Carried

**5.2 Hon. Tarakabu Tofinga, MP (Tabiteuea Meang & Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee) moved;**

**Motion 15**

That this House consider and accept the PAC Report and all its recommendations which were tabled on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of April 2025 as Paper number 02/25 on Government's SOE Accounts for Air Kiribati Limited for the years of 2014 to 2022.

(The meeting adjourned for tea break at 4:00 pm).

The Members continued deliberation on the motion:

Hon. Alexander Teaba  
Hon. Tekeeua Tarati  
Hon. Tessie Lambourne  
Hon. England Iuta  
Hon. Bautaake Beia  
Hon. Dr Teuea Toatu  
Hon. Pinto Katia  
Hon. Tinian Reiher  
H.E Taneti Mamau

Intervened for interruption at 6:13pm

Question Put - Carried

The Speaker adjourned the meeting at 6:27 pm.



**Maneaba ni Maungatabu  
3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of Thirteenth Parliament**

**Minute of Proceedings  
for  
Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2025**

1. The Hon. Speaker took the chair at 10 am and invited Hon. Martin Moreti to lead the prayers.
2. **The following papers were presented by Hon. Dr Teuea Toatu, Kauoman Beretitenti & Minister of Finance and Economic Development**

Airport Kiribati Authority Statement of Intent for the period 2025 to 2027  
**Paper No.05/25**

Air Kiribati Limited Statement of Intent for the period 2025 to 2027  
**Paper No.06/25**

The Broadcasting and Publications Authority Statement of Intent for the period 2025 to 2027  
**Paper No.07/25**

BwebwerikiNET Limited Statement of Intent for the period 2025 to 2027  
**Paper No.08/25**

Central Pacific Producers Limited Statement of Intent for the period 2025 to 2027  
**Paper No.09/25**

Development Bank of Kiribati Statement of Intent for the period 2025 to 2027  
**Paper No.10/25**

Kiribati Coconut Development Ltd Statement of Intent for the period 2025 to 2027  
**Paper No.11/25**

Kiribati Housing Corporation Statement of Intent for the period 2025 to 2027  
**Paper No.12/25**

Kiribati Insurance Corporation Statement of Intent 2025

**Paper No.13/25**

Kiribati Land Transport Authority Statement of Intent for the period 2025 to 2027

**Paper No.14/25**

Kiribati Oil Company Limited Statement of Intent for the period 2025 to 2027

**Paper No.15/25**

Kiribati Ports Authority Statement of Intent for the period 2025 to 2027

**Paper No.16/25**

Kiribati Green Energy Solution Limited Statement of Intent for the period 2025 to 2027

**Paper No.17/25**

Plant and Vehicle Unit Statement of Intent for the period 2025 to 2027

**Paper No. 18/25**

Public Utilities Board Statement of Intent for the period 2025 to 2027

**Paper No.19/25**

Kiribati National Shipping Line Statement of Intent for the period 2025 to 2027

**Paper No.20/25**

Tourism Authority Kiribati Statement of Intent for the period 2025 to 2027

**Paper No.21/25**

Te Atinimarawa Company Limited Statement of Intent for the period 2025 to 2027

**Paper No.22/25**

**3. STATEMENT**

**Hon. Choy Freddy, MP (Betio) delivered a statement on the following;**

Expressing our gratitude and appreciation to the Government for providing a dialysis machine for our patients suffering from kidney failure.

The following members asked for elucidating:

**4. ORAL QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

**By Hon. Tebuai Uaai, MP (Tarawa Teinainano)**

**QWN19 (Question without notice).** Can the Government authorize the deposit of the senior citizens fund into a bank account belonging to an individual they completely trust?

**Replied by H.E. Taneti Maamau**

Yes, we will consider the request

**By Hon. Banuera Berina, MP (Kuria)**

**OQ121.** Does this Government have any way of helping the people of Kiribati since it is now accepted that the price of goods has gone up?

**Replied by Hon. Tangariki Reete, MP (Minister for Tourism, Commerce, Industry and Cooperatives)**

Hon. Speaker, I wish to inform the honourable MP from Kuria that my Ministry is ready to provide possible solutions to address the issue.

The Member raised three supplementary questions

**By Hon. Choy Freddy, MP (Betio)**

**OQ126.** Could the Minister responsible clarify the reasons for the ongoing shortage of medical supplies, especially the nebulizer medication, at Betio Hospital?

**Replied by Hon. Bootii Nauan, MP (Minister for Health and Medical Services)**

There are multiple factors that can contribute to the shortage of medications, but I am happy to inform this House that there are adequate supplies of medicines for nebulisers at the Betio hospital, and stocks of other medications for Betio are normalizing.

The Member raised three supplementary questions

**By Hon. Banuera Berina, MP (Kuria)**

**OQ122.** How has Cabinet decided to improve “te mwane ni kara?”

**Replied by Hon. Ruth Cross Kwansing, MP (Minister for Women, Youth, Sport and Social Affairs)**

Honourable Speaker, I thank the honourable MP for his question, and I glad to say that my Ministry is working on improving the senior citizen allowance.

The Member raised three supplementary questions.

**By Hon. Choy Freddy, MP (Betio)**

**OQ125.** Could the responsible Minister consider initiating plans for a new landfill project specifically for non-biodegradable materials in Betio to address the increasing demand?

**Replied by Hon. Tokaibure Rabaua, MP (Minister for Environment, Lands and Agricultural Development)**

Honourable Speaker, I am pleased to inform you that there is a plan to identify potential sites as well as to expand the size of the current landfills on South Tarawa and Betio.

The Member raised three supplementary questions

**By Hon. Banuera Berina, MP (Kuria)**

**OQ123.** In answer to my request for an update on the livelihood grants requests by St. Michael and KUC Oneeke I was informed that work is now being carried out on the expenditures for last year. The application by St. Michel was from 2021. May I ask for the latest information regarding the application for the livelihood grant by St Michael?

**Replied by His Excellency Taneti Maamau, MP (Te Beretitenti)**

Honourable Speaker, the livelihood project requests from St. Michael and KUC Oneeke, including other requests from Kuria, are still under review for consideration.

The Member raised three supplementary questions

**By Hon. Choy Freddy, MP (Betio)**

**OQ127.** What plans does the Government have for addressing late-night hangouts of youth in Betio, given the current situation?

**Replied by Hon. Ruth Cross Kwansing, MP (Minister for Women, Youth, Sport and Social Affairs)**

Honourable Speaker, I thank the Honourable MP from Betio and I am happy to inform this Maneaba that my office (Ministry for Women Youth Sport and Social Affairs) is now ready to collaborate on this matter with other relevant Ministries.

The Member raised three supplementary questions

**By Hon. Dennis Waysang Kum Kee, MP (Nonouti)**

**OQ131.** Can the Minister responsible consider a review of seawall maintenance at Autukia village, Nonouti, which has recently been damaged, consequently it affects the health of plants and salted wells?

**Replied by Hon. Harry Tekaiti, MP (Minister for Culture, and Internal Affairs)**

Honorable Speaker, I am pleased to inform one of the Honorable MP from Nonouti that my Ministry is ready to look into this request in collaboration with relevant sectors like OB and MISE.

The Member raised three supplementary questions

**By Hon. Choy Freddy, MP (Betio)**

**OQ129.** May I ask the Minister concerned if the Government has plans to repair the seawall between the old machine gun at Temakin and Red Beach, near the main hospital in Betio?

**Replied by His Excellency Taneti Maamau, MP (Te Beretitenti)**

I am pleased to inform the Honourable MP from Betio that my Office is willing to consider the request and collaborate with relevant technical sectors to assess the site and develop a plan to address coastal erosion.

The Member raised three supplementary questions

**By Hon. Dennis Waysang Kum Kee, MP (Nonouti)**

**OQ134.** Could the Minister responsible consider rehabilitation works to the prison in Matang which has long been abandoned due to its current conditions?

**Replied by Hon. Harry Tekaiti, MP (Minister for Culture, and Internal Affairs)**

Honourable Speaker, I am pleased to inform one of the Honourable MPs from Nonouti that my Ministry is ready to look into this request in consultation with relevant Ministries.

The Member raised three supplementary questions

**By Hon. Choy Freddy, MP (Betio)**

**OQ130.** May I kindly inquire with the Minister for Health and Medical Services about the progress of the new hospital in Betio and when it is expected to be ready for use?

**Replied by Hon. Bootii Nauan, MP (Minister for Health and Medical Services)**

As can be seen, the construction for phase 1 of the Betio Hospital project is now complete. Buildings that are part of phase 1 can be used once further work for fittings and equipment are properly installed and completed in the third quarter of this year.

The Member raised three supplementary questions

**By Hon. Dennis Waysang Kum Kee, MP (Nonouti)**

**OQ135.** Could the Minister responsible inform this Maneaba on the renovation plans and policies to the Council maneaba in Nonouti?

**Replied by Hon. Harry Tekaiti, MP (Minister for Culture, and Internal Affairs)**

Honourable Speaker, I am happy to update Honourable MP from Nonouti that the project document for Nonouti Maneaba had been submitted to the Ministry for Finance and Economic Development for DCC approval.

The Member raised three supplementary questions

**By Hon. Tarakabu Tofinga, MP (Tabiteuea Meang)**

**OQ137.** There is acknowledgement by our people with this Government in formalizing of preschools throughout Kiribati, the question to the Ministry for Education if they can provide preschools with stationeries similarly with what currently done for Primary Schools?

**Replied by Hon. Ruateki Tekaiara, MP (Minister for Education)**

Speaker, I thank one of the Honourable MPs from Tabiteuea Meang for his question and this is the response. My Ministry is pleased to consider the request since the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) Act 2017 spells out the specific duties to be carried out by the respective bodies or entities.

The Member raised three supplementary questions

**By Hon. Choy Freddy, MP (Betio)**

**OQ128.** May I kindly request an update from the Minister concerned regarding the progress of the Betio Nippon Maneaba?

**Replied by Hon. Harry Tekaiti, MP (Minister for Culture, and Internal Affairs)**

Mr Speaker, I wish to inform the Honourable MP from Betio that my Ministry will be working on this request with responsible Ministries.

The Member raised three supplementary questions

**By Hon. Dennis Waysang Kum Kee, MP (Nonouti)**

**OQ136.** That the Minister concerned would consider building a courthouse separate from the island council office given the current practice where the court often use the council office rooms for court hearing?

**Replied by Hon. Martin Moreti, MP (Minister for Justice)**

I thank the honourable Member of Parliament from Nonouti for raising this question and this is the response. The building of court houses on islands that do not yet have is currently part of the Judiciary's strategic plan.

The Member raised three supplementary questions

**By Hon. Tarakabu Tofinga, MP (Tabiteuea Meang)**

**OQ138.** Could I ask the Minister for Culture and Internal Affairs if preschool maintenance can be included as part of the Council annual budget with the support of Government toward this maintenance fund through the annual grant, especially preschool that are under the Council as service provider?

**Replied by Hon. Harry Tekaiti, MP (Minister for Culture, and Internal Affairs)**

Honourable Speaker, I would like to thank the honourable MP for raising this and I will look into this matter with my Ministry.

The Member raised two supplementary questions

**By Hon. Ieremia Tabai, MP (Nonouti)**

**OQ140.** In the last election Beretitenti made so many promises, it is difficult to remember. We know and the Beretitenti knows that there is no way he can deliver on all of them during the four years life of this Maneaba?

I want to ask how many of these, he would be able to deliver on during the four years, the life of this Maneaba?

**Replied by His Excellency Taneti Maamau, MP (Te Beretitenti)**

Honourable Speaker, here is Government's response to a question from the Honourable Member of Parliament for Nonouti. I am pleased to inform both the Honourable MP and this Parliament that this administration is highly optimistic about fulfilling all its Manifesto commitments over the current four-year term.

The Member raised three supplementary questions

**By Hon. Tarakabu Tofinga, MP (Tabiteuea Meang)**

**OQ139.** There are initial plans in place for the copra shed build on the outer islands with one in Tabiteuea north to house a suitable mini copra mill for extraction of coconut oil and copra meal, is the plan remains as before?

**Replied by Hon. Tangariki Reete, MP (Minister for Tourism, Commerce, Industry, and Cooperatives)**

Hon. Speaker, I thank the Honourable MP from Tabiteuea North, and I wish to inform you that the mini-copra mill project remains in the pipeline.

The Member raised three supplementary questions

**By Hon. Ieremia Tabai, MP (Nonouti)**

**OQ141.** Our budget depends on the income from the RERF and this year \$80m from the RERF will be used. In the last election, and the one before that, the Beretitenti promised to work hard on new sources of revenue he identified, to assist with the funding of the various government services.

I want to ask what progress has been achieved on these identified sources of revenue?

**Replied by Hon. Dr. Teuea Toatu, MP (Kauoman ni Beretitenti & Minister for Finance and Economic Development)**

I am pleased to inform the Honourable MP that progress is being made in broadening the Government's revenue base.

The Member raised three supplementary questions

**By Hon. Iakoba Jacob Karutake, MP (Rabi)**

**OQ143.** Can the Government update this Maneaba on the progress of underground water assessment on Banaba as previously raised in Parliament?

**Replied by Hon. Tekeuea Tarati, MP (Minister for Infrastructure, and Sustainable Energy)**

Honourable Speaker, I would like to inform this Maneaba that MISE finally obtained fund to carry out the feasibility study in Banaba.

The Member raised three supplementary questions

Break for lunch at 12:27 pm.

## **5. MOTION**

### **5.1 Hon. Tarakabu Tofinga, MP (Tabiteuea Meang & Chairman of the Public Account Committee) moved;**

That this Maneaba consider and accept the PAC report and all its recommendations which were tabled on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of April 2025 as Paper number 01/25 on the Government's SOE Accounts for the Kiribati Insurance Corporations for the years of 2012 to 2020.

The following Members spoke on the motion:

Hon. Dr Teuea Toatu  
Hon. Tessie Lambourne  
Hon. Booti Nauan  
Hon. Tebuai Uaai  
Hon. Mikarite Temari  
Hon. England Thomas Iuta  
Hon. Ieremia Tabai  
Hon. Teribwa Taabe

Break for afternoon tea at 4:04pm

Continued at 4:35pm

Hon. Tekeeuua Tarati

Sum up

## **6. BILLS - FIRST READING**

### **6.1 Hon. Betero Atanibora, MP (Abaiang) moved;**

That the Gaming and Lotteries (Amendment) Bill 2025 be read the first time.

