

Fiji Focus

\$634K

NEW KORO
MATERNAL
AND CHILD
HEALTH CLINIC

12



PM LEADS
UNGA CLIMATE
CHANGE
TALKS

3



Daylight Savings
Begins: Sunday 4th Nov 2018
Ends: Sunday 13th Jan 2019

DIGITAL

TV
REACHES
FAR FLUNG
ISLAND

inside



Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama during the ground-breaking ceremony of the extended Nausori Airport. This \$60 million project is expected to boost economic activity in the Rewa and Tailevu provinces. The effects of an upgraded airport with an extended runway will be felt far beyond the homes and businesses in Nausori-Deuba. **Photo: ERONI VALILI**

MAJOR UPGRADE FOR NAUSORI AIRPORT

NANISE NEIMILA

THE \$60million investment by the Government on the extension of the Nausori Airport is expected to boost eco-

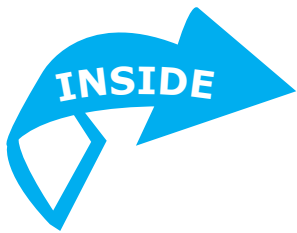
nomic activity in Rewa and Tailevu province. Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama, while speaking at the ground-breaking ceremony for the extension, highlighted that this

new development will upgrade the airport's existing runway and pavement infrastructure. "A modern, world-class airport in Nausori will attract more tourists, diplomats, and business trav-

ellers to come directly to Suva, and by becoming another primary gateway to Fiji, the people in the communities around us stand to gain in a very big way. "The effects of an upgraded air-

port with an extended runway will be felt far beyond the homes and businesses in Nausori-Deuba." Prime Minister Bainimarama said it will not only bring ad-

CONTINUES ON PAGE 3



FRA GIVES SUVA ROADS A FACELIFT 14

GOVT HELPS REVIVE LOCAL BOXING IN NEWTOWN 13

FARM WORK 'BENEFICIAL FOR HEALTH' 5

QUOTE OF THE WEEK



Non-communicable disease (NCD), is a serious health concern for our nation but the fact is, it's a lifestyle disease and it's preventable.

Rosy Akbar
Minister for Health and Medical Services

NUMBERS

\$634K
is the total cost of the new Maternal and Child Health (MCH) clinic funded by the Australian Government on Koro island

TWEET OF THE WEEK



Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum (@FijiAG)

We are very privileged to have these 3 countries as co-leaders for the multi-national observer group in Fiji for the 2018 elections & we look forward to them facilitating & publicizing the ability of different countries and organizations to be able to participate with the group"

CONTACT

Publisher: Sharvada Sharma
Sub Editor: Prashila Devi
Manager Vernacular: Viliame Tikotani
North office: Level 3 Macuata House, Labasa
West office: Level 1 Ratu Nauliano House, Koroivalu

Contacts: Suva: 3301806 /
West: 6700086 / 9905965
North: 8811276 / 9905971
Fax: 3305139/3304663
news@govnet.gov.fj
@FijiRepublic
Fijian Government
visit us at www.fiji.gov.fj

System improves quake, tsunami monitoring

VILIAME TIKOTANI

FIJI'S capacity as a country to monitor and track the movement of plate tectonics and natural disasters like earthquakes, volcanoes and tsunamis has been boosted.

This follows the unveiling of a new Global Navigational Satellite System Continuously Operating Reference Station and geospatial facility at Delainabua this week.

The GNSS CORS was commissioned by the Ministry of Lands and Mineral Resources permanent secretary Malakai Finau, said the new system comes with a multitude of potential uses and applications.

"Measurements from COR stations are avail-

able in real-time and are critical for accurate mapping, surveying, navigation, urban planning, maritime boundaries, and many other applications."

"Furthermore, CORS provide understanding of Earth processes, including sea level rise, earthquakes and volcanoes."

This COR station is one of nine new stations that are being established this year under this programme, and the only station to be located in Suva.

Stations have been established in Labasa, Nabouwalu, Kadavu, Taveuni, Koro, and now Suva and in the coming months they will complete the installation phase in Rotuma, Ono-i-Lau, and Lakeba.

Mr Finau said the importance of moving from our current local grid to an international system cannot be overstated.

"For such reason, the Government has recognised the value of this geodetic infrastructure and embarked upon an ambitious program to modernise our geodetic datum and adopt a global reference frame in 2016," he said.

"As an island nation, it has implications for our blue economy, including navigation, shipping, cruise ship tourism, and monitoring and enforcement of activities within our Exclusive Economic Zone.

The project was supported by the Australian and Fijian Governments and the Pacific Community.



Attorney-General and the Minister for Communications Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum during the free WiFi h

digitalFiji fixes ease of doing business

HALITESH DATT

THE Attorney-General and the Minister for Economy, Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum believes the Government initiated digitalFiji program will go a long way in assisting Fiji improve its ease of doing business ranking.

Speaking at the recent Fiji Chamber of Commerce Business Forum 2025, the A-G said digitalFiji will eventually allow all major government services to be accessible at the click of a button.

"We are digitizing the titles

now that go back to pre-colonial days.

We are now digitizing every single document. The moment we get all the records in an electronic versions, then we can move forward with things like online registration, online searches, online changes and etc. All of this is a significant work," the A-G said.

He, however, acknowledged that Fiji, just like other developing countries, has plenty room to progress in improving its ease of doing business reputation.

The Fijian Government has

been working closely with the Singapore Co-operation Enterprise to implement the digital-Fiji program.

"In Fiji it used to take over a year to register a business at times before. It's no longer the case", A-G said.

Meanwhile the A-G said there has also been an increase in the business activities in the country. While domestic businesses have been taking advantage of the policies put in place by the Fijian Government, there has also been a strong confidence from foreign businesses.

Tertiary schools' funding model reviewed

A REVIEW has been carried out by the Fiji Higher Education Commission (FHEC) on the funding model used to distribute government allocations to Higher Education Institutions.

This is being done with the intent of improving the governance and funding of higher education institutions in Fiji.

At present, 10 institutions are receiving government grant through a formula based – block funding model.

FHEC Director, Linda Aumua said that the work has been long overdue as the current model in use is a transitional one developed in 2013.

"The current model is serving its purpose but a robust one is needed in place that is more consistent and fair," Mrs Aumua said.

As part of the review process, consultations had been conducted with key sector stakeholders to facilitate counter perspective views and analysis.

FHEC consultant Roger Smyth said the capturing of views and contributions of agencies dealing with the economy and labour market is vital because the higher education system is a key path in building a more productive and skilled economy.

Mr Smyth clarified that the revised model is to have features that would also encourage institutions to make decisions that support the government's objectives for higher education.

While a model customized for Fiji is expected to evolve, best practices will be drawn from other countries to consolidate the model.

It is also envisaged that the proposed model is more performance based and output oriented for the higher education institutions.

The review of the funding model is part of the Higher Education Improvement Project funded by the New Zealand's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

FIIJII HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION



Major upgrade for Nausori Airport

FROM PAGE 1

vancement to the whole of Suva or Fiji but to all of the Pacific through the new connectivity.

Presently the Nausori Airport handles nearly 75,000 international passengers and over a quarter-million domestic passengers each year, with over 1,200 international flights and over 10,000 domestic flights take off and land on this runway last year.

PM Bainimarama adds that at present the largest aircraft that operates out of Nausori is the Fiji Airways Boeing 737, which operates on restricted load capacity to Auckland and Sydney.

These international flights are joined by four regional and domestic flights serviced by smaller aircraft.

“The Impact of the Nausori Airport runway extension and upgrade will be much greater than initially meets the eye. It’s safe to say that a project of this size, and the economic benefits that flow directly from it, will totally reshape the area surrounding us today.

PM Bainimarama said the completion of this project in 2021 will increase the value of property around the airport.

The Attorney-General and Minister for Civil Aviation, Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum, commended the landowners for their willingness to provide the land for their investment that will directly benefit the community.

The upgrade runaway will feature runway length from 1,670 metres to 2,140 metres, and widened from 30 metres to 45 metres.

Plane taxiways will be widened and a new parking apron will be created outside in preparation for a future phase of planned terminal upgrades.

Nuku landowning unit Turaga ni Mataqali Josefa Rainima thanked the Government for the opportunity to invest in the mataqali land for the future provision of the extension of the Nausori airport.

“This will boost economic activity with the Nausori corridor and provide more employment opportunities for the people in the area.”

PM leads UNGA climate change talks

NANISE NEIMILA

PRIME Minister Voreqe Bainimarama will participate at the high-level meeting at the 73rd United Nations General Assembly at the UN Headquarters in New York City.

While attending the UN General Assembly, the Head of Government will also have engagements in his capacity as the 23rd session of Conference of Parties (COP23) president and will hold bilateral meetings with a number of countries on the sidelines of the UNGA being held from September 18 to October 1,

2018.

With the theme “Making the United Nations Relevant to All People: Global Leadership and Shared Responsibilities for Peaceful, Equitable and Sustainable Societies” the meeting will be an opportunity for Fiji and other nations to address the international community with issues they face in their countries.

PM Bainimarama leads a delegation consisting of Fiji’s High-Level Climate Champion and Minister for Rural and Maritime Development, National Disaster Management and Meteorological Services, Inia Seruiratu, the Chief Negotiator and Fiji’s High Commissioner to

Australia Luke Daunivalu, Climate Ambassador and Fiji’s Ambassador to the European Union, Deo Saran and National Adviser for non-communicable disease (NCD), Dr Isimeli Tukuna

Close to 193 sovereign member states will convene at the high-level meeting of the United Nations (UN) and have equal representation in the UN General Assembly.

A number of events will take place in parallel to the opening of the 73rd session of the UNGA under the banners of Global Goals Week 2018 and Climate Week in New York City 2018.



Attorney-General and Minister for Communications Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum with children during the launch of free WiFi hotspot at Sigatoka riverside. Photo: ISAAC LAL

Free WiFi for Coral Coast town

ISAAC LAL

RESIDENTS of Nadroga and Navosa can now access internet for free with the launch of the Wi-Fi hotspot in Sigatoka town.

The launch was officiated by

the Attorney-General and Minister for Communications, Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum at the town recently.

“We want to encourage Fijians to be able to get access to internet and use these hotspots to Google and increase their knowledge and for young people to be able to get improved access to the internet,” the A-G said.

“This launch will also allow for these areas to be safe spaces and for people to come and congregate, meet up and use the inter-

net.”

With Government making accessibility to internet through its digital Fiji space, the A-G highlighted that this is in line with the vision of Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama to allow Fijians to access government services on their phone as work on getting many of government’s services accessible on the internet and through phones.

“In a few weeks’ time, Government will launch many new applications such as the registering of

babies through an app and Fijians will only need to give a time to pick their birth certificates over the counter,” the A-G added.

The Government is spending from over \$40million in the 2018-2019 financial year for the information, communication and technology sector to provide Fijians with more opportunity.

Sigatoka is the third centre where Fijians will be able to use free internet through the hotspot after Suva and Savusavu.

WAF renews plea to conserve water

LITIA VULDAUSIGA

AS the dry spell drags on in Fiji’s Western Division, water conservation continues to be a necessary undertaking for both residential and commercial consumers.

The Water Authority of Fiji (WAF) recently hosted stakeholder consultations with the business community of Nadi, home to the country’s largest inventory of hotel and backpacker operations.

According to WAF Board chairman, Bhavesh Patel, it is absolutely crucial to conserve water and practice wise consumption until usual rain-

fall resumes in the Western Division.

“In Lautoka and Nadi, water is at a level that is okay at the moment, but our fear is that if the rains don’t arrive as usual from November, there might be some hard decisions that need to be taken to start rationing water,” he said.

Mr Patel confirmed that new vales and pipes would also be installed at the Nagado Water Treatment Plant at the end of this month to avoid any mishaps, and accordingly, WAF customers in Nadi and Lautoka can expect interruptions to their supply from September 29-October 2, 2018.

Mitigation plans also include the construction of tower streams to capture more water and

pump into treatment plants.

Director of Meteorology Ravin Kumar said weather patterns noted a slight change since entering September, with a high-pressure system to the south keeping troughs away.

“As it is going to move to the east, we see that the trough is going to come over us, so we expect some brief to light showers to come our way this month, and at the end of this month and last week of this month, we expect more rain to come by,” Mr Kumar said.

In the meantime, a daily water-carting schedule is underway by WAF for rural communities in Ba, Lautoka, Rakiraki, Tavua, Nadi and Sigatoka.



UMENDRA PRATAP

FARMING is not for the faint of heart as it requires a lot of hard work and comes coupled with the numerous risks and challenges associated with it as a definite certainty.

That is more than enough reason for some to throw in the proverbial towel but for Chandar Deo of Nakama, Waiqele in Labasa, it paved the way to the opposite and would eventually prove beneficial in the long haul.

The 55-year-old farmer is a familiar face at the Labasa Market as he continuously supplies vegetables to the municipal market and has always strived to expand his farm through conventional methods.

Through his farm, he has been able to educate his children and sustain his family's livelihood from the income derived from his hard-earned efforts toiling the land.

Mr Deo's effort was supported with a leg-up from the Ministry of Agriculture through the assistance in the form of farming equipment.

As Fiji's agricultural sector heads in the direction of mechanisation to boost productivity and improve efficiency, the devoted farmer did not realise how instrumental the farming equipment would become in helping him further his plans following his participation in an organized agriculture tour of Viti Levu.

"I was one of those lucky farmers from Labasa to be given the opportunity to be part of the tour organized by the Ministry of Agriculture to major farming areas in Viti Levu. It was an eye-opening tour for me as I saw that there is a big opportunity in farming.

"This I would say was the turning point for my farming life because I decided that I will use my available land and go into commercial vegetable farming," said Mr Deo.

He stated that it was then that he realised that there was a need for better farming equipment and machinery for his farm to carry out his farming activities more efficiently.

He was assisted with a walk-behind tractor, water pump and pipes, a wheelbarrow, a water tank and nursery materials under the Ministry of Agriculture's Food Security Program (FSP).

The only way he could show his gratitude for the assistance pro-

vided to him was by assuring to further develop his farm in order to continue to supply his produce to the markets.

Mr Deo plants assorted vegetables which include cucumber, radish, eggplant, cabbage, beans, coriander, okra and watermelon and is also one of the only farmers in the Northern Division who has been planting potatoes throughout the years.

"Potato is one of the crops that I wish to continue planting as I've had good production for the last three years and the locally grown potato is always in high demand," he said.

For him, securing a market for his produce is not a problem as he sells all of it at the Labasa market, even supplying as far as Savusavu on occasion.

"At times, we also try and sell vegetables in markets as far as Savusavu as we get higher prices there as there are many farmers growing and supplying vegetables at the Labasa market.

"At times, we farmers find it difficult to find space to sell the produce in the market by ourselves, therefore, we have to sell to the market vendors at a wholesale price," he added.

His farm is surrounded by a stream which makes it easier to do

farming in this changing weather patterns as he is able to get the water needed for his farm from this stream.

"Now that I have been assisted with the water pump, I will surely increase the area of my farming as sourcing water for my farm will not be an issue anymore.

Acting Senior Agriculture Officer Macuata, Sujendra Prasad, while handing over the equipment, said that the Ministry has been working very closely with Mr Deo over the years as he had been identified as a regular vegetable supplier to the Labasa Market.

"We saw that he wanted to expand his farm and in order to assist him in his farming activities, there was a genuine need for these farming equipments as he wanted to expand and farm at a much larger scale."

"He was also part of the group of farmers from the Northern Division who went for a field trip to the Sigatoka Valley area to see the extent of farming activities carried out there and it was from then he came up with the idea to mechanise his farm and he approached the Ministry for the assistance," Mr Prasad said.

In his locality, according to Mr. Prasad, Mr Deo is a model farmer as he keeps proper records of all his farming activities in-



I was one of those lucky farmers from Labasa to be given the opportunity to be part of the tour organized by the Ministry of Agriculture to major farming areas in Viti Levu. It was an eye-opening tour for me as I saw that there is a big opportunity in farming.

Chandar Deo, 55-year-old farmer of Nakama, Waiqele in Labasa

Acting Senior Agricultural Officer Macuata Sujendra Prasad (left), hands over the farming equipment to farmer Chandar Deo (right) in Nakama Waiqele. Photo: MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

Chandar Sets Sights on Increased Farm Production



Chandar Deo was assisted with a walk-behind tractor, water pump and pipes, a wheelbarrow, a water tank and nursery materials under the Ministry of Agriculture's Food Security Program (FSP).

cluding the production and sales of his produce.

The Ministry of Agriculture is currently working on implementing its 2020 Policy Agenda and is trying to modernise the agriculture

sector and no doubt farmers like Mr Deo will contribute positively towards achieving this goal.

(Umendra Pratap is an information officer at the Ministry of Agriculture)

Have Your Say

The Government has been launching free wifi hotspots in towns around Fiji giving everyone the opportunity to enjoy internet services. Do you think it is important to have such services available to Fijians? Why?

Shiraz Khan, 34, Lautoka

Every Fijian needs access to internet services, so it's a good initiative because people will be aware of what is happening around them, have better knowledge of topics and helps them stay in touch with the rest of the world.



Chantel Hazelman, 26, Nadi

It is important for students to have internet and that I believe is the most important part.



Pravin Chand, 45, Savusavu

Yes it is. Having internet gives more options and makes communication so much easier.



Titilia Soli, 25, Savusavu

We live in an era where accessing the Internet is very important. It helps us with work, to contact our families and for researches so it is important to have such services available.



Iliavi Doa, 34, Sigatoka

Yes, the free WiFi for Fijians is progress and I believe any progress is good for our country. We just need to make sure that children don't waste too much time browsing but otherwise it is a really good tool, especially for the youth.



Rehana Nisha, 26, Suva

I think so, it is about time we have such things in Fiji. We always hear from our relative from overseas about free WiFi they have there but since a lot of us can't afford data, we feel left out. So yes, this is definitely a good move.



I save a lot of money for the country from importing meat. If there are five or six more farmers like me then I think it will be a great help to the country.

Sanjay Kumar
50-year-old livestock farmer



Fifty-two-year-old Fazal Khan at his vegetable farm at Sovi Bay outside Sigatoka. RIGHT: Mr Khan proudly shows off his awards from 2014. Photos: DIPESH KUMAR



'A valid career option'

DIPESH KUMAR

FAZAL Khan is a well-known name in the farming community of Sovi Bay in Nadroga.

The 52-year-old is the only one among six of his brothers who has taken up farming and has no regrets for the path he chose that he does not regret it.

"My total income comes to about \$60,000 to \$70,000."

"There are a lot of expenses, I have to buy fertilisers and other things and there are household expenditures also but it's profitable."

"I have been able to visit Bangladesh, India, Australia and New Zealand through farming," he said.

Mr Khan boasts of no certificates from any school in agriculture but all his experience and achievements in the sector boils down to passion and hard work.

"In 2014 I won the Best Farmer of the Year

award and also the Best Papaya Farmer award and I wish to keep on winning more awards."

His passion for farming has compelled him to keep growing and he recently bought a 30 acre land to expand his livestock farm.

"I have 12 acres of land which is used for farming and 900 acres of land which is used for livestock farming."

"I have around 150 cattle, 100 goats and around 70 sheep."

Mr Khan also supplies his produce to some of the major supermarkets around Fiji and has a roadside stall at Sovi Bay.

"I supply to New World and Extra Supermarket, there are other customers who come and buy directly from the farm."

"I have a pawpaw and pineapple farm along with guava right now. In vegetables I have tomato, cauliflower, sweet corn and all other types of vegetables."

Mr Khan employs three people who assist him and his son also helps out.

He is also thankful to his family who have supported him throughout his hardships.

"I have two sons and a daughter, along with my mom, brother and sister in law. My wife is currently in overseas."

"I try to take time out for them also. We sit together almost every day and talk about how our day went."

He also acknowledged the Government's initiative towards farmers that has led to the many success stories including his.

"They are always there to help us. I have received help in terms of fertilisers, the irrigation system to water the plants, tanks and also seeds."

Mr Khan plans to expand his interests and take up prawn and bee farming in the coming years.

He has encouraged young farmers as he believes that "farming can also be a career field".

"Farming is not an easy job but you should put everything into it, sometimes there are

Farm work 'beneficial for health'

DIPESH KUMAR

SANJAY Kumar has urged more people to take up sheep farming, "it's not only a way to make a living, it has great benefits to health".

