

# FijiFocus

## Allocations set to improve lives of Fijians

### 2018-2019 BUDGET Overview



**\$4.650 billion**

Expenditure

**\$4.236 billion**

Revenue

**\$414.16million**

Net Deficit

**3.5 %**

Net Deficit as a per cent of  
Gross Domestic Product

**\$1.852 billion**

Total capital  
expenditure

**\$2.728 billion**

Total operating  
expenditure

Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama and Attorney-General and Minister for Economy Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum share a light moment after the announcement of the 2018-2019 National Budget in Suva. **Photo: SUPPLIED**

# A BUDGET FOR FAMILIES

PRASHILA DEVI AND  
NANISE NEIMILA

**T**HE 2018-2019 National Budget is built and dedicated, to a large extent, to the families of Fiji with targeted allocations to improve the lives of every family member.

From the birth of a child through a new programme called Parenthood Assistance Payments in Fiji that has been allocated \$5million to providing five days Family Care

Leave to all employees.

In highlighting this provision, the Attorney-General and Minister for Economy, Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum, said, “Mothers from families with a household income below \$30,000, upon the birth of her child, whether it be her first, second, third child and so on, will be granted \$1,000”.

“We’re increasing paid maternity leave from 84 working days to 98 working days, adding another two weeks for mothers to take-off from

work in the preparation of the birth and in the care of their child,” the A-G said.

Minister for Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation Mereseini Vuniwaqa commended the Government for recognising men as primary caregivers.

“Raising a family is an important aspect of developing a healthy nation and I personally think that we need to all to be part of this development. I think we have been pushing this forward and I’m

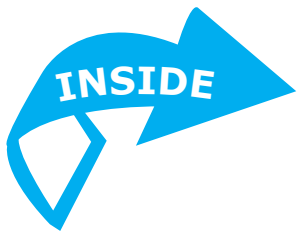
thankful that Government has recognised this initiative,” she said.

The A-G said a lot of fathers were taking annual leave to spend time with their wives and children, some were making a difficult choice between supporting their families, and sustaining their pay cheques, but those days were over. The Government will also introduce Family Insurance for all social welfare recipients, bringing a package of protections that includes life, home and injury in-

surance, and the premiums for this insurance will be covered by Government.

Minister for Agriculture, Rural and Maritime Development, National Disaster Management and Meteorological Services, Inia Seruiratu also hailed the attention given to families, an important unit in the society.

**More Budget  
stories: INSIDE**



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QUOTE OF THE WEEK



Mereseini Vuniwaqa

*Raising a family is an important aspect of developing a healthy nation and I personally think that we need to all to be part of this development. I think we have been pushing this forward and I'm thankful that Government has recognised this initiative*

Minister for Women,  
Children and Poverty  
Alleviation Mereseini  
Vuniwaqa

#### NUMBERS

**\$4.65 billion**  
is the total  
budget for  
2018-2019

#### TWEET OF THE WEEK



*Last night's #FijiBudget was bold and inclusive, and will touch the lives of every member of every family everywhere in Fiji. It build on the record 9 straight years my Govt has grown our economy. And it was also a prudent and responsible budget - unlike past governments in Fiji*

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# Revenue policies 'consistent, stable'

PRASHILA DEVI

THE Economic Intelligence Unit under the Ministry of Economy has conducted a pre-budget survey of items ranging from food to cars to ensure that Government incentives are passed on to the consumers.

The unit will move out and check that retailers are passing on the concessions provided in the 2018/2019 National Budget to ordinary Fijians as a result of reduction in taxes, duties and other levies.

On revenue policies, the business community has hailed this financial periods taxation measures as consistent because there has been no reversal of any policies in the previous budget.

Fiji Revenue and Customs Services (FRCS) Director Corporate Services Fazrul Rahman said this year's revenue policy was not intended to make major changes to its policies, but to improve in the administration of FRCS- "the way it does business".

FRCS is expected to launch a new Information Technology (IT) system in two years whereby most of its services will go digital.

## For the 2018/2019 financial period, some of the revenue policies include:

### ■ Duty free on fresh fruits and vegetables

Reduce Duty from five per cent to zero per cent on apples, carrots, tea, grapes, oranges, pears, mixed vegetables, celery, capsicum, mushrooms, kiwi fruits, asparagus, strawberries, leeks, spinach, apricot, peaches, plum, grapefruit, raspberries, cranberries, pomegranate, cauliflower, broccoli and brussel sprouts to ensure affordability of healthy foods, promote combating of NCD, and encourage importation to complement local supply.

■ Increase Plastic Bag Levy from 10 cents to 20 cents to discourage use of plastic bags and promote the use of reusable bags in line with Government's commitment towards environment initiatives

■ Reducing fiscal duty on used vehicles less than two years old (from the year of manufacture) from 32 per cent to 15 per cent or half the current specific rate.

■ Increase fiscal duty on Linear Low Density Polyethylene (LLDPE) Stretch Wraps- in order to protect local manufacturers, duty on Linear Low Density Polyethylene (LLDPE) Stretch Wraps will be increased from five per cent to 32 per cent

■ Increase in Import Excise Duty on Cigarettes, Tobacco and Alcohol by 15 per cent

■ Modernisation of buildings in towns/cities- For capital investments above \$1 million (excluding interior furnishings, furniture and fittings), the following will apply:

- 125 per cent tax deduction on total expenditure incurred for renovation and redevelopment;

- 25 per cent investment allowance on total capital expenditure incurred for extension or redevelopment;

- Incentive available to buildings that are five years or older.



From left, President of the Fiji Islands Hotel and Tourism Association President Dixon Seeto, FijiFirst MP Jilila Kumar, Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama and Biosecurity Authority of Fiji CEO Hillary Kumwenda after the 2018-2019 National Budget announcement. Photo: PARLIAMENT OF FIJI

## Priority on research, innovation

PRASHILA DEVI

THE Ministry of Agriculture will look at research and innovation to improve food security while increasing the quantity to contribute towards the export market.

The ministry has been allocated \$96.8million in the 2018-2019 National Budget that will help improve the sector's contribution to 15 per cent of the Gross Domestic Product and increase agricultural exports to \$100m over three years.

Line Minister Inia Seruiratu said the budget was good as it would utilised in realising the 2020 Agricultural Sector Policy that will focus on modernising the sector.

"The two documents that contribute to the strategic development plan is a crop strategy and a livestock strategy and in Fiji we have the environment to do well in both- fruits and vegetables and livestock," he said.

Minister Seruiratu said they will look at cross breeding goats and

other livestock to increase production for both local consumption and exports.

"Farmers are already well versed with goat farming but it is just the improvement of the breed that will bring a lot of change- we are not only focusing on their income but of course their food and nutrition security," he said.

"Farmers need to sustain themselves and we are also looking at the high rate of NCDs so we are looking at food and nutrition secu-

rity as well."

Minister Seruiratu said the ministry was working towards breed improvement was a continuous process and that included the research unit and once the research was successful it would move to commercial production.

"In July we will be launching a new sweet potato variety and we have been successful with dalo - on the resilient and salt tolerant variety - it is critical for our survival in the long term," Minister Seruiratu said.



## \$15.5m for disaster management, weather services

KELERA SOVASIGA

THE Ministry of Disaster Management and Metrological Services received an allocation of \$15.5million in the 2018-2019 National Budget.

Line Minister Inia Seruiratu said this was a tactical ministry and with the changing weather patterns and increasing numbers of natural disasters the allocation given by Government would help to build resilience.

An allocated fund of \$1m has been directed towards the Disaster Risk and Climate Change Adaption Fund in the construction and upgrading of seawalls in low-lying areas that are mostly vulnerable to disaster risks.

Another \$1.5m has gone towards the upgrading and maintenance of evacuation centres.

“Resilience is about information dissemination. It is about early warning systems as well hence we are developing this warning systems, therefore the ministry needs to be provided with the necessity to effectively deliver the services that we are required to provide,” said Minister Seruiratu.

*The construction sector is very critical and the continuation of the First Home Grant and together with it an increase from \$10,000 to \$15,000 is a major leg-up for the industry*

RC Manubhai director, Bhavesh Patel

## Future bright for Fiji: Patel

ISAAC LAL  
JENNIS NAIDU

THE director of RC Manubhai Bhavesh Patel says Fiji’s economy may continue to grow for the next five years.

This is following the announcement of the 2018-2019 National Budget by Attorney-General and Minister to the Economy Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum last week where Mr Patel reiterated that the continuous push by the Government towards the construction sector was evident that the economy would continue to expand.

“The construction sector is very critical and the continuation of the First Home Grant and together with it an increase from \$10,000 to \$15,000 is a major leg-up for the industry,” he said.

# ‘It’s the way forward’

VILIAME TIKOTANI

FIIJIANs can expect improved roads and better water supply after the announcement of the 2018-2019 National Budget.

Minister for Infrastructure and Transport Parveen Bala Kumar revealed he was quite happy with the allocations to his portfolios, describing the budget as the way for the country in as far as progressing national developments in the two sectors.

He said the ministries received what they had asked for and this would allow them to continue with the work to improving the lives of the people of

Fiji in the construction of improved roads and the provision of water.

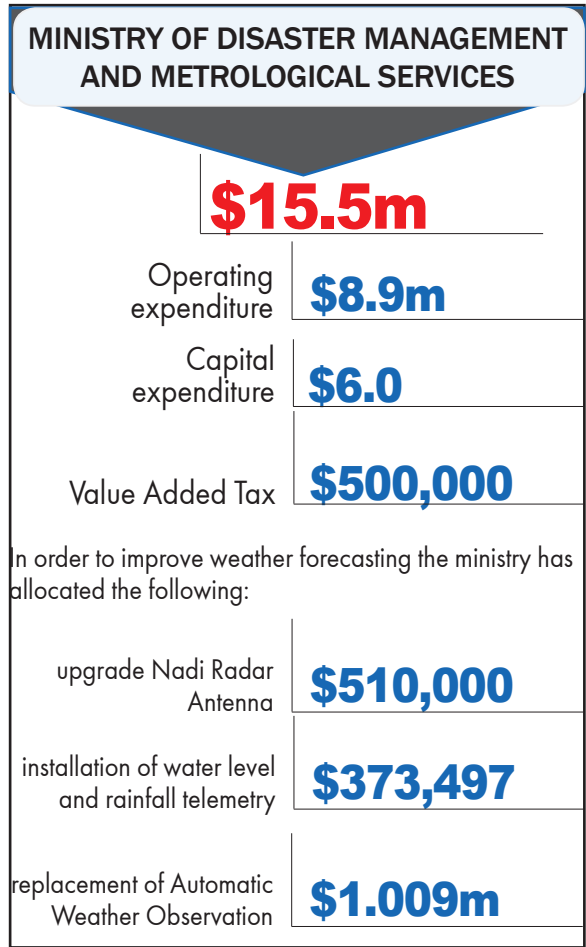
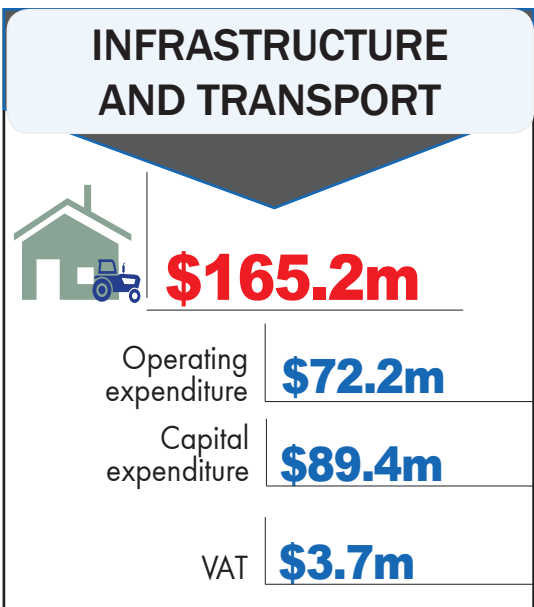
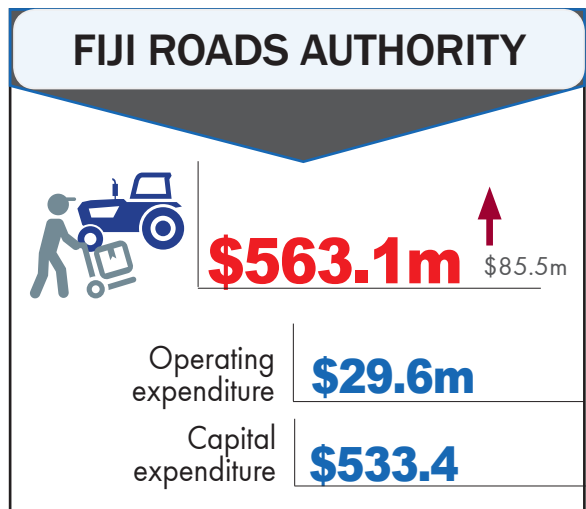
“As I have said earlier on that the budget allocation has been based on the submission from Fiji Roads Authority and Water Authority of Fiji and we are happy that allocation has been given,” Minister Kumar said.

The minister said it was about being prudent and getting the work done for the money allocated.

“It is a build-up from the previous budget allocation and the allocations we’ve asked has been given in all the areas and this time around the Ministry of Economy has been careful in terms of completion of projects,” he said.



Minister for Infrastructure and Transport Parveen Kumar at the announcement of the 2018-2019 National Budget in Suva.  
Photo: ERONI VALILI



*I think it has been a very good budget, and there are very little areas where you can pick holes in it, so well done The incentives in the film industry are probably the best in the world so in terms of giving more incentives, I think we are maxed out, and we often have inquiries from the investors, not just investors, but also television and films industry*

Film Fiji chief executive officer  
Dallas Foon

## Good news for daily road users

RUPENI VATUBULI

FIIJI Roads Authority Chief Executive Officer Jonathan Moore says the \$563.1million allocated to the authority in the 2018-2019 National Budget will help build better roads and more bridges.

Mr Moore said the allocation gave FRA the opportunity to change what it had done in the past and be less reactive and more proactive.

The 2018-2019 National Budget looks to continue upgrading Fiji’s road networks until it is up to par with international standards and be able to efficiently manage traffic congestion in Fiji’s major towns and cities.

New projects such as the Tamavua and Vesidrua bridges are set to cost \$7.7m

Ongoing projects such as the Nabouwalu Jetty Stage 2 physical works have been issued \$3m while upgrades to the Waiyevo Jetty in Taveuni will cost \$1.6m

Furthermore, \$14m has been allocated for the Taveuni and Ovalau replacement programme while \$10m has been allocated for the Rural Bridges Replacement Programme in Viti Levu.

To carry on, \$600,000 has been assigned to the safe improvements along the busy Suva-Nausori corridor at Matanikoro-vatu Road Junction (past Laqere Bridge) and Omkar Road Junction.

Mr Moore said FRA was positive and happy with the budget allocation and would be able to do what they wanted to achieve this year.

Minister for Economy Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum also announced that Fiji Roads Authority would work on a four-lane road project from Nadi to Lautoka.

## Film industry incentives ‘best’

ISAAC LAL  
JENNIS NAIDU

FILM Fiji chief executive officer Dallas Foon has hailed the incentives allocated for the film industry as the best in the world.

Film Fiji has been allocated a

total of \$2.2million in the 2018-2019 National Budget.

“The incentives in the film industry are probably the best in the world so in terms of giving more incentives, I think we are maxed out, and we often have inquiries from the investors, not just investors, but also television

and films industry.”

Film Fiji has received an increase of \$126,342 in the 2018-2019 budget allocations.

“I think it has been a very good budget, and there are very little areas where you can pick holes in it, so well done”





Attorney General and Minister responsible for Education, Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum delivers the 2018-2019 National Budget. Photo: ERONI VALILI

# Finance sector backs Budget

PRASHILA DEVI AND JOSIA RALAGO

**F**IJI'S financial sector has labelled the 2018-2019 National Budget as "stable and consistent" and the most conducive one to help businesses thrive.

Fiji Chamber of Commerce and Industry's Dr Nur Bano hailed the budget for not introducing any shocks to the economy.

"Business likes consistency including tax policies which, except for the tweaking of legislative provisions, remain consistent," she said.

"The budget is quite progressive and with the insurance scheme that has been introduced that will ensure all workers are taken better care and paternity leave was another very progressive initiative."

Labasa Chamber of Commerce president Satish Kumar said the budget boosted the Northern

Division's economy.

Mr Kumar said provisions in the budget would help increase the circulation of cash within the economy.

"This is a very family-focused budget. Mothers will receive \$1000 from Government and this would help them attend to their children better," he said.

Mr Kumar said another factor that stood out for him was the night lights to be installed at the Labasa Airport runway for night flights as announced by the Attorney-General and Minister for Economy, Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum, during the budget announcement.

Mr Kumar said this would enable businessmen and employees who make day trips to Viti Levu to complete their business properly and return home the same day.

## Education boost under Toppers scheme

HALITESH DATT AND JOSIA RALAGO

**M**ORE students will now be able to complete their higher education for free under the National Toppers Scheme (NTS).

The Fijian Government in its 2018-2019 National Budget announced 340 more full-time scholarships, bringing the total number of scholarships under the scheme to 970.

Twenty will be awarded for overseas study in specialised courses not offered in Fiji, another 20 offered to students locally in the areas of agriculture, tourism, fisheries and forestry, five to students pursuing PhD programmes while the rest will be spread among the existing priority areas under the Toppers Scheme.



*The Government with their policies is becoming more inclusive of people living with disabilities and we are truly grateful to them for that*

Jane Nasilasila, a female transgender living with a disability

"These 340 new scholarship opportunities will be available at the start of next year and we very much look forward to seeing young, talented and ambitious Fijians seize this new opportunity," said Attorney-General and Minister responsible for Education Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum.

Twenty more full-time scholarships are now offered under the Scholarship Scheme for Special Needs Students.

Jane Nasilasila, a transgender living with a disability in Labasa,

said, "This is a positive move by the Government to ensure that students living with disabilities have a chance to achieve their dreams and be contributors to our economy".

"Fortunately for me, I went through the mainstream education system and scored a scholarship from there and with this, students living with special needs could actually score good white collar jobs.

"The Government with its policies is becoming more inclusive of people living with disabilities and we are truly grateful to them for that."

The Government has allocated \$206million to fund the Tertiary Education Loans Scheme (TELS), expanding the reach of the Scheme to more than 25,000 students.

"Depending on how fast you repay (TELS) you can have 50 per cent, 25 per cent or 10 per cent of your student debt erased completely," the A-G said.

Fijian teachers have also been allocated 50 full-time academic scholarships to further their studies.

## More cash for community posts

ISAAC LAL

**T**WENTY new community posts will be constructed around the country to address demands for police vigilance and monitoring, says Police Commissioner Brigadier General Sitiveni Qiliho.

He made the comment after the 2018-2019 National Budget address in Suva last Thursday by the Attorney-General and Minister for Economy, Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum.

"We are grateful that the Government has continued its assistance by approving our submission for allocations for this and we have seen an increase in our capital and operational budget for the next financial year," he said.

"The 20 new community posts is a result of the

demand for increased presence requested by Fijians living in urban, peri-urban and rural and maritime islands given the increase in economic activities and also movements of Fijians."

The A-G said, "We're restructuring human resources within the Fijian Police Force to regularise more than 600 special constables and other Government Wage Earners within the Force.

"These women and men are working full-time in the vast majority of instances, and deserve to be compensated correctly."

