

FijiFocus



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Your dollar makes a difference, firms told



Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama with winners of the Prime Minister's International Business of the Year Awards 2019 at the Sheraton Fiji Resort, Denarau, Nadi. Photo: LITIA VULDAUSIGA

BUSINESSES THRIVE: PM

LITIA VULDAUSIGA

NO matter the size of the company, every dollar invested by you is an investment in the future of Fiji. This was the underlying message by Prime

Minister, Voreqe Bainimarama at the Prime Minister's International Business Awards, Fiji's most prestigious recognition for the Fijian business community.

Prime Minister Bainimarama said with each application, and with each winner, the

awards are able to inspire Fijians from all ages and walks of life with the life-changing potential in operating a thriving business in Fiji.

"And your vote of confidence in our country's political and economic stability has

been contagious for the international community, as we've seen steady rises in foreign direct investment from markets like Australia, China, New Zealand, and PNG.

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QUOTE OF THE WEEK



Voreqe
Bainimarama

By putting ourselves in the position to host regional and international sporting events, we're giving fans the excuse they've been waiting for to get on a plane to visit our country, and bring with them their families, friends and – of course -- their credit cards as well.

Voreqe Bainimarama
Fijian Prime Minister

NUMBERS

**\$4.7
million**

The amount invested by the Government in the construction of a state-of-the-art facility at the Labasa Golden Age Home. It will house 40 residents and provide a day-care service for non-residents.

TWEET OF THE WEEK



Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum (@FijiAG)

Getting my wings with our three @FijiAirways pilots and our @Airbus escort. Next stop, Sydney — and then we bring her home!

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Hospital staff undaunted by call to serve

FELIX LESINAIVALU



Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama during the inauguration of the drug and alcohol unit at St Giles Hospital in Suva. Photo: FELIX LESINAIVALU

THE many challenges faced by Fiji's major psychiatric institution, Saint Giles Hospital, has not deterred the staff from serving the people of Fiji.

St Giles Hospital's acting medical superintendent, Dr Kiran Gaikwad shed light on these challenges and how it is managed during the inauguration of the drug and alcohol unit which was officiated by Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama.

"This project is the first step towards the treatment of our unfortunate people who are suffering from substance abuse."

"It is about a burning issue in the country and we know newer drugs are coming which has created havoc."

Dr Kiran Gaikwad said it has been 27 years since a Prime Minister visited the hospital.

While officiating at the event, Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama highlighted that, "Instead of passing judgement, we need to offer a helping hand when our friends and neighbours are trying to heal."

"Rather than perpetuating hurtful stereotypes and stigmas about mental health conditions, we must recognise them with compassion."

"I have great hope for the expansion of mental health services in Fiji."

Prime Minister Bainimarama said as the years go on and the stigma of these disorders continues to fade, Fijians will also benefit from a younger generation that is more aware and more passionate than ever about combatting these conditions.

"We are gaining critical momentum in mental health treatment and care — momentum that will be carried by our youth."

"Substance abuse — whether excessive alcohol consumption or the rising use of hard drugs like methamphetamine and cocaine — is a growing concern in our country."

"It has been reported that over the past few years, there has been an increase in patients with substance use disorders, making the need for a rehabilitation unit like this one all the more pressing."

Veteran remembers Malayan Campaign challenges

NANISE NEIMILA

WAR veterans and family members gathered in large numbers to remember fallen troops and those that lost their lives during times of conflict in moving Remembrance Day ceremony on November 11, 2019.

For 90-year old Sitiveni Waqanivalu, on Remembrance Day reminds him of the challenges and experience they faced while serving during the Malayan campaign from 1952-1956.

An emotional Mr Waqanivalu said having to replace his brother in Malaya in 1955 was one of the memorable days back when he served in the war.

"Today I can still remember that the most challenging place in Malaya was where Fijian soldiers were placed during the war in Johor. At that time there was a hurricane and it was very swampy to move around especially in the jungle."

"From my personal view the only reason we were serving in Malaya was because we were strong enough and there was no other choice."

Leading their battalion was Commander Joji Mate and many of the soldiers that served in this battalion respected him because he had served in Solomon Islands and then returned to Fiji before



Ninety-year-old Sitiveni Waqanivalu during the Remembrance Day at the War Memorial Site, Suva. Photo: NANISE NEIMILA

taking on the Malaya mission.

"He loved boxing and he could do anything, he was originally from Nayau, Lau. Joji Mate was someone you can never talk to because he was one the highly respected Commander in our battalion," Mr Waqanivalu recalled.

"Leading up to the day when we completed our work in Malaya everyone was anticipating the trip back home for the holidays with our loved ones but then from nowhere Joji Mate appears to tell us that we were not going home and

we had to immediately return to Batu Pahat."

Mr Waqanivalu vividly remembers that after the announcement by the commander, most of them did not know whether they were going to survive the war.

"As we travelled into the greater jungle in the heavy rain, strong winds and the water was knee length as we travelled in."

Mr Waqanivalu adds if there was something that he would remember from that time, it was the service he rendered dur-

Today I can still remember that the most challenging place in Malaya was where Fijian soldiers were placed during the war in Johor.

War veteran
Sitiveni Waqanivalu

ing the Malayan campaign, the long nights they would stand in the wilderness and at times their clothes would be wet for almost two to three days.

"Our commander would tell us to tie a rope around our waist to a tree trunk when we would get tired and even when it was raining heavily with strong winds that was the only way to keep abreast."

"They would remind us that this was the only service we can offer our country, which was to go to war to save our countries. As we returned to camp that following week there was massive celebration for the completion of the mission. I can clearly recall that as we marched into camp we cheered because none of us died during the war."

Businesses thrive: PM

FROM PAGE 1

And we're seeing Fijian-made exports on the rise," he said.

"But as larger economies around the world enter into trade wars and turmoil, and regional economies like Australia and New Zealand are slowing down alongside a global economic downturn globally, you can be mindful of these trends, but do not be demoralised."

"Even as growth softens around the region and world, Fiji has proven its resilience in the past, and we will prove it again. So instead, find the opportunity. This is actually precisely the time to take advantage of new incentives that we've put in place to insulate Fiji from that global trend, as it won't last forever."

Prime Minister Bainimarama expanded on the steps his Government was taking to keep the momentum going in the future.

"But this shouldn't be seen as political — it's not about being "pro-worker" or "pro-business", pretending that we can't be both simultaneously. It's about being pro-Fiji, and it's about being pro-growth."

These initiatives have been in the form of tax reforms to help grow businesses, working with development partners to break barriers and restrictive trade policies such as Australia easing its long standing kava restriction recently and working on the digital transformation.

The Fijian Government partnered with the Singapore Cooperation Enterprise in November 2017 to undertake a four-year digital government transformation known as digitalFIJI.

Through my government's embrace of the digital revolution and under the digitalFIJI umbrella, we've launched the BizFiji portal to streamline starting and registering a business online.

Key honours included the Business Leadership Award, which was conferred to Fiji Airports chief executive officer, Faiz Khan.

Airports Fiji was also given the Supreme Award, as recognition of its significant role in increasing visitor numbers for the Fijian economy and being cited as one of Asia Pacific's leading Green Airports by the Airports Council International.



Attorney-General, Minister for Economy and Civil Aviation, Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum with Fiji Airways executive members are presented a traditional welcoming ceremony by the Fijian community at Toulouse, France. Photo: SUPPLIED

Fiji Airways' A350 'a first for Pacific'

PRASHILA DEVI

THE new A350 that joins Fiji Airways growing fleet of modern aircrafts is part of the paradigm that the Fijian Government has put in place to build a modern, inclusive and digital society.

These were the sentiments of the Attorney-General, Minister for Economy and Civil Aviation, Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum as he travelled back with the A350 from Toulouse, France, which is a first of its kind in the Pacific region.

The A-G said the Government was taking up modernization not just for the sake of it but due to the benefits that can be obtained by using "those new devices, new equipment, aircraft" by the Fijian people.

"This momentous occasion heralds a new era for the aviation sector in Fiji particularly for Fiji Airways as the A350 is the latest in

technology- lesser fuel burn, lower carbon footprint, flying longer distances and so on."

"The quality of the product is quite amazing, the quality of the seats, the leg room and the various features will place Fiji Airways at a higher echelon," he said.

The A-G said overall, Fiji Airways having such an aircraft is a "place of pride for all Fijians".

"Fiji Airways, the national carrier now has an A350, it's a great sense of pride- Fiji is now on top of the league, 50 per cent of our population is below 27 so that there is a lot of employment opportunities, it is also good for the tourism industry- newer destinations, longer flights and better flying experience," he said.

The A-G highlighted that the Government has been very supportive of the national carrier as it has put in place various measures whether it is in the legal parameters to assist Fiji Airways or the civil aviation sector.



Former Fijian rugby player Fero Lasagavibau presents a tabua during a traditional welcoming ceremony at Toulouse, France. Photo: SUPPLIED

Informal settlement families given 99-year leases

MEREANI GONEDUA

MORE than 450 Fijian families in five settlements around the country have received long term land tenure in the form of 99 year leases.

Minister for Local Government, Housing and Community Development, Premila Kumar, while responding to the address by the President, Major-General (Ret'd) Jioji Konrote at the opening of the new parliamentary session, informed Parliament of these developments.

Minister Kumar highlighted that this is the first step to meeting housing needs through the Informal Settlement Upgrade and Formalization Program.

"Work is progressing in another nine settlements and over 1200 households will benefit. The Ministry secured 41 development leases from the iTaukei Land Trust Board for that program. Over \$3 million has been paid as lease premium, and landowners will continue to receive

annual lease rental fees after the development projects are completed."

Minister Kumar stated that 2321 Fijians have benefited from the First Home Initiative over the last five years.

"There has been an increase in demand for the First Home/First Land Grant assistance, with 336 applications approved in the first quarter of this year; the entire 2018/2019 period saw just 500 applications approved."

She highlighted that the Fijian Government is working with the International Finance Corporation (IFC) to assist in the design and implementation of housing Projects under public private partnership arrangement.

"Six sites (Davulevu, Nepani, Wainibuku, Raiwaqa, Tavakubu, and Tavua) in the central and western divisions have been selected for the due diligence to develop green and climate resilient housing units for low to middle income households in Fiji with private sector participation."

Speaking on the issue of Local Government,

Minister Kumar assured that the Ministry is taking decisive measures to significantly improve efficiency and service delivery, mainly through the reform of municipal councils, the development of new townships and upgraded facilities, and strategic cooperation with development partners on town planning.

"The quality of new leadership at each municipal council is redefining service delivery at the local government level. They are driving good governance; the modernization of local infrastructure and services; and the professionalism of management and service delivery. She stressed that town and city councils have devised strategies to collect outstanding rates and will no longer be lenient with those residents who expect to receive services without paying their share.

"Councils need rates to invest in maintenance, building, and service improvements; every dollar paid will be put to good use, and citizens will enjoy the returns in the form of a more livable environment."



Speaker of Parliament Ratu Epeli Nailatikau, Secretary-General to Parliament Viniana Namosimalua, President, Major-General (Ret'd) Jioji Konrote and Republic of the Fiji Military Forces (RFMF) Commander Rear Admiral Viliame Naupoto during the opening of the new session of parliament for 2019-2020. Photo: FELIX LESINAIVALU

Minister hails President Konrote ‘powerful address’

AZARIA FAREEN

MINISTER for Youth and Sports, Parveen Kumar has commended the President, Major-General (Ret'd) Jioji Konrote for delivering a powerful address at the opening of the new session of parliament for 2019-2020.

“It is a wise and sound advice that provides a solid platform so that Fiji develops and progresses towards our stated aims, outcomes and outputs for all Fijians,” Minister Kumar said in the first sitting of Parliament.

“I thank His Excellency the President for the

force of his convictions in standing firm on his belief in the constitution as the supreme law of land and how and why it impacts on what constitutes credible leadership in this august house.

“It is important that we show the qualities of consensus building and showing respect as leaders of our people,” he added.

Minister Kumar has also encouraged the youths and individuals to read and learn about the constitution, if they have not, which will add to their value as nation builders and as proud and productive Fijians.

“The “Bill of Rights” under the 2013 Con-

stitution guarantees every Fijian fundamental rights and offers a bright future to all Fijians to enjoy the privilege of being united under the same identity as ‘Fijians’,” he said.

“The constitution provides our children with special protection and rights to security - free from any form of violence from any source, at home, school, and work or in any other places,” Minister Kumar added.

“Fijians continue to express and voice their democratic and constitutional rights under the 2013 constitution which provides assurance, security, peace and goodwill to all Fijians.”

Paperless inspection system in the works

AZARIA FAREEN

THE Ministry of Employment, Productivity and Industrial Relations is working in collaboration with the International Labour Organization (ILO) on implementing a paperless labour inspection system in Fiji.

In response to the address by the President, Major-General (Ret'd) Jioji Konrote during the opening of the new parliamentary session, the line Minister Parveen Kumar noted the system will also ensure robust data collection and fact based decision making.

“Fiji is a member state to ILO and to mark a century since the ILO’s founding during the 108th session of the ILO Conference this year, a Centenary Declaration for the Future of Work was adopted,” Minister Kumar said.

The declaration calls for a human centered approach where people are at the heart of the economic, social and environmental policies.

“My ministry is responsible for the promotion of social justice in workplaces through the provision of awareness, training, advisory services and capacity building,” Minister Kumar said.

“Our labour laws comply with international



Minister for Employment, Productivity and Industrial Relations Parveen Kumar addresses Parliament during the beginning of the Parliament sitting on Monday this week. Photo: SUPPLIED.

best practices in terms of human rights, employment relations, employment standard and operational management and productivity,” he added.

Minister Kumar adds that productivity is a crucial factor for Fiji in raising its standard of living and improving the country’s general economic outlook.

“Our 15-year National Productivity Master Plan 2021-2036 has been developed in collaboration with the Asian Productivity Organization to map our National Productivity mile-

stones and directions to increase productivity in workplaces,” he said.

“In October this year, Fiji signed a Memorandum of Agreement with the Government of Tuvalu to assist towards capacity building of their human resources through engagement of our Fijian Volunteer Teachers,” Minister Kumar said.

“We have definitely supported the creation of jobs and helped deliver, through our employment programs with higher quality services for our citizens.”

Minister Kumar further added that more than 100 Fijians have been absorbed in the Tourism and Meat Industry under Australia’s Pacific Labour Scheme, providing three-year work contracts to semi-skilled workers.

“The Fijian Government has received praises from an Australian Employer under the program for the satisfactory performance of 15 Fijian workers who have recently completed their four months employment duration,” he said.

“With positive feedback as such, we should look forward to further strengthen our bilateral ties, provide our people with more opportunities and ultimately have a win-win outcome with our bilateral partners.”

Ministry targets excellence in education sector

PRASHILA DEVI

THE Government’s “Education Dream” for all students in Fiji is not only in line to achieve a “Knowledge Based Society” but also to ensure excellence in all facets of education.

“Education is a progressive right and one to which this Government has given real meaning. We have opened the doors to learning to all Fijians regardless of economic or social status, regardless of religion, ethnicity, gender or physical ability,” Minister for Education Rosy Akbar said in reference to the Government’s Free Education initiative.

The Education Minister, in response to the address by the President, Major-General (Ret'd) Jioji Konrote in the opening of the new parliamentary session, said there were 195 countries in the world out of which only 24 provide free or close to free education.

She said today, more than ever, Fiji needs a new standard of excellence in education, matched by unequivocal access to educational opportunities, enabling each citizen to develop his talents to the maximum possible extent pegged to global benchmarks.

“His Excellency has duly reminded us of the need for the priceless assurance of future security, I strongly echo his sentiments. In the not so distant past, children would burn their midnight lamps, excel academically to the bliss of expecting parents and yet be mercilessly denied tertiary education due to financial barriers,” Minister Akbar said.

Today, she said, every Fijian child lives with the peace of mind that his or her effort will be rewarded with equal and non-discriminatory financial assistance paving the way to a brighter future.

“These children from struggling families will be able to break the shackles of the vicious cycle of poverty thus leading to a better standard of living, all the time feeling empowered by the support of the government of the day.”

The Government’s Free Education initiative includes Free Bus fare Scheme, Free Textbook programme, Transport Assistance program, National Toppers Scholarship Scheme, Tertiary Education Loan Scheme, Overseas Scholarship and Scholarships for Children with Special Needs scheme.

Youth, sports 'are economic drivers'

AZARIA FAREEN

FIJIAN Government has prioritised programmes for our youths and sports which are of incredible importance to Fiji and its future.

In response to the address by the President, Major-General (Ret'd) Jioji Konrote at the opening of the new parliamentary session, the Minister for Youth and Sports Parveen Kumar said both are economic drivers and need to be seen and addressed in terms of their growing importance.

"Sports according to a Reserve Bank of Fiji 2016 report, has contributed about 1.7 per cent to Fiji's gross domestic product," Minister Kumar highlighted.

"This places sports ahead of some of our traditional industries and given the pathways, in rugby and in other sports, this figure will continue to rise," he added.

"We are changing the way we support our young people and are in the process of appointing members to the National Youth Council and youth workers, a platform to capture youth voices and issues," he added.

Minister Kumar highlighted that his office has recently reviewed its operational plan for the next five years to ensure it is in line with the national development plan and supports the sustainable development goals.

"We strive to serve the people of Fiji and the mandate that they have given for the vision and development plans of the Government," he said.

He has also applauded Fiji Airways Flying Fijians star player, Jerry Tuwai, for winning the rugby 7s player of the year award presented by the International Rugby Board World rugby awards 2019.

"Many congratulations to the Flying Fijians for their win over the Barbarians. This was a great performance showing the depth of Fiji rugby as they pulled up a win based on Fijian flair and their new found defensive resolve, against some of the world's best, including those drawn from the 2019 and earlier World Cup winning teams."

He adds this augurs well for Fiji rugby, in both the 7s and 15s codes in the coming season.

Youths urged to be involved in decision making

MEREANI GONEDUA

FOR the youth, an open and inclusive democracy is not some revolutionary ideal – it is their societal baseline says Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama.

The Head of Government has urged Parliamentarians to listen to the views of young Fijians and involve them in decision making.

Speaking in Parliament this week in response to the address by the President, Major-General (Ret'd) Jioji Konrote at the opening of the new parliamentary session, Prime Minister Bainimarama urged that they must put themselves in the shoes of the young people that they serve.

"We must strive to know the anxiety of Fijian children who expect to see climate impacts intensify over the course of their entire lifetimes. We must seek to understand the many ways our secondary school students are witnessing technology re-shape our schools and our society at-large. And we must endeavour to match the hunger of our young entrepreneurs to seize emerging opportunities in our growing economy."

my."

"How? By opening our ears to what our youth have to say and by involving them in the decisions we make. I urge the members of the Opposition to do so with urgency. By actually engaging with young people they may actually stand a chance at tethering their contributions to the realities young Fijians live every day."

Prime Minister Bainimarama highlighted that real change is not created from a single day's work, a single piece of legislation or even a single term of Government.

"Deep, enduring changes in Fijian society are born in the minds of our youngest citizens and nurtured over the course of generations. That is where democratic values are taking firm hold in Fijian society."

"Given we are such a young country, with more than half of our population under the age of 27, and 70 per cent under the age of 40, that fills me with unbridled optimism for our future."

"They will accept nothing less than a Fiji where their votes matter equally, their voices

are taken seriously and their government positively and honestly acts to secure them new and better opportunities."

He highlighted that these growing national expectations are undeniable blessings and it is a blessing that many children and grandchildren have only ever known a true democracy.

"It is a blessing they are embracing their wide array of constitutional rights. And it is a blessing they do not suffer a government who sees their worth through the lens of ethnicity, gender, religion, physical ability, status or province."

He also stated that it is not just about the young people, "We're not serving Fijians of any age, or even Fijians yet to be born, unless we heed His Excellency's apt reminder to focus on the mountain of progress we have yet to ascend".

