

PM ACKNOWLEDGES COVID-19 FRONTLINERS

Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama with COVID-19 frontline workers during his recent visit to the West. Photo: MEREANI GONEDUA

‘Your nation, is with you’

MEREANI GONEDUA

FIJI'S COVID-19 frontline workers were recently visited by Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama who commended them for their continuous hard-work.

“Even as you work — quite literally — in isolation, know that none of you are in this effort alone.

“Your nation is with you, we are invested

in your success, and we deeply appreciate the great sacrifices you are making.

“We understand you are more than our healthcare heroes, that you are mothers and fathers, sisters and brothers, friends and neighbours — and that you have given up time with those you love for the sake of our safety.

“And we are grateful. We are grateful every time we lace up our boots for a game of rugby or football.

“We are grateful every morning businesses are able to open their doors and sustain employment for our people. We are grateful every day our children board the bus to school.

“You are the guardians of all those privileges we enjoy, and your vigilance matters today as much as it did this past March when Fiji confirmed its first case.”

PM Bainimarama highlighted that the Fijian Government has now begun to re-open

borders to those with work permits and is involved in exploratory discussions to re-open higher volumes of travel with regional development partners.

“All of those efforts depend on you — our frontline healthcare teams, the members of our disciplined forces, and our other border control officials. We need you to stay the

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GET IT RIGHT

The congratulatory message from the President of Indonesia, Joko Widodo, extended to the Fijian President, Major-General (Ret'd) Jioji Konrote on the occasion of the 50th Independence Anniversary celebration was wrongly attributed in the previous publication. Below is the correct message. Any inconvenience caused is regretted.

REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA

Congratulatory message has been received by the President of the Republic of Indonesia Joko Widodo to the President of the Republic of Fiji, His Excellency, Major-General (Ret'd) Jioji Konrote on the occasion of Fiji's 50th Anniversary of Independence. "On this proud occasion of the 50th Anniversary of Independence Day of Fiji, I have the privilege to extend my warmest welcome to you and the people of Fiji. "I am delighted that our two countries have been closely working together in a spirit of partnership. I believe that cooperation between us have benefitted immensely to the prosperity of our peoples. "Allow me, Excellency, to offer my prayers to you and the people of Fiji. May health and prosperity be with you all, particularly during this challenging global environment," President Joko Widodo said.

TWEET OF THE WEEK



Frank Bainimarama @FijiPM

Sugo! Japan, the world's third-largest economy and fifth-largest carbon emitter, has changed the game with the boldest 2050 #netzerocommitment yet. If Japan can commit to net zero, other nations — including highly-developed economies — have zero excuses. Fiji thanks you!

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Price of sugarcane guaranteed to farmers

RUPENI WAQAVONO

“WE have guaranteed a price of \$85 per tonne. Despite what some people may be telling you, that full payment will be paid to our growers by the close of the season, as promised.”

This was the assurance given by the Prime Minister and Minister for Sugar Voreqe Bainimarama to cane farmers while officiating at the Growers Field Day in Nadi.

PM Bainimarama highlighted that the Fijian Government is easing cost burden by subsidising fertiliser and weedicide.

“We are upgrading cane roads. We are covering cane cartage costs. We are investing in mechanization. We have built better, more productive mills.

“We are providing cane planting grants. And, as we did here, we are providing technical expertise to landowners who pursue cane cultivation. All told, we have shown an unprecedented level of commitment.”

The Prime Minister acknowledged growers for their hard work in planting and harvesting cane as their sweat and effort has sustained the

industry.

“As do our lorry drivers, our mill operators, our FSC staff, and our sugar researchers. The Government's role is to create the right conditions for the industry to thrive; you all do the rest.

Prime Minister Bainimarama also commended members of the landowning unit at the Tokatoka Sautorotoro Trust Farm for the success in their joint venture with the Fiji Sugar Corporation.

“Only two short years ago much of this land sat idle and had so for more than 20 years. But the members of this landowning unit heard the vision we had for our sugar industry, and they saw it for themselves.”

“Today, just over 15 hectares of this farm is under cane, with 1,600 tonnes of cane expected to be harvested this year – that's 105 tonnes per hectare.”

Prime Minister Bainimarama also highlighted that the record-setting achievement by Tokatoka Sautorotoro Trust Farm holds a lesson for every Fijian.

“When we see this land and we see the Fijians who have made such incredible use of it, we

see the tremendous good we can create when Government harnesses the drive and ambition of the people.”

“As we contend with the economic devastation of the COVID-19 pandemic, your example shows us hard work still reaps reward in Fiji. That gives us hope, and it inspires us all.

Tokatoka Sautorotoro Trust Farm Manager Semi Vuetikagi also shared the same sentiments saying that it is only through government's assistance that enabled them to successfully achieve their record harvests.

“This land has been lying idle for the last 20 years, when the leases expire the farmers went and the land has been sitting there.”

“We would like to thank the Fijian Government, the Fiji Sugar Corporation and iTaukei Land Trust Board for giving us the initiative to farm this land, our mataqali land.”

Mr Vuetikagi added that due to the increasing numbers of members in their Tokatoka, the creation of a Trust Farm was the only way to accommodate everybody.

“We don't have much land; we've decided to form this trust farm so everybody can benefit from it.”

Need for collaboration between private and public healthcare: A-G

PRASHILA DEVI

THERE'S a need to have greater collaboration between the private and public health system to see that Fijians get the quality health services they need.

The Attorney-General and Minister for Economy, Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum explained that this was already happening in other jurisdictions where doctors with private practice had their clinics but dedicated a few hours in the public health system.

Speaking at the Fiji College of General Practitioners Annual Awards Dinner at the Intercontinental Resort and Spa in Natadola recently, the A-G said “I don't think we have not necessarily got there and it needs to be fine-tuned so there are opportunities”.

He said the Government had been exploring this scheme which was along the lines of having a family doctor.

The A-G said information on medical care was being sought from Australia and New Zealand, and the Government had approached a number of private doctors to join this scheme.

“For example, I work as a labourer and I wake up and realise I have a runny nose and rather than queuing up at the Colonial War Memorial Hospital or some other health centre in Suva, I can actually go to my GP and the Government would fork out that visitation cost.”

The A-G said in exploring this idea, the Government had approached two doctors in Ba who had agreed to be part of the pilot



Mrs Suklesh Bali widow of Dr Rajendra Bali receives an award on behalf of her late husband from Attorney-General and Minister for Economy, Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum during the Fiji College of General Practitioners Annual Awards Dinner at the Intercontinental Resort and Spa in Natadola Photo: MEREANI GONEDUA

scheme but they got pressured by other doctors who told them “don't do it because you can get more”.

“So we got stuck because we wanted to pilot that, so during your deliberations please discuss how we can do this. Even from a purely business perspective, if you want to get your leg in the non-communicable disease (NCDs) space as currently those low income people are not your customers,” he said.

“They won't come to you normal-

ly but if they know they can come to you as their doctor and your cost and fees will be paid for, for basic consultation and so on, they will come to you. So purely from a commercial perspective, you can have a lower margin but a higher volume.”

The A-G said this will not only help by way of saving the patients the need to travel long distances to access medical care but also improve productivity.

“You will be able to provide medical services to a group of people who want those services, you would have helped productivity levels because someone goes to a medical centre or to a local hospital, have a quick check-up and go to work as opposed to someone who has to spend four hours in a queue and gets paid on an hourly basis so gets a pay deduction.”

This is the 27th conference of the general practitioners.

‘Your nation is with you’

FROM PAGE 1

course, and we’re ready to support you in every way we can.”

We have made sure you have access to all the proper protective gear, but we know this is an insidious virus, and the risk of infection always remains. We have recently refurbished the George Mate Military Hospital in the Nabua Military Barracks to serve as the isolation facility for any frontline healthcare worker or member of our disciplined forces who contracts this disease.

“In the meantime, if you see a need for additional equipment, let it be known, and we will get it for you.

The PM stated that going into this year, they did not know that the nation’s 50th birthday would be met by one of the nation’s greatest-ever challenges.

“But thanks to each you we have risen to meet that great adversity. We have kept our people safe, and I promise you that future generations of Fijians will know what you have done.”

PM Bainimarama during his visit toured hotel facilities that were used as quarantine centres and was also briefed on the Blue Lane initiative where he also spoke to some tourists.

Daylight saving will commence on Sunday 20th December, 2020

The Minister for Employment, Productivity and Industrial Relations, Youth and Sports Parveen Kumar has reminded members of the public that daylight saving will commence from Sunday, the 20th of December, 2020.

All Fijians are to wind their clock one hour in advance of the standard time commencing at 2am on 20th December.

Daylight saving will end on Sunday, the 17th of January 2021 at 3am where members of the public are required to wind their clocks back by an hour.

‘Work hard, dream big’



Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama with recipients at the Distribution of the Seed Fund Grant for Landowners. Photo: FELIX LESINAIVALU

FELIX LESINAIVALU

“WHEN you do well by developing your land, starting a business or growing crops which help sustain our people, your families do well, your communities do well, and so do all of your fellow Fijians.”

Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama, speaking at the Distribution of the Seed Fund Grant for Landowners, said the Government knows the upfront costs of developing land or starting a business can be high, that is why they are stepping up with funding to help Fijians realise their land’s full potential.

A total of \$460,000 was handed out to 53 successful grant recipients who have put forward plans to lease their land or start or grow a new business project.

“That’s what this seed funding grant is designed to do. It is not a handout, it is an investment to empower our landowning communities to tap their assets and entrepreneurial spirit to make themselves financially powerful.”

Recipient Kameli Tilalati from Navolau, Naitasiri who farms dalo and ginger was thankful to the government for the grant and believes it will help him with his business.

“You need to have the passion for farming if you want to be successful in this business.”

Mr Tilalati said the main source of income for Navolau was farming and this grant will greatly benefit not only him but his family and village.

Another fellow recipient from Dawasamu in Tailevu said the grant will help him in a big way because he plans to expand my livestock farm.

“I will never forget this help that government has given me and that will be a huge help to my farm.”

Prime Minister Bainimarama said since the



Recipient Joji Bogi receives his Distribution of the Seed Fund Grant for Landowners from Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama. Photo: FELIX LESINAIVALU

Government began this initiative in 2017, \$1.5 million has been granted to landowners seeking to realise the full value of their land.

“These Fijians’ success has been widely

shared. Their farms are strengthening our nation’s nutrition security.”

“Work hard, dream big, and I know you will do well. As a direct result, so will Fiji.”

GOVERNMENT APPROVES 2021 PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

Government has approved the following 2021 public holidays through Gazette Notice dated Friday October 23, 2020.

The Ministry of Employment, Productivity and Industrial Relations had consulted the stakeholders on the dates and this announcement will allow Fijians and all relevant stakeholders to plan their activities for 2021.

- New Year’s Day — Friday, 1 January
- Good Friday — Friday, 2 April
- Easter Saturday — Saturday, 3 April
- Easter Monday — Monday, 5 April
- Constitution Day — Tuesday, 7 September

- Fiji Day — Sunday, 10 October
- Prophet Mohammed’s Birthday — Monday, 18 October
- Diwali — Thursday, 4 November
- Christmas Day — Monday, 27 December
- Boxing Day — Tuesday, 28 December



'Treat people with dignity'

FELIX LESINAIVALU

“IF you treat people with dignity when they are convicted, they will also learn to respect other people.”

These were the sentiments shared by the Attorney-General and Minister for Economy Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum while officiating during the Fiji Correctional Service Yellow Ribbon Employment Expo at the Fiji Sports Council Corporate Booth at the ANZ Stadium recently.

“So when people do finish serving their term and come out, they have a sense of self-worth and belief that they are treated with dignity and they will treat others with dignity and on top of that if you are able to equip them with a particular skill set so they become employable and they are able to gain a source of income.”

The A-G added the Yellow Ribbon Program is also about ensuring that there is a deep level of engagement with the community outside the correctional services.

He also thanked those from the private sector and the civil society that participate in the yellow ribbon program.

“I’m sure many of you have benefited from the skill sets of those who have come out of correctional facilities and are now working for you, or have worked for you.”

“Because you are giving them another chance.”

The A-G said a lot of these people actually do want to perform and want to live a normal life like the rest of society and there should be absolutely no reason as to why they shouldn’t be given the chance to do so.

Attorney-General and Minister for Economy, Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum during the Ek Rangeen Shaam Musical and Fundraising Dinner at Samabula, Suva. Photo: FELIX LESINAIVALU

PRASHILA DEVI

FIJIANS enjoy the right to practice their religion and they have been reminded to use their time of devotion as a period of introspection.

Speaking at the Navratri Puja at the Koronivia Temple recently, the Attorney-General and Minister for Economy, Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum urged the Hindu community to ponder on the message such religious events bring to light.



Attorney-General and Minister for Economy, Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum while officiating the Fiji Correctional Service Yellow Ribbon Employment Expo at the Fiji Sports Council Corporate Booth at the ANZ Stadium, Suva. Photo: FELIX LESINAIVALU

Devotees reminded of their religious rights



As this period marks the importance of women with Goddess Durga being worshipped, the A-G said this brings to light the importance of women in our lives.

“If you look at Navratri, the nine nights and it strikes to me as firstly that it is a celebration of goddess Durga and we give importance to the women in our lives- our mothers, wife and daughters that they are very much part and parcel of our life and we must value them,” he said.

Secondly, the A-G said since during this period meditation and prayers are done, it gives individuals the scope to look within themselves as it tries to focus attention on their inner being.

He added that it was important to use religion as a way to make friends and live in harmony rather than use it as a fighting tool.

The A-G explained the importance behind Fiji being a secular state.

“As the Prime Minister said Fiji

is a secular state so this simply means that everybody has the right to practice their own faith – Government on the other hand is neutral, it cannot push any particular religion, even during meetings the prayer that takes place is a neutral prayer and it applies to everybody. It does not use terms where people can feel marginalized.

“It is our duty, our obligation to ensure that everyone has the right to practice their own faith and do so in peace and harmony.”

A-G stresses the importance of respect of each others’ beliefs

PRASHILA DEVI

EVERY individual has the right to be born with dignity and depart with dignity, then only we can build a better society, says the Attorney-General and Minister for Economy, Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum.

“Humanity- human kindness, affection, love and compassion are very important for any country to not just grow but also to mature, have respect for each other’s right and of course respect for each other’s beliefs,” the A-G said.

Speaking at the Ek Rangeen Shaam Musical and Fundraising Dinner held in Samabula recently, he emphasised the importance of ensuring that every Fijian has the right to have their final rites done with dignity.

This was the rationale that compelled the Government in 2018 to hand over the \$920,000 funeral facility in Vatuwaqa, which includes a shradh ghat, to organisations representing Hindus.

The A-G added, “Death is inevitable, just as we are born so our rationale was, every individual has the right to depart with dignity and in fulfilling the rituals- we have ensure those rituals are carried out in a dignified environment and dignified manner”.

These facilities, the A-G said, will be handed to different institutions and that’s why the Government has handed it over to all the Hindu organisations to collectively look after it.

Meanwhile, the committee that looks after the Vatuwaqa Funeral Rites facility have made a submission to Government to charge a levy on its use as there are costs attached to maintaining it.

Committee chairman, Pandit Bhuwan Datt said so far they were spending \$50,000 per annum in its maintenance, bulk of which goes in paying the security firm that provides security for the facility.

The A-G assured them that the Government was looking at the request for the levy that will be charged but explained that it needs to go through the Lands Department since it deals with State Land and reminded the committee of its responsibility.

The event also saw the acknowledgement of individuals who were heavily involved in setting up of the facility through the presentation of certificates.



Blue lanes generate economic activities, create jobs – A-G

RONAL DEO

THE Fijian Government’s Blue Lane initiative has to some extent opened up our borders with close to 90 yachts visiting Fiji so far.

While speaking at the press conference after the Pacific Penal for Indo-Pacific Business Forum, Attorney-General and Minister for Economy Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum said that these yachts were of different sizes and had various num-

bers of people travelling on them.

“The initiative worked well because we said that the sailing time is as long as nobody gets on or off from the point of departure, which serves as the quarantine period also. If someone sails to Denarau and has not completed their 14 day quarantine period they can spend the remaining days at the Wailoaloa bay area under the supervision of our naval officers.”

The A-G added that these tourists will only be allowed on land after

testing negative for COVID-19.

“There are people on board using our services, they buy fruits and vegetables, they go to the supermarket and some may spend a few days at a hotel or resort as our rates are currently fantastic.

“It generates economic activities and creates jobs so this brings back people to jobs they had to let go off because there was no activity at all.”

The A-G added that once the borders open the Government will be

able to strategise and gauge the movement of people.

“Fiji’s tourism sector has been largely dependent on the family market where hotels were always full during New Zealand and Australia school holidays.

“We were told that it would take three to four years to reach the levels we had pre-pandemic and the challenge for us would be to hasten that pace. All of this would be assisted if we had the vaccine.”

In addition, the A-G said that in

all international forums, Fiji has been stating that the Pacific Island countries and smaller island states which are COVID contained with very few cases should be pushed up the vaccine list.

“We cannot be pushed down to the bottom because sometimes you can be punished for your own success. People may say you are COVID contained, you don’t need it. In fact this will further marginalise us because it will restrict people from travelling to Fiji.”

Small island states urged to seize opportunities

NANISE NEIMILA

THERE are creative ways we can stimulate new economic growth; now more than ever, powers like the European Union must give Small Islands Developing States the policy space to seize those opportunities.

This was a message made by Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama at his opening address at the Fiji-EU 5th Enhanced High-Level Political Dialogue.

Fiji may have been spared by the second wave of infection but the pain this pandemic has inflicted on the economy has not ebbed a centimetre.

Prime Minister Bainimarama said that Fiji’s vital tourism industry has ground to a standstill.

“Government revenues are gutted while historic numbers of our people are out-of-work or on reduced hours. Flows of remittances are falling, as is demand for our exports in foreign markets crippled by lockdowns. Alongside Small Island Developing States the world over, Fiji will see a double-digit contraction in our GDP.”

The Prime Minister said that Fiji’s long standing lack of access to international markets put recoveries furthest out of reach, and Fiji’s situation is already demanding every dollar of economic stimulus that can be mustered.

“We urgently re-directed Government resources through a COVID-19 Response Budget, and did so again through our National Budget for this financial year.”

“But by every measure, our most ambitious efforts at recovery are drops in the bucket next to the stimulus packages put forward by developed nations — including the trillions of dollars announced to fund the EU’s COVID-19 recovery.”

Prime Minister Bainimarama also urged the EU to assist Pacific nations particularly Fiji usher in a more inclusive era of development finance and assistance, but only if you leave the power dynamics of a different century behind in our post-COVID-19 world.

“Your voice in ensuring equitable access to an effective vaccine, once available, can ensure the citizens of small states are not relegated to the back of the global distribution queue.”

“Your pledge to achieve net-zero carbon emissions by 2050 is inspiring the world to follow your lead. Your backing of large-scale blue and green COVID recoveries among SIDS can do the same.”

Prime Minister Bainimarama further added that considering the genuine plea, Fiji’s realities can show how North-South Co-operation can give urgency to the unique needs of small states.

“Fiji is not a European country. We are not some island off the coast of Greece. We are a nation at a vastly different stage of development.”



