

Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama shares a light moment with children of Nabuiniikadamu Village, Bua, during his visit around the Northern Division post TC Yasa. MORE DETAILS INSIDE. Photo: NANISE NEIMILA



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# **AFFECTED FIJIANS REASSURED OF GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE**

#### NANISE NEIMILA

Prime Minister Vorege Baini-

marama has once again commended the 'Bula spirit' of Fijians affected villages and communities N visiting Severe Tropical who despite facing the wrath of Cyclone Yasa affected areas, the super storm, remained positive.

The Head of Government visited in the Northern Division in the aftermath of TC Yasa earlier this month.

While distributing food rations and relief packages, Prime Minister Bainimarama visited Nabuiniikadamu, Navakasali and Cogea villages in Bua.

The PM, while speaking to villagers, commended them for their

**CONTINUES ON PAGE 3** 





# OFF FOR FAROUK - 5



I know it has not been easy for the past few days after the destruction of severe TC Yasa in the North but I am adamant that as Fijians we will help each other to rebuild our nation. I want to reassure every Fijian family that Government will assist those affected by TC Yasa.

Voreqe Bainimarama Fijian Prime Minister

NUMBERS



is the total number of trees and mangroves that have been planted since the launch of the **30** million-trees-in-**15** years initiative in January **2019** 

TWEET OF THE WEEK



## Fijians urged to refrain from unecessary travel to affected areas

Figure 10 IJIANS have been requested to minimise and even refrain from unnecessary travel to rural communities and villages on Vanua Levu that were hit by Tropical Cyclone Yasa.

This request has come from National Disaster Controller and Permanent Secretary, for Rural and Maritime Development and Disaster Management, David Kolitagane.

"Your presence in these areas is adding to the strain on the limited water and sanitation services available to the people in these areas and also to the services we are restoring," Mr Kolitagane said.

"As it is, we are asking residents in affected areas to store water and food safely and practice good hygiene. We have asked them to also keep their surroundings clean. This is to reduce the risk of outbreaks of Leptospirosis, Typhoid, Dengue and Diarrhea."

Mr Kolitagane said we support travel to town centres in Vanua Levu supporting business activities, however, only unnecessary travel to rural communities on the



Attorney-General and Minister for Economy Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum and Minister for Rural and Maritime Development and National Disaster Management Inia Seruiratu during the DISMAC briefing at the NDMO office in Suva. Photo: NANISE NEIMILA.

island were strongly discouraged. According to Mr Kolitagane the response to TC Yasa is progressing well, the Fijian Government will continue to collaborate with first responders, civil society, and donors to ensure that no Fijian is left out.

"We are grateful to individuals and organisations for gifts of cash and in kind collected for those affected by TC Yasa. We request them to register their current or intended activity with the NDMO. As of today, the NDMO has processed and certified 42 individuals and organisations raising funds and collecting items for Fijians affected by Tropical Cyclone Yasa," he said.

The NDMO requested the registration of individuals and organisations to assist the Department and the Divisional Commissioners in the North and East better coordinate the equitable distribution of relief items to affected communities and villages.

An online form is available on the NDMO website *www.ndmo. org.fj*, queries can be sent to *ndmofiji.media@gmail.com* -news@govnet.gov.fj

# Kumar acknowledges Govt for support

Bula and welcome to Captain Stuart Watters and the crew of the HMAS Adelaide! We don't get too many boatfuls of Aussies to Fiji these days, but we've adapted our COVID-safe protocols so that our vuvale from the @ DeptDefence can safely assist our rebuild from severe #TCYasa.

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### RUPENI WAQAVONO

IFE will never be the same again for former flight attendant Sanjeet Kumar who now sells at the VotCity market in order to earn a living.

Despite losing his job with the national carrier, the sole bread winner was able to look into other ways of earning an income and was not short of any assistance.

"Thanks to my family, friends and organisations including the Fijian Government those of us who were at the forefront of losing our jobs due to this pandemic were able to venture into other areas in order to earn an income.

"For me it was making and selling food at the

Votualevu with the help of my wife and others like me also had other initiatives that assisted them."

Mr Kumar highlighted that even though it was a challenging time for his family especially after being employed for 14 years, he was

glad that assistance from the Fijian Government continued to flow in.

"I acknowledge the Government for the various assistance provided to those of us who were affected and we hope that this will all be over soon.

Mr Kumar was also part of the United Nations 75th year anniversary celebrations in Nadi where the event was organised to assist those affected during the pandemic. UN Resident Coordinator, Sanaka Samarasinha said that such events are organised with the hopes to bring a smile back to their faces and lift morale a little after a very difficult year.

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Sanjeet Kumar now sells at the VotCity market in Nadi in order to earn a living. Photo: RUPENI WAQAVONO

"Here in the West where people have lost their jobs and the tourism industry has come to a complete halt, we hope that we will bring a little bit of sunshine in a different way, and we will be able to help you learn some new things as well."

"I would also like you to think about the theme of the UN 75th anniversary, 'The Future we want,' keep that in mind as you go around the booths and stalls."



# Prime Minister Bainimarama commends bula spirit

## FROM PAGE 1

resilience despite being affected by Tropical Cyclone Yasa.

"I know it has not been easy for the past few days after the destruction of severe TC Yasa in the North but I am adamant that as Fijians we will help each other to rebuild our nation.'

"I want to reassure every Fijian family that Government will assist those affected by TC Yasa.'

Cogea Village headman Akini Nairibuli thanked the PM for visiting their village during this time of despair.

"Today is a very emotional day for all us, we cannot express our gratitude to the Head of Government for visiting us today. It has been a difficult time for all of us especially for those families that have lost their homes."

"We would like to thank the Government for their continuous assistance throughout this week from the distribution of food rations, to the officials from the Ministry of Forestry for clearing the roads which are now accessible."

Prime Minister Bainimarama also visited civil servants in Labasa that were affected by the recent TC Yasa.

Meanwhile, it was an emotional day for 92-year-old Shiu Kumari of Nadogo, Macuata after she received food rations and relief kits from during the PM's visit to evacuation centres in the North recently.

"I would like to thank the Fijian Government especially to the Prime Minister Vorege Bainimarama for

# **Stall fee waiver for** Labasa market vendors

THE Minister for Local Government, Housing and Community Development, Premila Kumar announced that five week's fee relief will be provided at Labasa Market for vegetable, fruit and rootstock vendors

This decision was made after consulting market vendors in Labasa.

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"Having just returned from Vanua Levu, I am aware of the stress on farmers and vendors after Tropical Cyclone Yasa. The availability of produce has been severely reduced and there are vendors who are struggling with the impact of Tropical Cyclone Yasa. On Saturday the market had less vegetables in comparison to other items sold in the market," said the Minister.

Minister Kumar added that all vegetable, fruit and rootstock vendors at Labasa market will be given stall fee relief till 31 January, 2021.

"The fee relief for five weeks will assist in the immediate term. At the end of January, we will review to see whether this relief needs to continue," the Minister stated. -news@govnet.gov.fj

## AZARIA FAREEN

Save

ENI Ravitu, 54, of Ligau Village of Kia Island is grateful his village was spared the wrath of the Tropical Cyclone Yasa that battered the neighbouring villages and other parts of the Northern Division.

Mr Ravitu, who has been a former village headman for the past four years, said the village has a population of 80 people with 18 houses and four government properties while relaying the ordeal of the storm.

"Only four houses are damaged in this village which can tell that we observed the cyclone warnings and protected the properties on this island to the best of our ability," he said.

"Tropical Cyclone Yasa started at 4pm on that Wednesday and continued throughout the next day which was the first of its kind to be witnessed by the village members," he added. "The eldest village member is about 90-years-old and he told us that the strong winds and heavy rainfalls caused by Tropical Cyclone Yasa is the first he has observed in his lifetime."

"The wind was very strong and for the first time ever we saw huge waves approaching 50 metres into the beach towards the houses which damaged and swept away all the coco-



Peni Ravitu (sitting on far left ) with other members of Ligau Village on Kia Island.

nut trees on the shoreline," he said.

Mr Ravitu said the ice house which was used to store our tools and fishing gears was also damaged swept away by the waves.

"Before the cyclone could strike, we had taken our six outboard boats inside the village, filled it with water and secured it properly which survived the ordeal. We took out the solar panels and secured the houses the best we could," he recounted.

"Majority of us are fishermen and some

of the village member's plant coconuts and yaqona as their source of income. The women plant voivoi which they sell in the market and as soon as the weather clears up then we will go back to the sea and start fishing."

The village is about 25 miles away from the mainland.

"We are thankful for the government and the Non-Government Organizations in visiting us and providing us with the much-needed rations," Mr Ravitu added.

# Ministry works around clock on affected areas

SONAM SAMI

TMMEDIATE priority is health ture (kobotoolbox) commenced on cuttings to be distributed to most Ministry of Agriculture will facili-Monday, 21 December and will be completed in the next two weeks. Ministry of Agriculture has deployed 120 staff including two veterinary teams to the affected area including 43 twin cabs, three trucks and two excavators. The Minister assured that all Fijians will have a continuous supply of locally grown fresh, nutritious produce throughout these trying times, particularly in the significantly impacted areas. Seed packs for 10,000 initial households ongoing for distribution to affected areas has commenced. This will be an ongoing activity and will be scaled up to

assessment using digital data cap- To support this, 150,000 kumala try production in these areas, the

affected agricultural households tate access to fresh, nutrient-rich with 15,000 to be distributed in Northern Division. Furthermore, 30,000 bele cuttings will be provided, as well as 150,000 cassava cuttings. Ministry of Agriculture is also supplying sugar to bee farmers (estimated 1,500 hives) as a result of loss of flowers. In addition to the crops, there is also requirement for livestock to complement people's dietary and nutritional requirement, the Ministry through its partners would supply each villages and settlement in the affected areas day old chicks at zero cost.

food at household level.

his assistance during this time of need."

He also visited residents of Naibulu, Nacula, Malawai and Wainidevo in Dreketi.

Prime Minister Bainimarama, while speaking to the farmers in these areas, reassured them that Government will be providing assistance to those Fijians affected by TC Yasa. He also advised the residents that should they need any assistance, government officials will be present to assist them.

and wellbeing, food, water and shelter of the people impacted by Severe Tropical Cyclone Yasa. The Ministry of Agriculture, Waterways and Environment has been working around the clock, where Agriculture Emergency Operations Centre was activated on December 16, 2020. Minister for Agriculture Dr Mahendra Reddy, while speaking at a press conference on TC Yasa Food Security, said that Initial Damage Assessment Report has been completed in all four divisions and submitted to National Disaster Management Office on December 21, 2020.

Furthermore, a detailed damage

meet household food needs.

By supporting backyard poul-

"Our response to TC Yasa is structured to ensure that as per our Government's objective, no Fijian will be left behind. Our programmes start at micro household and small inner and outer community level, progressing to supporting small-medium farming sectors and eventually expanding to mid to large commercial operating model of farming and agricultural production".

Minister Reddy has urged all to be patient as the Government steps up its response to assist those impacted by Tropical Cyclone Yasa.





Villagers of Qoma in Tailevu with Ministry of Rural and Maritime Development and Disaster Management staff who visited the village this week to evaluate the foot crossing project which was commissioned in 2018.

HE Qoma village foot crossing, a project by the Fijian Government that was commissioned two years ago, has providing a safer means of access, especially for members of vulnerable groups in their communities

The villagers of Qoma in Tailevu are thankful to Government for providing them this access.

The Qoma Island Foot crossing project was completed by the Ministry of Rural and Maritime Development and Disaster Management under its Community Access Road, Footpaths and Footbridges (CARFF) programme at a cost of more than \$40,000.

The crossing serves as a linkage between two islands - Qoma Levu and Nabulebulewa.

The two islands are separated by 80 meters of seawater.

Qoma villager Mariko Taloga had his right leg amputated in Lautoka in 2014.

He returned to the village shortly before Severe Tropical Cyclone Winston wreaked havoc on the island, damaging their old concrete crossing.

"The construction of this crossing has helped us a lot especially people like me," he said.

"After its construction, I was able to come from my home to attend church on the other side of the island."

Mr Taloga is among the 267 Fijians from 64 households from the two islands who have benefitted from the construction of the foot crossing. very first crossing, we usually had to wait until it was low tide so we could go across to Qoma Levu to go and fetch water as our main water source was located across from our home. If we wanted water quickly, we'd have to wade through seawater."

She recalled that back then it was also hard for villagers to reach medical attention because it was located on the other island.

"And this is one thing we are very grateful for the construction of this crossing," Ms Weleisele said.

"It has helped us a lot in terms of accessibility to and from our homes."

"We have had some crossings constructed in the past but these were always damaged during cyclones. But when this crossing was built, it has made a lot of things easier for us. Now our grandchildren have safer access to and from schools and also made the transportation of farm produce easier from the plantation to our homes."

In their reflections about the development which was presented to a joint monitoring and evaluation team from the Ministry and the United Nations Development Programme's (UNDP) Governance for Resilience Project recently, the villagers also highlighted some potential risks that could affect the crossing in the long term.

The villagers have requested Government to assist them in the upgrading of the current crossing to have a concrete walkway and an overhead shelter as it is currently exposed to heavy rainfall during adverse weather conditions.



/illagers of Ucunivanua in Verata, Tailevu, in a jovial mood after the completion of their community access road by the Ministry of Rural and Maritime Development and Disaster Management under its CARFF Programme.

# New road fulfils dream for woman

AOMI Katarina always had a dream to own her first home.

For the past eight years, the 49-yearold and her husband had been billeted in her brother's home at Ucunivanua Village in Verata, Tailevu.

As comfortable as she may have thought life would took a twist when her right leg was amputated in February last year after a short illness. This made her dream of owning a home a distant reality.

However, when the news broke out in the village that Government had come forward to assist the village in the construction of a new community access road, Ms Katarina was certain her wish would soon be granted.

Earlier this month, Ms Katarina could be seen grasping a crutch on both hands walking out of her newly built corrugated iron home situated next to the newly cut road. Ms Katarina is among the more than 300 people who are expected to benefit from the construction of the 600 meter community access road.

The project was completed under the Ministry of Rural and Maritime Development and Disaster Management's Community Access Road, Footpaths and Footbridges (CRAFF) Programme in the 2019/2020 financial year at a cost of more than \$40,000.

In commending the Ministry for the implementation of the new project, Ucunivanua village youth leader Sitiveni Bogitini said the new road had greatly assisted youths, especially in the transportation of their farm produce to the market.

He said previously, the youths had to carry

Sixty-seven-year-old (67) Sainimere Weleisele grew up in Qoma. The mother-of-three said since her childhood days, the people of Qoma were faced with a lot of difficulties because of the absence of a crossing to connect the two villages on the island.

"One thing I loved about growing up in the village was how we used to socialize and interact with one another in the village. However, one of the biggest challenge we faced during that time was that there was no crossing to link the two islands," Ms Weleisele said. "Before the construction of our Meanwhile, the joint monitoring and evaluation team visited rural communities in the provinces of Tailevu, Naitasiri and Rewa recently to conduct risk screenings of projects in the pipeline and also evaluate projects completed by the Ministry to help strengthen its processes to better integrate risk and protect the sustainability and impact of the Ministry's programmes.

(THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AND MARITIME DEVELOPMENT AND DISASTER MANAGEMENT) "This road has been a very big relief for me," she said.

"After my leg was amputated, movement had been really hard for me. But I'm really thankful that after the construction of this new road, I am able to move around freely. This had also made accessibility much easier for me despite this disability. I am also thankful because through the construction of this community access road, I was also able to own my first home. We were able to build our home right next to the road and now whenever we go out, I am able to board my transport right in front of our house." "I'd like to thank Government, through the Ministry of Rural and Maritime Development for this road."

their produce for at least five minutes uphill to be transported to the market.

Ucunivanua village headman Ratu Sevanaia Lalakoverata also thanked the Government for assisting them, saying the new road had been a source of hope for the villagers living next to the project site.

"Before we had to carry the sick villagers up the hill so they could be taken for immediate medical attention but now the cars can stop right in front of their homes," he said.

"This road has made a lot of things easier for us now."

Following the completion of the project, the villagers have also noted some potential risks that could affect the new development in the long term.

(THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AND MARITIME DEVELOPMENT AND DISASTER MANAGEMENT)

# **20-year service** pays off for Farouk

#### **AZARIA FAREEN**

**THIS** commemorative medal is a pay packet with bonuses and dividends far much more than what I turned down in my early days of employment at Fiji Society for the Blind, which has now become my home and family.

This was the sentiment shared by the executive director of Fiji Society for the Blind, Barbara Farouk after being awarded with the 50th Independence Anniversary commemorative Medals by the President Major-General (Ret'd) Jioji Konrote recently.

The teary-eyed social worker, who was amongst the 41 recipients, hails from a large farming family in Ba said her father passed away when she was in class 6 and her mum raised her and her 9 other siblings on her own.

"I completed my high school and got married in 1978 and by 1981 I had two children. I then pursued tertiary education from 1982 to 1988 at the then Fiji National Training Centre while I worked at various shops and Tavua Rural Local Authority and Tavua Town Council respectively until 1999," Mrs Farouk said.

2000 when my husband got promoted to a school in Suva. I received several job offers from Executive Director position at the

Serving the needs of the special persons and exploring ways and possibilities of bringing about improvements to the infrastructure and equipment to suit the delicate needs of these people has now become a passion that I hold close to my heart and will give priority to over anything else in my life.

#### **Barbara Farouk** Executive director of Fiji Society for the Blind

companies when I arrived in Suva and accepted one from the Fiji Society for the Blind."

"With an accounting qualifica-"I moved to Suva in the year tion and some leadership experience, I took the chance to take up the role and challenge of the Fiji Society for the Blind, where I started learning about the needs and aspirations of the visually impaired," she added.

Mrs Farouk said she had attended several workshops locally and internationally during the last 20-years of her career which has positively contributed towards and broadened her knowledge and skills of serving the visually impaired persons.

"Serving the needs of the special persons and exploring ways and possibilities of bringing about improvements to the infrastructure and equipment to suit the delicate needs of these people has now become a passion that I hold close to my heart and will give priority to over anything else in my life," Mrs Farouk said.

"I feel on top of the world in receiving this medal and I believe this is a wonderful gesture by the Government in recognizing the work of ordinary Fijians which has set paths for others like me to believe in ourselves, commit in the work that we do, be positive about our work and never lose hope."