"To echo the words of His Excellency, we must all speak and work in the national interest, not self-interest, not party interest, but in the interest of securing Fijian well-being one, two and even three generations on from now."



Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama addresses Parliament during the beginning of the Parliament sitting on Monday this week. Photo: SUPPLIED

MEREANI GONEDUA

THE growth of the Fijian economy is projected to remain resilient.

These were the sentiments of Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama in Parliament this week during his response to the address by the President, Major-General (Ret'd) Jioji Konrote.

"We're going to keep expanding. We're going to sustain and improve faith in our economic potential. We're going to keep funding ambitious ideas for new ventures."

"We're going to listen to Fijian businesses and continue to respond with reforms that keep them competitive at home and in markets beyond our shores. And we're going to continue funding the programmes that uphold Fijian well-being; free education, social welfare sup-

port, investments in resilient infrastructure, essential services, healthcare, legal aid services, our support to farmers and the incentives that accelerate Fijian business development."

Prime Minister Bainimarama recalled the first day he became Prime Minister where he promised many changes to take place and one of them was to fight every day for a future worthy of the potential of the coming generations.

He highlighted that every year, more of that vision has come to pass and the record of achievement has grown prouder.

"Every year, our progress has become more tangible in our people's lives. Every year, Fiji has come closer to realizing our national destiny."

"But that work is not over. The job is not yet done. Sustaining our prosperity demands every

ounce of energy we can muster, every shred of ingenuity we can summon, and every parliamentarian's total focus and commitment."

He stated that the coming year holds even greater significance, as this session of Parliament will carry every Fijian all the way through to 10 October 2020 which is the 50th anniversary of Fiji's independence.

"Fifty (50) years from now, in 2070, the citizens of a modern, dynamic and vibrant Fiji will look back on this period with gratitude on the long-term investments we're making in their well-being and the vision we've set out for their success."

"I hold every confidence that – because of our work today – those future Fijians will be better, live better and dream bigger than we can possibly imagine."



Redeveloped \$16.8m arena targets global events

MEREANI GONEDUA

FIJI can now host more international sporting events with the reopening of the new redeveloped \$16.8m National Vodafone Arena in Suva.

Speaking at the opening ceremony, Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama highlighted that every Fijian can be proud to add another stellar venue to Fiji's world-class roster of sporting facilities – a bigger and better Vodafone arena.

"The roof is brand-new, as are the floors, which are now consistent in quality and design throughout the arena. We've installed a state-of-the-art sound system, improved the lighting and ventilation systems, and extended the event halls to accommodate up to 3000 people.

Prime Minister Bainimarama said that Fijian Government is building and revamping a sporting infrastructure network worthy of its people's relentless passion and undeniable talent for athletics.

"We're charting progress our people can see: Whether it's across the road at ANZ Stadium or FMF Gymnasium, or in rugby pitches, parks and football fields across Fijian communities."

"This re-development is more than a facelift. Given the last works were completed over 15 years ago, we've put in the time and resource-



Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama during the official reopening of the Vodafone Arena in Suva. Photo: MEREANI GONEDUA

to ensure this facility is built to last. We're not repeating past mistakes. Instead, we've re-developed this arena in a manner that makes future expansion works far easier and more affordable."

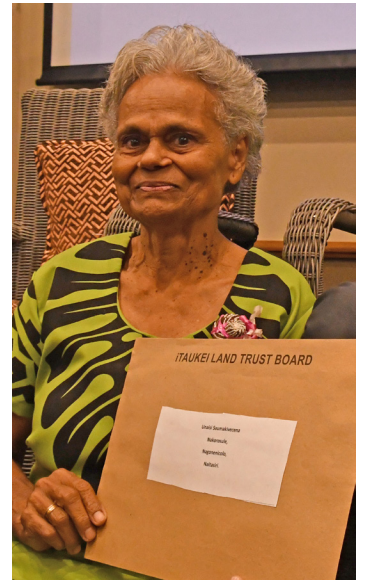
He highlighted that the investments Government is making to improve sporting facilities – along with roadways, airports, services and ICT connectivity – are working together to capitalise on the vast money-making potential of global Fijian fandom.

"By putting ourselves in the position to host

regional and international sporting events, we're giving fans the excuse they've been waiting for to get on a plane to visit our country, and bring with them their families, friends and – of course -- their credit cards as well.

Prime Minister Bainimarama also encouraged all Fijians to make use of the sporting facilities as it belongs to anyone who wishes to use them.

The arena that was built in 2003 for the South Pacific Games now has a seating capacity of 8000 and also has an additional indoor sporting facility.



Unaisi Somakivecena of Nakorosule, Naitasiri. Photo: NANISE NEIMILA

Govt helps Unaisi's leap of faith

NANISE NEIMILA

REALISING the opportunities and generation of income from the land motivated 60-year-old Unaisi Somakivecena to lease 115 acres of land from her clan.

Originally from Nakorosule, Naitasiri, Mrs Somakivecena has been, for the past three years, planting dalo on the leased land and until today she has never regretted taking this leap of faith of investing in the land that she is reaping the benefits.

"I have been leasing on our mataqali land for the past three years with my two other siblings and we have planted dalo on the 115 acre land and we have planted close to 12,000 dalo have been harvested."

"From the assistance I received under the Seed Fund Grant for iTaukei landowners I will be able to extend my plantation and plant other crops on the land to assist with the current quota."

Fijian Government, through the iTaukei Land Trust Board (TLTB), provides an opportunity to access Seed Fund Grant for them to participate in any income generating project of their choice and also allow them to work together in facilitating these projects.

Mrs Somakivecena said through this grant it also opens the opportunities for landowners to lease their own land.

"Since the land is located uphill I am planning to request for tree seedlings so that I can plant on the other remaining land because from what I know it will take close to seven years to mature and I will be able to get good returns from them."

"I also plan to purchase live-stock and have them on the land so that we can help in breeding them and later on sell them."

Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama told landowners that apart from developing their own land, they can also lease their land out for 99-years.



Twenty-year-old Susana Natuituinivalu (second from right), of Tagaqe Village, Nadroga, with her family after the distribution of Landowners Seed Grant at the Grand Pacific Hotel, Suva. Photo: NANISE NEIMILA

Youth groups grateful for Govt seed grant

NANISE NEIMILA

NAVULACA youth group from Tagaqe Village in Nadroga hopes to venture into bee-farming as a source of income for the unemployed youths that are part of the group.

One of the main motivation behind the establishment of the youth group was to provide income for the unemployed youths in the village and look for income generating projects.

Representative from the group, 20-year Susana Natuituinivalu commended the Fijian Government for their efforts in providing the Seed Grant that provides landowners an opportunity to participate in any income generating projects of their choice and also allow them to work together in facilitating these projects.

"The grant will be very helpful for the group as we lack financial support for starters and given the projects that we would want to embark on. We plan to have bee-keeping projects, since

our village is along the coral coast and there is high demand from the neighbouring resorts and hotels for locally produced food."

Ms Natuituinivalu adds this is a great opportunity for other youth groups to explore as the Government continues to encourage landowning units to utilise idle land for future developments.

The group was amongst the 56 landowning units to receive funding from Government through the Seed Grant that is administered by the iTaukei Land Trust Board (TLTB).

Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama encouraged the landowners that the value of this project goes deeper than the short-term cash that every landowning group will be able to accrue.

"By opening access to seed funding, we're creating a culture of sustainable economic development, the benefits of which will build momentum over generations. That's why we call it "seed funding" in the first place — Government is planting and watering a seed with the

hope that it will grow and flourish into something bigger and more beautiful."

PM Bainimarama highlighted that the new project will encourage the younger generation to follow through with the new investments.

"Young people in your mataqalis see that happen, and they want to follow your lead. The precedent you set — your single, breakthrough success story — can go on to inspire generations of business owners who have seen what success looks like first-hand, and hunger to taste it on their own, fostering a culture of entrepreneurship that transforms Fiji into an economy of job-makers rather than job-takers."

PM Bainimarama highlighted that in 2017 the Government began this initiative with a total allocation of \$200,000.

"Last year, that amount grew to \$350,000. This year, we're distributing \$500,000 in seed funding to 56 landowners and landowner groups."



Prime Minister Frank Bainimarama says Fiji stands committed to uniting behind the science. Photo: SUPPLIED

EMI KOROITANOVA

IN an effort to tackle the climate crisis, the Fijian Government has introduced the ‘Climate Change Bill’.

Highlighting this new move to the Climate Change Summit in New York recently, Prime Minister Frank Bainimarama said it is part of Fiji’s effort of “Enshrining our commitment to the Paris Agreement.”

The purpose of this bill is to implement Fiji’s international commitments and obligations to reduce its carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gas emissions.

“Fiji stands committed to uniting behind the science,” Prime Minister Bainimarama

had said.

He said though Fiji did not cause the climate crisis, it is fully awake to its reality.

“The brutality of our changing climate has already driven vulnerable communities into a nightmare scenario — one in which the hellscapes of storms like Cyclone Winston and Hurricane Dorian have become the new normal.”

Furthermore, while Fiji remains one of the smallest contributors to global carbon emissions, it faces some of the most devastating consequences of extreme weather patterns. According to a World Bank Report, climate threats to Fiji is expected to contribute to economic damages of up to

\$52 million per year.

Threats to the country, as outlined in the report, include higher rates of disease as average temperatures rise and destructive storms increase as oceans get warmer and weather patterns become more severe.

The agriculture sector could also be disrupted as a result of intrusion of saltwater damages in existing farmland.

Meanwhile, the bill, which is currently undergoing public consultations, is intended to become a law by being passed as an Act of Parliament before December 2019.

The ‘Climate Change Bill’, if passed will formally be known then as the ‘Climate Change Act’.



Online firm pushes eco-friendly business

EMI KOROITANOVA

WITH the Fijian Government making strong commitments to climate action, Eco-Conscious (Fiji) have followed suit by providing alternatives to plastic products within its business.

Founder of Eco-Conscious (Fiji) Natasha Woods said she started her business after noticing how people, including herself, struggled to find eco-friendly alternatives to plastic.

“I started to reduce my own plastic footprint in the small ways that I could,” Ms Woods said.

“Eventually, I realised that none of my friends were doing the same, neither were a lot of people around me.”

Eco-Conscious (Fiji), which is an online store, sells eco-friendly sustainable products such as metal straws, produce bags and bamboo toothbrushes.

Ms Woods, who is passionate about the natural environment, said upon launching her business stocks sold out quite fast.

“That’s when I became much more aware of how conscious a lot of people are about what they purchase,” she said.

“It wasn’t what I expected so I was extremely happy that a lot of people are environmentally conscious and are very keen to purchase eco-friendly products.”

The online business mainly sources its products internationally from countries such as China and Vietnam.

“We have some products that are also locally produced like our beeswax wraps, straw pouches and wraps. We hope to expand into more locally made products in the future,” she said.

“Sustainable development can’t be achieved by any one individual, we all need to participate and do our part,” she added.

At present, HG Leach (Fiji), responsible for the management of Naboro landfill estimates that an average of 10,000 tons of plastic is being produced by Fijians which end up every year at the landfill.

Website launch promotes planting initiative

PRASHILA DEVI

THE revamped Fiji REDD+ website- www.fijireddplus.org will be Fiji’s information hub for the National REDD+ Project.

This site, the Minister for Forestry Osea Naiqamu highlighted as he launched the portal in Suva recently, will also provide Fijians the opportunity to obtain information on the ‘4 Million Trees in 4 Years’ initiative as well as the other work being done through the REDD+ project.

He said, “The website has also been developed to educate, and help build climate resilient communities, and in doing so contribute to the global movement to address climate change”.

“The new REDD+ website features publications and reports, factsheets, news, videos and maps with information of forest reserves, areas harvested and the Emissions Reduction Program (ERP) sites which are being made readily available for members of the public,” Minister Naiqamu said.

The revamped website is a collaboration between the Ministry, the World Bank and the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility with a local consultant, House of Kings, designing and delivering the project.

World Bank’s program manager for East



... Minister for Forestry Osea Naiqamu with the ministry’s permanent secretary Pene Baleinabuli (right), during the launch of the revamped Fiji REDD+ website. Photo: SUPPLIED

Asia and Pacific Environment and Blue Economy, Ann Glauber emphasized the importance of the REDD+ program, which sets out a country’s efforts to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation as well as foster conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of carbon stocks.

“Nature based solutions include forests,

can provide 37 per cent of the needed mitigation to meet international climate targets of keeping global temperature rise to below 2 degrees celcius,” she said.

Meanwhile, Minister Naiqamu also highlighted that the ‘4 Million Trees in 4 Years’ initiative saw one million trees being planted in 10 months.



Education 'lays solid foundation for Fijian youths'

"Being humble is an important element of being Fijian and we cherish that among all the communities which we come from."

These were the sentiments shared by Minister for Youth and Sports Parveen Kumar while officiating as the chief guest at the Beqa-Yanuca Secondary School prizegiving ceremony at Raviravi Village, Beqa Island.

Minister Kumar reiterated the importance of education in the lives of youths and the vital roles that teachers and parents played in the academic upbringing of a student.

"To the teachers and the parents present here today, you are all not only educating our young people for their future endeavours, but also laying a very solid foundation for Fiji to have a vibrant youth sector in the years to come," he said.

"Education is fundamental to a good foundation and a vibrant future. The Government recognises the enormous contribution education makes to the economy, and has made education a priority by introducing multiple initiatives to ease the educational phase of all students."

Photos: ILISAPECI TUIVALE

Work hard and reap benefits, Education Minister urges students

Year 13 students who will pursue further education will reap the benefits of \$138m, which the Fijian Government has set aside for TELS (Tertiary Education Loan Scheme).

Minister for Education, Heritage and Arts Rosy Akbar said this year the Government put aside \$63.7 m for tuition fees and \$20m for transportation.

Minister Akbar said, "Everything is taken care of by the Government, all you have to do is to work hard," Minister Akbar said. Officiating at the Suva Grammar School annual prizegiving ceremony, she said such events were a time of celebrations because not only deserving students were awarded, but it encouraged those in close competition to set new visions and higher benchmarks for the coming year.

Photos: EMI KOROITANOVA



Ministry steps up women empowerment programme

The Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation continues to promote women's economic participation by supporting women-led income-generating projects. The latest batch of Fijian women graduated recently from the Almanah Hope Centre, which has received more than \$100,000 in grants from the ministry.

Assistant Minister for Women Veena Bhatnagar said they were encouraged by the centre's commitment to upskilling and training underprivileged and disadvantaged women, which include widows, single mothers and women with little or no formal education.

Photos: LITIA VULDAUSIGA





Awardees of the Duke of Edinburgh's International Award with Minister for Youths and Sports Parveen Kumar at Xavier College in Ba. Photo: AZARIA FAREEN

Award scheme instils leadership in students

AZARIA FAREEN

FIJIAN Government recognises that young people will take over key leadership positions in future and has made an unwavering commitment to their development in the country.

This was reiterated by the Minister Youth and Sports Parveen Kumar while presenting the Duke of Edinburgh's International Awards to 447 youths in the western division recently.

In congratulating the students and youths for their achievement, Minister Kumar highlighted that the award is recognised in all the 130 countries and territories around

the world.

"This is not just a prestigious and an internationally recognized award but the world's leading youth achievement award available to all 14 to 24 year olds," he said.

"I am quite proud of your achievements and firmly believe that you will all become responsible adults and move the Western side towards a positive and secure future, therefore, it is important that we continue to dedicate our efforts and support Government's initiatives towards the nurturing of young people at all times."

Year 12 student of Tilak High School, Natalie Marise who was presented with gold achievement award says she was overjoyed

with the reward and believes that the program to be a challenge.

"We suffered a lot in the bad weather condition and climbing the mountains in the rain was tough and scary while in camp as it needed a lot of physical strength but we overcame it with great team work," she said.

"I was selected for my good academic performance and I feel it is an honor to be part of this program which teaches a lot of perseverance and discipline and I urge all youths to take part in it."

About 98 youths were presented with gold award, 153 with silver award and 196 with bronze award.

Minister meets farmers to resolve concerns

AZARIA FAREEN

ABOUT 40 heads from the farming community of Caboni and Viti Vanua in Tavua raised their grievances directly with the Minister for Agriculture and Waterways, Dr Mahendra Reddy as he toured the Western Division recently.

Some of the urgent challenges raised was the unavailability of water for drinking and agriculture purpose to which they were assured of the Government's commitment in looking for a potential water source and piping at the ministry's expense.

"We need to provide relief to farmers and motivate them so they are able to increase their produce and expand the agriculture sector," Minister Reddy said.

The Minister spoke to farmers on ways they can develop and transition into commercial farming and offered them "Mucuna Bean" seeds - which after planting would strengthen the soil and maintain the nutrients for further planting.

"Most farmers don't pay attention to soil fertility and repeatedly grow sugarcane or the same vegetables over and over again, which contributes to loss of minerals on the farm land," Minister Reddy said.

"Mucuna Bean seeds should be planted every year for six months in all plots as it will contribute towards nitrogen and maintain the soil structure; and farmers will also benefit from not having to use much fertilizer."

Speaking during a talanoa session, advisory councillor for Draunivii, Caboni and Naiyalayala, Mukesh Chand said they have been facing this issue for the past 10-years and despite many complaints nothing has been done.

"We used to harvest about 4,000 tonnes of sugarcane a decade ago but now it has dwindled to 600 tonnes, a major loss of livelihood to all farmers," Mr Chand said.

Minister Reddy responded the ministry will be embarking on a campaign to capture stray animals which are not tethered, does not have any official identification and are wandering on public space or farms.

"The stray animals cannot continue to threaten the agriculture sector. Owners should take heed and ensure their animals are properly secured within their premises," Minister Reddy said.

"All animals caught will be sent to a designated pound of the Ministry until the owners claim their livestock. Unclaimed animals will be auctioned by the Ministry after 10-days of pounding to recover costs." Minister Reddy further added should the farmers need assistance to plough their land, they can be provided with tractors at a subsidized rate of \$28 an hour by the ministry.

Vanuatu nationals in cane-cutting pilot programme

THE 19 Vanuatu nationals presently engaged in a cane-cutting pilot programme in some farms at Balevuto in Ba have commended the Fijian Government for providing them the opportunity to assist farmers with cane harvesting this crushing season.

Fijian Government, through the Ministry of Sugar Industry, as part of its efforts to address labour shortage and increase cane production, made arrangements to bring into the country the Vanuatu nationals for the pilot programme which is expected to run for three month.

For the past three weeks, the Vanuatu labourers have been harvesting cane in two farms with about 200 tonnes of cane already delivered to the sugar mill.

Permanent Secretary for the Office of the Prime Minister, Sugar Industry and Immigration Yogesh Karan visited the labourers to witness firsthand, the progress of their work on the farms.

Mr Karan was very impressed with the harvesting developments and conveyed the Prime Minister's sincere appreciation to the labourers.

"Labour shortage in the Sugar industry continues to be major setback for the government and we had made several talks about hiring labourers from overseas,"



Permanent Secretary for the Office of the Prime Minister, Sugar Industry and Immigration Yogesh Karan with the Vanuatu nationals. Photo: SUPPLIED

he said.

"This is a pilot programme that we have embarked on and if all goes well, we hope to bring more labourers in the next season. We've heard that farmers in this area want more labourers from Vanuatu and this is something we will work on come the next season.

"The initiative came about after a request was received from Ba farmers, however, the need is just as great in other sugar cane sectors around Fiji.

"Government has introduced a lot of incentives such as fertilizer subsidy, farm mechanisation and the issuance of the new farmers' assistance scheme grant, among other initiatives to help boost cane production in Fiji.

The team leader for the Vanuatu labourers Daniel Melanamu conveyed the team's appreciation to the Fijian Government for the opportunity.

