

FijiFocus

15

RECEIVE
DUKE OF
EDINBURGH
AWARDS

4



LOSS AND
DAMAGE 'STILL
IMPORTANT'
FOR FIJI

7



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

GOVT

ROADSHOW
FOR
INTERIOR
COMMUNITIES

12-13

TOUGH TREK

PM tackles terrain to visit remote village

NANISE NEIMILA

PRIME Minister Voreqe Bainimarama has been visiting rural communities trekking through rough terrain, travelling on horseback and by boat where transportation continues to be a setback for those Fijians living in these areas.

The Head of Government visited Sauvakarua in the highlands of Navosa, becoming the first Prime Minister to travel to this village.

To access the remote village is tough; one has to cross a river two times and trek through steep terrain to be able to reach the location.

Upon his arrival Prime Minister Bainimarama was accorded traditional ceremonies of wel-

CONTINUES ON PAGE 3



Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama on his way to visit Sauvakarua Village in the highlands of Navosa. Photo: ISAAC LAL



INSIDE

400-500 TURTLES KILLED
EACH YEAR IN FIJI 15

GOVT ROADSHOW FOR
INTERIOR COMMUNITIES 12-13

LOSS AND DAMAGE 'STILL
IMPORTANT' FOR FIJI 7

QUOTE OF THE WEEK



Voreqe Bainimarama.

The Fijian Government has provided free education to lessen the burden off parent's shoulders and this should give parents more strength push their children academically.

Prime Minister Voreqe
Bainimarama

NUMBERS

35% is
the level of
reduction in
imports from
2011 (80%) to
2017 (52%)

TWEET OF THE WEEK



Former UN secretary-general
Kofi Annan.

Frank Bainimarama (@FijiPM)
A decorated Nobel Peace Prize winner, Mr. Kofi Annan will be remembered for his unwavering leadership which helped launch the United Nations into the 21st Century. His dedication and commitment to the values on which the United Nations is founded will be long remembered.

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Talks aim to bridge trade imbalance

NANISE NEIMILA

THERE have been ongoing discussions on ways to bridge the trade imbalance between Fiji and New Zealand.

Fiji's High Commissioner to New Zealand, Filimone Waqabaca, said in terms of trade between the two countries, Fiji is importing more NZ products than exporting goods and services.

"We hope to continue to work to reduce the trade imbalance, the good thing though is that the tourism market for NZ is the number two market with 180,000 NZ visitors visiting our shores," Mr Waqabaca said.

"With another office in Auckland as Fiji's trade office and the high commission (in Wellington) we will double our efforts in trying to secure more exports for Fiji into the New Zealand market."

Mr Waqabaca stressed there was huge potential for export of Fijian products, especially in the agriculture sector where there had been approval for almost 50-plus prod-

ucts into the NZ market. However, Fiji is yet to supply the products that have been approved.

"In the past we have had promotions in New Zealand, we always promoted opportunities in New Zealand of having back-office operations here in Fiji," he said.

"A company has expressed their interest and talks have been held with our trade office in Auckland and we will pursue that in the not so distant future."

Apart from the normal assistance provided by New Zealand in the education sector, Mr Waqabaca said 20 scholarships had been offered this year. However, there has been stiff competition among other regional countries.

"There are hi-tech software companies in New Zealand that are currently working with Fijian partners, in mobile telephony, app development, and maybe future services based on new technologies such as block chain."

Considering that Fiji and New Zealand have been traditional trade partners, Mr Waqabaca is adamant there is potential to increase exports to New Zealand and work closely in other areas.



International Finance Corporation (IFC) regional vice president Asia and the Pacific, Nena Stoilkovic (sitting left), and Minister for Industry, Trade, Tourism, Lands and Mineral Resources Faiyaz Koya during the launch of Fiji Agriculture and Tourism Linkages Report titled "From the Farm to the Tourist's Table" in Suva. Photo: PRIYANKA LAL

Farm production vital to cut import bill

PRIYANKA LAL

F IJI can reduce its import bill by about \$24million by producing more vegetables, fruits, juices and meat locally.

This was highlighted by Minister for Industry, Trade, Tourism, Lands and Mineral Resources Faiyaz Koya at the recent launch of Fiji Agriculture and Tourism Linkages Report titled "From the Farm to the Tourist's Table" in Suva.

Minister Koya signed the co-operation agreement between the ministry and the International Finance Corporation (IFC) regional vice president Asia and the Pacific, Nena Stoilkovic.

While addressing stakeholders from the tourism and agriculture sectors, Minister Koya highlighted the importance of enhancing the link between the two sectors with 48 per

cent of fresh produce needs of hotels being sourced locally.

"There has been significant reduction in imports, from 80 per cent in 2011 to 52 per cent in 2017. Addressing broader issues of sustainability, strengthening linkages and creating closer synergies between the tourism and agriculture sectors is imperative," Minister Koya said.

The report showed that while hotels increased their use of local fresh produce since 2011 and spent \$35.5m to buy local fresh produce last year, there was still room for improvement.

Minister Koya said Government was fully committed to assisting large-scale commercial farmers and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise (MSME) farmers in growing their businesses to cater for this specific market.

"The Fijian Tourism 2021 – the

tourism development plan focuses on capitalising on the existing synergies between agriculture and tourism and rewarding tourism operators who source Fijian Made and Fijian Grown products and services. This ultimately leads to improved linkages to local supply chains ensuring higher retention of the tourist dollar in the local economy," Minister Koya said.

He said Fiji looked forward to further partnering with the IFC in the area of capacity building for farmers, sharing market access intelligence and working on developing applications that provide hotels information on the availability of supplies.

Ms Stoilkovic said, "the way is open for the private sector to boost production, drive demand for locally grown produce and ultimately create new markets for local products in the tourism industry."



MyInfo portal

T HE Fiji Revenue and Customs Service has advised members of the public and businesses that they can now update their tax information with FRCS, through the on-line portal - MyInfo.

Customers can access this online portal through the website: www.frsc.org.fj.

The MyInfo portal captures details such as the current residential address, phone numbers, email address, nature of your business (if any) and bank account information.

"The MyInfo portal has been developed to allow taxpayers the convenience of registering and updating their tax information online. You will need a Joint ID card to register for this service and taxpayers can visit any of our offices to apply for one," Chief Executive Officer Visvanath Das said.

"This initiative is undertaken in line with our strategy to modernise processes and systems and make it easy for our customers to access their information and interact with us. The implementation of the new tax information system will make this a reality.

"We expect to launch the new system by the end of 2019. Your information must be up to date for this transition to be successful. This in turn will help us serve you better," Mr Das stressed.

"Our officers are also distributing "Information Update" forms to those taxpayers who do not have access to the Internet. All they have to do is to fill the form and return it to any Revenue and Customs office.

"We encourage all taxpayers to use this free service and update their information online or visit our Customer Service Centres across Fiji for assistance."

- FIJI REVENUE AND CUSTOMS SERVICES



Minister for Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation Mereseini Vuniwaqa during the launch of the National Minimum Standards for Homes on the Care of the Older Persons in Suva. Photo: PRIYANKA LAL

National minimum standards for aged-care homes

PRIYANKA LAL

THERE is a need for all Fijians to better prepare themselves, their families and communities to be responsible in ensuring that we age with dignity and respect.

Minister for Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation Mereseini Vuniwaqa stressed this while launching the National Minimum Standards for Homes on the Care of the Older Persons in Suva this week.

Minister Vuniwaqa said the publication was the pioneer comprehensive document for Fiji and aimed to measure service improvements for partners in the aged care industry.

The Ministry for Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation works in partnership with a total of nine aged care facilities around the country with a total of 223 residents.

"The National Minimum Standards acknowledge the unique

and complex needs of each individual residing in a care home; as such it stipulates the minimum requirements for the facility to operate a care home as well as the required knowledge, skills and competencies needed by management and staff to ensure care homes deliver individually tailored, comprehensive and quality services," Minister Vuniwaqa said.

The principles underlining the standards include dignity, privacy, self-fulfilment, autonomy-empowerment, equality as well as the right to complain and right to legal recourse.

"Fijians are not only living longer but more Fijians are living with disabilities and are more likely to need some help in their day-to-day living. According to the National Census in 2017, Fijians aged more than 60 years comprised 9 per cent of the total population while people living with disabilities made up 12.8 per cent of the total population.

"The same Census shows that 69 per cent of our population is below the age of 40 years. This effectively means that our population is currently represented by a structural pyramid which will become an inverted pyramid in a few decades. The social and economic implications for us as a nation would be vast."

must read

EXISTING GOVT INITIATIVES TO ADDRESS BOTH OLDER PERSONS AND PEOPLE LIVING WITH DISABILITIES INCLUDE:

- Social Pension Scheme of \$100 for older persons aged 65+, and the disability allowance of \$90;
- 100 per cent bus fare concessions for people living with disabilities and those aged 60+; and
- The introduction of the new insurance cover for social welfare beneficiaries, among others, which would include recipients of both the Social Pension Scheme and the Disability Allowance.

Education sector 'priority for Govt'

NANISE NEIMILA

THE Government's investment in the education sector shows their commitment in ensuring that young Fijians have brighter future.

This was the message by Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama while addressing leaders and members of the Methodist Church in Fiji and Rotuma during their annual meeting last week.

Prime Minister Bainimarama said the Fijian education system in the past had fallen well short of the standard.

"High-quality education was a privilege in this country, it was not a right," he said.

"It was not enjoyed by the many, it was enjoyed only by those who could afford it, those with the right background, the right family name, or the right connections."

The Head of Government said when divides such as those in education existed they worsened the divides that already plagued our society, kept power in the hands of the powerful, it kept wealth in the hands of the wealthy and it kept privilege in the hands of the privileged, creating cycles of poverty and inequality that are extremely difficult to break.

"I remember those days well. I recall the faces of those young Fijians who were uncertain whether their families had the money to pay for their education," he said.

"I remember that heartbreak. I remember the tears of parents who could not afford their children's

school fees or who could not even pay for their student's journey to school. I remember many bright students not being able to attend university because their parents couldn't afford it or they did not have the right connections."

Prime Minister Bainimarama added that the revolution in education was driven forward by our introduction of free textbooks, free milk for Year 1 students and subsidised transportation to school. Policies that not only put more Fijian youngsters in the classroom, but that gave them basic tools, comforts and security to perform at a higher level.

"Today, we've achieved free education for early childhood, primary school and secondary education in Fiji," he said.

"The reality is this should have happened 20 or 30 years prior. It was achieved only because we finally had leadership in this country that cared enough to make it happen, a Government that finally brought stability to the country, that brought record growth to economy, and that put our nation in a position to fund the educational aspirations of all our young people.

"It is the prosperity brought by our growing economy that has enabled my Government to invest hundreds of millions of dollars in the education of young Fijians, topped off with a record single-year allocation towards education of over one billion dollars - yes that is billion with a 'b' - this financial year."

PM tackles terrain to visit remote village

FROM PAGE 1

ome. In his speech he thanked the villagers for their resilience despite the hardships they faced on a daily basis.

"Accessibility to this village in the district of Navatusila is quite a task and it has challenged me to visit this village," PM Bainimarama said.

"It is a challenge for civil servants to also come to this village to see the challenges faced by the people here."

PM Bainimarama added that this

would be an eye-opener for many who were used to tarsealed roads and provided the best services in urban areas.

He said visiting these remote areas allowed Government officials to relook at ways in which Government services were delivered.

"Travelling to these areas challenges Government officials and the work Government delivers to the Fijian people. To learn more of the work that we can do we should visit villages in

the outback so that we can learn of their struggles," PM Bainimarama said.

"I'm sure that most Government officials have not been to this village. Once again I would like to thank you for your resilience."

The Head of Government held talanoa sessions with the villagers on issues affecting them such as transportation, accessibility to Government services, telecommunications, infrastructure, health and education.



Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama meets Saukavarua villagers. Photo: ISAAC LAL



15 receive Duke of Edinburgh awards

ASHNEEL SINGH

THE Ministry of Youth and Sports awarded six students of Adi Cakobau School and nine students of Ratu Kadavulevu School with Duke of Edinburgh's International Award bronze medals recently.

Minister for Youth and Sports Laisenia Tuitubou has commended the efforts of students from both schools for undertaking the Duke of Edinburgh Awards programme and urged them to complete their silver and gold levels respectively.

"My ministry, through our non-formal education programmes such as the Duke of Edinburgh's International Award, is mandated to carry out empowerment training specifically to develop the young minds of our future leaders," Minister Tuitubou said.

"The award's non-formal educational model provides an alternative way for all young people

aged between 14 and 24, particularly in the rural and maritime areas who are not in the formal education system, to gain a sense of self-esteem and achievement."

The Ministry's acting permanent secretary Alison Burchell, while officiating at the ceremony, said, "the award empowers young people and has a different approach to learning. The award teaches critical thinking, innovation and ultimately has a different approach about learning through non-formal education."

She said the award could inspire young people to be prefects, leaders and to combine values and ethics.

Meanwhile, Year 13 student Grace Chang, in her vote of thanks, said the programme provided a motivational drive to education especially in the life skills activity training for the school.

She shared her experience in the trial camp

of the Adventurous Journey where they camped for one night in the forest with a few bare essentials for survival; that had been her best and most exhilarating moment of her 17 years.

The Year 13 student added she was certain that companions involved in the programme would agree with her on this.

"For a young girl who has been through only the convenience of urban life, the Duke of Edinburgh programme has unveiled so many realities of life and equipped me with the survival skills that many face in the rural areas with rough tracks, mountain climbs and hard terrains which I will be grateful for," Ms Chang said.

She closed her speech by encouraging her fellow sisters to take up in the programme and to enjoy the activities offered by the Duke of Edinburgh's International Award.

Award inclusion a boost island schools

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

THE Ministry of Youth and Sports is planning to introduce the Duke of Edinburgh International Award in two secondary schools in the Lau Province.

The two schools are Adi Maopa Secondary School on Vanuabalavu and Cicia Island High School.

"The Duke of Edinburgh programme will train students on leadership, community work and expedition for students or youth between the age of 14 to 24," said Minister for Youth and Sports Laisenia Tuitubou.

"It is therefore important for these schools to show their interest in registering for the award.

"Once they are registered officers from the ministry will come and train them on the requirements and the details of the Award." Minister Tuitubou said the award would enable youths to learn skills, service and physical recreation within six months to two years and be awarded either a gold, silver or bronze medal.

He said the Duke of Edinburgh Award would be a positive point in the resume for youths who would like to join the British Army.

"I was part of this programme during my school days. The Duke of Edinburgh Award was introduced to Fiji in 1963. I must say that it is a very good programme for students," Minister Tuitubou said.

"To date nearly all schools on Viti Levu are part of this programme and I am inviting these two prominent school in the Province of Lau to register with the Duke of Edinburgh International Award programme."

Minister Tuitubou said apart from students on Viti Levu, the ministry included two youth groups in Fiji in the Duke of Edinburgh Award.

"These are the Rotuma Youth Group and the Pygmie Youth Group of Lautoka," he said.

The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Forum 2018 will be hosted in the city of Accra in Ghana from October 31 to November 3, 2018.

Since its inception 60 years ago the award has inspired millions of young people around the world to transform their lives.

The International Youth Day this year was held on August 9 this year with the theme "Safe Spaces for Youth".

In 2017, there were more than 1.3 million young people who participated in the Duke of Edinburgh Award

The Award was founded by The Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh and husband of Queen Elizabeth II, in 1956 in conjunction with Kurt Hahn, a German educationist.



Women of Dranikula take part in the organised Aero Gym programme at the village ground in Serua. Aero Gym is an Australian Government funded Pacific Sports Partnership programme which aims to combat non-communicable diseases and provide leadership opportunities for women. Photos: SUPPLIED

Ministry facilitates gymnastics development tour

ASHNEEL SINGH

THE Ministry of Youth and Sports and the International Gymnastics Federation (FIG) Executive Committee (EC) held a meeting recently at Pacific Harbour.

The ministry facilitated a development tour with more than 25 delegates from around the world at Dranikula Village, Serua, recently.

The President of FIG, Morinari Watanabe, has ensured that the FIG EC meets in developing nations as part of his drive to ensure more countries get involved in all forms of gymnastics.

The tour was part of a full day development tour to showcase

the achievements of the Gymnastics Federation of Fiji (GFF) since its formation in 2015.

At the welcome function for the international delegates, Alison Burchell, Ministry of Youth and Sports' acting permanent secretary spoke of the value of the sport of gymnastics to developing physical literacy through basic movement skills in children and in contributing to improving the health and fitness of Fijians.

Ms Burchell spoke of her own personal experiences with gymnastics, including being a volunteer at the World Gymnastrada – an event held every four years, with more than 30,000 participants of every age and ability celebrating gymnastics.

Many of the delegates had also attended the same event with the Gymnastics Federation of Fiji aspiring to attend in 2019.

Meanwhile, the line Minister Laisenia Tuitubou praised the tour and commended the women of Dranikula for their participation in the organised Aero Gym at the village ground.

"The Aero Gym is an Australian Government funded Pacific Sports Partnership programme aimed at combatting non-communicable diseases and providing leadership opportunities for women," he said.

"It is a modification of the discipline of Aerobic Gymnastics

and can be performed by anyone, anywhere at any time. Activities are performed to music with teams choreographing transitions and formations to create routines. AeroGym is for people young and old, of all abilities."

FIG Aerobic Gymnastics Vice President Tammy Yagi-Kitagawa was so thrilled to see her sport contributing to the health and fitness of women in Fiji that she was made an honorary Dranikula AeroGym team member.

Team leader and GFF Sport Development Officer Melaia Lutunauca presented Ms Yagi-Kitagawa with her very own team T-shirt with the words "I Love Aerobics."

Have Your Say

Youth in Fiji have been assisted through various programmes including YES (Young Entrepreneurship Scheme). Do you think the youth in Fiji have all the ingredients to succeed in life?

Robert Chute, 18,
Seaqaqa, Macuata

Yes. The Government has provided opportunities targeted to assist youths in the country, so they just need to apply themselves in life to succeed.



Lelea Vakalalabure, 25,
Natewa Village, Cakaudrove

These grants and schemes introduced by the Government give youths a better start in life. These are some opportunities that were not there before.



Sam Langley, 24,
Rarawai, Ba

"I'd say the Young Entrepreneur Scheme can help some young people, although the higher education eligibility requirement can be relaxed so that the scheme can include young people who have innovative ideas.



Veena Rathi, 40,
Kerebula, Nadi

It's a good scheme and does give young people the ingredients to succeed. They have the opportunity to make their dreams a reality.



Tomasi Matai, 29,
Naboro

"I thank Government for the initiatives they have introduced to assist youths in the country. But personally it depends on the individual if they have the right mind-set and attitude then they have the capability to be successful in the future."



Amarjeet Singh, 24,
Taveuni

"I thank Government for the assistance given to Fijian youths. I personally think that more focus should be on youths in the rural areas because there is so much potential in the rural sector. However, I must add that for youth to succeed, it really depends on the individual."



For all Government assistance given by the Ministry of Youth to assist youth groups they need to present a three-month business plans

Minister of Youth and Sports
Laisenia Tuitubou



Minister of Youth and Sports Laisenia Tuitubou with youth members of Vanuavatu island. Photo: SOLO LEWANAVANUA

Island school praises Government help

KELERA SOVASIGA

A NEW set of marching band drums to a rural school and carpentry tools to a village has been welcomed by the villagers on Vanuabalavu in the northern Lau Province.

Located in the village of Lomaloma on Vanuabalavu, teachers and students of Adi Maopa School expressed their gratitude at the new set of marching band drums, which will help the students taking part in their annual cadets training.

Retired schoolteacher Laisenia Kaseni said,

"On behalf of the school, parents and ex-scholars, we would like to convey our heartfelt gratitude to the Government for their support in providing these new instruments to Adi Maopa School and the students are just ecstatic about this kind gesture."

Minister for Youth and Sports, Laisenia Tuitubou was present in Vanuabalavu and handed out these new instruments.