European Union (EU), Ambassador to the Pacific Sujiro Seam and Attorney-General and Minister for Economy Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum during the 5th High Level Political Dialogue with the EU last week . Photo: RONAL DEO

EU-Fiji eye improved partnership

AZARIA FAREEN

THE European Union (EU) and Fiji are working to further strengthen and improve its partnership with key focus on how the EU can support an innovative and inclusive recovery from the economic fallout of the COVID-19 pandemic, which is devastating small state economies worst of all.

With Fiji concluding its 5th High Level Political Dialogue with the EU last week, the Attorney-General and Minister for Economy Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum, speaking at a press conference recently, said “we expressed the urgency of the EU’s generous support towards the next round of IDA financing through the World Bank - a message we will soon carry to all our counterparts in the developed world”.

“We covered a few outstanding issues related to trade relations, tax governance and visa facilitation. On the trade front, we urged the EU to grant Fiji the policy space to give incentive to the growth of COVID-proof industries, such as in the ICT sector.”

“Among other areas for strategic cooperation, we spoke on oceans governance, including sustainable fisheries, and our joint work to fight against illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing as well as cooperating on broader peace and security issues,” the A-G said.

He also conveyed his deepest condolences to the friends and family of Julian Wilson, the former Head of the Delegation of the EU for the Pacific, who passed away a few days ago.

Speaking during the press conference,

EU Ambassador to the Pacific, Sujiro Seam said “we have now reached a level of maturity between the EU-Fiji relationship in our 5th High-Level Political Dialogue which allows us to broaden and deepen our partnership beyond the traditional issues of development cooperation”.

“We will still work on sustainable development, climate and oceans but we are now ready to work on other issues and put more emphasis on business economy and trade and on Defence and security issues.”

“Our priority right now is to help the world, the Pacific and Fiji to overcome their consequences of COVID-19 on the health front but again, Fiji performed very well in that matter.”



Widow grateful for Govt assistance

ATELAITE Vakaloloma and her nine children are forever grateful to the Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama and the Fijian Government for “answering their prayers” through the construction of their new home and other social needs.

Ms Vakaloloma, a widow, and her children have been enduring the pain of moving from one home to another because of high rent payment but today, that challenge has been resolved.

While sharing her story, Ms Vakaloloma said her family, at one point, applied for a piece of land which was available with the iTaukei Land Trust Board (TLTB); however despite numerous attempts, their applications remained unsuccessful.

“We lived in a tent and we kept it clean because it was our only hope. Last year, in October it was raining for two weeks and we were staying in the rain for that long, soaked and cold under the tent,” she said.

“On the 18th of October, I texted the Prime Minister informing him of our plight as a family as we didn’t have a house. Through the Prime Minister, there was an immediate response from RFMF Officer in Charge Lautoka, Savenaca Siwatibau who asked for directions to where we lived.

“They came and took pictures and left again promising to return and on the morning of October 19, before I made my way to the market, a truck full of housing materials and soldiers came and built the house we currently occupy. We were



Atelaite Vakaloloma with her children outside their home in Lautoka. Photo: MEREANI GONEDUA

so happy because they knew exactly what we had been praying for.”

Ms Vakaloloma added that such a blessing is an absolute reminder and a reflection of one of the Prime Minister’s characters and that is “being caring”.

“Now we don’t get wet when it rains and we are so thankful to the Prime Minister. I am so thankful to the Lord for giving us the strength to be able to speak to the Prime Minister and how he has helped to alleviate us from the situation we were in.

“In July this year, the Prime Minister texted my phone to say that he was in Lautoka and we are thankful to God for the great things he has done and we share tears of joy every time we pray. We also remember the hardworking government officials in our prayers.

“So we were thankful that the PM Bainimarama texted my phone but I did not have funds to text back. We were on our way to town to distribute church tracts when the Prime Minister texted again to

On the 18th of October, I texted the Prime Minister informing him of our plight as a family as we didn’t have a house. Through the Prime Minister, there was an immediate response from RFMF Officer in Charge Lautoka, Savenaca Siwatibau who asked for directions to where we lived.

Atelaite Vakaloloma
Widow

say he was in Navutu until 5.30pm - I told my daughter that we should get off the bus, and go and meet him.”

“I asked the policeman that we wanted to speak to the Prime Minister but it was the first time we entered that village.”

“So we called the Prime Minister and he responded so we told him we were at the village. I told him we were wearing “kala-vata” matching outfits.”

“The Prime Minister spotted us and called us to him and then asked us what we needed. I told him I had problems with one of my legs however I always had to fetch water from the creek. I then asked the Prime Minister for a water tank. So the PM said don’t worry I am handing your case to the Commissioner; and that is how we were able to have a water tank.”

“That conversation gave us peace; the manner in which he communicates with ordinary people especially those often neglected like us.”

“We thank the government and we thank God for the PM,” Ms Vakaloloma said.

Institution praised for contributing towards the economy

NANISE NEIMILA

PRIME Minister Voreqe Bainimarama has paid tribute to the Fiji Society of the Blind for its valuable contribution the society has made for the past 50 years.

In commemorating its 50 years Golden Jubilee, Prime Minister Bainimarama said where the abilities of the blind are concerned “Fiji owes a great deal to this society for enlightening us and for providing ways for the blind to move about the country, to learn a trade or a profession, and to live a relatively normal life”.

“Fiji cannot afford to forgo the talents of one person who is willing to offer them. We need the talents of all our people, and we can leave no one behind. That would not only be impractical, it would be immoral. And it wouldn’t be very smart, either.”

“Today, 27 students who have attended the Fiji School for the Blind and other Society programmes are pursuing Tertiary Education. Thirteen are at USP, where they have all the specialised equipment and infrastructure



Fiji School for the Blind students during the 50 years Golden Jubilee celebrations in Suva. Photo: NANISE NEIMILA

they need. Ten are at Fiji National University, and four are at Fiji Vocational Technical Training Centre. You can be proud of the fact that 10 of your students have earned university degrees in the last 10 years and are currently employed in Government and private business.” Prime Minister Bainimarama also commended the institution for making Fijians aware of the importance of visual health, and for what the institution does to help repair impairments to the eye.

“I’m talking about your early

intervention program to identify visual impairment in children aged up to the age of three. I’m talking about your programs in the community for eye-screening and eye-care awareness. And, of course, your home-based training for visually impaired infants and counselling for their parents.”

The Head of Government reassured the Fiji Society of the Blind that it is the responsibility of the Government to use its resources to ensure that citizens who are disabled or impaired in some way are assisted so that they may be

on an equal footing with everyone else.

“Our Constitution enshrines equality for all persons, including the disabled and the hearing-and-visually impaired. The Constitution is even printed in Braille so that the visually impaired can read it and know their rights. We do that because it is the right thing to do, and because it is an investment in our citizens.”

Fiji Society for the Blind executive director, Barbara Farouk thanked the Government for providing an inclusive environment

for visually impaired students.

“It’s not every day that we have the Prime Minister visiting our school but we are thankful that through his government we are able to enjoy the same services that normal people have access too.”

Prime Minister Bainimarama paid tribute to Taveuni Rotary and Hawaii Eye Surgeons for their commitment to the radical notion that no Fijian should lose their sight when we have medical technology to save it in their very hands.



Students urged to focus on health, studies

NANISE NEIMILA

STUDENTS of Ratu Seru Primary School were reminded of their roles as future leaders of Fiji.

This was a message made by the President Major-General (Ret'd) Jioji Konrote while visiting schools and participating in tree planting exercises in Levuka.

"As the President and head of state it is my job to come and visit you, I am glad and thankful that we are able to meet this morning. We are going to finish off a month-long national celebration of 50 years of Independence."

"When I visited Levuka earlier this month, I promised the Tui Levuka, the children and people of Levuka that I would return."

President Konrote added Fiji was returning to where it all began, after 50 years of independence she has another reason to celebrate.

He also encouraged the students to stay focused on their studies and their health.

"Look after your health and look after one another. Stay focused and committed with your studies. You are going to be our future leaders and we depend on you."

President Konrote also visited

Viro Primary School and Norah Frazer Special School and Viro Primary School where he also had the opportunity to distribute Fiji 50th Independence Commemorative 50 cent coins.

President Konrote was joined by Commander of the Republic of Fiji Military Forces Rear Admiral Viliame Naupoto, Acting Commissioner of Police Rusiate Tudravu, Commissioner Eastern Vitale Varo and other civil servants as they participated with a clean-up program along Beach Street.

Also, part of the program were Levuka Public School students.

The clean-up campaign was followed by a coral planting programme that was organised by the Ministry of Fisheries and Fiji-based non-profit Aquaculture Development for the Environment Project (A.D.E) founded by Walt Smith.

The programme aims to involve 20 or more coastal villages, with a target for each village to plant 1000 corals per week with a forecast to have one million corals placed on damaged and troubled Fijian reefs by December 31, 2021.



President Major-General (Ret'd) Jioji Konrote with staff and students of Viro Primary School during a tree planting exercise in Levuka.
Photo: NANISE NEIMILA

Fiji eyes new partnerships amid pandemic

RONAL DEO

IN order to let the world know that the Pacific is open for business, a Pacific Penal for Indo-Pacific Business Forum was hosted by the Ambassador of the United States of America Joseph Cella.

Attorney-General and Minister for Economy Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum, while speaking at the Forum, said that it was critical for Fiji to seek new partnerships and strengthen existing alliances in light of the devastating socio-economic impact of COVID-19 on the region.

The A-G added that "we must commit ourselves to pursuing a policy environment that promotes sustainable growth based on trade, open cross border investment, free enterprise, transparency opportunity, inclusiveness and good governance".

He also commended the U.S government for entering into a trade investment framework agreement (TIFA) which encompasses all these goals.

"Fiji just signed this agreement (TIFA) with the USA earlier this month which came into effect on the 15th of October. We want to move quickly to see how we can take advantage of it, to address our near-term problems, also to open up truly valuable opportunities for trade and investment."

In addition, the A-G said that the US-Fiji TIFA includes an important provision for the participation of our neighbours, spe-

cifically allowing for inviting like-minded governments of the Pacific Island region to participate as observers in Fiji-US Business Council on Trade and Investment meetings.

"This is critically important as Fiji has positioned itself as an economic, transport and telecommunications hub of the Pacific. We believe it should be redounded to the benefit of all our neighbours as well as Fiji. There is a hope that we can use the TIFA process to help give the entire region the economic growth and economic sustainability and stability it needs particularly as we quickly transition into green and blue economies."

The A-G said that as Fiji emerges from this current crisis and continues to confront the challenges of adapting to climate change and developing truly sustainable economies, trade and investment with the United States and other developing countries will be critical and essential.

"There are a lot of goods that can be bought in from the USA, we need to be able to address issues such as biosecurity through its measures and create those pathways."

Furthermore, the A-G said that Fiji had a trade deficit of about 3 billion dollars prior to the pandemic which is equivalent to about 27 percent of GDP so the Fijian government was looking at increasing ex-

ports as imports will significantly reduce this year due to less demand for goods and services.

Despite borders still being closed, freight flights to Los Angeles have been ongoing and in relation to the U.S, nearly 80 to 85 percent of all the freight that Fiji Airways has been carrying from Nadi to LA has been agricultural produce.

This includes the significant amount of yaqona which is indicative of the huge demand for kava in the U.S. Recent months have also seen a significant amount of turmeric exported from Fiji.

With relation to the tourism sector, the A-G said that the Fijian hospitality and the Fijian people's ability to deal with people has seen a demand for retirement villages and retirement resorts.

"We have a lot of people working in California as caregivers and those retiring can actually return. The USA, Australia and Japan have a large portion of their population over the age of 60. A lot of these people will need looking after and will need a place where there are good caregivers and Fiji has the opportunity. We would like to see those retirement villages be developed in Fiji because it creates sustainable employment and has capital infrastructure which goes along with it."

Speaking on investment in infrastructure, the A-G highlighted that the Fijian Govern-

ment in the past 10 years has made major investments in infrastructure and that it was critical to build resilience in Fiji's infrastructure as this was important in respect of climate change.

"Apart from hard infrastructure like roads, bridges and jetties, we also have utilities connecting people to electricity, reticulated water systems and of course telecommunications. We have a number of plans in that respect."

"But the idea is to also ensure we take convicence of the fact that the plights of the countries are the encroaching waters."

The A-G said that in Fiji's case, there were about 43 villages that needed to be relocated to higher ground, three villages have been relocated while the fourth one is on the way.

"That is critically important. We have set up a relocation trust fund."

The Indo-Pacific Business Forum is a premier public-private event organised by the U.S government and the U.S Chamber of Commerce. More than 1,000 people will be joining virtually for two days of programming.

Kiribati High Commissioner to Fiji David Teabo, Nauru High Commissioner Michael Aroi and Tuvalu High Commissioner to Fiji Temate Melitiana were also part of the penal team alongside Ambassador Cella.



We support your efforts, PM tells Fijians

We support you. We express that support as a people — not just as a Government, but as a people.

These were the sentiments made by Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama while opening the Golden Jubilee Celebrations at the Lautoka School for Special Education last week.

PM Bainimarama highlighted that the Constitution enshrined equality for all Fijians, including those who are differently-abled.

“That’s why my Government has introduced programmes like the disability allowance, hostel grants,

the bus fare allowance, and free TELS Scholarships to students with disabilities,” he said. “We have taken these steps not as charity, but as a means of ensuring equality.”

PM Bainimarama further stated that primary and secondary education were free-of-charge and government removed any barriers for parents to send their kids to school.

He also acknowledged the teachers and staff of the school for devoting their time in caring for the students.

Photos: MEREANI GONEDUA



Clean-up campaign, coral planting programme for Fiji's old capital

It was an early start for the President, Major-General (Ret'd) Jioji Konrote, at the old capital in Levuka last week.

President Konrote was joined by Commander of the Republic of Fiji Military Forces Rear Admiral Villame Naupoto, Acting Commissioner of Police Rusiate Tudravu, Commissioner Eastern Vitale Varo and other civil servants as they took part in a clean-up programme along Beach street.

Also part of the programme were students of Levuka Public School.

The clean-up campaign was followed by a coral planting programme that was organised by the Ministry of Fisheries and Fiji-based non-profit Aquaculture Development for the Environment Project (A.D.E) founded by Walt Smith.

The programme aims to involve 20 or more coastal villages, with a target for each village to plant 1000 corals per week with a forecast to have one million corals placed on damaged and troubled Fijian reefs by 31st December 2020.

Photos: NANISE NEIMILA



Work hard, you are Fiji's future leaders, President tells students

Students of Ratu Seru Primary School at Toki Village, Ovalau, were reminded of the importance of working hard and ensuring that they excel academically.

In his message while touring the school, President Major-General (Ret'd) Jioji Konusi Konrote reminded the students of their roles as future leaders of Fiji. He later took part in a tree planting exercise as part of a tour to commemorate Fiji's 50th independence anniversary.

The Head of State commended the school management for its commitment towards providing education for the children of Ovalau.

Students of Ratu Seru Memorial Primary School were delighted to meet the Head of State because it was the first time for him to visit the school.

President Konrote was also entertained with traditional dances performed by students.

He later visited Norah Frazer Special

School and Viro Primary School, where he also had the opportunity to distribute Fiji 50th Independence Commemorative 50c coins.

Photos: NANISE NEIMILA



\$300K in insurance paid to cane farmers

MEREANI GONEDUA

MORE than \$300,000 in insurance premium has been paid out for more than 1000 sugarcane farmers in the country.

Prime Minister and Minister for Sugar Voreqe Bainimarama, while handing over the grant agreement to the Sugarcane Growers Fund, highlighted that this is to fully cover the sugarcane farmers' premium for their bundled insurance for the last six months of this year.

PM Bainimarama stated that under the terms of the Bundled Insurance Scheme, the growers agreed to begin paying the premium in July 2020.

"As you know under the terms of the bundle insurance scheme, the growers agreed to pay a premium from July, 2020, but we know how brutal the COVID-19 pandemic economic impact had on Fiji including our sugar industry," he said.

"Of the many setbacks for instance we have not been able to

operate our mechanised harvesters as efficiently as we would have liked because technicians from India are still in India.

"The point being we knew this premium payment would have created an additional financial burden on our cane growers.

"So when the Sugar Cane Growers Fund asked Government to consider paying the farmer's premiums from July to December 2020, we said yes. The result is this grant agreement, in the amount of \$300,731.76."

PM Bainimarama also reiterated the Fijian Government's commitment to strengthen the Sugar Industry—to make it more robust, more modern, more efficient and competitive, and more profitable. Meanwhile, Sugar Cane Growers Fund board chairman Sundresh Chetty acknowledged the Fijian Government for its continuous support towards the sugar industry.

Mr Chetty stated that the COVID-19 pandemic impacted the industry drastically, however, with



Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama with Sugar Cane Growers Fund board chairman Sundresh Chetty during the handing over of the grant agreement to the Sugarcane Growers Fund in Ba. Photo: MEREANI GONEDUA

the support always pouring in from the Fijian Government they were able to survive.

"I wish to take this opportunity to thank you most sincerely for the unwavering support to the cane growers, some of which are cane planting grants, fertilizer/weedicide subsidies, cane access road upgrade grants, transportation allowance for Rakiraki growers and above all the guaranteed price of \$85 per tonne.

"We are certain that on a need basis the Government will continue to support the sugar industry."

The Bundled Insurance Scheme began in 2017 and is offered by

Fiji Care Insurance.

The scheme covers death, fire, personal accident and funeral costs. It was developed by the Cane Growers and the Sugarcane Growers Fund, with some financial support provided by the Pacific Financial Inclusion Program, Sugarcane Growers Council and Fiji Sugar Corporation.

Nearly 12,000 active cane growers under the age of 65 have been covered through this scheme at a relatively low premium, and the Sugarcane Growers Fund volunteered to pay the premium for all registered growers for the first three years.

Farming benefits club, families

MEREANI GONEDUA

"FARMING our land has been one of the greatest initiatives we have embarked on as a club because the benefits has trickled down to our families."

These were the sentiments made by Jonetani Vularika whose club was one of the six that received grants for equipment, tools, seed, seedlings, water tanks, fencing materials and other necessities from Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama.

Mr Vularika, 28, highlighted that ever since they started farming and selling their produce, the income they have generated has not only benefited them but it has really assisted in financially supporting his family.

"We now have at least some extra cash to enjoy because of the extra income coming in from selling our produce. And with the tools provided to us by the Government, it would now boost our farming activities and help us with our daily work."

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Bainimarama, while handing over the farming equipment, highlighted that the Youth Farm Initiative provides grants to youth clubs to cultivate land and grow crops.

"It is a great co-operative venture, because the mataqali set aside land for the young people and the Government provides grants for equipment, tools, seed, seedlings, water tanks, fencing materials and other necessities.

"Together, the Government and local communities are helping young Fijians make something for themselves — the very best outcome we can ever aspire to achieve. These young people will put land to use and be able to earn income through the sale of the crops they grow.

"Many young people in the West, including some here today, made their living in tourism — the industry hit hardest by COVID-19. We are providing those who are out-of-work or on reduced hours with a steady flow of assistance, but these Fijians also deserve the chance to work again and that is why we are here today.