The 50-year-old farmer of Kavanagasa, Nadroga, who is also a livestock farmer, said that working in the farm everyday has kept him healthy and he urges people to do backyard gardening which will reduce financial costs.

"It helps me a lot in terms of health. I am 50-year-old and fit just by grazing my sheep."

Mr Kumar started goat farming in 2009 and started sheep farming in 2015 with the help of the Government.

With close to three years experience, he has made up his mind that he wants to concentrate on sheep farming.

"We used to do sugarcane farming here but it was stopped be-



Fifty-year-old livestock farmer Sanjay Kumar of Kavanagasa, Nadroga, started goat farming in 2009 and sheep farming in 2015 with the help of the Government. Photo: DIPESH KUMAR

cause the bridge (tramline bridge in Sigatoka) got washed away so we started with goat farming."

"Now I have around 200 sheep. The Government has helped me a lot in this by providing a shed for the sheep and now they are also planning to dig a borehole for me."

"The food I give to my sheep, copra and mill mix that is all provided by the Government."

Mr Kumar runs the farm with the help of his wife and two other

labourers and explained that the only problem they face is that they are not able to supply meat on a large scale.

"I sell almost every day but the only problem is that I am not able to supply on a large scale because I have so many customers."

The Sigatoka man believes that more farmers like him will reduce the amount of meat that needs to be imported which will help with the trade imbalance because Fiji currently imports more than it ex-

ports.

"I save a lot of money for the country from importing meat. If there are five or six more farmers like me then I think it will be a great help to the country," he said.

Mr Kumar said that sheep farming profits him and he wishes to increase the number of sheep and goats for large scale production.

"If I live long enough then I will expand the farm. I have around 200 female goats and I will increase the number to 500."



Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama and Attorney-General and Minister Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum with students during the Free WiFi Hotspot launch at Savusavu recently. Photo: JOSIA RALAGO

Savusavu hails free WiFi initiative

JOSIA RALAGO

FIJIANS in Savusavu or tourists that pass through this Northern town can now access fast and free internet.

This is following the launching of the Savusavu Public *Wi-Fi* Hotspot by the Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama earlier this month, granting better internet services for the people of Savusavu free of charge.

And this initiative has received praises from members of the public claiming that it has made their life easier.

“Even when we come out to town during lunch or for work related visits, we can still access our emails and would not have to wait to go to the office. This has made our work more accessi-

ble,” a resident Junior Jeet said.

“And while we have internet data on our phones, this free hotspot service is much faster and more efficient.”

A local taxi driver Pravin Chand shared similar sentiments saying the provision of such a service was important and he was grateful to the Government for granting such services for Fijians.

The Savusavu Foreshore, which has been geofenced, was a prime area to experience the best of these services.

Similarly, the free high-speed *Wi-Fi* launched in August under the digitalFiji initiative, across the Fiji National University (FNU) campuses has come as a big relief to students in their studies. Mechanical Engineering student at the Der-

rick Campus in Samabula, Miliana Baisagale said connectivity was better than before.

“The free *Wi-Fi* hotspot in school is the best thing that has ever happened,” she said.

“The speed and connectivity previously was not as strong as *digitalFiji*. We were unable to access sites since most of the time it was blocked but now we’re able to access sites like *YouTube*.”

Labasa Campus student, Praneesha Nand said they experienced connectivity issues within the campus previously.

“The new *Wi-Fi* is fast and we are able to access it anywhere and everywhere in the campus so it saves us the time in trying to find the best spot to ‘catch’ internet.”

District praises Govt rural development

ISAAC LAL

THE district representative for Navatusila, Vilitati Rokovesa has applauded the Government’s rural development programme which has seen more than 11 villages get access to water, roads and electricity in the district.

Mr Rokovesa said infrastructure developments for the highlands of Navosa which borders Ba, Naitasiri and Ra have always been a neglected area given the remoteness of the villages and sparsely populated villages in an area which is covered by rugged terrain and rivers that are the source of most of Viti Levu’s major river systems.

“We have in the past been denied these developments because of the less number of people that are living in the area and this has led to many of our youths migrating to the urban centres in search of better employment opportunity and entrepreneurship,” he said.

“Over the past few years, many



Navatusila District representative Marika Butotu could not contain his tears as he present a tabua thanking Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama for the development around his district. Photo: ISAAC LAL

of the villages which up until 2010 were still using traditional transportation means such as bilibili and horseback can now travel in vehicles thanks to the Government for their foresight in allowing these critical infrastructures to take shape and change the landscape of our peoples’ livelihoods.”

The 57-year-old remembers too well the promises that were made to them by previous governments to improve living standards but never materialized.

“The people of Navatusila, many of whom are now old and sickly know the hardships faced when transporting pregnant women and produce to the markets to make ends meet,” Mr Rokovesa said.

“We have also faced hardships when accessing government services given that the various ministries and departments had various area of operations and this costs us thousands of dollars over the decades.”

His comments were echoed by

other villagers, many of whom did not expect to see roads and water reach their homes.

Marika Butotu said the *vanua* of Navatusila would always be grateful to the leadership of Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama who ensured that no Fijians were left behind.

“We are grateful to the Prime Minister and Government for all the positive impact their developments have made in our lives,” Mr Butotu said.

Provide best services, civil servants urged

JOSIA RALAGO

PRIME Minister Voreqe Bainimarama is calling on civil servants to do their duty in providing the best of services to all Fijians in this country.

Addressing civil servants during his recent visit to Labasa, the head of Government said the services provided to the people should be nothing short of the best.

Speaking in terms of some defunct ice-plants in Vanua Levu, PM Bainimarama said he has been receiving complaints from members of the public that most of these ice-plants were not operational and providing the services that it should.

“I do not know whether it is the people that are doing maintenance of the ice plant, or the ice plant is not working but whatever it is, it is very important that we provide the people of this nation the best we can offer,” he said.

In very succinct terms, Prime Minister Bainimarama said, “If the ice plants aren’t good have them changed, if the generators are not good have them changed, if the maintainers are not good please have them changed.”

He said if the ice-plants were not working then they would have to look at alternate ways to help address these issues.

“I am requesting you civil servants if you could address this. We better start working on some alternatives to ensure that we continue to provide the best of service to the people of this nation.”

There are eight ice plants in Vanua Levu.



We have in the past been denied these developments because of the less number of people that are living in the area and this has led to many of our youths migrating to the urban centres in search of better employment opportunity and entrepreneurship.

Vilitati Rokovesa
Navatusila District
representative

Solar energy plans set for remote villages

PRASHILA DEVI

FIJI is doing everything possible to make the switch to clean, renewable energy and to further reduce its own greenhouse gas emissions by setting a goal of 100 per cent renewable energy by 2030.

Prime Minister and 23rd Conference of Parties (COP23) president Frank Bainimarama brought Vio island, of the coast of Lautoka city, to the attention of the international community when he narrated the story of how this small isolated community for years lived with electricity.

Speaking in San Francisco during the Global Climate Action Summit Talanoa last week, he said what many take for granted, the people of Vio got just recently- “the wonders of electricity 24 hours a day”.

“What some may take for granted, the Vio community will soon be experiencing for the first time: children being able to do their homework in proper light in the evenings; families having the ability to keep devices charged and maintain access to the internet - these are profound improvements for the people of Vio Village. And we are doing this with the power of the sun,” the head of Government said.

Prime Minister Bainimarama hailed Hollywood actor and humanitarian Leonardo DiCaprio and his foundation for assisting in the set-up of the charitable trust for the Government called the Fiji Rural Electrification Fund.

He said through the funding from the foundation and the technical expertise that Fiji has, a solar-battery hybrid energy system in Vio using a micro-grid to connect each of the homes with clean, renewable electricity was built.

This project will be mimicked in 10 other communities and Prime Minister reassured that this is not just an act of charity but in fact these communities will pay a retail tariff for the benefit of 24-hour access to solar battery power.

“And that revenue will be used by the Fiji Rural Electrification Fund to ensure continued services to the community and to expand the program to other communities,” he said.

Prime Minister Bainimarama said Fiji has 400 such communities that are currently not served by the national grid and called for support from donors to scale up on the rural electrification programme.



Prime Minister and COP23 President Frank Bainimarama with the Fijian delegation and other regional and national leaders at the opening plenary of the Global Climate Action Summit at San Francisco, America. Photo: OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER

PM challenges world leaders on climate fight

PRIME Minister and COP23 president Frank Bainimarama has challenged national and regional leaders to be more assertive in their efforts at home to fight climate change.

Speaking at the opening plenary of the Global Climate Action Summit, Prime Minister Bainimarama, who is also the 23rd session of Conference of Parties (COP23) president, appealed directly to “the national and regional leaders in the room, and around the world.”

He said, “We were elected to lead, not to pander, not to follow, and not to hold up a wet finger to the wind. So let’s lead.”

PM Bainimarama reminded the audience of the importance of the talanoas that are being held around the world as a means of ramping up every country’s ambition to combat climate

change.

“The Talanoas being held around the world are producing thousands of good ideas and a torrent of valuable information that can put us back on track,” he said.

He said that Talanoa was “not just talk. Talanoa is storytelling for a purpose. And the stories we’ve heard in yesterday’s Talanoa - and the scores of others that have taken place around the world - aren’t just talk, they’re tools. Tools that can be used by political leaders to increase climate action at the national level”.

Current national plans to reduce carbon emission, known as Nationally Determined Contributions, or NDCs, are inadequate.

“The levels of ambition in our national plans need to be ramped up because we are not on track to meet the targets of the Paris Agree-

ment,” Prime Minister Bainimarama said.

“Loss of land, degradation of our oceans, extreme weather and the other certain effects of warming will rob us of community, culture and livelihood,” he reminded leaders.

“So there is no hiding from the consequences, but there are ways to help shape our own destiny. We need to help people embrace that hope.”

Led by California Governor Jerry Brown and former New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg, who is the UN Secretary-General’s Special Envoy for Climate Action, the Global Climate Action Summit brought together leaders of government, business, Labour, finance, philanthropy, science, research and civil society to San Francisco, California, for three days.

news@govnet.gov.fj

Talks target net-zero emissions society

PRIME Minister Voreqe Bainimarama officially opened the High Level Talanoa at the Fairmont Hotel, San Francisco, California, recently.

The High Level Talanoa is an official affiliated event for the Global Climate Action Summit, which is taking place from September 12-14, 2018.

More than 100 people registered for the Talanoa session with participants representing governments, the private sector, NGOs and civil society with the intention of finding ways of reducing carbon emissions.

Among the attendees present, were:

- Prime Minister of Barbados, Mia Motley;
- Governor of California Jerry Brown; and
- UNFCCC Executive Secretary, Patricia Espinosa.

The concept of Talanoa is to use storytelling as way to engage participants from different fields of life to share ideas, innovations



Prime Minister and COP23 President Frank Bainimarama at the Global Climate Action Summit at San Francisco, America. Photo: OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER

and best practices in addressing climate change that political leaders can then use at the national level.

During the session, a total of 20 participants were given the opportunity to share their stories on how they are addressing the

issue of climate change and how they can contribute to ensure zero emissions in the future.

Governor Brown mentioned in his talanoa that he has signed a bill that would require the state of California to become carbon-neutral by 2045.

The 20 speakers who shared their talanoa gave real-life stories and actions, best practices which were useful in helping many adopt these practices and leapfrog ahead in the area of climate action and ambition.

news@govnet.gov.fj



WiFi hotspot for Coral Coast

The Coral Coast town of Sigatoka was a hive of activity on Saturday, September 15, as Attorney-General and Minister for Communications Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum launched the free WiFi hotspot there.

Sigatoka is the third centre where Fijians will be able to use free internet through the hotspot after Suva and Savusavu.

"We want to encourage Fijians to be able to get access to internet and use these hotspots to

Google and increase their knowledge and for young people to be able to get improved access to the internet," the A-G said.

The Government is spending from over \$40million in the 2018-2019 financial year for the information, communication and technology sector to provide Fijians with more opportunity.

The A-G later toured the Sigatoka Market and met members of the public there.

Photos: ISAAC LAL



Public praises hotspot initiative

Fijians have expressed gratitude for the Government initiative to create free WiFi hotspots to allow members of the public to access faster and free internet.

This is after the launch of the Savusavu Public Wi-Fi Hotspot by the Prime Minister

Voreqe Bainimarama earlier this month.

The Savusavu Foreshore, which has been geo-fenced, was a prime area to experience the best of these services.

In a few weeks, Government will launch many new applications such as the

registering of babies through an app and Fijians will only need to give a time to pick their birth certificates over the counter.

Photos: JOSIA RALAGO





Attorney-General and Minister for Education Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum with head teachers during the Head Teachers Association Conference at Swami Vivekananda College Hall. Photo: ISAAC LAL

‘Connectivity critical for education sector’

ISAAC LAL

ACCCESS to telecommunication connectivity for all rural schools in Fiji is critical for the development and advancement of Fiji, says the Attorney-General and Minister for Education Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum.

The A-G said the Government continues to explore ways to ensure that all primary and secondary schools have the basic infrastructure such and more importantly Information and telecommunication technology (ICT).

He made the comments after being request-

ed by head teachers from the eastern division mainly from the Lau Groups and Kadavu to include them in various developments of schools.

“This is a very important development in our education sector is the issue of connectivity and we are making it a priority to ensure that all schools have ICT connectivity,” the A-G said.

“One of the major move that Government is working on is ensuring that all schools have the same level of connectivity so that someone in Kadavu or Bua or Vanuabalavu is able

to access the same materials as those students in Suva, Nadi or Labasa.”

He added that the Government was working with digital platform Walesi to be able to address this.

“Walesi can now be reached from any part of Fiji and while terrestrial coverage is preferable, those that aren’t able to access terrestrial, there is provision for satellite dish and we (the Government) will ensure that all schools are able to connect to this so that students are able to improve and learn from the same platform,” the A-G added.

Koya commends timeshare concept

LITIA VULDAUSIGA

FOR close to 20 years, the traction of timeshare on Fiji’s tourism front has not only been a significant revenue contributor but also a major source of returnee visitation.

More importantly, this successful segment complements the Government’s vision of making tourism a \$2.2 billion industry by 2021.

“Fiji’s tourism industry is diversifying its tourism products and building niche markets, such as sports tourism and the Meetings, Incentives, Conferences and Events (MICE),” noted Minister for Industry, Trade and Tourism Faiyaz Koya.

Minister Koya was speaking at the recent Australian Timeshare & Holiday Ownership Council (ATHOC) annual conference on Denarau island in Nadi, the second to be hosted in Fiji.

“This vision can be achieved by



Minister for Industry, Trade and Tourism Faiyaz Koya during the Australian Timeshare & Holiday Ownership Council (ATHOC) annual conference on Denarau island in Nadi. Photo: ISAAC LAL

embracing new and innovative market segments that will bring Fiji more value for money and ensure sustainable growth of the sector,” the Minister highlighted.

Towards these efforts, source markets have been expanded through new international flights and increased flights to key routes, as well as expanded code-share arrangements with key airlines for visitor convenience.

As Minister Koya noted, timeshare in Fiji has been extremely successful with close to 50,000 annual timeshare holiday makers

and over \$23 million in visitor spend per annum.

As well as employing thousands of Fijians for close to 20 years, timeshare resorts note high occupancy all year around, such as the Wyndham Resort Denarau Island, where occupancy stands at above 90 per cent throughout the year.

Major timeshare resorts in Fiji include Wyndham Destinations Asia Pacific, Accor Vacation Club and Ultiq, under the Wyndham, Sofitel and Ultiq brands.

ATHOC noted that Fiji’s timeshare resorts directly employed

over 420 people and support the construction sector, retail, transportation, tours, attractions and various goods and services providers.

“Without the hotel room costs to consider, studies show that timeshare owners generally have more available cash to spend on tours and attractions,” the council noted.

Fiji’s tourism earnings have grown at an average eight per cent whilst arrivals have gone up by 5 per cent over the past five years.

Conversational Hindi, iTaukei for schools

ISAAC LAL

THE Attorney-General and Minister for Education, Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum, will meet education ministry officials in efforts to allow the teaching of conversational iTaukei and Fiji Hindi in schools.

Speaking at the Fiji Head Teachers Association Conference at Swami Vivekananda College Hall recently, the A-G said it was critical for Fiji’s growth as a nation to have the two major speaking languages taught in schools.

“This is a provision under the Constitution and these languages have to be taught,” he said.

“We live in a country where we need to allow for these non-examinable languages so that we learn of each other’s values, culture, tradition and religious belief to be able to grow as a nation.”

The A-G also highlighted the need for teachers to be able to be better leaders at school as Government continues to make the education sector at the core of its development plans.

Towards this end, in the 2018-2019 National Budget, \$1.025 billion has been allocated to the education sector to further reiterate the Government’s commitment towards the education of Fiji’s young population.

“As head teachers you need to look after teachers to ensure that the students get the best education,” the A-G said.

“I also pay tribute to all teachers for the hard work and efforts put by yourselves and your colleagues in the education of our children.”

The A-G also apologised for any of the ‘goof-ups’ by the Ministry of Education’s human resources department.

He said they are cleaning up the HR departments, restructuring all the district education offices, and are also getting counselors for schools so that the head teachers are not burdened by other issues.

Fiji’s tourism industry is diversifying its tourism products and building niche markets, such as sports tourism and the Meetings, Incentives, Conferences and Events (MICE)

Faiyaz Koya
Minister for Industry, Trade and Tourism



Major facelift for market redevelopment

JOSAIA RALAGO

A FACELIFT to the Savusavu Market can be expected soon.

This is after a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN WOMEN) and the Minister for Local Government, Housing and Community Development Praveen Kumar Bala earlier this month.

Savusavu Market Vendors Association President Ana Vita said this MoU would ensure that vendors were provided with better facilities.

“The market facility needs an extension and renovation works to be carried out because some of our vendors are now selling under tents outside. And with these new development coming Soon, we are truly happy and thankful to the UN Women and the Government for allowing this to happen,” Ms Vita said.

“Some of the vendors often get wet when it rains because of the roof leakage from. We hope that this new development would also address this sort of issues.”

Fish vendor Sofia Nisha said this was a timely intervention and lauded the efforts by relevant authorities for initiating such a project that would greatly benefit vendors.

“I am very happy. This would mean that vendors who sell under tents would be able to sell with us inside the market,” Ms Nisha said.

The Ministry has worked with UN Women to develop municipal markets around the country to provide vendors better facilities including “accommodation centre” for women market vendors.

The Government hailed these developments as a significant boost to growth opportunities and promotion of small and medium-sized business.

A market, it has maintained, is both a place for commerce and a place for social interaction.

Fight against climate change: Naiqamu

JOSAIA RALAGO

IT IS high time that we work together to protect our environment and fight against climate change.

This was the message from the Minister for Forests Osea Naiqamu during his recent tour to Vanua Levu whereby he visited resource owners in the Government’s attempt to encourage reforestation and the protection of forests.

“You would have read in the newspapers, heard over the news or watched on television, the devastating impacts that climate change has on our world today, which does not exclude Fiji,” Minister Naiqamu said.

“As the President of COP23 (the United Nation’s 23rd session of Conference of Parties), our Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama has been travelling to different parts of the world in our attempt to raise awareness and help reduce the impacts of climate change. And we as Fijians must take responsibility, and form a united front in this fight.”

Minister Naiqamu said as resource owners, one could play an important role in this, through reforestation.

“There is a growing tendency to harvest plants but people lack the initiative to replant. So I am here pleading with you, asking for



Minister for Forests Osea Naiqamu during his visit to Navakuru Village in Cakaudrove. Photo: JOSAIA RALAGO

your assistance to protect our forests,” he said. “I am sure you are aware of climate change and the effects that it has on our environment and if we protect our forest, then we can help fight against this.”

The team was accompanied by officials from the iTaukei Land Trust Board (TLTB), Fiji

Pine Trust and the Fiji Police Force during the one week tour.

Members of the public were also educated on the Forest Act which prohibits the burning of forest reserves.

The Minister visited Navakuru Village in Cakaudrove and Naseseivua in Kubulau Bua.

Solar lights for maritime island

JOSAIA RALAGO

A TOTAL of 49 homes in Yacata island, Cakaudrove now have a consistent lighting system following the installation of solar lights recently. Speaking from the island, village headman Jone Vakatale said this assistance by the Government through the Department of Energy, was like a new lease of life for the villagers.

