

FijiFocus



YOUNG PEOPLE
THE ULTIMATE
INVESTMENT

5

4m
9.4m
\$

LEASE
REVENUE
FOR LAND
USE DIVISION

10



JOB FAIR
GIVES
HOPE TO
DISABLED
GRADUATE

12



Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama with Japan's Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Finance Taro Aso during the 52nd ADB meeting host country cocktail at InterContinental Fiji Golf Resort and Spa, Natadola.

FULL DETAILS OF THE MEETING - INSIDE. Photo: ISAAC LAL

Fiji hosts world

ADB meeting hailed a success, exceeds expectations

PRASHILA DEVI

FIJI'S hosting of the Asian Development Bank's Annual Meeting marks the end of an era where the Pacific island countries had "to go out to the world", instead the world has come to the Pacific.

As Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama pointed out the show of confidence by the

ADB towards Fiji, he said this not only marks the end of an era but was also historic as it marks two firsts- for Fiji to host a meeting of such magnitude and for the Pacific to host such an event.

He said "we do very much see this meeting as a Pacific-wide achievement" with Fiji not resting on its laurels but putting in the works to attract much bigger gatherings.

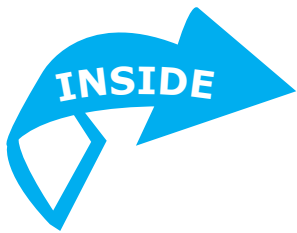
Prime Minister Bainimarama was speaking to over 2,000 delegates and 140 journalists, who were from the Asia-Pacific region and beyond, attending the 52nd Asian Development Bank's Board of Governors' Annual Meeting held in Denarau last week.

"We're laying the groundwork to host even bigger gatherings in the years ahead, by building up not only our hotels, but our convention facilities – including a new

convention centre to be built through our superannuation fund, the Fiji National Provident Fund," the Fijian Head of Government said of the developments that will be carried on Denarau soon.

"That new centre will have the capacity to host at least four and a half thousand people, putting us in the position to host the

CONTINUES ON PAGE 3



FIJI HONOURS SYSTEM-
CALL FOR NOMINATIONS 15

THE CIVIL SERVICE GAME
PLAN 14

LANDOWNERS TAKE
ADVANTAGE OF SCHEME 13

EX-CIVIL SERVANT
REALISES BAKERY DREAM 11

QUOTE OF THE WEEK



Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum

When it comes to inclusive development, their perspective provides an indispensable part of the dialogue. After all, this is the generation that will take the baton of leadership and run with it; they will inherit the future that we are working together to create.

Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum
Attorney-General

NUMBERS

\$9.4m

The amount collected by the Ministry of Lands and Mineral Resources' Land Use Resources in lease revenue to date.

TWEET OF THE WEEK



AsianDevelopmentBank
(@ADB_HQ)

LIVE: At closing press conference, @FijiAG praises #ADBfiji as momentous occasion and achievement for #Fiji as a country, quotes PM in saying successful staging marks end of a missed opportunity for the Pacific.

CONTACT

Publisher: Sharvada Sharma
Sub Editor: Prashila Devi
Manager Vernacular: Villame Tikotani
North office: Level 3 Macuata House, Labasa
West office: Level 1 Ratu Nauliano House, Koroivalu

Contacts: Suva: 3301806 /
West: 6700086 / 9905965
North: 8811276 / 9905971
Fax: 3305139/3304663
news@govnet.gov.fj
[@FijiRepublic](https://www.facebook.com/FijiRepublic)
Fijian Government
visit us at www.fiji.gov.fj

South Korea praises Fiji's hosting of ADB meet

ISAAC LAL



ADB Board of Governors chair and Fijian Attorney-General Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum and South Korean Deputy Prime Minister and Minister Economy and Finance Hong Nam-ki at the 52nd ADB Annual Meeting on Denarau. Photo: ISAAC LAL

THE South Korean Deputy Prime Minister and Minister Economy and Finance Hong Nam-ki has praised Fiji's successful hosting of the 52nd Asian Development Bank (ADB) Board of Governors conference in Nadi.

Minister Nam-ki made the comments during a meeting with the ADB Board of Governors chair and Fijian Attorney-General Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum within the parameters of the conference in Nadi recently.

"Fiji and Korea share cordial relations between our two countries and we hope to further strengthen this relationship through development assistance, mutual understanding and people to people contacts," he said.

"The conference has been very well organised and I thank the Fijian Government for its leadership and organisation."

In recent years, Korean companies have invested into the Fijian economy through various multimillion dollar projects such as the green energy plant at Nabou, outside Nadi.

"We also hope to learn and grow of the organisation of this conference to be able to host the 53rd conference in Incheon," Minister Nam-ki added.

The A-G said Fiji valued its relationship with Korea and the two countries are working on other projects in Fiji.

"Korea is currently assisting us in projects here such as the solar project in Taveuni and we are talking with them on similar solar-projects in other areas of Fiji," he said.

"There was also talk of them wanting to learn off Fiji on the organisation of the conference as they are happy with the planning and logistics of the conference in Nadi."



ADB Board of Governors chair and Fijian Attorney-General Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum with the Ireland's Minister for Diaspora and International Development, Ciarán Cannon in the margins of the 52nd ADB Annual Meeting on Denarau. Photo: ISAAC LAL

Ireland sets €12m fund for island states' resilience

ISAAC LAL

IRELAND has announced a €12million (FJ\$28.92m) facility for building resilience for developing island states with a particular emphasis on the Pacific Island states.

The announcement was made during the Pacific Governors Meet within the margins of the 52nd Asian Development Bank (ADB) Board of Governors Meeting held in Nadi from May

1-5, 2019. The Minister of State for the Diaspora and International Development, Ciarán Cannon announced the establishment of the €12m Trust Fund with the Asian Development Bank (ADB).

The fund is focused on building climate change and disaster resilience in Small Island Developing States (SIDS).

"The Trust Fund represents a deepening of our cooperation with the Asian Development

Bank and reflects our commitment to Small Island Developing States and to combatting climate change," he said.

Minister Cannon further emphasised Ireland's commitment, adding that "Ireland recognises that the vulnerability of many Small Island Developing States is particularly acute, and as a small island state ourselves, this is something to which we should respond."

Ireland has traditionally worked closely with the Small Island States at the UN and has underlined the importance of working in close partnership with SIDS to ensure successful outcomes from the Fund.

ADB Board of Governors chair and Fijian Attorney-General Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum welcomed the announcement adding that it would allow SIDS to tap into the trust for building resilience.



Delegates attending the 52nd Asian Development Bank (ADB) Board of Governors Annual Meeting during a photoshoot at InterContinental Fiji Golf Resort and Spa, Natadola.
Photo: ISAAC LAL

Fiji hosts world

FROM PAGE 1

IMF (International Monetary Fund) and World Bank Group Annual Meetings in the very near future.”

Prime Minister Bainimarama highlighted the groundwork that had been carried out in Nadi to make hosting such an event possible, with the four lane roads, underground electrical cabling and major renovations to the Nadi International Airport.

“Fiji is fast becoming the total package, a nation that combines world-class facilities with the world-renowned warmth and hospitality offered by the Fijian people, which I’m sure you’ve all already had the chance to experience.”

He said the Fijian people were far more than just generous hosts as they are the engine powering what was quickly becoming one of the most diverse and dynamic island economies.

“In Fiji, the roofs of our traditional bures and the lashings of our canoes are held together by a coconut-fibre rope, known as magimagi. Now, on its own, the thread of a coconut husk is thin, no stronger than a single thread of twine. But the magimagi is not a single thread, it is a binding of coconut fibre, and those fibres work together to latch structures that can stand for generations and maintain sea-faring vessels that can traverse entire oceans.”

He said just as the many threads of the magimagi strengthen the rope by working together, so has the unity of the Fijian people strengthened the nation’s character and powered national prosperity.

ADB president Takehiko Nakao commended Fiji for hosting the meeting which he said “exceeded expectations”.

ADB chief: Fiji exceeded expectations

PRASHILA DEVI

As the curtains were drawn on the 52nd Asian Development Bank (ADB) Board of Governors Annual Meeting, Fiji’s hosting as the Pacific Island nation has been hailed as one “exceeding expectations”.