"Some of us have been to Australia and New Zealand for the seasonal workers scheme but to be here to help our Pacific brothers is a wonderful opportunity," Mr Melanamu said.

"We've been looked after well here and the hosts are very friendly. We hope to bring positive changes to the sugar industry here and also come back next year."

The labourers will also work on the farms during the non-harvesting seasons.

Meanwhile, the farmers have expressed appreciation on the

Government's initiative to get cane cutters and requested for 120 more for next season and more for farm labour.

The Ministry of Sugar Industry had advised FSC to advertise the need for cane cutters earlier this year, however, there were hardly any response despite numerous attempts to recruit cutters.

The Bainimarama-led Government will continue to support the sugar industry to sustain the livelihoods of the more-than 200,000 people who depend on it.

Under the country's National Development Plans, more effort will be concentrated in increasing productive capacity, improving transportation and generating additional revenue.

-news@govnet.gov.fj

Govt steps up work on informal settlements

JOSAIA RALAGO

FIJIAN Government through the Department of Lands have regularised many informal settlements in their efforts to give Fijians some form of tenure.

This was highlighted by the Minister for Lands and Mineral Resources Ashneel Sudhakar in an interview during his tour to some of these settlements in Labasa.

“We visited about 14 of these settlements that used to be informal settlements, all the way from Bulileka to places like Wailevu, also Namara informal settlement. As part of our Governments informal settlement reform programmes, we have regularised many of these squatter settlements,” Minister Sudhakar said.

“Many of these people have been living on State land for years and our Government thought to give them some relief and some of them were issued approval notices, to give them some certainty of occupation, and once the actual survey is done, roads are constructed - they will get their leases.”

He said the provision of proper land leases and titles to them would help members of these communities to mortgage their leases and build better homes for proper sanitation.

Ana Ciriya, 26, who grew up at the Namara informal settlement, said she was grateful to the Government for its commitment in helping improve the standard of living in informal settlements around the country.

“We moved here in 2001, and when we came, there was no water and no electricity supply. It wasn’t until a few years later that we got water,” Ms Ciriya said.

“Though I haven’t been living here for the past few years, coming in and out because of studies and work – I can honestly say that there has been a lot of improvement.”



Minister for Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation Mereseini Vuniwaqa during the ground-breaking ceremony of the new Labasa Golden Age Home. Photo: JOSAIA RALAGO

Govt spends \$4.7m for senior citizens’ home

JOSAIA RALAGO

FIJIAN Government is investing \$4.7 million into the construction for the Labasa Golden Age Home in an effort to provide residents with a state of the art facility.

After its completion, the new structure is expected to accommodate 40 residents and offering a day care service for the non-residents – being the first for any Golden Age Home in the country.

While speaking at the ground-breaking ceremony, Minister for Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation Mereseini Vuniwaqa said old age was a sensitive phase, elderly people needed

care and comfort to lead a healthy life without worries and anxiety.

“The Fijian Government recognizes that when caring for the elderly, there are a number of things to be considered – one of them being old age homes and long-term care of the elderly,” Minister Vuniwaqa said.

“It is a great privilege for Government through the Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation to provide this service for the senior citizens of Fiji with urgent and complex welfare needs – and we are very happy today to start on a project that aims to better this service.”

She said that while the Government takes care of the genuine cases at the home, they believe

that families should not forget their responsibilities towards their elders.

“The Fijian Government believes that we owe our elders an opportunity and adequate facilities to lead a life with good health, dignity, economic independence and a peaceful and respectful departure,” Minister Vuniwaqa said.

“However, this in no way means that our families should forget their responsibilities towards our elders. Nothing can replace the affection, love and warmth of a family and we hope that only the most genuine cases end up in our facilities.”

This new structure is expected to be completed by July 2021.

Training helps young farmers to save money

JOSAIA RALAGO

YOUNG kava farmers in Lomaloma, Macuata will now be able to save thousands of dollars following a financial literacy training earlier this month.

The week-long training facilitated by the Ministry of Youth and Sports encouraged better financial management to the 40 attendees.

“Most of these youths have been farming ever since they were in high school, some of them are pursuing higher education while most have chosen to return to the village,” the Lomaloma Youth Club President Raguele Rawanisese said.

“This is one of the reasons why we had decided to strengthen our club again, so we can bring this type of initiatives for the many youths who are now in the village.”

Mr Rawanisese said there were abundant resources that they could use as a source of income, and they have been doing so for an year.



Participants during the week-long financial literacy training facilitated by the Ministry of Youth and Sports. Photo: JOSAIA RALAGO

“The only issue has been the utilisation of money when they get it. There is no plan for the future, there is no goal set, and time management was also an issue, all of which were addressed in this workshop.”

Gabiriele Raiole, 19, is one of youths, who was in Year 13 last

year and was pursuing further education when he decided to quit.

“I have come to realise that my passion lies in toiling the land and I have had my own yaqona plantation ever since I was 15. When I uproot five yaqona plants, I can get close to \$4000, all of which I can

say was not used properly over the years,” he said.

“This training has taught most of us to plan ahead, to have goals and to save money. We are grateful to the Ministry for availing this training for us.”



Fiji calls for action on climate change response



Fiji's Permanent Representative to United Nations, Ambassador Dr Satyendra Prasad during the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) Debate on Women, Peace and Security held at the UN in New York recently. Photo: SUPPLIED

A call for action towards responding effectively in addressing climate emergencies has been made at the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) Debate on Women, Peace and Security held at UN in New York recently.

The United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres, in his address to the UN Security Council called on members for far greater support to implement the Women Peace and Security agenda.

In 2020, the UN will be marking 20 years since the approval of the historic Resolution 1325 which brought women into the centre stage of the peace and security agenda.

While addressing the UNSC in a debate on Women, Peace and Security, Fiji's Permanent Representative to United Nations, Ambassador Satyendra Prasad said that UN peace operations will need to respond to climate emergencies.

Ambassador Prasad told the United Nations Security Council that the climate crisis is triggering new conflicts or transforming existing conflicts across so many of the World's conflict affected regions.

He said that water stress, desertification, collapse of fishing resources in coastal areas, extreme weather events were all having traumatic impacts across so many countries. All of these have adverse impacts on women and girls first and foremost.

Ambassador Prasad called for member states to provide "firmer financial support for implementing the women, peace and security agenda. Conflicts across the world are becoming more global and more intense".

"The impacts of conflict on women are becoming more severe and brutal. Food, health care humanitarian assistance are all becoming weaponized in conflict areas. Women and girls bear the brunt of the suffering and brutality of this".

Ambassador Prasad said that "UN peace operations

will need to become more responsive to climate induced conflicts" and added that more women in UN police and UN peacemaking is an important starting point.

He told the UN Security Council that Fiji was proud that around 40 percent of police in its UN police operations were women.

Ambassador Prasad said that Fiji will continue to increase women's participation in peacekeeping and its progressing well towards achieving the United Nations 18 percent of women in peacekeeping target.

He said that both the Republic of Fiji Military Forces and Fiji Police Force are undertaking sustained efforts to increase the recruitment and promotion of women domestically.

"This was a part of a broader national trend as well. There were more women in Fiji's parliament and more women in senior roles in the civil service than ever before. But Fiji is going much further."

Ambassador Prasad told the UNSC that women need to be at the "heart and not on the margins of decision making – from mediation, to peace building, to peacekeeping to post conflict reconstruction. When women are involved "at all levels, there is a greater chance that peace will be enduring and will survive future stresses".

Fiji's Ambassador said that the UN "cannot be behind the curve. Already a majority of UN peace operations are in regions that are severely exposed to the climate crisis – facing water stress, fires, droughts and more intense extreme weather events. Operations need to be better prepared; they need new capabilities and they need to be better supported in order to integrate humanitarian, peacekeeping and development investments".

-MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

JICA marks 35th anniversary

THE Fiji and Japan bilateral relations which, is built on the foundation of mutual trust and understanding continues to yield positive development benefits for both the nations.

This was highlighted during the JICA's 35th anniversary reception hosted by JICA Fiji Office last week.

Minister for Foreign Affairs, Defence and National Security, Inia Seruiratu, while speaking at the event commended JICA for its achievements and thanked Japan for its great partnership towards Fiji's development.

He also expressed appreciation to Japan for its significant contribution towards sustainable development.

"Through JICA, Japan's generous support is evidenced by your; JICA Loan AID, Technical Cooperation and Volunteer Programmes in diverse areas such as Infrastructure, Maritime and Fish-



Minister for Foreign Affairs, Defence and National Security Inia Seruiratu (third from left) and Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Disaster Management and Meteorological Services Jone Usamate (far right) during the JICA's 35th anniversary reception in Suva. Photo: SUPPLIED

eries, Climate Change Environment, Education and Health.

"On the regional front, Japan has continued its dialogue, partnership and collaboration with Fiji and other Pacific Islands Countries. At the recent "Eighth Pacific Islands Leaders Meeting" (PALM 8) discussions have progressed on various regional issues including; the sustainability of maritime resources, maritime order and sustainable development. We greatly appreciate Japan's effort to promote peace, stability, resilience and prosperity in the region," Minister Seruiratu said.

He emphasised that the assis-

tance by Japan reaches out to the development of remote communities under the Japan's Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects Programme.

"Japan has also been instrumental in advancing Fiji's security capability in its territorial waters through the "Economic Social Development Programme" Grant Aid, with assistance through our Fiji Police Force. We continue our joint cooperation with Japan on post cyclone Winston rehabilitation and recovery efforts through the "Adopt a School" program. Indeed, we are in appreciation of to the Government of Japan's

assistance in the rebuilding of schools that were affected by TC Winston," Minister Seruiratu said.

Resident Representative of JICA Fiji Office, Yukari Ono said that JICA takes pride in being able to contribute towards the enhancement of Japan-Fiji partnership through its ODA (Official Development Programs).

"The Government of Japan and JICA's Policy on Fiji and other Pacific Island Countries is based on the 3 Pillars declared at the 8th Pacific Island Leaders Meeting (PALM 8) last year.

"These are: Maritime Order based on the Rule of Law and

Sustainable Ocean Resources," "Strengthening the Basis for Resilient and Sustainable Development," and "Connecting Pacific Citizens." The priority areas for Japanese ODA in the Pacific aligns well with the Government of Fiji's National Development Plan 2017-2036.

"JICA stands ready with our vision, "Leading the world with trust" to work together with Fiji as a trustworthy equal partner in supporting Fiji's mandate and vision for the Pacific," Ms Ono elaborated.

-MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS



Kava exporter works on quality, aids farmers

FELIX LESINAIVALU

“THE key objective for Green Kava Gold is to ensure that our farmers get rewarded for their hard work.”

This was the sentiments of Green Kava Gold managing director, Praveen Narayan, who says that the business is a family oriented business.

“Being a new company does not let us fall behind on the ever growing Kava businesses in the country.”

“We take a positive approach by seeing our farmers work hard on their land and look at the best way possible we can give back to them.”



All our kava is grown sustainably and harvested rather than wild crafted by using chemicals, fertilizers and pesticides

Praveen Narayan
Green Kava Gold managing director

Mr Narayan said they also have great support from clients all around the world which helps the business.

The Savusavu based company exports to markets in the United States and New Zealand.

“All our kava is grown sustainably and harvested rather than wild crafted by using chemicals, fertilizers and pesticides.”

“Our farmers can continue to plant and harvest kava year after year without depleting their farms or local environment.”

“By paying the premium and fair market price for kava we ensure that farmers remain economically sustainable.”

Mr Narayan also said that they want their farmers to invest in long term kava rather than having to prematurely harvest kava within two to three years.

He explained that they source all their kava from several farms in remote places unimaginable to people who drink our kava.

“All our farms are registered with the Ministry for Agriculture and follow good harvesting practices.”

“The kava from our selected farmers have been growing kava for generations. Some of the pants we have are well over seven years old.”



Beqa-Yanuca Secondary School students during their prizegiving ceremony at which Minister of Youth and Sports Praveen Kumar was chief guest. Photo: ILISAPECI TUIVALE

Beqa Island students recognised for hard work

ILISAPECI TUIVALE

“ALL students have the right to education, which is enshrined in our constitution.”

Minister for Employment, Productivity and Industrial Relations & Youth and Sports, Parveen Kumar reminded the teachers and parents of students of Beqa-Yanuca Secondary School that it is vital to ensure that every child benefits the ‘right to education’.

Minister Kumar made this statement while officiating as the chief guest for the school’s prize giving ceremony in Raviravi, Beqa Island.

“To the teachers and the parents present here today, you are all not only educating our young people for their future endeav-

ours, but also laying a very solid foundation for Fiji to have a vibrant youth sector in the years to come ahead.”

Together with the students receiving academic awards, 19 students were also recognized for their participation in the Duke of Edinburgh International Award program organised by the Ministry of Youth and Sports.

The program is aimed at developing critical thinking and problem-solving skills which eventually improves the academic performance of the students.

Through the program, the students are also equipped with abilities that provide them with a sense of leadership and responsibility.

“With the Ministry of Youth and Sports being the lead Ministry in non-formal education, programs such as the Duke of Edin-

burgh International Award is targeted at empowerment training in developing the young minds of our future leaders.”

Minister Kumar reminded the students of the importance of education and striving towards excellence in their future endeavors.

“I am of strong belief that you will all become responsible adults, and be role models for Fiji’s rural and maritime zones.”

“You all must continue to strive for excellence and you will be successful when you set your targets right. Winning with humility is a mark of our character.”

There are currently 109 students enrolled in Beqa-Yanuca Secondary School who are from villages in Beqa Island and other provinces in Fiji.

Aussies back commitment to better education

AZARIA FAREEN

FIJIAN Government is confident to meeting its goal of raising the nation to its full potential while spearheading plans set out in the National Development Plan for the betterment of ordinary Fijians.

As such, through a concerted effort with the Australian Government, a range of literacy and numeracy resources was recently donated to the University of the South Pacific (USP) to ensure that no one is deprived of quality education.

In handing over two sets of resource kits, Permanent Secretary for Ministry of Education, Heritage and Arts, Allison Burchell said literacy and numeracy is a fundamental building stone.

“We are trying to modernize education and these resources will help us to do that and also try to find ways to engage the young minds in the classrooms,” Ms Burchell said.

“We have put together a literacy and numeracy working group within the ministry and we are working with the Pacific community as well as the colleagues



From left: Australian High Commissioner John Feakes, Permanent Secretary for the Ministry of Education, Heritage and Arts Allison Burchell and University of the South Pacific vice-chancellor Professor Pal Ahluwalia during the hand over event. Photo: AZARIA FAREEN

from the Australian facility in trying to get the best minds to come together,” she added.

“These kits are one part of that. We want to identify the inspirational teachers and use them as role models and work closely more in terms of the teacher training institutions to do their work properly from the point when they enroll to become teachers.”

“We need teachers with heart and passion because for many people teaching has become a job and there is a substantial difference,” she further added.

Speaking at the handover, Australian High Commissioner to Fiji, John Feakes said the support

is aimed to strengthen the ‘Vuvale’ partnership between the two countries.

“We are looking forward to enhance the number of announcements made over the years and pave a way forward for the future of the relationship based on a partnership of mutual respect.”

USP Vice Chancellor Professor Pal Ahluwalia said the resource kits are aimed at ensuring a well-developed curriculum and will enhance the work of the university.

“It’s a tactile way of learning – to be able to touch and feel. It’s not just a passive way of learning but an active way of engaging

with materials and I think these learning kits will really benefit our students in the country and help the teachers studying with us in learning new techniques,” Prof. Ahluwalia said.

“As a university, we really take early childhood learning right to “cradle to grave” approach as we want every part of the spectrum to be able to have quality education and it is important that we set the foundations right.”

The resource kits are valued at \$14,000 for students in Year 1-4 and are part of the 110 sets being distributed to 91 schools and five teacher training institutions across the country.



Students of Navua's Vashist Muni Primary School during the first STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) Challenge at the Vodafone Arena in Suva.
 Photo: FELIX LESINAIVALU

Schools challenge will promote STEM subjects

FELIX LESINAIVALU

THE first ever Science Challenge held to attract students to the STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) subjects saw the participation of students from eight different primary schools.

Vashist Muni Primary School Teacher Sailosi Danford said that the school was very fortunate to be part of the challenge.

"I hope the children be exposed more to these activities in a year or a term so that they will learn these activities, especially science subjects."

"Most of the times in school when we call out science, the children make faces but with these kind of activities children will look forward to

doing science."

While officiating at the event at the Vodafone Arena, the Minister for Education Rosy Akbar said, "We need to address our skills shortage and promote study to work in one of those areas which will certainly lead to employment".

"The challenge aims to inspire students to consider a future career in science and engineering by choosing to study subjects such as Maths, Physics, Chemistry and Engineering in Secondary School."

Minister Akbar added that they plan to take complete ownership of this interesting programme through the universities.

"Our Ministry is supportive of this programme for more students to be educated in STEM."

"We are relooking at Careers Counselling and Awareness. We want to provide more opportunities for girls in STEM education."

"School leaders have a strong role to play in enforcing the paradigm shift and changing the outlook and approach towards STEM classes in general."

Minister Akbar said during the challenge students will experience aspects of science and engineering which they would not usually see in their school environment.

"Students will experience that science and engineering involves creativity, innovation, problem solving and team work."

The event has been piloted in eight primary and eight secondary schools selected from the Suva district.

New PIDF Secretary-General 'ready to serve'

THE newly-appointed Secretary-General for the Pacific Islands Development Forum (PIDF) Ambassador Solo Mara is looking forward to take up office.

He takes on this new role with the objective of introducing more innovative ideas and improvements to enhance service delivery to the member states of the PIDF.

Ambassador Mara acknowledged the trust bestowed on him by the Pacific leaders, particularly the chairman and Fijian Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama, at the same time, said the new role was a significant one.

Mr Mara made the comments after signing his contract with the Permanent Secretary for the Office of the Prime Minister, and acting Permanent Secretary for Foreign Affairs and chair of the Senior Officials Committee of the PIDF, Yogesh Karan this week.

He said he is looking forward to continuing the great momentum and delivering the core objectives



Newly-appointed Secretary-General of the Pacific Islands Development Forum (PIDF) Ambassador Solo Mara with the Permanent Secretary in the Office of the Prime Minister and acting Permanent Secretary for Foreign Affairs and chair of the Senior Officials Committee of the PIDF, Yogesh Karan. Photo: SUPPLIED

of the Forum in terms of assisting the Member States in transitioning to a blue and green economy through ocean conservation, climate change adaptation and building resilience, among other initiatives.

"The PIDF, among other significant roles, will also work closely with grassroots people, the private sector and civil societies to create more awareness on conservation and building resilience."

"Also, we have successfully piloted a few projects that will be shared to the other Pacific Islands

through their leaders."

One of the programmes rolled out by the PIDF, Mr Mara said, is the solarisation of the heads of states residences and government buildings of Member States and this is being funded by the Indian Government.

"This programme will set the platform for increasing more awareness about the use of renewable energy in the Pacific. We will introduce impactful programmes that PIDF can leverage with our development partners for the ben-

efit of the Pacific," he added.

At the signing, Mr Karan said, "Mr Mara comes with a lot of experience. We are certain that he will deliver exceptionally well as he is no stranger to the agenda of climate change, renewable energy, trade and investment, to name a few".

Meanwhile, Mr. Mara replaces François Martel, of Samoa who served as the Secretary General of the PIDF for the last four years.

-OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER

Fijian team looks at NZ, Aust tax regimes

EMI KOROITANOA

FIJI, as a negotiating party of the Pacific Agreement on Closer Economic Relations Plus (PACER plus) has proposed a way for addressing the difficulty in regards to legal tax with Australia and New Zealand.

Ministry of Industry, Trade and Tourism permanent secretary Shaheen Ali said once it is addressed, Fiji will be ready to take the process further to discuss market access.