The following Members spoke on the Bill:

Hon. Harry Tekaiti  
Hon. Tessie Lambourne  
Hon. Tebuai Uaai  
Hon. Tangariki Reete  
H.E. Taneti Maamau  
Hon. Taberannang Timeon

Hon. Mikarite Temari  
Hon. Ruta Teretia Babo  
Hon. Teuanei Marea  
Intervened at 6:54 by Hon. Harry Tekaiti  
Hon. Teuanei Marea continued.

Question Put - Carried

Hon. Speaker adjourned the meeting at 7:28pm.



**Maneaba ni Maungatabu  
3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of Thirteenth Parliament**

**Minute of Proceedings  
for  
Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2025**

1. The Deputy Speaker took the chair at 10:00 am and invited Hon. Tessie Lambourne to lead the prayers.

**2. STATEMENT**

**Hon. Jeremia Tabai, MP (Nonouti) delivered a statement on the following;**

Making truthful statement in the Maneaba ni Maungatabu

The following members raised questions to elucidate the statement:

H.E. Taneti Maamau  
Hon. Alexander Teabo  
Hon. Bootii Nauan  
Hon. Dr Teuea Toatu  
Hon. Mikarite Temari

**3. ORAL QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

**By Hon. Dr. Tinte Itinteang, MP (Betio)**

**OQ147.** Can I ask the responsible Minister for their assistance towards efficient payment of public servant imprests during their overseas duty travels?

**Replied by Hon. Dr. Teuea Toatu, MP (Kauoman ni Beretitenti & Minister for Finance and Economic Development)**

I am pleased to inform one of the Honourable MPs from Betio that the imprest system is functioning efficiently and effectively. However, delays may still occur if the imprest application is submitted late, if there are outstanding imprest balances, or if the required documentation is incomplete.

The Member raised two supplementary questions

**By Hon. Iakoba Jacob Karutaake, MP (Rabi)**

**OQ144.** Can the Government update this Maneaba the status of a request put forward in this Maneaba for the compensation to the Banaban landowners on the damage of their homeland Banaba after phosphate mining by Britain, Australia and New Zealand?

**Replied by His Excellency Taneti Maamau, MP (Te Beretitenti)**

Honourable Speaker, the process to submit the declaration of jurisdiction to the International Court of Justice has begun so that Kiribati will be accepted and recognized and can therefore submit this important case for Banaba without issues

The Member raised three supplementary questions

**By Hon. Iakoba Jacob Karutake, MP (Rabi)**

**OQ145.** Can the Government assist in requesting the donor agencies particularly China to conduct geological survey on Banaba so that the landowners are informed of the type of resources available and their value?

**Replied by Hon. Ribanaake Tiwau, MP (Minister for Fisheries and Marine Resources Development)**

Honourable Speaker, I am happy to inform the MP from Rabi that the MFOR is happy to explore this request with relevant partners, to conduct the geological survey on Banaba.

The Member raised three supplementary questions

**By Hon. Dennis Waysang Kum Kee, MP (Nonouti)**

**OQ132.** Can the responsible Minister assist in ceasing an issue that has been occurred in many years, a problem of inflowing sea water from the causeway between KPC Teuabu and at the Catholic plot, Tabon te Bwa which triggered salted water to all wells in the village of Teuabu, Nonouti?

**Replied by Hon. Harry Tekaiti, MP (Minister for Culture, and Internal Affairs)**

Honourable Speaker, I am pleased to inform one of the Honourable MPs from Nonouti that my Ministry is ready to look into this request in collaboration with relevant sectors.

The Member raised three supplementary questions

**By Hon. Dr. Tinte Itinteang, MP (Betio)**

**OQ148.** Can I ask the responsible Minister if there are plans for assistance to people and businesses whose equipment or stock have been affected by the power outages?

**Replied by Hon. Tekeeua Tarati, MP (Minister for Infrastructure, and Sustainable Energy)**

Honourable Speaker, I thank the Honorable MP from Betio for raising this important issue. Disruption to power services remains a challenge for PUB, and the Government is prioritizing assistance to address generation and network upgrades through the STREP program, dialogue with development partners and direct support for acquisition and necessary network improvements.

However, network reliability remains the responsibility of individuals and business owners. The imminent commitments through these programs mean that we will eventually build sufficient redundancy and capacity in the network to significantly reduce outage risks and improve the reliability of the electricity supply for South Tarawa.

The Member raised three supplementary questions

**By Hon. Tinian Reiher, MP (Butaritari)**

**OQ151.** There is still need for improvement works to the boat passages in villages of Tanimainiku, Tanimaiaki and Bikati, and the question is what is the latest update on the dredging barge that was said to have arrived last year?

**Replied by Hon. Ribanaataake Tiwau, MP (Minister for Fisheries and Marine Resources Development)**

Honourable Speaker, I am delighted to update the MP from Butaritari, that a contractor that will build this dredger will be secured soon this month, and the dredger is expected to be completed and arrive in Kiribati by next year 2026.

The Member raised three supplementary questions

**By Hon. Dr. Tinte Itinteang, MP (Betio)**

**OQ149.** Could the Minister responsible consider increasing the number of MPs for Betio to four?

**Replied by Hon. Harry Tekaiti, MP (Minister for Culture and Internal Affairs)**

Hon. Speaker, I am pleased to say that my Ministry is ready to consider this request.

The Member raised three supplementary questions.

**By Hon. Tinian Reiher, MP (Butaritari)**

**OQ153.** A request if the Minister for Health and Medical Services could kindly consider the need for a new clinic for Ukiangang villagers?

**Replied by Hon. Bootii Nauan, MP (Minister for Health and Medical Services)**

My Ministry is happy to review the request for consideration.

The Member raised two supplementary questions

**By Hon. Dr. Tinte Itinteang, MP (Betio)**

**OQ150.** In 2017 and 2018 the ANZ bank carried out a financial literacy program known as Money Minded, to the people to help them with financial budgeting. Can I ask the Minister responsible if the Government has any plans to resurrect this program?

**Replied by Hon. Dr. Teuea Toatu, MP (Kauoman ni Beretitenti & Minister for Finance and Economic Development)**

I am pleased to inform the Honourable MP from Betio, that ANZ continues to offer its financial Literacy program – Money Minded, to the people of Kiribati.

The Member raised three supplementary questions

**By Hon. Tinian Reiher, MP (Butaritari)**

**OQ154.** Does Government have plans under its huge improvement project for outer islands school to include the pertinent needs of church secondary schools such as the need for students' dormitories for St Leo Secondary School in Butaritari?

**Replied by Hon. Ruateki Tekaira, MP (Minister for Education)**

Speaker, I thank one of the honourable MPs from Tabiteuea Meang for his question and this is the response. My Ministry is pleased to consider the request.

The Member raised two supplementary questions

**By Hon. Tawaria Komweng, MP (Beru)**

**OQ157.** There is a wharf and passage in Taboiaki, which remains to be utilized, may I kindly request the responsible Minister to open up this wharf to allow the smooth and easy loading of cargo and copra on the island?

**Replied by Hon. Alexander Teabo, MP (Minister for Information, Communication, and Transport)**

Currently, each outer island has only one legally recognized designated port for safe use. For Beru, this designated port is located at Tebikeriki.

To consider the designation of an additional port, such as Taboiaki port, it is essential to conduct a thorough feasibility study to assess its safety and suitability for use. Currently, our priority is focused on the rehabilitation of the established designated ports, like Tebikeriki for Beru. Once these important rehabilitation efforts are completed, we will be in a position to initiate the feasibility study for prospective undesignated ports.

The Member raised three supplementary questions

**By Hon. Tinian Reiher, MP (Butaritari)**

**OQ155.** A request was accepted by the last Government for the Agricultural Division to undertake the planting of bamboo trees in swampy areas in Butaritari as there are many things that can be made from such a tree. Could the Hon Minister kindly liaise with those responsible with the view to expedite necessary work?

**Replied by Hon. Tokaibure Rabaua, MP (Minister for Environment, Lands and Agricultural Development)**

Honourable Speaker, my Ministry is willing to continue the result of the trial that has been carried out.

The Member raised one supplementary question

**By Hon. Dennis Waysang Kum Kee, MP (Nonouti)**

**OQ158.** That the Minister concerned explain to this Maneaba the updates on building the JSS Maneaba in Nonouti which has been unused in the past years?

**Replied by Hon. Ruateki Tekaiara, MP (Minister for Education)**

Speaker, I thank one of the honourable MPs from Nonouti for his question and this is the response. The tender process for the second time is underway for the contractor who will construct the JSS maneaba in Nonouti

The Member raised three supplementary questions

**By Hon. Tinian Reiher, MP (Butaritari)**

**OQ156.** A request was accepted by the last Government for the Fisheries Division to undertake a study existing natural fishponds on Butaritari for food security and income generating purposes. Could the Hon. Minister kindly inform if this has been carried out and if so, what are the findings of their study?

**Replied by Hon. Ribanataake Tiwau, MP (Minister for Fisheries and Marine Resources Development)**

Honourable Speaker, I am pleased to report to the MP from Butaritari that the results of the pond survey conducted by the MFOR, showed that three of the eleven ponds were viable for fish farming.

The Member raised three questions

**By Hon. Ieremia Tabai, MP (Nonouti)**

**OQ160.** In 2023 the report of the select committee on improving the dietary intake for the people of Kiribati was tabled with recommendations aimed at improving the health situation of our people. I want to ask how many of those recommendations have been implemented and what results, in terms of better health for our people, have been achieved?

**Replied by Hon. Bootii Nauan, MP (Minister for Health and Medical Services)**

A few recommendations from the report have been implemented with others to be progressed soon. To assess the effectiveness of these initiatives, a survey in collaboration with the partners will be conducted at the appropriate time.

The Member raised three supplementary questions

**By Hon. Kaotitaake Kokoria, MP (Tabuaeran)**

**OQ165.** I would like to request the Honourable Minister concerned to explain to this Maneaba the main reasons that refrain Government from loading fuel from Kiritimati to Tabuaeran on Te Tabomoa (Government uplift charter), even though the request that concerned with the shortage of fuel in my constituency has already been officially conveyed to the Government for urgent assistance?

**Replied by Hon. Alexander Teabo, MP (Minister for Information, Communication, and Transport)**

I thank one of the Honorable MPs from Tabuaeran for his question and this is the response. As the MP is aware, not loading the fuel on board the chartered vessel carrying students to Tabuaeran because it is not allowed under the law.

The Member raised two supplementary questions

**By Hon. Tibanga Taratai, MP (Banaba)**

**OQ161.** Water remains an issue on Banaba, and I want to request this Government if it is possible to follow up on SOPAC water drilling survey in 2000?

**Replied by Hon. Tekeeua Tarati, MP (Minister for Infrastructure, and Sustainable Energy)**

Honourable Speaker, my Ministry is looking to approach certain donors to assist in conducting a drilling test in Banaba. However, to address the immediate need for safe drinking water, we will distribute 6 Portable Solar Desalination Units to Banaba by June 2025 so people of Banaba can access to safe drinking water.

The Member raised three supplementary questions

**By Hon. Kaotitaake Kokoria, MP (Tabuaeran)**

**OQ163.** I would like to request the Honorable Minister concerned to allow the Post Office in Christmas Island to pay out money to telmo receivers like what is currently practiced on South Tarawa?

**Replied by Hon. Alexander Teabo, MP (Minister for Information, Communication, and Transport)**

I am pleased to inform one of the honourable MPs from Tabuaeran, that improvements have been made to the POSMO payment system in Kiritimati.

The Member raised three supplementary questions

**By Hon. Tibanga Taratai, MP (Banaba)**

**OQ162.** I want to thank our government for the new desalination plant and ask who funded it and whether it is new or secondhand. The project is already facing power problems, I want to request the explanation of this project and request Government to improve this important project, please?

**Replied by His Excellency Taneti Maamau, MP (Te Beretitenti)**

I thank the honorable MP from Banaba for the question. Here is my response. The project is funded through the Disaster Resilience Project Fund (DRPF), which is managed by my office. The desalination plants purchased for this project were brand new at the time of acquisition. However, a malfunction in a key component of the said desal the variable speed device led to

cascading damage within the system. As a result, several parts now require replacement to fully resolve the issue.

The Member raised two supplementary questions

**By Hon. Kaotitaake Kokoria, MP (Tabuaeran)**

**OQ164.** Patients from my constituency that referred to the hospital in Kiritimati for further treatment are constantly experiencing the late payment of their meal allowance. I would like to request the Honourable Minister concerned what is Government's assistance that has been put in place to address this very critical issue?

**Replied by Hon. Bootii Nauan, MP (Minister for Health and Medical Services)**

Honourable Speaker, I am happy to inform this Maneaba that my Ministry will look into improving processes for timely payments of referral patients' allowances in Kiritimati island.

The Member raised two supplementary questions

Break for lunch at 12:30pm

The Hon Speaker took the chair at 2:01pm and proceeded with the Bills.

**4. BILLS – FIRST READING**

**4.1 Public Service Commission (Amendment) Bill 2025**

**His Excellency Taneti Maamau, MP (Te Beretitenti) moved;**

That the Public Service Commission (Amendment) Bill 2025 be read the first time.

The following Member spoke on the Bill:

Hon. Tessie Lambourne  
Hon. Teribwa Taabe  
Hon. Mikarite Temari  
Hon. Tinian Reiher  
Hon. Terieta Mwemwenikeaki  
Hon. Kaotitaake Kokoria  
Hon. Taberannang Timeon  
Hon. Pinto Kaitia  
Hon. Harry Tekaiti  
Hon. Riteta Iorome

Break for afternoon tea, 3:58pm

Hon. Bautaake Beia  
Hon. Dr Teuea Toatu

Sum up at 4:55pm

Question Put - Carried

#### **4.2 State Owned Enterprise (Amendment) Bill 2025**

**Hon. Dr. Teuea Toatu, MP (Kauoman ni Beretitenti & Minister of Finance and Economic Development ) moved;**

That the State-Owned Enterprise (Amendment) Bill 2025 be read the first time.

