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Fijian delegation led by Fiji's Permanent Representative to the United Nations in New York, Dr Satyendra Prasad with the team consisting of Ministry of Economy's Climate Change Division staff and consultants at the United Nations Climate Conference (COP27) held in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt from November 6-20, 2022. **Photo: SUPPLIED**

"Loss and damage fund" a step towards climate justice

PRASHILA DEVI

HE Fijian Government has hailed the achievement on the "loss and damage" front as the United Nations Climate Conference (COP27) concluded in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt on November 20, 2022.

Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama, in a tweet, thanked "our tireless Pacific negotiators for securing a loss and damage fund at COP27".

"You represent those who stand to lose the most to this crisis, and you have fought the hardest to see climate justice delivered," Prime Minister Bainimarama said.

The Fijian delegation was ably led by Fiji's Permanent Representative to the Unit-

ed Nations in New York, Ambasssador Dr Satyendra Prasad and officials from the Climate Change Division of the Ministry of Economy.

The Attorney-General and Minister for Economy, Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum, told Fiji's COP27 negotiators, "Back home, we're ready to turn your victory on loss and damage into real wins for our most vulnerable citizens through our proven plan to deliver real protection, move communities, and support those whose livelihoods are most at-risk".

A UN Climate statement detailed the achievements of the meeting, held from November 6-20, 2022, highlighting how "creating a specific fund for loss and damage marked an important point of progress,

with the issue added to the official agenda and adopted for the first time at COP27".

"Governments also agreed to establish a 'transitional committee' to make recommendations on how to operationalise both the new funding arrangements and the fund at COP28 next year. The first meeting of the transitional committee is expected to take place before the end of March 2023," the statement explained.

At the meeting, serious concerns were expressed that the goal of developed countries to mobilise jointly US\$100 billion per year (FJ\$223.6 billion) by 2020 has not yet been met, with developed countries urged to meet the goal, and multilateral development banks and international financial institutions called on to mobilize

climate finance.

Meanwhile, UN Secretary-General António Guterres also welcomed the funding for loss and damage but cautioned that it was not "an answer if the climate crisis washes a small island state off the map – or turns an entire African country to desert"

"The red line we must not cross is the line that takes our planet over the 1.5 degree temperature limit. To have any hope of keeping to 1.5, we need to massively invest in renewables and end our addiction to fossil fuels," Mr Guterres said.



COP27- Fiji looks to Pope's moral leadership in climate struggle -5

Free heart surgery a dream come true for Kumar - 10

Water woes a thing of the past - 11

Natia villagers receive new boat and engine - 13

QUOTE OF THE WEEK



Voreqe Bainimarama.

"There is nothing more important to us than our people, our natural environment, and our Godgiven resources, and this is why we work every single day to leave no one behind."

NUMBERS

The local tourism industry has raked in

\$805 million

between April to August this year according to preliminary findings by the Fiji's International Visitor Survey. Authority.

Minister for Commerce, Trade, Tourism and Transport, Faiyaz Koya

TWEET OF THE WEEK



Pope Francis@Pontifex

Let us not tire of doing everything possible for the dramatic urgency of climate change. Let us put concrete, far-sighted choices in act, thinking of the younger generations first, before it is too late!

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Planning crucial for vibrant towns and cities

AZARIA FAREEN

ELL planned towns and cities must provide integrated and inclusive solutions, with quality and modern living to its citizens.

In stating this during the 2022 World Town Planning Day, Ministry of Commerce, Trade, Tourism and Transport permanent secretary, Shaheen Ali, said that planning "is an everyday calculus to respond to evolving and growing challenges of society".

With this year's theme being "Think Global, Plan Local", planners and policy makers are urged to have a wider vision.

"Planning must be for the longterm and today, we need a plan that considers our future needs – not just 5, or just 10 years down the track – but 50 years ahead," Mr Ali said.

"Fiji is not "an island alone" - it is part of a global landscape so we need to take inspiration globally and make it our own," he added.

"We must leverage groundbreaking technologies, to make our cities modern and green and aspire to be the most sustainable cities in the world like Tokyo, Copenhagen and Berlin."

"We entered into a long-term planning framework in partnership with the Singapore Government which consists of a 50-year Master Plan for major cities and towns in Viti Levu," he added.

Mr Ali said that this master plan will provide a broad template for Fijian towns and cities to develop individual town schemes.

"The master plan process is making us and agencies think of the future of economic sectors and what is required to build smart, sustainable and resilient cities and towns," he said.

"This also means modernisation and simplification of systems; therefore, digitalisation of applications and approvals is critical, and as such, the ministry has set a plan for a 24-month digitalisation project."

"As part of the reforms, we have

launched the trial phase of online application for starting a business and in 2023, starting a business application and approvals will be fully-automated," he added.

Mr Ali said that MCTTT was currently reviewing and revising procedures and policies to make processes simple for applicants in terms of obtaining construction permits.

"We are committed to ensuring that the amended laws take into account the streamlining of online approval processes, emphasis on formulating inclusive and sustainable strategic long-term plans and making Fiji's planning system more user friendly," he added.



Mr. Atish Kumar

Permanent Secretary for Employment, Productivity and Industrial Relations

Ms. Seema Sharma

Permanent Secretary for Local Government



Mr. Shaheen Ali Permanent Secretary for Commerce, Trade, Tourism & Transport



Mr. Ashwin Rai

Permanent Secretary for

Women, Children and Poverty

Alleviation

Mr. Sanjeeva Perera Permanent Secretary for Housing and Community Development



Mr. Yogesh Karan

of the Prime Minister, Sugar

Industry, Immigration and

Foreign Affairs

Mr. Taitusi Vakadravuyaca
Permanent Secretary for
Infrastructure and
Meteorological Services



Ms. Susan Kiran

Permanent Secretary for

Civil Service

Dr. Raijeli Taga

Permanent Secretary for Lands and Mineral Resources



Mr. Manasa Lesuma

Permanent Secretary for Defence, National Security

and Policing



Mr. Garisau Penesio Nonu Baleinabuli Permanent Secretary for Forestry and Fisheries

Fiji's participation at the G20 reaffirms commitment to global solidarity



Fijian head of delegation and Special Envoy of the Prime Minister to the G20 Leaders Summit, Ratu Inoke Kubuabola with Indian Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, who was handed the gavel as the incoming G20 Forum leadership. **Photo: SUPPLIED**

IJI, on behalf of the Pacific family, participated in the G20 Leaders' Summit, which concluded on November 16, 2022. President Joko Widodo of Indonesia, passed over the gavel holding the helm of the G20 Forum leadership to Indian Prime

The world leaders reaffirmed their commitment to strengthen global solidarity in building back better and stronger from the

Minister, Narendra Modi, after hosting a

successful G20 Forum in 2022.

common challenges they face.

Fiji was amongst the list of invited countries, including Singapore; Netherlands; Spain; United Arab Emirates (UAE); Suriname (representing Caricom); Senegal (representing the African Union); and Cambodia (representing ASEAN) attended the G20 Forum in 2022 and contributed to the success of the G20 Summit

Fiji and Suriname's participations were first-time invitations to the G20 Forum, from the United Nations Small Island Developing States (SIDS) Grouping, through the kind invitation of the Indonesian Presidency, indicating at the outset the importance of bringing SIDS issues more glaringly into the G20 Forum.

The Fijian delegation was led by the Special Envoy of the Prime Minister to the G20 Leaders Summit, Ratu Inoke Kubuabola, accompanied by Permanent Secretary Office of the Prime and Foreign Affairs, Yogesh Karan and Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Fiji to Indonesia, Amenatave Yauvoli.

Fiji participated and contributed in two sessions including its intervention during the Food Security session where it strongly urged the G20 to partner with the Pacific in addressing supply-side constraints and institutional capacities to strengthen its production and supply base of nutrient-

rich foods and development for food security and climate-resilient food production systems.

Ratu Inoke thanked the Indonesian G20 Presidency for its initiative to strengthen food security in the Small Islands Developing States of the Pacific to strengthen agri-food systems under the G20 Action for "Strong and Inclusive Recovery".

A regional project will be developed and will be based in Fiji with the support of this partnership.

In addition, the vital importance of digital transformations was highlighted with lessons drawn from the COVID-19 pandemic being invaluable.

In this connection, the Pacific has embraced digital technology in the context of the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific calling for strategic partnerships such as with the G20 to strengthen investments for transport, communications and connectivity within the Pacific region.

The Summit also adopted the G20 Bali Leaders' Declaration as the outcome of the G20 Indonesia 2022 Leaders Forum.

The Fijian delegation recognised Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama's leadership in the G20 Forum in 2022.

(Source: Ministry of Foreign Affairs)

Fiji's transitions towards "Green Shipping'

HERE is enormous potential for the Pacific region and Fiji to transition towards "green shipping" to build an efficient and environmentally friendly shipping indus-

This was highlighted when Fiji took centre stage at the UN Climate Conference (COP 27) event last week on "Translating Ambition into Ocean and Climate Action-Perspectives from the Ocean Panel" held at the United States Pavilion in Sharm-el-Sheikh in Egypt.

Fiji's Permanent Representative to United Nations Ambassador Satyendra Prasad said the world needs a safe, secure and sustainable maritime industry which can drive and support a growing economy and help achieve a truly better world.

He said while Fiji has one of the most robust and well-developed shipping industries in the Pacific, there is still a need for technical and financial support to scale efforts to meet climate ambitions.

"We look towards leaders in the "greening" of the shipping industry such as Norway and the ability to make whole scale changes at the regional level through partnerships we develop much like that with the United States of America in ensuring security within our waters.

"Potential for the Pacific and Fiji to transition towards cleaner energy and zero emission shipping is incredible. The world has the resources and the science available to achieve economy-wide changes within the shipping industry, and it's time we brought this wave of momentum to the Pacific with opportunities to innovate and escalate change."

Ambassador Prasad also spoke on the Pacific Blue Shipping Partnership which was jointly launched by the Governments of Fiji, and the Marshall Islands with support from the Solomon Islands, Tuvalu and Vanuatu in an ambitious effort to decarbonize the respective shipping sectors and achieve net zero carbon by 2050.

He said there was also a need to integrate biodiversity, forest and ocean holistically, so that there is greater integrity in climate actions countries are taking.

"We look to COP28 to mainstream ocean onto the agenda, that will add more momentum to getting all oceanic countries to add a blue component to their Nationally Determined Contribution.

Ambassador Prasad reminded the rich countries that when small fisheries-dependent countries like Kiribati offer large marine protected areas; they "know the level of sacrifice they are making".

"Kiribati offering 500000 square km of marine protection is equivalent to asking the kingdom of Saudi Arabia to switch off 10 per cent of its oil and gas fields. Small state after small state across the Pacific are undertaking such steps, and so they ask the fossil fuel industry to undertake similar steps."

(Source: Ministry of Economy)

PIF and WTO celebrate 22 years of cooperation



Pacific Islands Forum deputy secretary general, Filimon Manoni with the World Trade Organization Director-General, Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala **Photo: SUPPLIED**

AZARIA FAREEN

HE Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS) and the World Trade Organization (WTO) celebrated 22 years of cooperation recently as they renewed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the fifth time.

The WTO Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies was adopted at the 12th Ministerial Conference on 17 June 2022, where countries such as Fiji and other Pacific members have been beneficiaries of the activities organised between PIFS and the

The Ministers from Australia, New Zealand, Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, and Vanuatu reflected on the 12th WTO Ministerial Conference outcomes, including those that are paramount to the Pacific Fisheries subsidies.

The Ministers agreed on negotiations for

subsidies on the United Front - to ensure more relevant technical assistance and cathat fisheries resources are protected and pacity building." Mr Ali said. developed sustainably for the long-term benefit of the people.

In signing the MoU, the chair of the meeting, Minister for Commerce, Trade, Tourism and Transport (MCTTT), Faiyaz Koya, highlighted that the visit of the Director General of the WTO to the Pacific region demonstrates her dedication to hearing the views and voices of all WTO members, especially the most vulnerable. He highlighted that the region would continue to work in solidarity to further the collective objective of supporting the Pacific Economic and Social Development. MCTTT permanent secretary, Shaheen Ali, during a roundtable meeting with the WTO D-G, Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala relayed that the Pacific has the least representation at the WTO Secretariat.

"We are grouped with other regions,

a comprehensive agreement on fisheries which has bearing on our ability to access

"Given the high degree of vulnerability, the unique challenges of Small Islands Developing States need to be recognized in the "new" or renewed WTO and must include technical assistance and capacity building."

"Tailored assistance needs to be provided that does not categorise us with regions with different needs or may be far ahead of us in terms of requirements and resourcing," he added.

Mr Ali further adds that the WTO was a critical "member-driven" multilateral institution and needed to ensure that the rules and rule-making process was transparent and inclusive, including negotiation processes and arrangements.

Monday November 7, 2022

Children recognised for their act of bravery



Minister for Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation, Rosy Akbar, with Vision Fiji Chair, Gazala Akbar, award recipients and their family. Photo: AZARIA FAREEN

AZARIA FAREEN

DUCATION is a key factor in promoting development and has a positive impact on the Fijian economy and the overall health of its citizens."This was the sentiment expressed by the Minister for Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation, Rosy Akbar, while speaking at the Namaka Public School 60th Anniversary celebrations in Nadi.

"Education goes a long way and investing in education is one of the most important ways with which we can improve our world," Minister Akbar said.

"The Namaka Public School 60th Anniversary celebration is an important event for acknowledging the hard work, sacrifice and dedication of the founder, management and

teachers of students of this school over the years."

"Schools play a very important role in promoting a knowledge-based society and ensuring students have the skills and information to make good choices and to be able to contribute to Fiji's development".

Minister Akbar reminded students, teachers, and guardians that the Fijian Government believes in investing in children's education.

"Education is one of the priorities for the Government and it is the greatest investment we can make in our future. Education is also key to gender equality through women's empowerment and by creating academic pathways and leadership opportunities for girls and instilling respect and values in boys."

"The Fijian Government has been consistent through the national budgetary process, investing millions into the education sector. For this financial year (2022-2023), \$16.6 million has been allocated to fund scholar-

ships, study loans, grants and this speaks volumes of the Government's commitment and vision for an educated society," she said.

Minister Akbar also encouraged parents to give their best possible opportunities to their children and that means a lot of love and affection and a lot of care and attention to the children.

"From Government's perspective, it is very much about the future of the country. As you can see, all the policies of the Government are focused on building the future of Fiji and when it comes to human resources, Government's policies focus on education - in ensuring a highly educated Fijian society by making access to education easier."

The Minister encouraged students to work hard in their academics as education has the power to transform lives, provided they are prepared to make sacrifices along the way.

More than 12K market vendors provided financial relief costing Govt \$5.2M

SHEENAL CHARAN

he Fijian Government has provided financial relief to more 12,800 market vendors across the 13 municipalities by waiving market stall fees to value of \$5,243,236.

Minister for Local Government, Education, Heritage and Arts Premila Kumar, speaking during a visit to the Suva Curio Vendors and Handicraft Centre in Suva recently, said the Government understood the difficulties faced by market vendors to sell their produce and products due to the impacts of COVID-19.

"Let's not forget that during COVID-19, there was a closure of our border which meant zero tourists to our shores and that translates into zero sale at this handicraft centre," Minister Kumar said.

"You were not able to sell anything and for months the handicraft centre was closed but I must say to you that your president was very active. He had made several calls to me and he discussed your plight, your concerns that you were not getting any tourists, you were still occupying the stalls and how you pay the stall fees.

"And through all this discussion today the Government has waived stall fees for more than 12,800 market vendors around the country whether they are established vendors or they're casual vendors, none of them are paying any stall fees."

Minister Kumar said this meant the Government was paying all the municipal council around \$5.2 million to ensure that market vendors were not forking out that money from their pockets.

She said the Government was assisting the market vendors through this initiative to ensure they are able to recover from the losses caused by the COVID-19 pandemic which would continue for fiscal year 2022-2023.

Minister Kumar encouraged vendors to raise their voice through the association to approach the ministry or the municipal council should they need to raise any concern.

Development of more markets can lift people out of poverty – Minister Kumar

SHEENAL CHARAN

AMILIES can be lifted out of poverty and provided a sustainable livelihood through building more markets.

This will enable more people to operate small businesses, says Minister for Local Government and Education, Heritage and Arts Premila Kumar.

While visiting the Suva Handicraft Centre vendors recently, Minister Kumar highlighted the Government's plan to build more markets.

"You will be amazed that we have plans to build 10 markets whether it's mini market, satellite market or main markets," she said.

"The three types of market that I mentioned are at different stages, for example Savusavu Market, Levuka Market and Nakasi Farmer's Market are in the construction phase.

"In other words, the contractors are there and they're building the markets but there are other markets for example, Narere Mini Market, Raiwaqa Mini Market, Mead Road Market, Naiyaca Market and Dreketi market in Labasa and Navua Market, they are at the planning or preparatory phase.

"Taveuni Satellite Market, we are at the stage of acquiring the land. The landowners have agreed to give us a piece of land in Naqara which is a small town in Taveuni and we are in the process of acquiring the piece of land but other markets for example Raiwaqa Market - the concept design is done and the engineering drawings are being drawn so that we can call the tender and we can get that market going."

Minister Kumar said the development of markets created selfemployment and the Government had allocated \$750,000 to develop the new Nakasi Market.

"We know that the market will not cost us \$750,000, it's more than a \$1 million but we know from now, till the next budget we will only be able to use around \$750,000, so when it comes to the next financial year, the rest

of the balance that is left to complete the work will be given to the municipal council."

The Minister said they had received \$70,000 for the preparatory works for Dreketi market, \$200,000 for relocation and de-

velopment of Navua Market and \$1.74 million has been allocated for the completion of Levuka Market and \$75,000 has been set aside for the Taveuni Satellite Market.

Market.



Minister for Local Government, Premila Kumar with a vendor at the Suva Handicraft
Centre. Photo: ILISAPECI TUIVALE

COP27- Fiji looks to Pope's moral leadership in climate struggle



Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Ambasssador Dr Satyendra Prasad with the representatives of the Holy See during a

HE Fijian delegation met with the Holy See delegation on the sidelines of the Conference of Parties 27 held in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt to discuss the abiding relationship between Fiji and the Vatican.

Head of the Fijian delegation and Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Ambasssador Dr Satyendra Prasad thanked His Holiness Pope Francis for his unwavering leadership on climate change.

He said that communities across the Blue Pacific Continent continue to draw great inspiration and faith from the moral leadership his Holiness provides on climate issues.

An invitation for Pope Francis to visit Fiji in the near future was extended after an earlier planned visit was shelved due to the Coronavirus Pandemic.