"Work with passion, commit yourself to what we do, be the change and always be optimistic as your work will be recognised one day," Mrs Farouk added.



NATIONAL MATTERS

Fiji Society for the Blind, Barbara Farouk with President Major-General (Ret'd) Jioji Konrote after being awarded the 50th Independence Anniversary commemorative Medals by Photo: AZARIA FAREEN

# Katarina dedicates bravery medal to mother, late sister

The emotional 14-year old from Nagelecibi Village in Ra could not hold back her emotions as she walked up to receive her medal with thoughts of her sister and mother whom she



very strong winds. I ran outside to bring in all the food we had gathered from the plantation. Whilst collecting the food outside just within minutes I could hear screaming from my daughters and my wife and realised at the same time that our house had blown away."

"The whole house flew towards the mango tree and it split into two that same time my two girls fell to one side while their mother flew to the other side of the cliff. I looked for them it was dark and after one hour I heard my daughter calling me from a distance."

Mr Nabogi adds that his daughter (Katari-

#### dedicated the medal to.

#### NANISE NEIMILA

OUR years after losing her eldest sister during Tropical Cyclone Winston and having her mother paralysed, Katarina Nabogi received a bravery medal during the 2018-2019 Order of Fiji Investiture ceremony held at the State House recently.

The emotional 14-year old from Nagelecibi Village in Ra could not hold back her emotions as she walked up to receive her medal with thoughts of her sister and mother whom she dedicated the medal to.

Recalling that fateful day, Katarina said it was raining with strong winds and they were inside their home when she suddenly realised that the house had been blown Katarina Nabogi with her father Tito Nabogi after Katarina received bravery medal during the 2018-2019 Order of Fiji Investiture ceremony held at the State House in House, Photo: NANISE NEIMILA

#### away.

"We were at home with my mum and sister when our house was blown away by strong winds. Both my sister and mother fell of the cliff."

"We all fell in different places, my mother fell meters away from where my sister and I fell. They were both injured. My sister had sustained injuries to her forehead and for my mother she couldn't move due to injuries to her backbone and collar bone."

Katarina then recalled running uphill

where she struggled with the strong wind and heavy rain but managed to get her father's assistance.

"We managed to carry my sister who had passed away by the time we came up and then my mother who barely couldn't move. I was unfortunate to have lost my sister whom I dedicate this medal to and also my paralysed mother."

Her father, Tito Nabogi could not hold back his tears as he recalled that fateful day. "At about 7pm we started to experience

na) was injured with gashes on her forehead and cuts on her feet.

"I asked her where is your mum and sister, she then replied I don't know where mum is but Maria (older sister) is down there but she's dead. I couldn't do anything, I tried to revive her but she was motionless. We were both helpless, Katarina was determined to look for her mother despite being injured. I couldn't bear the thought of losing all of them."

Mr Nabogi then found his wife who was underneath the other half of the house structure which was down the cliff.

"My wife's ribs both broke, her collar bone broke and her jaw was also broken. It was a day I'll never forget. I would have lost all three of them but I thank God for saving my wife and Katarina."



## Ministry targets improved service delivery through digitalisation

#### **AZARIA FAREEN**

THE Ministry of Health and Medical Services have taken necessary steps in bringing all stakeholders and applications to address the COVID-19 effect and also access the needs for digitalisation support for COVID-19 response.

In relaying this, Minister for Health and Medical Services Dr Ifereimi Waqainabete acknowledged the President Major-General (Ret'd) Jioji Konrote about Fiji being a regional leader in digitalisation and that it must continue to leverage digital technology to improve the reach of Government".

Dr Waqainabete said the ministry's health information system provides much of that data required to guide clinical management decision making.

"The primary support ensuring all the divisional and the major national facilities were equipped with internet and conferencing facilities that enabled efficient communication with the leaders, United Nations agencies and the outside world during the height of the COVID-19 outbreak," he said.

"Through general consensus, we also were able to purchase a software called Surveillance Outbreak Response Management Analysis System (SORMAS) which we are now using together, as you know, we also have the careFIJI App."

"SORMAS is a paperless solution and has assisted with near or real time data and it allows the application linking tablets, health quarantine, control officers, surveillance officers, laboratory, clinicians and the Incident Management Team," he added.

Minister Waqainabete said in the event of a community outbreak, the careFIJI App will be able to identify those who have been in close proximity to the infected person and when they are called in, their details will be loaded onto the SORMAS in order to visit them and work with then in terms of the case control.

"This is all part of our Fijian COVID-Safe Economic Recovery Framework because we want to make sure it is whole of a national effort in keeping us safe but also moving our economy forward," he said.

"Given the critical role, today careFiji app has been downloaded by nearly 90,000 times and we have a 16.12 percent adoption rate. We need more people to do this because it is protecting our community. It is protecting our frontline health workers."

The Ministry of Health in remodelling the health services provided to Fijians have identified few things – to be comprehensive, holistic, to be integrated and enhance services that is a fit for Fiji.

"We are not stuck in the health centres and we are not stuck in the hospitals. We are pushing our services to the people and we know what the people need," he added.

Minister Waqainabete said the ministry wants to build a resilient health system and strengthen the health workforce.

"We will continue to improve our service delivery, provision of our medicinal products and we will continue to improve our information systems," he said.



Attorney-General and Minister for Economy Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum with HFC bank staff during the opening of the new HFC Bank branch in Nadi. Photo: RUPENI WAQAVONO

# **'HFC a game changer for Fijians'**

#### **RUPENI WAQAVONO**

**G** I think HFC taking substantial share in the market could be a game-changer in changing the local financial landscape because you will be assessing risk and making decisions based here in Fiji." "It is critically important, all economies that are doing well throughout the world have in fact had very strong national banks, banks owned by the country, by shareholders that come from that country."

The A-G also highlighted that banks today need to be able to

growth, products and services offered in line with its customer needs, market penetration and finance performance.

"Fiji has long been the hub of the Pacific, Fiji as a nation has a lot of potential in economic growth.

"Last June marked the end of our financial year when we announced the net profit of \$9.2 million after-tax. Although there was a 50 percent reduction from the previous year due to a special provision to account for COVID pandemic. "Without this provision, our underline performance would be much better with operating profits before this special provision and tax of \$30.2 million." Mr Ricketts further said that HFC Bank will continue to invest in our people despite the challenges the pandemic brings to our business and ensure that customers that HFC Bank staff are passionate to look after their financial needs.



Fiji have rapidly changed in the past few years in particular with the advent of ITC. Seventy (70) percent of all Fijians are below the age of 40. Their ability to use their smartphones for almost everything is now an everyday phenomenon. Banks as a financial institution, government services, government ministries and departments all need to be up to speed with how we engage with our customers.

# **Big plans** for service delivery

ILISAPECI TUIVALE

**G**WE must respond to the needs of our changing housing sector and the increase in commercial developments."

A monthly update on the numbers and timelines for Major Building Approvals, which is the key indicator of economic confidence, is provided to ensure an efficient and timely service.

Minister for Local Government Premila Kumar highlighted this in Parliament in the December sitting.

"Municipal Councils are seen as key development partners in driving local economic activity. The Department of Town and Country Planning has focussed on reducing outdated, unnecessary bureaucracy and lengthy turnaround times for building, zoning and subdivision approvals. Because obtaining approvals in a timely manner increases business confidence and delivers more jobs in the construction industry."

"From January to October 2020, we have approved 30 major development applications at a value of \$154.7 million," Minister Kumar said.

The outdated general provisions of the Town Planning Act will be replaced with renewed modern guidelines to deliver essential guidance on areas such as setbacks and plot ratios.

It was also stated in Parliament that municipal council infrastructure projects have been identified to play an important role in Fiji's financial recovery because they increase the liveability of our towns and cities and provide employment.

"Our teams of special administrators across Fiji have created a total of 35 projects which are now at different stages of development. Municipal Council projects, whether it be parks, town beautification, an E-hub, a decentralised Transport Hub, car parking stations, markets or market infrastructure, must be equitably distributed across the country."

The urgency for a 'blue economy' has resulted from the economic impacts of COVID-19 and the focus on economic recovery and resilience can be focused on the Savusavu Blue Town Initiative. "The ground-breaking Blue Town Model is a world first and is designed to develop sustainable livelihoods, mitigate climate change and reduce ocean pollution. Supported by \$20,000 seed funding from the Fijian Government and \$75,000 from the Commonwealth Local Government Forum, the New Year will see the introduction of the first pilot programme," Minister Kumar said. The financial recovery of the country and long-term wellbeing of Fijians is what the Ministry is working towards.

This was the statement made by Attorney-General and Minister for Economy Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum while officiating at the opening of the new HFC Bank branch in Nadi.

The A-G said the difference between HFC and all other banks in Fiji is that the decision making, the risk assessment and other decision is done locally and not by someone from overseas making decision as to how things are in Fiji.

"From that perspective, you have a huge responsibility and we look forward to the board and management to make wise decision and be strategic about it." appeal to the customers.

"Fiji have rapidly changed in the past few years in particular with the advent of ITC. Seventy (70) percent of all Fijians are below the age of 40. Their ability to use their smartphones for almost everything is now an everyday phenomenon."

"Banks as a financial institution, government services, government ministries and departments all need to be up to speed with how we engage with our customers."

HFC Bank Board chairman, Tom Ricketts, stressed that HFC Bank has progressed significantly in all business dimensions which includes customer

#### Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum Attorney-General and Minister for Economy

Thursday December 31, 2020



# Developing a more sustainable mining industry

#### FELIX LESINAIVALU

**G**WE are looking to develop our more sustainable mining industry, so that the sector will continue to provide employment, income, foreign exchange earnings and revenue for government."

Minister for Lands, Mineral Resources, Infrastructure and Meteorological Services, Jone Usamate highlighted this in Parliament when giving a review of operational plan targets for his Ministry.

"The monitoring of this and taking remedial action as and when needed, is what we are also doing. Fiji has high value mineral resources that contribute significantly to the national economy."

"We are doing our utmost to increase and enhance money activities in the near future with primacy given to our environment because we want to make sure that nothing bad happens to our environment, with eight mining leases currently being monitored and 78 exploratory licences being issued."

Minister Usamate added with border closures, the mining companies have faced delays in receiving mining supplies from other countries.

"We applaud these companies for hanging in there to continue operations until we return to normalcy, especially as this sector employs approximately 2,000 workers that are still being employed by these mining companies."

"Many of these companies who are not able to bring in international expatriates for exploration and mining activities, many of them have been forced to use their local workers to conduct drilling and exploration programmes, who then liaises with their offshore experts." Minister Usamate said they are

fine tuning their service delivery to assist in economic recovery.

One such assistance is the waiver of interest on rental arrears as part of a six months amnesty period that is from November 1, 2020 to April 30, 2021.

"Encouraging undertaking or arrangements for rental arrears for our lessees and such arrangements have enabled 10 businesses to pay a sum of approximately \$200,000 over period of time and three of these entities have been able to clear their arrears this year," the Minister explained. "These measures assist those who had been laid off due to the pandemic and people who leased State land. This has brought about financial relief and security for our lessees and identifying our key processes, mapping these processes and making improvements to them."

# **Investing into our blue continent**



Minister for Fisheries Semi Koroilavesau while speaking in Parliament earlier thios month. Photo: PARLIAMENT OF FIJI

#### SONAM SAMI

The Ministry of Fisheries has maximised the scope of assistance to Food Security and Commercial Aquaculture Farmers.

Minister for Fisheries Semi Koroilavesau, while speaking in Parliament earlier this month, said the Ministry earlier this year was provided with an increased budget for food security projects in the area of aquaculture.

He adds the Ministry received more than 200 applicants this year, the most since its inception.

"This assistance we provide includes; pond clearing, fertilizer; piping for ponds, feed and seed for one cycle, provision of specialized aquaculture equipment, such as nursing, sampling and harvesting materials, infrastructure development & improvement."

He explained that the Ministry was strictly working with the farms that were assessed as this will be a critical time for aquaculture in Fiji.

"Additional to that, the aquaculture division has reallocated its manpower to work with all farmers in the four regions and pulling all its resources together by providing sampling, harvesting and post-harvesting kits to key allocated clusters." He added the Government is committed to harmonising several and occasionally competing issues that may be adversely impacted by a range of development activities that are regulated by different agencies.

"As we transform toward a sustainable economy, as we work our way through to economic restoration, our approach should be that – "everyone has a part to play." This includes smart partnerships, greater and effective collaboration and a holistic approach".

"This pandemic calls for a change in narrative and drive towards Ocean farming, coincidently building toward a Blue Continent".

The Fisheries Minister said that ocean farms produce incredibly nutritious foods that benefit fish and other marine organisms and in Fiji this is done through various scales inclusive of different marine species.

The Ministry hopes that through ocean farming, communities are presented with alternative source of livelihood that can be sustained, managed and protected.

This leads to a reduction in wild caught species allowing for vulnerable stocks to recover.

In our community, ocean farming involves the culture of seaweed, edible oysters, pearl oysters, mabe pearls and clams.

# Long-term wealth from forests welcomed

#### ILISAPECI TUIVALE

VER three million trees and mangroves have been planted since the launch of the 30-Million-Trees-in-15-Years initiative in January 2019.

This was highlighted by the Minister for Forestry Osea Naiqamu in Parliament in response to President Major-General (Ret'd) Jioji Konrote's address during the opening of Parliament this month.

Fiji has the largest mangrove area in the Pacific with an estimated 46,600 hectares and most of which are on the two main islands of Viti Levu and Vanua Levu.



"This exercise is being undertaken both in Infrastructure and Meteorological Services and also in Land and Mineral Resources," Minister Usamate said. "This achievement is a reflection that many Fijians appreciate the importance of trees and forests and how they protect the environment."

"In my visits to almost 300 villages around the country, I have seen that our people have a profound understanding of the role of trees and forests in addressing climate change and maintaining a balance with nature," Minister Naiqamu stated.

The Ministry of Forestry is also set to continue to coordinate the initiative as it has also helped Fijians who have lost their jobs due to the COVID-19 pandemic and have returned to their villages.

Most shoreline communities depend on the

Over three million trees and mangroves have been planted since the launch of the 30-Million-Trees-in-15-Years initiative in January 2019. Photo: ILISAPECI TUIVALE

mangrove forests for a wide range of subsistence and commercial forestry and fisheries products for their sustainability.

Minister Naiqamu also stated in Parliament that investment in non-timber forest products like bamboo and candle-nut trees has been done to generate economic benefits from the forestry sector in a short span of time.

"These products could be harvested within three years, thus providing a good alternative to the timber trees, which normally takes over 30 years to mature. These short-rotation species will not only help ease the pressure on our native forests, but also help our ongoing fight against climate change and the restoration of ecosystems services," Minister Naigamu said.

He added that while the Ministry wants to create wealth from the available forest resources, it is important to strike a balance between generating economic activity and expanding resources and protecting the natural environment and eco-systems. email: news@govnet.gov.fj; | 🕃 @Fijian Govt; | 🚯 Fijian Government; | visit us @ www.fiji.gov.fj | phone: 3301806











# **PM Bainimarama** tours North after Tropical Cyclone Yasa

Prime Minister Vorege Bainimarama affirmed that the Fijian Government stands ready to assist those who need it.

PM Bainimarama highlighted this during his tour of the Northern Division to assess the damage done by Tropical Cyclone Yasa and distribute relief packages to affected villages. PM Bainimarama visited infrastructural facilities in

Nabouwalu and Bua and delivered relief supplies to Bulikadamu, Navakasali and Cogea village in Bua The head of government also visited residents of Naibulu, Nacula, Malawai and Wainidevo in Dreketi. PM Bainimarama also advised the residents that should they need any assistance, government officials will be present to assist them. Photos: NANISE NEIMILA, SUPPLIED























# A-G visits affected areas in the North

Attorney-General andKia Island, Vunivere, TiritiriMinister for EconomySettlement and residents of Naleba, Wavuwavu and Vunivutu. Minister for Education, Heritage and Arts Rosy Akbar and Minister for Agriculture, Waterways and Environment Dr Mahendra Reddy accompanied the A-G.

The UN Resident Coordinator for Fiji, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu, Tonga, RMI, Palau, FSM, Vanuatu, Nauru and Kiribati Sanaka Samarasinha also accompanied the A-G on this tour.

Photos: AZARIA FAREEN



Minister for Economy

Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum

Village, Savusavu town,











# 'Think outside the box'

#### **MEREANI GONEDUA**

**THE** Attorney-General and the Minister for Economy, Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum has stressed the need for people to think outside the box when it comes to the fight against COV-ID-19.

Speaking at the United Nations Tourism Roundtable Conference in Nadi, the A-G highlighted a few aspects in which the Fijian Government has been able to react and address challenges faced during this pandemic.

He highlighted that the various incentives provided to Fijians who were affected due to this pandemic was to also ensure that they do not lose their skillsets while being unemployed and called on those who were needed even for a short time for employment to ensure that they answer the call of duty.

"One of the hotels on the island was fully booked but they weren't able to get enough staff to come to provide the services because the



A virtual roundtable meeting organised by the United Nations and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) in Nadi.

they come on those days, they will no longer get the \$220 a fortnight. They won't be entitled to that."

"We then subsequently announced that if you go and work on the weekend you will still be entitled to your \$220 if you were not working for most of the week.

"Now one of the reasons we didn't do that is because we don't want staff were actually concerned that if the hotel workers to lose their skill-

sets. Those of you who are running properties should know that. Hotels down in the Coral Coast keep telling me that people who are kitchen hands etc, simply were not showing up because they were getting the \$220 so the chef and head chef and all the others were doing stuff that they were not doing before. If that continues for a year or 18 months, those skillsets will be lost."

The A-G highlighted the importance of a good marketing strategy as it will also create new opportunities for the tourism markets in Fiji.

"I think people need to look at the long - term goals. People need to understand what the end objective is really – its sustainability. We are interdependent. The properties are interdependent on each other."

## A-G calls for SIDS to ensure their voices are heard

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MEREANI GONEDUA

TTORNEY-GEN-ERAL and Minister for Economy, Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum has called on Pacific Small Islands Developing States (SIDS) to ensure that their voices are heard.