The Following members spoke on the Bill:

Hon. Tessie Lambourne  
Hon. Bootii Nauan  
Hon. Mikarite Temari

At exactly 6:00 pm, Hon Martin intervened for adjournment.

The Speaker adjourned the meeting at 6:25pm.

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**Minute of Proceedings  
Maneaba ni Maungatabu  
3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of Thirteenth Parliament**

**Minute of Proceedings  
for  
Friday 11, April 2025**

1. Deputy Speaker took the chair and invited Hon. England Iuta to lead prayer

**2. ORAL QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

**By Hon. Kaotitaake Kokoria, MP (Tabuaeran)**

**OQ166.** It is evident that the death to the premature babies is continuously happening at the Hospital in Kiritimati due to the unavailability of the infant incubator. I would like to request the Honorable Minister concerned to immediately procure enough infant incubators to reduce the high risk that would be very detrimental to these most vulnerable premature babies.

**Replied by Hon. Bootii Nauan, MP (Minister for Health and Medical Services)**

According to the records of the maternity ward at Kiritimati Hospital, there have been no premature deliveries from 2024 and 2025 thus far. In addition, 2 new newborn incubators arrived at Kiritimati Hospital in 2024 and have not been used yet as so far, there has been no real indication for use.

The Member raised two supplementary questions

**By Hon. Kaotitaake Kokoria, MP (Tabuaeran)**

**OQ167.** There is a need for more land to be allocated to my constituents who are currently residing on Tabuaeran given that the one acre of land that had been given to such land users is not enough for their children and grandchildren. I would like to request the Honourable Minister responsible, whether the Government has put in place plans that would entertain this request?

**Replied by Hon. Tokaibure Rabaua, MP (Minister for Environment, Lands and Agricultural Development)**

There is ongoing work in line with this question. Upon the completion of this work, we will be able to ascertain the decision regarding the question posed by the Honourable Member of Parliament.

The Member raised three supplementary questions

**By Hon. Tessie Eria Lambourne, MP (Abemama)**

**OQ80.** Last month there was wide publicity about the cancelled visit of the New Zealand Foreign Minister because of the last-minute unavailability of his counterpart, our Foreign Minister who is also Beretitenti. The reason given was that the visit clashed with a historical event on his island, an Ordination of the first priest of Onotoa. This was not the truth as the Ordination happened ten days prior to the visit.

I want to ask the Beretitenti and Minister of Foreign Affairs why he didn't tell the truth to his counterpart from New Zealand?

**Replied by His Excellency Taneti Maamau, MP (Te Beretitenti)**

Honourable Speaker, the Ministry for Foreign Affairs and Deputy Prime Minister from New Zealand, was to be received by Hon. Vice President and Minister of Finance and Economic Development but decided to cancel his proposed visit to Kiribati.

The Member raised three supplementary questions

**By Hon. England Iuta, MP (Beru)**

**OQ85.** During the last Government's ministerial tour just before the elections one of the many issues that were raised was related to a fishing boat meant to be allocated to Aonman village was reallocated instead to another village by resolution of the Beru Island Council itself. The response by the Ministers leading the delegation at the time that the issue was to be properly reviewed. Can the Government now advise what is its latest position on this issue please?

**Replied by Hon. Ribanaataake Tiwau, MP (Minister for Fisheries and Marine Resources Development)**

Honourable Speaker, I am happy to inform the MP from Beru that the MFOR is reviewing this request, in conjunction with the boat and engine project that is currently wrapping up soon for all islands of Kiribati.

The Member raised three supplementary questions

**By Hon. Taberannang Timeon, MP (Tabiteuea Meang)**

**OQ109.** Could the Hon. Minister concerned confirm that Form 7 Science at Teabike College will definitely start in the second term 2025?

**Replied by Hon. Ruateki Tekaiara, MP (Minister for Education)**

I thank one of the honourable MPs from Tabiteuea North for his question to follow up the question he raised last Parliament in December 2024. This is the response to the question, I am pleased to say that feasibility study under Phase One (1) has been completed. The feasibility study, under other phases, will continue to ensure a holistic feasibility study for the establishment of Form 7 Science at Teabike College.

The Member raised three supplementary questions

**By Hon. Dennis Waysang Kum Kee, MP (Nonouti)**

**OQ133.** At the Ministerial tour of Beretitenti team to Nonouti, there is a request from constituency Nonouti, raised at that time, a need for more special constables for such villages;

- a) Taboiaki Maiaki ward
- b) Taboiaki Meang ward
- c) Matang ward
- d) Temanoku ward
- e) Benuaroa ward

Can the Minister responsible inform this Parliament of the progress and update of this request as it has been confirmed to be a major concern for these villages?

**Replied by His Excellency Taneti Maamau, MP (Te Beretitenti)**

I thank the honourable MP from Nonouti for your question, and the recruitment for special constables for his constituency, it shall be done the same way with other outer islands who requested for extra special constable in their ward/village.

The Member raised three supplementary questions

**By Hon. Iakoba Jacob Karutake, MP (Rabi)**

**OQ146.** The issue of selling pinnacles on Banaba was raised in the Parliament in 2024. We are proud to announce that the proposed project has been endorsed by the Banaban Landowners on Rabi. Can the Government confirm its intention to buy pinnacle aggregates from Banaba for its roads and airport?

**Replied by Hon. Ribanataake Tiwau, MP (Minister for Fisheries and Marine Resources Development)**

Honourable Speaker, I am pleased to inform the MP from Banaba Rabi that the MFOR is happy to revive work on this area, in close collaboration with landowners and relevant organisations.

The Member raised two supplementary questions

**By Hon. Tinian Reiher, MP (Butaritari)**

**OQ152.** In the last Government a request was raised for the Agricultural Division to undertake a pilot project on the cultivation of kava plant on Butaritari. Could the Honourable Minister kindly inform when to implement this as there is high expectation that the project will indeed assist in reducing dependency on the imported kava as well as providing alternative income sources to the people of Butaritari?

**Replied by Hon. Tokaibure Rabaua, MP (Minister for Environment, Lands and Agricultural Development)**

Honourable Speaker, my Ministry continues to work on how to grow the kava plant.

The Member raised three supplementary questions

**By Hon. Ieremia Tabai, MP (Nonouti)**

**OQ159.** One promise made by this Government that has not been delivered on for a few years now is the provision of rations for students in the primary schools, junior schools and the senior secondary schools. I want to ask if it has the resources or not to deliver on the promise it made to the people when it wanted their votes?

**Replied by Hon. Ruateki Tekaiara, MP (Minister for Education)**

I thank one of the honourable MPs from Nonouti for his question and this is Government's response. The expenses in implementing Government's Manifesto in regard to the provision of rations is a value for money. The issue causing the delay in the implementation of Government's Manifesto is related to undertaking some analysis that are relevant to such implementation.

The Member raised three supplementary questions

**By Hon. Kaotitaake Kokoria, MP (Tabuaeran)**

**OQ168.** I would like to request the Honourable Minister concerned to consider re-construction of the collapsed seawall and construction of a new seawall on

the same spot at Paelau to safeguard some of the Council's existing buildings nearby the Coastline?

**Replied by Hon. Mikarite Temari, MP (Minister for the Line and Phoenix Islands Development)**

Honourable Speaker, my Ministry will carry out the survey first then formally submit the request to the Disaster Unit or NEPO through a Project Document.

The Member raised three supplementary questions

**By Hon. Tibanga Taratai, MP (Banaba)**

**OQ170.** I would like to request the Government to consider including Banaba in the Small Grant & Water Project (SIFWP), as it is relevant to the food and water initiatives for small islands in Kiribati.

**Replied by Hon. Tokaibure Rabaua, MP (Minister for Environment, Lands and Agricultural Development)**

Honourable Speaker, my Ministry is willing to review this oral question if there is a possible way to include it since the project has already started with the selection islands.

The Member raised three supplementary questions

**By Hon. Kaotitaake Kokoria, MP (Tabuaeran)**

**OQ169.** I would like to request the Honourable Minister concerned to consider the construction of a new copra shed for our constituents who are residing at Tereitaki and Betania?

**Replied by Hon. Tangariki Reete, MP (Minister for Tourism, Commerce, Industry and Cooperatives)**

Hon. Speaker, I thank the Hon. MP for his question, and I am delighted to inform you that Government is ready to consider this request for the people of Tauberan

The Member raised two supplementary questions

**By Hon. Tibanga Taratai, MP (Banaba)**

**OQ171.** I would like to kindly request the Government to consider providing mobile service for Banaba, as there is no airstrip, no wharf, and no income-generating activities available, please?

**Replied by Hon. Alexander Teabo, MP (Minister for Information, Communication, and Transport)**

I am delighted to state that the roll-out of the mobile service for Banaba is indeed a component of my Ministry's workplan. It will be implemented once phase 2 of the mobile roll-out project is completed this year.

The Member raised two supplementary questions

**By Hon. Tawaria Komwenga, MP (Beru)**

**OQ174.** May I kindly request his Excellency Te Beretitenti, if they can kindly share list of the project funded for Beru under the Small Grant/Livelihood from 2023-2024 together with their progress and issues if any, so we can kindly assist and inform our communities?

**Replied by His Excellency Taneti Maamau, MP (Te Beretitenti)**

Hon. Speaker, the requests from Beru for 2023 and 2024 were received from communities, Church groups, youth, and the senior secondary school for funding assistance from the Livelihood project.

For 2023, 17 requests were received. 14 of these requests have been approved and funds released, while 3 requests remain with my office for further consideration.

For 2024, 33 requests were received. 28 of these requests have been approved and funds released, while 5 requests remain with my office for further consideration.

The Member raised two supplementary questions and 3<sup>rd</sup> supplementary question raised by Hon. Birimaka Takanene.

**By Hon. Matanga Aran, MP (Tabuaeran)**

**OQ176.** I would like to ask the Minister responsible regarding the leave grant for Council staff in my constituency, since I have verified that they have not received it?

**Replied by Hon. Harry Tekaiti, MP (Minister for Culture, and Internal Affairs)**

Honourable Speaker, I am pleased to inform the Honourable MP that leave grants for staff of Tabuaeran Island Council will be available once the list for Tabuaeran is finally verified by the Ministry for Finance.

The Member raised two supplementary questions.

**By Hon. Tibanga Taratai, MP (Banaba)**

**OQ172.** Fisheries training on Banaba is essential because of the resources and Ice-Plant available on the island. The goal for the population is to engage in activities that generate income. I respectfully ask the Government, along with the relevant Minister, to consider this request if they find it appropriate.

**Replied by Hon. Ribanataake Tiwau, MP (Minister for Fisheries and Marine Resources Development)**

Honourable Speaker, I am happy to inform the MP from Banaba that the MFOR is ready to provide this fisheries training at any available transport scheduled to Banaba.

The Member raised two supplementary questions

**By Hon. Moannata Ientaake, MP (Marakei)**

**OQ175.** I would like to respectfully inquire with the Minister or the government regarding the reasons for the consistent delays in backpay from 2024 to 2025, and whether similar delays might occur in the near future as well.

**Replied by Hon. Ruth Cross Kwansing, MP (Minister of Women, Youth, Sport and Social Affairs)**

Honourable Speaker, I thanked one of the Honourable MPs from Marakei for his question and I am happy to inform Honourable MP that my Ministry is now working and exploring several possible alternatives to improve service and to streamline process.

The Member raised one supplementary question

**By Hon. Matanga Aran, MP (Tabuaeran)**

**OQ177.** I would like to ask the Minister responsible, what steps can be taken to assist us with our ferry engines, which are presently in disrepair, and there is a critical need to assist students and public officials commute?

**Replied by Hon. Harry Tekaiti, MP (Minister for Culture, and Internal Affairs)**

Honourable Speaker, I am pleased to inform the Honourable MP from Tabuaeran that my Ministry is ready to review this issue in consultation with relevant Ministries.

The Member raised two supplementary questions

**By Hon. Tibanga Taratai, MP (Banaba)**

**OQ173.** The people of Banaba encounter various challenges in supporting their livelihoods due to a lack of income-generating activities. I would like to inquire if the Government has any plans to support and enhance efforts regarding this issue, please?

**Replied by Hon. Tokaibure Rabaua, MP (Minister for Environment, Lands and Agricultural Development)**

Honourable Speaker, I am happy to inform the Honourable Member of Parliament that the Government is willing to review this request.

The Member raised three supplementary questions

**By Hon. Matanga Aran, MP (Tabuaeran)**

**OQ178.** I would like to ask the Minister responsible, regarding the concerns raised by Individuals who assisted during the last presidential election as they are still complaining that they have not received their allowance yet.

**Replied by Hon. Harry Tekaiti, MP (Minister for Culture, and Internal Affairs)**

Hon. Speaker, I am pleased to inform the Honourable MP that my Ministry have completed their work on this issue.

The Member raised one supplementary question

**By Hon. Matanga Aran, MP (Tabuaeran)**

**OQ179.** I would like to request the Minister responsible to provide updates regarding the new leases that have been issued but are still pending approval on Tabuaeran?

**Replied by Hon. Tokaibure Rabaua, MP (Minister for Environment, Lands and Agricultural Development)**

There is ongoing work undertaken in line with the Honourable Member of Parliament oral question. Upon the completion of this task, we will then be able to know the decision on the said leases.

The Member raised two supplementary questions, and 3<sup>rd</sup> supplementary question raised by Hon. Dennis Waysang.

**By Hon. Matanga Aran, MP (Tabuaeran)**

**OQ180.** Could the Minister concerned explain his plans to address issues regarding local housing for teachers on Tabuaeran, considering that the

processing of maintenance funds frequently takes a considerable amount of time, resulting in discomfort for teachers whose homes need significant repairs?

**Replied by Hon. Ruateki Tekaiara, MP (Minister for Education)**

Speaker, I thank one of the Honourable MPs from Tabuaeran for his question and this is the response. My Ministry has plans to improve the teachers' quarters on the outer islands including Tabuaeran.

The Member raised two supplementary questions

**By Hon. Matanga Aran, MP (Tabuaeran)**

**OQ181.** I kindly ask the Minister responsible, what is the status of my Council Tabuaeran, on its project Multi-Purpose Cultural Centre?