"We should all be proud that these young people have chosen a new and time-honoured way to earn an income in farming, and I wish them good fortune—and good weather, of course."

"So this is a youth program, but it isn't just to benefit these young people. It benefits their villages. And it benefits the entire country. Add the experience of these young people to the experiences of the nearly 400 other recent grant recipients from the Western Division—the Youth Clubs in Balevuto, Nacilau, Youth Clubs in Nakabuta, Nakalavo, Naduri, Nosi, Rara, Onpaul, Nadolodolo and Cakaunitera—and to other youth clubs in Fiji, and you can see the positive long-term effect this program has."

Town praised for contribution to nation building

NANISE NEIMILA

AS Fiji continues to celebrate Fiji's 50th year of independence, Fijians have been reminded that the nation is not built in a day or decade or even a century.

This was the message by Minister for Local Government, Housing and Community Development Premila Kumar at recent celebrations held in Tavua to mark Fiji's 50th Independence.

Minister Kumar said great nations always strive to live up to the ideals that will realize the true potential of their citizens and their country. Truly great nations understand that independence is just the first step on a long journey. And we have been on the journey for the last 50 years.

"It is refined and reformed, as we move forward with developments. Truly great nations confront their past injustices, reform laws that need to be changed, innovate and improve the way they do things."

"Great nations always strive to live up to the ideals that will realize the true potential of their citizens and their country. Truly great nations understand that independence is just the first step on a long journey. And we have been on the journey for the last 50 years."

Minister Kumar said that "we can be proud that together we have set a pace of national development unmatched in the Pacific, devel-



Minister for Local Government, Housing and Community Development Premila Kumar (sixth from left), during the recent celebrations held in Tavua to mark Fiji's 50th Independence. Photo: NANISE NEIMILA

oping our towns, cities, and our rural and maritime areas, extending life-changing services across our islands".

She added that Tavua is a vibrant and growing town where we are continuously seeing changes with 287 ratepayers while the Tavua District population stands at 23,000.

"I am pleased to say that the Tavua Town Council now has plans to build a new Tavua Market and a new bus stand for the benefit of its ratepayers and visitors, as well as upgrading Heritage and Children's Parks.

"We are aware that while a number of Tavua residents have moved on, there are many who proudly call Tavua their new home and some are setting up businesses."

And while it is important to look back, Minister Kumar reminded the people of Tavua to reflect and be thankful.

"We now look into the future, because our best days are yet to come. The COVID-19 pandemic has set us back, but it has not dampened our spirit and determination to forge ahead much better."



Street lights ensure safety for residents

FELIX LESINAIVALU

AROUND 50 households in Veivaceva Settlement in Tacirua will feel safer after the commissioning of new street lights. Whilst commissioning the street lights, Minister for Housing and Community Development Premila Kumar said that the community had requested for the lights when she visited them in 2019.

“The community discussed this in one of our previous community meetings and highlighted the risk of robbery and other illegal activities and requested the Ministry of Housing and Community Development (Ministry) to consider commissioning two street lights,” Minister Kumar said.

“The access roads within informal settlements are not under the Fiji Roads Authority management and hence these communities do not have access to facilities such as street lights in most cases.”

“This will also see a decrease in other illegal activities in the area.”

Minister Kumar added when the Ministry acquires a development lease, it also pays for the lease money upfront to the land owners so that the settlers do not have to pay any land rent during the lease term. In addition to this benefit, the Ministry also facilitates temporary infrastructure development in these settlements, as part of the community development work.

“There are over 250 informal settlements in the country and the Ministry has development lease for only 44 of these. A total of 40 out of these are on iTaukei land and the rest are state land.”

“Until these settlements reach the capital works stage there may be need for temporary upgrades such as installation of street lights, repair of culverts and crossing to name a few. These temporary solutions are only put in place, until a permanent solution for upgrading work is done to a particular settlement.”

The Ministry of Housing and Community Development has a budget allocation set aside to address urgent issues requested by the informal settlements within the development leases.

In addition to the commissioning of street lights in Veivaceva and Sakoca, the Ministry has also repaired a culvert crossing in Sasawira Settlement.



Minister for Housing and Community Development Premila Kumar switches on the streets light around Veivaceva Settlement in Tacirua. Photo: FELIX LESINAIVALU

‘Reflect, implement prophet Muhammad teachings’



Attorney-General and Minister for Economy, Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum with devotees during the Milad-un-Nabi celebration at the Wainikoro Jame Masjid. Photo: AZARIA FAREEN

PRASHILA DEVI

REFLECTING and implementing the teachings of the Prophet Mohammed into your lives is the true essence of celebrating his birth.

Loving one another, empathizing with people even when they have wronged you and lending a helping hand, the Attorney-General and Minister for Economy, Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum said, was the true meaning of celebrating the life of the Prophet who lived a simple life and paved the way on how human beings should behave.

Speaking at the Milad-un-Nabi celebration at the Wainikoro Jame Masjid recently, the A-G said, “It’s a time to relook at ourselves, what are we doing and how many of us are actually implementing the teachings of the Prophet in your lives”.

He said for any religion where celebrations are being held, it is important to ensure that the actual teachings and principles are being applied in our daily lives rather than just having a big feast and ignoring the real message of why such an occasion is celebrated in the first place.

“How you live your life, how you interact with people, the respect and your deeds will go with you. Your expensive watch, your suits or the luxurious vehicle that you drive will not be with you when you die but your good deeds will.”

Reflecting on the life of the Prophet, the A-G said the place that the Prophet Mohammed was born in was a place that was embedded in ignorance where women were not treated well, in your household if

your wife gave birth to a daughter she had to be buried alive because they did not find a daughter valuable, they did not treat animals well and had tribal wars over small issues.

“This is what was remarkable, you have someone who in his lifetime, from the age of 40 until 63, change the society that was so embedded in ignorance to a society that actually became civilized.”

The Wainikoro Jame Masjid was the first mosque established in the Northern Division by the girmityas from India and opened its doors to worshippers and students in 1911.

Mr Sheikh Abdul Rahman’s father worked with others in the community to establish the mosque that has over the years undergone three renovations.

Mr Rahman, in his message during the celebration, thanked the Government for allocating Muslims a public holiday so that they can use it to celebrate the birthday of their Prophet.

He added that while the number of worshippers who offer prayers in the mosque has dwindled due to people moving away from Wainikoro, the mosque is still being used and for major celebrations people come from far away to participate.

The message emanating from the leaders and religious scholars were simply- live in peace with all communities and do your share for the progress of the nation you call home.

The Assistant Minister for Employment, Youth and Sports, Alvick Maharaj and Assistant Minister for Sugar, George Vagnathan were also present at the celebration.

ALSO READ

A-G holds community consultations

PRASHILA DEVI

THE Attorney-General and Minister for Economy Hon. Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum was recently invited for information sessions with rural communities in the North.

These communities, namely Laqalaqa, Daku and Tabucola, had a one-to-one with the A-G who provided them information on the 2020-2021 National Budget and other government policies.

He informed the community that in the current budget, the Government had to carry out a balancing act as reprioritisation had to be done due to the impact of COVID-19 on the tourism sector but the only area that did not receive a budget cut was agriculture.

During the consultations bulk of the issues raised pertained to iTaukei Land Trust Board, infrastructure issues especially water and roads as well as matters relating to sugar such as the cartage of cane.

The A-G told these communities that there were some issues that could be dealt with expeditiously while others will need to be considered in the upcoming budgets.

Other communities in Vanua Levu have also invited him for community information session.



Fiji, Cuba seal visa exemption deal

A LANDMARK agreement on Visa Exemption was signed between Fiji and Cuba which will enable nationals of the two countries with the valid diplomatic and official passports to enter, remain, transit through and exit without a visa for a period of 90 days.

Visa Exemption Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed between the Permanent Secretary for the Office of the Prime Minister and acting Permanent Secretary Foreign Affairs, Yogesh Karan and the Ambassador of Cuba to Fiji, Carlos Lago.

Mr Karan said cooperation on visa exemption signifies the friendship and enhanced bilateral engagements between Fiji and Cuba since the establishment of the diplomatic relations in 2002.

He said that the discussions on visa exemption was first initiated through the Prime Minister, Voreqe Bainimarama's official visit to Cuba in October 2019; during which, PM Bainimarama held bilateral meetings with the President of Cuba, Miguel Díaz-Canel.

In commending the innovative partnerships, Mr Karan thanked the Government of Cuba for its support towards areas such as health, agriculture, climate change and sports.

"Such collaboration has enabled six of the 21 Fijian Medical students in Cuba, graduating and they will contribute meaningfully to Fiji's workforce and our health sector. I would like to



The Permanent Secretary for the Office of the Prime Minister and acting Permanent Secretary Foreign Affairs, Yogesh Karan and the Ambassador of Cuba to Fiji, Carlos Lago during the signing of the visa exemption memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the two countries. Photo: SUPPLIED

thank you for all the assistance you have given us over the years.

"Once we are out of COVID 19 pandemic situation, we would also like to see high level visits from Cuba to Fiji and to the Pacific. There is potential for greater collaboration between our two countries and we would like to see that these bilateral cooperation reach greater heights," Mr Karan said.

Ambassador Lago conveyed his appreciation to the Fijian Government for the swift assistance in coordinating the negotiation process for the visa exemption.

"We are witnessing today a historical moment in the relationship between Cuba and Fiji. This Agreement on Visa Exemption, for the holders of diplomatic and official passports, will contribute towards the strengthening of our bilateral ties.

"The MOU will strengthen the bilateral and political dialogue between the two countries and the engagement between our people - in particular the increase in exchanges of delegations, and also in the promotion of exchanges at technical level, in fields of common interests for

the two countries, such as health care, sustainable agriculture, sugarcane industry, sports, biotechnology, environmental protection, oceans management and climate change, just to mention a few.

"I also want to highlight the great relevance of this MOU that we are signing today - not only for Cuba and Fiji, but also for our Pacific Islands family; because it will facilitate the development of joint cooperation programs across the Pacific, taking advantage of the opportunities that Cuba has to offer.

The MOU will strengthen the bilateral and political dialogue between the two countries and the engagement between our people - in particular the increase in exchanges of delegations, and also in the promotion of exchanges at technical level, in fields of common interests for the two countries, such as health care, sustainable agriculture, sugarcane industry, sports, biotechnology, environmental protection, oceans management and climate change, just to mention a few.

Carlos Lago
Ambassador of Cuba to Fiji

In reaffirming Cuba's commitment to Fiji, Ambassador Lago said that, "We hope to jointly conclude by the end of this year the signing of the MOU on Sports, as a field with great potential to be developed".

"I want to reiterate the strong commitment of my country to continue develop the friendship and cooperation with Fiji and one of its most outstanding expression in the Medical Scholarship Program that just this year resulted in the graduation of 6 new doctors, who will be serving the people of Fiji soon."

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Group sets example of youth empowerment

F IJI has joined the call on the need for global and regional collective action in putting an end to COVID-19 and creating a healthy, productive and prosperous future for our Blue Pacific.

This message was delivered recently at the virtual Forum Foreign Minister's Meeting (FFMM) chaired by Tuvalu.

The FFMM enabled robust discussions and provided an opportunity for Fiji to up-scale engagements on a number of priority issues; addressing COVID pandemic being top of the agenda, followed by discussions on the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent, plans for the region's engagement on Ocean's, maritime boundaries and sea level rise, strategic approach in the region's engagement and advocacy on climate change to name a few.

Representing Fiji for the first time in this forum, the Minister for Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation Mereseini Vuniwaqa spoke on the three pronged challenges of economic and health crisis along with

climate change that poses threat to Fiji and the region's welfare.

Minister Vuniwaqa said that global response measures to COVID-19 had devastating socio-economic impacts on Pacific economies, affecting key drivers of growth including the private sector, trade, tourism and remittances.

"As the pandemic rages on, existing inequalities are deepening and our vulnerable communities are being further marginalised. We acknowledge also the need to address the significant impact on women and girls, who are facing increased economic insecurity, additional unpaid care work and rising levels of gender based violence and require continued access to essential health, educational and other social services."

Minister Vuniwaqa emphasised the importance of multilateralism being the cornerstone of regional and global efforts to combat COVID-19.

"We further acknowledge the need to

ensure that the region's collective efforts and resources for alleviating the impacts of COVID-19 are targeted towards those most in need and most vulnerable. Pacific countries, as well as development partners, must also commit to adhering to regionally-agreed principles of accountability and good leadership.

"As we look towards our recovery, investment in our health infrastructure is of paramount importance to secure our peoples from future health crisis. We commend the efforts around the globe to develop safe and affordable treatments and vaccines for COVID-19. Our Pacific economies rely heavily on open borders for travel, trade and business. Without treatment and a vaccine to mitigate health concerns, devastating disruptions to all our interdependent economies will continue unabated. The Pacific must have timely access to treatment and a vaccine when it is developed. Within that context, we urge global leaders to support the equitable and affordable dis-

tribution of COVID-19 treatments and vaccines to all peoples of the world," Minister Vuniwaqa said.

Fiji also reiterated the need to keep the momentum on the call for collective efforts on climate change and stronger mitigation action to put the world on 1.5°C pathway, including investment in low emissions technologies.

"We recognise 2020 as a milestone year for the Paris Agreement and urge that COVID-19 should not derail the global momentum and ambition required by all parties to deliver on their Paris Agreement commitments. We call on the international community to recommit and urgently accelerate climate change action now, as called for in our Kainaki II Declaration, and ensure that all development financing and programming for COVID-19 aligns with the purpose of the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda.

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS



President, Major-General (Ret'd) Jioji Konrote and First lady Sarote Konrote with Veniana Nakolinivalu (seated middle) and her family members during a surprise visit to her home at Nasukamai Village in Ra. Photo: FELIX LESINAIVALU

President, first lady visit centenarian

FELIX LESINAIVALU

THE President Major-General (Ret'd) Jioji Konrote and First Lady Sarote Konrote paid a surprise visit to centenarian Veniana Nakolinivalu at her Nasukamai Village, Ra, home.

President Konrote and First Lady met the matriarch and presented her with a plaque to commemorate her reaching 100 years. "We were all so grateful that the President

came to see our mother and we appreciate this," said her son, Apisalome Nakolinivalu.

Mr Nakolinivalu is the seventh of Mrs Nakolinivalu's eight children.

"Seeing that he has a busy schedule, it is a great pleasure to see the President come down to us, the people, to celebrate this auspicious event."

Mr Nakolinivalu was also thankful to his mother for looking after him and his siblings and is very proud of her to achieve such a

milestone.

"They spoke for a while and my mother also read verses from the Holy Bible to the President."

The centenarian has five surviving children, 45 grandchildren, 90 great-grandchildren and three great great-grandchildren.

She turned 100 on September 23.

President Konrote encouraged Fijians to live a healthy life so they can make it to the same age as Mrs Nakolinivalu.

Suva, Tokyo mark 50 years of relations

THE Embassy of Japan organised a commemorative program on the Occasion of the 50th Anniversary of the Establishment of Diplomatic Relations between Japan and the Republic of Fiji.

The event was attended by the senior government officials, diplomatic corps along with Fiji's development partners.

The occasion recognised the friendship and development co-operation between Fiji and Japan during the last 50 years of diplomatic relations.

Speaking at this program, Minister for Fisheries, Semi Korolavesau thanked Japan for its great assistance and support given towards regional and Fiji's national development.

"We are grateful to the Japan International Co-operation Agency [JICA] for their support towards the Nadi River Flood Alleviation project. Nadi and its surrounding areas represent the heart of the Fijian tourism and the gateway to



Minister for Fisheries, Semi Korolavesau with Speaker to Parliament Ratu Epeli Nailatikau during the 50th Anniversary of the Establishment of Diplomatic Relations between Japan and the Republic of Fiji at Japan ITC Centre, University of the South Pacific, Laucala Campus in Suva. Photo: SUPPLIED

the rest of Fiji and the Pacific."

"While home to many Fijian families, and other commercial businesses, the worsening impacts of climate change are placing great risk to the affected livelihoods. We recognise Japan's expeditious support towards this project in helping us alleviate these worsening floods, to secure a great future for Fijians," Minister Korolavesau said.

He acknowledged Japan's assistance to Fiji in providing critical medical equipment to tackle COVID-19 in Fiji.

Ambassador of Japan to Fiji, Masahiro Omura reaffirmed Japan's commitment to support Fiji through numerous development

initiatives.

"Our Grass-roots Grant Programme provides funding for small scale projects. To date, 387 Projects worth US\$27 million (FJ\$57.6m) have been implemented to cover key areas including education and water supply.

"Regarding Technical Cooperation, thousands of Fijians have joined training courses in Japan, and hundreds of Japanese experts and volunteers have contributed to the human resource capacity building in Fiji.

"Currently, through the FJ\$45 million "Stand-by-Loan", Japan is supporting Fiji to address the damage caused by TC Harold.

We are also supporting measures to address the impact of COVID-19.

"In the future, Japan is planning to implement the "Project for Reconstruction of Tamavua-iwai-Bridge", and the "Project for Nadi River Flood Alleviation."

Ambassador Omura made emphasis on Fiji and Japan's partnership to tackle global challenges, including climate change.

"We can cooperate together to create better Asia Pacific region based on the Free and Open Indo-Pacific Vision."

The program was held on October 22, 2020, at the Japan-Pacific ICT Centre in USP.

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Fiji, Australia mark 50 years of ties



President, Major-General (Ret'd) Jioji Konrote with First lady Sarote Konrote during a virtual meeting with Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia David Hurley and his wife. Photo: SUPPLIED

IN commemorating the landmark achievement of 50 years of diplomatic relations, Fiji and Australia have reaffirmed their commitment to advance engagements between the two nations, through the Vuvale Partnership.

This was conveyed as the President, Major-General (Ret'd) Jioji Konrote and First Lady Sarote Konrote held a virtual meeting with the Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia David Hurley and his wife.

The meeting conveyed Australia's best wishes to Fiji on the occasion of Fiji's historic achievement of 50 years of Independence as well as it reflected on the commitment of the two nations in taking Fiji and Australia relations to greater heights.

President Konrote commended the strong bonds of friendship and bilateral cooperation between the two nations.

"50 years on and our Vuvale Partnership has been stronger through our people to people links, defence and security partnerships, international cooperation, development assistance and trade and investment engagements."

Fiji's Head of State also reflected on the plight of Fiji and the region in addressing the double crisis of the COVID-19 pandemic and climate change. President Konrote thanked Australia for its continued support towards assisting Fiji and the Pacific region in strengthening resilience, recovery efforts and rebuilding back better.

In response, Governor-General Hurley congratulated Fiji for its 50th Anniversary celebrations and commended Fiji on its swift, decisive and effective health response to COVID-19.

"Over the past 50 years, Fiji has made its mark on the world as a voice for sustainable development, as a contributor to peace-keeping and as a formidable force on the sporting field."

"Despite the challenges of COVID-19, I was delighted to see that Fiji was able to mark the 50th Anniversary – and celebrate what it has achieved as a nation" said the Governor General.

Australia was one of the first of five countries to recognise and formally establish diplomatic relations with Fiji on 10th October 1970.

