Roles of House committees stressed

HEADS of committees should appreciate the important roles that parliamentary committees can play in restoring the national parliament, Speaker of Parliament and Finschhafen MP Theo Zurenuoc said yesterday.

Opening a one-day parliament committee workshop in Port Moresby, Zurenuoc told committee members that when they were fully functional, the committees would improve accountability and governance and have an enormous influence and impact on the way the government worked.

“Committees can influence what services the government delivers to the community and how efficiently and cost-effectively those services are delivered,” he said.

“Committees can also positively influence how public servants perform their duties.”

Attending the workshop also were people from two Australian institutions, the Centre for Democratic Institution (CDI) and the Queensland parliament.

The CDI representatives were Grant Harrison, John Varley, Brown Harvey and Warren Cahill, while Michael Cran- don (committee chair) and Rob Hensen (committee secretary) were from the Queensland parliament.

“Committees will also provide the most effective avenue for public engagement with parliament through community visits, as they would have the capacity to take parliament to the people.”

Zurenuoc said the aim of the workshop was to contribute to the restoration of parliament by increasing its capacity.

St Peter's

Nothing 24-hour special

Diplomats, envoys

...without fear in our country.”

He said the decision flowed from the same vein as the government’s plan to introduce dual citizenship in PNG without due regard for capital flight from PNG abroad, transnational crime including fraud and corruption and difficulties and costs of extradition arrangements.

Duban said under the Vienna Convention on diplomatic relations, the government of PNG has a very clear obligation under Article 22 Section 1 where “the receiving state is under special duty to take all appropriate steps to protect the premises and the mission against any intrusion or damage and to prevent any disturbances of the peace of the mission of impartial of its dignity.”

There is an otherwise immaculate school ground at St Peter’s Primary School but it seems to be packed in “BSP Go Green” bags during the week and now it’s all over. The garbage is inside the building and driveway to the St Peter Chanel Catholic Church. It is an ugly sight and maybe the teachers and pupils could put it on a more school’s super look. —Nationalpic by ELIAS NANAU