Minister Tuitubou handed over carpentry tools to youths from the village of Daliconi to help in building projects around the village on homes that were affected by Tropical Cyclone Winston.

Youths from the 13 villages on Vanuabalavu gathered at Lomaloma Village to register their youth groups into the Government's database. "I encourage these newly registered youth groups to update us every three months on the progress of your youth groups and these reports and photos can be sent directly to our headquarters in Suva through email," Minister Tuitubou said.

He visited Vanuabalavu, Tuvuca, Cicia, Nayau, Vanuavatu and Moce during his tour of the Lau Group recently.

Youth groups 'must have business plan'

SOLO LEWANAVANUA &
KELERA SOVASIGA

THE Minister of Youth and Sports Laisenia Tuitubou has reiterated to youth groups in the province of Lau the importance of having business plans.

"The importance of a business plan is just like having a whale's tooth in the iTaukei culture," Minister Tuitubou said.

This was the advice given by the minister to youth groups in the province during his Lau tour recently.

"I earlier mentioned the importance of making and submitting your business plans to our ministry. It is as vital as presenting a tabua in our iTaukei culture," he said.

"In fact, the template for a business plan is readily available in the Ministry of Youth and Sports."

"For all Government assistance given by the Ministry of Youth to assist youth groups they need to present a three-month business



Youth leaders from villages on Vanuabalavu island with Minister of Youth and Sports Laisenia Tuitubou at Lomaloma Village. Photo: SOLO LEWANAVANUA

plan," Minister Tuitubou said.

"The business plan should highlight the use of products that the Government through the ministry has given to the youth group.

"It will show us that things that were given by the Government are being utilised in the proper manner generating more income for youth groups.

"A business plan should include income-generating activities carried out by the youth group.

"It should include a bank account and other investment which the youth group has been engag-

ing in. "In addition a minute of the youth group's meeting should be attached with the business plan."

Minister Tuitubou commended the monthly reports that were being sent by the youth groups from Vanuavatu, Kabara and Ono-i-Lau.

"They managed to send their reports through the assistance of teachers on the various islands using the Telecom Wi-Fi," Minister Tuitubou said.

"A monthly report will tell us that the youth group leader has been convening your monthly

meeting and the youth group is a well organised one."

The Youth Minister said that the ministry has allowed youth groups to send their reports on email, Facebook or Twitter.

"This is indeed a good indication of how internet service providers are helping one another in filling the gaps on internet connectivity in places where one lacks and for this we thank Telecom Fiji for the assistance in enabling these youth groups to use the school's Wifi in submitting their reports," Minister Tuitubou said



Keep oceans clean: PM to PICs

MEREANI GONEDUA

PRIME Minister Voreqe Bainimarama has called on Pacific Island Countries and the private sector to play their part to ensure that oceans are no longer dumping grounds.

The Fijian Head of Government made the call while speaking at the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) Clean Pacific Roundtable meeting that was attended by public and private sector stakeholders from the Pacific in Suva recently.

“From all sectors of society and in our own lives, we each need to do our part to make sure that the oceans are no longer seen as a dumping ground,” Prime Minister Bainimarama said.

“The same goes for our waterways, our rivers, our bays and our beaches, and the same goes for all of Fiji. Because rubbish that starts by the side of the road very often ends up washed into the sea.

“Every single piece of rubbish represents one thoughtless decision made by someone who couldn’t have been bothered to make the effort to dispose properly of their waste.

“Well, all those thoughtless decisions are adding up, and it is our environment, our marine life, our economic security and the welfare of our people that is threatened as a result.”

Prime Minister Bainimarama stated that in Fiji, and throughout the Pacific, the ocean is a piece of how identities are formed, how people see themselves, how history is understood and how culture is defined and celebrated.

“As is all of our ocean life; our sea turtles, dolphins, sharks, birds and fish all hold deep meaning in Fijian society,” he said. “Our commitment must also apply to even the smallest of ocean creatures that may not be as well-known or handsome enough to put on our dollar notes, but that matter equally for the health and vitality of our ecosystem.

“I challenge the private sector to consider similar innovative ways to challenge the status quo; our hotels, our stores, and even our bottled water companies need to realise that the world is entering into a new era of conscious consumption — one in which depending on plastic will prove to be both environmentally and economically unsustainable.

“I assure you, it’s smart business to adapt now to survive in a greener future.”

Parents urged to prioritise education

RUPENI VATUBULI

PARENTS have been urged to be more involved with their children’s education.

The call was made by Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama as he visited Natavea Village in Naitasiri for the first time after the village headman invited him to visit during a talanoa session in Natuva, Tailevu. Prime Minister Bainimarama told villagers that this was the first Government to allocate \$1billion towards the education sector.

“The Fijian Government has provided free education to lessen the burden off parent’s shoulders and this should give parents more strength push their children academically,” he said.

“Getting more involved in your child’s education will have more returns when you get old as they will pay you back.”

Villagers in Natavea were also encouraged to make use of Government grants to improve their standard of living.

Prime Minister Bainimarama became the first head of Government to visit Natuva in Tailevu and Natavea in Naitasiri.



Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama with children during his visit to Natavea Village in Naitasiri. Photo: RUPENI VATUBULI

Water project makes day memorable for villagers

RUPENI VATUBULI

IT was a memorable day for 168 villagers of Natadradave in Dawasamu, Tailevu, as the Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama opened the Natadradave Water Project.

Prime Minister Bainimarama highlighted that the project was a victory for parents because the young children present will never know the hardship of securing safe water to drink.

Village headman Viliame Tawake said the Natadradave Water Project was a blessing for the 28 households because they did not have to travel far to fetch drinking water.

“Before the quarry company would help us by giving us water when they pumped supply from the water source, but that didn’t work out because the pump couldn’t cater for the crushing and the entire 168 villagers,” he said.

“We would then have to walk six kilometres to Vorovoro Village to get water. For an adult it would take us 30 minutes, but for a child it would take them close to an hour,” the village headman said.



Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama officially opens the water project at Natadradave Village, Dawasamu, Tailevu. Tailevu. INSET: Ten-year-old Loata Raibeve is all smiles knowing she won’t have to travel far again to fetch clean drinking water. Photo: RUPENI VATUBULI

The project ensures that villagers have a continuous supply of clean drinking water a step away from their homes while also eliminating the time they have to wait in order to boil and consume water they have fetched.

The Natadradave Village water system project worth \$212,765 involved the construction of a dam

pipeline from the dam to the reservoir, and the pipe from the reservoir to the village.

Furthermore, Prime Minister Bainimarama has highlighted that the Fijian Government brought the immeasurable benefits of clean drinking water to over 150,000 Fijians in rural communities.

“Access to clean water is more

than a building block of development, it is the rock-solid foundation upon which a community can grow and prosper,” he said.

“Every Fijian deserves to live with the security and happiness that only clean water can provide; water that can be used for drinking, cooking, washing and keeping ourselves clean.”

Fiji's UN rep sets climate change fight priorities

RONAL DEO

FIJI'S Permanent Representative to the United Nations in New York Dr Satyendra Prasad has taken his cue from COP23 President and Fijian Prime Minister Frank Bainimarama's strong advocacy on climate change.

Dr Prasad, who was commissioned in April and took up his posting in May, has been working on Fiji's priority areas, which include climate change.

He said later this year Fiji's Prime Minister would become the chairman of the Pacific Smaller Island States while Dr Prasad would be the chairman in New York.

"We will continue the leadership and gain progress," he said.

The envoy said he was working on using Fiji's leadership as president of 23rd session of the Conference of Parties (COP23) to develop programmes and policies so that United Nations initiatives were for the benefit of countries such as Fiji and other smaller nations.

"I'm working on this and the result will not be out overnight.



Fiji's PRUN, Dr Satyendra Prasad and Ministry of Defence PS, Osea Cawaru with his delegation to attend the UN High-level Conference of Heads of Counter Terrorism Agencies of Member States at the United Nations Headquarters in New York last month. Photo: SUPPLIED

Talks on Climate Change are ongoing in United Nations for 25 years and after this long period the Paris Treaty has been signed," Dr Prasad said.

"Now I'm working on to find out how countries like Fiji, Kiribati, Mauritius and other nations in the near future can access substantial assistance from United Nations systems and international financial institutions. This is a major issue and task ahead of us."

He adds they are going through some challenges where some oil-producing countries did not believe in climate change while other countries did not support the idea that countries such as Fiji, which are affected by climate

change, should receive special treatment.

Dr Prasad said even though it was challenging he was hopeful of finding concrete solutions.

Fiji will hand over the COP Presidency to Poland in November this year.

However, he said, this did not mean that the Fijian Government and its people would talk less and would not take up leadership roles on climate change and oceans issues.

"This is because it is about our survival. The seas drive our economy. If there is no ocean and no peace in Fiji then tourists will not travel to Fiji," Dr Prasad said.

"Illegal fishing of marine re-

sources will hurt our economy also, natural disasters including severe tropical cyclone causing devastation every year and substantial amount of money is spent on recovery, so I think Fiji will take global leadership on issues such as climate change and oceans.

"It also does not mean that you are not a leader if you are not the formal president," Dr Prasad further said.

He has been working closely with the Fijian Government from New York in this area.

"The world knows that these are our issues and Fiji has been a strong leader while raising the Climate Change related issues

meaningfully," Dr Prasad said.

"I think when the COP presidency goes to Poland it will be more intense and we will have to rise and continue to provide leadership in a different way."

Dr Prasad said Fiji's full platform is on development budget and they are working with United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in providing wide assistance to Fiji, including the parliamentary strengthening programme on their next phase, assisting or giving technical advice to Fiji in terms of child nutrition, forestry, fisheries, NCD, public health generally, early childhood education, human rights and peacekeeping.

Daunivalu: Loss and damage 'still important' for Fiji



Chief Negotiator for Fiji's presidency of the 23rd session of Conference of Parties (COP23), Luke Daunivalu

NANISE NEIMILA

FIJI places great importance on the issue of loss and damage for the sake of our people, our Pacific neighbours, and the billions of other climate vulnerable people throughout the world.

The Chief Negotiator for Fiji's presidency of the 23rd session of Conference of Parties (COP23), Luke Daunivalu, said this is an important aspect of the Pacific when dealing with the changes in climate change and this also applies to small island states.

The term "Loss and Damage" was used in the Paris Agreement to refer to liability and compensation issues that arise from climate change impacts.

Mr Daunivalu, who has been appointed Fiji's new High Commissioner to Australia, said developing nations, particularly the small island states which are among the most vulnerable and worst-hit, were adamant that the industrialised countries compensate in some manner for the loss and damage caused by climate change impacts.

"When we talk about these issues, we are the forefront of sea-level rise and soil erosion along our coastlines and even on land," he said.

"So we continue to place great importance on this working with island nations and of course with in the larger developing block of Group of 77 and China.

"This is equally an important issue for many developed countries who understand the unique challenges that many of us face but in their own right and also facing similar challenges."

Mr Daunivalu says although Fiji is leading the fight against climate change, it cannot achieve all the objectives alone.

The Chief Negotiator has reiterated that support from industrialised nations is crucial in achieving the ambitions.

"Fiji's presidency has also put a spotlight on the need to compensate for losses faced by the vulnerable nations," Mr Daunivalu said.

"We need to have an established mechanism to discuss these issues and also we need to allow for support and tangible funding to flow to

the country that are being directly affected."

The Ocean Pathway has also been at the centre of discussions as it recognises that achieving the ambition of the Paris Agreement of limiting warming to 1.5 or well below 2 Degrees Celsius would not be possible without a functioning ocean.

Mr Daunivalu said the ocean was severely impacted by climate change at the same time it played a critical role in regulating climate and sequestering carbon at a global scale.

The Ocean pathway seeks to introduce an agenda item in 2019 (COP25) that will establish a work programme for the Ocean within the UNFCCC process.

Mr Daunivalu said there needed to be more support for the work of parties and partners to raise the role of the ocean in existing processes within the UNFCCC and for action for a healthy ocean in the Global Climate Action agenda.

"Willing parties are invited to form an Ocean Bloc that can advocate and support an effective work programme and potential agenda item on the ocean for COP25," he said.



Sauvakarua hails PM's unwavering support

Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama paid a surprise visit to Sauvakarua Village in Navosa. In doing so, PM Bainimarama became the first Fijian Head of Government to set foot in the village. While villagers did not believe the occasion, many came forward to thank the Prime Minister for his unwavering dedication to all Fijians especially for those in the interior and remote places of the country.

The Fijian Head of Government held talanoa sessions with the villagers on issues affecting them such as transportation, accessibility to government services, telecommunications, infrastructure, health and education. Access to the remote village is a tough ask because one has to cross a river two times and trek through steep terrain.

Photos: ISAAC LAL



Minister Kumar opens Tavakubu satellite market

Minister for Local Government Parveen Kumar opened the new Tavakubu Satellite Market in Lautoka. The new development provides a safe, hygienic and modern shelter for 24 vendors, and includes shower and toilet facilities. Minister Kumar said another satellite market would be built near VM Pillay Road in Lautoka. This marks efforts to decentralise municipal markets out of congested CBDs and provide produce in key residential areas such as Tavakubu.

Photos: ISAAC LAL



Naveyago Village gets clean, safe drinking water

Minister for Rural and Maritime Development Inia Seruiratu commissioned a new borehole in the village of Naveyago in Navosa. The project - Project Aqua - is implemented and funded by British American Tobacco, aims to provide clean and safe drinking water to ten villages which currently do not have access to this basic necessity.

The project will carry out drilling and installation of boreholes at each of these recipient communities. Naveyago is the second village after Sautabu Village to have clean piped water. Naveyago Village is also the home of Olympic Gold medalist Semi Kunatani.

Photos: ISAAC LAL



Chinese palm weaving skills training for Noco women

Women of Nabudrau, Noco, Rewa, have an opportunity to upgrade their weaving skills through the assistance of the Chinese Cultural Centre organised palm weaving training. The training was opened by the Minister for Women, Children, and Poverty Alleviation Mereine Vuniwaqa.

This indeed was a historical moment for these women and the Ministry for Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation because of the new skills sets introduced to assist these Rewa women in their income-generation projects. These women most of whom are housewives are also members of their local community Nabudrau women's group, which has also become first time recipients of such training as part of the Government of Fiji and Government of the People's Republic of China bilateral co-operation.

Photos: VILIAME TIKOTANI





Call for bigger emphasis on science

LITIA VULDAUSIGA

ATTORNEY-General and Minister for Economy Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum is encouraging an increased uptake of science subjects under the National Toppers Scholarship Scheme.

"There are now 950 scholarships nationally and a need to focus on science because of the huge shortage of teachers for Maths and Physics," the A-G noted at the recent post-National Budget roadshow through the Western Division.

The 2018-2019 National Budget has provided 20 positions for its new overseas awards scheme, which will only apply to studies and undergraduate courses not offered in local institutions, such as architecture, biomedical engineering and clinical psychology.

The A-G noted the benefits of focusing in the science fields towards the country's future economic development, with the National Budget allocating \$3million for these specialised overseas studies.

Tertiary students and teachers in the Western Division were encouraged to look at the new Civil Service Scholarship Scheme, another initiative under the 2018-2019 National Budget.

"Teachers can upgrade their Diplomas to B.A in areas such as Math's, Physics, Early Childhood Education and English and Literature,



Attorney-General and Minister for Economy Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum during the 2018-2019 National Budget Consultation in the Western Division. Photo: ISAAC LAL

and if they already have a degree, can take post-graduate courses. There are six scholarships available for teachers wanting to study overseas," the A-G added.

Information Technology, industrial arts and special education are the other acceptable fields of study for teachers wanting to upgrade to Bachelor's Degrees.

No fault system for workmen's compensation

LITIA VULDAUSIGA

ATTORNEY-General and Minister for Economy Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum has confirmed that a no fault system will be applied to the Workmen's Compensation scheme, beginning January 1, 2019.

There will be a no fault system on compensation for workplace accidents and the same applies to the accident compensation scheme

Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum
 Attorney-General and
 Minister for Economy

"There will be a no fault system on compensation for workplace accidents and the same applies to the accident compensation scheme," the A-G told members of the public at the recent Post-National Budget roadshow in Nadi.

He said this would be funded by a relocation of four per cent of the \$21million paid in Fiji National Training Council (FNTC) levies.

Also from January 1 next year, the Government will fund medical consultations with general practitioners (GPs) for members of the public.

This will allow State hospitals to focus primarily on emergencies and serious health issues.

"Families will be encouraged to visit the GP nearest to their homes and this will also give those doctors a good grasp of your medical history as a family doctor and entice more GPs to areas that currently lack doctors and surgical facilities," the A-G added.

This initiative will also be funded by FNTC levies and expected to dramatically improve the expedience of medical attention for all Fijians.

The Government has also been in discussions with foreign investors for a public-private partnership that will enhance medical service operations at the Lautoka and Ba Hospitals.

Conditions include the mandatory provision of open-heart surgery, chemotherapy and oncology services, which also improve Fiji's medical tourism.

Big focus on traditional crafts

LITIA VULDAUSIGA

WHEN it comes to traditional identity, few items match the cultural resonance of handicraft.

Aside from generating income for women in remote maritime areas such as Nacula in the Yasawa Group, they additionally serve to show how the iTaukei are maintaining the art of creating traditional craft and passing on the knowledge to the next generation.

Women from Nacula's six villages were respectively treated to rare audiences with the Minister for Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation, Mereseini Vuniwaqa, who led the largest ministerial delegation to these far-flung isles for a week-long tour.

And as Minister Vuniwaqa cited personal experiences from her native Natewa in Vanua Levu, she said the maintaining of traditional handicrafts continues to be an important investment of time, effort and duty.

"I know that contemporary items are sometimes easier and more economical to sell to tourists, but it is taking over and we cannot forget our traditional crafts," she told women of Matakawalevu Village.

"In some places, traditional crafts have died out. These prod-



Minister for Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation Mereseini Vuniwaqa admires the traditional Yasawa mats on display during her visit at Nacula Village in Yasawa. Photo: LITIA VULDAUSIGA

ucts are not just unique to districts and provinces, but to the entire country and therefore the world because nobody else makes them. These items represent your identities and interest tourists who come to the Yasawas because they want to take back authentic souvenirs."

The ibe ni Yasawa was among the traditional craft displayed at the Nacula Handicraft Show,

from which participants will attend a divisional and then national women's expo. At Tamasua Village, Minister Vuniwaqa encouraged more women's participation in these expos, noting that it was beneficial for their children and families.

Given the relative distances between Nacula's villages, women of the district sought onsite cours-

es for handicraft, flower arrangements, pattern drafting and sewing to increase their income, as there is already a well-established tourism market to cater to.

Women have been encouraged to diversify and supply their handicraft and products accordingly for tourists, who generally want to avoid the expenses of excess baggage upon departure.



Child assistance 'has ripple effect on Fijians'

JOSAIA RALAGO

ATTORNEY-GENERAL and Minister for Economy Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum says the Parenthood Assistance Payment introduced by the Government this month will have a ripple effect on Fijians and the Fijian economy.

The assistance involves a payment of \$1000 in two tranches for children born to Fijian citizens on or after August 1 this year.

The A-G says the assistance will do more than just assist low-income families.

Speaking at the 2018-2019 National Budget Roadshow in the Northern Division, he said the condition was such that mothers could only access the first \$500 immediately after they registered the newborn child.

The other half can only be accessed when the child goes to school in Year One.

The incentive, which is widely celebrated especially by rural women in the country because it would greatly assist them fund their newborn, is designed to address other issues such as assisting parents to register their children quicker.

"The second reason is we did a sweep of Fiji about five years ago and we found out that about 24,000-25,000 Fijians did not have a birth certificate," the A-G said.

"There were people as old as 55 years old who actually did not have birth certificates, so we need people to be registered. There are people who only register their babies when they are about to go to class to school, so this way we get them to register quicker."

He added that the initiative would help Fijians to save.