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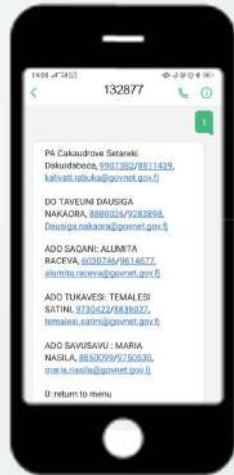


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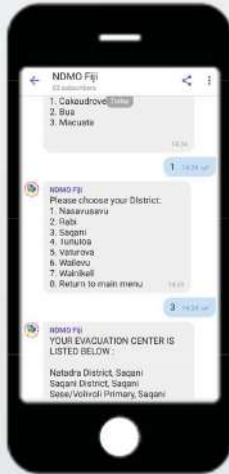
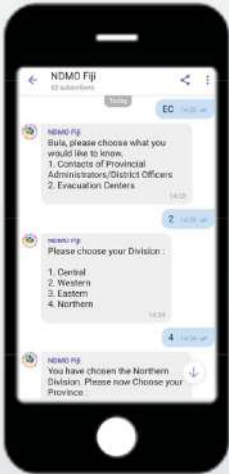
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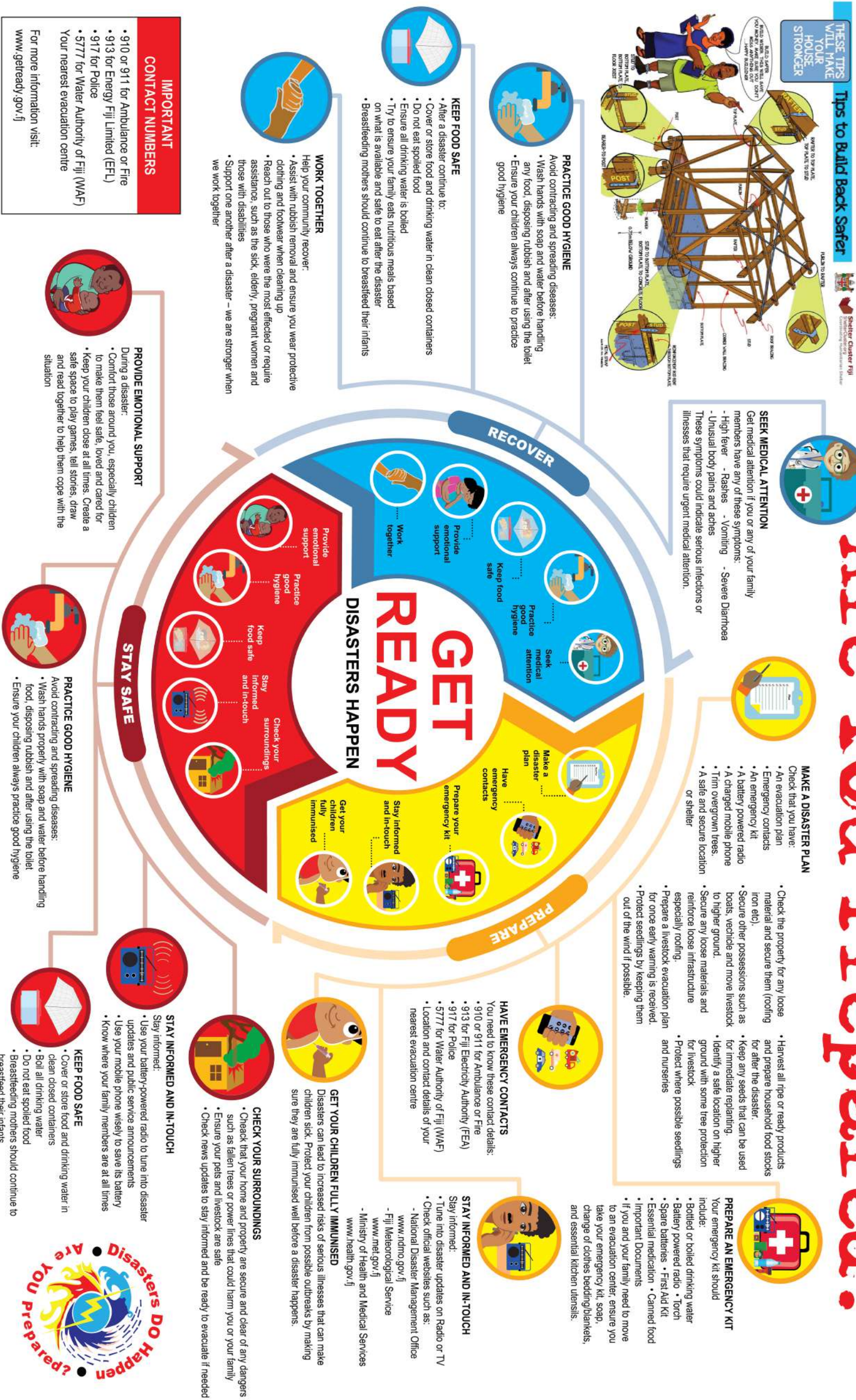
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DISASTER DO HAPPEN Are You Prepared?



Fiji Focus



President Major-General (Ret'd) Jioji Konrote with Dr Joji Malani and his family members during the investiture ceremony at State House in Suva. Dr Malani has practised abroad and in Fiji as a physician and contributed towards the training of medical students and doctors. **Photo: AZARIA FAREEN**

Doctor honoured

Govt commended for health programmes

AZARIA FAREEN

“I AM honoured to receive this commemorative medal which is truly a lifetime recognition and I want to thank those who have nominated me with the hope that my contribution in health and medicine would persist and progress into the next decades.”

In sharing these sentiments while receiving the Fiji 50th Anniversary Independence Commemorative Medal from President Major-General (Ret'd) Jioji Konrote recently, Dr Joji Malani expressed “I want

to honour my late father who had been a guiding light, strength and support to my life and career”.

“When we all travelled to study in New Zealand, his emphasis was to return and serve the people of Fiji and the main emphasis was on setting a very high value of hard work, selflessness, dedication and spiritual reliance at all times,” Dr Malani said.

“This is a 50th year remembrance and we have a number of doctors, educators and trainers such as the late Dr. Samisoni, Baravilala, Mcaig and Rao including Dr Baka-

ni, Nasarova, Liti Brown and Dr. Etika that I share this commemorative medal with.”

Dr Malani has practised abroad and in Fiji as a physician and contributed towards the training of medical students and doctors.

He returned to Fiji in 2008 to assist in the undergraduate program at the then Fiji School of Medicine and to assist in the establishment of the first ever Postgraduate Medical Training for Fiji and the Pacific Island Countries particularly in Internal Medicine, which has produced many specialists including 40 Master of Medicine physicians who are now consultants and

fulfilling top positions in the health sector in Fiji and Pacific Island Countries.

“Establishing the Kidney Dialysis in 2008 was ground-breaking and revolutionised how we approached “end-stage kidney disease” and also “acute kidney injury” (AKI) which has greatly assisted in saving lives particularly in AKI,” Dr Malani said.

“It is great to see the great support from the present government on the dialysis program which was not there previously and it is also great to see the establishment of a few more numbers of Hemodialysis Units throughout Fiji,” Dr Malani added.

फीजी दर्पण

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प्रधान मंत्री वोरेंगे बड़निमारामा, नांदी हवाई अड्डे पर काम करने वाले स्वास्थ्य कर्मचारियों और सुरक्षा कर्मियों से मुलाकात करते हुए चित्र: मेरियानी गोनेन्दुवा

प्रधान मंत्री ने स्वास्थ्य कर्मचारियों पुलिस और सेना की प्रशंसा की

रोनल देव

प्रधान मंत्री वोरेंगे बड़निमारामा ने सभी डाक्टरों, नर्सस, लेब टेक्नीशन्स, पुलिस तथा सैनिकों की प्रशंसा की है जिन्होंने फीजी में कोरोनावायरस फैलने से रोकने में भारी मदद की है।

नान्दी अंतराष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डे पर काम करने वाले स्वास्थ्य कर्मचारियों और सुरक्षा कर्मियों से मुलाकात करते हुए प्रधान मंत्री ने कहा कि दुनिया भर में चालीस मिलियन से ज़्यादा लोगों को कोरोनावायरस ने अपनी चपेट में लिया है तथा कई लोग इस डर में जी रहे हैं कि कहीं उन्हें यह जानलेवा बीमारी न पकड़ ले, लेकिन फीजी में ऐसा कुछ भी नहीं है।

उन्होंने कहा कि दुनिया में बीमारी की शुरुआत होते ही यहाँ सही फैसले लिए गए तथा इस वायरस को काबू में

रखने के लिए फीजी ने भारी उपलब्धि हासिल की।

“दुनिया के कुछ देशों में कोविड-19 का एक भी मामला नहीं है क्यों कि उनकी सीमा बिल्कुल बन्द है, अपने नागरिकों के लिए भी। लेकिन फीजी अपने नागरिकों को वापस लौटने का मौका दे रहा है जो दुनिया के किसी भी कोने में फँसे हैं, इस वजह से यह बीमारी देश में आई लेकिन इसे हम सबने मिलकर काबू किया। हमने लोगों की भलाई जोखिम में डाले बिना, विदेश से लौटे अपने लोगों को सख्त नियमों का पालन करते हुए सुरक्षित कोरनटीन में रखा तथा इसके चलते एक सौ नब्बे दिन से ज़्यादा हो गए हैं जहाँ सीमा सुरक्षा सुविधा के बाहर एक भी नया मामला सामने नहीं आया है। हमें इसके लिए न केवल गर्व होना

चाहिए कि हमने यह हासिल किया बल्कि यह कैसे हासिल किया।”

प्रधान मंत्री ने कहा कि जब लोग कोरनटीन में या दूसरों से अलग रहने वाली तनावग्रस्त स्थिति से गुज़रते हैं तो उनकी जब अच्छी देखभाल होती है, तो इन कर्मचारियों के काम पर ध्यान जाता है जिसे कभी भूला नहीं जाएगा। उन्होंने बताया कि सीमा कोरनटीन में कोरोनावायरस का नया मामला सामने आया है। सत्तावन साल का यह व्यक्ति चौबीस अक्टूबर को नाईरोबी से फीजी आया था। यहाँ के सख्त नियमों के कारण इस व्यक्ति से आम जनता को कोई खतरा नहीं है। यह व्यक्ति संतोषजनक हालत में लौटोका अस्पताल में भर्ती है जहाँ डाक्टर और नर्स उनकी देखभाल कर रहे हैं। नियमों के तहत यह स्वास्थ्य कर्मचारी चौदह दिनों तक

आयसोलेशन बोर्ड में रहेंगे, फिर अगले चौदह दिन कोरनटीन में बिताने के बाद सार्वजनिक स्थानों पर जा सकेंगे। यह लोग अपने परिवार को छोड़कर अपनी ज़िम्मेदारी निभा रहे हैं तथा पूरा देश इनके साथ है।

“हम इस बात के अभारी हैं कि हर सुबह कई व्यापारों के दरवाज़े खुलते हैं जिससे लोगों की रोज़ी-रोटी चल रही है तथा हमारे बच्चे स्कूल बस पकड़कर स्कूल जा रहे हैं। आप लोगों के बलिदान की वजह से देशवासी सुख-सुविधाओं का मज़ा ले रहे हैं।” प्रधान मंत्री के अनुसार सीमा कोरनटीन वाली सुविधा अब लागू रहेगी क्योंकि हमारे लोग विदेश से आते रहेंगे तथा हमने उन लोगों के लिए अपनी सीमाएं खोल दी हैं जिनके पास देश में नौकरी करने की पेरमिट है। हम अपने क्षेत्रिय विकास भागीदारों

से यात्रा वापस जारी करने को लेकर चर्चा कर रहे हैं।

यह सब हमारे सीमा कर्मचारियों के प्रयासों पर निर्भर है।

उन्होंने बताया कि यह एक कपटी वायरस है जहाँ इसे फैलने का खतरा हमेशा बना रहता है इसलिए सभी को सुरक्षा उपकरण प्रदान किए गए हैं। उन्होंने कहा कि ज़रूरत पड़ने पर और उपकरण का भी प्रबन्ध किया जाएगा।

प्रधान मंत्री ने कहा कि हालही नम्बुआ में सैनिक मुख्यालय स्थित जोज माते सैनिक अस्पताल पर सुधारकार्य किया गया जहाँ सीमा कर्मियों की देखरेख होगी अगर वे इस वायरस से पीड़ित हुए। प्रधान मंत्री ने कहा कि जबतक यह वायरस दुनिया में है, तबतक हमारे लोगों पर इसका खतरा है इसलिए हमें बेहतरीन ढंग से अपना संचालन जारी रखना चाहिए।



“एक ऐसा फीजी जहाँ शिक्षा के ज़रिए सभी फीजियन्स का सपना पूरा हो”

वीरेंद्र लाल

प्रधान मंत्री वीरेंद्रो बड़िनमारामा ने नांदी मुस्लिम प्राथमरी स्कूल की नई तीन मंजिली इमारत का उद्घाटन किया। उद्घाटन करते हुए प्रधान मंत्री ने कहा कि वे हर छात्र की आँख में एक संयुक्त फीजी देखते हैं।

“शिक्षा के ज़रिए वे अपने आप में बदलाव लाते हैं। उनकी पहचान उनके धर्म, जाति या बेल्लगाउंड से नहीं बल्कि उनकी उपलब्धि से है। मुफ्त शिक्षा, बराबर के मौके, योग्यता के आधार पर मान्यता होने से यह हमारे देश के सब से प्रतिभाशाली, प्रतिभावान और एकता से जुड़ी पीढ़ी है। मैं वायदा करता हूँ कि आशा कम नहीं होगी, स्थिति चाहे कितनी भी मुश्किल क्यों न हो जाए, मेरी सरकार का मुफ्त शिक्षा वायदा, बना रहेगा। फीजियन बच्चों को अपनी सरकार से तो यह मिलना ही चाहिए।

“लेकिन हम जानते हैं कि सरकार अकेले सब कुछ नहीं कर सकती, हमें पार्टनर ज़रूरत है जो एक शिक्षित समाज का निर्माण करने में हमारा साथ देना

चाहते हैं; एक ऐसा फीजी जहाँ शिक्षा के ज़रिए सभी फीजियन्स का सपना पूरा हो। और मैं जानता हूँ ऐसा एक पार्टनर फीजी मुस्लिम लीग है, ऐसी संस्था जो शिक्षा के क्षेत्र और परोपकारी कार्य में पीछे नहीं हटती।

प्रधान मंत्री ने फीजी मुस्लिम लीग और नांदी मुस्लिम प्राथमरी स्कूल के कार्य की सराहना की।

उन्होंने आश्वासन दिया कि वैश्विक महामारी से छात्रों को सुरक्षा प्रदान की जायेगी। प्रधान मंत्री ने बताया कि स्वास्थ्य कर्मचारी और अनुशासित बल, कोविड-19 पर काबु करने की दिशा में काम कर रहे हैं।

“हम इस महामारी से सुरक्षित तो हैं लेकिन हमारी अर्थ-व्यवस्था पर इसका बहुत बुरा असर पड़ा है। हम एक मुश्किल दौर से गुज़र रहे हैं लेकिन इस दौरान भी बच्चों को स्कूल जाते देखकर, क्लासस अटेंड करते देखकर, अपने दोस्तों के साथ देखकर बहुत अच्छा लगता है।

सरकार के मुख्या ने सात सौ से ज्यादा उन युवकों को भी धन्यवाद दिया जिन्होंने फीजी डाय कोम्पिटिशन में भाग लिया था।



प्रधान मंत्री नांदी मुस्लिम प्राथमरी स्कूल के छात्रों से मुलाकात करते हुए चित्र: मेरियानी गोनेन्दुवा



अटेनी जनरल अईयाज़ सईयद खईयूम अमरीकी दूतावास में एक सम्मेलन के दौरान अमरीकी राजदूत और अन्य उच्च अधिकारियों के साथ चित्र: शेनल देव

ब्लू लईन्स ने आर्थिक गतिविधियाँ बढ़ाई: अटेनी जेनरल

शेनल देव

फीजियन सरकार की ब्लू लईन सुविधा के चलते कुछ हद तक फीजी का सरहद खोला गया है जिससे अभी तक देश में करीब नब्बे योर्ट्स आए हैं। अमरीकी दूतावास में हुए एक समाचार सम्मेलन में अटेनी जनरल तथा अर्थ-व्यवस्था मंत्री अईयाज़ सईयद खईयूम ने कहा कि इन योर्ट्स के आने से आर्थिक गतिविधियाँ दोबारा शुरू हुई हैं तथा कुछ होटल कर्मचारी वापस नौकरी करने लगे

हैं जिनकी नौकरियाँ छूट गई थी। उन्होंने कहा कि योर्ट्स पर सवार यात्रियों को चौदह दिनों की कोरन्टीन अवधि खत्म होने के बाद कोविड-19 के लिए नेगाटिव पाने के बाद ही ज़मीन पर आने की अनुमति दी जा रही है। ये टूरिस्ट शाख-भाजी खरीदते हैं, सुपरमार्केट जाते हैं तथा कुछ दिन होटल में भी बिताते हैं क्योंकि अभी होटल में ठहरना काफी सस्ता है।

अटेनी जनरल के अनुसार कोविड-19 महामारी से पहले जब ओस्ट्रेलिया और निउज़िलेन्ड में स्कूली छुट्टियाँ

होती थी तो यहाँ होटल भरे रहते थे, इस वजह से फीजी इन परिवारों पर काफी निर्भर रहता था। “हमें बताया गया है कि कोविड-19 से पहले वाली स्थिति तक पहुँचने में तीन-चार साल लगेगे तथा इसमें तेज़ी लाना एक बहुत बड़ी चुनौती है। इस दिशा में भारी सहायता होगी अगर कोरोनावायरस के लिए दवा बन जाए। फीजी सभी अंतराष्ट्रीय सम्मेलन में ज़ोर देता आया है कि प्रशान्तीय द्वीप और अन्य छोटे-छोटे द्वीप जहाँ कोरोनावायरस के बहुत कम

या एक भी मामला नहीं है को दवा प्रदान करने के लिए प्राथमिकता मिलनी चाहिए। हमें इस सूची में नीचे धकेलने से हमारी सफलता के लिए हमें सज़ा मिल सकती है। कुछ लोग कह सकते हैं कि हमारे देश में कोविड-19 के कम या कुछ भी मामले नहीं हैं इसलिए हमें दवा की ज़रूरत नहीं है। इससे हमें और किनारे पर कर दिया जाएगा जिससे लोगों को फीजी सफर करने पर प्रतिबन्ध भी लग सकता है,” अटेनी जनरल ने कहा।

सरकार ने कोसिंग बनवाया

वीरेंद्र लाल

फील्ड फो और वईयावी के बीच एक कोसिंग बनने से वहाँ के लगभग दो सौ घर के लोग अब आसानी से सरकारी सेवाओं और अन्य सुविधाओं तक पहुँच सकेंगे। रूरल एन्ड मेरिटाएम डिवेलपमेंट तथा डिज़ास्टा मेनेजमेंट मंत्रालय ने मंत्रालय के कोमिउनिटी एक्सेस रौड, फुटपाथ्स एन्ड फुटब्रिजस (CARFF) प्रोग्राम के तहत यह कोसिंग बनवाया है।