The restructure is the first phase of a five-year restructure, and in this first phase these new regularised positions will see an increase in salaries to bring them in line with what full-time officers are receiving and \$24.6million is allocated for that purpose.

## MINISTRY OF WATERWAYS



**\$69.9million**

↑ \$45.7m

### NEW initiatives

Irrigation support for farm development programme

**\$2.5m**

Drainage for Rural residential areas

**\$3.0m**

prepare and protect Fiji's coastal communities from severe weather events and erosion

**\$14.0m**

## Ministries ready to deliver

NATASHA BEGUM

**T**HE Ministry of Waterways has received an increased allocation of \$69.9million in the 2018-2019 National Budget and will now operate as a newly combined Ministry of Waterways and Environment.

This was announced by the Attorney-General and Minister for Economy Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum this week during the 2018-2019 National Budget address.

"We made this move because waterways are part of our natural environment. Projects that manage our network of waterways are - by definition - environmental projects," the A-G said.

"So taking these functions under the same umbrella will make funding projects easier, and get projects completed more quickly."

Under this budgetary allocation,

an increment of \$45.7m, a number of new initiatives have been identified; \$2.5m has been allocated to Irrigation Support for Farm Development Programme while \$3m will go towards Drainage for Rural Residential Areas.

\$14m has been allocated for preparation and protection for Fiji's coastal communities from severe weather events and erosion while \$150,000 is directed towards community beautification programmes.

A Compost Bin Pilot Project has also been initiated with an allocation of \$500,000 while \$1m is being allocated for the purchase of standardised bins for municipal councils throughout Fiji to facilitate more efficient waste removal.

Minister for Waterways, Dr. Mahendra Reddy said this amalgamation would assist the ministry to speed up work and deliver.





## Push for more home ownership

HALITESH DATT

**G**OOD news for those wishing to buy their first home as the government has announced a more generous programme to encourage home ownership in the country.

The Government, in its 2018-2019 National Budget, has allocated \$15million towards the First Homeowners Grant, which was previously known as First Home Buyers Grant.

The Government will provide \$15,000 towards the construction and \$10,000 towards the purchase of homes for the first home buyers with an annual income of less than \$50,000.

The Government has also put in place measures where first home buyers earning more than \$50,000 can be assisted.

“Families who make between \$50,000 and \$100,000 a year now also qualify for this grant assistance, with \$10,000 provided for constructing a new home or \$5,000 for the purchase of their first home,” Attorney-General and Minister for Economy Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum said.

“Under this scheme, grant payments for the purchase of strata titles, developed and approved by entities such as the Housing Authority, will be considered at the same rates as the construction of a home.”

The Government is introducing the First Land Owners Grant to assist Fijians purchase or lease a land.

“Households who make less than \$50,000 will be granted \$10,000 towards the purchase or lease of land, which eventually can be the site on which they construct a new home of their own,” A-G said.

However, for both the Grants, the home or land must be owned by the household for five years.

Meanwhile a new ministry, Ministry of Housing and Community Development will be formed to increase the home ownership rate to meet the growing demand in Fiji for quality and reasonable housing at affordable prices.

# Sub-divisional hospital for Nadroga-Navosa

NANISE NEIMILA

**T**EN-thousand Fijians in the Nadroga-Navosa province will benefit from the \$11million new sub-divisional hospital that will be constructed by end of next year.

Attorney-General and Minister for Economy Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum said the new hospital would provide maternity services, pharmacy services and lab testing, along with X-rays and ultrasounds.

“We’re providing \$1m to construct a new health centre in Lodon, \$500,000 to extend the Korovou Hospital and \$3m to upgrade the hospital operating theatre and X-ray capabilities of the Lautoka Hospital,” the A-G said.

“\$2.5m has been allocated towards the upgrade of the Valelevu Health Centre and \$9.5m to purchase new dental and bio-medical equipment, and a new MRI Machine.”

Another \$43.4m has been allo-

cated to purchase new drugs, consumables vaccines and other medical supplies.

“All of this will dramatically reduce the travel time for Fijians to access these essential services and new treatments,” he said.

Minister for Health and Medical Services Rosy Akbar was happy with the new allocations for the ministry.

“This year we had opened up the Valelevu Health centre to operate 24/7 and we are grateful to the Government for funds allocated in the 2018-2019 of \$2.5m.”

“The funds will cover the engagement of civil works because we want to improve the current structure and also upgrade the Accident and Emergency Department and various wards including children’s, men’s and women’s ward.”

In other allocations, \$1.75m has been allocated for the upgrade of Labasa Hospital, including the upgrade of the wards.

HEALTH FACILITIES	
New sub-divisional hospital in Navosa	\$11m
purchase new dental and bio-medical equipment, and a new MRI Machine	\$9.5m
Upgrade operating theatre and X-ray capabilities of the Lautoka Hospital	\$3m
Upgrade of Valelevu Health Centre	\$2.5m
upgrade of Labasa Hospital, including wards.	\$1.75m
New health centre in Lodon	\$1m
Extend of Korovou Hospital	\$500,000

## Reduced allocations for Industry, Trade, Tourism

VILIAME TIKOTANI, NATASHA BEGUM

**T**HE Ministry of Industry, Trade and Tourism received an allocation of \$99.3 million in the 2018-2019 National Budget compared with the \$108.4m it received previously.

The decrease of \$6.1m comes after the ministry’s successful implementation of its one-off tourism marketing campaigns such as the Fiji International Golf tournament, which solidified Fiji’s position as a premier tourist destination and marked the end of the Fijian Government’s financial support towards it.

Under this budgetary allocation, the ministry will continue to strengthen its ongoing initiatives.

The Wairabetia Economic Zone and Standardised Roadside Stalls both received an increased allocation from \$8m to \$9m and from \$500,000 to \$2m respectively.

The Ministry of Land and Mineral resources has an allocation of

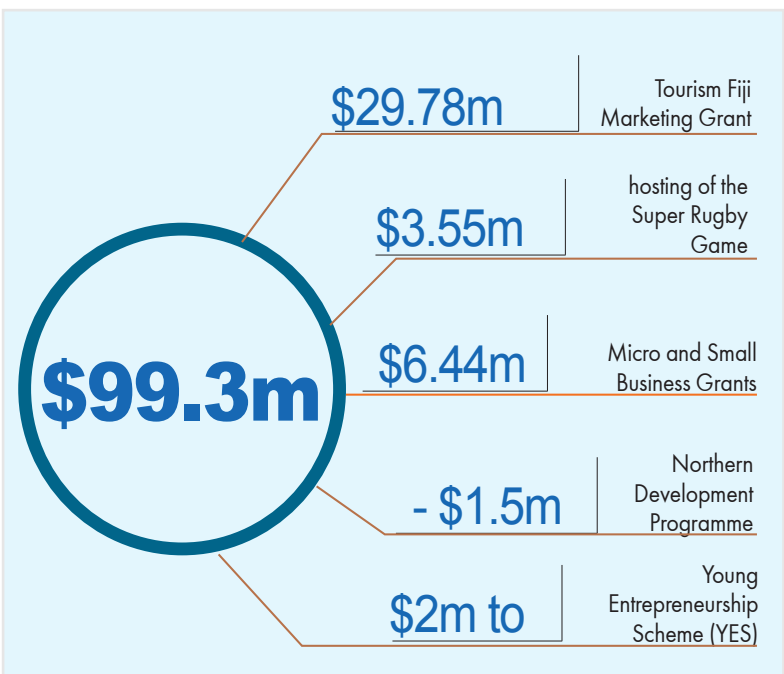
*I think it's perfect, it's a continuation of our philosophy and continuation of all the policies that we have. It's about pro-growth Fiji at the end of the day and looking after our population*

Minister for Industry, Trade and Tourism Faiyaz Koya

\$37.5m, comprising \$21.2m for the operating expenditure and \$14.3m for capital expenditure

“I think it’s perfect, it’s a continuation of our philosophy and continuation of all the policies that we have. It’s about pro-growth Fiji at the end of the day and looking after our population,” he said.

The increase of \$2.4m compared



to the previous year is attributed to an increase in operating expenditure for the monitoring of seismic activity and increased worker salaries in accordance with Government civil service reforms.

This will ensure that Fijians in the

remote rural areas and the outer islands have access to clean and safe water in adequate quantities.

“We got \$2m at the Land Use Division for development of iTaukei land leases that we receive,” Minister Koya said.

## Ministry targets youth empowerment

JENNIS NAIDU

**Y**OUTH empowerment will be prioritised in the new Government financial year, says the Minister for Youth and Sports, Laisenia Tuitubou.

He made the comment after expressing his delight with the announcements by the Attorney-General and Minister of

Economy, Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum, in the 2018-2019 National Budget.

There has been a slight increase of \$30,000 for the Youth Capacity Building and Training Programme from \$1,025,688 to \$1,055,688.

This initiative motivates young Fijians to become high achieving members of the society by providing fund training and

income-generating incentives to the youth of Fiji.

Minister Tuitubou said that he had requested more in the budget. However, he was content with what was allocated towards the youth component of his ministry.

For the past four years, the Ministry of Youth and Sports have worked tremen-

dously hard and will continue to do so to empower young Fijians.

“We have specific allocations for youth developments as well as kind donations by other stakeholders, like United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Populations Fund (UNFPA) on youth development and we are on target,” the Minister for Youth and Sports said.



# Reforestation tops priority

EMI KOROITANOA

THE Ministry of Forestry, responsible for promoting the sustainable use of Fiji's forestry resources, has been allocated a total of \$17.1million in the 2018-2019 National Budget.

This comprises \$12.6m for operating expenditure, \$3.8m for capital expenditure and Value Added Tax of \$700,000.

Line Minister Osea Naiqamu was happy about the allocation.

The money will mainly be used for matured natural resources and reforestation activities.

"This includes empowering the rural communities to participate," Mr Naiqamu said.


"Especially where we offer incentives to enable them to participate positively in replanting programmes," he said.

A total of \$250,000 has been allocated towards the reforestation of indigenous forests with \$700,000 allocated to the reforestation of degraded forests.

The ministry gets an allocation increase of \$1m from its last budget of \$16m in the 2017-2018 National Budget.

This increase is mainly attributed to an increase in operating expenditure to support new positions for

the ministry's trade and manufacturing account, new allocations for research studies and increased worker salaries in accordance with Government's civil service reforms. This includes higher salaries and wages for the staff of the Fiji Pine Trust.

MINISTRY OF FORESTS	
	<b>\$17.1million</b>
2018-2019 operating expenditure	<b>\$10,000</b>
Capital expenditure	<b>\$3.8m</b>
Value Added Tax	<b>\$700,000</b>
Reforestation of indigenous forests	<b>\$250,000</b>
Reforestation of degraded forests	<b>\$700,000</b>

## \$24.1m for youth, sports ministry

JENNIS NAIDU



Minister for Youth and Sports, Laisenia Tuitubou at the 2018-2019 Budget Announcement. Photo: ERONI VALILI

"We see what we have achieved last year, in the past four years and we will try to improve, but the budget given to us tonight we are content with it."

This was said by the Minister for Youth and Sports, Laisenia Tuitubou after the 2018-2019 Budget Announcement on June 28, 2018, upon receiving a \$1million increase to his ministry since the last budget.

An outstanding amount of \$2million has been allocated for the construction of rural sports complexes in Kadavu and Gau within the next financial year.

These sporting complexes will provide athletes throughout Fiji to develop their skills further in a wide range of sports.

A new unit has been formed in the Ministry of Economy, the Construction Implementation Unit (CIU) that monitors the construction of rural sports playing fields.

The budget for rural complexes remain at \$500,000 due to incomplete projects that will be completed as the year goes by.

"Three out of the nine rural playing field projects were constructed last year, but hopefully, after this budget announcement, we will resume the construction of these playing fields," he said.

Minister Tuitubou together with the National Sporting Organisations consolidated the request for a budget that revolved around the overseas and local tours, hiring of overseas coaches, the implementation of scholarships for athletes to be managed by the Fiji Sports Commission about two months ago at the Grand Pacific Hotel in Suva.


The Ministry of Youth and Sports has been allocated a budget of \$24.1m for the 2018-2019 financial year.



*We see what we have achieved last year, in the past four years and we will try to improve, but the budget given to us tonight we are content with it."*

Minister for Youth and Sports, Laisenia Tuitubou

## Fisheries Minister happy with vote

MINISTRY OF FISHERIES	
	<b>\$20.5m</b>
NEW incentive Provide assistance to commercial aquaculture	<b>\$500,000</b>
NEW incentive Procurement of a new ice machine for the Ba Ice Plant	<b>\$45,000</b>
Operating expenditure	<b>\$11.3m</b>
Capital expenditure	<b>\$8.2m</b>
Value Added Tax	<b>\$1.0m</b>

EMI KOROITANOA

THE Ministry of Fisheries have been allocated \$20.5million in the 2018-2019 National Budget.

Line Minister Semi Koroilavesau said that this was an increase compared with the last budget allocation of \$18.8m in the 2017-2018 National Budget.

"That's basically good news to us," Minister Koroilavesau said.

"The main emphasis for the increased budget is to try to increase our aquaculture production to substitute the funds that are normally used for imports."

A total of \$500,000 has been allocated to provide assistance to commercial aquaculture (shrimp and prawn) farmers.

He added that the ministry is happy to have funds allocated for better monitoring control and surveillance system within coastal areas, saying that

it would allow them to better evaluate the stock available in Fiji.


He further added that there are allocations going towards the building of fishery stations and ice plants.

A total of \$450,000 has been allocated for the procurement of a new ice machine for the Ba Ice Plant, which will greatly improve the ease of business and increase revenue for the many fishermen in the region.

Mr Koroilavesau said that the ministry would now have to work extra hard and utilise the funds allocated to them for the benefit of the Fijian population.

"I think overall, it provides the platform for our systems to the rural and maritime communities in Fiji," he said.

The ministry's newly-allocated budget comprises \$11.3m for operating expenditure, \$8.2m for capital expenditure and Value Added Tax of \$1m.

MINISTRY OF YOUTH AND SPORTS	
	<b>\$24.1million</b> ↑ \$1.4m
NEW incentive Exhibitions and inter-ministry shows	<b>\$10,000</b>
NEW incentive Sports education programme	<b>\$10,000</b>
Operating expenditure	<b>\$20.4m</b>
Capital expenditure	<b>\$3.4m</b>

# Allocation will BAF up operations

RUPENI VATUBULI

THE Biosecurity Authority of Fiji expects a brighter year ahead after being allocation \$5.9million in the 2018-2019 National Budget announced last Thursday.

BAF CEO Hillary Kumwenda was very happy with the allocation and said it would

build on the foundations the authority has already set.

The allocation is expected to boost BAF's operations in clearing of vessels and aircrafts while strengthening seaports and airport perimeter surveillance.

Biosecurity Authority of Fiji, through a joint operation with Police, Health Department and Fiji Revenue and Customs

Service, made headlines in the media this month as they seized 13 bars of cocaine weighing 15 Kilograms and Ecstasy tablets with an estimated value of US\$10 to US\$15 million at Port Denarau.

It is reported that US\$15,000 in undeclared currency, guns and ammunition were also seized from the yacht in the raid.

Furthermore, the New Zealand Govern-

ment through its Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade will provide technical assistance to improve the capacity at the Biosecurity Authority of Fiji and provide BAF with Aid-in-kind of \$564,399.

Mr Kumwenda commended the Government's new progressive ideas that targeted the welfare of mothers in Fiji.





## COP23 president calls for trust, co-operation



*A message that I have heard consistently as COP President, and that I take very seriously, is that enhanced post-2020 ambition and action are inextricably linked to enhanced pre-2020 ambition and action*

FIJIAN Prime Minister and COP23 President Frank Bainimarama

PRASHILA DEVI

**F**IJIAN Prime Minister and COP23 President Frank Bainimarama has reiterated the need for nations to work co-operatively, build trust and put aside any difference to achieve the rules to make the Paris Agreement fully operational.

Prime Minister Bainimarama was speaking to Ministers of Environment and Climate Change as well as Climate Change Ambassadors during the Ministerial on Climate Action (MoCA) in Brussels recently, which was co-convened by Canada, China and the European Union.

On his role as COP23 President, the Fijian Head of Government said he was proud to oversee the resolution of the decision called the Fiji Momentum for Implementation.

**Under this, he said, there were three elements which included;**

- providing a framing architecture to move the negotiations on the Paris Agreement Work Programme and its Implementation Guidelines forward and reiterating the urgency of having that work completed this year;
- highlighting the need for continued focus of all Parties on pre-2020 action and support - which will be achieved in part through the stocktakes to take place at COP24 and COP25; and
- providing the design for the Talanoa Dialogue which we are now well underway with, and which will culminate with the political Talanoa in Katowice (Poland)



Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama and other world leaders during the 9th Petersberg Climate Dialogue in Berlin, Germany. Photo: PRASHILA DEVI

# Fiji commended for talanoa dialogue

PRASHILA DEVI

**F**IJI has received widespread recognition for the work it has done in its presidency of the Conference of Parties 23, especially for introducing the Talanoa Dialogue mechanism in climate negotiations.

Parties are discussing the pathway to implementing the Paris Agreement, which comes into force in 2020.

Fijian Prime Minister and COP23 president Frank Bainimarama, who attended the 9th Petersberg Climate Dialogue in Berlin, Germany, and the Ministerial on Climate Action (MoCA) in Brussels, Belgium, has been commended for his role.

German Chancellor Angela Merkel, speaking at the Petersberg Dialogue, thanked

Prime Minister Bainimarama for everything he has done for the climate agreement.

“Last year, Fiji took the Presidency and from this Presidency the Talanoa Dialogue was created. This dialogue stands for a process that is very common in the whole Pacific area, about finding common ground rather than opposition,” Chancellor Merkel said.

“This makes it easier to build mutual trust and it allows us to work ambitiously to implement the Paris Agreement and apply different methodology. We Europeans like to be in opposition and take firm stance so it is helpful to us to adopt this new approach.”

Poland’s Deputy Minister of State and COP24 president-designate Michal Kurtyka praised the Fijian presidency for bringing talanoa into the UN climate negotiations

“where there is no finger pointing but frank discussions”.

Australia’s Ambassador for Environment Patrick Suckling, while thanking Prime Minister Bainimarama for his presence at the Petersberg Climate Dialogue, expressed similar sentiments as he commended Fiji’s leadership of the COP23.

Marshall Islands Minister for Environment David Paul said it was great to have support from another Pacific island state as Marshall Island sees Fiji as Pacific brothers.

United Kingdom’s Head of International Climate Change Negotiations, EU and Carbon Markets, Archibald Young said Fiji should be proud for bringing the Talanoa Dialogue into negotiations and urged that the momentum created to be maintained.



Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama at the opening of the Ba Provincial Council meeting at Viseisei, Vuda. Photo: ERONI VALILI

## PM assures Ba of development

MEREANI GONEDUA

**P**RIME Minister Voreqe Bainimarama has assured the Province of Ba of the Fijian Government’s continued support and assistance towards the province.

Speaking at the opening of the Ba Provincial Council meeting at Viseisei Village in Vuda, outside Lautoka, last week, Prime Minister Bainimarama highlighted that the Fijian Government would bring new development opportunities to iTaukei landowners by funding infrastructure works in various subdivisions.

“In fact, out of the 11 approved national projects so far, nine are in the West, and seven of those are in Ba Province,” he said

“We want more returns for

landowners by making them land developers. They will no longer be asset-rich and cash-poor, but asset-rich and cash-rich.”

Prime Minister Bainimarama urged landowners to make use of their natural resources and reminded them of Fiji’s fight against climate change.

