

FijiFocus

100	YEARS ON, FIJIANS MARK REMEMBRANCE DAY	6	1.5°	ENOUGH TIME TO MEET WARMING TARGET	7	100	VILLAGERS SHARE GOLD MINE LOYALTIES	10	\$132K	FOOTBRIDGE BENEFITS HUNDREDS OF VILLAGERS	13
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Fijian Head of State, President Major-General (ret'd) Jioji Konrote was an early bird as he turned up to vote at around 9am at his polling station at Draiba Primary School in Veiuto, Suva. Photos: ERONI VALILI

Fijians go to the polls

DEMOCRACY IN ACTION AS CITIZENS CAST BALLOTS

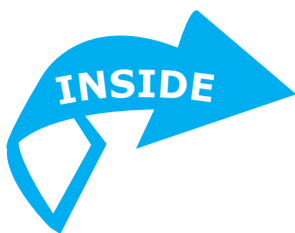
PRASHILA DEVI

FIJIANS went to the polls last week to cast their vote in the 2018 General Election. With six political parties contesting, 235 candidates out of which 56 were female candidates contested in the second election held under the 2013 Constitution. The electoral process involved the one day

voting on November 14th, 2018 which the Government had declared a public holiday. However, 23 polling stations in the central, western and eastern division had to be closed due to inadvertent weather condition and registered voters from these areas voted yesterday. Fijians took to the Fiji Elections Office app to stay abreast with results, analysis,

party and individual candidate results amongst other details. Fiji's Head of State, President Major-General (ret'd) Jioji Konrote was an early bird as he turned up to vote at around 9am at his polling station at Draiba Primary School in Veiuto, Suva. The FEO has termed the turnout as poor when compared to 2014 General Election.

Many braved the rainy weather conditions to exercise their Constitutional right, which was lowered and extended to Fijians from the age of 18 that has enhanced youth participation in the decision making process. Pre-polling and postal voting were also carried out to ensure all registered voters got the opportunity to fulfil their civic duty.



PRAISE FOR WOMEN AT
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QUOTE OF THE WEEK



Voreqe Bainimarama

*We have to act now.
There is no time to waste.
Because if we don't, the
planet will warm by at least
three degrees by century's
end, which would be a
catastrophe for the world.*

Prime Minister
Voreqe Bainimarama

NUMBERS

\$132K

is the total
cost of
the new
footbridge
at Tobunioqio
Village in
Tailevu

TWEET OF THE WEEK



John Feakes (@AusHCFJ)

*A moving ceremony
today in Suva to
commemorate the 100th
year since the guns fell
silent at the end of WWI*

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Attorney-General Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum and his team with the Aspen Medical Pty Limited officials. Photo: AZARIA FAREEN

Partnership brings heart surgeries to Fiji

PRASHILA DEVI

FOR the first time ever, Fijians will have available to them 24/7 heart surgeries in Fiji.

This comes after the fruition of the goal set by Government of entering into public private partnership (PPP) for the health sector.

The Government signed a Letter of Award with Aspen Medical Pty Limited to maintain and operate the Ba and Lautoka hospitals, as well as undertake a vast upgrade of the Lautoka Hospital, bringing specialised, high-quality medical services and modern health facilities direct to all Fijians.

Ministry of Health and Medical Services acting permanent secretary Susan Kiran said the PPP "project will bring better medical care, including oncology and radiotherapy services to treat cancer, and – "for the first time ever-the availability of 24/7 open heart surgeries in Fiji".

"We have seen cases within Fiji where people are opting to get services from the private sector or travel overseas for medical services."

"These options are out-of-reach to Fiji's poor people."

Ms Kiran assured health professionals in the two hospitals will not lose their jobs and that given the expansion in facilities and services, it is expected that more jobs will be created.

Furthermore, she said training opportunities with new and modern equipment will prove invaluable for cultivating a new, higher paid and more fulfilling career path for years to come.

Aspen Medical Pty Limited group chief executive officer Bruce Armstrong said they have a deep history and set of experiences that they will bring to the health sector in Fiji.

"We want to tell the Government and people of Fiji that we are extremely excited about this opportunity- we are here to support you in your goals to improving health and capacities

across the nation," Mr Armstrong said.

He said Aspen Medical was very much trusted to provide from a nurse to a specialist as it had a track record in both primary and tertiary healthcare.

Minister of Economy permanent secretary Makereta Konrote said this development was in line with the Government's budgetary allocation and its announcement on development plans of health services.

Aspen Medical prides itself as "a global provider of guaranteed, innovative and tailored healthcare solutions across a diverse range of sectors - providing from a single paramedic to a full spectrum solution".

Fiji's superannuation body, Fiji National Provident Fund (FNPF) is providing the investment while the Government was given technical expertise by the International Finance Corporation, which is a part of World Bank Group, during the tender process.

Defence Minister attends APEC summit

THE Minister for Defence and National Security, Ratu Inoke Kubuabola is attending the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation summit on behalf of the Prime Minister in Papua New Guinea from 16-18 November 2018.

The Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) is an inter-governmental forum for 21 Pacific Rim member economies that promotes free trade throughout the Asian region.

The APEC summit is being attended by heads of governments and other world leaders.

The Fijian delegation, on the margin of the summit, was expected to meet the President of the People's Republic of China, Xi Jinping, the Prime Minister of Australia, Scott Morrison, the Chair of the APEC and Prime Minister of PNG Peter O'Neill, and the United States Vice President, Mike Pence.

Minister Kubuabola is accompanied by senior officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Office of the Prime Minister and the Ministry of Defence and National Security.

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Minister for Defence and National Security, Ratu Inoke Kubuabola with Papua New Guinea Prime Minister Peter O'Neill at the Asia Pacific Economic Co-operation summit. Photo: SUPPLIED



Voters at Draiba Primary School. Photo: ERONI VALILI

Shakuntala, 79, makes sure to cast ballot

AZARIA FAREEN

“YOU know the importance of Elections Day when you see a frail elderly woman making her way in to the voting booth with the help of only her walking stick.

Shakuntala, who cast her vote at the Suva Special School polling station, said she has been voting since the first General Election was conducted in 1963 and she is not planning to stop now.

“I thought if I missed out on voting then there would be one less vote for a candidate,” she said.

The 79-year old said her voting experience in the 2018 Election was good despite the unfavourable weather conditions.

“I am voting because I am a citizen of Fiji and it is my responsibility as well as others to understand

each other and treat each other equally.”

“It is crucial to think of our country and put it first before anything else,” a teary eyed Shakuntala added.

Meanwhile, the Attorney-General Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum commended the efficiency of the Fijian Election Office in preparing their officers well for Election Day while casting his vote at the same location.

“It took me less than three minutes to cast my vote. We understand, as it was informed to us that some people came at peak period and it took slightly longer because they stood in the long queue but the voting process is not long at all,” the A-G said.

“Like every other Fijian, I am exercising my right to vote and now we will wait for the results.”



Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama casts his vote at Vatuwaqa Primary School. Photo: ERONI VALILI



Attorney-General Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum after casting his vote at Suva Special School. Photo: AZARIA FAREEN



Voters line up at Draiba Primary School. Photo: ERONI VALILI





Minister for Local Government, Housing and Community Development, Parveen Kumar with market vendors celebrate the opening of the new market at Cuvu, Sigatoka.

Minister Kumar opens \$120K market

MINISTER for Local Government, Housing and Community Development, Parveen Kumar opened a new municipal market in Cuvu, Sigatoka, recently to bring to fruition a long-awaited facility.

Minister Kumar said it was amongst a series of other similar projects across the country to upgrade and provide new facilities for roadside vendors who sell their crops.

“During the Honorable Prime Minister’s (Voreqe Bainimarama) visit to switch on the street lights in Cuvu, some had approached him for a shelter to sell their produce and we promised to provide a market, and that promise has been delivered,” Minister Kumar said.

He thanked the Commissioner of Police for

allowing the market to be constructed on their leased land.

“This market has been constructed at a cost of \$120,000 with proper facilities like toilets, tables and benches. Gone are the days when vendors used to sit on footpaths or roadsides under the rain trees during rain or sun. I also thank the Council workers who have been involved in the construction. They’ve done a good job.”

There are about 72 stalls however more stalls will be added to accommodate vendors who weren’t able to get a stall initially.

The new facilities are due to greatly benefit the residents of Cuvu and other surrounding areas who will be able to carry out their marketing nearby.

“A few weeks ago I was in Olosara and I was told that the vendors used to sell their produce and vegetables to vendors in Sigatoka Market on a wholesale base. But now you have a market and can sell at a retail price and earn extra dollars,” Minister Kumar told vendors at the new market.

“This project is also part of efforts to bring services to the people. Cuvu is growing into a small town with major developments, and such facilities will help the Cuvu community at large,” he added.

Minister Kumar noted that after the construction of subdivisions in Cuvu, works would start on the China Town Subdivision.

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Akbar warns on technology use

MINISTER for Health and Medical Services, Rosy Akbar has called on parents to be vigilant on the distracting use of technology.

Speaking at the annual awards ceremony for Nadi Muslim Kindergarten, Minister Akbar advised, “Be careful of technology and don’t let it distract you - when your kids want to talk to you while you’re watching a favourite television show, talk to your kids. It’s important”.

“We brought kids into this world and they should be our priority. And also control the technology use of your children,” Minister Akbar said.

Many times the blame is put on teachers and many rights are given to children but parents need to also teach their children responsibility, and the first of these is respect.

Minister for Health and Medical Services, Rosy Akbar

A total of 92 students graduated from the kindergarten, with prizes also handed out to students for Early Childhood Education (ECE) Week and those who maintained exceptional dental health.

Minister Akbar also encouraged parents to take their children and adolescents for vaccinations against meningococcal C disease - the age group most at risk of getting the disease, if they had not yet done so.

She also stressed the importance of children being respectful.

“Many times the blame is put on teachers and many rights are given to children but parents need to also teach their children responsibility, and the first of these is respect. There are many times that teachers are teaching manners and faith-based teachings so the pressure is on them,” Minister Akbar added.

She also encouraged parents to urge their children into learning other languages and embrace the multiculturalism that Fiji is well known for.

Kindergarten teacher Surekha Kumar Singh said parents were an important asset to the school.

“The most overwhelming key to the child’s success is the positive involvement of parents and together it is the school, teachers and parents who hold the importance through which children achieve success in life.”

The kindergarten follows the curriculum, Na Noda Mataniciva which encourages play-based learning

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Women empowered through floriculture

THE Ministry of Agriculture in its efforts to empower women in agriculture held training for floriculturists in Taveuni.

Agriculture Officer (Taveuni) Anare Leweniqla reminded participants of the importance of women engagement in such enterprises.

“Flowers are symbols of peace, of hope and new beginning and passion and this training is to empower women to be better entrepreneurs,” Mr Leweniqla said.

“Women and floriculture are synonymous and it is time that women in Taveuni involve yourselves to further develop the potential available in floriculture as a business.”

“It is very encouraging to note the interest in floriculture that we have here in Taveuni knowing the demand that is here on the island, so let us work together to meet the demand and ensure that income from your enterprises generates the Taveuni economy,” he said.

The training, which was conduct-



Women of Taveuni undergoing Floriculture training conducted by the Ministry of Agriculture. Photo: SUPPLIED

ed by the Farm Management Unit of the Ministry, taught the women various aspects such as landscaping, flower arrangements, varieties and names, management and multiplications.

Mr Leweniqla reminded the women on the importance of clusters, referring to the recent formation of the Taveuni Floriculture Group.

“The Ministry of Agriculture encourages each individual to make use of the cluster group that has

been formed as a way of communicating, an avenue for sharing ideas with other women and a way of assisting other group members whether they are new to the business or not,” he advised.

“Work as a group so that the benefits will be realized by all. Flower production will also generate income apart from dalo and yaqona, so let us make use of the cluster groups.”

Florist, Elena Marama said the training has broadened her knowl-

edge on floriculture.

“I would like to thank the Ministry of Agriculture for conducting this first training for the women of Taveuni and although I have been in this business for a while now, I was able to learn new things that I didn’t know of and hope to exchange ideas with other women in regards to flowers or nursery maintenance and other new things that I have learnt.”

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Have Your Say

Do you agree with the sentiments that “when women are empowered, the whole family benefits”? Please elaborate.

Anasa Sainibaka, 27, Raiwai

Yes, if a woman has a good job then she can support her whole family.



Kasalaini Gounavou, 33, Tacirua East

The celebration of our independence is something we hold dear to our heart because it is a symbol of our liberation, to be free to manage our own affairs.



Sheegufa Ali, 22, Nadawa

Women are not only career minded but they also have the ability to look after their whole family even if they are a single parent. Women are more efficient decision makers when it comes to their family and career decisions.



Akosita Qereitoga, 42, Nailawa, Labasa

Yes. This is true because a mother's job is to rear children and if they are empowered they would be able to deliver their role well.



Vikash Prasad, 36, Labasa

A woman's contribution to a family is very important, and their empowerment is crucial in family and nation building.



John Cocker, 28, Banisucu, Labasa

I strongly support this statement. The empowerment of women would lead to employment and this would help them earn for their families.



Shama Haseen, 27, Nadi

Yes, empowering women is a pathway for achieving developed societies because the benefits of empowering women are not exclusive to the women but to their families.



Bola Kotoilakeba, 28, Lautoka

Yes, if women are empowered, it not only benefits the family but the community



Global convention empowers Fijian women

PRASHILA DEVI

THE Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) may have originated overseas but it is being used in Fiji to empower women.

Minister for Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation, Mereseini Vuniwaqa cited the implementation of the Zero Tolerance Violence Community whereby communities come to an agreement with the Government to eliminate violence against woman and children as one such initiative.

As she officiated at the opening of the Veinuqa Women's Group's extension centre in Namalata District, Tailevu, Minister Vuniwaqa highlighted the challenges faced by women and how it was being addressed.

She explained that despite reports of a decline in reports of violence against women, “research in Fiji showed the 72 percent of married women faced violence in their family from their husband”.

“The Government implements laws and puts in place programs but the real solution can be found within the family, vanua and in our faith,” Minister Vuniwaqa said while addressing the community in the Natewa dialect.

“When we see families facing this problem we must work together to try and solve the problem.”

Minister Vuniwaqa said the Ministry has advisors who can come in and give advice on empowerment for a better village life.

In an earlier interview, Minister Vuniwaqa had expressed that one of the biggest gap the lack of awareness, which is, “getting the message across to basically everybody in the country”.

“How things are done in the settlements and,



Minister for Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation, Mereseini Vuniwaqa at the opening of the Veinuqa Women's Group's extension centre in Namalata District, Tailevu. Photo: SOLO LEWANAVANUA

village, it's basically the man making the decisions. The woman doesn't have a say in the decision.”

“The CEDAW committee has highlighted specific training and they've identified relevant sectors where this training needs to be emphasized in. They've identified the Police and Judiciary for key gender sensitization.”

“Young mind is easier to mould than the adult mind and if we allow our kids to go through

their education without hearing about this the only place where they actually see this play is at home where this patriarchal system might exist,” Minister Vuniwaqa said.

She said while more women were now in the workforce, there was a need to see that they reach decision-making level as evidenced through the civil service which has 60 per cent women but only 20 per cent reach director level.

Village men back initiatives for women

DIVISHA DEEPTI

WOMEN'S role in our villages is very important because they build up our families, our vanua and our religion, says the Minister for Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation, Mereseini Vuniwaqa.

Speaking at the opening of the Veinuqa Women's Group's extension centre in Namalata District, Tailevu, Minister Vuniwaqa said she was especially happy to see the men supporting such initiatives which ultimately empowers women.

“I know that women need the support of men in all their projects. With so many men in the village hall today it's telling me that the support of men in women's project in this village is strong.”



Minister for Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation, Mereseini Vuniwaqa with Veinuqa villagers in Tailevu. Photo: SOLO LEWANAVANUA

Veinuqa village is one of the 11 villages in the Namalata district and the construction of the extension center began on 2014 but took time to complete due to setbacks.

The centre was given a total of \$4,990 for the construction.

Minister Vuniwaqa highlighted that when women are empowered the family will be better, the village will be cleaner, and the venue will be organized.”

She also mentioned that she is happy that the women are getting the support of the men in the village.

“Today we are about to open the extension and I am encouraging women of Veinuqa to make frequent use of your new facility. It's not only for service to you village but to be a source of income for women in this village.”

The leader of the women's group,

Siteri Vakadraru, said that they did fundraising and collected a total of \$5000 for the tiling while the kitchen utensils were donated by the women who are with their in-laws.

Mrs Vakadraru, who is a former school teacher, said the extension centre will be rented out for hire to generate more income.

There are 319 villagers and 67 households in Veinuqa.



Tribute to Fijians who fought in WWI

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

IT IS very interesting to note that Fiji made a remarkable contribution during the First World War.