Speaking at a recent United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development & Capacity Building Workshop in Nadi, the A-G reiterated Prime Minister Vorege Bainimarama's call for the Pacific to always have a voice on the international arena.

"SIDS countries must be able to put its foot forward and ensure that their voices are heard.'

"SIDS must have access to sustainable financing to not only invest in the long-term development but to also address sudden major shocks whether it be extreme weather events, global economic crisis, global pandemics or all three simultaneously," the A-G said.

He said that mobilising adequate financing for sustainable development is undoubtedly a challenge for all countries but for SIDS the stakes of course is essential.

"Domestic revenue and official external finances are both critical to support Pacific SIDS to meet the SDGs but we can acknowledge that these sources alone will be insufficient and that much more private finances will need to be mobilised for SIDS.

The A-G called on development partners including multilateral development banks and international financial institutions to provide a new approach as we head into the unknown.

He also highlighted steps taken by the Fijian Government in response to the recent COVID-19 pandemic. The A-G stated that some steps taken were necessary while others were taken thinking of the long term as strategic perspective.

# More investor confidence on Fijian economy

**MEREANI GONEDUA** 

SHABHAI Group's executive director Harish Patel has called on investors to utilise the various incentives provided by the Fijian Government for businesses.

During a meeting with the Attorney-General and Minister for Economy, Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum, in Nadi recently, Mr Patel highlighted that the incentives provided by the Fijian Government to businesses enabled the Group to be able to continue with its developments despite the pandemic.

"I am grateful to the Fijian Government for the various incentives provided to businesses as it has enabled us to continue to move on despite what we are facing.

"We are confident that the Fijian Government will do its best for the economy and we call on others to utilize the incentives provided as we have and we have confidence in the Fijian economy."

Mr Patel highlighted that the pro-



Economy, Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum with Ashabhai Group's executive director Harish Patel Photos: MEREANI GONEDUA

ject once completed would include a 70,000 square foot office and a distribution centre with a 20,000 square foot cold storage facility.

"The investment is expected to provide employment to more than 70 people and the economic activities resulting from this facility during the construction phase and thereafter will benefit the local community," Mr Patel said.

He stated that the company will also install around 500 KVA solar system in the facility which is in support of the Fijian Government's zero-carbon emission drive.

"We thank all our business partners, employees and all other stakeholders for their active and



continuous support in our journey and we look forward to an exciting future ahead," Mr Patel said.

Meanwhile, the A-G, while acknowledging the group for its continued confidence on the Fijian economy, said that this would also assist in encouraging other businesses in the country.

The A-G said that despite the challenges being faced around the world, the group chose to not give up and carry forward with their development and this clearly highlights the type of confidence they have.

RIGHT: An graphic impression of the new Ashabhai office.





"Of course, we have continued with our free education program which is very much at the heart of our SDG goals."

The A-G highlighted that from one perspective it could have easily wiped out a few million dollars from their expenditure if they had taken away the free educa-



# **Duty concession to benefit Fijians affected by TC Yasa**

N 16th December 2020, a State of Natural Disaster was declared by the Fijian Government for whole of Fiji, which is effective for 30 days. The Declaration allows for the National Disaster Management Office (NDMO) to efficiently and effectively plan and coordinate the preparedness and response phases for Tropical cyclone (TC) Yasa.

In this week's Tax Talk, we will focus on the importation of disaster relief goods eligible for duty concession under Code 215 A of the Customs Tariff Act 1986 in the areas declared under the State of Natural Disaster. This concession is available until 15th January 2021 in line with the Declaration of the State of Natural Disaster unless extended by the Minister of Economy.

#### **Benefit to Fijians**

Duty concession on importation of disaster relief goods have been given so that Fijians can rebuild and restart their lives following destruction caused by TC Yasa.

The concession is applicable to Fijians, who have been genuinely affected by the impact of TC Yasa.

Under the provisions of this concession, Fijians living in the affected areas:

■ Are eligible to import immediate relief goods/items without paying any duty charges;

■ Families and friends residing overseas can send relief items directly to their relatives in Fiji, affected by TC Yasa and it will be exempted from Customs duties and VAT.

Items that will not attract customs duties are clothes, beddings, food items, relief supplies, household goods, building materials etc. and items that will not qualify for duty concession includes jewelry, vehicles and prohibited or restricted goods.

#### Goods donated for relief purposes

All goods which are donated to religious and charitable organizations to assist people affected by TC Yasa are Value Added Tax (VAT) and duty free provided that these goods are addressed to the Prime Minister's Hurricane Relief and Rehabilitation Fund and approved by the National Disaster and Management Office.

Donating relief items to communities/individuals

# Duty concession to benefit Fijians affected by Tropical Cyclone Yasa

## **Benefits to Fijians**

Duty concession on importation of disaster relief goods have been given so that Fijians can rebuild and restart their lives following destruction caused by TC Yasa.

#### Donating relief items to communities/ individuals

People living abroad can send their consignment directly to NDMO, which will coordinate and distribute the items on their behalf.

#### Goods donated for relief purposes

Should be addressed to the Prime Minister's Hurricane Relief and Rehabilitation Fund and approved by the National Disaster and Management Office (NDMO).

# Individuals in the cyclone affected areas importing items from overseas

Evidence of damages required

#### **Requirements to clear goods**

- Tax Identification Number (TIN)
- Valid ID confirming the residential address

Goods consigned to religious and charitable organizations and to NDMO will require the services of a licensed Customs Agent for formal clearance

This concession is available until 15th January 2021.

For more information, call us on 1326 or email info@frcs.org.fj



NDMO and the Fiji National Provident Fund (FNPF) to verify persons requiring assistance under the identified areas affected by the cyclone and flood.

FRCS also wishes to emphasize that the goods/ items should not be a prohibited import and those items which are not deemed as disaster relief will be cleared under the normal customs clearance procedures and appropriate duty rates and VAT will be applicable.

# *EXPORTS-REGULATIONS-1986-RE-VISED-29.01.pdf.*

The importation of plants and plant products and food and food products requires clearance from the Biosecurity Authority of Fiji (BAF). The importation of refrigerators/freezers will require an import permit from the Department of Energy. Incorporation must be furnished to FRCS along with the concession application. Concession Code 215 is separate from the concession code 215A available to the affected areas of TC Yasa.

#### Requirements to clear goods

At the time of clearance of the goods, the Tax Identification Number (TIN) and a valid ID confirming the residential address must be produced by the individual who has imported these items. For ease of clearance, individuals should also ensure that correct declarations of these items are made to Customs Officers at the time of clearance. Goods consigned to religious and charitable organizations and to NDMO will require the services of a licensed Customs Agent for formal clearance. Goods, which are not consigned or deemed as disaster relief will be cleared under the normal provisions and the appropriate duty rates will be applied. For more information, please email us on info@frcs.org.fj, ssharma001@frcs.org.fj, mvuniyayawa@frcs.org.fj, or mkeshwan@ frcs.org.fj.

Those people who are living abroad and would like to donate goods and items to the cyclone and flood stricken individuals and communities can send their consignment directly to NDMO, which will coordinate and distribute the items on their behalf.

# Individuals in the cyclone affected areas importing items from overseas

All relief items that are imported by individuals living in the areas declared as "Natural Disaster" are exempted from Fiscal Duty, Import Excise and VAT provided that the proof or evidence of damage and cyclone impact is produced at the time of clearance.

Furthermore, the Fiji Revenue and Customs Service (FRCS) will also work with

## Prohibited Imports into Fiji

Goods classified as prohibited import are written off vehicles, counterfeit or imitation coins or bank notes, dangerous or illicit drugs, any seed or any portion of the Indian hemp and coca leaf, chemical gases and devices and apparatus designed for use with that gas, daggers, electric shock sticks, flick knives, gravity knives, swordsticks and Taser public defender, pornographic materials and movies etc. More information on prohibited and restricted goods can be accessed on this link *https://www.frcs. org.fj/wp-content/uploads/2012/10/CUS-TOMS-PROHIBITED-IMPORTS-AND-*

## Registered Charitable and Religious Organisations

Customs Concession Code 215 under the Customs Tariff Act 1986 allows duty concession to registered charitable and religious organisations on importation of goods to be distributed free to hospital patients and person in need of support, or are used for free treatment, assistance or education of such persons.

This concession is limited to goods regarded as basic needs such as clothes, shoes, beddings/pillows/mattresses, essential food items and medicines only for free distribution.

To qualify, charitable and religious organisations must be registered under the Charitable Trust Act and the Certificate of



# Warehouse Business Investment Package (WBIP)

O encourage investment in the business of warehousing and storage facilities, the Fijian Government introduced a new incentive package in the 2019/2020 National Budget to grant incentives to companies investing in warehouses and storage facilities.

Under the Warehouse construction incentive packages, there are two categories of incentives:

■ Warehouse Business Incentive Package (WBIP)- provides incentive to companies engaged in the business of hiring out or renting out a warehouse.

■ Warehouse Construction Incentive Package (WCIP) -incentive to companies constructing warehouse.

These incentive are available to companies only that are registered under Companies Act 2015.

It is important that businesses know about this incentive so that they can utilise the opportunities of growth provided to them by the Fijian Government.

In this week's Tax Talk we will focus on the Warehouse Business Incentive Package and the requirements for qualifying for this. Warehouse Construction Incentive Package will be discussed in next week's Tax Talk.

## Warehouse Business Investment Package (WBIP)

For this incentive package, the warehouse business means a company engaged in the business of hiring or renting out a warehouse. Service (FRCS) with the following documents:

■ the name and registered office of the company;

■ the names of all directors and shareholders of the company together, including shareholdings of the directors and shareholders;

■ a recent statement of all assets and liabilities of the company;

■ evidence of the company's ability to complete the warehouse business investment; and

■ estimates of the projected income from the new warehouse.

Additional information may be required however, this would be on a case by case basis depending on the circumstances surrounding the investment package and the application.

The following factors will be considered for provisional approval:

■ It must be a company registered under the Companies Act 2015;

The company must be engaged in the business of hiring out or renting out a ware-house;

■ The company must make warehouse business investment in a project with capital investment of over \$250,000. The capital investment amount includes cost of support infrastructure and consultancy fees but excludes the cost of land;

The project undertaken by such company in warehouse investment business must have commenced on or after 1 August 2019. This means that a company that has already commenced warehouse investment business will not qualify for the incentive;
 That the application is for a warehouse business investment;
 That the company intends to complete and is capable of completing the warehouse business investment; and
 That the warehouse business investment; and
 That the warehouse business investment; and

# Warehouse Business Investment Package (WBIP)



in initial establishment of the warehouse. However, 9% Value Added Tax (VAT) will apply on the importation of exempt goods. Though the goods that are imported qualifies as exempt goods, the company must satisfy that these goods cannot be produced locally as approval may not be given to goods that can be produced locally.

#### **Completion Timeline**

The company must complete the warehouse business investment within 24 months from the date on which provisional approval is granted.

If the company is unable to complete the project within the 24-month timeline due to unforeseen circumstances or circumstances beyond the control of the company such as natural disasters or unavailability of construction material in the market, then the company may write to the Minister for an extension of the time under which the warehouse construction must be completed. the importation of exempt goods under the provisional approval immediately become due and payable by the company.

However, the Minister may grant final approval, with or without any conditions, if satisfied that the company has in all respects completed the requirements of the project and the warehouse is fully operational.

Once final approval is granted by the Minister, the company's income becomes exempt from tax based on their investment levels in bands below:

■ in the case of a capital investment from \$250,000 to \$1,000,000, for a period of 5 consecutive fiscal years;

■ in the case of a capital investment from \$1,000,001 to \$2,000,000, for a period of 7 consecutive fiscal years; and

■ in the case of a capital investment of more than \$2,000,000, for a period of 13 consecutive fiscal years.

Warehouse Business Investment Package applies to a project with capital investment over \$250,000, where the project commences on or after 1 August 2019 and the warehouse is completed within 24 months from the date the provisional approval is granted. Capital investment includes the cost of support infrastructure and consultant fees but excludes the cost of land.

The approval for the Warehouse Business Investment Package is granted in two stages which are provisional and final approval.

#### **Provisional Approval**

Applications for provisional approval can be made to the Fiji Revenue and Customs

#### Duty Concessions

Once the provisional approval is granted, companies or entities engaged in the construction of warehouses will be entitled for exemption from fiscal and excise duty on the importation of raw materials, machinery and equipment (including parts and materials) required or used specifically

## **Final Approval**

A company which has been granted provisional approval and has completed the project within the timeline may apply to the Minister for final approval.

The application for final approval must be made in writing with supporting documents including fully audited final accounts showing the total cost of the project and a completion certificate from the local authority.

The Minister may decline the application for final approval to the company. In the event that the application for final

approval is declined, the duty payable for

•ono••aan jeano.

#### Revocation

The incentive may be revoked if:

■ any conditions of provisional or final approval are breached;

■ failure to comply with any of the requirements of the Income Tax (Warehouse Construction Incentives) Regulations 2019; or

■ being convicted of an offence under the Income Tax (Warehouse Construction Incentives) Regulations 2019 or any other written law relating to taxation, customs or excise.

For more information please email us on *info@frcs.org.fj*.



# Warehouse Construction Investment Package (WCIP)

HIS week's Tax Talk will focus on Warehouse Construction Incentive Package (WCIP).

WBIP and WCIP are part of the new Warehouse Incentive Package introduced by the Fijian Government in the 2019/2020 National Budget to encourage investment in business of warehousing and storage facilities.

## Warehouse Construction Investment Package (WCIP)

WCIP is available to companies constructing warehouses for its own business purposes. Warehouse construction investment applies a project with capital investment over \$1 million, where the project commences on or after 1 August 2019 and the warehouse is completed within 24 months from the date the provisional approval is granted. Capital investment includes the cost of support infrastructure and consultant fees but excludes the cost of land. The approval for the WCIP is granted in two stages which are provisional and final approval.

#### **Provisional Approval**

Applications for provisional approval can be made to the Fiji Revenue and Customs Service (FRCS) with the following information and documents:

- the name and details of the person;
- a current statement of all assets and liabilities of the person;
- the intended location and description of the project;
- a sketch plan showing the project;
- the estimated cost of the project;
- if the project is to be carried out in stages, a description and the estimated cost, of each stage and details of the proposed timetable;
- details of the proposed method of financing the project; and
- any other information the FRCS Chief Executive Officer may require.

The following factors will be considered for provisional approval:

■ The person has made a capital investment in the project of over \$1,000,000. The amount includes cost of support infrastructure and consultant fees but excludes the cost of land;

The project must have commenced on or after 1 August 2019. This means that a company that has already commenced warehouse investment

That the person completes the warehouse construction within 24 months from the date of grant of provisional approval.

Additional information on assets and liabilities of the company and nature and extent of the investment or any other information considered necessary.

#### **Completion Timeline**

The person must complete the construction within 24 months from the date on which provisional approval is granted. If the person is unable to complete the project within 24-month timeline due to unforeseen circumstances or circumstances beyond the control of the company such as natural disasters or unavailability of construction material in the market, then the company may write to the Minister for an extension of the time under which the warehouse construction must be completed.

## **Final Approval**

A person who has been granted provisional approval and has completed the project within the timeline may apply to the Minister for final approval. The application for final approval must be made in writing with supporting documents including fully audited final accounts showing the total cost of the project, a completion certificate from the local authority and a final plan showing the site, layout and surrounding areas of the proposed project.

The Minister may decline the application for final approval if the person has failed to complete the project or failed to comply with the conditions which provisional approval was granted. Once final approval is granted by the Minister, the person is entitled to the

# Warehouse Construction Investment Package (WCIP)



warehouse under Warehouse Construction Investment Package (WCIP). Their total level of investment is given below-

Cost of Land - S	S 500,000
Cost of Building	- \$2,500,000
TOTAL CAPEX	\$3,000,000

Will Jane Industries Limited be eligible for investment allowance under the WCIP? CEO's position: As the total capital investment is above \$2,000,000, Regulation 14(1) (b) applies under which investment allowance eligibility of Jane Industries Ltd. will be calculated as below:

Investment Allowance

- = 100% of total CAPEX minus cost of land
- (Taxable Income)
- =100% x (\$3,000,000 \$500,000)
- = 100% x 2,500,000
- = \$ 2,500,000

It should be noted that if the amount of capital expenditure is less than \$2,000,000 but above \$1,000,000, a person shall be entitled to investment allowance which will be taxable amount equaling 50% of CAPEX minus cost of the land.

following allowance:

	Capital Investment Amount	Amount not chargeable to tax
A	above \$1,000,000 to \$2,000,000	an amount of taxable income equal to 50% of capital expenditure incurred in the project minus cost of land acquired for the project
В	above \$2,000,000	an amount of taxable income equal to 100% of capital expenditure incurred in the project minus cost of land acquired for the project

Additionally, if the amount not charged to tax under A and B in the table above, and if that amount cannot be set off against taxable income of the person for the first year of income either after the commencement of operation or after the completion of the project then that that amount must be carried forward and be set off against the taxable income of the next successive fiscal years of income until the amount is wholly set off.

#### An example of this is shown below for better understanding:

Jane Industries Limited owns a supermarket chain. To store its trading stock, they want to build a warehouse. They receive final approval from the Minister for construction of

If a person has claimed investment allowance as per the above, then the person may claim depreciation under Income Tax 2015 and the amount claimed as investment allowance shall not be taken into account.

In the case of Fijian residents or non-residents, the investment allowance shall be given only if there is no shift of tax revenue to other countries.

It is also a requirement for the WCIP that if a project has been completed and an investment allowance exceeds the taxable income of the applicant or the taxable income from the applicant for the period ended on the next year of income after the project has been completed then the balance should be carried forward and set off against the taxable income of the applicant for the next succession years of income.

#### **Revocation (Cancellation)**

The incentive may be revoked if:

■ any conditions of provisional or final approval are breached;

■ failure to comply with any of the requirements of the Income Tax (Warehouse Construction Incentives) Regulations 2019; or

■ being convicted of an offence under the Income Tax (Warehouse Construction Incentives) Regulations 2019 or any other written law relating to taxation, customs or excise. For more information please email us on <u>info@frcs.org.fj</u>.



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# WHY USE careFIJI?