Ambassador Prasad and Holy See representative, Paolo Conversi, expressed agreement about the need to see young children return to having an awareness of the environment and its bountiful yet fragile relationship with humanity.

They discussed the biodiversity and ocean crisis, affirming that ocean systems are central to Pacific peoples and must be mainstreamed into action related to environmental sustainabil-

Ambassador Prasad highlighted the fight for a functioning Loss and Damage mechanism for Small Island Developing States and all countries affected by the high-emitting nations. He underlined the need for dedicated support from bigger countries and decisive action from the large emitters to keep

the 1.5-degree threshold within reach. Ambassador Prasad further elaborated on how a Loss and Damage funding facility would greatly assist vulnerable communities and peoples of Fiji to combat the adverse effects of

climate change. The bilateral meeting also covered adaptation measures which Fiji has implemented and the range of support and commitment needed to ensure the sustainability of fledgling adaptation projects.

Mr Conversi spoke of the Pope's deep affection for the peoples of the Pacific and affirmed his support for their struggle, noting the grave consequences for communities, cultures and the spiritual health of individuals facing the loss of their homes to climate-induced disasters and sea level rise.

Ambassador Prasad thanked the Holy See for their expressions of solidarity. He praised his Holiness for his continued support before outlining the many challenges in relocating communities, including moving not only homes but building new roads, schools and churches and managing the mental and spiritual well-being of dislocated communities.

(Source: Ministry of Economy)

Fiji at the forefront of COP27 negotiations on mobilising climate financing



Fiji's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Ambassador Dr Satyendra Prasad, speaks at the "Blue Economy Financing Models for the Pacific Island Countries. **Photo: SUPPLIED**

IJI was at the forefront of the negotiations to mobilise support for local communities and families who are affected by the adverse impacts of the climate crisis in Fiji at the United Nations Climate Conference (COP 27) in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt.

As the meeting progressed into its final week, the head of the Fijian delegation at COP27, Fiji's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Ambassador Dr Satyendra Prasad, spoke at the "Blue Economy Financing Models for the Pacific Island Countries" at a side event organised by the Fijian Government and Monash Univer-

Ambassador Prasad said as a large ocean state, blue finance was not only central to Fiji but a key player in economic recovery and the pandemic recovery.

He said Fiji has partnered with

the Monash University recently to establish a Monash- FNU Pacific Island Countries Climate Change Research Centre, known as PACT (Pacific Actions for Climate Transition) which will be launched next

The centre is expected to assist policymakers and development partners in Fiji to device solutions for climate change from the business and economic perspectives.

Ambassador Prasad said the initiative affirms the governmentacademia partnership to advance result-oriented solutions that have solidarity at the heart of it.

He highlighted that Fiji's Sustainable Bond Framework launched at COP27, will clearly articulate the blue economy projects and criteria with potential investors while ensuring consistency and transparency of projects, be it in the blue, green or even social space.

One such initiative includes the

Pacific Blue Shipping Partnership, which aims to reduce shipping emissions in line with International Maritime Organization's (IMO) targets and enhance shipping safety in the region.

Initiatives outlined included Fiji's NDC (Nationally Determined Contributions) investment plans, sector-based climate proposals, Fiji's E-Transport initiative, nature-based solutions, adaptationmitigation and marine proposals that have secured funding opportunities and are ready to be further

Ambassador Prasad spoke on Fiji's national climate finance strategy and the Green Climate Fund (GCF) proposals- which require easier and faster access to climate finance and preparatory support to bring these initiatives to fruition.

He called for long-term visions, protection and conservation to be at the core of financing investments to deliver a sustainable future and that the Pacific's Blue economy ambitions require capital investors who are focused more on the impact rather than returns.

Fiji's initiatives such as upcoming blue bonds, and regional partnerships for smart investments with the support of the development partners, were also discussed at the event.

(Source: Ministry of Economy)

Fijian Sustainable Bond Framework launched



Fiji's Head of Delegation and Permanent Representative to the United Nations in New York, Ambassador Dr Satvendra Prasad launches the Fijian Sustainable Bond Framework at

HE Fijian Sustainable opment agenda. successfully launched at COP27 in Sharm El-Sheik, Egypt at the Conference of Parties 27 (COP27).

The Framework is the first of its kind developed by a Small Island Developing State that creates a robust taxonomy for green, blue and social projects.

It is expected to help Fiji better communicate its sustainable development finance priorities with bilateral, multilateral, private and philanthropic investors.

The development of the Fijian Sustainable Bond Framework has been an integral part of Fiji's journey to issue its first-ever Sovereign Blue Bond which is expected to be issued in early 2023.

Fiji's Head of Delegation and Permanent Representative to the United Nations in New York, Ambassador Dr Satyendra Prasad, said that Fiji decided to develop an all-encompassing sustainable bond framework that now allows Fiji to clearly define its capital market operations and leverage new and the COP27. additional funding for our sustainable devel-

Bond Framework was He thanked the United Kingdom for its continued support of Fiji's blue economy ambitions and commended the United Nations Development Programme for providing world-class technical support to not only develop the Framework for Fiji but help structure Fiji's sovereign blue bond issuance as well.

The event was attended by Lord Zac Goldsmith on behalf of the Government of the United King-

He commended Fiji on taking innovative steps to resource mobilise for its climate ambitions and highlighted the significant potential for other small island states to follow

Lord Goldsmith reminded the audience that Pacific countries

are large ocean states and that the United Kingdom remains a committed partner in the region to help advance climate and ocean ambitions.

He also reaffirmed the growing support being delivered to the UK's Blue Planet Fund in the Pacific.

Riad Meddeb, UNDP's Director for Global Centre on Technology, Innovation and Sustainable Development, and Senior Principal Advisor for SIDS rounded up the discussion by highlighting UN-DP's commitment to supporting SIDS explore new and innovative sources of resource mobilisation for their development.

He praised Fiji's foresight in seek ing innovative finance solutions and thanked the Fijian Government for trusting UNDP to support its blue bond journey.

Mr Meddeb highlighted UNDP's readiness to support other SIDS who are interested in exploring capital markets for development along with any other innovative resource mobilisation priorities.

The event was attended by highlevel delegates that included the President of Palau, Surangel S. Whipps Jr. and the Samoan Minister of Natural Resources and Environment Honourable Toeolesulusulu Cedric Schuster.

(Source: Ministry of Economy)

Germany-Fiji relations to mate and environment supports Fiji's projects create new opportunities and mitigation- through a partnership with the for cooperation in climate

HE German Government has pledged their support for Fiji's efforts to build economic resilience from the adverse impacts of climate change and recover sustainably from the COVID-19 pandemic.

This was conveyed at a meeting between the Office of the Prime Minister, Foreign Affairs permanent secretary, Yogesh Karan with the State Secretary of the Federal Republic of Germany, Andreas Michaelis, and the German Ambassador and Special Envoy for the Pacific Island States, Beate Grzeski.

The meeting took place at the margins of the 17th Asia-Pacific Conference of German Business (APK) held in Singapore from 13-14 November 2022.

The global conference was attended by hundreds of world business leaders, corporate executives and senior government representatives, discussing and promoting economic relations between Germany and Asia-Pacific.

Mr Karan commended the German Government for reconvening the conference, which was an ideal platform to nurture economic cooperation among the nations in the Europe and Asia Pacific re-

He extended the Fijian Government's appreciation for Germany's partnership on climate advocacy that had strengthened since Fiji's COP23 Presidency.

Notably, Germany's funding provision for the international clion climate adaptation German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ).

Reflecting on the UN Climate Conference of Parties 27 (COP 27) held in Egypt recently, Mr Karan said increased

support for developing countries in dealing with the effects of a changing climate was urgently required and Fiji welcomes the inclusion of loss and damage on the agenda for Small Island Developing States (SIDS).

He commended Germany for being one of the first few countries that supported Loss and Damage financing at COP27 by committing to \$170 million for the "Global Shield" initiative, which aims to strengthen insurance and disaster protection finance.

On regional cooperation, Mr Karan said Fiji looks forward to Germany's support in implementing the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent that sets out a long-term vision of a unified Pa-



Office of the Prime Minister and Foreign Affairs permanent secretary, Yogesh Karan with the State Secretary of the Federal Republic of Germany, Andreas Michaelis and the German Ambassador and Special Envoy for the Pacific Island States, Beate Grzeski.

cific family.

He requested Germany's intervention to grant Fijians "Visa Free Entry" into Schengen areas to create easy travel, trade and investment, and tourism opportunities between Fiji and Europe.

Mr Karan welcomed the German Government's plans to establish its first diplomatic mission in Fiji and their commitment to strengthen relations with Fiji at all levels. In response, Mr Michaelis thanked Mr Karan for the discussions on enhancing cooperation in mutual priorities.

He said Germany stands ready to support the Fijian Government in all its efforts and Fiji's partici-

pation at the 17th Asia-Pacific Conference of German Business (APK) has highlighted the important areas of assistance that Germany looks forward to providing in the coming months.

The Asia-Pacific Conference of German Business (APK) conference was organised by the Asia-Pacific Committee of German Business (APA), the German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (BMWK), and the German Chambers of Commerce Abroad (AHK) in Asia-Pacific.

(Source: Ministry of Foreign Af-

Moturiki, largest maritime water project in Fiji- PM



Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama at the commissioning of the Moturiki Water Project. Photo: JOSEFA ULUILAKEBA

AZARIA FAREEN

VER 1,300 people from 286 households, spanning 10 villages will no longer have to rely on rainwater and village wells for their daily water needs

This was relayed by the Prime Minister Vorege Bainimarama, who stated that Fijians remain a top priority as he commissioned the Moturiki Water Project to the tune of \$3.2 million recently.

"There is nothing more important to us than our people, our natural environment, and our God-given resources, and this is why we work every single day to leave no one behind," Prime Minister Bainimarama

"This is why we have spent millions on adapting to the changing climate and in bringing clean, piped water to the villages

of Savuna, Nasesara, Navuti, Nasauvuki, Wawa, Uluibau, Daku, Naicabecabe, Niubasaga and Yanuca."

"In the last few years, the Fijian Government has undertaken similar projects in Galoa and Malake Islands – introducing piped water to approximately 5,450 Fijians," PM Bainimarama added.

The Fijian Constitution enshrines the right to adequate water for all Fijians and the 20year National Development Plan paves the way to the realisation of that right for all Fijians.

Prime Minister Bainimarama adds that the Fijian Government has made it a priority to close the gap between Fiji's urban areas and its rural and maritime areas by providing education to students, access to digital TV and radio, access to healthcare and clean

Fijian Government receives fertiliser donation from China



Office of the Prime Minister and Foreign Affairs permanent secretary, Yogesh Karan with China's Ambassador to Fiji, Qian Bo at the event.

IJI and China's long standing bilateral relations was further strengthened following the timely assistance of another 720 tonnes of fertilizers from the Government of the People's Republic of China to the Fijian Government in Lautoka.

This tonnage of Ammonium Sulphate will allow the South Pacific Fertilizer PTE Limited (SPFL) to blend and produce Blend C fertiliser that will benefit not only the 12,000 sugarcane growers but other non-sugar agriculture farmers.

Whilst delivering his official remarks at the event, Office of the Prime Minister and Sugar Industry's permanent secretary, Yogesh Karan, said that Fiji and China's relationship continues to gain strength, benefitting the development and growth of Fiii's economy as well as the livelihoods of the Fijian people over the years.

He highlighted that the assistance was

not the first from China, adding it has come at the right time, given the hike in world fertiliser prices post COVID and the challenges inflicted by the Russia-

"The timely donation by China is aiding the efforts of the Government of Fiji in ensuring the consistent supply of fertiliser for our growers," Mr Karan said.

"I extend our sincere appreciation to the People's Republic of China. Your contribution will support the growth of Fiji's Agriculture sector and ultimately, the progress of Fiji's economy especially, during this challenging times.

"This donation will also support the objective of ensuring food security. We are looking forward for more cooperation between Fiji and China, particularly in areas of agriculture."

China's Ambassador to Fiji, Qian Bo said that Fiji and China are "all weather friends" and the donation was a reflection of the proverb that a friend in need is a friend indeed.

As the largest developing country in the world, Mr Bo said China is willing to turn its own growth into opportunities for Fiji and take concrete actions to promote Global Development Initiative to take root and bear fruit.

"China will support Fiji in its effort to achieve the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals."

SPFL chief executive officer, Ashween Ram, expressed gratitude to the Government of China for its unwavering support over the years and to the Fijian Government for always supporting the key objectives of the organisation.

He said the fertiliser will be blended and supplied to the farmers.

(Source: Office of the Prime Minister)

More than 20 districts identified to undergo emission reductions program



Ministry of Forestry and Fisheries permanent secretary, Pene Baleinabuli, speaking at a recent RED+ workshop in Nadi **PHOTO: DIPESH KUMAR**

DIPESH KUMAR

HE Ministry of Forestry has identified more than 20 districts within Fiji to undergo the Emission Reductions (ER) Program.

The ER program which is a under arm of the REDD+ program aims to assist communities within Fiji's 20 districts to implement REDD+ activities in 37,000 hectares of land with the aim of participating in carbon trade.

The REDD+ program was introduced at the United Nations

Forum Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) COP 16 and it encourages developing countries such as Fiji to contribute to greenhouse gas (GHG) mitigation actions in the forest sector by undertaking activities that will reduce emissions.

Ministry of Forestry and Fisheries permanent secretary,

Pene Baleinabuli, speaking at a recent RED+ workshop in Nadi, said that the Fiji National REDD+ Program had begun in 2009 and it was to assist the communities in Fiji which are highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change.

"The impacts of climate change have been projected to further intensify and pose a threat to Fiji's sustainable growth; placing large economic, social and physical stress on local communities and ecosystems. Our urgent actions are needed to strengthen our resil-

ience as a community against the impacts brought about by climate change."

"Fiji's ER-Program does not prevent nor restrict the forest owners in the use of the land and forest resources to support their immediate and future needs and community-level development plans. The program is merely championing the concept of sustainable development, which means improving the "business as usual" methods to standards that ensure that forests are able to perform its natural ecological function of providing clean water and clean air."

"In each of the ER-Program activities, trees will either be reintroduced into degraded land systems or retained in its natural state to support the ecological function of the forest. The benefit for landowners, apart from the ecological services, is that the ER-Program provides an alternative income stream, through the carbon payments, if they so wish to participate."

REDD+ program team leader, Ilaisa Tulele says that Fiji was the only small island developing state to be involved in this program which is supported and financed by the World Bank.

Mr Tulele highlighted that in 2017 the World Bank provided a grant of \$5.8 million to help with the implementation of the program.

He said that more than 95 participants will be trained over the next two days to understand the implementation phase of REDD+ in the country.

"These are the key people that will take the message out to the communities and create awareness and help them make informative decisions during their discussions."

"The 20 districts that we found are vulnerable to a number of facets. They are vulnerable to logging. They were marginalised, probably because of the locality."

The Fiji's Forestry ER Program is the first within Fiji to be implemented by the Government and it will end in 2024 with the World Bank's Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (ECPE)

Blue Economy financing model for PICs at COP27 in Egypt



Fiji's Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Dr Satyendra Prasad delivers his speech at the Blue Economy Financing Model for Pacific Island Countries" at COP27 in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt

he Fijian Government and Monash University jointly organised a successful side event on the "Blue Economy Financing Model for Pacific Island Countries" at COP27 in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt.

The event entailed discussions on the Pacific Action for Climate Transitions (PACT) - A Monash University and Fiji National University joint research centre, which will be launched in early 2023 in Fiji.

The event, led by Professor Paresh Narayan of Monash University, explained the economic importance of oceans to Pacific Island Countries (PICs) and discussed the need for the oceans sector to become sustainable.

The panellists, Monash University's Climate Change Envoy, Rex Horoi, Fijian Ministry of Sugar's director research, Reshmi Kumari and Advisor to the Asia-Pacific Applied Economics Association, Dr Seema Narayan, highlighted the lack of private sector input in climate change action and the limited ability of the PICs to engage with the private sector particularly, through underdeveloped capital markets.

The panellists called for current blended financing models to be reinforced with innovative partnerships, such as the PACT, that can, by working collaboratively with development partners and donors, identify robust solutions which are impactful and carry global relevance.

(Source: Ministry of Economy)

tems further, should you wish to have more power to cater for your businesses or other projects," said Minister Usamate.

"Electrification brings with its opportunities to use home electrical appliances, allow your children

to study effectively at night, and use electronic devices that can enhance their studies."

"By carrying out projects such as this, Government is also committing to building a better Fiji, one that provides

"By carrying out projects such as this, Government is also committing to building a better Fiji, one that provides equal opportunities for every Fijian and one of the determinations of Government is to meet its objective of ensuring all Fijians have access to reliable electrical power and to have 100 per cent renewable energy in Fiji by 2036," Minister Usamate said.

Yanuca villager, Emani Masivoivoi, 67, said the solar project presents them with many opportunities.

"Our women can continue with their weaving at night, and more importantly, our children can now study under bright lights," he said.

"Our heartfelt gratitude to the Government of the day for this wonderful improvement, and we can now only look forward to a brighter future for our children."

Minister Usamate hands over solar home systems



Minister for Infrastructure and Meteorological Services, Jone Usamate, speaks to villagers during the commissioning of solar home systems in Yanuca Island. **Photo: DIPESH KUMAR**

JOSEFA ULUILAKEBA

IFTY-FOUR households on Yanuca Island in Serua now have new solar home systems after Minister for Infrastructure and Meteorological Services, Jone Usamate, handed over the project recently.

Minister Usamate said that the project, worth a little over \$160,000, was part of the 13,000-home solar system electrification initiative that the Ministry has been undertaking throughout the country this year.

"Currently, 96 per cent of the country has access to electricity, and that leaves us with 4 per cent to focus on," he said

"For the province of Serua, the Government has utilised

\$1.3 million on electrification projects in a span of four years from 2017 to 2021."

"Today, we are here to officially hand over these solar systems to every household and I urge you to take ownership as this also means that their upkeep and maintenance are in your hand."

Minister Usamate added that such exercises have been carried out in other parts of the country, such as Niurua in Macuata, Valeni in Cakaudrove, and Nukusere in Namosi.

"Our officers have been visiting rural electrification projects around the country since August, to identify projects that have been well maintained by recipients. This is with the view of handing over of these projects to them, similar to what we are doing today."

He said that the Government implemented the "Electrification Policy" this year to allow recipients to take ownership of their projects.

"This means that Government will no longer require the \$18 a month levy for maintenance but the recipients will be responsible for their upkeep."

"The other is to allow the recipients to expand your sys-



Grow+ programme to boost farming yield

A public-private partnership between the Ministry of Agriculture and British American Tobacco (BAT) aims to boost farming yields and create opportunities for the long-term future of the farmers.