"We are a negotiating party, we may not be a signatory but as soon as the difficulties are resolved, we will be able to take the process forward," Mr Ali said.

He explained that Fiji has requested that the implementation unit, in which PACER Plus is planning to establish, be stationed in Fiji.

"Because of the convenience of the Fiji office in terms of the location as a hub for transportation, logistics, IT and most of the PACER Plus parties have their high commissions and embassies located here and together with the Pacific Islands Pacific Forum," Mr Ali said.

PACER Plus is a regional development-centered trade agreement.

It is a comprehensive Free Trade Agreement (FTA) covering goods, services and investment.

Negotiations on PACER Plus commenced in 2009 and concluded in Brisbane on April 20, 2017.

The agreement, which opened for signature on June 14, 2017 and has been signed by Australia, New Zealand and nine Pacific island countries (Cook Islands, Kiribati, Nauru, Niue, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu).

PACER Plus provides commercial opportunities for Australian exporters and investors in a range of sectors.

The PIDF, among other significant roles, will also work closely with grassroots people, the private sector and civil societies to create more awareness on conservation and building resilience

Solo Mara
 newly-appointed Secretary-General for the Pacific Islands Development Forum (PIDF)



FACT BOX

Measles awareness, mass vaccination underway

The Ministry of Health and Medical Services has commended the positive support from the members of the public in their proactive efforts to contain the measles outbreak in Serua/Namosi by presenting for immunisation and reporting symptoms. The measles outbreak is still confined to the Serua/Namosi Subdivision, and specifically the Wailali Settlement in Wainadoli. As the response by the public has been so positive the Ministry of Health and Medical Services highlights that the measles vaccine is currently limited to four groups who are at most at risk of contracting measles, and these are;

- Any child in Fiji who has not received 2 doses of measles vaccine. If you're unsure visit your nearest health centre with your child's health record for it to be checked by a health care worker. They will be immunised on the spot if needed.
- Anyone who resides in Serua/Namosi and is over 6 months of age is urgently advised to receive a dose of the measles vaccine regardless of prior vaccination status if they have not done so already.
- Anyone who intends on travelling into Serua/Namosi is urged to get vaccinated at least 2 weeks before travel. The vaccine is available from any health centre in Fiji.
- Anyone who intends to travel overseas and is over 6 months of age is advised to get a measles vaccine prior to travel from their nearest health centre. The only exceptions to those in the above groups are pregnant women, those with compromised immune systems, and those with a known allergy to the vaccine. These people should not be vaccinated.

The Ministry of Health and Medical Services' main priority is to protect those at the highest risk first. The Ministry would like to emphasise that current vaccination stocks are not unlimited and should be used for our most vulnerable groups who are most likely to catch and spread the disease.

TRANSMISSION
Measles is a highly infectious airborne viral disease that spreads easily through the air through breathing, coughing, and sneezing. You are at risk of getting measles if you breathe the same air as someone with the disease and you are not immune. You are not immune if you have not been vaccinated, or you have never had the disease.

SYMPTOMS
The symptoms of measles are:

Ministry urges caution after virus outbreak

THE Ministry of Health and Medical Services urges anyone travelling internationally to please get vaccinated against measles if they have not been vaccinated, or are unsure of their vaccination status. All relevant agencies should also ensure that international visitors to events organised in

Fiji are strongly encouraged to get vaccinated against measles at least two weeks in advance of travel. This especially applies to organisations that will have participants traveling to or from countries with on-going outbreaks such as New Zealand, Samoa and Tonga. The Ministry is requesting that

all relevant agencies communicate this to their staff and members – especially for sports, religious, business, or educational groups/teams that are planning to travel internationally or hold events with international participants in Fiji. Anyone who intends to travel overseas and is over 6 months of age is advised to get a measles

vaccination prior to travel. The only exceptions to the above are pregnant women, those with compromised immune systems, and those with a known allergy to the vaccine. These people should not be vaccinated. -MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND MEDICAL SERVICES



First lady Sarote Konrote receives vaccination against Measles. The Ministry of Health and Medical Services urges anyone travelling internationally to please get vaccinated against measles if they have not been vaccinated, or are unsure of their vaccination status. Photo: SUPPLIED

MEASLES symptoms

- RUNNY NOSE
- COUGH
- TIREDDNESS OR SLEEPINESS
- LOSS OF APPETITE
- FEVER
- SENSITIVITY TO LIGHT
- SPOTS INSIDE THE MOUTH
KOPLIK SPOTS
- CONJUNCTIVITIS
PINK EYE

Measles

IT ISN'T JUST A LITTLE RASH

Measles can be dangerous, especially for babies and young children.

MEASLES SYMPTOMS TYPICALLY INCLUDE

- High fever (may spike to more than 104° F)
- Cough
- Runny nose
- Red, watery eyes
- Rash breaks out 3-5 days after symptoms begin

Fever and a rash with any of the following: runny nose, sneezing, cough, red/watery eyes, white spots inside the mouth. The rash starts after the other symptoms and spreads all over the body.

TREATMENT
There is no specific treatment for measles, as it is your body's immune system that fights off the disease. Most people recover from a measles infection in 8-10 days with rest, and ensuring that they are eating and drinking to avoid dehydration.

COMPLICATIONS
Some people infected with measles develop severe complications such as pneumonia (infection of the lungs) or encephalitis (brain swelling). These people require hospitalization. Children under the age of five (5), babies younger than one (1) year old, pregnant women, adults over the age of twenty (20), and those with compromised immune systems are most at risk of complications.

PREVENTION
A safe and effective vaccine exists for measles. The Ministry of Health and Medical Services provides measles vaccine free to children. Since 2003, all children in Fiji are offered two (2) doses of the combination measles-rubella vaccine – starting from twelve (12) months of age. Fiji's immunization coverage for children is good, and the Ministry also conducted a supplemental campaign in 2017 for all one to ten (10) year olds. Please ensure your children have received at least two (2) doses

of the measles vaccine according to the Fiji immunization schedule. This information should be in your child's 'Fiji Child Health Record' (which is a booklet/card every child born in Fiji is provided) for children under the age of 5, and the school health card for school aged children. Measles in Fiji Because we have an effective immunization program, measles is rare in Fiji. However, outbreaks around the world, including in neighbouring countries, still puts Fiji at risk of having cases of measles.

Fiji Focus



PM TAKES
CLIMATE BILL
TO GLOBAL
STAGE

7

NEW PIDF



SECRETARY-GENERAL

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FIJI CALLS FOR
ACTION ON
CLIMATE
CHANGE
RESPONSE

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President, Major-General (Ret'd) Jioji Konrote inspects the guard of honour during the opening of the new session of Parliament for 2019-2020. Photo: FELIX LESINAIVALU

NEW ERA

Young minds 'freed from division, lack of opportunities'

PRASHILA DEVI

THE minds of Fiji's newest generations have been freed from the weight of concerns of divisions and lack of opportunity as they have been bestowed an equal and inclusive society.

The President, Major-General (Ret'd) Jioji Konrote, in opening the new session of Parliament, explained that this was quite clear in the submissions made by the

younger generation for the #Our-ConstitutionChallenge held in September as it captured the mood of this population demographic.

"In past decades, there were entire generations of Fijian children who were denied the priceless assurance of security, who were constantly told they were different from one another, and who never knew the optimism that equal opportunity engenders."

"Some were made to feel like strangers in their own country,

victims of discriminatory notions of national identity," the President added. However, Fiji has entered a new era.

"We have forged a national identity by establishing our common equal citizenship, we have made education free, we are, on a daily basis, creating transparency across the business of government," President Konrote said.

"We are rewarding merit across our society; We are shielding and empowering those who are

vulnerable, we are dismantling a culture of violence against women and girls, we have ratified all nine of the core human rights conventions, we are assuming world leadership to confront unprecedented global challenges; and we are investing historic sums to expand the services and infrastructure that lead our people to higher standards of living."

President Konrote, however, has cautioned that while acknowledging these successes, "we must turn

our focus to the mountain of progress left to ascend".

He has also sounded a word of advice to politicians to deliver solutions to the challenges the nation faces rather than sowing politics of fear.

"You are not here to guard your political fortunes, or make theatre out of political discourse. You are each here to serve as guardians of every Fijian's wellbeing," President Konrote told the Members of Parliament

फीजी फोकस

तावुआ में धान के किसानों को चावल के बीज दिए गए

2



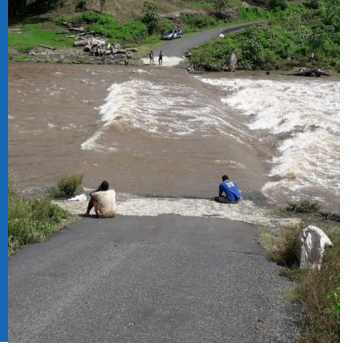
डिपार्टमेंट ऑफ इमिग्रेशन को हाय-स्पीड इनटानेट

6



प्राकृतिक विपत्ति के लिए तैयारी करने का मूल संदेश

7



प्रधान मंत्री वीरेन्द्रो वडिनिमारामा ने हालमें नम्बुकालूका डिस्ट्रिक्ट स्कूल नाईतासिरी में एक टीचर्स कोटस का उद्घाटन करने के बाद वहाँ के विद्यार्थियों, अद्यापक और अन्य अधिकारियों के साथ। चित: ननिसे नईमिला

स्कूलों में बच्चों को मारने पीटने की अनुमति नहीं है

वीरेन्द्र लाल

प्रधान मंत्री फेंक वडिनिमारामा ने दोहराया है कि सरकार स्कूलों में बच्चों को मारने पीटने की अनुमति नहीं देगी। प्रधान मंत्री उदूनिवुवा वेराता ताईलेवू में ताईलेवू प्रोविंशियल कौंसिल की सभा में बोल रहे थे। उन्होंने ताईलेवू प्रांत के कोरो के मुख्याओं को बताया कि बच्चों का अनुशासन घर से शुरू होता है और माता पिताओं को अपने बच्चों को अनुशासित करने की जिम्मेदारी लेनी चाहिए।

कुछ लोग स्कूलों में बच्चों को मारने पीटने के नियम वापस लाने की मांग कर रहे हैं तथा अभी हाल ही इस

तरह के मामले सामने आए जिनको लेकर प्रधान मंत्री प्रतिक्रिया व्यक्त कर रहे थे।

“मेरी सरकार स्कूलों में किसी तरह की मार पीट स्वीकार नहीं करेगी। देश में कुछ स्कूलों में इस तरह के जो मामले सामने आए हैं, मैं विश्वास करता हूँ कि माता पिताओं को अपने बच्चों को राह दिखाना चाहिए। स्कूलों में टीचर्स को बच्चों पर हाथ नहीं उठाना है”।

प्रधान मंत्री ने इसपर ज़ोर दिया कि सब कुछ घर से शुरू होता है।

“अपने बच्चों में अच्छी नैतिक शिक्षा डालने में माता पिताओं को प्रमुख भूमिका निभानी चाहिए। सामाजिक और

राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर एक साथ मिलकर काम करने से हम इस तरह के विषयों को सुलझा पायेंगे”।

ताईलेवू प्रोविंशियल कौंसिल के अध्यक्ष रूसियाते तूझावू, प्रधान मंत्री के विचार से सहमत हुए।

ताईलेवू प्रोविंशियल कौंसिल की सभा का उद्घाटन करने के बाद प्रधान मंत्री ने उदूनिवुवा प्राथमरी स्कूल टीचर्स क्वाटर का भी उद्घाटन किया। इस योजना में सरकार के लगभग एक लाख सत्तर हजार डॉलर (\$167,415.29) खर्च हुए हैं।

इस दौरान प्रधान मंत्री ने ताईलेवू प्रोविंशियल कौंसिल वेबसाइट को भी लॉन्च किया।



तावुआ में धान के किसानों को चावल के बीज दिए गए



कृषि मंत्री डाक्टर महेन्द्र रेड्डी तावुआ में ड्रामासी राईस फामस ग्रुप के सदस्यों के साथ जिन्हें बोने के लिए सितारा और दाँगीवुड किस्म के धान दिए गए हैं चित्र: अज़ारिया फरीन

रोनल देव

धान की खेती पुनःजीवित करना सरकार की प्राथमिकता है इसलिए पश्चिमी विभाग के किसानों को धान की खेती करने के लिए प्रोत्साहित किया जा रहा है जबकि सरकार बाज़ार की व्यवस्था करेगी।

कृषि मंत्रालय ने तावुआ के किसानों को नए किस्म के धान - सितारा और दाँगीवुड के तीन सौ किलोग्राम बीज प्रदान किया। कृषि मंत्री डाक्टर महेन्द्र रेड्डी ने तावुआ के ड्रामासी राईस फामस ग्रुप को तीन सौ किलोग्राम धान कम खर्च में दिया है। तीस किलोग्राम का एक बैग किसानों को तरह

डोलर में दिया गया।

इसी साल ही यह ग्रुप बना है जिसमें दस किसान हैं तथा सरकार ने धान प्रदान करके किसानों को अपना लक्ष्य हासिल करने में भारी मदद की है। मंत्री रेड्डी ने किसानों को यह दो नए किस्म के धान बोने के लिए प्रोत्साहित किया क्योंकि एक हेक्टर में अवसतम आठ टन धान उगाए जा सकते हैं। फीजी में जो चावल खाया जाता है उसका पचासी (85) प्रतिशत हिस्सा आयात किया जाता है यानि बाहर से मँगाया जाता है खासकरके विएतनाम से। यह हमारे समाज को भोजन और सुरक्षा प्रदान करने का एक मौका है जिससे चावल खरीदने के लिए देश का कम पैसा बाहर जाएगा,”

मंत्री ने कहा।

किसानों को सलाह दी गई है कि वे यह दो किस्म के धान बोएं और साल में दो से तीन बार इसकी कटाई करें जिसका दाम एक हजार छः सौ (\$1,600.00) डोलर प्रति टन होगा। “किसानों को बाज़ार दूढ़ने की चिन्ता नहीं करनी चाहिए क्योंकि फीजी राईस लिमिटेड दोनों सूखा और गीला चावल खेतों से खरीदने के लिए तैयार है,” मंत्री रेड्डी ने कहा। किसानों को ज़्यादा कीमत वाली फसलें जैसे दुरूका, दाल तथा कसेरा की खेती करने को भी कहा गया। इन फसलों को एग्रीकल्चरल मार्केटिंग अथॉरिटी खरीदेगी।

लावारिस जानवरों को लेकर शिकायत

वीरन्द्र लाल

कृषि मंत्रालय किसानों को सलाह दे रहा है कि वे अपने पालतू जानवरों को अपने ही प्रांगण में रखें।

तावुआ के विति वनुवा और दम्बोनी इलाकों के किसानों ने कृषि मंत्री डाक्टर महेन्द्र रेड्डी से शिकायत की है कि वहाँ गाय, बैल और घोड़े उनकी फसल नष्ट करते हैं।

दम्बोनी के एक किसान और इलाके के एडवायज़री कौंसला मुकेश चन्द ने बताया कि यह समस्या पिछले पन्द्रह सालों से है जबकि पड़ोस के कुछ किसान अपने चौबों को खुला छोड़ देते हैं।

उन्होंने बताया कि दस साल पहले वे तीन हजार टन गन्ना काटा करते थे लेकिन अब केवल चार सौ टन गन्ना काटने हैं जोकि उनके लिए बहुत घाटा है।

श्री चन्द के अनुसार इन इलाकों में केवल गन्ने के किसान ही नहीं बल्कि शाक-भाजी के किसान भी इस समस्या का सामना करते हैं।

मंत्री रेड्डी ने फसल नुकसान करने वाले जानवरों के मालिकों को अपने जानवरों को बांधकर रखने की चेतावनी दी है क्योंकि मंत्रालय अब इलाके में लावारिस जानवरों को अपने कब्जे में कर लेगा।

“यह एक गम्भीर मामला है क्योंकि किसी की लापरवाही और गैर-ज़िम्मेदारी के कारण किसानों को घाटा हो रहा है। गाय, बैल, घोड़े और भेड़ बकरियों को कृषि मंत्रालय के पाउंड में रखा जाएगा। जिन जानवरों को दस दिनों के अन्दर वापस नहीं लिया जाएगा, उन्हें बेच दिया जाएगा”।

कानून के तहत किसानों को अपने जानवरों को ब्रैंड लगाना चाहिए जिससे पता चले कि यह उनके जानवर हैं। जिन जानवरों को ब्रैंड नहीं लगा होगा, उन्हें पाउंड से वापस लेने के लिए लोगों को डिक्लेरेशन प्रदान करना होगा जिसमें यह लिखा होना चाहिए कि सम्बंधित जानवर उनके हैं। इसके बाद, पाउंड फीस भरने पर ही जानवरों को छोड़ा जाएगा।

जिन किसानों के पास ब्रैंड नम्बर नहीं है, वे इसके लिए अर्ज़ी लगा सकते हैं।

जिन किसानों के जानवर गायब हैं, उन्हें इसकी रिपोर्ट लिखवानी चाहिए।

लोगों से अपने जानवरों को बांधकर रखने की माँग की जा रही है।

वोटरवर्डज़ मंत्रालय देशभर में इक्सठ नाले साफ करेगा



मशीनों का प्रयोग करके नदी नालों को साफ और गहरा किया जा रहा है जिससे बाढ़ की समस्या से कुछ हद तक बचा जा सके चित्र: कृषि मंत्रालय

रोनल देव

वोटरवर्डज़ मंत्रालय केन्द्रीय, पश्चिमी तथा उत्तरी विभाग में इक्सठ (61) नदी-नाले साफ करेगा। मंत्री डाक्टर महेन्द्र रेड्डी ने प्रायवट सेक्टर में औपरईटज़ से माँग की है कि वे मंत्रालय के काम में मदद करें। केन्द्रीय विभाग में पन्द्रह (15), पश्चिमी विभाग में तीस (30) तथा उत्तरी विभाग में सोलह (16) नदी-नालों को साफ किया जाएगा।

इन नदी-नालों में बहुत ज़्यादा मिट्टी और ग्रेवल पट गए हैं जिन्हें निकालने की ज़रूरत है ताकि गम्भीर वर्षा के समय नदी-नालों में बाढ़ न चड़े। इस स्थिति पर जल्द काम करने की ज़रूरत है क्योंकि इससे नदी नालों के पास रहने वालों के स्वास्थ्य और सम्पत्तियों को भी हानि हो सकती है।

“सरकार, सभी लोगों के रहने की जगह सुरक्षित बनाने की कोशिश कर रही है फिर चाहे लोग कहीं भी रहते हों ताकि उनकी बाढ़ तथा अन्य सामाजिक, आर्थिक हानि न हो,” मंत्री रेड्डी ने

कहा।

जल्द शुरू होने वाली इस योजना से पचपन हजार (55,000) से ज़्यादा लोगों को फायदा होगा। “हमारा लक्ष्य है रूके हुए पानी के कारण बाढ़ चढ़ने वाली समस्या को सुलझाना,” मंत्री ने कहा।

ऐसी ही योजना नकाउवान्ड्रा नाले में सफलता से पूरी हुई जिससे अब राकीराकी शहर में बाढ़ चढ़ने वाली समस्या बहुत कम हो गई है। ऐसी आशा है कि अन्य जगहों पर भी काम समाप्त होने पर वहाँ के लोग सुरक्षित हो जाएंगे।



फीजी की सीमाओं को सुरक्षित करने की दिशा में कदम

वीरन्द्र लाल

इमिग्रेशन विभाग और फीजी पुलिस फोर्स के बीच एक समझौता होने से फीजी की सीमाओं को सुरक्षित करने की दिशा में कदम उठाया जाएगा। इस समझौते के तहत इनटापोल द्वारा हासिल जानकारी, इमिग्रेशन विभाग के बोडा मेनेजमेंट सिस्टम को दी जाएगी।