It began with most European men of military age living in Fiji who enlisted in the Fiji Defence Force.

According to historical records at the National Archives in Suva and at the Returned Soldiers and Ex-Servicemen's Association (RSESA) in Walu Bay a total of 1,200 men and women enlisted for war service in the Fijian colony.

Ten Fijian soldiers from the Fiji Defence Force were part of New Zealand Battalion of soldiers and sailors that captured German Samoa on 29th August 1914.

The capture of German Samoa was also assisted by 15 Samoans living in Fiji who acted as guides and interpreters.

Fiji's first contingent left for Britain in 1915 and it is known that 357 soldiers served under the Fiji flag with the Kings Royal Rifle Corps (KRRC) of the British Army.

After further training in Britain they fought in the Battle of Flanders where nine Fijian soldier's lost their lives and 31 were wounded.

Similarly, another 101 iTaukei men led by European officers and NCO formed the Fiji Labour Corps.

It is also worth noting that two nursing sisters from Fiji served as nurses in Britain and also as military nurses in hospitals looking after war casualties during the First World War.

Similarly, in July 1915 a second Fijian contingent left for Britain.

However, it was not until 1917 that the iTaukei were accepted by Britain despite having applied repeatedly to the Colonial Administration to be allowed to send their own willing soldiers to serve the British Army.

Private Wiliame Vakautia from Lamini village in Taveuni was one of the Fijian men who lost his life as he died at sea and he was given a sea burial in the Atlantic Ocean.

The 180 men from Fiji who lost their lives during the First World War therefore are always remembered on Remembrance Day on the 11 day of the 11 month and 11th hour of every year "lest we forget".



FACT BOX

■ Fiji's first contingent left for Britain in 1915 and it is known that 357 soldiers served under the Fiji flag with the Kings Royal Rifle Corps (KRRC) of the British Army.

■ After further training in Britain they fought in the Battle of Flanders where nine Fijian soldier's lost their lives and 31 were wounded.



Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama lays a wreath to remember those soldiers who have passed on at the War Memorial site in Veiuoto. Photo: VILIAME TIKOTANI

100 years on, Fiji marks Remembrance Day

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

REMEMBRANCE Day on November 11th has always been marked with great dignity in Fiji not only as a Commonwealth state but also due the sacrifices that were made in the times of battle.

This year it was even more special as it coincided with the centenary of the First World War of 1914.

Retired army officer of the Returned Ex-servicemen Association Officer Staff Sergeant Aisake Tabuadua explained, "The 11th of November has always been commemorated in Fiji and in many countries around the world because it is the exact date and hour that the agreement was signed to end of the First World War".

"This year it fell on a Sunday.

The Remembrance Day used to be called the Armistice Day in the past. The name was changed to Remembrance Day so that it would include all wars after World War 1, for example Solomon Island and the Malayan Campaign and other wars that Commonwealth forces engaged in," Staff Sergeant Tabuadua said.

"The day is also important because it is the day to remember soldiers who have died in the line of duty. They gave up their life so that we may have peace."

"Today we are enjoying our freedom in politics, freedom to do business and live in tranquillity. Their lives are so dear that one cannot be equated in monetary terms."

In Suva the members of the defense force, ex-servicemen's and

officers from the Ministry of Defense braved the rainy conditions to attend the dawn service at 5am.

Ministry of Defense officer Pan- apasa Tabaka commended those that took part on the dawn service at the military cemetery in Lovonilase on Sunday, November 11th, 2018.

"I must commend those that took part in the dawn service as they braved the drizzling rain on behalf of those who lost their lives in order for us to have peace," Mr Tabaka said.

"The dawn service in this kind of weather meant a lot to ex-servicemen as it brought back memories of the soldiers sacrificing their lives because of peace."

"The placing of colourful wreaths at the military cemetery on 11/11 by members of the local and over-

seas defense force representative signified that we will always remember their sacrifice."

"You can see that our friends representing commonwealth forces from Britain, Australia and New Zealand are represented at the Dawn Service placing wreaths, which is one of the highlight of the event," Mr Tabaka said.

"It is also significant this morning that the Permanent Secretary for Defense (Osea Cawaru) was present at the Dawn Service representing the Minister."

Mr Tabaka also acknowledged the presence of the heads of security forces, the Fiji Police Force and the Republic of Military Force as significant.

After the dawn service they then continued with the Remembrance Day ceremonies at the War Me-

morial site in Veiuoto in the presence of the President Major General (ret'd) Jioji Konrote and the Prime Minister Josaia Voreqe Bainimarama.

Returned Soldiers and Ex-Servicemen's Association (RSESA) president Ratu Peni Volavola reiterated that the lives of those who died during the wars cannot be paid in monetary terms.

"Many countries in the world respect and see the Remembrance Day as a precious occasion because they understand the significance behind someone giving up their lives for peace," Ratu Volavola said.

"The RSESA is currently working together with the Ministry of Defense to make more awareness of the history of the RFMF," Ratu Volavola said.

‘Human health tied to climate’

LITIA VULDAUSIGA

WITH climate change, biodiversity and deforestation influencing the emergence of infectious diseases, the correlations between nature and human health continue to be an essential focal point.

Minister for Health and Medical Services, Rosy Akbar recently opened the inaugural Oceania Planetary Health Forum in Nadi where noted the importance of addressing planetary health holistically.

“Climate change, droughts, and extreme storms make it harder to grow food, while there is a nutrition imbalance making people more susceptible to malnutrition and disease,” she said.

“Air pollution can lead to cardiorespiratory illnesses and other diseases. Cyclones and other major storms put people’s lives at risk. Our people also have to deal with severe consequences on our mental health needs. Never before has humanity’s footprint on Earth’s natural systems been so large.”

She commended the World Health Organization for recognizing health and community leaders to achieving the vision



Minister for Health and Medical Services, Rosy Akbar with participants at Oceania Planetary Health Forum in Nadi. Photo: LITIA VULDAUSIGA

of the Health Islands Approach, which Pacific Islands countries committed to via the Yanuca Declaration for a healthier region.

“The Yanuca Declaration document was endorsed when the Pacific population were mainly rural and young, communicable diseases were the order of the day, and WHO target was Health for ALL (HFA) by the year 2000. By 2011 Pacific Leaders declared the Pacific to be in “NCD Crisis”.

Rural to urban drift increased and WHO aims to achieve the Millennium Development Goal (MDG),” Minister Akbar said.

“Now climate change and Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) have become the main themes. Therefore climate change and SDG in the healthy islands context needs to be discussed in the context of environment, ecology and oceans! More importantly healthy islands discussions need to focus on maternal and child

health as majority of the Oceania populace are young people (50 per cent of Fijians are under the age of 25 years).”

Minister Akbar said therefore, literacy on climate change mitigation and adaptation had to be mainstreamed into the curriculum and involve family, children and youths.

As she noted, the key to healthy islands is multi-sectoral and multidisciplinary action.



Young climate change advocates at the launch of the National Climate Day at Ratu Sukuna Park in Suva. Photo: RUPENI VATUBULI

National hotline targets threats to environment

RUPENI VATUBULI

“WE will shortly be launching a National Environment Hotline, in which members of the public can ring in and report any environmental threat.”

These are the words of Prime Minister and 23rd session of Conference of Parties President Frank Bainimarama at the launch of the National Climate Day at Ratu Sukuna Park in Suva last week.

Members of the public have been encouraged to report through the helpline; anyone dumping rubbish where they shouldn’t, removing trees and pulling out mangroves.

“The onus is on all of us to take responsibility for the quality of our surroundings and this hotline will be an important way in which we can hold those who behave irresponsibly to account,” Prime Minister Bainimarama told the crowd gathered at Suva’s Ratu Sukuna Park.

He highlighted that scientists said that there was still time to meet the 1.5 degree

warming target but only just.

“We have to act now. There is no time to waste. Because if we don’t, the planet will warm by at least three degrees by century’s end, which would be a catastrophe for the world,” the COP23 President emphasised.

Prime Minister Bainimarama also said right from the start, Fiji refused to accept the notion that national governments alone have all the answers and everyone else just has to wait patiently for them to act.

“Furthermore, Fiji refused to accept that enough is being done about the urgent need to cap global warming at the most ambitious target of the Paris Agreement - 1.5 degrees Celsius above the pre-industrial age - to avoid destroying life.”

Prime Minister Bainimarama added that Fiji should be proud for leading the way with the Marshall Islands, in becoming the first two nations to commit to raising Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.



Prime Minister and 23rd session of Conference of Parties President Frank Bainimarama with COP23 youngest climate change advocates Timoci Gaunavinaka and Shalvi Sakshi at Ratu Sukuna Park in Suva. Photo: RUPENI VATUBULI



Prime Minister launches National Climate Week in Suva

Prime Minister and COP23 President Frank Bainimarama officiated at the launch of National Climate Day in Suva, calling on Fijians to behave responsibly in terms of disposing their rubbish. Speaking at Ratu Sukuna Park, PM Bainimarama said Fiji should be proud for leading the way with the Marshall Islands, in becoming the first two nations to commit to raising Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. He quoted international scientists as saying there was still time to meet the 1.5 degree global warming target, but only just. "We have to act now. There is no time to waste. Because if we don't, the planet will warm by at least three degrees by century's end, which would be a catastrophe for the world," the COP23 President emphasised. He also announced the launching of a National Environment Hotline, in which members of the public "can ring in and report any environmental threat".

Photos: RUPENI VATUBULI



Fijians mark Remembrance Day, honours sacrifices

Fijian ex-servicemen, serving soldiers and officers, families of ex-servicemen and members of the public turned up in numbers to remember the sacrifices made on the fields of battle since World War I from 1914-1918. This was during ceremonies organised to mark Remembrance Day, which fell on a Sunday this year. In Suva the members of the defence force, ex-servicemen, members of the diplomatic corps and other dignitaries braved the rain to attend the dawn service at 5am at the military cemetery in Lovonilase on Sunday, November 11, 2018. After the dawn service they then continued with the Remembrance Day ceremonies at the War Memorial in Veiuoto in the presence of President Major-General (Ret'd) Jioji Konrote and the Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama. According to historical records at the National Archives in Suva and at the Returned Soldiers and Ex-Servicemen's Association (RSESA) in Walu Bay a total of 1200 men and women enlisted for war service in the Fiji colony during WWI. Fiji's first contingent left for Britain in 1915 and it is known that 357 soldiers served under the Fiji flag with the Kings Royal Rifle Corps (KRRC) of the British Army. The 180 men from Fiji who lost their lives during the First World War therefore are always remembered on Remembrance Day on the 11th day of the 11 month and 11th hour of every year "lest we forget".

Photos: VILIAME TIKOTANI





Landowners share mine royalties

LITIA VULDAUSIGA

VATUKOULA has long been lauded for its gold mines and the township it forged, and now decades after its initial exploration, the traditional landowners have been compensated as the first recipients of Fair Share of Mineral Royalty.

In a poignant occasion on earlier this month, Minister for Lands and Mineral Resources, Faiyaz Koya handed out cheques for 100 villagers of Nasomo at their community hall, in what was hailed as a momentous occasion and also a milestone for the mining sector and Fijian Government.

As Minister Koya noted, it marked the day that the right of landowners to a fair share of royalties for the extraction of minerals under their land, came to fruition.

For while royalty for minerals has normally been retained by the State as owners of minerals under Fiji's Mining Act, the passing of legislation in the May sitting of Parliament gave effect to Section 30 of the Constitution, and thus allowed the sharing of royalty, with 80 per cent directed to the landowners and 20 per cent for the Government.

"This is the new way of benefit sharing in mineral development in our beloved country where mineral royalty is shared equitably amongst landowners for the betterment of all concerned," Minister Koya said.

The share of royalty was for the Vatukoula Gold Mine Limited, which initially paid mining royalty to the Mineral Resources Department, and part of a series of payments that will depend on the company as it operates and continues to mine under Nasomo's land.



Minister for Lands and Mineral Resources, Faiyaz Koya after handing out cheques to 100 villagers at Nasomo Village, Vatukoula. Photo: LITIA VULDAUSIGA

"This fair share law is the first of its kind in Fiji and the region and the landowners of Nasomo are the first landowners to receive this fair share of Mineral Royalty under the 2013 Constitution. This proves Government's continuous effort for landowners in the utilization of their land and in this instant, for the added benefit for the provision of land for mining whether directly on the surface or indirectly as in this case," Minister Koya added.

"This fair share of payment to landowners

is in recognition of their contribution to national development through the use of their land for the purpose of mining. This will also assist in socio-economic development and economic empowerment of indigenous landowning communities and boost local economic activity in rural areas and improve quality of life as per the vision of the Government for equitable benefit sharing."

Nasomo Landowners secretary Taito Koroi said the Fair Share of Royalty marked one of the biggest breakthroughs for the i-

Taukei community.

"We the landowners of Nasomo are fortunate to be the first recipients of this, with 80 per cent for landowners and 20 per cent for the Government of Fiji, which has allowed the i-Taukei to benefit from their land," he said.

As Minister Koya said it is hoped that the payments will be put to beneficial use for Nasomo's families and the harmonious existence it shares with other stakeholders of the mining community.

Tourism trade show links agriculture

LITIA VULDAUSIGA

WITH hotels demanding a diverse input of foods and culinary trends, the linkages between agriculture and tourism remain an essential point of exploration and development.

Tourism is Fiji's largest industry and source of employment, with over 800,000 foreign visitors last year alone.

At the recent HOTEK 2018, the Ministry of Agriculture partnered with the Fiji Hotel and Tourism Association (FHTA) to exhibit the diverse provisions of the farms-to-tables chain at the Denarau Convention Centre in Nadi.

"This annual tourism industry tradeshow recognizes that industry trends change rapidly and the reason Fiji consistently punches way above its small island state weight is because it not only has all the ingredients for great tourism attractions but because we as an industry recognize the need to constantly improve our products and services," FHTA president, Dixon Seeto said.

"And when you are competing with the rest of the world, trade



Permanent Secretary for Agriculture David Kolitagane (left), at the recent HOTEK 2018, where the Ministry of Agriculture partnered with the Fiji Hotel and Tourism Association (FHTA) to exhibit the diverse provisions of the farms-to-tables chain at the Denarau Convention Centre in Nadi. Photo: LITIA VULDAUSIGA

shows like HOTEK ensure that we stay updated, learn new things and constantly improve what we have to offer.

"This year, in partnership with the Ministries of Tourism and Agriculture, we also recognise that a better understanding of our fresh produce demands for tourism could potentially reduce our imports and food costs while providing farmers with greater economic benefits that would also spread

the tourism dollar further in Fiji. We hope that focusing on improving the processes from farm to plate will assist all levels of the supply chain."

Exhibitions extended beyond traditional and newly trialled fruit and vegetables, with live cooking demonstrations and locally manufactured chocolate, oils and cosmetic products honed from local ingredients.

Celebrated chef and author, Col-

in Chung said it was necessary to develop more contemporary recipes for traditional staples.

"One of the things now in hotels and restaurants is that a lot of people don't know how to use local food in different ways, to be more contemporary. We're not talking about doing the lovo or just boiling taro. Taking it to another level is not hard and it's just about opening the eyes of some of our operators and young chefs, to be

This annual tourism industry tradeshow recognizes that industry trends change rapidly and the reason Fiji consistently punches way above its small island state weight is because it not only has all the ingredients for great tourism attractions but because we as an industry recognize the need to constantly improve our products and services

Dixon Seeto
Fiji Hotel and Tourism Association (FHTA) president

more creative and look outside the box," he said.

"We have come up with more things all the time so that's the whole idea and we are winning. We're getting everyone on the big bandwagon with some of the big hotels have associations and that's great because they're impatient to do more."

As he emphasized, local chefs need to be supportive and not keep great recipes to themselves.



Farmer thanks NDP, Govt for assistance

JOSAIA RALAGO

A BENEFICIARY of the Northern Development Program (NDP) has expressed his gratitude to the Government for supporting self-employed Fijians.

Oscar Delana of Vusaratu, Natewa in Cakaudrove is one of the many Northerners that are at the receiving end of the Government's initiative to boost economic activities in Vanua Levu.

"I was assisted by NDP and I also applied a loan to the Fiji Development Bank for the cultivation of my dalo and yaqona farm," Mr

Delana said.

"I was able to pay for the labour, dalo plantings and other materials for the successful implementation of this plan and for this I have the Government to thank.

"I am the sole breadwinner of this family and this has boosted our hope in getting better returns when we harvest."

Mr Delana, who has more than 1000 dalo and yaqona plants, would sometimes suffer from a swollen knee, and this hardworking man regarded this as an inspiration to always strive for the best when he could.

"That is why I have workers but I go with

them to the farm every now and then," he said.

"Our blessing as resource owners is in our land, if we toil the land then we will reap the benefits.

"But sometimes it is a bit difficult to start and that is where the Government is willing to step in.