This initiative will enable farmers throughout the country to receive 500,000 seedlings of various vegetables over time through BAT Fiji's "Grow+ (Plus)" programme, which was upscaled from its previous "Project Seedling" programme and saw the distribution of 150,000 seedlings in its first phase of implementation to the Agriculture Ministry earlier this year.

The vegetable seedlings will be prepared at BAT Fiji's Leaf Growing Division in Votualevu, Nadi using its agricultural expertise and extensive greenhouse infrastructure to cultivate the seedlings before nationwide farmer distribution.

Minister Reddy said that "this significant community investment and partnership will allow us to produce more locally grown fruits and vegetables, reduce our reliance on imports and improve export opportunities".

Photo SUPPLIED



New graduates from prestige caregivers academy to boost Fiji workforce





Seventy-nine individuals were awarded certificates as they graduated from the Prestige Caregivers Academy held at the Metro Gym in Suva recently.

In commending the participants, Minister for Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation, Rosy Akbar noted the valuable contribution made by the organization in providing ordinary Fijians with an avenue to learn and understand the basics of caregiving.

"Knowledge is power and this training has provided you with the opportunity to learn the basics of caregiving that will assist you in pioneering home-based care in homes and communities," she said.

"It can enable safety, security, and increased independence; it can ease management of an ongoing medical condition; it can help avoid unnecessary hospitalisation; it can aid with recovery after an illness, injury, or hospital stay—all through the care given in the comfort and familiarity of home."

Photo SUPPLIED



Walesi set up at Lautoka Market

The Attorney-General and Minister for Economy, Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum launched free Wi-Fi hotspot and Walesi TV at the Lautoka Market recently.

This follows the provision of free Wi-Fi Hotspots and Walesi TV's at the Namaka market in Nadi and Suva market earlier this month.

As part of the Fijian Government's \$14.6 million budget, Walesi has been allocated these funds for the completion of the country's digital switchover project, as well as the continuation of installing free Wi-Fi hotspot access and community connectivity to Walesi TV.

The A-G highlighted that progressively more municipal markets and public spots will have free Wi-Fi hotspots and Walesi TV to allow Fijians access to e-services, information and entertainment.

Photo NANISE NEIMILA







Education and learning provide the strongest possible foundation to succeed

Year 12 and 13 students of Ba Sangam College were reminded that education and learning provide the strongest possible foundation to succeed in this challenging world. In relaying this during the school's prize giving day, Minister for Employment, Productivity and Industrial Relations, Youth and Sports, Parveen Kumar said 'this is the principle the Fijian Government upholds to ensure that every child has access to free education'.

"Continue to work hard and strive for excellence in your life, and make your community, school teachers, parents, and friends proud of your hard work through notable success," said Minister Bala.

The College prepared award categories for Years 12 and 13 for students with the highest progressive mark in their annual examination from first to third place getters; highest subject mark awards; leadership awards; sports recognition awards; highest mark external examinations award; the highest average in the science subjects; the highest average in the arts subjects; principal's honour award; and the dux award for the academic year 2022.









'Free water scheme big difference for small income households'

DIPESH KUMAR

HE free water scheme provided to many Fijians across the country was a blessing in disguise which makes a big difference for many small income households.

The free water initiative which initially started back in 2015 allows Fijians to be able to have access to free water allowance of 92,500 litres per year which was provided to homes with a total income of less than \$30,000 a year.

For Margaret O'Connor, 60, the free water initiative has saved her household income for up to 50 per cent which she redirects into buying essential needs.

She shared that she became eligible for the scheme in April this year.

"I am very thankful to the Government. It helps a lot because my bills were very high before and with the subsidy it really assists us as a family because there's not much income into my household. But I thank God for the government for looking into this very important way of assisting the underprivileged families."

The Votualevu resident said that she was also part of various other schemes and that the Fijian Government was taking care of its citizens through these schemes.

"I've spoken to many families who have been assisted in that way. And that has been a great help as well. And I see that they are helping with people in getting the electricity and water installed, which is a great incentive the government's doing. If you buy your first property, you're assisted with a grant that you get from the Government. That has been a great help to some people."

"I think the Government is doing a lot of good for us especially with our elderly with the bus fare incentive as well. That's been a great help in my area too because I am a senior citizen as well."

Another recipient of the scheme, Ilisoni

Galala, 66, of Naboutini Sabeto shared that he has benefitted from this scheme as his previous arrears had been waived.

"I like the free water scheme as this waiver has been there before the first election. And a lot of people don't really know what's in the government programs.

He said that after knowing about the initiative, several villagers are now applying for it who have high amounts of arrears and disconnected meters.

"My tikina, particularly the villages down below Koroyaca and Narokorokoyawa village have had a lot of arrears."

"Also, I had arrears from the beginning of 2014 and there was a program to waive water arrears. I had about \$4,000 before 2014," he said.

"When I had my social welfare in that same week, I launched my application for waiver and they waived \$7,000 from my personal account. To date I only have \$21.45, thanks very much to the Government for the programme."

"When you don't have the resources, when you don't have the money then you try and get a system for the respective donors or from the Government. Because I know this Government has a lot of programs for people in Fiji."

The water initiative for low-income households continues to be available which includes new water meter connections at a cost of \$345, covering the water meter, fittings, material, labour, and transportation costs.

Under the 2022-2023 National Budget the Fijian Government continues to provide its free water scheme to Fijians through the allocation of \$204.3 million to the Water Authority of Fiji.



Recipient of the Fijian Government's Free Water Scheme, Margaret O'Connor is all smiles as she poses next to the new water meter in Votualevu in Nadi.

Photo: DIPESH KUMAR

Free heart surgery a dream come true for Kumar



Anant Kumar of Ba with the Attorney-General and Minister for Economy, Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum after undergoing free open-heart surgery at the Aspen Medical Hospital in Lautoka. **Photo: MEREANI GONEDUA**

MEREANI GONEDUA

AVING to undergo a heart surgery for free was a dream come true for Ba resident Anant Kumar who never thought that this would be possible.

Mr Kumar was amongst the first eight patients in the country to have free open-heart surgery under the public-private partnership (PPP) arrangement between the Fijian Government

and Health Care Fiji (HCF) at the Aspen Medical hospital in Lautoka.

"I would like to thank the Fijian Government for assisting us so much. This includes all Fijians whether be it i-Taukei, Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs or Gujaratis all were assisted.

"This is a multiracial country with people following different religions. This Government is shouldering the entire burden to ensure Fijians undergo bypass surgery. I am very much grateful for that."

Similar sentiments were expressed by the very first openheart surgery patient 54-year-old, Parma Sivam of Nadi whose surgery was hailed as a success.

The PPP arrangement between the Fijian Government and HCF is a joint venture between Fiji National Provident Fund and Aspen Medical of Australia.

FNPF owns 80 percent of HFC. Aspen Medical is also responsible for the management and provision of medical services at the Lautoka and Ba Hospitals which fall under the PPP arrangement.

Lautoka Hospital is also now home to a state-of-theart computerised tomography (ICT) scanner including a new mammogram machine which is guaranteed to give the most accurate results for early breast cancer, helping to save in particular female lives.

Minister meet to discuss WTO fisheries rules



Minister for Commerce, Trade, Tourism and Transport, Faiyaz Koya meets with the WTO Director-General, Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala.

HE Ministerial members of the ongoing Workshop for Pacific Trade and Fisheries met recently to discuss the World Trade Organization's Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies.

In delivering the opening remarks for the meeting, Minister for Commerce, Trade, Tourism and Transport, Faiyaz Koya highlighted that the round table meeting with the WTO Director-General, Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, was critical as this

was the first time the Pacific was hosting the DG, after her appointment more than a year ago.

"We need to ensure that when we meet the DG, we enter discussions with the same Pacific solidarity and one-voice, which was instrumental in shaping the outcome of fisheries subsidies negotiations," Minister Koya said.

He said the Pacific must maintain that same solidarity if it wants to have a comprehensive Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies.

"It is our job to ensure that the way forward today will be for the betterment of our region. And most importantly the decision must be for the long-term sustainability of our resources, food security and livelihoods of our people," Minister Koya

news@moc.gov.fj



Water woes a thing of the past

JOSAIA RALAGO

E will no longer have to walk long distances to access water during dry sea-

These were the words Surma Wati, 52, of Naleba settlement in Macuata following the commissioning of their Water Pump Project by the Minister for Rural and Maritime Development, Inia Seruiratu.

Ms Wati, who has been a resident at the area for more than three decades, said water issues had plagued their community for a long time, presenting difficulties for its members.

"Having to rely on a well for all these years, we have encountered a lot of difficulties especially during the dry spells," she said

"There were times when we had to walk for a few kilometres to get to the river, with our laundry and containers to store water."

"There are times where we would go knock on the doors of our neighbours to ask for water, fortunately all this has area.

changed for the better," she added.

She said that having access to quality and reliable water supply in their homes was a life changing opportunity that they have yearned for.

"This is everything that we have been hoping for, water is a necessity and we are blessed to be presented with such an initiative which would put an end to all our water problems," Ms Wati said.

"Today is one of the happiest days of my life, and I would like to thank the Government for assisting us with this much needed project."

While officiating at the event, Minister Seruiratu highlighted that quality drinking water was a necessity for all Fijians regardless of geographical locations.

He said women and children were most vulnerable when there was either poor water quality or a shortage of water, adding that this would be a thing of the past for Fijians in the area.

The project, which was funded through the Self-Help programme at a cost of \$3,463, would benefit 20 families in the



(L-R) Surma Wati and Ashmi Lata of Naleba Settlement in Macuata, Labasa during the commissioning of their Water Pump Project. Photo JOSAIA RALAGO

Tourism rake \$805 million in five months

JOSAIA RALAGO

HE local tourism industry raked in \$805 million between April to August this year according to preliminary findings by the Fiji's International Visitor Survey.

The study highlighted that visitors spent \$271 per person per night, which was up considerably by 12 percent from the average \$242 spent in 2019, over the same five months.

This was highlighted by the Minister for Commerce, Trade, Transport and Tourism, Faiyaz Koya, while handing over a newly constructed office facility to the Tavoro Forest Park Cooperative Limited in Taveuni.

Minister Koya said tourism continues to flourish and the new structure, which would house a boutique, dining lounge and restroom facilities, would attract more tourists to visit the Tavoro Falls, causing a ripple effect in the local economy.

"If more tourists come here, they bring money to spend here, meaning that everyone benefits, from the transport that picks up the tourists from the airport or wharf, to the farmers that produce vegetables and root crops, to the fisher folk that catch fish, everyone benefits," Minister Koya

"This means, more money in your pocket, paid one third. meaning you can easily afford to put food on the

table, send your children to school and universities, and improve your homes."

Minister Koya added that soft adventure tourism and nature-based tourism was one the fastest growing market segments globally, and statistics show that in 2019, close to 20 per cent of tourists travelled to the North for this experience.

"Tavoro Forest Park harbours rushing waterfalls, colourful bird species, deep lush vegetation, which is soothing to the mind, body and the spirit," he said.

"Such unique Tourist attraction sites and the Fijian hospitality positions Fiji on a more competitive edge compared to other tourist destinations." Minister Koya urged the resource owners who form the cooperative to ensure that the forest park and falls were not exploited.

"I would like to remind the Tavoro Forest Park Co-operative Limited and community at large, that you need to take full ownership of the business and ensure that it flourishes and grows," he

"You need to look after the facility and maintain it, when need be, as it is our responsibility to see that it is not exploited or damaged at any point."

The facility was constructed at a cost of \$89,995 through the public private partnership where Government paid two third while the cooperative



Minister for Commerce, Trade, Transport and Tourism, Faiyaz Koya, during the handover of a new office facility at Bouma, Taveuni. Photo JOSAIA RALAGO

New rice harvestor for Qeledamu Rice Farmers



(L-R) Qeledamu Rice Farmers Cooperative President Hiram Prasad, Tara Wati and Satish Chand with their rice harvester. Photo JOSAIA RALAGO

JOSAIA RALAGO

EMBERS of a farm-Macuata are enthusiastic about boosting provision of a rice harvester by the Government.

Farmers part of the Oeledamu Rice be resolved with the introduction of munity like ours." a rice harvester.

Cooperative president, Hiram Prasof rural to urban migration especially of younger people.

"It is only the parents who are present in the community and are tendhave all moved to urban areas for greener pastures," the 57-year-old said.

"Apart from this, there was also the expiry of leases that led to the movement of people which affected labour supply," Mr Prasad said.

used to be 25 families, now there is only 10."

He said rice tonnage too has any farmer. dropped over the year as compared

to when there was sufficient manpower to work in the farms.

"Since the farms are being attended ing community in to by an ageing population, we can only do so much," Mr Prasad said.

"The introduction of a new harvesttheir rice production following the er has given us a new hope that this would mean a higher yield, which means better income.'

"I thank the Government for its Farmers Cooperative have been fac- commitment towards agricultural ing labour shortages for the past sev- mechanisation and I think that this is en years, are glad that this issue will the way forward especially for com-

In an earlier statement, the Minister for Agriculture Dr Mahendra Reddy ad, said labour shortages have heav- said that for the agricultural sector to ily affected their production over the develop exponentially and at its most years, adding that this was because optimal levels for sustained growth and development, the need to adopt relevant technology and mechanisation was paramount.

"We need to push for rice to grow ing to the farms because our children but one of the critical constraining factors in rice production and also in other agriculture is technology adoption. Generally, in the rural areas, farmers tend to shy away from technology, from critical investments in technology," Minister Reddy said.

He explained that technology con-"In this part of Qeledamu, there tributed immensely to increased productivity and crop yields which in turn contributed to better returns for

A father's advice and a mother's prayer



Former Republic of Fiji Military Forces Terretorial Force Unit officer, Taneila Senikuta relays his experience in the army at the Rememberence Day event.

Photo: ILISAPECI TUIVALE

ILISAPECI TUIVALE

T was his father's advice to him that got Taniela Senikuta to join the Republic of Fiji Military Forces because he needed some discipline in his life.

Mr Senikuta enlisted in the army when he was 23-years-old and joined the Territorial Force unit of the military in 1978, but prior to that, Mr Senikuta was a civil servant and worked as a senior inspector and later division inspector with the Prices and Incomes Board (PIB) at the time.

"I am the eldest son in the family and my father saw that I needed some stability. He was part of the Fijian troops that went to fight in the Malayan Campaign, and he thought the military would also do me some good because I needed the disciplined life instilled in the military," he said. Mr Senikuta who hails from Nadoi in Rewa was part of the Remembrance Day event held at the National War Memorial Site in Nasese on November 11, 2022.

At the event, he met some of his comrades with whom he served with in Lebanon in 1979, and also remembered his comrades that did not make it back home to their families.

He still clearly remembers some incidents that happened during his tour of duty that resulted in fatality.

"We were manning a checkpoint (Charlie Checkpoint) one day when the enemy started shooting at us and this led to some of our Fijian soldiers being injured and killed," Mr Senikuta shared.

One of his closest friends, Mikaele Nadomo who hailed from Suvavou Village died at a different daylight shooting that also happened at their camp.

Mr Senikuta also shared the story of when they were held captive at the village of Alteri in the hills of Lebanon.

It was a Sunday morning and Mr Senikuta was resting inside his tent because it was his day-off when a call came for some of the troops to go to Alteri Village because terrorists had taken over that place.

"As soon we had arrived in the village, guns started going off at us from every corner. Only one person came to my thoughts amongst the noise of the guns – it was my mother. She had always reminded me to be true to my faith in God and it was on that Sunday that I saw her face and the front of

our home

"We were held captive for seven days and seven nights without bathing and cleaning ourselves. Things got intense because a lot of us were injured and some died. But in the end, we came out victorious because Alteri Village was regained back to the villagers," he said.

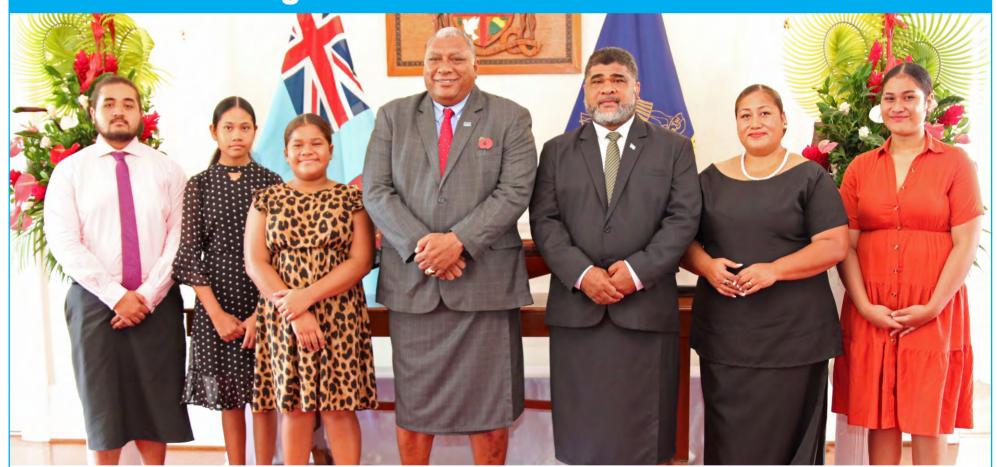
Mr Senikuta now dedicates his life to the work of the Lord as a lay preacher and says he has a lot of pride in serving the country through the Republic of Fiji Military Forces.

The President, Ratu Wiliame Katonivere was present at the Remembrance Day event held in Nasese.

Every year on the 11th hour, on the 11th day of the 11th month, the world pays its greatest respects to those who had sacrificed their lives in the great wars, the brave that had fought for our nation and the world

November 11th also observes the end of WWI in 1918.

Commissioning ceremony for Fiji's new High Commissioner to Australia



President, Ratu Wiliame Katonivere with Fiji's new High Commissioner to Australia, David Kolitagane and his family during the commissioning ceremony at the State House. Photo: ILISAPECI TUIVALE

ILISAPECI TUIVALE

HE President, Ratu Wiliame Katonivere, officiated at the commissioning of Fiji's new High Commissioner to Australia, Mr David Kolitagane, at the State House recently.

Permanent Secretary for the Office of the Prime Minister and Foreign Affairs, Yogesh Karan, was also in attendance at the commissioning ceremony.

President Katonivere congratulated High Commissioner Kolitagane on his diplomatic appointment and wished him well in the new role.

High Commissioner Kolitagane extended his sincere appreciation to the Fijian Government for the opportunity to serve in this important position to advance the Vuvale Partnership to new heights. He said the two nations share historical links and Fiji was "forever grateful to our Vuvale for their unwavering support to Fiji in times of great need, particularly for assisting Fiji's national recovery efforts at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic and climate crisis".