Download the careFIJI app to enable quicker detection and mitigate the spread of COVID-19



The careFIJI app will enable you, your loved ones and all Fijians to be contacted earlier and to be given COVID-19-related health advice, especially when you have crossed paths with a careFIJI user who is recently diagnosed with COVID-19.



digital contact tracing plays a significant role in achieving epidemic control in a more highly-targeted way — and thereby has the potential to limit the need for broader public health measures, such as lockdowns or curfews.



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## INSTALL THE APP AND ENABLE BLUETOOTH.

The careFIJI app only captures minimal relevant information such as the time, date and distance between other careFIJI users in an encrypted and anonymised form and this is securely stored in the mobile phone, and is not accessible to the users. The encrypted and anonymised relevant information is only accessed by the MHMS once you give your consent and when you send it from your mobile phone.

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Thursday December 31, 2020

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# For more information visit www.carefiji.digitalfiji.gov.fj







# PREPARE AN EMERGENCY KIT

include: rour emergency kit should

- Bottled or boiled drinking water
  Battery powered radio Torch
  Spare batteries First Aid Kit
- Essential medication Canned food
- Important Documents
  If you and your family need to move take your emergency kit, soap, change of clothes bedding/blankets, and essential kitchen utensils. to an evacuation center, ensure you



# STAY INFORMED AND IN-TOUCH

Stay informed:

- Tune into disaster updates on Radio or TV Check official websites such as:
- National Disaster Management Office www.ndmo.gov.fj
- Fiji Meteorological Service
- Ministry of Health and Medical Services www.health.gov.fj

GET YOUR CHILDREN FULLY IMMUNISED Disasters can lead to increased risks of serious illnesses that can make children sick. Protect your children from possible outbreaks by making they are fully immunised well before a disaster happens.

# CHECK YOUR SURROUNDINGS

Cheack that your home and property are secure and clear of any dangers such as fallen trees or power lines that could harm you or your family
 Ensure your pets and livestock are safe
 Check news updates to stay informed and be ready to evacuate if needed

# IN-TOUCH

Know where your family members are at all times

· Cover or store food and drinking water in containers

Breastfeeding mothers should continue to



THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2020 | 16 PAGES | ISSUE 20 VOL 11 | WWW.FIJI.GOV.FJ

2020 has been an extremely trying year for Fiji. In the wake of severe Cyclone Yasa's climate charged devastation, families have lost their homes, farmers have lost crops and livestock, and we are only beginning the hard work of reclaiming what this latest storm has stolen from us.

Jioji Konrote Fijian President

President, Major-General (Ret'd) Jioji Konrote with students of Suva Christian School during the school's visit to the State House in Suva. Photo: FELIX LESINAIVALU

# **'Embrace the spirit of gratitude'**

#### FELIX LESINAIVALU

**G INSPITE** of the trials of this year, we can find strength in our embrace of the spirit of gratitude."

President Major-General (Ret'd) Jioji Konrote, in his Christmas message to Fijians, invited all Fijians to embrace the spirit of hope and the promise of forgiveness.

"2020 has been an extremely trying year for Fiji. In the wake of severe Cyclone Yasa's climate charged devastation, families have lost their homes, farmers have lost crops and livestock, and we are only begin-

ning the hard work of reclaiming what this latest storm has stolen from us."

"In humanity's ongoing struggle against the deadly COVID-19 Coronavirus, Fijian businesses and the families that count on them are still suffering from a devastating global economic crisis, while families and friends remain separated by border closures as the pandemic rages overseas."

President Konrote added that despite these challenges, Fijians must not give in to despair.

The Head of State said, "We are here, and we are standing, we are strong, and we are

looking forward eagerly to a brighter day and future."

He said the challenges of contagion and climate change have taught humanity profound lessons which is that people can adapt, when they need to, to protect themselves and find new ways of going about their lives and business.

President Konrote said this year Fiji celebrated 50 years of independence, and we can be proud of what we have built in that short span.

"We Fijians are a tenacious and resilient people," the President said.

"We are a brave people and a people of greatness. We have built a multicultural nation where all people are equal, regardless of ethnicity, religion, age, gender or disability."

President Konrote further stated that Fijians have gained an important voice in the world, as a leader in the fight against climate change and as one of the world's great peacekeeping nations.

"We can hold our accomplishments up proudly to those of any nation in the world."



फीजीयन सरकार को समुद्री आँधी यासा से पहुँची क्षति के बाद राहतकार्य और प्रतिकृया का संचालन करने में विदेश से लगातार मदद मिल रही है। ब्रिटिश सरकार ने पिछले हफ्ते लोगों की भलाई संबंधी सामान दान किया। जो सामान दान में मिले है में शामिल है छाँवनी तथा टूल किट जो समुद्री आँधी यासा से असर पड़े चार सौ बत्तीस (432) परिवारों को राहत पहुँचाऐगा। युनाएटड किंगडम और औस्ट्रेलिया के बीच मानवीय साझेदारी समझौते के तहत रोयल औस्ट्रेलियन एर्या फोर्स यह सामान लेकर यह सामान स्वीकार करते हुए ग्रामीन और बा हरी द्वीपों के विकास और प्राकृतिक प्रबंन के सहायक मंत्री विजय नाथ ने कहा कि सरकार, ब्रिटिश निवासियों की इस सहायता के बहुत आभारी है। सहायक मंत्री ने कहा कि दान किए गए सामान आँधी से गम्भीर रूप से असर पड़े लोगों को ज़रूर लम्बे समय तक सहायता पहुँचाऐगा। हालही में प्रशान्य के ब्रिटिश मंत्री लोड ज़ेक गोल्डस्मीथ ने इस मानवीय सहायता के पहुँचने की घोषणा की थी। असर पड़े फीजीयन लोगों के लिए ब्रिटिश सरकार की सहानुभूति प्रकट करते हुए मंत्री गोल्डस्मीथ

फीजी आया।

"औस्टेलियन सरकार की सहायता से वे आश्रय पहुँचाने वाले सामान फीजी लाने में सफल रहे है जिसके लिए वे उन्हें धन्यवाद दे रहे है। वे फीजीयन लोगों को और सहायता प्रदान करने के लिए तैयार है," मंत्री गोल्डस्मीथ ने कहा। ब्रिटिश सरकार इन्टरनेशनल फेडेरैशन ओफ दी रेड कोस डिज़ास्टा रिलीफ इमेजेन्सी फन्ड का नया मूल दानी देश हो गया है जिन्होंने पहले ही सताह हज़ार सात सौ लोगों को शुरूआती राहत देने के लिए आर्थिक सहाय ता दे चुका है जिनमें लोगों को फेस्ट अईड,

ने कहा कि मुश्किल की इस घड़ी में वे दिल

से फीजी के लोगों के साथ है।

टापुलिन, छाँवनी के सामान, सुरक्षित पानी, घर के सामान, स्वच्छता के किट दिए गए। फिलहाल, आँधी से असर पड़े लोगों की मदद करने के लिए औस्ट्रेलिया ने और भी राहत सामान भेजा है। रोयल औस्ट्रेलियन एर्या फोस C-17 विमान और भी राहत सामान लेकर नान्दी अंतराष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डा पहुँचा। औस्ट्रेलिया इस बात का ध्यान रख रहा है कि वो फीजीयन सरकार को राहत सामान उपलब्द करने में सर्मथन देते रहे। इन राहत सामानों में छ: सौ चालिस शेल्टा किट्स, दो सौ अस्सी स्वच्छता के किट, मेडिकल सप्लाएस, चईन सौ, सोलर स्ट्रीट लाईट और लाईटिंग सप्लाईस शामिल है।

रोनल देव



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# फेस्ट हौम ग्रान्ट से फीजीवासियों को सहायता

रोनल देव

हाउज़िंग मंत्रालय फीजीवासियों की मदद करने के लिए बड़ी ज़िम्मेदारी उठा रहा है ताकि हौम लौन ग्रान्ट के ज़रिए घरों के निमार्ण में वृद्धि हो। मंत्री प्रेमिला कुमार का कहना है कि फीजीवासियों को अपना पहला घर बनाने के लिए फेस्ट हौम ग्रान्ट को बढ़ाकर तीस हज़ार डोलर करने के बाद से कई लोगों ने अपने सपनों को पूरा किया है। अभी तक फेस्ट हौम/फेस्ट लेन्ड ग्रान्ट असिस्टन्स कार्यकम के तहत दो सौ साठ (260) अर्जियों को स्वीकृति दी गई है जहाँ तीन दशमलव सात (3.7) मिलियन डोलर लागत सहायता दी जाऐगी।

''इस सहायता से स्थानीय आर्थिक और व्यापारिक गतिविधियों में भी वृद्धि देखी गई तथा इससे कई फीजीवासियों को नौकरियाँ भी मिली है। इसके अलावा मंत्रालय, अनौपचारिक बस्तियों में सुधार लाने वाले एक कार्यक्रम के तहत अनौपचारिक बस्तियों में बेहतर सुविधाएं उपलब्द करने पर काम कर रहा है। लेन्डूसासा, दुवु और वाईदामुदामु में चार सौ पचास घरों को नियान्बे श्शशत सालों की लीस दी जाएगी," मंत्री कुमार ने कहा।

उनके अनुसार भ्रष्टाचार ही सबसे बड़ी चुनौती है जो बेहतर सेवा प्रदान करने में बाधा डालता है क्योंकि भ्रष्ट कार्यवाईयों की वजह से प्रणाली में लोगों का विश्वास कम होने लगता है जिससे आम जनता का पैसा बर्बाद होता है तथा कार्यक्षमता बिगड़ता है।

''हाउजिंग क्षेत्र ईमानदारी का उच्चतम स्तर हासिल करने के लिए वर्तमान समय में पूरी समीक्षा से गुज़र रहा है। हाउजिंग अथोरिटी में



हाउजिंग, लौकल गवमन्ट तथा सामाजिक विकास मंत्री प्रेमिला कुमार चित्र: प्रदान किया गया

सभी छानबीनों के परिणामों ने हाउँजिंग क्षेत्र के आस-पास के कानूनी और शासन ढाँचे को मजबूत करने पर प्रकाश डाला है," मंत्री कुमार ने कहा। पोलिटी रिव्यू अच्छी तरह आगे बड़ रहा है तथा योग्य लोगों को ही लोट्स दिया जाए।

स्पेशल ओडिट और पब्लिक इंक्युवाएरी हुई है। मंत्रालय नए अनऔपचारिक बस्तियों में लोट्स प्रदान करने वाली निति पर जनता से विचार लिए जा रहे है। इन प्रयासों के नतीजों से नया नेशनल हाउजिंग एक्ट बनाया जाएगा जो इन विषयों पर उनके अनुसार मंत्रालय का नेशनल हाउजिंग गौर करने के अलावा ध्यान में रखेगा कि सबसे

## लम्बासा मार्केट बिकरेताओं के लिए स्टोल फीस माफ की गई रोनल देव

लौकल गवमन्ट मंत्री प्रेमिला कुमार ने लम्बासा मार्केट में शाख-भाजी, फल तथा जड़ वाले भोजन बेचने वाले बिकरेताओं को पाँच सप्ताह के लिए स्टोल फीस भरने से माफी देने की घोषणा की है। लम्बासा में मार्केट बिकरेताओं से बात-चित करने के बाद यह फैसला किया गया है। ''वनुआ लेवू से लौटने पर मुझे इस बात का एहसास हुआ है कि समुद्री आँधी यासा से हुई तबाही से किसानों और बिकरेता किसतनाव से गुज़र रहे है। उत्पादनों की भारी कमी हो गई है तथा बिकरेता आँधी के असर के कारण

मुश्किलों का सामना कर रहें है। शनिवार को मार्केट में अन्य सामानों के मिलान में बहुत कम शाख-भाजी और अन्य कृषि उत्पादन बेचे जा रहे थे," मंत्री कुमार ने कहा। मंत्री कुमार ने ज़ोर दिया है कि इक्तीस जनवरी, टज्ञटघ तक लम्बासा मार्केट के सभी बिकरेता जो शाख-सब्जि, फल तथा जड़ वाले भोजन बेचते है को स्टोल फीस देने से माँफी दी गई है। ''पाँच सप्ताह के लिए फीस की माँफी से तुरन्त सहायता होगी।

जनवरी महीने के अंत में फैसले पर पुन: विचार किया जाऐगा कि क्या इस सहायता को जारी रखना ज़रूरी है या नहीं," मंत्री ने कहा।



पिछले शनिवार को लम्बासा मार्केट में बहुत कम शाख–सब्ज़ि बेची जा रही थी इसलिए सरकार ने लम्बासा के मार्केट बिकरेताओं को राहत देने के लिए पाँच सप्ताह तक स्टोल फीस माफ कर दी है चित्र: प्रदान किया गया

**1**، بر >

रोनल देव

लौकल गवमन्ट मंत्रालय ने कुछ माकेट बिकरेताओं के झूठे दावों का खण्डन किया है कि समुद्री आँधी यासा के कारण उनके गैर-कानुनी स्टोल्स हटाए गए लेकिन उन्हें मार्केट में स्थाई यानि पेमनन्ट जगह नहीं दी गई। मंत्रालय के स्थाई सचीव डिमिटी फाएफा ने कहा कि पिछले हफ्त समुद्री आँधी यासा के दौरान सुरक्षा कारणों से म्युनिसिपल काउन्सिल ने रास्ते के किनारे सभी मार्केट बिकरेताओं को अपना गैरकानूनी स्टोल्स हटाने को कहा था। अगर ये स्टोल्स नहीं हटाए गए थे तो

जनता की सुरक्षा के लिए कौंसिल को यह हटाना पड़ा था। ''मकोई और तेम्बारा के बिकरेता, मकोई और नरेरे के निवासियों को सेवा प्रदान करना जारी रख सकते है। वुनिदोन्गो मार्केट के अन्दर बहुत सी जगह खाली है जबकि बिकरेता रास्ते के किनारे गैरकानूनी स्टोल्स बनाकर उत्पादन बेच रहे थे। रास्ते के किनारे वाले बिकरेताओं के पास अब मार्केट के अन्दर कानूनन जगह हो गई है।"फाएफा ने बिकरेताओं को आशवासन दिया है कि वे किसी को बिना उचित जगह दिए बगैर नहीं हटाऐंगे। अब रास्ते पर गाड़ियों की भीड़ कम हो गई है

तथा जो लोग स्टोल चाहते है खास करके वृद्ध महिलाए और युवा लोग अब सुरक्षित और साफ जगह पर अपना सामान बेच सकते है। स्थाई सचीव ने कहा कि नउसोरी और नसिनू टाउन काउन्सिल उन बिकरेताओं का स्वागत करनेऔर उनके साथ मिलकर काम करने को तैयार है जो पहले गैर कानूनी स्टोल्स पर सामान बेचा करते थे। उन्होंने कहा कि यह कहना गलत होगा कि काउन्सिल किसी को कानूनी तरीके से सामान बेचने को रोकने की कोशिश कर रही है। ''मैं पुष्टी कर सकती हूँ कि समुद्री आँधी यासा के आने से

पहले बिकरेताओं ने गैरकानूनी स्टोल्स से सामान हटा लिया था। सामानों को हटाने में काउन्सिल श ामिल नहीं थी। मैं यह भी पुष्टी कर सकती हूँ कि रास्ते के किनारे गैर– कानूनी रूप से सामान बेचने वाले बिकरेता जिनके स्टोल हटाए गए थे ने नसिनू और नउसोरी टाउन काउन्सिल को संपर्क किया और अपना सामान वसूल करने में सफल रहे जो काउन्सिल के डेपो पर रखे गए थे।" सभी काउन्सिल उन लोगों को मुनिसिपल मार्केट में सामान बेचने के लिए प्रोतसाहित करती हैजो ऐसा करके अपनी रोज़ी रोटी चलाना चाहते है। मंत्रालय सभी

बिकरेताओं से माँग कर रहा है कि वे कानूनी तरीके से मार्केट में अपना सामान बेचें न कि रास्ते के किनारे गैरकानूनी स्टोल बनाए," फाएफा ने आगे कहा। जिन मार्केट बिकरेताओं के स्टोल रास्ते के किनारे से हटाए गए है के लिए काउन्सल के मार्केट में खाली स्टोल उपलब्द है। लँगेरे-नसिनू मार्केट, नउसोरी मार्केट में स्टोल्स उपलब्द है, वुनिदोन्गो मार्केट में तिरपन (53), सूवा मार्केट में तीस , नमाका मार्केट में भी तीस स्टोल खाली है, नान्दी मार्केट में पचास, बा मार्केट में पंद्राह तथा लौतोका मार्केट में पचास स्टोल खाली है।

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# आँधी यासा के बाद एफ एन पी एफ की सहायता

रोनल देव

फीजी नेशनल प्रोविडेन्ड फन्ड के सदस्य जो ऐसे इलाकों में रहते है जहाँ समुद्री आँधी यासा

से भारी क्षति पहुँची है, अपना जीवन फिर से सवाँरने के उदेश्य से फन्ड से

पैसे निकाल सकते है।

एफ एन पी एफ बोर्ड ने स्वीकृति दी है कि समुद्री आँधी यासा राहत सहायता के लिए एक घर के सदस्य केवल दो हज़ार डोलर फन्ड से निकाल सकते है। यह सहायता केवल घरों के नुकसान के लिए है तथा खेतों और पशुओं को हुए नुकसान के लिए यह सहायता नहीं है। एफ एन पी एफ के सदस्य अपने फन्ड के जेनरल अकाउन्ट से कम से कम एक सौ डोलर तक निकाल सकते है। फन्ड की इंन्सपेक्शन टीमें वनुआ लेवु और तावेयुनी में असर पड़े इलाकों का दौरा कर रही है। एफ एन पी एफ के चीफ एक्ज़ेटिव चाओची कोरोई का कहना है कि राहत सहायता के लिए फन्ड को अपने सदस्यों की ज़रूरतों को पता है तथा नुकसान वाले स्थान पर जाकर जाँच करने तथा अर्जियाँ भरने से यह तय होता है। कोरोई के अनुसार समुद्री आँधी यासा से कितनी क्षति पहुँची है यह बात धीरे-धीरे सामने आ रही है तथा जाँच जबकि चल रही है तो ऐसे में फन्ड ने नेचरल

डिज़ास्टा रिलीफ शुरू की है जो असर पड़े सदस्यों को फन्ड से पैसे निकालने के लिए अर्जी लगाने का मौका प्रदान करता है। उन्होंने कहा कि पिछली नेचरल डिज़ास्टा रिलीफ की तरह इस बार भी सदस्य राहत सहायता के लिए अपने जेनरल अकाउन्ट से पैसे निकाल सकते है।