I would like to urge unemployed Fijians to venture into farming and with these initiatives in place; we would be able to support our own families without having to work for someone else."

I was assisted by NDP and I also applied a loan to the Fiji Development Bank for the cultivation of my dalo and yaqona farm. I was able to pay for the labour, dalo plantings and other materials for the successful implementation of this plan and for this I have the Government to thank.

Oscar Delana
Vusaratu, Natewa, Cakaudrove



Participants from around the North during the REDD+ Training in Labasa. Photo: JOSAIA RALAGO

Conservationists call for resource protection

JOSAIA RALAGO

"I AM pleading with all Fijians to work together in protecting our environment."

This was the message from Sipiriano Qeteqete, who was speaking at the sidelines of the REDD+ Training for Trainers, from around the North, in Labasa which included resource owners, representatives from relevant authorities and civil society organisations.

REDD Plus stands for Reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries (REDD+).

The 51-year-old is a traditional conservationist and coordinator of the world renowned Bouma Heritage Park in Taveuni.

Sharing his experience as a Pacific Islander and one on those who are on the frontline and feeling the brunt of Climate Change, Mr Qeteqete said there were a lot that needed to be done but first people must unite under a banner of conservation.

"I am originally from Lavena Village in Taveuni and I have lived there all my life. I can say that if we do not pull our act together today then our children will suffer," he said.

"Before when we would go to sea, we



Sipiriano Qeteqete (second from left), with resource owners and representative from relevant authorities and civil society organisations during the REDD+ Training in Labasa. Photo: JOSAIA RALAGO

would return with a lot of catch without having to dive far from shore. Now our young men have to go further into the deep sea to fish because resources are getting scarce.

"Conservation is not only for the preservation of the ocean and forests but for the environment which covers these two components and many more."

He said gone were the days where people would have to chop down trees, to carry out development and earn money.

"An example is the Bouma Heritage Park where we focus on eco-tourism, and this would earn us \$100,000 annu-

ally without having to disturb the natural environment," Mr Qeteqete said.

"This could be replicated in many communities around the country because this type of tourism protects our environment and ensures that our future generation would not have to suffer."

He has vowed to carry the message he has learned from the training to communities in Taveuni so Fijians could align themselves with the Government's vision towards environment conservation.

There were a total of 22 trainees that attended the five day training earlier this month.

Collection centre offers market opportunities

NEMANI TURAGAIVIU

FARMERS and fishermen of Bua will no longer have to worry about accessing a market for their produce.

This was after the opening of the new Agro Marketing Authority (AMA) collection centre in Dama Bua by the Minister for Agriculture Inia Seruiratu, which will ensure that those Fijians in the primary industries will not have to look for their commodities.

The collection centre used to be an old building, which belonged to the Ministry of Agriculture but \$90,000 worth of refurbishment has been carried out to provide the market particularly for farmers and fishermen.

Minister Seruiratu said the new collection centre, which was one of the services extended by the Ministry, provides support to farmers and fishermen particularly where the market for their produce is not available.

"We have opened a collection centre in Savusavu in April 2017 and this centre in Dama will work accordingly to boost and sustain the supply from our customers," he said.

"The income generated from this centre will help support our children's education, improve our standard of living, and boost economic growth in our villages and communities."

"It's time that people have to work the extra mile. Our wealth is in our resources- the land, our iqoliqoli and forests. Make use of what the Government has done in bringing the services right to your doorsteps."

Meanwhile, AMA chairman, Setareki Tale, said this collection centre would serve villages from Lekutu to Kubulau.

"Previously AMA was servicing the whole of Vanua Levu from Savusavu, and now the Government has decided to set up a collection centre in Dama basically to provide for the needs of farmers and fishermen in the province of Bua," Mr Tale said.

"The produce we're looking to obtain from Bua, it's the whole range like dalo, cassava, dalo ni tana, while marine products we're looking at are mud-crabs, fish and also buying vegetables."

Mr Tale stressed that communities need to understand when securing markets there's a need to have consistency in the supply of produce to be able to meet the demands.



Government sets focus on climate, oceans

NANISE NEIMILA

FIJI will be working on key interventions that will draw attention on climate change and ocean action by taking up leadership role in these key areas.

This was highlighted by the Fiji's Permanent Representative to the United Nations Ambassador in New York, United States of America Dr Satyendra Prasad.

"Fiji intends to capitalize on the opportunities presented at the 73rd United Nations General Assembly platform to project itself on international leadership role beyond COP23 (23rd session of Conference of Parties) as leader on climate-oceans and

security," Dr Prasad said.

"We are also calling for strong global financial/technical support to help developing (including vulnerable middle income countries) achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) while protecting their economies from climate change and support of UN platforms."

Dr Prasad adds that the 73rd UNGA presents an important platform for reorganizing Fiji's leadership to include the broader international perspective of climate - oceans - security.

"In reorganising its new global leadership perspective, the Fijian Government will draw the attention of the UN system that

is to seek assistance in the protection of our marine environment and safeguard our marine boundaries."

"We are also looking into broadening opportunities for Fijians to participate in peacekeeping and peacebuilding missions - drawing on the talent of officers across military, police, and corrections. We will develop new capabilities across our forces - we will invest in talent building."

Dr Prasad is adamant that through Fiji's leadership at COP23, it will be able to achieve these goals but that this would need more work to be able to achieve the key interventions.

Fiji committed to UN peacekeeping, peace building

NANISE NEIMILA

FIJI will demonstrate its strong commitment to support United Nations reform efforts as these are necessary to help transition countries out of conflict and prevent them from sinking into conflict.

This was highlighted by Fiji's Permanent Representative to the United Nations in New York, United States of America, Ambassador Dr Satyendra Prasad.

Dr Prasad said Fiji will seek to broaden opportunities for Fijians to participate in peacekeeping and peace building missions - drawing on the talent of officers across military, police, and corrections.

"We will develop new capabilities across our forces - we will invest in talent building and we are focused on this," he said.

"Fiji will work with the Security Council members and potential new ones to ensure that small states like Fiji continue to play their full part in supporting international efforts in securing and maintaining peace."

"Fiji endorses UN efforts to focus on peace building and conflict prevention and is taking necessary steps to develop and sharpen capabilities across our military - police - corrections and civilian administration."

Meanwhile, Dr Prasad said apart from peacekeeping and peace building missions, Fiji will also take a leading role in developing a treaty for the high seas (Biodiversity beyond National Jurisdictions) work "on what lies beyond our seas matters to us".

"We are custodians of all the seas and we will work with everyone to see that an international law is well developed and that this law protects and advances our interests."

Dr Prasad adds that this will be another avenue that Fiji will further pursue but because this is in our national interest first.



President Major-General (Ret'd) Jioji Konrote and Minister of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation Mereseini Vuniwaqa with children during the launch of National Child Helpline - 1325. Photo: ERONI VALILI

National helpline offers help for children

RUPENI VATUBULI

WHILE launching the National Child Helpline, President Major-General (Ret'd) Jioji Konrote highlighted that over 300 cases of rape and sexual offences on children were reported this year.

This is the figure from January to August of this year as highlighted by the Office of the Director of Public Prosecution.

"This means that for the past eight months, more than one child were being neglected and abused each day," President Konrote said.

He appealed to parents and guardians to take greater responsibility of their children and encouraged kids to dial the National Child Helpline - 1325 (Free call) if they ever felt that someone or something made them feel uncomfortable.

Fiji has introduced or strengthened various legislations, policies and programmes of services to assist children.

One of them in particular was a Government initiative through partnership with the Medical Services Pacific (MSP), one of Fiji's key stakeholders in the effort to protect children.

MSP operates a 24-hour service. It recently confirmed an accumulated

total of 42,705 calls to the Child Help Line of which 5,113 were genuine calls, 8,413 were prank calls, 10,230 silent calls, 16,337 testing calls and 2,612 voice-mail calls. A total of 1,748 male and 3,248 female callers called the helpline to-date.

The Crimes Act of 2009 is the legislation that ensures the protection of children and makes provisions for the protection of children from forcible transfer, enslavement, trafficking, defilement and other situations of abuse while the Domestic Violence Act of 2009, which protects children from domestic violence situations, provides greater access to justice for women and children.

Furthermore, the Child Welfare Act of 2010 encourages all professionals who become aware or reasonably suspects during the practice of his or her profession that a child has been or is being, or is likely to be harmed must immediately notify the Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation.

The Fijian Head of Government also highlighted that the Child Helpline is being used mostly by adults to report on child cases, however, the new concept is to encourage children to use the National Child Helpline to call and voice their concerns.



Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation's permanent secretary Dr Josefa Koroivueta at the launch of National Child Helpline - 1325. Photo: ERONI VALILI



This means that for the past eight months, more than one child were being neglected and abused each day.



President Major-General (Ret'd) Jioji Konrote

\$132K footbridge benefits hundreds of villagers

RUPENI VATUBULI

“TODAY it may just be one foot-bridge, but it’s much more than that to the hundreds of men, women and children who will use it every day.”

These were the sentiments of Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama as he officiated at the ground-breaking ceremony of the Tobunio Bridge in Tailevu last week.

Prime Minister Bainimarama said it will be a way to tap into their own potential, giving them the ability to market their goods - from the fruits and vegetables they produce to the beautiful handicrafts they are known for - to a much wider pool of customers.

It will ease their route to the village plantation, school, health centre, social services, and other public amenities that lie across the river.

Tobunio Village headman, Kemueli Kedrayate said the footbridge serves as a cross-cut for the tikina of Namara which has five villages.

“When there is heavy rain it leaves the road in a horrible condition that the buses are unable to drive in. The students than use the crossing to come to Tobunio to catch the bus,” Mr Kedrayate said.



Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama with villagers of Tobunio village after the footbridge ground-breaking ceremony in Tailevu. Photo: RUPENI VATUBULI

The village headman said he was thankful to the Government for building a proper crossing as in the past they would use wooden beams that would be washed away during heavy rains.

“The wooden beams were shaky and un-

stable – villagers would fall into the river while trying to cross. The crossing is very important to us as we need to cross it to go to school and have excess to medical services at Namara health centre,” the village headman elaborated.

The \$132,000 concrete walkway, steps and culvert project is currently being constructed by the Republic of Fiji Military Forces (RFMF) engineers and is expected to be completed by early January next year.



Members of the public turn up in numbers at the launch of WiFi hotspot at Rakiraki Town.

Free WiFi for rural Western towns

LITIA VULDAUSIGA

PUBLIC internet access has now been extended to Tavua and Rakiraki in a bid to empower communities with improved digital services.

Users are able to download the Walesi app onto their smartphones and register basic personal details to access 60 minutes of complimentary WiFi daily.

“There are also filters to block out any adverse content,” noted Izek Lal, Acting Director for

Department of Information, and Walesi board member.

The WiFi launch drew large crowds at Tavua District School and in Rakiraki’s central business district earlier this month as the Fijian Government accelerates efforts to harness more positive learning spaces.

This will particularly benefit young people and youths who cannot personally afford internet, as the Walesi app will enable access to the online realm for academic research and school projects, entertainment, job hunting and more.

Families and friends in Tavua and Rakiraki were treated to lively entertainment and free rides and confections, with attendees also winning prizes such as smart phones and a Hicence television set.

These towns were the 11th and 12th site for the digital initiative.

Additionally, members of the public earning below \$30,000 per annum were also able to apply and receive free Walesi set top boxes, which enables them to access an assortment of entertaining and educational television channels.



Acting Director for Department of Information, and Walesi board member Izek Lal in Rakiraki.



The WiFi launch drew large crowds as the Fijian Government accelerates efforts to harness more positive learning spaces.



Fijian brand launch eyes market

LITIA VULDAUSIGA

WITH increasingly health-conscious consumers, the new Fijian Organic brand adds an exciting dimension to the Fijian Made – Buy Fijian Made Campaign.

The brand was launched in Nadi recently by the Minister for Industry, Trade and Tourism, Faiyaz Koya and recognizes local producers with organic farming methods.

Specifically, certification is based on either recognised international standards certification under the Pacific Guarantee Scheme with Pacific Organic & Ethical Trade Community (Poet-Com).

“The Fijian Organic brand is a beginning of a new journey for Fiji by providing a platform for the development of organics,” Minister Koya said.

“The organic market is growing

as consumers are becoming increasingly health conscious and more concerned about the environment. There is a huge demand for organic food and people are now more than willing to pay a high price for organically grown foods and products.”

This newest branding has already been certified to Muppet Enterprise Limited, Vee’s Organic Farm, Doc’s Organics (Fiji), Kaiming Agro, Fiji China Juncao Tech Demonstration and Frezco Beverage, with respective products extending beyond food and into cosmetics and skincare.

As the Minister noted, health benefits have driven the popularity of organic foods, which are grown naturally without the use of pesticides, growth hormones, fertilizers and other modifications.

“The carcinogenic effects of most chemicals, such as Malathion are well documented. Simi-



Minister for Industry, Trade and Tourism, Faiyaz Koya says the Fijian Organic brand is a beginning of a new journey for Fiji by providing a platform for the development of organics.

lar chemicals can also cause allergies, cardiovascular problems, nerve disorders, Alzheimer’s diseases and congenital defects in children. To avoid these health risks – go organic,” Minister Koya urged.

“Organic food is full of nutrients. Fruit and vegetables grown organically can provide all the vitamins and natural minerals that the human body needs. This is unsurprising, since non-organic foods are produced for bulk rather than quality. Organic foods are grown slowly and with more care, which allows them to absorb minerals from the soil,” he added.

The MITT has partnered with the Ministry of Agriculture, United Nations Development Fund and

organic stakeholders for a National Organic Framework, with a consultant to be engaged soon for a draft.

Additionally, the MITT will partner with the Ministry of Health and Medical Services through the Fijian Organic brand on a joint media campaign to raise more awareness on the benefits of producing and consuming organic products.

Minister Koya confirmed that an export capacity specialist would also be engaged for market research and to advise companies in establishing pathways and negotiating product placements with global retail chains for improved market access.

“The Ministry will also work

with the Ministry of Agriculture to ensure that extension services to farmers are readily available and that the farmers are up skilled with organic farming methods. There needs to be a consistent supply of organic products in the market,” he said.

The Fijian Made- Buy Fijian Made Campaign was launched in 2011 with brands such as Fijian Grown, Fijian Sewn and Fijian Crafted, which have become increasingly popular both nationally and regionally.

Today a total of 591 companies are licensed with over 3,600 products registered.

Interested companies are urged to apply to the MITT for Fijian Organic certification.

Utensils, furniture for rural mothers’ club

DIVISHA DEEPTI

THE Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation’s permanent secretary Dr Josefa Koroivueta handed over \$9,894 worth of utensils and furniture to the Waimanu Mother’s Club.

These utensils and furniture included cooking pots, tea urns, coffee mugs, folding tables, blinds and a projector, wooden chairs, white boards.

The club, which has 25 members, focuses on activities such as sewing, baking and cooking to generate income for the club.

The women have been participating in the National Women’s Expo over the years but have only reached the district level.

However, with the help of the new equipment, they aim to be able to reach the national level.

Dr Koroivueta encouraged the women to keep striding towards their goal.

“We are hoping to see more Women from Waimamu mothers club at the next Fiji Women’s Expo in May next year. You should reach a certain level so you can take part in the expo.”



LEFT: Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation’s permanent secretary Dr Josefa Koroivueta with members of the Waimanu Mother’s Club at he handing over of cooking utensils and kitchen furniture.

RIGHT: Dr Josefa Koroivueta and Director for Women Selai Korovusere at Waimanu, in Naitasiri. Photos: SOLO LEWANAVANUA

The group has also been a recipient of four hand sewing machines from the Ministry back in 2009.

Club secretary, Ilisapeci Tavaga, said the community hall used to be idle and as a result, the women got together to come up with a project that would allow them to generate income.

The people of Naitasiri normally look for halls to hire for their meetings, which is usually too expensive.

Mrs Tavaga said their new com-

munity hall will lower the cost for other people and also earn revenue for the people.

The women are also thankful to fellow village member, Asenaca Irenasau, who has been mentoring the group all this while.

Meanwhile, Dr Koroivueta highlighted that the Ministry also runs courses in financial literacy for women and was ready to support the business endeavour of such groups.





Committee enhances ties for high-level visits

THE Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Office of the President and the British High Commission earlier this week held an After Action Review (AAR) meeting with the Inter Agency Coordination Committee (IACC).

The After Action Review was held to discuss lessons learnt from jointly organising the Official Royal Visit of the Duke and Duchess of Sussex to Fiji last month.

Speaking at the IACC AAR meeting, the British High Commissioner Melanie Hopkins thanked all the Royal Visit IACC members for their commitment and team work.

Ms Hopkins in particular acknowledged the strong leadership of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs permanent secretary, Major General (Ret'd) Ioane Naivalurua who chaired the Royal Visit Interagency Coordinating Committee.