"The moment we open an account in the name of the baby we are actually encouraging you to do some savings because in Fiji we are not very good at saving money," the A-G said.

"If you have an account in the baby's name, you cannot touch the second \$500. Hopefully when the baby turns one, two, three, four, five or six, somebody gives some money for the baby - you know at a birthday - the mother could take the money and put it to the bank account."

The A-G said an arrangement had been made with the banks that bank fees would not be charged on the child's account up until they attend Year One.

Prayers answered for rice farmers

JOSAIA RALAGO

THE prayers of many rice farmers in Dreketi have been granted once again following the ground-breaking ceremony for a new storage warehouse earlier this month.

Officiating at the event, Attorney-General and Minister for Economy Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum said the Government was ready to help farmers in a sustainable manner.

"There has been a lot of input by Government to give to the farmers a particular level of confidence to be able to continue with rice

farming," the A-G said.

"And as you know for most farmers and in particular farmers not only for rice, for sugarcane and various other crops it is the input cost that is critical.

"It is also the ability to value add to your particular crop.

"The ground-breaking ceremony today is to find storage areas where you can keep the rice dry, keep it out of the wet means that we are actually adding to your income level.

"Because the deterioration of the crop is far more heightened when you keep it yourself, but if you brought it here, you have a better

opportunity of a better payout."

The A-G added acknowledged the farmers for playing a pivotal role in supplying rice which is a staple diet.

"You can be rest assured that the Government is here to assist you in a strategic manner," he said.

"There is no need just throwing away money, we need to put money in different capacities in different areas to build the farmers confidence in a particular industry."

The structure is valued at \$275,000, out of which \$100,000 was funded by the Government.



Minister for Health and Medical Services Rosy Akbar with officials and children from all over Vanua Levu attending the three-day Juvenile Camp in Labasa. Photo: JOSAIA RALAGO

Foreign doctor commends Fiji health system



Sai Medical Unit team leader Dr Guru Naker and Minister for Health and Medical Services Rosy Akbar. Photo: JOSAIA RALAGO

JOSAIA RALAGO

FACILITIES and services provided by the Government in the health sector have greatly improved, according to an international medical officer who has been visiting the country for the past 12 years.

Sai Medical Unit team leader Doctor Guru Naker said Fijians now had a lot more faith in the local health system.

The head of a team which holds annual free health check-ups in the Northern Division, and even pharmaceutical assistance for those who need them, said Fijians now opted to go to the local health facilities rather than their camps for check-ups.

"There has been an improvement in the health system. And this can be seen with number of people who turn up to our camps, which has drastically decreased," Dr Naker said.

"In Nadogo (Macuata) we had 1000 people turning up

for the two days we were there, but this year barely 350 people turned up.

"This is a good thing and I am happy about it as we can see the improvement."

Minister for Health and Medical Services Rosy Akbar commended the works carried out and acknowledged the observation made by the team.

"This shows that people have more faith in the local medical system and I am happy," Minister Akbar said.

Meanwhile, the Government allocated a total of \$335million to the health sector in the 2018-2019 National Budget dedicated to expansion of health facilities, investment on better equipments, recruit more human resources and the provision of allowance for community health workers.

The medical team was in the North earlier this month, spending two days in Nadogo and another two days in Seaqaqa before returning to Nadi.



LITIA VULDAUSIGA

IN Ra's Nalawa District, cold mountains thick with heaving mist cradle the valleys in the morning light provide a charming scene that belie the challenges of residents.

It is here where the sounds of Government services welcomed the villagers and settlers of over 19 communities for a two-day Government roadshow providing them with a one stop shop for all their needs from the various ministries and departments of the State and other key stakeholders.

Opened by Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama, the roadshow was designed for such communities to allow them to be part of Fiji's progress together as a nation.

"New, innovative policies from the Government have meant new and better services have become available and the services you've come to count on have be-

come more accessible and more targeted to the challenges you're facing," Prime Minister Bainimarama said.

"That's our approach, and every Fijian has seen how we have revolutionised the support given to ordinary people."

Men and women toil the land of these rugged terrains for agricultural income and there's a mystique about their tenacity to overcome their environmental hardships.

Women like Emele Koronawa know it all too well and even so, take on further duties.

Like other Nawairuku villagers, her responsibilities include the care of several grandchildren.

"One of my daughters works at Nadi Airport and I look after her children while she and her husband work – many women in our village look after the little ones," she shared.

As the country's largest less developed province, Nawairuku's

locality is similar to many others in Ra, where the vastness of its terrain and limited utilities is often isolating, and thus, a mostly younger generation of villagers relocate to urban centres for consistent income.

Prime Minister Bainimarama said ensuring Fijians had access to critical services was the Government's main priority.

This includes clean and safe water supply, electricity, housing connectivity through telecommu-

There is not much employment opportunities, but vegetable and fruit is our main source of money. Women from our village sell these mostly on Fridays and Saturdays at the municipal market in Lautoka, and sometimes at Rakiraki's market, which is smaller.

Emele Koronawa

nications among others.

"They see it when they turn on the tap and access a steady supply of clean water. They see it when they are able to flip on the lights in their home every night. They see it when their schools and communities become connected to our national grid of telecommunications," the head of Government said.

"There is not much employment opportunities, but vegetable and fruit is our main source of money. Women from our village sell these mostly on Fridays and Saturdays at the municipal market in Lautoka, and sometimes at Rakiraki's market, which is smaller. We grow dalo, tavioka, bele, cabbage and other crops, and women will often spend several nights away in the markets for major shopping days," Ms Koronawa said.

These realities have crafted a stoic approach to their responsibilities and an innate appreciation for

State projects that are due to ease their toil with new roads, expanding electricity grids and closer district office for their convenience.

Medical services in the area have recently expanded with the new Waimaro Hospital in nearby Barotu, which Ms Koronawa said is convenient for villages, particularly as there are many young children to care for.

The Kings Highway is seven kilometres away and the road there is a steep, winding streak that includes an Irish Crossing and a shallowed portion of Nawairuku's waterway, which connects to the Wainibuka River in neighbouring Tailevu.

A return seat to Rakiraki on the village's lone carrier is \$20 per head for both children and adults, or alternately, \$5 per head for Nawairuku residents who get off at the Kings Highway.

Like many others compounded by gravelled travel and limited utility use, Ms Koronawa welcomes developments for her district in the latest National Budget.

These include \$2 million for the extension of the country's main electricity grid to Ra's Nalawa and Na sau districts and a separate financial provision for the construction of new assistant District Offices at Namarai to improve services for the people of Nakorotubu and other areas in Ra.

Rupeni Navakasavi of Nakorotubu Village- also in Nalawa- commended the initiative.

"Although we use solar at the moment, supply is disrupted when it rains, so the electricity grid will

make a big difference. There are many who want more electric appliances."

He also lauded the inception of paid paternity leave for men and a finan-



Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama during the Government roadshow at Naiwairuku in Ra. Photo: ISAAC LAL

cial provision for new born children but hopes the system won't be abused. He was among the many from Ra who flocked to Nawairuku village for the latest government road show. Micro and small businesses played a key feature as the many women's groups set up food stalls for the camping government officials.

Villagers flocked from far and wide to the two-day event seeking more information on government programs, schemes and educational opportunities with both tertiary institutes and non-government agencies who joined the

CONTINUES ON PAGE 13



Emele Koronawa of Nawairuku Village in Nalawa, Ra. Photo: LITIA VULDAUSIGA

FROM PAGE 12

line-up of ministerial booths. As the first of such roadshows in Ra's interior, booths such as the i Taukei Land Trust Board proved popular and reflected the interest of many in indigenous land development and the status of largely communally-owned land and varying leases. The Ministry of Agriculture also pulled a large crowd, as many farmers sought copper sulphate and other remedies for foot root to cure their goats and to place orders for farm animals with the ministry's Animal Health and Production department, as well as to delve further into certain agricultural programs.

Young leaders also made ensured their presence, such as Solomon Navia, president of the Wainubunubu Youth Club in Nailawa village in Ra's Tokaimalo district. Honey

Ra is the country's biggest province and many seek jobs in urban areas, so we also advise people to be proactive, especially with contracts and offers.

Kelerani Kunahau
Suva-based NGO, Pacific Dialogue project manager

produced by the group's beehive business is supplied to a private company and given the village's relative distance to government offices, the roadshow was an apt oppor-

tunity to seek new avenues. The elderly also travelled to the roadshow to register for social pension, bus fare concession and the Social Welfare ministry's poverty benefit scheme. Significant interest in Early Childhood Education courses were noted at the Ministry of Education booth- including from young mothers-which may reflect the necessity for more ECE centers in Ra's interior villages. "This is the first time for a roadshow all the way here," highlighted Ms Koronawa. "It's been very good because it also shows our children the kinds of jobs they can aim for." Ra's lush interior may vastly differ from the tourism-orientated areas of the province's coast, but as development projects flourish, the challenges of local residency may not be so extensive. As the country's largest province, Ra covers an expansively interior dwelling of villages and settlements. The area's limited industries has seen generations of villagers seek greener pastures in Fiji's main urban centers, with many also working in towns and cities and returning home to Ra on weekends and holidays. And while this drift has been for economical convenience, the notion of human trafficking is largely unheard of. Suva-based NGO, Pacific Dialogue was a new addition to the latest Government roadshow in Ra's Nawairuku village and certainly drew attention for their educational awareness on this danger. "Fijians are naturally welcoming and accommodating, but sadly

human trafficking is a reality and so awareness and preventative measures are important," shared project manager, Kelerani Kunahau. "Ra is the country's biggest province and many seek jobs in urban areas, so we also advise people to be proactive, especially with contracts and offers. There are cases when people sign contracts for particular work but end up doing something else, and we also work closely with the Fiji Police Force." Roadshow attendees were educated on child protection, human rights laws, the Fiji Crimes Decree, signs of trafficking and traffickers and aspects of the country's minimum age for work, minimum wage for hazardous work and forced labour. "Some were surprised to learn of human trafficking cases, and we have had many people coming through our booth, so the roadshow has been very helpful in public awareness." The two-day Government roadshow was the first to be hosted in Ra's interior and while traditionally made up of ministerial departments, more NGOs and institutes have joined.

This latest Government roadshow from July 18-19 included teams from University of Fiji, Westpac Banking Corporation and Red Cross, reflecting their interest in the roadshow's wider community outreach.

Kalisu's battle against the odds

EMI KOROITANO

FOR Kalisu Uluaitoga, 41, disability does not mean inability. The Bau, Tailevu native who has been on a wheelchair for the past 10 years, has been fighting against all odds, working diligently in his home backyard of Wainibuku, planting crops to later sell in the Suva market. "Even though I'm on a wheelchair, I am absolutely enjoying life as a planter," Mr Uluaitoga said. Mr Uluaitoga underwent his first operation due to a backache in 2002 and has since then experienced great difficulty in walking. This is what later led to him acquiring the assistance of a wheelchair in 2008. And in an effort to make ends meet, his wife, Mariana Sauriva, also helps rake in income for the family from jewellery making. Mr Uluaitoga, who earns approximately \$600, said they do not rely on any other means of assistance to send his son to school and take care of the family's daily expenses. "This is something I took initiative in doing myself," he said. He added to say that despite a person's condition, if you have a spade and a fork, anything is possible. Minister for Agriculture, Rural and Maritime

Development, National Disaster Management and Meteorological Services Inia Seruiratu who officiated at the Launching of the Urban Agriculture program recently said the Ministry organised the program to encourage urban dwellers and households to do gardening in order to produce and consume food crops that are healthy and nutritious. "Urban Agriculture is an innovative solution to increase access to healthy food and revitalize the economic and social well-being of municipal communities," Minister Seruiratu said. The Ministry of Agriculture will support the urban agriculture initiatives through a few activities such as the establishment of backyard gardening demonstration sites, conducting public awareness to promote urban agriculture in urban and peri-urban areas in Fiji, training interested urban dwellers on how to make compost, providing home gardening vegetable seed packs and many more ways. In line with the theme of "Improving access to fresh and healthy food", Minister Seruiratu said his Ministry is exploring other prospective for Urban Agriculture as a community development tool that could improve access to fresh nutritious food and the overall well-being of Fijians, living in urban and peri-urban areas.



Forty-one-year-old Kalisu Uluaitoga looks on as Minister for Agriculture, Rural and Maritime Development, National Disaster Management and Meteorological Services Inia Seruiratu plants vegetables during the launching of the Urban Agriculture programme. Photo: EMI KOROITANO



Waterways Act, waste management top talks

LITIA VULDAUSIGA

RESIDENTS in Lautoka have called on the Government to extend the plastic levy to encompass plastic containers.

This, among other concerns, was raised during the 2018-2019 National Budget consultation held by the Attorney-General and Minister for Economy, Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum, with members of the public in the Western Division.

It was also noted that the Waterways Act was being amended.

Members of the public in Lautoka raised their concerns on waste management difficulties,

particularly with toxic fumes caused by the prevalence of burning garbage within residential compounds and suggested a fixed penalty fine for homes breeding mosquitoes.

Residents highlighted that at the moment there were warnings, but there should be more effective rules and a penalty too for restaurants where insects are found.

There was a suggestion for a levy on plastic containers to stop the breeding of mosquitoes.

The A-G said a holistic approach with public awareness was necessary to combat such issues and not just through the issuance of penalties.

Accordingly, the Waterways Act was be-

ing amended in regards to rural authority and health, among other aspects.

Transport companies have also been urged to get more supportive vehicles, particularly conducive to elderly members of the public.

"Bus companies are not very enabling and we encourage them to consider better buses.

"We have to have capacity for more pensions and currently have 44,000 getting \$100 monthly in this national budget," the A-G noted.

He confirmed that the Land Transport Authority would soon make announcements on the open base system of taxi operators.

Mozzies help reduce vector-borne disease risk

NATASHA BEGUM

THE World Mosquito Program (WMP) hopes to lessen the burden on the health care system in Fiji by releasing Wolbachia-carrying mosquitoes in communities.

WMP Fiji Co-ordinator Aminiasi Tavui said the goal of the WMP is to reduce the risks of vector-borne diseases in Fiji.

"Our goal is to reduce the risk of dengue, chikungunya and Zika outbreaks in Fiji and in doing so, we hope that it will lessen the burden on communities and the health care system," he said.

Wolbachia is a naturally occurring bacterium that is present in 60 per cent of insects including butterflies, moths and cockroaches.

"The bacteria lives and dwells in insects having that symbiotic relationship. Wolbachia is sustainable, meaning it is passed on through generations," Mr Tavui said.

"The Wolbachia bacteria was isolated and inserted into Aedes aegypti mosquito species eggs at Monash University in Melbourne, Australia. The team at Monash University found that the Aedes aegypti mosquitoes that had Wolbachia did not transmit the dengue virus to a healthy person."

The Monash University Team also found that the Wolbachia bacteria had altered the transmission of chikungunya and Zika viruses.

The first Wolbachia-carrying mosquitoes were recently released at Tamavua Village and the WMP anticipates continuing the release until December.

"It was an incredibly successful event where our partners and the community came together to celebrate the first release. We will be releasing Wolbachia-carrying mosquitoes in communities in Lami and between Suva-Nausori," Mr Tavui said. The WMP works closely with the Ministry of Health and Medical Services and the Live & Learn Environmental Education Fiji in the release of these mosquitoes.

Communities urged to join mosquito fight

NATASHA BEGUM

COMMUNITIES are being urged to get involved and work alongside the World Mosquito Program (WMP) in the release of Wolbachia-carrying mosquitoes.

WMP Fiji Co-ordinator Aminiasi Tavui said the WMP works closely with the communities and it was imperative to get them involved and support the movement.

"We have been working closely with the communities since February and we want to involve them in our work," he said.

"Tamavua Village was chosen to host our first Wolbachia-carrying mosquito release due to the overwhelming support from the members of the village and surrounding communities."

"The people of Tamavua Village have opened their doors to great health institutions in Fiji and the Tui Tamavua and his people were more than pleased to host another initiative."

WMP has been working for years in more than 10 countries around the world in the release of these mosquitoes and Mr Tavui said that verified data suggested it had received positive results.

"Local cases of dengue, chikungunya and Zika in these project sites have drastically dropped. We are confident that after the full release of Wolbachia-carrying mosquitoes in Fiji, we will see similar exciting results in a few years," he said.

The WMP is also working with 10 primary schools to raise and release their own Wolbachia-carrying mosquitoes in their communities.



Minister for Employment, Productivity and Industrial Relations Jone Usamate, (left), during the commissioning of the Namara Pilot Project in Tailevu. Photo: RUPENI VATUBULI

Namara villagers work to raise living standards

RUPENI VATUBULI

"I WANT to give my children things that my parents couldn't afford to buy for me"

These were the words Temo Taquilala, 33, during the commissioning of the Namara Pilot Project in Tailevu by the Minister for Employment, Productivity and Industrial Relations Jone Usamate.

The Namara Pilot Project is the planting of sandalwood seeds that will be used as a source of income for the village and employs 30 villagers under National Employment Centre (NEC) to nurse it.

The mother-of-three said the Government's initiative is a blessing for her and her kids as it pays her \$100 a week.

"I am a client of the National

Employment Centre (NEC) and through this programme, the other villagers and I are able to get a source of income and also help the future generation with the sandalwood plants we are looking after," Ms Taquilala said.

"I start work at 8am and knockoff by 5pm. With the money that I receive I am able to buy basic food items like flour, sugar, rice and even snacks for my children."

"I hope to save some money and also apply for the Micro and Small Business Grant so that I can start my own canteen in the village. The money I will save will help with my children's education so they can get a better life," Ms Taquilala said.

The pilot project through NEC is also set to be used as a training ground to groom villagers for the

"Seasonal Workers Scheme".

One of the volunteers hoping to be part of the programme is Naevo Tuitoga, 58, who wants to use his money to improve his lifestyle.

"I still want to go for the seasonal workers scheme in New Zealand even though I am old. I want to extend my house and get a big TV so I can watch all of Fiji's games," he said.

"The money that I will save will be used to extend my house so all my grandchildren can live there when they have no place to go," the 58-year-old grandfather said.

Mr Tuitoga said he is grateful to the Government for its help and hopes that the future generation will not forget the big help they received when reap the rewards after 15-20 years' time.

Environmentalist tells of passion

EMI KOROITANO

FOR 26-year-old Semiti Lovo, being able to show the future generation what a turtle looks like other than displaying pictures of it is a vision he holds dear to his heart.



Semiti Lovo.

But this vision is not in vain because Mr Lovo, who is an environmental officer at Leleuvia Island Resort, has been actively working towards the conservation of sea turtles in Fiji.

The environmentalist was one of the many participants who took part in the Fiji National Sea Turtle Conservation Workshop held recently.

Speaking on behalf of the Leleuvia Island Resort community, Mr Lovo said they had been engaged in conservation efforts in promoting eco-tourism.

“We have a non-plastic programme on the island, so we ask the visitors to refrain from bringing plastic bags over,” he said.

Mr Lovo added that he aimed to educate as many people as possible.

“One of the biggest things that I’d like to tell people is that we have so much tradition and culture around our turtles,” he said.

“And then we hunt them but at the end of the day, if we hunt them all, what are we going to have for our future generation?”

He added that he hopes to build a network with stakeholders that participated in the workshop in order to share information better.

“And also if there are any new programmes that they’re running for the conservation of turtles, then I would very much like to be involved as well.”

Ministry of Fisheries director Aisake Batibasaga, who officiated at the Fiji National Sea Turtle Conservation Workshop, highlighted that there was a need to work together to monitor and grow the sea turtle population in Fiji.

The workshop brought together known conservative organisations such as WWF (World Wide Fund for Nature), IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature) and SPREP (Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme) to address difficulties faced in the protection of the endangered species and called for more dialogue between government bodies and organisations to improve and strengthen efforts.

400-500 turtles killed each year in Fiji

RUPENI VATUBULI

FOUR hundred to 500 Green and Hawksbill turtles are killed each year in Fiji.

This statistic was revealed in the Department of Fisheries presentation during the National Sea Turtle Conservation Workshop.