इन दोनों इलाकों के एक प्रतिनिधि ने बताया कि उन्नीस सौ अस्सी के दशक से वे कोसिंग बनने का इंतज़ार कर रहे थे जिससे कि दोनों इलाके के लोग जुड़ सकें और अन्य सेवाएँ प्राप्त कर सकें।

“यह देखकर बहुत अच्छा लगता है कि सरकार ने हमारे लिए कोसिंग बनवाया है,” प्रतिनिधि ने कहा। कोसिंग बनने से पहले लोग एक वोकवय काम में लाते थे जो सुरक्षित नहीं था और खराब मौसम में काफी लोग वहाँ सरककर गिरे भी हैं जिस कारण से उन्हें गम्भीर चोट लगी है।

“बाढ़ के समय हमारे लिए घर पहुँचना बहुत मुश्किल था लेकिन इस कोसिंग ने हमारी समस्या सुलझा दी है। हमारी माँग पर गौर करने के लिए हम सरकार को धन्यवाद देते हैं।”

प्रतिनिधि ने कहा कि कोसिंग बनने से दोनों इलाकों के वृद्ध लोगों और महिलाओं तथा बच्चों के लिए बहुत सुविधा हो गई है।

इस योजना से लगभग एक हजार लोगों को फायदा हो रहा है। इस कोसिंग के ज़रिए फील्ड फो के लोग वईयावी इनडस्ट्रियल इलाका और लौतोका शहर जल्द पहुँच सकते हैं।

नज़दीक के स्कूल जाने वाले छात्र भी इस कोसिंग का प्रयोग करते हैं।

इस योजना में सरकार के चालीस हजार डोलर से ज्यादा खर्च हुए हैं।

नविसा नांदी के लोगों को नल का पानी मिलने लगा

वीरेंद्र लाल

नवाका, नांदी के नविसा सेटलमेंट के दस परिवारों को नल का पानी मिलने लगा है।

रूरल एन्ड मेरिटाएम डिवेलपमेंट तथा डिज़ास्टा मेनेजमेंट मंत्रालय के सेल्फ-हेल्प प्रोग्राम के तहत वहाँ लोगों की मदद की गई है। मंत्रालय ने वहाँ एक

बो-हौल ड्रिल किया, बोटा टैंक्स बिठाया, हर एक घर तक पाएप बिठाया और ई एफ एल गिड से बिजली कोनेक्ट किया। इन कार्यों में चौदह हजार डोलर से ज्यादा खर्च हुए हैं।

इससे पहले वहाँ के लोग कुवाँ और नाला से पानी भरते थे लेकिन सूखे के मौसम में कुवाँ और नाला सूखने से लोग मुसिवतों का सामना करते थे। सूखे के

मौसम में सरकार वहाँ पानी बाँटती थी। नल से पानी मिलने पर अब सरकार को सूखे के समय में वहाँ पानी नहीं बाँटना पड़ेगा और लोग बीमारियों से भी बचेंगे। यह योजना सरकार की राष्ट्रीय विकास योजना के तहत है जहाँ सरकार इस दिशा में काम कर रही है कि कुछ सालों में देश में सभी लोगों को नल का पानी मिलने लगे।



नवाका, नांदी के नविसा सेटलमेंट का एक परिवार। चित्र में हाल ही वहाँ बिठाया गया बोटा टैंक दिखाई दे रहा है चित्र: मेरियानी गोनेन्दुवा



अटेनी जनरल तथा अर्थ-व्यवस्था मंत्री अईयाज़ सईयद खईयूम कोरोनाविया नौसोरी में हाल ही नवरात्री के दौरान दिया जलाते हुए चित्र: फिलिक्स लेसिनईवालू

धार्मिक त्योहारों का संदेश समझना जरूरी

वीरेंद्र लाल

फीजी में सभी लोगों के पास अपने धर्म का पालन करने का अधिकार है और लोगों को याद दिलाया गया है कि धार्मिक कारवाइयों के दौरान वे आत्मविश्लेषण करें।

हाल ही कोरोनाविया में नवरात्री पूजा के दौरान अटेनी जनरल तथा अर्थ-व्यवस्था मंत्री अईयाज़ सईयद खईयूम ने भारतीय समाज से इन त्योहारों के पीछे संदेशों पर गौर करने की मांग की।

अटेनी जनरल ने कहा कि नवरातम में माँ दुर्गा की पूजा करने से यह बात सामने आती है कि हमारे जीवन में महिलाओं का कितना महत्व है।

“अगर आप नवरात्री को देखें तो इससे पता चलता है कि हमारे जीवन में हमारी माताएं, हमारी पत्नी, हमारी बहनें और हमारी बेटियों का कितना महत्व है और हमें उन्हें सम्मान करना चाहिए।”

अटेनी जनरल ने बताया कि पूजा पाठ के समय लोग माला जपते हैं और प्रार्थना करते हैं और इस दौरान हमें अपने अन्दर झाँकने का मौका मिलता है कि हम क्या कर रहे हैं और हमें क्या करना चाहिए यानि सही और गलत का भेद समझना चाहिए।

उन्होंने कहा कि धर्म का सहारा लेकर हमें लोगों को जोड़ना चाहिए नाकि लोगों को अलग थलग करना या झगड़ना चाहिए।

अटेनी जनरल ने फीजी को एक धर्म

निरपेक्ष प्रदेश होने के महत्व के बारे में समझाया।

“जैसाकि प्रधान मंत्री ने कहा है, धर्म निरपेक्ष प्रदेश का मूलतब है कि सभी लोगों के पास अपने धर्म का पालन करने का अधिकार है - सरकार निष्पक्ष रहेगी और किसी एक धर्म का बढ़ावा नहीं देगी। सभाओं में भी ऐसी प्रार्थनाएं बोली जायेंगी जो सभी पर लागू हो। ऐसे शब्दों का प्रयोग नहीं किया जाएगा जहाँ लोगों को लगे कि वे अलग हैं।”

अटेनी जनरल ने बताया कि यह देखना हमारी जिम्मेदारी और कर्तव्य है कि सभी लोग अपने धर्म का पालन करें और शांति से एक दूसरे के साथ मिलकर रहें।

अमेरिका में फीजी के कृषि उत्पादनों की मांग बढ़ी

रेनल देव

लोगों के लिए सरहदें बन्द हैं लेकिन लोस एन्जलीस अमेरिका तक फीजी एयावईज़ के जरिए सामान भेजे जा रहे हैं और इनमें अस्सी से पचासी प्रतिशत (80 to 85%) कृषि उत्पादन हैं।

अटेनी जनरल तथा अर्थ-व्यवस्था मंत्री अईयाज़ सईयद खईयूम ने अमेरिकी दूतावास में एक सम्मेलन के दौरान कहा कि इन कृषि उत्पादनों में सबसे ज़्यादा यंगोना भेजा जा रहा है जो संकेत देता है कि अमेरिका में यंगोना की मांग बहुत ज़्यादा है।

उन्होंने कहा कि पिछले कुछ महीनों से देखा जा रहा है कि भारी मात्रा में हल्दी तथा सईजन और उसका फर भी फीजी से निर्यात किया जा रहा है।



अटेनी जनरल अमेरिकी राजदूत के साथ अमेरिकी दूतावास में एक सम्मेलन के दौरान चित्र: रेनल देव

अटेनी जनरल के अनुसार देश में सामानों और सेवाओं की मांग गिरने की वजह से अनुमान है कि आयात में भी गिरावट होगी।

उनके अनुसार अमेरिका और अन्य विकासशील देशों के साथ व्यापार और पुँजी लगाने के कदम उठाना बेहद जरूरी और

आवश्यक है।

उन्होंने कहा कि कुछ नियमों का पालन करते हुए अमेरिका से बहुत सामान खरीदे जा सकते हैं।

अटेनी जनरल ने अमेरिकी सरकार को धन्यवाद दिया जिन्होंने हाल ही फीजी के साथ एक व्यवसाईक समझौता तय किया

है जो पंद्रह अक्टूबर से असर में आया है।

उन्होंने कहा कि इस समझौते से फीजी के अलावा अन्य पड़ोसी देशों को भी लाभ होगा क्योंकि उम्मीद है कि इससे पूरे क्षेत्र की अर्थ-व्यवस्था सुधरने के साथ-साथ स्थिरता लाई जाएगी।

हमें तैयार रहना है



रूरल एन्ड मेरिटायम डिवेलपमेंट मंत्री इनिया सेरुईरातु नेशनल डिज़ास्टा अवैयरनेस वीक के दौरान चित्र: प्रदान किया गया

वीरेंद्र लाल

जलवायु परिवर्तन के बढ़ते असर के कारण आँधी तूफान और ताकतवर होने की सम्भावना है और लोगों से तैयारी कर लेने की मांग की जा रही है।

रूरल एन्ड मेरिटायम डिवेलपमेंट तथा डिज़ास्टा मेनेजमेंट मंत्री इनिया सेरुईरातु पिछले सप्ताह बा में नेशनल डिज़ास्टा अवैयरनेस वीक का उद्घाटन करते वक्त बोल रहे थे।

उन्होंने बताया कि अगले सप्ताह से फीजी में तूफान का मौसम शुरू हो जाएगा और लोग जानते हैं कि इसका क्या मतलब है।

दो हज़ार दस से फीजी ने नौ तूफानों का सामना किया है। इन तूफानों ने भारी तबाही मचाई, जान माल की हानी हुई और कुल मिलाकर दो दसमलव चार बिलियन डॉलर (\$2.42 b) से ज़्यादा की नुकसानी हुई। दो हज़ार दस से दो हज़ार बीस के बीच यह देश के कुल मूल उत्पादन (GDP) के एक दसमलव दो पाँच (1.25%) प्रतिशत है। हाउज़िंग क्षेत्र को आठ सौ पचहत्तर मिलियन डॉलर (\$875 m) की नुकसानी हुई, शिक्षा के क्षेत्र को सात सौ नवासी मिलियन डॉलर (\$789 m) की और कृषि क्षेत्र को छः सौ सतहत्तर मिलियन डॉलर (\$677 m) की क्षति हुई।

मंत्री ने बताया कि जलवायु परिवर्तन के बढ़ते असर के कारण, आँधी तूफान और ताकतवर होते जा रहे हैं और हमें इसके लिए तैयार रहना चाहिए।

“नेशनल डिज़ास्टा अवैयरनेस वीक के दौरान हम लोगों में यह जागरूकता फैलाते हैं कि किस तरह से हमें अपने आपको और समाजों को तैयार करना चाहिए। हमें पिछले हादसों से सीख लेनी चाहिए और आगे के लिए अच्छी तरह से तैयारी करनी चाहिए।”

मंत्री सेरुईरातु ने बताया कि दो हज़ार सात और दो हज़ार उन्नीस के बीच आँधी तूफानों में कुल मिलाकर चौसठ (64) लोगों की मृत्यु हुई है। उन्होंने बताया कि इनमें से छब्बीस (26) की मृत्यु तूफान के दौरान चड़ी बाढ़ में डूबने से हुई थी और इनमें से सत्तरह (17) की मृत्यु पश्चिमी विभाग में हुई थी।

“यह संख्या काफी ज़्यादा है और हमें मिलकर काम करना होगा ताकि मृतकों की संख्या न बढ़े। हम लोगों को डूबने से बचा सकते हैं, जीवन बहुमूल्य है और दोबारा नहीं मिलता। बाढ़ चड़ी नदी नाले पार करने का प्रयास न करें, अपना जीवन या अपने परिवार का जीवन खतरे में ना डालें। बाढ़ चड़ी नदी नालों में ना तैरे।”

मंत्री सेरुईरातु ने बताया कि फीजी उन लोगों के साथ काम कर रहा है जो इस तरह की विपत्तियों का जल्द शिकार हो जाते हैं।

“हम किसी को पीछे नहीं छोड़ेंगे बल्कि सब के साथ मिलकर काम करेंगे। हम यह देखेंगे कि गरीब से गरीब और जो लोग विपत्तियों का जल्द शिकार हो जाते हैं की आवाज़ सुनी जाए।”

मंत्री ने बताया कि हम प्रगति नहीं कर सकेंगे अगर जो कुछ हम बनायेंगे, प्राकृतिक विपत्तियों में सब नष्ट हो जाए।

“कड़वा सच यह है कि अगर प्राकृतिक विपत्तियों से लगातार खतरा रहा, तो हम अपने लोगों को गरीबी से नहीं निकाल सकेंगे, हम बराबरी नहीं ला पायेंगे, हम समाज को डिजिटल की ओर नहीं ले जा पायेंगे और नाही भोजन की सुरक्षा दे पायेंगे।”

मंत्री ने बताया कि हम ऐसे समाज बनाने की दिशा में काम कर रहे हैं जो ताकतवर आँधी तूफानों का सामना डटकर कर सकें।



फीजी दिवस पर लोगों को सम्मान मिला

राष्ट्रपति महामहिम चोचो कोन्वेने ने समाज में अलग-अलग क्षेत्र के लोगों को फीजी दिवस की पचासवीं सालगिराह के मौके पर पदक में सम्मानित किया। चित्र: गेनल देव



फीजी सोसाएटी फोर दी ब्लाइन्ड की प्रशंसा हुई

प्रधान मंत्री वॉरेनो बड़निमारागा ने फीजी सोसाएटी फोर दी ब्लाइन्ड की प्रशंसा की है जो आँखों की सुरक्षा को लेकर जागरूकता फैलाने का काम करती है। सोसाएटी के गोल्डन जुबली समारोह के मौके पर प्रधान मंत्री ने कहा कि सोसाएटी एक ही संस्था है जो नेत्रहीन और कम दिखाई देने वाले लोगों और बच्चों को शिक्षा, प्रशिक्षण और सहायता देती आई है। उन्होंने आगे कहा कि यह सरकार की जिम्मेदारी है कि वे अपने संसाधनों का उपयोग करते हुए विकलांग लोगों की मदद करें ताकि उन्हें भी समाज के अन्य लोगों के मिलान में बराबर अधिकार मिले। “फीजी एक ऐसी जगह है जहाँ विकलांग लोगों के हुनर की पहचान होती है न कि केवल उनपर तरस खाया जाता है,” प्रधान मंत्री ने कहा। उनके अनुसार विकलांग बच्चों को सरकार शिक्षा हासिल करने तथा समाज में उठने-बैठने के लिए हर सम्भव सहायता प्रदान कर रही है।

चित्र: ननैस नहमिला



धर्म का उपयोग दोस्ती के लिए होनी चाहिए विभाजन के लिए नहीं - आई जी

अटेनी जनरल तथा अर्थ-व्यवस्था मंत्री आईयाज़ सईयद खईयूम ने हाल में नवरात्री के मौके पर कोरोनिविया नउसोरो स्थित एक मंदिर में धर्म प्रेमियों से मुलाकात करते हुए भारत के भुवनेश्वर राष्‍ट्रपति डाक्‍टर अब्‍दुल कलाम के संदेशों को दोहराया कि महान व्यक्ति धर्म का उपयोग करके दोस्ती करता है लेकिन छोटे लोग इसे विभाजन पैदा करने के अवज़ार के रूप में काम में लाते हैं। चित्र: फिलिक्स लेमिनईवालू



अपने कर्मों पर ध्यान दो - अटेनी जनरल

अटेनी जनरल तथा अर्थ-व्यवस्था मंत्री आईयाज़ सईयद खईयूम का कहना है कि लोगों को संसार के भँवर में पड़ने के बजाय अपने कर्मों पर ध्यान देना चाहिए। हालही वार्डिनिकोरो जामे मस्जिद में मिलाद-उल-नबी के जलसे के मौके पर अटेनी जनरल ने कहा कि हमें हमेशा पैगम्बर मोहम्मद साहब के संदेशों को याद रखना चाहिए। सईयद खईयूम ने कहा कि यह बहुत दुख की बात कि पाँच वक्त का नमाज़ पढ़ने वाले कुछ लोग ऐसे देकर अपना काम निकलवाते हैं। “एक ओर लोग प्रार्थना करते हैं और दूसरी ओर भ्रष्ट होते हैं,” अटेनी जनरल ने कहा। उन्होंने ने ज़ोर दिया कि यह ज़रूर हम हर साल मनाते हैं लेकिन अब वक्त आ गया है कि हम अपने कर्मों पर ध्यान दें। इस जलसे में भाग लेने के लिए लोग बुनिमोली, बसोन्गा, वाईलेवू, सोवासोवा, डाक्कू तथा तौगानिकुला में आए थे। चित्र: प्रशिला देवी





रूरल एन्ड मेरिटार्म डिवेलपमेंट मंत्री इनिया सेरुईरातु, सेयांगांगा के कुछ प्रमुख लोगों के साथ, मंत्री उत्तरी विभाग के दौर पर थे चित: प्रदान किया गया

सेयांगांगा में विकास करने की योजना

वीरन्द्र लाल

सरकार ने सेयांगांगा में लोगों को आश्वासन दिया है सभी को बिजली पानी प्रदान की जाएगी।

रूरल एन्ड मेरिटार्म डिवेलपमेंट तथा डिज़ास्टा मेनेजमेंट मंत्री इनिया सेरुईरातु सोलोवे मडुवाता में एक तलानोवा सेशन में बोल रहे थे।

मंत्री ने बताया कि सरकार, एनेजी फीजी लिमिटेड (EFL) के ज़रिए, सेयांगांगा इलाके के लिए बिजली की ज़रूरत पर काम कर रही है।

“सरकार सभी को बिजली पानी प्रदान करने

की दिशा में काम कर रही है। लेकिन एक साथ सब कुछ नहीं हो जाएगा, अलग अलग इलाकों पर गौर किया जाएगा और यह भी देखा जाएगा कि इसके लिए कितने पैसे अलग किए गए हैं। हम अभी मुख्य सड़क पर काम कर रहे हैं, इसके बाद हम सेकुला रोड में जायेंगे। यह तो होगा ही, लेकिन अलग अलग चरण में। कुछ साल पहले हमने आपको सोला दिया था, अब हम इलेक्ट्रिसिटी ग्रिड ला रहे हैं। सभी को बिजली मिलेगी लेकिन यह सम्पत्ति की उपलब्धि पर निर्भर करेगा।”

पानी के बारे में सेरुईरातु ने बताया कि

मंत्रालय ने सेयांगांगा इलाके में गवर्नमेंट रिज़ेर्व्स के रूप में आठ बो-हौल्स की पहचान की है जो लेण्ड्स एन्ड मिनरल रिसोस मंत्रालय के हैं।

“मंत्री ने अपने कर्मचारियों से इन बो-हौल्स के बारे में पता करने की मांग की है कि क्या इनके ज़रिए वहाँ लोगों को पानी सप्लाई किया जा सकता है।” सेरुईरातु, प्रधान मंत्री के साथ उत्तरी विभाग के दौर पर थे। उन्होंने बताया कि सेयांगांगा, उत्तरी विभाग और पूरे फीजी की अर्थव्यवस्था में योगदान देता है तथा सरकार को सेयांगांगा में लोगों की समस्याओं के बारे में पता है।