“I don’t need to tell any of you in Ba Province how critical it is for Fiji to get global action on climate change. The pain of the recent loss of more of our loved ones, our homes, businesses, farms, plantations and infrastructure is still very raw for many of our people,” he said.

“And I want to thank you all for the leadership you provided in the courageous community response to the twin blows of cyclones Josie and Keni.”





## Addressing climate change through moral values

"When Fiji was given the opportunity to lead the global response to the climate threat, we seized it, and with the help of our COP donors, have been very successful in doing so." These were the words of PM Bainimarama when he officially opened the 59th Sanatan Convention at Samabula Primary School. With the theme of "addressing climate change through moral values" Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama reiterated that it was our duty individually and collectively – to do what we can to reduce the climate threat and protect and

preserve the planet that is our only home. "We brought the world together last November at COP23 in Bonn to continue the job of implementing the work program for reducing greenhouse gas emissions that was decided in the Paris Agreement of 2015." PM Bainimarama said our lead role to lead the global response towards climate change was a success "But we are also leading a very important initiative to get the world to step up its response to the climate threat." PM Bainimarama said.

Photos: ERONI VALILI



## Inner Mongolia exhibits creative cultural products

Fiji and China's diplomatic relationship has grown over the years through strong partnership and friendship. This was highlighted by the Minister for Health and Medical Services Rosy Akbar while officiating at the exhibition hosted by the China Cultural Centre. With this year's theme on "Inheritance and Innovation" the activities showcased at the exhibition will feature the Inner Mongolia delegation of China. Minister Akbar highlighted the unwavering commitment of the Chinese Fiji communities to work alongside their fellow Fijians to drive socioeconomic development and prosperity of our nation is truly commendable.

Director of China Cultural Centre in Fiji Deng Xianfu said showcasing their unique grassland culture through a photo exhibition, cultural products exhibition and art performances, the delegation from Inner Mongolia of China aims to increase industry co-operation and personal exchanges in the field of culture and creative industry.

"China Cultural Centre in Fiji have focused on introducing and sharing Chinese tradition and modern culture with the Fijian people, and also introducing and sharing Fijian culture with Chinese people in different occasions," says Mr Deng.



## COP23 President calls for trust, co-operation

FUJIAN Prime Minister and COP23 President Frank Bainimarama has reiterated the need for nations to work co-operatively, build trust and put aside any difference to achieve the rules to make the Paris Agreement fully operational. PM Bainimarama was speaking to Ministers of Environment and Climate Change as well as Climate Change Ambassadors during the Ministerial on Climate Action (MoCA) in Brussels recently which was co-convened by Canada, China and the European Union.

On his role as COP23 President, the Fijian Head of Government said he was proud to oversee the resolution of the decision called the Fiji Momentum for Implementation. Canada's Minister for Environment and Climate Change, Catherine McKenna, China's Special Representative for Climate Change Affairs, Xie Zhenhua and European Union Commissioner for Climate Action and Energy Miguel Canete also spoke at the two day meeting. Photos: PRASHILA DEVI



## Craft licences for women

More than 60 successful women entrepreneurs received Fijian Crafted licences during the National Women's Expo at the FMF Gymnasium in Suva. While handing out the licences to 66 recipients, Minister for Industry, Trade, Tourism, Lands and Mineral Resources Faiyaz Koya said the women's expo and Fijian Made Campaign were initiatives to promote entrepreneurial

culture through sustainable micro, small and medium enterprises. Minister Koya said the licences were a means to empowering women and youth for sustainable economic growth. Since 2015, the National Women's Expo awarded 43 Fijian Crafted licences to 43 successful women entrepreneurs, while another 83 received theirs in 2017.







# Call to abide by building code

ISAAC LAL

MINISTER for Industry, Trade and Tourism Faiyaz Koya is urging construction companies to ensure buildings are of the highest standards when they are constructed.

Minister Koya made the comments while addressing the Construction Industry Council at their

conference recently. He added that it was important to ensure the highest standard in light of stronger and more frequent cyclones.

"In this regard, the Fijian Government is in the process of finalising technical assistance for the review of the National Building Code," Minister Koya said.

"This is important and relevant to Fiji because infrastructure provides

the basic physical facilities essential to business and society, industrialisation drives economic growth and job creation, thereby reducing income inequality; and innovation expands the technological capabilities of industrial sectors and leads to the development of new skills."

The National Building Code provides the minimum standards for the construction of buildings and

the materials that are used in the construction and the review will ensure that the Code is modernised and renewed.

Minister Koya said building standards gave products a competitive edge in the eyes of consumers, products that comply with Fijian Standards offer added value.

"It also reduces barriers to international trade regardless of where

a product is made, standards mean it can be sold and used around the globe," he said.

"The ministry is also strengthening the enforcement of having standard building products, through the issuance of import licence for cyclonic screws and roofing coils which will ensure all materials entering the Fijian market, are compliant to the Fijian Building Standards."



Attorney-General and Minister for Economy Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum at the commissioning of the project which runs on a borehole at Sautabu Village in Nadroga. Photo: ISAAC LAL

## Piped water supply for village

ISAAC LAL

MORE than 30 households at Sautabu Village in Nadroga now have access to clean and safe drinking water, thanks to a project involving the British American Tobacco company in consultation with the Government.

Project Aqua has been designed to provide ten communities and settlements access to clean drinking water of which Sautabu was the first to be completed.

Attorney-General and Minister for Economy Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum officiated at the commissioning of the project which runs on a borehole.

The A-G urged the villagers to take care of the borehole.

"I would like to urge you to please look after what they have given you. Ensure that the pipes are looked after, ensure that there is no contamination within the system because ultimately this is yours and if it is yours you need to be able to look after that," he said.

Two years ago, the A-G said he met a few tobacco farmers from Votualevu in Nadi, who had an agreement with British American Tobacco Fiji.

He said that their water pipes were constructed on their farms to source water from Nadi River into

the tobacco farms and that the farmers themselves didn't have access to water.

"I couldn't figure out why they had water pipes to source water to their tobacco farms, but didn't have access to enough water so we discussed the issue with British American Tobacco," Mr Sayed-Khaiyum said.

"In a society like Fiji we need arrangements that make our farmers first priority. Under the Fijian Constitution it's a basic human right for every Fiji to have access to clean drinking water."

He thanked British American Tobacco for recognising that constitutional rights.

"The 2013 Constitution provides that every Fijian has the right to access clean drinking water because it is a basic human right and on behalf of Government, I wish to thank British American Tobacco Fiji for partnering with government to recognise their corporate social responsibility of which the water project is the fruit," the A-G said.

The project which will cost \$250,000 and is being funded by British American Tobacco Fiji.

British American Tobacco general manager Alexander Ivakhov said that they would work closely with the Government to help people access clean drinking water through their projects.

## Govt 'will enhance NDCs'



UNWTO Secretary-General Zurab Pololikashvili during the United Nations World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO) 30th Joint CAP-CSA Meeting and Regional Seminar on Tourism, Climate Change, Biodiversity and Sustainable Development in Nadi recently. Photo: ISAAC LAL

ISAAC LAL

THE Government will enhance its nationally determined contributions (NDCs), to include opportunities for emission reduction and adaptation through blue carbon related initiatives and through the agriculture and forestry sector.

Minister for Rural and Maritime Development and National Disaster Management and Fiji's High-Level Climate Champion Inia Seruiratu said it was critical as Fiji continued to lead the fight in saving the world.

"All these initiatives serve to protect our biodiversity, increase the resilience of our local communities and economy, and boost private sector investment," he said.

Minister Seruiratu made the comment while closing the United Nations World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO) 30th Joint CAP-CSA Meeting and Regional Seminar on Tourism, Climate Change, Biodiversity and Sustainable Development in Nadi recently.

"The participation of the tourism industry will boost these initiatives and this highlights the important role the tourism sector can play in supporting governments with the implementation of their NDCs," he added.

"I encourage the tourism industry and governments to collaborate closely on how you can play a role in enhancing and implementing your country NDCs – a process

which is at the core of achieving the goals of the Paris Climate Agreement."

He noted that the Fijian Government was adamant that sustainability was key to driving the push towards achieving the Paris Agreement.

"As such, sustainability is the Fijian Government's key consideration in our development agenda – 5-year and 20-year National Development Plan, our commitments to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Presidency of COP 23 and Fiji's cornerstone strategy - the Green Growth Framework highlight the importance we place on sustainability through its three pillars social, environmental and economical," he said.

UNWTO Secretary-General Zurab Pololikashvili applauded the Fijian Government in leading the fight to reduce carbon emissions in aviation, transportation, energy and at the same time champion sustainability in the various sectors such as tourism, agriculture, fisheries and forestry.

"It has the potential to make a meaningful difference to protection of natural resources and against climate change in raising awareness and taking real action," Mr Pololikashvili said.

"The new UNWTO vision has advancing sustainability through tourism as a key priority. We know that we need evidence to take action and we thank Fiji for leading the way."





# Rural settlers praise Government aid

JOSAIA RALAGO

THE provision of a better roads and water tanks by the Government to members of the Dreka community in Cakaudrove is bound to make life a whole lot easier.

Dreka Advisory Councillor Ritesh Dayal said the struggles they had been facing for more than five decades have been put to an end as Fijians in this area welcomed the new facilities.

“The opening of this new road means so much for these community members because of the struggle they had to go through in terms of road access,” Mr Dayal said.

“Before, these farmers used to carry their produce to the road and students would have to wake up early and walk for a few kilometers to get to the main road to wait for their transportation to school.

“This is life changing and this will also boost the farmers to farm more.”

He added that the water tanks would help them store water when water is carted to their area during intermittent water supply and to also help harvest rainwater.

These two projects was commissioned and handed over by the Commissioner Northern



Dreka Advisory Councillor Ritesh Dayal looks on as Commissioner Northern Jovesa Vocea officially commissions the new road at Dreka. Photo: JOSAIA RALAGO

Jovesa Vocea earlier this month.

“We have opened your new access road at a cost of \$49,000 and I hope that the road will improve accessibility to the people here in Dreka. I hope that you will utilise it well,” Mr Vocea said.

“You should invest in a lot of farming activities, and ensure that your produce is taken to the market so that you are able to contribute to the economy here.”

There are nine families that live in Dreka settlement with a total of 77 people.

## Landfill project for Garden Island

JOSAIA RALAGO

A NEW landfill site has been located for Taveuni, the Provincial Administrator Kalivati Rabuka told the Cakaudrove District Meeting last week.

Mr Rabuka said that the project was at its initial stages where talks were being held between the relevant stakeholders.

*The new site will be located close to Nawiwi and talks are currently underway between the Roko Tui Cakaudrove, the District Officer Taveuni's office and the landowners for the initiation of this project*

Provincial Administrator  
Kalivati Rabuka

“The new site will be located close to Nawiwi and talks are currently underway between the Roko Tui Cakaudrove, the District Officer Taveuni's office and the landowners for the initiation of this project,” he said.

“The old landfill used to be located close to Naqara and it was a disadvantage because it was too close to the Central Business District.”

This landfill will cater for ratepayers around the island.

The issue of a proper dumping site was also raised at the Bua Provincial Council Meeting earlier at the Naulumatua House on Tuesday.

While giving an update on the Nabouwalu Town project, Town and Country Planning officer Manasa Tuilau called on the council's co-operation for the identification of a proper dumping site.

Mr Tuilau said that this was very important towards the development of Nabouwalu to be a town.

He said a proper dumping site would mean the classification of garbage and not one where all waste materials were dumped together.

Mr Tuilau said that about \$5million was being used towards the Nabouwalu Town Project.



From left, Commissioner Northern Jovesa Vocea looks on while Tui Macuata Ratu Wiliame Katonivere receives a sevusevu by Damodar Group to traditionally inform him that work had started on the Damodar City site in Labasa town. Photos: JOSAIA RALAGO

## New bypass to ease traffic woes

JOSAIA RALAGO

A NEW bypass is expected to be constructed by the end of the year to help address traffic congestion in Labasa Town.

This was confirmed by Commissioner Northern Jovesa Vocea earlier this month after a sevusevu by Damodar Group to the Tui Macuata Ratu Wiliame Katonivere traditionally informing him that work had started on the Damodar City site in Labasa town.

Mr Vocea said they had to ad-

dress issues such as traffic congestion as business and organisations continued to invest in Labasa Town.

“Right now, they are doing their development right in front of our door step and as you can see every day we encounter traffic congestion, so we are trying our best with all the stakeholders to come up with an amicable solution,” he said.

“They were looking at some bypass, we went up with FRA to look at a bridge that will act as a bypass for the time being, like

a loop road in Korotari. So if the road is congested then there is a diversion through Korotari crossing over to Vunicuicui side to Siberia.

“That was one of the areas discussed with Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama during his recent visit and it was taken into consideration by the Fiji Roads Authority (FRA).”

He said FRA had done the paperwork and tenders had been sent out.

“They should be constructing a bridge just adjacent to where the

suspension bridge is in Korotari and that will be like a loop road,” Mr Vocea said.

“So before the end of the year at least, we will have a loop road connecting those living on the other side of the Labasa River to this side.”

Meanwhile, Damodar Group CEO Div Damodar said the construction of the \$40million Damodar City was expected to take two-and-a-half years to complete.

This is to be located opposite Macuata House in Labasa.





Attorney-General and Minister for Communications, Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum, acting permanent secretary Sharvada Sharma at the launch of the new Walesi mobile application. Photo: ERONI VALILI

# Govt pushes Internet connectivity

MEREANI GONEDUA

THE Fijian Government in its bid to promote a more connected and digital Fiji will soon install a submarine cable between Viti Levu and Vanua Levu.

This is after Attorney-General and Minister for Communications Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum signed an agreement last week with telecommunication companies for the Savusavu to Suva underwater cable system.

The A-G highlighted that Fijians

would be able to have faster internet connection after the setting up of this cable.

He said Fiji currently used the microwave linkage with speeds of two gigabytes per second, which was sometimes unreliable. However, the setting up of the cable would ensure much faster connectivity.

The A-G stressed that once available the submarine cable would have the ability to expand to eight terabytes per second in the future.

“It is very critical for us to be able to ensure that we have Vanua



Attorney-General and Minister for Communications Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum at the launch of the new Walesi mobile application Photo: ERONI VALILI

Levu participate in the economic development and also provide services to the people living in Vanua Levu,” he said.

“We will also encourage businesses with high internet speeds. This has the potential to actually unleash a particular opportunity that did not exist in Vanua Levu. This is part and parcel of what we

are doing. The signing commemo- rates the fact that we have the telecom companies that will be contributing to the usage of the cable.”

The total cost of the project is \$7.457million, of which \$5.95million was borrowed from the World Bank and \$1.5million provided by the Fijian Government.

## Collaborative action ‘to combat NCDs’

**Minister Akbar emphasised that commitment to stay healthy, eating a balanced diet and being active was the key to keep NCD’s at bay**

ANSHOO CHANDRA

NON-Communicable Diseases which are lifestyle diseases that include diabetes and cardio-vascular diseases are preventable and reversible through healthy living and wellness.

This was the message conveyed by the Minister for Health and Medical Services, Rosy Akbar, while speaking at Eid celebrations with the Tavua Market vendors recently.

Minister Akbar emphasised that commitment to stay healthy, eating a balanced diet and being active was the key to keep NCD’s at bay.

“At the end of the day it is you who must take responsibility for your health, by listening to the health advices, having regular check-ups and by making healthy choices daily. There are habits that affects our health, which includes excessive alcohol intake, tobacco and consuming too much processed food.

“When one consumes lots of sugar, oil and salt it increases the risks of getting diseases like hypertension, cardiovascular diseases and diabetes. NCD affects the productivity level and affects the quality of one’s life. As such it is important for everyone to work together, to take responsibilities to address the issue of NCD’s in Fiji. We also commend the Tavua market vendors for their role in providing safe and nutritious food products that is the foundation for maintaining good health,” Minister Akbar said.

The Health Minister also elaborated on the principles of Eid that is unity and prosperity.

“Celebrations such as this not only allows us to come together to strengthen our unity, broaden our knowledge about each other and appreciate each other’s cultures and live peacefully. Let this Eid season help us cultivate the values of respect, gratitude and compassion in our daily lives. Let’s unite and embrace multiculturalism and all of us need to commit to building a unified and stronger Fiji,” Minister Akbar said.



Attorney-General and Minister for Communications Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum with stakeholders during the launch of the new Walesi mobile application Photo: ERONI VALILI

## App allows mobile access for TV channels

MEREANI GONEDUA

THE new Walesi mobile application allows Fijians to access free-to-air television on their mobile phones from anywhere in the country.

Launching the new mobile application Attorney-General and Minister for Communications Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum said this was part of Government’s vision for a Digital Fiji.

The Walesi application, a first of its kind in the country, will allow the different television stations in the country to earn revenue by using the application.

“This is also aimed at encouraging content providers as a new revenue source to produce more local content and that of course is very critical,” the A-G said.

“This is a 40-40-20 distribution. In other words the internet providers will receive 20

per cent while the balance of 40 per cent each will be divided among Walesi and content providers.”

The A-G acknowledged Walesi for providing Fijians with free-to-air television and stated that the new mobile application would ensure that no one Fijian is left behind.

The new Walesi App is now available for download on Google’s Playstore and Apple’s App Store for free.





## Men praised for foot bridge work help

KELERA SOVASIGA

THE Minister for Rural and Maritime Development Inia Seruiratu has applauded the effort by the men of Qoma Island in Tailevu for working in partnership with the Government during the construction of their recently-opened foot bridge.

This has been a fine example of Government partnership with people in rural areas of Fiji.

While Government provided two carpenters from the Public Works Department and able men of Qoma assisted in the construction of the new foot bridge.

Minister Seruiratu said the assistance given by the men of Qoma to the two Government carpenters was very encouraging.

*This is the kind of partnership that Government has been encouraging whereby rural dwellers take ownership of government development by providing assistance during construction*

Minister for Rural and Maritime Development Inia Seruiratu

“This is the kind of partnership that Government has been encouraging whereby rural dwellers take ownership of government development by providing assistance during construction,” Minister Seruiratu said.

The assistance by the men of the village has reduced the cost of construction and allowed unused funds to be used for other development requests from other villages in the Central Division.

Government footed the \$50,000 cost of the construction of the foot bridge.

Qoma village headman Sailasa Vasua said the partnership was a successful one because it took only six weeks to complete the construction of the foot bridge.

“Even the officers from the Commissioner Central Office were quite surprised that the construction was completed before time,” Mr Vasua said.

The island of Qoma has a population of 246 people and 63 homes.

There are 17 students in kindergarten, 52 in Primary Schools and 28 in Secondary Schools.

# Praise for \$50K project

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

VILLAGE headman Sailasa Vasua of Qoma Island from Tailevu North, was grateful with the Government assistance that was provided to their village.

Mr Vasua, who has been the village headman for more than 10 years, is a retired school teacher and showed his appreciation for

the assistance towards Qoma.

“This new foot crossing that is now opened by Minister Inia Seruiratu is a \$50,000 Government Project,” he said.

“Our previous foot bridge was destroyed by Tropical Cyclone Winston.”

Other past Government assistance was the opening of our Health Centre that was officiated by the Prime Minister Voreqe

Bainimarama and that is now looked after by our village nurse.

“The Government had donated a fibre boat and engine to benefit our children in transporting them from the island to the mainland when going to school.”

“We have 17 children who attend Kindergarten, 52 students who attend Lawaki Primary School while 28 are students of QVS, RKS and St Vincent Natovi

combined.”