The presentation was an eye-opener to other participant organisations as the Ministry of Fisheries highlighted its conservation efforts and challenges faced when trying to protect sea turtles in Fiji.

The Ministry’s acting principal research officer, Saras Sharma-Gounder, said there were research initiatives in place such as flipping tagging (where they physically tag turtles) and recording them in the Monitoring Database System, satellite tagging and nesting beach and feeding ground survey.

Furthermore, the ministry has working groups that create awareness and advocacy, conduct research and monitoring and enforce its policies.

However, Ms Sharma-Gounder admitted that there were some challenges they faced.

These challenges were funding limitation to support expansion of the sea turtle research, extension of the community turtle monitoring programme to other parts of Fiji and increasing numbers of local communities equipped with boats in order to access turtle nest.

World Wildlife Fund (WWF) Laitia Tamata said they are happy to work with the Government bodies and other conservative organisations in order to protect more turtles.

WWF currently funds a local community turtle monitoring programme such as Dau ni Vonu in Macuata and Mr Tamata added



Minister for Agriculture, Rural and Maritime Development, National Disaster Management and Meteorological Services Inia Seruiratu releases one of five hawksbill turtles at Treasure Island during World Turtle Day earlier this year.

that there was a need to open more channel of communication between different departments and organisations as it helps them share resources and information.

He also said that representatives from other organisations like Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and the University of the South Pacific (USP) have all agreed that data from



turtle nesting sites needs to be collected, recorded and saved in order for it to be shared among each other for research purposes.

Former hunter out to change mind-sets

RUPENI VATUBULI

“AS A former hunter of sea turtles, seeing a turtle cry will immediately change the way you think”



Emosi Time.

These were the words of Dau ni Vonu activist Emosi Time after he presented his report at the National Sea Turtle Conservation Workshop held recently.

“The conservation laws are not enough, we need to change the way people think. I am on the ground and I know what is happening! People will listen for a while, but when they are hungry they will go and hunt for turtles,” he said.

The laws in place to protect turtles are the Fisheries Act and the Endangered & Protected Species Act while regulations are also in



Participants during the National Sea Turtle Conservation Workshop at Studio 6 Apartments Conference Room in Suva. Photo: RUPENI VATUBULI

place such as the turtle moratorium (Temporary ban on the harvesting of turtles), which started in 2008.

“I catch a lot of people hunting for turtles and I report them to the ministry or police after I growl at them. I tell them, ‘don’t you feel sad that you are killing turtles? Do you want your children to see turtles – they will not if you continue to kill them,’” the passionate 46-year-old activist said.

Mr Time said he was once a hunter and he learnt from his par-

ents and elders how to hunt for turtles. However, after he witnessed a turtle crying before being killed– he vowed to change the way he lived his life.

The Dau ni Vonu network works with World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) and is an association of community based turtle monitors operating to support the recovery of marine turtles.

Their role is to collect information on turtle nesting and foraging sites, increase community awareness throughout the province of

Bua and Macuata and assist Fish wardens in consultations for any illegal harvesting of sea turtles at the village level.

Mr Time has pleaded with conservation organisations and government bodies to help extend the turtle moratorium because the sea turtle population is not enough as it is and the people are not ready in that they might ‘LIVE TO HUNT AND NOT HUNT TO LIVE’.

The turtle moratorium, which started in 2008, is set to end December this year.

FijiFocus

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DAMAGE 'STILL
IMPORTANT'
FOR FIJI **7**



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

GOVT ROADSHOW
FOR
INTERIOR
COMMUNITIES **12-13**



Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama with women and children during his visit at Lutu Village in Naitasiri. Photo: ERONI VALILI

PM LISTENS

Head of Govt hears concerns, works on solutions

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

PRIME Minister Voreqe Bainimarama visited Lutu Village in Naitasiri on Friday to hear firsthand the concerns of the villagers.

The Head of Government, who went with his delegation of Government officials, upon hearing these concerns suggested solutions and directed Government officials to look into other concerns that could not be dealt with immediately.

Prime Minister Bainimarama listened to concerns brought up by the Turaga ni Koro of the villages of Lutu, Navuniyaro and Nukuloa villages in the district of

Lutu.

Women representatives from the three villages from Lutu district also detailed the difficulties they faced as well.

The villagers brought up the issue of the need for a health centre for nearly 800 people in the district of Lutu because Vunidawa Hospital is quite far.

The people of Lutu district also requested for the improvement to the three-kilometre road from Lutu Village to Nukuloa Village to allow the Tacirua Transport Bus Company to service the district.

Extra bus services were requested for the route while Fiji Roads Authority representative Jese Veibuli assured the people

of Lutu during the discussions that the road improvement would be carried out next month.

The Lutu district representative also requested the reopening of the Lutu Health Centre, which has been closed for some time because it is prone to flooding.

Prime Minister Bainimarama instructed the officials from the Ministry of Health to relocate to higher ground because this was an essential service to the people of Lutu.

The people of Lutu also thanked the Prime Minister for all development that Government has done to villages in their district, especially the housing rehabilita-

tion works carried out on homes affected by Tropical Cyclone Winston.

The plight of farmers of Lutu in transporting their dalo to the market and milk to the chilling centre was also discussed and a request was made for government assistance to complete the construction of the road from Nukuloa Village to Tonia.

The village of Nukuloa has eight dairy farmers, but for four generations they have been using boats to transport their milk to the main road.

Prime Minister Bainimarama assured the dairy farmers that the Republic of Fiji Military Forces engineers would look into the issue in a bid to solve the problem.

फीजी फोकस



प्रधानमंत्री वॉरेनो बर्डिनिरामा ने हाल ही में मेथिडिस्ट चर्च के सम्मेलन में वहाँ उपस्थित सदस्यों को बताया कि सरकार द्वारा देश भर में बच्चों के लिए शिक्षा मुफ्त करने से आज फीजी में किसी परिवार को अपने बच्चों की शिक्षा की चिन्ता नहीं करनी पड़ रही है तथा पढ़ाई के खर्च का बोझ भी सरकार सह रही है। उन्होंने कहा कि यह कदम बीस तीस साल पहले उठाना चाहिए था तथा फीजी के इतिहास में पहली बार सबसे ज्यादा विद्यार्थी स्कूलों में पढ़ाई करते हैं।

शिक्षा सभी का अधिकार

रोनल देव

प्रधानमंत्री वॉरेनो बर्डिनिरामा ने जोर दिया है कि देश में अभी शिक्षा हासिल करना सभी बच्चों का अधिकार है ताकि उनका भविष्य बेहतर और उज्ज्वल हो।

मेथिडिस्ट चर्च के सम्मेलन में श्री बर्डिनिरामा ने चर्च के सदस्यों से कहा कि यह हर एक बच्चे का हक है कि उन्हें सफलता हासिल करने का अवसर मिले, हर बच्चे को मूल्यवान महसूस करने का हकदार होता है, और दुनिया में हर जगह, हर बच्चे की शिक्षा समान रूप से मायने रखती है।

आज फीजी में किसी परिवार को अपने बच्चों की शिक्षा की चिन्ता नहीं करनी पड़ रही है।

क्योंकि देश में सरकार ने शिक्षा मुफ्त कर दी है जिससे परिवारों पर से आर्थिक बोझ हटा दिया गया है। किन्डागाडन से लेकर प्राथमरी और सेकन्ड्री स्कूल की पढ़ाई मुफ्त हो गई है जोकि बीस तीस साल पहले हो जाना चाहिए था।

प्रधानमंत्री ने कहा कि यह तबही मुमकिन हुआ जब एक ऐसी सरकार सत्ता में आई जिन्हें ऐसा करने की चिन्ता थी और जो देश में स्थिरता लेकर आई। इससे देश की आर्थिक हालत में रिकोड स्तर की बढ़न्ती हुई जिससे हमारा देश सभी युवा लोगों की शिक्षा आकांक्षाओं की पूर्ती करने की स्थिति तक पहुँचा।

इस साल राष्ट्रीय बजट में शिक्षा के लिए एक

बिलियन डोलर अलग किया गया है ताकि नए स्कूल बनाए जाएं तथा उपकरण लिए जाएं, सभी वर्ग के युवा फीजीवासियों के लिए नए-नए मौके पैदा किए जाएं।

इन आर्थिक सहायता और विकास से आज फीजी के इतिहास में सबसे ज्यादा विद्यार्थी स्कूलों में पढ़ाई करते हैं। ऐसा इसलिए हुआ है क्योंकि सरकार ने फीजी के सभी विद्यार्थियों की मदद बराबरी से की है। सरकार की नई दृष्टिकोण से देश के हर एक स्कूल को भी फायदा हो रहा है क्योंकि सही व्यक्तियों को सही अनुभव के साथ सही पद पर नियुक्त किया जा रहा है।

प्रधानमंत्री ने कहा कि यह पुरानी सोच से बिल्कुल अलग है जबकि पहले धार्मिक और

जातीय आधार पर स्कूलों में विभाजन था जहाँ कुछ स्कूलों में अद्यापकों और मुख्य अद्यापकों को उनके धर्म या जात के आधार पर पढ़ाने का मौका मिलता था। लेकिन अब ऐसा बिल्कुल नहीं है।

श्री बर्डिनिरामा के अनुसार वर्तमान के अद्यापकों के लिए ट्रेनिंग हासिल करने के कई मौके दिए जा रहे हैं ताकि उन्हें और शिक्षित होने में मदद मिल सके तथा वे देश के चमकदार छात्रों की पीढ़ी को भी शिक्षित करें जिसे हमारे देश ने कभी नहीं देखा। इन क्षेत्रों में अद्यापकों का हुनर बढ़ाने से हम सभी स्तरों पर फीजी को बढ़ा रहे हैं तथा उन्हें समृद्ध बना रहे हैं।



प्लास्टिक प्रदूषण से लड़ें: प्रधानमंत्री

रोनल देव

प्रधानमंत्री वॉरेनो बर्डनिमरामा ने प्रशान्तीय नेताओं से माँग की है कि वे प्लास्टिक प्रदूषण से लड़ें।

हाल ही में सूवा में क्लीन पॅसिफिक राउन्डटेबल सम्मेलन में श्री बर्डनिमरामा ने कहा कि बहुत से प्लास्टिक का कचरा जो फीजी के जलप्रान्त में आते हैं वो फीजी या अन्य प्रशान्तीय देश के नहीं बल्कि बड़े-बड़े धनवान देशों से आते हैं।

उन्होंने कहा कि इसका यह मतलब नहीं है कि हमें इस विषय पर गौर करने से छूट मिल गई है। प्रधानमंत्री के अनुसार फीजीयन सरकार हमारे

महासागरों में प्लास्टिक कचरा की वृद्धि वाले विषय पर गौर करने के लिए प्रतिबद्ध है। श्री बर्ड निमरामा ने कहा कि यह बेहद ज़रूरी है कि सभी प्रशान्तीय नेता इस विषय पर तुरन्त गौर करें और कार्यवाई के साथ दुनिया का नेतृत्व करें।

“मेरी सरकार ने इसी महीने से एक प्लेस्टिक बैग के इस्तेमाल वाले टेक्स को दस सेन्ट्स से बढ़ाकर बीस सेन्ट्स कर दिया है तथा यह हमारी प्रतिबद्धता का हिस्सा है कि दो हजार बीस तक फीजी में प्लास्टिक बैग के उपयोग पुरी तरह खत्म की जाए,” प्रधानमंत्री ने कहा।

उन्होंने प्रायवट सेक्टर को चुनौती दी है कि वे समान तरीकों पर विचार करें, हमारे होटल,

हमारी दुकानें और यहाँ तक कि हमारे बोटल पानी वाली कम्पनियों को यह भी पता होना चाहिए कि दुनिया जागरूक खपत का एक नया युग दर्ज कर रही है, जिसपर प्लास्टिक के आधार पर पर्यावरण और आर्थिक रूप से सम्भव साबित नहीं होंगे।

प्रशान्त के एक सौ पचास प्रतिनिधियों ने क्षेत्र में विभिन्न कचरों की चुनौतियाँ तथा इनका हल कैसे निकाला जाए पर गौर किया।

मेरी सरकार कचरे का बिन स्थापित कर सकती है लेकिन इन्हें इस्तेमाल करने के लिए लोगों को मजबूर नहीं कर सकती है। देश भर में कचरे का बिन स्थापित करने और कचरा बटोरने वाले

अभियान के लिए सरकार ने इस राष्ट्रीय बजट में पैसे अलग किए हैं।

“हमें अपनी-अपनी भूमिका निभाने की ज़रूरत है ताकि हमारे महासागरों को कूड़ा डालने का मैदान न समझा जाए। इसी तरह हमारे नदी-नाले, खाड़ी, समुद्री तट तथा पूरे फीजी के लिए समझा जाए। कचरा रास्ते के किनारे से शुरू होता है जो बहकर समुद्र में जाता है। बिना सोचे-समझे जो कचरा फेंका जाता है, उसी तरह के गलत फैसले बढ़ते जा रहे हैं तथा इसके फलस्वरूप हमारा वातावरण, हमारी समुद्री जीव-जन्तु, हमारी आर्थिक सुरक्षा तथा हमारे लोगों की सलामती पर खतरा भी बढ़ रहा है



हालमें लोकल गवमन्ट मंत्री परवीन कुमार ने तावाकुम्बू लौतोका में सेटलाईट मार्केट का उद्घाटन किया जिसके लिए सरकार ने एक लाख पचास हजार डोलर खर्च किया है।

मंत्री कुमार ने नए सेटलाईट मार्केट का किया उद्घाटन

रोनल देव

लोकल गवमन्ट मंत्री माननीय परवीन कुमार ने हाल ही में लौतोका में नया तावाकुम्बू सेटलाईट मार्केट का उद्घाटन किया। सरकार द्वारा इस एक लाख पचास हजार डोलर विकास से वहाँ के चौबीस विक्रेताओं के परिवार वालों को फायदा होगा। इस नई सुविधा में नहाने और पाखाना की व्यवस्था भी है जिससे अब विक्रेता सुरक्षित, साफ और आधुनिक जगह पर अपना सामान बेच सकेंगे जबकि पिछले कई सालों से वे रास्ते के पास सामान बेचा करते थे। सरकार ने इस नई सुविधा को उपलब्ध करके अपना वायदा पूरा किया है।

मंत्री ने कहा कि यह योजना सरकार के उस कार्यक्रम का हिस्सा है जहाँ रास्ते के पास वाले स्टोल की सुविधाओं को सुधारा जा रहा है जबकि कई सालों से विक्रेता चुप-चाप तकलीफें सह रहे थे।

मंत्री कुमार ने कहा कि जनता की माँग पर लौतोका सिटी काउन्सल



लोकल गवमन्ट मंत्री परवीन कुमार तावाकुम्बू लौतोका में सेटलाईट मार्केट का उद्घाटन करते हुए मार्केट विक्रेताओं के साथ।

नया सेटलाईट मार्केट और बढ़ाएगी।

“हमारा लक्ष्य है विक्रेताओं के लिए स्थिति सुधारना जिसके लिए उनके सर पर छत तथा आधुनिक सुविधा उपलब्ध की जाए ताकि वे पश्चिमी विभाग की गर्मी, बारिश तथा आँधी तूफान से बच सकें

जिसका वे पिछले सालों से सामना कर रहे हैं,” मंत्री ने कहा।

उनके अनुसार इस योजना से शहरों में भीड़-भाड़ कम होगी तथा सभी मार्केट एक जगह होंगे।

आने वाले महीनों में एक और सेटलाईट मार्केट, वी एम पिल्ले रोड में फीजी नेशनल प्रोविडन्ड फन्ड की पुरानी इमारत के पास

बनेगा जो लौतोका के इलाके जैसे कि तावाकुम्बू, वर्डियावी तथा काशमीर में मार्केट की ज़रूरतों को पूरा करेगा। तावाकुम्बू लौतोका के चौबीस मार्केट विक्रेता इस नई सेटलाईट मार्केट की सुविधा से फायदा उठाएँगे। मार्केट विक्रेताओं ने नई सुविधा के लिए सरकार को धन्यवाद दिया।

“कर” पर नई जानकारी देना हुआ आसान

रोनल देव

फीजी रेवन्यू एन्ड कस्टम्स सेविस आमजनता और व्यापारियों को सलाह दे रहा है कि वे अपने कर की जानकारी ओन-लाईन माएइनफो (MyInfo) के द्वारा बदल सकते हैं।

ग्राहक इस वेबसाइट www.frscs.org.fj पर जाकर माएइनफो (MyInfo) तक पहुँच सकते हैं।

वहाँ पर आपकी पुरी जानकारी जैसे घर का पता, फोर्न नम्बर, ईमेल, अगर कोई व्यापार है तो उसकी जानकारी तथा वेन्क अकाउन्ट की जानकारी है।

करदाताओं को अपनी नई जानकारी ओनलाईन दर्ज करने में सहूलियत प्रदान करने के लिए माएइनफो (MyInfo) तैयार किया गया है।

चीफ एक्ज़ेक्टिव ऑफिसर विश्वनाथ दास का कहना है कि इस सेवा के लिए रे-जिस्टा होने की खातिर आपको एक जोईन्ट आए डी कार्ड की ज़रूरत होगी तथा करदाता किसी भी नज़दीकी दफ्तर में जाकर अज़ी लगा सकते हैं।

“यह पहल प्रक्रियाओं और प्रणालियों को आधुनिक बनाने की हमारी रणनीति के अनुरूप की गई है और हमारे ग्राहकों के लिए उनकी जानकारी तक पहुँचने और हमारे साथ बातचित करना आसान बनाता है। नई कर सूचना प्रणाली के लागू होने से यह एक वास्तविकता बन जाएगी। अगले साल के अंत तक इस नई सूचना प्रणाली का विमोचन होने की आशा की जा रही है। इस संक्रमण के सफल होने के लिए आपकी जानकारी नई होनी चाहिए। इससे हमें आपको और अच्छी सेवा प्रदान करने का मौका मिलेगा,” श्री दास ने जोर दिया।

“हमारे ऑफिसस उन करदाताओं को इनफोर्मेशन अपडेट फोम्स बाँट रहे हैं जिनके पास इंटरनेट की सुविधा नहीं है। उन्हें सिर्फ फोम्स भरकर रेवन्यू एन्ड कस्टम्स के किसी भी दफ्तर को लौटाना है,”

हम करदाताओं को प्रोतसाहित कर रहे हैं कि वे इस मुफ्त सेवा से फायदा उठाएँ तथा अपनी नई जानकारीयाँ दर्ज करें या सहायता के लिए फीजी भर में हमारे कस्टमर सेविस सेन्टर जाएँ।

सभी के साथ बराबरी से पेश आओ-खेलकूद मंत्री

रोनल देव

खेलकूद तथा युवा मंत्री लईसेनिया तुई तम्बु ने सभी फीजीवासियों से माँग की है कि वे सभी विकलांग और विशेष ज़रूरतों वाले व्यक्तियों का सम्मान करें।

राकीराकी स्थित बोलीबोली इन्डो सेटलमन्ट के निवासी बिमलेश देव शर्मा को सहायता देते हुए मंत्री ने ऐसा कहा। मंत्री ने श्री शर्मा के यंगोना बेचने वाले छोटे से व्यापार को सहायता पहुँचाने के लिए उन्हें एक हजार पाँच सौ डॉलर लागत यंगोना प्रदान किया है।

“सभी दोस्त बनाना चाहते हैं तथा ज़िन्दगी का मज़ा भरपूर लेना चाहते हैं तथा विकलांग लोग भी अलग नहीं हैं। ऐसे व्यक्तियों से संपर्क करने के लिए कभी भी डर, संदेहजनक या शर्मिदा न हो। विकलांग लोग उतने ही मज़ेदार हैं और हम सभी को उनके साथ निष्पक्ष व्यवहार करना चाहिए,” मंत्री तुईतम्बु ने कहा।