इमिग्रेशन विभाग प्रधान मंत्री के दफ्तर के तहत आता है और प्रधान मंत्री के दफ्तर के स्थाई सचिव योगेश करण ने सहायक पुलिस कमिशनर रूसियाते तूद्रावू के साथ इस समझौते पर दस्तखत किया। श्री करण ने बताया कि इस समझौते से फीजियन सरकार को अपराधिक कारवाइयों, विद्रोह के मामलों और धोखा-धड़ी के मामलों पर नज़र रखने में मदद मिलेगी।

इस नए समझौते के तहत इमिग्रेशन विभाग, इनटापोल से उसके डाटाबेस, किमिनल इनफोमेशन सिस्टम और ऑटोमैटिड फिंगरप्रिंट आयडेंटिफिकेशन सिस्टम से सभी जानकारी हासिल कर सकेगा। श्री करण ने बताया कि जानकारी साझा करने से अन्य जानकारीयों के अलावा चुराए हुए पास-पोर्ट्स और कागज़ातों के बारे में भी पता चल सकता है।

जब एक यात्री हमारे क्षेत्र में प्रवेश करता है, उसके बारे में इनटापोल इनफोमेशन सिस्टम पर पता किया जाता है। इनटापोल के जरिए हमें व्यक्ति के बारे में पता चल जाता है और यह जानकारी एक सौ चौरानवे (194) सदस्य देशों के साथ बाँटी जाती है

स्थाई सचिव करण ने बताया कि इनमिग्रेशन डिपार्टमेंट, हमारी सीमाओं पर नज़र रखने के लिए फीजी पुलिस फोर्स और अन्य अर्जेसियों के साथ मिलकर काम करेगा।

“हम सब उन एक सौ चौरानवे (194) देशों के साथ जुड़े हुए हैं और फीजी को एक सुरक्षित देश बनाने की दिशा में हम इन देशों के साथ सभा करने की ताकत में हैं,” श्री करण ने कहा।

मीज़ल्स यानि माता माई की बीमारी फैली, टीका लगवाने की माँग



प्रधान मंत्री वोरेंगो वडिनमारामा, स्वास्थ्य मंत्री इफेरईमी वांगाइनम्बेते के साथ माता-माई बीमारी को लेकर जानकारी हासिल करते हुए चित: हलितेश दत्त

वीरन्द्र लाल

लोग नज़दीक के हेल्थ सेंटर जाकर मीज़ल्स होने से बचने के लिए सुई लगवा सकते हैं। स्वास्थ्य मंत्रालय ने सेरूवा/नमोसी इलाके में माता माई यानि चेचक की बीमारी होने की घोषणा की है। वाईनन्दोई विलज, नम्बुकावेसी विलज, वाईनन्दोई, वाईलाली, वाईनम्बुवाबुवा और नन्गाराई सेटलमेंट्स में यह बीमारी होने के ज्यादा खतरा है। सात लोगों को यह बीमारी होने की पुष्टी हुई है।

जिन लोगों को यह बीमारी होने की पुष्टी हुई है, उनमें वाईनन्दोई के चार महिने तथा सात महिने के शिशु, नवुनीकाम्बी नमोसी के उन्नीस साल का एक युवक तथा दो बड़े लोग शामिल हैं जिनकी उम्र बीस से पचीस साल के बीच है। स्वास्थ्य मंत्रालय की हेड ऑफ हेल्थ प्रोटेक्शन डाक्टर आलिशा साहूखान ने बताया कि इस बीमारी को

लेकर उनकी छानबीन जारी है। मंत्रालय इसकी भी छानबीन कर रहा है कि इस बीमारी के शिकार लोग कहीं किसी विदेशी के सम्पर्क में तो नहीं आए थे।

सेरूवा/नमोसी सब-डिविज़नल औट-ब्रैक रेस्पॉन्स टीम को सकिए कर दिया गया है जो इन बीमार लोगों के सम्पर्क में आए लोगों को अलग कर रही है, चेक कर रही है और उन्हें सुईयाँ लगा रही है। बुखार के साथ साथ नाक बहना, सर्दी, खासी, आँख लाल होना, आँख से पानी निकलना, मुँह के अन्दर सफेद दाने जैसा निकलना इस बीमारी के होने के चिन्ह हैं और अगर किसी को यह सब हो रहा है तो उन्हें तत्काल डाक्टर के पास जाना चाहिए।

लोगों से इन इलाकों में जाने से बचने की माँग की जा रही है क्योंकि हवा के ज़रिए यह बीमारी बहुत जल्द फैलती है। इस बीमारी का कोई खास इलाज नहीं है लेकिन सन् दो हजार तीन (2003)

से फीजी में बच्चों को measles-rubella vaccine लगाया जाता है। विश्व के अन्य देशों में खासकर पड़ोसी देशों में इस बीमारी के फैलने से, फीजी में इसका खतरा बना रहता है।

फिलहाल जनता को याद दिलाई जा रही है कि इस बीमारी के कारण, सी.डब्ल्यू.एम अस्पताल के विज़िटिंग आवज़ बदला गया है। विज़िटिंग आवज़ सोमवार से रविवार तक दिन में दो से तीन बजे तक रहेगा। इस दौरान एक समय में एक व्यक्ति केवल एक मरीज़ से मिल सकेगा। इन्टेंसिव केया युनिट और मीज़ल्स के मरीज़ों को रखे गए अलग वोड्स में जाने पर प्रतिबन्ध है।

जनता, अस्पताल के कर्मचारियों और मरीज़ों की सुरक्षा को ध्यान में रखकर ऐसा किया गया है। यह बदलाव पिछले सप्ताह बृहस्पतिवार चौदह नवम्बर से असर में आया है। लोगों से विज़िटिंग आवज़ का पालन करने की माँग की जा रही है।

पुलिस अफसरों पर हमला बन्द करो

वीरन्द्र लाल

सुरक्षा मंत्री इनिया सेरूईरातु ने लोगों से पुलिस अफसरों पर हमला न करने की माँग की है। उन्होंने बताया कि पुलिस अफसर समाजो को सुरक्षित रखने में कड़ी मेहनत करते हैं और लोगों को फीजी पुलिस फोर्स के काम का समर्थन करना चाहिए।

मंत्री ने बताया कि एक दो अफसरों को अपने काम से भटकने से पूरे फोर्स को बदनाम नहीं किया जा सकता। उन्होंने बताया कि जिन अफसरों ने अपनी भूमिका ठीक तरह से नहीं निभाई है, को या तो फोर्स से निकाल दिया गया है या उनपर कानूनी कारवाई की जा रही है।

मंत्री ने बताया कि जो लोग अपनी ताकत का दुरुपयोग करेंगे और कानून अपने हाथों में लेंगे,

के खिलाफ कदम उठाए जाएंगे। उन्होंने कहा कि पुलिस कमिशनर ने भी ज़िरो टोलरन्स पोलिसी के बारे में कई बार कहा है लेकिन समाज के कुछ लोग जानबूझकर फोर्स को बदनाम कर रहे हैं।

रक्षा मंत्री के अनुसार काम के दौरान पुलिस अफसर कई खतरों का सामना करते हैं और उन्होंने स्वर्णि ए पुलिस कोन्स्टबल सिउता निउमताई वालू का नाम लिया जिनकी हाल ही काम के दौरान चाकू से वार करके हत्या कर दी गई थी।

मंत्री, कनिंगहम, लेवूका और नौसोरी में पुलिस अफसरों पर हुए हमलों को लेकर बोल रहे थे। उन्होंने सामाजिक नेताओं से सामाजिक सेवा करने में पुलिस अफसरों की मदद करने की माँग की है। उन्होंने कहा कि सभी को पुलिस अफसरों पर हुए हमलों की निन्दा करनी चाहिए। मंत्री के अनुसार एक दो अफसरों के गलत कदम से पूरे फोर्स को

गलत दृष्टि से नहीं देखनी चाहिए। उन्होंने कहा कि कुछ लोग सकारात्मक तथ्यों पर गौर करने के बजाय केवल नकारात्मक तथ्यों पर ध्यान देते हैं।

मंत्री के अनुसार पुलिस अफसर घाम पानी न देखते हुए सुबह सुबह ट्रैफिक कोन्ट्रोल करते हैं ताकि हम सब समय पर काम पर और बच्चे स्कूल जा सकें, वे नशे में धुत व्यक्तियों को सम्भालते हैं ताकि कोई उनका सामान न चुरा सके, वे दूर दराज के इलाकों में लोगों को सुरक्षा प्रदान करते हैं और कई अफसर तो काफी देर रात तक काम करते हैं ताकि जनता को सहूलियत हो।

मंत्री ने बताया कि अपराध से लड़ने में हमें पुलिस अफसरों का साथ देना चाहिए क्योंकि साथ मिलकर काम करने से ही हमें अपराध कम करने में सफलता मिल सकती है।



संसद के नए सेशन का उद्घाटन हुआ

संसद के 2019/2020 सेशन का उद्घाटन पिछले सप्ताह किया गया। इस नए सेशन का उद्घाटन करते हुए राष्ट्रपति मर्डीजा जेनरल (Ret'd) चांची कोन्सले ने संसद सदस्यों से अपनी भूमिका अच्छी तरह से निभाने की मांग की। उन्होंने कहा कि संसद सदस्यों को सदा देश के हित ध्यान में रखकर कदम उठाना चाहिए। उद्घाटन वाले दिन राष्ट्रपति ने सरकारी मंत्रियों, संसद

सदस्यों, कर्तनितिजों और उच्च सरकारी अधिकारियों के लिए राष्ट्रपति भवन पर शाम का भोजन रखा था। फिलहाल संसद की बैठक इस सप्ताह शुरू हुई और एक सप्ताह की बैठक के बाद शुक्रवार को इस साल के लिए संसद की बैठक समाप्त हो जायेगी। संसद की बैठक फिर अगले साल जारी होगी।

चित्र: अज़रिया फरीन



फीजी ब्रोडकास्टिंग कौपरईशन का नाम बदला

फीजी ब्रोडकास्टिंग कौपरईशन का नाम अब फीजियन ब्रोडकास्टिंग कौपरईशन हो गया है और उसके पास अब एक नया लोगो भी हो गया है। एफ बी सी की 65th (65th) सालगिराह पर प्रधान मंत्री वॉरेन्गे बड़निमारां ने इसकी घोषणा की। उन्होंने कहा कि एफ बी सी, इतिहास के महान क्षणों के माध्यम से हमारी स्वतंत्रता आवाज है। "हमारे स्वतंत्र राष्ट्र के जन्म से लेकर फीजी शान्ति सैनिकों की पहली

तैनाती तक जातीय आधार पर हुए उथल-पुथल तथा हमारे फीजियन संविधान की शुरुआत के माध्यम से एफ बी सी पूरे रास्ते चली आ रही है।" इस दौरान प्रधान मंत्री ने एफ.बी.सी. की नेतागिरियों की सहभागिता करते हुए एफ.बी.सी. के कर्मचारियों को उनकी कड़ी मेहनत के लिए धन्यवाद दिया।

चित्र: वीरेन्द्र लाल



चीन का नौसैनिक जहाज़ सुवा पहुँचा

चीन के एक प्रशिक्षण नौसैनिक जहाज़ ने हाल में सुवा का दौरा किया था। इस अवसर पर फीजी में चीन के राजदूत कीयान वों ने कहा कि फीजी और चीन ने अपने स्थिर संबंधों का भरपूर आनंद लिया है। उन्होंने कहा कि दोनों देशों के बीच सैनिक सहयोग बहुपक्षीय संबंध को और उँचाई

तक ले गया है। प्रधान मंत्री वॉरेन्गे बड़निमारां ने भी जहाज़ का दौरा किया था। यह जहाज़ दो महीने का एक मिशन पर निकला है।

चित्र: प्रशीला देवी



ऋषिकुल सनातन कोलज ईया 13 छात्रों का पहला ग्रेजुवईशन समारोह

ऋषिकुल सनातन कोलज ईया 13 के एक सौ वाहन (152) विद्यार्थियों के लिए गर्व का पल था जब वे पिछले हफ्ते ग्रेजुवट हुए। यह पहली बार है जब ईया 13 के विद्यार्थियों को विदाई देने के लिए इस तरह के ग्रेजुवईशन समारोह की आयोजना की गई थी। शिक्षा मंत्री रैज़ी अक्वर ने विद्यार्थियों को सर्टिफिकेट और

दोफ़ी देती हुई कहा कि देश में मुफ्त शिक्षा जारी रहेगी। उन्होंने उन अफवाहों को निन्दा की जिनमें कहा जा रहा है कि माता-पिताओं को अगले साल से स्कूल फीस भरनी पड़ेगी। शिक्षा मंत्री ने कहा कि लोगों को झूठी अफवाहें नहीं फैलानी चाहिए जबकि अगले साल भी देश में शिक्षा मुफ्त रहेगी।

चित्र: रोनल देव



इमिग्रेशन विभाग को हाय-स्पीड इनटानेट मिलेगा



प्रधान मंत्री दफतर के स्थाई सचिव योगेश करण, टेलिकोम फीजी के चीफ एक्ज़ेक्यूटिव अफसर चाल्स गौडर, टेलिकोम फीजी के अन्य उच्च अधिकारियों के साथ चित्र: प्रधान मंत्री के दफतर

वीरन्द्र लाल

डिपार्टमेंट ऑफ इमिग्रेशन ने हाल ही टेलिकोम फीजी के साथ एक समझौते पर दस्तखत किया है जिससे काम में तेजी लाने के लिए उसे हाय स्पीड डेडिकेटेड इनटानेट एक्सेस मिले।

इस समझौते के तहत देश में सभी इमिग्रेशन दफतरों को सुवा में डिपार्टमेंट ऑफ इमिग्रेशन के मुख्यालय स्थित मईन इनटानेट सर्वर से जोड़ा जाएगा।

इमिग्रेशन विभाग प्रधान मंत्री के दफतर के नीचे आता है और प्रधान मंत्री के दफतर के स्थाई सचिव योगेश करण ने टेलिकोम फीजी के चीफ एक्ज़ेक्यूटिव अफसर चाल्स गौडर के साथ

समझौते पर दस्तखत किया।

श्री करण ने बताया कि इमिग्रेशन विभाग में काम करने के अन्य औज़ारों के साथ साथ इनटानेट बहुत ज़रूरी है।

“हमारे दैनिक कारवायों में तेजी लाने का यह एक और तरीका है। हम टेलिकोम के साथ मिलकर काम करेंगे जबकि वह हमारा डेडिकेटेड इनटानेट प्रोवाइडर है। हाय स्पीड डेडिकेटेड इनटानेट एक्सेस से डिपार्टमेंट कार्यकुशल और असरकारक ढंग से अपनी सेवाएं लोगों तक जल्द पहुंचा पाएगा। हमारे साथ मिलकर काम करने के लिए हम टेलिकोम को धन्यवाद देते हैं”।

टेलिकोम फीजी के सी.ई.ओ - श्री गौडर ने भी इस साझेदारी का स्वागत किया है।

“टेलिकोम के हाय स्पीड डेडिकेटेड इनटानेट का मतलब है कि इमिग्रेशन विभाग देश भर में अपने दफतरों के साथ और जल्द जानकारी बाँट सकेगा। इससे विभाग की सेवाओं में सुधार आएगा। जिन अन्य संस्थाओं के साथ जुड़कर हम काम करते हैं, वहाँ हमने सेवा में सुधार देखा है”।

इस समझौते के तहत टेलिकोम, डिपार्टमेंट को हाय स्पीड इनटानेट कोनेक्टिविटी सेविस के लिए सेविस इनस्टलेशन, टेस्टिंग और मईटनेन्स तथा अन्य टेक्निकल अनडाटईकिंग्स प्रदान करेगा।

अभी काफी लोग ई-पासपोर्ट बनवा रहे हैं और इस कारण से दफतर में भीड़ लगी रहती है।

नीला सबसीडर्डज़्ड ई-ट्रांसपोर्ट कार्ड्स पर प्रतिबन्ध

वीरन्द्र लाल

छात्र अब स्कूली छुट्टियों और सप्ताहांत नीला सबसीडर्डज़्ड ई-ट्रांसपोर्ट कार्ड्स काम में नहीं ला सकेंगे।

शिक्षा मंत्रालय की स्थाई सचिव अलिसन बेचल ने बताया कि नीला सबसीडर्डज़्ड ई-ट्रांसपोर्ट कार्ड्स के इस्तेमाल पर इस साल तेइस नवम्बर से अगले साल बारह जनवरी तक प्रतिबन्ध रहेगा।

उन्होंने बताया कि अगले साल तेइस जनवरी को जब स्कूल का पहला टर्म शुरू होगा, छात्र केवल बीच सप्ताह में ही सुबह साढ़े छः से नौ और दूसरी बेला में साढ़े दो बजे से शाम पाँच बजे तक नीला सबसीडर्डज़्ड ई-ट्रांसपोर्ट कार्ड्स काम में ला सकेंगे। कार्ड में बचा पैसा, स्कूल के अगले टर्म में काम में लाया जाएगा।

छात्र इस साल तेइस नवम्बर से नीला सबसीडर्डज़्ड ई-ट्रांसपोर्ट कार्ड टोप-अप भी नहीं कर पायेंगे।

स्थाई सचिव ने बताया कि कार्ड्स के दुरुपयोग की रिपोर्ट्स के बाद यह कदम उठाया गया है।

जो लोग नीला सबसीडर्डज़्ड ई-ट्रांसपोर्ट कार्ड काम में लाते हैं, से माँग की गई है कि स्कूली छुट्टियों के दौरान कहीं आने जाने के लिए वे सपलमेंटरी रेड/एलव कार्ड का प्रयोग करें।

हुनर की कमी से निपटने और पढ़ाई का बढ़ावा देने का रास्ता

वीरन्द्र लाल

स्टेम - STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) विषयों में विद्यार्थियों को आकर्षित करने के लिए आयोजित साईंस चलेज में आठ स्कूलों ने भाग लिया।

वोडाफोन अरिना में आयोजित इस चलेज में बोलती हुई शिक्षा मंत्री रैजी अक्वर ने कहा हमें हुनर की कमी से निपटने की ज़रूरत है और विज्ञान की पढ़ाई का बढ़ावा देने की ज़रूरत है जिससे नौकरी मिले।

“चलेज इसका बढ़ावा देता है कि विद्यार्थी सेकन्ड्री स्कूल्स में मेथ्स, फिज़िक्स, केमिस्ट्री और एनजिनीयरिंग की पढ़ाई करें ताकि आगे चलकर साईंस और एनजिनीयरिंग के क्षेत्र में उन्हें नौकरी मिले”।

मंत्री अक्वर ने बताया कि वे यह प्रोग्राम युनिवर्सिटीज़ तक लेजाने की योजना बना रहे हैं।

“हमारा मंत्रालय इस प्रोग्राम का समर्थन करता है। हम करियज़ कौंसलिंग एन्ड अवैयरनेस पर पुनः गौर कर रहे हैं। हम स्टेम के तहत लड़कियों को और मौका देना चाहते हैं। इस प्रोग्राम में स्कूल लिडज़ की बड़ी भूमिका रहेगी”।

मंत्री अक्वर ने कहा कि चलेज के दौरान विद्यार्थियों को पता चलेगा कि साईंस और एनजिनीयरिंग में रचनात्मकता और नयापन शामिल है, इससे समस्याएं सुलझाई जा सकती हैं तथा इसमें मिलकर काम करने की ज़रूरत है।

स्टेम प्रोग्राम सुवा के आठ प्रायमरी और आठ सेकन्ड्री स्कूलों में शुरू किया गया है।

वाईनिकोरो गवमन्ट स्टेशन से तईस हज़ार लोगों को फायदा होगा

रेनल देव

वाईनिकोरो, मदुवाता में एक नया गवमन्ट स्टेशन बनने से नैंदोंगो, दोंगोतुकी, उँदू तथा नमूका डिस्ट्रिक्ट के तईस हज़ार (23,000) लोगों को बहुत लाभ होगा।