He also acknowledged the support shown to families whose homes were destroyed by Tropical Cyclone Winston.

“The village of Qoma consists of 48 families, 246 villagers, and 63 homes. From the 38 homes that were destroyed by Winston, 13 have been rebuilt and completed while the others are nearing completion” Mr Vasua said.



Two villagers of Qoma, Tailevu north, at the newly-commissioned footbridge

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

THE devastation caused by Tropical Cyclone Winston left behind destroyed homes, plantations and lives of our dear families and friends taken.

For the people of Qoma Island in the Province of Tailevu North, it was not just these necessities that were affected.

The concrete foot bridge that linked Nabulebulewa Village to Qoma levu (Valenicolu) was destroyed by the Category 5 Cyclone that has made crossing to the other side a challenge for many of the villagers.

Kesaia Logo, 51, of Nabulebulewa Village remembered the day

the foot bridge was torn in two, leaving villagers to find alternatives to make crossing more attainable for the young and old.

“When our previous foot bridge was destroyed, traveling to the other side of the island has been very difficult. When having village events that would be take place in the evenings in the village, our elders from the other side are unable to cross over and vice-versa,” Ms Logo said.

The \$49,000 Government project finally came to a completion when the Minister of Agriculture, Rural and Maritime Development, Inia Seruiratu officiated its opening on the island.

“It is good to see how excited and relieved the people are, par-

ticularly that this was one of the structures destroyed by Winston. We look forward to it being better utilised by the people, in terms of getting to their plantation which is on the other side and for that I am thankful that Government has been able to complete this,” Minister Seruiratu said.

With the newly constructed foot crossing, Ms Logo said of how moving around day in, day out will be now made easier for the elders when attending important events on each of the islands.

“Before it was challenging be-

cause we had to wait until it was low tide or arrange for boats to take us to the other side. But now, since the completion of this foot crossing, visiting our families on the other island and going to our plantations to get food for our families will now be made easier,” the Nabulebulewa villager said.

Ms Logo thanked the Government and hopes to see more developments and assistance towards the village of Qoma in terms of battling the issue of Climate Change.





# Forum wows Expo with crafts

JENNIS NAIDU

WITH the rising effects of climate change, the women of the Ba province chose to come up with ways to combat its adverse effects.

Members of the Ba Women's Forum produce beautiful recycled crafts from newspaper magazines, vanguard sheets, and newsprint into bags, glamour bags, bowls, trays, baskets as well as jewellery and fashion accessories from discarded oyster shells.

The President and the founder of the Ba Women's Forum, Dr Maria Doton, said that knowledge among the members was limitless and it provides therapy to women from the grind of their daily lives.

"There is no end to learning, it is open to anyone to learn something

new, to improve their lives and it is also a form of therapy, to relax your mind from the usual daily chores."

The forum is made up of 79 different organisations while the training centre caters for a membership of close to a 1000 ladies from around Ba, and offers courses that accommodate 30 women per course in many fields of training.

"We have computer, kitchen-food preservation, catering; cakes and cooking, and of course, the handicraft courses that include a lot of weaving at the centre."

The Ba Woman's Training Centre was funded through the generous grant of \$0.5 million from the Embassy of Japan under the REACH Programme.

Ministry of Women, Children



Ba Women's Forum president and founder Dr Maria Doton says the knowledge among the members was limitless and it provided therapy to women from the grind of their daily lives.

and Poverty Alleviation permanent secretary Dr Josefa Koroi-vueta, speaking during a press conference, said the REACH programmes' benefits and achievements was quantitative and qualitative.

The forum provides a source of income for the women as they receive one third of the sale amount when their product is sold.

One of the products that Dr Do-

ton proudly mentioned was their hand-crafted sanitary pads that last up to three-five years.

These sanitary pads are very practical since they last longer than ordinary pads, have many health benefits while simultaneously help preserve the environment too.

"It is a good project for companies, corporate parties and other NGOs that want to help women,

especially school children who cannot afford sanitary pads," Dr Doton suggested.

"The Expo so far has been really good, the people have been showing a lot of interest towards the products that as this is the first time for them to see them at such a large quantity and proximity."

The 2018 National Women's Expo was held at the FMF Gymnasium from June 21-23, 2018.

## Kishore adjusts to life in Japan

NATASHA BEGUM

LEAVING your homeland and moving to a country where life moves at a fast pace without the company of your family can be a daunting decision to make.

Studying in a foreign land leaving behind a wife and daughter is especially heart-breaking, but can also be one of the greatest motivations.

Such is the story of Thomas Kishore, a mechanical engineer by profession, who is pursuing a Masters in Engineering Programme in the field of Environment and Civil Engineering at Kyoto University in Japan.

In 2016, Kishore attended a JICA conference in Japan when he was introduced to the JICA Pacific Leaders Scholarship and encouraged to submit an application.

"I read through the programme objective and was instantly interested in the programme. Having to witness first-hand the technological and infrastructural advancement in Japan solidified the fact that Japan was the best place to study engineering," he recalled.

"The objective of the study is to understand interdisciplinary fields of engineering in the hope to ad-



Thomas Kishore (middle) with Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama and another Fijian student studying in Japan. Photo: NATASHA BEGUM

dress Human Security Engineering in a heavily dense society."

Kishore says that having worked in various institutions in Fiji in his many years of experience, he had realized that for a developing and small nation country like ours, it was important to have a wide range of perspective to engineering challenges for sustainable development.

"One of the highlights of my time here Japan is rubbing shoulders with some of the brilliant

minds of the world and also being trained in a world-class institution like Kyoto University which is ranked as the best University in Japan and 38 in the world," he said.

The Engineer describes Japan as a place where traditions and customs are greatly rooted and this is something that Fijians can learn from.

"I admire how the Japanese people have maintained their tradition and customs without

losing them to westernisation in consideration to the fact that Japan is one of the best-developed countries in the world.

"Fiji as a developing nation needs to maintain the fabric of our culture and tradition and not succumb to westernization. We need to maintain our identity and way of life of the Fijian people."

Despite having the opportunity to study in 'The Land of the Rising Sun' with spectacular skyscrapers, blooming cherry bloss-

*One of the highlights of my time here Japan is rubbing shoulders with some of the brilliant minds of the world and also being trained in a world-class institution like Kyoto University which is ranked as the best University in Japan and 38 in the world,*

**Masters in Engineering Programme in the field of Environment and Civil Engineering student at Kyoto University in Japan, Thomas Kishore**

soms and commuting in bullet trains, Fiji will always be a place close to Kishore's heart.

"I am in awe of how the Japanese people integrate nature with infrastructural development in their country. The detail of planning, the consideration they have for others, efficient transport system, and the respect of time and nature are some of the things I love about Japan.

"But there is no place like Fiji, despite the challenges we face we remain to be the happiest people on earth. I miss the food, the laughter, the grog, the jokes, the love and family."



## Dropout secures future on farm

NANISE NEIMILA

**M**ANY may not see farming as lucrative profession because it means toiling the land and the returns depends on the yield.

For some, though, it is a source of income for their families.

For Saimoni Tadu, 50, of Maloku Village on Moala, Lau, dropping out from school at the age of 17 was something he was not able to control but in the end, his life turned out well as he resorted to farming to help his family.

In those days the only way for teenager to keep away from committing crimes was to venture into farming and being raised in family of six makes it tougher.

However, Mr Tadu said, through hard work and sacrifice he made it in life as he one of the successful yaqona farmer on the island.

“Most youth nowadays don’t see farming as an alternative for sustainable livelihood, but I can say that it takes hard work otherwise I wouldn’t be here.”

He said since Tropical Cyclone Winston, though it hit the Fijian economy hard and affected the lives of many, it also became a blessing in disguise for yaqona farmers.

“Before tropical cyclone (Win-



Saimoni Tadu, 50, of Maloku Village on Moala, Lau. Photo: NANISE NEIMILA

ston) hit Fiji, the price of grog was between \$40 and \$50 a kilogram,” Mr Tadu said.

“However, after the cyclone, the price of grog increased to \$100 a kilogram,” he said.

“Grog farming is a good business and we have benefitted a lot from it and have helped in improving our living standards.

“I am a kava farmer; I provide my grog and make good money out of it.”

With his yaqona farm, he was able to build five bedroom house

for his family and send his children to school, something he was not able to do during his childhood.

At the recent Government roadshow held in Naro, Moala in Lau, Mr Tadu was able to purchase an outboard motor worth \$7000 which he earned from his farm.

“Farming for the past 20 years has been hard road. I’m thankful to the Government for providing assistance to farmers.”

Ministry of Rural and Maritime Development, National Disaster

Management Office permanent secretary Meleti Bainimarama reassured the people of Moala that the Government was aware of the importance of agriculture in the social and economic development of rural areas.

“The Ministry of Agriculture under its Rural and outer island program has invested more than \$330,000 from the 2015-2017 to assist projects relating to copra, yaqona, virgin coconut oil and machinery in the Lau Province.”

“Government is also aware that

reviving the copra industry in Lau is an important statement in its quest to promote income generation. To this the ministry of agriculture has invested a total of \$66,000 through Coconut Rehabilitation Program and the coconut development program to ensure that this initiative continues to benefit the communities in Lau.”

Mr Tadu encourages fellow farmers to venture into the business world and face the challenges.

# Disability fails to deter Vuniwaqa’s dream

NANISE NEIMILA

**V**ITILIA Vuniwaqa will not allow her disability to deter her from becoming a successful farmer and businesswoman.

Involved in a car accident and later partially paralysed seven years ago, she has managed to build her small business through organic farming with the support of family and friends.

Her story became known after she scooped the Inspirational Female Micro Business Award.

She was among 19 recipients who were awarded during the 2017 National Microfinance Awards at Reserve Bank of

Fiji (RBF) in Suva recently.

“During the period of my sickness, helplessness overcame me, I was not able to stand up. However, I made a vow to my parents that I will push myself so that I can work and support myself again,” Ms Vuniwaqa said.

And she did just that when she found her own business inspiration.

The 44-year-old from Lovu Village in Gau, Lomaiviti, manages her own cash crop beekeeping farm.

Her business has flourished as she has focused on establishing a good customer base before she expands her business further.

“In spite all odds, I managed to establish and take the business to where it is today,” Ms Vuniwaqa said.

“I have plans to establish my own brand of coconut virgin oil and lotion for women in particular still in planning process but I won’t stop here.”

Ministry of Industry, Trade and Tourism permanent secretary Shaheen Ali said the most important objective of the

Fijian Government was to see local enterprise grow and the contribution of the SME sector to the Fiji economy recognized.

“In this regard, the Fijian Government has also put in place initiatives that aim to support the MSME sector. This is embodied in our 5 year and 20 year National Development Plan. The plan sets the foundation for continued efforts to enhance the institutional setting, access to finance, business incubation and training to access critical markets.”

“In 2014 Government through the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Tourism launched the Micro and Small business grant (MSGB) initiative to assist new and existing micro-enterprises grow their business to new heights.”

Mr Ali elaborated to award recipients that as of 2018 Government has supported a total of 19,548 businesses through investment \$19million going towards grants.

About 40 per cent of the recipients were female and majority were from rural areas.

Since its inception 270 applications have been received and the ministry was expecting the numbers to grow even further.

There were four categories of awards this included Young category, Individual category, Partnership category and Micro finance service providers.



Vitia Vuniwaqa.



# FijiFocus



The Fijian Government has bolstered its vision to create a knowledge-based society by allocating in excess of a billion dollars or nearly 22 per cent of Government's expenditure to the education sector in 2018-2019 National Budget. Seen here Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama with students of Samabula Primary during the 59th Sanatan Dharam Convention celebration in Suva. Photo: ERONI VALILI

# Billion-dollar year for education sector

HALITESH DATT

THE Fijian Government has bolstered its vision to create a knowledge-based society by allocating in excess of a billion dollars or nearly 22 per cent of Government's expenditure to the education sector in 2018-2019 National Budget.

This represents an increase of more than \$60million for the sector compared with the previous year.

This allocation further complements Fijian Government's existing assistance to the sector such as free education, free textbooks and subsidised transportation to schools, to name a few.

Attorney-General and Minister responsible for Education, Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum says this is in an effort to further revolutionise the education sector in the country.

"Fijian families can send their children to primary and secondary school without worrying about money, because both will remain free for all Fijian students with an allocation of \$66.4m," Mr Sayed-Khaiyum said.

The Ministry of Education, Heritage and Arts has been allocated \$534.4m while

\$123.8m has been allocated for higher education institutions, \$255m for various scholarships and loans administered by the Tertiary Scholarship and Loans Board while \$90m has been allocated rehabilitation and construction of schools damaged by recent tropical cyclones.

"We want teachers in classrooms to be able to afford as much one on one attention as possible to our students. To improve the ratio of teachers to students, we've allocated \$5m to recruit an additional 200 primary school and 50 secondary school teachers, along with another \$26.9m as a salary grant for Early Childhood Education teachers," the Attorney-General added.

While delivering his budget address he also announced number new initiatives that are expected to lift the sector up a notch.

The Government has made special allocations to review the national curriculum, implement a new School Scouts Programme in schools, extended the reach of the Accident Compensation Commission Fiji to cover school-yard injuries and training and capacity building of school librarians.

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION		
		<b>\$1.025bn</b>
	Ministry of Education, Heritage and Arts	<b>\$534.4m</b>
	Primary, secondary education tuition expenditure	<b>\$66.4m</b>
	Recruitment of additional 200 primary school and 50 secondary school teachers	<b>\$700,000</b>
	Salary grant for Early Childhood Education teachers	<b>\$26.9m</b>
	Higher education institutions	<b>\$123.8m</b>



# फ़ीजी फ़ोकस



सन् दो हजार अट्ठारह और उन्नीस वाले राष्ट्रीय बजट की घोषणा के बाद संसद भवन के बाहर प्रधानमंत्री वॉरेनो बर्डिनमराम, अर्थ-व्यवस्था तथा अटोनी जेनरल अईयाज़ सैयद खैयुम के साथ। जनाब सैयद खैयुम ने जट की घोषणा करते वक़्त कहा था कि सरकार भविष्य की ओर एक और भारी कदम उठा रही है। सरकार फ़ीजीवासियों की उन्नति के लिए अवसरों को बढ़ावा दे रही है। यह ऐतिहासिक राष्ट्रीय बजट फ़ीजी के हर एक परिवार के जीवन को छूवेगा।

## फ़ीजीयन परिवारों के लिए राष्ट्रीय बजट

रोनल देव

अर्थ-व्यवस्था मंत्री और अटोनी जेनरल अईयाज़ सैयद खैयुम का कहना है कि सन् दो हजार अट्ठारह और सन् दो हजार उन्नीस राष्ट्रीय बजट फ़ीजीयन परिवारों के लिए है।

उन्होंने कुछ मुख्य कार्यक्रमों की घोषणा की है जिनमें माताओं की मटेनिटी लीव को बढ़ाना, शिशु के पिता के लिए भी छुट्टी की व्यवस्था होना, परिवार की देखभाल करने के लिए छुट्टी तथा सरकारी कर्मचारियों के लिए विमा शामिल है। जनाब सैयद खैयुम ने कहा कि पाँच मि-

लियन डोलर माता-पिताओं की सहायता वाले कार्यक्रम के लिए निकाला गया है। जिन माताओं की घरेलू आमदनी सालाना तीस हजार डोलर से कम है को अपने पहले, दूसरे या तीसरे बच्चे के लिए एक हजार डोलर मिलेगा।

मंत्री ने कहा कि जैसे ही नए जन्मे बच्चे का नाम बेथ्स रजिस्ट्री में दर्ज करने पर जन्म पत्री मिलेगी वैसे ही बच्चे की माँ के नाम पर बैंक में एक अकाउन्ट खोला जाएगा और माता को एक हजार डोलर की सहायता मिलेगी। इस एक हजार डोलर में से पाँच सौ डोलर तुरन्त माँ को दे दिया जाएगा लेकिन दुसरा पाँच सौ डोलर

व्याज कमाने के लिए बैंक से तबतक नहीं निकाला जा सकता जबतक बच्चा या बच्ची कक्षा एक में नहीं जाने लगे। बच्चे का जन्म होने पर उसके पिता को पाँच दिनों की छुट्टी मिल सकती है।

सैयद खैयुम ने कहा कि बच्चों के पालन-पोषण में पिता को भी हाथ बटाना चाहिए। माताओं के लिए अच्छी खबर है जबकि मटे-निटी छुट्टी को चौरासी 84 दिनों के बढ़ाकर अट्ठान्वे दिन कर दिया गया है।

सैयद खैयुम ने कहा कि परिवार की देखभाल करने के लिए पाँच दिनों की छुट्टी दी जाएगी

जिसके लिए पूरी तन्ख्वाह मिलेगी।

उन व्यापारियों को एक सौ पचास प्रतिशत तक की छूट मिलेगी जो अपने परिवार की देखभाल करने या बच्चों की देखभाल करने के लिए छुट्टी लेंगे और उनका मालिक पूरा वेतन देगा। यह सब पहली जनवरी सन् दो हजार उन्नीस से लागू होगा। अर्थ-व्यवस्था मंत्री ने कहा कि नई छुट्टियों की वजह से इस साल आखरी बार स्पोर्ट्स एन्ड वेलनस दिवस मनाया जाएगा। इस साल का राष्ट्रीय बजट 4.65 बिलियन डोलर का है तथा अनुमान है कि 4.23 बिलियन डोलर आमदनी कमाई जाएगी।





# नेशनल टोपस स्कीम बढ़ाई गई

रोनल देव

सरकार ने विद्यार्थियों के लिए नेशनल टोपस स्कीम बढ़ा दी है तथा तीन सौ चालिस और फुल टाईम स्कोलरशिप यानि छात्रवृत्ति दी जाएगी तथा कुल छात्रवृत्ति अब नौ सौ सत्तर हो जाएंगे।

राष्ट्रीय बजट की घोषणा करते हुए अर्थव्यवस्था तथा शिक्षा मंत्री अईयाज़ सैयद खैयुम ने कहा कि इन नई छात्रवृत्ति में बीस विद्यार्थियों को विशेष पढ़ाई के लिए विदेश भेजा जाएगा जो पढ़ाई देश में उपलब्ध नहीं है।

इनमें आर्टिटेक्चर, काउन्सिलिंग, फॉरेंसिक साइन्स, जेनेटिक साइन्स, स्पीच थेरेपी, विशेष शिक्षा और टाउन प्लेनिंग की पढ़ाई शामिल है।

स्थानीय तौर से बीस टोपर स्कोलरशिप दिए जाएंगे जो विद्यार्थी टुरिज़्म के क्षेत्र, फिशिरिज़ तथा फॉरेस्ट्री और राष्ट्रीय विकास संबंधी काम की पढ़ाई करना चाहते हैं। स्थानीय तौर से पाँच

स्कोलरशिप उन विद्यार्थियों को दिए जाएंगे जो पी. हईच.डी कार्यक्रमों में शामिल होना चाहते हैं। बाकी स्कोलरशिप टोपस स्कीम के नीचे प्राथमिकता वाले इलाके में दिए जाएंगे जिसने पहले से प्रतिभाशाली और संपन्न यूवा फीजीवासियों को तैयार किया है।

टेल्स कार्यक्रम के लिए दो सौ छः मिलियन डॉलर निकाला गया है तथा यह कार्यक्रम पचीस हजार विद्यार्थियों की पहुँच तक फैलाया गया है। टेल्स के नीचे पढ़ाई करने वाले विद्यार्थियों के लिए और अच्छी खबर है क्योंकि टेल्स के नीचे जो जल्द से जल्द अपना कर्ज़ भरेंगे को पैमन्ट में छूट मिलेगी।