ADB president Takehiko Nakao, in a press conference held in Westin Hotel on Denarau, said the arrangements, logistically, and the issues such as climate change and sustainable tourism

discussed during the many seminars had exceeded what his expectations were before he arrived into the country.

The Chair of the Board of Governors and Fijian Minister for Economy Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum said Fiji’s hosting of the meeting will be the first of many and that any such multilateral gatherings held in the country must be seen as an achievement for the Pacific.

“As the Prime Minister mentioned during the opening, we do not see this as just Fiji hosting

but one hosted by the Pacific,” he said.

More than 2000 delegates and 140 journalists from the Asia Pacific region and beyond converged to Denarau island for a series of meetings held at multiple locations to discuss a plethora of issues that will affect the ADB member countries. “In a way, the meeting has been the largest advertisement ever showcasing Fiji- Fijian business, Fijian fashion, Fijian art and history, culture and products and most importantly, the Fijian people,” the A-G said.



ADB Board of Governors Chair and Fijian Minister for Economy Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum with ADB President Takehiko Nakao during a press conference at Westin Hotel on Denarau.
Photo: ISAAC LAL

Seminar hears of tourism’s impact on environment

PRASHILA DEVI

DEVELOPING the tourism industry without having a negative effect on the environment and local cultures was at the centre of discussions during the Governor’s Seminar: Role of Tourism for Sustainable Development.

Attending the seminar, which was part of the 52nd Asian Development Bank’s Board of Governors Annual meeting, were high powered delegates including the ADB Board of Governors Chair and Fijian Minister for Economy, Aiyaz

Sayed-Khaiyum.

The A-G highlighted the many measures Fiji was taking to reduce its carbon footprint but pointed out that there were certain things that were beyond its control.

“With the figures for current rising temperature 90 per cent of all the coral reefs will be destroyed, many people love to come to certain parts of Fiji because of their love for diving around coral reefs, so what will happen to that particular segment of the tourists,” he pointed out.

“We as a country have given the undertaking to reduce our carbon

footprint by 20 per cent by 2030 but there are many aspects which are beyond our control which is why we are taking the fight globally, we were at the presidency of COP23 to highlight these issues.”

The A-G said as was evidenced by the impact of Tropical Cyclone Winston, a single natural disaster can have a devastating impact as it wiped out one third of the economy in a matter of hours so as a country Fiji was building resilience in infrastructure.

On the issues pertaining to the industry, he said tourism contributes to 40 per cent to Fiji’s gross

domestic product (GDP) but Fiji hopes to retain more of the revenue earned.

“Some countries it is as low as one per cent, in Fiji it is around 60 cents of a dollar but we want to improve that equation.”

Also bringing different perspectives and experiences, the Japanese Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Finance Taro Aso, Indonesian Minister for Finance Mulyani Indrawati, the Italian Department of Treasury’s Director General International Financial Relations, Gelsomina Vigiotti and the ADB President Takehiko Nakao.



TLTB outlines digital innovations

LITIA VULDAUSIGA

FIJI'S unique customary land management will be further expedited by key digitalisation at the iTaukei Land Trust Board.

Speaking at the Asian Development Bank's 52nd annual meet in Nadi, TLTB chief executive officer, Tevita Kuruvakadua noted this among digital solutions for a more liveable future in the Asia and Pacific region.

"The ADB's country partnership strategy for Fiji provides opportunities to introduce innovation and high technology through operations, especially in the areas of digitization," he said.

TLTB's land leasing process is currently undertaken both manually and through an IT platform, with the reliance on data based on the availability of hard and soft data.

"The need to deliver land management services through a digitized platform is even



iTaukei Land Trust Board chief executive officer Tevita Kuruvakadua (fourth from left), with fellow session panellists at the recent Asian Development Board annual meet on Denarau. Photo: LITIA VULDAUSIGA

more important today, given the "urgent" urbanization crisis that exists in our rural and urban regions," the CEO noted.

The TLTB is therefore digitizing its Land Price Index and introducing a blockchain prototype for an online land application lease process. This is to speed up their leasing process from eight months to at least two to four months, and to cut its current nine manual steps down to five online steps.

"TLTB's core mandate and contribution to the Fijian Government's bigger role of trans-

forming the lives of individuals and families is through accessibility and development of indigenous lands, and in turn contributing to the UN Sustainable Development Goals."

As of April this year, the TLTB has a lease profile of 443,490 located across the over 300 of Fiji's islands, with 91 per cent of the country's total land mass classified as customary.

The balance of nine per cent of land in Fiji is made up of Crown and Freehold land tenure that's managed by the Ministry of Lands and Mineral Resources.

ICT connectivity 'makes Fiji modern society'

EPARAMA WARUA

MINISTER for Industry, Trade, Tourism, Local Government, Housing and Community Development Premila Kumar says the advancement in the information and communication technology sector has improved connectivity to remote and outer islands.

Minister Kumar, speaking at a seminar on Connectivity for Development at the 52nd Asian Development Bank's Board of Governors Annual Meeting held in Nadi last week, explained how development in the ICT sector was changing the country.

She said there were enormous benefits through connectivity in trade, government services, financial services, education and simply, information.

"Fiji has become a modern society, capitalizing on opportunities available through the digital platform," Minister Kumar said.

Fiji's telecommunications and internet capabilities have seen marked improvements with 95 percent of the country connected through wire and wireless network, showing statistics of the number of mobile cellular subscriptions in 2017 at 1,033,915, while fixed telephone subscriptions were at 75,952.

"Fiji has a competitive edge in the region because of our access to the Southern Cross Cable Network (SCCN). This network provides direct and secure connectivity with Australia, New Zealand and USA and reduces reliance on satellite," Minister Kumar said.

Government services are undergoing digital transformation and is aimed at revolutionising the way Fijians access Government information and services.

"National ID card is currently underway to create a single platform for citizen information, the E-ticketing services is in place, and schools are developing new and innovative means of teaching children using IT infrastructure, and many more," said Minister Kumar.

Although digitisation brings a lot of benefits to the nation, she said there are a lot of challenges in this approach.

"From the Government's perspectives the challenge is how we can bring cost effective services and technology to the people of Fiji recognising lack of economies of scale," Minister Kumar said.

"Fiji needs to harness the potential of the youth to develop innovative IT business ideas and continuous investment in IT infrastructure for the citizen to address the digital divide," she added.



Aston Prescott paints a piece portraying Fiji during the 52nd Annual ADB meetings on Denarau. Photo: HALITESH DATT

Paintings win hearts at ADB meeting

HALITESH DATT

WITH close to 3000 delegates attending the 52nd Asian Development Bank Annual Meeting Fiji got the perfect platform to showcase its hospitality and culture as well as its potential as a developing economy.

While Fiji as a country was an obvious winner on multiple fronts, some artisans also did not hesitate to make 'hay while the sun shone'.

One such individual was

23-year-old Aston Prescott, who so brilliantly put his imagination on canvas and impressed the visitors with his paintings.

Mr Prescott in one of his live exhibitions painted a piece of Fiji showcasing to the world that Fiji was full of talents.

"I have been an artist since I was five years old. This is exactly how I love to live. I live off my art, I feed myself with my art," he said.

His idea was to leave an everlasting impression about Fiji on the minds of hundreds of delegates

who visited his exhibition booth at the venue of the ADB meeting on Denarau Island, Nadi.

"It's so great to see all the delegates coming around and asking questions about my painting. It is a little piece of memoir they are taking with them about Fiji."

"It makes me happy that these delegates will be remembering Fiji, its beautiful landscapes, sea, sun and the people through my piece of work."

Such exhibitions, especially during the international meeting of

this magnitude goes beyond the obvious.

This rings true for Mr Prescott who says his paintings through this meet will reach places all over the world.

"The extent of exposure I have got from this meet is enormous. Knowing that my paintings represent Fiji and its culture, it has urged me to do more and better. It has certainly been a great learning experience for me," Mr Prescott said.

Bank consultant among 30 Under 30 faces of Fiji

LITIA VULDAUSIGA

FINANCIAL literacy classes have been life changing for many Fijians, and a rewarding sector for ANZ financial inclusion consultant, Salote Toduadua.