“The people are happy about this new incentive that has made our life a whole lot easier,” Mr Vakatale said.

“Students can now study late into the evening, and our women say they feel much safer when walking in the night.”

Yacata villager Sereima Sereico-



Yacata Villagers in front of their community hall in Cakaudrove. Photo: JOSAIA RALAGO

coko said this was something they had been enthusiastically waiting for and they were grateful to Government for a timely assistance.

“Before we had to rely on lanterns, candlelight and generators to supply us the much-needed lighting in the evenings but even with

these, the supply of electricity was limited,” Ms Sereicocoko said.

“But now, we are able to use these lights till the break of dawn or whenever we need it. And while it is consistent, solar energy is also sustainable so we also contribute to the fight against climate

change.”

There are 232 villagers on Yacata Island who has benefitted from this incentive.

In the 2018-2019 National Budget, rural electrification programmes have been allocated \$50.8 million.

Digital TV reaches far flung island

JOSAIA RALAGO

VILLAGERS and students on the island of Yacata in Cakaudrove now have an opportunity to watch the news and television programmes for free through the Walesi box.

The villagers received a Walesi setup box earlier this year stationed at the village hall for everyone’s use.

“Our children who are attending Suka-

naivalu Memorial School now have the opportunity to watch the Parliamentary sessions, the news and other educational programs that they were once denied,” a villager Kelepi Koroi said.

“We villagers also come here to watch the news and rugby matches.”

He said before they had to either go to homes of those who had Sky Pacific dishes or they would have to make do with listening to the radio.

“And on top of it, it (Walesi) is entirely free for us to access the programs.”

Yacata Village headmen Jone Vakatale said they were thankful to the Government for such initiatives that has been beneficial to them and educational for the children.

Speaking in terms of the 2018-2019 National Budget, Mr Vakatale agreed with the views of many that it was family focused.

“Listening to the provisions being made, this budget is here to assist every Fijian

even the \$1000 benefit for new babies born after the 1st of August,” he said.

“We have free education for students, more scholarships and loan opportunities if parents cannot afford to send their children to University through the National Toppers Scheme and Tertiary Education Loan Scheme.

“These initiatives are here to help all Fijians even for us here in isolated islands and rural communities.”



Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama with Government official and stakeholders at PAFCO during his recent visit to Ovalau. Photo: ERONI VALILI

Tokovou praises reforms

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

THE villagers of Tokou on Ovalau have hailed the changes being brought about by the Pacific Fishing Company Ltd (PAFCO) and the Government.

This was conveyed by the village headman, Romeo Namata who explained that out of the thousands of employees of PAFCO, about 84 came from Tokou village.

“On their behalf I must express our appreciation to the Government of the day for the various reforms that have been made on PAFCO.”

“The reforms have been felt by the workers and they are very happy with the changes especially the recent 12.5 per cent pay increment which has been back dated to January 1, 2018,” he said.

“With such incentive by the Government to employees of PAFCO I can see that they are eager to go work every day and it has boosted the economy of the island.”

“The workers usually go to work by carriers leaving the village at 6 am and they are back by 5 pm,” Mr Namata said.

“Those who did mid-day shift started work at 12pm and will be back by 10 pm I can see that they are enjoying going to work because management has provided them with better incentives which in turn will boost productivity of the company and make their families happier.”

Worker depart Tokou at 6am and are usually back by 5pm while others go on midday shift which starts at 11 am and finishes at 8pm.

During his recent visit to PAFCO, Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama opened the \$16.4 mil-

lion new cold storage facility that will increase production for PAFCO by 10 per cent annually

“These cost savings, paired with financial benefits of increased production and more efficient storage, will be felt at every level of the company, as PAFCO will be in a better position to invest back to its infrastructure and its people, creating even more jobs to the people of Lomaiviti,” PM Bainimarama had said.

Mr Namata said that most of their school leavers are employed by PAFCO and it has been a good source of income apart from yaqona planting and fishing.

“We are also benefiting from the high price of yaqona in Fiji today.”

The village of Tokou in Ovalau has a population of 432 people.

Villagers thankful for clinic

NATASHA BEGUM

THE opening of the new Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Clinic at the Koro Health Centre will make services accessible and lives easier for the people of Koro.

Villagers have expressed their gratitude and relief stating that the clinic would allow them to access various health services on the island and saving the hassle of travelling to Suva.

The development project costing \$634,000 was funded by the Australian Government as part of aid to support Fiji post Tropical Cyclone Winston, was officially opened by the Minister for Health and Medical Services Rosy Akbar.

“The new extension to the Maternal and Child Health Clinic will provide a new look and enhanced services to the many mothers and families who will seek for critical information, support and advice on a variety of topics, including child health, development and learning, child behaviour, parenting, maternal health and wellbe-



Minister for Health and Medical Services, Rosy Akbar during the opening of the Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Clinic at Nasau Village on Koro Island. Photo: NATASHA BEGUM

ing, child safety, immunization, breastfeeding, nutrition and family planning and assist with the overall development of families,” Minister Akbar said.

“The new extension is uniquely designed as it remarkably consolidates MCH services under one roof.

MCH Clinic’s Doctor Nikhil Chand said the new facility provides dedicated areas for patients. “Previously the consultation room I used catered for everything – whether it’s a pregnant mother, a child or any person that walks in but now this facility provides a specific area where we can see mothers and children

so we can keep their medications and equipment separate,” Dr Chand said.

“We now have a delivery room which is equipped with a proper delivery bed and an infant warmer together with an emergency trolley for medication.

“The practice before was that pregnant mothers during their 27th week (7 months) were sent to the CWM Hospital for their follow ups until delivery so with this new facility we will be able to do a few deliveries here.”

Tomasi Vosaicake of Naqaidamu, Koro said the clinic would benefit expecting mothers in their checkups and birthing.

“We are thankful to the Fijian and Australian Governments for initiating this project as it will be a great help for us. Pregnant mothers will not have to travel to Suva to deliver their babies as this clinic now provides that service for them here on the island,” he said.

Rosa Tawai of Nacamaki said the newly constructed clinic would benefit the whole of Koro Island.

“This is a wonderful initiative not only for the people of Koro Island but for the coming generations as they can now access all the services provided here at the clinic,” she said.

Government sets priority for Moturiki

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

DRINKING from wells and rainwater will soon be a thing of the past for the 10 villages on the island of Moturiki.

Finally, the people of the island of Moturiki will soon drink fresh water from the volcanic hills of Ovalau as the Government has allocated funds from this year’s budget for Water Authority of Fiji to supply water from sources to the 10 villages of Moturiki.

The water problem on the island of Moturiki has been ongoing for generations.

The Moturiki District Representative, Sakiasi Karavanua said the Government of the day had “broken the spell that has been cast” on the people of Moturiki for generations because soon they will, for the first time ever, be having fresh water from source.

“I personally believe that for decades we were not prioritising one of the basic needs of life that is to have fresh water for our people. Even the past Governments but I am glad that the Government of the day has finally set our priority right. Water is a necessity of life and the Government has highlighted that having fresh water supply is a right for every citizen of Fiji.

“We are glad to hear that the Government has allocated some funds from this year’s budget to cater for the work to be done to enable the laying of water supply pipes from the source in Ovalau to the villages of Moturiki.”

“We cannot rely on water sources used by our forefathers like water wells and rainwater because the problem of climate change has created the scarcity of water.”

Mr Karavanua said this latest development was “like a new horizon for the people of Moturiki” and is a blessing for the future generation.

“I am also grateful to the Government of the day and to Water Authority of Fiji for carting water to our two schools and our nursing station during this current dry season.”

“Recently the island of Moturiki was one of those 17 islands in Fiji that was supplied with fresh water through the Government boat,” he said.

“They were able to supply water to the two schools and the island Nursing Station.”

Govt helps revive local boxing in Newtown

RUPENI VATUBULI

WHEN people think of “Newtown” the first thing that pops into their head is Rugby 7s star Jerry Tuwai.

However, if you happen to ask a local boxing fan, then they will give you a different answer.

Newtown Boxing Club, which officially started last year with the assistance from the Government, has been the talk of the town lately.

Last year, Minister for Youth and Sports Laisenia Tuitubou handed over \$3,156.66 worth of equipment on behalf of Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama to the Newtown Boxing Club and since then, the club has been out to make a mark in the boxing community.

Newtown Boxing President and coach, Jone Loloma recounted how the club started.

“The idea of starting a boxing club began when my wife asked me to investigate a noise she heard outside our house at night. I walked outside and found a boy crying in the dark after he was being bullied by some of the older neighbourhood kids,” Mr Loloma said.

“I felt sorry for him and told him to return the next day so I could teach him a few basic boxing combos to defend himself. Next thing I know people started showing up to my house for boxing lessons.”

The club now has more than 60 members and over 30 active boxers with the youngest member being a seven-year-old and the oldest being a 60-year-old.

In the recent months, the club has produced a number of ruthless pound-for-pound boxers that has landed them four spots in the Fiji Team.

Olympian Winston Hill has commended the boxing club for role it’s the community and has thanked Mr Loloma for channelling the boxer’s natural God-given talents in order to make a name of themselves.

Adding to their ruthless reputation, the Newtown Boxing Club has won 413 fights out of the total 537 fights (amateur and professional).

The club raises money through fundraising for travelling expenses as they do not charge any of the member’s club fees.

“We don’t charge people for the training sessions because we want to encourage people to join and reap the benefits of boxing which is perseverance, hard work and self-discipline.”

“I remember when we first started, the elders in the community were terrified because they were worried the youths might turn on them with knowledge they learnt but now people know of the difference we made and they are slowly showing their support,” Mr Loloma said.

The club hopes to build its gym soon so it can work on its goal to become Fiji’s prominent boxing club and someday produce boxers that will one day represent Fiji in the world stage of professional boxing.

‘See sports as a profession’

NATASHA BEGUM

FIJIANs have been urged to take sports seriously and consider it as a profession.

These were the remarks made by the Minister for Youth and Sports, Laisenia Tuitubou while officially closing the National Sports Commission Outreach at Navutulevu Village in Serua.

The purpose of the outreach was to edu-

cate and empower youths with the hope of them being agents of change in the sports arena.

“The Ministry is here to support you and I want to encourage the youths to join sporting federations, create clubs and tournaments for your communities and districts from what you have learnt in the past few days at this outreach,” Minister Tuitubou said. He also reiterated that sports can be used as a tool to combat non-communicable diseases (NCDs).

ble diseases (NCDs).

“Sports also encourages health and well-being and has a great impact on reducing NCDs in our country,” Minister Tuitubou said.

“In 2016 we were the first country around the region with the highest number of deaths caused by NCDs therefore I want to urge you once again to sports as a tool to combat NCDs.”



Upcoming boxing star Sunia Dari during his training sessions. Photo: RUPENI VATUBULI

Upcoming boxing star praises Govt

RUPENI VATUBULI

“THE donation by the Government to the boxing club might not be a lot to many in terms of monetary value but to kids like me it’s an opportunity to get out of poverty.”

These are the words of upcoming boxing star Sunia Dari as he prepared for his midday jog in his neighbourhood in Newtown.

The 19-year-old orthodox fighter is a member of the Newtown Boxing Club to which the Government donated sporting gear worth \$3,156.66 through the Office of the Prime Minister’s Small Grants Scheme.

Sunia Dari who started his box-

ing career this year has a total of 16 amateur fights with 13 wins under his belt (10 Knockouts – 3 Technical Knockouts) while only suffering three losses.

The Fiji Games silver medalist has been praised by Fiji’s Olympian Winston Hill for his natural boxing talents and says he could make a name for himself on the international scene if he remains faithful to his training.

“Growing up in Newtown you are exposed to a lot of things. Every weekend, kids my age get drunk on homebrew, smoke marijuana or sniff glue because it’s a norm in this neighbourhood,” Dari said.

“Before I started boxing, I hung out with a lot of ‘rotten kids’ who had no respect for themselves or others.

“They would resort to violence if they didn’t get their way with their parents or peers.

“When I started to box, not only did I find purpose – I also learnt self-discipline. I immediately cut off people who were a bad influence in my life and started to make a healthy change,” says the Fiji Team rep.

Newtown Boxing Club has over 60 members and has indirectly impacted close to a hundred of their family and friends with the help of their coach, Jone Loloma, who is also a Pas-

tor with the Assemblies of God.

Mr Loloma said his boxing members receive physical, mental and spiritual training in order to prepare themselves for what life throws at them.

“Only three members are employed out the 60 plus members we have, so it’s really important that my boxers have the mental strength to resist the easy money life of crime” he said.

Mr Dari who is unemployed has thanked the Government for their help and says sport equipment donations to sports organisations or clubs is a great way to identify natural talents as not everyone can be lawyers and doctors.



From left: Julian Loloma, coach Jone Loloma and Sunia Dari at Newtown in Suva. Newtown Boxing Club has over 60 members and has indirectly impacted close to a hundred of their family and friends.

Photo: RUPENI VATUBULI



Newtown Boxing Club coach Jone Loloma.

Photo: RUPENI VATUBULI

NCD fight reaches Koro island

NATASHA BEGUM

A TOTAL of 348 diabetes-related amputations were recently done at the three major divisional hospitals in Fiji. Minister for Health and Medical Services, Rosy Akbar highlighted the figures recently during the opening of the Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Clinic on Koro Island urging villagers to embrace a healthier lifestyle. “We should eat healthy, exercise daily and have a diet with locally grown fruits and vegetables,” Minister Akbar said. “While we have the health facilities to provide you with the health care, the key to having a healthy life is in your hands – the choices you make on a daily basis determine the health of your family and that of yours.”

The Minister said that the Ministry of Health was striving to reach out to communities with the objective of inculcating behavioural changes to address the increased numbers of cases of Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) such as hypertension and cardiovascular diseases. “Apart from having a healthy diet and active lifestyle, it advisable to quit smoking and reduce consumption of kava and alcohol,” she said. “NCD is a serious health concern for our nation but the fact is, it’s a lifestyle disease and it’s preventable. “That is why we are intensifying our awareness to reach out to every community in Fiji, to join hands with is to help us in our endeavours to tackle the NCD cases,” Minister Akbar said.



Minister for Health and Medical Services, Rosy Akbar and Australian High Commissioner John Feakes during the opening of the Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Clinic at Nasau Village on Koro Island. Photos: NATASHA BEGUM



Fiji Roads Authority (FRA) workers along Edinburgh Drive in Suva. FRA has completed reconstruction of seven roads under the Suva Arterial Road Upgrading Project (SARUP 1). Photo: SUPPLIED

FRA gives Suva roads a facelift

F IJI Roads Authority has completed reconstruction of seven roads under the Suva Arterial Road Upgrading Project (SARUP 1). The SARUP was set up to improve the main arterial roads with the new and im-

proved roads having an improved capacity which allows a balanced traffic-flow particularly during peak hours. These road works will also help prolong the life of the roads by preventing them from premature deterioration and provide a

smooth journey to motorists. The contractor for the construction of these roads was China Railway Fifth Group.

FIJI ROADS AUTHORITY

Commendable price increase on risk factors

EMI KOROITANOVA

T HE Government has been instrumental in contributing to the efforts to prevent and control non-communicable diseases in Fiji. Dr Isimeli Tukana, the National Advisor for Non-Communicable Diseases under the Ministry of Health and Medical services, in saying this has urged Fijians to play their part in tackling NCDs. He was commending the announced new price increase on all imported alcohol, cigarettes and tobacco by 15 per cent in the 2018-2019 national budget address. Dr Tukana said that all Fijians should join the Government’s effort by being responsible citizens in making informed choices on alcohol and cigarettes, which are two major risk factors to various NCDs.

“While we respect the right of Fijians to smoke, we need to also respect the rights of Fijians who do not smoke,” he said. “With respect to alcohol, we advocate for responsible drinking. Our problem is binge drinking, meaning we don’t drink alcohol but gulp it.” Furthermore, citizens concerned about public health and wellness, have praised the Government’s move to increasing the prices of these major risk factors.

Twenty-two year old Denzyl McKellar of Tacirua Heights said that the attitude of consumers would still determine whether they would purchase it or not but was nonetheless optimistic about government’s effort. “I think that the Government increasing its prices on tobacco and alcohol are commendable,” he said. Meanwhile, twenty-three year old Serenia Raura, of Cunningham, who echoed similar sentiments, said that it was a smart move. “These goods decrease the status of human health,” she said. “And measures should be put in place to discourage the purchase of such goods.”

| Upcoming Suva Arterial Road Upgrading Project SARUP 2 | | | |
|---|---|------------------|--|
| Amy Street | From Brown St intersection to Eden/Holland St intersection | Rodwell Road | From Edinburgh Drive Roundabout to Renown Street intersection |
| Foster Road | From Edinburgh Drive Roundabout/intersection to Queens/Reservoir Road Roundabout / intersection | Thomson Street | From Usher Street intersection to Scott Street intersection |
| Gordon Street | From Victoria Parade intersection to McArthur St intersection | Waimanu Road [B] | From Brown Street intersection to Ratu Mara/Princes Road intersection |
| Ratu Mara Rd (B) | (including Bypass road and Fletcher Road) From Lakeba Street intersection to Mead Road roundabout | Kings Rd [D] | From Wainibokasi Road / Verrier Street RAB to Verrier Street / Kings Road roundabout |
| Ratu Sukuna Rd | From Queen Elizabeth Drive intersection to Laucala Bay Rd intersection | Augustus Street | From Brown Street Intersection to Huon Street Intersection |



Ashwin Kumar with his mother, Sushila Wati (middle) and wife Pranheela Kumar.
Photo: DIPESH KUMAR

Court clerk sworn to the Bar

DIPESH KUMAR

FOR village boy Ashwin Kumar, while growing up in Kabisi, Tuva in Nadroga, a career in law was not the first option as their scope was limited to a police officer or a farmer.

Mr Kumar, who was recently admitted to the Bar at the High Court in Suva, said growing up in a rural area, he did not have the knowledge of what being a lawyer meant.

It was only as he joined the Judicial Department as a court clerk that he got an intimate knowledge about the profession.

Mr Kumar, 32, was overjoyed as he shared his experience at the swearing in ceremony for new barristers and solicitors at the High Court in Suva.

"I never knew what law profession was about when I had completed my secondary school because I was in the village school where we only knew that I want to become a bus driver or a police officer."

"I was lucky to get a job in Judiciary and then I got to know what all a lawyers' profession was about."

"I started studying when I became a court clerk and then I thought that there's more to it so I studied law."

Mr Kumar comes from a farming background and it took him eight years of struggles to complete his law degree.

"I'm also a farmer, so during my holidays and days off I used to work on the farm because that would fund my studies as well, so during the process of farming I was attacked by a bull."

"I could have lost my life and I was admitted in the hospital for two weeks."

"It happened four years ago when I was still studying."

"I had lost my father when I was 13 so that was quite difficult for me and I have my mum, where one of her hand is also amputated so it was quite difficult for me to look after her and the family and at the same time working and studying."

It has been 13 years for Mr Kumar in the judiciary and he plans to continue working there until he gets a better opportunity.



Minister for Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation Mereseini Vuniwaqa with organisers and participants during the "Come Play with Me Fiji" conference.

Conference deals with conflict resolution



Minister for Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation Mereseini Vuniwaqa with a student of Gospel Kindergarten School in Suva during the closing of Early Childhood Education week in July.

EMI KOROITANOVA

FIJIANS need to be educated with skills and knowledge on how to respond to traumas of natural disasters, wars, family, violence, suicide and extramarital affairs.

This was Minister for Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation Mereseini Vuniwaqa's main message at the "Come Play with Me Fiji" conference held recently with the intent of attending to psychological issues arising out of different types of conflicts.

Minister Vuniwaqa said the programme is a proven child therapy.

"The current level of child abuse in Fiji warrants its introduction for trauma, which is the fun killer for our children," she said.

"This is something so new to us and one we know will bear results on trauma victims and communities in Fiji."

The program was aimed at educating, invigorating and building the capacity of social workers and allied professionals to be in a better position to deal with the trauma suffered by victims of domestic violence, disasters and the likes.

"We live in a very stressed physical, social, mental and spiritual environ-

ment now compared to the past generation."

"That is why this training on Come Play with Me Fiji is so important for in it lies the ability of affected victims to cope with life challenges and the world out there."

Minister Vuniwaqa further added that the therapy would assist victims to rise above the harmful experience they have been through.