In turn Mr Naivalurua acknowledged the role of British High Commission and all the stakeholders for their collaborative support.

He said it was important to review the current processes to incorporate the lessons learnt and reflect the consolidated strategies to improve the National Standard Operating Procedure which will guide IACC when planning for any high level visits to be hosted by Fiji in the future.

Mr Naivalurua said that multisectoral cooperation between agencies is the foundation to enhance the plans and level of coordination required while hosting the high level diplomatic visits to Fiji.

It also provided an opportunity for the Permanent Secretary for Foreign Affairs, the Official Secretary of the Office of the President and the British High Commissioner to say thank you to the key stakeholders for their hard work behind the scenes to make the visit a success.

The Official Royal Visit planning, preparation and execution was undertaken by the personnel from the following 25 agencies;

British High Commission, Office of the President, Office of the Prime Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Defence and National Security, Republic of Fiji Military Forces, Fiji Police Force, Ministry of iTaukei Affairs, Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Forests, Ministry of Education and Heritage, Ministry of Women and Children, Department of Information, Divisional Commissioners- Central and Western, Suva City Council, Fiji Airports Ltd, Fiji Airways, Grand Pacific Hotel, University of the South Pacific, Fiji Revenue and Customs Service, Biosecurity Authority of Fiji, Department of Immigration and UN Women.

The IACC members were also recognised through the presentation of commendation certificates.

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Praise for women at model United Nations

A GROUP of students from the Fiji National University's Lautoka campus have won acclaim at the Model United Nations Conference in Washington DC held last weekend.

The Fiji Women's Model United Nations team facilitated by the Ministry of Youth and Sports with support of the FNU, and the US Peace Corps, participated in the National Model United Nations Conference in Washington DC with over 400 students from around the world.

The team was awarded Honourable Mention in the category of Best Delegation and awarded a Best Position Paper award for teammates Miliana Sadrata and Apisaki Tupou's Position Paper.

Participating and representing Canada as their adopted country in a simulation of the UN, the team was also represented in 6 separate committees, finding solutions to issues in climate change, food security, natural disasters, HIV/AIDS prevention, chemical weapons, renewable energy, and much more. US Peace Corps volunteer, Sara Conklin said each team member successfully submitted and wrote recommendations that were adopted by acclamation into their committees.

"Although not directly awarded, all of our teammates did what they came here to do. Every Committee put recommendations of their own into Committee UN Resolutions that were adopted by acclamation," she said.

"I was so impressed by the talent of these



Fiji's Model UN representative with Ministry of Youth and Sports officials at Washington DC, USA.
Photo: SUPPLIED

young Fijian women. With very little sleep, they actively remained diplomatic and strategic; Fiji quickly gained the reputation for their friendliness, collaborative spirit, and enthusiasm."

"In essence, I believe that as the first team from Fiji to this conference, they made Fiji very proud," Ms Conklin further said.

Accompanying the team to the UN, Ms Conklin and Ministry of Youth and Sports Senior Coordinator, Jemesa Delana worked tirelessly to provide encouragement and support for the nine young women.

Echoing the Minister for Youth and Sports Laisenia Tuitubou's remark during their send off, Mr Delana said the "Model United Nations effectively provided a unique opportunity to the nine young women to be part of something great, to have a voice in the decision making process and most importantly in making a difference through their positive contributions."

The Model UN is an international society of clubs that teaches global leadership through action.

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Aim to reduce mushroom imports by 2020

THE importation of mushrooms into the country is expected to be reduced significantly by 2020 through the continued efforts of the Ministry of Agriculture in training local farmers.

Once trained, local farmers will be able to supply locally produced mushrooms for the tourism market in the country.

Speaking at the 24th JUNCAO Technology Training Course for farmers, stakeholders and staff held at the China-Fiji JUNCAO Technology Demonstration Centre, Legalega Research Station in Nadi yesterday, Senior Research Officer, Dr Tekini Nakidakida detailed the phases being implemented by the Ministry to ensure reduced mushroom imports.

"According to a survey we conducted last year in the Western Division, majority of the hotels buy their mushrooms from overseas. After engaging with them during the survey, they have shown an interest to buy local mushrooms and help in the reduction of mushroom imports. The onus is on local mushroom producers to be able to meet the demands of the market," he said.

There are now more than 60 farmers growing mushroom on



Team leader for JUNCAO Technology Mr Lin Zhansen addresses participants during the two-day 24th JUNCAO Technology Training Course at Legalega Research Station in Nadi.

a large scale, with continued interest in mushroom production coming from Central and Western Divisions.

"We want to have more coordinated groups in Fiji in the second phase that can consistently supply the market, especially the hoteliers and restaurants," he said.

The second phase of the project

will include more promotion and awareness of mushroom to the farmers and stakeholders, the establishment of cluster groups for the production and establishment of the mushroom industry, the use of the JUNCAO grass to improve livestock and the use of the grass in environmental conservation in Fiji.

"At the end of the second phase, there should be enough production and locals should be aware of what is happening and where they can access the facilities," he added. The second phase of the JUNCAO Technology began in January 2018 and will continue for three years until 2020.

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FijiFocus



President Major-General (Ret'd) Jioji Konrote with University of the South Pacific (USP) students at the 70th Anniversary of the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights in Suva. Photo: ERONI VALILI

Sunrise initiative

KONROTE: IT'S A SYMBOL OF A NEW BEGINNING

NANISE NEIMILA

“SUNRISE is the symbol of beginnings, carrying with it optimism and hope for a better future.”

“That undoubtedly was one of the goals of the drafters of the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights when they took up their task 70 years ago.”

This was the message by President Major-General (Ret'd) Jioji Konrote while officiating at the Sunrise initiative, which was in commemoration of the 70th Anniversary of the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights in Suva.

President Konrote shared with guests present that the Declaration that they imagined and set out to create would allow everyone to hope for better days ahead.

“As we, people of the Pacific know only too well, one of the greatest challenges facing us today, which in some parts of the region jeopardizes our very existence, results from the impacts of climate change.

“To state just a few of the obstacles confronting us: The latest Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) assessment report projects for small islands a medium risk of “loss of livelihoods, coastal settlements, infrastructure, ecosystem ser-

vices and economic stability,” in the near term (2030 - 2040), and a very high risk in the long term (2080 - 2100).”

He added that this included the major climate-related security concerns for the Pacific Islands such as access to fresh water, local food supply, damage to coral reefs, declining fisheries and impacts on agriculture and infrastructure damage through rising sea levels, other flooding, and storm damage.

President Konrote highlighted Fiji's leadership role at the 23rd session of Conference of Parties (COP23) and refusal to accept that enough is being done to address

the urgent need to cap global warming at the most ambitious target of the Paris Agreement – 1.5 degrees Celsius above the pre-industrial age.

“We have introduced the talanoa concept, of respectful and inclusive decision-making, into the UN system, and at COP24 we will co-host with Poland a talanoa session between the world's climate change ministers.”

“The essence of the talanoa is that it builds empathy and trust by sharing not only the achievements of countries and communities, but also by sharing challenges and initial failures.”

Noda Viti



Vakaraute me biuta ko Peresitedi Jioji Konrote na ivutu senikau ni vakananumi ni siga ni valu levu. Toka e yasana nona jikoqe ko Aide Comp Captain Julian Toganivalu. iTaba: VILIAME TIKOTANI

Yabaki 100 na cava ni imatai ni ivalu levu

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

ENA veiyabaki kece e dau vakananumi e Viti kei vuravura na cava ni ivalu levu. E vakamacala kina ko Aisake Vula Tabuadua na ivakalesilesi ni iSoqosoqo ni Sotia Luvaisulu e Viti ka kaya vakaoqo ne; “Oqo e dua na gauna e dau vakaraitaka kina lewe ni vanua na bibi ni i ka 11 ni aua, 11 ni siga kei na 11 ni vula ena yabaki oqo ka vakananumi kina e Viti ena Siga Tabu.” “Oqo na tiki ni siga ka oti kina na imatai ni ivalu levu kara mai sainitaka kina na veivaluvaluti tiko ena gauna oya na tikina siga kei na tiki ni aua me sa mai mudu kina na imatai ni ivalu levu ni vuravura,” tukuna ko Tabuadua. “Na siga oqo e dua kilai tu eliu me *Armistice Day*.” “Sa mani mai veisautaki me yacana na *Remembrance Day* me rawa ni oka kece kina na vei valu e mai yaco tiko e muri ni oti na imatai ni

ivalu levu. Na kena ivakaraitaki ga na ivalu mai Solomon, na ivalu mai Maleya kei na so tale na vanua e vakayacori kina na ivalu ka vakaitavi kina na matanitu cokovata na *Commonwealth*.” “Oya na kena bibi ka kena ikarua talega na kena valataki na galala. Na galagala eda sa sotava tu ena gauna oqo, na galala vakapolitiki, na galala ni bula vakabisinisi e sau levu sara,” tukuna ko Tabuadua. “E sau levu ni yali kina na nodra bula na tukada ka vakavuna meda mai tugalala tu kina ena gauna oqo.” “Mai marautaki ena Siga Tabu ena yabaki oqo ia na tiki ni siga e sega ni veisau,” tukuna ko Tabuadua. Ena koro turaga e Suva ena lima na kaloko ena mataka lailai sa tekivu kina na *Dawn Service* kara vosota mai kina na sotia, mataivalu e wai, sotia luva isulu kei ira na vakailesilesi e cake ni tabana ni veitaqomaki ena noda vanua vaka kina o ira na kena mata era matataka na tabana ni

veitaqomaki eso mai vanua tani. Era duavata yani ena lotu ni vakananumi ena ibulubulu ni sotia e Lovonilase. Marautaka ko Panapasa Tabaka mai na Minisitiri ni Veitaqomaki na nodra vosota yani e na *Dawn Service* ena mataka ni ikatinikadua ni siga. “E dina ni mataka ucauca ia sa dua na mataka vakaibalebale talega vei ira na liga ni iwau ena noda vanua mera vakananumi kina o ira na sa liu vei keimami. Ena vuku ni kena qaravi na itavi ena kena valataki tu na drotini ni noda vanua ena veivanua era lai qarava tu na noda sotia,” tukuna ko Tabaka. “Ia na mataka ni kua e dua na mataka e vakaibalebale vei ira vakabibi vei ira na noda era sa luva isulu.” “Baleta ni kauta lesu mai na iyaloyalo ni veinanumi ni veitokani na iyaloyalo talega ni nodra dau solia tu nanodra bula ena vuku ni kena qaravi na itavi.” “Na ibalebale ni kena kau na ivutu senikau qo e dua na vei qaravi ka

tokona tiko na kena vakananumi na 11/11.” “Koya oqo e qaravi ena mataka lailai edua na kena iwalewale era vakaitavi talega kina o ira na wekada era vakaitavi tu ena Commonwealth vakabibi vei ira na itokani e Ositerelia kei Niusiladi,” tukuna ko Tabaka. “Kivei ira na mai vakatora na ivutu senikau era vakaitavi kina na goneturaga na Vunivola Tudei ni Tabana ni Veitaqomaki ena vukudra na turaga na Minisita.” “Vaka kina na iliuliu ni Mataivalu ni Viti na iliuliu ni Tabacakacaka ni Ovisa vakakina na iliuliu ni vanua ni Veivakadodonutaki era veitaravi talega mai o ira na veitacini vakaivalu mai na veimatanitu ka ra mai tiko ena noda vanua vinaka oqo ko Viti,” tukuna ko Tabaka. Ni oti na *Dawn Service* ena ibulubulu ni mataivalu mai Nauluvatu sa qai lai qaravi yani na vakatori ni ivutu senikau ena ivakananumi ni ivalu e Veiuoto.



Vakarusu na vanua ni vakasucu ni namu

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

SA veivakasalataki na Minisitiri ni Bula vei keda na lewe ni vanua kece e Viti me da vakarusu na vanua era dau vakasucu kina na namu.

Vakabibi na noda vakarusai na veika e rawa ni tawa kina na wai mera vakasucu kina na namu ena yasana ni noda vale se vanua ni

cakacaka.

E da sa vakauqeti talega meda vakayagataka na kuvui ni namu, na taunamu, kei na lawalawa ni namu me biu e katuba leka kei na katuba ena mataka lailai kei na gauna ni dromu na siga.

Na ivakasala ogo e muria na kena levu sara tiko na ripote ni namu ena vula ko Okotova ena noda vanua vakabibi na kawa ni namu na

Aedes ka kune tiko e Suva, Lami kei Nausori.

Sa vakalevutaka na Minisitiri na sikovi ni veivale ena kena vakadeitaki na veitauvi ni *dengue fever*.

Sa cakacaka vata tiko na Tabana ni Bula kei na veimatabose ni tauni ena kena qarauni na tiko savasava kei na vakarusai ni vanua era dau vakasucu kina na namu vakabibi ena vula ni tau ni uca.

Soqo ni vakaraitaki ivoli e Jaina

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

ME vaka e tukuna na Peresitedi ni vanua ko Jaina ko Xi Jinping ena dola ni soqo China International Import Expo (CIIE) ni na tomani tiko ko Jaina na nona dolava tiko nona katuba ka vakarabailavutaka tiko nona veiwekani ni veivoli.

Na China International Import Expo (CIIE) e dua na gauna vinaka vei keda na veimatanitu lalai ena Pasifika me da vakaraitaki keda ki vuravura.

Oqori na veika e tukuna na mata kei Viti ki Jaina ko Manasa Tagicakibau e Shanghai, e Jaina.

ko Jaina e dolava tiko vakarabailavu na katuba ni veivoli kei na veivanua tani

Manasa Tagicakibau
mata kei Viti ki Jaina

“Ke da raica na draki ni veivoli e vuravura ni kua era vakalevutaka tiko nodra tataqomaki kei na nodra nanumi ira ga,” tukuna ko Tagicakibau.

“Oya na veika sara ga e ivakatatao ni veivoli.”

“Ia ko Jaina e vakayacora tiko na kena veibasai, e dolava tiko na vakarabailavu na katuba ni veivoli kei na veivanua tani.”

“Na makete mada ga e Jaina e vakaitamera. Ni da vosa me baleta na ivoli e kau mai kina kena makete esa dodonu meda vakalevutaka mai na ka e da volitaka me sotava na gagadre ni makete,” tukuna ko Tagicakibau.

“Oya e dua na bolebole eda sotava tiko, oya na vuna keimami sa via tara kina e dua na vatavata tudei e Shanghai.”

“Qo na vatavata me dau kau mai kina na ivoli nei Viti me rawa ni vakaraitaki kina kena makete mera raica

Tukuna ko Tagicakibau ni 4 na ivoli nei Viti ka sa meketatki vakalevu tiko mai jaina oya na *-Fiji Water, -Fiji Beer, -Fiji Noni Tea, -Pure Fiji products*.

Vakavinavinakataka talega o Tagicakibau na nodra tiko ena soqo ni vakaraitaki ivoli oya e dua na timi mai Viti. Me vakatiki iratou na Investment Fiji ena veiliutaki nei Lisala Dyer, na Daireketa ni Saravanua kei na Veivoli ko Nanise Masau, na MITT Economic Planning officer ko Shinal Prasad.



Bubuluitaki ko Peresitedi Konrote

Esa mai bubuluitaki tale na Peresitedi ni noda vanua Jioji Konrote me veiqaravi ena dua tale na ilesilesi vou vakamatanitu. Qarava ka vakamatanitutaka na bubului ogo na turaga vosa vakadua Sir Chief Justice Anthony Gates ka me tolu talega na yabaki. Era tiko talega kina na liuliu ni matanitu Voreqe Bainimarama kei ira na vulagi sureti .

iTaba: ERONI VALILI

Sala malumu ni vakameau ni Singapore

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

VAKARAITAKA na Vunivola Tudei ni Veivakacacakataki kei na Veimaliwai Vakacacaka ko Salaseini Daunabuna ni ka sa rui totoka kina na tabana ni Vakameau ni Veimaliwai Vakacacaka ni Singapore se Singapore Mediation Centre (SMC) ni yaco kina na veirogorogoci ni yasana ruarua ka sega na veisaqasaqa. Na lewa e sega ni tiko vua na dau ni vakameau e tiko sara ga vei rau na ito rurua e rau veivakameau tiko.

Valavinavinakataka ko Daunabuna na nodratou mai veivakavulici vei ira na nona ivakailesilesi na tabana ni vakameau ni Singapore ka kilai levu e vuravura na Sin-



Ko ira na lewe 21 na dau ni vakameau ni Viti kei ira na kena qasenivuli ni Singapore Mediation Centre ena Holiday Inn e Suva.

gapore Mediation Centre (SMC) ena vuli siga 4 ena Holiday Inn e Suva. Kara vuli kina e 21 na dau ni vakameau ni Minisitiri ni Veivakacacakataki kei na Veimaliwai vakacacaka.