**Replied by Hon. Harry Tekaiti, MP (Minister for Culture, and Internal Affairs)**

Honourable Speaker, I wish to inform the Honourable MP from Tabuaeran that their priority project namely the multi-Purpose cultural centre is currently with the MFED-NEPO awaiting DCC approval.

The Member raised three supplementary questions

Meeting adjourned for lunch break at 12:20pm and resumed again at 2:00pm.

**3. BILLS - FIRST READING**

**3.1 Hon. Birimaka Tekanene, MP (Tarawa Teinainano) withdrew the Traffic (Amendment) Bill 2025.**

**3.2 Hon. Birimaka Tekanene, MP (Tarawa Teinainano) moved;**

That the Election of Te Beretitenti (Amendment) Bill 2025 will be read the first time.

Members spoke on the Bill:

Hon Harry Tekaiti

Hon Tessie Eria Lambourne

Hon Bootii Nauan

Hon Tekeeuua Tarati

Hon Teribwa Tabee

(Meeting adjourned for afternoon break at 4:00pm and called to order at 4:30 pm)

Hon Teribwa Tabee continued his deliberation

*(Hon Tarakabu Tofinga, on a point of order, called the attention of the Speaker to Rule 53 showing the inconsistency of the proposed amendments moved by the mover).*

Hon Alexander Teabo

Hon Betero Atanibora

Hon Banuera Berina

Hon Riteta Iorome

Hon Terieta Mwemwenikeaki

Hon Tauanei Marea

Hon Mikarite Temari interrupted for adjournment at 6:00pm.

Question Put – Carried

The Speaker adjourned the meeting at 6:29 pm.



**Maneaba ni Maungatabu  
3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of Thirteenth Parliament**

**Minute of Proceedings  
for  
Monday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2025**

1. Speaker took chair at 10:00 am and asked Hon Mikarite Temari to lead with a word of prayer.

**2. REVISED ORDER OF GOVERNMENT BUSINESS**

His Excellency made a statement on the Revised Order of the Government Business;

- Friday 11 April 2025 – Private members' day
- Monday 14 April 2025 – Bill to amend the Value Added Tax (Amendment) Bill 2025 – First reading
- Motion to amend Rule 64
- Motion to amend Rule 64 (3)(b) and 64 (5)(II)
- Motion to adjourn sine die

On a point of order, the Leader of the Opposition reminded the Speaker that the *Liquor Bill (Amendment), 2025*, which had appeared on the Order of Government Business, was omitted without proper justification. The Leader further noted that the election results from the 2024 general election have not yet been tabled, despite repeated demands from members of the opposition.

**3. PRESENTED PAPERS**

**By Hon. Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee**

Ana Ribooti te Komete ibukin ana Mwane te Botannaomata iaon ana akaunti te Kiribati Port Authority are e a tia n otetanaki ibukin te ririki 2015 nakon 2022.

**Paper No.24/25**

Ana Ribooti te Komete ibukin ana Mwane te Botannaomata iaon ana akaunti te Broadcasting Publication Authority are e a tia n otetanaki ibukin te ririki 2016 nakon 2022.

**Paper No.25/25**

#### **4. STATEMENT**

**Hon. Minister of Information, Communications and Transport made the following statement;**

“Delineation of Kiribati Airspace”

The following members asked for elucidating:

Hon. Teriba Taabe  
Hon Tessie Eria Lambourne  
Hon.Terieta Mmwemwenikeaki  
Hon Booti Nauan  
Hon Taberannang Timeon

#### **5. ORAL QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

**By Hon. Tebuai Uaai, MP (Tarawa Teinainano)**

**OQ5.** What is the Government's policy for the improvement of land lease?

**Replied by Hon. Tokaibure Rabaua, MP (Minister for Environment, Lands & Agricultural Development)**

Honourable Speaker, review work on lease is still ongoing.

**By Hon. Dr Tinte Itinteang, MP (Betio)**

**OQ14.** Can I ask the Minister responsible for their assistance towards upgrading works to feeder roads on Betio that have been upgraded with concrete or geo-cell.

**Replied by Hon. Alexander Teabo, MP (Minister for Information, Communication and Transport)**

My Ministry, working collaboratively with relevant Government Entities involved, will work towards identifying solutions to this request.

**By Hon. Birimaka Tekanene, MP (Tarawa Teinainano)**

**OQ29** I kindly asked the Minister responsible when was the last time a review of the rent to Government lease lands was carried out and when is the next one due in accordance to the three-year review period provided under the Native Lands Ordinance (as amended)?

**Replied by Hon. Tokaibure Rabaua, MP (Minister for Environment, Lands & Agricultural Development)**

Honourable Speaker, the period of land rent review mentioned by the honourable Member of Parliament is in line with the law.

**By Hon. Bautaake Beia, MP (Teraina)**

**OQ66.** Can I ask the Minister of Commerce, we are informed that each constituency has a share of one truck to assist in weighing and transporting the copra. Can I enquire that each respective constituencies got their share, a request again where is Teraina's share, truck.

**Replied by Hon. Tangariki Reete, MP (Minister for Tourism, Commerce, Industry and Cooperatives)**

Hon. Speaker, I thanked Hon. MP from Teraina for his question, and I am delighted to inform that Government is ready to consider this request.

**By Hon. Koraubati Remuera, MP (Maiana)**

**OQ72.** There was a payment delay with the issuance of disability support allowance back in December 2024. May I ask the Minister responsible to explain why this delay happened?

**Replied by Hon. Ruth Cross Kwansing, MP (Minister for Women, Youth, Sport & Social Affairs)**

In response to one of the honourable MP from Maiana, internal arrangements caused the delay for payments in December.

**By Hon. Tonganibeia Buraieta Koakoa, MP (Tarawaieta)**

**OQ99.** I would like to ask the Honourable Minister responsible to explain when will the dredging of boat channel at Taratai complete given that the village's commemoration ceremony of the Union Jack arrival is fast approaching?

**Replied by Hon. Alexander Teabo, MP (Minister for Information, Communication and Transport)**

The rehabilitation of boat passages will commence at designated site, beginning with Abaokoro in North Tarawa. I am pleased to report that the initial step, which involved consultations with the full council of North Tarawa, was successfully conducted toward the end of March 2025.

Regarding other boat passages, such as the one in Taratai, my Ministry will promptly identify the most viable solution as soon as feasible.

**By Hon. Tawaria Komwenga, MP (Beru)**

**OQ103.** May I kindly request the Minister concerned if they could consider an increase in the labour charges for stevedores from the current rate of \$20.00 per cubic meter?

**Replied by Hon. Alexander Teabo, MP (Minister for Information, Communication and Transport)**

My Ministry will be working collaboratively with the Ministry concerned that has the legal ability to look into the further improvement of the stevedoring rates for cargo handling in the outer islands.

**By Hon. Betero Atanibora, MP (Abaiang)**

**OQ106.** Can I request the Minister for Lands to provide a brief explanation regarding the actions of his officials, who seem to be disregarding the request made by the individuals from my constituency concerning their lease?

**Replied by Hon. Tokaibure Rabaua, MP (Minister for Environment, Lands & Agricultural Development)**

Honourable Speaker, I am happy to say that funds for land leases in line with the Honourable Member of Parliament has been issued.

**By Hon. Niiti Itaaka, MP (Arorae)**

**OQ115.** Young people are an important resource and the island's future leaders. Could the Minister responsible consider the proposal to construct a multi-purpose court on Arorae, to involve the community, particularly the young people, and help cultivate a passion for sports that could help them be ready for future sporting events?

**Replied by Hon. Ruth Cross Kwansing, MP (Minister for Women, Youth, Sport & Social Affairs)**

I wish to thank one of the Honourable MPs from Arorae for his good question and I am pleased to inform Honourable MP that my Ministry is happy to consider this proposal.

**By Hon. Banuera Berina, MP (Kuria)**

**OQ124.** In answer to my request for an update on the livelihood grants requests by St Michael and KUC Oneeke I was informed that work is now being carried out on the expenditures for last year. The application by KUC Oneeke was from last year. May I ask for the latest information regarding the application for the livelihood Grant by the KUC Oneeke?

**Replied by His Excellency Taneti Maamau, MP (Te Beretitenti)**

Honourable Speaker, this is the response to the question. The request from KUC Oneeke, along with other requests from Kuria, remains under review and is being carefully considered.

**By Hon. Matanga Aran, MP (Tabuaeran)**

**OQ182.** I kindly asked the Minister responsible for the latest information on a leave grant for Pre-School Teachers at Tabuaeran, as confirmed they never received it?

**Replied by Hon. Ruateki Tekaiala, MP (Minister for Education)**

I thank the MP from Tabuaeran for his important question. I am pleased to inform the Honourable MP that the disbursement of leave grants for preschool teachers is currently in progress.

**By Hon. Tinian Reiher, MP (Butaritari)**

**OQ183.** It is now almost 10 years since the suspension of the transshipment by tuna vessels in Butaritari to await the completion of the new navigational chart, could the Honourable Minister for Information, Communication and Transport Development expedite work on this?

**Replied by Hon. Alexander Teabo, MP (Minister for Information, Communication and Transport)**

I am delighted to state that by the third quarter of this year, my Ministry will be able to work on the navigational chart for Butaritari.

**By Hon. Lavinia Teatao Teem, MP (Abaiang)**

**OQ184.** The shortage of medicine on Abaiang is a constant problem, could the Government assist in solving this problem?

**Replied by Hon. Bootii Nauan, MP (Minister for Health and Medical Services)**

I am pleased to inform this Maneaba that solutions have already been implemented to address this problem.

**By Hon. Pinto Katia, MP (Makin)**

**OQ185.** Can I ask the Minister what is the latest progress on the sale of the Dash 8 aircraft?

**Replied by Hon. Alexander Teabo, MP (Minister for Information, Communication and Transport)**

Air Kiribati Limited continues to explore and monitor the market for the best deal on its Dash 8 aircraft.

**By Hon. Pinto Katia, MP (Makin)**

**OQ186.** Can I ask the Minister to find ways to address the issue with cargo handling during low tide for outer islands which don't have lagoons?

**Replied by Hon. Tangariki Reete, MP (Minister for Tourism, Commerce, Industry and Cooperatives)**

Hon. Speaker, I am pleased to inform the Honourable MP from Makin that the Government is ready to explore solutions to address this issue.

**By Hon. Ieremia Tabai, MP (Nonouti)**

**OQ187.** In the last meeting of this House when answering the question why Kiribati was not included in the Pacific Engagement Visa that started last year, he said "that he needs to consult the people first"

I want to ask, can he provide an update on the consultation and what was said in that consultation?

**Replied by His Excellency Taneti Maamau, MP (Te Beretitenti)**

Honourable Speaker, public consultation was conducted in June 2024 through island councils and March 2025 through the quantum leap week program.

**By Hon. Taberannang Timeon, MP (Tabiteuea Meang)**

**OQ188.** Can the Minister responsible find ways to address the frequent shortage of copra bags on the outer islands?

**Replied by Hon. Tangariki Reete, MP (Minister for Tourism, Commerce, Industry and Cooperatives)**

Hon. Speaker, I wish to inform the Honourable MP from Tabiteuea North that the Government is ready to assist on this.

**By Hon. Tessie Eria Lambourne, MP (Abemama)**

**OQ189.** There are lots of trucks in Abemama hired for referral patients' transport to the airport that have not been paid for since last year. Truck owners are becoming reluctant to provide transport for referral patients' which will be a huge problem for our people.

I want to ask why these outstanding hire charges have not been paid?

**Replied by Hon. Bootii Nauan, MP (Minister for Health and Medical Services)**

I regret to hear about this problem; however, I am pleased to inform the Honourable MP that a DW was sent last month to address this problem.

**By Hon. Tessie Eria Lambourne, MP (Abemama)**

**OQ190.** There has been no nurse for Manoku village for a long time. People from Manoku, including the Christian Community of Leaders, have had trouble getting timely medical assistance from nurses in Tebanga and Kabangaki.

Can I request the Minister responsible, when will the nurse for Manoku arrive?

**Replied by Hon. Bootii Nauan, MP (Minister for Health and Medical Services)**

The Nursing Officer for Manoku is ready to return on the 11<sup>th</sup> of April, in the coming week.

**By Hon. Moannata Ientaake, MP (Marakei)**

**OQ191.** Could the Minister responsible or Government inform this Maneaba whether the interest from the Marakei Small Grant for 2021 and 2022 has been added to the principal amount of the Marakei Island Council reserve fund?

**Replied by Hon. Dr. Teuea Toatu, MP (Te Kauoman ni Beretitenti and Minister for Finance and Economic Development)**

I am pleased to inform the Honourable MP from Marakei that interests from the Marakei Small Grant share for 2021 and 2022 have been added to the principal amount of Marakei's Island Council Trust Fund.

**By Hon. Lavinia Teatao Teem, MP (Abaiang)**

**OQ192.** Payments on "te mwane ni kara ma te mwane n aki mwakuri" are processed/paid at different times on outer islands compared to Tarawa, Could the Government ensure that both payments are made on the same day?

**Replied by Hon. Ruth Cross Kwansing, MP (Minister for Women, Youth, Sport & Social Affairs)**

Honourable Speaker, I thank the Honourable MP from Abaiang for his question, this is the Government's response. We are in the process of surveying outer islands regarding current payment processes to identify challenges and best practices.

**By Hon. Jacob Teem, MP (Kiritimati & Kanton)**

**OQ193.** There are employees of the Kiritimati Urban Council still haven't received payments for leave grants despite the fact they are not on the list for unemployment benefit, could the Minister responsible assist on this matter?

**Replied by Hon. Harry Tekaiti, MP (Minister for Culture, and Internal Affairs)**

Honourable Speaker, I am pleased to inform the Honourable MP that payment of leave grant for staff of the Kiribati Urban Council will be paid out soon.

**By Hon. Jacob Teem, MP (Kiritimati & Kanton)**

**OQ194.** Housing for civil servants on Kiritimati requires a lot of maintenance and renovations, what are Government plans to address this?