उन्होंने जोर दिया है कि यह ज़रूरी है कि समाज के लोग विकलांग लोगों की मदद करें और उन्हें प्रोत्साहित करें ताकि उन्हें भी महसूस हो कि उन्हें कोई प्यार करता है तथा वे स्वतंत्र होने में सक्षम हों।

“याद रखें कि हम सब अलग हैं तथा दुनिया को देखने का हमारा नज़रिया भी अलग है। यह नज़रिया हमारी स्थिति, हमारे पालन पोशन, हमारी जीवनशैली और अन्य योगदान की लम्बी सूची पर आधारित है,” मंत्री तुईतम्बु ने कहा।

“एक पल के लिए दुनिया को उनकी नज़र से देखें, समझने की कोशिश करें कि वे क्या कर रहे हैं। इससे न केवल उनके साथ रिश्ता मजबूत होगा लेकिन हम अन्य लोगों को शिक्षित कर सकेंगे तथा आजादी के लिए बाहरी बाधाओं को भी तोड़ेंगे। हमें यह याद रखना है कि कोई भी विकलांग हो सकता है,” खेलकूद मंत्री ने कहा।

फिलहाल, श्री शर्मा ने मंत्री तथा खेलकूद और युवा मंत्रालय को दया दिखाते और सहायता के लिए धन्यवाद दिया। उन्होंने कहा कि इस सहायता से उनकी आमदनी होगी जबकि उन्होंने हाल ही में यंगोना का व्यापार शुरू किया है और अभी तक आठ सौ डॉलर से ज़्यादा अपने बैंक अकाउंट में बचाया है।



इंडस्ट्री, टैड, टुरिज़्म, लेन्ड तथा मिनरल रिसोसस मंत्री, माननीय फईयाज़ कोया नउसोरी में दो हजार से ज़्यादा छोटे और सुक्ष्म व्यापारियों को व्यापारिक ग्रान्ट दिया।

नउसोरी में बाँटे गए छोटे और सुक्ष्म व्यापारियों के ग्रान्ट



इंडस्ट्री, टैड, टुरिज़्म, लेन्ड तथा मिनरल रिसोसस मंत्री, माननीय फईयाज़ कोया नउसोरी में एक महिला व्यापारी को एक हजार डॉलर का ग्रान्ट देते हुए।

रोनल देव

इंडस्ट्री, टैड, टुरिज़्म, लेन्ड तथा मिनरल रिसोसस मंत्री माननीय फईयाज़ सिदिक कोया ने दो हजार दो सौ इक्तीस (2231) लोगों को छोटे और सुक्ष्म व्यापारिक ग्रान्ट बाँटा।

उन्होंने सहायता पाने वालों को सरकार की दृष्टि के बारे में बताया जहाँ वो फीजीवासियों में खुद का व्यापार करने की भावना पैदा कर रही है तथा यही सरकार की पाँच और बीस सालों की राष्ट्रीय विकास योजना में भी शामिल है।

मंत्री ने प्रकाश डाला कि उन्हें फीजी भर से सैतालिस हजार पैतालिस (47,045) अर्ज़ियाँ मिली थी तथा इस सहायता कार्य कम के द्वारा छब्बीस हजार छः सौ बनयान्चे (26,692) छोटे और सुक्ष्म व्यापारियों की मदद की गई है। सरकार ने पचीस दशमलौ एक \$25.1 मिलियन डॉलर की पुँजी लगाई है जिससे एक लाख तैतीस हजार चार सौ साठ (133,460) फीजीवासियों की ज़िन्दगी पर सकारात्मक असर पड़ा है।

पानी बचाने का यही सही समय है

रोनल देव

वोटर अथोरिटी ओफ फीजी, देश भर में अपने ग्राहकों को सलाह दे रही है कि वे पानी बचाकर इस्तेमाल करें जबकि देश में सुखे का मौसम आ गया है तथा इससे आने वाले महीनों में पानी की सप्लाई पर असर पड़ सकता है।

वोटर अथोरिटी लोगों को प्रोत्साहित कर रही है कि वे ज़रूरत पड़ने पर ही पानी इस्तेमाल करें, पानी बरबाद न करें क्योंकि पानी का हर एक बूँद कीमती है। जो ग्राहक पहले ही पानी की कमी का सामना कर रहे हैं वे माँग की जा रही है कि वे सोच समझकर पानी इस्तेमाल करें।

वोटर अथोरिटी लगातार रेज़ावो में पानी के लेवल पर

नज़र रखे हुई है जबकि पानी के इस्तेमाल से लेवल कम हो रहा है क्योंकि पश्चिमी और उत्तरी विभाग में बारिश अवसतम से भी कम मात्रा में हो रही है।

अभी रेज़ावोर में पानी, खतरे के लेवल तक नहीं पहुँचा है लेकिन केन्द्रीय विभाग के मुकाबले पश्चिमी और उत्तरी विभाग में स्थिति बिगड़ती जा रही है। वोटर अथोरिटी पानी बाँटकर और अन्य तरीके से असर पड़े ग्राहकों की मदद करेगी।

अथोरिटी ने अपनी इमेजेन्सी टोल फ्री कोन्टेक्ट लाईन 1507 फिर से शुरू की है तथा लोग ईमेल waterhelp@waf.com.fj पर भी पानी बाँटने की माँग कर सकते हैं। याद रहे कि माँग करने पर आपको सेविस ओडर वाले नम्बर दिए जाएँगे ताकि आगे चलकर आप अपनी माँग पर जानकारी हासिल कर सकते हैं।



वोटर अथोरिटी ओफ फीजी ने अपने ग्राहकों से माँग की है कि वे सुखे के इस मौसम में पानी बचाकर इस्तेमाल करने वाले तरीके अपनाएँ जबकि यह मौसम अगले कुछ महीने तक जारी रहेगा।



प्रधानमंत्री संबेतो सेन्ट्रल स्कूल के शताब्दी समारोह में हुए शरीख

प्रधानमंत्री वॉरेनो बर्डिनमरामा ने हाल ही में संबेतो सेन्ट्रल स्कूल के शताब्दी समारोह में भाग लिया और अपने भाषण में कहा कि देश में काफी बदलाव हुआ है तथा अब जातीय आधार पर कोई स्कूल विभाजन पैदा नहीं करते हैं न ही इससे किसी की पहचान होती है। उन्होंने कहा कि देश की आज़ादी से पहले वाली सरकार ने जातीय आधार पर देश को बाँटा था तथा शिक्षा प्रणाली में भी विभाजन था। लेकिन उनकी सरकार ने शिक्षा प्रणाली से जात-पात को खत्म करने के लिए कई कदम उठाई है।



ए-जी ने श्रीधर महाराज कोलज में न्यू डाली

अटोनी जेनरल तथा शिक्षा मंत्री माननीय अईयाज़ सैयद खैयुम ने हाल ही में श्रीधर महाराज कोलज में दो और कक्षाएँ बनाने के लिए न्यू डालीडस इमारत में वो विद्यापी पढ़ाई कर रहे जो अभी किसी शेड का इस्तेमाल करते हैं। यह इमारत शायद अगले साल बनकर तैयार हो जाएगी। अटोनी जेनरल ने विद्यार्थियों को याद दिलाया कि वे फीजी को साफ सुतरा रखने के लिए देश भक्त बने न कि जब फीजी सेवन्स टीम खेले तबही वे देश भक्त बने। उन्होंने माता-पिताओं से भी कहा कि वे ध्यान में रखें कि वे अपने बच्चों की शिक्षा विकास में मुख्य भूमिका निभाते हैं तथा उन्हें अद्यापकों के साथ मिलकर काम करना चाहिए ताकि उनके बच्चे अच्छे परिणाम हासिल करें।



डाक्टर रेड्डी ने आम जनता से लिया परामर्श



वोटर वैसे तथा वातावरण मंत्री डाक्टर महेन्द्र रेड्डी ने देश के विभिन्न इलाकों में आम जनता से परामर्श लेते हुए लोगों को आशवासन दिया कि मंत्रालय अपना सर्वेक्षण करके निवासियों की बाढ़ चढ़ने वाली चिन्ता पर काम करेगा। मंत्री ने चिन्ता जताई कि कचरा सही जगह पर न फेंकने से नदी नलों के लिए बहुत बड़ी समस्या खड़ी हुई है। यह कचरा नदी-नालों में पानी के बहाव को रोकते हैं जिसके फलस्वरूप जब गम्भीर वारिश होती है तो कई नीचले इलाकों में बाढ़ का पानी चड़ता है। मंत्री ने लोगों को यह भी बताया कि मंत्रालय कचरा इधर-उधर डालने वालों के खिलाफ सक्त कार्यवाई करेगा तथा लोगों को अदालत तक भी लेजाया जा सकता है। केन्द्रीय, पूर्वी, पश्चिमी तथा उत्तरी विभाग में मंत्री ने लोगों से बातचित की।



मंत्री अखबर दवा वाले सम्मलेन में



स्वास्थ्य और मेडिकल सेविस मंत्री रोजी अकबर ने हाल ही में फीजी फार्मासियकॉटिकल सोसाएटी की सभा में जानकारी दी कि सरकार के मुफ्त दवा वाले कार्यक्रम से वर्तमान में इक्कीस हजार (31,000) से ज्यादा फीजीवासी लाभ उठा रहे हैं। उन्होंने सोसाएटी की सरकार की इस सुविधा को लागू करने के लिए धन्यवाद दिया। "इस कार्यक्रम के लिए शुरूआत प्रायवट रिटेल दवाखानों के साथ साझेदारी से हुई जहाँ इस बात को ध्यान में रखा गया कि एक साल में बीस हजार डोलर से कम कमाने वालों के लिए न्यायसंगत ढंग से प्रमुख और ज़रूरी दवाएँ उपलब्ध हों," मंत्री अकबर ने कहा।





नेशनल चाएल्ड हेल्प लाईन को मिले चार हज़ार से उपर कोल्स

रोनल देव

नेशनल चाएल्ड हेल्पलाईन “1325” को अभी तक चालिस हज़ार से ज़्यादा कोल्स मिल चुके हैं।

इस चाएल्ड हेल्पलाईन को विमन चिलरन और पोवेटी अलेविएशन मंत्रालय तथा मेडिकल से-विसस पेरिफिक के बीच साझेदारी में स्थापित किया गया था। तीन साल पहले इस लाईन की स्थापना हुई थी ताकि लोग न केवल बच्चों के खिलाफ हो रही हिंसा पर रिपोर्ट करें

बल्कि बच्चों के कल्याण संबंधी मामलों पर जानकारी और काउन्सलिंग सेवाएँ हासिल करें। इस साझेदारी को अगले तीन सालों तक बढ़ाने के लिए विमन चिलरन और पोवेटी अलेविएशन मंत्रालय के पेमनन्ट सकेटरी डाक्टर चोसेफा कोरोईवूएता ने एम एस पी के एक्ज़ेक्टिव डायरेक्टा जेनिफा पूल के साथ एक सहमति पर हस्ताक्षर किया। पी एस कोरोवूएता ने कहा कि मंत्रालय की उच्च प्राथमिकता है बच्चों के खिलाफ हिंसा और दुर्व्यवहार पर गौर करना।

“हम चाएल्ड हेल्पलाईन का समर्थन करते रहेंगे क्योंकि हम जानते हैं कि बच्चों के खिलाफ हिंसा और दुर्व्यवहार एक बहुत बड़ी चिन्ता की बात है। पिछले अठ्ठारह महीने में इसी साल जुलाई तक बलात्कार तथा यौन अपराध के तीन सौ मामले सामने आए थे जिनमें से चौसठ मामले बच्चों के खिलाफ थे। जुलाई महीने में चौदाह मामलों में से दस मामलों में बच्चे शामिल थे। यह आकड़े परेशान करने वाले हैं,” श्री कोरोवूएता ने

कहा। उनके अनुसार नेशनल चाएल्ड हेल्पलाईन एक ज़रिया है जिससे बच्चों के खिलाफ हिंसा और दुर्व्यवहार पर चुप्पी तोड़ा जा सकता है।

“हम कोई भी कसर बाकी नहीं रखना चाहते हैं। दुख की बात है कि बच्चों के खिलाफ हिंसा उन लोगों के द्वारा होती है जो उनकी देखभाल करते हैं, परिवार वाले और कुछ माता पिता भी ऐसा करते हैं। ऐसे मामले को लेकर बैठा नहीं जा सकता।



स्वास्थ्य और मेडिकल सेविसस मंत्री रोज़ी अखवर ने हालही कहा कि सरकार दवाईयों की उपलब्ध सुधारना चाहती है ताकि लोग मुफ्त एक सौ ब्यालिस दवाओं की सुची से दवा हासिल कर सकें।

मुफ्त दवा कार्यक्रम से और भी फीजीवासियों को होगा फायदा

रोनल देव

सरकार के मुफ्त दवा वाले कार्यक्रम से वर्तमान में इक्तीस हज़ार (31,000) से ज़्यादा फीजीवासी लाभ उठा रहे हैं। स्वास्थ्य और मेडिकल सेविस

मंत्री रोज़ी अकबर ने हाल ही में फीजी फामासिक्योटिकल सोसाएटी की सभा में सोसाएटी को सरकार की इस सुविधा को लागू करने के लिए धन्यवाद दिया।

“इस कार्यक्रम की शुरुआत प्रायवट रिटेल दवाखानों के साथ साझेदारी से हुई जहाँ इस बात को ध्यान में रखा गया कि एक साल में बीस हज़ार डोलर से कम कमाने वालों के लिए न्यायसंगत ढंग से प्रमुख और ज़रूरी दवाएँ उपलब्ध हो,” मंत्री अकबर ने कहा।

मंत्री ने समझाया कि जैसा सन् दो हज़ार अठ्ठारह/उन्नीस राष्ट्रीय बजट में घोषणा की गई थी, इस कार्यक्रम में कुछ

चुनौतियाँ सामने आई थी जिन्हें सुलझा लिया जाएगा। उन्होंने कहा कि सरकार ने नितियों पर फिर से विचार किया है जिससे रिटेल और पब्लिक सेक्टर को दवाईयाँ हासिल करने में और सहूलियत

होगी।

“इस ढाँचे में बदलाव से रिटेल दवाखाना अपनी दवाईयाँ मुफ्त दवा वाले कार्यक्रम की सुची में शामिल करेंगे और सरकारी बारी-बारी उनकी भरपाई करेंगी। इससे दवाईयों की उपलब्ध सुधरेगी तथा लोग अपने पास के दवाखानों से एक सौ ब्यालिस (142) दवाईयों की सुची से दवा हासिल कर सकेंगे,” मंत्री अकबर ने कहा।

मंत्री के अनुसार मंत्रालय देश भर में मुफ्त दवा का रजिस्ट्रेशन ड्राईव जारी रखेगा ताकि और भी लोगों को रजिस्ट्रा किया जा सके।

फिलहाल, मंत्री ने यह भी कहा कि यह ज़रूरी है कि खुले तौर से बिना किसी रूकावट के यौन संबंध पर बातचित हो तथा इस विषय को लेकर शर्माने का समय बीत गया है।

“सरकार यह सुनिश्चित करने की आवश्यकताओं को पहचानती है कि सभी फीजीवासी सुरक्षित यौन संबंध स्थापित करें--जो हिंसा और अत्याचार से मुक्त हो,” मंत्री अकबर ने कहा।

नतन्द्रादावे तक पानी सप्लाई



प्रधान मंत्री, वॉरेंगे बड़निमरामा ने हाल ही में ताईलेवू स्थित नतन्द्रादावे कोरो में पानी वाली नई योजना का उद्घाटन करते हुए कहा कि वो तबतक चुप नहीं बैठेंगे जबतक फीजी में हर एक परिवार की पानी वाली समस्या हल नहीं हो जाती।

रोनल देव

प्रधानमंत्री वॉरेंगे बड़निमरामा का मानना है कि फीजीवासियों के लिए स्वच्छ पानी तक पहुँच हमारे भविष्य के विकास और हमारे लोगों की समृद्धि के लिए बिल्कुल खास है।

नतन्द्रादावे कोरो ताईलेवू में हाल ही में पानी सप्लाई वाली योजना का उद्घाटन करते हुए श्री बड़निमरामा ने कहा कि बीते कुछ हफ्तों में उन्होंने पानी वाली कई योजनाओं का उद्घाटन किया है जिसपर उन्हें गर्व है।

उनके अनुसार पिछले दशक में उन्होंने इस तरह कई कोरो में नल वाला पानी पहुँचाया और देश भर में बड़े पैमाने पर पानी वाली नई संरचना योजनाओं का उद्घाटन किया।

“मेरे नेतृत्व में सरकार ने ग्रामीन इलाकों में एक लाख पचास हज़ार से अधिक फीजीवासियों को पीने के लिए स्वच्छ पानी उपलब्ध कराए हैं। सरकार की अगुवाई की वजह से देश भर में कई हज़ार लोग खुशी और सुरक्षित महसूस कर रहे हैं हर बार जब वे पानी का नल खोलते हैं। प्रधानमंत्री होने के नाते हम इसी पर गौर करते हैं,” प्रधानमंत्री ने कहा।

प्रधानमंत्री के अनुसार वो अन्य राजनितिज्ञों पर कीचड़ उछालने पर गौर नहीं कर रहे हैं जैसा अन्य राजनितिज्ञ आए दिन कर रहे हैं तथा वो किसी पर व्यक्तिगत हमले, या फीजीवासियों में जातीय और राजनितिक आधार पर विभाजन लाने पर ध्यान नहीं देते हैं।

“मैं शुरुआत से ही विकास पर अपना ध्यान दिया

है, इस वास्तविक विकास से फीजीवासियों के जीवन में वास्तविक सुधार हो रहा है। यह काम मेरी सरकार की पवित्र कर्तव्य और ज़िम्मेदारी है जैसा देश के

संविधान में निर्धारित किया गया है, जो अनिवार्य रूप से हमारे लोगों के लिए पीने वाले स्वच्छ पानी सर्वव्यापक पहुँच को समझने के लिए काम करता है। यह अधिकार उन कई अधिकारों में से एक है जो फीजी के संविधान में सुरक्षित किया गया है तथा कई लोग अगले महीने संविधानिक दिवस के दौरान इसे मान्यता देने और मनाने का इंतज़ार कर रहे हैं,” प्रधानमंत्री ने कहा।

उनके अनुसार स्वच्छ पानी मिलना एक ऐसा विकास है जिसकी नींव पर एक समुदाय बढ़ सकता है और समृद्ध हो सकता है।

हर एक फीजीवासी का हक है कि वो स्वच्छ पानी के साथ खुशी और सुरक्षित महसूस करें। मैं तबतक चुप नहीं बैठूँगा जबतक हर एक फीजीवासी के लिए मैं इसे वास्तविक न बना दूँ कि किसी भी परिवार को सुबह उठकर यह नहीं सोचना पड़ेगा कि ज़रूरत के लिए पानी कहाँ से आएगा, सुखे के समय किसी परिवार को मजबूरी में दूर से और कठिन याता करके पानी नहीं लाना पड़ेगा, तथा सभी परिवार को मालूम होगा कि स्वच्छ पानी उनके नज़दीक है,” प्रधानमंत्री ने कहा। यह जीत नतान्द्रादावे समाज के हर एक सदस्य के लिए है खास करके महिलाओं के लिए जो पहले अपने परिवार के लिए कठिन और लम्बी याता करके पानी

इक्ठ्ठा करके लाती थी। इस समाज की कठिनाईयों को समझना मुश्किल है।

वीयो द्वीप तक पहुंची पानी सप्लाई



प्रधानमंत्री, वॉरेन्गे बर्डनिमरामा ने वीयो द्वीप के निवासियों से माँग की कि वे पानी वाली नई सुविधा का पालन करें तथा आने वाली पीढ़ियों के लिए पानी बचाकर इस्तेमाल करें।

रोनल देव

वीयो द्वीप के निवासियों को पानी के भटकना नहीं पड़ेगा जबकि अब उनके घरों तक पानी सप्लाई की सुविधा हो गई है।