The 29-year old was named amongst the 30 Under 30 Faces of Fiji's Future held at the recent 52ND Asian Development Bank's Board of Governors annual meet in Nadi, to recognize the achievements of young Fijians in varying fields.

For Ms Toduadua, her work in building financial literacy capacity within communities and organizations is a meaningful expression of helping to upskill parents facing adversity.



We believe in upskilling and I encourage young Fijians to keep their options open and to not limit themselves. They really must grab opportunities and not just in terms of career goals. Be brave and start something

Salote Toduadua
 ANZ financial inclusion consultant

"Our Money Minded and Business Basics workshops are great ways to teach people about being smart with their finances, especially those who face hardships and need skills that will help them better manage budgets and financial commitments."

Ms Toduadua's team have worked with organizations including Live & Learn and WOWS Kids, as well as trained volunteers from various NGOs to become accredited in conducting Money Minded workshops.

"We believe in upskilling and I encourage young Fijians to keep their options open and to not limit themselves. They really must grab opportunities and not just in terms of career goals. Be brave and start something."

She noted that while cultural hierarchies have limited young people from going beyond traditional aspirations, times are indeed changing with young Fijians making waves in different sectors and directing their talents into new frontiers.

A-G: Young people the ultimate investment

PRASHILA DEVI

ALL nations should look to their young people as the ultimate investment in their long-term social, political, and economic stability, says the Attorney-General Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum.

The Fijian Government recognised 30 young Fijians under the age of 30 in an event in the backdrop of Fiji hosting the 52nd Asian Development Bank's (ADB) Board of Governors Annual Meeting in Nadi last week.

The A-G, while explaining the reason behind the Fijian Government choosing to shine the spotlight on youths, stated, "They say that a rising tide lifts all boats — and that's certainly true as it applies to creating new opportunities for our youth".

He said the theme for the conference was "Prosperity Through Unity" so when talking about rising tides, ensuring that progress achieved was grounded in inclusivity was critical because in truly achieving a sense of unity meant having the voice of young people at the decision making table.

"When it comes to inclusive development, their perspective provides an indispensable part of the dialogue. After all, this is the generation that will take the baton of leadership and run with it; they will inherit the future that we are working together to create," the A-G said.

ADB president Takehiko Nakao said ADB



The Fijian Government recognised 30 young Fijians under the age of 30 in an event in the backdrop of Fiji hosting the 52nd Asian Development Bank's (ADB) Board of Governors Annual Meeting in Nadi last week. Photo: HALITESH DATT

was a strong believer in the youth.

"We recognize that today's youth are innovative, driven, and agile changemakers who can bring significant value to ADB's work across the region.

"Under ADB's new Strategy 2030, our engagement with youth has evolved from listening to their voices and dreams, to building their capacity and working with them on strengthening our operations," Mr Nakao said.

He said the ADB, through its operations, had

provided support to youths in the Asia-Pacific region.

In Fiji, ADB has supported the services of a young urban planner in city planning such as green spaces, cyber-connectivity and good transport facilities, through Future Cities Project, in Lami Town and 2017, it supported the establishment of the first Pacific office of the world's largest youth-led organization, AIESEC, in Fiji in the University of South Pacific.



Shivali Bishwa (front, third from left) with fellow Fijians of the 30 Under 30 Faces of Fiji's Future. Photo: HALITESH DATT

Recognition for special needs teacher

LITIA VULDAUSIGA

AT 27 years old, Shivali Bishwa exemplifies the rising breed of young Fijians leading impactful change in their communities.

This Labasa special needs teacher and community worker was named amongst the 30 Under 30 faces of Fiji's future at the recent Asian Development Bank's 52nd Annual Meet in Nadi.

"I thank the Government for this program as it's a great opportunity to also give recognition to our causes," she said.

Ms Bishwa is a full time teacher

for children at Labasa Special School and as president of the Labasa Special Youth Club, leads a group of like-minded enthusiasts who run activities for youths and children living with physical and intellectual disabilities in Labasa's wider community.

"It has always been my passion. The smile I saw on the faces of special children inspires me to do more for them. In many categories, special children are always neglected but the smiles I saw on their faces forced me to do more for them."

There are 78 children in the school with 33 that come under

the club.

"We carry out community work, help the needy in the community and work on developing skills, physical recreation, and have also done camping with these children."

"For the school, we are also doing baby's program for children from the age of six months. It's an early intervention program undertaken depending on the disability of the child."

It's also a reprieve for parents who know they have a supportive organisation in their community they can refer to, and are not so isolated.

Ms Bishwa has also helped students complete the Duke of Edinburgh national awards, with a bronze and silver.

"Before some parents were not so supportive because they were not aware of the activities that special children can take part in but after the Duke of Edinburgh medals, the parents were showing their support as well as the children."

She hopes that her recognition as one of Fiji's 30 under 30 will inspire other young Fijians to pursue their humanitarian interests and fill gaps of assistance in their social environment.



Heart screening centre for all Fijians

NANISE NEIMILA

CLOSE to 5000 young Fijians will now access free heart screening at the new heart screening centre located at the Sanjeevani Medical Centre in Suva.

Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama commended the Sai Prema foundation for their commitment in partnering with the Fijian Government in realizing the constitutional right of every Fijian to healthcare.

Prime Minister Bainimarama said the new state of the art facility will provide heart screenings, completely free-of-cost.

“I understand paediatric cardiac surgeries have already been conducted within this facility for Fijian children; a specialist treatment that is now available on-site, all year, for the first time.”

“This centre will offer general consultations, an in-house dietician to provide proactive care to combat NCDs and help manage NCD symptoms, an ECG for diagnostic purposes, a full slate of women’s health services, including pap-smears for cervical screening, and this centre will house visiting physicians who conduct specialist consultations.”

Prime Minister Bainimarama highlighted that every parent deserves that same level of assurance when their child falls ill because of this new Heart Screening Centre, Fijian families whose children suffer from a cardiac-related illness will know that feeling of security; they will know there is hope for their child.

“There is no price tag you can place on that comfort. Luckily, thanks to the generosity of the Sai Prema Foundation, there’s no need to reduce that feeling to a dollar value, as the care offered by this treatment centre is provided free of cost.”



Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama during the official opening of the new heart screening centre at Sanjeevani Medical Centre in Suva. Photo: NANISE NEIMILA

Government budgetary allocation towards the health sector has increased to \$330million last year, a huge portion of which was dedicated to capital projects that are funding new and upgraded hospitals and health centres, and expanding the range of treatments available to the people by recruiting more qualified health personnel.

Sai Prema Fiji Foundation director, Sumeet Tappoo highlighted that the foundation will

work closely with the Government of Fiji, the Ministry of Health and Medical Services, the Sathya Sai Sanjeevani Hospital India and the international donor agencies in Fiji to realise this monumental project into reality for the poor and needy children of Fiji and the Pacific.

A total of 25 children will be screened for this month and those in need of surgery will undertake the procedure immediately.



Walesi dish being set up outside a house in Lau.

Photo: SOLO LEWANAVANUA

Walesi digital TV popular on Lakeba

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

THE Government initiative to provide free-to-air television to all Fijians, and ensure that everyone has access to information, technology and education has proven successful on the island of Lakeba.

This after 30 new walesi digital television sets were successfully installed on the island of Lakeba during the Lau Provincial Meeting at Tubou Villago recently.

Walesi community liaison officer Oripa Adicoka said this comprised of 22 personal Walesi digital installation and eight free community hall installation.

“For the eight community halls in Lakeba Walesi assisted them with full satellite kit decoder plus a 32-inch screen free.”

“Each of the households that had private installation paid \$250 for the installment of Walesi digital TV in their homes. Most of them already have TV screens in their homes.”

“In fact we’ve received another 50 applications which shows that people really like Walesi TV platform,” Ms Adicoka said.

She said the people of Lakeba are really happy about Walesi TV being made available to them on the islands.

Levuka village headman Ilaitia Vuli thanked the Walesi team for installing their digital TV in the village community hall.

“This community hall was built through Government assistance. Today we are so happy that through another Government assistance Walesi digital TV has been installed in eight community halls in Lakeba,” Mr Vuli said.

