



The Parliament of the Republic of Fiji

Developing Human Resources for Parliamentary Libraries and Research Services

Work of Fijian Parliament Research & Library Services:

- ▶ Assist all MPs get the information they need to do their job
- ▶ This is done in a non-partisan and objective manner
- ▶ Services include:
 - a research request service;
 - proactive research publications;
 - support for Committees;
 - Parliament Library services and administration.
- ▶ Individual research request by MPs confidential unless the requesting member wishes to share the information

Background of Fijian Parliament Library

- ▶ The Fijian Parliamentary Library was operational in 2014
- ▶ It houses collection of books, journals, records and other documents to help MP's and staff with their Parliamentary Research
- ▶ The Research & Library Services Unit is managed by Manager Research & Library with 2 staff managing the library and 3 senior research officers providing research support
- ▶ The Fijian Parliament has a Corporate Services Division in which the HR unit is responsible for recruiting Library & Research Staff
- ▶ The Library uses Liberty V.5

Challenges faced by Fijian Parliament in relation to HR

- Retaining and rewarding experienced staff- staff turnover due to greener pastures
- Budget constraints - Fijian Parliament budget controlled by Government thus there are limitations to strengthen HR, systems & processes
- Finding staff with experience in Parliamentary Library Services - The highest qualification offered by universities in Fiji is a Diploma in Library. There is no other advanced training for Librarians to enhance their knowledge and capabilities

Other Challenges faced

- ▶ Lack of space for expansion of the Library
- ▶ IT Services constraints
- ▶ Limited subscription to Journals database due to funding constrains

Future Plans

- ▶ Anticipating to get an independent budget to ease off funding constrains
- ▶ Enhance capacity building for Research & Library Staff
- ▶ Expansion of current library space
- ▶ Digitization of library materials and collections

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