माननीय सैयद खैयुम ने कहा कि यह निर्भर करता है कि आप कितना जल्द कर्ज़ भरते हैं उसपर पचास प्रतिशत, पचीस प्रतिशत, दस प्रतिशत या बाकी कर्ज़ माफ भी हो सकता है। अर्थ-व्यवस्था मंत्री ने कहा कि विद्यार्थी जितना

कर्ज़ बाकी है, उसे चुकाने के लिए उन्हें कुछ साल दिए जाएंगे और इस दौरान वे दिए गए प्रोतसाहन से फायदा उठा सकते हैं। इसका मतलब है कि जितना जल्द कर्ज़ भरेंगे अंत में उतना कम भरना पड़ेगा।

विद्यार्थियों को पढ़ाई के दौरान और उसके बाद स्टेटमन्ट्स दिए जाएंगे कि कितना कर्ज़ बचा है तथा बहुत जल्द उन्हें डिजिटल फीजी एप के मार्फत स्टेटमन्ट्स उनके मोबाईल फोन्स पर दिखाई देंगे।

टेल्स के नीचे जिन विद्यार्थियों के माता-पिता की सालाना कमाई पचीस हजार डॉलर से कम है को अलावन्स मिलता था लेकिन इसे अब बढ़ाकर पचास हजार डॉलर कर दिया गया है।

बस के भाड़ा का अलावन्स प्रति सप्ताह पंद्रह डॉलर से बढ़ाकर तीस डॉलर कर दिया गया है। देशभर के पंद्रह टेक्निकल कोलज के लिए अट्ठारह मिलियन डॉलर निकाला गया है।

## शिक्षा क्षेत्र के लिए एक बिलियन डॉलर

रोनल देव

शिक्षा के क्षेत्र को सबसे भारी बजट दिया गया है जो कभी नहीं दिया गया था।

अर्थ-व्यवस्था मंत्री तथा अटोर्नी-जेनरल अईयाज़ सैयद खैयुम ने घोषणा की कि शिक्षा क्षेत्र के लिए एक बिलियन डॉलर से ज़्यादा अलग किया गया है। जनाब सैयद खैयुम ने कहा कि सरकार द्वारा प्रदान की जा रही मुफ्त शिक्षा जारी रहेगी लेकिन जो फीस भर सकते हैं वो जितनी रकम चाहे दे सकते हैं जो बाहरी द्वीपों में स्कूल बनाने में लगाए जाएंगे।

बस के भाड़ा वाली सहायता कार्य कम तथा कक्षा एक के विद्यार्थियों के लिए मुफ्त में दूध वाला कार्य कम भी जारी रहेगा। अगले साल के पहले टर्म से प्रायमरी और सेकन्ड्री स्कूल के लिए स्काउट कार्यक्रम शुरू होगा।

एक्सीडेन्ट कोम्पेन्सईशन कमिशन फीजी अब स्कूल के प्रांगन में विद्यार्थियों को लगी चोट के लिए हरजाना भी देंगे तथा उस विद्यार्थी के परिवार वालों को पैमन्ट स्कीम से फायदा हो सकता है अगर चोट लगने में विद्यार्थी की गलती नहीं थी।

प्रायमरी स्कूल के लिए दो सौ और अद्यापक तथा सेकन्ड्री स्कूल के लिए पचास और विद्यार्थियों को भती करने के लिए पाँच मिलियन डॉलर अलग किया गया है। इससे विद्यार्थियों की भारी संख्या के कारण अद्यापकों का बोज कम होगा।

तय श्रेणी के तहत अद्यापकों के लिए पचास फुलटाईम छात्रवृत्ति उपलब्ध की जाएगी। माननीय सैयद खैयुम ने कहा कि स्कूल के पाठ्यक्रम पर भी फिर से विचार किया जाएगा।

(बाई ओर चित्र में) अर्थ-व्यवस्था मंत्री, अईयाज़ सैयद खैयुम कुछ विद्यार्थियों के साथ जबकि इस साल पहली बार शिक्षा के क्षेत्र को राष्ट्रीय बजट में सबसे ज़्यादा एक बिलियन डॉलर से दिया गया है।



# स्वास्थ्य क्षेत्र का बजट बढ़ाया गया

रोनल देव

स्वास्थ्य क्षेत्र का बजट बढ़ाकर तीन सौ पैतीस मिलियन डॉलर किया गया है।

अर्थ-व्यवस्था मंत्री, अईयाज़ सैयद खैयुम ने कहा कि म्बा और लौतोका अस्पतालों में सुधारकार्य होंगे जबकि म्बा अस्पताल पर काम खत्म होने

वाला है। उनके अनुसार अच्छे बदलाव जल्द आने वाले हैं जहाँ चौबीसों घण्टें वहाँ औपन हार्ट सेजरी भी होगी।

स्वास्थ्य क्षेत्र से जुड़े लोगों के फायदे के लिए भी जल्द एक कार्यक्रम की शुरुआत होगी। अगले साल पहली जनवरी से एक नया जेनरल प्रेकटिशनस कार्यक्रम का विमोचन होगा। इसके तहत सरकार कम आमदनी कमाने

वालों की ओर से जेनरल प्रेकटिशनस का फीस भरेगी जैसा कि औस्ट्रेलिया में होता है। इससे लोगों को अपनी छोटी-मोटी बीमारी का इलाज करने के लिए अब बस पकड़कर दूर अस्पताल नहीं जाना पड़ेगा तथा वे नज़दीकी जी.पी.के पास जल्द से इलाज करा सकेंगे। इससे अस्पतालों में लोगों की कतार कम होगी।

लेकिन लोगों को सलाह दी जाती है कि गम्भीर और उलझी हुई बीमारी के लिए आपको अस्पताल ही जाना पड़ेगा। सूबा के सी.डबल्यू.एम अस्पताल की मेटेनिटी युनिट अस्पताल के लिए ग्यारह मिलियन डॉलर अलग किया गया है। जनाब सैयद खैयुम ने कहा कि यह अंतराष्ट्रीय स्तर का अस्पताल रहेगा।

वालेलेवू हेल्थ सेन्टर के लिए दो दशमलौ पाँच मिलियन डॉलर दिया गया है जबकि कोरोवउ अस्पताल को सुधारने के लिए आधा मिलियन डॉलर अलग किया गया है। नान्दी और सूबा में नए डायलीसीस ट्रीटमन्ट सेन्टर्स होंगे तथा और भी डायलीसीस मशीनें मँगाई जाएंगी।





# सोच समझकर लागू टेक्स

## नया हाउजिंग और सामाजिक विकास मंत्रालय

रोनल देव

अर्थ-व्यवस्था मंत्री तथा अटोनी जेनरल अईयाज़ सैयद खैयुम का कहना है कि सरकार सोच-समझकर कर लागू करती है, कठोर तरीके से नहीं।

पिछले कुछ सालों से लोगों पर कर का जो बोझ था वो सरकार ने कम किया है हालांकि कर से होने वाली आमदनी सन् दो हजार पाँच के मिलान में इस साल तीन गुना बढ़ी है। उम्मीद है कि इस साल कर वाली आमदनी तीन बिलियन डॉलर से ज़्यादा होगी।

जैसा कि पिछले साल तम्बाकू के व्यवसाय के साथ समझौता हुआ था इस साल तम्बाकू और शराब के दाम में पंद्रह प्रतिशत की वृद्धि होगी। इस समझौते का यह आखरी साल है। पुरानी

गाड़ियाँ जो दो साल से कम इस्तेमाल की गई है की डूटी बत्तीस प्रतिशत से घटाकर

पंद्रह प्रतिशत की गई है। इससे फीजीयन परिवारों को और भी नई, उच्च कोटी की गाड़ियाँ मिलेंगी। यह दर इंजिन के आकार पर निर्भर करेगा। टेक्सियों के लिए भी दो साल से ज़्यादा पुरानी गाड़ियाँ न इस्तेमाल करने की माँग की गई है। इस डूटी से हमारे रास्तों पर और भी नई, साफ तथा सुरक्षित गाड़ियाँ चलती नज़र आएंगी।

देश के इतिहास में फीजीयन परिवार पर कर का बोझ सबसे कम है क्योंकि सालाना तीस हजार से कम कमाने वाले कोई कर नहीं भर रहे हैं जिससे कम आमदनी कमाने वाले पूरी तरह कर भरने से मुक्त हो गए हैं। कम्पनियों के कर घटाकर बीस प्रतिशत किया गया था जबकि जो

कम्पनियाँ साउथ पेसिफिक स्टोक एक्सचेंज की सूची में हैं वो केवल दस प्रतिशत ही भर रही हैं। बेट भी गिराकर नौ प्रतिशत किया गया था।

इसका मतलब है कि फीजीयन परिवारों की जेब में और ज़्यादा पैसे बच रहे हैं क्योंकि जब अपने परिवार के खर्च की बात आती है तो लोग अपना पैसा खर्च करना चाहेंगे न कि चाहेंगे कि सरकार उनके लिए पैसे खर्च करे। अर्थ-व्यवस्था मंत्री ने कहा कि इस साल सरकार अपनी आमदनी की नितियों में कुछ बदलाव कर रही है।

इससे उनकी कर प्रणाली को और अधिक न्यायसंगत बनाने की दृष्टि से, सरकार के कर बटोरने वाले रिकॉर्ड को फीजीवासियों के कल्याण का समर्थन करने के लिए एक उपकरण के रूप में इस्तेमाल किया जाएगा ताकि खुले तौर से पुँजी भी लगाई जाए।

रोनल देव

देश में ज़्यादा से ज़्यादा लोगों के पास अपना घर हो इस लक्ष्य को पूरा करने के लिए सरकार एक नया हाउजिंग और सामाजिक विकास मंत्रालय की स्थापना करेगी। इसके लिए इक्यालिस दशमलौ चार (41.4) मिलियन डॉलर अलग किया गया है।

डिपार्टमन्ट ऑफ हाउजिंग, रूरल और मेरिटाईम डिवेलोपमन्ट से रूरल हाउजिंग युनिट, लेन्ड्स मंत्रालय और लौकल गवमन्ट के नीचे जितने हाउजिंग और सामाजिक सेवाएँ उपलब्ध थी अब एक ही मंत्रालय के नीचे आ गई हैं।

पहली बार घर बनाने या खरीदने वालों के लिए अच्छी खबर है।

जिन लोगों की घरेलू आमदनी सालाना पचास हजार डॉलर से कम है वो दस हजार डॉलर ग्रांट मिल सकता है अगर वो घर खरीदना चाहते हैं लेकिन पहली बार घर बनाने वालों को पंद्रह हजार डॉलर ग्रांट मिल सकता है।

सरकार ने पहली बार घर खरीदने वाले जिनकी सालाना आमदनी चालिस हजार डॉलर से कम है और खरीदने के लिए बैंक से कर्ज़ लिया है के बैंक के ब्याज में छूट भी दे सकती है। इसके लिए एक मिलियन डॉलर अलग किया गया है। सरकार तीन सालों तक ब्याज में छूट देगी।

मंत्रालय रिज़र्व बैंक ऑफ फीजी और बैंकों के साथ मिलकर घर खरीदने या बनाने वालों के कर्ज़ का ब्याज का कुछ हिस्सा सरकार भरेगी। देश में ज़्यादा से ज़्यादा सस्ते घरों की व्यवस्था करने के लिए सरकार सभी साजेदार जिनमें कोन्सट्रक्शन कम्पनियाँ भी शामिल हैं के साथ मिलकर काम करेगी ताकि नई-नई तकनीक की मदद से घर बनाने के खर्च को कम किया जाए।

सैयद-खैयुम ने कहा कि आर्थिक समस्याओं के कारण लोग ज़मीन या घर अपने नाम पर नहीं करवा पा रहे हैं जिसकी मदद सरकार करेगी। उदाहरण के तौर पर कुछ फीजीवासी, ई तउकई ज़मीन पर रह रहे हैं और उनके पास सेवए करवाने के लिए पैसे नहीं हैं ताकि ज़मीन की लीस उनके नाम पर बने। इसलिए सरकार ने सात लाख पचास हजार डॉलर अलग किया है जिससे सेवय करने और अन्य तरह के खर्च भरे जाएँगे।



अर्थ-व्यवस्था मंत्री तथा अटोनी जेनरल अईयाज़ सैयद खैयुम ने राष्ट्रीय बजट की घोषणा करते वक़्त कहा कि देश के इतिहास में फीजीयन परिवार पर कर का बोझ सबसे कम है।

# चीनी मंत्रालय को मिली और भी सहायता

रोनल देव

चीनी मंत्रालय को पिछले साल के मिलान में राष्ट्रीय बजट में दो मिलियन डॉलर से कुछ ज़्यादा दिया गया है तथा उनके लिए कुल मिलाकर बासठ दशमलौ तीन (62.3) मिलियन डॉलर निकाला गया है।

अर्थ-व्यवस्था मंत्री अईयाज़ सैयद खैयुम ने प्रकाश डाला कि सरकार गन्ने के व्यवसाय को आधुनिक बनाने का प्रयास कर रही है ताकि वो विश्व बाज़ार में होड़वाज़ी करने के साथ-साथ उन दो लाख से

ज़्यादा फीजीवासियों को सहारा दे सके जो इस व्यवसाय से जुड़े हैं।

उन्होंने कहा कि सरकार ने गन्ना फिर से बोने के लिए, मसाला और घास मारने वाली ढवा के दाम में छूट, खेतों में मशीन से काम कराने, गन्ना मिल तक लेजाने के खर्च में छूट, गन्ना निकालने वाले रास्ते में सुधार, नए किसानों को गन्ना बोने के लिए प्रोत्साहित करना, गन्ने के लिए टोप अप पैमन्ट जैसी सरकारी सहायता जारी रहेंगी।

सैयद खैयुम ने कहा कि गन्ना का स्थिर दाम तय किया गया है जहाँ अगले तीन सालों तक हर एक कई

पैमन्ट के लिए पचासी (85) डॉलर प्रति टन दिया जाएगा। पिछले तीन सालों से कईन पैमन्ट बयासी (82) डॉलर प्रति टन रहा है और सरकार की लगातार कोशिश से किसानों का खर्च कुछ कम हुआ तथा खेतों में मशीनों के इस्तेमाल से वे गन्ना के लिए स्थिर दाम पचासी (85) डॉलर प्रति टन देने में सम्भव होंगे।

उन्होंने कहा कि फीजी शुगा कौ-परेशन ने अपनी कुछ संपत्तियाँ बेची हैं जो इस्तेमाल नहीं हो रही थी, तथा गन्ना का यह दाम एफ.एस.सी के शुगा स्टेबिलाइज़ेशन फंड से दिया जाएगा जिससे लम्बे समय के लिए

गन्ने के किसान, चीनी व्यवसाय में सुरक्षित महसूस करने के साथ-साथ निश्चितता और भरोसा रखेंगे।

मंत्रालय, फीजी शुगा कौपरेशन को पाँच सालों की एक योजना के तहत मदद कर रही है जहाँ खेतों के स्तर तक संसाधन में सुधार लाने तथा गन्ने के किसानों द्वारा गन्ने की पैदाईश का खर्च लगातार कम करना मुख्य लक्ष्य है। योजना का लक्ष्य है नए-नए तरीकों से किसानों की सहायता करना, उनके जीवन योग्यता को सुधारना तथा गन्ना पैदा करने के खर्च को कम करने में किसानों की मदद करना ताकि चीनी

का उत्पादन बढ़ सके।

फिलहल, युरोपियन युनियन पचीस मिलियन डॉलर लागत सामाजिक शमन कार्यक्रम के तहत चीनी व्यवसाय की मदद कर रही है। सहायता की ओर देखे तो गन्ने के विकास और किसानों की सहायता में पंद्रह

मिलियन चार लाख डॉलर अलग किया गया है, गन्ने निकालने वाले रास्ते के लिए छः मिलियन डॉलर, नए किसानों की सहायता के लिए छः मिलियन डॉलर, मसाला के लिए पंद्रह मिलियन तीन लाख डॉलर निकाला गया है।





## अटोनी जेनरल ने दिए ई एफ एल हिस्सों के सर्टिफिकेट्स



अटोनी जेनरल अईयाज सैयद खैयुम ने नान्दी में एनेजी फीजी लिमिटेड के पचास ग्राहकों को पहले बेच का नोन-वोटिंग शेया सर्टिफिकेट्स दिया। सरकार ने घोषणा की थी कि ई एफ एल के सभी धरेलू ग्राहक जो फीजी नागरिक है और फीजी में ही रहते है को मुफ्त में ई एफ एल के हिस्से दिए जाएंगे। स्थानापन प्रधानमंत्री ने कहा कि कम आमदनी कमाने वाले घर के लोगों को और हिस्से दिए जाएंगे। सैयद-खैयुम ने कहा कि वे कम आर्थिक स्तर पर लोगों को सशक्त बनाने में विश्वास करते है और समानता लाते हैं जो पहले फीजी में कभी नहीं हुआ था। लगभग चालिस हजार ग्राहक रजिस्टर हो चुके है।



## मंत्री रेड्डी ने कमिशन किए कार्यक्रम

हाल ही में बोटो वैस मंत्री डाक्टर महेन्द्रा रेड्डी ने हाल ही में बतनिकामा के अधिकांश इलाके जिनमें लम्बासा शहर के बाहर नमोली कोरो भी शामिल है में बाढ़ कम करने वाले एक कार्यक्रम की शुरुआत की है। उन्होंने कहा कि इस इलाके में तीन हजार पाँच सौ के करीब लोग रहते है। जब भी यहाँ बाढ़ चड़ती थी तो लोग नौकरी पर और बच्चें स्कूल नहीं जा पाते है। कई सालों से वहाँ बाढ़ एक बड़ी समस्या थी जहाँ कृषि क्षेत्र को नुकसान पहुँचने के साथ-साथ करीब ग्यारह साल पहले आई एक समुद्री आँधी के दौरान बाढ़ चढ़ने से दो लोगों की जान चली गई



## फीजी नेशनल विमन्स एक्सपो सफल रहा

नेशनल विमन्स एक्सपो सूवा के एफ.एम.एफ जिमनेजियम में इसी महीने पूर्व देश भर से आई तीन सौ से ज्यादा महिलाएं अपने हाथ से बने उत्पादों की प्रदर्शनी की। विमन्स मंत्रालय ने इस एक्सपो का आयोजन किया है ताकि महिलाएं आत्मनिर्भर होने के साथ-साथ, कुछ ट्रेनिंग हासिल करें और अपनी कुछ कमाई भी करें। सन् दो हजार चौदाह से सरकार इस तरह का एक्सपो आयोजित कर रही है जिससे देश भर की मध्य वर्ग और गरीब महिलाओं को अपनी कला दिखाने और आमदनी कमाने का अवसर दिया जा रहा है जो घर पर रहती है।