Fiji’s Digital Television platform, Walesi was rolled out nationwide in December 2017 in Nadi by the Attorney-General and Minister for Communication, Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum.

It has enabled Fijians around the country to watch eight chan-

Province’s district reps praise bank’s presence

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

BANK of the South Pacific (BSP) adherence to the Government’s requirement of financial inclusiveness has been praised by some District Representatives or mata ni tikina in the province of Lau.

This is because of the installment of BSP EFTPOS machine in all Post Offices in Lau.

Kabara District Representative Tukana Rokobuli thanked BSP on behalf of people of Kabara especially for the civil servants in the district.

“Civil servants in Kabara can now access their salary using their BSP easy cards and they are overwhelmed with this development by BSP. In the past they use to access their salaries through Telegram Money Order (TMO) from Suva, now they can get it instantly using BSP EFTPOS,” Mr Rokobuli said.

Expressing similar sentiments. Totoya District Representatives Josateki Temo said the civil servants on Totoya have asked him



Bank South Pacific (BSP) card holders outside Kabara Post Office in Lau. Photo: SUPPLIED

to convey their gratitude for the availability of BSP EFTPOS machine at the post office in their area.

“The availability of EFTPOS machine has reduced a lot of stress

for our civil servants and shop owners on the island. I understand that this is made available through their adherent or support to Governments Financial inclusive programme requirements to all Banks

in Fiji.

BSP officer for rural banking Isikeli Taoi said BSP’S installation of EFTPOS machine in all post offices in Lau was a great achievement.



A-G calls for mobilising finance for SDGs

PRASHILA DEVI

ATTORNEY-GENERAL and Minister for Economy Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum has stressed that “the world is way off target in mobilising finances” for the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

In delivering the country statement at the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Forum on Financing for Development in New York last month, the A-G said there was a need for “mobilisation of resources to ensure that the 2030 Agenda delivers globally requires collaborative support between governments, development partners, the private sector and local communities”.

“A paradigm shift in collaboration is needed if we are to get anywhere close to closing the financing gap. Building momentum for this paradigm change is a key objective for all of us at the UN and indeed it should be,” he elaborated.

The A-G urged leaders on the need to offer practical solutions by the time world leaders meet for the Forum on Financing for Development (FFD) Summit in September this year.

For many developing states like Fiji, he explained, maintaining momentum across all SDGs was a challenge taking into account the limited economies of scale which strains the ability to attract private finance.

“Limits to grant and concessional financing for SDGs create enormous challenges.”

The A-G also emphasised the need to keep climate change at the forefront of the SDG agenda which targets safeguarding the planet.

“We now know that if we do not tackle climate change, we will lose most of the progress too on SDGs as well.”

There’s a need, the A-G said, to mainstream a number of financiers that are carrying out their work on a bi-lateral or on a regional basis.

“We need to bring them to this platform together with other organisations, for example such as the World Bank, IFC and IMF and use this to leverage what we need to have a concerted effort in respect of providing the right finances,” he said.

Vatutu Village joins forestry partnership

LITIA VULDAUSIGA

THE Government’s 4 Million Trees in 4 Years initiative (4MT4Y) has gained further momentum with a partnership between the Ministry of Forests and Fiji Development Bank, in Vatutu Village, Nadi.

Minister for Forestry Osea Naiqamu, said, “We intend to work with our national and international development partners, civil society, the private sector, and every Fijian to develop greener towns and cities, and to maintain and protect our forests and pristine natural environment”.

FDB had earlier signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the Ministry and iTaukei Affairs Board as the first financial institution to commit to the 4MT4Y reforestation initiative, which will help Fiji achieve the United Nations 2030 agenda for sustainable development and also spur the forestry sector to contribute to livelihoods and ultimately, towards Fiji’s economic growth.

“I would like to appeal to and encourage Fiji’s forestry sector to work closely with the Government through the Ministry of Forestry in addressing the key issues that affect our society - from sustainable forest management to economic growth and climate change,” Minister Naiqamu urged.

FDB general manager Relationship and Sales, Shaukat Ali noted the contribution of mangrove and forest restoration projects towards climate



Minister for Forestry Osea Naiqamu at Vatutu Village in Nadi after signing a partnership between Ministry of Forestry and Fiji Development Bank (FDB). Photo: LITIA VULDAUSIGA

change mitigation.

“This too, our second reforestation activity, is not merely planting, a community program or a corporate social responsibility initiative; we collectively set precedence to undertake sustainable forest management (selective harvesting for sales), forest conservation, and collaborating with rural communities to educate and implement programs related to reforestation and reducing carbon emissions,” he said.

“We want to re-plant what has been left barren and ensure we build a sustainable future for the generations that are yet to come through lessons from the past.”

FDB’s lending policy also encourages customers to have an Environment Management Plan [EMP] that stipulates the measures that a business will undertake to reduce the environmental impact of their activities.

Fiji calls for dialogue at New York IGC

F IJI has stated the significance of the Pacific’s unique and special circumstances that needs to be considered in discussions on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biodiversity of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ).

This was pointed out during Fiji’s at the 2nd session of the Intergovernmental Conference (IGC-2) on an International Legally Binding Instrument (ILBI) under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) on the BBNJ treaty.

At IGC-2, UN member States considered a draft document based on the members submissions from the IGC-1 held in 2018.

The draft document was prepared by the IGC President – Singapore’s Ambassador Rena Lee, with the purpose of advancing discussions based on the agreed four elements of the BBNJ which includes:

- Marine Genetic Resources (MGRs), including questions on benefit-sharing;
- Area Based Management tools

including Marine Protected Areas (MPAs)

- Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs);
- Capacity Building and Marine Technology Transfer (CB&TT)

The Pacific SIDS spoke with one voice drawing attention to issues unique to Pacific region including the principles and approaches of access, adjacency, environment impact assessment, fair and equitable benefit sharing, stewardship, Marine Protected Areas, capacity building and marine technology transfer, special circumstances of Small Island Developing States and the recognition of traditional knowledge in the management of

our High Seas.

Fiji as PSIDS chair also called for greater discussions and inter-session work to consider the various proposals put forward during IGC-2 to facilitate continued progress towards IGC-3 to be held in August, this year.

Fiji looked forward to a consolidated new aid to negotiation document to facilitate focused discussions and text-based negotiations at IGC-3 including MGRs, EIAs, ABMTs and CB&TT.

Following more than a decade of discussions convened under the UN General Assembly (UNGA), the Assembly, in its resolution 72/249 of 24th December 2017,

decided to convene an IGC to discuss the proposals of a draft text of an ILBI under UNCLOS.

The IGC first met in September 2018 and has two IGC sessions until the deadline of 2020, by which all negotiations should have been concluded. The third IGC is scheduled to take place in August 2019, and the fourth in March 2020.

Parties are now undertaking their respective preparations for the convening of IGC-3 in August, 2019 where it is expected a draft treaty text will be produced.

The conference was held in New York recently.

-MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS



Second Secretary to Fijis Permanent Mission to the United Nations in New York Salaseini Tagicakibau while participating at the 2nd session of the Intergovernmental conference. Photo: SUPPLIED



Fiji hosts biggest international meeting

Sustainable tourism and its potential to boost national and regional development efforts and the role of private sector financing for disaster risk management and climate resilience in Asia and the Pacific were two of the key issues discussed during the week-long 52nd Asian Development Bank (ADB) annual meeting held at Denarau in Nadi last week.

It was the biggest international meeting hosted in the country, involving more than 3000 delegates, more than 400

volunteers and liaison officers and more than 400 police officers providing security. The importance of concerted efforts to improve ocean health, ways to respond to heightened global economic uncertainty, the role of digital technologies for financial inclusion and new tools for sustainable infrastructure development were among other issues discussed. The discussions allowed ADB Governors to look at development issues and

challenges facing the Asia-Pacific region. The annual meeting had the theme "Prosperity through unity". ADB President Takehiko Nakao praised the Fijian Government and people for the highly successful hosting of the event. Next year's annual meeting will be held in Incheon, South Korea.

Photos: ISAAC LAL, LITIA VULAI DAUSIGA, HALITESH DATT





\$9.4m lease revenue for Land Use Division

LITIA VULDAUSIGA

WITH a year of extensive changes and necessary decisions to improve the utilisation of designated land, the Land Use Division has collated over \$9 million to date.