Mr Kolitagane reaffirmed his commitment to do his utmost best to deepen collaboration at all levels for the mutual benefit of both nations and the Pacific's prosperity.

He said the Vuvale Partnership will be instrumental in the implementation of the "2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent" which was now the North Star and the overarching blueprint to advance Pacific regionalism for the next three decades

In his new role, Mr Kolitagane looks forward to Australia's continued support to

further enhance employment opportunities for Fijians through the Pacific Australia Labour Mobility (PALM) Scheme that benefits many families in the Pacific.

At the Conference of Parties 27 (COP27) in Egypt this month, Fiji worked closely with development partners like Australia to mobilise support for its Pacific family at this global climate conference.

On regional security cooperation, Mr Kolitagane said Fiji-Australia joint efforts on the Blackrock Camp will enable this unique "Regional Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) Centre" to contribute immensely to regional humanitarian disaster responses in years to come.

He aspires to strengthen development cooperation between the two nations in the following areas: health, education, tourism, trade and investment, labour mobil-

He said the two nations share historical further enhance employment opportuniity, sports, defence, humanitarian assisinks and Fiji was "forever grateful to our ties for Fijians through the Pacific Austrance, and disaster relief, amongst others.

In preparation for his new role at the Fiji High Commission in Canberra, Australia, Mr Kolitagane had a series of meetings with senior officials of the Fijian Government to discuss potential areas of cooperation

The FHCC, he said, will redouble efforts to enhance cooperation with the Fijian Diaspora in Australia to promote diaspora investment in their areas of specific interest

Mr Kolitagane attained a distinguished career in the Fijian civil service with valuable contributions and more than 7 years of service in leadership roles across various ministries and most recently he served as the Permanent Secretary for Rural and Maritime Development and Disaster Management.

Partnership vital for community projects: Minister Seruiratu

JOSEFA ULUILAKEBA

HE partnership between local communities, civil societies, NGOs, and International Donor Agencies is critical and there is no more remarkable example of this drive for Public and Private Partnership than the water project we are commissioning."

This was highlighted by the Minister for Rural and Maritime Development, Inia Seruiratu, during the commissioning of the Kade Village and Kade Village School Water Project recently.

"The nature of this cooperation should be an example to future partnerships," Minister Seruiratu said.

In the past, villagers in Kade village on Koro Island relied on the springs that appeared on the foreshore during low tide for water.

With the intervention of the Rotary Pacific Water for Life Foundation (RPW) through the "Building Community Resilience to Climate Change through Civil Society Action (CRCC) Project" and funded by the European Union, Kade village and its school now have a sustainable water source

The initiative was part of the activity under the CRCC project, developing water treatment systems in vulnerable communities in rural areas of Fiji based on principles of environmental sustainability, resource efficiency, and circular economy.

For Kade Village, a sustainable and lowcost natural water treatment solution has been constructed to resolve water quality

The components of the surface water system include the construction of a weir, slow sand filtration, a break-pressure tank, a transmission line of 4.5 kilometres, water storage tanks, distribution systems within the village, school, communal tap stands,

"For those of us here today, this is the beginning of a new era. No longer will the villagers of Kade have to endure the challenges faced by their forefathers.'



Minister for Rural and Maritime Development, Inia Seruiratu, during the commissioning of the Kade Village and Kade Village School Water Project recently.Photo: JOSEFA ULUILAKEBA

Minister Seruiratu added that water security was important for every individual and community as it is the cornerstone for development and the basis of human survival.

"This is why it is enshrined in the 2013 Constitution and stipulated in the 5-year and 20-year National Development Plan."

Kade villager, Rusiate Vakalakovi, 67, said the commissioning of their new water reticulation system was a blessing that overwhelms the elders of the village.

"A huge burden has been taken off our shoulders with this new clean and sustainable water source, and we will be forever grateful to all those involved," Mr Vakalakovi said.

"For as long as I can remember Kade village lacked a stable water source, and this problem is now a thing of the past," he said.

"It is never too late, and our children can now have a healthy future with this new water system in Kade."

The Kade water project was co-financed by the Ministry of Rural and Maritime Development, VaiWai, and LDS Charities and implemented by RPW.

The Head of the European Delegation to the Pacific, Sujiro Seam, and representatives from the donor organisations were also part of the event.

Applications are open for

Housing Assistance Programme

for persons with

SPECIAL NEEDS

The Ministry of Housing & Community Development is now accepting applications for the Housing Assistance Programme for Persons Living with Special Needs.

This retrofit program focuses on improving the accessibility for housing needs of persons living with special needs.

The programme extends assistance up to a maximum grant of \$5,000 per applicant to upgrade their homes to meet special needs, such as installation of ramps, handrails, and accessible toilets including the installation of grab bars.

A total of 57 applicants received assistance under the program in the last financial year with a total payout in excess of \$175,000.

The Fijian Government has allocated \$250,000 for this program in the 2022-2023 budget.

To be eligible, applicants must meet all of the following requirements:

- Fijian Citizen:
- Registered member with the Department of Social Welfare;
- Annual Household income is \$30,000 or below;
- Has ownership for the house to be retrofitted (in the event of a minor parent/legal guardian being the owner of the house).

The Ministry urges those who intend to apply for assistance under this programme to download the application from the Ministry Website at www.housing.gov.fj OR to collect copies of the

- Ministry of Housing & Community Development Head Office at 33 Gorrie Street, Suva;
- Ministry of Housing and Community Development Lautoka Branch at 14 Tavewa Avenue,
- Lautoka (Housing Authority Building); or Legal Aid Offices located Fiji wide

Applicants are requested to submit their duly completed applications no later than 20th December 2022 with the following documents via email to disability.assistance@govnet.gov.fj OR handover their applications to any of the above offices:

- Completed Grant Application Form;
- Birth Certificate
- FRCS/FNPF Identification Card;
- Quotation from a reliable local hardware company;
- Support Letter from Department of Social Welfare;
- Proof of ownership of the house/Land
- Statutory Declaration confirming household income with documents to support (pay slip, etc); and Proof of Bank Details (Recent Copy of Bank Statement).

The Ministry would like to further clarify that this is a retro-fitting programme and accordingly does not cover the building of new houses, extensions to existing houses, upgrading rented premises and informal settlements.

Applications shall be processed on a first come first serve basis.

For further clarification or information, please contact:

Shania Hussain on phone: 3309918, 9986711 or email shania.hussain@govnet.gov.fj or Joseph Villiams on phone 9906680 or email joseph.williams@govnet.gov.fj

Natia villagers receives new boat and engine

youths in the village.

The village was the recipient of a brand new fibreglass boat and engine - an assistance worth \$24,000 from the Government through the Ministry of Rural and Maritime Development and Disaster Management's Self-Help Programme (SHP).

The villagers recently travelled to Lautoka to receive the boat and engine from the Minister for Rural and Maritime Development and Disaster Management, Inia Seruiratu.

While receiving the boat and engine, Natia Village headman, Iliesa Sukaloa said the assistance provided by the Government would significantly improve transportation for the villagers and support the village in some of their long-term plans.

"We live on an island located far away from mainland Viti Levu, but the resourc-

HE provision of a boat and enes given to us today will greatly help us. assistance. gine for the villagers of Natia, We face a lot of challenges in terms of "I want to thank the Govin the district of Yasawa, will transportation, but today this burden has ernment officials who have boost income generation for been lightened," Mr Sukaloa said.

Currently, the village has two boats, which are used for the transportation of villagers and products for sale in Lautoka.

"However, these two boats are old and only have limited capacity. This new boat and engine will enable our youths to increase their sale of fish. The main source of income for the three villages in Viwa is through fishing, so this assistance will really boost their business and also contribute positively towards some plans for the village," he added.

Natia was the second of the three villages in the district of Viwa in Yasawa to receive a boat and engine from the Ministry.

Villagers from neighbouring Yakani Village were also recent recipients of similar assistance from the Ministry.

Turaga Ni Yavusa Natia, Jiuta Qoro, said the villagers are grateful to receive such

been communicating with us in Yasawa because we face a lot of hardships in terms of our location. To get a boat like this is an honour and achievement because our forefathers used to only travel at particular times back in the day," Mr Ooro said.

Minister Seruiratu said the ernment's intention of ensuring that no Fijian in the rural and maritime communities

was left behind in the development aspirations of the Government.

"Viwa is one of the most difficult places to reach and of course, has a lot of challenges as well, but I'm thankful that the Ministry of Rural and Maritime Development, through the Office of the Commis-



Natia villagers from the distric of Yasawa travelled to Lautoka to project was part of the Gov-receive a boat and engine from the Minister for Rural and Maritime Development and Disaster Management, Inia Seruiratu.

Photo: SUPPLIED

sioner Western Division and District Officer (DO) Lautoka/Yasawa that listens to the request of these villagers" he said.

(Source: Ministry of Rural and Maritime Development and Disaster Management)

email: news@govnet.gov.fj; @FijianGovt; fFijian Government; visit us @ www.fiji.gov.fj phone: 3301806

Community-based corrections training for the welfare officers



Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation permanent secretary, Jennifer Poole with participants at the Community Based Corrections Training for Welfare Officers in Suva. **Photo: SUPPLIED**

OMMUNITY-Based Corrections play a vital role in ensuring that the safety of the community is not compromised and that the rehabilitation and reintegration of offenders are carried out properly and productively."

"I also cannot emphasise enough just how important your roles are as Community-Based Corrections officers. As you are being trained, understand that this is linked to leaving no individual, family or community behind. Be diligent, be ethical, be focused and stay true to the duty entrusted to you."

This was highlighted by the Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation permanent secretary, Jennifer Poole, while officiating the Community Based Corrections (CBC) Training for Welfare Officers in Suva recently.

"You have been chosen for this training because we have confidence in you to assist these children who are conflicting with the law and help adult offenders become better citizens, helping them avoid reoffending and make a difference in their respective communities. Our work will help people rehabilitate and reform. Our work is not just a tick in the box – it will leave a lasting impact on the people we deal with," Ms Poole said.

"I am happy to share that since the enactment of the Community-Based Corrections Act of 2018, the Ministry has also resourced the establishment of a section within the Ministry to ensure that the relevant policy, guidelines and program mechanisms are in place before the official commencement of the Act."

Ms Poole announced that the Community-Based Corrections Act 2018 will be going through its final phase, which commences on November 23, 2022.

She said these officers will be involved in the management and supervision of offenders in the community.

"Knowledge is power, so please use this opportunity to grasp the basic intent of this community-based correction pro-

gram, how significant your role is, and how the set guidelines and mechanisms will assist you in pioneering this alternative sentencing approach," Ms Poole said. She thanked the Legal Aid Commission for co-facilitating these sessions in collaboration with the Ministry.

"The expertise that both organisations bring to the table thoroughly complements the purpose of these sessions greatly and cements our commitments as two separate agencies with two very different yet equally important roles in this area. So far, 542 individuals have been trained as Community Volunteer Supervisors in the three divisions, while 80 Welfare Officers have been trained in the CBC Program."

The two-day forum was designed to engage and train the 16 Welfare Officers in the South Eastern, Nasinu and Central division.

(Source: Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation)

6th Pacific Water Forum discusses access to clean drinking water, proper sanitation

DIPESH KUMAR

HE 6th Pacific Water and Wastewater Ministers Forum and the 13th Pacific Water and Wastewater Conference discussed the issues that Pacific Islanders faced while accessing clean drinking water and proper sanitation. The meeting held in Nadi recently was attended by Pacific Island Ministers, heads of delegation and chief executive officers who discussed ways in which water sanitation and insecurity can be resolved. While addressing the Pacific Island members, the Minister for Infrastructure and Meteorological services, Jone Usamate, highlighted that a collaborative approach towards ensuring access to clean water and treatment of wastewater was the way forward."The challenges faced by us in the Pacific revolves around the effects of climate change on resources, lack of climate resilient infrastructure, ensuring availability of water for the coming generation and mitigating environment risks when it comes to human activities."

"It is very timely for all of us to converge and collaborate as many of our Pacific Island countries and territories leaders are in Egypt for the 2022 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP27) sharing experiences about the crucial role of water in climate action."

Minister Usamate highlighted that Pacific Island countries have a greater opportunity seeking global attention at the UN 2023 Water Conference that would further strengthen their role in the Pacific for increasing accessibility of water and sanitation services.

Sharing similar sentiments, chairman of the Pacific Water and Wastewater Association EXPO, Ian Gooden shared that the effects of climate change and water insecurity are not only faced by many small island states but also some major economies

"Water resilience and security has many faces and in my home country of New Zealand I was involved in water reform there back in 2014 and 2015 before I came after the Solomon Islands, and there was a major water security incident that occurred."

He also highlighted that all countries must ensure water resilience in order to fulfil the Sustainable Development Goal number six which was to ensure access to water and sanitation for all.

The PWWA EXPO also introduces the Young Water Professionals Program whereby 30 youths will be trained to carry out water resilience projects.

This will be the second time for Fiji to host this event under the theme "Resilience and Water Security" whereby 13 Ministers of the Pacific Island Countries have gathered to discuss issues surrounding clean drinking water and proper sanitation.

GIS an excellent way to raise awareness: Minister Usamate

FELIX LESINAIVALU

EOGRAPHIC Information System (GIS) has been present in Fiji for many years and the growing appreciation by the Fijian government as a powerful decision-making tool."

Minister for Infrastructure and Meteorological Services Lands and Mineral Resources, Jone Usamate, while speaking during World GIS Day 2022, highlighted that with GIS, one can analyse the geographic spread of data to gain better insight into distribution patterns.

With the theme, 'Inspiring Spatial Citizens', Minister Usamate said, "GIS can be used in areas such as land management, agriculture, fisheries, forestry, disaster risk reduction, public health and mining to name a few".

"I appreciate the benefits of using GIS for the execution of service delivery for my ministry in land administration and mineral development, and how it has improved the way decisions are made to better the lives of our citizens."

Minister Usamate added that the celebra-

tion of World GIS Day was an excellent way to raise awareness with Fijians on how GIS technology is applied in their day-to-day experiences.

"Such as using digital maps to find directions on how to get to a certain place, to knowing what kinds of services are provided at which locations from searching via their personal computers or their mobile phones."

"As the contribution of GIS to nation building continues to grow, I would like to thank all those GIS practitioners in the country who have been champions of GIS and have been diligent to realise the establishment GIS and see it grow to where it is today."

Minister Usamate also urged young Fijians who are looking for a career and are curious about exploring the world and knowing more about the environment, GIS was a wonderful career option that will provide you many opportunities to expand your knowledge.

"GIS has made it simpler to understand our surroundings and the environment and make decisions regarding the environment."

"Within GIS, one can analyse the geo-



Minister for Infrastructure and Meteorological Services and Minister for Lands and Mineral Resources, Jone Usamate at the World GIS Day 2022.

Photo: SUPPLIED

graphic spread of data to gain better insight into distribution patterns."

Minister Usamate added GIS can be used in areas such as land management, agriculture, fisheries, forestry, disaster risk reduction, public health and mining to name a few.

Returnee employer for PALM applauded

ULTI Quip (MQ) Griffith Pty Ltd, an Australian Approved Employer has been applauded for the recruitment of more Fijian workers under the Pacific Australia Labour Mobility (PALM) Scheme.

Ministry of Employment, Productivity and Industrial Relations permanent secretary, Osea Cawaru, expressed his heartfelt gratitude to the employer for believing in the people and for providing the much-needed assistance and attention to the Fijian workers to thrive and be productive during a courtesy visit recently.

MQ Griffith is quite distinctive as they provide incentives through the provision of a AU\$20 (FJ\$30) bonus top-up to workers for their timely clock-in and clock-out

daily attendance, which is a great incentive in ensuring that workers arrive on time to work, and this also portrays how the employer values the effort and contribution of its workers

Mr Cawaru said

"The employer, MQ Griffith, first recruited a total of 36 Fijians in March this year and has returned for the third time to recruit another 40 workers, followed by an additional 20 in a few months."

TULTI Quip (MQ) Griffith Pty Ltd, an Australian Approved Employer has been applauded for the recruit-ment of more Fijian workers under has been applauded for the recruit-ment of more Fijian workers under has been applauded for the recruit-ment of more Fijian workers under has been applauded for the recruit-ment of more Fijian workers under has been applauded for the recruit-ment of more from high-performing workers currently working for MQ Griffith and some from the Ministry's work-ready pool.

"Referrals under the PALM Scheme employment opportunity refers to the selection of any potential Fijian worker based on the recommendation of the good performing worker to the employer. This could be a family or a community member, a friend or anyone a worker thinks fit for the work required and provided they go through the NEC processes," articulated PS Cawaru.

Mr Cawaru extended his appreciation to these Fijian workers for their good performance and for opening more doors of opportunities for their loved ones and other Fijians who also wish to be part of the scheme in the future.

He urged other Fijians currently engaged under the scheme to also "raise the bar" as displayed by the Griffith Fijian workers for more job openings for our locals

The employer was also accompanied by one of the hard-working Fijians, Isimeli Tukana, who joined MQ Griffith in April this year to share his experiences and the required expectations from workers once deployed as the work involved requires some level of fitness both physically and mentally.

(Source: Ministry of Employment, Productivity and Industrial Relations)



Ministry of Employment, Productivity and Industrial Relations permanent secretary, Osea Cawaru, with members of PALM recruitment recenlty. **Photo: SUPPLIED**

127 selected Fijian workers praise Fijian and Australian Govts for employment opportunities



Minister for Employment, Productivity and Industrial Relations, Parveen Kumar, farewells 127 workers leaving for overseas employment under the Pacific Australia Labour Mobility (PALM) Scheme. **Photo: SUPPLIED**

selected Fijian workers who were farewelled recently praised both the Fijian and the Australian governments for the employment opportunities of Fijians under the Pacific Australia Labour Mobility (PALM) Scheme.

Salote Tuinamata thanked both governments for the worthwhile opportunity for job openings in Australia.

"We're so excited to have been selected under this Fijian Government initiative to represent Fijians under the PALM scheme," Ms Tuinamata said.

"There is nothing we have to give back to the government of the day as our token of appreciation for this opportunity, however, we assure the Fijian Government to do our utmost best to continue to lift the Fijian brand with integrity for the employability of other potential Fijian workers."

"We are indeed grateful to the work carried out by the Employment Ministry staff for their tireless efforts through extended working hours in ensuring that we fulfil all requirements and the processing of our applications," Ms Tuinamata added.

During the farewell, Minister for Employment, Productivity and Industrial Relations, Parveen Kumar, stated that the Fijian and Australian governments have nothing but the best intentions for the Fijian workers.