"It is their hope to a better wellbeing."

Meanwhile, the woman behind the training, Donna Zander who is also the founder of Donna Zander and Associates, said that they were trying to teach Fijians how to play with their children.

"But we don't want to tell them how to do it the western way," Ms Zander said.

She said the participants were being taught how to play with water as Fiji is very abundant with this resource.

"So that children can develop and grow but also using other things in the natural environment such as leaves, shells, sand and nuts that grow from trees," she added.

"So we're trying to teach the child to be creative so that the child can open up and allow us to sip into their world and explore what's going on for them."

Ministry team shares insights on child protection

EMI KOROITANOVA

A TEAM from the Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation recently toured Nacula District in the Yasawa Group recently where villagers were urged to comply with child-protection laws.

Director Social Welfare, Rupeni Fatiaki shared insight of the ministry's Positive Parenting Program with village headmen and women's group leaders from Nacula (Lomanikoro), Matacawalevu, Naisisili, Navotau and

Vuaki.

Mr Fatiaki said "with rights comes responsibilities".

He said traditional methods of discipline were no longer acceptable and detrimental to the emotional and psychological wellbeing of children.

"Children are like sponges; they'll absorb positive and negative things said about them and to them. We need to be our children's friends and have a relationship that will allow them to not fear us, but be close to us. This will also allow them to seek advice from their parents if they

find themselves in trouble, as opposed to getting advice from their friends."

All village representatives from Nacula District agreed with the program's values, and presented a list of programs that they want the ministry to help facilitate, such as care-giving to benefit the elderly population in each village and for employment.

Mr Fatiaki said they were discussing a joint program on this with Australia Pacific Technical College (APTC) and noted its particular relevance.

"The number of people being

put in old people's homes is increasing, and sometimes people who are put in these places have no say in the decision made by their families.

It impacts them emotionally and psychologically and there are cases when elderly don't last long, especially as they are taken out of the communities they have also known. So this care-giving course can also be applied to the elderly in our own villages and communities," he told Nacula's village representatives.

Fiji Focus

\$634K

NEW KORO
MATERNAL
AND CHILD
HEALTH CLINIC

12



PM LEADS
UNGA CLIMATE
CHANGE
TALKS

3



Daylight Savings
Begins: Sunday 4th Nov 2018
Ends: Sunday 13th Jan 2019

DIGITAL

TV
REACHES
FAR FLUNG
ISLAND

inside



FROM LEFT: Fijian Holdings Limited (FHL), group chief executive officer Nouzab Fareed, Prime Minister and Minister for iTaukei Affairs Voreqe Bainimarama, FHL chairman Adrian Sofield, China Railway First Group vice president Guo Wei and Reverend Isireli Kacimaiwai after the unveiling of the plaque at the ground breaking ceremony of the FHL \$64m 17-storey building that will be completed by 2021.

Photos: ERONI VALILI



\$64m city facelift

PM BREAKS GROUND FOR 17- STOREY TOWER

PRASHILA DEVI

THE Suva City skyline will soon boast a beautiful structure that will symbolise the progress the country is making, says Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama. As he officiated at two back to back investments this week in the central division, Prime Minister Bainimarama said these investments were “all clear and impressive signs that we are finally

fulfilling our destiny and finally realising our great potential as a nation”. This week, the head of Government broke ground at the Nausori Airport which will get a facelift together with an expansion at the cost of \$60 million and he was speaking at the Fijian Holdings Limited \$64m 17-storey building that will be completed by 2021. “Every new building represents new opportunity, a new opportunity for new businesses to set up

shop and for others to expand and a new opportunity for our people to secure high-paying jobs,” Prime Minister Bainimarama said. Beyond its economic value, he said, these buildings fill the people with a sense of pride when they drive or walk the streets with their families and it brings them hope for what is to come when they look out over the capital and see the cranes dotting the skyline and the new structures being erected. “We’re moving forward and our

progress is testament to the well thought out plan I have for our economic growth and for the development of our country, a plan I have laid out repeatedly as Prime Minister, and a plan I’ve stuck to from the very beginning,” Prime Minister Bainimarama said. He also gave credit to FHL management and board for the progress that it has shown over the years as it had \$184 million, with profits hovering at \$6.5m in 2011 and an asset base was valued at

around \$344m. “Today, your revenue has nearly doubled, standing at \$311m.” “Your share price broke records this year as well, peaking at \$6.15 per share, and I’m excited to hear you’re on track to become a billion-dollar company within the next seven years.” The 17-storey FHL Tower will house 13,000 square feet of commercial office space and it will stand over 60 metres tall.

फीजी फोकस

बाहरी द्वीपों तक
पानी बाँटने का
अभियान

2



डायलीसिस
उपचार पर
सरकार की मदद

6

विश्वस्तर का नउसोरी एर्यापोट

रोनल देव

नउसोरी एर्यापोट पर सुधारकार्य जल्द ही शुरू होगा जैसे ही फीजी एर्यापोट्स इस मुख्य सुधारकार्य के लिए साठ मिलियन डॉलर देगा जिससे वर्तमान एयरपोर्ट का ढाँचा बदला जाएगा।

नियु डालने वाले समारोह में बोलते हुए प्रधानमंत्री वोरेंगे

बईनिमरामा ने कहा कि रनवे की लम्बाई को एक हजार छः सौ साठ मीटर्स से बढ़ाकर दो हजार एक सौ चालिस मीटर किया जाएगा और इसकी चौड़ाई तीस मीटर से पैतालिस मीटर किया जाएगा। इसके अलावा एर्यापोट के टेमिनल पर भी भारी सुधार किया जाएगा।

वर्तमान के रास्ते को मोड़ा जाएगा तथा वहाँ नया सिक्युरिटी फेन्स लगाया जाएगा।

प्रधानमंत्री ने कहा कि रनवे पर काम खत्म होने के बाद अगले चरण में नया और अनोखा टेमिनल पर काम शुरू किया जाएगा। उनके अनुसार वे इस बात का ध्यान रखेंगे कि

नउसोरी एर्यापोट विश्वस्तर का लगे। उन्होंने कहा कि ज़रूरी सुधारकार्य होने के बाद

नउसोरी एर्यापोट भी नान्दी की तरह फीजी आने का ज़रिया बन जाएगा जिसपर हम सब को गर्व होगा। इस पूरी योजना को खत्म होने में साढ़े दो साल लग सकते हैं।

प्रधानमंत्री ने कहा कि इससे नउसोरी शहर और आस-पास के इलाकों में विकास और बढ़न्ती होगी क्योंकि इस विश्वस्तर यह हवाई अड्डा और भी दुरिस्टों, कुटनैज़ियों तथा व्यापारियों को प्रोत्साहित करेगा कि वे सीधे सूवा तक उड़ान भरे।

नउसोरी एर्यापोट हर साल पहचत्तर हजार अंतराष्ट्रीय यात्रियों तथा दो लाख पचास हजार स्थानीय यात्रियों को सेवा प्रदान करता है जबकि पिछले साल एर्यापोट से एक हजार दो सौ अंतराष्ट्रीय और दस हजार स्थानीय उड़ाने उतरी और फिर भरी गई थी।



प्रधानमंत्री वोरेंगे बईनिमरामा इसी सप्ताह पूर्व नउसोरी एयरपोर्ट के रनवे को बढ़ाने की न्यू डाली और यह योजना पूरी होने के बाद नउसोरी एयरपोर्ट का ढाँचा पूरी तरह बदलने का काम होगा।



मुनिसिपल काउन्सल के ग्रांट में वृद्धि

रोनल देव

वोटा वैंस और वातावरण मंत्रालय का कहना है कि कई शहरी और उसके नज़दीक इलाकों में नालों के संसाधनों की हालत बहुत खराब हो गई क्योंकि पिछले कई सालों से उनपर मरम्मत नहीं किए गए हैं।

यह कहना है मंत्रालय के पेमनन्ट सकेटरी जोशुआ वाएक्लीफ का जो हाल ही में देश भर के तेरह टाउन और सिटी काउन्सल्स के साथ एक समझौते पर हस्ताक्षर करते हुए बोल रहे थे। इस समझौते के तहत टाउन और सिटी काउन्सल्स के बीच मंत्रालय ने तीन दशमलौ आठ मिलियन डोलर बाँटा है जिसके इस्तेमाल

से काउन्सल्स ड्रैनज पर मरम्मतकार्य करेंगे।

श्री वाएक्लीफ ने कहा कि कुछ नाले कई साल पहले उस समय की आबादी और मौसम की ध्यान में रखकर डिज़ाइन किए गए थे जब काउन्सल्स की स्थापना हो रही थी। शहरों में लोगों की आबादी में भारी वृद्धि हुई है, कई विकास हुए हैं तथा और ज़्यादा बारिश भी होने लगी है लेकिन नालों के संसाधन अभी भी पुराने हैं।

इस समझौते के तहत बाढ़ चड़ने वाली समस्या से निपटा जाएगा तथा यह फैसला बहुत ज़रूरी है क्योंकि इससे कई फीजीवासियों की ज़िन्दगी पर अच्छा असर पड़ेगा। सन् दो हज़ार अट्ठारह और उन्नीस राष्ट्रीय बजट में सरकार ने इस कार्य के लिए तीन दशमलौ आठ मिलियन डोलर

अलग किया है।

इस ग्रांट में पिछले साल के मुकाबले एक सौ अट्ठासी प्रतिशत की वृद्धि हुई है जो कि एक दशमलौ तीन मिलियन डोलर था।

सूवा सिटी काउन्सल को सबसे ज़्यादा पाँच लाख डोलर दिया जाएगा जबकि राकीराकी टाउन काउन्सल को चार लाख बयासी हज़ार (482,000) डोलर, नसिन् टाउन काउन्सल तथा लौतोका सिटी काउन्सल को चार लाख पचास हज़ार (450,000) डोलर, लामी टाउन काउन्सल को तीन लाख चालिस हज़ार (340,000) डोलर, लम्बासा टाउन काउन्सल को तीन लाख चौबीस हज़ार (324,000) डोलर, नान्दी टाउन काउन्सल को तीन लाख नौ हज़ार सात सौ दस (309,710) डोलर, बा टाउन

काउन्सल को दो लाख तिरालिस हज़ार एक सौ (243,100) डोलर, नउसोरी और सिंगातोका टाउन काउन्सल को एक लाख अस्सी हज़ार (180,000) डोलर, सावूसावू टाउन काउन्सल को एक लाख पचास हज़ार (150,000) डोलर जबकि तावुआ और लेवूका टाउन काउन्सल को एक-एक लाख (100,000) डोलर का ग्रांट दिया जाएगा।

यह ग्रांट टाउन और सिटी काउन्सल्स को एक साथ नहीं एक-एक चौथाई करके बाँटा जाएगा तथा यह पैसे कैसे खर्च हुए हैं की रिपोर्ट दिए बिना उन्हें बाकी के पैसे नहीं दिए जाएंगे।

बाहरी द्वीपों तक पानी बाँटने का अभियान

रोनल देव

ग्रामीन इलाकों और बाहरी द्वीप जहाँ सुखे के मौसम का बुरा असर पड़ा है तक पानी बाँटने का अभियान अभी भी जारी है।

रूरल मेरिटार्डम डिवेलोपमन्ट, नेशनल डिज़ास्टा मेनेजमन्ट मंत्रालय नेशनल डिज़ास्टा मेनेजमन्ट दफ्तर के मार्फ़ित वोटा अथोरिटी ओफ़ फीजी के साथ मिलकर काम कर रहा है। दो सप्ताह के औपरेशन के बाद लोमाईविति गुप में पानी बाँटने का काम पूरा हुआ है।

एम एल सी सिंगावउ नामक जहाज के दल ने पुर्वी विभाग के तत्काल प्रतिक्रिया योजना के तहत पहले चरण में मकोन्गाई में उनतालिस हज़ार (39,000) लीटर पानी बाँटा, बतिकी में अट्ठाईस हज़ार एक सौ छियासठ (28,166) लीटर जबकि मोतुरिकी में छः हज़ार सात सौ पचान्वे लीटर पानी बाँटे गए हैं।

पिछले गुरुवार को उत्तरी लाउ में पानी बाँटने का काम शुरू हुआ है जबकि ज़्यादा ध्यान आवेया टिकोम्बिया और आँदी मोआपा सेकन्ड्री स्कूल पर दिया जा रहा है। लौटने समय यह दल लोवू कोरो और न्गाउ सेकन्ड्री स्कूल के अलावा अगले दो सप्ताह तक गुप में मौसम के हाल की जाँच करने पर असर पड़े समाजों तक पानी बाँटेंगा।

एन डी एम ओ को दक्षिणी लाउ के द्वीप जैसे कम्बारा, ओनियाता, ओन्गेया और तोतोया तक भी पानी बाँटने की माँग की गई है तथा इन माँगों की पुष्टी होने पर वहाँ भी पानी बाँटा जाएगा।

फिलहाल, यसावा द्वीप समूह जिनमें मलोलो द्वीप, वाया लाईलाई द्वीप, वायालेवू, यसावा, वातुलेले, वीवा और नदुला द्वीप शामिल हैं तक एक मिलियन दो लाख लीटर से ज़्यादा पानी बाँटा गया है।

एन डी एम ओ पानी बाँटने वाली योजना पर निगरानी रखे हुए हैं तथा वे मदद के लिए तैयार खड़े हैं।



वोटर अथोरिटी ओफ़ फीजी सुखे के असर पड़े इलाकों में पानी बाँट रही है। अथोरिटी, रूरल मेरिटार्डम डिवेलोपमन्ट, नेशनल डिज़ास्टा मेनेजमन्ट मंत्रालय नेशनल डिज़ास्टा मेनेजमन्ट दफ्तर के मार्फ़ित पुर्वी विभाग में मदद पहुँचा रही है।

नान्दी-लौतोका के बीच होगी पानी सप्लाई में बाधाएँ

रोनल देव

वोटर अथोरिटी ओफ़ फीजी ने नान्दी और लौतोका के बीच रह रहे निवासियों से माँग की है कि वे पर्याप्त मात्रा में पानी इकट्ठा करके रख ले क्योंकि अगले शनिवार उन्तीस सितम्बर की सुबह एक बजे से मंगलवार दो अक्टूबर के मध्यराती के बीच उनकी पानी सप्लाई पर असर पड़ सकता है।

वोटा अथोरिटी नगाँदो वोटा ट्रीटमन्ट प्लान्ट में नए उपकरण लगाएंगी जिस वजह से बाधाएँ पहुँच सकती हैं।

जिन इलाकों पर असर पड़ेगा में नान्दी का पूरा इलाका, लौतोका के कुछ भाग जिनमें लौतोका सिटी सेन्टर शामिल नहीं है और वो इलाके जहाँ बुआबुआ और सारू वोटा ट्रीटमन्ट प्लान्ट द्वारा पानी सप्लाई किया जाता है।

वोटा अथोरिटी ओफ़ फीजी चेयरमेन भवेश कुमार ने आम जनता से माँग की है कि वे चार दिनों के लिए पानी इकट्ठा शुरू कर दें।

“यह ज़रूरी है कि वोटा अथोरिटी, नगाँदो ट्रीटमन्ट प्लान्ट में यह उपकरण बिठाएँ जिससे पश्चिमी विभाग में फीजीवासियों के पास एक भरोसेमंद और कार्यकुशल वोटा ट्रीटमन्ट प्लान्ट हो जाएगा,” श्री कुमार ने कहा।

वोटा अथोरिटी के जेनरल मेनेजा कस्टमा सेविसस, सेकोवे उलुईनयाउ का कहना है कि लोगों को अपने घरों में पीने और भोजन बनाने के लिए कम से कम दो सौ लीटर पानी इकट्ठा करके रखना चाहिए। नहाने, बर्तन या कपड़े धोने वगैरह अन्य काम के लिए और पानी इकट्ठा करके रखने होंगे।

उन्होंने कहा कि अथोरिटी असर पड़े इलाकों में एक सौ पचास वोटा टेन्क्स जिसमें पाँच हज़ार लीटर पानी भरे जा सकते हैं भी रखे जाएंगे ताकि आम जनता वहाँ से पानी भर सके अगर उनके द्वारा इकट्ठा किए गए पानी खत्म हो जाए। वोटर अथोरिटी, धरेलू ग्राहकों की माँग पर भी पानी बाटेगी।

वोटा अथोरिटी ध्यान में रखेगी कि मरम्मतकार्य के दौरान मुख्य सेवाएँ जैसे अस्पताल, हवाई अड्डा तथा होटलों पर इसका कम असर पड़े जबकि पानी बाँटने के लिए ट्रक्स भेजे जाएंगे।

फिलहाल, नान्दी और लौतोका के ग्राहक पानी सप्लाई में बाधाएँ पहुँचने के दौरान और जानकारी के लिए आपातकालीन (इमेजेन्सी) टोल फ्री नम्बर 1507 पर कोल कर सकते हैं या ईमेल waterhelp@waf.com.fj पर अथोरिटी से संपर्क कर सकते हैं। यह सेवाएँ पानी सप्लाई ठप्प रहने के दौरान चौबीसों घण्टे उपलब्ध रहेंगी।

विद्यार्थियों से साईन्स को गम्भीरता से लेने की माँग

रोनल देव

देश भर के विद्यार्थियों को प्रोत्साहित किया गया है कि वे साईन्स विषयों पर ज़्यादा गौर करें क्योंकि देश को और भी वैज्ञानिक चाहिए तथा सरकार भी इस क्षेत्र में काफी मदद कर रही है।

यह कहना है कि इंडस्ट्री, ट्रेड, टुरिज़म, लेन्ड तथा मिनरल रिसोस मंत्री फईयाज़ सिदिक कोया का जो केमिकल सोसाएटी ऑफ द साउथ पेसिफिक के सालाना पुरस्कार समारोह के दौरान बोल रहे थे।

देश में साईन्स क्षेत्र में पेशेवर लोगों की कमी है। यह एक ऐसा क्षेत्र है जिसपर फी-जीयन सरकार बारिकी से गौर कर रही है तथा इस दिशा में संसाधन लगा रही है। अपने देश में बढ़न्ती लाने के लिए हमें साईन्स के क्षेत्र में पेशेवर लोगों की संख्या बढ़ाने की ज़रूरत है।

“जबकि फीजीयन सरकार ने इस विषय से निपटने के लिए योजना तैयार की है, माता-पिताओं को एक बार फिर याद दिलाया जा रहा है कि वे अपने बच्चों को स्कूलों में साईन्स लेने के लिए प्रोत्साहित करें,” मंत्री कोया ने कहा।

उन्होंने विद्यार्थियों से कहा कि वे फीजी और क्षेत्र के भविष्य है तथा राष्ट्र को एक युग की ओर ले जाएंगे।

मंत्री ने विद्यार्थियों से अपने लिए और कार्य करने की माँग की न कि केवल सालभर जो पढ़ाई जाए उसपर ही गौर करें। हमारे युवकों न केवल नौकरी की तलाश करनी चाहिए बल्कि खुद नौकरी पैदा करने वाले होने चाहिए।

उन्होंने कहा कि यही सही समय है जब हमारे युवा लोग अहसास करें कि दुनिया अवसरों और जोखिम से भरी पड़ी है।



प्रधानमंत्री वॉरेन्गे बईनिमरामा हाल ही अमरिका में ग्लोबल क्लाइमेट एक्शन समिट यानि जलवायु कारवाई शिखर सम्मेलन के दौरान कृषि मंत्री ईनिया सेरूईरातु और प्रधानमंत्री दफ्तर के पेनमन्ट सकेटरी श्री योगेश करण के साथ।

प्रधानमंत्री की चुनौती

रोनल देव

प्रधानमंत्री, वॉरेन्गे बईनिमरामा ने राष्ट्रीय और क्षेत्रिए नेताओं को चुनौती दी है कि वे अपने देश में अधिक जोरदार प्रयास से जलवायु परिवर्तन से लड़ें।

अमरिका में ग्लोबल क्लाइमेट एक्शन समिट यानि जलवायु कारवाई शिखर सम्मेलन में प्रधानमंत्री ने सीधे राष्ट्रीय और क्षेत्रिए नेताओं तथा दुनिया भर के नेताओं से ऐसी माँग की। “हमें नेतृत्व करने के लिए चुना गया है, किसी का अनुसरण करने या नीच काम में सहायता देने के लिए नहीं। इसलिए हमें नेतृत्व करना चाहिए,” प्रधानमंत्री ने कहा। प्रधानमंत्री ने नेताओं से माँग की कि वे साहस और दृढ़ संकल्प दिखाने के साथ-साथ