सरकार इस योजना का सारा खर्च सह रही है जो लगभग एक मिलियन डॉलर है। छः महीने में वहाँ एक डिस्ट्रिक्ट ऑफिस तथा रहने के लिए दो क्वाटर्स बनेंगे।

इस योजना का नीव डालते हुए ग्रामीण तथा वाहरी द्वीपों के विकास मंत्री, डाक्टर महेन्द्र रेड्डी ने कहा कि इस नय दफ्तर से वहाँ के गाँव तथा सामाज के लोग राहत की साँस लेंगे जिन्हें पहले ज़रूरी सरकारी सेवाओं के लिए लम्बासा शहर जाना पड़ता था।

मंत्री रेड्डी ने ज़ोर दिया कि सरकार अपनी सेवाएं ग्रामीण तथा वाहरी द्वीपों तक बढ़ाने पर गौर कर रही है तथा इन समाजों का विकास सरकार की प्राथमिकता है।

“मुझे बताया गया है कि यहाँ के तथा आस-पास के गाँव के लोग जो मदुवाता प्रांत के उपरी हिस्से में रहते हैं को सरकारी सेवाएं हासिल करने की खातिर लम्बासा शहर जाने के लिए घण्टों बस में सफर करना पड़ता है



ग्रामीण तथा वाहरी द्वीपों के विकास मंत्री डाक्टर महेन्द्र रेड्डी नए गवमन्ट स्टेशन का नीव डालते हुए चित्र: जोमईया रलांगो

या फिर उन्हें गाड़ियाँ हायर करनी पड़ती है, लेकिन मुझे यह घोषणा करते हुए खुशी हो रही है कि इस गवमन्ट स्टेशन के बनने के बाद निवासियों की तकलीफें दूर हो जाएंगी,” डाक्टर रेड्डी ने कहा।

इस नए गवमन्ट स्टेशन में लोग अपना बेथ सेटिफिकेट, मेरिज सेटिफिकेट, व्यापार का लाइसेन्स, विकास तथा सुरक्षा विषयों, भोजन की सुरक्षा तथा अन्य सेवाएं हासिल कर सकेंगे।



बाढ़ रोकने के तरिके पहचाने गए

वीरन्द्र लाल

नेदरलैंड्स के डच डिज़ास्टा रिस्क रिडक्शन मिशन ने बा और राकीराकी नदियों में बाढ़ रोकने के तरिकों को पहचाना है।

मिशन, इस साल अगस्त के मध्य से अगस्त के अंत तक स्कौपिंग मिशन पर था और उसने इस महिने की शुरुआत में अपनी रिपोर्ट वोटार्वर्डज़ एन्ड एनवायरमेंट मंत्री को दी। रिपोर्ट में सुझाव दिए गए हैं कि नदियों को गहरा और चौड़ा करने से बाढ़ से बचा जा सकता है।

रिपोर्ट स्वीकार करते हुए डाक्टर महेन्द्र रेड्डी ने कहा कि बाढ़ से बचने के लिए अपा केचमेंट प्लेनिंग ज़रूरी है।

“बा शहर और आस-पास के इलाकों में बाढ़ चढ़ने से रोकने के लिए बा नदी को गहरा करने की ज़रूरत है। किंग्स रौड ब्रिज को रीफेबिश करना होगा और पुल के पास फलडपलईन पर काम करना होगा। हमें नदी को खुलकर बहने के लिए और जगह देनी होगी”।

राकीराकी में मिशन ने पिछले साल वोटार्वर्डज़ एन्ड एनवायरमेंट मंत्रालय के काम की सरहाना की। उसके अनुसार नकाउवांड्रा नाले को समय समय से साफ करने की ज़रूरत है।

मिशन के सदस्यों ने दोनो बा और राकीराकी इलाकों में स्थानिए लोगों से बातें की थी और बाढ़ चढ़ने को लेकर जानकारी हासिल की थी।

इस कार्य में स्थानिए लोगों को शामिल करने के लिए सरकार को धन्यवाद दिया गया।

मंत्री ने लोगों से जलवायु परिवर्तन को गम्भीरता से लेने की माँग की। उन्होंने लोगों से पेड़ बोने और खेती-बाड़ी के सही तरिके अपनाने को कहा है।

फिलहाल डाक्टर रेड्डी ने ड्रमासी तावुवा में सूखे का सामना कर रहे लोगों से कहा है कि मंत्रालय उन्हें पानी वाला दस हजार लिटर का एक टेन्क प्रदान करेगा।

उन्होंने लोगों से पानी का स्रोत पहचानने की माँग की और कहा कि मंत्रालय टेन्क प्रदान करेगा जहाँ से लोग पानी अपने घर तक ले जा सकेंगे।

डाक्टर रेड्डी के अनुसार खाने पीने के अलावा लोग खेती करने के लिए भी यह पानी काम में ला सकेंगे।

तावुवा में अक्सर सूखे के मौसम में नदी नाले सूख जाते हैं।

प्राकृतिक विपत्ति के लिए तैयारी करने का मूल संदेश



फीजी में नवम्बर से अप्रैल तक तुफान का मौसम रहता है, ऐसे में लोगों से अपने घरों की छत मज़बूत करने की माँग की जा रही है ताकि तुफान के दौरान उन्हें मुसीबत न उठानी पड़े

रोनल देव

सबसे पहले प्राकृतिक विपत्ति की एक योजना बनाएं।

यह देखें कि आपके पास यह जानकारी हो कि:

* एक सुरक्षित जगह या शरण का स्थान कहाँ है तथा वहाँ तक सुरक्षित कैसे पहुँचा जा सकता है।

* घर से सुरक्षित निकलने की योजना बनाएं।

प्राकृतिक विपत्ति से पहले सभी सदस्यों के मिलने वाली जगह तय करें क्योंकि हो सकता है कि प्राकृतिक विपत्ति के दौरान घर के सदस्य एक दूसरे से बिछड़ जाएं। अपनी योजनाओं पर गौर करें और ज़रूरत पड़ने पर उनमें बदलाव लाएं। घर से सुरक्षित निकलने की प्रक्रिया को लेकर अपने स्थानीय अधिकारियों से सलाह लें।

* अपने परिवार के सदस्यों, स्कूल, गाँव तथा सेटलमन्ट के लोगों के साथ अभ्यास करें कि प्राकृतिक विपत्ति के समय क्या करना चाहिए तथा इसमें परिवार के सभी सदस्यों को शामिल करें जिनमें बच्चे तथा विकलांग लोग भी शामिल होने चाहिए। इस बात का ध्यान रखें कि परिवार के

सदस्यों के पास यह जानकारी हो कि प्राकृतिक विपत्ति आने का संकेत क्या है तथा उस समय उन्हें घबराने के बजाय सूझ-बूझ से काम लेना चाहिए। एक आपातकालीन या इमेजेन्सी किट तैयार करें जिसमें दवाईयाँ वगैराह रखी हों, बैटरी वाला रेडियो, एक मोबाईल फोन चार्ज करके उसमें टोप अप क्रेडिट भी रखें।

इस आपातकालीन किट में यह सब चीज़ें होनी चाहिए:

पीने के लिए बोतल वाला या उबला हुआ पानी, पानी का कोन्टईनर, केन या डिब्बे वाला भोजन, संरक्षित या सूखा भोजन, केन खोलने वाली चीज़, शिशुओं का दूध या भोजन, बैटरी वाला रेडियो, अलग से बैटरी रखें, मोमबत्ति, माचिस, ज़रूरी दवाईयाँ, ज़रूरी कागज़ात - स्कैन करके किसी सुरक्षित जगह या ऐसे बेग में रखें जिसमें पानी न जा सके।

यह जानना ज़रूरी है कि आपातकालीन स्थिति में किन्हें संपर्क करना है:

एम्बुलन्स या आग के लिए 910 या 911 पर कोल करें

एर्नजी फीजी लिमिटेड को 913 पर

पुलिस को 917 पर

वोटा अथोरिटी ऑफ फीजी को 5777 पर कोल करें।

यह जानना ज़रूरी है कि आपका नज़दीकी राहत केन्द्र कहाँ है तथा वहाँ का नम्बर क्या है।

नवीनतम जानकारी अपने पास रखें रेडियो और टेलिविज़न पर प्राकृतिक विपत्ति की नवीनतम जानकारी सुनें और देखें औपचारिक वेबसाइट या सौशल मिडिया वाले पईजस पर जाएं जिनमें शामिल हैं:

नेशनल डिज़ास्टा मेनेमन्ट ऑफिस: www.ndmo.gov.fj, मौसमी दफ्तर : www.met.gov.fj

स्वास्थ्य मंत्रालय : www.health.gov.fj

तुफानी हवा या समुद्री आँधी का मौसम आने से पहले तैयार रहें। समुद्री आँधी आने से पहले उसके खतरे के संकेत और चेतावनी के बारे में जानें। अपने घर का निरक्षण करें कि कहीं कोई कमज़ोरी तो नहीं है। घर में सबसे सुरक्षित कमरे की पहचान करें। अपने आँगन में पड़े हुए ऐसे सामान हटा दें जो तेज़ हवा में उड़ सकते हैं। लोगों से प्राकृतिक विपत्ति के लिए अपनी ओर से पूरी तैयारी कर लेने की माँग की जा रही है।

प्राकृतिक विपत्तियों को लेकर सावधानी

रोनल देव

बीमारियों से बचाने के लिए अपने बच्चों को सुईयाँ लगावाएं।

प्राकृतिक विपत्ति के कारण गम्भीर बीमारियाँ फैलने का खतरा रहता है जिससे बच्चे बीमार पड़ सकते हैं। बच्चों को सुरक्षा प्रदान करने के लिए ध्यान में रखें कि प्राकृतिक विपत्ति आने से पहले उन्हें टीके लगाई जाएं।

बाढ़ के असर से कैसे बचें

आपके इलाके में अगर पहले बाढ़ चढ़ी है तो इसके बारे में जानकारी हासिल करें तथा पता लगाएं कि

इसके खतरे का क्या संकेत है।

कुछ सामान अपने पास रखें जैसेकि लकड़ी, प्लाएवूड, नीले, रस्सी, वायर, प्लास्टिक तथा बालू से भरे बस्ते।

सभी केमिकल यानि रसाईनिक पदार्थों को बाढ़ की पहुँच से दूर करें।

अपने पशुओं तथा चारा उँचे स्थानों पर खिस्का दें और ध्यान में रखें कि आपके पालतू जानवर सुरक्षित जगह पर हैं।

बाढ़ चढ़ने की चेतावनी मिलने पर:

आपातकालीन यानि इमेजेन्सी सलाह सुनें, देखें कि परिवार के सभी सदस्य मौजूद हों।

बाढ़ का पानी अचानक से उपर जाने पर निगरानी रखें।

पीने वाला पानी अच्छी तरह बन्द होने वाले प्लास्टिक कोन्टईनर में भरकर रखें क्योंकि पानी सफ़ाई बन्द हो सकता है।

घर के सामान उँचे स्थानों पर रखें। ज़रूरत पड़ने पर सुरक्षित समय में घर से निकलें। घर छोड़ने से पहले, घर का मईन स्विच ऑफ़ कर दें।

अगर बाढ़ चढ़ा पानी से होकर जाना है, तब किसी लकड़ी से पानी नाप लें और धिरे धिरे पाँव रखें। पाँव बराबर न रखने पर आप फिसल सकते हैं। पानी में एक दूसरे का हाथ पकड़ें।

फीजी फोकस

तावुआ में धान के किसानों को चावल के बीज दिए गए

2



डिपार्टमेंट ऑफ इमिग्रेशन को हाय-स्पीड इनटानेट

6



प्राकृतिक विपत्ति के लिए तैयारी करने का मूल संदेश

7



अटेनी जेनरल तथा अर्थ व्यवस्था मंत्री अईयाज़ अईयद खईयूम, युरोपियन युनियन के प्रतिनिधियों के साथ चित्र: सूचना मंत्रालय

वोल्ड बैंक से फीजी को सहायता

वीरेंद्र लाल

देश की अर्थ-व्यवस्था को मजबूत करने, व्यापारिक वातावरण में सुधार करने और जलवायु परिवर्तन से पड़े असर कम करने के लिए विश्व बैंक ने फीजी को चौसठ मिलियन अमरीकी डोलर (\$US64m) देने की अनुमति दी है। फीजी की बिज़नेस रजिस्ट्रेशन प्रणालियों में सुधार करके और खास करके महिलाओं के लिए पैसे हासिल करने की क्षमता में सुधार करके, व्यापारिक वातावरण को मजबूत करने के फीजी के कदम का भी विश्व बैंक समर्थन कर रहा है। अटेनी जेनरल तथा अर्थ-व्यवस्था मंत्री अईयाज़ अईयद खईयूम का कहना है कि फीजी का वोल्ड बैंक के साथ साझेदारी, विकास सहायता के पैसे के मूल्य से कहीं ज्यादा है। “इसमें जलवायु परिवर्तन से पड़े असर कम करना, फीजियन व्यापारियों के लिए मौके उपलब्ध करना-खासकर महिलाओं के

लिए और फीजी के विकास की दिशा में कदम शामिल है। वोल्ड बैंक से इतनी बड़ी रकम मिलना इसका सबूत है कि फीजी क्लायमेट फायनेंस बढ़ाने और अर्थ-व्यवस्था में भारी सुधार करने की दिशा में चल पड़ा है,” सईयद खईयूम ने कहा। अटेनी जेनरल ने कहा कि जलवायु परिवर्तन से पड़े असर कम करने की दिशा में हुई प्रगति के संरक्षण के लिए, व्यापारिक मौके हासिल करने के लिए फीजियन्स को सशक्त करने और अर्थ-व्यवस्था में बढ़न्ती करने के लिए पैसे इकट्ठा करने की खातिर वे वोल्ड बैंक और अन्य डिवेलपमेंट पार्टनरों के साथ काम करने की ताक में हैं। पापुवा निउ-गिनी और पेरिसिफिक आयलैंड्स के लिए वोल्ड बैंक कन्द्री डायरेक्टर मायकल केफ ने बताया कि फीजी के साथ साझेदारी, मिलकर काम करने और चुनौतियों से निपटने पर आधारित है। “हम फीजी को सहायता प्रदान करने से खुश हैं। इससे फीजी

की अर्थ-व्यवस्था में और स्थिरता आयेगी, ऐसे इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर बनेंगे जो जलवायु परिवर्तन का सामना कर सकेंगे और व्यापारिक वातावरण में सुधार होगा जिससे और लोग खासकर महिलाएं अपना व्यापार बढ़ा सकेंगी”। यह ओपरेशन फीजी के राष्ट्रीय विकास के तहत है। इसका समर्थन एशियन डिवेलपमेंट बैंक (ADB) और न्यू-ज़ीलैंड की सरकार भी कर रही है। वोल्ड बैंक से जुड़ी संस्था इन्टानेशनल फायनेंस कोरपोरेशन (IFC) के समर्थन से फीजी में प्रायवट सेक्टर इन्वेस्टमेंट को भी मजबूत किया जाएगा। इस साल पहले वोल्ड बैंक ग्रुप ने अपना नया साउथ पेरिसिफिक हब, सुवा में खोला। टेलिकोमिउनिक्शन्स, यातायात और क्लायमेट रिसिलियन्स के क्षेत्र में वोल्ड बैंक की एक सौ बीस मिलियन अमरीकी डोलर (\$US120m) मूल्य की योजनाएं फिलहाल फीजी में जारी हैं। वोल्ड बैंक की और योजनाएं फीजी में शुरू होने की आशा है।

Noda Viti



Sa liu mai oqori kina loma ni Palimedi na turaga na Sipika ko Ratu Epeli Nailatikau, ka tarava mai oqori na Vunivola ni Palimedi ko Viniana Namosimalua, ka tarava sara mai na turaga na Peresitedi ko Major General (retired) Jioji Konrote ka tarava sara yani na iliului ni mataivalu ni Viti ko Viliame Naupoto ena dola ni bose e Palimedi ena yabaki 2019-2020. iTaba: VAKARAUTAKI

Dolava na Palimedi ko Peresitedi Konrote

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

S A dolava tale na bose ni Palimedi me baleta na yabaki 2019-2020 ena siga Tusiti na ika 12 ni siga ni vula o Noveba na turaga na Peresitedi ni noda vanua o Jioji Konusi Konrote. Kaya kina vaka oqo o Peresitedi Konrote ni oti e ono na yabaki ni kena virikotori na noda Yavu ni Vakavulewa ni 2013 esa kau-ta mai e levu na veiveisau vinaka. “E na ono ga na yabaki mai na gauna sa mai virikotori kina noda Yavu ni Vakavul-ewa ni 2013, e sega ni vakabekataki ni sa levu na veiveisau vinaka eda sa lako curu-ma mai ka sa itukutuku ni veigauna ni noda vanua.” Vakacautaki kemuni talega na lewe ni

vanua oni a vakauta mai ena mona livaliva na nomuni nanuma me baleta na tikina o ni taleitaka vakalevu duadua ena noda Yavu ni Vakavulewa. “Vei kemuni kece na vakaitavi mai au vakavinavinaka vakalevu sara vei kemuni sa dua sara cavu ikalawa vinaka vei keda. “Vinaka vakalevu vua na gone yabaki ono ko Shaveen Kumar – ena nona tukia toka na serena ena bolebole kaya tiko mai vei keda ni taleitaka na noda Yavu ni Vakavul-ewa baleta ni sa solia vua na kaukauwa me vakatokai koya me lewenivanua o Viti.” “Vakavinavinakataki tale ga ko irau na veitacini goneyalewa mai Rewa ko Kelera kei Siteri ena nodrau tukuna na nodrau ta-leitaka na dodonu ni tauri itukutuku, baleta e vakaraitaka na rarama ni noda bula vaka

demokarisi.” “Vinaka vakalevu Josua mai Moala ena nomu taleitaka na dodonu ni noda bula vinaka vakayago ena Yavu ni Vakavul-ewa. Sa vakavuna na nodra sikova wasoma na vakaillesilesi ni tabana ni bula na nona yanuyanu- sa daumaka cake kina na nodra bula e yanuyanu. Sa sega ni volitaki niu me baleta na isau ni veisiko ki vale ni bula nira sa siko sara ga yani ki yanuyanu na kena ivakaillesilesi. “Kei na vakavinavinaka levu sara vei Nix Cagilaba kei na nona timi ni dau nunu mai Beqa ena nona kauta mai vei keda na itu-kutuku ni siga ni Yavu ni Vakavulewa mai na loma ni wasawasa ni vakana qio mai Beqa,” kaya o Peresitedi Konrote. Vakabibitaka talega o Peresitedi Konrote

na kena sa tiko ena Yavu ni Vakavulewa na dodonu ni vuli. “E levu e sega ni rawa nira tomana nodra vuli baleta na ivakarau ni nodra toso oya nira toso tikoga o ira na vakaiyau kei na vakaitutu. Ena rawa vakacava ni dua na gone ni Viti ena vakasamataka vakabibi nanona veimataka kevaka eda ivakamaria voli ga mai na ivakarau ni vuli ena gauna oya?” “Vakabibitaka talega o Peresitedi Konrote na noda raici vakatautauvata. “Eda sa vagalalataka na noda vakasama na itaba tamata vou kei Viti ena noda buci-na vei ira na nodra raici vakatautauvata ka vakavurea e levu na inuinui vinaka,” kaya o Peresitedi Konrote.



US\$64M na veitokoni ni World Bank e Viti

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

SA vakadonuya na Baqe ni Vuravura me tokoni Viti mai ena US\$64m ma vukei kina na sasaga ni kena vakalailaitaki na leqa e kauta mai na draki veisau, vakavinakataka na bisinisi ni draki, kei na nona rawa ni lewa matau kina na Matanitu na nona vakayagataki ilavo, qaravi ni ivakacavacava, kei na idusidusi vakamatani tu tale eso.