Ministry of Lands and Mineral Resources permanent secretary, Josefa Caniogo said they had secured and designated 107 parcels of idle and unutilized native land comprising a total area of 10, 529.8945 hectares.

“We have collated a total revenue of \$9,418,216.80 for our leases to date,” he said at the recent Fiji Land Bank Landowners Trustees Workshop in Korolevu.

“We have completed the survey of 780 parcels

of customary land and issued 64 leases. I must reiterate the significance of having a proper survey of customary boundaries that will assist the landowners settle common property description issues before they become problems, confirm zoning of land, confirm boundary lines between properties and other lines of occupancy.”

The Land Use Division continues to render landowner’s substantial assistance, with surveys also carried out for those who opt to deposit their land in the Land Bank.

“We have secured financial package assistance for our agricultural tenants through joint collaboration with Fiji Development Bank whilst assessing premium and ground rental payable at market value. We have laid the foundations for a future of orderly, sustainable and profitable

growth through the identification of viable unencumbered land before awareness and consultation with landowning units is executed.

“We have accordingly undertaken an ambitious range of conceptual planning for most of our unleased designated land in our effort to alleviate insecurities and uncertainties in terms of tenure securities that have plagued the majority of our customary landowners,” the Permanent Secretary noted.

He said the 2018-2019 financial year has been one of extensive changes and difficult but necessary decisions in the best interest of indigenous landowners, and to achieve optimal returns to resource owners and the State for designated State land.

US Congress delegation visits Fiji

LITIA VULDAUSIGA

MEMBERS of the United States Congress held a bilateral meeting with the Fijian Government as it seeks to expand interests in the Pacific region.

The United States is Fiji’s largest export market and given Fiji’s importance as a regional hub, hopes to build on existing collaborations.

“We have a long and enduring friendship with the people of Fiji; we share a lot of the value, freedom, trade, peace,” noted Senator Richard Shelby, chairman of the US Senate Appropriations Committee.

He led a congressional delegation that included Michael Crapo (Senate Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs), John Boozman, (Chairman of the US Senate Appropriations Committee, Subcommittee on Military Construction), Deb Fischer (Senate Armed Services Committee) and John Kennedy (Senate Appropriations Committee).

“We want to reaffirm to you and pledge that we will be with you, that we will be involved in the Pacific. The Pacific is the future so much and you’re a big part of it. We could do more with you militarily because you are a strategic area for the world, for world peace and we could do more trade – we do have a good trade relationship and could build on it.”

The delegation met with Fijian Minister for Defence, National Security and Foreign Affairs, Inia Seruiratu and his permanent secretary, Major-General (Ret’d) Ioane Naivalurua and were hosted to a reception by Speaker of Parliament, Ratu Epeli Nailatikau.

“We acknowledge and value the contributions of the USA as a development partner for Fiji – we are grateful for the presence of USAID in Fiji and the regional projects that have assisted communities to access financing, build institutional capacity, and adapt to the impacts of extreme weather conditions, thereby improving food security and natural resource management,” Ratu Epeli said.

The Speaker commended the United States for mutually beneficial arrangement that address socio-economic development issues and provide sustenance for Pacific Island countries.



President launches backyard gardening kits

LITIA VULDAUSIGA

BACKYARD gardening kits to spur exercise and increase nutrition for Fijian families have been launched by Fiji’s chief advocate against non-communicable diseases, the President Major General (Ret’d) Jioji Konrote.

Valued at \$65 each, these gardening kits include a guide for gardeners, potting bags, garden soil and seeds for four crops and fruit trees and aimed at urban and peri-urban Fijians.

“In comparison to those in rural areas, many of those living in urban and peri-urban areas are always challenged by limited land area and space for planting,” President Konrote said in Tavua, while distributing the first set of gardening kits.

“Many families living in these areas are still struggling to properly afford the cost of living, let alone affording a healthy diet. Many maintain single parent homes and social welfare benefit families struggling to make ends meet.

“Therefore, these programs will introduce very simple techniques such as horizontal and vertical container methods to optimize space for planting.”

The program will ensure Fijian families have improved access to wholesome fresh produce, which should also significantly reduce their food costs.

Amongst the joyous recipients was Premila Lata, whose compound in Bangladesh, Tavua was also graced by the President and

planted with tomatoes, avocado and other seedlings.

“I’m pleased to be one of the first recipients and have been planting in my garden for over 30 years,” she said.

At 62 years, she spends at least two hours a day tending to her garden and plants a range of eggplants, beans and other food on a quarter acre compound.

“I would encourage other ladies to plant and keep healthy and fit,” Ms Lata added.

The new gardening program by the Agriculture Ministry also emphasizes safe cultivation practices and organic farming systems.

The President, who is an avid gardener and maintains a plantation at State House, noted the harmful impacts of chemicals and pesticides.

Backyard gardening kits are therefore another strategy by the Fijian Government to enhance household food and nutrition security.

President, Major General (Ret’d) Jioji Konrote with kit recipient, Premila Lata at her garden in Bangladesh, Tavua.
 Photo: LITIA VULDAUSIGA



Solar freezer makes life easier for islanders

JOSAIA RALAGO

THE recent assistance of a solar freezer to Kioa Islanders by the Ministry of Fisheries is bound to make life easier for them.

Kioa Island chairman Maeli Savea said with fishing as their main source of income, the material they received so far has assisted them greatly.

“Prior to having this freezer, fishermen would rely on ice cubes they get from mainland to preserve the fish before they sell it,” Mr Savea said.



Prior to having this freezer, fishermen would rely on ice cubes they get from mainland to preserve the fish before they sell it. But most of the times when there is a storm, and we're not able to travel across to sell our fish, the ice melts and the fish goes bad, which puts our fishermen's effort to waste.”

Maeli Savea
Kioa Island chairman

“But most of the times when there is a storm, and we're not able to travel across to sell our fish, the ice melts and the fish goes bad, which puts our fishermen's effort to waste.”

“The solar freezer ensures that the fish is always preserved at the required temperature so its quality does not deteriorate.”

He said their prayers have been answered and they have to thank the Government for the timely assistance.

The islanders had earlier made a request for a freezer to the Minister for Fisheries Semi Koroilavesau when he visited the island last year.

“The people are happy and now they do not have to worry about their catch going bad because of the freezer that we received,” Mr Savea said.

While handing over the freezer worth \$13,000, Minister Koroilavesau said this was Government's initiative to help fishermen in outer islands.

Ex-civil servant realises bakery dream

JOSAIA RALAGO

H having a dream to one day operate a bakery from his village has finally eventuated for Eroni Vero of Tukavesi in Cakaudrove.

The bakery which has been in operation since December last year has garnered attention not only from their village but from nearby communities as well.

“This is the only bread bakery in the village and with more than 300 people in this village alone, there is a very high demand,” Mr Vero said.

A former civil servant, he had taken up bread baking class almost three decades ago and has ever since then dreamt of running his own bakery.

“When I returned to the village four years ago, I planned to start baking bread as a stable source of income for my family and I,” he said.

The perfect opportunity presented itself when there were plans by the Government to construct the Tukavesi Solar Hybrid System which was opened last year.

“The opening of the solar system, supplying electricity 24/7 for the village was the opportunity we were waiting for to start our business,” Mr Vero said.



Eroni Vero proudly displays the bread he baked at his bakery and home in Tukavesi, Cakaudrove. Photo: JOSAIA RALAGO

“We applied for a grant through the Northern Development Programme (NDP) so we could purchase some materials and it was granted, and business has been doing well since we started in December last year.”

Mr Vero said they have received positive feedback from people who have bought bread from them.

“This is the only bread bakery in the village supplying villages with fresh bread every day so now they do not have to go to Savusavu to buy bread,” he said.

“I would like to thank the Government for its assistance and in helping my family earn a decent living and an opportunity to provide fresh bread to the villagers.”



Grant recipients with the Director Sugar Sanjay Kumar. Photo: JOSAIA RALAGO

Govt grant scheme aids sugarcane grower

JOSAIA RALAGO

A 31-yearold man of Navai, Seaqqa has thanked the Government for helping him realise his dreams.