सुवा में और मिनी मार्केट्स बनाने की योजना

वीरन्द्र लाल

सुवा में और मिनी मार्केट्स बनाए जायेंगे। लोकल गवर्नमेंट मंत्री प्रेमिला कुमार ने फ्लेगस्टाफ, राईवांगा और मीड-शैड में उन जगहों का दौरा किया है जहाँ मिनी मार्केट्स बनाने की योजना है।

मंत्री ने बताया कि इन जगहों का दौरा करना ज़रूरी था ताकि वो यह देख सकें कि वहाँ वर्तमान मार्केट्स कैसे चल रहे हैं और नए मार्केट्स बनाने से विक्रेताओं की ज़रूरतों की कैसे पूर्ती हो सकेगी।

“सुवा से बाहर मिनी मार्केट्स बनाने की ज़रूरत है। ऐसा करने से शहर में भीड़-भाड़ की कमी होगी, शहर में रास्तों में मोटर गाड़ियों की संख्या कम होगी और सुवा से बाहर रहने वालों के लिए सहूलियत होगी।

हम सब जानते हैं कि बड़े मार्केट्स जैसे सुवा, लंगेर और नौसोरी भरे रहते हैं खासकर शनिवार को। नए मार्केट्स बनाने से लोग बंट जायेंगे और वर्तमान मार्केट्स में लोगों की भीड़ कुछ कम हो जायेगी,” मंत्री ने कहा।

मंत्री के साथ सुवा के स्पेशल एडमिनिस्ट्रैटिव जिनकी अगुवाई चेंयामेन इसिकेली तिकोन्दुवादुवा कर रहे थे, ने भी इन इलाकों का दौरा किया। प्रस्तावित मार्केट्स पर निर्माणकार्य, अगले महीने शुरू होंगे।

सरकार चीनी उत्पादन में वृद्धि करना चाहती है

वीरन्द्र लाल

सरकार केवल उत्तरी विभाग में ही नहीं बल्कि फीजी भर में चीनी उत्पादन में वृद्धि करना चाहती है।

रूरल एन्ड मेरिटार्म डिवेलपमेंट तथा डिज़ास्टा मेनेजमेंट मंत्री इनिया सेरुईरातु ने प्रधान मंत्री के साथ उत्तरी विभाग के दौर पर ऐसा कहा।

“उत्तरी विभाग में हर साल एक दसमलव दो मिलियन टन्स से ज्यादा गन्ने पेर जाते थे। दोबारा ऐसा होने में कुछ समय लगेगा और जब इतने गन्ने हम पेरने लगेंगे, इससे सभी को फायदा होगा, समाज के लोगों को और व्यापारिक समुदाय को,” सेरुईरातु ने कहा।

उत्तरी विभाग के दौर पर प्रधान मंत्री के प्रतिनिधि-मंडल ने गन्ने के कुछ किसानों और ज़मीन मालिकों से मुलाकात की और इस सम्भावना पर बातचीत की कि वे फीजी शुगा कोर्पोरेशन के साथ मिलकर गन्ने की खेती करें।

सेरुईरातु ने बताया कि ज़मीन मालिकों के एफ एस सी के साथ मिलकर खेती करने से फायदा होगा क्योंकि ज़मीन मालिकों के पास ज़मीन है और एफ एस सी खेती करने के औज़ार प्रदान कर सकती है और इस तरह से दोनों को लाभ होगा और कृषि उत्पादन में वृद्धि होगी।

प्रधान मंत्री की अगुवाई में प्रतिनिधि-मंडल ने नसारावांगा में भी गन्ने के किसानों से मुलाकात की और उनकी चिंताओं को भी सुना।

सेरुईरातु ने बताया कि सरकार की लुक नोर्थ नीती के तहत उत्तरी विभाग में काफी विकास हुए हैं। उन्होंने कहा कि सरकार सभी के लिए एक बेहतर फीजी बनाना चाहती है और ऐसा करते हुए यह देखा जाएगा कि कोई पीछे ना छूट जाए।

मंत्रालय को कोरियन दूतावास से थेमोमिटज़ मिले

वीरन्द्र लाल

शिक्षा मंत्रालय को फीजी स्थित कोरियन दूतावास से एक सौ चार कोन्टेक्ट तथा नोन कोन्टेक्ट थेमोमिटज़ मिले।

शिक्षा मंत्री रौज़ी अक्वर ने थेमोमिटज़ स्वीकार करते हुए कहा कि थेमोमिटज़ स्कूल्स में बाटे जायेंगे और कोविड-19 के चलते इससे छात्रों के तापमान लेने में मदद मिलेगी जिससे छात्र सुरक्षा की दायरे में रहकर पढ़ाई कर सकें।

मंत्री ने आगे कहा कि दोनों देशों के बीच अच्छे सम्बंध होने के कारण फीजी को डिवेलपमेंट एक्सपिरियन्स एक्सचेंज पार्टनरशिप प्रोग्रेस (DEEP), ह्यूमैनिटेरियन असिस्टन्स एन्ड डिज़ास्टा रिलीफ और डिवेलपमेंट इनोवर्शन प्रोग्रेस के तहत सहायता मिल रही है।

फीजी में कोरियन राजदूत महामहीम शिन-ही चो ने बताया कि हर साल तीन अक्टूबर को फीजी में कोरिया के नेशनल फौंडेशन डेय मनाया जाता है लेकिन इस साल कोविड-19 के चलते, दूतावास ने इस समारोह में खर्च होने वाले पैसे, फीजियन समाजों पर खासकर शिक्षा के क्षेत्र में खर्च करने का फैसला किया।

“हम यह आशा करते हैं कि इस सहायता से कमियों की पूर्ती होगी। कोविड-19 के चलते यह समय चुनौतियों से खाली नहीं है। हम फीजी के एक अच्छे दोस्त हैं और ऐसा बने रहना चाहते हैं,” कोरियन राजदूत ने कहा।

शिक्षा मंत्रालय ने कोरियन दूतावास को धन्यवाद देते हुए, कोविड-19 के चलते सभी से सुक्षित रहने की मांग की।



शिक्षा मंत्री रौज़ी अक्वर, फीजी में कोरियन राजदूत शिन-ही चो के साथ चित: प्रदान किया गया

फीजी फामासिउटिकल सप्लाय चईन में बदलाव होगा



स्वास्थ्य मंत्री, ओस्ट्रेलियन हाय कमिश्नर के साथ चित्र: फिलिक्स लेसिनईवालू

वीरेंद्र लाल

स्वास्थ्य मंत्री डाक्टर इफेरईमी वंगाई नम्बेते ने पिछले सप्ताह ओस्ट्रेलियन सरकार के साथ हिस्सेदारी में फीजी फामासिउटिकल सप्लाय चईन में बदलाव करने की योजना लॉच किया। इस योजना से सभी फीजियन्स को, वे चाहे जहाँ भी रहते हों तथा उनकी आर्थिक और सामाजिक स्थिति चाहे कुछ भी हो, को समय पर पर्याप्त मात्रा में दवाईयाँ मिलेंगी। मंत्री ने बताया कि इस योजना के तहत फीजी के सभी अस्पतालों और हेल्थ सेंटर में हर समय दवाईयाँ उपलब्ध रहेंगी।



बदलाव करने की प्रक्रिया अगले पन्द्रह से अठ्ठारह महीनों तक जारी रहेगी। इसके समाप्त होने पर हम कुछ बचत करने की भी आशा करते हैं। अच्छी तरह से संचालन करने से हम तीस से चालीस प्रतिशत की बचत कर सकते हैं ”

स्वास्थ्य मंत्री
डाक्टर इफेरईमी वंगाईनम्बेते

स्वास्थ्य मंत्री ने ओस्ट्रेलियन सरकार को धन्यवाद दिया जो बुवाले समझौते के तहत फीजी के स्वास्थ्य क्षेत्र को अपना समर्थन दे रही है। फीजी के लिए ओस्ट्रेलियन हाय कमिश्नर जोन फीक्स ने कहा कि ओस्ट्रेलियन सरकार इस बात से खुश है कि वह फीजी के स्वास्थ्य क्षेत्र को सहयोग दे पा रही है। “फीजी के साथ बुवाले समझौते के तहत ओस्ट्रेलियन सरकार फीजी के स्वास्थ्य मंत्रालय को सहयोग देना जारी रखेगी जिससे फीजी के लोगों को मिलने वाली स्वास्थ्य सेवा में सुधार हो। एक स्वास्थ्य प्रणाली को अच्छी तरह काम करने के लिए यह ज़रूरी है कि दवाईयाँ हर वक्त उपलब्ध रहें। दवाईयाँ हर वक्त उपलब्ध रहने के कई फायदे हैं।” हाय कमिश्नर जोन फीक्स ने बताया कि दवाईयाँ उपलब्ध रहने से खर्च में कटौति होगी, मरिजों के स्वास्थ्य में सुधार होगा और लोगों को अच्छी सेवा मिलेगी।



अटेनी जनरल तथा अर्थ-व्यवस्था मंत्री अईयाज़ सईयद खईयूम, वाईनिकोरो जामे मस्जिद पर मिलाद उल-नबि जलसे के दौरान चित्र: प्रशीला देवी

संदेशों पर गौर करना ज़रूरी

वीरेंद्र लाल

पैगमबर मोहम्मद का जन्मदिन मनाने का यही मतलब है कि आप उनके द्वारा दिखाए गए मार्ग को अपनाते हुए उसका अनुसरण करें। हालही वाईनिकोरो जामे मस्जिद पर मिलाद-उल-नबि जलसे के दौरान बोलते हुए अटेनी जनरल तथा अर्थ-व्यवस्था मंत्री अईयाज़ सईयद खईयूम ने बताया कि पैगमबर मोहम्मद ने हमें एक दूसरे से प्यार करना, गलती करने वालों को क्षमा करना, एक दूसरे की मदद करना और हमें कैसा बरताव करना चाहिए, यह सिखाया है। “यह अपने आप पर पुनः गौर करने का समय है, हम क्या कर रहे हैं और हम में से कितने लोग पैगमबर मोहम्मद की शिक्षा अपने जीवन में

उतारते हैं।”

अटेनी जनरल ने बताया कि कोई भी धर्म में यह ज़रूरी है कि हमें जो भी सिखाया गया है, हम उसे अपने दैनिक जीवन में काम में लाएं। उन्होंने बताया कि बड़े बड़े भोज आयोजित करके और मुख्य संदेश नज़र-अंदाज़ कर देना, ठीक नहीं है। “आप अपना जीवन कैसे जीते हैं, लोगों के साथ कैसे मिलते जुलते हैं, आपकी इज्जत और आपका कर्म आपके साथ जाएगा। आपकी महंगी घड़ी, आपके महंगे कपड़े या आपकी शान शौकत वाली गाड़ी आपके साथ नहीं रहेगी जब आपका निधन हो जाएगा, आपके अच्छे कर्म आपके साथ जायेंगे।” पैगमबर मोहम्मद के जीवन पर बोलते हुए अटेनी

जनरल ने बताया कि पैगमबर मोहम्मद ने चालीस से तिरसठ उम्र तक, अंधकार में पड़े समाज को शिक्षित किया और उनमें बदलाव लाया। वाईनिकोरो जामे मस्जिद, उत्तरी विभाग में बना पहला मस्जिद है। इस कार्य में शेख अब्दुल रहमान के पिता का बड़ा हाथ था। जलसे के दौरान रहमान ने मुसलमानों को एक सार्वजनिक छुट्टी देने के लिए सरकार को धन्यवाद दिया। उन्होंने सभी से शांति से एक दूसरे के साथ मिलकर रहने की माँग की और राष्ट्र की प्रगति में हाथ बटाने को कहा। इस अवसर पर सहायक एमप्लोएमेंट, यूथ एन्ड स्पोर्ट्स मंत्री एल्विक महाराज तथा सहायक शुगा मंत्री जोज वेगनाथन भी उपस्थित थे।

वेईवाउदेवा सेटलमेंट में स्ट्रीट लईट

वीरेंद्र लाल

वेईवाउदेवा सेटलमेंट तदिरूवा सुवा में स्ट्रीट लईट लगाए गए हैं। स्ट्रीट लईट का उद्घाटन करती हुई हाउज़िंग एन्ड कोमिउनिटी डिवेलपमेंट मंत्री प्रेमिला कुमार ने बताया कि वहाँ के लोगों ने उनसे वहाँ स्ट्रीट लईट लगवाने की माँग की थी। “वहाँ के लोगों के साथ पहले हुई हमारी एक सभा में लोगों ने स्ट्रीट लईट लगवाने की माँग की थी जबकि वहाँ चोरी और अन्य गैर-कानूनी कारवाइयाँ होने का खतरा बना रहता है।” मंत्री कुमार ने कहा कि नए स्ट्रीट लईट से पचास से ज्यादा घरों को फायदा होगा। “इनफोमल सेटलमेंट्स में रास्तों की ज़िम्मेदारी फीजी रौड्स ओथोरिटी की नहीं है और इस कारण से इन समाजों में स्ट्रीट लईट की सुविधा उपलब्ध नहीं है। अब स्ट्रीट लईट लगने से वहाँ चोरी चमारी और अन्य गैर-कानूनी कारवाइयाँ में गिरावट होगी।” मंत्री ने बताया कि मंत्रालय जब विकास करने के लिए ज़मीन लीस पर लेता है, वह लीस का पैसा ज़मीन मालिकों को भर देता है जिससे कि वहाँ रहने वालों को विकास होने के दौरान पोत न भरना पड़े। इसके अलावा मंत्रालय इन इलाकों में अन्य सुविधाएं भी उपलब्ध करता है जो कि विकास कार्य में शामिल रहते हैं। एक इनफोमल सेटलमेंट फोमलाईज़ करने में कुछ समय लगता है जबकि इसमें प्लेनिंग, कोंस्ट्रक्शन और अलोद्मेंट शामिल



हाउज़िंग एन्ड कोमिउनिटी डिवेलपमेंट मंत्री प्रेमिला कुमार, स्ट्रीट लईट का उद्घाटन करती हुई चित्र: प्रदान किया गया

हैं।

देश में दो सौ पचास से ज्यादा इनफोमल सेटलमेंट्स हैं और मंत्रालय के पास केवल चौवालिस के डिवेलपमेंट लीसस हैं। इनमें से चालीस इतउकई ज़मीन हैं और बाकी सरकारी ज़मीन हैं। मंत्री ने बताया कि किसी भी इनफोमल सेटलमेंट में विकास करने से पहले, अस्थाई

सुधारकार्य करने पड़ते हैं जैसे स्ट्रीट लईट्स लगाना, कल्वट की मरम्मत करना इत्यादि। इस तरह के ज़रूरी कार्यों के लिए मंत्रालय ने पैसा अलग किया है। वेईवाउदेवा सेटलमेंट में स्ट्रीट लईट के अलावा मंत्रालय ने सासाविरा सेटलमेंट में एक कल्वट लगाया है।

फीजी दर्पण

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अटेनी जनरल तथा अर्थ-व्यवस्था मंत्री अईयाज़ सईयद खईयूम हाल ही नवरात्री के दौरान कोरोनाविषय में एक मंदिर पर एक परिवार के साथ चित्र: फिलिक्स लेसिनईवालू

छोटे विकासशील देशों को मिलने वाली आर्थिक सहायता में वृद्धि होने की आशा

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हमें अब बातचीत से हटकर, कदम उठाना चाहिए जिससे कि छोटे विकासशील देश (SIDS) जो कोविड-19 के कारण आर्थिक समस्याओं से जूझ रहे हैं, इन समस्याओं से निकल सकें।

यह संदेश अटेनी जनरल तथा अर्थ-व्यवस्था मंत्री अईयाज़ सईयद खईयूम ने एस आय डी एस एक्सएस टु फायनेंस के वेबुवल राउंड-टई बल में दिया।

“बाहर से आमदनी आने वाले क्षेत्र जैसे टुरिज़्म और रिमिटन्स पर बहुत बुरा असर पड़ा है। छोटे विकासशील देशों की आर्थिक ज़रूरतें,

संयुक्त राष्ट्र के अनुमान से तीन से पाँच गुना ज्यादा होने की सम्भावना है जबकि कुल मूल उत्पादन (GDP) में भारी गिरावट देखी जा रही है। ग्लोबल डिवेलपमेंट फायनेंस फईम्वोक उन्नीस सौ चालीस के दशक में तैयार किया गया था और जिन नेताओं ने इसे तैयार किया था, उन्होंने कभी नहीं सोचा था कि छोटे विकासशील देशों पर ज्यादा विपरीत असर पड़ेगा।

बड़े बड़े देशों के लिए यह चिन्ता की बात नहीं थी। हम पहले तो जलवायु परिवर्तन से होने वाले असर और अब कोविड-19 के कारण आर्थिक समस्याओं का सामना कर रहे हैं।

इस पुराना ढाँचा के कारण छोटे देशों को

मुसबतों का सामना करना पड़ रहा है। छोटे देश जिनकी छोटी सरकार है और जिनकी क्षमता सीमित है, पर बहुत दबाव पड़ता है।

इन छोटे देशों पर जलवायु परिवर्तन का सब से ज्यादा असर पड़ता है, उनके आर्थिक बाज़ार विकसित नहीं हैं, उनकी भौगोलिक स्थिति और उनके फोसिल फिउल पर ज्यादा निर्भर रहने के कारण सहायता प्राप्त करने के ढाँचा में बदलाव करने की ज़रूरत है।”

अटेनी जनरल ने बताया कि डिवेलपमेंट पार्टनरज़ जिनमें मल्टीलईट्रल डिवेलपमेंट बेन्क्स और अंतराष्ट्रीय फायनेंशियल संस्थाएं हैं, को इन बातों पर गौर करना चाहिए।

“उन्हें नए तरिके अपनाने चाहिए। कोविड-19 के लिए दवा तैयार करने पर गौर करना चाहिए और सभी को देना चाहिए - केवल अपने लिए नहीं या दवा की कमी का बहाना नहीं करना चाहिए।”

अर्थ-व्यवस्था मंत्री ने बताया कि भले ही छोटे देशों में कोविड-19 के बहुत कम मामले हैं, उन्हें भी कोविड-19 की दवा देनी चाहिए जिससे वे अपनी सीमा खोलें और अर्थ-व्यवस्था बढ़ाने में जुटें।

उन्होंने कहा कि अगर ऐसा नहीं हुआ तो छोटे देश और संकट में फस जायेंगे और उनके विकास में बाधा होगी।

Noda Viti

VUKEA O PM NA VUVALE DRAVUDRAVUA E LAUTOKA

MEREANI GONEDUA

NI mai takali na iliuliu ni Matavuvale, sa colata duadua voli mai o Atelaite Vakaloloma na icolacola ni nodra qaravi na ciwa na luvena e Lautoka.

Sa yaco na gauna me sa sega na cakacaka. Sa vakavuna na kena sega ni saumi na rede ni vale ka ratou sa laki vakavale toka ena dua na vale laca.

E mani nanuma o Vakaloloma me sa kerekere vakadodonu vua na turaga na Paraiminisita ena nona vakamacalataka na nona gagadre ni via vakavaletaki ira na luvena.

E sega ni bera sa yaco mai na veivuke ni Matanitu; Na iyaya ni vale na kau kei na kava mai vei ira sotia ena e Lautoka.