"That is why we have a team of hard-working individuals here in NEC, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, providing PALM Support Service in preparing you for your deployments," Minister Kumar said.

He congratulated the selected workers and urged them to continue to open many doors of opportunities for their brothers and sisters in Fiji to experience the same.

(Source: Ministry of Employment, Productivity and Industrial Relations)

First approved employer of Fijian origin to provide more employment opportunities

FORMER Fijian whose humble beginnings started from Suvavou Village in Suva was in the country recently as the first Approved Employer (AE) of Fijian origin under the Pacific Australia Labour Mobility (PALM) scheme.

Viliame Likusuasua had migrated with his family to Australia in 2008. He started Pickers and Pruners Labour Hire in 2016 based in Waikerie, South Australia.

According to the Director of Pickers and Pruners Labour Hire back then, he mostly employed backpackers in Australia.

Mr Likusuasua kept on pursuing his goal and soon Pickers and Pruners Labour Hire Pty Ltd became an Approved Employer under the PALM scheme in 2019.

They currently have a cohort of 12 Fijian workers on site that was mobilised in April 2022.

They recently ventured into recruiting longterm workers with two active recruitment plans for 22 workers to be mobilised this month of



Former Fijian Viliame Likusuasua (seated) meets with the officials of the Ministry of Employment, Productivity and Industrial Relations to discuss recruitment plans for seaasonal and long-term workers from Fiji.

which 20 are engaged under the Seasonal Worker program while two will be engaged under the Pacific labour Scheme (PLS)

While in Fiji, Director Likusuasua and his family met with the staff of Ministry of Employment, Productivity and Industrial Relations and discussed their recruitment plan for both seasonal and long-term workers from Fiji.

National Employment Centre director, Lui Mario, on behalf of the Fijian Government, expressed appreciation to Mr Likusuasua for having Fiji at heart and for visiting Fiji to provide more job opportunities for other Fijian citizens in the near future.

(Source: Ministry of Employment-Productivity and Industrial Relations)

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Serve and protect, President Katonivere tells batch 64







President Ratu Wiliame Katonivere and First lady Filomena Katonivere with the Batch 64 recruits who received their Level 4 Certificate in Policing at the Nasova grounds in Suva. Photo: JOSEFA ULUILAKEBA

JOSEFA ULUILAKEBA

OUR service is not to man but to a more powerful being. You must not treat the Oath of Allegiance as mere words."

These were the words of advice from the President, Ratu Wiliame Katonivere while officiating at the Fiji Police Force passing out parade of 180 police recruits from Batch 64 that have been awarded Level 4 Certificates in Policing at the Nasova grounds recently.

"In taking the Oath to serve on the Holy Books of your choosing, you must always remember that your word is your bond, so your Oath is for your country, your people and to leadership, and most importantly on behalf of your families and kinsmen."

"You have chosen to be a Police Officer to serve and protect the laws of our beloved country, it is a part of an honourable profession, and you must never take your calling lightly," the Head of State said.

"You have been chosen for a reason. From the many thousands who desired to be in your place,

you have gained the trust of your Commissioner of Police, who has seen in you all the calibres of a person to be trusted and relied upon to execute the duties of serving as a Police Officer."

"Service to mankind is an honourable calling." President Katonivere hailed the families of the recruits as the "unsung heroes" as without their support these officers would not have been able to come this far and it will be their sacrifices that will allow them to serve their country.

History was also created as majority of the parade appointees were women with President Katonivere commending the force for its diver-

sity, inclusivity and giving equal opportunity to everyone.

President Katonivere also acknowledged the cooperation between the Fiji Police Force and their New Zealand counterparts.

He said this was a display of cooperation between regional police forces which was commendable as it reinforced Fiji's commitment to working alongside its regional partners for a safer Blue Pacific.

Noda Viti

Maka taka na siga ni Veidigidigi Tiseba 14, 2022

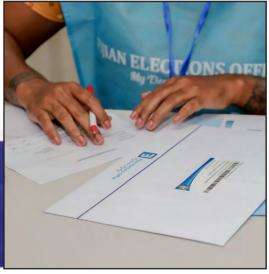


DECEMBER











Siga Lagilagi nodra mai kacivaka na Peresitedi na tiki ni siga ni veidigidigi. Era tab ana Peresitedi Ratu Wiliame Maivalili Katonivere kei ira na ivakalesilesi ni matabose ni veidigidigi.

JOSEFA ULUILAKEBA

A tiki ni siga ni veidigidigi ena Tiseba 14m ni 2022 e siga namaki veikeda kece na lewenivanua e Viti. Baleta ni oqo na siga namaki kina meda veidigidigitaka kina na noda mata kina Bose Lawa levu kei Viti, ka vakakina na kena digitaki na liuliu vou ni noda matanitu me vaka na kena ivakarau ni oti e va na yabaki ni veiliutaki vakamatanitu. Era sa veivakananumi

tiko kina na liuliu ni Tabana ni Veidigidigi – ko Mohamed Shaneem meda maka taka na Tiseba 14 ni siga ni veidigidigi.

Na veika edodonu mera vakarautaka na tabana oqo era sa vakayacora kece sara vakamatau me baleta na siga namaki oqo. Esa na qai vo walega na itavi ni lewenivanua mera vakayacora nodra itavi, yaco yani vakalewevu ena vanua ni veidigidigi era sa volai kina ka mera laki tauca na nodra digidigi.

Era sa kacivaka talega na Vunilewa ni

Valenivolavola ni veidigidigi, Mohamed Saneem na nodra dui naba ni veidigidigi na mata mai na veisoqosoqo vakapolitiki era sa vakacuruma main a yacadra ka sa vakadonui mera vakaitavi talega ena veididigi.

Sa namaki talega nira na solia na nodra veitokoni na veimata soqosoqo ni politiki vua na tabana ni veidigidigi ena kena vakamuria vakavinaka sara ba law ani veiqaravi ena veidigidigi me vaka esa vauci tu vakalawa ni noda vanua.

Sa tiko talega na vakanananu kei vakama-

masu vei ira lewenivanua kece saraga mera na dau vakamuria Vinaka ka rokova talega na nodra itutu na ivakalesilesi ni tabana ni veidigidigi era na veiqaravi tiko ena siga bibi oqori.

Era na veiqaravi veivolekati talega kina na tabana ni ovisa ena kena yadravi vakavinaka na tuvatuva kece sara ni veidigidigi me yacova na kena mai vakacavari Vinaka

Siko ina Vualiku



Ira na Vunivola Tudei Tabana ni Veika Itaukei kei ira na ivakalesilesi main a vualiku.

VAKARAUTAKI

Sa mai qaravi rawa na nodra Veisiko na turaga Vunivola Tudei ka Vunilewa ni Tabacakacaka kei na Matabose ni Veika Vakaitaukei ena Valenivolavola ni Yasana e 3 o Bua, Macuata kei Cakaudrove. Qo ena nodra sikovi kara vakavinavinakataki tiko na vakailesilesi ena veiqaravi vei ira na lewenivanua vakabibi na nodra vakadreti tiko ena laveti ni itagede ni veiqaravi me sotava na gagadre ni veisiga.

E vica na tikina era vakaraitaka ni kena rawati na noda takete, ena vakatautaki ena iwalewale vinaka me taurivaki. Qo ena qai rawa kina na vakasama meda sa moi mai na:

- Berabera ina totolo
- Bibi ina mamada
- Dredre ina rawarawa

Ni rawati oqo, ena laurai kina na vinaka ni veiqaravi, vakabibi na kena sa mai sevutaki rawa na ivola dusidusi ena vica na macawa sa oti me baleta na Yavu ni Veiqaravi ni Matabose kei na Tabacakacaka iTaukei vakatokai na Stategic Development Plan[SDP]. Qo na yavu ivakarau merau dabe ka duavata kina, vaka-

bibi nira qaravi kina na iTaukei ena noda vanua.

E bibi taucoko na itavi eda qarava mai na Turaganikoro, Matanitikina, Vakailesilesi ni Yasana se e Valenivolavola Liu - e sega ni dua e vakuai kina – ia me tiko vata kei na kena yalo me rawati vakavinaka kina. A ikuri ni siko na raici lesu ni veiqaravi mevaka na iyaya ni cakacaka, na yalo ni cakacaka kei na lewenicakacaka era gumatua tu ena veisiga, sega ni raici – ia e vakamawe voli ga nira qarava galugalu tu na noda veiyasana.

Ni cabe na Vula I Balolo – sa Balolo ina loma ni vuvale e rua ka yavu e dua – na Matabose kei na Tabacakacaka iTaukei na nona ituvatuva ni cakacaka se SDP me cicivaki yani ena loma ni 8 na yabaki. Na kena vakamawe, sa toka e ligadra na vakailesilesi ena kena vakavotukana, me basika yani na vinaka ena noda veidelaniyavu tabu.

Ni lai cava na Veisiko ena yasana o Cakaudrove, era a lai donuya na turaga Vunivola Tudei ka Vunilewa na kena vakatabui na nona vale na vakailesilesi ni Yaubula ni Yasana ka toka ena lomanibai ni Yasana mai

BULAGO MAI NA KORO NA VANUA - NA ISOLISOLI NI KALOU [NA QARA NI KAWAKAWA]



Ko Vanuavatu kei na qara ni kawakawa.

VAKARAUTAKI

a noqu itaukei – e sega ni noqu digidigi, ia ni yaco vakakina – au kalougata vakalevu niu okati ena dua na vanua, vakasuluma vata kaya na dauniveibuli na veika e tu wavoliti au meu vakatawa. Na vanua e okati kina na qele, iqoliqoli, veika bula, tamata, bau kina na itovo kei na kena veiwekani.

Na irairai ni vanua e tukuni keda, eda na dui sakitaka ga ni keda idivi ena veivanua duidui eda cavutu mai kina. E okati me noda iyau – e cibi na yaloda ke kacivaki, e mosi tale ga na yaloda ke vakatanitaki mai na yavu era vakamenemenea kina na noda qase.

Sa rogolevu na italanoa ni urabuta mai Vatulele e Nadroga/Navosa, sa sarava o vuravura na kena talei ni talevi vakawasoma vei ira na dausaravanua. E bau tale ga kina mai Naweni e Savusavu ena urabuta, na vonu kacivi mai Nacamaki, Koro kei na ceva ni vanua kei Viti mai Kadavu – era okati me noda isakisaki.

Eda na sikovi Vanuavatu tale mada meda na rogoca tale ga e dua na itukutuku matanidavui, e vica ga era kila – oya na Qara ni Kawakawa. Ena veivakadonui nei Joji Mate na kawa ni Bete ena yavusa Nauluvatu – itokatoka Ligaulevu, mataqali o Korokula, eda na vakacakulea mada se cava na italanoa ni Qara ni kawakawa ena yanuyanu o Vanuavatu.

Na Qara ni Kawakawa qo - e toka ena

ceva ni yanuyanu, 1300 na mita vakarivirivi mai na koro era tiko kina nikua. E toka ena baravi, vakatokai o Nukuleka ena nodratou kovukovu na mataqali Rukunikoro, na Tui Vanua. E 3 na ivakatawa ni Qara ni Kawakawa - kawakawa vula, Uradamu kei na Gata Sivi. Na Kawakawa vula, e sega ni vaka na Kawakawa ni wasawasa, e vulavula ka rawa ni laurai ni nawa tu vakayawa. Na ura damu - e via tautauvata kei na noda iqaqalo na kena levu. Na gata sivi – e gata caga rua, sega ni bula e vanua, e bula ga e wai.

E vakaitovotaki na Veisiko – eda na tama ka duidui na vanua e tamaki – na kena ikatolu, nida sa donuya yani na gusuni qara. E rua na kena tabu, kena imatai na isulu damudamu, na kena ikarua, oya na vakatatabu ni dusia na ka o raica kevaka era sa vura mai eloma ni qara. Sa vuqa na vulagi era sa talevi Vanuavatu oti - sa nodra italanoa lesu na Qara ni kawakawa kei na kena ituvaki.

Ena veivanua era tu kina na lewei Nauluvatu – qo na nodra isakisaki, e lagataki ka seretaki me tukuni tiko ga na veisemati ni Tamata kei na nona iYaubula. E sega ni vakabekataki ni tiko ga ena loma ni vuvale vakaBete na kena lewa meratou imamaroroi ni veiyaubula eso. Eso e kaya ni rawa ni vakavure iyau vei ratou – ia ena qai tukuna ga o gauna na kena matata.

Sa dri yani!



Vakabulabulataki ni Tali ibe Kula Voivoi

na ika24 ni siga ni vula o Okotova a vakayacori kina na vuli ni Vakabulabulataki ni Vuku iTaukei ena koro o Nasesara, na tikina o Moturiki ena yasana o Lomaiviti. Na inaki ni veigaravi go oya na kena sagai me vakawaci na vuku ka taukena na vanua.

E rua na macawa na kena qaravi na vuli ni veivakabulabulataki na iyaunivanua ka kilai ena ibe Kula Voivoi. Na kena mareqeti na ibe kula voivoi oya na gauna e tevu kina e dua na idabedabe ena dau tevu taudua icake me vaka toka me kena ivakamalumu. E isosomi ni masi (vakamalumu) ni sega ni bula e yanuyanu na masi.

Na ka e matalia kina na ibe qo mai vei ira na ibe ena veiyasai Viti oya ni kena kula sara ga na voivoi. Ena dau toni voivoi me bogi va e waitui, ni vue mai na qai lai vakawaidranu sa qai vakamamaca. Ni sa mamaca e sa na vulavula vinaka sara tu ga ka sa vakarau me vakayagataki me kula.

E dau vakayagataki ga na ibe qo ke vakayacori e dua na soqo vakavanua ia na kena tali era dau vakatulewa ga kina na turaga ni vanua, sara qai dau solevaka na marama. Era kaya ni ibe Kula Voivoi era dau vakayagataka ga mera vakaiyautaka kina na Turaga na Ratu ka me sauvaki tiko kina na itikotiko vakaturaga.

E laurai na bula ni dua na marama ena kena caka na ibe go. Na nona magosa, na nona valovinaka kei na nona makutu e solia kece ena gauna e tekivu talia kina me yacova sara ni sa lai vakacavari. A laurai votu ena kena lai garavi na veivakabulabulataki na yalo ni cakacakavata kei na duavata. E vakadinadinataki ni gauna e lai vakabulabulataki kina na iyaunivanua qo e kauti ira vata mai na sema ni veiwekani eso e Moturiki mera mai duavata ena kena sagai me maroroi na vanua, sauvaki na itutu ni veiliutaki vakavanua ka vakauasivi me sautu na vanua.

A qai mai vacavari na vuli ena ika4 ni siga ni vula o Noveba, ka ra mai sogota na Turaga na Ratu e Moturiki o Ratu Waisale Draunidalo. E dua na tikina e qai vakadreta tiko na Turaga na Ratu oya mera vakabibitaka na kena maroroi na vanua, ka mera kua ni vakawelewetaka na vakabulabulataka na vuku eso ni vanua me baleti ira na nodra kawa.

Na vakavinavinaka levu ina vanua ena vuku ni veitokoni ena kena sa mai vakawaci rawa na kilaka ni kena vakarautaki na ibe Kulavoivoi ena yanuyanu o Moturiki.

Sa tu na vakanuinui ni na sega ni vakanadakui se guilecavi vakarawarawa na veika sa mai vakacokotaki rawa ena loma ni rua na macawa. Meda cibitaka ka maroroya tiko ena veigauna mevaka ni noda ka tu tale ga kina na noda itavi meda na dau vakadewataka tiko vei ira na luveda ena veisiga nimataka. Maroroya, cibitaka ka karona na nomu iyau ni vanua – e koto kina na nomu kalougata.



Era qarava tiko na marama na vakarautaki na voivoi.

Vula i Cagilaba



Oira na gonevuli era sarasara ena soqo ni kacivaki ni vula I caqilaba.

laisiga (Sepiteba - Noveba); voleka tiko na Vulaikatakata (Diseba - Veverueri vakacaca) dau katakata na draki, gauna ni covulaca kei na cagilaba. Dau yacana tale ga me vulaivivilaca se vulaisolelaca se vulaitabulaca, ni dau sega kina na veisokovaki.

Ena Lotulevu (03/11/22), a vakaitavi na Tabana ni Vosa kei na iTovo ena porokaramu garava na Valenivolavola ni Lega Tubukoso (Natural Disaster Management Office), me veivakararamataki vei ira na lewenivanua, gonevuli era sikova vani na vakatunuloa e Lagere. E vulagi dokai na turaga Minisita ni Tabacakacaka ni Veivakatorocaketaki ena Taudaku ni Veikoro Lelevu, Veisokoyaki kei na Lega Tubusoko o Inia Seruiratu.

A veitataunaki na Tabana ni Vosa kei na iTovo Vakaviti me kauwaitaki ka rokovi

'a vakavakarau ina leqa tubu- na ivakatakilakila kei na draki era dau oso ni donumaki tiko na vu- vakamuria tu na noda gase e liu. E sega ni yalani ga na nodra kila ena cagilaba, ia era tuvatuva vakamatau ena teivaki ni kedra, na qolivi ni wasawasa, na ta ni kau – me veidonui ke na draki, na vula i matua, ka veiganiti ina ivakarau ni nodra vakayagataka na nodra iyaubula. Ia eda sa bolei kina, ka sa noda na vakatulewa; na bula ni noda vanua sa vakatautaki vei

> Na vulaicagilaba, sa toka e matada, meda vakavakarau, me rokovi na ivakasala e dau kacivaki, ka meda yadrava na ivakatakilakila eso me vaka na: vakasova voleka na gele ni pi e dela ni gele, laurai vakalevu na tovuto kei na babale, takelo na domonivudi, se cala na gasau, gogotu na uto se laurai e 3 se 4 na vuana ena dua ga na tabana, kune na qele ni balagi kei na salala ena vanua vodea.



Vakatakilakila ni Cagilaba Tabana ni Vosa kei na iTovo Vakaviti

Vakasova voleka na qele ni pi



Laurai vakalevu na tovuto kei na babale



Kune na qele ni balagi kei na



Takelo na domonivudi



Se cala na gasau. Ena vula vakaViti, e vula iGasau mai na Epereli ina Me, ni se cala, sa ivakatakilakila ni cagilaba



"Qoqotu" na uto se laurai 3 se 4 na vua ni uto ena dua ga na tabana



VUKELULU, 23 NI SIGA NI NOVEBA, 2022



Soqo ni Marama ena Yavusa o Vatoa, Lau.

Ena ika12 ni siga ni vula o Noveba, era qarava kina nodra sogo ni vakaraitaki cakacakaniliga kei na soli na marama ni Yavusa o Vatoa. A vakayacori ena koronivuli na William Cross Methodist School e Makoi.