Kameli Karavaki, originally from Bau island in Tailevu, is one of the recipient of Government's grant to help sugarcane farmers in the country.

“I received a \$14,000 grant to pay for the land premium and I am grateful that the Government is assisting us farmers. This helps acquire the land, farm and earn a respective income for our fami-

lies,” he said.

The youngest of three children, Mr Karavaki said he was given an opportunity to work overseas but instead he wished to join his father and be a sugarcane farmer.

“The grant I received was a substantial amount and it is an indication of Government's commitment towards farmers in the hope that we improve productivity,” he said.

“For me, the Government's in-



Kameli Karavaki.

vestment in my farm is a morale booster and because they have made this possible I will do my best to maximise productivity on my farm.”

Having worked in his father's farm for the past 12 years, Mr Karavaki said sugarcane farming was a successful venture if one was committed to it.

“It takes sacrifice, hard-work and passion and with the Government's backing on the industry, farmers should have no excuse for not succeeding,” he said.

While handing over the grants, Director Sugar Sanjay Kumar

said the grant was targeted to reduce the migration of farmers away from sugarcane farming.

“In our glory days we used to have around more than 25,000 farmers, and now it has come down to around 11,000 active growers with little human resources.

“You know with this industry human resources is needed. This grant assistance will encourage more young people to join this industry as having more young people in this industry is the only way forward to revive this industry,” Mr Kumar said.



Kolinio Cagi at the first ever job fair held in Fiji with hopes to find employment.
Photo: MEREANI GONEDUA

Youngsters seek job opportunities

EMI KOROITANOA

THE future is looking bright for youngsters who turned out in numbers at the 2019 National Job Fair.

Final year Fiji National University student Sarvin Prasad seized the opportunity to meet directly with potential employers at the fair, saying it was a great initiative by the Government.

“A good opportunity for people who are studying and even for high school drop-outs to come and see how things work around here,” Mr Prasad, who is completing his studies in Economics and Management, said.

Law student Jotivini Rabale of the University of Fiji felt drawn to the event, saying she was ur-

gently seeking employment.

“I saw the advertisement on television and it’s encouraged me because nowadays jobs are very hard to find,” Ms Rabale shared.

The auspicious two day event, which was held at the FMF Gymnasium recently, was an initiative by the Fiji Higher Education Commission in collaboration with the National Employment



Sarvin Prasad.



Jotivini Rabale.

Centre. Furthermore, the Minister for Employment, Productivity and Industrial Relations and Youth and Sports Parveen Kumar said the government is committed to employment for all.

Minister Kumar also said the opportunity to interact directly with potential employers was one not to be missed.

“This Job Fair is a platform that will provide a unique opportunity for engagement, an opportunity for networking and an opportunity for building potential partnerships between employers and those seeking employment or information to enhance their career,” he said.

He added it was also an opportunity for skills development, turning job seekers into job creators.



Many young people turned to take advantage of the two day national job fair at the FMF Gymnasium in Laucala Bay recently.
Photo: SUPPLIED

National fair aims to eradicate poverty

ROMEKA KUMARI

MANY people turned to take advantage of the two day national job fair at the FMF Gymnasium in Laucala Bay recently.

The national job fair was aimed at helping those job seekers to find employment in the fields they are interested in.

Minister for Employment, Productivity and Industrial Relations and Youth and Sports Parveen Kumar said the first ever national job fair was held by the Government to help unemployed people get a job.

“The Government is working together with the Fiji Higher Education Commission to help people

seek a better job which will help them to earn a good living for their family,” Minister Kumar said.

Amongst a few were part-time university students, recent graduates and mothers who came forward to take advantage of the Government’s great initiative to eradicate poverty.

Neelu Reddy, 39, who has been unemployed for the past 10 years said the Government has taken a great initiative to help people like her to earn a good living for her family.

“I have been unemployed since 10 years and today I have got to know that the Government took such a good step to help people like me get a job to earn money for my

family and come out of poverty,” Mrs Reddy said.

Sailasa Roko who got graduated from Technical College of Fiji two years ago came all the way from Naitasiri to take advantage of the job fair.

Mr Roko said that now he has good knowledge to apply for job in construction field since he has graduated from welding and fabrication.

“I came to this job fair and got to know that there are many opportunities in welding and fabrication field which I didn’t know before. So I think this job fair is really good for young people like me who have graduated but haven’t got a job,” he said.

Job fair gives hope to disabled graduate

MEREANI GONEDUA

FINDING a permanent and good employment is something 36-year-old Kolinio Cagi dreams to have despite being disabled.

Mr Cagi who has been in his wheelchair most of his life recently graduated with a Diploma in Information Technology and was at the first ever job fair held in Fiji with hopes to find employment.

“I am thankful to the Government for making things possible now for disabled persons like myself. I was able to complete my diploma studies and I am now studying at the University of the South Pacific trying to complete my degree.”

“When I heard about this job fair I was really looking forward to it because I wanted to find a job that will help me live a better life and will also help me become more independent.”

Mr Cagi said that even though he grew up disabled it had not stopped him from trying to achieve his dream of working and being independent.

“I believe that this Government through its inclusiveness is doing its best to provide for everyone in the country and for that I have hope that I will one day get employment and not get discriminated because of

what they see.”

“I call on my friends to make use of the equal opportunities provided, we cannot achieve our dreams if we keep to ourselves. We need to get out of our comfort zone and tap into the various opportunities provided and only then we can achieve what we wish to achieve.”

Minister for Employment, Productivity and Industrial Relations, Youth and Sports Parveen Kumar in opening the two-day fair recently urged all employers that were present to consider equal employment opportunities within their organizations.

“Ensuring inclusiveness for disadvantaged sectors, particularly in relation to ensuring equality of opportunity in the workplace. One of the many challenges faced by employers is in finding graduates or workers with the right skill sets. It is through such collaboration that the Government is hoping to bridge these gaps. This is where the higher training institutions play a vital role in ensuring that close consultation is held with employers to ensure that courses offered are in line with the needs of the industries.”

The fair attracted more than 20 private sector organisations, nine higher education institutions and 13 government ministries.-

Seafarer tells of happy times in Norway



Eroni Qiolevu with his wife Kuini Qiolevu.
Photo: NANISE NEIMILA

NANISE NEIMILA

HAVE you ever been to Norway? Well for starters, Norway is country of northern Europe that occupies the western half of the Scandinavian Peninsula.

Half of the inhabitants of the country live in the far south, in the region around Oslo, the capital.

About two-thirds of Norway is mountainous, and off its much-indented coastline lie, carved by deep glacial fjords, some 50,000 islands.

For Eroni Qiolevu, 78, spending 40 years in foreign country like Norway was something that he never chose but life had other plans.

Originally from Kaba in Tailevu, Mr Qiolevu was able to share his life story as these memories were revived after the recent visit by the His Royal Highness Crown Prince of Norway Haakon Magnus to Fiji last month.

"I attended primary school back in the village and then continued my secondary education at Ratu Kadavulevu School (RKS), Lodon from 1949 to 1953."

"I went to the capital city of Suva to seek employment and then after I was employed by local sea-liner as a seafarer."

He recounted the struggles of his career days but this did not deter his career as he was lucky to find employment in cargo ships that sailed to the Pacific and from then on he went to New Zealand.

"I returned home but I knew that there were better opportunities abroad so I joined the crew of a new boat liner, called the Saint John headed towards Vanuatu."

Following his employment in Vanuatu from 1962-1963 Mr Qiolevu was able to secure another contract with different oil boat liner.

"I was told by the supervisors that they were going to employ me but I will not be paid until we reach Los Angeles and only then will I sign a contract with the current employers."

"From being an engineer I then got promoted to being a motor man until I was told that we were on our way to Norway. To be able to qualify as registered seaman, one has to work for two years then receive their Norwegian Seaman's Book."

Sailing around the world for the past 14 years since his first employment, Mr Qiolevu got married to local Norwegian woman they never had children.

"I made a promise to my wife that I will not consume alcohol because achieving this lifetime achievement was more than everything that I have sacrificed to finally come this far."