“Na yacaku o Atelaite Vakaloloma, au marama ni Nawaikama, Gau, Lomaivitu. Au vasu ki Ucunivanua, Verata, Tailevu.”

“Keitou saumi vale tiko ga vakaveitinani. Au dau cakacaka vaka-dau ni vei qaravi se house girl. Na dredre levu keitou sotava, e sa vinaka ga ni tiko na Kalou e dau rogoca na noda masu.

“Toso tiko na gauna au mai kunea sara e dua na cakacaka e vakarautaki e valenibula.”

“E na noqu sa cakacaka qo, sa qai bau vinaka cake mai vakalailai na neitou bula ka keitou sa qai rawa ni saumi vale,” e kaya o Atelaite.

“Me yacova sara na yabaki 2007 keitou sa mai saumi vale tiko ena dua na vale ni qasenivuli liu qoka.”

“Au sasagataka toka vei ratou na Itaukei land Trust Board se TLTB, ka ratou sa vakayacora nanodratou itavi, au a sasaga vaka va vei TLTB.”

“Na leqa sara ga e tiko oya na *offer letter* ni keitou sega tiko ni taura. Ia, mai na valeni volavola ni TLTB e ratou sa biuta mai ena postal address au a solia vei ratou.”

“E vakarua na kena biu tiko mai na *offer letter* ka keitou sega tiko ni ciqoma.”

E kaya o Vakaloloma ni vakavinavinaka vua na turaga manidia ni TLTB ni ratou yalodina ena kena maroro tikoga na qele e lokuci me nona.

Sa taura tale ga ga na kaukauwa ni masu.”

“E vakavinavinakataka tiko na turaga na iliuliu ni Matanitu na totolo ni nodra dau vei qaravi.”

“Na nodra dau kauwaitaka na veidomo lalai kece vakayadua e tagi yani ka kudruraka yani edua na ka, sa tu vakarau na vale ni volavola ni Paraiminisita me ciqoma na kerekere kei na tagi oqori.”

“Vakauasivi vei keitou ni keitou vakila tu na neitou beci, neitou dau dusi tu na veitinani, veibuni luveniyali oqo. Ni qai mai sarava, sa rui vinaka na Kalou. Sa qai laveti keitou cake me keitou veitaratara sara vata kei na turaga na iliuliu ni Matanitu se isosomi ni noda Kalou ena vanua vakaturaga o Viti,” kaya o Atelaite.

“Veiratou na Komisina kei D.O, e sega ni bera na veitaratara. Sa mai rawa na neitou vale.”

“Vinaka vakalevu turaga Paraiminisita,” kaya o Vakaloloma.



Ko Atelaite Vakaloloma kei ratou na luvena ena nona itikitiko e Lautoka . iTaba: MEREANI GONEDUA

Taqomaki noda itovo



Oqo o Peresitedi Jioji Konrote kei ira na ivakalesilesi ni soqosoqo era qarava na soqo ni vakabulabulataki tiko ni cakacaka ni liga ena noda wasa Pasivika. iTaba: AZARIA FAREEN

VILIAME TIKOTANI

EDA duavata kei na vanua kei na kena iyau bula okeda na kai Pasivika baleta ni vei tiki ni bula ni yau bula ena bula wavoliti keda tu ena veisiga e tiko na kena ibalebale vakayalo ena noda bula ni cakacaka ni liga.

Oqori na nodra mala ni vosa na Peresitedi Jioji Konrote ena noda laki tavoca edua na soqo ni kena marautaki na bula vaka-Pasivika na noda itovo, iyau bula, taledi kei na cakacaka ni liga.

“Eda duidui ia eda duavata ga baleta na noda itovo kei na bula e sema vakawekani ena kena qarauni na noda iyau bula ena waitui kei na vanua ka levu na nodra vuku na tamata mai liu era soli wale mai vei keda eda qai bula mai muri,” kaya ko Peresitedi.

Era laki tavoca talega edua na vakaraitaki cakacaka ni liga kei na sevu ni nodra taledi ena Otela Holiday Inn e Suva

Vakaraitaka na Peresitedi Jioji Konrote na nodra vakavinaka kivei na noda tamada era sa liu oti, kivua na lotu kei na kena veiliutaki ena nodra vuku raiyawa me tekivu taki na porokaramu ni kena tali vou tale na ibe ni veikabula era bula wavoliti keda vaka lewenivanua ena 1999.

Meda taqomaka na noda itovo oya na noda iyau kei na ivakarau ni bula, noda vanua, waitui kei na veika bula se iyau bula era bula kina ka meda semati keda vinaka tale kivua na veika bula ena noda vanua.

“Tukuni vei au ni porokaramu oqo edua na sasaga ni kena semati vou tale na talanoa ni noda bula vakai Pasivika me vaka nida tamata kaukauwa, rawata na bula vakaikeda, gugumatua ka tiko kina na vakanuinui ni bula vinaka kei na lewa matau ena veivakatorocaketaki ena noda wasewase ni vuravura, kei na qarauna ni noda kawa tamata kei na tomodra,” kaya ko Peresitedi Konrote



Koya: Me rokovi na domoni ni gone

VILIAME TIKOTANI

SA vakadreti ira na tabana ni bisinisi ni saravanua vei ira na taukena kei ira na veiqaravi kina mera dau rokova na nodra dodonu na lalai.

Vakaraitaka na tikina bibi oqori na kena Minisita ni Veivoli, Bisinisi, Saravanua kei na Veilakoyaki, Faiyaz Koya.

Ena dua na boseka ni tabana ni bisinisi ni saravanua ka ratou vakarautaka na soqoso-

qo ni nodra taqomaki na gone, era tukuna kina na Minisita ni sa vakadeitaka kece tu na dodonu ni gone ena Yavu ni Vakavulewa ka taqomaki ira kina mai na veivakacacani, vakaweleweletaki, ivakarau ni itovo vakavanua vakailoa, ivalavala kaukauwa, ivalavala kaukauwa kei na itotogi, kei na veivakacacacakataki vakarerevaki se veivakayagataki

Vakaraitaka ko Minisita Koya ni bisinisi ni saravana edua na tabana e levu sara kina

n aka vinaka erawati kina me baleta na nodra dodonu na gone.

Ka sa dodonu medua na cakacakavata ena kena taqomaki na nodra bula na gone lalai ena veitabana kece sara ni bisinisi ni saravanua.

Na boseka oqori era lewena yanu vakalewelevu na veitabana ni bisinisi ni saravanua, matanitu kei ira soqosoqo ena taudaku ni veiqaravi vakamatani.

Tavoci na cakacaka ni veisau



Na mata ni Matanitu ko Ositerelia, John Feakes kei na Minisita ni Bula Dr Ifereimi Waqainabete ena soqo ni kena tavoci na porokaramu ni kena vaka vinakataki na wasei ni wainimate.
iTaba: VAKARAUTAKI

VILIAME TIKOTANI

ERA laki tavoca na Minisita ni Bula kei na Veiqaravi Vakavuniwai, Dr Ifereimini Waqainabete edua na cakacaka ni veiqaravi vou me vukea na kena ciqomi, maroroi ka wasei na wainimate vakamatani ena tabana ni bula.

Veivuke mai ena cakacaka oqori na Matanitu ko Ositerelia

Na inaki e salamura na cakacaka oqo oya me vakarawarawataki na kena dau veiwaseyaki ka veikauwaki na wainimate mai na kemesi levu ni matanitu ka me vakadewavi yani kina vei valenibula ena veiyasai Viti.

Oqo edua na veiqaravi ka na vukei vakalevu na lewenivanua raraba me baleta nisa na sega kina na ulubale ni oti koso se berabera na kena veikauyaki.

Vakaraitaka na Minisita Vuniwai Waqainabete ni namaki me vakabulailavo talega na matanitu me rauta ni 30 - 40% ena kena manidiataki ka yadravi na kena dau volitaki na wainimate. Edua na sala e muria oya mesa vakacurumi ena monalivaliva na veigacagaca lalai vaka na veivoli me yaco saran a kena sa veiwaseyaki.

Vakavinakataki na matanitu ko Ositerelia ko Minisita Vuniwai Waqainabete ena nodra veivuke ena tabana ni bula.

Vakaraitaka na Mata ni Matanitu ko Ositerelia John Feakes ni marautaka ka doka na nona matanitu na veivuke kei na tabana ni bula e Viti me vaka ni tiki tikoga ni veidinati ni vuvale ena kena sasagataki me veiwaseyaki vinaka na wainimate

“Na kena veiwaseyaki na wainimate me baleta na bula edua na cakacaka ni veiqaravi bibi me tosai kina vakavinaka na qaravi ni lewenivanua raraba ka valuti na mate kei na kena dewa. Sa dodonu kina me vakaqacacotaki na kena qaravi,” kaya ko Feakes.

Na cakacaka ni veiqaravi oqo e laurai kina ni 25% na isau ni wainimate kei na 40% na isau ni gacagaca ni tabana ni bula era okati kina.

Sa dodonu kina mera laurai vinaka na kena cakacakataki ka rawa ni vakabulai kina eso na iyau me vakayagataki ena so tale na vanua.



Ko Peresitidi Jioji Konrote kei na Sivika ni Bose Lawa, Ratu Epeli Nailatikau kei na Mata ni Matabose Cokovata kei Vuravura ena noda vanua. iTaba: VILIAME TIKOTANI

Rekitaki noda veiwekani ena yabaki 75 ni UN

VILIAME TIKOTANI

NA yabaki 75 ni matabose cokovata kei vuravura edua na tukutuku rogorogo vinaka ka bibi ena noda veiwekani vakamatani ko Viti me vaka nida cau sara vakalevu ena cakacaka se veiqaravi ni kei vuravura.

Vakakina na veiwekania vakamatani ena veitabana tale eso ka tekivutaki na veiwekani oqo ena 1970 ena 13 ni siga ni oti walega o noda tugala ena 1970.

Ko Viti e 127 ni matanitu me lewena yani na Matabose Cokovata kei Vuravura ka dua vei ira na matanitu ka soli aka vakadonua mera laki vakaitavi na nodra sotia ena cakacaka ni veisaututaki ena tokalau e loma kei vuravura.

Era liutaka kina na ilakolako ena 1978 ki Lepanoni ko Rt Epeli Nailatikau na imatai ni matalawalawa ni sotia nei Viti. Dewa yani ki Darfur, Sudan, Iraki, Liberia, Vavaku, Cambodia, Somalia, Namibia, Aqola, Croatia, Bosnia kei Herzegovina, Rawanda kei Timor Lesteste.

A lewena o Viti na veimatani cokovata me kena ika 127th ni Okotova 1970 ka yavutaki ena kena veivakabauti ena itavi bibi ni isoqosoqo ena kena maroroi na vakacegu kei na veitaqomaki, vakatorocaketaki ni veimaliwai vakaveitokani ena veimatani

kei na tubu cake ni veimaliwai.

Sa dau vakadeitaka tu ga o Viti me dua na lewenivanua vinaka e vuravura raraba ena tutaka na inaki kei na ivakavuvuli ni UN Charter.

Era laki vulagi dolaki na Peresitidi Major General (Ret'd) Jioji Konusi Konrote ena Univesiti ni Ceva sa soqo ni yabaki 75 matabose veimatani cokovata ka ra tiko kina na veimata ni matanitu keira na soqosoqo ena taudaku ni matanitu. Na kena ikau na soqo oqo oya na veivakatorocaketaki lewa matau.

A tiko na soqo oqo ena dignitaries, diplomatic na itikotiko raraba kei ira na italatala ni matanitu ka ra vakanamata ki na inaki levu veiraurau ni Veivakatorocaketaki me baleta na veisiga ni mataka.

Duavata tikoga ena veika kece eda cakava

VILIAME TIKOTANI

SA dodonu meda na duavata tikoga ena veika kece eda cakava ena gauna ena curuma tiko kina na COVID19.

Mai vakaraitaka na tikina oqo na Minisita ni Vevoli, Bisinisi kei na Saravanua, Faiyaz Koya ena nodra laki vulagi dokai ena vakasoqoni lotu ni musulomani me baleta na Eid.

“E dodonu meda vakila, ni noda duavata

oya na noda kaukauwa, ka noda duavata ena vukea na noda na veimuataki yani. Na noda kaukauwa e na noda qaqa cecere duadua,” a kaya ko Minisita Koya.

“Na noda itovo keina yalo ni Kaiviti ena noda lakolaivi mai ena noda bula ni logavinaka ki na ivakarau vou, ena vakayaloqaqa taki keda ena veika eda qarava. Au a veisiko voli ena vica na vula ni qai tekivu na COVID19 ka veitalanoa kei ira na daunibisini kei na lewenivanua.”

Vakaraitaka ko Minisita Koya ni dina ni oqo e dua na gauna dredre, me da vakaraitaka na noda vakavinavinaka vei ira na tacida kei na ganeda era sasagataki ena kena maroroi na noda itikotiko ena yalodei kei na galala mai na lomatarotaro.

Kuria ko Minisita Koya vei ira na tacina musolomani keira na ganedra mera qaravuna na nodra itavi mera qaravi ira kina na kai viti kei na vo ni lewe ni vanua e vuravura.



Ko Minisita ni Vakaturubulavo Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum kei ira na ivakalesilesi ni wasewase ni matanitu lalai ena Matabose Cokovata kei Vuravura. ITaba: FEKLIX LESINAIVALU

‘Me ra na tubu na matanitu lalai’

VILIAME TIKOTANI

Es sa vakadreti ira na veimatanitu lalai ko Viti me ra lamata vakatotolo mai na ibolebole e sotavi ira tiko ka vakasaqara na kena iwali. Me kakua walega ni ka ni veitalanoa.

Na iwali oqori ena vukei ira kece na matanitu lalai ka vakauasivi ko ira na dau vakaleqai vakatotolo ena veika leqa tubu koso.

Oqori na nodra vosa na Vunilawa ni matanitu ka Minisita ni Vakaturubulavo, Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum ena nodra a matataka na

matanitu ko Viti ena boseka ena monal-ivaliva kei ira na ivakalesilesi ni SIDS se small islands developing states ka matabose ni veimatanitu lalai ena ulutaga ni vakarawarawataki ni veivuke vakailavo.

Vakaraitaka ko Minisita Sayed-Khaiyum ni namaki vakalevu na dredre vakailavo ena kena yacova na veitabana dau rawaka kina vakailavo na veimatanitu lalai me vaka na saravanua kei na vakaiu ilavo mai vanua tani

Kuria ni gagadre ni veika vakailavo ena veimatanitu lalai ena dodonu me tubu mai na tolu kina lima na itagede mai na nodra

esitimeti na Matabose Cokovata kei Vuravura me vaka ni sa lutu tikoga na nodra vakaturubulavo vakamatanitu kina vanua eda sega nib au namaka vakadua.

Oqori e sega walega ni kauwai ni vuravura levu ka sa qai vakabulai koya mai ena rua na ivalu levu ka veivakacacani kei vuravura ka dewa yani ena dua na ivakarau ni veisaututaki kei na tugalala vakamatanitu.”

Kuria ko Minisita Sayed-Khaiyum ni na veisau ni draki e vakatakila na matalia ni malumalumu oqo, ni bera ni qai mai veisautaka vakadua na ivakarau ni rai oqo na COVID-19.

Lagiti na veiqraravi ena Mua-i-Ra



Ko Paraiminisita Voreqe Bainimarama ena nodra veisiko ena yalayala ni curu vanua mai na Mua i Ra mai Denarau, Nadi kei Lautoka. ITaba: MEREANI GONEDUA

VILIAME TIKOTANI

ERA veisiko voli ena Mua-i-Ra na Paraiminisita Voreqe Bainimarama ka laki veitalanoa kei ira na ivakalesilesi era veiqraravi voleka ena taqomaki ni yalayala ni noda vanua.

Oqori ena cakacaka ni tarovi kei na taqomaki ni noda vanua mai na COVID-19 ena iyalayala ni noda vanua main a roro ni waqavuka mai Nadi ka dewa yanu kina curucuru nu waqa kei na iyota mai Denarau ka vakakina mai Lautoka.

Me vaka nida kila ni dredre tiko vakalevu na veilakoyaki ena vuku ni COVID-19 ka sa laki tarova talega na nodra vakacacacataki e vuqa sara na lewenivanua ena bisinisi ni saravanua, ka vakakina ena veivukayaki ena waqavuka vei ira na dau cakacaka ena loma ni waqavuka, vei ira ena yalayala ni vanua mai na roro ni waqavuka.

Vakaraitaka na liuliu ni matanitu, Paraiminisita Voreqe Bainimarama na nodra vakavinavinaka levu sara ena cakacaka levu era qarava tiko na ivakalesilesi, tabana ni ovisa kei na mataivalu ena wai kei vanua ena yadravadravaki.

Keimami sa tuvata kei kemuni ena nomuni veiqraravi ka doka na na nomuni yalo dei keina sega ni suka imuri kei na soli bula levu ni vakayacora tiko me baleta na vanua kei na lewenivanua ena noda vanua,” kaya ko Paraiminisita Bainimarama.

Vakaraitaka ko PM ni sa tekivu me veitalanoa tiko na matanitu kei ira na veimatanitu me baleta na kena dolavi lesu na katuba ni veilakoyaki, veivukayaki kei na veisokoyaki.

“Na veiqraravi oqo ena vakatautaki kece talega ena cakacaka o nisa qarava tiko main a yalayala ni noda vanua ena kena taqomaki noda vanua vei kemuni na tabana ni bula, tabana ni ovisa, tabana ni mataivalu, kei kemuni na ivakalesilesi ni noda kasitaba kei na yadravi ni noda yalayala ni vanua,” kaya ko PM.

“Keimami kerei kemuni moni tiko dei ka yadrava matua na nomuni itavi ka keimami sa tuvakarau moni tokoni ena nomuni gagadre.”

Visiko ko Paraiminisita Bainimarama ena veivanua ni tataqomaki vaka tabana ni bula mai yasayasa vaka-Ra ena Tanoa International hotel ka vaka kina ena Port Denarau me baleta na blue lane se laini karakarawa ni veilakoyaki.



Ko Minisita ni Leqa Tubu Koso, Veiqraravi ena Koro kei na Yanuyanu kei na Veitaqomaki kei na Ovisa, Inia Seruiratu ena soqo ni tavoci ni yabaki vou ni Leqa Tubu Koso ka vakayacori e Ba. ITaba: MEREANI GONEDUA

Mo vakarautaki iko vinaka: Seruiratu

VILIAME TIKOTANI

SA na rawa ni da namaka ni na ca vakalevu cake sara na cava se leqa tubu koso eda sotava ena veigauna sa bera mai oqo baleta walega na kena kaukauwa ni revurevu ni leqa draki veisau.

“Sa dodonu kina veikeda kece sara meda tu vakarautaki vinaka,” kaya ko

Oqori na nodra itukutuku ni veivakadeitaki na Minisita ni Leqa Tubu Koso, Veiqraravi ena Koro kei na Yanuyanu kei na Veitaqomaki kei na Ovisa, Inia Seruiratu

ena nodra vakadreti ira tiko na lewenivanua mai Ba me baleta na vula vou ni leqa tubukoso kei na cagi esa donua vou oqo na noda vuravura.