Na inaki ni soqo qo mera mai tau soli, vakaraitaki cakacakaniliga ena veika era kilai tani kina na marama ni yavusa o Vatoa. Ra gole mai na marama mai Vanua, ratou gole tale ga mai Viro, Ovalau vaka kina oratou mai na yasayasa vakara ena vuku ni nodra soqo namaki qo.

A sureti tale ga na vakailesilesi liu na ivukevuke ni Vunivola Tudei ni Tabacakacaka iTaukei me dolava na soqo ni marama ni Yavusa o Vatoa. Era veivakadeitaki ka ra veitataunaki ina loma ni Yavusa ena vuku ni vakabulabulataki ka vakadewataki vei ira na kawa kei Vatoa na veika era kilai tani kina.

A qaravi tale ga na kena turaganilewataki na nodra cakacakaniliga ena icoco, vakabaji, ibe duadua, jiniwavivi kei na solofua.

Sa vakanuinui tu na Tabacakacaka iTaukei ni na tomani tiko na veika sa mai qaravi ena siga ni Marama ni Yavusa o Vatoa, ni na vakadewataki tiko na kila ka kei na vuku itaukei vei Ira na kawa kei Vatoa ena siga ni mataka.







Vuki na Bilo ni Vanua vakaturaga mai Nakuruvarua kara sega ni toka wale na turaga na Kwalevu ni

Sa vuki na bilo ni vanua ena koro o Nasigatoka ena mataka nikua [08/11/22] ni oti vinaka e 12 na yabaki na kena lala koto. Era osota yani na turaga, na marama, na vakailesilesi vakamatanitu kei na lotu na loma ni koro qo mera lai vakadinadinataka na kena sa vakatamani tale na vanua.

Ena italanoa nei Peni Tove Kurisaru ena itokatoka Werevani, matagali Ketenamasi ena yavusa Ketenamasi mai na koro o Nasigatoka - e wasea kina ni iotioti ni Taukei Werenidri - e dua na marama o Joana Kaloulala ka nanumi ni via vacova sara tiko na vabaki 70 vakacaca.

E rauta ni tinikarua na yabaki na lala voli ni tikotiko e Valelevu, sa tekivu vakamalua tiko na veilesi kei na veisosomitaki nei Vereniki Qasevakatini [yabaki 63] me yacova na yabaki qo, era sa vagunuvi mera iTaukei Werenidri ka Tui Nasigatoka.

A kuria o Kurisaru ni savu na itukutuku e Nasigatoka, ena curuma na kena katuba vakavanua ena veikoro e 7 nibera ni toso ina kena veta duidui eso dokai tiko ga kina na bibi ni bika vanua vakabibi na itovo. Ena ivosavosa vakaNasigatoka, e 'itukani' toka na vuvale vakaturaga e Nakuruvarua, ka itacini na vuvale e Jubaniwai. Na vanua o Nasigatoka, e toka me sauvaka na itikotiko

cabeti yani na itukutuku ni vanua i Valelevu.

Sa votu na veivakaturagataki – era a ciqoma na itukutuku na turaga na Kwalevu kara cavutu na gase ni vuvale mai Tore mera lai galova vakavanua na Tui Nasigatoka ena gauna ni veibuli - salamuria na vosa ni veivakadeitaki ni vakarau me qaravi na itavi levu ni veiliutaki. Era marau na lewei Nasigatoka ni sa tawa o Werenidri, ia sa toka vata kei na nodra itavi ena kena sauvaki me rogorogo vinaka tiko kina na itikotiko.

Ena veivakadeitaki vakalotu, vakavanua ka vakamatanitu – sa bibi kina ni veitutu kece eda lesi kina, ena ulabaleta ga kevaka e qaravi na kena itavi. Qo na itavi ni nodra rogoci na lewenivanua, karoni kara nanumi –vakataucokotaka kina na itukutuku ni oira era turaga tu - era sa mai vua na Kalou.

Sa siga - toka na vanua, sa gauna donu ni nodra lesi ina qaravi itavi – ia meda nanuma koto ni tu tale ga na itavi ni vanua ena sauvaki ni tikotiko qo.

Moni kalougata na Taukei Werenidri kei na nomuni vuvale vanua ena cakacaka vinaka ni maroroi vanua.







VUKELULU, 23 NI SIGA NI NOVEBA, 2022



Siga kei Waidina

VAKARAUTAKI

aitasiri mo dina, Mo

bula ena gauna ni draki visau e ta sotave tiko." Oqo na iulutaga ni siga kei Nawaidina a qaravi ena ika18 kei na ika9 ni siga ni vula o Noveba 2022, a qaravi ena koro o Nabukaluka. Era a bosevata na turaganivanua ena tikina o Nawaidina na vanua o Waimaro Levulevu, me tuvai e dua na ituvatuva me garavi na sogo ni tikina, ra gole vata mai na koro e tinikadua (11) mera mai sota vakaveiwekani ni sa oti e dua na gauna balavu me qaravi tale e dua na sota ena vanua o Waimaro. A garavi vata kina na veisisivitaki ni meke, vucu, vosa, serekali, buiniga kei na ukutaki ni bolabola.

E dua tale ga na ituvatuva era saga me vakabulabulataki na iyaubula ena veitokoni ni Tabana ni Kau, eratou solia e dua na tikiniqele na yavusa o Nadanuya, mataqali Nadanuya ena koro o Navurevure me teivaki na kau, era vakaitavi kece kina na lewe ni tikina.

Sa vakavinavinakataki na vanua vakaturaga o Waimaro ena tikina o Nawaidina ena ituvatuva kei na nodra mai sota vata na veiwekani ena siga rua. Sa vakanuinui tu na Tabacakacaka iTaukei ni na dei tiko ga o Nawaidina ena veika era bulataka na nomuni qase kei na veika oni kilai tani kina ka mera na kune kalougata tiko na kawa kei Nawaidina ena veisiga ni mataka.



Bulago mai nakoro

NA KAKANA VAKAVITI KEI NA TIKO BULABULA - VAVI QAI E VANUAVATU

VAKARAUTAKI

noda itovo na kawa iTaukei na tiko bulabula! E vuqa ena lomatarotaro se cava sara mada e mai noda itovo kina mevaka ni rau duidui na itovo kei na tiko bulabula. Ni tasereki na itovo matanataki me bulabula kina na yago, eda na nanuma rawa e vica me vakavure vakasama tu vei kemuni na wekada. Qo ena itovo ni noda solesolevaki vata, meke vata, teitei vata, vakatasosoko, qoli, cocoka se vakacakau me yavalata na yago – rawa nira okati mera ivakaukaua ni yagoda. Era salavata kei na itovo ni vakaukaua yago qo na kakana vakaviti, me vakalailaitaka na tauvimate - ra bula balavu kina na tukada kei na buda.

Ena gauna qo, sa tiki ni ibenikana na suka. Ke sega ni tiko ena ibenikana, e sana rawa ni saqa vata se isaluaki ni kakana nibera ni taqei ka vakayagataki sara. E vakayagataki na suka me ivakamikamica ni kakana, ti, bau gadrevi ena vavavi kei na vakasaqa ka dredre me vakuai ena noda veivale.

Ena dua na nodratou ivakamacala na Tabacakacaka ni Bula ena veilawa e ratou vakaraitaka ni vakayagataki vakasivia ni suka qaqi, masima, waiwai kei na kakana tawa tini e sa idewadewa levu ni mate sureti (NCD) ena gauna qo ena noda vanua - sa tubu totolo tale ga kina na iwiliwili ni lewenivanua era matedole kina. Sa matata vakasigalevu na na itukutuku qo - ia sa dredre ga na

Eda na lesu tale mada ina kedra ivakamikamica ni kakana se suka na qase – da siko tale mada i Vanuavatu ena koro o Taira meda rogoitalanoa kina. E kilai vinaka tu na koro qo ni ciri galu taudua voli, e vagauna na veisokoyaki ni waqa kara vakanuinui wasoma na lewenikoro ena veika ga e tubu wavoliti ira.

Na Qai - e dua na ivakamikamica ni kakana era dau vakayagataka eliu ni bera na suka. Na qai, e

kena vosa kilai levu na vasili se masawe, na vasili (cordyline terminalis) e dua na mataqali kau kilai levu, toloilila lailai balavu, drauna e damudamu so e drokadroka, babalavu qai lumisa; vakayagataki me liku ni meke, iolo ni kakana (mv na bila, vakalavalava), ukuuku ni vanua ni soqo; e tautauvata na qai mai Vuda, Vanualevu, Koro kei Lau, e tautauvata na qolo mai Ba, Magodro, Savatu, Rakiraki, Keiyasi, Navosa, Wainibuka kei na yakoto e Waya, Nadroga, Vatulele.

E tubu wavoki ena yanuyanu o Vanuavatu na qai ka kilai ni dau ti sobu na wakana mevaka na uvi. Na balavu ga ni taba ni qai - na titobu ni wakana. Ena italanoa nei Soko Marika ena itokatoka Basogaidua ena mataqali Vunikoro, e vakaraitaka ni dau keli ga na qai matua, dau vakamareqeti sara na kena keli me kua ni mayoa na lewena.

Edau vavi na wakana, na balavu ga ni kena vavi - na kena vinaka. Ni sa vavi oti, sa rawa ni loba se tikici me biu e loma ni kuroniti, saqa kei na kakana, vakayagataki ena vavavi se laukana wale. E kamikamica sara vakalevu mai na suka qaqi, sega ni vakawainimate se me vakavu tauvimate. E levu tu ena iteitei na vuna, sega tale ni lai voli mai ni sa varautaka oti na Kalou me baleti ira na lewei Nauluvatu.

Sa toso na gauna, eda sa malele ina suka era sa tu ena veisitoa. Sa vakavudua sara na vakabulabulataki ni vavi qai ena noda veikoro vakaviti. Mai na yavusa Nauluvatu, na iotioti ni vavi qai a qaravi ena yabaki sa oti, 2021. Qo e donuya na vakatatabu ni veitosoyaki ni COVID ka vavi qai kina e dua na turaga ena mataqali Korokula. Sa dua na gauna vinaka ni kena vakasukai lesu na kilaka vakaviti ena itovo ni vakarau kakana vakaviti.

Sa tete na noda vakayagataka na suka qaqi ena veikoro oka kina ena veiyanuyanu — de rairai yaga meda na kidava tiko ni sa tu oti mai na were na keda kakana. Era a vakayagataka taumada na qase, e ivakaukaua ni yagodra - ra bula balavu tale ga kina, e rawa beka nida lesu kina?



Sikovi na yanuyanu o Koro

JOSEFA ULUILAKEBA

a tadu na ilakolako i Koro ena mataka ni Moniti na ika14 ni Noveba,2022 me sikovi na veikoro -ena nodratou veisureti na 'Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) Fiji Na 'ADRA' dua na isoqosoqo ena taudaku ni matanitu ka solibula ena nodra vanua me qarava bula raraba ni lewenivanua mevaka a vakayotui ena ilakolako qo.

Qo na ilakolako ka isevu ni nona veisiko na Mata ni Soqosoqo vakaUrope European Union ena Pasivika kei Viti, H.E Sujiro Seam ka semati vakavoleka na inaki ni Veisiko ena cakacaka ni vakacoko kei na veivuke vakailavo ena yanuyanu o Koro.

E 14 taucoko na kena koro, 2 na tikina - na tikina o Cawa kei Mudu ka nodra ivurevure ni bula na sasalu, na yaqona, na kakana dina ena loma ni yanuyanu. E kilai raraba e vuravura na vakacaca e Koro ni nadaku o Winston, ia sa rawati na nodra lesu ina ituvaki ni bula ni veisiga - na veivuke kei na veisiko e qaravi tiko yani - vakabibi na nodra solesolevaki me rawati na bula vinaka.

Ra bau salamuria tale ga na ilakolako qo na Vunivola Tudei/Vunilewa ni Tabacakacaka kei na Matabose ni veika vakaiTaukei mera vakadinadinataka e matanavotu na veika e sotavi tu vei ira na lewei Koro ena sasaga ni bula torocake. A tekivu na veisiko ena koro o Nasau, ra lai dolava na Mata ni European Union na vale

ni bucibucini ena itikotiko mai Vunisalato, qaravi tale ga kina na veiqaravi vakavanua kei na veitalanoa - nibera ni dewa yani e Nawerelevu vua na Tui Nadakeke e Sinuvaca me baleti ira na Soqosoqo Vakamarama kei na nodra sasaga.

A lai vakacavari na veisiko qo ena nodra itikotiko na Tui Kade - nira lai duavata kina kei na Minisita ni Veivakatorocaketaki ena Taudaku ni veikoro lelevu - Hon. Inia Seruiratu ena dola ni paipo ni wainigunu vou me baleti ira na lewenikoro. Qo na veivuke era dodoliga vata kina na veitabana eso mevaka na European Union, Rotary Pacific Water, LDS, Vaiwai kei na vuqa tale oka kina na Matanitu me tekivu mai na iso ni wai mai delana, semati sara ina vica na kena taqe ni vakadewa - dodo sara yani na paipo ina veivale e Kade kei na koronivuli na Kade Village School.

E sa itukuni ni gauna na gunu ena tuvu mevaka a rogoitalanoataki mai Kade, sa bulia na vakasama ni sasaga tiko ga - na veibarinivatu e dakunikoro kei na wasawasa era tadrava me sotavi kina na lolo ni ua kei na tale ni voka ni bula vaka-dau sasaga ena vuli, teitei, bisinisi, sere kei na vuqa tale.

Ni sere na dali mai Muanivanua me mua o Suva ena yakavi ni Moniti, sa savu saka yani na nodra vakavinavinaka na veitabana kece era siko yani – salavata tale ga kei na nodra vakanuinui vinaka ina loma ni 3 na koro era sikovi nina cagidonu tiko na sasaga kei na tuvatuvaka ena nomuni bula vakoro.



MARAUTAKI NA WAI E MOTURIKI

JOSEFA ULUILAKEBA

sa wali na matanitu na leqa e rad au sotava tu e rauta e 1,300 na lewe ni yanuyanu o Moturiki o ya na leqa ni wai.

E na siga Moniti na ika8 ni siga ni vula qo e a solia kina vakamanitu na veivakatorocaketaki ni wai e Moturiki na noda Paraiminisita o Josaia Voreqe Bainimarama.

"Sa dodonu meda marau ka solevutaka na cakacaka ni veivakatorocaketaki oqo baleta ni vueta na bula ni 286 na vuvale ka sivia na 1,300 na lewe-ni-vanua ena loma ni 10 na koro," e kaya na Paraiminisita.

"Na matanitu e vakayagataka e \$3.2 na milioni ena cakacaka levu ni loloma qo ka sa na oti kina vakadua na vakararavi ena wai ni uca kei na ivakaso ni wai e loma ni qele."

Tomana na Paraiminisita ka kaya ni sa vakilai tiko ena noda vanua kei na Pasifika na vakacaca ni draki veisau, ia na kena revurevu e vakilai vakalevu sara ena veiyanuyanu, vakabibi ena draki mamaca ka ni sega ni dau tau tu na uca ena dua na gauna balavu.

"E ka ni rarawa ni veimatanitu lelevu era dau vakabibitaka ga na nodra ivurevure ni ilavo mai na taqomaki ni veikabula e vuravura, Ia na noqu Matanitu ena sega ni cuva ena nodra vei-vakaloloma-taki na veimatanitu oqori."

"E bibi ena noqu Matanitu na taqomaki ni veikabula ka vakadrodroi na wai savasava ena koro o Savuna, Nasesara, Navuti, Nasauvuki, Wawa, Uluibau, Daku, Naicabecabe, Niubasaga kei Yanuca."

Ra kaya ni virikotori ena Yavu-ni-Vakavulewa na dodonu ni nomuni vakayagataka na wai savasava na lewenivanua.

"Au vakabauta ni kena vakadrodroi na wai savasava ena loma ni yanuyanu o Moturiki ena solia na yalo vakacegu vei kemuni kece na lewenivanua."