Landowners take advantage of Land Bank scheme

LITIA VULDAUSIGA

INDIGENOUS landowners continue to take advantage of the Fijian Government's Land Bank scheme, with a major real estate development underway in Yako, Nadi.

"Aligned to the five-year and 20-year National Development Plan, a 77 residential lot is currently being developed and constructed in Nadi to boost landowner confidence, where Government will continue to support landowners to develop residential lots on iTaukei land that will increase the availability of housing lots and at the same time ensure profit making opportunities for landowners," confirmed Ministry of Lands and Mineral Resources permanent secretary, Josefa Caniogo.

"In this process, optimal returns are secured for our landowners that will transform most of our indigenous business, financial and operational dimensions."

The Ministry has begun publishing landowner Bio Data Profiles. These handbooks are for all designated land leases and contain processes and procedures undertaken when customary land parcels are designated.

Mr Caniogo said consistent assessment of property market reports are being executed on a monthly basis to ensure that expressions of interest from investors and landowner que-



Indigenous landowners continue to take advantage of the Fijian Government's Land Bank scheme, with a major real estate development underway in Yako, Nadi.

ries are sufficiently addressed when received on tentative property market values.

"Our main priority now is to ensure that land use administration is enhanced through Land Bank investments and the development of iTaukei land," he said.

"Taken in its strictest sense, the Land Use Division's role is limited to the administration of customary land for the benefit of the Fijian landowner, a view that is legislated and

now forms the backbone of the divisions' operations.

As emphasised by the permanent secretary, the Government has a definite role in ensuring landowners are involved in business and investment as well as enhancing their level of participation, instead of being mere recipients of lease monies on a six-monthly basis and using such funds primarily for consumption purposes.



Serenia Raura of Mataqali Nativi collects her bio data handbook from the Permanent Secretary for Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation Josefa Caniogo at the recent Land Bank Trustees workshop.

Girls graduate from STEM camp

ROMEKA KUMARI

THE Fiji Women's Fund together with Graduate Women Fiji hosted a week-long summer camp for Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) program for 30 young girls and women in Fiji.

During the STEM graduation of the participants, the Minister for Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation Mereiseini Vuniwaqa said that women have contributed continuously towards the progress of Fiji competitively in the global market.

"Women have made significant contributions to science, technology and innovation from the earliest times but despite this, we lag far behind men as a share of the workforce in most STEM professions, even as a demand for those skills increases in order to help Fiji remain globally competitive," Minister Vuniwaqa said.

The minister also said that her ministry will work together with the Government to bring about gender equality in Fiji.

"It is my Ministry's pledge that we will support the work of the Civil Society and Government alike in advocating for a better, more equitable

space for women and girls in STEM because every aspect of girls equal rights, women's economic empowerment, and women's holistic development is crucial to our progress as a people," Minister Vuniwaqa said.

Jeshlin Prasad, a class eight student, said that taking part in the STEM summer camp would be advantageous to her career as she has attained knowledge on taking her career ahead without any odds.

"After taking part in the summer camp, I have come to know that it is better for me to join the science field as I have got attained strength and knowledge to fight against any problems coming in life," Ms Prasad said.

Susan Devi said that her daughter has always taken advantage of such programs which allows her to learn more and has thanked the Fiji Women's Fund for their support.

"I'm really happy that my daughter is taking advantage of such events that helps her in learning more about science and technology. Also I would like to thank the Fiji Women's Fund for hosting such event that empowers Fijian daughters to fight against obstacles in life and become independent and strong," Mrs Devi said.



Fijian 7s team head coach Gareth Baber during the 7s team's training at the Sand dunes in Kulukulu. Photo: SUPPLIED

The civil service game plan

High performing teams work the same on and off the field.

How do we build them with that winning edge? Fiji Rugby Men's Sevens head coach, Gareth Baber, gave a half-time pep talk to civil servants at the recent Senior Officers Leadership Forum.

Earlier this year, Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama used the 'Team Fiji' analogy at a Permanent Secretary retreat where he said, "Good governance is a team sport. When we put scores on the board, we directly improve the lives of our people."

As head coach for the Fiji Rugby Men's Sevens, Gareth Baber, for the past two years has been transforming village rugby players into international athletes. Eight tournament wins in the HSBC series, silver medal at the Commonwealth Games and fourth place at the 2018 World Cup, are just a few of his humble feats.

Speaking to civil servants at a recent Senior Officers Leadership Forum, Gareth Baber relays four main principles of high performing teams.

When you are committed to a common purpose, you can achieve superior results.

High performing teams require high levels of collaboration.

To do so, there needs to be a shared sense of mission, a common goal. Mr Baber described how team relationships are the building blocks to drive dedication and ambition.

"My job is to build and sustain an environment for these players to operate at an international level. High performance is about focus and consistency to deliver as a team," he said.

Everything you do is a learning opportunity, including your failures.

"We should not fear failure", explains Mr Baber whose number one strategy is getting feedback to enhance performance. "Feedback is a healthy process of reflection. As the coach, I need to facilitate that process and motivate my team to question what's going well, what to do better and what will lift us."

The Fiji Rugby team outscores opponents



Fijian 7s team head coach Gareth Baber during one of the itatau at the State House in Suva

in the World Series by a number of tries, according to the coach, yet it also plays with the most errors. Having a strategic view on errors can uniquely position you for success.

He explains that there are forced errors when the ball is dropped after heading into tacklers. Under pressure the mistake is highly likely.

However, when the error is not forced – the player misses a simple pass or tackle – we can help players with the right training environment and strategies. The third type of error - risk and reward – is like flicking the ball after a fall.

There is a lot of risk to reproduce this type of technique under pressure, but the prize is worth it.

"Making errors hurts – it triggers an emotional state and attacks our self-esteem by violating our expectations. We need to encourage a growth mindset that is adaptive to change and open to improvement. By creating systems and cultures that learn from errors, rather than be threatened by them, we can verbalise [the mistake], form strategies and measure success."

Select the best players for the job, but talent alone is not enough.

Team selection is important to producing the consistency and levels you need in a high-performance game – "...who wouldn't want the best player in the position at that level."

Fiji has been blessed with talent but "it needs to be honed" explains Mr Baber as he believes that talent alone is not enough, it's also about attitude and behaviour. Players who embrace feedback and change, harness performance in a unique way.

Clearly identify and communicate individual roles, then pick up the plays and support each other.

Every player has a role to play on the field. "We need to create a rhythm and balance to the way we work," he said.

Mr Baber believes role clarity is so important to keep people focussed and accountable. Clearly identifying and communicating what needs to be done on the job is key to high performance. At the same time, creating a culture of support so that there is help in the 'heat of the battle'.

The civil service winning edge

The Fijian Government is working to build a world-class, high performing team to deliver quality services to the Fijian people.

To enable this winning edge, the Government initiated a programme of change to modernise the civil service. This includes offering competitive salaries, clear opportunities for advancement, opening recruitment processes, creating a culture of learning and rewarding great performance.

There is now a more level playing field for internal and external candidates, giving everyone greater opportunity to demonstrate their strengths and suitability for a specific role.

Selecting the best player or person is not just about talent alone, but also attitude and behaviour. A brilliant, high performing civil service will need the 'full scrum' to move the nation forward, creating a future for and serving the Fijian people.

CIVIL SERVICE REFORM MANAGEMENT UNIT- (CSRMU)



THE FIJI HONOURS SYSTEM – CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The Fiji Honours and Awards System was established in 1995 to recognise the outstanding contribution of Fijians to community and national development including the promotion of positive attitudes and a sense of unity in Fiji’s multicultural society. The system also recognises specific acts of bravery by individuals who risk their own lives to save or attempt to save others. The honours are awarded in the following categories:

1. Companion of the Order of Fiji (CF)

For eminent achievement and merit of the highest degree for service to Fiji and humanity at large.

2. Officer of the Order of Fiji (OF)

For distinguished service of a high degree to Fiji and humanity at large.



ORDER OF FIJI (COMPANION)



OFFICER OF THE ORDER OF FIJI



MEMBER OF THE ORDER OF FIJI



OBVERSE

3. Member of the Order of Fiji (MF)

For meritorious service in a particular locality or field of activity or to a particular group.