Vakaraitaka ko Minisita Seruiratu ni 9 na cagilaba me tekivu mai na 2010 e tarai Viti mai ka vakaleqai kina na bula, luvu kina na noda vanua ka vakacacana na itikitiko.

“Na levu taucoko ni veivakacacani kei na yali ni ilavo e volai ena \$2.42 billion ka matataka na 1.25% ni iwiliwili taucoko ni noda ni matanitu mai na veiyabaki 2010-

2020. Oqori sara ga na ka e baleta na macawa oqo. Na tavoci ni macawa ni kila ni matanitu raraba sa ikoya na noda ivakananumi bibi ni itavi ni veikauwaitaki eda taura tu kei na noda itikitiko raraba.”

Vakauqeti ira na lewenivanua era tiko ena vanua dau leqa wasoma ko Minisita Seruiratu me ra cakacaka vata kei ira na vakailalesilesi ni matanitu kei ira na veutabana eso eso.

Na ikau ni macawa ni leqa ena loma ni yabaki oqo na ‘Sa baleta na veiliutaki’.



Toso tikoga na nodra soli metali ni yabaki

ERA tomana tikoga na nodra soli metali ni vakananumi ni yabaki 50 ni tugala kei Viti na Peresideti Jioji Konrore. Lewe tini katolu tale na lewenivanua era laki ciqoma nodra metali ena vale ni Peresideti ke Viti ka ra wilikina mai na veitabana ni veiqaravi kece sara ena noda vanua. Bau wilikina o Yuniwai Mosese Ligani ka sa balavu sara na nodra veiqaravi ena tabana ni veiqaravi ni bula ka vakakina o Yuniwai Vereniki Raiwalui, Yuniwai Virgilio De asa. Vakairaitaka ko Peresideti Konrore na nodra vakavinaka kivei ira na lewenivanua oqo ena nodra dau gugumatua ena nodra qaravi itavi me rawa ni ra qaravi kina na lewenivanua ena noda vanua. Dina ga ni tarovi keda tu oqo na veila-koyaki e vuravura baleta na COVID-19 ia o keda na kaiviti lewenivanua raraba eda rawa ni marautaka na yabaki 50 baleta dina masuda ka vakabauta tiko na Kalou Levu. Era wilitalega ena solio ni metali o Turaga ni Lewa Usaia Ratuvili kei Ms Laisa Vulakoro kei Seru Serevi.

ITABA: NANISE NEIMILA, RONALD DEO, FELIX LESINAIVALU, AZARIA FAREEN

lewenivanua oqo ena nodra dau gugumatua ena nodra qaravi itavi me rawa ni ra qaravi kina na lewenivanua ena nodra vanua.

Dina ga ni tarovi keda tu oqo na veilakoyaki e vuruvura baleta na COVID-19 ia o keda na kaliviti lewenivanua rarabae ena rawa ni maruatuka na yabaki 50 baleta nida masuda ka vakabauta tiko na Kalou Levu. Era wilitilaga ena solio ni metali o Turaga ni Lewa Usiaia Ratuvillei kei Ms Laisa Vulakoro kei Seru Seravi.

iTaba: NANISE NEIMILA, RONAL DEE, FELIX LESINAIVALU, AZARIA FAREEN





‘Vurevure ni iveivuke’



Oqori na na basi vou e lolomataka na Minisita ni Marama ki na Alamanah Hope Centre me vukei ira na marama ena nodra vakaleleci ko ira era vakaitokotiko e Lautoka kei Ba me vukea nodra golegole ki vuli ena veisiga. **iTaba: VAKARAUTAKI**

VILIAME TIKOTANI

Era na sega ni qai leqataka na na marama e Lautoka kei Ba na nodra sala ni yaco ki na Almanah Hope Centre se vanua ni vuli nodra na marama.

Oqori ni oti na nona solia vakailomana na Minisita ni Marama, Gone kei na Valuti ni Dravudravua ko Mereseini Vuniwaqa edua na nodra basi vou me vakaleleci ira ekina na marama era vakaitokotiko e Lautoka kei Ba.

E kaya ko Minisita Vuniwaqa ni nuitaka ni basi oya ena ivurevure ni veivuke vei ira na marama era

dau laki vuli ena vanua vakarau-taki oqo. E kaya o Minisita Vuniwaqa ni kila vinaka ni tu ni levu na marama era cavutu mai na veivanua dredre, koya gona nodra yaco rawa mai ki na vanua ni vuli sa dua na cavuikalawa vakataki ira.

E vakavinavinakataka bna veivuke levu oqo ko Raymond Moti na turaga iTalatala ka tauyavutaka na Almanah Hope Centre. E kaya ko Talatala Moti ni sa dua dina na inuinui vinaka vei ira na maramara era veiqravi tu ena taudaku ni veitauni kei na veivanua tu vakagalala.



Era taba tu oqo eso era a mavoa se mate na wekadra ena coqa e gaunisala nira sa laki ciqoma tiko na nodra ilavo mai na Matabose se na Accident Compensation Commission. **iTaba: VAKARAUTAKI**

\$14.2m vei ira na mavoa se mate ena coqa e sala

VILIAME TIKOTANI

SA sauma oti na Tabana edau saumi ira na coqa vakacalaka e gaunisala se Accident Compensation Commission e \$14.2m vei ira na mavoa kei ira na wekadra era mate vakacalaka ena coqa e gaunisala. Ena ika 3 na kena Bose na

Matabose ni Tabana oqo e veitalanoataki kina na kena sa kau laivi e so na lawa makawa ni cala ka vakayagataki na lawa vou ni sega ni cala me vakadeitaki ni levu cake era saumi.

Tukuna na Matabose ni sa rawa vei ira na laucoqa vakacalaka e gaunisala ena gauna ni cakacaka kei ira na laucoqa ena veikoronni-

vuli mera saumi vakatotolo ena Tabana oqo.

Ka sega ni bole vakalawa me vakabera na nodra saumi.

Tauyavutaki na Matabose oqo ena yabaki 2017 ka sa tekivu saumi ira tiko na mavoa ekian mate ena coqa e gaunisala me tekivu mai ena 2019.



Ko ni sa vakamasuti meda kua ni kania vakalevu na kakana qaqi – me da lesu ka kania na kakana main a were era dau kania na noda qase kara dau bulabula vinaka kina – me vaka eso e toka oqori ena makete e Suva. **iTaba: SOLO LEWANAVANUA**

‘Kana mo bula ka sega ni bula mo kana’

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

VAKABIBITAKA na Turaga na Peresitedi o Jioji Konrote me da kana me da bula ka sega ni da bula me da kana.

Oqori na uto ni nona vosa e Viti raraba ena Siga ni Vakananumi ni Siga ni Kakana e Vuravura ka kilai me “World Food Day”

Kaya ko Peresitedi Konrote ni veiyabaki sa sivi e dau taleitaka me kania edua na kakana vinaka mai na lovo se dua na kari kana vinaka.

Ia, sa vulica talega ni kakana eda kania ena vakatau ki na na bula vina-

ka se na tauvimate ni yagoda.

E kaya na ko Peresitedi Konrote ni sa dau vunautaka wasoma tiko e Viti meda qarauna na kakana eda kania.

Baleta ni dua na vu levu duadua kina na lewei Viti era mate ena mate sureti edaidai baleta nira kania vakasivia na kakana cala ka laki vakaleqa na yagoda.

E ra kaya ni dina ni tu vei keda na qele kei na veimataqali kakana mai na were na tamata ga esa digitaka vakalevu na kakana qaqi ka volitaki tu ena sitoa baleta ni sau rawarawa ka totolo na kena saqa ia sa bulia e dua na sala rerevaki sa laki levu cake

kina na mate sureti se NCD ena noda vanua.

E ra kila talega ni Tabacakacaka ni teitei esa veivotayaka tiko na sore ni itei ki Viti raraba kara sa vakauqeti ira na dau teitei na AMA mera kumukuni vata vaka ilawalawa me rawati kina na vakaisososmitaki ni kakana eda voli tiko mai valalagi ka rawa ni tei ga ena noda vanua.

Vakavinavinaka tiko o Presitedi Konrote vei ira kece na dau teitei e Viti ena nodra ena nodra gumatua tiko ena teivaki ni kakana me bula vinaka kina o ira na lewe ni noda vanua lomani o Viti.

\$69m na dinau ni bisinisi ni marama e solia na SPBD



Oqori na Manidia ni kabani dau soli dinau ni na South Pacific Business Development o Enrico Munoz kei ira eso na marama era dau qaravi ena kabani na SPBD. **iTaba: VAKARAUTAKI**

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

VAKACAUTAKI vakalevu edua na kabani dau soli dinau kina nodra bisinisi na marama e Viti kei na Pasifika ena levu ni ilavo esa solia oti vakadinou oya \$69m kina bisinisi ni marama e Viti ena 10 na yabaki sa sivi.

Oqo na kabani dau soli dinau na South Pacific Buisness Development (SPDB).

Vakasavuya na itukutuku rogorogo vinaka oqo na Manidia ni SPBD o Enrico Munoz. E kaya ni ratou dau solia e \$10m ena veiyabaki.

Ena yabaki oqo eratou sa solia oti e \$16m na ilavo ni dinau ni nodra bisinisi na marama.

Kaya o Munoz ni ka walega e gadrevi na nodra dina na marama ka sa vakadinadinataki ena vinaka ni nodra saumi dinau.

E Viti e tiko kina e 6 na tabana ni SPBD kara lewena e 9000 na marama e Viti kara cavutu mai na 400 na koro vakaviti. Marautaka tiko na kabani na ika 10 ni yabaki ni nona veiqravi e Viti.



Ko Peresitedi Jioji Konrote kei ira na ovisa ni vale ni veivakadodonutaki ena soqo ni kena soli na nodra metali ni vakananumi ni yabaki 50 ni noda vanua. iTaba: AZARIA FAREEN

Metali ni yabaki 50 kei Viti

NANISE NEIMILA

ERA laki solia na nodra metali ni yabaki 50 nei Viti na turaga Peresitedi Jioji Konrote na ovisa era veiqaravi na veivale ni veivakadodonutaki ena noda vanua.

Vakayacori ena loma ni bai ni vale ni veivakadodonutaki mai Naboro na soqo ni soli metali oqori ka ra voleni kina na ovisa kei ira na ovisa era sa vakacegu mai ena veiqaravi mera ciqoma na nodra icovi.

Era lewe 70 kece na lewenivanua era ciqoma nodra metali ka vakavinakataki ira ko Peresitedi Konrote ena nodra solia nodra bula ena dina nodra veiqaravi kina matanitu ena

loma ni veiyabaki sa oti.

“E dodonu meda vakadeitaka tiko-ga na noda vakabauta keina nodra yalodeitaka na nodra veiqaravi vei Viti ena veigauna kece sara mevaka esa vakaitaviti kemuni kina na matanitu me vaka na veikacivi ni valenivolavola ni Peresitedi na Ulu ni Veiliutaki vakamatani”

“Na veikacivi kece ni lewenivanua me yacova mai nikua eratou sa vakadikeva kina na noqu valenivolavola me rawa ni votai vakamatau kece sara vei ira na lewenivanua era sa yaga mai ena veiqaravi ni noda vanua mai na loma ni matanitu ka vaka kina na taudaku ni matanitu.”

Kuria ko Peresitedi Konrote ni noda matanitu eda sa vakarai-



Ko Francis Kean na komisina ni vale ni veivakadodonutaki kei Peresitedi Jioji Konrote. iTaba: AZARIA FAREEN

taka vei vuravura ni keda kawa ni tamata qaqa ka sega ni dau ravuti rawarawa, eda duavata tu ena noda vakabauta na Kalou kei na nona

veiliutaki kei na veivakalougata taki. O Viti e kuria o Peresitedi ena bula vinaka ka vuavuai vinaka ena vei yabaki sa tu e liu.

Toso vata ka duavata, me kua ni dua e guileca

VILIAME TIKOTANI

EDA sega ni rawa vakamadakua na wekada e tiko vei ira na taledi ni veiqaravi vei Viti. Vakaraitaka na tikina oqo na liuliu nu matanitu, Paraiminisita Voreqe Bainimarama nida gadrevi ira na lewenivanua ena noda vanua ka sega ni dua ena vakuai mai na gagadre ni matanitu.

Kaya ko PM Bainimarama ni sega ni dua ena guilecavi ena lakolako ni nodra matanitu ena nodra laki vulagi dokai ena soqo ni yabaki 50 kei Viti ka vakayacori ena nodra koronivuli na gone ka sega ni taucoko tu na nodra rai.

E vuqa na gone era biu vuli mai na koronivuli oqo era sa kune cakacaka vinaka ni oti nodra vuli torocake.

“Nikua era lewe 27 na gonevuli era sa dewa yani ena vuli torocake, 13 ena USP, 10 ena FNU, ka 4 ena FVTTC ka ra vulica na veika me baleta na nodra vakavinakataki na nodra bula ka rawa ni veivuke ena bula ni lewevuqa tale,” kaya ko Paraiminisita.

Vakavinakataki ira na Koronivuli ni gone



Ko Paraiminisita Voreqe Bainimarama kei ira na gone ena koronivuli ni vakarautaki nodra na gone sega ni taucoko na tuvaki ni yagadra. iTaba: NANISE NEIMILA

vakaleqai na tuvaki ni nodra rai ena veituberi ni nodra bula na lewenivanua era laki curu mera vuli ekeya.

“Na koronivuli oqo esa sasaga tiko me sauma na taro ni veimataqali gagadre ka sa laurai tiko ena 50 na yabaki sa oti. Eda vakavinavinaka ni noda vanua edua ka vakila na yaga ni nodra bula na wekada era sega tu vinaka nodra ivakarau ni rai ka mera vakaitavi talega me vakaedua e tu

vinaka nona ituvaki ni bula.”

Na matanitu esa veivuke talega vakailavo ve ira na koronivuli kei na gonevuli era veiqaravi vei ira na gone era sega soti ni tuvaki vinaka na nodra bula.

“Eda na vakayacora tiko me vaka e dodonu ka sega walega ni ka ni veivuke ia me baleta noda gadreva meda vakatauvatani keda ena dua ga itagede.”

‘Ni qai moce Ro Epeli’

NANISE NEIMILA

KO Ro Epeli Vakacaracara Mataitini edua ka vakaitavi taki koya sara vakabalavu ena cakacaka ni nodra tuberi ka vakavulici na gonevuli ena noda vanua ena nona itutu vakaqasenivuli.

Ni oti oya era qai mai vakaitavi ena veiqaravi ni veitabana vakamatani me vaka na Matabose ni Qele Maroro, Matabose ni Veika Itaukei kei na Matabose ni Qele ni I'taukei

Vakaraitaka na Vukevuke ni Vunivola

Tudei ena Tabacakacaka Itaukei, Josefa Toganivalu ni na Vunivalu sa bale edua ka tiko vua na solisoli ni raiyawa kei na lewa matau ka laurai oqo ena nodra vakaitavi sara vakabalabu ena vei matabose eso me baleta na bula ikawa taukei.

Era liutaka na liuliu ni Matanitu, Paraiminisita Voreqe Bainimarama na ilakolako ni reguregu ni matanitu kei na tabacakacak itaukei ena soqo ni veitalaci vua na turaga Vunivalu sa bale ena nodra delaniyavu mai Lomanikoro Rewa.

Era lewena talega na ilakolako oqori

na liuliu ni vei matabose ni itaukei, Vunilewa ni Matabose ni Qele Maroro ni Taukei, Vunilewa ni Matabose ni Kato ni Yau ni Itaukei, Aisake Taito kei ira na lewe ni matabose ni qele maroro ni itaukei.

Vakayacori na lotu ka ra lewena talega na Roko Tui Bau, Rt Timoci Tavanavanua kei ira na weka voleka ka vakakina na lewenivanua. Era a lewena na Kabani ni Yasana o Rewa ka dua talega na Senator,

E vitu na luvedra ka 33 na makubudra ka 20 na makubudra vakarua.



Ko Paraiminisita Voreqe Bainimarama ena lotu ni veibulu ni Vunivalu Ro Epeli Mataitini e Lomanikoro, Rewa. iTaba: NANISE NEIMILA

Noda Viti



Ko Peresitedi Jioji Konrote kei Veniana Nakolinivalu.
iTaba: FELIX LESINAIVALU

SIKOVI KO NAKOLINIVALU, YABAKI 100

ERA veisiko na turaga Peresitedi Major General (Ret'd) Jioji Konrote ki vei Veniana Nakolinivalu edua na marama ka sa yabaki 100 na nodra bula.

Yavu tu e na koro ko Nasukamai, Nalawa, Ra ko Nakolinivalu e se rawa tiko ga ni wili vola ka sega ni vakayagataka na matailoilo ena gauna e ni wili vola kina.

E lima na luvei Nakolinivalu ka ra se bula, lewe 45 na makubuna, lewe 90 na makubuna vakarua ka tolu na makubuna vakatolu.

E vakavinakavinaka vua na Peresitedi ko Apisalome Nakolinivalu na ikavitu ni luvena ena nodra biuta tu na nodra valenivolavola mera veisiko vua na marama tinana.

E veitomani vua na Peresitedi na marama lewe ni vale ko Sarote Konrote kei ira na ivakalesilesi ni valeni volavola ni Peresitedi.

Sega ni dromu na vakanuinui

VILIAME TIKOTANI

ENA sega ni dromu rawa na vakanuinui baleta ke vakacava sara mada na dredre eda na sotava, na noqu matanitu ena vakadeitaka tikoga na vuli sega ni saumi.

Oqori na nodra mala ni vosa na liuliu ni matanitu, Paraiminisita Voreqe Bainimarama ena laki

dolava edua na valenivuli vou ena Nadi Muslim paraimiri.

“Era namaka na gonevuli ena noda vanua na veivakadeitaki ni matanitu, ia eda kila ni sega ni na rawa ni vakayacora kece na matanitu na vei gagadre kece, ka gadreva kina na veivuke ni veitabana era wasea vata na raiyawa ni matanitu me baleta na vuli ni

lewenivanua ena noda vanua”

Vakaraitaka ko PM Bainimarama ni ko Viti edua na vanua ena vuravura levu ogo ka rawa ni dola kina edua na vale ni vuli vou me baleti na gonevuli.

“Ena levu na vanua kei na veimatanitu ena vuravura, era sega ni rawa nira vuli na gone ena koronivuli baleta na COVID-19

ia ogo esega ni vakai Viti. Eda vakusakusa saraga baleta na kena taqomaki na noda lewenivanua mai na mate ogo ka vakayagataki kina na kila sa tiko rawa vakasainisi me rawa ni tarovi sara mada na kena ”

Ena so na veimatanitu era sa vuli ga na gone mai nodra vale.

Kuria ko PM Bainimarama ni ra

sa rawa ni ra laki vuli na gonevuli mai Nadi ena nodra vale ni vuli vou.

Vakavinaka ko koya vua na soqosoqo ni lotu vakabauta ni Muslim nodra veitokoni kaukauwa tiko ena qaravi ni vuli nodra na gonevuli ena noda vanua me vaka nira wasea talega na raiyawa ni vuli ena noda vanua.