राजनिति से हटकर काम करें। उन्होंने नेताओं से अपने आप से पूछने की माँग की कि अगर वे इस जलवायु संकट को हल कर सकते हैं यह जानकर कि यह उनकी राजनितिक करियर की कीमत पर आएगा तो क्या वे ऐसा करेंगे? जहाँ तक उनका संबंध है, वहाँ केवल एक ही जवाब है।

प्रधानमंत्री ने बातचित की ज़रूरत को याद दिलाया जो दुनिया भर में हो रही है। पेरिस समझौते के लक्ष्य को हासिल करने के लिए हम सही रास्ते पर नहीं हैं इसलिए हमें अपने प्रयासों को और बढ़ाने की ज़रूरत है। उन्होंने नेताओं को याद दिलाया कि ज़मीन का नुकसान, हमारे महासागरों में गिरावट, मौसम की स्थिति और गम्भीर होने तथा

जलवायु परिवर्तन का बुरा असर हमारे समुदाय, संस्कृति और आजीविका हमसे छीन रहा है। लेगा। तो परिणामों से कोई छुपा नहीं है, लेकिन हमारे भाग्य को आकार देने में मदद करने के तरीके हैं। हम लोगों की मदद करनी चाहिए ताकि वे उस आशा को गले लगाए।

जलवायु परिवर्तन के सभी पहलुओं पर तीन दिनों तक उच्चस्तरीय वार्ता हुई। यह सम्मेलन जलवायु परिवर्तन संकट के लिए एक और मजबूत वैश्विक प्रतिक्रिया को प्रोत्साहित करने के लिए विकास और दृष्टिकोण साझा करने के लिए डिज़ाइन किया गया है।

स्कूलों में करें अच्छे बदलाव-शिक्षा मंत्री की माँग



रोनल देव

स्थानापन प्रधानमंत्री, अटोनी जेनरल तथा शिक्षा मंत्री, माननीय अईयाज़ सैयद खैयुम ने स्कूल के मुख्य अद्यापकों से माँग की है कि वे कोशिश करें कि स्कूलों में अच्छे बदलाव हो।

उन्होंने बदलाव के कई पहलुओं पर प्रकाश डाला और इस बात का ध्यान रखने कि कोई विद्यार्थी पीछे न छूटे, अद्यापक तथा शिक्षा मंत्रालय किन-किन चुनौतियों का सामना करते हैं।

जनाब सैयद खैयुम ने कहा कि वो पूरी तरह से सहमत है कि यह ज़रूरी है कि मंत्रालय पेशेवर मानव संसाधन लोगों को नौकरी दें। शिक्षा मंत्री ने कहा कि सरकार ने वर्तमान बजट में शिक्षा के क्षेत्र के लिए एक बिलियन डोलर से ज़्यादा निकाला है। उनके अनुसार उन्हें अद्यापकों की देखभाल करनी है ताकि ध्यान में रखा जाए कि विद्यार्थियों को बेहतरीन शिक्षा मिले।

उन्होंने शिक्षा मंत्रालय के हियुमन रिसोस डिपाटमेन्ट द्वारा की गई गलतियों के लिए माफी माँगी और कहा कि वे हर्डिच आर डिपाटमेन्ट में सफाई कर रहे हैं, सभी डिस्ट्रिक्ट एडुकेशन दफ्तरों के ढाँचे में बदलाव कर रहे हैं, साथही स्कूलों के लिए काउन्सिलस ला रहे हैं ताकि मुख्य अद्यापकों पर अन्य विषय सुलझाने का बोज न रहे।

उन्होंने कहा कि कुछ युनियन के सदस्य जो राजनितिक पार्टियों से जुड़े हुए हैं अब धूम-धूमकर अभियान रच रहे हैं।



सिंगातोका ने मुफ्त वाएफाए का किया स्वागत

स्थानापन प्रधानमंत्री तथा अटोनी जेनरल माननीय अईयाज़ु सैयद खैयुम ने हाल ही में सिंगातोका में मुफ्त वाएफाए का विमोचन किया। उन्होंने कहा कि इन हॉट स्पॉट के कारण लोग एक जगह जमा होंगे और इनकी मदद से लोगों को सुरक्षित जरिया मिलेगा कि वे इंटरनेट सेवा की मदद से एक दुसरे से संपर्क कर सकेंगे। सन् दो हजार अठ्ठारह और उन्नीस के राष्ट्रीय बजट में आए सी टी क्षेत्र के लिए चालिस मिलियन डोलर अलग किया गया है जिससे फीजी में वाएफाए हॉट स्पॉट की रफ्तार और तेज़ की जाएगी। वाएफाए ज़ोन के आने से अब वेल्थी रोड से लेकर नदी के पास से होते हुए मेरोज़ पुल, नदी के पास छोटे से पार्क के अलावा बस स्टैंड और मार्केट इलाके में तेज़ इंटरनेट की सेवा उपलब्ध रहेगी।



माननीय ए-जी का सिंगातोका मार्केट का दौरा

स्थानापन प्रधानमंत्री तथा अटोनी जेनरल माननीय अईयाज़ु सैयद खैयुम ने हाल ही में सिंगातोका मार्केट का दौरा किया। मार्केट विक्रेताओं और खरीददारों को मिलाने के लिए उन्होंने उनका स्वागत वाह-वाह के साथ और दोला-विना कहकर किया गया। माननीय सैयद खैयुम सिंगातोका शहर में वाएफाए ज़ोन का विमोचन करने गए थे। समय का फायदा उठाते हुए उन्होंने नन्हीना/नवोसा के निवासियों से मुलाकात की जिन्होंने स्थानापन प्रधानमंत्री के साथ तज़वीर ली। इस दौरान जनाब सैयद खैयुम ने मार्केट विक्रेताओं से शाख-सब्ज़ि और फल भी खरीदे।



सूवा सिविक सेन्टर दोबारा व्यापार के लिए खुला

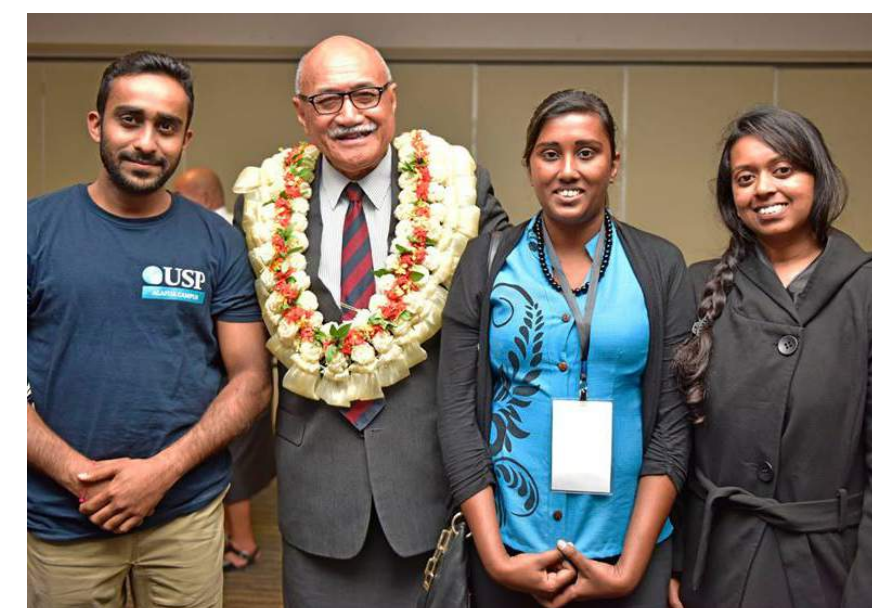
सूवा सिविक सेन्टर पर सुधारकार्य करके इसे वापस सूवा सिटी काउन्सिल को सौंपा गया है। इस सुधारकार्य में बीस मिलियन डॉलर लगे हैं जिसके लिए आर्थिक सहायता चीन के गुवाडोन्ग प्रांत ने दी है। इस समारोह में बोलत हुए लोकल गवर्नमेंट मंत्री परवीन कुमार ने कहा कि सुधार किए हुए नए सूवा सिविक सेन्टर फीजी और चीन के बीच दोस्ती और साझेदारी को दर्शाता है। सूवा सिविक सेन्टर में हर साल अवसतम छः सौ पचास समारोह आयोजित किए जाते हैं। इस सुधारकार्य में सेन्टर को बाहर से काफी सुन्दर बनाया गया है, ऑडिटोरियम को फिर से डिजाइन किया गया है, नई सीटें लगाई गई हैं तथा गैलरी वाले इलाके में भी भारी सुधार किया गया है।



राष्ट्रपति कोनरोते को युवकों पर हुआ गर्व



राष्ट्रपति, महामहीम चियोचो कोनरोते का कहना है कि एक राष्ट्रपति होने के नाते उन्हें यह देखकर गर्व महसूस हो रहा है कि हमारे युवक जलवायु परिवर्तन के विषयों को मुलझाने के लिए साथ मिलकर काम कर रहे हैं जिसका बुरा असर हमारे देश के लोगों की ज़िन्दगियों पर पड़ रहा है। उन्होंने हाल ही में आयोजित युवकों के एक सम्मेलन में ऐसा कहा। उन्होंने कहा कि देश के वर्तमान नेता जलवायु परिवर्तन के खिलाफ लड़ाई की ज़िम्मेदारी युवकों पर सौंपेंगे तो ऐसे में युवक ही भविष्य में इसे आगे बढ़ाएंगे। उन्होंने कहा कि यह बिल्कुल साफ है कि यह एक हरी-भरी पीढ़ी है।





उत्पादक राष्ट्र के लिए कल्याण पर दोबारा दे ध्यान

रोनल देव

राष्ट्रपति, महामहिम चियोची कोनरोते ने फीजीवासियों से फिर माँग की है कि वे और भी उत्पादक बनने के लिए एक स्वस्थ जीवनशैली अपनाएँ।

“गैर-संक्रामक बीमारियाँ कम करने वाले राष्ट्रीय अभियान की अगुवाई करने के नाते, सभी फीजीवासी खास करके नेताओं से माँग की जाती है कि वे लोगों के लिए उदाहरण बने और एक स्वस्थ जीवनशैली अपनाएँ। देश में अस्सी प्रतिशत मौतें गैर-संक्रामक बीमारियों की वजह से हो रही है जिनकी उम्र सत्तर (70) साल से कम है। यह हमारे राष्ट्र की सबसे अधिक उत्पादक आबादी है,” राष्ट्रपति कोनरोते ने कहा।

राष्ट्रपति ने कहा कि देश को और उत्पादक बनाने के लिए फीजीवासियों को स्वस्थ और तंदुरुस्त होना चाहिए। “कर्मचारी कितने उत्पादक है यह उनके स्वास्थ्य पर निर्भर करता है,” उन्होंने कहा।

राष्ट्रपति ने ऐसी माँग दोबारा की जब फीजीयन सरकार और चीन की सरकार के बीच एक सहमति पर हस्ताक्षर हुआ ताकि सूबा स्थित सरकारी भवन के प्रांगन में एक हेल्थ और वेलनेस सेन्टर बनाया जाए।

राष्ट्रपति दफ्तर के ऑफिशल स्कंटेरी श्री पेने बालेनावुली तथा गुवान्गजो विदेश मंत्रालय दफ्तर के डायरेक्टर जनरल श्री लियू बाओचून ने सहमति पर हस्ताक्षर किया। श्री लियू चीन के गुवाडोन्ग प्रांत से आए उन्नीस सदस्यों के प्रतिनिधिमण्डल का हिस्सा थे जो दोनों देशों का द्विपक्षीय संबंध और मजबूत करने में सहायता देने के लिए फीजी के दौर पर आए थे।

इस सहमति में हेल्थ और वेलनेस सेन्टर के अलावा बालेलेवू में एक स्पोर्ट्स स्टेडियम के निर्माण तथा सूबा सिटी काउन्सिल को नया पुनर्विकास किया हुआ सूबा सिविक सेन्टर वापस सौंपना भी शामिल है।



समुद्री आँधी जोसी के कारण हाल ही में पश्चिमी विभाग में आई गंभीर बाढ़ के बाद प्रधान मंत्री, वॉरेंगे बड़निमरामा ने बाढ़ से असर पड़े इलाकों का दौरा किया।



हाल ही में पैसिफिक हाबा में चौथे फीजी सालाना नेफरोलोजी सम्मेलन में हिस्सा ले रहे अधिकारी, स्वास्थ्य और मेडिकल सेविसस मंत्री रोजी अकबर के भाषण पर ध्यान लगाते हुए जिन्होंने घोषणा की कि एक सब्सिडी की भी घोषणा की ताकि देखभाल के साथ समझौता किए बिना, डायलीसीस को सस्ता बनाने के अलावा न्यायसंगत पहुँच प्रदान की जा सके।

किडनी उपचार में मदद

रोनल देव

हर साल लगभग छः सौ फीजीवासियों की मौत किडनी फेलियर और किडनी बीमारी के आखरी स्टेज तक पहुँचने की वजह से होती है। क्रोनिक किडनी बीमारी उन दस उच्च बीमारियों में शामिल है जिसकी वजह से लोगों की मौत होती है।

स्वास्थ्य और मेडिकल सेविसस मंत्री रोजी अकबर ने प्रकाश डाला है कि देश भर के छः सेन्ट्स में अभी एक सौ बीस से एक सौ पचास के बीच लोग डायलीसीस ट्रिटमन्ट पर है हालांकि इस इलाज के लिए लोगों को भारी खर्च सहना पड़ रहा है।

हाल ही में पैसिफिक हाबा में चौथे फीजी सालाना नेफरोलोजी सम्मेलन में मंत्री अकबर ने एक सब्सिडी की भी घोषणा की ताकि देखभाल के साथ समझौता किए बिना, डायलीसीस को सस्ता बनाने के अलावा न्यायसंगत पहुँच प्रदान की जा सके।

“मरीजों पर डायलीसीस का खर्च कम

करने के लिए राष्ट्रीय बजट में तीन दशमलौ पाँच मिलियन डॉलर अलग किया गया है,” मंत्री अकबर ने कहा।

उन्होंने आगे कहा कि सरकार डायलीसीस उपचार को लेकर बेहद चिन्तित है जबकि उन्हें मालूम है कि कई लोग इलाज के तहत एक वक्त में दो सौ पचास डॉलर नहीं चुका पा रहे हैं जो कुल मिलाकर सालाना चालिस हजार डॉलर तक होगा अगर सप्ताह में तीन बार डायलीसीस कराई गई।

मंत्री अकबर ने कहा कि छः सौ लोग जिनकी किडनी फेल हो गई है में से आधा का डायलीसीस उपचार हो सकता है भारी खर्च की वजह से पचास से साठ मरीज ही हर साल डायलीसीस उपचार करवाते हैं।

मंत्रालय बहुत जल्द छापेगा कि मरीज कैसे सबसीडी से फायदा उठा सकते हैं लेकिन यह उनकी घरेलू आमदनी पर निर्भर करेगा। कम आमदनी कमाने वाले मरीज कम से कम पचहत्तर (75) डॉलर प्रति सेशन में डायलीसीस उपचार करवा सकेंगे।



स्वास्थ्य और मेडिकल सेविसस मंत्री रोजी अकबर, किडनी के जाने-माने डाक्टर अमरीश कृष्णन और अन्य स्वास्थ्य अधिकारियों के साथ।

2019 की छुट्टियाँ

सरकार ने अगले साल वाली सार्वजनिक छुट्टियों की स्वीकृति दी है।

* नया साल दिवस
— मंगलवार पहली जनवरी सन् दो हजार उन्नीस

* गुड फ्रायडय
— शुक्रवार उन्नीस (19) एप्रैल सन् दो हजार उन्नीस

* ईस्टर सटडय
— शनिवार बीस (20) एप्रैल सन् दो हजार उन्नीस

* ईस्टर मनडय
— सोमवार बाईस (22) एप्रैल सन् दो हजार उन्नीस

* संविधान दिवस
— सोमवार नौ सितम्बर सन् दो हजार उन्नीस

* फीजी दिवस
— गुरुवार दस अक्टूबर सन् दो हजार उन्नीस

* दिवाली
— सोमवार अट्ठाईस (28) अक्टूबर सन् दो हजार उन्नीस

* पैगम्बर मोहम्मद का जन्म दिन
— सोमवार ग्यारह नवम्बर सन् दो हजार उन्नीस

* क्रिसमस दिवस
— बुद्धवार पचीस (25) दिसम्बर सन् दो हजार उन्नीस

* बोक्सिंग दिवस
— गुरुवार छब्बीस (26) दिसम्बर सन् दो हजार उन्नीस



प्रधानमंत्री, वॉरेन्गे बईनिमरामा और कोमुनिटीशन्स मंत्री जनाब अईयाज़ सैयद खैयुम हाल ही सावूसावू में कईबल लेन्डिंग स्टेशन का औपचारिक उद्घाटन के समय।

वृद्ध आश्रमों ने किया समझौता

रोनल देव

विमन, चिलरन और पोवेटी अले-विएशन मंत्रालय ने हाल ही में छः वृद्ध आश्रमों के साथ ग्रान्ट समझौते पर हस्ताक्षर किया जो उन्हें नेशनल काउन्सिल फोर ओल्ड पेंसन्स ग्रान्ट के नीचे दिए गए हैं।

मंत्रालय के पेमनन्ट सकेटरी, डाक्टर चोसेफा कोरोईवुएता ने कुछ वृद्ध संस्थाएँ जैसे कि हाउज़िंग असीस्टन्स एन्ड रिलीफ ट्रस्ट एक पीस होम, सिनिया सिटिज़न्स बा कोमुनिटी सेन्टर, सूवा रीलीफ ट्रस्ट एन्ड पीस होम, मेथिडिस्ट चर्च ऑफ फीजी (जो कि नावुआईरा सोसाएटी को डिस्पबल पेंसन्स के लिए है), दी मादर अउबर्ट चैनल होम ऑफ कोम्पेनशन और दी सोसाएटी ऑफ सईन्ट विन्सन्ट दी पौल शामिल है के साथ समझौते पर हस्ताक्षर किया।

इस साल राष्ट्रीय बजट में के लिए चार लाख चार हजार \$404,000 डोलर अलग किया गया है।

सन् दो हजार चौदह से अभी तक दस अईजेन्सीयों की मदद इस तरह के ग्रान्ट से की गई है जिसमें तीन लाख साठ हजार डोलर से ज्यादा खर्च हुआ। श्री कोरोवुएता ने वृद्ध लोगों की देखभाल करने वाली संस्थाओं के काम की सराहना की क्योंकि इस विषय पर गौर करने का काम सिर्फ सरकार का नहीं बल्कि पूरे देश का है।

“हमें वृद्ध लोगों की देखभाल और सहारा देने के लिए अपने समाजों को तैयार करना चाहिए,” पेमनन्ट सकेटरी ने कहा। उन्होंने यह भी कहा कि सरकार जल्द साठ साल के उपर के लोगों के लिए मुफ्त बस के भाड़ा वाली व्यवस्था की घोषणा करेगी।

फिलहाल, छः वृद्ध आश्रमों को कुछ इस तरह से ग्रान्ट दिए गए। हाउज़िंग असीस्टन्स एन्ड रिलीफ ट्रस्ट एक पीस होम को (\$29,301.94), सिनिया सिटिज़न्स बा कोमुनिटी सेन्टर को (\$46,000), सूवा रीलीफ ट्रस्ट एन्ड पीस होम को (\$22,000), मेथिडिस्ट चर्च ऑफ फीजी (जो कि नावुआईरा सोसाएटी को डिस्पबल पेंसन्स के लिए है) को (\$19,180.00), दी मादर अउबर्ट चैनल होम ऑफ कोम्पेनशन को (\$32,700) जबकि दी सोसाएटी ऑफ सईन्ट विन्सन्ट दी पौल को (\$40,000) दिया गया।