प्रधानमंत्री वॉरेन्गे बर्डनिमरामा ने हाल ही में वीयो द्वीप तक पानी वाली योजना का उद्घाटन किया और कहा कि निवासियों ने द्वीप तक साफ पानी लेजाने के लिए पहले कितनी तकलीफें सही। उन्होंने कहा कि कुछ दिन पहले वे नाव के द्वारा वितिलेवू से वे पीने और अन्य कार्य के लिए ड्रम में पानी भरकर लेजाते थे क्योंकि उनके पास और कोई चारा नहीं था। पानी हर किसी की ज़रूरत है जिसे पाने के लिए लोग किसी भी हद तक जाते हैं,” प्रधानमंत्री ने कहा।

उनके अनुसार उन्हें खुशी है कि वो दिन अब वीयो द्वीप के लिए बीत चुके हैं जबकि वोटा अथोरिटी ओफ फीजी ने समुद्र तल के नीचे से लौतोका से द्वीप तक पानी का पाईप बिठाया। सरकार ने इस योजना में आधा मिलियन डोलर लगाया।

“दो सौ पचास फीजीवासियों को फायदा होगा जिन्हें विश्वसनीय पानी की एक विश्वसनीय धारा मिल रही है जिसे वे स्वस्थ माता में अधिक आसानी से पी सकते हैं, उचित स्वच्छता का अभ्यास कर सकते हैं और अपने जीवन स्तर को बेहतर बना सकते हैं,” प्रधानमंत्री ने कहा।

उन्होंने निवासियों से माँग की कि वे इस सुविधा की देखभाल करें, पाईप में कोई लीक हो तो वे वोटा अथोरिटी को जानकारी दें, नल खुला न छोड़ें और ऐसे न सोचें कि पानी कभी खत्म नहीं होगा। प्रधानमंत्री ने कहा कि वातावरण की भलाई के लिए हम सभी को पानी की खपत के प्रति सचेत होना चाहिए।

“आपके बच्चे पहले हैं जिन्हें पूरी तरह से जीवन भर स्वच्छ पानी मिलेगा, इसलिए मैं आपको प्रोत्साहित करता हूँ कि आप शुरूआत से ज़िम्मेदार जल उपयोग की संस्कृति बनाएं। ऐसा करके आने वाली कई पीढ़ियों को इस पुँजी से फायदा होगा।



प्रधानमंत्री वॉरेन्गे बर्डनिमरामा ने वतुकरासा में ने कहा कि देशभर में खास करके ग्रामीण इलाकों में नर्सिंग स्टेशन और हेल्थ सेंटर खोलने से बड़े अस्पतालों को उनके द्वारा प्रदान की जाने वाली सेवाओं में अधिक विशिष्ट बनने के लिए स्वतंत्र बनाया जाएगा।

वतुकरासा नर्सिंग स्टेशन

रोनल देव

प्रधानमंत्री वॉरेन्गे बर्डनिमरामा ने ताईलेवू के भीतरी इलाका वतुकरासा में एक नर्सिंग स्टेशन का उद्घाटन किया है।

इस नर्सिंग स्टेशन के निर्माण के लिए सरकार ने आधा मिलियन डोलर दिया था जिससे वतुकरासा के अलावा नमेका और नतूवा के कोरोवासियों को भी फायदा होगा। राष्ट्रीय बजट में नए अस्पताल तथा नर्सिंग स्टेशन बनाने तथा योग्य तथा पेशेवर स्वास्थ्य कर्मचारियों के लिए तीन सौ बयासी (382) मिलियन डोलर अलग किया गया है।

“बीमार होने पर इन निवासियों को लोमाईवूना नर्सिंग स्टेशन या वुनिदावा अस्पताल नहीं जाना पड़ेगा जिससे उनके पैसे और समय की बचत होगी। बहुत जल्द स्वास्थ्य मंत्रालय इस नर्सिंग स्टेशन को एक नाव और इंजन प्रदान करेगा जिससे नर्स आसानी से अन्य कोरो में जाकर चिकित्सा की सेवा प्रदान करेंगे।

“देशभर में खास करके ग्रामीण इलाकों में नर्सिंग स्टेशन और हेल्थ

सेन्टर खोलने से बड़े अस्पतालों को उनके द्वारा प्रदान की जाने वाली सेवाओं में अधिक विशिष्ट बनने के लिए स्वतंत्र बनाया जाएगा। फीजी की चिकित्सा सुविधाओं में जल्द विकास हो रहा है, जिससे हमारे देश में पहली बार नए और अभिनव उपचार की पेशकश हो रही है,” प्रधानमंत्री ने कहा।

उनके अनुसार एक हजार आठ सौ लोग देश भर के अस्पतालों में काम करते हैं जो अब स्वास्थ्य मंत्रालय के नीचे आ गए हैं। पहली बार उनके लिए बजट में चार दशमलौ छः

मिलियन डोलर अलग किया गया है ताकि उनके अलावन्स को प्रति महीना पचास डोलर से बढ़ाकर दो सौ डोलर किया जाए।

“सरकार देश में हर जगह फीजीवासियों के स्वास्थ्य में सुधार लाने का प्रयास कर रही है। सरकार ने कुछ पैसे अलग किए हैं ताकि देश में लोगों को किडनी डायलीसीस इलाज के खर्च में छूट देने के साथ-साथ आधुनिक उपकरण जैसे एक्स-रे तथा अन्य ज़रूरी उपकरण खरीदे जा सकें,”

प्रधानमंत्री ने कहा।

उनके अनुसार सरकार सी डबल्यू एम अस्पताल में एक नया मटेनिटी वॉर्ड बना रही है जो अंतराष्ट्रीय स्तर का होगा। वा और लौतोका अस्पतालों नई स्वास्थ्य सेवाएँ पहुँचाने के लिए एक अंतराष्ट्रीय अस्पताल संचालक के साथ बात-चीत हो रही है जिससे फीजी में चिकित्सा देखभाल का चहरा बदला जाएगा।

प्रधानमंत्री ने जोर दिया है कि लोगों को अपने और अपने परिवार के स्वास्थ्य का ध्यान रखना चाहिए, क्योंकि किसी भी बीमारी को हल करने का सबसे अच्छा तरीका उपचार नहीं बल्कि इससे पहले रोकथाम हो।

उन्होंने आगे कहा कि लोगों को साफ-सुथरा रहना चाहिए, अपने स्वास्थ्य की निगरानी रखें, अधिक व्यायाम करें, अपने आहार में सुधार करें ताकि वे अपने जीवन को पूरी तरह से जीने में सक्षम होंगे, और देख सकेंगे कि फीजी के लिए सबसे अच्छे दिन अभी तक आने वाले हैं।

श्रीधर महाराज कोलज में विकास

रोनल देव

अटोनी जेनरल तथा शिक्षा मंत्री माननीय अईयाज़ सैयद खैयुम ने हाल ही में वई निबोकासी नउसोरी स्थित श्रीधर महाराज कोलज में दो मंजिली इमारत की न्यू डाली। इस इमारत में वो विद्यार्थी पढ़ाई करेंगे जो अभी किसी शेड का इस्तेमाल करते हैं। यह इमारत शायद अगले साल बनकर तैयार हो जाएगी।

अटोनी जेनरल ने विद्यार्थियों को याद दिलाया कि वे फीजी को साफ सुतरा रखने के लिए देश भक्त बने न कि जब फीजी सेवन्स टीम खेले तबही वे देश भक्त बने।

उन्होंने माता-पिताओं से भी कहा कि वे ध्यान में रखें कि वे अपने बच्चों की शिक्षा विकास में मुख्य भूमिका निभाते हैं तथा उन्हें अद्यापकों के साथ मिलकर काम करना चाहिए ताकि उनके बच्चे अच्छे परिणाम हासिल करें।

फिलहाल, स्कूल की प्रिन्सीपल श्रीमति मनोरमा प्रसाद ने बताया कि इस नई इमारत में दो क्लासरूम रहेंगे जिसमें लगभग सत्तर विद्यार्थी पढ़ाई करेंगे। उनके अनुसार विद्यार्थियों की पढ़ाई के लिए क्लासरूम की कमी है। विद्यार्थी बाहर शेड में या बोर्ड में पढ़ाई कर रहे हैं। स्कूल में चार सौ विद्यार्थी हैं।



अटोनी जेनरल तथा शिक्षा मंत्री माननीय अईयाज़ सैयद खैयुम, नउसोरी के श्रीधर महाराज कोलज में नई इमारत की न्यू डालते हुए।

फीजी फोकस



प्रधानमंत्री, वॉरेन्गो बर्डीनिरामा सम्बेतो सेन्ट्रल स्कूल की शताब्दी सालगिराह मुख्य मेहमान थे जहाँ उन्होंने अपने भाषण में कहा कि सरकार, बच्चों तथा नाती-पोतो के लिए जितना हो सके उतने दरवाजे खोल रही है ताकि ध्यान में रखा जाए कि यह दरवाजे उनके जीवन में सदा के लिए खुले रहे। देखकर खुशी हो रही है कि एक समृद्ध इतिहास वाला स्कूल न केवल अभी तक संचालित हो रहा है बल्कि फल-फूल रहा है और सौ वर्ष की पढ़ाई लिखाई पर स्कूल के सभी सामाजिक नेताओं, माता-पिताओं तथा अद्यापकों को गर्व है।

सम्बेतो सेन्ट्रल स्कूल की शताब्दी सालगिराह

रेनल देव

प्रधानमंत्री वॉरेन्गो बर्डीनिरामा का कहना है कि देश में काफी बदलाव हुआ है तथा अब जातीय आधार पर कोई स्कूल विभाजन पैदा नहीं करते हैं न ही इससे किसी की पहचान होती है। श्री बर्डीनिरामा सम्बेतो सेन्ट्रल स्कूल की शताब्दी सालगिराह मुख्य मेहमान थे जहाँ उन्होंने कहा कि देश की आज़ादी से पहले वाली सरकार ने जातीय आधार पर देश को बाँटा था तथा शिक्षा प्रणाली में भी विभाजन था। हालांकि आज़ादी मिलने के बाद भी इसमें कोई बदलाव नहीं हुआ था। गिरमिट काल खत्म होने से पहले सन्

उन्नीस सौ अठ्ठारह में सम्बेतो इंडियन स्कूल की स्थापना हुई थी जिसका नाम बदलकर सम्बेतो सेन्ट्रल स्कूल रखा गया। इस स्कूल में हर वर्ग के फीजीवासी पढ़ाई करते हैं। प्राथमरी स्कूल में दो सौ सत्तासी बच्चे पढ़ते हैं जबकि बत्तीस और किंडागार्डन में हैं। “मुझे यह देखकर खुशी हो रही है कि एक समृद्ध इतिहास वाला स्कूल न केवल अभी तक संचालित हो रहा है बल्कि फल-फूल रहा है और सौ वर्ष की पढ़ाई लिखाई पर स्कूल के सभी सामाजिक नेताओं, माता-पिताओं तथा अद्यापकों को गर्व है,” प्रधानमंत्री ने कहा। उन्होंने सौ साल पहले इस समाज के सदस्यों की दूरदर्शी नेतृत्व की खास प्रशंसा की जिनकी

कड़ी मेहनत से स्कूल की स्थापना हुई। पैसों की कमी या कम पढ़े लिखे होने के बावजूद उनकी दूर की सोच नहीं बदली। उन्होंने जो किया वह ज्ञान और दूरदर्शिता का हिस्सा था जबकि इस अभियान ने कई पीढ़ियों तक फीजीवासियों को अपने लिए बेहतर जीवन बनाने में मदद की है जिसके लिए, संस्थापकों को इतिहास में असली मार्ग-निर्माता के रूप में शामिल किए जाएंगे। “पिछले दशकों में स्कूल में कई विकास और बदलाव हुए लेकिन यह स्पष्ट है कि स्थापना के बाद एक चीज़ नहीं बदली और वो है माता-पिताओं का अपने बच्चों को अच्छी शिक्षा देने का अरमान। बच्चों भविष्य में कुछ भी बनने का

फैसला करें, सरकार का लक्ष्य है बच्चों की सफलता के मौके बढ़ाना,” प्रधानमंत्री ने कहा। प्रधानमंत्री के अनुसार उन्हें गर्व है कि अगर लोग मेहनत करेंगे और सरकार द्वारा दिए गए मौके से सही फायदा उठाएंगे तो जो कुछ भी वो करेंगे उसमें उन्हें अधिक सफलता मिलेगी। उन्होंने कहा कि सरकार, बच्चों तथा नाती-पोतो के लिए जितना हो सके उतने दरवाजे खोल रही है ताकि ध्यान में रखा जाए कि यह दरवाजे उनके जीवन में सदा के लिए खुले रहे। प्रधानमंत्री ने कहा कि यही वजह है कि कयो देश के इतिहास में पहली बार राष्ट्रीय बजट में शिक्षा के क्षेत्र के लिए एक बिलियन डॉलर से ज़्यादा अलग किया गया है।

Noda Viti



**ISEVU
NI PM KI
NATAVEA**

2



**WAI NI MATA
NI MARAU
E VIO**

3



MAI NA IMAWI: Peresitedi ni Lotu Wesele e Viti kei Rotuma ko Epineri Vakadewavosa, Paraiminisita Voreqe Bainimarama kei Peni Volavola na iVukevuke ni Peresitedi ni Lotu Wesele e Viti.
iTaba: ERONI VALILI

Bibi ni vuli: PM

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

VAKABIBITAKA ena nona vosa vei ira na italatala ni Lotu Wesele na turaga na iliuliu ni noda Matanitu ko Josaia Voreqe Bainimarama na bibi ni vuli. Vakananumi ira ko PM Bainimarama ni vuli e dua na yavu e vakabitaka ko Jone Wesele. “Sa dodonu meda masulaka me curumi keda na yalo i Jone Wesele. Me baleta saka na bibi ni vuli. Na veika e vakayacora o koya sa vakadinadinataki tu oqo ena vuravura na kena yaga,” tukuna ko PM Bainimarama. “Na yavu levu ni vuli ena vei koronivuli ni lotu wesele oya na nona vakatavulici taucoko e dua na gone ka susugi me kila taucoko na nona tal-edi ka me vukei koya ena nona bula

ena vuravura oqo.” Tukuna ko PM Bainimarama ni nona Matanitu sa mai kauta laivi na vei-vakaduiditaki ena vuli e Viti. “Ia sa dodonu meda vakavinavinaka vua na Kalou baleta ni sa vakamama-dataki vei keda na icolacola vakavuli.” “Dau kena ivakarau tu mera vakaivotavota tu na veimatavuvale era rawati ira vakavinaka qoka e vakavuna vakalevu na veivakaduiditaki.” “Na ivakarau ni bula oya e vakavuna saka na bula dravudravua kei na vei-vakaduiditaki ena veitagedetaucoko sara ni bula sega wale saka ga ni vuli,” tukuna ko PM Bainimarama. “Eda kila taucoko na gauna dredre oya na nodra cumuaqara saka na itu-butubu ena vakasaqarai ni icurucuru ni vuli se na nodra ivodovodo ni vuli

na gone.” “Levu vei ira na gone e mai tamusuki koso nanodra veika vakavuli ni sega na ilavo me saumi kina na icurucuru ena univesiti,” tukuna ko PM Bainimarama. Na veivuke sa vakayacora oqo na Matanitu sa a vukea na bula vakailavo ni vuvale ka sana rawa saka kina mera vakaivotavota vakatautauvata na gone ena vuli. “Sa rawa saka talega vei ira na goneyalewa me ra vakacavara na nodra vuli. Ena gauna e liu e dau nodra tu na isamu ni dawa baleta e liu o ira na imatai ni vakacegui mai koronivuli me baleta ni sa sega ni saumi rawa na icurucuru,” tukuna ko PM Bainimarama. “E daidai sa sega saka ni saumi na nodra vuli na gone ena ivakatage-

degede ni sova ni vuli o ira saka na Primary me yacova saka na vuli torocake. “ “Dodonu mesa qaravi makawa na veisau oqori ena ruasagavulu tolasagavulu na yabaki sa oti keitou mai sasagataka vakaukauwa na neitou r-ica na Matanitu oqo vuli mera kilaka mera yaga ena noda vuravura, yaga ena matavuvale, yaga saka ena noda vanua,” tukuna ko PM Bainimarama. “Ena yabaki vakailavo saka oqo e solia na Matanitu e sivia na \$1 na Bilioni kina tabacakacaka ni vuli ena imatai ni gauna me soli e dua na uma ilavo levu ena dua na tabacakacaka Vakamatani.” Tukuna ko PM Bainimarama ni a mai rawati na tubu ni bula vakailavo ka a mai rawati kina na saumi ni nodra vuli na luveda.



iSevu ni PM ki Natavea



Ko Paraiminisita Voreqe Bainimarama ena nona veisiko voli ena koro ko Natavea e Naitasiri.
 ITaba: RUPENI VATUBULI

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

CAVUIKALAWA tale na noda Matanitu edaidai ni isevu ni Paraiminisita ni noda vanua me butuka na koro ko Natavea ena tikina ko Nabaitavo mai Naitasiri ko Paraminisita Josaia Voreqe Bainimarama.

Butuka na koro ko Natavea mua ni macawa sa oti e na veisureti nei Turaga ni Koro.

Talanoataki ena vosa ni qaloqalovi vua na turaga na Paraiminisita na vakavivanavi-

naka levu ni koro ko Natavea kina veiqaravi kece sa vakayacora oti na matanitu ena nodra dela ni soso vakaturaga.

A vakaoqo na vosa ni qaloqalovi nodra na turaga ni Natavea.

“Me vakasaka ni o kemuni na imatai ni turaga iliuliu ni matanitu se Paraiminisita ni noda vanua. Me tekivu saka mai na gauna vakoloni yacova saka tiko mai ni kua mai lave saka tiko na kemuni qalovi ni kua ni se qai imatai no ni iliuliu ni Matanitu ko Viti monu cabe mai kina soso vaka Natavea,” tukuna na vosa ni qaloqalovi.

“Sa yabaki 54 na kena toki mai na koro ko Natavea. E tokitaki koya mai na matanitu ni gauna vakoloni ena 1964 ni oti e dua na waluvu levu. E ratou raica vakamatua sara na neimami qase era sa bale yani ni sa maleka medu toki mai na veitokiyaki.

Veigauna kecega e caka na waluvu era dau toki mai era dau toki sobu tale.

“Ena 1969 saka eratou

tacake na medratou wainigunu ni sa ma luvu koto mai a bucabuca na medratou wainigunu e waraio saka ni tu vakasuka na matanitu ena nodratou wainigunu. Ena 1969 me qaravi tale no na medra wainigunu o ira na kai Natavea,” tukuna na vosa ni qaloqalovi.

“Na veika kece era ma tacake na qase sa maratou liu. Ena 1976 ma yaco mai na gauinisala e qarava mai na Matanitu.

“Yacova saka mai ni kua sa bau saka mai na veivakalivalivataki. Nu basika maoi ni kua kemuni qalovi saka ni kua ena vuku saka na veika lelevu sa vakayacora saka na Matanitu nu kena iliuliu tiko yacova saka ni kua. Koto saka kina na vakanuinui ni maroro na vanua lada ko Natavea e matamuni ena veguana e tu e da wara ni kia,” tukuna na vosa ni qaloqalovi.

“Nuitaki saka tiko ni veiyabaki ni nomuniu veiliutaki e tu e matamuniu ena liutaka saka tiko na noda Kalou,” tukuna na vosa ni qaloqalovi.

Vakarawarawataki na raici ni itukutuku ni ivakacavacava

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

SA kacivaka na Tabana ni iVakacavacava e Viti ki vei keda na lewenivanua kei na bisinisi ni sa vakarawarawataki na nodra raica na itukutuku ni nodra ivakacavacava ena kena vakayagataki na nodratou *online portal - MyInfo*.