कोरोई ने यह भी कहा कि घर को हुई क्षति को देखते हुए अगर पैसे कम पड़े तो फन्ड के सदस्य हमेशा हाउजिंग असिस्टन्स के लिए अर्ज़ी लगा सकते है। फन्ड की टीमें



प्रधानमंत्री वोरेन्गे बइनिमारामा आँधी यासा की तबाही के बाद वहाँ नुकसान आँकने और राहत सहायता देने पहुँचे चित्रः ननिसे नईमिला

साईट पर फोर्म देने से पहले यह जाँच करेगी कि फन्ड का सदस्य फन्ड से ज़्यादा पैसे निकाल सकता है या नहीं। ग्रामीन इलाकों के सदस्यों को अपना वेलिड फोटो आए डी, बेन्क अकाउन्ट की जानकारी तथा कोरो के

मुखिया और एडवाएज़री काउन्सला की स्वीकृति चाहिए।

शहरी इलाकों के निवासियों को अपने निवास स्थान का प्रमाण देने के लिए बिजली और पानी का बिल प्रदान करना होगा।





#### रोनल देव

कोविड–19 का असर लगातार नौकरी वाले स्थान पर किस तरह से पड़ रहा हैक ा पता लगाने के लिए रोज़गार मंत्रालय वहाँ नए साल में एक और सर्वेक्षण करेगा। मंत्री परवीन कुमार ने कहा कि इससे वे न ज़र रख सकेंगे कि रोजगार पर इस महामारी का असर कम करने के लिए वे उचित हस्तक्षेप कर रहे है या नहीं।

मंत्री ने कहा कि स्वास्थ्य मंत्रालय के साथ मिलकर वे स्थानीय कर्मचारियों के स्वास्थ्य तथा सुरक्षा को ध्यान मेरखकर नौकरी वाले स्थानों पर ओ हई च एस जागरूकता, इन्सपेक्शन तथा ओडिट जारी करेंगे।

उन्होंने कहा कि इस साल मई और जूनमें देशभर में नौकरी वाले स्थानों पर जो सर्वेक्ष ण हुआ था वो यह देखने के लिए था कि कोरोनावायरस का इन स्थानों पर कैसे असर पडा था।

मैंने इन आँकड़ों पर गौर किया था जिससे पता चला कि जितने कर्मचारियों

पर सर्वेक्षण किया गया था उनमें से तिरालिस (43) प्रतिशत कर्मचारियों पर अ सर पड़ा था," मंत्री ने कहा।

उनके अनुसार असर पड़े कर्म चारियों में तिरपन (53%) प्रतिशत पश्चिमी विभाग के थे, केन्द्रीय विभाग के उनचालिस (39%) प्रतिशत तथा उत्तरी विभ ाग के आठ प्रतिशत

कर्मचारी थे।

नौकरी के पाँच क्षेत्र जिनपर सबसे ज़्यादा असर पड़ा में हौल सेल तथा रिटैल,होटल, खाने-पीने तथा टूरिज़म, उत्पादक, कोन्सट्रक्शन, ट्रान्सपोट तथा स्टो रज व्यवसाय शामिल है।

उन्होंने असर पड़े मज़दूरों तथा मज़दूर मालिकों की सूजबूज तथा हिम्मत की प्रशंसा की जिन्होंने रोज़ी रोटी कमाने का दू सरा ज़रिया अपनाया।

''हमें हमेशा सभी फीजीवासियों के स्वास्थ्य तथा भलाई को ध्यान में रखते हुए अपना अनुशासन तथा नेतागिरी बरकरार रखना चाहिए," मंत्री बाला ने का। उन्होंने कहा कि काम करने वाला एक स्वस्थ्य और सुरक्षित जगह सबसे ज़्यादां उत्पादक स्थान भी होता है। उन्होंने हमारी सीमाओं तथा अस्पतालों में काम करने वालों तथा हमेशा तैनात रहकर अपनी और अपने चाहने वालों की ज ान दाँव पर लगाकर अपनी भुमिका

निभाने वालों का भी आभार व्यक्त किया।

रोनल देव

शुरूआती जाँच से पता चला है कि तेरह दिन पहले समुद्री आँधी यासा से वनुआलेवू में एक हज़ार पाँच सौ (1500) घर नष्ट हुए। कमिशना नोदन उरईया रईनिमा का कहना है

कि पिछले रविवार को नुकसान की शुरूआती जाँच पुरी होने के बाद यह बात सामने आई ह। रईनिमा ने कहा कि आँधी के कारण छ: हज़ार से ज़्यादा घरों को कुछ हद तक नुकसान पहुँचा। उनके अनुसार लेकुतु और वाईनूनू डिस्ट्रिक्ट

नुकसान पहुँचा है। वईनुनु में नब्बे घर नष्ट हुए है जबकि एक सौ छ: घरों के कुछ भाग को क्षति पहुँची है।

में स्थिति चिन्ताजनक है। लेकुतु में एक सौ घर नष्ट हो गए जबकि एक सौ बनयान्बे घरों के कुछ भाग को

वनुआलेवू में एक हज़ार पाँच सौ घर नष्ट हुए

वनुआ लेवू की एक महिला आँधी यासा में नष्ट हुए अपने घर के आगे, अपने घर को दोबारा बनाने में मदद की माँग करती हुई चित्र:अज़ारिया खान

वास्थ्य मंत्रालय के साथ मिलकर हम स्थानीय कर्मचारियोंके स्वास्थ्य तथा सुरक्षा को ध्यान में रखकर नौकरी वाले स्थानों पर ओ हईच एस जागरूकता, इन्सपेक्शन तथा ओडिट जारी करेंगे परवीन कुमार रोज़गार मंत्री

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अटेनी जेनरल अईयाज़ सईयद खईयूम बोदा बुलिलेका लम्बासा में पैतालिस (45) वर्षिए किसान रामेश चन्द के परिवार वालों से मिलने बजे के करीब तेज़ हवा से इस परिवार के घर का छत उड गया तथा चन्द्र ने अपनी पत्नी और बेटी को खाट के नीचे जाने को कहा। वो अपने अट्ठारह साल के बेटे शाम चन्द के साथ दिवार के पास बैठा था जब अचानक दोनों के उपर दिवार गिरी। बेटा लगभग आधे घण्टें दिवार के







कृषि मंत्रालय समुद्री आँधी यासा के बाद किसानों को अपने पैरों पर खडा होने के लिए जरूरी सहायता प्रदान कर रहा है। जिन किसानों की फसलें नुष्ट हुई है उन्हें बीज दिए जा रहे है जो जल्द से जल्द तैयार होंगे तथा किसानों को भोजन की कमी का सामना नहीं करना





# प्रधानमंत्री एक सप्ताह के लिए उत्तरी विभाग के दौरे पर

हो गया है। लोगों को बताया गया है कि जैसे-जैसे सुरक्षित होगा बिजली की सप्लाई सामान्य की जाऐगी। कई निवासी इस बात से बेहद खुश आशवासन दिया है उनके लिए थे कि मुश्किल की इस घड़ी में प्रधानमंत्री उनके साथ खड़े थे उनसे पानी और बिजली की और उन्हें आशवासन दिया गया सेवा जल्द से जल्द समान्य है कि सरकार से जो कुछ बन करने की भी माँग की क्यों पड़ेगा लोगों का जीवन सुधारने कि उत्तरी विभाग में कई जगह के लिए मदद की जॉऐगी।

चित्र:अज़ारिया फरीन



बिजली के तार टूट गए है तथा





# औस्ट्रेलियन सरकार ने चार मिलियन डोलर से ज़्यादा लागत सहायता पहुँचाई

समुद्री आँधी यासा द्वारा फीजी के उत्तरी विभाग में क्षति पहुँचाने के कुछ ही घण्टें बाद हमारे पड़ोसी देश औस्ट्रेलिया और न्यु ज़ीलेन्ड अपने एर्याफोस् विमान में राहत सामान लेकर नान्दी अंतराष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डा पहुँचा। चित्रःसूचना मंत्रालय















# अटेनी-जेनरल आँधी यासा से असर पड़े परिवार से मिलने लम्बासा गए

नीचे था जब पड़ोसियों ने आकर दिवार हटाई और उसे बचाया लेकिन रामेश चन्द की मौत घटनास्तल पर ही हो गई। इस परिवार का पूरा गए थे जिनकी मौत आँधी के दौरान उनपर दिवार 🛛 घर नष्ट हो गया है तथा वे अभी अपने पडोसियों गिरने से हुई थी। सत्राह डिसम्बर की रात आठ के साथ रह रहे है। अटेनी जेनरल के साथ शिक्षा मंत्री रौज़ी अक्बर तथा कृषि मंत्री डाक्टर महेन्द्र रेड्डी भी परिवार को अपनी सहानुभूति प्रकट करने और सहारा देने गए।

चित्र:अज़ारिया फरीन











# कृषि मंत्रालय किसानों को सहायता दे रहा है

पडेगा। जिन किसानों ने अपने पालत जानवर गवाएं है को मुर्गी के बच्चे बाँटे जा रहे है तथा मंत्रालय ने जानवरों के डाक्टरों को भी भेजा था जिन्होंने मुफुत में बीमार और तूफान में घायल जानवरों की देखरेख की।

चित्र: कृषि मंत्रालय









#### रोनल देव

देश में जबकि तीस दिनों के लिए प्राकृतिक आपदा की स्थिति की घोषणा की गई है तो ऐसे में समद्र, हवा और ज़मीन की यातायात के ज़रिए आपातकालीन राहत सामान पहुँचाने को प्राथमिक्ता दी जा रही है।

ग्रामीन तथा बाहरी द्वीपों के विकास तथा प्रा कृतिक विपत्ति के प्रबंधन मंत्री इनिया सेरूईरा तु ने ज़ोर दिया है कि पहले सात और चौदह दिन बहुत नाजुक थे तथा ठीक होने के इस चरण में सरकार से जो कुछ हो सकता वो कि या जा रहा है जो लम्बे समय तक सभी साझे

दारों की मदद करेगी।

''जब ऐसी स्थिति में प्राकृतिक आपदा की घोषणा होती है तो ऐसे में ज़मीन, हवा और समुद्र के द्वारा आपातकालीन संचालन के लिए यातायात को प्राथमिक्ता दी जाती है और यह सभीसाझेदारों के लिए स्पष्ट होना चाहिए," मंत्री ने कहा। मंत्री सेरूईरातु के अनुसार सरकार की प्रतिकिया संचालन से उत्तरी विभाग में भारी सुधार देखा गया है। मंत्री ने उत्तरी विभाग में कर रही टीमों को याद दिलाया कि वे उन फीजीवासियों के साथ हम ददी से पेश आए जिनपर समुद्री आँधी यासा के कारण हुई क्षति से बुरा असर पड़ा है। "हमें इस कठिन समय में जहाँ तक हो

सके असर पड़े इलाकों में लोगों का दुख सम झना चाहिए।"

"हमदर्दी बहुत महत्वपुर्ण है औत हम सभी के लिए एक बहुत अच्छा मार्गदर्शक सिद्धाँत होगा। जिन छोटी-छोटी चीज़ों को हम कम कर सकते हैं और उन बोझों को कम करने के लिए जो समुदायों में है, वे वास्तव में लम्बे समय के लिए मदद करेंगे," मंत्री सेरूईरातु ने कहा। उनके अनुसार द्वीप पर रास्ते साफ हो गए है तथा खुल गए है जिस से टीमों को शुरूआती दौर में नुकसान आँकने का मौका मिला,जबकि वनुआ लेवू में धीरे-धीरे बिजली और पानी सप्लाई सामान्य हो रही है।

# शिक्षा मंत्री को समुद्री आँधी यासा पुनर्वास सहायता मिली

#### रोनल देव

शिक्षा मंत्री रौज़ी अक्बर ने फीजी अईड मे लबन तथा अई बी एस फीजी को धन्यवाद दिया है जिन्होंने समुद्री आँधी यासा में न ष्ट हुए धरों को फिर से बनाने के लिए छत बनाने की समाग्री दानकी है।

फीजी अईड मेलबर्न ने सत्राह हज़ार चार सौ डोलर श्ण्घभ,णज्ञज्ञत्त लागत बारह फीट रूफिंग आईन की पाँच सौ शीट दान कि या जबकि अई बी एस फीजी ने तीन हज़ार चार सौ अस्सी डोलर (\$3,480) लागत ब ारह फीट वाले रूफिंग आईन का एक सौशी ट दान किया।

मंत्री अक्बर उन अड़सठ इधय स्कूलों की हालत पर पुन: विचार करने उत्तरी विभाग लौटी जिन्हें अभी राहत केन्द्र की तरह उप योग किया जा रहा है तथा नए साल में स्क ल खोलने की तारीख पर भी विचार कर ने गई है। अपने दौरे पर मंत्री छत बनानेक यह सामान उन घरों को प्रदान करेंगी जो समुद्री आँधी में बुरी तरह क्षतिग्रस्त हुए है। मंत्री अक्बर ने उन सभी लोगों को धन्यवा द दिया है जिन्होंने निस्सवार्थ भाव से साम ने आकर लोगों का जीवन सुधारने और सम ाजको फिर से सवाँरने के लिए आगे आकर दान किए है।

''इस साल किसमस के दौरान हम समुद ो आँधी यासा से हुई तबाही के कारण लो गों का जीवन और समाजों को सुधारने म ंचुनौतियों का सामना कर रहे है लेकिन ए क राष्ट्र के रूप में हमारा संकल्प और स ाहस की जीत होगी तथा हम उद्येश्य और विश्वास तथा भावना के साथ नए सिरे से





रोनल देव

कृषि मंत्रालय गौर कर रहा है कि वे उन परिवारों की मदद कैसे कर सकता है जिनकी फसलें और भोजन के अन्य स्रोत समुद्री आँधी यासा में नष्ट हो गए है।

मंत्री डाक्टर महेन्द्र रेड्डी का कहना है कि बुआ, मुदावाता, दकाउन्ड्रोवे, दक्षिणी लाउ तथा लोमाईविति में कई परिवार भोजन और पोषण की ज़रूरतें पुरी करने के लिए कृषि क्षेत्र पर ही निर्भर है।

"असर पड़े इलाकों में अलग-अलग बीज के दस हज़ार पेक्स बाँटें जा रहे है। भोजन की ज़रूरतें पुरी करने के लिए यह सुविधा जारी रहेगी। इसको और सहारा देने के लिए एक लाख पचास हज़ार (150,000) कुमाला तथा कसेरा की कटिंग और तीस हज़ार बेले की कटिंग बाँटी जाऐगी। यह फसलें जल्द से उघते है तथा किसानों को काफी राहत मिलेगी।

मंत्री रेड्डी ने कहा कि पहले यह देखा गया है कि मंत्रालय का घर-आँगन में फसल बोने वाला कार्यक्रम (हौम गाडिनिंग इनिशिएटिंव) बहुत ही सफल साबित हुआ है जिससे लोगों को पोषक भोजन मिलने के अलावा भोजन खरीदने का खर्च नहीं उठाना पड़ेगा।

उन्होंने आगे कहा कि मधुमक्खी का पालन करने वाले किसानों को मंत्रालय मुफ्त में चीनी बाँटेगा क्योंकि तुफान की वजह से कई जगह पर फूल नष्ट हो गए है जबकि अनुमान है कि मधुमक्खी के एक हज़ार पाँच सौ छत्ते है।

''फसलों के अलावा मंत्रालय असर पड़े इलाकों के किसानों को मुफ्त में मुर्गी के बच्चे भी दे रहा है जिससे मुर्गी पालन में सहयोग दिया जाऐगा।"

उन्होंने कहा कि वहाँ कई लोगों की प्राथमिकता है, स्वास्थ्य और भलाई, भोजन. पानी और घर।

मंत्रालय ने अपनी टीमों को असर पड़े इलाकों में भेज दिया है जिनके जानवरों के दो डाक्टर भी है जो मुफ्त में किसानों के उन पालतु जानवरों की देख रेख कर रहे है जिन्हें आँधी के दौरान चोट-चपेट लगी है या उनपर किसी तरह से असर पड़ा। असर पड़े इलाकों में पशुओं ने तनाव का सामना किया है इसलिए उन्हें छाया में रखें और पर्याप्त पानी और आहार दें।

''सत्राह डिसम्बर की शाम को बुआ, मुदावाता, दकाउन्ड्रोवे, दक्षिणी लाउ तथा लोमाईविति में घरों से ज़्यादा समुद्री आँधी यासा ने लोगों की फसलें, पशुओं तथा पेड़-पौधों को नष्ट किया है। कई लोगों ने अपना सबकुछ खो दिया है। हम इस बात का ध्यान

निमार्ण करेंगे," मुश्किल की इस घड़ी में स्थानीय और दुनिया भर में बसे फीजीवासियों ने नि स्सवार्थ भाव से अपने साथी फीजीवासि यों की मदद के लिए पुकार सुनी तथा उनके साथ खड़े हुए," मंत्री अक्बर ने आभार व्यक्त करते हुए कहा। मंत्री अक्बर ने राष्ट्रीय राहतकार्य में योगद ान देने के लिए अई बी एस फीजी तथा फ ीजी अईड मेलबर्न को धन्यवाद दिया तथा प्राकृतिक विपत्ति से असर पडे फीजीयन स माज की सहायता करने जैसा अच्छा काम करने के लिए उनकी प्रशंसा की। फीजी अईड मेलबर्न ने इसी साल जून में शिक्षा मंत्रालय को एक सौ पचास कोम्पयु टस, दस प्रिन्टस तथा एक सौ माउस और कीबोड्स दान किया था जो उन ग्रामीन स कूलों के लिए था जिनपर समुद्री आँधी हेरेल

न परिवार की सहायता करती आ रही है तथा प्राकृतिक विपत्तियों से असर पड़े समाजों की मदद करने में फीजीयन सरकार का सर्मथन कर रही है। मंत्री अक्बर ने राष्ट्रीय राहत कार्य में हाथ ब ने वाले अधिकारी, स्वास्थ्य कर्मचारी,