**Replied by Hon. Mikarite Temari, MP (Minister of Line and Phoenix Islands Development)**

Honourable Speaker, Government through my Ministry is not only working hard in maintaining Government old houses in Kiritimati for staff but is also working harder to build brand new houses.

## **6. BILL – FIRST READING**

### **6.1 Value Added Tax (Amendment) Bill 2025**

**Hon. Dr. Teuea Toatu, MP (Kauoman ni Beretitenti & Minister of Finance and Economic Development) moved;**

That the Value Added Tax (Amendment) Bill 2025 be read the first time.

Hon Tessie Eria Lambourne

Hon Moannata Ientaake

Hon. Teribwa Taabe

Hon. Birimaaka Tekanene

Hon. Tekeeua Tarati

Hon. Pinto Katia

Hon. Tebuai Uaai

Hon. Mikarite Temari

Hon. Auria Kitina

Hon. Booti Nauan

Sum up 5:22 pm – Hon. Dr Teuea Toatu

Question Put - Carried

## **7. MOTIONS**

**7.1 Hon. Tauanei Marea, MP (Nikunau & Chairman of the Business Committee) moved;**

### **Motion 1**

That this Maneaba will consider an insertion clause under Rule 64 of the Rules of Procedure as follows;

(7) To review and provide recommendations to the Maneaba for approval amendments for the Rules of Procedure of the Maneaba ni Maungatabu.

Provided that this section does not limit the right of Members and Ministers in proposing changes to the Rules of Procedure and the Maneaba determining the motion.

Members spoke on the motion:

Hon Martin Moreti

Hon Tessie Eria Lambourne

Hon Betero Atanibora

Hon Tebuai Uaai

(At 6:04pm, H.E Te Beretitenti interrupted for adjournment)

The mover sum up at 6:05pm

At 6:10 p.m., H.E. Te Beretitenti moved the motion for sine die adjournment. Before the adjournment, the Speaker gave the floor to the members to reflect on the past 10 days of sittings.

H.E Te Beretitenti

Hon Tessie Eria Lambourne

Hon Birimwaka Tekanene

Hon Ruta Babo Nemta

Hon England Iuta

The meeting adjourned at 6:33 pm until further notice.

**ORAL QUESTIONS  
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<b>Oral Questions</b>	<b>Raised by</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>Page</b>
When will the elderly's monetary benefits improve?	Hon.Tebuai Uaai	OQ01	11
Could Government assist with Tangintearia causeway as it is no longer safe to use it?	Hon.Pinto Katia	OQ06	12
I would like to request an update from the Government and the relevant Minister regarding the plans for the full operation of the Maiana Island Council's Mini Hatchery?	Hon.Koraubati Remuera	OQ09	12
Could the Government enforce KCCI's membership just for those VAT registered businesses?	Hon.Tebuai Uaai	OQ02	12
The people from Makin are grateful for the household solar systems that have been received by the Government. However, there are issues with just the solar bulbs which are no longer working. Could the Minister responsible kindly assist with the replacement of solar bulbs?	Hon.Pinto Katia	OQ08	13
Can the Government review and improve land zoning and land survey on Tarawa Teinainano Nurturing Land (TTNL)?	Hon.Tebuai Uaai	OQ04	13
Copra sheds running out of storage space is a recurring issue in my constituency of Maiana which can hinder copra farmers by delaying copra sales?	Hon.Koraubati Remuera	OQ10	13

May I kindly request the Government and the responsible Minister, what is the latest balance for the Beru Island Council Trust Funds?	Hon.Tawaria Komwenga	OQ17	14
The beacon light on top of the communication tower in Maiana has not been operational for quite some time now. May I ask the relevant Minister what caused this problem?	Hon.Koraubati Remuera	OQ11	14
During a Government visit to Maiana led by Ministers, it was noted that there is equipment available for road maintenance works. I would like to ask the Minister concerned for updates on this project.	Hon.Koraubati Remuera	OQ12	14
The Marewe ni Beru has lodged their sublease application for their Maneaba site at the Ananau causeway. May I kindly request the Government and the responsible Minister, what is the update on this application?	Hon.Tawaria Komwenga	OQ18	15
Could the Government or the Minister responsible provide a bright light beacon bulb to be installed at Rawannawi and placed on the tower at Island Council?	Hon.Moannata Ientaake	OQ19	15
When will the repair works start on the causeways in my constituency Onotoa, given their current deteriorated state deterring vehicles from driving on them?	Hon.Riteta Iorome	OQ23	15
Could the Hon Minister or Government inform this House as to when the Government would be able to rebuild the crescent seawall that proved to have protected sea inundation and rebuilt or maintained beautiful long beach at Rannawi Marakei in the past and have raised the same question here twice previous years, please?	Hon.Moannata Ientaake	OQ20	16
Mr Speaker, I wish to ask the Minister responsible, what is the latest update on the construction of a Junior Secondary School in Tanimaiaki, Abaiang?	Hon.Betero Atanibora	OQ27	16
Could the government provide allowance to cover the costs incurred by recruited mobile workers who are now awaiting mobilization on Tarawa after	Hon.Riteta Iorome	OQ24	17

their initial mobilization date was cancelled?			
Could the Government or responsible Minister inform this Maneaba when Marakei would receive the disabled funds that were not paid in December 2024, please?	Hon.Moannata Ientaake	OQ22	17
I kindly asked the Minister responsible if Government sponsored students who failed some subject and were terminated but have taken up the said course privately and passed them to be readmitted to the scholarship so that they can complete their program?	Hon.Birimwaaka Tekanene	OQ28	17
Mr Speaker, I wish to ask the Minister responsible, why is there a shortage of copra funds for Abaiang during the months of January and February 2025?	Hon.Betero Atanibora	OQ26	18
I kindly asked the Minister responsible that the feeder and access roads on South Tarawa that are not cemented are poorly maintained, can the Minister consider maintaining them?	Hon.Birimwaaka Tekanene	OQ30	18
I would like to request an update from the Government and the Minister responsible regarding the status of the Rawannawi solar light project that was surveyed in Marakei in 2023, please?	Hon.Moannata Ientaake	OQ31	19
Can the responsible Minister explain the details of the selection criteria on how our youths are selected to the Seasonal Worker Schemes in Australia and New Zealand?	Hon.Teribwa Taabe	OQ32	20
Is there a plan by the responsible Minister to increase the number of tables and chairs for Tewaiwai JSS Maiana?	Hon.Ruuta Babo Nemta	OQ35	20
Can the responsible Minister consider reviving the “Deboning of Milk fish project” on Kiritimati and work in consultation with CPPL to explore its market potential overseas so it can become another value adding fisheries export and income generating activity for the fishermen as well as foreign earnings to Kiribati?	Hon.Teribwa Taabe	OQ33	20

A word of appreciation to the Government for its consideration of the Magistrates in its Manifesto. Could I request clarification on the stated Manifesto No.32 – Enhancement of benefits and allowances for Magistrates.	Hon.Ruuta Babo Nemta	OQ36	20
Can I ask the Minister responsible to explain why the Support grant to Makin Island Council is very small at the beginning of this year?	Hon.Pinto Katia	OQ37	21
Could the Minister responsible kindly provide information on how many fridges, designated for storing children's medicine, are allocated to each island?	Hon.Ruuta Babo Nemta	OQ39	21
Can I ask the Minister responsible if it could assist our Makin Island Council regarding the clearance of outstanding payments on maintenance from last year and for the beginning of this year 2025?	Hon.Pinto Katia	OQ38	21
There was communication sometime back with the Marine Division for erection of navigational beacons along the islets at the south of Tabiteuea North and the passages at the northern part of the island. There was positive reaction from the Division at that time. The question is what is the update on this?	Hon.Tarakabu Tofinga	OQ42	22
Could the Minister responsible consider providing additional transportation for the people of Maiana?	Hon.Ruuta Babo Nemta	OQ40	22
The Honourable Minister of Fisheries and Ocean Resources stated that a hatchery for clams and other marine species will be established at Tabiteuea Meang. Could I ask the Honourable Minister if funding for this hatchery has been secured?	Hon.Tarakabu Tofinga	OQ43	22

<p>we express our appreciation to our government for the improvement in medical services provided through the operational clinics on Tebikerai, Tekaranga, Temwangaua, Buota and Bubutei. However, I wish to request the responsible Minister if he could consider equipping these clinics with adequate lighting?</p>	<p>Hon.Ruuta Babo Nemta</p>	<p>OQ41</p>	<p>23</p>
<p>Can I request the Minister of MISE for clarification regarding his statement in the last House that the heavy plants for roads would be dispersed to the outer islands once they arrive. I heard that these heavy plants have just arrived, and a celebration has been done. I wish to enquire when will they arrive in my constituency Abaiang, as recently the major issue is the road?</p>	<p>Hon.Betero Atanibora</p>	<p>OQ46</p>	<p>23</p>
<p>A question to the Government and the relevant Ministries if there are still plans to procure a dredger for channels as there's a need for it as repeatedly raised in the last meetings?</p>	<p>Hon.Tarakabu Tofinga</p>	<p>OQ44</p>	<p>23</p>
<p>Can I ask this Government to consider increasing the number of special constables on Teraina since stationing one constable for each village is not enough to maintain peace throughout the villages?</p>	<p>Hon.Bautaake Beia</p>	<p>OQ47</p>	<p>24</p>
<p>A request to the Government, especially the Honourable Minister responsible if he can send civil engineers to inspect the bridges between Tenatorua and Bangai for possible maintenance?</p>	<p>Hon.Tarakabu Tofinga</p>	<p>OQ45</p>	<p>24</p>
<p>Could I ask the Minister responsible to ensure that the recruitment process for any vacant positions in the Island Council is conducted among the people residing within the Island Council's jurisdiction, rather than from Kiritimati or Tarawa?</p>	<p>Hon.Bautaake Beia</p>	<p>OQ48</p>	<p>24</p>
<p>Can Government consider exempting VAT on all imported items for all churches?</p>	<p>Hon.Lavinia Teatao Teem</p>	<p>OQ51</p>	<p>28</p>

May I kindly request that the Minister for the Ministry for Justice arrange for his office's assistance by visiting Teraina and helping the people there with their National ID Cards?	Hon.Bautaake Beia	OQ49	28
Can the responsible Minister review with a view to further improving the current payment processing system and ensuring timely payment especially for those that relate to the government policy such as the monthly elderly benefits, monthly SFU, annual Leave Grant and copra money to ensure consistency schedules to avoid unnecessary delays?	Hon.Teribwa Taabe	OQ55	28
The shortage of fuel in Abaiang is a constant problem, could the Government assist in solving this problem?	Hon.Lavinia Teatao Teem	OQ50	29
Can I ask the Minister responsible for their assistance towards proper placement of shipping contains, especially those adjacent to public access in Betio?	Hon.Dr Tinte Itinteang	OQ13	29
What are Government policies in regard to patients being referred to Tarawa for further treatment?	Hon.Lavinia Teatao Teem	OQ53	29
May I ask the responsible Minister if their Ministry has any form of orientation or preparation workshops for Kiribati employees before they depart for their overseas employment, such as fruit pickers destined for NZ?	Hon.Dr Tinte Itinteang	OQ15	30
We request the Government if it could clarify how the small grants are distributed?	Hon.Lavinia Teatao Teem	OQ52	30
Could the Government provide effective solutions to address and resolve the problem of overcrowding on Tarawa Teinainano Nurturing Land (TTNL)?	Hon.Tebuai Uaai	OQ03	30
The installation of the desalination plant on Kiebu is still not yet completed. Can H.E Te Beretitenti and staff kindly clarify if this plant can be completed or not?	Hon.Pinto Katia	OQ07	31
In its May 2024 report the IMF expressed concern that the change in the RERF withdrawal policy from a threshold of 5% real value to 2% of nominal value increase the risk of gradual depletion of the RERF.	Hon.Ieremia Tabai	OQ57	31

I want to ask the government to explain the reasons for changing the withdrawal policy from 5% real value to 2% nominal value?			
The Government has launched one of its promises to supply 500-litre water tanks to the people of Betio and South Tarawa. Could the Minister responsible provide an update on the progress of the distribution of the water tanks so far?	Hon.Tonganibeia Buraieta Koakoa	OQ62	32
When the Beretitenti answered my question in the December 2024 meeting on the tribunal that investigates against the Court of Appeal judges, he said there was a delay in the start of their work since members were also members of another tribunal whose report was tabled in April 2024.  I want to ask who from among those members holds or has held high judicial office as required by the Constitution, an issue we have raised in this House before?	Hon.Jeremia Tabai	OQ58	32
I kindly asked the Minister responsible for his assistance to the Kiribati Provident Fund regarding its policy on the Statutory Declaration that is now restricted by accepting none other than the one made from the Office of the Public Legal Service; and to allow the same from Private Lawyers and the Court in light of the Statutory Declaration Act?	Hon.Birimwaaka Tekanene	OQ61	32
There is a need to expand electricity coverage to Temoritong in Buota. Could the Minister responsible liaise with the Public and Utilities Board to explore the possibility of installing a meter box, enabling residents to access the main electricity grid in this area?	Hon.Tonganibeia Buraieta Koakoa	OQ63	33
Can I request the Minister of MOE that there is transport provided for school children at Teraina and must be in Teraina, however it has been stayed for longer periods in Kiritimati and seems like no use to be sent to Teraina as it is	Hon.Bautaake Beia	OQ65	33

damaged. A humble request if one new Truck can be purchased and to be transported to Teraina urgently to assist and support school children who always walk to attend school every day?			
Kainaba has been without electricity for an extended period due to its remote location, far from the mainland. Could the Minister in charge collaborate with PUB to ensure the people of Kainaba gain access to the main electricity grid?	Hon.Tonganibeia Buraieta Koakoa	OQ64	34
Kindly requesting the Honourable Minister concerned to improve scheduling arrangements for chartered ships bringing students back and forth to their home islands during holidays and to avoid recurring cancelations?	Hon.Riteta Iorome	OQ67	36
Could I kindly request the Minister responsible to consider providing the people of Teraina with a shredder to facilitate and support their agricultural activities on the island?	Hon.Bautaake Beia	OQ70	36
I would like to ask the Minister responsible an update about Nikunau solar lights share?	Hon.Tauanei Marea	OQ73	37
Could the Minister explore the possibility of establishing a satellite primary school for classes 1,2 and 3, located between the villages of Abaiang, Uteute, Mwakeitari and Onouea on Teraina, to meet the current demand?	Hon.Bautaake Beia	OQ71	37
would like to hear from the new Minister for MTCIC about the information of Nikunau mini copra mill?	Hon.Tauanei Marea	OQ74	37
The current dump site opposite St. Francis School and closer to Spivey School, as well as communities around the area on Kiritimati Island is posing health hazard to everyone. Can the ministry responsible consider relocating that dump site to an appropriate site outside the residential and school compounds?	Hon.Teribwa Taabe	OQ34	38
We request Government to build multi-purpose halls on secondary schools at Abaiang?	Hon.Lavinia Teatao Teem	OQ54	38