Sa kina vei keda na dau saumi ivakacavacava meda kila na itukutuku eda via kila baleta na noda saumi ivakacavacava ena kena vakayagataki na nodratou website:

www.frcs.org.fj

Na *MyInfo portal* e toboka ka vakaraitaka na nomu itikotiko, nomu naba ni talevoni, nomu *email address*, na mataqali bisinisi ko qarava tiko kei na nomu akaude ni baqe (ke tiko e dua).

“Na *MyInfo portal* e yavutaki me vakarawarawataki vei keda na dau saumi ivakacavacava na noda rejisita kei na dikeva na noda ivakacavava ena mona livaliva.”

Sa gadrevi me dua nomu *Joint ID card* mo rejisita kina ena veiqaravi oqo ka rawa niko sikovi na vale ni volavola ni Tabana ni iVakacavacava ko voleka kina se kerea ena mona livaliva se *online*,” tukuna na iliuliu vakacakakaca ko

Visvanath Das said.

“Na kena vakarawarawataki oqo e sala vata kei na kena vakavoutaki tiko na veiqaravi me vakarawarawatakavei keda na dau saumi ivakacavacava na taura mai se na noda kila na itukutuku ni ivakacavacava.

“Keitou namaka me tavo na veiqaravi oqo ena yabaki 2019. E dodonu mo muria na kena iwalewale oqo mo vakararamataki kina baleta na ivakacavacava. “Qoka ena rawa kina veikeitou me keitou qaravi kemuni kina vakavinaka na lewe ni vanua,” tukuna ko Das.

“Ko ira na neitou ivakaillesilesi era sa veisoiyaka tiko na kena ivola lavelave kei na kena fomu vei ira na sega vei ira na *internet*.”

“Na ka ga moni caka va moni vakalewena ka vakauta yani kina vale ni volavola ni tabana ni ivakacavacava ko voleka kina.”

Eda sa vakauqeti na dau saumi ivakavakacavacav meda vakadikeva na noda sala vou ni veiqaravi ena mona livaliva baleta na noda ivakacavacava se meda sikovi ira na dau veiqaravi se *Customer Service Centres* e Viti raraba ke tiko na vakata-taro.



Ko Paraiminista Voreqe Bainimarama ena tavoci ni vakatorocaketaki ni nodra bisinisi na itaukei ni qele e Yadua e Nadroga.

Tubu na ilavo ni bisinisi ni iTaukei ni Qele kina \$14m

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

SA vakauqeti keda tiko na iTaukei ni Qele e Viti na turaga na Paraiminisita ko Voreqe Bainimarama meda vakayagataka vinaka na ilavo levu esa dau soli tiko e veiyabaki na Matanitu me vukea na bisinisi eda via qarava ena noda qele.

Tiko na ilavo e soli vei kemuni na itaukei ni qele. Ni kila ni vica na yabaki sa oti a soli tiko e \$10m. Mo ni vakayagataka moni vakatorocaketaki kina na nomuni qele me rawa ni caka saka kina na bisinisi.

“Yabaki saka oqo sa tiko ena \$14m.”

“E levu na gauna veikedra na itaukei ni qele lelevu eda dau veitalanotaa tu na kena vakatorocaketaki na noda qele ena bisinisi. E qai dau se tu na ilavo me tauyavutaki kina na bisinisi oqo,” tukuna ko PM Bainimarama.

“Ni tukuna saka mai kina Matanitu na bisinisi cava ko ni via vakayacora ena nomuni qele. Ena vakatorocaketaki na Matanitu ena livaliva, na

wai, na gauinisala, sa na qai soli lesu tale yani vei kemuni na nomuni qele sa vakatorocaketaki oti tu. Ni qai lewa ni volitaka se ko ni cakava na bisinisi ena veiqele oya.”

“E levu na ituvatuva oya e tiko ena ituvatuva vakailavo ni Matanitu mo ni wilika ka mo ni kila mo ni rawa ni vakayagataka.”

“Yabaki sa oti e vakarautaki na nodratou qele mai Yadua mai Nadroga e \$4m. Ratou sa vakarautaka kina nodratou bisinisi ni veivakavale-taki,” tukuna ko PM Bainimarama.

“Au solia ena vanua ko Vuda e Viseisei vata kei Saweni e vivia \$4m. Na kena vakarautaki talega na bisinisi oya.”

“Ena Tebara e soli kina vei ratou mai Natogadruvu e \$700,000 me baleta nodratou bisinisi ni veivakavaletaki,” tukuna ko PM Bainimarama.

Oqo na ilavo sa solia tu vei keda na Matanitu na iTaukei me da vakayagataka me da wilika vakavinaka gona kina na noda ituvatuva vakailavo me rawa ni da tara mai kina na veika e vinakata meda vakatorocaketaki.



Na isevu ni Matanitu me vakadrodroya yani na wai savasava kina yanuyanu ko Vio na matanitu nei Paraiminisita Voreqe Bainimarama ka da sarava ena itaba era koto e cake na soqo lagilagi oqo e cavu ikalawa tale kina na Matanitu kai itukutuku ni veigauna kina yanuyanu ko Vio. iTaba: LITIA VULDAUSIGA

Vakanuinui vinaka ena qito ra cauravou

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

Eda duavata kece na lewe ni vanua e Viti vei iratou na noda cauravou dau qito rakavi ni yabaki 20 ni Viti (Fiji U20 Rugby Team) ena nodra na laki mata taki Viti ena qito levu ni Vuravura na Under-20 Junior World Rugby tournament ka na laki vakayacori kina vanua ko Romania.

Ena gauna era a laki tatau kina vua na turaga na Peresitedi ni noda vanua ko Peresitedi Jioji Konusi Konrote na noda timi ni rakavi ni yabaki 20 ni Viti a kaya kina vaka oqo ne:

“Eso na ivava lelevu dou na dara au sega ni vakabekataka ni dou sa vakarautaki kemudou vinaka kina ka me sala vata kei kemudou na veivakalougataki ni lewei viti. Na kerekere levu ga vei kemuni moni vakadeitaka toka ga na ivakarau ni qito dou sa vakavulici kina.

Vakauqeti ira talega na dau qito ko Pereresitedi Konrote mera qarauna na nodra bula vinaka ka mera matatataki Viti vinaka.

Earatou sa buti Viti ena siga Lotulevu na noda cauravou lewe 26 ena qito levu ni vuravura ena caka mai Romania.

Era na lesu tale mai ki Viti ena ika 7 ni vula ko Seviteba.

Na vanua ko Romania e tiko ena Cevai-cake kei Urope ka volekati Bulgaria kina ceva kei Ukraine kina vualiku kei Hungary kina ra.

Era lewe 20 na milioni na lewenivanua mai Romania ka kena koroturaga na siti levu ko Bucharest. E tiko mai Romania na ikarua ni uciwai levu duadua mai Urope na River Danube.

Na qito ni vuravura ni Under 20 Junior World Cup ni yabaki vou 2019 ena laki vakayacori ki Brazil.

Na imatai ni tobu se Pool A ena qito kina ko Romania, Samoa, Aferika, Namibia kei Hong Kong. Ena ikarua ni tobu se Pool B ena qito kina ko Portugal, Uruguay, Viti kei Canada.

Wai ni mata ni marau

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

E tuturu vakamalua na wai ni matai Sainiana Sulua e dau na marama yabaki 83 ena yanuyanu ko Vio mai Lautoka ena nona sa qai laki dolava yani na me dra wainigunu savasava na turaga na Paraiminisita ko Voreqe Bainimarama.

Bau dua vei ira na lewe 250 na lewenivanua mai Vio ko Sainiana ka tiko ena siga a dolava kina na medra wainigunu ko PM Bainimarama.

“Ni kua au sa vakavinavinaka kina vakalevu vei PM Bainimarama kei na Matanitu baleta ena ruku ni nona veiliutaki sa qai yaco mai na na wai savasava kina yanuyanu oqo,” tukuna ko Saininiana.

“E dina nira sa takali yani na tinai keimami kei na tamai keimami au marau niu bula tiko ni kua meu raica na yaco mai ni wianigunu keimami se warakatu mai ena vicasagavulu na yabaki sa sivi. Sa qai rawata mai vei keimami ko PM Bainimarama,” tukuna ko Sainiana.

Na marama ni Sabeto oqo e nanuma lesu na nona a vakawati yani ki Vio ena 1964 ka nanuma lesu nodra dau laki kau wai sara tiko mai Lautoka ka dau vakavadoki mai ena boto me rawa kina na vakasaqa na sisili kei na savasava.

“Sa dua na ka mosimosi dina ni lima ga na miniti na vodo waqa mai Lautoka ki Vio. Ia mai na gauna balavu oya e sega ni bau dodo



ko Sainiana Sulua, 83, na marama ni Vio ka vakadinadinataka na dolavi ni medra wai ni gunu savasava na lewe ni yanuyanu e Vio. ka iTaba: LITIA VULDAUSIGA

mai na wai savasava mai Lautoka,” tukuna ko Sainiana. Tukuna ko PM Bainimarama ni sa vicasagavulu na yabaki nodra sotava tiko na leqa na wain a tiko e Vio sa qai kauta mai vei ira na nona Matanitu.

“Sa vakayagataka na Matanitu e \$500,000 me yaga vei kemunu na lewe 250 na lewe ni vanua ena yanuyanu ko Vio,” tukuna ko PM Bainimarama.

Vakavinavinaka ki na Matanitu na turaga ni

koro e Vio ko Semi Mana.

“Sa dua na marau levu ni sa na yaga vakalevu talega vei ira neimami gonevuli kei na marama. Au vakavinavinaka ni wai e dua na ka e vakabibitaka na Matanitu oqo ena Yavu ni Vakavulewa,” tukuna ko Mana.

“Na levu ni matanitu era sa veiliutaki oti e Viti da qai dua oqo e mai qusia na wai ni matai keimami; keimami sa vakavinavinaka kina vakalevu”.

Qarauni na dau veivakacacacakataki lasutaki: Usamate

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

SA veivakasalataki raraba e Viti na Minisita ni Veivakacacacakataki Vuavuai kei na Veimaliwai Vakacacacaka ko Jone Usamate me da qarauni ira na lasutaka tiko ni ra dau ni veivakacacacakataki ki vavalagi.

“Ke dua na tamata e gadreva me vakauta e dua na lewei Viti me cakacaka ki valagi e dodonu me regisita rawa kei na neitou Minisitiri,” tukuna ko Minisita Usamate.

“E dodonu me kauta mai na vei-

vakadonui vua na Vunivola Tudei ni Tabana ni Veivakacacacakataki ni bera ni tomana nona veiqaravi vakabisinisi ni vakau tamata mera la’ki cakacaka ki valagi.”

Vakabibitaka na ivakasala oqo ko Minisita Usamate ena nona sauma tiko na itukutuku e tabaki ena *Fiji Sun* ena ika 20 ni siga ni Okosita ena ulutaga “*Woman Faces Human Trafficking Charges*”.

Tukuna ko Minisita Usamate ni sa vaqaga tiko na tabana ni ovisa kei na tabana ni curu vanua kei na tabana vakalawa me vakadeitaka

ni ko ira kece e cala vakalawa na nodra vakau tamata cakacaka tiko me ra vakadodonutaki; me ra muria na kena lawa.

Sa vakaroti ira talega na itini ni veilakoyaki se *travel agents* mera kua ni vakauti ira na tamata cakacaka ki valagi kevaka e sega ni vakadonuya na Minisitiri ni Veivakacacacakataki.

“Na inaki ni Minisitri me vaka e tabaki ena ruku ni lawa na Employment Relations Act (ERA) 2007 me raica me ra kua ni lawakitaki na noda lewe ni vanua ena nodra cakacaka ena lawa ni

veivakacacacakataki ki valagi, me tarova na nodra vakalolomataki kei na nodra vakabobulataki na noda lewe ni vanua mai vei ira na itaukei ni cakacaka dau veivakacalai,” tukuna ko Minisita Usamate.

Na tabana ni veivakacacacataki e vakadonui tiko kina e rua na dau veivakacacacakataki se *Employment Agencies* me ra vakau tamata cakacaka ki valagi oya na Free Bird institute Limited ni Nadi kei na Alpha Pacific Navigation Limited of Lautoka.

Na tamata e cicivaka e dua na

itini ni veivakacacacakataki ki valagi ka sega ni vakadonui vakamatani ena rawa ni totogitaki me sauma e \$4000 ka sega ni sivia na \$10,000 se sega ni sivia na yabaki dua e vale ni veivesu se taura ruarua na itotogi oya.

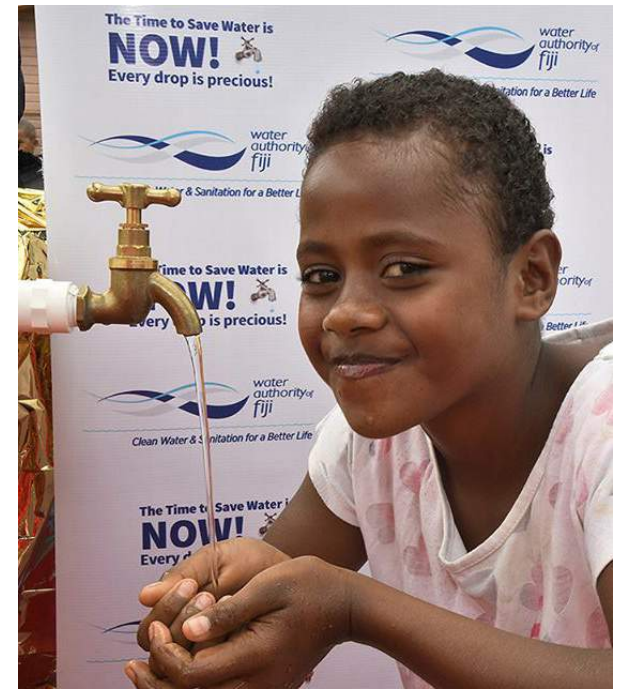
Sa kerei ki vei keda na lewe ni vanua me da veitaratara yani kina vale ni volavola ni tabana ni veivakacacacataki eda voleka kina me vakadeitaki na noda vakasalataki vakadodonu kei na noda regisita kei na National Employment Centre me baleta na cakacaka ki valagi.



Dolava ko PM na wai ni gunu savasava e Natadradave

Rauta ni lewe 150,000 na lewe ni vanua ena taudaku ni koro vakavallagi era sa rawa ni gunuva na wai savasava. Oqori na tukutuku nei Paraiminisita Voreqe Bainimarama ena dola ni wai ni gunu savasava mai Natadradave, Dawasamu Tailevu. Vakaraitaka ko Paraiminisita Bainimarama ni ratou sa dolava e vica sagavulu na veivakatorocaketaki ni veivuke ena wai ni gunu savasava na Matanitu. Kuria ko koya nira lewe vuqa na lewe ni vanua ena noda vanua era taleitaka na kena mai laveti cake na nodra bula ni veiqaravi ena veisiga.

iTaba: ERONI VALILI



Sikovi Yasawa ko Vuniwaqa

ERA veisiko na Minisita ni Marama, Gone kei na Valuti ni Dravudravua Mereiseini Vuniwaqa ena koro ko Naisisili, Malakati, Vuaki, Yaqeta and Matacawalevu ena tikina ko Nacula ena yatu Yasawa balabalavu.

Oqo e tiki tikoga ni porokaramu ni REACH se Rights, Empowerment and Cohesion ka lewena tiko na minisitiri.

Era veitalanoa taka na lewe ni vanua oira na marama na veimataqali gaunisala kei na gacagaca ni veiqaravi me rawa ni vukey kina na bula ni rawaka vakailavo ka valuti kina dravudravua ka veivuke kina na minisitiri.

Oqo ena cakacaka ni liga vakamarama, na vakabulabulataki ni nodra bisinisi ni buli madrai, vakatetei ni bisinisi ni *homestay* kei na bisinisi ni co-operatives ni koro ka ra qarava tiko na marama.

Solia edua na wheelchair na Minisita kivei Ateca Adikula ena koro ko Matacawalevu yabaki 76.

iTaba: LITIA VULDAUSIGA



Veisiko ko PM e Natavea, Naitasiri

Era veisiko na liuliu ni matanitu Paraiminisita Voreqe Bainimarama kina koro ko Natavea, Naitasiri.

Uqeti ira na liuliu ni matanitu na lewe ni koro e Natavea mera dau tokona vinaka na vuli ni nodra gone. Vakaraitaka na Paraiminisita Bainimarama ni matanitu esa vota e \$1bilioni ena tabana ni vuli mera baleta veiqaravi ni vuli ena yabaki oqo.

Uqeti ira na lewe ni vanua ko Paraiminisita Bainimarama mera vakayagataka na veivuke ni Matanitu mera laveta kina nodra bula ena veisiga.

Kuria ko Paraiminisita ni sega ni veikakece era vakarautaka na matanitu e baleta na veidigidigi ka baleta saraga na veiqaravi kei na veivakatorocaketaki ni lewenivanua kei na noda vanua. Vakaraitaka na tikina oqo na liuliu ni matanitu ena nodra talanoa vakalekaleka kei Vunivalu ni Vuniduba, Ratu Lepani Roko me baleta na nodra gaunisala vou era sa soqona na kena ilavo ka sa bera ni tara na nodra gaunisala.

Vakaraitaka na PM ni veitalanoa ni veidigidigi me kua ni waki vata kei na cakacaka ni matanitu ena veivakatorocaketaki.

iTaba: ERONI VALILI



Taqomaki luvemu mai na waigaga: Naisele

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

SA veivakasalataki na tabana e qarauna na tarovi ni vakayagatakai ni waigaga ni veivakamatatenitaki me baleta na nodra taqomaki na luveda.

Oqo e vica na tamo ni vosa nei Josua Naisele na vakaisilesi ni National Substance Abuse-tarovi ni vakayagatakai ni waigaga ni veivakamatatenitaki.

“Dua na kena iwalwale vou era cakava tiko qo eso era cru glue mera mateni tu era qai curu ki rara mera laki qito.”

“Eso era matenitu ena mariwana era qai lade irara mera qito.”

“E vica na kisi keitou lai qarava e St Giles na valenibula oya e solia na clinical assessment na vuanikau kei na kece vakaoya,” tukuna ko Naisele.

“Ni caka na counselling keitou lako yani ko keitou me keitou laki caka counselling vei ira na gone. Sa sega ni dua na gaunisala cava tale

e rawa ni wali kina. Ni caka na counselling da dabe ga kaya rawa nida cakava o keda ivale,” tukuna ko Naisele.

“Ni dua na gone e duatani tiko na nona itovo dabe mada vakarogoci koya se cava mada vakatiko kina oqo na nona itovo na gone oqo.”

“Na gauna eso sa mateni kina ena maraiwana esa qaivinakata tale edua e kaukauwa cake mai na mariwana.”

“Ni raaca tiko ni sa kune na cocaine e Lau kei Taveuni. E raica sara ga ko Qasenivuli liu e baravi,” tukuna ko Naisele.

“Gauna sa tukutuku kina vei ratou na ovisa ratou qai mai raica na kena oloolo e olo tu vakavinaka sa qai volai tu e tuba na vosa oqo “meat”.”

“Na waigaga kece e tolu ga na kena revurevu e yaco vei ikeda dua na *stimulant* o koya e vakatotototaka na cakacaka ni mona. Kena ivakaraitaki oqo na tavako.”

“Na *depressant* o koya e vakaberaberataka. Na meda wai vakaturaga o koya e deppres-

sant tiko o okoya. Se qai tekivu vaqo rawa ni stimulant kaukauwa noda viwali veiwelevi. Tinikarua na kaloko ena bogilevu se lako tiko na gunu yaqona o raica tamata kece sa malumu kece,” tukuna ko Naisele.

“Na nomu malumu oya ni sa cakacaka na e na mona o koya e vakaberaberataka na cakacaka ni mona. Ni gauna o sa mateni kina na ka kece e bera.”

“Ni ko tucake ko sa tucake vakamalua. Eso sa sega ni rawa ni taubale sa vinakati me *hooker*. Dua na duru iyasana qo dua na duru iyasana qo.”