Oqo sa ikarua ni veitokoni ni Baqe ni Vuravura vei Viti. Na veitokoni vou oqo e kena inaki me vakadaumakataka na yalava ni bisinisi ena noda vanua ena kena vakavinakataki na rejisita ena qaravi bisinisi, vakarawarawataki ni sala ni rawa ilavo – vakabibi vei ira na marama.

Kaya na Minisita ni iLavo ka Vunilawa talega o Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum ena nona ciqoma tiko

na veitokoni levu oya main a Baqe ni Vuravura sa ivakadinadina levu ni sa levu cake tikoga na rawaka nei Viti ena ilavo ni qaravi draki ka vakaukauwataka na bula vakailavo raraba e Viti.

“Eda sa vakanamata ena cakacaka vata kei na Baqe ni Vuravura – kei ira kece na noda itokani ni veivakatorocaketaki me vakarabailavutaki tiko kina na noda tobu ni veivakatorocaketaki ka vakaliuci kina na kena vakalailaitaki ni revurevu ni draki veisau, era vakauqeti talega kina na noda lewenivanua mera cavuikalwa yani ena bula vakailavo ka me tubu talega kina na bula vakailavo ni noda vanua,” kaya o Minisita Sayed-Khaiyum.

Kaya na Daireketa ni Baqe ni Vuravura ka veiqaravi e Papua Niukini kei na Pasifika o Michel Kerf ni qaqaco na veiwekani kei Viti

baleta ni sotavi kina eso na bolebole verevera.

“Keitou marautaka na veitokoni vei Viti baleta ni rawa ni koto dei kina na kena bula vakailavo, sotavi na revurevu ni draki veisau, ka vakaloga-loga vinakataka na qaravi bisinisi, me rawa ni levu cake era vakaitavi ena bisinisi vakauasivi o ira na marama,” kaya ko Kerf.

Na veitokoni levu oqo ni Baqe ni Vuravura e salavata kei na ituvatuva ni veivakatorocaketaki e Viti ka tokoni na bula vakailavo raraba ni Matanitu.

Ena itekivu ni yabaki oqo a dola kina e dua na vale ni volavaola ni Baqe ni Vuravura ena noda koroturaga o Suva.

Na imatai ni veitokoni vei Viti oya ena Jiulai ni yabaki oqo. Ni sa kuri tale mai oqo sa kauta cake na levu ni veivakatorocaketaki ni Baqe ni Vuravura e Viti kina \$262m.

Cegu na etransport card karakarawa ena gauna ni sereki

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

NA nodra vakayagataka tiko na noda gonevuli e Viti na e-Transport card karakarawa e tiki ni kena sega ni saumi na nodra ivodovodo na gonevuli.

Ia, ko ni sa vakasalataki na itubutubu kei na gonevuli ni gauna ni sereki tekivu ena 23 ni Noveba ena cegu kina na vakayagataki ni eTransport card roka karakarawa ni gonevuli.

E namaki me na qai tekivu vakayagataki tale ena ika 13 ni siga ni Januери 2020.

Na vo ni ilavo e se bera ni vakayagataki ena nomu card karakarawa ena qai basika tale ena ika 13 ni Januери.

Sa rawa vei ira na gonevuli mera vakayagataka na e-Transport card dromodromo se damu-damu ena gauna ni sereki.



Era taba tu oqo na vakaillesilei ni Fiji Airports ena soli icovi ni Prime Ministers International Awards ka ratou rawata kina na ulu ni icovi na 'Supreme Awards'.

Qoqota na ulu ni icovi na Fiji Airports

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

VAKACAUCAUTAKI ira na tamata cakacaka ena kabani ni qaravi rara ni waqavuka ena noda vanua na turga na iliuliu ni matanitu o Paraiminisita Voreqe Bainimarama ena uasivi ni nodra cakacaka.

Era qoqota na ulu ni icovi ni “Supreme Award” ena gauna ni soli icovi ni Prime Ministers Interna-

tional Business Awards.

Kaya kina o PM Bainimarama ni sa vakadinadinataki ni rawa vei Viti me rawa tubu ena gauna era sotava tiko kina na vo ni vuravura na lutu vakabisini.

Eda digia na gauna donu ka me rawaka kina vakalevu o Viti, ka rawa kina ni sega ni vakila na leqa ni bisinisi ni veivanuatani eso.

“Na Matanitu oqo ena tomana

tikoga na toso vakaoqo ena veigauna sa tu ki liu,” kaya o PM Bainimarama.

“Me da boletaki Viti ena noda cakacaka. Meda boletaka kina na tubu me rawata o Viti. Rawati oqori ena kena vakamamadataki eso na ivakacavacava ni bisinisi, na cakacaka vata kei ira eda dau veivoli vata me voroki kina eso na ivakatatao ni caka bisinisi,” kaya

o PM Bainimarama.

Kuria na iliuliu ni Matanitu ni okati talega eke na tauyavutaki ni veivanua e sega ni lavaki kina edua na ivakacavacava se Tax Free Region.

“Vakakina na kena sega ni lavaki nai vakacavacava ni curu mai ni iyaya e volitaki ena noda vei rara ni waqavuka lelevu se duty free,” kaya o PM Bainimarama.

Me da boletaki Viti ena noda cakacaka. Meda boletaka kina na tubu me rawata o Viti. Rawati oqori ena kena vakamamadataki eso na ivakacavacava ni bisinisi, na cakacaka vata kei ira eda dau veivoli vata me voroki kina eso na ivakatatao ni caka bisinisi.

Paraiminisita Voreqe Bainimarama



Sa sobu tiko oqori na duru ni itikotiko vou ni Matanitu mai Wainikoro e Macuata. Mai na imawi o Minisita ni Teitei Dr. Mahendra Reddy, sote damudamu eloma na Turaga na Tui Nadogo o Ratu Ilisani Malodali, sote vulavula ena imatai na Vunivola Tudei ni Tabana ni Teitei o David Kolitagane. iTaba: JOSAIA RALAGO

50 na kato kau ki Delainakaikai

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

ESA laki soli ki Ratu Kadavulevu School ena vualiku kei Tailavu e 50 na kato kau mai na Tabana ni Veivakadodonutaki me baleti ira na gonevuli ni Bure Degei a mai kama na nodra Bure ena vula sa oti.

E vakacaucautaka na ivukevuke qasenivuli liu ena Ratu Kadavulevu School mai Lodoni ko Sakiusa Kurudua na totolo ni veivuke ni Matanitu ena kena sa yaco yani e 50 na kato kau ni gonevuli.

“Au sa vakavinavinaka vua

na turga na iliuliu ni Matanitu ena kena sa totolo mai na veivuke oqo kau vakavinavainaka talega kina Tabana ni Veivakadodonutaki.

Na kato kau kece ko ya era taya na curu tiko ena Tabana ni Veivakadodonutaki se Fiji Corrections Services ka laki solia yani na kena Komisina o Francis Kean.

“Au vakabauta ni kato kau kece oqo ena yaga vakalevu sara vei ira na gonevuli ena gauna sana tekivu tale kina na vuli.”

Ni oti e dua na macawa ni kena yaco na kama ni bure oya a sikova talega yani o

PM Bainimarama kani a lewe ni Bure Degei talega ena gauna ni nona vuli mai RKS.

Sa mani vakaroti rau talega kina na Tabana ni Veivakadodonutaki kei na Minisitiri ni Veikau o PM Bainimarama merau taya talega mai eso na nodra loga tabarua na gonevuli.

Era veivuke talega yania na vuli oti mai RKS ena isulu nodra na gonevuli Bure Degei. Era cau talega yani na isoqosoqo ni itubutubu kei na qasenivuli e Queen Victoria School (QVS) ena \$5000.



Tavoci na waqavuka vou

VILIAME TIKOTANI

ERA sa laki tavoca vou tale na Minisita ni Veivukayaki Aliyaz Sayed-Khaiyum edua na waqavuka ni kabani ni waqavuka ena noda vanua mai Toulouse Varanise. Oqo edua vei rau na rua na A350s, ka model ni waqavuka vakaidini vou ka kaukauwa ena veivukayani.

Era veitokoni mai ena soqo oqo oira na mata ni matanitu o Viti ena matanitu vaka Urope ka wilikina oira na noda gone ni Viti era sa cakacaka voli mai Varanise ena konitaraki vaka qito ena vei kalavo ni qito lelevu ka rogo e vuravura. Me vaka era taba toka ena itaba oqo kei Minisita Sayed-Khaiyum o Sisa Koyamaibole, Fero Lasagavibau, Jone Daunivucu kei na vica tale na cauravou ni Viti.

Era veivakamarautaki talega kei na matalawalawa nei David Johnson, edua na gone ni Viti ka sa vakaduri bisinisi ni saravanua voli mai na matanitu vaka-Urope.



Na waqavuka vou ni Fiji Airways ka laki tavoci mai Varanise. Era taba tiko oqori ko Vunilawa Sayed-Khaiyum kei ira na ivakalesilesi e cake ni kabani ka wili kina na tamata cakacaka kei ira na noda cauravou dau qito voli mai kea.

Tubu tikoga na bisinisi e noda Viti

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

S A toso tikoga na tubu vinaka ni bisinisi ena noda vanua lomani ko Viti. Oqori edua na mala ni vosa nodra na liuliu ni matanitu, Paraiminisita Voreqe Bainimarama. Vakaraitaka na tikina oqori ko koya ena soqo ni soli icovi ni bisinisi ka vakatokai

ena Prime Ministers International Business Awards, ka dau lagita kina na nodra veiqaravi ena bisinisi na kena dau ena noda vanua.

Vakauasivi ena vakatubuilavo, vakalevutaki ni cakacaka kei na keina vakalevutaki na ivoli me vakauti ki vavalagi mai na noda vanua.

Uqeti ira na daunibisinisi ko Paraiminisita

Bainimarama mera cuqena vinaka tiko na nodra itavi ena loma ni vanua o Viti me vaka ni sa vukei ira tiko kina na matanitu.

“Ni vaqara na vanua vinaka eso ena rawa ni tubu kina na bisinisi me vaka ni sa vukei kemuni tiko kina na matanitu, ka vukei Viti talega ena bisinisi ena noda vuravura.” kaya ko Paraiminisita.

Yabaki 65 na FBC

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

S A yabaki 65 na noda vale ni walesi na Fiji Broadcasting Corporation (FBC) ka sa veisau vakalailai na yacana edaidai me sa Fijian Broadcasting Corporation..

E qaravi na soqo oqo ena Grand Pacific Hotel, Suva ka vulagi dokai kina ko Paraiminisita Voreqe Bainimarama ena i tekitekivu ni vula oqo.

E kaya na turaga na iliuliu ni noda Matanitu ni tekivu mai na gauna tekivu kakaburaki kina na FBC ena yabaki 1954 me yacova mai ni kua sa rabailevu sara na nona veiqaravi.

“Na FBC e tiko ena veitaba gauna eda lako curuma, na veigauna lagi-lagi eso, kina veisiga yadua ni noda bula, sa dau tiko vata kei keda na FBC. E dau talanoataka na keda italanoa ka vola na isevu ni itukutuku ni veigauna me baleti keda. Dau kacivaka na noda siga ni sucu, kacivaka na itukutuku ni lolosi. Ni 65 na yabaki mai na gauna a tauyavu kina, na FBC sivia na itavi ni dau kakaburaki raraba kina lewenivanua,” kaya o PM Bainimarama

Kaya o PM Bainimarama ni dua na veisau vou e mai yaco ena walu na yabaki sa oti oya na nona sa civivaka talega na retio yaloyalo se Television na FBC.

“A vakabekataki tu na nodratou rawa ni vakaduria na retio yaloyalo. Baleta mai na yabaki 1990 ka yacova na yabaki 2000 e kabani duadua ga ni retio yaloyalo e Viti na Fiji TV ka sega ni dua e rau veisisivataka na makete ni bisinisi oya.”

Kaya o PM Bainimarama ni tini na yabaki sa oti sa qai mai vakasalataka na FBC me vukica na uto ni nona veiqaravi me rawata kina na tatadra ni ika 21 ni senitiuri.

“E dina ni bera nomudou tauyavutaka ma TV. Dou sa taleitaki vakalevu duadua ena kena makete e daidai,” kaya o PM Bainimarama.

Kaya o Paraiminisita Bainimarama ni konitarakitaki na FBC me veiqaravi raraba ena retio kei na TV me baleti Viti raraba.



Ko ira na lewe 19 cauravou, keina turaga ni Vanuatu dau teidovu kei na Vunivola Tudei ni Vale ni Volavola ni Paraiminisita o Yogesh Karan.

Ta dovu e Viti e 19 na lewe ni vanua mai Vanuatu

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

ERA sa mai tadovu voli e Viti e lewe 19 na tagane ni Vanuatu kara cakacaka tiko ena dua na loga ni dovu mai Balevuto e Ba.

Vakadonuya na Matanitu mera mai ta dovu e Viti me sotavi kina na lailai ni dau tadovu era tiko e Viti me sotavi ytalega kina na gagadre ni kabani ni suka na Fiji Sugar Corporation.

Vakasakiti na nodra ta dovu na kai Vanuatu oqo ni oti ga e tolu na macawa era sa tamusuka rawa e 200 na tani dovu ka sa sovaraki

sara yani kina iqaqi. A sikovi ira na dau ta dovu ni Vanuatu mai Balevuto o Yogesh Karan na Vunivola Tudei ni Vale ni Volavola ni Paraiminisita.

Kurabui ka vakauqeti Karan vakalevu na totolo kei na levu ni dovu era sa taya rawa na cauravou ni Vanuatu oya. Sa mani laki vakadewataka sara vua na turaga na Paraiminisita na nona marau.

“Na kena sa lailai tikoga na dau ta dovu e Viti sa mani vakavuna ma vakatovotovitaki mada na nodra lai kau mai vanua tani na via ta dovu,” kaya o Karan.

Kaya o Karan ni gadrevi mera

kau tale mai eso na dau ta dovu mai Vanuatu.

“E kaya na nodra iliuliu na dau ta dovu ni Vanuatu o David Melanamu ni ra talei taka mera mai vukea na lailai ni dau ta dovu e Viti. E so veikeimami sa cakacaka oti ena loga ni dovu mai Ositerelia, ia keimami marau ni rawa ni keimami mai vukei Viti ena gagadre oqo,” kaya o Melanamu.

Ena itekivu ni yabaki oqo a tabaki kina e Viti na gagadre ni vaqara dau ta dovu ni Minisitiri ni Suka, ia e sega ni levu na via ta dovu era rogoca na kaci oya.

Sa namaki mera na kau tale mai Vanuatau e 120 tale na cauravou dau ta dovu ena gauna ni musudovu ka tarava.

Era lewe 200,000 na lewe ni vanua e Viti era vakararavi tiko kina bisinisi ni dovu kei na suka. “Oqori sara ga na vuna ena tokona tikoga kina na Matanitu nei PM Bainimarama na bisinisi ni qaravi ni ivoli oqo dovu ena noda vanua,” kaya o Karan.

“Sa vakalevutaki na levu ni dovu e tei, vakavoutaki e levu na lisi, ka vakalevutaki talega na vakayagataki ni misini ni cakacaka.”



Soli icovi ni PM kina bisinisi lelevu

E dau siga namaki vei ira na veibisinisi lelevu ena noda vanua na soli icovi vakayabaki ni Paraiminisita ka vakatokai na 'Prime Ministers International Business Award'. Vakayacori na sogo ogo ena macawa sa oti ena Sheraton Fiji Resort mai Denarau e Nadi. Ratou qoqota kina na ulu ni icovi na kabani ni rarani waqavuka e Viti na 'Fiji Airports'. Sarava sara yani na itaba ni soqo oya sa koto oqori era.

iTaba: LITIA VULAIDUSIGA

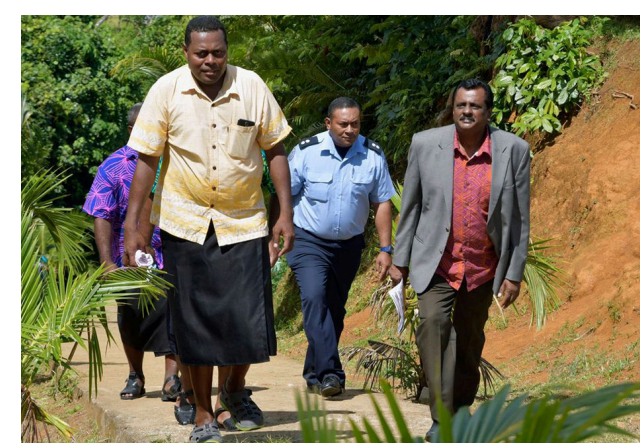


Tuva itutu ni gonevuli e Beqa

E dau kauwaitaka vakalevu na Matanitu na nodra rawaka vakavuli na itabagone e Viti. E vulagi dokai na Minisita ni iTabagone o Parveen Kumar ena soqo ni tuva itutu ni koronivuli na Beqa Yanuca Secondary School mai Raviravi e Beqa.

vinaka duadua ni nona rawaka ni mataka e dua na itabagone. Laki solia talega kina na Minisita ni iTabagone na icovi ni Duke of Edinburgh Award ki vei ira eso na itabagone mai Beqa. Sa toka oqori eso na iataba mai Beqa.

iTaba: ILISAPECI TUIVALE





Na vuli ena yavu dei ni tabagone

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

ME da yalo malua me vaka na ruve baleta oqori edua na tiki ni bula e gadrevi ka ganita na bula ni lewenivanua ena noda vanua. Oqori na nodra mala ni vosa na Minisita ni Tabagone kei na Qito ko Parveen Kumar ena nodra laki vulagi dokai ena tuvai tutu ni koronivuli na Beqa-Yanuca Secondary School ena macawa sa oti.

Kuria ka vakaraitaka ko Minisita Kumar ni bibi na vuli ena nodra bula na itabagone ka bibi talega na nodra itavi na itubutubu ena nodra veisusu me baleta na qaravi ni vuli vinaka nodra na gone.

“Ki vei kemuni na qasenivuli kei na tubutubu, ko ni sega wale ga ni qarava na nodra vuli na gonevuli ni kua ia na nodra vuli na itabagone ka sausau vou ena noda vanua me rawa ni ra lewe ni vanua yalo matua ka yaga

ena veigauna vinaka kei Viti ni mataka,” kaya ko Minisita Kumar.

“Na vuli edua na ka bibi ena dua na bula ni dua na gone.

“Na matanitu esa vakila tiko na yaga ni nodra itavi na tabagone.

“E dua na veiqaravi bibi na vuli me vaka ni susuga na bula ka vakasucuma na vinaka ena veisala ni bula cava ga era tiko kina.”

Veivuke ena grant vei ira na dauteitei

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

SA mai sainitaka ko Vunivola tudei ena Valenivolavola ni Paraiminisita Voreqe Bainimarama, ko Yogesh Kumar edua na ivola ni veidinadinati mera sa vukei talega na tamata dau teitei ena noda vanua ena dua na veivuke ni matanitu.

Oqo na yacana ka vakatokai ena vosa vakapalagi me Farmers Assistance Scheme. Vakaraitaka ko Karan ni oti na sainitaki ni veidinadinati oqori ena macawa sa oti sa kena i balebale ni Minisitiri ni Suka ena qarava na kena saumi na sauna ni lisi ni qele nodra na dauteitei me vaka ni kena isau esa na volai koto vakamatau ena ivola ni vei vakadonui mai na Matabose ni Qele Maroroi kei na Minisitiri ni Qele. Sa veivuke oqo ena rawa ni kina mera vakarautaka na nodra qele ni teitei, nodra wainimate ni coca me qarauni kina na qele ena matai ni yabaki walega.