“Mai na gauna a tavo kina na tabana ni vakameau ena 2009 e dina ni levu na kudru ni veimaliwai vakacacaka, e tiko sara e cake na levu ni kisi e wali rawa ka koto ena 80 kina 83 na pasede ena 2017-2018.”

“Qoka sa ivakaraitaki ni sa mana

sara tiko na vuli eratou mai vakayacora tiko na Singapore Mediation Centre (SMC),” tukuna ko Daunabuna.

“Na nodra mai vakavulici na dau vakameau ni veimaliwai vakacacaka e Viti sa laveta na nodra itagede ni veiqaravi kina dua tale na itagade,” tukuna ko Daunabuna.

“Na ituvatuva ni veivakatorocaketaki yabaki 5 kina 20 ni Viti se National Development Plan e tatadrataki kina na “Veisauvou” me rawa kina na toso ki liu, vuvuwai

kei na vakavinakataki ni itagade ni bula ni lewenivanua,” tukuna ko Daunabuna.

“Na Matanitu e vakabauta na nodrau veitalanoa ena sala malumu na ito erau veiba tiko me wali na nodrau leqa ena yalo vinaka kei na duvata kei na veivakabauti.”

“Na veimaliwai vinaka ni veitabana ni cakacaka e taqomaki vinaka kina na gagadre ni itaukei ni cakacaka kei na gagadre ni tamata cakacaka,” tukuna ko Daunabuna.



Era marautaka na lewe ni vanua e Nadi na soli ni nodra lisi ena qele ni matanitu. iTaba: LITIA VULAUDUSIGA

Vakadonui e 62 na lisi

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

SA laki solia na Minisita ni Qele ko Faiyaz Koya e 62 na lisi vei ira na vakaitikotiko mai Nadovi e Nadi. Qoka o ira na tara vale tu vakailaoa kasa na rawa vei ira mera lisitaka na tiki ni qele sa vidaividai vei ira me baleta na nodra dui matavuvale. “Au kila ni oni sa waraka vakabalavu mai na vidai ni qelel moni lisitaka. Ia ni kua sa

dodonu moni maraua ni oni sa rawa ni wiliika e dua na tiki ni qele me nomuni,” tukuna ko Minisita Koya. “Qoka e tiki ni sasaga ni Matanitu me tosoya sobu na bula dravudravua ena noda vanua kei na nodra vukei na matavuvale mera taukena edua na lisi ka rawa ni dolava vei ira e levu na katuba ni bula torocake.” “Me yacova mai ni kua sa vidavida na Matanitu e 400 na tiki ni qelel e Viti me ra lisitaka na vakaitikotiko vakailoa ena veiqelel ni

matanitu eso ena noda vanua kara oka kina na 68 na matavuvale oqo Nadovi mai Nadi,” tukuna ko Minisita Koya. Sa kerei ira na minisita ni qele mera vakamuria vakavinaka na veika e gadreva na veidininadati ni lisi ka mera na sauma vinaka na nodra lisi. “Sa tiko na nomuni itavi moni vakayacora ena dina dodonu kei na savasava,” tukuna ko Minisita Koya

Soli icovi ni bisinisi uasivi

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

VAKACAUCAUTAKI ira na sa tauri icovi oti ena veiyabaki sa oti kei ira era tauri icovi ena yabaki oqo me baleta bisinisi uasivi se Fiji Business Excellence Award 2018 na turaga na Peresitedi ni noda vanua ko Jioji Konusi Konrote. Vakacaucautaki ira talega na veikabani era a sevutaka na vesisivi oqo ena vica na yabaki sa sivi me vaka na Ocean Soap Limited, Coca – Cola Amatil Fiji kei na Fletcher Pacific Steel (Fiji) Ltd. “Au vakacaucautaki ira talega na veikabani era qaqa oti ena soli icovi vaka oqo ena veiyabaki sa sivi. Vinaka vakalevu kina Vodafone Fiji Limited, DHL Fiji, Sheraton Resort Fiji, FEA sa Energy Fiji Limited ni kua, kei na Air Terminal Services. “Ko ira na veikabani oqo era ivakadinadina bula ni sega ni dua na ka e dredre kevaka e koto donu na kena vakasama, veisau na ivakarau ni rai, vakamuri na lawa ni cakacaka vakadodonu, matata na tatadra e via rawati. Ni vaka oya ena talave cake na kabani ka walia na bolebole ka vakadeitaka tikoga na nona rawa tubu,” tukuna ko Peresitedi Konrote.

Vakavinavinaka talega na turaga na Peresitedi kina National Training & Productivity Centre (NTPC) ni Fiji National University ena rua-sagavulu ni yabaki ni kena qaravi tiko mai na vesisivi oqo. “Na veiveisau vou e bolel ira na bisinisi ni kua e kauta mai na kena sa tadola vakalevu na makete, veisau na iyaya ni veiqaravi, kei na kena vakayagataki vakalevu na mona livaliva se na World Wide Web,” tukuna ko Peresitedi Konrote. “Ni da rai ki vuravura ni kua eda raica na kabani me vaka na Uber kei na Airbnb kasa koto na levu na ilavo era rawata ena bilioni na dola,” tukuna ko Peresitedi Konrote. “Na Uber e bisinisi e vukea na veilakoyaki ka sa vakayagataki ni kua ena 630 na siti e vuravura ka sa vesisivi kei na veitabana ni veilakoyaki eso. Ni kua sa koto ena 50 na bilioni na dola na nona rawaka. Na ka e matalia kina ni kabani oqo e kabani ni veilakoyaki ka sega ni taukena e dua na sala ni veilakoyaki. Vaka kina na Airbnb na kabani levu duadua ni veivakaicilitaki ka sega ni taukena e dua na icili. Sa yacoga na veivakaicilitaki ena kena tabaki na bulukau ni monalivaliva.” “Eda sa bula donuya tiko oqo na ikava ni *Industrial Revolution* – sai koya na *Digitalization*. Na bisinisi kece sa vakanamata kina vakarawarawataki ka vakatolotolotaki ni buli iyaya, misisini ni kena veiqaravi, na kena kakana, na kena siti, ena kena vakayagataki na misini vovou ni gauna ni kua me vakadaumakataka ka vakatolototaka na veiqaravi. Qoka na ivakarau vou ni qaravi bisinisi e vuravura edaidai,” tukuna ko Peresitedi Konrote.



vakadikeva toka oqori na Minisita ni Veivoli Ko Faiyaz Koya na ivoli e buli ga e Viti ka kilai ena yaca Fijian made products.

Maketetaki ni ivoli nei Viti

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

SA tekivuna na Minisita ni Veivoli ko Faiyaz Koya na yaca *Fijian Organic*, na yaca vou me maketetaki kina na ivoli nei Viti ki vuravura. E tiki ni sasaga levu ni kena volitaki na ivoli e buli se caka ga ena noda vanua se *Buy Fijian Made Campaign*. Qoka sa ikuri ni yaca sa vakay-

agataki tiko mai mera dau maketetaki kina na ivoli nei Viti na yaca me vaka na *Fijian Grown, Fijian Sewn kei na Fijian Crafted*. Era sa vakayagataka tiko na veimataqali yaca buli ni maketetaki ni ivoli nei Viti e 591 na kabani ka ra sa vakalaisenitaki mera volitaka e 3639 na ivoli. “Na yaca ni kena maketaki na ivoli nei Viti ese tekivu vakayagataki ena 2011, esa sega walega ni kilai levu kina na ivoli nei Viti ena noda vanua e oka vakalevu talega ena Pasifika kei na veiysai vuravura.”

“Na soqo e qarava oya na minisita ni veivoli sa solia talega kina na sitivikiti ni itagade ecake ni ivoli,” tukuna ko minisita Koya. “Sa soli kina na sitivikiti kina Muppet Enterprises Limited, Vitilia Organic Farm, Docs Organic (Fiji), Kaiming Agro, Fiji China Juncao Tech Demonstration kei na Fezco Beverage. Vakadeitaka ko minisita Koya ni sa cakacaka vata kei na Tabana ni Teitei, UN Development Fund kei ira na dau buli ivoli ena kena caka e dua na National Or-

ganic Policy Framework. “Na Fijian Organic e dua na itekitekivu ni ena vakatorocaketaki ni itagade ni ivoli sega ni vakayagataki kina na ivakabulabula ni qele kei na wainimate. E vuravura e sau levu sara na ivoli e sega ni vakayagataki kina na wainimate kei na ivakabulabula ni qele ena kena kauwaitaki na veikabula e tu vakavolivoliti keda.” “Sa gadrevi sara vakalevu e vuravura ni kua na ivoli e sega ni vakayagataki kina na wainimate kei na ivakabulabula ni qele.”



Tavoci na sasaga baleta nodra yadravi na gone

Tavoca na Peresitedi Major-General (Ret'd) Jioji Konusi Konrote na sasaga ni matanitu baleta na nodra yadravi na gone mai na cakacaka ni veivakalolomataki ena noda vanua.

Tavoci talega kina na mascot ko Charlie na vonu. Na naba era ni qirti oya na 1325. Vakaraitaka na Peresitedi ni rauta e 300 na kisi ni nodra vakalolomataki na luveda vaka na kucu kei na veivakaqaseni ka sa sega ni rawa ni ra vakalolomataki tiko ena veisiga.

ITaba: ERONI VALILI



Talaci ko Minisita Tuitubou

Era sa mai talaci na Minisita ni ITabagone kei Qito Laisenia Tuitubou vei ira na ivakalesilesi ni nodra minisitiri. Ogo me vaka ni sa mai cava nodra gauna ni veiqaravi vakaminisita ka sega ni kerea tale

me toso se vakavou na nodra lilesilesi. Era tiko ena soqo ogo oira ivakalesilesi eake ni Matabose ni Qito ena noda vanua ka wilikina na nodra lewenivale kei ira na vulagi sureti. Era vosa vakalagilagi ira na Minisita ko ira na

liulu ni Matabose ni Qito, Litiana Loabuka baleta na nodra cuqena na qito ena noda vanua.

ITaba: SOLO LEWANAVANUA



Icocovi cecere ni bisinisi kei Viti

Era vulagi dokai ena soqo ni soli na icocovi cecere ena noda vanua se Fiji Business excellence awards 2018 ka vakayacori mai na Nadi ena vula sa oti na Presitedi Jioji Konrote.

Na icocovi ogo era vakilai kina na nodra veiqaravi na veivaleniacakacaka ena matanitu ka vakakina oira ena taudaku ni matanitu.

Vakaraitaka ko Presitedi Konrote ni dua na vanua ni vakatubu ilavo vinaka ko Viti me vaka esa laurai tiko ena veitabana era sa mai vakaduri bisinisi kina ena noda vanua.

"AU gadreva meu vakavinakataki kemuni kece na daunibisini oni sa mai oga ena vakaduri bisinisi ena noda vanua me baleta na vakatubuilavo kei na nomuni yalo dei." "Sa tubu vinaka na vakatubuilavo ena noda vanua ena 9 na yabaki ka namaki me tomani tiko na lakolako ogo." ITaba: ISAAC LAL



Sema ena wifi ko Nasinu

Era sa semati na lewenivanua ena tauni ko Nasinu ena monalivaliva se wifi connection ena internet me vaka eratou veiqaravi kina na DigitalFiji ka gadrevi kina nodra semati vakarawarawa na lewenivanua. Mai Nasinu era na rawa ni ra cigoma na sikinala ogo ena rara mata ni sitoa ni volivoli na Rajendra Foodtown ka veibasai na sitoa na NewWorld. Edua na inaki ogo mera vukei kina na gonevuli kei ira na lewe ni vanua era dau veitarata ena monalivaliva.

ITaba: VILIAME TIKOTANI





Era marautaka tiko oqo na lewe ni Waimanu Mothers Club e Sawani, Naitasiri na iyaya ni vakasaqa e solia na Minisitiri ni Marama me vukea nodra bisinisi. E dabe toka e loma na Vunivola Tudei ni Marama ko Dr Joseva Koroivueta. iTaba: SOLO LEWANAVANUA

Tokoni na bisinisi ni marama ni Waimanu

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

Avulagi dokai na Vunivola Tudei ni Marama, Gone kei na Valuti ni Dravudravua ko Vuniwai Joseva Koroivueta ena kena laki soli na iyaya me vukea na nodra bisinisi na marama ni koro ko Sawani e Vuna mai Naitasiri.

Na iyaya ni vale ni kuro kei na iyaya ni kana vaka kina na kena teveli e koto ena \$9,894.75 na kena isau ka na sauma na Minisitiri ni Marama.

Era lewe 25 na lewe ni Waimanu Mothers Club ka kena iliuliu ko Ilisapeci Tavaga ka kaya vakaoqo ne:

“Ni sa nodra inaki na marama mera na dau bisinisitaka na iyaya ni vakasaqa kei na kena vakayagataki na teveli kei na id-abadabe ena veibose eso e dau vakayacori me ivurevure ni nodra bisinisi na marama,” tukuna ko Tavaga. Sa vakauqeti ira

na Vunivola Tudei ni Marama ko Vuniwai Koroivueta mera vakabibitaka talega na bisinisi duidui eso me vaka na culacula, na kesa kesa, na vavavi, kei na vakasaqa me ivurevure talega ni ilavo ni marama e Sawani.

“Na 6 na yavu ni veiqaravi ni Tabana ni Marama, e vukea me laveta ka tokona cake na bula ni Marama e Viti. Na veiyavu oqo, e umani tiko kina na vuli ni veivakararamataki me baleta na lawa ka taqomaka na marama, vuli ni veiliutaki, vuli tara kei na veivuke vakailavo ni vakaduri businisi kei na vuqa tale na porokaramu ka na rawa veiratou nai vakalesilesi me ratou na qai veivakararamataki tiko kina.” Tukuna ko Vuniwai Koroivueta

“Na matanitu, ena vitu na yabaki sa oti me yacova mai ni kua e sa vakalevutaka nai votavota vakailavo ka vagolei kina Tabana ni Marama me rawa ni vukea na vei-

vakatoroicaketaki vei kemuni na marama. Ni sa vakadinadinataki ni Marama e yavu ni veisau vinaka kina rawaka vakailavo ni noda matanitu (Women as Agent of Economic Change). Na marama e laurai ni ra dau ni tuvatuva ka vinaka, dau ni lavo kei na kena qaravi na bula ni vuvale e na veisiga.

E na gauna ni veisau e da sa donuya tiko oqo, sa gadrevi na nodra tokoni na marama e na vuku ni veivakatoroicaketaki.”

“Kevaka ena sotavi na bula galala kei na mamarau ena susugi kina na vuvale vinaka, ka vakakina e so na kawa vinaka kei Viti ni mataka. Oqo na tatadra ka virikotori ena Tuvatuva ni veivakatoroicaketaki yabaki 5-20 ni noda matanitu. Ka sa donu meda veitauriligataka vata na nodra tokoni tiko na marama ena veisasaga cava ga era cavuikalawa kina,” tukuna ko Vuniwai Koroivueta.”

Dola nodra vale ni vakasaqa na marama ni Veinuqa

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

Evulagi dokai na marama Minisita ni Marama, Gone kei na Valuti ni Dravudravua ko Mereseini Vuniwaqa ena kena laki dola na nodra vale ni vakasaqa na marama ni Veinuqa e ena tikina ko Namalata Tailevu.

Na vale ni vakasaqa oqo e sema ga yani kina na nodra vale ni soqo ka vakailavotaki mai na Minisitiri ni Marama ena \$4,990.17 ka sa tara rawa kina ka laki dolava sara ko Minisita Vuniwaqa ena macawa rua sa oti.

A se vukei sara na isoqosoqo ni marama baleta na vale oqo ena 2014, mani mai bera vakalevu na kena tara ena vuku ni veisau ni kena matai kei na leqa ni wai e kea.

Era lewe 319 na iwiliwili ni lewe ni koro ko Veinuqa ka 67 na kena matavuvale.

E vaka oqo na vosa ni vakavinavinaka nei Siteri na iliuliu ni isoqosoqo ni marama mai Veinuqa ki vua na Minisita ni marama;

“Au gusudra tiko na turaga, marama kei na gone ni Veinuqa ena vakavinavinaka vakalevu ena nomuni mai tiko rawa e me mai vakayacori kina e dua na soqo a namaka vakabalaevu tu mai ko Veinuqa ena loma ni va na yabaki,” tukuna ko Siteri.

“Au gusudra tiko kina na lewe ni noqu koro ena vakavinavainaka levu ena nomuni loma soli ena kerekere malumalumu e yaco yani veikemuni. Vinaka vakalevu na vein-aumi. Vinaka vakalevu na veitalevi. Vinaka vakalevu na yalo vakamarama ni veiqaravi e rawa kina vei kemuni mo ni vavaca mai na dela ni soso vaka-Namalata mo ni mai vakadinadinataki kina na nodra sasaga na marama.”