## लौतोका इर्द उत्सव में मंत्री कोया हुए शरीख

हाल ही में इंडस्ट्री, ट्रेड और टुरिज्म मंत्री जनाब फईयाज सिदिक कोया ने सबनी लौतोका में इर्द उत्सव में हिस्सा लिया। इस दौरान उन्होंने वहाँ के निवासियों से माँग की कि वे अन्य धर्म के मानने वालों के साथ एकता में जीवन बिताना जारी रखें। उन्होंने कहा कि सभी धर्मों में यही बात सिखाई जाती है। इर्द के उत्सव में हिस्सा लेने के लिए अलग-अलग धर्म के लोग साथ आए थे। उन्होंने कहा कि हमारा विश्वास इतना मजबूत होना चाहिए कि ईश्वर हम सब से प्रेम करते है फिर चाहे हम किसी भी धर्म, जात या संस्कृति के मानने वाले हों। मंत्री कोया ने कहा कि हमारे देश के संविधान ने हमें यह आजादी दी है कि हम किसी भी धर्म को माने इसलिए यह जरूरी है कि हम दूसरे धर्म के मानने वालों का आदर करें तथा सहनशील बनें।







वह सब कुछ जो फीजी में हो रहा है

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# प्रधानमंत्री ने डिजिटल फीजी का किया विमोचन



प्रधान मंत्री, वॉरिंगे बड़निमरामा, अटोनी जेनरल अईयाज़ सैयद खैयुम के साथ सिंगापुर के साजेदार जिन्होंने डिजिटल फीजी एप तैयार करने में फीजीयन सरकार की भारी मदद की।

रोनल देव

सरकारी की सेवाओं को आम फीजीवासियों के और करीब लेजाने के लिए प्रधानमंत्री वॉरिंगे बड़ निमरामा ने एक नया कार्यक्रम डिजिटलफीजी का विमोचन किया है। इस कार्यक्रम के लिए सिंगापुर की सरकार, फीजी सरकार के साजेदार है।

“इस डिजिटलफीजी एप कार्यक्रम के द्वारा फीजीवासी घर बैठे ही अपने मोबाईल फोन के जरिए सरकार के किसी भी मंत्रालय के अधिकारियों के बारे में जानकारी हासिल करने के अलावा उन्तक सीधे अपना विचार, मांगे या शिकायतें भेज सकते हैं,” प्रधानमंत्री ने कहा।

उनके अनुसार इस कार्यक्रम की क्षमता बहुत अधिक है जिससे आम फीजीवासियों की ज़िन्दगी में बहुत सुधार आएगा।

“हमारे देश में एक मिलियन से कम लोग है, तथा मेरी सरकार ने नेतागिरी का नया तरीका अपनाया है जहाँ वे सभी फीजीवासियों की बातें सुनते हैं और उनसे सीखती है चाहे वो देश के किसी भी कोने में रहते हो। फीजीवासी जानते हैं कि वे मेरी सरकार पर भरोसा कर सकते हैं कि वे उनकी चिन्ताएँ सुनेंगी और उसपर गौर करेगी। डिजिटलफीजी के द्वारा फीजीवासी आसानी और सुविधाजनक तरीके से अपनी आवाज़ उठा सकेंगे अगर वे अपने जीवन में किसी विषय का सामना कर रहे हैं फिर चाहे वे देश के किसी भी हिस्से

में रहते हो,” प्रधानमंत्री ने कहा।

प्रधानमंत्री ने यह भी कहा कि सच तो यह है कि अभी के फीजीवासी ज़्यादा समय इंटरनेट और अपने फोन्स पर बिता रहे हैं, इसलिए ज़रूरी है कि सरकारी सेवा जल्द से उन्तक उसी माध्यम से पहुँचाई जाए चाहे वे जहाँ हो और जब उन्हें ज़रूरत पड़े।

उनके अनुसार डिजिटल फीजी की क्षमता बहुत अधिक है जो हमारे फीजीवासियों की ज़िन्दगी में वास्तविक अंतर ज़रूर लाएगा जिससे फीजीवासी एक-दूसरे के साथ और अपनी साथ जुड़ने के तरीके को बदलेंगे। उन्होंने उम्मीद व्यक्त की है कि सभी सरकारी कर्मचारी और पेमनन्ट सकेद्री नविनतम जानकारी प्रदान करेंगे।



लौकल गवमन्ट मंत्री, परवीन कुमार बाला शिमला लौतोका में पी.आर.बी फ्लैट का न्यू डालते हुए। एक साल के अन्दर छत्तीस युनिट्स बनाने की उम्मीद है।

## मंत्री बाला ने लौतोका में पी.आर.बी फ्लैट की न्यू डाली

रोनल देव

लौकल गवमन्ट, हाउजिंग तथा वातावरण मंत्री, परवीन कुमार बाला ने शिमला लौतोका में एक नई हाउजिंग युनिट के लिए न्यू डाली।

इस योजना में तीन मिलियन डोलर का खर्च होगा जिसके तहत अगले बारह महीने में छत्तीस 36 युनिट्स बनाई जाएंगी। सरकार द्वारा पब्लिक रेंटल बोर्ड को दिए गए ग्रांट से यह योजना सम्भव हुई है।

इस समारोह के दौरान मंत्री बाला ने कहा कि यह योजना सरकार की हाउजिंग योजना का हिस्सा है जो फीजीवासियों को उच्चदर्ज का और सस्ते घर प्रदान करने की उम्मीद कर रही है।

मंत्री ने पी.आर.बी युनिट के किराएदारों से मांग की कि वे आगे बढ़कर अपना खुद का घर और ज़मीन खरीदें जबकि पी.आर.बी किराएदारों को लोड्स तैयार होने पर उन्हें खरीदने का पहला मौका दिया जाएगा।

“केवल लौतोका में ही नहीं, सरकार पिछले छः से सात सालों से देश भर में हाउजिंग के क्षेत्र पर गौर कर रही है। ऐसा केन्द्रीय विभाग में हो रहा है जहाँ गरीब जनता पर खास ध्यान दिया जा रहा है। पी.आर.बी युनिट

तैयार करने का लक्ष्य है धीरे-धीरे हाउजिंग अथोरिटी लोड्स की तरफ बढ़ना। हमने यह देखा है कि पी.आर.बी. युनिट के किराएदार आगे की नहीं सोच रहे हैं। अभी वे जहाँ हैं ठीक है लेकिन हो सकता है कि पहले हाउजिंग अथोरिटी के पास उतनी ज़मीन उपलब्ध नहीं रही होगी। इसमें आपका दोष नहीं है,”मंत्री बाला ने कहा।

उनके अनुसार सरकार तावाकूमू में एक नए सब-डिविज़न पर काम कर रही है और जो लोग वहाँ रहते हैं और अपने परिवार के लिए घर या ज़मीन लेना चाहते हैं से मांग की गई है कि वे हाउजिंग अथोरिटी के साथ रजिस्टर हो। उन्होंने ने कहा कि ज़मीन सस्ती रहेगी और जो चाहे वे सरकार के ग्रांट से फायदा उठा सकते हैं क्योंकि अपना पहला घर बनाने के लिए सरकार दस हज़ार डोलर देगी।

## अटोनी-जेनरल ने दिया दुर्घटनाओं के लिए हरजाना

रोनल देव

अटोनी जेनरल अईयाज़ सैयद खैयुम ने भावुकता वाले एक समारोह में लोगों को हरजाने के रूप में चेक प्रदान किया जिन्होंने इसी साल पूर्व अपने चाहने वालों को दो अलग-अलग सड़क दुर्घटनाओं में खो दिया।

नया एक्सीडेंट कोम्पेनसईशन एक्ट के नीचे इस साल इस तरह का यह दूसरा पईमन्ट था।

इन दोनों व्यक्तियों में आमेयो माता-वुतुका और जोज मावी शामिल हैं जिन्हें पचहत्तर हज़ार डोलर दिया गया है। दोनों व्यक्तियों ने इस हरजाने के लिए सरकार और अन्य साजेदारों को धन्यवाद दिया है।

माननीय सैयद खैयुम ने प्रकाश डाला कि यह हमेशा से भावुकता का समय रहता है जब किसी चाहने वाले के बिछड़ने के कारण उनके परिवार वालों को पईमन्ट दिया जाता है।

माननीय ए-जी ने कहा कि इस विषय को उठाने का खास मकसद है, एक्सीडेंट कोम्पेनसईशन एक्ट पर जागरूकता लाना।



हाल ही में अटोनी जेनरल अईयाज़ सैयद-खैयुम ने दुर्घटनाओं के लिए हरजाना देने वाले मौके पर कहा कि सभी को जानना ज़रूरी है कि इस तरह का हरजाना उपलब्ध है। इस हरजाना से चाहने वालों को खोने वाले परिवार वालों को कुछ राहत मिलेगी। पहले रिश्तेदारों को महीनों हरजाने के लिए अदालत के फैसले का इंतज़ार करना पड़ता था।







अटोनी जेनरल अईयाज़ सैयद खैयुम ने एनेजी फीजी लिमिटेड के पचास ग्राहकों को नोन-वोटिंग शेया सर्टिफिकेट्स देते हुए कहा कि लोग हिस्से अपने पास रख सकते हैं तथा उन्हें लगातार डिविडन्ड्स मिलेंगे जब कम्पनी मुनाफा कमाएगी। उन्होंने कहा कि एनेजी फीजी लिमिटेड का हिस्सेदार बनना एक आसान और अच्छा आर्थिक अवसर है।

# ए जी ने प्रदान किया ई एफ एल हिस्सों के सर्टिफिकेट

रोनल देव

अटोनी जेनरल अईयाज़ सैयद खैयुम ने नान्दी में एनेजी फीजी लिमिटेड के पचास ग्राहकों को पहले बेच का नोन-वोटिंग शेया सर्टिफिकेट्स दिया। सरकार ने घोषणा की थी कि ई एफ एल के सभी घरेलू ग्राहक जो फीजी नागरिक हैं और फीजी में ही रहते हैं को मुफ्त में ई एफ एल के हिस्से दिए जाएंगे। उन्होंने ने कहा कि कम आमदनी कमाने वाले घर के लोगों को और हिस्से दिए जाएंगे। माननीय सैयद-खैयुम ने कहा कि वे कम आर्थिक स्तर पर लोगों को सशक्त बनाने में

विश्वास करते हैं और समानता लाते हैं जो पहले फीजी में कभी नहीं हुआ था। लगभग चालिस हजार ग्राहक रजिस्टर हो चुके हैं। उन्होंने कहा कि लोग हिस्से अपने पास रख सकते हैं तथा उन्हें लगातार डिविडन्ड्स मिलेंगे जब कम्पनी मुनाफा कमाएगी। एनेजी फीजी लिमिटेड का हिस्सेदार बनना एक आसान और अच्छा आर्थिक अवसर है जबकि अनुमान है कि एक हिस्से की कीमत लगभग एक डॉलर चालिस सेंट्स प्रति हिस्सा रहेगा। जिन ग्राहकों को सरकार की ओर से बिजली के बिल के लिए कोई छूट नहीं मिल रही है को

एक सौ पचास हिस्से दिए जाएंगे जिसकी कीमत दो सौ दस डॉलर तक होने का अनुमान है तथा जिन ग्राहकों को सरकार से बिजली के बिल के लिए छूट मिलती है को दो सौ पचास हिस्से मिलेंगे तथा अनुमान है कि इसकी कीमत तीन सौ पचास डॉलर है। लेकिन इन हिस्सों की कीमत, एनेजी फीजी लिमिटेड और उनके भविष्य के प्रदर्शन पर निर्भर करेगा। जब यह हिस्से साउथ पैसिफिक स्टोक एक्सचेंज की सूची में शामिल किए जाएंगे तो इन हिस्सों की कीमत सहज में उपलब्ध हो जाएगी।

## ए जी ने किया अकूआ योजना का विमोचन और बोहोल का उद्घाटन

रोनल देव

अटोनी जेनरल अईयाज़ सैयद खैयुम ने साउताम्बू सिंगातोका में अकूआ योजना का विमोचन तथा नए बोल होल का उद्घाटन किया। अकूआ योजना से दस कोरो में पीने के लिए साफ पानी मिलेगा जहाँ अभी यह मूल आवश्यकता उपलब्ध नहीं है। इस योजना के तहत इन समाजों में बोलहोल खोदने और स्थापित की जाएगी। ब्रिटिश अमेरिकन टोबाको फीजी ने इसके लिए लगभग दो लाख पचास हजार डॉलर लागत आर्थिक सहायता दी है। सउताम्बू कोरो में शुरूआती योजना पूरी होने के बाद, यह योजना नान्दी और सिंगातोका के बाकी ऐसे समाजों में होगी जहाँ तम्बाकू की खेती होती है। अटोनी जेनरल ने वोटुआलेवू नान्दी के तम्बाकू की खेती करने वाले किसानों से मुलाकात की थी।

अटोनी जेनरल ने अकूआ योजना का विमोचन करते हुए कहा कि संविधान के नीचे सभी को पीने के लिए साफ पानी मिलने का अधिकार है।



## नेशनल स्पोर्ट्स और वेलनेस दिवस

रोनल देव

राष्ट्रपति महामहिम चियोची कोनरोते का कहना है कि शुक्रवार को मनाया गया नेशनल स्पोर्ट्स और वेलनेस दिवस सही समय पर हुआ जो हमें अपने, हमारे परिवारों और हमारे प्यारे राष्ट्र के प्रति हमारे कर्तव्य को याद दिलाता है। “देश में गैर-संक्रामक बीमारियों को कम करने वाले अभियान की अगुवाई करने वाले प्रमुख वकील होने के नाते, मैं हमेशा स्वस्थ जीवन के महत्व को दोहराने के अवसरों की आशा करता हूँ जो न केवल व्यक्तियों के रूप में हमारी उत्पादनकता को सीधे प्रभावित करता है, बल्कि अपने आप के अलावा, हमारे परिवारों, हमारे समुदायों और हमारे राष्ट्र को बदलने के हमारे प्रयासों पर भी बुरा प्रभाव डालता है,” राष्ट्रपति ने कहा।

“वास्तव में गैर-संक्रामक बीमारियाँ फीजी में नहीं थी, लेकिन पिछले कुछ सालों से यह बहुत ही ज़ोरों से फैली। यह इस तरह फैली है कि प्रश्नान्त में गैर-संक्रामक संबंधी मौत सबसे ज़्यादा फीजी में हो रही है जहाँ अस्सी प्रतिशत लोगों की मौत सत्तर साल की उम्र से पहले ही हो जाती है,” राष्ट्रपति ने प्रकाश डाला। उनके अनुसार देश की स्वास्थ्य प्रणाली और लोग गैर-संक्रामक बीमारियों का बोज सहन कर रहे हैं। वर्तमान में चार मुख्य गैर-संक्रामक बीमारियों की वजह से फीजी सालाना तौर से चार सौ छः मिलियन डॉलर खो रहा है। इनमें दिल संबंधी बीमारी, मधुमय, कैंसर तथा साँस संबंधी पुरानी बीमारियाँ शामिल हैं जो कि फीजी में मौत के दर के प्रमुख कारण हैं जिससे समय से पहले ही लोगों की मृत्यु हो जाती है।

## मंत्री कोया ने किया कोन्सट्रक्शन इंडस्ट्री काउन्सल ट्रेड शो का उद्घाटन

रोनल देव

इंडस्ट्री, ट्रेड और टुरिज़म मंत्री, फईयाज़ कोया का कहना है कि कोन्सट्रक्शन व्यवसाय ने देश की प्रगति में बहुत ही बड़ी भूमिका निभाई है। हाल ही में वोरिक फीजी रिज़ोट में कोन्सट्रक्शन इंडस्ट्री काउन्सल ट्रेड शो का उद्घाटन करते हुए मंत्री कोया ने कहा कि कोन्सट्रक्शन व्यवसाय ने देश में कई योग्य बड़ी इमारतें और अन्य संरचनाएँ खड़ी करने के साथ-साथ फीजीवासियों के लिए नौकरी भी पैदा की। मंत्री कोया ने कहा कि कोन्सट्रक्शन इंडस्ट्री काउन्सल वहीं काम कर रही है जहाँ वे आधुनिक अर्थ-व्यवस्था बनाने के साथ-साथ, नौकरियाँ उपलब्ध करने, अर्थ-व्यवस्था की बढ़न्ती में योगदान देने, फीजीवासियों का जीवन सुधारने तथा हमारे शहर और नगरों को सुधार रही है।



# फीजी फोकस

## पी.एम ने सनातन सम्मेलन का किया उद्घाटन

बाईं ओर चित्र में : प्रधानमंत्री, वॉरेनो  
बर्डनिमरामा शुक्रवार को पाँच महीने  
की रनाया प्रसाद के साथ सामाबुला  
प्राथमरी स्कूल में उनसठवे सनातन  
सम्मेलन के उद्घाटन के दौरान।



# एक सौ चालिसवा गिरमिट समारोह

रेनल देव

अर्थ-व्यवस्था मंत्री तथा अटोनी जेनरल अईयाज़ सैयद खैयुम का कहना है कि उन्हें इसकी घोषणा करते हुए गर्व महसूस हो रहा है कि अगले साल एक सौ चालिस साल पूरे हो जाएंगे जब भारत से गिरमिटियों को लेकर पहला जहाज़ फीजी आया था जिस दिवस को मनाने के लिए राष्ट्रीय बजट में आधा मिलियन डॉलर अलग किया गया है।

सैयद-खैयुम ने कहा कि हर एक गिरमिटिया के वंशज के लिए यह बहुत बड़ा दिन रहेगा खास करके उन लोगों के लिए जिन्होंने पता किया है कि उनके पूर्वज भारत के किस हिस्से

से आए थे जिन्हें फीजी लाकर गुलाम की तरह बुरी स्थिति में काम कराया गया।

देश में इनकी याद में समारोह होंगे। लौतोका या नान्दी में एक मुज़ियम बनाने के लिए तीन लाख डॉलर का खर्च होगा जो गिरमिटकाल में आए भारतीयों और उनके वंशजों के इतिहास, विरासत और देश में उनके विशाल योगदान के लिए होगा।

सैयद खैयुम ने पहले कहा था कि गिरमिट काल में इन लोगों ने क्या-क्या तकलीफें सही, काफी बातें छुपा ली गई है या इसके बारे में खुलकर बातें नहीं हो रही है। उनके अनुसार अगर एक राष्ट्र होने के नाते हम आगे बढ़ना चाहते हैं तो यह ज़रूरी है कि हम गिरमिट के इतिहास को जाने। इसका मतलब यह नहीं है

कि अन्य लोगों के इतिहास को नहीं सुना जाएगा। सभी के इतिहास के बारे में जानना ज़रूरी है।

“यह हकीकत है कि गिरमिटियों ने बहुत मुश्किलें सही जहाँ उन्हें कोड़े मारे गए थे, कुछ की मौत हुई, उन्हें बीमारी भी हुई थी, कुछ ने आत्म हत्या की, महिलाओं के साथ बलात्कार हुआ तथा उनके साथ अच्छा बर्ताव भी नहीं किया गया था। इन सब घटनाओं पर खुलकर बातें करने की ज़रूरत है,” सैयद खैयुम ने कहा।

उनके अनुसार गिरमिट काल से भारतीय देश में समान अधिकार की माँग कर रहे थे लेकिन अब जाकर देश के वर्तमान संविधान के नीचे गिरमिटियों के वंशजों को समान अधिकार मिला

है तथा वे इज़्ज़त की ज़िन्दगी बसर कर रहे हैं।

जनाब सैयद खैयुम ने कहा कि बहुत से गिरमिटिया पढ़े लिखे नहीं थे लेकिन उनका लक्ष्य था कि उनके बच्चे शिक्षा हासिल करें इसलिए उन्होंने गाँव-गाँव में समाज बनाकर कई स्कूलों का निर्माण किया।

उन्होंने कहा कि यह बहुत ज़रूरी है कि जो संस्कृति, सभ्यता और परम्परा गिरमिटिया अपने साथ लाए थे को बरकरार रखा जाए क्योंकि कई पर लोगों को इसकी जानकारी नहीं है और यह धीरे-धीरे लुप्त हो रहा है।

लियोनिदास पहला जहाज़ था जो सन् अट्ठारह सौ उन्नासी (1879) में पहले भारतीयों को लेकर फीजी आया था।



# Noda Viti

## ‘Baleta na Vuvale’

VILIAME TIKOTANI

NA tuvaka vakailavo ni matanitu ena yabaki vakailavo 2018-2019 ena vakatabakidutaki ena laveti ni bula vakamatavuvale. Oqori na usutu levu ni sasaga ni

matanitu me vaka e mai kacivaka na Minisita ni Rawaka vakailavo ka Vunilawa ni Matanitu Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum. “Na tuvaka vakailavo oqo e vakarautaki se buli me baleta na laveti cake ni bula ni matavuvale kece sara ena noda vanua baleta ni rui bibi na bula

ni matavuvale,” kaya na Vunilawa ka Minisita ni Rawaka vakailavo. “Kevaka ena kaukauwa na matavuvale, duavata ena vakadeitaka na noda toso ki liu, kaukauwa kina noda vanua, ka duavata kina na noda vanua ka rawaka vinaka kina na noda vanua.”