Can the Minister responsible advise and confirm when the current applications for individual and business land leases on Kiritimati be considered and approved?	Hon.Teribwa Taabe	OQ56	38
I would like to request the Minister for Tourism if she could send tourism personnel to examine, explore and assist our people from Tabomatang village in Nikunau with tourism development programs particularly focused on the village and the island.	Hon.Tauanei Marea	OQ79	39
When will the repair works on Onotoa's airstrip start?	Hon.Riteta Iorome	OQ68	39
I would like to ask the new Minister for MISE, when will Nikunau road construction commence?	Hon.Tauanei Marea	OQ75	39
We would like to ask the Government to endorse that ships must use Tabuarorae dock when loading copra from and offloading cargoes to Tabuarorae village?	Hon.Riteta Iorome	OQ69	39
Honourable Speaker, one of the school issues is the inadequacy of schools in relation to the increasing number of students in the country. Therefore, I would like to ask the new Minister for Education, could he build a secondary school for form 4s to 7s on Nikunau island?	Hon.Tauanei Marea	OQ77	40
Copra farmers in Abemama continue to complain about the current moisture level standard used. They feel cheated out of their hard work. They used to dry their copra for three days but now it takes more than a week to meet the standard that the copra hardly weighs anything. Can Government review the moisture level standard used to allow copra farmers a fair income from their hard work?	Hon.Tessie Eria Lambourne	OQ81	40
Copra farmers in Abemama continue to complain about the current moisture level standard used. They feel cheated out of their hard work. They used to dry their copra for three days but now it takes	Hon.England Iuta	OQ87	41

<p>more than a week to meet the standard that the copra hardly weighs anything. Can Government review the moisture level standard used to allow copra farmers a fair income from their hard work?</p>			
<p>In the last Maneaba, I raised a motion and question on the new freight refund system that the Government put in place which has continued to cause lots of problems for our small businesses and the public at large. The Government responded at that time that it would change the system back to the original arrangement. I want to ask the Government if it has made these changes and if it has not to explain why?</p>	<p>Hon.Tessie Eria Lambourne</p>	<p>OQ82</p>	<p>41</p>
<p>May I kindly ask Minister responsible if they have plans to improve the payment of agency fees for the copra societies in the outer islands since the last payment on Beru was made at the end of last year?</p>	<p>Hon.England Iuta</p>	<p>OQ86</p>	<p>41</p>
<p>Pre-school teachers are still anxiously waiting for the payment of their leave grants for 2024 which the Minister of Education said it would be paid by the end of the year. It has been three months after the end of the year and the payment has not come through. Payment of the 2025 leave grants is also due.</p> <p>I want to ask the Minister of Education why the Pre-school teachers' leave grants for 2024 and 2025 have not been paid?</p>	<p>Hon.Tessie Eria Lambourne</p>	<p>OQ84</p>	<p>43</p>
<p>When will the recruitment of a new special constable at Taboiaki village be conducted which has been vacant for quite some time?</p>	<p>Hon.England Iuta</p>	<p>OQ88</p>	<p>43</p>
<p>Pre-school teachers are still waiting for the payment of their leave grants. Can I kindly ask the Government to provide update on this?</p>	<p>Hon. Terieta Mwemwenikeaki</p>	<p>OQ89</p>	<p>44</p>

We thank Government and PUB for their efforts in ensuring continuous power supply. We thank New Zealand and China for their help in providing generators for PUB. Even though over \$700,000 was spent in calibrating the Chinese generator to align it to existing generators, it still does not work. Even though the Minister said that things are back to normal when the rented generators were installed, we still have power outages. Can the Minister kindly explain when the power outages will stop for good?	Hon.Tessie Eria Lambourne	OQ83	44
What is the update on the delivery of heavy plants to North Tarawa Council which will assist the Council in maintaining its road before the implementation of the Government's Road rehabilitation project in North Tarawa?	Hon. Terieta Mwemwenikeaki	OQ93	44
As the sea ambulance is still not arriving and available to provide sea transportation for patients who need to be sent to Nawerewere hospital, the need to hire privately owned boat by individuals and church communities for transportation continues to exist. Can the Government provide DW to Eutan Tarawa Council (ETC) for expediting payment purposes by the Council?	Hon. Terieta Mwemwenikeaki	OQ94	45
China is one of our major development partners. May I kindly request the Government and the responsible Minister, how much funds we received annually from China and how this fund distributed to the outer islands?	Hon.Tawaria Komwenga	OQ16	45
When will the Government start issuing pensions to former and retired church missionaries?	Hon.Riteta Iorome	OQ25	45
Can I kindly ask Government to consider building the multi-purpose court for the IHC, Taborio North Tarawa?	Hon. Terieta Mwemwenikeaki	OQ90	46

I kindly asked the Minister responsible, if assistance could be provided to those who missed out some of their payment for SFU, Elderly and Disability Grants due to issues such as:-  1. Expired ID 2. Sick during the payment but unfortunately passed away after 3. Payment was miss-posted and was fraudulently collected without their knowledge.	Hon.Birimwaaka Tekanene	OQ59	46
I would like to ask the Minister for Sports if she could provide a coach (coaches) to train Nikunau youths in these particular sports, football, volleyball, basketball, tennis and weightlifting?	Hon.Tauanei Marea	OQ76	46
I would like to ask the Minister concerned if he has plans to increase wages for special constables in North Tarawa and the rest of Kiribati?	Hon.Tonganibeia Buraieta Koakoa	OQ96	46
would like to request the new Minister for MWYSSA if she could kindly assist people from Nikunau with their long outstanding SFU or backpay. There is a list of names that I sent to her email for her information and assistance.	Hon.Tauanei Marea	OQ78	47
I would like to ask the Honourable Minister responsible to provide updates regarding the mobilization of young women and men from North Tarawa to their designated companies for work in Australia and New Zealand?	Hon.Tonganibeia Buraieta Koakoa	OQ97	47
Can I kindly ask the Government to provide pathways for youths in the outer islands to be included in the selection process for overseas competitions which are usually attended by Kiribati?	Hon. Terieta Mwemwenikeaki	OQ91	47

I would like to ask this Government; who is responsible for erosion along shorelines caused from the construction of the Buota to Tanaea bridge?	Hon.Tonganibea Buraieta Koakoa	OQ98	48
In the last term I raised the request to MWYSSA to establish new positions within all island councils which aims to develop youths and sport on outer islands. Can I ask Government to consider this request, again during this term.	Hon. Terieta Mwemwenikeaki	OQ92	48
The problem in relation to the poor conditions of residential houses for Government's seconded employees stationed on outer islands such as teachers, nurses, police officers and clerks is still existing and greatly felt, especially in North Tarawa. What can the Government do to address this problem?	Hon. Terieta Mwemwenikeaki	OQ95	48
Can the Minister responsible please clarify why the elderly and disability allowances for BTC ao TUC were paid on the exact due date on the 15 <sup>th</sup> of March and the rest of the islands were not?	Hon.England luta	OQ100	49
There is visiting team from Fisheries who used to undertake repair to aluminium and fiberglass boat on the outer Islands, may I kindly request the Minister concerned when this team is scheduled to visit Beru?	Hon.Tawaria Komwenga	OQ102	51
Can the Minister responsible clarify government's future plans over the next 4 years to improve the conditions of its caregiving to patients and for the welfare and wellbeing of its staff compared to current conditions?	Hon.England luta	OQ101	52
I would like to ask the Hon. Minister of Education why scholarship students in Fiji are not receiving their stipend or allowance payments on time.	Hon.Betero Atanibora	OQ105	52
I would like to ask the Minister responsible to provide updates and plans on the construction of a new clinic in Tanaeang?	Hon.Riteta Iorome	OQ104	52

<p>The Government is requested as to when the fishing and speed boats channels will be completed for Koubabati at Rawannawi as well as for the three additional channels for Tekarakan and Raweai, Bainuna and Norauea and Tekuanga and Antaai. This matter was previously raised here during my first term in August 2020 and has been reiterated in August 2023. I respectfully request at this point in time since these machines are available for our causeway construction on Marakei, please?</p>	<p>Hon.Moannata Ientaake</p>	<p>OQ21</p>	<p>53</p>
<p>I kindly asked the Minister responsible, to explain the policy concerning I-Kiribati who were front liners during the COVID-19 lockdown and have not been paid?</p>	<p>Hon.Birimwaaka Tekanene</p>	<p>OQ60</p>	<p>53</p>
<p>Can Government assist recompensing Beru Council employees who were charged to take over from their government brethren during annual leave and have not been properly compensated to date?</p>	<p>Hon.England Iuta</p>	<p>OQ108</p>	<p>53</p>
<p>I kindly request the Minister for Health &amp; Medical Services to reconsider the policies regarding dialysis patients in Fiji. Upon our team's arrival in Fiji, we were informed that they would be relocating to apartments acquired by the Government. I kindly ask the Honorable Minister to take into account that, based on your Ministry's initial guidance, dialysis patients should remain at their current accommodations when determining future housing arrangements?</p>	<p>Hon.Betero Atanibora</p>	<p>OQ107</p>	<p>54</p>
<p>Tabiteuea North's share of solar lights for private households have not yet reached the island despite the fact that most islands in the south have reached their share, could the Minister responsible address this problem?</p>	<p>Hon.Taberannang Timeon</p>	<p>OQ110</p>	<p>54</p>
<p>Could I kindly ask the Minister concerned to provide an update on the progress made regarding the need for a desalination plant, which I raised in the last parliamentary meeting?</p>	<p>Hon.Niiti Itaaka</p>	<p>OQ117</p>	<p>54</p>

Could Government improve the timing for the monthly payments of the elderly funds?	Hon.Taberannang Timeon	OQ111	55
Could the Minister liaise with the relevant unit in his department to ensure that repairs to the Arorae icemaker/plants are carried out at the earliest opportunity, so it can be used again?	Hon.Niiti Itaaka	OQ116	55
Is renovation work for Kieia Ataei Hospital remain on track as announced by the Minister in the last meeting of Parliament?	Hon.Taberannang Timeon	OQ112	55
Terikiai, Tab-North, is increasingly being used as port of call for ships going to and returning from the Southern Island. Could Government widen the boat passage and built a wharf there?	Hon.Taberannang Timeon	OQ113	56
There is a grave need by the people of Kuria because of the delay and the shortage of the copra funds. Could I ask the Minister concerned to explain why there is now a big delay in relation to the receipt of the copra funds by the copra cutters?	Hon.Banuera Berina	OQ119	56
There was a request for the setting up of a hatchery for the 'were' at either Kabuna and Tauta on Tabiteuea North. What is the status of this request please?	Hon.Taberannang Timeon	OQ114	56
The copra shed on Arorae has been in disrepair for quite some time now. Could the Minister responsible kindly liaise with relevant authority in his department to consider undertaking repairs so that it can be used again?	Hon.Niiti Itaaka	OQ118	57
Has Cabinet now decided on how to improve "the unemployment benefit?	Hon.Banuera Berina	OQ120	57
Can the Government authorize the deposit of the senior citizens fund into a bank account belonging to an individual they completely trust?	Hon.Tebuai Uaai	OWN1 9	61
Does this Government have any way of helping the people of Kiribati since it is now accepted that the price of goods has gone up?	Hon.Banuera Berina	OQ121	62
Could the Minister responsible clarify the reasons for the ongoing shortage of	Hon.Choy Freddy	OQ126	62

medical supplies, especially the nebulizer medication, at Betio Hospital?			
How has Cabinet decided to improve “te mwane ni kara?”	Hon.Banuera Berina	OQ122	62
Could the responsible Minister consider initiating plans for a new landfill project specifically for non-biodegradable materials in Betio to address the increasing demand?	Hon.Choy Freddy	OQ125	62
In answer to my request for an update on the livelihood grants requests by St. Michael and KUC Oneeke I was informed that work is now being carried out on the expenditures for last year. The application by St. Michel was from 2021. May I ask for the latest information regarding the application for the livelihood grant by St Michael?	Hon.Banuera Berina	OQ123	62
What plans does the Government have for addressing late-night hangouts of youth in Betio, given the current situation?	Hon.Choy Freddy	OQ127	62
Can the Minister responsible consider a review of seawall maintenance at Autukia village, Nonouti, which has recently been damaged, consequently it affects the health of plants and salted wells?	Hon.Dennis Waysang Kumkee	OQ131	63
May I ask the Minister concerned if the Government has plans to repair the seawall between the old machine gun at Temakin and Red Beach, near the main hospital in Betio?	Hon.Choy Freddy	OQ129	63
Could the Minister responsible consider rehabilitation works to the prison in Matang which has long been abandoned due to its current conditions?	Hon.Dennis Waysang Kumkee	OQ134	63
May I kindly inquire with the Minister for Health and Medical Services about the progress of the new hospital in Betio and when it is expected to be ready for use?	Hon.Choy Freddy	OQ130	63
Could the Minister responsible inform this Maneaba on the renovation plans and policies to the Council maneaba in Nonouti?	Hon.Dennis Waysang Kumkee	OQ135	64