“Na nomuni dolava ni kua na neimami vale ni vakasaqa e solia tale e dua na igu vei keimami vakauasivi vei keimami na marama me keimami toso tikoga ki liu se mani vakacava na dredre ni bula keimami sotava keimami na gumatua tiko ga ena itavi e kacivi keimami kina na Kalou,” tukuna ko Siteri.

Taleitaki na tei senikau e Taveuni

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

ERA taleitala vakalevu na marama ni Taveuni na vuli ni teisinikau ka laki qarava yani na Tabacakacaka ni Teitei e vei ira na dau bisinisitaki senikau ena iteitei kei Viti.

Vakaraitaka na vakailalesilesi ni Tabana ni Teitei mai Taveuni ko Anare Leweniqila vei ira na marama ni senikau e vakatakilakila ni veisaututaki.

“Na senikau e vakatakilakila ni veisaututaki, vakanuinui vinaka, kei na yalo e taleitaka na vuli gona oqo ena vakauqeti kemuni na marama moni qarava vinaka nomuni bisinisi ni volitaki senikau,” tukuna ko Leweniqila.

“Na senikau kei kemuni na marama oni tautauvata vinaka sa kena gauna vei kemunia na marama ni Taveuni

moni yavalata yani na bisinisi vinaka qo ni volitakai senikau.”

“Talei ni levu na marama era taleitaka mera kila na vuli tei senikau kau nuitaka nina dua na ivurevure vinaka ni ilavo ena yanuyan oqo,” tukuna ko Leweniqila.

“Era vakavulici na marama ena qaravi ni vanua ni teisenikau se farm management, na iwalewale ni tei senikau, na iwalewale ni tuva senikau, nakawa ni senikau kei na duai yacadara.”

Ko Elena Marama e dua na dau tei senikau mai Taveuni e kaya vakaoqo ne;

“Na vuli tei senikau oqo sa vakarabailevutaka sara na noqu kila me baleta na bisinisi oqo e dina ni sa balavu toka noqu bisinisi tei senikau sa levu aka vou au mai vulica ena vuli oqo,” tukuna ko Marama.



Ko ira na marama ni Taveuni ena gauna ni nodra vuli tei senikau kei na kena bisinisitaki. iTaba: VAKARAUTAKI



Na veika mo kila keo via lisi ena qele ni Matanitu

VILIAME TIKOTANI

VEITALANOA na noda niusiveva na Noda Viti vata kei Aisea Tuamotu e dua na vakaillesilesi e cake ni Tabacakacaka ni Qele ni Matanitu.

NODA VITI: Na cava sara mada na inaki ni Tabacakacaka ni Qele ni Matanitu?

TUAMOTU: E rua na inaki ni neitou vei qaravi, na imatai na soli ni lisi kei na butuki ni iyalyala ni qele. Na ikarua ni tabana na tabana ni iyau bula e loma ni qele se mineral resources.

Ni kua au na vosa tikoga me baleta na listaki ni qele ni matanitu. Vata kei na kena butuki na iyalayala ni qele. Vakabibi tikoga oqo ena qele ga ni matanitu.

Na kena tauyavu na Tabacakacaka ni Qele ni Matanitu e tauyavu sara ga ena kena sagai me vakadeitaki na iyalayala matailalai kece ni noda qele. Wili talega kina na qele vakaitaukei.

Ni bera ni tauyavu na Matabose ni Qele Maroroi ena 1940 asa tauyavu tiko mai na Tabacakacaka ni Qele ni matanitu.

NODA VITI: Ena rawa vakacava vua e dua me lisitaka e dua na qele ni matanitu? Na cava so e dodonu me vakarautaka mai me mai tolo kina na qaravi ni nona ivola kerekere?

TUAMOTU: Veitabana kece e dau lai kerekere kina sa tu na ivolakerekere e gadrevi me vakaleweni ena kena vale ni volavola. Tautauvata vinaka saraga kei na veika e gedrevi ena Tabacakacaka ni Qele ni Matanitu. Ena vei qele kece sa lala tu. Na Matanitu sa qai nona itavi ga me tabaka na qele. Ka dau soli tiko na gauna vei ira na lewenivanua mera biuta mai nodra ivola kerekere. Rawa ni tauri na kena ilavelave ena mona livaliva ena kena website se laki kauta ai ena vale ni volavola ni Tabacakacaka ni Qele ni Matanitu ena iwasewase e loma, na Vualiku kei na Muaira e dua na kena ilavelave. Na ka kece sa volai tikoga ena ilavelave ni ivola kerekere oya. Ena vinakati na nomu FNPf Statement, nomu TIN Letter, vata kei na nomu ivola ni sucu, kei na dua nomu *bank statement*.

Oqo e vakabibitaki tikoga kina ke sa soli e dua na lisi ena laurai mena rawa vei iko mona cakacakataka na qele oya ke soli vei iko.

E levu na gauna keitou dau raica ni gauna e soli kina na lisi vei dua qai dau tiko tale na dredre ena nodra vakasaqara tale se na vurevure ni ilavo cava mera lai cakacakataka kina nodra qele. Oya beka ga na kena dau gadrevi ga kina na ilavelave ga ni nomu *bank statement*. Me rawa ni mai vukea walega na nomu ivola kerekere.

Sa dau neitou itatau tuga na kena levu ga na nomu ilavelave ni veika e rawa ni vukea nomu ivola kerekere na kena vinaka.

Sa qai dau oti oya sa qai dau tuvani vakavinaka na vei ivolakerekere kece e ciqomi. Sa qai digitaki okoya e biuta kece mai na veika e gadrevi. Vanua oya sa na qai mai laurai kina o cei ciqomi o kei e sega ni ciqomi.

Na veika kece ya e biu kece tiko ena veika e taba tiko ena pepa ena veivula tolu kece



Era marau na lewe ni vanua e Ba ni oti na nodra mai ciqoma na nodra dui lisi ena qele ni matanitu mai vua na Minisita ni Qele ko Faiyaz Koya. ITaba: LITIA VULDAUSIGA

se vei *quarter*: Sa dau gadrevi saraga na veika taucoko e tabaki tiko yani ena pepa. Kevaka ga e sega ni tiko kece na veika e gadrevi ena nomu ivola kerekere sa na biu vakatikitiki sara ga na nomu ivola kerekere.

Na neitou tabana sa dau vakaukauwataka ga na kena dau taba rawa na qele lala ni bera ni ciqomi nomuni ivola kerekere. Sa tarova tiko na kena dau yaco tiko mai na ivola kerekere ni se bera ni tabaki ena niusiveva na qele lala. Eso beka na vanua era raica ni lala tu sara biuta mai kina nodra vola kerekere. Eratou vinakata na neitou dau vei iutaki me gauna ga e taba kina na qele mera qai volavola mai.

Koya na vuna sa kerei sara tiko kina vakalevu vei kemuni na lewe ni vanua moni raica sara ni sa taba yani ena pepa ni qai biuta mai na nomuni ivola kerekere.

NODA VITI: Ni waseawasea mada na mataqali qele vakacava e dau tabaki ena niusiveva enas gauna e lala kina.

TUAMOTU: Na vei qele oqo e oka kina na qele ni teitei, na qele ni tara vale, kei na qele ni caka bisinisi e ra sega tu ni vakayagataki ena dua na gauna balavu. Eso beka era sega ni sauma tu na nodra lisi. Eso beka era voroka beka na veidinadinati ni lisi ka soli vei ira taumada. Sa qai dau taba gona na vei qele vakaoqo.

Sa dau tu tu yadua sara na qele e dau cakacakataka ga na neitou tabana koya e lala se qele vovou baleta na gauna oqo e lailai sara na qele ni matanitu. Mai wiliki taucoko na iwiliwili ni qele e Viti e via 3.8 pasede tiko ga na iwiliwili ni qele ni Matanitu.

Me vakatauva tani kei na qele e da taukena na itaukei vata kei na qele e taukeni vakadua se *freehold*.

NODA VITI: E vakaevei beka ko ira esa vesu koso nodra qele nira sega ni sauma vinaka na lisi. Ena vakamuria tale mai a kena laki taba tale mai na pepa ni bera ni qai dua e kerea yani. Se rawa ni soli vei ira e so era a sa kerekere oti mai me solia vei ira na galala mera tovolea tale beka?

TUAMOTU: Ni dau taba na qele koya e lala tu sa dau vakamatatataki sara ga kina na qele cava e tabaki tiko. Kevaka sara lutu mai o ira na kerea mai na qele oya ena sega

ni soli vei ira mera biu tale kina dua na qele lala e taba tale. E dodonu mera biuta vou tale mai na nodra kerekere baleta de lakolako ena veicalati tiko kei na veika e taba tiko yani ena pepa. Qele beka ni teitei, se qele beka ni taravale, qai taba tale mai e dua qai dua na kani caka bisinisi. E sana veicalati vata kei na nona ivola kerekere. Kena ibalebale ena gadrevi tale vua mena biuta tale mai nona ivola kerekere me veivakadonui kei na veika e tabaki tiko ena pepa.

NODA VITI: Vakaevei kevaka edua e lisi tiko sa vinakata me tokitaka na qele oya ki vua e dua tale?

TUAMOTU: E tu sara ga na dodonu vua edua me tokitaka na qele vua e dua tale. Kevaka sa tiko vei iko e dua na qele ka sa tiko na ivakadinadina ni nomu na qele oya ni sa tiko vei koya na *title* ni qele oya esa tiko vei iko na kaukauwa mo na solia ga vei dua o nanuma mo na solia kina. Ko rawa ni solia vei luvemu se vei ganemu e tu vei iko na galala mona tokitaka na qele oya.

NODA VITI: Na veisolisoli oqo ena gadrevi kina nveisolitaki ni ilavo se vakaevei na kena ilakolako?

TUAMOTU: E tiko na gaunisala me muri kevaka e dua e vinakata me tokitaka nona qele ki vua e dua tale. E rawa ni rau veivoli ga vakavuvale. E rawa ni lako kina na ilavo. Ena dua tale na yasana e rawa ni sega ni soli na ilavo e soli ga vakadodonu mai vei tamana ki vei luvemu. E sega ni dua na ilavo e oka e loma. E veisolisoli sara ga vakadodonu. E dau dua toka na kena vosa vakavalagi dau volai toka e kea *'for love and affection'*. E veisolisoli ga mai veitama ki vei koya na gone.

NODA VITI: E rawa ni vakatau ena cava na isau me volitaka kina na qele oya?

TUAMOTU: Na isau ni qele ena gauna oqo e vakatau tu kina makete. Ena vakatau talega ena vanua e tiko kina na qele. Ke voleka e tauni se yawa mai tauni. E tiko ko ira na dau cakacakataka na isau ni qele ira na land valuer. O ira oqo era na cakava mai e dua na kena ripote. Era na cakacakataka mai na isau ni vale kece e wavokita tiko

nomu tiki ni qele. Era na qai vakadeitaka mai vei kemuni e vica na isau ni nomu qele. Na gauna sa vakadeitaki mai kina ko sa na qai rawa ni ko volitaka na nomu qele ena isau oya. Ko ya me na matata vei keda ni da volitaka edua na noda qele na isau ni qele ena toso cake tuga. Sega vakadua ni na toso sobu. Sa na qai nomu sara tikoga na lewa baleta ni nomu tikoga na qele ni volai tiko vei kemuni. O sa na qai lewa ga e vica drau na veivoli kina.

NODA VITI: Ni sa soli vei iko e dua na qele ni matanitu mo lisitaka na cava e dodonu mo qarauna?

TUAMOTU: Ni soli edua na lisi esa tu na veidinadinati kece e tu e loma ni lisi. E levu era sega ni dau wilika vakavinaka na veika e volai tu ena veidinadinati ni lisi. E dodonu me wiliki vakavinaka vei koya na cava soti e tiko e loma ni lisi. E levu na gauna sara sa laki yaco kina na leqa sa qai tukuni vei ira na ka oqo o leqa kina. Matai ni ka ni bera ni o sainitaka nomu lisi mo drau dabe vinaka sara ga vata kei koya na ivakaillesilesi ni Matanitu ni Tabacakacaka ni Qele me vakamacalataka mai vei iko na veilawa se veidinadinati e tiko ena loma ni nomu lisi. Me kua ni qai lai yaco na leqa mo qai lai veivutuni baleta ni a sega ni vakamacalataki vei kemuni. Koya sa koto kina na gauna mo sauma kina na nomu lisi kei na gauna eratou dau lako mai kina na neitou tabana me ratou mai dikeva tale na nomu qele.

Se loma ni vica na yabaki me tara kina na nomu vale. Se cava tale e sega ni dodonu mo na cakava ena nomu qele.

Koya kece ya e tu kece sara tu ga ena loma ni nomu lisi kei na nomu dodonu kei na ka e sega ni dodonu mona cakava ena nomu lisi. Keo sana vaoroka na veidinadinati oya, na kaukauwa e tu sara tu ga vua na *Director* ni Tabacakacaka ni Qele ni Matanitu me na biuta yani vei iko e dua na ivakaro ke ko sa voroka na veidinadinati koya. Na vanua koya e dodonu me da na dikeva tiko ena veigauna taucoko.

Na i kuri ni veitalanoa oqo ena qai taba ena macawa rua mai oqo

Noda Viti



Sa vakasobura tiko oqo na duru ni ikawakawa ko Paraiminista Voreqe Bainimarama kei ira na lewe ni koro e Tobuniquio. iTaba: ERONI VALILI

iKawakawa Vou

VAKASOBURI NA DURU NI ITATAKOSO E TOBUNIQIO

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

ERA marautaka na lewe ni koro ko Tobuniquio e Vugalei ena vualiku kei Tailevu na kena vakasoburi na duru ni nodra ikawakawa se itatakoso ki na tiki-na ko Namara.

“Na ikawakawa oqo ena vukea vakalevu na matavuvale, kei na bula ni veisiga ena va na koro oni veitikivi tiko ena vanua vakaturaga oqo,” tukuna ko Paraiminisita Voreqe Bainimarama.

“Sa na rawa ni takosotaki kina na ivoli kina makete, vakarawarawataka sara na nomuni gole ina iteitei, nodra laki vuli na gone, na usani na tauvimate, kei na nomuni goleva na veiqaravi ni matanitu kei na veiqaravi tale eso.”

“Na cakacaka oqo e taura ni rauta e

\$131,000 na kena isau vakailavo,” tukuna ko PM Bainimarama.

“Sega ni kinoca rawa nona marau na Turaga ni koro e Tobuniquio ko Kemueli Kedrayate.

“Taumada au vakavinavinaka vakalevu ena vuku ni cakacaka ni veivakatorocaketaki sa mai qaravi. Au vakavinavinakataka vakalevu ki vua na iliuliu ni Matanitu kei ira na nona ivakalesilesi ena nodra vakaitavi tiko ena cakacaka oqo,” tukuna ko Kedrayate.

“Au sa yabaki 33 ka oqo e iseve ni veivakatorocaketaki e caka ena koro ko Tobuniquio. E liu, keimami dau vakayagataka tu ga na ikawakawa niu e rauta beka ni ono na ikawakawa niu e dodo ena bati ni wai oqo.”

“Na neitou valeniwai e tiko e Namara, ni dua e tauvimate ena cicivaki sara tiko ki

Namara ka takosova tiko na ikawakawa niu kece oqo.”

Vakaraitaka ko PM Bainimarama ni na qaravi talega mai na sala simedi e loma ni koro ni tara oti na ikawakawa.”

“Na ikawakawa oqo ena sosomitaka na ikawakawa tolo ni vuni niu ni dau vakayagataka tiko e liu ka dau rerevaki talega ni rawa ni dau vakavu leqa ena veigauna sa sivi,” tukuna ko PM Bainimarama.

Vakaraitaka ko Kedrayate na kena ririkitaki na nodra bula na lewe ni koro vakabibi ko ira na gonevuli ena nodra dau takosova wasoma na ikawakawa tolo ni vuni niu oqo.

“E levu na gauna era lutu e wai ko ira na gonevuli ena mataka lailai me ra dau laki wawa basi, vaka talega kina ko ira na lewe ni lotu.

“Sa vica vata na yabaki na kena kudruravi tiko ka kerei tiko ke rawa ni tara e dua na ikawakawa vinaka ka sega ni dua na neimami turaga ni koro ena gauna oya me rawa qarava na cakacaka koya.”

“Au vakavinavinaka ni donumaki au na madigi meu taura na itutu vaka-turaga ni koro.”

“E rauta ni ra lewe 391 na lewe ni koro e Tobuniquio ka wili kina ko ira kece na gonevuli, cakacaka vakamatanitu. Keimamai qaravi kece tiko ena valeniwai e Namara,” tukuna ko Kedrayate.