ड का बुरा असर पड़ा था। मेलबर्न स्थित यह

स्वयं सेवकों, सबसे पहले मदद करने वालों संस्था सन् दो हज़ार नौ से ज़रूरतमंद फीजीय तथा व्यापारियों को धन्यवाद दिया है। ''हम औस्द्रेलिया और न्यु ज़िलेन्ड सरकार क अभारी है जो हमेशा ज़रूरत के समय हमे स हारा देनेके लिए हाज़िर हो जाती है। हम इस समय औस्ट्रेलियन डिफेन्स फोर्स के : सौ से ज्यादा सैनिकों को फीजी भेजने के टाने के लिए सेना, नौसेना, पुलिस, आग बुझा लिए भी आभारी है जो राहतकार्य में भारी संह योग दे रहे है।

शिक्षा मंत्री रौजी अक्बर हालही उत्तरी विभाग के दौरे पर क्षति पहँचे एक स्कूल के बाहर छात्रो के साथ चित्र: शिक्षा मंतालय

रख रहे है कि वहाँ के निवासी जल्द से जल्द अपने पैरों पर खड़े हो जाए। आँधी के बाद हमें बहुत काम करना है," डाक्टर रेड्डी ने कहा। उन्होंने फीजीवासियों को आशवासन दिया है कि इस कठिन समय में उन्हें लगातार स्थानीय रूप से उघाए गए ताजे, पोषक उत्पादन मिलते रहेंगे खास करके जो उत्पादन असर पडे इलाकों में होते थे। समुद्री आँधी के बाद हमारी प्रतिकिया इसका ध्यान रखती है कि सरकार के उद्येश्य का पालन हो जिससे कोई भी फीजीवासी पीछे न छुटे। मंत्री रेड्डी ने असर पड़े लोगों से धीरज रखने की माँग की है जबकि सरकार समुद्री आँधी यासा से असर पड़े लोगों की मदद करने में तेज़ी ला रही है।



रोनल देव

इसाई धर्म में यीशू मसीह का जन्म दुनिया के लिए ईश्वर का सबसे बड़ा उपहार है क्यों कि उन्होंने एक नए युग को चिहिन्त किया और मानव जाति के प्रति सद्धावना की एक अखंड ज्योति जगाई।

इस कठिन समय के अंधेरे में, उस लौ की उम्मीद की रोशनी उज्जवल चमकती है। यह किसमस हमारे लोगों के लिए एक कठिन साल के अंत और एक अति पीड़ा देने वाला सप्ताह के अंत में आता है। यीशू मसीह के जन्म को हमेशा प्रेम तथा विश्व में एकता का प्रकाश फैलाने के रूप में देखा गया है तथा मेरा मानना है कि यह प्रतिकूलता फीजी के लिए उज्जनल दिनों को रास्ता देगी।

इस साल की कठिनाईयों से पता चला कि सबसे कीमती क्या है: और वो है हमारा स्वास्थ्य, हमारा मानवीय संबंध और आशा के लिए हमारी क्षमता की शक्ति।

यह किसमस, केवल एक सार्वजनिक छुट्टी न हीं होनी चाहिए जिसमें देखा जाए कि हमारे पास क्या है और क्या नहीं। अगर आपमें क्षमता है तो आप उन लोगों को अपने पैरों पर खड़े होने में हमारी मदद कीजीए जोसमुद्री आँधी यासा के

बाद तकलीफ में हैया जिनपर कोविड-19 महामारी से हुई आर्थिक मंदी के कारण बुरा प्रभाव पड़ा है। अगर यीशू मसीह आज हमारे बीच होते तो चपेट में आए इन फीजीवासियों की मदद ज़रूर करते। आप सीधे हमारे बचाव-कार्य में संहयोग दे सकते है या फिर हेन्डीका फ्ट बनाने वाले, टूरिज़म संचालको, छोटे व्यापारियों, मार्केट बिकरेताओ तथा किसानों की मदद कर सकते है जिनका जीवन इस महामारी की वजह से खतरे में पड़ गई है। सभी लोगों के लिए ईश्वर के महान प्रेम का सम्मान करते हुए हममें से प्रत्येक को दयालु यीश मसीह के साथ मेल खाना है इसलिए मानवता खुलकर दिखाया गया है। अलग-अलग विश्वास, जातीयता, पृष्ठभूमि या प्राँत से आने के बावजूद हम इन संघर्षी मेंएक साथ हैं, हम उन्हें एक साथ दूर करेंगे और जैसा कि हमने पहले भी कई बार किया है, हम किसी समुदाय को सुनिचित करने के लिए खद के अन्दर की अच्छाई को बुलाऐंगे, ताकि कोई पड़ोसी तथा कोई और फीजीवासी पीछे न रह जाए। धन्यवाद।

ईश्वर की कृपा आप सबपर बनी रहे। किसमस की बहुत-बहुत शुभकामनाए।



वह सब कुछ जो फीजी में हो रहा है

प्रधानमंत्री वोरेन्गे बइनिमारामा उत्तरी विभाग में एक पीढ़ित किसान को राशन बाँटते हुए

चित्रः सूचना मंत्रालय

# कर्मचारियों और चाहने वालों कोहरजाना दि

# प्राकृतिक विपत्तियों का सामना करने के कुछ सलाह

प्राकृतिक विपत्तियाँ आती रहती है क्या आप तैयार है?

काहरजाना		
<b>दिए गए</b> <sup>रोनल देव</sup> तीन भुतपुर्व सरकारी कर्मचारी	साफ सफाई पर ध्यान रखें, बीमार होने और बीमारी फैलाने से बचे: * भोजन छूने से पहले तथा मैला फैंकने और टायलट जाने के बाद साबुन पानी से हाथ धोए * यह देखे कि आपके बच्चे हर वक्त साफ सफाई नियम का पालन करें	जानकारी रखिए और सम्पर्क में रहिए: * रेडियो पर विपत्ति के बारे में जानकारी और सार्वजनिक सूचनाएं सुनते रहें * मोबाईल फौन भी बचाकर काम में लाएं ताकि बेटरी लम्बा चले * हर समय जानिए कि आपके परिवार के सदस्य कहाँ है
जिनकी मौत काम करते वक्त हुई के परिवार वाले तथा सोलह कर्मचारी जिन्हें चोट लगी थी को रोज़गार मंत्रालय द्वारा पिछले हफ्ते हरजाना भरा गया। उन्नीस सरकारी मामले में तीन लाख सड़सठ हज़ार सात सौ नौ डोलर (\$366,709.01) हरजाना	भोजन सुरक्षित रखें * किसी प्राकृतिक विपत्ति के बाद : * भोजन पानी ढाककर रखें या किसी साफ बन्द कोन्टईना में रखें * बासी भोजन न खाएं * पानी उबालकर पीएं * प्राकृतिक विपत्ति के बाद वही भोजन करें जो सुरक्षित हो, कोशिश करें कि आप के परिवार को पौष्टिक भोजन मिले * माताओ को शिशुओं को स्तनपान कराना जारी रखना चाहिए	अपने आस पास का पता लगाईए * देखिए कि आपके घर और सम्पत्ति सुरक्षित है और उनपर पेड़ या बिजली के तार गिरने का कोई खतरा नहीं है * देखिए कि आपके पालतू जानवर और चौवा चांगर सुरक्षित है * समाचार सुनते रहिए और ज़रूरत पड़ने पर वहाँ से निकलने के लिए भी तैया* रहिए
दिया गया। रोज़गार मंत्री परवीन कुमार का कहना है कि यह परिवार सरकार द्वारा प्रदान की	मिलकर काम करें अपने समाज को इससे निपटने में मदद करें:	बच्चों को सुईयाँ लगवाईए विपत्तियों से बच्चों को गम्भीर रूप से बीमार होने का खतरा बना रहता है। इससे बच ने के लिए बच्चों को विपत्ति आने से पहले ही सुईयाँ लगवा लें
गई इस सहायता के बहुत आभारी है क्योंकि इस हरजाने से मृतक के परिवार तथा जिन लोगों को चोट-चपेट लगी है को राहत मिलेगी जबकि लोग नए साल में स्कूल जाने की तैयारी कुर रहे है। इस साल चुवीस्	भावनात्मक सहारा प्रदान कीजिए विपत्ति के दौरान: * अपने आस पास लोगों को खास करके बच्चों को सांत्वना दीजिए, उन्हें सुरक्षित महसूस कराईए कि आप उनकी परवाह करते हैं * अपने बच्चों को आपने पास ही रखिए। उनके खेलने के लिए जगह बनाईए, उ नके साथ पढ़िए और चित्र बनाईए। ऐसा करने से उन्हें स्थिति से निपटने में मद द मिलेगी	जानकारी रखिए और सम्पर्क में रहिए: * रेडियो या टी वी पर विपत्ति पर समाचार सुनें * औपचारिक वेबसाईट्स जैसे नेशनल डिज़ासटा मेनेजमन्ट www.ndmo.gov,fj फीजी मेटियोरोजिकल सेविस www.met.gov,fj, और स्वास्थ्य मंत्रालय को www.health.gov.fj देखिए
डिसम्बर तक सरकारी मामले को लेकर मंत्रालय ने तिरालिस (43) हरजाने भरें है जिनमें मौत वाले दस मामले थे और तैतीस (33) चोट चपेट लगने संबंधी मामले थे जो कुल आठ लाख साठ हज़ार तीन सौ चौरान्बे डोलर पैसठ सेन्ट्स	एमेजेन्सी कोन्टेक्ट्स रखिए आपको यह नम्बज़ जानना चाहिए: * एम्बुलन्स या आग के लिए 910 या 911 * ऐजेनी फीजी लिमिटड (EFL) के लिए शघड * पुलिस के लिए 917 * वोटा अथोरिटी ओफ फीजी (WAF) के लिए 5777 * नज़दीक के राहत केन्द्र का पता और सम्पर्क	* इधर-उधर पड़े सामान जैसे टिन इत्यादि को सुरक्षित बाँध दीोजए * योजना तैयार कर लीजिए कि चेतावनीमिलने पर जानवरों को कैसे खिस्काया जाऐगा * छोटे पौधों को सुरक्षा प्रदान कीजिए, ऐसी जगह रखिए जहाँ उनपर सीधा हवा न लगे * पके फलों को तोड़ लीजिए और विपत्ति के बाद के लिए भोजन इक्ट्ठा कर लीजिए * ऐसे बीज रखिए जिन्हें तत्काल बोया जा सकता है * जानवरों के लिए उँचे स्थान पर जगह की पहचान कीजिए जहाँ सुरक्षा के लिए कुछ पेड़ हो * जहाँ तक हो सके, बीज और नेसरीज़ को सुरक्षा प्रदान कीजिए
(\$860, 394.65) लागत के थे। रोज़गार मंत्रालय, इक्तीस डिसम्बर या उससे पहले वाले मामले की छानबीन करके चोट चपेट लगे कर्मचारियों तथा मृतक मज़दूरों के चाहने वालों को सामाजिक न्याय दिलाना जारी रखेगा। पहली जनवरी 2019 के बाद जितनी मौतें और चोट चपेट लगी है को एक्सीडेन्ट कोम्पेनसईशन कमिशन फीजी देख रहा है।	एक राहत किट तैयार कीजिए आपके राहत किट में होना चाहिए: * बोतल वाला पानी या उबला हुआ पानी * बेटरी से चलने वाला रेडियो * टोर्च * अलग से बेटरीज * फेस्ट अईड किट * ज़रूरी दवाईयाँ * टिन वाला भोजन * ज़रूरी कागज़ात * अगर आपको और आपके परिवार को राहत केन्द्र जाना पड़ा, अपने साथ अप ना एमेजेन्सीकिट, साबुन, बदलने के लिए कपड़े, चादर और रसोईघर के ज़रूरी बर्तन	डाक्टर के पास जाईए डाक्टरी सलाह प्राप्त कीजिए अगर आप या आपके परिवार के किसी सदस्य को इन बीमारियों के चिन्ह है: * बुखार लगना * बुखार लगना * शरीर में लाल लाल दाने निकलना * उल्टी होना * डायरिया होना * डायरिया होना * शरीर में पीड़ा होना इन चिन्हों का मतलब है कि कोई गम्भीर बीमारी हो सकती है जिसके लिए डाक्टरी इलाज की ज़रूरत है।





अटेनी जेनरल अईयाज़ सईयद खईयूम पिछले हफ्ते उत्तरी विभाग का दौरा करते हुए असर पड़े एक परिवार से मिलते हुए जबकि वहाँ समुद्री आँधी यासा ने सत्राह डिसम्बर को तबाही मचाई चित्र: अज़ारिया खान

# सभी फीजीवासियों को अपनी

भुमिका निभानी चाहिए: पी एम

रोनल देव

प्रधानमंती वोरेन्गे बइनिमारामा का कहना है कि फीजीवासियों ने इस कारण से इस सरकार को अपना मत दिया और उनपर भरोसा किया क्योंकि वो अच्छे और बुरे समय में मजबूत, समझदार और निर्णायक अगुवाई चाहते है। उन्होंने कहा कि फीजीवासी चाहते है कि अगुवाई की उर्जा उनके लिए तथा जनता के लिए समर्पित हो न कि तुच्छ काम के लिए या राजनितिक खेल खेलने के लिए हो। ''इस महामारी के दौरान हमने अपनी नेतृत्व

कायम रखी जिसने अभी तक फीजीवासियों को सुरक्षित रखा है। विडंबना यह है कि जो हुआ उसमें सबूत नहीं है, लेकिन जो नहीं हुआ, जो जानें बची, जो परिवार तबाह नहीं हुए तथा समाज में जो पुरी तरह बीमारी से ग्रस्त नहीं थे," प्रधानमंत्री ने कहा। उनके अनुसार अन्य बड़े, धनी और अधिक विकसित देशों के मिलान में फीजी सफल हो रहा है। "यही वजह है कि दो सौ पचास दिनों से ज़्यादा हो गए है जहाँ समाज में कोविड-19 का एक भी मामला सामने नहीं आया है हालांकि बोडा कोरनटीन में कुछ मामले सामने आए है। सच तो यह है कि हमें सुरक्षित रखने के लिए जो नियम लागू किए गए है वो काम कर रहे है तथा सरकार और लोगों ने मिलकर जो रिकोर्ड कायम किया है से हमें भरोसा हुआ है कि हम सभी मिलकर इस महामारी को समाज में फैलने से रोकेंगे और उस दृष्टिकोण पर विश्वास करें गे जिसने इस साल कई फीजीवासियों की जान बचाई है," प्रधानमंत्री ने कहा। श्री बइनिमारामा ने कहा कि जब फीजी को कोविड से मुक्त रखने की बात आती है तो हर एक फीजीवासी को अपनी भुमिका निभाने की ज़रूरत है। "हम डाक्टरों, नेर्सों, पुलिस तथा सैनिकों पर निर्भर रहेंगे कि वे हमारी सरहदों पर इस बीमारी को रोकने के लिए बनाए गए कानून का सक्ति से पालन करेंगे तथा हम आम नागरिकों पर भी भरोसा करते है कि वे सरकार द्रारा किए गए हर एक बदलाव को स्वीकार करेंगे जिस तरह हम अपना जीवन जी रहे है, स्वास्थ्य सुरक्षा नियमों का पालन कर रहे है ताकि हम हमेशा कोविड-19 के लिए तैयार रहें। हमें गर्व होना चाहिए जिस तरह हमने कोविड के मामले को फैलने से रोका, लेकिन यह हम सब जानते है कि काम पूरा नहीं हुआ है," श्री बइनिमारामा ने कहा। VULA I NUQA LAILAI

LOTULEVU 31 NI TISEBA 2020 - KA 20 NI TABANA - KA 11 NI VOLA





Sa yaco yani kina vei yanuyanu e ravuravu kina na cagilaba o Yasa ena Yatu Lau na waqa e kauta tiko yani na kakana ni cagilaba me veitauri toka vei ira ni bera ni qai muri tale yani na iyaya ni vakacoko eso. E ra magusa na vakailesilesi ena itaba ena imawi keina itaba e cake ena tala iyaya ni veivuke ni cagailaba mai Lau. iTaba: VAKARAUTAKI



**VILIAME TIKOTANI** 

🗙 A veivakadeitaki vei ira mai na Vua- eda na dau veivukei me da tara cake tale na 🛛 Kaya o PM Bainimarama ni sega ni kani 🖓 Payne.

vei kemuni, ia au vakabauta ni o keda e Viti bale tu e gaunisala."

Minisita ni Vanuatani ni Ositerelia o Marise

liku o Paraiminisita Vorege Bainimarama ka kaya mera yalo dei tiko ni na vaco mai vei ira na liga ni veivuke ni Matanitu.

Sikova o PM Bainimarama na veivanua e vakacaca kina vakalevu na cagilaba o Yasa ena Vualiku vakabibi ena Yasana Vakaturaga o Bua.

"E kani rarawa na veika esa mai yaco, ia me vaka eda sa vakadinadinataka oti, eda na duri tale ka bula tale mai kina."

"Ni valo dei tiko, na nomuni Matanitu ena yaco mai nona veivuke."

Nona vosa tiko vei ira mai Cogea, Buniikadamu, kei Navakasali e Bua e kaya kina vaka ogo ne o PM Bainimarama.

"A doka vakalevu nomuni vosota na dredre e kauta mai na vakacaca ni cagilaba o Yasa. Au kila ni sega ni gauna rawarawa noda vanua."

E tuturu malua na wai ni matana na Turaga ni Koro mai Cogea o Atekini Nairibuli ena nona veisiko vani o Paraiminisita Bainimarama.

"Ogo edua na gauna e vakatubu luluvu vei keimami baleta ni siro mai na turaga na iliuliu ni noda Matanitu me mai sikovi keimami na vakalegai vakaca ena ravuravu ni cagilaba o Yasa, ena gauna saraga keimami gadreva tu kina veivakacegui."

"Vakabibi vei keimami na veimatavuvale keimami sa mai vakayalia vakadua na neimami veivale," kaya o Nairibuli.

"Keimami sa vakavinavinaka kina na Matanitu ena nona dau tomana tiko nona veivuke ena veivotavaki ni kakana ni cagilaba, kei ira na vakailesilesi ni Tabacakacaka ni Veikau ena nodra vagalalataka na kau era veiwali na draki veisau.