“Oqo edua na tuvaka vakailavo ka yauvati ena bula ni vakaukauwataki ni matavuvale ka mera vakadeitaki ena kaukauwa ni veikauwaitaki vaka lewenivanua keina noda vakaqacotaki keda ena bula ni rawaka vinaka vakailavo me rawa ni vukea noda yavu ni bula vakailavo.”



Ko Paraiminisita Voreqe Bainimarama kei na Minisita ni Rawa ka Vakailavo ko Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum ni se bera ni kacivaki na tuvaka vakailavo vou ni yabaki 2018-2019 ena Palimedi e Suva. iTaba: ERONI VALILI

## Kaukauwa ka veivakadeitaki keda

VILIAME TIKOTANI

VAKARAITAKA na Paraiminisita Voreqe Bainimarama ni tuvaka vakailavo vou ni yabaki 2018-2019 ni kaukauwa ka veivakadeitaki veikeda na lewenivanua, raiyawa ka vakarautaki keda tale kina dua na yabaki vinaka. Marautaka na liuliu ni matanitu na veivuke sa vakayacora tiko na matanitu me baleta na qaravi ni vuli ena noda vanua. Tukuna okoya ni tuvatuva vakailavo ni matanitu e yavutaki mai ena cakacaka vinaka eratou sa qarava tiko na matanitu ena loma ni 9 na yabaki sa oti ka tubu tiko-ga kina na bula ni rawaka vakailavo ni matanitu. Kuria na Vunilawa ni tuvaka

vou vakailavo oqo ena vukea na matavuvale kece sara ena noda bula ena veisiga, mai na vei vanua, taudaku ni tauni se koro vakavalagi, vei ira na sega ni rawati ira vinaka vakailavo ka vaka kina oira na sega ni tu vinaka nodra ituvaki ni bula vakayago. “Na tuvaka vakailavo oqo ena laveta noda bula vakailavo ena veisiga ka vakakina ena veigauna sabera mai,” kaya ko Vunilawa. “Na matanitu e vakaraitaka ni lomana ka kauwaitaki keda kece na lewe ni vanua ka vakaraitaka oqo ena tuvaka ni rawaka raiyawa vakabisini ena lewa matau me rawa ni qarava kina na gagadre kece sara vakamatavuvale ni lewenivanua.” Kuria ko Vunilawa ni tuvaka vakailavo oqo ena vakarauta-

ki kina na cakacaka vei ira na noda lewe ni vanua, vakarautaki kina na vei qaravi vinaka vakamatanitu ena gagadre ni lewe ni vanua ka laurai talega mera vukei na daunibisini lalai ka me vakaukauwataki talega na rawaka vakailavo ni veimatavuvale kece sara. Qoka e wilikina ni na tomani tiko na vakavinakataki ni cakacaka ni tara ni gaunisala, vakadrodoro ni livaliva, vakauitukutuku, vakarautaki ni vei qaravi ni bula kei na vakalevutaki ni vei qaravi ena tabani ni vuli. Oqo talega na raiyawa kasa vakaraitaka voli mai na matanitu ena ciwa na yabaki ni rawaka vinaka vakailavo ka nanumi me tomani tale tiko-ga. Na levu kece ni vota oqo e tiko ena \$4.65na bilioni

RAWAKA VAKAILAVO VAKAMATAVUVALE KA LILAI MAI NA \$50,000	
Ena tara vale vou.	\$15,000
Ena voli vale vou vei ira na matavuvale era se bera ni taukena vakadua edua nodra vale.	\$10,000
RAWAKA VAKAILAVO VAKAMATAVUVALE MAI NA \$50,001 -100,000	
Soli na veivuke ke voli vale vou	\$5,000
soli na veivuke ke o tara vou nomu vale.	\$10,000
VEIVUKE ENA VULI	
Dolavi e 5 na vale ni vuli. Lewe 212 na gonevuli.	\$1.025 na bilioni
VEIVUKE VEI IRA NA TINANI GONE VAKASUCU VOU	
Soli vei ira na gone vou ka lailai na rawaka nei tinani gone mai na \$30,000	\$1000
Vakelevutaki na livi vei ira na marama vakasucu mai na 84 na	98 na siga





# Rawa na sara TV ena talevoni veikauryaki

MEREANI GONEDUA

**S**A na rawa vei kemuni na lewe ni vanua ena noda vanua mo ni na sarava ena nomuni talevoni veikauryaki na TV ni oti na kena mai tavo na Walesi Mobile application.

Na app oqo esa imatai ni gauna me dua kina na mataqali gacagaca vakaoqo ena noda vanua ka tavoca na Vunilawa ka Minisita ni Vakauitukutuku Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum.

Vakaraitaka na Vunilawa na nona vakavinavinaka kina cakacaka vinaka sa qarava tiko na Walesi ena kena vakarautaki tiko vakarawarawa na sara yaloyalo ena tv ka sa dewa yani ena talevoni veikauryaki.

Kuria okoya nira na vakaurataka na matanitu na siteseni oqo mera saravi kece ena veiyasai Viti me yacova na 100 na pasede ka me kua ni dua e vakuwai.

Sainitaka talega na Vunilawa na agreement ni Savusavu-Suva cable system ka me na semati kina na vakauitukutuku mai savusavu ki suva ka vakacivaki ena keveli ena lomani waitui. Oqo ena vakatotototaka saraga na vakauitukutuku ena loma ni vanua



Vakaraitaka tiko oqo na Vunilawa ka Minisita ni Vakautubu ilavo ko Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum na talevoni veikauryaki ena kena sa rawa ni saravi kina na tivi se retio yaloyalo.

e rua ko Vanua Levu kei Viti Levu me vaka edua na inaki ni sasaga ni matanitu sai koya oya na kena vaka-

rautaki na gacagaca vinaka ka dei me rawa nira vakacivaki bisinisi kina na kabani ena vakauitukutuku.

## Soli na sea ni EFL vei ira e Nadi

ISAAC LAL

**N**A kena sa dola raraba veikeda na lewenivanua meda vakasea talega ena kabani ni livaliva na Energy Fiji Limited(EFL) sa vakavuna me sa levu sara era sa vakaraitaka yani na nodra via vakasea kina vakabibi vei ira na vaka kauade ni livaliva ni EFL.

Oqori naka e vakaraitaka na Vunilawa Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum mai Nadi,

Tukuna na Vunilawa ni na soli vakalevu na sea solia wale oqo kina veimatavuvale e tiko era na nodra rawaka vakailavo.

“Keitou vakabauta na nodra vukei na koto era na nodra rawaka vakailavo era na laveti kina meda mai tautauvata kina e dua n aka a sega tu ni caka e Viti e liu,”tukuna na Vunilawa “Au sa vakauqeti kemuni kece moni rejisita kina sea soli wale oqoka ni yacova mai ni kua sa 40,000 era sa rejisita oti.”

Na nomu vakasea e dua na ivurevure vinaka ni ilavo ka koto ena \$1.40 dua na sea. E 150 na sea (non-subsidised customers) e koto na kena isau ena \$210 ka 250 na sea ni (subsidized customers) e koto na kena isau ena \$350.

Na ilavo e na rawati ena sea kece oqo ena vakatau ena itagede ni rawaka vakailavo ni kabani na EFL ena veisiga ni mataka.

Ena qai yaco talega na gauna me volitaki kina na sea ena makete ni volitaki se na South Pacific Stock Exchange.

## Keli na uciwai mai Nakauvadra

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

**S**A la'ki vakamatanituta-ki na keli vakatitobu ni uciwai mai Nakauvadra mai Ra.

Vakabibitaka na Minisita ni Salasala ni Wai ko Dr Mahendar Reddy na kena gadrevi me vakasavasavataki na uciwai e Nakauvadra mai na vei tabani ni kau kei na vunika ka ra luvuci tu kina.

Sa gadrevi talega me keli vakatitobu na uciwai ni sa vovodea mai ena levu ni qele kei na nuku era sisi tiko yani ki uciwai.

Na balavu ni vanua me keli ka vakasavataki e rauta ni 3.5km, 1.0 km kei na 2.5km me yaco yani ki tauni ka na taura e rauta ni va na vula na keba qaravi.



Era taba voli mai Niusiladi na Minisita ni Cakacaka Jone Usamate kei ira na noda lewenivanua era vakauki kea ena vakasaraqai ni cakacaka ka ra sa veiqaravi tiko kina ni kua

## Sikovi ko ira noda dauteitei

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

**E**ratou marautaka e lewe 19 na cauravou ni Viti era cakacaka tiko mai Niusiladi na nona veisiko yani na Minisita ni Veivakacakacakataki ko Jone Usamate.

Eratou cakacaka tiko na cauravou kei na turaga oqo ena na iteitei ni kabani na AGWORKS Limited e Napier e Niusiladi ena ruku ni porokaramu na Recognized Seasonal Employer (RSE) Work Scheme.

Na inaki ni veisiko oya nei minisita Usamate laki rogoca talega na veika era via tukuna vua.

A sota talega ko minisita Usamate kei iratou na itaukei ni kabani na AGWORKS Limited vakabibi na kena ililiu ko Inderjit Bedi.

Vakacautaka ko Bedi na totoka ni nodra cakacaka na cauravou ni Viti ena iteitei ni kabani.

Tukuna ko Bedi ni gadrevi na cakacaka vinaka kei na vakasama vinaka ka ni tubu kina na cakacaka ka tubu talega kina na kabani.

A kauwai talega na itaukei ni cakacaka ena vuku ni nodra ivakarau ni cakacaka e lewe vica wale ka sa walia rawa ko Minisita Usamate na malumalumu oya.

“Ko ira na qai laki cakacaka vou yani e sa totolo sara

nodra kila na cakacaka kara sa veisisivi kei ira na tamata cakacaka era gole mai na veiyasai vuravura,”tukuna ko Minisita Usamate.

Vakadeitaka na itaukei ni kabani ni bisinisi ni teitei e Niusaladi ena tubu sara vakalevu baleta ni levu na dau susu manumanu era sa veisau kina teitei.

Koya gona sa na levu cake na tamata cakacaka ena gadrevi yani e Viti kevaka e daumaka tikoga na nodra cakacaka ko ira na tiko kina ni kua.





Era taba mai Berlin na liuliu ni matanitu Paraiminisita Bainimarama ena nodra bosebosa voli kei ira na mata ni veimatanitu era yalayala ena COP23 mera vakalailaitaka na nodra ceburaki kasi gaga ena maliwa lala. iTaba: PRASHILA DEVI

# Veitalanoa na Peresitedi ni COP23 e Petersberg

PRASHILA DEVI E BERLIN, GERMANY

A vakaitavi ena veitalanoa ni Draki Veisau mai Petersberg mai Jamani na noda Paraiminisita ka Peresitedi talega ni COP23 ko Voreqe Bainimarama ka vakatokai na veitalanoa oya me ika 9 ni Petersberg Climate Dialogue.

Tomani tikoga kina na nona vakabibitaka na Peresitedi ni COP23 na vakayacori ni veika a vakadonui ena veidinadinati mai Jamani kei na sala e rawa nira toso tiko kina ki liu.

A vakayacori na veitalanoa oya ena ika 18 kina ika 19 ni siga ni vula ko Jiune ka vakarau-

taka na Minisitiri ni Veika e Wavoliti keda mai Jamani kei na Matanitu ko Poladi na vanua e cavutu mai kina na turaga e vakarau Peresitedi ni COP24.

Era tiko ena veitalanoa oya e lewe 35 na vanua e vuravura ena kena vaqacacotaki na veidinadinati mai Parisi kei na vakavakarau kina bosa ka tarava ni Draki Veisau ka na laki vakayacori ena vula ko Tiseba mai Katowice ena ruku ni veiliutaki vaka Peresitedi nei Poladi.

A tiko talega ena veitalanoa oya na iliuliu ni vanua ko Jamani se German Chancellor ko Angel Merkel ke vosa ena ulutaga ni idusidusi ni Draki Veisau.

Veitalanoataki talega kina na vinaka kei na ca ni veika sa vakayacori baleta na draki veisau, vaka kina na revurevu ni draki veisau vaka kina na vakailavotaki ni draki veisau.

E dau gumatua sara vakalevu ko Viti ena kena vakavotaki na sasaga ni vaqarai ni ilavo baleta na draki veisau kei na veika e rawa ni mai qaravi kina ena noda vanua.

Erau a tomani Paraiminisita Bainimarama ena veitalanoa oya na nona Vunivola Tudei kei na Daunivakameau ni Viti ko Luke Daunivalu vaka kina na mata nei Viti kina draki veisau ka iliuliu talega nei Viti kina Matabose ni Veimatanitu mai Urope ko Deo Saran.

## Vakailavotaki na bolebole ni draki veisau

PRASHILA DEVI E BERLIN, GERMANY

NA sasaga ni nodra vakailavotaki na veivanua era vakila na bolebole ni draki veisau sa dua vei ira na tolu na inaki ni noda sasaga e vuravura.

Oqori edua na mala ni nodra vosa na turaga na iliuliu ni noda Matanitu ka Peresitedi ni COP23 ko Josia Voreqe Bainimarama ena ika 9 ni bosa ni kavakatokai na Petersberg dialogue mai Berlin e Jamani ena moniti ni macaw sa sivi.

Sa vakauqeti ira na veimatanitu lewe 35 e vuravura mera dik-eva vinaka na sasaga nei Viti ena Green Bonds keina Climate Bonds.

Vakasavuya vei ira na lewe ni bosa ko PM Bainimarama na nona sa yaco ko Viti me isevu ni vanua se qai vakatorocaketaki tiko me sevutaka na Sovereign Green Bond ena makete levu ni volitaki sea ni vuravura na London Stock Exchange.

Vakavinavinaka talega na Peresitedi ni COP23 ki vei Jamani ena nona vakatura cake mai na ilavo

ni Green Climate Fund.

“Kevaka e sega ni ra vakadeitaka na nodra yavala na veimatanitu, esa na yali na vakanuinui ni kena rawati na veidinadinati mai Parisi me vakayagataki e \$100-billioni ena veiyabaki ena public kei na private finance kivei ira na veivanua e vuravura era sotava tiko na bolebole ni draki veisau me yacova yani na yabaki 2020.”

Sa dua talega na nona itukutuku ki vei ira na veivanua era sa torocake e vuravura.

“Na veivanua torocake e dodonu mo ni dusimaka tiko na sala vei ira na dau vakatubu ilavo ena kena kau laivi na fossil fuel subsidies, ka soli na isau ni cagi duka ka me vakadeitaki kina na vakatutu ni Michael Bloomberg’s Task Force baletana ilavo ni draki veisau, tukuna ko PM Bainimarama.

Taleitaki vakalevu na nona vakavuna ko Viti na mataqali veitalanoa ka vakatokai na Talanoa Dialogue me sala ni kena rawati na veidinadinati mai Paris na mataqali Talanoa Dialogue vakaoqo sa vakayagataki ena veivanua ni bosa ni draki veisau ena noda vuravura.



Edua na veitalanoa marautaki e yaco toka vua na liuliu ni noda matanitu ena dua na veitalanoa kei ira na mata ni veimatanitu ena COP23. iTaba: PRASHILA DEVI

## Rawa ni vuli ko Viti vei Thailand: Usamate

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

ERAU sa laki sota na Minisita ni Veivakacakakataki kei na Veimaliwai vakacakaca e Viti ko Jone Usamate kei na Minisita ni Veimaliwai vakacakaca ni vanua ko Thailand ko Police General Abdul Saengsiew Kaew mai Thailand ena ika 13 ni Jiune, 2018.

Tukuna ko minisita Usamate ni veitalanoa oya e rau a sa duavata kina na nodrau rawa ni veiwaseitaka kina na kedrau isema na vanua e rua ka vaqacacotaka na wase itukutuku kei na tosoi cake ni kilaka vakacakaca.

“E via tautauvata vinaka na bolebole e sotava tiko na vanua e rua ni levu na nodrau tamata cakacaka era tiko ena taudaku ni vale ni volavola ka bole rau ruarua na nodra vakacakacakataki na kena itabagone,” tukuna ko minisita Usamate.

“Rawa ni vakamurimuria ko Viti na sala ni nodra vakacakacakataki na itabagone ni Thailand. Me vakatotolotaki kina na kune cakacaka.”

“Rawa ni vakamurimuria ko Viti na vulici ni caka cakacaka ni liga me dua na sala era vakauqeti kina na itabagone mera dui cicivaka vakataki ira nodra bisinisi.”

“Na Smart Job Centre ena totolo kina na kune cakacaka ena kena vakayagataki na mobile apps me vukei ira na vaqara cakacaka qoka e dua na sala ena vakamurimuria ko Viti,” tukuna ko minisita Usamate.

“Veivakurabuitaki ni tawa cakacaka mai Thailand e tiko sara ena 1.1% ka sa dodonu mena vuli mai kina ko Viti.”

A tiko voli mai Thailand ko minisita Usamate ena dua na veisiko vakavuli ena ruku ni veitokoni ni vuli tara ni vanua e rua ka yabaki 3 tekivu mena 2016 – 2018 ka tiko voli mai kina noda minisita ni veivakacakataki ena ika 9 kina ika 14 ni siga ni vula ko Jiune.