“Na gauna e dau dave kina na wai oqo e dau kuitaka kece na ikawakawa niu eke, na kena sa tekivu na tara ikawakawa simede sa ka marautaki dina vei keimami,” tukuna ko Kedrayate.

VOQA NI DAVUI

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

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

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

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

फीजी फोकस

राष्ट्रपति को दूसरी अवधि के लिए दिलाई गई शपथ 6



नन्दोवी सेटलमन्ट के निवासियों को मिली लीस 7



राष्ट्रपति, महामोम चियोची कोनरोते ने आम चुनाव के लिए अपना मत दिया। इस दौरान उन्होंने चुनाव अधिकारियों तथा मतदाताओं से मुलाकात भी की।

राष्ट्रपति कोनरोते ने डाला अपना मत

संगीता लाल

गम्भीर बारिश का सामना करते हुए राष्ट्रपति, चियोची कोनरोते ने आम चुनाव के लिए अपना मत दिया।

श्री कोनरोते पैदल ही ड्राईवा स्कूल में स्थित मतदान केन्द्र पहुँचे तथा चुनाव प्रणाली का पालन करते हुए मत डाला।

राष्ट्रपति सुबह टहलने के लिए निकले और मतदान केन्द्र पहुँचे। इस दौरान उन्होंने अन्य मतदाताओं से मुलाकात भी की जो अपना मत

डालने आए थे। उन्होंने चुनाव अधिकारियों से भी बातचित की।

उधर, बाढ़ का पानी चड़ने की वजह से बाईस (22) मतदान केन्द्रों में मतदान की कार्यवाही कल (शनिवार) तक टालनी पड़ी।

सुपरवाइज़र ओफ इलेक्शन्स मोहम्मद सनीम का कहना है कि बाढ़ की वजह से इन मतदान केन्द्रों तक पहुँचना मुश्किल था इसलिए वहाँ मतदान अगली सूचना तक टाला गया था।

उन्होंने कहा कि इस फैसले से सात हजार चार सौ अट्ठान्वे (7498) मतदाताओं पर असर

पड़ा। जनाब सनीम का कहना है कि उन्होंने ने एलेक्ट्रल कमिशन से बातें की है तथा इन मतदान केन्द्रों में कल सुबह साढ़े सात बजे से शाम छः बजे तक मतदान हुए।

कोरोवउ में जिन मतदान केन्द्रों को बन्द किया गया में देलाकान्दो फीजीयन इलेक्शन्स ओफिस शेड, नाताइवावे फीजीयन इलेक्शन्स ओफिस शेड, नसीनू कोमुनिटी होल, तुरांगावेदी प्राथमरी स्कूल, लोन्दीनी प्राथमरी स्कूल तथा नाईवीदूला डिस्ट्रिक्ट स्कूल शामिल है।

राकीराकी में कोरोताले मंदिर, राईवासा

कोमुनिटी होल, नमुआनिवांगा प्राथमरी स्कूल, मातासो प्राथमरी स्कूल तथा रेवासासा कोमुनिटी होल शामिल है। इसके अलावा नउसोरी इलाके में नउसोरी टेक्निकल स्कूल, विसामा सनातन धर्म प्राथमरी स्कूल, नैंगेलेदामू विलज स्कूल में कल दोबारा मतदान हुआ।

उधर, लेवूका में नुकूतोदिया विलज शेड तथा केन्द्रीय विभाग में नाईसोंगो सेटलमन्ट में फीजीयन इलेक्शन्स ओफिस शेड तथा शान्तिनिकेतन प्राथमरी स्कूल मतदान के लिए कल फिर खोला गया।



पाँच लाख से ज्यादा लोग मत देने के हक्दार

रोनल देव

इस आम चुनाव में पाँच लाख पचास हजार से ज्यादा लोग मतदान वाले दिन मत देने के लिए रजिस्टर हुए थे।

सुपरवाइज़र ओफ इलेक्शन्स मोहम्मद सनीम का कहना है कि चुनाव दफ्तर ने पाँच

लाख पचास हजार दो सौ बीस (550,220) मतदाताओं को रजिस्टर किया था।

उन्होंने रजिस्टर हुए मतदाताओं से अपना मत देने की माँग की थी क्योंकि यह मौका चार साल में सिर्फ एक बार आता है। उन्होंने मतदाताओं को चुनौती दी थी कि वे सन् दो हजार चौदह

वाले आम चुनाव के लक्ष्य को भी पीछे छोड़ें।

ग्यारह हजार से ज्यादा मतदान अधिकारियों को समझा दिया गया था कि हर एक मतदाता महत्वपूर्ण है।

चुनाव अधिकारियों को उनकी सुरक्षा का आश्वासन दिया गया था तथा राजनितिक

पार्टियों से भी सही प्रणाली इस्तेमाल करने की

माँग की गई थी अगर उनकी कोई शिकायतें हैं।

सुपरवाइज़र ओफ इलेक्शन्स मोहम्मद सनीम ने कहा था कि मतदान के बाद मत गिनने और चुनाव परिणाम की घोषणा शायद कल (सोमवार) उन्नीस नवम्बर तक हो सकती है।



स्वास्थ्य और मेडिकल सेविसस मंत्री रोज़ी अकबर विश्व मधुमय दिवस का उद्घाटन करने के दौरान इस दिवस में भाग ले रहे कुछ बुजुर्गों के साथ।

मंत्री अकबर ने की स्वास्थ्य का खास ध्यान रखने की माँग

रोनल देव

स्वास्थ्य और मेडिकल सेविसस मंत्री, रोज़ी अकबर ने आम जनता से माँग की है कि वे अपने स्वास्थ्य का ध्यान रखें जबकि देश में कई लोगों की मौत डायबिटीज़ की वजह से हो रही है।

वोल्ड डायबिटीज़ डेय का विमोचन करते हुए मंत्री अकबर ने कहा कि फीजी में सन् दो हजार चौदह (2014) से इस साल के बीच टाईप वन डायबिटीज़ के

साथ जीने वालों की संख्या पाँच सौ है।

“सी डबल्यू एम अस्पताल में दो साल का एक बच्चा टाईप वन डायबिटीज़ के साथ जीने वाले सबसे कम उम्र का मरीज़ है। एक वक्त ऐसा था जब हम सोचते थे कि डायबिटीज़ ज्यादा करके बड़े-बुजुर्गों में पाया जाता है लेकिन अब युवा लोग भी इसके शिकार हो रहे हैं।” गर्भावधि डायबिटीज़ के शिकार सबसे कम उम्र का युवक उन्नीस (19) साल का है। यह ज़रूरी है कि हम कई तरह के डायबिटीज़ के बारे में जानें।



स्वास्थ्य और मेडिकल सेविसस मंत्री रोज़ी अकबर ने वोल्ड डायबिटीज़ डेय पर कहा कि हम अपने स्वास्थ्य का ध्यान नहीं धरते, कसरत नहीं करते, गलत समय पर भोजन करते हैं और इन्हीं कारणों से लोग डायबिटीज़ के शिकार होते हैं तथा उनकी जान भी जाती है।

पहली बार मत देने वाला खुश



वतुवाँगा प्रायमरी स्कूल पर पहली बार मत देने के बाद बाईस वर्षीय कार्तिक लाल खुश नज़र आ रहे हैं। लाल यूनीवर्सिटी ओफ़ दी साउथ पैसिफ़िक का एक विद्यार्थी है।

रोनल देव

राकीराकी के बाईस साल का एक युवक बहुत खुश है कि उन्हें इस साल वाले आम चुनाव में मत देने का मौका मिला।

एलिंगटन रा के कार्तिक लाल ने वतुवाँगा प्रायमरी स्कूल में पहली बार मतदान किया था।

उन्होंने बताया कि मतदान केंद्र में वो थोड़ा घबरा से गए थे लेकिन चुनाव अधिकारियों ने उनकी मदद की थी जिस वजह से वो मत देने में सफल रहे।

उधर, उन्नासी (79) साल की शकुन्तला जिन्होंने सूवा स्पेशल स्कूल में जाकर मतदान किया था ने बताया कि वो देश में पहला आम चुनाव जो उन्नीस सौ तिरसठ

(1963) में हुआ था तबसे मत दे रही है। उन्होंने कहा कि वो सोचती है कि अगर वो मत नहीं देंगी तो किसी एक उम्मीदवार का एक मत कम होगा।

वो एक लकड़ी के सहारे मतदान केंद्र तक पहुँची थी। उन्होंने कहा कि इस साल मत देने का अनुभव कुछ अलग ही था हालांकि मौसम खराब था। उनके अनुसार उन्होंने देश के एक अच्छे नागरिक होने के नाते मत डाला तथा उनका मानना है कि उनकी तरह अन्य लोगों को भी एक दूसरे को समझना चाहिए और सभी के साथ एक जैसा बर्ताव करना चाहिए।

शकुन्तला का मानना है कि यह महत्वपूर्ण है कि किसी भी चीज़ से पहले अपने देश के बारे में सोचें।



अर्थ-व्यवस्था मंत्रालय की पेमेंट सकेटरी, मार्केरेता कोनरोते, युनाईटेड अरब एमिरेट्स के राजदूत श्री सलेह अहमद अल्सूवईदी के साथ।

तीन नए स्कूल बनाने के लिए मिले पाँच मिलियन अमरिकी डोलर

रोनल देव

फीजी और युनाईटेड अरब एमिरेट्स के बीच द्वीपक्षीय संबंध बढ़ने से नावुआ, सिंगातोका और लौतोका में तीन नए स्कूल बनाने के लिए पाँच मिलियन अमरिकी डोलर की सहायता दी जाएगी।

फीजीयन सरकार और युनाईटेड अरब एमिरेट्स के प्रतिनिधिमण्डल के बीच भागीदारी को औपचारिक बनाने के लिए अर्थव्यवस्था मंत्रालय के मुख्यालय में एक सहयोग समझौता पर हस्ताक्षर हुआ था। युनाईटेड अरब एमिरेट्स प्रतिनिधिमण्डल, नए स्कूल बनने वाली जगह का निरीक्षण करने आए थे। इस प्रतिनिधिमण्डल में विदेश मंत्रालय तथा शिक्षा मंत्रालय के टेक्निकल और उच्च अधिकारी शामिल थे।

फीजीयन सरकार की ओर से अर्थ-व्यवस्था मंत्रालय की पेमेंट सकेटरी, मार्केरेता कोनरोते ने फीजी के शिक्षा क्षेत्र को आगे बढ़ाने में सहायता देने के लिए युनाईटेड अरब एमिरेट्स का आभार व्यक्त किया।

“यह सहायता शिक्षा तक पहुँच बढ़ाने और सुविधाओं की गुणवत्ता में वृद्धि के संदर्भ में हमारी सरकार की नीतियों का पूरक होगा, जो हमारे फीजीयन छात्रों के लिए बेहतर सीखने के परिणामों में योगदान देगी।

फीजीयन सरकार की ओर से हम परियोजनाओं का दौरा करने के लिए हम युनाईटेड अरब एमिरेट्स को धन्यवाद दे रहे हैं और जैसा कि हम योजना के दूसरे चरण के लिए तैयार हैं जो वास्तव में लागू होगा तब हम आपकी उदारता के प्रति कृतज्ञता व्यक्त करना चाहते हैं। यह साझेदारी ज्ञान साझा करने और हुनर बाँटने के संदर्भ में स्थानीय व्यवसायों के सदस्यों की सहायता भी करेगी,” कोनरोते ने कहा।

युनाईटेड अरब एमिरेट्स के राजदूत श्री सलेह अहमद अल्सूवईदी ने कहा कि वे इस सहयोग से खुश हैं जो फीजी के शिक्षा क्षेत्र के विकास में महत्वपूर्ण योगदान देगी।

“शिक्षा किसी भी देश के भविष्य के विकास के लिए बहुत ज़रूरी है तथा फीजी के साथ इस खास साझेदारी से हमने पाँच मिलियन अमरिकी डोलर की सहायता देने की घोषणा की है जहाँ हम फीजी के शिक्षा मंत्रालय के साथ मिलकर नए स्कूल बनाएँगे। हमें इस महान परियोजना का हिस्सा होने पर गर्व है और हम इसके सहयोग के लिए फीजीयन सरकार को धन्यवाद देते हैं,” श्री अल्सूवईदी ने कहा।

युनाईटेड अरब एमिरेट्स ने फीजी को एक्सपो 2020 युनिवर्सल प्रदर्शनी में भाग लेने के लिए अपने द्विपक्षीय संबंधों को आगे बढ़ाने के लिए भी अपना समर्थन दिया है जिससे फीजी को नए आर्थिक, व्यापार और व्यापार के अवसरों को ज़ब्त करने की अनुमति मिलेगी।

स्मारक दिवस



ग्यारह नवम्बर की तड़के सुबह सेना और फीजी पुलिस फोर्स ने स्मारक दिवस यानि रिमेमब्रन्स डे के मौके पर तड़के सुबह सैनिक कब्रिस्तान पर युद्ध में तथा शान्ति सेवा प्रदान करने के दौरान अपनी जान गंवा चुके सैनिकों की बहादुरी के प्रयासों को सम्मानित किया।

रोनल देव

राष्ट्रपति महामहीम चियोची कोनरोते, ग्यारह नवम्बर को नेशनल वोर मेमोरियल पर सालाना यादगार दिवस समारोह में मुख्य मेहमान थे।

राष्ट्रपति का स्वागत प्रधानमंत्री वोरेंको बईनिमरामा ने किया तथा औपचारिक कार्यक्रम की शुरुआत राष्ट्र गीत गाने के बाद हुआ। इस समारोह में फीजी के भूतपूर्व सैनिकों और उनके परिवार

वालों ने ब्रिटिश सेना, कूटनितिज्ञ दल, अनुशासन बलों, उच्च सरकारी अधिकारियों के सदस्यों और अतिथियों को आमंत्रित किया गया था।

उधर, सेना और फीजी पुलिस फोर्स ने स्मारक दिवस यानि रिमेमब्रन्स डे के मौके पर तड़के सुबह सैनिक कब्रिस्तान पर युद्ध में तथा शान्ति सेवा प्रदान करने के दौरान अपनी जान गंवा चुके सैनिकों की बहादुरी के प्रयासों को सम्मानित किया।

दुनियाभर में जबकि ऐसी परम्परा है तो ऐसे में सूवा में हो रही बारिश इन अफ़सरो को रोक नहीं पाई जबकि उन्होंने इस साल के स्मरण दिवस की राष्ट्रव्यापी स्मृति को भी निशान लगाया। रक्षा मंत्रालय के पेमेंट सकेटरी, ओसेया दवारू ने इस स्मारक सेवा की अगुवाई की जबकि सेवा प्रमुख कोमान्डर विलियामे नउपोतो तथा अन्य अधिकारियों के साथ कूटनीज्ञियों ने पुष्पांजलि अर्पित की।



लेन्ड्स और मिनरल रिसोसस मंत्री जनाब फईयाज़ कोया, नसोमो के प्रथम ज़मीनमालिकों के साथ जिन्हें अभी हालही में उनके धातु संसाधनों यानि मिनरल रिसोसस के लिए रोयल्टी का उचित हिस्सा भरा गया है।

प्रथम ज़मीन मालिकों को मिनरल रिसोसस के लिए दी गई रोयल्टी

रोनल देव

फीजी और क्षेत्र के इतिहास में वतुकउला के नसोमो के लोग प्रथम ज़मीनमालिक हैं जिन्हें उनके धातु संसाधनों यानि मिनरल रिसोसस के लिए रोयल्टी का उचित हिस्सा भरा गया है।

लेन्ड्स और मिनरल रिसोसस मंत्री जनाब फईयाज़ कोया ने नसोमो के सौ ज़मीन मालिकों को चेक प्रदान किया जिससे इस बात पर जोर दिया गया है कि ज़मीन मालिकों के पास मिनरल रोयल्टी हासिल

करने का अधिकार है। पहले सरकार, माईनिंग एक्स के नीचे धातु के मालिक होने के नाते पूरी रोयल्टी अपने पास रख लेती थी, लेकिन इसी साल मई में संसद में एक कानून बनाया गया जहाँ देश के संविधान की धारा तीस, रोयल्टी को बाँटने की स्वीकृति देता है। इसके बाद नसोमो में यह पैमन्ट किए गए हैं। “यह हमारे प्रिय फीजी में खनिज विकास में लाभ साझा करने का नया तरीका है जहाँ सभी संबंधित लोगों के सुधार के लिए

ज़मीन मालिकों के बीच मिलल रोयल्टी समान रूप से साझा किया जाता है,” मंत्री कोया ने कहा। यह सरकार का ज़मीन मालिकों की देखभाल करने का निरंतर प्रयास को साबित करता है। नसोमो के यह रोयल्टी पईन्ट सोनी के खान के लिए है जो वतुकउला गोल्ड माईन लिमिटेड कर रहा है जो पहले माईनिंग रोयल्टी मिनरल रिसोसस विभाग को भरते थे।