"Sa bibi mera vakavulici na lewei Viti vakauasivi o ira na luveda ena revurevu ni Draki Veisau

"Me vakamatautaka nodra bula ena garai ni iwali ni revurevu ni Draki Veisau," kaya o PM Bainimarama.

E ratou veivotavaka tiko na timi ni veisiko nei PM Bainimarama e 10,000 na ivotavota kakana ni cagilaba me veitauri toka vei ira na veimatavuvale ni bera ni yaco tale yani na ikuri ni veivuke ni cagilaba.

"Sa yaco talega mai na veitokoni ni waqa na Adelaide ni Ositerelia me vaka ga vakayacora taumada ena vakacoko mai Koro ni nadaku o Winisitoni," kaya o PM Bainimarama.

Sa vaco mai ena macawa ogo na HMAS Adelaide me vaka sa vakadeitaka mai na

Na isau vakailavo ni veitokoni nei Ositerelia e koto na kena isau ena \$4.5M. Vakavinavinaka talega o PM Bainimarama kina veitokoni ni Waqavuka ni Mataivalu ni Niusiladi ena vakacoko kei na vakadidike. "Sa veisoliyaka talega mai na Air Force P-3 ni Niusiladi na yaya e gadravi yakatotolo me vakatotolo ka vakayacora talega nona vakadidike taumada. Vakavinavinakataki na veivuke nei Niusiladi ka tiko na kena isua vakailavo ena \$2.5M '

Sa seredali talega na waqa kauti ira na dau vakadidike kei na veivuke ni kakana ni cagilaba kina Yatu Yasawa, Lomaiviti kei Lau. Vei kemuni na lewei Viti oni gadreva moni veivuke kina tobu ni veivuke ni cagilaba o Yasa moni veitaratara ga yani ki na valenivolavola ni D.O, PA kei na Komisina ni iwasewase e va ni noda vanua.



# **\$2m na veivuke ni EU**

#### VILIAME TIKOTANI

🕇 A yalataka na isoqosoqo cokovata ni Veimatanitu mai Urope se na European Union mena veivuke ena iyaya ni vakacoko ni cagilaba o Yasa ka tiko ena \$2M na kena isau vakailavo.

Vakaraitaka na Komisina ni EU ka qarava na iwali ni lega tubukoso o Janec Lenarčič ni cagilaba o Yasa e bau dua na cagilaba kaurevurevu.

Kaya o Lenarčič ni cau ni EU ena tokoni kina na veigaravi ni vakacoko e vakayacora tiko na Matanitu ena nodra vukei na vakalegai dina kara gadreva vakatotolo na veivuke.

E kaya ni volekata na 200,000 na lewenivanua era sotava na revurevu ni vakacaca ni cagilaba o Yasa. Na veivuke ni EU ena gole ki vei ira na veitabana ni veivukei era sa tiko

kauwa me robai Viti sa vakilai tu oqo na kena rawa ena buturara ni veivanua e vakacacani vakalevu kana solia mai kina na veika eso me vaka na iyaya ni vale, na kakana, na iyaya ni tiko bulabula, na wai savasava, na iyaya ni tiko savasava kei na bula vinaka.

> Na veivuke ogo ni EU e tiki ni veivuke vakatotolotaki se Acute Large Emergency Response Tool (ALERT).

> Ogo talega edua vei ira na veivuke mai vei ira na veimatanitu e vavalagi.

# Sivia na 300 na vale e vakarusai

#### **VILIAME TIKOTANI**

A imatai ni vakadidike ni vakacaca ni cagilaba Yasa, sa votu kina ni sivia na 300 na vale e rusa vakadua mai na iwasewase na Vualiku kei na iwasewase na Tokalau.

E ra veisiko na mata timi ni vakadidike oqo ena macawa sa sivi ni oti na vakanadaku ni cagilaba o Yasa. E ra vakaitavi talega kina e 120 na vakailesilesi ni Matanitu mai Suva kina Vualiku.

Macawa sa oti era yaco yani kina ki Vanua Levu na timi ni vakadidike oya.

E ra sa laki veisoliyaka na kakana me veitauri toka mada vei ira na lewenivanua era sotava tiko na bolebole ogo.

Na sala ni veitaratara ena talevoni esa tekivu me vakavinakataki tale ena 4 na iwasewase ni vanua e Viti.

Sa taura ralega e dua na itu-



Vakamosiyalo dina na itaba oqo ni dabe toka o Apisai ena nona loma ni vale sa mai vakarusa koto na cagilaba o Yasa mai Vanua Levu. iTaba: VAKARAUTAKI

kutuku na Dismac ni yali tiko e dua na lewenivanua mai Lekutu e Bua. Sa veivakasalataki talega na Minisita ni Bula vei kemuni na lewenivanua ni dau muria mai

eso na mate me vaka na Minimanu, na Taifote, na Coka kei na Deqi na mataqali cagilaba vaka oqo. Sa tekivu mera suka lesu tale ki nodra vale e levu vei ira na lewenivanua e sega so ni vakacaca vakalevu vei ira na cagilaba o Yasa me vaka ena Muaira kei na iwasewase e loma. kaya o PM Bainimarama.

# Sega ni saumi na ivakacavacava

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#### SOLO LEWANAVANUA

A sega ni saumi na icakacavacava ni yaya kece e kau mai vanuatani me vukea na lewei Viti ena nodra tekivuna tale nodra bula ni oti na vakacaca ni cagilaba o Yasa.

#### Lolomataki ni yaya ni vakacoko ni itikotiko/ tamata yadua

Sa rawa vei ira na vakaitikotiko mai vavalagi mera vakauta mai vakadodonu na nodra veivuke ni cagilaba kina NDMO ka na qai raica me vota na iyaya oya ena vukui koya e vakauta mai.

#### iYaya e lolomataki baleta na vakacoko

Me vakau vua kina tobu ni veivuke ni Cagilaba kei na Vakacoko ni Paraiminisita ka vakadonuya na Tabana ni Lega Tubukoso (NDMO).

## Na veika e gadrevi me sereki kina na iyaya

- Naba ni ivacavacava (TIN)

- Dua nomu ID tabaki kina na vanua o vakaitikotiko kina

Na iyaya e vakau kina isoqosoqo lotu se soqosoqo dua veivukei ena gadreva na veiqaravi ni dua itini ni kasitaba vakalaiseni mena qai sereki kina na iyaya.

Na sega ni saumi ni ivakacavacava oqo ena laki cava tiko ena ika 15 ni Janueri 2021.

Na itukutuku tale eso qiri mai kina 1326 se email info@frcs.org.fj

# Tauri ivola na vuli teitei e Navuso

#### SOLO LEWANAVANUA

ra sa tauri ivola e lewe 25 na itabagone vuli teitei kei na susu manumanu ena koronivuli mai Muainase na Navuso Agriculture Training Institute ena itekivu ni vula o Tiseba ni yabaki oqo.

A vulagi dokai kina na Mata ni Matanitu o Idonisia e Viti o Raden Mohammad Benyamin Scott. Sa sema rawa talega kina edua na veiwekani ni veivakamisinitaki nei Idonisia vei Navuso.

ni cauravou e levu nona tetei, levu nona ivoli e volitaka rawa, levu talega na ilavo e maroroya rawa e gole vei Livai Vunidakai cavutu mai Nauluvatu Waidina mai Naitasiri.

Na icovi ni carauvou usivi nona vuli susu manumanu a gole vei Vilimoni Turabo cauravou ni Nagalimare mai Navosa.

Na icovi ni Goneyalewa se Women in Agriculture gole vei Maria Talatoka cavutu mai Naweni e Cakaudrove.

Na icovi ni cauravou e veisau totolo nona itovo me vinaka cake gole vei Viliame Curu e



Kaya na iliuliu ni koronivuli ni teitei mai Navuso o Uraia Waibuta ni a soli kina e 7 na icovi ni gugumatua. Na icovi ni cauravou e muria vinaka na ivakavuvuli ni lotu a gole vei Tevita Dakunituraga mai Kuku e Bau. Na icovi

cavutu mai Cicia mai Lau.

Na icovi ni cauravou dau veiliutaki vinaka a soli vei Vilimoni Turabo mai Nagalimare e Nadroga/Navosa.



Sa taura tu ogori o Vilimoni Turabo na cauravou ni Nagalimare na nona icovi ni cauravou dau veiliutaki vinaka ena Navuso Agriculture School. iTaba: TABANA NI ITEITEI

# 'Me liu na vodo ni yaya ni cagilaba'

#### **VILIAME TIKOTANI**

A kacivaka na Matanitu ni na vakaliuci ena loma ni 30 na siga ni qaravi Leqa Tubukoso na vakavodoki ni yaya ni veivuke ni cagilaba. Na iyaya e yakayodoki ena waga, lori kei na waqavuka.

bukoso o Inia Seruiratu ni bibi sara na imatai ni vitu kina 14 na siga. "Kevaka e rawa ni cakava kece oqo na Matanitu ena gauna ni vakacoko ena vukei ira sara vakalevu na veitabana era via veivuke mai."

Kaya kina na Minisita ni Lega Tu-

"Ni kacivaki na 'iTuvaki ni Lega ni noda vanua' ena vakabibitaki kina na usa ni iyaya e waqa, ena waqavuka kei na lori, me matata tiko ova vei kemuni na veitabana oni via veivuke mai."

"Sa daumaka sara tiko na vakau iyaya ena Vualiku," kaya o Minisita Seruiratu.

Sa vakananumi ira talega na dau ni veigaravi ena Vualiku mera lomani na lewenivanua ravuti ira na cagilaba o Yasa.

"Meda vakila na bolebole era sotava me rawa ni mana kina noda vakacokotaki ira.'

"Sa bibi kina vei keda na dau ni veigaravi meda curumi keda na yalo loloma me idusidusi vei keda. Na veivuke lalai eda solia ena vakamamadataka na nodra icolacola," kaya o Minisita Seruiratu. Kaya o Minisita Seruiratu ni sa vakasavasavataki na gaunisala ni veilakoyaki kasa dola tale na veilakoyaki kina.

Sa waqa talega na livaliva, kasa vakadrodroi tale vakavinaka na wai ni gunu savasava e Vanua Levu.

## \$2M na veivuke nei Niusiladi

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

A vakuria na Matanitu o Niusiladi na nona veivuke ni cagailaba o Yasa ena NZ\$2M. Qoka na isau vakailavo taucoko ni iyaya ni veivuke ni cagilaba me vaka na vale laca, na wainigunu savasava, kei na veiyaya e gadrevi vakatotolo.

E \$750,000 ena vukei kina na Matanitu e Viti me sotava na bolebole me baleta na wainigunu savasava. E \$150,000 me rawa kina kina Valenivolavola nei Niusiladi e Suva me tokona na veivakavalelacataki, na wainigunu, na tiko savasava, keina na vuli baleta na vakamaravutaki ni vakasama.

E na vakayagataka talega o Niusiladi e \$750,000 me tokoni kina nodra veivuke na veitabana ena taudaku ni Matanitu vakabibi nodra vukei na malumalumu.

Ena soli talega e \$100,000 kina isoqosoqo ni Kauveiltai Damudamu me tokona na veivuke e dau vakayacora kina veivanua e ravuravu kina na cagilaba.

## Ciqomi na veivuke ni cagilaba nei Peritania

#### SOLO LEWANAVANUA

A mai ciqoma na Matanitu e Vitu na iyaya ni veivuke ni cagilaba mai na Matanitu levu o Peritaniua ena macawa sa oti.

Qoka e oka kina na iyaya me vaka na valelaca, na iyaya ni vakacoko, kara na vukei kina na 432 na matavuvale e ravuti ira na cagilaba o Yasa.

A vodo mai na veivuke oya ena waqavuka ni mataivalu ni Ositerelia ka tiki ni nodrau veidinadinati o Igiladi kei Ositerelia.

Nona ciqoma tiko na veivuke oqo na ivukevuke ni Minisita ni Leqa Tubukoso o Vijay Nath e kaya ni vakamuduo o Viti kina veivuke levu oqo mai vei ira na lewenivanua mai Peritania.

A kacivaka na yaco mai ni veivuke oya ena noda matasawa na Minisita ni Peritania ka veiqaravi ena Pasifika o Rt Hon. Lord Zac Goldsmith.

# Qoroi na yalo ni vosota

#### VILIAME TIKOTANI

AKACAUCAUTAKI ira mai Bua kei Macuata na Vunilawa o Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum ena nodra vosota na revurevu ni cagilaba o Yasa.

Nona sikova tiko na veikoronivuli ena Vualiku e kaya kina vei ira o Sayed-Khaiyum ni levu era sat aura na matai ni kalawa ena nodra vakacokotaki ira rawa ni bera yani na veivuke.

E kaya ni lauti ira na vakailesilesi vakamatanitu na era sikovi Bua kei Macuata na tikina oqo. "E kurabuitaki ni levu na

lewenivanua era vosota na bula dredre e kauta mai na cagilaba o Yasa ena nodra sa tekivu mera tara cake tale nodra veivale." "Eso tale era gadreva na wai, kei na so tale era gadreva me vakavinakataki nodra iteitei."

TUKUTUKU MAI NA VEIYASAI VITI

"Duidui na gagadre, veivakauqeti nodra sa vukei ira vakataki ira."

E kaya o Sayed-Khaiyum ni kena irairai ni levu era na tiko mada ena idrodro ni cagilaba baleta ni vakacacani vakalevu na noddra veivale. Kaya e dua na lewenikoro o Naividamu o Kitione Raikabula ni dau oti na cagilaba era sad au vuli totolo mera vakacokotaki ira rawa.

"E 10 na vale e vakarusai vakadua ena cagilaba o Yasa ka 10 tale na vale esa vakacacani na dela ni vale kei na lalaga," kaya o Raikabula.

# Vakavinavinakataki na iloloma kava ni vale mai Malevani

VILIAME TIKOTANI

AKAVINAVINAKA na Minisita ni Vuli o Rosy Akbar kina veivuke ni cagilaba mai Malevani Ositerlia na Fiji Aid Melbourne kei na ABS Fiji ena kava ni vale ka tiko na kena isau ena \$20.8K me baleta veivuke ni cagilaba o Yasa.

Mai ciqoma na veivuke levu oya ena vuku ni Matanitu o Minisita Akbar na kava ni vale 500x 12 ft ka \$17,400 na kena isau. Kei na 100x 12ft na kava ni vale na kena isau e \$3480 mai na ABS Fiji me vukea na vakacoko mai na Vualiku.

A tiko mai na Vualiku ena macawa oqo na Minisita ni Vuli me laki dikeva na ituvaki ni 68 na koronivuli e vakayagataki me idrodro ni cagilaba.

Sa laki solia talega kina na Minisita na kava ni vale veira na veimatavuvale e vakacacani sara vakalevu nodra vale.

Vakavinavinakataka na marama Minisita na lewenivanua kece era vakaitavai e na vakacoko oqo.



Sarava tiko oqori na Minisita ni Vuli o Rosy Akbar na vakacaca ni cagilaba o Yasa ena dua na koronivuli mai Vanua Levu. iTaba: AZARIA FAREEN

"Na Siga ni Sucu oqo na bolebole levu vei keda na kedra tarai cake tale na veivale e ra mai vakarusai ena cagilaba Yasa."

"Au via vakavinavinaka kina vakalevu kina veitokoni mai Malevani kei na ABS Fiji."

Na Fiji Aid Melbourne solia mai ena vula o June e 150 na komipiuta, 10 na printers kei na 100 na mouse kei na keyboards kina Tabacakacaka ni Vuli.

Se tekivu sara ena 2009 ne veivuke mai Malevani kina veivuvale era dau sotava na revurevu ni draki veisau. Vakavinavainaka talega o Minisita Akabar kina na Mataivalu, Mataivalu e Wai, Ovisa, Bokobuka kei na Tabana ni Bula kei ira na bisinisi e ra liu taumada mai nodra veivuke.

Vuabale na noda vakavinavinaka kina matanitu o Ositerelia kei Niusiladi ena totolo ni nodrau veivuke ena gauna e rau gadrevi kina. "Vakausivi kina nodra mai veivuke e sivia na 600 na lewe ni mataivalu ni Ositerelia ena manua na HMAS Adelaide.," kaya o Minisita Akbar.



Au gadreva meu vakavinavinakataka na Kalou ena nona veituberi vei au ena tolu na yabaki sa sivi kei na nodra veitokoni na wekaqu kei na itokani.

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Kaya o Lord Goldsmith nira duavata na lewenivanua mai Peritania ena bolebole era sotava o ira e ravuti ira na cagilaba o Yasa.

"Na valelaca e solia mai na UK Aid esa yaco mai ena veitokoni ni Matanitu o Ositerelia. Keimami na tu vakarau ke gadrevi tale.

"Sa cau talega na Matanitu mai Peritania kina isoqosoqo ni kauveilatai damudamu se Red Cross e Vuravura ka sa vota kina na ilavo ni veivuke ni vakacoko me voli mai kina na iyaya ni veivuke me vaka na iyaya vakavuniwai, na tavuleni, na wai ni gunu, na yaya ni vale keina yaya ni tikosavasava me baleti ira e lewe 17,700 na lewenivanua." Mai na mawi: Na Vunivola ni Mata nei Viti e Ositerelia o Salote Tagivakataini, na iliuliu ni Mataivalu ni Veitaqomaki ni Ositerelia o General Angus Campbell, kei 2LT Rusiate Sailo ena soqo ni tauri vola Koroi mai Ositerelia. **iTaba: VAKARAUTAKI** Seco

Rusiate Sailo Second Liutenant

# iSevu ni vakoroi nei Viti ena ADFA o Sailo

#### SOLO LEWANAVANUA

A vakavotukana sara na nodrau veiwekani vakavuvale o Viti kei Ositerelia ena Vuvale Partneshi.

Sa isevu ni gone ni Viti me vakoroi mai ena Australian Defence Force Academy (ADFA) kei na Univesiti ni New South Wales o Second Liutenant Rusiate Sailo ni oti nona vuli yabaki tolu. Na ADFA edua na koronivuli torocake ni vuli ivalu ni Ositerelia ka vulici vata kina na vuli ivalu, kei na vuli ni veiliutaki ka rawati kina na kena koroi.

Na koronivuli ni vuli ivalu oya e yavutaki kina na kilaka vakaivalu mera kena dau kina.

E kaya o 2LT Sailo ni doka vakalevu na nona sa rawata nona koroi mai na ADFA ka kaya ni nona vuli tiko mai Ositerelia e vakarabailevutaka sara na nona rai.