Veitomani ena veisiko oya na Deputy Secretary Operation & Policy ko Puamau Sowane, kei na Director Labour Policy & Productivity ko Iliana Maiesia vakakina ko Pita Tagicakirewa na mata nei Viti mai Kuala Lumpur e Maleya





## Vakamatalau na cakacaka ni liga ni marama



Cavuikalawa tale na Minisitiri ni Marama ni sa mai qaravi rawa na vakaraitaki ni cakacaka ni liga ni marama e Viti na National Womens Expo 2018. Totoka na maqosa ni cakacaka ni liga era vakaraitaka. Na veimataqali cakacaka ni liga era vakaraitaka ena soqo oqo e sa bau dua na ivurevure vinaka ni ilavo vinaka vei ira kwei na nodra matavuvuale. **iTaba: ERONI VALILI**



## Mana na bose ka ni saravanua

Mai vakacavari na boseka ni saravanua ena vetaicake ni soqosoqo ni saravanua ena noda vuravura se World Tourism Organisation ka vakayacori ena noda vanua. Era laki vulilagi dokai kina na Minisita ni Saravanua Faiyaz Koya ka tukuna kina na nodra marautaka na noda matanitu na kena mai vakayacori ena noda vanua na bose me vaka niko Viti edua na matanitu ka vakararavitaka nodra rawaka vakailavo ena bisinisi ni saravanua. **iTaba: ISAAC LAL**



## Siga ni soli dra e vuravura

Era mai vakaraitaka na lewe ni vanua mai na vanua levu na nodra veitokoni ena siga ni soli dra kei vuravura ka mai vakananumi ena dua na soqo ni marau mai Nabouwalu. Mai vulagi dokai talega kina na Ivukevuke ni Minisita ni Tikobulabula kei na Veiqaravi vakavalenibula, Alex O'conor. **iTaba: JOSIA RALAGO**



## Valuti ni vakacacani ni qele

Era mai vosa vakabibitaka na ivukevuke ni Minisita ni teitei Viam Pillay na kena gadrevi meda taqomaka ka valuta na kena vakacacani na qele me vaka ni oqo ena kauta laivi na tuituina ka daugadrevi ena gauna ni teitei. **iTaba: JOSIA RALAGO**







# ‘Tarova na benu palasitika’

ISAAC LAL

**S**A vakamasuti keda na lewei Viti na Minisita ni Veimatabose ni Tauni kei na Veika e

tu Wavoliti keda ko Parveen Kumar me da tarova na benu palasitika baleta ni vakaleqa na veika e tu wavoliti keda.

A vosa tiko ko Minisita Kumar

baleta na yalayala nei Viti me taqomaki na veika bula e tu wavoliti keda ena vukudra na noda kawa ni mataka.

“Sa gadrevi kina meda vakatu-

builavo ena vakavinakataki ni itagede ni bula ka oka kina na kena vakamataniutaki na itikotiko ni tara vale vakailaoa mera vakavale tudei kina na lewenivanua.”

Na inaki ni siga World Environment Day me kunei kina na iwali ni bula vinaka edua vei ira na kena taqovi na noda vakayagataka na palasitika

## Qiva na wai e Sautabu

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

**S**A vakamataniutaka na Vunilawa ko Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum na qiva ni wai me baleta na ect Aqua ena koro ko Sautabu e Siga-taoka.

Na inaki ni Project Aqua sai koya na kena rawati na wai savasava kina 10 na koro ka sega tiko vei ira na wai savasava.

Na cakacaka oqo ena levu kina na qivaqiva ena kena qarai na mataniwai ka vakailavotaka na kabani na

British American Tobacco Fiji na ka namaki me koto na kena isau ena \$250,000.

Namaki mera nan qaravi talega na veikoro tale eso e Nadroga ni oti na koro ko Sautabu. Era na vukei vakalevu na veikoro dau tei tavako e Nadi kei Sigatoka.



Era vulagi dokai na Vunilawa Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum ena soqo ni qivataki ni wai e na koro ko Sautabu e Nadroga ka vakailavotaka na cakacaka oqo na British American Tobacco.  
iTaba: AZARIA FAREEN

## Uqeta ko Kubuabola na idusidusi ni veitaqomaki

VILIAME TIKOTANI

**S**A vakacagau tiko na kena vakavinakataki na idusidusi ni Tabana ni Veitaqomaki e Viti.

Oqori na veika e vakaraitaka na Minisita ni Veitaqomaki e Viti ko Ratu Inoke Kubuabola ena nona vosa tiko ena bose Pacific Islands Forum Members Workshop me baleta na Biketawa Plus Security Declaration.

“Ena yavutaki eke na kena toroicake na itage ni veitaqomaki ka sotavi na gagadre kece ni veitaqomaki ena noda vanua,” tukuna ko Ratu Inoke.

“Vakadeitaktaki tikoga kina na taqomaki vinaka ni noda vanua kei na Pasifika.”

Tukuna ko Ratu Inoke ni veidinadinati na Bikenawa Plus Security Declaration ena vakavuna mera cakacaka vata na lewe ni matabose ka vakadeitaka na Pasifika e dei vinaka na kena taqomaki.

“Na noda vakadeitaka na nodra taqomaki vinaka ni kua na noda lewenivanua sa vakadeitaka talega na nodra taqomaki vinaka na noda lewenivanua ni mataka,” tukuna ko Ratu Inoke.

“Na Matanitu e Viti e vakaliuca na nodra taqomaki vinaka na lewei Viti kei na nodra itikotiko.”

Tukuna ko Minisita Kubuabola ni dua na sasaga nei Viti na kena vakalevutaki na itavi ni veitaqomaki ni Mataivalu e Wai.

“Na noda vanua e wavokita na waitui ka dodonu me taqomaki vakavinaka ena veisokoyaki ni waqa usa kako, na iyota, kei na waqa ni pasidia,” tukuna ko Ratu Inoke.

“Vakabibi na nodra dau yadrava na noda icurucuru ni waqa e Suva, Savusavu, Rakiraki, Lautoka kei Labasa,” tukuna ko Ratu Inoke.

Vakavinavinakataki talega ko Ratu Inoke na nodra veitokoni vei viti na mataivalu e wai ni Ositerelia, Niusiladi kei Amerika ena veika vakavuli baleta na veitaqomaki.



E ra sa sevu meke ena Vale ni Yaya Maroroi e Suva na veimatameke era na laki matataki Viti tiko kina soqo levu ni vakaraitaki itovo vakavanua ni veivanua vaka Melanisia sena 6th Melanesian Arts ka vakarau laki caka tiko ena Yatu Solomoni.

## Sevutaki na meke ni Viti kina Melanesian Arts Festival

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

**E**RA sa sevu meke ena Vale ni Yaya Maroroi e Suva na veimatameke era na laki matataki Viti tiko kina soqo levu ni vakaraitaki itovo vakavanua ni veivanua vaka Melanisia sena 6th Melanesian

Arts ka vakarau laki caka tiko ena Yatu Solomoni.

A vulagi dokai kina na Vunivola Tudei ni Tabacakacaka iTaukei ko Naipote Katonitabua.

Tukuna ko Katonitabua ni dua na inaki levu ni soqo main a Yatu Solomoni me mana kina na ulutaa ni soqo oya na veikam-

akawa, veisemati ni vegauna sa tu ki liu, me taqomaki vinaka kina na noda itovo kei na ivakarau vakavanua. Namaki mera na soqo yani kina na veimataniutaki vaka Melanisia ka rawa lewe 2000 na dau cakacaka ni liga kei na dau veivakamarautaki.

Na soqo ni vakaraitaki itovo

ni veivanua vaka Melanisia ena vakayacori ena 1 matai ni Jiulai kina ika 10 ni Jiulai.

Na sevu ni meke ena Vale ni iYaya Maroroi a dolavi talega kina na ivola vou ka vakatokai na Kato ni Mana ka tabaki tu kina na veimataqali cakacaka ni liga ni noda vanua





## Qaravi vinaka na porokaramu ni CARE:

VILIAME TIKOTANI

MAI vakayacori vina-ka sara na veiqaravi ni nodra vukei na lewe ni vanua mai na yasayasa ko Ba me baleta na vakacoko-taki ni TC Josie kei Keni ena porokaramu ni CARE.

Oqori na nodra vakamacala na iVukevuke ni Minisita ni Qele Viam Pillay ena dua na visiko kina yasayasa vaka-Ra.

Vakabibi ena nodra vukei na lewe ni vanua ena ilavo ni Porokaramu ni Care ni oti na waluvu ka vu mai ena TC Josie ke TC Keni ena vula ko Evereli.

“Au lesi mai ena vale ni vola-vola ni Matanitu ena Koronubu House ena veikacivi ni Paraiminisita ni oti na waluvu ena 16

Era vukei mai na matanitu, daunibisini kei na NGO's se tabana ena taudaku ni matanitu ka saqa mai na kakana buta keina kau mai ni sulu mamaca me nodra na lewe ni vanua.

iVukevuke ni Minisita ni Qele Viam Pillay

ni Evereli.”

“Eratou yaco mai na neitou ivakalesilesi ni tabana ni teitei ka ratou mai veivuke talega ena neitou sasaga.”

“Keimami sikova wavoki na vanua era vakaleqai ka vakayacora kina na neitou vakadidike ka sotava talega na PM me dua neitou bose.”

Tomana ko Pillay ni ratou saga meratou vukea kece na lewe ni vanua ena kakana, wai kei na yaya ni tara vale.

“Levu na kerekere kei na gagadre oya ena kakana baleta ni luvu na nodra koro kei na teitei ka vakacacani na kedra na medra ena gauna oqo.”

“Era vukei mai na matanitu, dau ni bisinisi kei na NGO's se tabana ena taudaku ni matanitu ka saqa mai na kakana buta keina kau mai ni sulu mamaca me nodra na lewe ni vanua.”

Kuria ko vukevuke ni Minisita Pillay ni oqo edua na cakacaka vou eratou qarava na nodra ivakalesilesi ka marautaka ni vakayacori vinaka.

“Vukei vinaka kina na lewe ni vanua ena nodra teitei kei na nodra vale,” kaya ko Vukevuke ni Minisita Pillay.

# Vakamuduo ko Vasua

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

SA vakamuduo vakalevu kina Matanitu na Turaga ni Koro ena yanuyanu ko Qoma ena Vualiku kei Tailevu ko Sailasa Vasua ena levu ni veivuke e sovaraki tiko yani kina nona koro.

Sa sivia na 10 na yabaki na nona turaga ni koro voli ko qasenivuli vakacegu Vasua ka vakavinavinakataka vakalevu na levu ni veivuke sa solia tiko yani na Matanitu kina nona yanuyanu ko Qoma.

“Sa dua tale oqo na dola ni neimami ikawakawa vou ka mai dolava oqo ko Minisita Inia Seruiratu ka vakayagataka kina na Matanitu e \$50,000,” tukuna ko Vasua.

“Na ikawakawa vou oqo e mai sosomitaka na ikawakawa makawa ka mai basuraka na cagilaba ko Winston.”

Dua tale na veivuke tale ni matanitu na neitou vale ni wai a mai dolava na turaga na Paraiminisita Voreqe Bainimarama ka sa veiqaravi tiko kina neimami nasi ni koro.”

“E dua talega na veivuke koya na nodra waqa kei na kena idini me baleti ira na neimami gonevuli,” tukuna Vasua.

“Au sa vakavinavinaka vakalevu kina Matanitu ena nodra sa vakatikite ni vodovodo kece tiko na neimami gonevuli. E rauta ni lewe 17 na gone ena sova ni vuli ka lewe 52 na gone e ra vuli tiko ena Lawaki Primary School. E Queen Victoria School, Ratu Kada-

vulevu School kei St Vincent School era lewe 28,” tukuna ko Vasua.

Vakavinavinakataka talega ko Vasua na veivuke sa vakayacori tiko ena vale era a vakacacani ena gauna ni cagilaba. Na koro ko Qoma e tiko kina e rauta ni 48 na matavuvale. Na iwiliwili ni lewe ni koro e tiko ena 246 ka rauta ni 63 taucoko na vale e dabe ena koro oqo.

Mai na iwiliwili oqo e rauta ni 38 na vale e a vakacacani ena cagilaba ko Winston ka sa maqusataki sara tiko na cakacaka ni kena vakavinakataka kece na veivale oqo.

“E rauta ni 13 taucoko na kena e sa vakavinakataka oti ka se vo tale tiko ko ira na kena ka waraki se yaco sara tiko mai vakamalua ka vakalalai na kena iyaya,” tukuna ko Vasua.

## Marautaki na ikawakawa vou

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

SIGA marautaki dina vei ira na lewe ni koro e Nabulebulewa ena yanuyanu ko Qoma ena Vualiku kei Tailevu ni oti na kena mai dolavi vou na nodra ikawakawa.

E a vulagi dokai ena soqo oqo na Minisita ni Veivakatorocake-taki ena taudaku ni Koro Lelevu ko Inia Seruiratu.

Vakabibitaka ena nona vosa ko Minisita Seruiratu na nodra taqomaki vinaka na gone kei na marama edua na tikina e vakabibitaka na Matanitu.

Vakavinavinakataka talega ko Minisita Seruiratu na nodra

cakacaka vata na cauravou kei na turaga e loma ni koro kei ira matai ena tara ni ikawakawa oya.

Na ikawakawa oqo e semati rau na yanuyanu e rua mai Qoma.

“Na ikawakawa oqo sa vakavotukana kina n aka edau vunautaka tiko na Matanitu oya me cakacaka vata na lewenivanua kei na Matanitu,” tukuna ko Seruiratu.

Ko Maraia Kacikaci e dua na bui ni gone ni Qoma e marautaka na ikawakawa oya ni sa na rawa ni taqomaki vinaka kina na makobuna yabaki walu ena nona da gole ki vuli.

Ko ira na lewe ni mataivalu e wai ni Ositerelia na HMAS Adelaide ena loma ni vale ni lotu na Centenary e Suva ena vakananumi ni yabaki 40 ni veiqaravi ni mataivalu ni Viti ena

## Dola na sala mai Dreka

JOSAIA RALAGO

SA dolava na Talai Veivuke ena Vualiku ko Jovesa Vocea na gaunisala vei ira na vakaitikotiko ena itikotiko ni teitei mai Dreka e Cakaudrove.

Sa na rawarawa kina na nodra kauta na nodra ivoli kina gaunisala levu me kau yani kina kena makete.

Ena vakarawarawataka talega na nodra gole ki koronivuli na kena gonevuli. Tukuna na daunivakasala ni itikotiko mai Dreka ko Ritesh Dayal ni sa sivia e 50 na yabaki nodra vinakata voli me dua nodra gaunisala.

“Sa na vakarawarawataka na bula vei ira na gonevuli baleta ni sana rawa vei ira na tolili Rural Licensed (RSL) mera curu mai ena gaunisala vou oqo,”tukuna ko Dayal.

“Sa sega ni vaka e liu nira dau taubale ka laki wawa lori kina

gaunisala levu mai ra. Era sa marau na dau teitei baleta nisa sega nira colata nodra ivoli ki gaunisala levu me kau kina makete. Sa oti talega nodra vakavodoki na tauvimate ka me dre na bulumakau siviya,”tukuna ko Dayal.

Sa vakauqeti ira na dau teitei mai Dreka na Talai Veivuke ena Vualiku ko Jovesa Vocea mera vakayagataka vinaka na gaunisala oya me vakalevutaka nodra rawaka vakailavo me talave kina nodra itagede ni bula.

“Na Matanitu sa dolava na nomuni gaunisala ka koto ena \$49,000 na kena isau kau nuitaka ni na vakarawarawataka na veitosoyaki e Dreka,” tukuna ko Vocea.

“Au nuitaka ni ko ni na vakayagataka vakavinaka.

“Ni vakatubuilavo vakalevu ena teitei, ka vakadeitaka me kau nomuni vua ni qele kina makete moni cau talega kina kina bula vakailavo ena Vualiku.



Era taba toka oqo na Talai veivuke ena Vualiku ko Jovesa Vocea ena dola sala mai dreka. iTaba: JOSAIA RALAGO



# Noda Viti



Ko Minisita ni Bula Vakailavo ko Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum ni se bera ni kavicaki na i tuvaka vakailavo vou ni yabaki 2018-2019 ena Palimedi e Suva. iTaba: ERONI VALILI

## Marautaki na ivota ena tabana ni veikau

VILIAME TIKOTANI

**M**ARAUTAKA na Minisita ni Veikau ko Osea Naiqamu na ivota ni veiqaravi vakailavo main a tuvaka vakailavo ni matanitu 2018-2019

Vakaraitaka ko Minisita Naiqamu ni rui bibi na kena teivaki vou tale na noda kau vakaviti baleta ni yaga vei keda ena noda bula ena veisiga ena veiyasana vakaturaga.

“Au marautaka na ivota ni ilavo vakarautaki mai ena noda tabana me tomani kina na cakacaka levu ni qaravi vinaka ni nodra veikau ena noda veiyasana vakaturaga.”

“Au lesu tiko mai Nadarivatu ena cakacaka ni kena laki tavo-ci na porokaramu ni teivaki vou tale ni kau vakaViti me baleta ni rui bibi ena noda vanua ka uasivi ena bisinisi ni veikau. Mera dau teivaki lesu tikoga na noda kau ena veigauna kece era dau musu kina.”

Kuria na Minisita ni Veikau ni msa na tomata tikoga na nona tabana na cakacaka ni vakarautaki ni tei ni kau kei na nodra vakaiyaya ka vakayaragiti vinaka na dautei kau ena gacagaca kei na kila e ganita na nodra cakacaka ka me vukea na veiqaravi raraba ni matanitu ka yavutaki mai na raiyawa ni laveti ni bula ni lewenivanua ka tekivutaki yani ena loma ni matavuvale.

“Na tuvaka vakailavo ogo ena vakadeitaka tale na veiqaravi ena tabana ni veikau ka vakadeitaki kina na noda lewenivanua era vakararavitaka nodra bula ena teivaki ni veikau vei ira na nodra matavuvale. Au sa marautaka kina vakalevu.”

Na ivota vakailavo ni tabana ni veikau e tiko ena \$17.1million ka \$1million ena nodra vakacacacataki vou na veiqaravi ena tabana ni veikau kei na kedra isau na Fiji Pine Trust.

# Vakadeitaki

## na toso ki liu mai na macala ni tuvaka vakailavo

VILIAME TIKOTANI

**N**A tuvaka ni rawaka vakailavo sa mai kavicaki na Matanitu e baleta na noda toso ki liu vakamatanitu ka vakalewe ni vanua.

Oqori na nodra rai na Minisita ni Qele, Yau Bula, Bisinisi, Veivoli kei na Saravanua Faiyaz Koya.

Vakaraitaka ko Minisita Koya ni Matanitu esa nodra itavi me qaravi ira na lewe ni vanua ka na vukea na itavi ogo na tuvaka ni veiqaravi vakailavo ni matanitu ena 2018-2019.

‘Na inaki levu ogo oya me tosoi tiko kina na

veiqaravi vinaka ni matanitu veira na lewenivanua matavuvale ka yavutaki mai ena cakacaka vinaka kei na lewa matau ni veiqaravi vakailavo,” kaya ko Minisita Koya

“Au marautaka baleta niu kila ni tuva ka vakailavo ogo ena vukea sara bula ni lewe ni vanua raraba.”

Ena rai vakabisinisi tukuna o Minisita Koya ni matanitu esa vakarautaka na ilavo mena vakatubura kina na nona rawaka vakabisinisi ka me vakalesui kina na tubu ni vakailavo me vukea na lewe ni vanua.

Marautaka okoya na ivota ni matanitu ena noda tabana.

“Me vaka na tabana ni qele e kuria tiko na cakacaka vinaka ni vakatubuilavo mai na lisi ni matanitu ka vakakina na qele vakaitaukei ka sa lisitaki ena veiqaravi ni matanitu.”

Tokona na rai ogo na Minisita ni Cakacaka, Veilakoyaki, Parveen Kumar Bala ni tuvaka vakailavo ni 2018-2019 ena qarauna na vakatomaniki tikoga ni veiqaravi ena noda tabana.

Marautaka ko Minisita Bala na nodra ivota ka tukuna ni qaravi ni vinaka ni nona tabana ena vukea na bula raraba ni lewenivanua ena vakautaki ni gaunisala na wai na livaliva me vaka ni ogo eso na nodra gagadre ni veivakatorocake-taki na lewe ni vanua.

**VOQA NI DAVUI**

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

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

Vakarauwai  
9pm (30 na miniti)  
*Radio Fiji One*

*Radio Fiji One*  
Sigatabu  
8.45pm (30 na miniti)