There is acknowledgement by our people with this Government in formalizing of preschools throughout Kiribati, the question to the Ministry for Education if they can provide preschools with stationeries similarly with what currently done for Primary Schools?	Hon.Tarakabu Tofinga	OQ137	64
May I kindly request an update from the Minister concerned regarding the progress of the Betio Nippon Maneaba?	Hon.Choy Freddy	OQ128	64
That the Minister concerned would consider building a courthouse separate from the island council office given the current practice where the court often use the council office rooms for court hearing?	Hon.Dennis Waysang Kumkee	OQ136	65
Could I ask the Minister for Culture and Internal Affairs if preschool maintenance can be included as part of the Council annual budget with the support of Government toward this maintenance fund through the annual grant, especially preschool that are under the Council as service provider?	Hon.Tarakabu Tofinga	OQ138	65
In the last election Beretitenti made so many promises, it is difficult to remember. We know and the Beretitenti knows that there is no way he can deliver on all of them during the four years life of this Maneaba?  I want to ask how many of these, he would be able to deliver on during the four years, the life of this Maneaba?	Hon.Ieremia Tabai	OQ140	65
There are initial plans in place for the copra shed build on the outer islands with one in Tabiteuea north to house a suitable mini copra mill for extraction of coconut oil and copra meal, is the plan remains as before?	Hon.Tarakabu Tofinga	OQ139	66
Our budget depends on the income from the RERF and this year \$80m from the RERF will be used. In the last election, and the one before that, the Beretitenti promised	Hon.Ieremia Tabai	OQ141	66

<p>to work hard on new sources of revenue he identified, to assist with the funding of the various government services.</p>			
<p>I want to ask what progress has been achieved on these identified sources of revenue?</p>			
<p>Can the Government update this Maneaba on the progress of underground water assessment on Banaba as previously raised in Parliament?</p>	<p>Hon.lakoba Jacob Karutaake</p>	<p>OQ143</p>	<p>66</p>
<p>Can I ask the responsible Minister for their assistance towards efficient payment of public servant imprests during their overseas duty travels?</p>	<p>Hon.Dr Tinte Itinteang</p>	<p>OQ147</p>	<p>69</p>
<p>Can the Government update this Maneaba the status of a request put forward in this Maneaba for the compensation to the Banaban landowners on the damage of their homeland Bandba after phosphate mining by Britain, Australia and New Zealand?</p>	<p>Hon.lakoba Jacob Karutaake</p>	<p>OQ144</p>	<p>70</p>
<p>Can the Government assist in requesting the donor agencies particularly China to conduct geological survey on Banaba so that the landowners are informed of the type of resources available and their value?</p>	<p>Hon.lakoba Jacob Karutaake</p>	<p>OQ145</p>	<p>70</p>
<p>Can the responsible Minister assist in ceasing an issue that has been occurred in many years, a problem of inflowing sea water from the causeway between KPC Teuabu and at the Catholic plot, Tabon te Bwa which triggered salted water to all wells in the village of Teuabu, Nonouti?</p>	<p>Hon.Dennis Waysang Kumkee</p>	<p>OQ132</p>	<p>70</p>
<p>Can I ask the responsible Minister if there are plans for assistance to people and businesses whose equipment or stock have been affected by the power outages?</p>	<p>Hon.Dr Tinte Itinteang</p>	<p>OQ148</p>	<p>71</p>

There is still need for improvement works to the boat passages in villages of Tanimainiku, Tanimaiaki and Bikati, and the question is what is the latest update on the dredging barge that was said to have arrived last year?	Hon.Tinian Reiher	OQ151	71
Could the Minister responsible consider increasing the number of MPs for Betio to four?	Hon.Dr Tinte Itinteang	OQ149	71
A request if the Minister for Health and Medical Services could kindly consider the need for a new clinic for Ukiangang villagers?	Hon.Tinian Reiher	OQ153	72
In 2017 and 2018 the ANZ bank carried out a financial literacy program known as Money Minded, to the people to help them with financial budgeting. Can I ask the Minister responsible if the Government has any plans to resurrect this program?	Hon.Dr Tinte Itinteang	OQ150	72
Does Government have plans under its huge improvement project for outer islands school to include the pertinent needs of church secondary schools such as the need for students' dormitories for St Leo Secondary School in Butaritari?	Hon.Tinian Reiher	OQ154	72
There is a wharf and passage in Taboiaki, which remains to be utilized, may I kindly request the responsible Minister to open up this wharf to allow the smooth and easy loading of cargo and copra on the island?	Hon.Tawaria Komwenga	OQ157	72
A request was accepted by the last Government for the Agricultural Division to undertake the planting of bamboo trees in swampy areas in Butaritari as there are many things that can be made from such a tree. Could the Hon Minister kindly liaise with those responsible with the view to expedite necessary work?	Hon.Tinian Reiher	OQ155	73
That the Minister concerned explain to this Maneaba the updates on building the JSS Maneaba in Nonouti which has been unused in the past years?	Hon.Dennis Waysang Kumkee	OQ158	73

A request was accepted by the last Government for the Fisheries Division to undertake a study existing natural fishponds on Butaritari for food security and income generating purposes. Could the Hon. Minister kindly inform if this has been carried out and if so, what are the findings of their study?	Hon.Tinian Reiher	OQ156	74
In 2023 the report of the select committee on improving the dietary intake for the people of Kiribati was tabled with recommendations aimed at improving the health situation of our people. I want to ask how many of those recommendations have been implemented and what results, in terms of better health for our people, have been achieved?	Hon.Ieremia Tabai	OQ160	74
I would like to request the Honourable Minister concerned to explain to this Maneaba the main reasons that refrain Government from loading fuel from Kiritimati to Tabuaeran on Te Tabomoa (Government uplift charter), even though the request that concerned with the shortage of fuel in my constituency has already been officially conveyed to the Government for urgent assistance?	Hon.Kaotitaake Kokoria	OQ165	74
Water remains an issue on Banaba, and I want to request this Government if it is possible to follow up on SOPAC water drilling survey in 2000?	Hon.Tibanga Taratai	OQ163	75
I want to thank our government for the new desalination plant and ask who funded it and whether it is new or secondhand. The project is already facing power problems, I want to request the explanation of this project and request Government to improve this important project, please?	Hon.Tibanga Taratai	OQ162	75
Patients from my constituency that referred to the hospital in Kiritimati for further treatment are constantly experiencing the late payment of their meal allowance. I would like to request	Hon.Kaotitaake Kokoria	OQ164	76

the Honourable Minister concerned what is Government's assistance that has been put in place to address this very critical issue?			
<p>It is evident that the death to the premature babies is continuously happening at the Hospital in Kiritimati due to the unavailability of the infant incubator. I would like to request the Honorable Minister concerned to immediately procure enough infant incubators to reduce the high risk that would be very detrimental to these most vulnerable premature babies.</p>	Hon.Kaotitaake Kokoria	OQ166	78
<p>There is a need for more land to be allocated to my constituents who are currently residing on Tabuaeran given that the one acre of land that had been given to such land users is not enough for their children and grandchildren. I would like to request the Honourable Minister responsible, whether the Government has put in place plans that would entertain this request?</p>	Hon.Kaotitaake Kokoria	OQ167	78
<p>Last month there was wide publicity about the cancelled visit of the New Zealand Foreign Minister because of the last-minute unavailability of his counterpart, our Foreign Minister who is also Beretitenti. The reason given was that the visit clashed with a historical event on his island, an Ordination of the first priest of Onotoa. This was not the truth as the Ordination happened ten days prior to the visit.</p> <p>I want to ask the Beretitenti and Minister of Foreign Affairs why he didn't tell the truth to his counterpart from New Zealand?</p>	Hon.Tessie Eria Lambourne	OQ80	79
<p>During the last Government's ministerial tour just before the elections one of the many issues that were raised was related to a fishing boat meant to be allocated to Aonman village was reallocated instead to another village by resolution of the Beru Island Council itself. The response by the</p>	Hon.England Iuta	OQ85	79

Ministers leading the delegation at the time that the issue was to be properly reviewed. Can the Government now advise what is its latest position on this issue please?			
Could the Hon. Minister concerned confirm that Form 7 Science at Teabike College will definitely start in the second term 2025?	Hon.Taberannang Timeon	OQ109	80
. At the Ministerial tour of Beretitenti team to Nonouti, there is a request from constituency Nonouti, raised at that time, a need for more special constables for such villages; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Taboiaki Maiaki ward</li> <li>b) Taboiaki Meang ward</li> <li>c) Matang ward</li> <li>d) Temanoku ward</li> <li>e) Benuaroa ward</li> </ul> Can the Minister responsible inform this Parliament of the progress and update of this request as it has been confirmed to be a major concern for these villages?	Hon.Dennis Waysang Kumkee	OQ133	80
The issue of selling pinnacles on Banaba was raised in the Parliament in 2024. We are proud to announce that the proposed project has been endorsed by the Banaban Landowners on Rabi. Can the Government confirm its intention to buy pinnacle aggregates from Banaba for its roads and airport?	Hon.Iakoba Jacob Karutaake	OQ146	80
In the last Government a request was raised for the Agricultural Division to undertake a pilot project on the cultivation of kava plant on Butaritari. Could the Honourable Minister kindly inform when to implement this as there is high expectation that the project will indeed assist in reducing dependency on the imported kava as well as providing alternative income sources to the people of Butaritari?	Hon.Tinian Reiher	OQ152	81
One promise made by this Government that has not been delivered on for a few	Hon.Ieremia Tabai	OQ159	81

years now is the provision of rations for students in the primary schools, junior schools and the senior secondary schools. I want to ask if it has the resources or not to deliver on the promise it made to the people when it wanted their votes?			
I would like to request the Honourable Minister concerned to consider reconstruction of the collapsed seawall and construction of a new seawall on the same spot at Paelau to safeguard some of the Council's existing buildings nearby the Coastline?	Hon.Kaotitaake Kokoria	OQ168	81
I would like to request the Government to consider including Banaba in the Small Grant & Water Project (SIFWP), as it is relevant to the food and water initiatives for small islands in Kiribati.	Hon.Tibanga Taratai	OQ170	82
I would like to request the Honourable Minister concerned to consider the construction of a new copra shed for our constituents who are residing at Tereitaki and Betania?	Hon.Kaotitaake Kokoria	OQ169	82
I would like to kindly request the Government to consider providing mobile service for Banaba, as there is no airstrip, no wharf, and no income-generating activities available, please?	Hon.Tibanga Taratai	OQ171	82
May I kindly request his Excellency Te Beretitenti, if they can kindly share list of the project funded for Beru under the Small Grant/Livelihood from 2023-2024 together with their progress and issues if any, so we can kindly assist and inform our communities?	Hon.Tawaria Komwenga	OQ174	83
I would like to ask the Minister responsible regarding the leave grant for Council staff in my constituency, since I have verified that they have not received it?	Hon.Matanga Aran	OQ176	83
Fisheries training on Banaba is essential because of the resources and Ice-Plant available on the island. The goal for the population is to engage in activities that generate income. I respectfully ask the	Hon.Tibanga Taratai	OQ172	84

Government, along with the relevant Minister, to consider this request if they find it appropriate.			
I would like to respectfully inquire with the Minister or the government regarding the reasons for the consistent delays in backpay from 2024 to 2025, and whether similar delays might occur in the near future as well.	Hon.Moannata Ientaake	OQ175	84
I would like to ask the Minister responsible, what steps can be taken to assist us with our ferry engines, which are presently in disrepair, and there is a critical need to assist students and public officials commute?	Hon.Matanga Aran	OQ177	84
The people of Banaba encounter various challenges in supporting their livelihoods due to a lack of income-generating activities. I would like to inquire if the Government has any plans to support and enhance efforts regarding this issue, please?	Hon.Tibanga Taratai	OQ173	85
would like to ask the Minister responsible, regarding the concerns raised by Individuals who assisted during the last presidential election as they are still complaining that they have not received their allowance yet.	Hon.Matanga Aran	OQ178	85
I would like to request the Minister responsible to provide updates regarding the new leases that have been issued but are still pending approval on Tabuaeran?	Hon.Matanga Aran	OQ179	85
Could the Minister concerned explain his plans to address issues regarding local housing for teachers on Tabuaeran, considering that the processing of maintenance funds frequently takes a considerable amount of time, resulting in discomfort for teachers whose homes need significant repairs?	Hon.Matanga Aran	OQ180	85
I kindly ask the Minister responsible, what is the status of my Council Tabuaeran, on its project Multi-Purpose Cultural Centre?	Hon.Matanga Aran	OQ181	86
What is the Government's policy for the improvement of land lease?	Hon.Tebuai Uaai	OQ05	89

Can I ask the Minister responsible for their assistance towards upgrading works to feeder roads on Betio that have been upgraded with concrete or geo-cell.	Hon.Dr Tinte Itinteang	OQ14	89
I kindly asked the Minister responsible when was the last time a review of the rent to Government lease lands was carried out and when is the next one due in accordance to the three-year review period provided under the Native Lands Ordinance (as amended)?	Hon.Birimwaaka Tekanene	OQ29	90
Can I ask the Minister of Commerce, we are informed that each constituency has a share of one truck to assist in weighing and transporting the copra. Can I enquire that each respective constituencies got their share, a request again where is Teraina's share, truck.	Hon.Bautaake Beia	OQ66	90
There was a payment delay with the issuance of disability support allowance back in December 2024. May I ask the Minister responsible to explain why this delay happened?	Hon.Koraubati Remuera	OQ72	90
I would like to ask the Honourable Minister responsible to explain when will the dredging of boat channel at Taratai complete given that the village's commemoration ceremony of the Union Jack arrival is fast approaching?	Hon.Tonganibeia Buraieta Koakoa	OQ99	90
May I kindly request the Minister concerned if they could consider an increase in the labour charges for stevedores from the current rate of \$20.00 per cubic meter?	Hon.Tawaria Komwenga	OQ103	91
Can I request the Minister for Lands to provide a brief explanation regarding the actions of his officials, who seem to be	Hon.Betero Atanibora	OQ106	91

disregarding the request made by the individuals from my constituency concerning their lease?			
Young people are an important resource and the island's future leaders. Could the Minister responsible consider the proposal to construct a multi-purpose court on Arorae, to involve the community, particularly the young people, and help cultivate a passion for sports that could help them be ready for future sporting events?	Hon.Niiti Itaaka	OQ115	91
In answer to my request for an update on the livelihood grants requests by St Michael and KUC Oneeke I was informed that work is now being carried out on the expenditures for last year. The application by KUC Oneeke was from last year. May I ask for the latest information regarding the application for the livelihood Grant by the KUC Oneeke?	Hon.Banuera Berina	OQ124	92
I kindly asked the Minister responsible for the latest information on a leave grant for Pre-School Teachers at Tabuaeran, as confirmed they never received it?	Hon.Matanga Aran	OQ182	92
It is now almost 10 years since the suspension of the transshipment by tuna vessels in Butaritari to await the completion of the new navigational chart, could the Honourable Minister for Information, Communication and Transport Development expedite work on this?	Hon.Tinian Reiher	OQ183	92
The shortage of medicine on Abaiang is a constant problem, could the Government assist in solving this problem	Hon.Lavinia Teatao Teem	OQ184	93