Ko ira na gonevuli, qasenivuli kei ira na i vakalesilesi e Ucunivanua District School kei Paraiminista Voreqe Bainimarama ni oti na kena mai dola na nodra vale vou na qasenivuli e Ucunivanua, Verata, Tailevu. iTaba: NANISE NEIMILA

Dola na vale ni qasenivuli e Ucunivanua

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

SA dolava o Paraiminisita Josaia Voreqe Bainimarama na vale ni qasenivuli vou ena Ucunivanua District

School e Verata, Tailevu.

Na vale ni qasenivuli vou oqo e koto ena \$167,000 na kena isau. Na vale oqo ena yaga ena nodra vakavaletaki na qasenivuli ni muri vuli ena loma ni tikina.

Vakaraitaka na nona vakavinavina na turaga ni koro e Ucunivanua ko Ratu Sevanaia Lalakoverata ka kaya vakaoqo ne: “Qoka e dua na isolisoli vinaka ni Matanitu keimami sa marautaka vakalevu baleta ni keimamai kila ni vinaka nodra vale na qasenivuli ena lai vinaka kina nodra vuli na neimami go-

nevuli.”

Vakaraitaka talega nona vakavinavina na manidia ni koronivuli ko Ratu Meli Basu ni ra marautaka na kena sa mai dola na vale ni qasenivuli vou oqo.

“E dua na itukutuku marautaki vei keimami na itaukei ni koronivuli e Ucunivanua ka keimami vakavinavinakataka na veiqaravi levu. Keimami sega ni namaka me keimami mai raica e dua na vale vinaka ka sa mai dola tiko ni kua ena vuku ni sasaga ka veivuke kina na Matanitu ena kena sagai me vukei na nodra vuli na

gone e Ucunivanua,” kaya o Ratu Meli. E kaya ko koya ni 19 na macawa na balavu ni gauna era tara kina na vale ko ya.

“Nanumi tiko me na vakaitikotiko kina na qasenivuli ni muri vuli ena kena mai tawani.”

“E dua na siga guiguilecavi dredre ena nomudou koro ko Ucunivanua ni sa kau mai edua na isolisoli vinaka ka da mai marautaka tiko na kena dolavi ena siga ni kua.”

Sa soli talega e dua na taqe ni wai kina kena dola na vale ni qasenivuli oya mai Ucunivanua.

E dua na itukutuku marautaki vei keimami na itaukei ni koronivuli e Ucunivanua ka keimami vakavinavinakataka na veiqaravi levu. Keimami sega ni namaka me keimami mai raica e dua na vale vinaka ka sa mai dola tiko ni kua ena vuku ni sasaga ka veivuke kina na Matanitu ena kena sagai me vukei na nodra vuli na gone e Ucunivanua.

Ratu Meli Basu
Manidia e Ucunivanua
District School



Sa tucake tu oqori ko Paraiminista Voreqe Bainimarama ena nona tabaka toka na mona livaliva me tekivu veiqaravi kina na website vou ni yasana ko Tailevu mai Ucunivanua e Verata, Tailevu. iTaba: NANISE NEIMILA

Sa veiqaravi na website vou ni Yasana o Tailevu

VILIAME TIKOTANI

Edua talega na cavu ikalawa vinaka ni Yasana ko Tailevu e na nona sa laki tekivutaka ko Paraiminisita Voreqe Bainimarama na kena vakayagatiki na nodratou sala ni veitaratara ena mona livaliva se website vou na yasana.

Sa na rawa kina ki vei keda na lewei Viti me da raica, sarava ka wilika na veitukutuku e so ni veivakatorocaketaki kei na toso ki liu ni Yasana Vakaturaga ko Tailevu.

E sa na rawa talega kina vei ira na lewe ni yasana ko Tailevu era tiko e Viti vaka

kina ko ira na tiko mai vanua tani me ra kila na cava so sa vakayacori tiko ena loma ni nodra yasana.

Era vakacautaka talega na lewe ni matabose ni yasana na kena sa mai tekivu veiqaravi na website vou oqo ni yasana o Tailevu.

Ena vakatotolotaka na nodra kila na lewe ni yasana na veisala eso ni veivakatorocaketaki sa qarava tiko na Matanitu ka vakatotolotaka na nodra veitaratara.

Sivia na 64,000 na iwiliwili ni lewenivanua e na Yasana o Tailevu ka tiko kina e 5 na kena Tikina oya o Verata, Bau, Nakelo, Wainibuka kei Sawakasa.



Uqeti na gonevuli me ra gumatua

VILIAME TIKOTANI

KO ira na gonevuli Fomu Vitu era na qai vakayagataka vinaka na uma ilavo \$138 milioni ka sa vakarautaka na matanitu me baleta na veivuke ena vuli torocake ena Tertiary education loan scheme.

Vakaraitaka na tikina oqori na Minisita ni Vuli ko Rosy Akbar ka tukuna kina ni Matanitu ena yabaki oqo esa vakarautaka e \$63.7 milioni me baleta na sau ni curucuru ni vuli ka \$20m ena nodra isau ni vodovodo na gonevuli.

Oqori vei ira na gonevuli me vakarawarawataka na nodra vuli me vaka e tiki tikoga ni sasaga ni matanitu me baleta na free education kei and bus fare subsidy.

“Sa vakarautaka oti na matanitu na veika me saumi baleti ira na gonevuli, sa qai vo moni vuli vakaukauwa ka rawata na maka ni veitarogi vinaka me rawa ni dewa yani kina vuli torocake,” kaya ko Minisita Akbar.

Era a laki vulagi dokai ko Minisita Akbar ena soqo ni tuva itutu ni koronivuli ni matanitu na Suva Grammar School ka tukuna ni soqo vaka oqo ena gauna ni marau ka me ra dau marautaki kina na gonevuli ena nodra rawa ka ena loma ni vale ni vuli ka sega wale ga ni o ira na na dau rawaka vinaka.

Era dodonu mera dau bvakauqeti talega kina oira na gonevuli era dau veiqati voleka ka vakauasivi mera da dusi kina vakadodonu ena raiyawa baleta na vuli ka mera qai dau cakacaka kina.

Mo cula ena wai ni mate ni tarovi ni Misila



Na i vakatakarakara ni yago ni tamata e tauvi misila.. iTaba: VAKARAUTAKI

VILIAME TIKOTANI

SA ka bibi mera cula na lewenivanua kece ena noda vanua ena wainimate ni Misila me rawa ni tatarovi ka sabai ira mai na mate sa dewa voli oqo.

Na veicula ka vakayacori tiko nikua e sega ni vakuai kina edua na taba se yabaki ni bula ia sa kerei walega mera laurai vinaka oira na gonelalai sara ka rawa ni dau tauvi ira totolo na mate mera laki cula rawa.

Oqo e wilikina oira na gone vula ono ka lailai mai ka sa bera ni ra cula ena sasabai ni misila.

Na matanitu esa vakasalataki keda na lewenivanua kece ni sa vakautiko mai eso tale na wai ni

mate ni misila ka sa kerei me ra liu madaga ko ira na gone lalai.

Na veicula ni misila oqo e wase tiko vaka va ka vakatautaki na nodra rawarawa ni tauvi ira.

Oira na gone era sabera nira bau se cula ena wainimate ni sasabai ni misila.

Oira na tiko voli ena loma ni bai kei Serua/Namosi ka sa yabaki 6 na vula oti.

Oira era via gade mai Serua/Namosi mera cula rawa ni bera e rua na macawa nodra gole mai.

Oira na via gade ki valagi ka ra sa yabaki ono na vula sa oti

Oira ga na vakuwai mai na veicula oqo ko ira na marama bukete kei ira na sega ni dau lako vinaka vei ira na icula.



Era mata mamarau tu oqori na lewe 56 na itaukei era lisi tiko ena nodra qele vakamataqali nira sa ciqoma na veitokoni vakailavo ni “Seed Fund Grant” ni Matabose ni Qele Maroroi ni iTaukei. E vulagi dokai kina ko Paraiminisita Voreqe Bainimarama ka ililuli talega ni matabose e cake ni iTaukei Landa Trust Board (TLTB). iTaba: NANISE NEIMILA

Gauna lagilagi ni ra vukei na lisi ena nodra qele ni mataqali: PM

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

“OQO e dua na gauna lagilagi ki na Matanitu baleta ni oni sa vakarau vakaitavi ena cakacakataki ni kemuni qele”

Oqori e dua na mala ni nona vosa ko Paraiminisita Voreqe Bainimarama ena nona soli tiko na ilavo ni veitokoni kina tauyavutaki na nodra bisinisi ni vakayagataki qele era lewe 58 na itaukei era lisi tikoga ena nodra qele ni Mataqali.

Na veitokoni vakailavo oqo e vakatokai tiko ena vosa vakaperitani me “Seed Fund Grant.”

Na levu x taucoko ni ilavo era wase e \$500,000.

“Ena 2017 a tekivu soli kina na veivuke oqo ena \$200,000. Ena yabaki sa oti sa tubu cake sara na iwiliwil

“i ni ilavo oqo kina \$350,000, ia ena yabaki oqo oni sa na vota kina e \$500,000 vei kemuni na 58 na itaukei ni qele kei na isoqosoqo ni dau teitei,” kaya o PM Bainimarama.

“Matata vinaka tiko ena mataka edaidai vei

kemuni na itaukei ni qele ni oqo sa ikatolu ni gauna me soli kina na veivuke oqo.”

Kaya vei ira na itaukei era vukei oqo o PM Bainimarama ni dinata na Matanitu na maroroi ni qele ni itaukei ena Yavu ni Vakavulewa.

“Me vaka ni maroroi vinaka tu ena Yavu ni Vakavulewa na qele ni itaukei e laurai votu na nomuni gagadre na itaukei ni qele me cakacakataki na nomuni qele.”

Kaya o PM Bainimarama nida dau gadreva na itaukei na ilavo ni tauyavu ka sa cavuikalawa yani kina na Matabose ni Qele Maroroi ena kena vakayagataki na “Seed Fund Grant.”

“Ia, e ka ni rarawa ni sega tiko na yavu vakailavo me cakacakataki kina na veika ko ni gadreva.

“Na matanitu oqo sa dau rogoci kemuni na lewe ni vanua ka cakacakataki na veika ko ni dau gadreva.”

Kaya o PM Bainimarama ni ka e lagilagi kina na soli ni veitokoni oya ni na vukei ira na itaukei era lisitaka tiko nodra qele ni mataqali mera rawaka vakailavo.

“Ka tara cake talega na ituvaki ni ituvaki vakailavo ni noda matanitu,” kaya o PM Bainimarama.

“Kevaka eda raica na veivuke oqo eso beka ena tukuna ni lailai ka rairai maluamalum, baleta ni na vukea ga edua ga na vuvale se dua ga na itikitiko.”

“Ia nida kumana vata na veivuke vata oqo, e veivuke ki Nausori, Tailevu Bua, eda na raica na vakaitamera ni veivuke sa caka tiko me tarai cake na bula ni vuvale ka vukea na veivakatorocaketaki ni noda matanitu,” kaya o PM Bainimarama.

Kaya o PM Bainimarama ni veivuke oqo e rawa ni sivi yarataka edua na loga ni tavioka levu, voli kina na na bai ni vuaka se bai ni bulumakau kei na veimataqali bisinisis era via vakayacora na lisi tiko ena nodra qele ni mataqali.

“E na tolu na yabaki sa oti a tekivu saka kina na veivuke oqo me rawa ni oni vakila vakatau-coko na iTaukei ni qele na isau dina vakailavo ni qele oni taukena.”

Ena 2017 a tekivu soli kina na veivuke oqo ena \$200,000. Ena yabaki sa oti sa tubu cake sara na iwiliwili ni ilavo oqo kina \$350,000, ia ena yabaki oqo oni sa na vota kina e \$500,000 vei kemuni na 56 na itaukei ni qele kei na isoqosoqo ni dau teitei.

Paraiminisita Voreqe Bainimarama

Noda Viti

BOSE NI YASANA KO TAILEVU

Marautaka ko PM na nona tiko

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

“AU doka kau marautaka sara vakalevu na noqu mai tiko maliwai kemuni ena loma ni Yasana Vakaturaga o Tailevu.”

Oqori e dua na mala ni vosa nei Paraiminisita Voreqe Bainimarama ena nona dolava tiko na Bose ni Yasana o Tailevu ena nodra koro o Koya na Ratu mai Ucuivananua e Verata.

Vakananumi ira na lewe ni Yasana o PM Bainimarama na kena sagai mera vukei na gonevuli lewe ni Bure Degei mai Ratu Kadavulevu School.

“Au vakavinavinakataki ira tiko na dodoliga mai ena nodra vukei na noda cauravou ena leqa era mai sotava saka e Ratu Kadavu.”

“Dua na kabani solia saka mai e dua na uma ilavo, levu na iyaya era dodoliga mai kina na vuli oti, vakakina na Tabana ni Veivakadodnutaki kei na Tabacakacaka ni Veikau ena nodra lolomataka mai na kato kau, ratou talega mai na keba ni mataivalu eratou na solia talega mai na kato kau,” kaya o PM Bainimarama.

Dua talega na tikina a vakamata-taka o PM Bainimarama nodra saga tiko e so me kau lesu mai na kuita.

“Era sa kerea mai eso na itubutubu kei na qasenivuli mesa kau lesu mai na ka e vakatokai na ‘copral punishment’.”

“Au vosa tiko mai Naitasiri ena macawa sa oti au kaya kina ni sana sega ni rawa ni kau lesu tale mai copral punishment,” kaya o PM Bainimarama.

Kuria o PM Bainimarama ke vinakataki me vinaka nodra ivakarau na luveda kei na makubuda e tekivu sara tikoga mai vale.

“Meda saga meda cakacaka kina

vakaaukauwa na itubutubu kei na dau ni veisusu mera susugi saka mai na luveda mera gone ivakarau vinaka.”

Vakadodonutaka talega vei ira na lewe ni matabose ni yasana o PM Bainimarama ni veivakatorocaketaki esega ni rawa ni yaco ga ena dua na gauna totolo.

“E levu na veitalanoa era nanuma mena caka ga ena dua na macawa. Eso na veitalanoa ena vica na macawa sa oti era nanuma me caka ga ni oti edua na vula.”

“Mai na neitou vanua era sa bale mate yani o ira na tukai keitou kei ira na neitou itubutubu sa qai caka na gaunisala mai Nayatena.”

“Era bale mate saka neimami itubutubu kei ira na tamai keimami sa qai dodo saka na livaliva.”

Vakabibitaka talega o PM Bainimarama ni sa sega na mata ni Yasana ena gauna oqo.

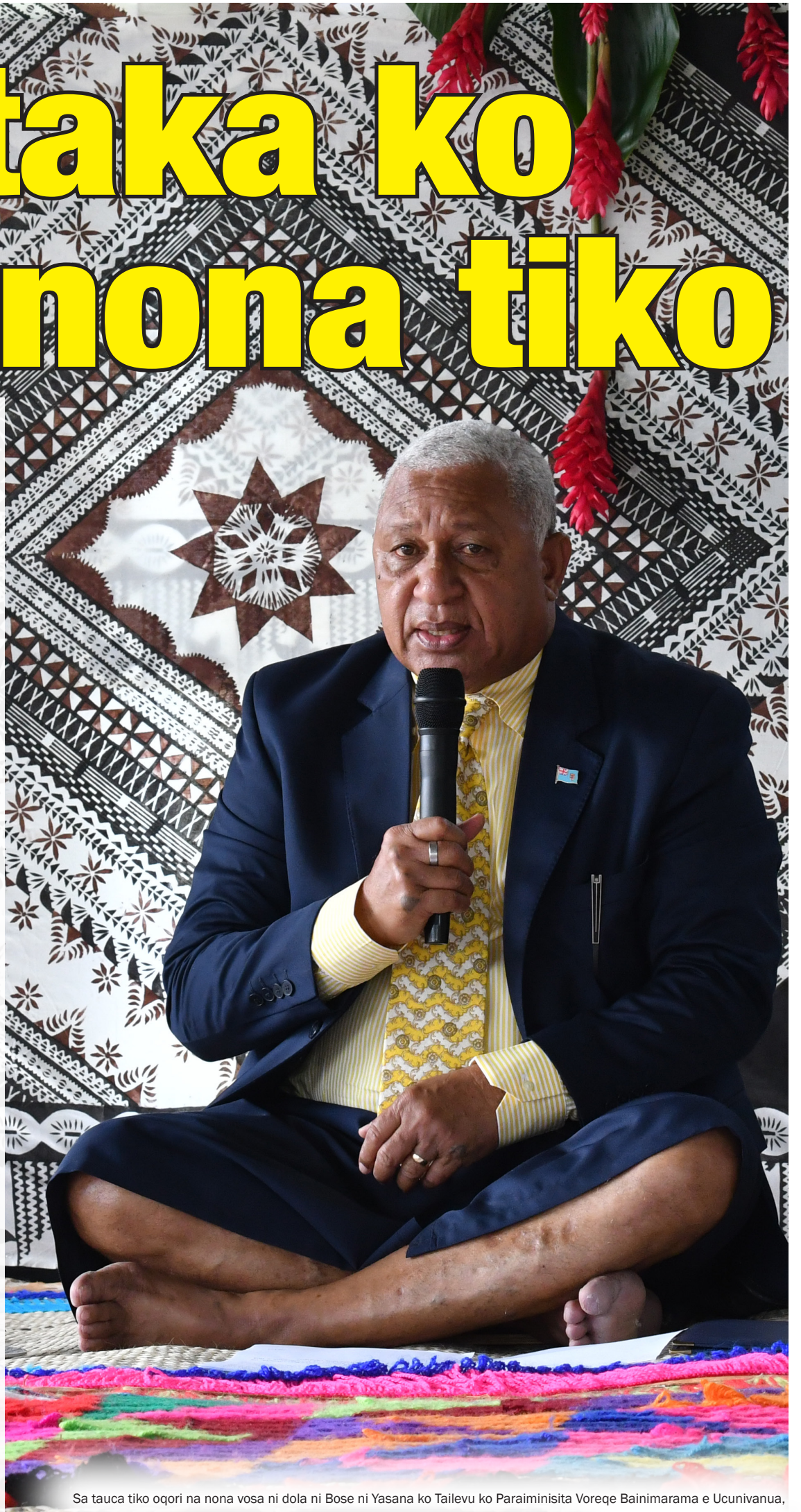
“Na veimata ni yasana o Naitasiri sega saka ni dua e vakadavora na wa ni livaliva. Cici saka tiko mai na nodra veikorokoro mai na kena dola o Monasavu me yacova saka mai oqo. Na gone saka ni Tailevu e dabe tiko oqo,” kaya o PM Bainimarama.

Vakavinavinaka talega o PM Bainimarama vei ira kece na digitaka na nodratou isoqosoqo vakapolitiki.

Vakananumi ira talega na lewe ni matabose ena nodra sa ciqoma na veivuke ni ‘Seed Fund Grant’ ni Matabose ni Qele Maroroi ni iTaukei.

“Au vakavinavinakataka nira sa sasagataka na itaukei ni qele lewe 58 me vakatorocaketaki na nodra qele.”

Kaya o PM Bainimarama ni boseka vakaoqo e vukea na kena vakavotukana na tatadra ni Yasana kei na tiko vinaka ni noda vanua o Viti.



Sa tauca tiko oqori na nona vosa ni dola ni Bose ni Yasana ko Tailevu ko Paraiminisita Voreqe Bainimarama e Ucuivananua, Verata. iTaba: NANISE NEIMILA

VOQA NI DAVUI

Radio Fiji One
Moniti - Tusiti
8.30pm [15 na miniti]

Radio Fiji One
Vukelulu - Lotulevu
8pm [30 na miniti]

Radio Fiji One
Siga Tabu
9.05am [30 na miniti]