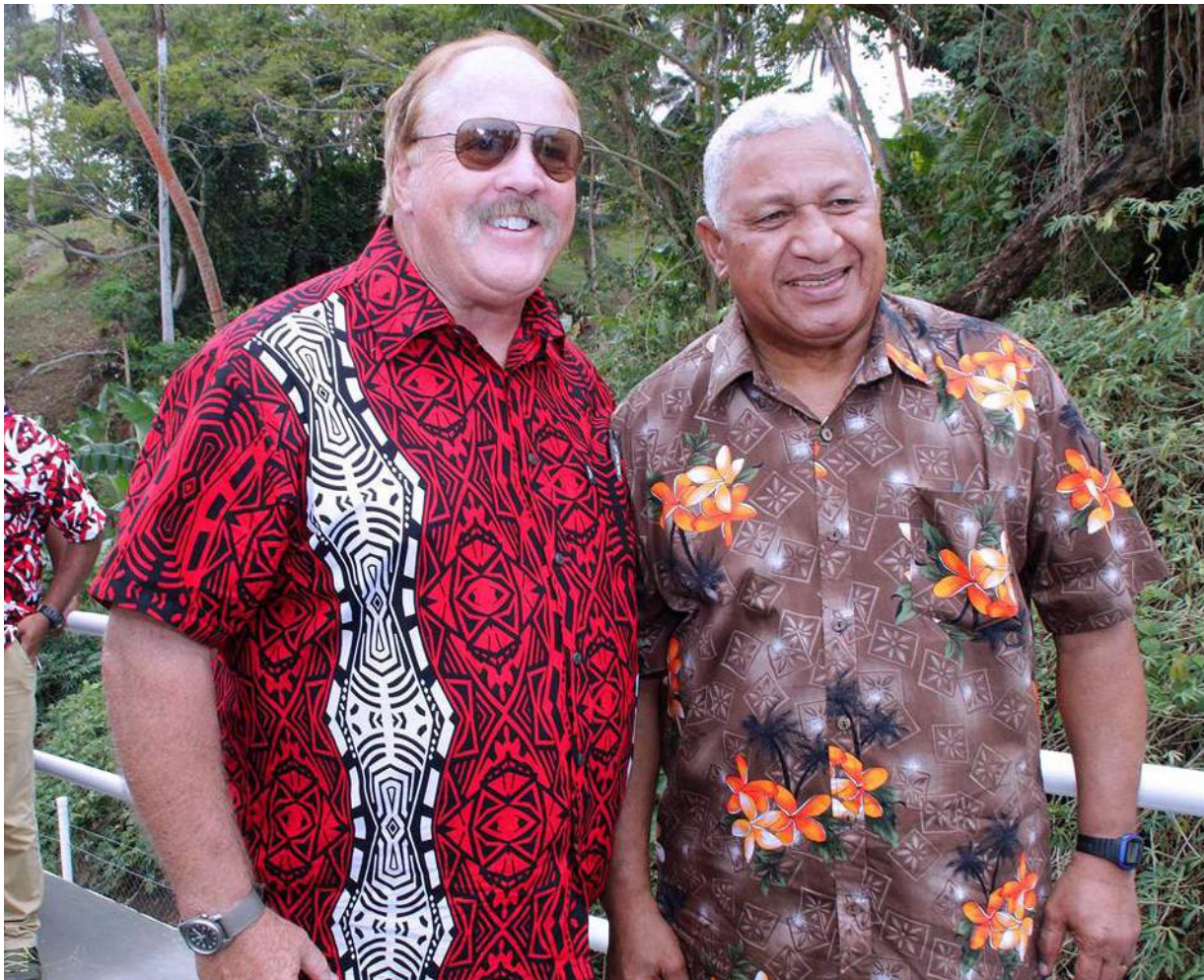
इंटरनेट सेवा में सुधार

रोनल देव

वनुआलेवू में इंटरनेट की सेवाओं में भारी सुधार और तेज़ी लाने के लिए प्रधानमंत्री वॉरेन्गे बई निमरामा ने हाल ही सावूसावू कईबल लेन्डिंग स्टेशन का औपचारिक उद्घाटन किया।

इस नई कैबल योजना से वनुआलेवू में इंटरनेट की रफ़्तार पचास गुना दो गिगाबाइट से सौ गिगाबाइट तक बढ़ जाएगी। यह बिल्कुल वितिलेवू की तरह हो जाएगा जिसका मतलब है वेबपेज तेज़ी से डाउनलोड होंगे।

सोलह मिलियन डोलर लागत इस पुँजी से सुरक्षा प्रदान करने में काफी सहायता मिलेगी खास करके प्राकृतिक विपत्ति के वक्त। जिन लोगों के प्राकृतिक विपत्तियों के दौरान संचालन तथा प्रतिक्रिया देने का काम किया है बता सकेंगे कि तेज़ और विश्वसनीय संपर्क साधन कितना ज़रूरी है।



प्रधानमंत्री, वॉरेन्गे बईनिमरामा ने औपचारिक उद्घाटन के समय कहा कि इस नई सोलह मिलियन डोलर कैबल योजना से वनुआलेवू में इंटरनेट की रफ़्तार पचास गुना दो गिगाबाइट से सौ गिगाबाइट तक बढ़ जाएगी जहाँ बिल्कुल वितिलेवू की तरह वेबपेज तेज़ी से डाउनलोड किए जा सकेंगे।

नेशनल फायर अथोरिटी को मिले एम्बुलन्स

रोनल देव

सरकार ने हाल ही में दो एम्बुलन्स प्रदान करने में लगभग दो लाख डोलर का खर्च किया। प्रधानमंत्री वॉरेन्गे बईनिमरामा ने हाल ही में सावूसावू फायर स्टेशन के लिए एक नया एम्बुलन्स दिया। दूसरा एम्बुलन्स नेशनल फायर अथोरिटी नान्दी बईस को दिया गया। एम्बुलन्स की मदद से आग बुझाने वालों को

अपनी सेवाएँ प्रदान करने में और सहूलियत होगी। एक एम्बुलन्स का दाम लगभग 89,800 डोलर है। श्री बईनिमरामा ने कहा कि जुलाई महीने में सावूसावू फायर स्टेशन के उद्घाटन के वक्त वहाँ के निवासियों ने एम्बुलन्स की माँग की थी।

वहाँ के निवासियों ने नए एम्बुलन्स मिलने के बाद सरकार का आभार व्यक्त किया और कहा कि वहाँ रास्ते की हालत सुधरने से सड़क

दुर्घटनाओं की सम्भावनाएँ बढ़ गई है तथा एम्बुलन्स बचावकार्य में भारी मदद करेंगे।

इसके अलावा एक और नया एम्बुलन्स नेशनल फायर अथोरिटी नान्दी बईस को दिया गया। स्थानापन कमिशन वेस्टन, चियोची सताकाला ने कहा कि यह एम्बुलन्स सही समय पर दिया गया है।

इन एम्बुलन्स में आधुनिक उपकरण लगे हैं। फिलहाल, अगले कुछ महीनों में दो और नए

फायर स्टेशन्स एक राकीराकी में और दूसरा नम्बुवालू में खुलने की सम्भावना है जिससे नेशनल फायर अथोरिटी बुनियादी ज़रूरी सेवाओं के माध्यम से, ग्रामीन इलाकों तक सरकारी सेवाओं की पहुँच और बढ़ाई जाएगी।

एन.एफ.ए को नावुआ, कोरोवु, नतन्दोला, नम्बुवालू, केयासी, बुनिन्दावा तथा नयावु जैसे विकास केन्द्रों तक जाने का कार्य सौंपा गया है।

फीजी फोकस

बाहरी द्वीपों तक पानी बाँटने का अभियान

2



डायलीसिस उपचार पर सरकार की मदद

6



बहु-राष्ट्रीय ओबजेक्टा ग्रुप के लिए नियमों पर हस्ताक्षर

स्थानापन प्रधानमंत्री, अटोनी-जेनरल तथा अर्थ-व्यवस्था मंत्री माननीय अईयाज़ सैयद खैयुम का कहना है कि बहुराष्ट्रीय ओबजेक्टा ग्रुप के लिए नियमों पर हस्ताक्षर होने से दल को इस साल वाले आम चुनाव के लिए फीजीयन चुनाव दफ्तर के कार्यों और संचालन का निरीक्षण और मूल्यांकन करने की अनुमति होगी। भारतीय राजदूत श्री विश्वास सपकल ने आखिरी नियमों पर हस्ताक्षर किया। औस्ट्रेलिया और इंडोनेशिया ने इसी महीने पूर्व इन्हीं नियमों पर हस्ताक्षर किए थे।

तज़वीर में बाई ओर से: औस्ट्रेलियन राजदूत, श्री जॉर्न फीक्स, अटोनी-जेनरल तथा अर्थ-व्यवस्था मंत्री, माननीय अईयाज़ सैयद खैयुम, भारतीय राजदूत श्री विश्वास सपकल तथा इंडोनेशिया के राजदूत श्री बेनजामिन स्कोट करनाडी।

उच्चस्तरीय बातचित में प्रधानमंत्री ने बताई कहानी

रोनल देव

प्रधानमंत्री, वोरिन्गे बर्डनिमरामा ने इसी सप्ताह पूर्व फेयरमोन्ट होटल, सेन फ्रान्सिस्को, कैलिफोर्निया में उच्चस्तरीय बातचित का औपचारिक उद्घाटन किया।

यह उच्चस्तर की बातचित ग्लोबल क्लाइमेट एक्शन समिट का सालाना समारोह है जो बारह से चौदह सितम्बर के बीच होता है। इस

बातचित के लिए सौ से ज़्यादा लोग रजिस्टर होते हैं। इनमें अलग-अलग सरकारों, प्रायवट सेक्टर, गैर-सरकारी संस्थाओं तथा नागरिक समाज के प्रतिनिधि हिस्सा लेते हैं जो कार्बन उत्सर्जन को कम करने के तरीकों को खोजने के इरादे से बातचित करते हैं।

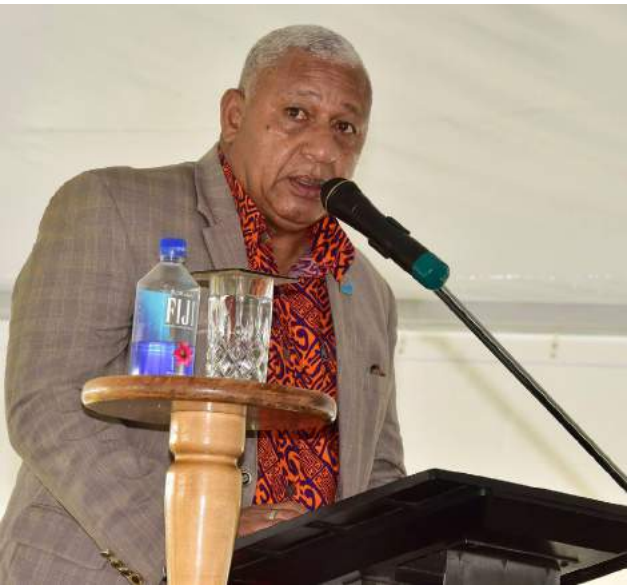
इस बातचित का उद्देश्य है, बताई गई कहानियों के इस्तेमाल से जीवन के विभिन्न

क्षेत्रों से प्रतिभागियों को अपना विचार बाँटने तथा जलवायु परिवर्तन को संबोधित करने का विचार जिसे राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर राजनीतिक नेता उपयोग कर सकते हैं।

इस बातचित के दौरान बीच प्रतिभागियों को अपनी कहानी बाँटने का मौका दिया गया था कि वे जलवायु परिवर्तन के असर से कैसे निपट रहे हैं और भविष्य में किस तरह शून्य उत्सर्जन

सुनिश्चित करने के लिए योगदान दे सकते हैं। प्रधानमंत्री ने लौतोका के नज़दीक वीयो द्वीप की कहानी वहाँ बताई जहाँ के कोरोवासी अब उर्जा वाली बिजली का इस्तेमाल कर रहे हैं जो लियोनाडो डिक्वाप्रियो फाउन्डेशन के साथ साझेदारी के माध्यम से संभव बनाया गया है। बीस भाषणकर्ताओं ने जीवन की सच्ची कहानियाँ और कदम के बारे में प्रकाश डाला।

Noda Viti



Ko Paraiminisita Voreqe Bainimarama kei ratou na vakalesilesi ni Nausori International Airport. Vosa tiko ko PM Bainimarama ni namaki me na vakalevutaki tiko na rara ni waqavuka e Nausori ena rua veimama na yabaki mai oqo ka taura e rauta ni \$60 na milioni na kei na isau vakailavo mai na kabani na Fiji Airports.
iTaba: ERONI VALILI

Tukuni ki vuravura na taqomaki ni wasawasa

NANISE NEIMILA

SA vakaraitaka ko Paraiminisita Voreqe Bainimarama, na bibi ni kena kauwaitaki me bula vinaka tiko na noda wasawasa, vei ira na iliuliu ni noda vuravura ena Bose ni Vuravura baleta na na Draki (Global Climate Action Summit) ka vakayacori mai San Francisco.

“Na wasawasa e ivurevure ni neimami bula mai Viti kei ira vei yanuyanu lelevu se lalai e daidai. Ena gauna e dau cudru se voravora kina, sa dau laki kuretaka na neimami bula vakavanua kei na bula vakailavo. Baleta ni sa dau vakavuqa me keimami sega ni levea rawa.”

“Ena macawa madaga oqo sa vakilai na draki veisau ena cagi kaukauwa kei na uca ena Yatu Filipaini me yaco ki Hong Kong. Sa ravuti talega ena cagi kaukauwa na vanua vaka Hawaii me yaco kina Tokalau ni baravi ni vanua levu ko USA oya ena cagilaba ko Florence. Mai Viti keimami se vakacoko tikoga mai na cagilaba ko Winston ka ravuti keimami ena tolu na yabaki sa oti oya e dua na cagilaba kaukauwa duadua ena iwase ni vuravura kina ceva,” tukuna ko PM Bainimarama.

“Ena Pasifika e sega ni rawa ni keimami raica tu me luvuca na neimami vanua, neimami veidogo keina neimami veiyanyanu lalai na wasawasa. Segga ni rawa ni keimami rai tu mesa yali yani na neimami veicakau kara dro yani na ika kina veiwasa maravu ni vanua tani. Keimami sega ni via vakasavuliga kina keimami gadreva me keimami vakayacora kina edua na ka. Keimami sa vakayacora tiko eso na ka me vakalailailaitaki kina na revurevu ni vakacaca e kauta mai na cagilaba kaukauwa me vaka na kena sa yacova tu vaka oya na ika 5 ni ivakatagadegede.”

Tukuna talega ko PM Bainimarama ena bosa oya ni kurabui ni tiko eso na iliuliu vuli vinaka ka rogolevu era sega ni vakabauta ni dodonu me wali vakatotolo na leqa levu oqo.

Tatamusuki levu ena 2021

VAKALEVUTAKI NA RARA NI WAQAVUKA E NAUSORI

NANISE NEIMILA

NAMAKI me na vakalevutaki tiko na rara ni waqavuka mai Nausori ena rua veimama na yabaki mai oqo. Ena taura e \$60 na milioni na kei na isau vakailavo mai na kabani na Fiji Airports.

Oqori na nodra mala ni vosa na liuliu ni matanitu, ko Voreqe Bainimarama.

Na ilavo oqo ena wili kina na vakavinakataki ni rara ni waqavuka, na iroro ni waqavuka ka tiko na kena balavu ena 2140 na mita ka kena raba ena 45 na mita

Kuria ko PM Bainimarama ni veivakatorocaketaki oqo ena veisautaka na ituvaki ni rairai ni vanua ko Nausori ena rara ni waqavuka ka vakateitei yani ena

bula ni rawaka vakailavo ena bisinisi ena tauni ko Nausori. Vakaraitaka ko PM Bainimarama ni sa namaki tiko na yabaki 2021era na rogo ga mai kina e Nausori nai tukutuku ni tubu vakailavo ena na kabani na FA ka vaka tale ga kina na matanitu na vuku ni bisinisi ni waqavuka.

“Na vakalevutaki ni rara ni waqavuka sa kenai balebale ni ra na rawa ni ro mai e Nausori na waqavuka lelevu ka levu talega na pasidia era na kauta mai ka sa vakalevutaka na vanua ni vuka vei ira na dau veilakoyaki,” kaya ko PM.

Vakaraitaka ko PM Bainimarama ni veivakatorocaketaki oqo ena vakalevutaka na bisinisi ni veivukayaki ena noda vanua mai Nausori, ka rawa ni ra dewa

yani ki vanua tani mai na rara ni waqavuka mai Nausori ka sa sega nira vodo motoka se basi ki Nadi.

“Na italanoa oqo eda na qai vakila na kena rogo vinaka ena 2021 ena gauna esa na tamusuka kina na tubu levu vakailavo ena noda vanua.”

Vakadeitaka ko PM ni cakacaka oqo ena bulia eso na cakacaka vou kei na bisinisi vou kei na vakatubu ilavo vou ena noda vanua sega ni wilikina na saravanua.

“Sa tu vakarau na noqu Matanitu me vukei kemuni na itaukei ni qele ena sasaga vinaka oqo ka keitou sa vakarautaka na kena ilavo ena tuvaka vakailavo ni matanitu.”



Bolei ira na iliuliu e vuravura ko PM

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

SA bolei ira tiko ko Paraiminisita Voreqe Bainimarama e vuravura me kaukauwa cake na vakayacori na veisau ena nodra vanua me sotavi kina na valuti ni draki veisau.

A vosa tiko ko PM Bainimarama ena bose levu ni veika me vakayacori me sotavi kina na bolebole levu ni veisau ni draki.

“E da digitaki meda veiliutaki, sega nida soro, e sega nida vakamumuri. Koya gona meda veiliutaki.”

Sa kerei ira na iliuliu e vuravura ko PM Bainimarama mera tarogi ira mada, ena taro oqo: “Kevaka au vakayagataka na noqu gauna ni veiliutaki meu saga meu walia kina na leqa ni draki, au na vakayacora se sega? Tukuna kina ko PM Bainimarama ni dua walega na isau ni taro oya.

Vakananumi ira na lewe ni bose ko Bainimarama ena bibi ni Talanoa kasa vakayacori wavoki tiko e vuravura me

vakalevutaki kina na sasaga ni veivau yadua e vuravura.

“Na kena vakayacori tiko na Talanoa e caka wavoki tiko oya e sa udolu navakasama vinaka e vure mai kina ka rawa ni kauti keda yani kina sala donu,” tukuna ko PM Bainimarama.

Tukuna ko PM Bainimarama ni oya e sega ni vosa walega. E vakainaki tiko na veitalanoa oya.

“Na italanoa e rogo mai ena veitalanoa e na noa – kei na veika sa vakayacori ena veiyasai vuravura e sega ni vosa walega era iyaya ni cakacaka. Sa iyaya ni cakacaka e rawa ni ra vakayagataka na dau veiliutaki vakapolitiki me vakaevutaka na ka me ra vakayacora baleta na draki ena itagede e cake.

“Na lalawa ni kena vakalailaitaki na cagi duka, ka kilai me nationally *determined contributions* se NDC, e sega ni se rauta,” tukuna ko PM Bainimarama

“Na sisi ni qele, na benuci ni wasa-wasa, na draki ca, kei na revurevu tale

eso ni katakata ni vuravura ena rawa ni vakaleqa na neimami itikotiko, ivakarau vakavanua kei na neimami bula ena veisiga.”

“Sa sega ni rawa na dro laivi mai na revurevu oya, ia ena rawa ga ni tiko na sala me moici vinaka kina. E dodonu meda vukei ira na lewe ni vanua ena kena rawati na inuinui oqori”

Na bose levu oqo se Global Climate Action Summit e liutaka ko na Kovana ni Carliforni ko Jerry Brown kei na turaga ni koro vakacegu mai Niu Yoka ko Michael Bloomberg ka vuni-vola tiko ni Matabose kei Vuravura me baleta na sotavi ni draki veisau.

Na bose oqo sa kauti ira vata main a iliuliu ni veimatanitu, bisinisi, tamata cakacaka, ilavo, dau veivukei, sainisi, vakadidike kei na veisoqosoqo ki Carlifornia, ena siga tolu ni veivosaki ena iveta e cake me baleta na draki veisau.

Na bose oya e vakauqeta me kaukauwa cake na vakayacori ni veisau eso me sotavi kina na draki veisau.