Can I ask the Minister what is the latest progress on the sale of the Dash 8 aircraft?	Hon.Pinto Katia	OQ185	93
Can I ask the Minister to find ways to address the issue with cargo handling during low tide for outer islands which don't have lagoons?	Hon.Pinto Katia	OQ186	93
<p>In the last meeting of this House when answering the question why Kiribati was not included in the Pacific Engagement Visa that started last year, he said “that he needs to consult the people first”</p> <p>I want to ask, can he provide an update on the consultation and what was said in that consultation?</p>	Hon.Jeremia Tabai	OQ187	93
Can the Minister responsible find ways to address the frequent shortage of copra bags on the outer islands?	Hon.Taberannang Timeon	OQ188	93
<p>There are lots of trucks in Abemama hired for referral patients' transport to the airport that have not been paid for since last year. Truck owners are becoming reluctant to provide transport for referral patients' which will be a huge problem for our people.</p> <p>I want to ask why these outstanding hire charges have not been paid?</p>	Hon.Tessie Eria Lambourne	OQ189	94
<p>There has been no nurse for Manoku village for a long time. People from Manoku, including the Christian Community of Leaders, have had trouble getting timely medical assistance from nurses in Tebanga and Kabangaki.</p> <p>Can I request the Minister responsible, when will the nurse for Manoku arrive?</p>	Hon.Tessie Eria Lambourne	OQ190	94

Could the Minister responsible or Government inform this Maneaba whether the interest from the Marakei Small Grant for 2021 and 2022 has been added to the principal amount of the Marakei Island Council reserve fund?	Hon.Moannata Ientaake	OQ191	94
Payments on “te mwane ni kara ma te mwane n aki mwakuri” are processed/paid at different times on outer islands compared to Tarawa, Could the Government ensure that both payments are made on the same day?	Hon.Lavinia Teatao Teem	OQ192	95
There are employees of the Kiritimati Urban Council still haven't received payments for leave grants despite the fact they are not on the list for unemployment benefit, could the Minister responsible assist on this matter?	Hon.Jacob Teem	OQ193	95
Housing for civil servants on Kiritimati requires a lot of maintenance and renovations, what are Government plans to address this?	Hon.Jacob Teem	OQ194	95

**MOTIONS  
(Index)**

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Mover</b>	<b>Motion No.</b>	<b>Page</b>
That this Maneaba consider and accept the PAC Report and all its recommendations, tabled on the 2 <sup>nd</sup> of April 2025 as Paper number 03/25 on the Government's SOE Accounts for the Kiribati Housing Corporation for the years 2019 to 2022.	Hon.Tarakabu Tofinga	14	57
That this House consider and accept the PAC Report and all its recommendations which were tabled on the 2 <sup>nd</sup> of April 2025 as Paper number 02/25 on Government's SOE Accounts for Air Kiribati Limited for the years of 2014 to 2022.	Hon.Tarakabu Tofinga	15	58
That this Maneaba consider and accept the PAC report and all its recommendations which were tabled on the 2 <sup>nd</sup> of April 2025 as Paper number 01/25 on the Government's SOE Accounts for the Kiribati Insurance Corporations for the years of 2012 to 2020.	Hon.Tarakabu Tofinga		66
That this Maneaba will consider an insertion clause under Rule 64 of the Rules of Procedure as follows;  (7) To review and provide recommendations to the Maneaba for approval amendments for the Rules of Procedure of the Maneaba ni Maungatabu.  Provided that this section does not limit the right of Members and Ministers in proposing changes to the Rules of Procedure and the Maneaba determining the motion.	Hon.Tauanei Marea	1	98

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### **Written Questions**

<b>Written Questions</b>	<b>Raised by</b>	<b>No.</b>
There are outstanding acting/charge allowances and overtime claims owed to island council workers that are being sorted out with MWYSSA. The instances involve council workers relieving their compatriots from government while working overtime on government-related matters. What is the latest progress on this matter please?	Hon.England Iuta	1
Could the Honorable Minister responsible please provide an update on the progress of the 'motinanano' that was launched some time ago regarding the leasing of lands where village maneaba are constructed on the islands?	Hon. Tarakabu Tofinga	2
I kindly ask His Excellency Te Beretitenti to explain te policy on the Small Grant especially with reard to applications from Tarawa Teinainano lodged years ago (2023-2024. During a TUC Council	Hon. Birimaaka Tekanene	3

<p>meeting, my respected brother Member of Parliament inform the Council that there is allocation to MPs for their constituency. I wrote to OB last year seeking information on the policy, and outstanding applications but nothing is forthcoming on the policy and was advised that I can only get information for application that I lodge or been asked to follow up.</p>		
<p>Teananga Katarake (ID-ETK) was an observer for the Ministry of Fisheries who started working in 2016, in 2018, he suffered a stroke and was admitted to hospital in Ecuador (South America). He came back to Kiribati in 2019 and rehabilitate himself through local massage and daily walking. He is recovering and now able to walk and use his hand to write.</p> <p>Can the Minister responsible consider recruiting him back and give him light duties such as monitoring offloading here in port?</p>	<p>Hon. Birimaaka Tekanene</p>	<p>4</p>
<p>Marontau Ruka is a patient that was discharged as the Tungaru Central Hospital cannot help him with his sickness. He has medical reports from 2024, but since then no definite decision has been made regarding his case or his referral overseas.</p> <p>I kindly invite the Minister responsible to provide an update on this patient case.</p>	<p>Hon. Birimaaka Tekanene</p>	<p>5</p>
<p>The Embraer aircraft had been grounded and not making any money at all. The flight history of the Embraer shows that the aircraft is not flying at all since 2024.</p> <p>What is the decision of the government for this Embraer as it is no longer making money and not serving the main purpose of buying it in the first place?</p>	<p>Hon. Pinto Katia</p>	<p>6</p>
<p>An employee, Toaa Teeaba, used to work as a casual labourer with CPPL between the years 2011-2015. He</p>	<p>Hon. England Iuta</p>	<p>7</p>

<p>expected that like every other employee KPF is an automatic deduction to be made from his wages. He was disappointed to learn that has not been the case. In the following years he has repeatedly pursued the matter with CPPL but to no avail as they no longer have payroll records for those years.</p> <p>From the information I have gathered CPPL never deducted KPF contributions from casual labourer's during that period. This appears to contravene an employer's obligation regarding KPF of all its employees. Since CPPL is an SOE, we wish to seek Government's assistance to help redress the issue of this particular person's KPF along with others who may also have been deprived of the same please?</p>		
<p>One of the communities on Buota, North Tarawa named Kamwemwenang has been and continues to face problem in relation with coastal erosion and flooding especially during high tides and king tides until to date. Can the Government do more in terms of providing practical solutions to this problem?</p>	<p>Hon. Terieta Mwemwenikeaki</p>	<p>8</p>
<p>May I kindly ask the Minister responsible, if he could discuss with Vodafone company the possibility to review and improve the incentive allowance given to its caretakers stationed on outer islands?</p>	<p>Hon. Terieta Mwemwenikeaki</p>	<p>9</p>
<p>Observers from North Tarawa are still expecting with great eagerness their unpaid leave grants. Can I kindly ask the Government to provide explanations on the delay in the payment of these observes' leave grant? Here are their names:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Uriano Tekautu - Buariki</li> <li>2. Tetiria Toaata - Tearinibai</li> <li>3. Rooti Tamuera – Tearinibai</li> </ol>	<p>Hon. Terieta Mwemwenikeaki</p>	<p>10</p>

<p>4. Taabo Titaka – Nuatabu</p> <p>5. Ionetitaake Tereke – Nooto</p> <p>6. Buakaua Bwaketi – Abaokoro</p> <p>7. Rooteti Boborau – Marenanuka</p> <p>8. Arobati Etuare – Buota</p> <p>9. Tamaria Nantokana – Buota</p> <p>10. Obetaetom Tiaon – Buota</p> <p>11. Nakau Teaoti – Buota</p>		
<p>The Nonouti Council in the past made a financial request for the construction of a new maneaba to replace the current old one.</p> <p>I want to ask what is the current update on that request?</p>	Hon. Ieremia Tabai	11
<p>In the meeting in the last House I asked about the clinics that have still not been completed, I was given the understanding that work will soon continue.</p> <p>I want to ask for an update on the completion of the remaining clinics?</p>	Hon. Ieremia Tabai	12
<p>Given the importance of the RERF to Kiribati, I want to ask that the valuation is provided every quarter each year starting from the first quarter of this year that ends on the 31<sup>st</sup> of March?</p>	Hon. Ieremia Tabai	13
<p>In the budget for this year, \$80m is to be withdrawn from the RERF to balance the budget.</p> <p>I want to ask, has the money been withdrawn or not, and if it has, when was that done?</p>	Hon. Ieremia Tabai	14
<p>One of our workers in Australia is charged with an offence relating to damage to property. He had paid for the damage, but his employer has terminated his</p>	Hon. Tessie Eria Lambourne	15

<p>employment, and he is awaiting trial with no means to support himself. Can Government assist our national in distress and ensure that arrangements are put in place to prevent our people from being stranded in Australia without means of support?</p>		
<p>I have previously asked for an increase in flights to Abemama. Flights to Abemama continue to be insufficient to meet the high demand for passengers and cargo. At the moment, passengers are not allowed excess baggage and encouraged to send it as unaccompanied cargo. The problem is the delay in the transport of these.</p> <p>Can the Minister responsible kindly explain in detail plans to address this problem?</p>	<p>Hon. Tessie Eria Lambourne</p>	<p>16</p>
<p>Can the responsible Minister please provide detailed work plans and time lines for the rehabilitation of the Tanimainiku port and wharf plus other designated port areas in the southern and central areas of Abemama?</p>	<p>Hon. Tessie Eria Lambourne</p>	<p>17</p>
<p>I want to ask the responsible Minister to provide a detailed work plan with time line and budget for the roadworks on Abemama?</p>	<p>Hon. Tessie Eria Lambourne</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>Can the Minister provide a detailed work plan with timelines and budget for the construction of the copra shed in Abemama under the Outer Island Copra Shed project?</p>	<p>Hon. Tessie Eria Lambourne</p>	<p>19</p>
<p>Can the Minister provide detailed information on the priority projects of the Abemama Island Council that have been approved but not yet implemented?</p>	<p>Hon. Tessie Eria Lambourne</p>	<p>20</p>
<p>I want to kindly ask the responsible Minister for a list of people from Abemama who have been waiting for a long time to be deployed for employment in Australia or New Zealand under the various employment schemes and when the Minister plans to send them?</p>	<p>Hon. Tessie Eria Lambourne</p>	<p>21</p>

May I ask the Minister concerned that the Betio Council's subleases of Tenimanraoi, Fish Market, DO Complex, Workshop, OIM, etc left as it is to support the commercial activities of the Betio community.	Hon. Choy Freddy	22
May I ask the Honourable Minister concerned to provide assets for Betio council including dump trucks, a loader, a road sweeper, a vacuum truck, a tractor with attachments, an office minivan and school trucks or a bus, among others to support its operations.	Hon. Choy Freddy	23
May I kindly request the Minister concerned, whether there any initiative plan from the Government regarding the payment of salaries for village nurses?	Hon. Choy Freddy	24
Could the Minister responsible consider initiating plans for the Church Youth and Sportsmanship to provide sports and music equipment that would enrich their talents?	Hon. Choy Freddy	25
I would like to formally request that the Government return the Tobwan Te Rikirake park, the Betio Sport Complex, and the landfill currently utilized by KPA as a container yard to the management of the Betio Council. This would aid in expanding their revenue base and, more importantly, ensure convenient custody of facilities within their constituency boundary	Hon. Choy Freddy	26
May I ask the honorable Minister concerned to consider improving the roads and fields used for Te Runga competitions which is set to be held again next year 2025. We ask that the fields be equipped with artificial grass and proper lightning for teams and youth who wish to use the facility at night.	Hon. Choy Freddy	27
May I kindly request the Minister responsible, why the wrecked ships waste are not disposed at Betio Lagoon water?	Hon. Choy Freddy	28
Could the Minister responsible kindly provide a detailed explanation of the government's policy that must be followed by those who have registered	Hon. Dennis Waysang	29

their interest under the current fruit-picking schemes, and similar programs?		
Could the Minister responsible kindly collaborate with the relevant government authorities to consider enhancing the soccer fields, volleyball court, and basketball court on Nonouti to support the ongoing efforts of Nonouti Youth for their outstanding performance in Te Runga 2017 and other similar Competitions?	Hon. Dennis Waysang	30

### **Remaining Oral Questions Not Dealt With**

<b>Oral Question</b>	<b>Raised by</b>	<b>No.</b>
Eye surgery is required by a number of patients on Kiritimati, what are Government plans to address this?	Hon. Jacob Teem	195
Arrears payment overtime for policemen on Kiritimati are still pending, could the Ministry concerned look into this and make these payments?	Hon. Jacob Teem	196
The main runway at Cassidy airport needs maintenance works as the surface is cracking up due solar radiation and weathering, is there an ongoing maintenance work to avoid any airport closure in the future?	Hon. Jacob Teem	197
Last year in one of the meetings, Government stated that works on the improvement main road on Kiritimati will commence soon. What is the progress on this project?	Hon. Jacob Teem	198
Cost of goods on Kiritimati are inflated substantially, could Government assist to find ways to reduce these costs?	Hon. Jacob Teem	199

The failure to review the land rents after 3 years is a breach of the Rent Review Ordinance. Why is this legislation being contravened?	Hon.Banuera Berina	200
May I kindly request the Government consider initiating plans to priority recruit all Betio people in all works carried out in Betio.	Hon. Choy Freddy	201