"Au nuitaka ni na levu tale na lewe ni mataivalu ni Viti era na vakayagataka na vuli oya. Au vakabauta niu sa vakaloumanataki vakalevu kau sa tu vakarau meu vakayagataka na noqu kila au sa mai vulica ena ADFA ena noda vanua mai Viti," kaya o Second Lieutenant Sailo. Kaya o tamai 2LT Sailo ko Apenisa Sailo ni ratou cibitaka nona vuvale na tekiisausau nei 2LT Sailo.

"Na nona sa mai rawata nona koroi e vakatubu luluvu ni marau vei keitou ni keitou kila ni sa rawata naka a gadreva voli mai me rawata ka na yaco me dua na iyaubula ni Mataivalu ni Viti," e kaya ko Sailo. TUKUTUKU MAI NA VEIYASAI VITI







# Sikova ko PM Bainimarama na vakacaca ni cagilaba e na Vualiku ni noda vanua Macuata. E ra laki veivotayaka talega kina

na kakana ni veivuke ni cagailaba me vei tauri toka mada vei ira na lewenivanua. Toka oqori eso na itaba ni vesiiko nei PM Bainimarama. iTaba: NANISE NEIMILA

Bibi ki vua na turaga na Paraiminisita Voreqe Bainimaranma na bula ni lewenivanua. Oya na vuna era siro yani kina mera laki tara sara ga na we ni ivako se mera laki raica e matanavotu na vakacaca ni cagailaba o Yasa mai Bua kei





















# TUKUTUKU MAI NA VEIYASAI VITI



## Veivuke na tabacakacaka ni qoli ena vakacoko ena Vualiku

E ra soli vakasala talega ena veikoro mai Bua kei Macuata na vakailesilesi ni Tabana ni Qoliqoli ni me vaka e laurai ni oti na ravuravu ni cagilaba o Yasa. iTaba: VAKARAUTAKI





## Veivuke na tabacakacaka ni veikau ena vakacoko ena Vualiku

Vakavinavinakataki na nodra vakaitavi na vakailesilesi ni Tabacakacaka ni Veikau ena kena varo laivi na kau era baleta tu na gaunisala mai Vanua Levu ena cagilaba o Yasa. Me vaka era taba toka





# Yaco na raiseni kakana e na Yatu Lau

Sa yaco yani kina veiyanuyanu e ravuravu kina na cagilaba o Yasa ena Yasana o Lau na waqa e kauta tiko yani na kakana ni cagilaba me veitauri toka vei ira ni bera ni qai muri tale yani na iyaya ni vakacoko eso.

E ra magusa na vakailesilesi ena itaba ena imawi keina itaba e cake ena tala iyaya ni veivuke ni cagailaba mai Lau. iTaba: VAKARAUTAKI

ena e cake kei na imatau. iTaba: VAKARAUTAKI



# Veivuke na FNPF vei ira na itikotiko vakaleqai

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

A kacivaka na Matabose ni ilavo musuki ni tamata cakacaka se Fiji National Provident Fund ni sa rawa ni oni kerea yani e \$2000 ena nomuni akaude me vakavinakataki kina na nomuni vale a vakacacani ena cagilaba o Yasa.

Sa vakadonuya na Matabose ni FNPF moni rawa ni kerea yani e \$2000 ke levu sara kina \$100 ke lailai sara mai nomuni General Account.

E ratou sa tiko mai Vanua Levu kei Lau na timi ni vakadididke ni FNPF ka sa kacivaki ka tabaki tiko ena monalivaliva na veivanua keina gauna eratou na veisiko tiko kina.

Kaya na CEO ni FNPF o Jaoji Koroi ni kila tiko na matabose na gagadre e tiko baleta na vakavinakataki ni veivale e vakacacani.

"Sa na qai matata sara na veivuke e gadrevi ni oti mai nodratou vakadidike na neitou ivakailesilesi ka mai vakaleweni na fomu ni kerekere mai vei ira na meba," kaya o Koroi.

"Me vaka na vei kerekere sa dau ciqomi ena veigauna ni cagilaba eda sa lako sivita, era na kerea yani na meba na ilavo oya mai nodra general account kevaka esa drekea nodra akaude, sa na rawa nira kerea yani na nodra Veivuke baleta na Veivakavaletaki."

Na kerekere taucoko ena dikevi sara vakavinaka ni bera ni soli yani na ivola kerekere.

Sa gadrevi vei kemuni na meba ni FNPF ni tiko ena noda veikoro moni vakarautaka na nomuni I.D, naba ni akaude ni baqe, ka me dua na ivola ni veivakadonui nei Turaga ni Koro se advisory councillors.

Na fomu ni kerekere baleta na cagilaba o Yasa e sa tikoga vei iratou na neitou timi ni



Oqo ko Jaoji Koroi na i liuliu se chief excutive officer ni Matabose ni ilavo musuki ni tamata cakacaka se Fiji National Provident Fund (FNPF).

vakadidike ka sega ni tiko e vale ni volavola. Era na vukei walega na meba era vakaitikotiko ena veivanua e vakacaca kina na cagilaba o Yasa. Sa vakayagataka na FNPF e \$136M ena nodra vukei na vakaleqai nodra cakacaka ena COVID-19. Okati kina e \$43.7M e solia na Matanitu.

Ni sa vakananumi talega yani na meba moni

vakadeitaka tiko ni ilavo ni FNPF e baleta na nomuni gauna ni vakacegu, ka moni vakayagataka walega kevaka e tiko dina na gagadre. "Keimami duavata kei na bolebole era sotava tiko o ira e ravuti ira na cagilaba o Yasa ka nuitaka ni veivuke oqo ena solia e dua na vakacegu."

# 'Qarava e 7000 na siteseni ni ovisa e Ra'



# 60 era vulica na valuti ni dravudravua

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#### SOLO LEWANAVANUA

RA tiko ena dua na vuli e 60 na itabagone digitaki mai na noda veikoro e Viti mera mai vulica na bula vakaivakarau ni vakayagataki qele kei na vakayagataki gauna me vaka era sa valuta kina na bula dravudravua na dauteitei mai Korea.

Oya na nodra vakauqeti mera sa teitei vakabisinisi.

Vakatokai na vuli oqo na 2020 Fiji Saemaul Undong (SMU) kena inaki me vakatorocaketaka na iyau bula ena koro me tababokoci kina na bula dravudravua.

Na Matanitu e Viti sa vakabibitaka na nodra vakatorocaketaki na koro yawa.

Nona vosa tiko ena vuli oya na Vunivola Tudei ni iTabagone kei na Qito o o Rovereto Nayacalevu e kaya kina ni vakatorocaketaki ni bula ena noda veikoro, e ki ni tababokoci ni bula dravudravua.

"Na itabagone e levu na nodra igu kei na kaukauwa ni tu donu tu na itaba ni bula era sa yacova."

"Kevaka era vagolea na kaukauwa oya kina bula yalomatua ena levu sara na cavuikalawa vinaka era na rawata."

"Na noqu Minisitiri e vakauqeta na vakayagataki vakayalomatua ni iyaubula ena koro me vakavurea na cakacaka vei ira na itabagone," kaya o Nayacalevu.

"Na SMU e yavutaki ena dina, na vukei koya vakaikoya kei na solesolevaki."

'Na itavi ni Matanitu me soli ivakasala, na vakatulewa me nodra na lewenivanua mera cakacaka vata kina na Vanua Lotu kei na Matanitu."

A sainitaki ena yabaki 2018 na veidinadinataki ni Minisitiri ni iTabagone keina SMU ni matanitu mai Korea.



Na itabagone e levu

E ra taba vata kei na tuaraga na Paraiminisita Voreqe Bainimarama na gonevuli ni Nakorotubu, Ra, ena kena mai dola na siteseni ni ovisa ka qai tara vou tale na Matanitu ni oti na kena mai vakacacani ena cagilaba o Winisitoni ena yabaki 2016.

#### SOLO LEWANAVANUA

A nona dolava na siteseni ni ovisa e Nakorotubu, Ra, ko Paraiminisit Voreqe Bainimarama, e kaya kina o koya ni sa yaga sara na veiqaravi ni ovisa e kea ve ira e rauta ni lewe 7000 na lewenivanua.

Vakadreta vei ira na ovisa era na veiqaravi e Nakorotubu ko PM Bainimarama na bibi ni nodra itavi ena taqomaki ni lawa.

"E na nomuni itavi ni kena taqomaki na lawa e sa bibi moni qarava nomuni itavi mera taqomaki ka yadravi kina na lewenivanua."

"Na nodra vakasaurarataki se vakasosataki se vakalolomataki na noda lewenivanua e levu na vuna: me vaka beka na vakayaco itovo kaukauwa, na draiva ena ivakarau rerevaki, kei na ka mate vou e sa veitauvi tiko oqo na COVID-19," kaya o PM Bainimarama.

"Na gauna lekaleka e tarai keda mai kina na matetaka oqo oqo eda vakararavi ki vei ira noda Ovisa mera kei na Tabana ni Veitaqomaki mera yadrava na muri ni lawa ni vakatatabu ni veilakoyaki ni yaco na sogosogo e Suva kei Lautoka me baleta na manumanu meca ni matetaka oqo." "Na duavata ni noda vakatulewa oya e sa yaco kina o Viti me vanua taqomaki mai na Covid-19," kaya o PM Bainimarama.

"E na vanua ni veiqaravi ni ovisa oqo e Namarai esa vakadinadinataki kina ni veiqaravi ni Ovisa esega ni baletai ira walega mai na veitauni."

"Keitou gadreva me yadravi na lawa ena veivanua kece e Viti ena korovakavalagi keina koro na nodra igu kei na kaukauwa ni tu donu tu na itaba ni bula era sa yacova. Kevaka era vagolea na kaukauwa oya kina bula yalomatua ena levu sara na cavuikalawa vinaka era na rawata.

Rovereto Nayacalevu Vunivola Tudei ni iTabagone kei na Qito





Na cagilaba e dau sucu mai ena gauna ni draki katakata kei na draki suasua. E na yaga me na katakata na vanua ka me na katakata na waitui. Na cagilaba e sucu ga mai ena wasawasa, e sega ni rawa ni sucu mai ena dela ni vanua mamaca. Taba toka qori na revurevu ni cagilaba ko Yasa e na Vualiku ni noda vanua.

# Mo kila na itukutuku ni draki

Veitalanoa na noda Tabana ni Tukutuku ni Matanitu keina Manidia Vakatawa ni Daunidraki mai Nadi o Samisoni Waqavakatoga. Wilika sara yani.

## Taro: E vica na iwase lelevu ni draki e dau yaco ena noda iwase ni vuravura oqo?

Waqavakatoga: Na noda iwase ni vuravura oqo e rua ga na iwase lelevu ni draki, dua ga mai na vula o Noveba kina Evereli oya na vula e dau levu kina na draki suasua kei na katakata.

Na kena ikarua ga na vula ko Me kina Okotova oya na vulai mamaca se batabata.

## Taro: Ni cavuta na yaca ni veivanua eda okati vata ena mataqali draki vaka oqo?

Waqavakatoga: E da vakila na rua na iwase ni draki oqo o keda kece na tiko ena veivanua ena Ra ni Wasa Pasifika. Me tekivu mai na Yatu

na kilomita dua na aua na totolo se kaukauwa ni cagi.

Na vakatagedegede 2 e tautauvata ni 96 na kilomita dua na aua yacova yani na 126 na kilomita dua na aua.

## Taro: Na cava na kaukauwa ni cagi me qai vakatokai kina e dua na Cava me sa Cagilaba?

Waqavakatoga: Ni sivia ga na 63 na nota na kena kaukauwa sa okati na Cava oya me Cagilaba. Se ni sa yacova yani na ivakatagedegede naba 3 naba 4 kei na naba 5. Kena ibalebale ni sa yacova ga na ivakatagedegede naba 3 oya sa vakatokai me Cagilaba.

## Taro: Dau levu talega na gauna dau kacivakai tiko na Cagi Tataba ni vakamacala mada kina.

Waqavakatoga: E na vosa vaka Peritania na cagi tataba na Gale Force Winds. Qoka na cagi e kaukauwa cake mai naka e vakatokai vaka Peritania me strong winds se cagi kaukauwa.Ia na gauna e namaki me lako mai kina na Cava se Cagilaba ena liu mai na Cagi Tataba. Ni se bera ni yaco mai na uto ni Cava se Cagilaba esa na liu mai na Cagi Tataba. Waqavakatoga: Dau tiko na veika eso me na bucini kina. Na cagilaba e dau sucu mai ena gauna ni draki katakata kei na draki suasua. E na yaga mena katakata na vanua, mena katakata na waitui. Na cagilaba e sucu ga mai ena wasawasa e sega ni rawa ni sucu mai ena dela ni vanua mamaca.

Kevaka e kaukauwa tiko na cagi e maliwa lala esega ni rawa ni sucu rawa na cagilaba baleta ni na taya laivi na domona na cagila mai maliwa lala. Ena gadrevi me tubu cake vaka dodonu ki maliwa lala em qai sucu na cagilaba.

Dua tale ga na ka noda kila ni sega ni sucu rawa ni Cagilaba kevaka e voleka yani kina loma donu kei vuravura se Equator ena sega ni sucu rawa kina na cagilaba.

## Taro: Na cava na ivakarau ni cagi ni wasawasa e rawa ni dou qai kacivaka kina ni maravu tu na wasawasa?

Waqavakatoga: Na maravu ni wa-



Solomoni, Vanuatu, New Caledonia, Viti, Toga, Samoa, Yatu Kuka, Kiribati, Tuvalu kei Tahiti.

Taro: E da dau rogoca na itukutuku ni draki dau tukuni ni sa tiko e dua na Cava. Na cava na kaukauwa ni cagi ni dua na Cava?

Waqavakatoga: Na ivakatagedegede ni cagilaba ni wase vaka lima, na Cava e tiko na kena kaukauwa ena vakatagedegede 1 (Category 1) oya e 34 kina kei na 47 na nota kina vakatagedegede 2 (Category 2) oya ena 48 kina 63 na nota.

Meu vakarawarawataka ga ena 34 kina 47 na nota oya e tautauvata tiko ni 65 na kilomita dua na aua kina 94 Taro: O ni dau kila vakacava na daunidraki na kaukauwa ni ua se na levu ni ua e wasawasa?

Waqavakatoga: Keitou dau vakayagataka eso na iyaya vakamisini me vukei keitou me keitou kila na kaukauwa sena levu ni ua e wasawasa.

Taro: E dau tekivu vakacava e dua na Cagilaba?

sawasa e vakatautauvatataki ni ivakarau ni cagi me tiko ena 10 na nota se 18 na kilomita dua na aua.

Taro: Ni tukuna mada eso na ivakatakilakila ni sa toso tiko mai e dua na cagilaba.

Waqavakatoga: Na katakata tiko yani vakadede ni loma ni vanua. Keitou sa dau rawa talega ni raica rawa tiko ena satellite na kena kumukumuni na o kei na kena sa lai ovici koya na o se sa lai viko me sa qai sucu na cagilaba.

Tiko talega eso na ivakatakilakila era dau vakayataka na noda qase me vaka na kena vakasova na pi e dela ni qele, se vuavuvuai tolu na uto.

Rau taba toka oqori e rua na lewe ni koro e Makadru, Matuku, Lau. E vakacacani e so na vale ena kaukauwa ni cagilaba ko Yasa ka cabeta tale ga na loma ni koro oqo na ualoka.

Lotulevu 31 ni Tiseba 2020

VULA I NUQA LAILAI

LOTULEVU 31 NI TISEBA 2020 - KA 20 NI TABANA - KA 11 NI VOLA

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E levu sara na vanua era vakacacani ena cagilaba o Yasa a sikova na Vunilawa ka Minisita ni iLavo ni noda Matanitu o Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum me vaka e tabaki toka oqori mai na Vualiku. iTaba: AZARIA FAREEN

# 'Kua ni dabuitaki na veivuke ni cagilaba'



A vakasavuya na Minisitiri ni Veivakatorocaketaki ena Taudaku ni Koro Lelevu kei na Leqa Tubukoso na nona vakavinavinaka cecekia ki vei kemuni kece na lewenivanua, keina isoqosoqo oni sa cau mai ena veivuke ni cagilaba o Yasa.

Vakavinavinaka talega na Minisitiri ki vei ira na vakailesilesi ni Matanitu kei na Veisoqosoqo era a liu taumada kina veivanua e vakaleqai ena nodra vakarawarawataka na vakacoko ni Matanitu. E ka ni rarawa ni mai ciqoma na NDMO eso na ripote ni tiko eso na lewenivanua era ciqoma tiko eso na veivuke kara vakayagataka vakailoa kina na yaca ni veivuke ni cagilaba o Yasa. Na ripote kece oqo esa vakacakulei ka vaqaqai tiko ena gauna oqo. Me tarova na nodra rawa ni kana na yavato ena gauna vakaoqo, esa kacivaka kina na NDMO ni isoqosoqo kece, ilawalawa,kei na bisinisi era via ciqoma na veivuke ni cagilaba mera rejisita taumada se "NDMO- Certified". Qoka me vakadeitaka kina vei ira na lewenivanua ni iloloma era solia e gole vakadodonu kina veivuke e gadrevi. E sega ni saumi na sitivikiti oya.

E yaga talega na rejista oya me kua ni tautauvata tu kina e rua na mataqali veivuke. Me yaga kina vakalevu na isau ni veivuke e ciqomi.

Me kua ni dua na koro vakaleqai e sega ni vukei, ka me kua ni dua na koro e sivia na kakana e soli vei ira ka sega na isulu era vukei kina . Se na kena levu na isulu e soli kina dua na koro ia ka sega ni dua na veivuke ni kakana e ra ciqoma.

E ra na totogitaki o ira era veidabuitaka na veivuke ni cagilaba ena nodra voroka na lawa ni Gauna ni Leqa ni Vanua. Lamata mai kauwai oqo ni kunei ni levu na lewenivanua era sa tauyavutaka nodra tabana ni veivuke ni cagilaba o Yasa. E 30 na siga na balavu ni Gauna ni Leqa ni

Vanua ka vakatabui talega kina na vakayagataki vakailoa ni tubu e rawati mai kina.