Marautaki na dola ni Resource Centre mai Serua

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

ERA marautaka na itubutubu ni gonevuli ni koro ko Qarasarau ena tikina ko Nuku e Serua na kena sa dola na nodra Resource Centre na gonevuli ena koro oya me vaka a laki dolava yani na Minisita ni iTabagone kei na Qito ko Laisenia Tuitubou ena ika 14 ni siga ni Seviteba 2018.

“Na *Resource Centre* oqo ena vukei ira na luvemuni ena itagede ni Primary, Secondary kei na vuli Torocake mera vakayacora kina nodra vakadidike ena ivola kei na mona livaliva,” tukuna ko Minisita Tuitubou.

“Na veivakatorocaketaki ni vuli oqo ena vukei ira na itabagone mera rawata na nodra dui tatadra ena vuli ka mera tamata yaga kina ni mataka.”

“Na minisitiri e yalodina me vakauqeti ira na itabagone mera rawata na veika vinaka ena veisiga ni mataka ka mekua ni ra koko voli ena veimurimuri ka dau lai tini voli ena wai gaga kei na leqa.”

Ko Lino e dua na turaga itubutubu ni koro ko Qarasarau e vakamacalataka na itekitekivu ni nodra vaqara ilavo me yacova ni sa rawa na ilavo kasa mai tara rawa kina na Resource Centre oya.

“A se tekivu sara mai ena yabaki 2010 na neimami dau soli tiko mai ena veisiga ni olodei ni Fiji Day me yacova sara ni keimami sa rawata e sivia na \$20,000 ka sa tara rawa sara kina na Resource Centre nodra na neimami gonevuli sa mai dola ni kua,” tukuna ko Lino.

“Na koro oqo era tiko kina e 30 na gonevuli ni Primary, 10 na gonevuli Secondary, ka 15 na gonevuli Vuli Torocake.”

“Keimami a bose me kua nira lai wavoki tiko e tauni na neimami gonevuli ena vaqara sitoa ni internet mera cakava kina na nodra vakadidike ni vuli,” tukuna ko Lino.

Ko Karalaini Iokimi e dua na marama tina yabaki 40 ni Qarasarau e sega ni kinoca rawa na nona marau.

“Sa duatani na noqu marau ena siga ni kua ni sa dola na Resource Centre oqo ena vukea vakalevu na nodra ka n vuli na luvei keimami. Au mada e lima na luvequ ena yaga kece veiratou na vale ni vakadidike ni vuli oqo,” e kaya ko Karalaini.

Ko Inoke Tagicakibau na Provincial Administrator ni yasana vakaturaga ko Serua esa uqeti ira na lewe ni koro ko Qarasarau ka kaya kina vaka oqo ne;

“Au sa vakauqeti kemuni na itubutubu moni tokoni ira na luvemuni mera vakayagataka sara vakalevu na Resource Centre oqo baleta ni na dolava vei ira na sala mera rawaka kina vakalevu ena gauna ni vuli me yaco mera tauri cakacaka vinaka ena siga ni mataka,” tukuna ko Tagicakibau.

Tadola na makete vou ni volitaki kakana ki Ositerelia

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

SA tadola vei Viti e dua na makete vou ni volitaki kakana mai Ositerelia. Mai rawati na cavui-kalawa oqori ni oti na soqo levu ni vakaraitaki kakana totoka (Fine Food Show) ka vakayacori ena Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre mai Ositerelia.

Ko Ositerelia na ikarua ni vanua levu e vuravura e dau volia tiko na veimataqali ivoli ni teitei nei Viti ena loma ni lima na yabaki sa sivi.

Tukuna ko Jone Sovalawa na ivukevuke ni Vunivola Tudei ni Tabana ni Teitei ka liutaka na mata timi ni Viti kina soqo levu ni vakaraitakai kakana totoka oya, ni toso cake tikoga na kena taleitaki na vua ni qele nei Viti ena veiyabaki.

“Na toso cake tikoga ni taleitaki ni kakana e volitaka yani ko Viti ki Ositerelia ena veiyabaki e baleta na nodra sa lewe levu cake tikoga na lewenivanua ena Pasifika era sa laki cakacaka voli mai kina. Sa qai kena ikuri ni levu na noda vulagi saravanua mai Ositerelia era dau



Ko Lance Seeto edua na kena dau ni vakasaqa kakana ena tabana ni otela kei na sara vanua ena noda vanua ka taba toka ena soqo ni veivakararamataki e Melavani, Ositerelia.

mai tovolea na kakana ena noda vanua ka maleka sara vei ira na kena ikanakana,” tukuna ko Sovalawa.

“Veitokoni vakailavo na noda Tabana ni Teitei, Veivoli kei na Saravanua ena nodra vakau yani ki Ositerelia ena soqo ni vakaraitaki kakana oya ko ira na noda era kenadau ena volitaki vua ni qele nei Viti ki vanua tani.”

“E dua na kabani ni Ositerelia na ‘Fiesta Ingredients’ e vakaraitaka ni taleitataka me volia na niu mamaca ni Viti baleta ni sega ni vakawainimatetaki (organic nature),” tukuna ko Sovalawa.

“Na nona vakabibitaka na Matanitu me kauti ira yani na dau volitaki vua ni qele

nei Viti ki vanuatani kina soqo oya sa lai sinai kina tamata era dau lai sarava tiko ena veisiga na teveli ni veiqaravi baleta na veimataqali ivoli ni Viti ena soqo oya.”

“Tukuna ko Eroni Qama na vakaillesilesi ni Agro Marketing Authority ni levu sara era taleitaka mera volia na dalo, tavioka kei na waiwai niu (Virgin Coconut Oil nei Viti). E rawarawa nodra raica na ivoli nei Viti na sa koto vata kace ga ena dua na kena valelaca ena soqo oya.”

“Sa lai rawa talega kina ni maketetaki ki Ositerelia na waiwai niu ni yanuanu ko Batiki ka vakatokai na Bula Batiko Virgin Coconut Oil. Ka tiko kina na kena itini ko

Callum Drummond.

“Sa levu na kabani ni Ositerelia era via volia na Bula Batiki VCO kau vakavinavina kina Matanitu ko Viti ni kauti keimami yani kina soqo ni vakaraitaki kakana totoka oqo mai Ositerelia,” kaya o Drummond.

“Au vakabauta ni sa na rawa ni tubu tale na volitaki ni Bula Batiki VCO ki vuravura ena kena volitaki yani kina veimakete e Ositerelia, Niusiladi kei Amerika.”

Tukuna na iliuliu ni kabani na *Adi Chocolate* (Fijian cocoa) ni Nadi na turaga ni Japani ko Tomohito Zukoshi ni taleitaka na nodra lai veitalanoa kei ira na itini ni veikabani dau voli na mataqali ivoli vaka oya ena soqo levu oqo.



Dola na veiqaravi ni vakau itukutuku

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

NA nona sa dolava ena vula oqo ko Paraiminisita Voreqe Bainimarama na keveli ni vakau itukutuku ka dodo mai Suva ki Savusavu (Suva-Savusavu Submarine Cable Project) sa dua tale na cavuikalawa levu ni Matanitu ena vakatorocaketaki e na Vualiku.

“Oqo e dua na cavuikalawa levu me vaka ga na dola ni dua na wavu se ikawakawa ka rawa niu kaya ni levu cake sara ka torocake na kena ivakatagedegede,” tukuna ko PM Bainimarama.

“Na mataqali veivakatorocaketaki vaka oqo e vakayabaki na kena dau lalawataki ka vakavutukanataki ka sau levu talega na kena qaravi. Kalougata ni donuya na veiliutaki ni noqu Matanitu, sa rawata kina na Matanitu me vakatubu ilavo ena veiqaravi oqo ena \$16m,” tukuna ko PM Bainimarama.

“E a namaki taumada me kena isau e \$20m. ia keitou sa vakayacora eso na vakabula ilavo ka keitou vuli talega ena veika sa yaco oti. Au vakavinavinaka talega kina kabani na Samoa Submarine Cable Company ena nodratou cakacaka vata kei keda baleta ni na yaga talega vakalevu vei Samoa na veivakatorocaketaki oqo.”

“Na cakacaka ni vakadodo keveli oqo e semata na Southern Cross Cable – e dua na sala ni keveli rogo levu ena Pasifika mai Vatuwaqa e Viti Levu.”

“Oqo e dua na sala ni keveli ni vakau itukutuku levu duadua e boto ni sauloa ena vanua au tucake tu kina oqo kina 270 na kilomita ena boto ni sauloa me yaco ki Viti Levu. E se sega vakadua ni dua na veivakatorocaketaki vaka oqo me vakayacori ena dua na gauna e Viti me



Kotiva na reveni ko ko Paraiminisita Voreqe Bainimarama ni kena dola na keveli ni vakaitukutuku ena waitui mai Suva ki Savusavu ena boto ni sauloa iTaba: JOSAIA RALAGO

vaka oqo na kena levu ena buturara ni veiqaravi ena mona livaliva edaidai,” tukuna ko PM Bainimarama.

“Ena loma ni 10 na yabaki, eda sa raica na levu ni toso ni tabana ni ICT ka da vakavinavinaka ena nona vakabibitaka na tikina oqo na Matanitu ena kena vakatorocaketaki na sala ni vakau itukutuku ena mona livaliva.”

“Me yacova mai na siga ni kua eda sa vakayagataka voli ga mai kina na *Microwave Technology* e dina ni sa vakayagataki tiko e Vanua Levu na data e se via berebera toka, ia ni kua sa na veisau ma totolo cake sara na veitaratara ena mona livaliva.”

“Sa na daumaka sara na *data* ni nomuni *internet* keina raici ni mona livaliva. Sa na vakabula ilavo veikemuni na dau ni bisinisi ka na levu

cake na sala ni rawa ilavo ena tabana ni IT e Vanua Levu.

“E dua na tabana ni bisinisi e tubu vakailavo tiko vakalevu ni kua, ka vakavure cakacaka tiko vei ira itabagone e Viti ni kua.”

“Sa na yaga kina nomuni vei koronivuli ena vualiku. Ka na vakarawarawataka na nodra veitaratara kei na vakadidike na gonevuli kei na qasenivuli ena Vualiku.

“Sa na levu talega na porokaramu ni veivakatorocaketaki ena saravi ena *Walesi* e Vanua Levu raraba.”

“Era sa na kauta mai na veiqaravi totolo oqo ki Vanua Levu ena loma ni macawa veitaravi oqo na kabani na TFL, na Vodafone, kei na Digicel nira sana sema kina sala ni keveli levu oqo.”

Vakamatatataki na yalayala era ni isau ni tamata cakacaka

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

NA iyalayala era e rawa ni saumi kina e dua na tamata cakacaka e Viti (National Minimum Wage).

Se tekivu mai ena 2014 a koto ena \$2, lade cake kina \$2.32, e daidai sa dabe tiko ena \$2.68.

“Sa kena ibalebale oya ni vakatabui me dua e vakacacakatiki ena cakacaka cava ga me lailai na ilavo e saumi vua ena \$2.68.”

“Qoka e wili kina ni ko sauma e dua me mai sasamaki tu e vale se masi iloilo se masi lalaga ni vale se me mai were tavioka, na isau mo solia vua e sega ni vakatarai me lailai mai na \$2.68,” tukuna na Minisita ni Veivakacacakatiki ko Jone Usamate.

Tukuna ko Minisita Usamate ni 10 na vanua ni cakacaka e sega ni vauci ira na iyalayala era ni isau oya.

Kena ivakaraitaki na vanua ni



Era veitalanoa na lewe ni vanua kei na Minisita ni Veivakacacakatiki ko Jone Usamate. iTaba: RUPENI VATUBULI

taba ivola (printing trade), na tabana ni volitaki iyaya umauma (wholesale), sitoa volitaka iyaya yadudua (retail), veiqaravi ena otela/vale ni kana (hotel and catering), vale ni culacula (garment industry), musu kau kei na varo kau (saw milling and logging industry), tabana ni veiusa e gaunisala (road transport), tara vale (building), tara wavu kei ta gaunisala (civil), caka livalia (electrical), buli iyaya (manufacturing industry), keli vatutalei/qaqi laqere (mining and quarining)

“E 10 na vanua ni cakacaka esega ni vauci ena lawa ni yalayala ni isau era se \$2.68 ko ira oqo era na

vauci ena duatani na isau.”

“E vakamatatataki vei ira na 10 na vanua ni cakacaka oqo na levu ni aua e dodonu me cakacaka kina ena dua na siga kei na levu ni aua e dodonu me cakacaka kina ena loma ni dua na macawa.”

Kevaka e dua e dodonu me cakacaka ga ena lima na siga dua na macawa na balavu ni au taudua e dodonu me cakacataka o koya ena dua na siga e ciwa na aua. Kena levu kece e 45 na aua,” tukuna ko Minisita Usamate.

Eso na vanua ni cakacaka e vakatarai vakalawa mera cakacaka ena ono na siga, o ira na ono na siga ke balavu sara me walu na aua dua na

siga. Kena levu kece 48 na aua,” tukuna ko Minisita Usamate.

“Vei ira na 10 na vanua ni cakacaka qoka ke dua esa sivita rawa na tolu na vula na nona cakacaka o koya sa dodonu me tekivu saumi vua na Public Holiday.”

“Dua na kena ivakaraitaki o ira na cashier ena vanua ni volitaki Wholesale e sega ni dodonu me lailai na kedra isau mai na \$3.12 dua na aua,” tukuna ko minisita Usamate.

“Na cakacaka vaka-Foreman na iyalayala era ni kena isau e \$5.22.”

“E rawa ni toso cake na kedra isau ka tabu ga ni lailai mai na kena ka tiko oqo,” tukuna ko Tuitubou.

“Ko ira na 10 na vanua ni cakacaka oqo e ra saumi talega ena overtime. Kevaka beka e dodonu o suka ena 5pm ka kaya tale ko boso mo cakacaka tale mo qai suka ena 9pm. Kena ibalebale ko na saumi talega ena gauna oya ena *time and a half*. Kevaka e \$4 dua na aua na kemu isau. Nomu *overtime* ona saumi ena \$6.

“Na imatai ni 4 na aua ni overtime o na saumi ena \$6 na sivia na imatai ni 4 na aua ona saumi ena double time, kena ibalebale \$8 dua na aua.”

Sema na vewekani na tabana ni teitei

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

RAU sa mai semata na nodrau veiwekani me baleta na vakayagataki qele na Tabana ni Teitei ni noda vanua kei na Tabana ni Teitei mai Thailand.

Na veidinadinati oqo a vakayacori ena otela na Holiday Inn e Suva.

Na inaki ni bose oya me dikevi tale kina na veitalanoa a se vakayacori ena yabaki 2016 kei na vanua ko Thailand.

Tukuna na Minisita ni Tabana ni Teitei ko Inia Seruiratu ni levu na ke erau bosea sa tekivu vakayacori tiko ena gauna oqo.

“Qoka ena kena vakalevutaki na noda vulica na ivakarau ni teitei era vakayacora mai Thailand kei na kena iwalewale kei na vakayagataki ni kena veimataqali misini vakakina na vakalevutaka ni kena teivaki eso na mataqali ivoli ka gadrevi vakalevu ena kena makete,” tukuna ko minisita Seruiratu.

“E levu sara na ka vinaka ena rawa ni vuli mai kina ko Viti vei Thailand.”

“Na bolebole levu na nodra vakani na via kana tu ena noda vuravura ni kua ena loma ni vica vata na yabaki,” tukuna ko Seruiratu.

“Au vakavinavinaka vei Thailand nona nanumi Viti kau nuitaka ni na tomana tiko nona veitokoni me vukea na qaravi ni teitei ena noda vanua.”

A tiko voli e Viti ena bose oya ma Vunivola Tudei ni Tabana ni Teitei kei na Soqosoqo Cokovata ni Veivoli mai Thailand ko Lertviroj Kowattana.

“Tukuna ko Kowattana ni dodonu me rau raica vakavuku na nodrau veidinadinati na vanua e rua.

“Au nuitaka nida sa veitalanotaka ka vakamura vakatoto me rawa ni kua ni kani vosa walega me vakayacori sara me vakilai na kena yaga na veidinadinati oqo ena vanua e rua,” tukuna ko Kowattana.

Ena laki vakayacori ki Thailand na ika tolu ni Joint Agriculture Working Group ena vakayacori mai Thailand ena yabaki 2020.



CavuilaKawa ena keveli

Voro isausau tale na Matanitu ena kena mai tavo na keveli ni vakaitutukutu ka dodo ena loma ni waitui mai Suva-Savusavu. Laki dolava ko Paraiminista Bainimarama na sasaga oqo ka ra tiko ena soqo bula mai Savusavu na ivakalesilesi ni matanitu kei ira na vulagi dokai.

Kaya ko PM Bainimarama ni mataqali veivakatorocaketaki vaka oqo e vakayabaki na kena dau lalawataki ka vakavotukanataki ka sau levu talega na kena qaravi. Vakabuliavo ena veiqaravi oqo ena \$16m na matanitu ka esitimetu e tiko na \$20m na ilavo ena vakasukai mai kina tobu ni matanitu. Ena yaga talega vei Samoa na veiqaravi oqo ka vakavinakataki ratou kina na kabani ni keveli ena loma ni waitui mai Samoa na PM.

Oqo edua na sasaga ena vukei na veiqaravi ni vakaitutukutu ena monalivaliva ka san a lati kina na gagadre ni veiqaravi koya. **ITaba: JOSIA RALAGO**



Veisiko kina makete e Sigatoka

Era veisiko ena loma ni makete e Sigatoka na Vunilawa Aliyaz Sayed-Khaiyum ena macawa sa oti ka salavata tikoga na nodra laki tavoca na WiFi ena vanua oqo.

Era kidavaka na minisita oira na lewe ni vanua ka laki kailavaka yani vua na 'Cola vina' ka levu ve ira era lako yani mera laki sotavi koya talega. Na veisiko oqo ena Sigatoka era tiko talega kina na Walesi TV kei ira na ivakalesilesi ni DijitalFiji ena tavoci ni Free WiFi Hotspot ena bati ni vanua. Sigatoka mera vakayagataka na lewe ni vanua. **ITaba: ISAAC LAL**



Tadola na makete vou ni volitaki kakana ki Ositerelia

Sa tadola vei Viti e dua na makete vou ni volitaki kakana mai Ositerelia. Mai rawati na cavuikalawa oqori ni oti na soqo levu ni vakaraitaki kakana totoka (Fine Food Show) ka vakayacori ena Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre mai Ositerelia. Ko Ositerelia na ikarua ni vanua levu e vuravura e dau volia tiko na veimataqali ivoli ni teitei nei Viti

ena loma ni lima na yabaki sa sivi. Tukuna ko Jone Sovallawa na ivukevuke ni Vuniola Tudei ni Tabana ni Teitei ka liutaka na mata timi ni Viti kina soqo levu ni vakaraitakai kakana totoka oya, ni toso cake tikoga na kena taleitaki na vua ni qele nei Viti ena veyiabaki.

ITaba: ISAAC LAL





Marautaki e Tokou na veisau vou ena PAFCO

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

VAKARAITAKA na Turaga ni Koro ena koro ko Tokou ena tikina ko Nasinu e Ovalau ko Romeo Namata nira marautaka vakalevu na tamata cakacaka ena PAFCO erat tiko ena nona koro na veiveisau vovou sa vakayacora na kabani kei na Matanitu ena PAFCO.

“Mai na sivia na 1000 na tamata cakacaka ena PAFCO e daidai era lewe 84 vei ira oya era lewe ni noqu koro ko Tokou.”

“Ena vukudra au via vakaraitaka eke na nodra vakavinavinaka levu kina kabani kei na Matanitu ena veiveisau vinaka sa caka eloma ni kabani,” tukuna ko Namata.

“Era sa vakila sara ga na tamata cakacaka ena PAFCO na vinaka ni veiveisau e caka. Vakabibi na kena saumi lesu vei ira kina imatai ni Janueri 2018 na tubu ni isau e 12.5 na pasede.”

“Na mataqali ivakayagataki ni cakacaka

vakaoya mai na Matanitu esa vakavuna me ra taleitaka na laki cakacaka ena veisiga na tamata cakacaka ena PAFCO,” tukuna ko Namata.

“E Tokou qai dau ono na kaloko ena mataka lailai era sa vodo ena keria mera lai cakacaka, qai lima na kaloko era sa suka tale mai.”

“Ko ira na dau cakacaka ena sigalevu era dau biubiu ena 11 na kaloko ena mataka ka ra qai dau suka mai ena 10 se 11 na kaloko ena bogi,” tukuna ko Namata.