नसिनू में वाई-फाई का हुआ स्वागत

नसिनू में भी अब वहाँ के निवासी मुफ्त वाई-फाई सेवा का लुफ्त उठा सकेंगे जबकि हालही वलेलेवू गाउन्ड्स में इसका विमोचन किया गया। सन् दो हजार अट्ठारह और उन्नीस राष्ट्रीय

बजट में मुफ्त वाई फाई होट स्पॉट के लिए चालिस मिलियन डोलर अलग किया गया था ताकि देशभर में आमजनता के लिए होट स्पॉट की रफ्तार को और तेज की जाए। देश के कई शहरों में मुफ्त होट स्पॉट की सुविधा

हो गई है। वाई फाई का विमोचन प्रधानमंत्री वॉरेन्गो बर्दिनाराम की सोच थी। अगर हम इस सहायता से लाभ उठाते हैं तो हमारा समाज में लोगों का ज्ञान और भी बढ़ेगा।



मंत्री अकबर ने वोल्ड डायबीटिज़ डे का किया विमोचन

स्वास्थ्य तथा मेडिकल सेविस मंत्री रोजी अकबर ने हालही में कोरेईवोलू पार्क नान्दी में वोल्ड डायबीटिज़ डे का विमोचन किया। दुनिया भर में चौदह नवम्बर को वोल्ड डायबीटिज़ डे मनाया जाता है और इस साल का मुख्य विषय है "परिवार और डायबीटिज़"। मंत्री अकबर ने कहा कि यह दिवस सही समय पर मनाया जा रहा है क्योंकि यह स्वस्थ भोजन और जीवन शैली का फैसला करने में परिवार के महत्व को दिखाता है।



मंत्री अकबर ने किन्डागाडन विद्यार्थियों को दिया पुरस्कार

स्वास्थ्य और मेडिकल सेविस मंत्री रोजी अकबर ने हालही में नान्दी मुस्लिम किन्डागाडन विद्यार्थियों पुरस्कार दिया। उन्होंने माता-पिताओं से माँग की कि वे अपनी ज़िम्मेदारी निभाते हुए अपने बच्चों को दूसरों का आदर सम्मान करना सिखाए। उन्होंने जोर दिया कि हम माता-पिता जबकि अपने बच्चों को इस दुनिया में लाए हैं तो वे हमारी प्रार्थमिका होनी चाहिए।



नरें प्रायमरी स्कूल और नउसोरी मार्केट ने मंत्री बाला के साथ मनाया दिपावली का पर्व

नरें प्रायमरी स्कूल और नउसोरी मार्केट ने हालही में लोकल गवन्ट मंत्री परवीन कुमार बाला के साथ दिपावली का पर्व मनाया। मंत्री बाला ने कहा कि दिवाली, खुशियों भरा त्योहार है जिसे

राष्ट्रीय महत्व दिया गया है। मंत्री परवीन कुमार बाला का कहना है कि दिपावली पर्व ने अपने रंग, भोजन, मिठाईयाँ तथा इसके ईर्द-गिर्द की खुशियों से सभी फीजीवासियों को पारम्परिक तौर से एकता

के सूत्र में बाँधा है। मंत्री बाला ने कहा कि यह बात याद रखना ज़रूरी है कि दिवाली की शुरुआत देश में गिरमिट काल में आए भारतीयों द्वारा की गई थी।





मंत्री बाला ने नररे प्राथमरी स्कूल में मनाई दिपावली



मंत्री परवीन कुमार ने हालही में नररे प्राथमरी स्कूल के विद्यार्थियों तथा अद्यापकों के साथ दिपावली का पर्व मनाया।

रोनल देव

लौकल गवमन्ट, कोमुनिटी डिवेलोपमन्ट, संसाधन और ट्रान्सपोर्ट मंत्री परवीन कुमार बाला का कहना है कि दिपावली पर्व ने अपने रंग, भोजन, मिठाईयाँ तथा इसके इर्द-गिर्द की खुशियों से सभी फीजीवासियों को पारम्परिक तौर से एकता के सूत्र में बाँधा है।

नररे प्राथमरी स्कूल में विद्यार्थियों और अद्यापकों के साथ दिवाली मनाते हुए मंत्री बाला ने कहा कि यह बात याद रखना ज़रूरी है कि दिवाली की शुरूआत देश में गिरमिट काल में आए भारतीयों द्वारा की गई थी।

“हालाकि बच्चों और महिलाओं को खेतों में पीटा जाता या सताया जाता था, फिर भी वे अपने विश्वास पर अटल रहे। चाहे वे कितने भी गरीब थे, उनका दिन चाहे जिस तरह भी गुज़रा हो उन्होंने ने हमेशा समय निकालकर अपनी संस्कृति और परम्परा बचाकर रखी,” मंत्री बाला ने कहा।

उनके अनुसार दिवाली, खुशियों भरा त्योहार है



लौकल गवमन्ट मंत्री परवीन बाला नररे प्राथमरी स्कूल में दिपावली पर्व के दौरान दीप जलाते हुए।

राष्ट्रपति को दूसरी अवधि के लिए दिलाई गई शपथ



राष्ट्रपति, महामहीन चियोची कोनरोते अपने पद की दूसरी अवधि के लिए चीफ जस्टिस एन्थनी गैट्स के समक्ष शपथ लेते हुए।

रोनल देव

राष्ट्रपति महामहीम चियोची कोनरोते को उनके पद पर दूसरी अवधि के लिए शपथ दिलाई गई है। यह दूसरी अवधि तीन सालों

के लिए है।

शपतग्रहण समारोह चीफ जस्टिस एन्थनी गैट्स ने कराया था।

इस मौके पर प्रधानमंत्री वॉरेनो

बर्डनिमरामा के अलावा मंत्रीमण्डल के अन्य सदस्य, कूटनैतिज्ञ तथा राष्ट्रपति के परिवार वाले और रिश्तेदार शामिल हुए थे।



स्वास्थ्य मंत्री रोज़ी अकबर नान्दी मुस्लिम किन्डागार्डन में विद्यार्थियों को पुरस्कृत करती हुई।

बच्चे प्राथमिकता होनी चाहिए।

रोनल देव

स्वास्थ्य और मेडिकल सेविसस मंत्री, रोज़ी अकबर ने माता-पिताओं को सलाह दी है कि वे तकनीक के विचलित उपयोग के लिए सतर्क रहे। नान्दी मुस्लिम किन्डागार्डन की सालाना पुरस्कार समारोह में मंत्री अकबर ने बयान्वे (92) विद्यार्थियों को पुरस्कार दिया।

“तकनीक से सावधान रहे और बचकर रहे कि इससे आप विचलित न हो - जब आप टेलिविज़न देख रहे हो और आपके बच्चें आपसे बातें करना चाहे तो उनसे बातें करें। यह बहुत ज़रूरी है। हम अपने बच्चों को इस दुनिया में लाए हैं तो वो हमारी प्राथमिकता होनी चाहिए। अपने बच्चों के तकनीकी इस्तेमाल पर भी काबू करना चाहिए। मंत्री अकबर ने कहा। मंत्री अकबर ने माता-पिताओं को

प्रोत्साहित किया है कि वे अपने बच्चों को लेजाकर मेनिंजोकोकल बीमारी के खिलाफ टीकें लगाए अगर उन्होंने अभी तक ऐसा नहीं किया है। उन्होंने जोर दिया है कि यह ज़रूरी है कि बच्चें दूसरों का आदर-सम्मान करना सीखें।

“कई बार अद्यापकों को दोष दिया जाता है और बच्चों को कई अधिकार दिए जाते हैं लेकिन माता-पिताओं को भी अपने बच्चों को ज़िम्मेदारी सीखानी चाहिए और सबसे पहले है आदर करना। कई बार अद्यापक शिष्टाचार और विश्वास आधारित शिक्षा देते हैं इसलिए उनपर दबाव रहता है,” मंत्री अकबर ने कहा।

मंत्री अकबर ने माता-पिताओं को प्रोत्साहित किया कि वे अपने बच्चों से अन्य भाषाएँ सीखने और बहु-संस्कृति अपनाने की माँग करें जिसके लिए फीजी प्रसिद्ध है।

बारिश के मौसम में मच्छर पैदा होने वाले स्थानों को नष्ट करें- स्वास्थ्य मंत्रालय

रोनल देव

स्वास्थ्य और मेडिकल सेविसस मंत्रालय ने देश भर के सभी फीजीवासियों से माँग की है कि वे डेन्गी बीमारी को फैलने से रोकने के लिए मच्छरों के पैदा होने वाले सभी स्थानों को नष्ट करें, घर के आस-पास तथा नौकरी के स्थानों पर किसी भी चीज़ में रुके हुए पानी को खाली करें।

आम जनता से यह भी माँग की गई है कि वे मच्छरों द्वारा काँटने से बचने के लिए शरीर पर मच्छरों का रिपेलन्ट लगाए मच्छरदानी इस्तेमाल करें तथा खिड़की दरवाज़े पर मच्छरों का स्क्रीन लगाए क्योंकि मच्छर तड़के सुबह और सुरज ढलने के बाद काँटते हैं।

यह सलाह इसलिए दी जा रही है जब अक्टूबर महीने में हुए एक सर्वेक्षण से सूबा, लामी तथा नउसोरी में भारी संख्या में मच्छरों की रिपोर्ट सामने आई।

मंत्रालय, अपनी डिविज़नल रेसपोन्स टीमों के द्वारा, डेन्गी प्रतिक्रिया गतिविधियों के लिए घर-घर जा रहा है तथा हस्तक्षेप सहित तीव्र डेन्गी प्रतिक्रिया गतिविधियों पर गौर कर रहा है ताकि पता चल सके कि डेन्गी बीमारी के कितने मामलों की पुष्टि हुई है।

स्वास्थ्य मंत्रालय, टाउन तथा सिटी काउन्सल के अलावा अन्य साजेदारों के साथ मिलकर काम करती रहेगी ताकि मच्छरों की बढ़ती संख्या पर काबू पाया जाए और आम जनता से माँग की गई है कि वे अभी कदम उठाए तथा बारिश के मौसम में एक और डेन्गी बुखार के प्रकोप को रोकें।

डेन्गी जैसी बीमारियों की रोकथाम के खिलाफ लड़ाई के मामले में मंत्रालय और जनता से एक सहयोगी दृष्टिकोण महत्वपूर्ण है।



नन्दोवी सेटलमन्ट नान्दी के बासठ (62) निवासी, लेन्ड्स और मिनरल रिसोसस मंत्री, जनाब फईयाज़ सिदिक कोया के साथ जिन्हें हाल ही में ज़मीन की लीस की स्वीकृति मिली।

नन्दोवी नान्दी के निवासियों को मिली लीसों की स्वीकृति

रोनल देव

लेन्ड्स मंत्री जनाब फईयाज़ सिदिक कोया ने हाल ही में नन्दोवी नान्दी में लीस की बासठ (62) स्वीकृति वाली नोटिस दी है जिससे इस सेटलमन्ट के निवासियों को सुरक्षा की एक बेहतर भावना मिली है जो कि एक और मील का पत्थर है।

“मैं जानता हूँ कि आप कई दिनों से इसका इंतज़ार कर रहे थे तथा इस पूरी प्रक्रिया में आपके धैर्य के संबंध में चुप्पी साधी गई है तथा उन्हें खुशी है कि यह इंतज़ार अब खत्म

हो गई है,” मंत्री ने निवासियों से कहा।

नान्दी शहर से बाहर नन्दोवी सेटलमन्ट के निवासियों के लिए पहली चरण में लीस की स्वीकृति दी गई है जबकि बाकी लीसों निवासियों को जाँच-पड़ताल के बाद दी जाएंगी। “अनौपचारिक बस्तियों में रहने वाले हमारे लोगों की आजीविका को नियमित करने के लिए मंत्रालय ने स्वीकृति की नोटिस देने पहल की है। शुरुआत के बाद से अभी तक देश भर के अनौपचारिक बस्तियों में रहने वालों को स्वीकृति की चार सौ (400) नोटिस दी गई है तथा नन्दोवी के अड़सठ (68) परिवार भी,”

मंत्री कोया ने कहा।

लीस की प्रक्रिया के चलते ज़मीन के सेवार तथा प्लेन की स्वीकृति वाली कार्यवाई भी आगे बढ़ेगी तथा असामियों को याद दिलाया गया है कि वे लीस में दर्ज़ शर्तों का पालन करें जो कि उनका कानूनी कर्तव्य है।

“आपको एक भूमिका निभाने की ज़रूरत है तथा कृपया सुनिश्चित करें कि आप इमानदारी और सच्चाई के साथ ऐसा करें,” मंत्री कोया ने कहा। नन्दोवी सेटलमन्ट के निवासियों ने लीस की स्वीकृति के लिए सरकार का आभार व्यक्त किया।



स्वास्थ्य और मेडिकल सेविसस मंत्री रोजी अकबर ने हालही नान्दी में विश्व मधुमय दिवस का विमोचन किया।

मंत्री अकबर ने वोल्ड डायबिटीज़ डे का किया विमोचन

रोनल देव

स्वास्थ्य तथा मेडिकल सेविसस मंत्री रोजी अकबर ने आज सुबह कोरोईवोलू पार्क नान्दी में विश्व मधुमय दिवस का विमोचन किया।

दुनिया भर में चौदह नवम्बर को विश्व डायबीटीज़ दिवस मनाया जाता है और इस साल का मुख्य विषय है “परिवार और डायबीटीज़”।

मंत्री अकबर ने कहा कि यह दिवस सही समय पर मनाया जा रहा है क्योंकि यह स्वस्थ भोजन और जीवन शैली का फैसला करने में परिवार के महत्व को दिखाता है।

“डायबीटीज़ आपकी जेब पर, समय और परिवार पर काफी दबाव डालता है इसलिए इस दिवस का मुख्य विषय भी सही समय पर तय हुआ है। कई बार हम अपने स्वास्थ्य पर ध्यान नहीं देते, कसरत नहीं करते, गलत समय पर भोजन करते हैं और इन्हें कारणों से हमारे स्वास्थ्य पर बुरा असर पड़ता है।

इस दौरान आम जनता की हेल्थ स्क्रीनिंग भी हुई।

मंत्री बाला ने नरेरे प्रायमरी स्कूल में मनाई दिपावली

6



नन्दोवी निवासियों को मिली लीस

7



प्रधानमंत्री वॉरेनो बर्डनिमरामा हालही में तोम्बूनिगियो में पैदल चलने वाले एक पुल का न्यू डालते हुए। उनके अनुसार पुल बनने पर कई सौ की संख्या में लोग इसे इस्तेमाल करेंगे तथा कोरोवासी अपनी फसल बाज़ार लेजाकर बेच सकेंगे।

बुरे दिन खत्म हुए

रोनल देव

प्रधानमंत्री वॉरेनो बर्डनिमरामा का कहना है कि वो दिन अब बीत चुके हैं जब देश के पिछड़े लोगों पर सरकार ध्यान नहीं देती थी तथा उन्हें तकलीफें सहने के लिए छोड़ देती थी।

हालही में तोम्बूनिगियो में पैदल चलने वाले एक पुल का न्यू डालते हुए श्री बर्डनिमरामा

ने कहा कि इस सरकार का लक्ष्य है, बुर्जुगों, यूवकों तथा विकलांग लोगों की मदद करने के लिए किसी भी हद तक जाना ताकि उन्हें अन्य लोगों की तरह सरकारी सेवाएँ मिलें, आर्थिक भागीदारी तथा सामान्य जीवन जीने में भी सशक्त बनाया जाए।

हमारी सरकार ने देश के कोने-कोने में पुल, रास्ते बनाए हैं तथा पानी, बिजली तथा संपर्क

करने के साधन उपलब्ध कराने के साथ-साथ उच्च शिक्षा तथा स्वास्थ्य सेवा लोगों तक पहुँचाई है।

यह पैदल चलने वाला एक पुल से ज़्यादा है जिसे कई सौ की संख्या में पुरुष, महिलाएँ तथा बच्चें इस्तेमाल करेंगे। इसके द्वारा कोरोवासी अपने फल-शाख भाजी के अलावा हाथ से बने खूबसूरत हन्डीकाफ्ट और लोगों को बेचने के

लिए बाज़ार तक लेजा सकेंगे।

उन्होंने कहा कि नदी की दूसरी ओर खेत, स्कूल, हेल्थ सेंटर तथा अन्य सेवाएँ हासिल करने में उन्हें आसानी होगी।

एक लाख बत्तीस हजार डोलर लागत इस पुल के बनने के बाद वो लकड़ी वाले पुराने पुल की जगह लेगा जो पिछले कई सालों से कोरोवासियों को सेवा प्रदान करता आ रहा है।