VUKELULU, 23 NI SIGA NI NOVEBA, 2022

Noda Viti

NANUMA KA VAKAYACORA NA NOMUI ITAVI

















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प्रधान मंत्री वोरेन्गे बईनिमारामा मोतुरिकी में पानी वाली एक योजना का विमोचन करते हुए

चित्र: प्रधान मंत्री दफ्तर

मोत्रिकी में पानी वाली योजना

रोनल देव

पर निर्भर नहीं होना पड़ेगा।

कि सरकार की एक योजना है।

लिए प्राथमिक्ता है इसीलिए सरकार पानी पहँचाया है। ने एक खास कारण से इस योजना ''किसी भी द्वीप में पानी वाली यह चाहिए और हमने आपके लिए सबसे में पैसे लगाए है,"

मोत्रिकी के दो सौ छियासी परिवार प्रधान मंत्री बईनिमरामा ने कहा कि सफल बनाने के लिए सबको बधाई प्रभावी समाधान खोजने के लिए के एक हज़ार तीन सौ से ज़्यादा लोग फीजी के लोगों, प्राकृतिक वातावरण तथा धन्यवाद दे रहा हुँ। जो दस कोरो में निवास करते है को तथा ईश्वर द्वारा प्रदान किए गए "हमारे 2013 संविधान में अंकित है की ताकत है। पानी की दैनिक ज़रूरत के लिए अब संसाधन से ज़्यादा ज़रूरी सरकार के कि सभी फीजिवासियों के पास पर्या आप निश्चित हो सकते है कि आपकी बरबात के पानी तथा कोरो के कुँओ लिए कुछ भी नहीं है। "इसीलिए हम प्त पानी मिलने का अधिकार है तथा सरकार न केवल सुनती है बल्कि हर दिन काम करते है ताकि कोई मेरी सरकार सभी फीजिवासियों के काम भी करती हैं। प्रधान मंत्री ने यह सम्भव हुआ जब इसी महीने पीछे न छूटे; इसी लिए हमने मौसम लिए अपनी बीस सालों की राष्ट्रीय निउबसाँगा कोरो में एक साप्रदायिक पुर्व प्रधान मंत्री वोरेन्गे बईनिमारामा में हो रहे बदलाव से वाकिफ होने के विकास योजना के तहत दिन प्रति निवास स्थान का उद्घाटन किया तथा ने निउबसाँगा कोरो में तीन मिलियन लिए कई मिलियन डोलर खर्च किए दिन, एक-एक योजना से उस ओगेनिक रसाईनिक खाद्य भी प्रदान डोलर से ज़्यादा लागत पानी वाली है तथा सवूना, नासेसारा, नसाउवूकी, अधिकार को कार्यरूप दे रही है किया जिसके बाद उन्होंने नारियक एक योजना का विमोचन किया जो वावा, उलुईबाउ, डाकू, नाईदाम्बे- तथा हम पूरे देश में साफ पानी की का पेड़ बोने के एक अभियान भी में दाम्बे, निउबसाँगा और यनूदा के विश्वसनीय आपूर्ति कर रहे है,"प्रधान भी हिस्सा लिया। " आप और हर एक फीजीवासी हमारे कोरो के नलों में पीने वाला साफ मंत्री ने कहा।

"आपने हमें बताया कि आपको क्या बहुत ही बड़ी योजना है तथा इसे समझदार, व्यवहारिक और लागत काम किया। यह आज फीजी के लोगों

हाउजिंग वाली विषेश सहायता

रोनल देव

हाउज़िंग तथा समाजिक विकास मंत्रालय, अपने हाउजिंग सहायता वाले कार्यक्रम के तहत उन व्यक्तियों से अर्जियाँ स्वीकार कर रहे है जिन्हें विषेश सहायता की ज़रूरत है।

यह खास कार्यक्रम विषेश ज़रूरतों के साथ सदस्य होने चाहिए रहने वाले व्यक्तियों के घरों में रहने वाली आवश्यकताओं की पहुँच में सुधार करने पर केंद्रित है।

अर्ज़ी लगाने वाले हर एक व्यक्ति को पाँच हजार डोलर तक ग्रान्ट मिल सकता है, जिसकी मदद से वे अपने घरों ज़रूरी सुधारकार्य कर सकते है, जैसे कि रम्पस, हेन्डरैल, पाखाना तक पहुँच आसान बनाने के लिए ग्रेब बार लगाना।

पिछले आर्थिक वर्ष में सत्तावन (57) अर्जियाँ मिली थी तथा एक लाख

पचहत्तर हज़ार डोलर (\$175,000) भरा गया था।

इस साल सरकार ने इस कार्यक्रम के लिए

अलग किया है।

सहायता पाने में सफल होने के लिए अर्जी लगाने वालों को यह सभी जुरूरतें पूरी करनी होगी:

- उन्हें फीजी का नागरिक होना ज़रूरी है
- वे सौशल वेलफेया का रेजिस्टड
- उनका सालाना घरेलू आमदनी तीस हज़ार डोलर से कम होना चाहिए
- उनका घर उनके नाम पर होना चाहिए (अगर बच्चे है तो माता-पिता या देखभाल करने वाले घर के मालिक होने चाहिए)

जो लोग इस कार्यक्रम के नीचे सहायता के लिए अर्ज़ी लगाना चाहते है, उनसे मं का पहचान पत्र; त्रालय माँग कर रहा है कि वे मंत्रालय के वेबसाईट www.housing.gov.fj से कम्पनी से कोटईशन अर्जी लगाने का फोर्म डाउनलौड कर सकते है या अर्ज़ी लगाने का फोर्म इन जगहों से प्राप्त कर सकते है:

हाउजिंग तथा सामाजिक विकास दो लाख पचास हज़ार डोलर (\$250,000) मंत्रालय के मुखालय 33 गोरी स्ट्रीट, सूवा;

हाउजिंग तथा सामाजिक विकास मंत्रालय की लौतोका शाखा 14 तावेवा एवन्यू लौतोका (हाउज़िंग अथोरिटी की इमारत में स्थित हैत्त या

फीजी भर में लीगल अईड के सभी दफ्तर

अर्जी लगाने वालों से माँग की गई है कि वे बीस डिसम्बर 2022 से पहले अर्ज़ी भरकर ज़रूरी कागजातों के साथ disability.assistance@govnet.gov.fj पर ई-मैल करें या पहले बताए गए दफ्तरों में लेजाकर

- ग्रान्ट की अर्ज़ी वाला फोर्म भरे
- एफ आर सी एस/एफ एन पी एफ
- एक भरोसेमंद स्थानीय हाडवेया
- सौशल वेलफेया विभाग से समर्थन पत्र
- घर/ज़मीन आपके नाम पर है। इसका सूबूत

घरेलू आमदनी की पुष्टी करने

के लिए वैधानिक घोषणा के साथ कुछ कागज़ात जैसे (पै स्लीप वगैराह)

बेन्कों की जानकारी के सुबुत (बेन्क) स्टेटमन्ट की नई कोपी)

मंत्रालय यह स्पष्ट करना चाहता है कि इस कार्यक्रम के तहत जो सहायता मिलेगी उससे लोग नया घर नहीं बना सकते,

वर्तमान घर को बढ़ा नहीं सकते, किराय पर उठाए गए घर या झोपड़ पट्टी वाले घर पर मरम्मत नहीं कर सकते।

जिन लोगों की अर्ज़ी पहले मिलेगी उसपर पहले गौर किया जाऐगा।

इसपर और जानकारी तथा स्पष्टीकरण के लिए कृपया संपर्क करें:

शानीया हुसैन को: 3309918, 9986711 या इमैल करें shania.hussain@govnet.gov.fj पर या जोसेफ विलियम्स को 9906680 या इमैल करें joseph.williams@govnet.gov.fj पर।

चीन से खाद्य मसाला का दान मिला



प्रधान मंत्री दफ्तर तथा शुगा मंत्रालय के पेमनन्ट सकेटरी योगेश करण फीजी में चीन के राजदूत महामहीम गियेन वो से खाद्य-मसाला का दान स्वीकार करते हुए

चित: पदान किया गया

रोनल देव

फीजी और चीन के बीच लम्बे समय का द्वीपक्षीय संबंध और भी गहरा हुआ जब हाल में चीनी सरकार ने लौतोका में फीजी सरकार को सात सौ बीस टन खाद्य-मसाला दान में दिया।

साउथ पेसिफिक फेटिलाएजा को मौका मिलेगा कि वे दान में मिले अमोनियम सल्फेईट को ब्लेन्ड करके ब्लेन्ड सी मसाला उत्पादित करेगा जिससे न केवल बारह हजार गन्ने के किसानों बिल्क अन्य किसानों को भी लाभ होगा जो अन्य तरह की खेती करते है।

इस अवसर पर बोलते हुए प्रधान मंत्री दफ्तर तथा शुगा मंत्रालय के पेमनन्ट सकेटरी योगेश करण ने कहा कि फीजी और चीन के संबंध लगातार मजबूत हो रहे हैं जिससे फीजी की अर्थ-व्यवस्था के विकास के साथ-साथ कई सालों से फीजी के लोगों का जीवन सुधारने में भारी सहायता दी जा रही है।

उन्होंने प्रकाश डाला कि चीन की ओर से इस तरह की यह पहली सहायता नहीं रही है तथा यह सही समय पर दी गई है जबिक कोविड के बाद तथा रूस और युकरैन युद्ध की वजह से विश्व बाज़ार में खाद्य मसाला का दाम काफी उपर चला गया है।

''चीन द्वारा समय पर दिया गया दान सरकार के प्रयासों का समर्थन कर रहा है जहाँ यह ध्यान में रखा जा रहा है कि किसानों तक लगातार खाद्य मसाला की सप्लाई मिलती

रहे," श्री करण ने कहा।

''फीजी के लोगों की तरफ से मैं, चीनी सरकार का आभार व्यक्त कर रहा हूँ। आपके योगदान से इस चुनौती भरे समय में भी देश के कृषि व्यवसाय को बढ़ावा मिलेगा जिससे देश की अर्थ-व्यवस्था में और सुधार होगा।

''यह दान खाद्य सुरक्षा सुनिश्चित करने के उदेश्य का भी सर्मथन करेगा। हम फीजी और चीन के बीच विषेश रूप से कृषि के क्षेत्रों में और अधिक सहयोग प्रदान करने की आशा कर रहे हैं," श्री करण ने कहा।

फीजी में चीन के राजदूत महामहीम गियेन बो ने जवाब में कहा कि चीन और फीजी हर परिस्थिति में दोस्त है तथा यह दान उस कहावत को साबित करता है कि मुसीबत में काम आने वाला दोस्त ही सच्चा दोस्त होता है।

सेवा और सुरक्षा प्रदान करें - राष्ट्रा



स्मारक दिवस पर राष्ट्रपति महामहीम रातु विलियामे कार्तानिवेरे, पुलिस अधिकारियों के साथ

चित्र: प्रदान किया गया

रोनल देव

ऐसा न हो कि हम उन्हें भूल जाए इसलिए हर साल की तरह इस सपल भी ग्यारह नवम्बर को फीजी के सैनिकों तथा अन्य सुरक्षा बलों को स्मारक दिवस पर याद किया गया जिन्होंने देश को सेवा प्रदान करते वक्त अपनी जान गवाई।

बेटरी रोड सूवा स्थित राष्ट्रीय युद्ध स्मारक पर आयोजित स्मारक दिवस पर राष्ट्रपति महामहीम रातु विलियामे कातोनिवेरे, प्रधान मंत्री वोरेन्गे बईनिमारामा, रक्षा मंत्री के अलावा विभिन्न देशों के राजदूतों तथा उनके प्रतिनिधियों ने पुष्पांजली अप्रित की।

झंडा आधा उतारा गया फिर पूरी तरह से फहराया गया। इस दौरान दो मिनट का मौन भी धारण किया गया।

बिछड़े हुए सुरक्षा बलों के लिए श्रधाँजली के शब्द में कहा गया कि वे वृद्ध नहीं

होंगे, आयु उन्हें थका नहीं पाएगी, और न ही साल निन्दा कर पाऐंगे; सूर्य के अस्त होने और उदय होने में हम उन्हें याद रखें

श्रधाँजली का आखरी फूल अप्रित होने के बाद फीजी की सेना ने सुरक्षा बलों की याद में एक छोटी धार्मिक सेवा का भी प्रबंध किया।

नए पुलिस अफ्सरों से कहा कि उनकी सेवा केवल मनुष्यों के लिए नहीं बल्कि ज़िम्मेदारी को हलके में नहीं लेना चाहिए।"

एक अधिक शक्तिशाली प्राणी के लिए है। "आपको निष्ठा की शपत को केवल शब्दों के रूप में नहीं लेना चाहिए"

"अपनी पसन्द के पवित्र ग्रन्थों की सेवा करने की शपत लेते समय, आपको हमेशा याद रखना चाहिए कि आपका वचन आपका बंधन है, इसलिए आपकी शपत आपके देश, आपके लोगों और नेतृत्व के लिए है, और सबस महत्वपूर्ण रूप से आपके परिवारों और रिशतेदारों की ओर से है," राष्ट्रपति ने कहा।

''आपने हमारे प्यारे देश के कानूनों की सेवा और सुरक्षा के लिए एक पुलिस अधिकारी अपने भाषण में राष्ट्रपति ने एक सौ अस्सी बनना चुना है, यह एक सम्मानजनक पेशे का हिस्सा है, और आपको कभी भी अपनी

"आपको किसी एक कारण के लिए चुना गया है।

उन हजारों लोगों में से जो आपके स्थान पर होना चाहते है, आपने अपने पुलिस कमिशन का भरोसा जीता है, जिन्होंने आपमें एक ऐसे व्यक्ति के सभी गुणों को देखा है जिसपर विश्वास किया जा सकता है और एक पुलिस अधिकारी के रूप में सेवा करने के लिए कर्तव्यों को पूरा करने के लिए भरोसा किया जाता है।

''मनावजाति की सेवा एक सम्मानजनक कार्य है," राष्ट्रपति ने कहा। राष्ट्रपति कातोनिवेरे ने फीजी पुलिस फोर्स तथा न्यु जीलेन्ड पुलिस अधिकारियों के बीच संहयोग का भी आभार व्यक्त किया।

मज़दूरों ने फीजी और औस्ट्रेलियन सरकार की प्रशंसा की



रोज़गार मंत्री परबीन कुमार, पेसिफिक औस्ट्रेलिया लईबा मोबिलिटी स्कीम के नीचे चुने गए फीजिवासियों के साथ 🛮 चित्र : प्रदान किया गया

रोनल देव

पेसिफिक औस्ट्रेलिया लईबा मोबिलिटी स्कीम के तहत फीजी के जिन एक सौ सत्त ाईस लोगों को औस्ट्रेलिया में काम करने के लिए चुना गया है।

एक मज़दूर सालोते तुईनमाता ने औस्ट्रेलिया में नौकरी प्रदान करने के लिए अवसर देने के लिए दोनों सरकारों को धन्यवाद दिया। "हम बहुत ही उत्साहित है कि हमें फीजियन सरकार की इस पहल के नीचे, पाम स्कीम

अवसर मिला है," तुईनमाता ने कहा।

"यह अवसर प्रदान करने के लिए, धन्यवाद के रूप में हमारे पास सरकार को देने के लिए कुछ नहीं है लेकिन हम फीजियन सरकार को आशवासन दे रहे है कि हम इमानदारी से काम करके फीजी का नाम उँचा रखने की पूरी कोशिश करेंगे ताकि भविष्य में और भी योग्य फीजिवासियों को वहाँ काम करने का मौका मिलें,"

हम रोजगार मंत्रालय के कर्मचारियों के

समान्य घण्टों से ज़्यादा काम किया ताकि ध्यान में रखा जाए कि हम सभी ज़रूरतों को परा करें तथा अर्जियों की प्रक्रिया भी पुरी हो,"

बिदाई समारोह में रोज़गार मंत्री परवीन कुमार बाला ने कहा कि फीजियन और औस्ट्रेलियन सरकार के पास फीजियन कर्म चारियों के लिए सबसे अच्छे इरादों के अलावा कुछ भी नहीं है।

"यही एक वजह है कि क्यों नेशनल एम-

के तहत फीजी का प्रतिनिधित्व करने का कार्यों के बहुत अभारी है जहाँ उन्होंने पलोएमन्ट सेन्टर में इतने मेहनती लोग चौ-बीसों घण्टें, सप्ताह के सातों दिन पेसिफिक औस्ट्रेलिया लईबा मोबिलिटी स्कीम की सेवा प्रदान करते है ताकि आपको विदेश भेजने की तैयारी कर सके," मंत्री बाला ने चुने गए कर्मचारियों को बधाई दी तथा उनसे माँग की कि वे फीजी में अपने भाई-बहनों के लिए लगातार और भी ज़्यादा दरवाज़े खोले ताकि वे भी इस तरह के अनुभव कर सके। यह कर्मचारी से इस सप्ताह से औस्ट्रेलिया जाना शुरू कर चुके है।





स्मारक दिवस समारोह

सुरक्षा बलों को स्मारक दिवस पर याद किया गया जिन्होंने देश को सेवा प्रदान करते वक्त अपनी जान गवाई। राष्ट्रपति ने एक सौ अस्सी नए पुलिस अफ्सरों से कहा कि उनकी सेवा केवल मनुष्यों के लिए नहीं बल्कि एक अधिक शक्तिशाली प्राणी के लिए है।

"आपको निष्ठा की शपत को केवल शब्दों के रूप में नहीं लेना चाहिए"अपनी पसन्द के पवित्र ग्रन्थों की सेवा करने की शपत लेते समय, आपको हमेशा याद रखना चाहिए कि आपका वचन आपका बंधन है, इसलिए आपकी शपत आपके देश, आपके लोगों और नेतृत्व के लिए है, और सबस महत्वपुर्ण रूप से आपके परिवारों और रिशतेदारों की ओर से है," राष्ट्रपति ने कहा। आपने हमारे प्यारे देश के कानूनों की सेवा और सुरक्षा के लिए एक पुलिस अधिकारी बनना चुना है, यह एक सम्मानजनक पेशे का हिस्सा है।"

चित्र: प्रदान किया गया





विश्व फिशिरिस दिवस

फिशिरिस मंत्रालय के पेमनन्ट सकेटरी पेने बालेईनिबुली ने इसी हफ्ते पुर्व नउसोरी में विश्व फिशिरिस दिवस में भाग लिया। इस साल के दिवस का मुख्य विषय था " अपने वातावरण का ख्याल रखो।" यह दिवस दुनिया भर के सभी मछआरे और संबंधित साझेदारो के साथ एकजुटता प्रदर्शित करता है।

चित्र: प्रदान किया गया













सूवा मार्केट में वाएफाए तथा वालेसी टेलेविज़न की मुफ्त सेवा

अटेनी-जेनरल अईयाज़ सईयद खईयूम ने हालमें सूवा मार्केट में मुफ्त वाएफाए तथा वालेसी टेलिविज़न सेवा का विमोचन किया। इस दौरान उन्होंने मार्केट बिकरेताओं से कहा कि कुछ समय पहले उन्होंने वालेसी से बातें की थी कि क्यों न देश भर के सभी मार्केट में वाएफाए की मुफ्त सेवा प्रदान की जाए।"मार्केट एक ऐसी जगह है जहाँ सभी फीजिवासी एक साथ जुड़ते है तथा एक दूसरे से संपर्क करना बहुत ज़रूरी है। सबसे पहले नान्दी और नमाका में यह सेवा शुरू की गई तथा लौतोका, बा, तावुआं और लम्बासा में भी यह सेवा उपलब्ध करने की योजना है।





शिक्षा और सीखना सफल होने के लिए सबसे मजबूत संभव आधार प्रदान करते है

रोज़गार तथा खेलकूद मंत्री परवीन कुमार बाला ने बा संगम कोलज के पुरूस्कार समारोह के दौरान साल बारह और तेरह के विद्यार्थियों को याद दिलाया कि चुनौती भरी इस दुनिया में शिक्षा और सीखना ही सफल होने के लिए सबसे मजबूत संभव आधार प्रदान करते है। उन्होंने कहा कि फीजियन सरकार यही निति अपनाए हुई है ताकि ध्यान में रखा जाए कि देश के हर एक बच्चे को मुफ्त शिक्षा की पहुँच हो। कड़ी मेहनत करना जारी रखें तथा अपने जीवन को सफल बनाने का प्रयास करें जिससे आपके समाज, स्कूल के अद्यापकों, माता-पिताओं तथा दोस्तों को आपपर गर्व हो। चित्र: प्रदान किया गया

1. विषवशनीय स्त्रोत से जानकारी

प्राकृतिक विपत्ती के दौरान:

जानकारी लेते रहे और रेडियो या टी वी पर नवीनतम जानकारी सुनते रहें

मौसम और स्थिती पर जानकारी के लिय www.met.gov.fj या एन डी एम ओ के फेस बुक पेज पर जाए

अपने फोर्न का इस्तेमाल ठीक तरह से करे ताकि बेटरी बच सके

यह जरूरी नंबर ध्यान में रखे: पूलिस/एम्बुलेन्स के लिय 917, आग के लिय 910, $$\xi$$ -एफ-एल के लिय 913, वोटा