“Ni ra marau vaka ogo na tamata cakacaka ena laki toso cake kina na itagede ni nodra cakacaka ka na rawa tubu kina vakalevu na kabani.”

“Era na marau talega kina na nodra dui mata-vuvale.”

E na nona laki dolava yani na vale ni vakabatabatataki ika ena PAFCO ena dua na gauna lekaleka sa oti na turaga na Paraiminisita ko Voreqe Bainimarama e kaya kina vaka ogo

ne; “Na vale ni vakabatabatataki ika ogo ena vukea me rawaka vakalevu na kabani ena 10 na pasede ena veiyabaki.”

“Sala vata kei na saumi ni tubu ni isau ena vakilai na kena vinaka na itagede kece ni kabani ka rawa ni vakailavotaki koya ga kina na kabani ka na rawa ni levu tale kina nona veivakacacacakataki vei ira na lewe ni vanua e Lomaiviti,” tukuna ko PM Bainimarama.

Tukuna na Turaga ni Koro e Tokou ko Namata ni levu vei ira na nodra itabagone era sa biu vuli mai era sa vakacacacacatali tu ni kua ena PAFCO.

“Na PAFCO sa ivurevure vinaka tui ni bula ni kua vei ira ka sega mada ni wili kina na nodra dau tei yaqona kei na qoli. Keimami sa taleitaka talega na tubu ni isau ni yaqona e Viti ni kua sa veivuke vakalevu talega kina neimami matavuvale,” tukuna ko Namata.

Na koro ko Tokou mai Ovalau era lewe 432 taucoko na kena lewe ni koro.



MAI NA MAWI: Ko Inoke Roko na iVukevuke ni District Officer e Lomaiviti, Viliame Pawa na ivakalesilesi ena vale ni volavola ni Paraiminista kei Juta Tautete na turaga ni koro e Vuniivisavu, Lovoni, Ovalau. iTaba: SOLO LEWANAVANUA

Namaki na wai ni gunu savasava e Moturiki

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

Era sa nanamaki ko ira na lewe ni 10 na koro ena yanuyanu ko Moturiki ena kena sa na vakarau dodo mai na wai ni gunu savasava mai Ovalau ki Moturiki.

Qoka ena nona sa kacivaka na Matanitu ena ituvatuva vakailavo ni Matanitu ena yabaki ogo na uma ilavo me na qaravi kina na dodo mai ni paipo ni wai mai Ovalau kina yanuyanu ko Moturiki mera gunu wai savasava kina e sivia ni

900 na kena lewe ni vanua.

Tukuna na turaga na mata ni tikina ko Moturiki ko Sakeasi Karavanua ni vakabauta mai ni rairai dabe cala tiko beka ga na ka e ra vakabibitaka tiko mai Moturiki ena veivakatoro-caketaki.

“Keimami vakavinavainaka ena rai yawa ni Matanitu ni kua ni sa qai mai vakadaberi keimami vinaka tale kina ka e dodonu me vakabibitaki taumada ena neimami vakatorocaketaki sai koya na wai,” tukuna ko Karavanua.

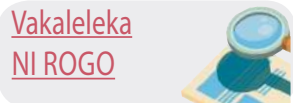
“Isa sa vica vata na itaba tamata

era sotava voli mai na leqa ni wai e Moturiki de rairai sa qai kena gauna beka ogo me sa nona madigi na Matanitu ni kua me mai wali vakadua na leqa ni wai eke ka izevu ni gauna me na drodro mai kina na wai savasava ena paipo kina neimai dua vale,” tukuna ko Karavanua.

“Na leqa e kauta mai na draki veisau sa mamaca mai kina na toevu era dau gunu ka sili kina e liu na neimami qase. Sa levu tale ga na mate sa veitauvi me vaka na deqi ni sa duka na wai ka ra susu talega na namu.”

Vakavinavinaka ko Karavanua ena kena laki dabe yani e dua na taqe ni wai e Naeledamu e Ovalau me ra dau gunu kina na lewe 10 na koro e Moturiki.

E soli na wai ni gunu kina rua na koronivoli e Moturiki kei na dua na itikotiko ni nasi ena vuku ni draki mamaca era vakila tiko na veiyanyanu lalai e Viti ni kua. E mai veivuke tale ga na waqa ni Matanitu ena usa wai ki Lomaiviti, yatu Lau, Vanua Levu, Malolo kei na yatu Yasawa ena dua na gauna lekaleka sa oti.



Dola na nodra sitoa na dauteitei mai Vualiku kei Tailevu

Era tavoca edua na gauna vou na soqosoqo ni veivoli ni dauteitei ena vualiku kei Tailevu ni sa dola edua na nodra sitoa ni volivolitaki vou ena tauni ko Korovou.

Ogo edua na gauna taleitaki vei ira na dauteitei susu manumanu me vaka nira teiteivaki tiko ena dua na sasaga me vakatubura na nodra rawaka vakailavo.

Laki dolava na sitoa vou ogo na Minisita ni Veivoli, Saravanua kei na Qele ko Faiyaz Koya ka bolelira mera sasaga vakaukauwa ena kena vukei na vakarautaki ni kakana ena tabana ni saravanua.

Na sitoa ogo era volitaki iyaya ni teitei kei na kakana ni susu manumanu ka sa na vakararawataka na volivoli vei ira na dauteitei mera kua ni lako i Suva se ki Nausori.

Dola vou tale ko Suva Civic Centre

Era sa mai solia lesu kivua na Matabose ni Tauni e Suva na Matanitu ko Jaina na vale na Suva Civic centre.

Sovaraka na matanitu ko Jaina e \$20 na milioni ena kena vakavakataki na vanua ni soqo ogo ena loma ni koroturaga kei Viti.

Vakavinakataka na Mata ni Matanitu ko Jaina kina noda vanua Qian Bo mai vua na Minisita ni Tauni kei na Matabose ni Tauni Parveen Bala. Ogo esa ivakaraitaki vinaka talega na veiwekani nei Viti kei Jaina. Na vale ni soqo ogo e vakasotari vata kina na cakacaka ni liga vakavanua kei na kena kilai tani e vuravura ka vakadabedabe cakoba vinaka.

Eratou na vukea talega na Matanitu mai Jaina na kena vakarautara vinaka na rara ni qito mai Nasinu.

Gadrevi mera vulica na sainisi e levu noda gonevuli

Era sa vakauqeti na gonevuli ena noda vanua mera taurivaka vakavinaka na vuli sainisi ena nodra vuli ena koronivoli me vaka ni gadrevi me vakalevutaki na tabana ogo ena noda vanua.

Vakaraitaka na tikina ogo na Minisita ni Veivoli, Bisinisi, Saravanua, Qele kei na Yau Bula, Faiyaz Koya ena nona vosa tiko vei ira na gonevuli ena dua na soqo ni soli icocovi ena veisisivi ni sainisi.

“Era lailai tiko na wiliwili ni sainisi ena noda vanua ka vinakataka na matanitu me vakalevutaki ka sa tu vakarau me sovaraka kina na iyau me vakalevutaki na veivuke ena vulli,” kaya ko Koya.

“Sa vakalevutaki tiko na sikolasivi me baleta na sasaga ogo me baleta na yabaki vou 2019”

Kuria ko Minisita Koya ni sa gadrevi mera vulica tale eso na mataqali vuli ka sega ni levu tu ena noda vanua na kena cakacaka.

Valuta na baca ena qito

Na qito ena rawa ni valuta na veimataqali baca se tauvimate era dau veitauvi ena noda vanua vakabibi ena koro se tikotiko taudaku ni koro lelevu.

Oqori na bibi ni kena laki tomani ira na itabagone kei na lewenikoro ena koro ko Navutulevu na Minisita ni Tabagone kei na Qito Laisenia Tuitubou.

Tukuna vei ira na Minisita ni dodonu mera vakaitavi ena qito baleta na yaga ni ka ena solia vei ira ka sabaya talega na nodra bula mai na baca. Bolelira mera taura na qito me vaka edua na cakacaka vinaka ka ivurevure ni rawaka vakailavo.

SOLO LEWANAVANUA



Ko Maciu Meru na dauteitei ka susu oni tiko ena nona tiki ni qele me vaka elaurai tiko ena itaba oqo na nona sova ni oni kei ne nona vale ni susu oni. iTaba: ERONI VALILI

Uasivi na loloma vakatama

NANISE NEIMILA

NA loloma vakatama vei na luvena ena uasivita na veika kecega ena dela ni vuravura oqo. Mai vaka koto oqori na vakamacala ni veivakamenemenei ni veiwekani ena dua na veitamani. Ia ko Maciu Meru e dua na turaga ka sa yabaki 69 ka cavu tu mai na yasana vakaturaga ko Tailevu. Vakabauta talega ko koya na nona itavi me tubera ka idusidusi bula ki vua na luvena cauravou. Oqo e rui taleitaki kina na italanoa oqo me baleta ni sa tiko rawa na veiwekani kei na raivotu me baleta na bula nei luvena. Ka sa gumatua talega kina ko Maciu me vakavotukana taka kina na sasaga oqo. Ni kua ko Meru esa dua tu na nona bai ni susu oni ka tekivuna e na 2009 ena rua ga na kisi ka qai vukei koya na matanitu ena 2017

me 25 tale na kisi ni susu oni. “Au sa mai vakacegu ena cakacaka ena manidia ni kakana kei na gunu ena otela kau volia kina erua na kisi ni susu oni ena \$260 edua ka wili vata kei na kena gacagaca lalai,” e kaya ko Meru. “Au vakadinata ni ilavo vinaka e rawati mai ena bisinisi oqo me vaka niu rawata tiko e \$300-\$450 ena dua na 20 na lita. Au sega ni rawata meu volia tale eso na sova ni susu oni kau sa mai kerea kina na veivuke ni Matanitu.” Rogoca na nona kerekere na Matanitu ka sa mani laki lewena talega kina okoya eso na nodra vuli me baleta na susu oni me tokona kina na sasaga ni kila ka esa tiko rawa vua. “E lewe levu era vakaitavitaki ira ena sasaga oqo era qai mai sota kaya na dredre baleta ni ra sega ni tiko vei ira na kila ka ni susu oni ka vaka kina na tolu na vula na

gauna yalataki ni susugi ni oni.” Ia na sasaga oqo esega ni tarovi koya kina ena nona itavi vakatama me vaka ni dua ga na vurevure ni ilavo e taura tiko ka rua na luvena. “E sau vinaka tiko na makete ena gauna oqo kau sa rawa ka vinaka kina, ia au gadreva ga meu vakadeitaka vakai au na noqu makete vei ira na dau volivoli era lakovi au yani ena noqu bai ni susu oni,” kaya ko Maciu. “Gadreva me da kilai ira vinaka na oni kei na nodra tuvatuva ni bula ka me rawa ni vukea noda qaravi ira na dau volivoli ena makete.” Kaya ko Meru ni sega ni via volivolitaki e valagi baleta ni sau lailai. Sa tuva ka tiko ko koya me na dewa yani ena susu manumanu; bulumakau kei na vuaka ka nanuma talega me vakatobu ni

susu ika ka susu sipi talega. Sa nona tatadra tiko ko Meru me solia vei iratou na luvena edua na bula vinaka ena gauna esa vakacegu kina ka me ratou tomana tiko na cakacaka ni teiteivaki sa tekivuna rawa ko koya. Vakaraitaka ko Joseva Rokonai na provincial administrator e Tailevu ni Matanitu esa sureta ka uqeti ira na lewe ni vanua mera vakayagataka na veivuke ni matanitu mera buli cakacaka kina, teitei ka qarava kina nodra bula. Sa vukei ira kina na vale ni volavola ni talai veivuke ena wasewase e loma na Matanitu ena sasaga ni rawaka vakailavo kei na bisinisi lalai. Nai sau ni veivuke vakailavo ena susu oni nei Meru e tiko ena \$12,322.50 wili kina na vakarautaki ni 25 na sova tabarua ni susu oni kei na tolu na vale ni nodra na oni.

Maharaj na luve ni dau teitei

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

KO Ms Bivendra Maharaj e dua na marama ni Idia vosavosa malua yabaki 29. E dua na dau volitaki kakana draudrau ki vavalagi ko koya e vakaitikotiko ka vakateitei tale ga e Kuku, Bau Tailevu. “E daidai au sa volitaka sara tiko na noqu ivoli kakana draudrau ki Ositerelia kei Niusiladi ka sagai tale tikoga na makete e Canada,” tukuna ko Maharaj. “Au sa mai ka va ni taba tamata ena noqu matavuvale ena bisinisi ni teitei oqo ka sa balavu na gauna na noqu taleitaka tiko mai na bisinisi ni tei kakana draudrau.” “E ra se teitei mai na tukaqu vakarua, ratou mai teitei na tamaqu, sa yacovi au tale mai qo ka kei-



Ko Bhivendra Maharaj kei na nona matavuvale. E ratou dau teitei kakana draudrau ka sa volitaki kakana talega tiko ga ki valagi. iTaba: ERONI VALILI

mami sa vakila ni ilavo e tikoga ena qele.” “Ni oti ga na noqu vuli ena high school au sa laki vuli teitei sara e Niusiladi. Koya gona na vuna au mai rawata kina na noqu bisinisi ni volitaki kakana draudrau ki vavalagi,” tukuna ko Maharaj. E kaya ko Maharaj ni vakauqeti koya vakalevu na bisinisi ni volitaki kakana draudrau ki valagi ka sa mani vakavuna me tekivuna kina na bisinisi ka vakatoka “Lu-

veni Dauteitei”. Tukuna ko Maharaj ni gauna se qai tekivu kina nona bisinisi sa dua toka na gauna bolebole baleta ni gadreva kina na ilavo ni tauyavu. “Au vakavinavinaka kina vei tamaqu kei tinaqu ena nodrau tokoni au vakailavo ka vaka kina na veivuke nei waitiqu ka tiko ga mai e Niusiladi,” tukuna ko Maharaj. “Ni kua au sa voli kakana dra-

udrau tale ga mai na yasayasa vaka-Ra ka sa volitaki sara tiko ki Niusiladi.” “Au sa volitaka tiko ki Niusiladi kei Ositerelia na bele, na bora, bhindi kei na long bean,” tukuna ko Maharaj. Tokoni Maharaj talega ena bisinisi oqo na marama tinana yabaki 59 ko Sunita ka kaya vakaoqo ne; “Na qele e vaka tu na koula- ni da gumatuataka eda na vakila na kena vutuniyau.”

“Sa 30 na yabaki na noqu dau volivolitaki tu ena makete, sa yaco na gauna me sa sega niu rawa niu dabe vakadede ena makete au sa mani mai vukei na waitiqu ena bisinisi ni tei senikau,” tukuna ko Sunita. “Ni bisinisi vou vei au au sa mani saga meu vulica meu kila. Au sega vakadua ni veivutunitaka, au rawa ni tukuna ni teitei esa vakavuna me keitou yacova na matavuvale na itagede keitou sa rawata tu ni kua,” tukuna ko Sunita. Ena yabaki 2016 e a vukei Sunita kina na Matanitu ena tara ni vale drokadroka ni bucini senikau, na vokete ni tei senikau kei na iyaya ni tei senikau ka kena isau tau-coko e koto ena \$18,847.88. Ni kua sa dua toka vei ira na dau volitaki senikau kilai levu ko Sunita ka caka bisinisi toka ga mai nodratou itikotiko e Kuku, Bau, Tailevu. Sa vakavinavinakataka vakalevu ko Sunita na veivuke levu ni Matanitu ka sa vakavuna na tubu ni nona bisinisi ni itei kei na volitaki ni senikau.

Noda Viti



Dusia tiko oqo ko Ifereimi Mataiyadra na nona tiki ni qele ka sa susu manumanu tiko kina oqo ena koro ko Nabau e Nadroga. **ENA MAWI:** Mai volia rawa ko Mataiyadra e dua na Landcruizer ka ra dau vakaleleci kina e rauta ni 17 na gonevuli ni Cuvu College kei na Nadovi Primary School. **iTaba: DIPESH KUMAR**

Donu vinaka na susu manumanu

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

NA susu manumanu edua na bisinisi ni rawa ka vakailavo vinaka ka totolo talega me vaka ni da saki-taka tiko na levu ni qele ka sega ni vakaya-gataka tiko ena noda vanua ni kua.

E vakasakiti sara na bula nei Ifereimi Mataiyadra edua na kena dau mai na koro ko Nabau ena tikina ko Tuva, Nadroga.

Ni kua e rauta ni 376 tiko na nona manumanu, 159 na bulumakau, 152 na me ka 65 na sipi e susuga tiko.

“Na noqu qase a mai tauyavu eke ena 1971. Mai cava tiko nona lisi ena yabaki 2000. Au mani mai tomana kina na kena qaravi tiko na loma ni bai oqo,” kaya ko Mataiyadra.

“Gauna au sa mai tomana kina ena 1998, au tekivu saraga ena lima na tinatina.

“Ena 2009 sa qai vukei au mai na Matanitu

ena kawa ni bulumakau na *Limosine*. Au sa mai susugi ira tiko ena gauna oqo,” e kaya ko Mataiyadra, ka kuria ni sega vakadua ni leqa na vanua e makete kina.

“Ena dua na yabaki au dau volivolitaki ga vaka dua vei ratou na Musulomani ena gauna ni nodra soqo ni lotu vakatokai na *Gurubhani*.”

“Sa tu ga vei au na nodra ota ena vei-yabaki. Rawa nira volivoli vei au ena 30 kina 40 na na bulumakau ka volitaki ena maliwa ni \$1000 kina \$2000 e dua na bulumakau.”

“Na gauna sara ga oya au dau dolava kina na volivolitaki oti talega oya au sa dau sogota tale.”

Volitaki manumanu talega ena *Fiji Meats Industry Board* ke vaka era sega ni dau volitaki vei ira na musulomani.

Ia kaya ko Mataiyadra ni sipi kei na me era dau ciciva tikoga yani na kaidia kei ira na dau ni bisinisi ena veimacawa kei na

veivula.

Na bisinisi oqo esa qaravi vinaka tiko kina nodra qaravi ni vuli na gone, oga vakamat-avuvale, lotu kei na vanua.

“Esa laveti keitou sara. E rawa talega kina me keitou cicivaka kina na bisinisi ni lori. Keitou sa volia rawa kina e dua na *Land-cruizer* ka ra dau vakaleleci kina e rauta ni 17 na gonevuli ni Cuvu College kei na Nadovi Primary School,” kaya ko Mataiyadra.

Sa vukei kaya ko Mataiyadra talega na luvena tagane me vaka ni sa levu na manumanu ka rau qarava vata tiko ena loma ni bai me vaka ni dau vakaleleci gonevuli ena yasayasa kaya.

Tukuna ko Mataiyadra ni ratou sa vakila na nona matavuvale na yaga ni susu manumanu me tekivu mai na yabaki 2000 ka yacova mai ni kua.

“Sa yaga ena kena vakabaitaki vakavi-

naka ka ra voli tale kina e levu na kawa ni manumanu vou,” kaya ko Mataiyadra.

E a veivuke na Matanitu ena 2016 ena dua na *grant* \$30,000 ka vukei kaya sara vakalevu. E sausaumi loni tiko ena baqe ni veivakatorocaketaki ka vakabula rawa tiko e \$10K vakacaca ena dua na yabaki.

Sa nona ivakasala oya meda vakalevutaka na kila ni bisinisi susu manumanu vakabibi ni tiko na qele ka rawa ni lisitaki se cava, ka meda kila na ka edodonu me caka.

“Ni da kila na noda vei-qaravi ena matata na noda ilakolako ni qaravi itavi. Matata noda rawa ilavo kei na noda maroroi ilavo ena noda veimataka, vakauasivi na noda tatadrataka e levu na veika lelevu eda na rawata ni tu veikeda na kila.

“Oya ga na ivakasala au vinakata meu vakasalataki keda kina na itaukei dau susu manumanu,” kaya ko Mataiyadra.

VOQA NI DAVUI

Moniti - Tusiti
8.30pm (15 na miniti)
Radio Fiji One

Radio Fiji One
Vukelulu - Lotulevu
8pm (15 na miniti)
Radio Fiji One

Vakarauwai
9pm (30 na miniti)
Radio Fiji One
Sigatabu
8.45pm (30 na miniti)
Radio Fiji One