“Na kena ikatolu na *hallucinations* se na nomu raica na ka e sega ni ka dina. Na maruana e dau tiko vei ira.

“Keo sa dau vakayagataka tiko na maruana sa na lakolako na gauna o sa na raica tiko na ka e sega ni ka dina,” tukuna ko Naisele.

Siga ni iTabagone na veisiga Lotulevu

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

VEIVAKAQUETI na veitokoni ni vanua kina isoqosoqo ni itabagone ni yanuyanu ko Vanuavatu ena Yasana ko Lau oya ni sa lokuci vakatabakidua na siga Lotulevu me siga ni itabagone ena koro.

Vakaraitaka na itukutuku oqori na iliuliu ni itabagone ni yanuyanu ko Vanuavatu ko Lenaitasi Tukaillevu ki vua na Minisita ni iTabagone kei na qito ko Laisenia Tuitubou ena nona a veisiko yani ki kea kei ira na nona ivakalesilesi.

“Na ka keitou dau cakava kina keitou cakacaka ena veimama ni siga keitou qito ena veimama ni siga. Ia e tiko na neitou bisinisi tiko talega na neitou beniseni dou kila vinaka tiko na minisitiri na veivuke a vakayacora mai kasa keitou caka bisinisi tale tikoga ena kena volitaki tiko na benisini,” tukuna ko Tukaillevu.

“Na cakacaka levu ga keimami dau qarava tiko na isoqosoqo ni itabagone oya na neimami dau qarava saka tiko na samaki ni loma ni koro.”

“Tiko tale eso na cakacaka keimami dau cakava me vaka na teivaki ni dela ni vanua na vaqara ilavo.”

“Ka gade mai na turaga na Paraiminisita keitou mani kere kina ke rawa ni dua na neitou idini cavu. Ia, sa gole mai na turaga minisita keitou vakabauta sa gauna vinaka me sa tukuni cake tale mada yani.”

“Na waqa oqo me vukea na isoqosoqo ni itabagone ena kena laki qolivi mai na ika me volitaki me ivurevure ni ilavo tiko ni itabagone,” tukuna ko Tukaillevu.

“Sa kerei ke rawa ni vakayacori eso na vuli ni veilutaki kei na vuli ni bisinisi me rawa ni vukei keimami tiko na itabagone.”

“Na neitou beniseni sa rawa tiko na kena tubu sa 500 tiko vakacaca,” tukuna ko Tukaillevu.

“Mo dou vola mai na levu ni beniseni sa volitaki na levu ni ilavo sa curu tiko ena nomudou akaude ena baqe,” tukuna ko Minisita Tuitubou.

“Sa vinaka ni dou sa vakayagataki ratou tiko na qasenivuli ena kena vakayagataki na nodratou na VT-set *Telecom WIFI*,” tukuna ko Minisita Tuitubou.



KAWAKAWA

NAME:
Brown
Marbled
Grouper

SCIENTIFIC NAME:
Epinephalus
Fuscoguttatus

FUJIAN NAME:
Delabulewa

Era na togotitaki na lewe ni vanua se dau ni bisinisi era se vakayacora tiko na siwa kawakawa kei ira na kawa ni ika vakatabui mai na Matanitu.

Totogi levu ke voroki na tabu

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

SA vakasalataki kemuni na dau qoli kei na dau kusi-mataka tiko na ika e rua na kawakawa kei na donu ni vakaukauwataka cake na Tabana ni Qoliqoli na nodra togotitaki na voroka tiko na vakatatabu oqo.

Oqori na ivakaro sa solia mai na Vunivola Tudei ni Tabacakacaka iTaukei ko Naipote Katonitabua ka taura vakatawa tiko na itutu vaka Vunivola Tudei ni Tabana ni Qoliqoli ena gauna oqo.

Tukuna ko Katonitabua ni oya na vuna sa tekivuna kina na vaka-

tatabu ni qolivi ni ika e rua oqo na Matanitu ena ika 6 ni June 2018 me yacova na ika 30 ni Seviteba 2018.

Tukuna vei ira na dau vola itukutuku ko Katonitabua ni sa taura tiko e so na ripote na tabana ni qoli era sa nakita tiko nodra qoliva butako tiko na donu kei na kawakawa ena gauna ni vakatatabu oqo.

“Qoka na itotogi mo ni kila na dau qoli: Na kena lavaki me sauma ko koya etobo ni qoliva tiko na ika vakatabui me sauma e \$10,000 ka \$20,000 mera sauma na kabani ni qoli,” tukuna ko

Katonitabua.

“Na itotogi levu duadua e rawa ni togotitaki kina e dua na dau qoli oya e \$50,000 ka \$100,000 mera sauma na kabani ni qoli.”

Tukuna kina vei ira na dau vola itukutuku ko Katonitabua ni yabaki oqo a vakayacora kina na matanitu e dua na vakatul-ewa doudou ena vuku ni kena vakatabui na qolivi ni ika na kawakawa kei na donu e Viti baleta ni sa torosobu tikoga na kedra iwiliwili ena noda wasawasa.

“Oya ena nona sa raica rawa na Matanitu ni 90 na pasede ni vanua era dau susu kina na ika

na kawakawa kei na donu e sa vakacacani,” tukuna ko Katonitabua.

Tukuna ko Katonitabua nira na veilewaitaki ko ira era nakita tiko na nodra qoliva tiko na ika vakatabui.

“Sa vakauqeti kemuni na dau qoli e Viti na Vunivola Tudei Vakatawa ni Qoliqoli ka Vunivola Tudei ni iTaukei nikoni na rokova ka vakauqeta na maroroi ni vakatatabu oqo me rawa ni levu cake kina na donu kei na kawakawa era vakawa ena noda wasawasa ka levu tale mai na kedra iwiliwili,” tukuna ko Katonitabua.



‘Vakarautaki ira vinaka na itabagone’

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

Veisiko voli kina lima na yanuyanu ena yasana ko Lau na Minisita ni iTa-bagone kei na Qito ko Laisenia Tuitubou. E a kerei ira kina na matua me levu cake na nodra vakarautaki na itabagone ka me kua ni ra vakayagataki voli ga.

Oqori na vakamamasu nei Minisita Tuitubou vei ira na matua kei na itubutubu ena yanuyanu ko Vanuabalavu, Tuvuca, Moce, Vanuavatu, kei Cicia ena Yasana Vakaturaga ko Lau.

“E levu na gauna eda dau vakayagataki ira tu ga ka lailai nodra vakarautaki. Sa dua na bolebole levu na nodra vakarautaki na cauravou kei na gone yalewa baleta na veisiga ni mataka. Levu na gauna eda vakayagataki ira tu ga na cauravou kei na gone yalewa kada sega ni vakarautaki ira baleta na nodra veisiga ni mataka,” tukuna ko Minisita Tuitubou.

“E dua ga na veivakararamataki keitou kauta saka tiko mai oya na kena sikovi saka tiko mai nodra bula na cauravou kei na gone yalewa ena veivanua era tiko kina.”

“Na vanua ga era tiko kina na cauravou kei na goneyalewa ena dodo kina na liga ni veivakatoro-caketaki ni Matanitu. Vakatalega kina na lewenivanua ena nodatou vanua lomani ko Viti,” tukuna ko minisita Tuitubou.

“Loma ni vica na yabaki sa oti keitou sa lakova kece mai na vanua era tiko kina na cauravou kei na goneyalewa.”

“Na otioti ni koro ena yasana vakaturaga ko Naitasiri keitou takosova vaka-29 na uciwai na Wainimala, Ra lai sikovi tiko gona na cauravou kei na goneyalewa,” tukuna ko Minisita Tuitubou.

“Au sa kerea me soli vakalevu na gauna vei ira na itabagone mera cicivaka na nodra porokaramu ni vuli bisinisi kei na qaravi cakacaka ka rawa ni vakavurea vei ira na bula vinaka vakailavo.”

Vakavinavinaka ko Adi Maopa

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

Sa gusudra na iliuliu ni koronivuli, na qasenivuli kei na itubutubu ni gonevuli e Adi Maopa Secondary School, Vanuabalavu e Lau na ivukevuke ni qasenivuli liu ko Viliame Kaseni ena nona vakavinavinaka levu ki vua na Minisita ni iTa-bagone kei na Qito ko Laisenia Tuitubou ena kena lolomataka yani edua eso na dramu ni vakatagi ni tayabe mera dau vakayagataka na gonevuli ena nodra gauna ni vuli tayabe se cadet.

“Ena vukuna na qasenivuli liu ni koronivuli, ko ira na qasenivuli, itubutubu kei na gone vuli ni Adi Maopa au tauca na neimami vakavinavinaka levu kina na isolisoli vinaka mai na Minisitiri ni itabagone kei na Qito ka sa mai solia tiko kina koronivuli ko Minisita Tuitubou,” tukuna ko Qasenivuli Kasani.

“Qoka se qai isevu ni gauna ena itukutuku ni koronivuli oqo me dua na kena ibinibini dramu ni vakatagi me dau vukea na nodra tayabe na gonevuli kau kila ni ra na marautaka sara vakalevu.”

“Sa dua na iloloma vinaka ka yaga ka ni ra na vulica kina na gonevuli na bula vakaivakarau me rawa nira tubu cake mera tamata yaga e Vanuabalavu kei Viti ni

mataka,” tukuna ko Qasenivuli Kaseni.

Ena gauna a laki sikovi ira kina na itabagone ni Vanuabalavu ena koro ko Lomaloma a mani solia talega kina ko Minisita Tuitubou na iloloma dramu ni vakatagi ni koronivuli mai Adi Maopa.

A laki solia talega ena veisiko koya ko minisita Tuitubou na nodra iyaya vakamatai na itabagone ni koro ko Daliconi e Vanuabalavu me vukea nodra taravale ni vakacoko ena koro ni oti na vakacaca ni cagilaba ko Winisitoni.

Era a soqoni vata yani ki Lomaloma na itabagone ni tinikatolu na koro e Vanuabalavu ka rauta ni tini na koro sa laki rejisita se vakamatanitutaki vou tale kina na nodra isoqosoqo ni itabagone.

Sa vakauqeti ira na itabagone mai Vanuabalavu ko Minisita Tuitubou mera dau vakauta yani e veivuke na nodra ripote ni isoqosoqo ni itabagone e rawa nira vakayagtaka ga yani na mona livaliva se internet mera tabaka ka vakauta yani kina ki vale ni volavola mai Suva.

A veisiko voli mai Vanuabalavu Tuvuca Cicia Nayau Vanuvatu kei Moce e na yatu Lau na Minisita ni iTa-bagone kei na Qito ko Laisenia Tuitubou.



Solia toka qori na nodra iyaya ni cakacaka vakamatai na itabagone ni Daliconi e Vanuabalavu e Lau na Minisita ni iTa-bagone kei na Qito ko Laisenia Tuitubou. iTaba: SOLO LEWANAVANUA

iYaya ni matai ni itabagone ni Daliconi

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

ERA sa vakavinavinakataka na itabagone ni Yavusa Waitui ena koro ko Daliconi mai Vanuabalavu na nona laki soli yani na Minisita ni iTa-bagone ko Laisenia Tuitubou na iyaya ni matai me nodra na itabagone ni Daliconi.

Ko ira na itabagone ni Daliconi era veivuke tiko ena cakacaka ni tara vale ni vakacoko e loma ni koro ni oti na vakacaca ni cagilaba ko Winston.

Na iyaya ni matai oya e sivia na dua na udolu na dola na kena isau ka veitokoni kina na Minisitiri ni iTa-bagone kei na Qito.

“Keitou yaco tiko mai ena yakavi ni kua ena kena mai tomani tikoga na cakacaka yaga era-

tou vakayacora tiko na cauravou ena vakacoko e vakayacori tiko ena nomudou koro.”

“Tomani ga na iyau ni cakacaka sa tiko rawa e lailai sara na veivuke ni Matanitu kau nuitaka nina ciqomi.”

“Vakaraitaki tiko vei au ni caka tiko na taravale ena loma ni yavusa. Ka sa nanumi me kau madaga mai qo ni kua meratou sa mai vakayaragitaki talega kina na cauravou ena taravale eratou vakayacora tiko ena kena vakacokotaki tiko na koro,” tukuna ko Minisita Tuitubou.

“Sa rawa ni yaga ena so na cakacaka lalai era na vakaitavi kina nuitaki ni dou na ciqoma.”

Vakavinavinaka ena vukudra na itabagone ni Daliconi na Turaga ni Koro ko Tuta Pareti ka kaya vakaoqo ne:

“Ena vukudra saka na itabagone ena loma ni

Yavusa Waitui au mai tauca kina edua na vosa ni vakavinavinaka.

Malo sara vakalevu a veinanumi, malo sara vakalevu a veikauwaitaki tiko mai ena loma ni Yavusa.

E ka marautaki vei keitou dina ni vakidacalataki nomuni yaco mai. Sa dua naka neimami vakavinavinaka dou vosota kevaka e sega so ni taucoko nomuni mai dabe ena yakavai vinaka ni kua. Sa kerei kina nomudou veivosoti.

Kau vakabauta ni sa na yaga sara vakalevu vei ira na itabagone ni Yavusa Waitui ena isolisoli levu ra sa mai ciqoma na itabagone ni kua. Keitou sa nuitaka ni na qaravi vinaka kina na itavi ena kena vakacokotaki tiko na loma ni Yavusa,” tukuna ko Pareti.

Bibi na lalawataki ni bisinisi ni itabagone

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

Sa veivakauqeti na Minisita ni iTa-bagone kei na Qito ko Laisenia Tuitubou vei ira na isoqosoqo ni itabagone ena Yasana vakaturaga ko Lau me ra dau vakarauta mai ki vale ni volavola na nodra lalawa ni bisinisi se business plan ena vei vula tolu.

“Au dau tukuna wasoma ni kena vakarautaki na nomuni lalawa ni bisinisi na isoqosoqo ni itabagone e vaka na bibi ni ‘kamunaga’ vei keda na itaukei.

Oya edua vei ira na uto ni itukutuku e vakaraitaka wasoma tiko na minisita ni itabagone kei na qito vei ira na soqosoqo ni itabagone ena lima na yanuyanu oya ena yasana ko Lau.

E dua na ka e gadrevi tau-mada ena gauna esa rejisita oti kina e dua na isoqosoqo ni itabagone oya me dau vakauta mai ki valenivolavola na nona lalawa ni bisinisi se business plan ena vei vulatolu.

“Sa vakarautaki tu e valenivolavola na iwalewale ni kena volai na lalawa ni bisinisi kevaka era gadreva mera vakamurimuria,” tukuna ko Minisita Tuitubou.

“Ena dau vakarawarawataka na soli ni veivuke vei ira na itabagone kevaka e tiko e dua na nodra lalawa ni bisinisi se business plan ni vei vula tolu

“Na lalawa ni bisinisi oya me tukuna talega na kena vakayagataki vinaka tiko na veivuke ni matanitu me vaka na kena inaki,” tukuna ko minisita Tuitubou.

“Me tabaki talega ena lalawa ni bisinisi ni itabagone na cakacaka e vakavure ilavo tiko kina isoqosoqo. Ka gadrevi talega na veisoqosoqo ni itabagone me tiko nodra bank account.”

Vakacaucautaki ira na itabagone ni Vanuavatu, Kabara kei Ono ena nodra dau vakayagataki ira na Qasenivuli ena kena vakayagataki na WIFI ni Telecom me vakauta mai kina na nodra ripote ni veivula tolu na veisiqosoqo ni itabagone.

“Sa dua na ivakaraitaki vinaka ena veivanua oya ni sega kina na Vodafone kei na Digicel ka sa rawa ni veivuke na internet ni koronivuli ka vakarautaka na Telecom Fiji,” tukuna ko Minisita Tuitubou.

Noda Viti



Tovolea tiko oqori ko Eremasi Narawa na cauravou ni Natadradave na wai ni gunu savasava mai na paipo e na koro ko Natadradave e Dawasamu, Tailevu. **TABA E LOMA:** Ko Paraiminisita Voreqe Bainimarama kei ira na lewe ni koro e Natadradave ena marautaki ni dola ni wai ni gunu savasava. **iTaba:** RUPENI VATUBULI

Wai savasava

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

Ena nona dolava tiko na medra wainigunu na koro ko Natadradave ena Vualiku kei Tailevu e kaya kina ko PM Bainimarama ni rui bibi kina noda bula vinaka na wai ni gunu savasava. Ni kua sa rawa ni ra gunu wai savasava e volekata na 300 na lewenivanua e Natadradave kei na veitikotiko volekata. Tukuna ko PM Bainimarama ni yacova mai nu kua sa sivia na 150,000 na lewenivaua ena taudaku ni koro lelevu era sa gunu waisavasava. Na gunuvi kei na vakayagataki ni wai savsava e dua saka na tiki bibi ni noda bula. “Au vakavinavinakataka saka vakalevu na nomuni igu na tiko ena koro.” “Keitou rogoca saka e noqu vale ni vola-vola ni wai saka e Natadradave dau cacavukavua saka tiko.” “Ni ratou lewa saka tikoga na kabani ena

gauna me dola kina kei na gauna mesogo kina na wai, tukuna ko PM Bainimarama. “E daidai gona e dua na siga lagilagi ena koro ko Natadradave.” “Vakabibi ni sa drodro saka tiko e loma ni koro na wai ni gunu.” “Ena loma ni vica na macawa sa oti au a tiko ena veiyasai Viti e na kena dolavi tale tikoga ka vakadrodroi na wai ni gunu,” tukuna ko PM Bainimarama. “Na cakacaka ni veivakatorocaketaki ni matanitu e sala vata kei na kena vakadrodroi na wai savasava ena loma ni nomuni vale na lewe ni vanua.” “Qo na vuna levu sa sasaga tiko kina na matanitu me vakadrodroi na wai ni gunu savasava kina noda veivale kece,” tukuna ko PM Bainimarama. “Ena ruku ni noqu veiliutaki esa vakadrodroya kina na noqu Matanitu na wai ni gunu savasava kina 150,000 vakacaca na matavuvale.”

“Sa udolu na lewe ni vanua era sa marau-taka tu oqo na veivuke.” “Au via tukuna tiko ni oqori na yavu ni nou veqaravi vaka Paraiminisita.” “E sega ni kauwaitaki na veivakacacani era vakayacora tiko eso na dau ni politiki,” tukuna ko PM Bainimarama. “Mai na vakatekivu au gadreva ga meu kauta mai na veivakatorocaketaki na kena ena vueta na noda vanua ka na kauta mai na tiko vinaka kei na bula veilomani ena vanua ko Viti.” “Me vaka ni tiki bibi ni noda bula na gunuvi kei na vakayagataki ni ni wai savasava sa gadreva ga na Matanitu viri kotori ena yavu ni vakavulewa.” “Qoka sa sa solia saka kina na gunuvi ni wai savasava vei ira na noda lewe ni vanua,” tukuna ko PM Bainimarama. “Sa gadreva na Matanitu me yacova na veivanua kece e Viti na veivakatorocaketaki oqo.”

“Na gunuvi kei na vakayagataki ni wai savasava e yavu tudei ni tiko bulabula kei na tiko vinaka ni lewe ni vanua.” “Na veivuvale taucoko sa dodonu mera gunuva ka vakayagataka tiko na wai savasava. E sega ni doodnu me ra leqataka na wai era vakayagataka ena veisiga.” “Sa noqui itavi gona meu cakacaka tiko me yacova ni da sa vakaiivotavota taucoko na lewe ni vanua e Viti ena wai savasava,” tukuna ko PM Bainimarama. “Ena levu na gauna era sa dau voraki ka vakaocai vakalevu na marama ena kena laki tawani se dreketi mai na wai me caka kina na savasava kei na vakasaqa.” “Sai koya oqo edua talega na ulutaga e tutaka tiko na noqu Matanitu.” “Oqo e dua na cavu isausau vakaitamera ena nodatou loma ni koro vakauasivi vei ira na nodatou marama e Natadradave,” tukuna ko PM Bainimarama.