अथोरिटी ओफ फीजी के लिय 5777, और कोविड से जुड़ी जानकारियों के लिय 158

मिट्टी भसकने और जमीन पर फिसलन के लिय 917 या 910 पर कोल करे

तैयार रहे, सुरक्षित रहे

यह जानकारी एन डी एम ओ की तरफ से है जिसे यूनिसेफ अपना समर्थन दे रहा है।

2. आपतकालिन किट

प्रकृतिक विपत्ती के दौरान:

देखे कि आपकी आपतकालीन किट अच्छी तरह से तैयार है

किट में यह होना ज़रूरी है:

फेस्ट अईड किट जरूरी दवाईयाँ पूरे परिवार के लिए मास्क हाथ धोने के लिए साबुन या हेन्ड सेनिटाइज़ जरूरी दास्तावेज, मोमबत्ती और वेक्सीनेशन कार्ड बोतल या उबला हुआ पीने का पानी टिन वाला भोजन बेटरी वाला रेडियो टोर्च

मौसम और स्थिती पर जानकारी के लिय www.met.gov.fj या एन डी एम ओ के फेस बुक पेज पर जाए

तैयार रहे, सुरक्षित रहे

3. सुई लगवाना और स्वास्थ्य से जुड़ी टिप्पणी

अगर आप प्रकृतिक विपत्ती के दौरान जगह खाली कर रहे है तो जितनी जल्द हो सके चले जाए

अपना इमेजेन्सी किट और जरूरी समान साथ लेकर जाए

पहले से बीमार परिवार के सदस्यों को अपनी विपत्ती योजना में शामिल रखे और सुनिष्ठि चत करे कि उन्हें पूरी तरह सुई लगी हो

अगर नहीं तो आज ही सुई लगवाए

और जानकारी के लिय www.met.gov.fj या एन डी एम ओ के फेसबूक पेज पर जाए

तैयार रहे, सुरक्षित रहे

यह जानकारी एन डी एम ओ की तरफ से है जिसे यूनिसेफ अपना समर्थन दे रहा है।

4. आस-पास सुरक्षित रखे

प्राकृतिक विपत्ती के दौरान: अपना घर सुरक्षित रखें, नुकसान पहुचाने वाले बड़े पेड़ की डाल काँटे

उन चीजों को समेट कर रखे जो गम्भीर हवा उड़ या बाढ़ में बह सकते है

समुद्री तटों पर घूमने वालों को सलाह दी गई है कि वे अपने नाव और बहने वाले चीजों को समेट कर रखे जो नुकसान पहुँचा सकते हैं

सुनिश्चित रखे कि आपके पालतू जानवर सुरक्षित है, उन्हे दिन के समय कोई उँची जग ह ले जाए

और जानकारी के लिय www.met.gov.fj या एन डी एम ओ के फेसबूक पेज पर जाए

तैयार रहे, सुरक्षित रहे

यह जानकारी एन डी एम ओ की तरफ से है जिसे यूनिसेफ अपना समर्थन दे रहा है।

5. घर पर तैयार रहे

प्राकृतिक विपत्ति के दौरान:

पर्याप्त भोजन और पीने का पानी भर ले। पानी को उबालकर रखें।

टोर्च और मोमबत्ति तैयार रखें

फोर्न और पावा बेन्क चार्ज कर लें

घर पर बुजुर्गी, विकलाँग और अपने पड़ोसियों का ध्यान रखें। बच्चों को घर के अन्दर र खें।

देखें कि आपके पास पर्याप्त दवाईयाँ हो

और जानकारी के लिय www.met.gov.fj या एन डी एम ओ के फेसबूक पेज पर जाए

तैयार रहे, सुरक्षित रहे

यह जानकारी एन डी एम ओ की तरफ से है जिसे यूनिसेफ अपना समर्थन दे रहा है।

कोविड-19 सर्दभ

1. ढीले प्रतिबन्धों के साथ

VO: अगर आप प्राकृतिक विपत्ती के दौरान जगह खाली कर रहे हैं तो मास्क पेहनना और एल्कोहोल से बनी हेन्ड

सेनिटाइजा़ साथ रखना याद रखे।

अपने ही बबल में रहे और ऐसे कमरे में रहे जहाँ अच्छी तरह हवा आती हो और देखे कि क्या आपको कोविड-धश के ये लक्षण दिखाई दे रहे है साँस लेने में तकलीफ, छाती में दर्द, सिर दर्द, उलझन, जागने या सोने में अ सर्मथ होना

और चमड़े, होंठ और नाखून ग्रेए, पीले या नीले हो तो घथय पर कोल करे

यह जानकारी एन डी एम ओ की तरफ से है जिसे यूनिसेफ अपना समर्थन दे रहा है।

2. आस-पास सुरक्षित रखे

VO: प्राकृतिक विपत्ती के दौरान:

देखें कि आपका घर और संपत्ति गिरे हुए पेड़ों से सुरक्षित है या बिजली के गिरे तार से दुर रहे जो आपके परिवार को नुकसान पहुँचा सकत

सुनिश्चित रखें कि आपके पालतू जानवर सुरक्षित है समाचार सुनते रहे और जगह खाली करने के लिय तैयार रहे

यह जानकारी एन डी एम ओ की तरफ से है जिसे यूनिसेफ अपना समर्थन दे रहा है।

3. खबर रखें

VO: प्राकृतिक विपत्ती के दौरान:

बेटरी वाले रेडियो का इस्तेमाल करे ताकि प्राकृतिक विपत्ती पर जानकारी और सार्वजिनक सेवाओं की घोषणाए

मिलती रहे

अपने फोर्न का इस्तेमाल ठीक तरह से करे ताकि बेटरी बच सके हमेशा खबर रखें कि आपके परिवार कहाँ हैं

मौसम और स्थिती पर जानकारी के लिय www.met.gov.fj या एन डी एम ओ के फेसबूक पेज पर जाए

यह जानकारी एन डी एम ओ की तरफ से है जिसे यूनिसेफ अपना समर्थन दे रहा है।

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Monday November 7, 2022

बेटरी वाले रेडियो का इस्तेमाल करे ताकि प्राकृतिक विपत्ती पर जानकारी और सार्वजनिक सेवाओं की घोषणाए

मिलती रहे

अपने फोर्न का इस्तेमाल ठीक तरह से करे ताकि बेटरी बच सके हमेशा खबर रखें कि आपके परिवार कहाँ हैं

मौसम और स्थिती पर जानकारी के लिय www.met.gov.fj या एन डी एम ओ के फेसबूक पेज पर जाए

यह जानकारी एन डी एम ओ की तरफ से है जिसे यूनिसेफ अपना समर्थन दे रहा है।

4. भोजन सुरक्षित रखें

VO: लेप्टोस्पएरोसिस, टाएफोइड, डेंगी और डायरिया के प्रसार को रोके भोजन और पीने का पानी ढाँक कर रखे या बंद बर्तन में रखे पीने का पानी उबाल ले और अच्छी तरह से रखे बासी भोजन ना खाए और इसे तुरत फेंक दे सुनिश्चित करे कि आपका परिवार पौष्टिक भोजन करें स्तनपान कराने वाली माताओं को अपने बच्चों को स्तनपान कराते रहना च हिए सभी कच्ची सब्जियों को खाने से पहले धो ले

यह जानकारी एन डी एम ओ की तरफ से है जिसे यूनिसेफ अपना समर्थन दे रहा है।

5. अच्छी स्वच्छता का अभ्यास करे

VO: प्राकृतिक विपत्ती के दौरान:

भोजन छूने से पहले, शौचालय जाने के बाद या सफाई का काम खत्म करने के बाद याद से हाथ धोए

सभी कचरे को ठीक तरह से समेटे

सुनिष्चित करे कि आपके बच्चे हर समय अच्छी स्वच्छता का अभ्यास करें

1. भावनातमक सहारा

VO: विपत्ति के बाद लोग शायद उलझन में दुखी या निराश हो सकते है बच्चें, विकलाँग लोग, महिलाएं तथा बुजुर्ग लोग अकेला या डरे हुए महसूस कर सकते है

कई लोगों ने शायद अपनी संपत्ति या जीवन भर की जमा पूँजी खो दी हो अब सही समय है पीढ़ित लोगों के लिए समय निकालने के लिए। उनकी ज़रूरत ों का ध्यान रखें। ध्यान में रखें कि उन लोगों को चिकित्सा की सहायता मि ले जिन्हें इसकी ज़रूरत है

विपत्ति की प्रतिकृया पर और जानकारी के लिए फीजी नेशनल डिज़ास्टा मेनेजमन ट ओफिस के फईसबुक पईज पर जाए

यह संदेश एन डी एम ओ की तरफ से है तथा युनिसेफ भी इसका सर्मथन कर रहा है

2. संकेत और लक्षण

VO: किसी भी प्राकृतिक विपत्ति के बाद बीमारियाँ जैसे कि लेप्टोस्पाएरोसीस, टाएफो ईड, डायरिया तथा डेन्गी की

महामारी होना आम बात है। याद रखें कि आप बीमारियों को फैलने से रोकने के लिए हमेशा अपने हाथों को साबुन

पानी से धोते रहे।

अगर आप या जिन्हें आप जानते हो, बीमार है और उन्हें यह लक्षण दिखाई देते है जैसे:

तेज़ बुखार

गम्भीर रूप से डायरिया

उलटियाँ आना

शरीर में दर्द

लाल दाने दिखे

तो जल्द से जल्द नज़दीकी अस्पताल जाए

और जानकारी के लिए फीजी नेशनल डिज़ास्टा मेनेजमन्ट ओफिस के फईसबुक पर्डज पर जाए

यह संदेश एन डी एम ओ की तरफ से है तथा युनिसेफ भी इसका सर्मथन कर रहा है

3. साफ सफाई और मरम्मत

VO: किसी प्राकृतिक विपत्ति के बाद यह ज़रूरी है कि आस-पास के वातावरण को

साफ रखा जाए।

कुड़ा-कर्कट को सावधानी से हटाए। पानी के स्रोत को सुरक्षित करें अगर उसे नुकसान पहुँचा हो। बिजली के तारों से

दूर रहे और गिरे हुए तारों की शिकायत के लिए ई एफ एल को शघड पर कोल करें।

मच्छर पैदा होने वाले सभी स्थानों को नष्ट करें

अपने और अपने परिवार की सुरक्षा के लिए घर के कुछ भाग पर मरम्मत कर ले या एक अस्थाई घर बनाए

उन लोगों तक पहुँचे जिन्हें शायद ज्यादा सहायता की ज़रूरत है जैसे कि अगर कोई बीमार हो, बच्चे, बुजुर्ग, महिलाए

तथा विकलाँग लोग।

और जानकारी के लिए फीजी नेशनल डिज़ास्टा मेनेजमन्ट ओफिस के फईसबुक पईज पर जाए

यह संदेश एन डी एम ओ की तरफ से है तथा युनिसेफ भी इसका सर्मथन कर रहा है।

4. अच्छी स्वच्छता अभ्यास

VO: किसी प्राकृतिक विपत्ति के बाद याद रखें कि कोई भी बीमारियों से पीढ़ित हो सकता है।

लेकिन आप, फैल रही बीमारियों से अपने आप, अपने बच्चों और चाहने वालों की सुरक्षा रख सकते है

यह सब केवल भोजन तैयार करने से पहले या पाखाना इस्तेमाल करने या सा फ सफाई के बाद साबुन और पानी से

हाथ धोने से शुरू होता है।

पीने वाले पानी को उबालकर अच्छी तरह सम्भालकर रखें

माताओं को अपने शिशुओं को स्तनपान कराना जारी रखना चाहिए

और जानकारी के लिए फीजी नेशनल डिज़ास्टा मेनेजमन्ट ओफिस के फईसबुक पईज पर जाए

यह संदेश एन डी एम ओ की तरफ से है तथा युनिसेफ भी इसका सर्मथन कर रहा है।

हम अब औपचारिक रूप से समुद्री आँधी के मौसम में प्रवेश कर गए है। लोग इन

तरीकों से समुद्री आँधी के लिए अपने घरों को सुरक्षित कर सकते है:
- अपने घर की छत सुरक्षित कर लें, डीले स्कूस तथा रूफिंग आईन पर मरम्मत

- करें - घर की छत में लगे ज़ंग तथा आम टूट-फूट की जाँच करें
- पेड़ो तथा डालियों को छाँटे हगहगह
- गटर तथा डाउन पाईप साफ करें
- उन सामानों को सुरिक्षत के ले जो तेज़ हवा में उड़कर नुकसान पहुँचा सकते है
- खिड़िकयों की सुरक्षा के लिए उनपर शटस लगाए
- पहचान कर लें कि पानी, बिजली और गेस की सप्लाई कैसे बन्द होगी
- पहचान कर लें कि घर का कौन सा कमरा सबसे मजबूत है जिसमें ज़रूरत पड़ने पर आप शरण ले सकते है
- * गम्भीर वर्षा की वजाह से नीचले इलाके तथा जहाँ बाढ़ चड़ने का खतरा रहता है तथा आएरिश कोसिंग में अचानक से बाढ़ चड़ सकती है। जो लोग इन इलाकों में रहते है को सलाह दी जा रही है कि वे सर्तक रहें और सावधानी बरते। अगर आपको घर से निकलने की ज़रूरत आन पड़े तो दिन के उजाले में ही सुरक्षित जगह जाए। इसके अलावा गम्भीर वर्षा के दौरान रास्ता साफ नहीं दिखता है जिस कारण से द्रेफिक भी जाम रहता है।
- * गाड़ी चालकों तथा नाव चालकों से माँग की गई है कि वे खराब मौसम के दौरान अधिकारियों की सलाह माने क्योंकि इससे समुद्र में तथा ज़मीन पर मार्ग साफ दिखाई नहीं देगा।

आम जनता को सलाह दी गई है कि वे:

- अचानक से बाढ़ का पानी चड़ने पर नज़र रखे
- घर के सामानों को उँचे स्थानों तक खिस्का दे और ऐसी चीज़ों को सुरक्षित कर दें जो पानी के उपर तैरकर नुकसान पहँचा सकती है
- बाढ़ चड़ी नदी-नालों में न तैरे
- पीने वाले पानी को प्लास्टिक के बन्द कोनटईनर में भरकर रखें क्योंकि पानी की सप्लाई में बाधाऐं पहुँच सकती है
- अगर किसी इलाके में बाढ़ चड़ जाए तो पदयात्रियों तथा गाड़ी चालकों को सलाह दी जा रही हैकि वे उन सड़कों, फुटपाथ तथा निदयों को पार करने की कोशिश न करें जिनपर बाढ़ का पानी चड़ी हो
- जिस इलाकें में मिट्टी भस्की हो वहाँ जाने से बचे।

आपातकालीन समय में नीचे दिए गए नम्बरों पर संपर्क करें: पुलिस को 917 पर, नेशनल फाया अथोरिटी को 910 पर, एनेजी फीजी लिमिटड को 913 पर, फीजी रोड्स अथोरिटी को 5720 पर,बोटा अथोरिटी ओफ फीजी को 5777 पर

6







शिक्षा मंत्री प्रेमिला कुमार कावानँगासाउ सनातन धर्म स्कूल के शज़र्वी वर्षगाँठ के मौके पर स्कूली की एक छात्र और अद्यापकों के साथ

कावानंगासाउ सनातन धर्म स्कूल का 90वीं वर्षगाँठ समारोह

रोनल देव

शिक्षा मंत्री प्रेमिला कुमार ने इसी महीने पुर्व सिंगातोका स्थित कावानं गासाउ सनातन धर्म स्कूल के 90वीं वर्षगाँठ समारोह में हिस्सा लिया।

इस स्कूल की स्थापना शुरूआत में आस-पास रहने वाले गिरमिट काल में आए भारतीयों के बच्चों को शिक्षा देने के उदेश्य से हुई थी लेकिन अब विभिन्न दलों के फुरतीले विद्यार्थियों की शिक्षा की पुर्ती करता है।

शिक्षा मंत्री ने स्कूल के एक यादगार मेगाज़ीन का भी उद्घाटन किया। उन्होंने वर्तमान और भुतपुर्व अद्यापकों तथा मुख्य अद्यापकों, वर्त मान और भूतपुर्व मेनेजमन्ट की कड़ी

मेहनत तथा उनके अचार-विचारों की उन्होंने समारोह में उपस्थित है उससे कई फीजियन परिवारों के सराहना की जिनकी कठिन परिश्रम फीजिवासियों को याद दिलाया कि काँधे से बोज उतर गया है। से यह स्कूल बुलंदियों को छू रहा है। पहले देश की शिक्षा में इस तरह की "टेशरी स्कोलाशिप तथा लौन्स से, मंत्री कुमार ने कहा कि यह स्कूल सहायता नहीं दी जा रही थी जिस टेशरी शिक्षा हासिल करने का आपका एक सूबूत है कि कैसे दूसरों को तरह से सरकार मुफ्त शिक्षा, किताबें और आपके बच्चों का सपना साकार छोड़े बिना अपनी विरासत को संरक्षित तथा यातायात के लिए अभी सहायता हुआ है," शिक्षा मंत्री ने कहा। किया जा सकता है।

जो हमारे देश की पहचान है,"

प्रदान कर रही है।

"यहाँ आए दिन आयोजित होने वाले पहले इस समाज के लोग ध्यान सौ मिलियन डोलर तक लगाते है जो धार्मिक सत्र और समारोह, आपके में रखते थे कि स्कूल के संचालन कि एक छोटे राष्ट्र के लिए महत्वपूर्ण विश्वास का अभियास करने में के लिए आर्थिक सहायता दी जाए। पुँजी है।" आपके धर्म और संस्कृतिक पर मेहनती किसानों सिहत पूरे समाज मंत्री कुमार ने विद्यार्थियों से सिर्फ आपके द्वारा रखे गए मूल्यों को दर्शा का खून, पसीना और आँसू जिनकी कड़ी मेहनत और प्रयासों के बारे में ते हैं। साथही, वे चाहे जो भी हो, आमदनी पूरी तरह से सब्जी और सोचने की माँग की है जो उनके सभी छात्रों को इसमें भाग लेने के गन्ने की खेती पर आधारित थी, सभी माता-पिता, दादा-दादी और समाज लिए स्वागत किया जाता है ताकि वे ने अपने बच्चों के लिए शिक्षा को के सदस्यों द्वारा अतीत और वर्तमान इस परम्परा तथा संस्कृति को सीख प्राथमिकता दी क्योंकि वे जानते थे दोनों में किए गए है ताकि यह ध्यान सके तथा उसकी सराहना कर सके कि यह कितना महत्वपुर्ण है। सरकार में रखा जाए कि उन्हें उच्च कोटी की शिक्षा को लेकर जो सहायता दे रही शिक्षा हासिल हो।

"हर साल हम शिक्षा में लगभग सात