4. Medal of the Order of Fiji (MOF)

For service worthy of particular recognition.

5. Awards for Civilian Bravery

These awards are designed to reward acts of civilian bravery in situations involving, in most cases, risk to the life of the nominees:

1. President’s Cross
2. President’s Medal
3. The Bravery Medal



PRESIDENT’S CROSS



BRAVERY MEDAL



PRESIDENTS MEDAL

Nominations:

The Fiji College of Honour has opened its 2019 nomination period and is seeking nominations from individuals/ organisations for consideration for the 2019 Honours and Awards. The Nomination Form including the guideline on how to prepare a nomination is available from the Fiji College of Honour Secretariat. Nominations must show the **correct name** and **address of the nominee** and with **names, addresses and contacts of four referees**. Handwritten submissions are acceptable. Interested individuals or organisations may contact the following for the Nomination Form or for further enquiries:

The Secretary
Fiji College of Honour
Office of the President
P O Box 2513
Government Buildings
SUVA

Telephone: 3314244 | Email: marai.vanuaca@govnet.gov.fj

Nomination Forms are also available at the four Divisional Commissioners’ Offices

NOMINATIONS FOR 2019 CLOSE ON MONDAY, 30TH SEPTEMBER, 2019

FijiFocus



Prime Minister Voreqe Bainimarama launched a life-changing scheme for over 200 residents, with 47 households now enjoying the productive convenience of seamless electricity supply on Vio Island, Lautoka.
Photo: LITIA VULDAUSIGA

POWER TO THE PEOPLE

Prime Minister Lights Up Vio Island

LITIA VULDAUSIGA

VIO Island in Lautoka has become the first rural Fijian community to access clean, renewable and affordable energy from a centralised micro-grid solar system, under the Fiji Rural Electricity Fund (FREF).

Prime Minister, Voreqe Bainimarama launched the life-changing scheme for over 200 Vio residents, with 47 households now enjoying the productive convenience of seamless electricity supply.

“Indeed, by providing electricity, we are tearing down this barrier that has long hindered your commercial progress,” he said.

“No longer. This project will enable you to realise your true economic potential, creating new business opportunities for you to unleash a new era of development here in Vio.”

While their energy bills are currently subsidised by the Government, each household will eventually pay a retail tariff for their electricity use, from which revenues will go directly back into FREF, which is a major

initiative of the Fijian Presidency of COP23.

“This will ensure that each system is properly maintained and that each community is fully engaged. Through this billing system, the project will be both environmentally and economically sustainable — it will not only foster a culture of financial responsibility and independence, but it will make funds available to replicate this initiative and electrify other communities in deep rural and maritime areas throughout Fiji that currently sit beyond the grid,” the Prime Minister said.

Vio resident Siteri Bale grew up on the island and said they had been without electricity for over 50 years.

“We are so happy with this solar development because our children can also study better and we there are many benefits for families,” she said.

This FREF project at Vio received additional support from the Leonardo DiCaprio Foundation and Government of the United Kingdom, with Energy Fiji Limited and solar company Sungerise partnerING to install Vio’s grid system.

Noda Viti

Vukei Viti
ko Jaina

2



Matataki o
Viti ena bose ni
vakaitukutuku
ni vuravura

3



Soli nodra
basi na
gonevuli e
Uluqalau

6



E vakayacori vei ira na 52 ni bose ni Baqe ni Veivakatorocaketaki kei Esia na veikidavaki vakaturaga vakavanua ni noda Matanitu ko Viti. E liutaka na veikidavaki vakavanua na turaga na iliuliu ni Matanitu ko Voreqe Bainimarama ena otela e

‘Vakasakiti’

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

“O Viti ni kua e vakasakiti e vuravura na nona vanua ni veiqaravi, kena i-saluwaki na yalo vinaka kei na yalo ni veikauwaitaki era kilai tani kina na lewena, me vaka oni sana vakadinadinataka tiko.”

Oqori e dua na mala ni nona vosa na turaga na Paraiminisita ni noda vanua o Voreqe Bainimarama ena nona vosa tiko ena limasagavulu ka tolu ni bose ni Baqe ni veivakatorocaketaki kei Esia, ena isevu ni gauna e mai caka kina e Viti se Pasifika. Tukuna vei ira na lewe ni matabose o PM Bainimarama ni o ira noda lewenivanua era dau lomasoli ena veiqaravi.

“Era vaka na idini e solia na kaukauwa ni toso ki liu ni bula vakailavo ena matanitu

yanuyanu.

“O Viti esa koto dei ena nona bolea na raiyawa me toso kina ki liu na neimami vanua. Toso ki liu ena duavata, sa vakadinadinataka ena tini na yabaki veitaravi ni cavuisausau ena bula vakailavo, ena isevu ni gauna e Viti,” kaya o PM Bainimarama.

“Keimami boletaka na lewe 900,000 na lewe ni vanua oqo ni keimami jaben ni veivakatorocaketaki lewai matau.

“Ni rawa ni vakadinadinataka na veika era rawa ni rawata na lewei Viti ena nodra vakaitavi na lewe 30 na itabagone iliuliu e lailai mai na 30 na yabaki ni nodra bula,” tukuna o PM Bainimarama.

“O ira na lewei Viti edaidai era sa mautaka tiko na dodonu vaka lewenivanua, vakapolitiki, na dodonu vakatamata keina dodonu ni bula vakailavo.

“Vaka kina na nodra taqomaki mera raici vakatautauva sega nira vakaduiduitaki,” tukuna o PM Bainimarama.

“E virikotori ena Yavu ni Vakavulewa e Viti na neimami idusidusi. Sa digitaki kina na neimami vanua me ivakaraitaki ni vanua e yaco kina na duavata ka rabailevu na kena vuavudrau.

“Na yalo e uqeta tiko mai na rawaka oqo e matata ena ikau ni Bose ni ADB ni 2019 oya “Vuavuidrau ena Duavata”.

“Na veiwasei madrai ena loma ni vuvale, na cakacaka vata ni lewe ni itikotiko, se na liga ni sema veiwekani kei na vo ni vuravura, sa dusimaka na sala ni vuavuai ni lewenivanua taucoko,” tukuna o PM Bainimarama.

“E Viti, na doka ni neimami vale vaka Viti kei na isema ni neimami waqa ni Viti

e vakayagataki kina na wa e caka mai ena qanibulu na yacana na magimagi.

“E wa tolo lailai no ga ni toka duadua, ia na magimagi era dau veitali, na nodra tali vata oya sa qai solia vua na kaukawa me vesuka na doka ni vale me tudei ena veitabatamata kei na isema ni waqa ni Viti me sokota na wasawasa rabailevu,” tukuna o PM Bainimarama.

“Me vaka na nodra tali vata na wa ni magimagi, sa vakakina na neimami duavata na lewei Viti sa koto dei kina na neimami vanua sa macokona kina na neimami vuavuai raraba.

“Sa vakakina na ivakarau ni nona vakayagataka na veivanua na ADB me vakatautauvataki kina nodra dui kaukauwa, ka qaqaco kina na veivakatorocaketaki ena Asia kei na Pasifika.



‘Ni matataki Viti vinaka’

VILIAME TIKOTANI

ERA sa vakananumi na dauqito yabaki 20 ni rakavi ni timi ni Viti mera matataki Viti vinaka ena loma ni rara ni qito ka vakakina ena veivanua era sarasara kina.

Oqori na nodra vosa na Peresitedi Jioji Konrote ena soqo ni veitataunaki vei ratou na timi ni yabaki 20 ni timi ni Viti ka vakayacori mai valelevu.

Vakacautaka na turaga Peresitedi na nodratou digitaki e 28 na gonevuli kei na ono na ivakalesilesi ni timi.

“Ena na vukuna na vanua ko Viti ka dau tokona na rakavi au gadreva meu uqeti ka tokoni kemudou ena nomudou digitaki modou matataka na timi ni yabaki 20 ena rakavi!”

Kuria ko Peresitedi ni timi oqo e ikatolu me laki cabora nodra itatau vua e valelevu ka muria yani na timi ni yabaki 20 ena rugby touch se rakavi tatara ka bera koya na timi ni viti ena special Olympics.

“Oira na tamata naki dei oqo se “People with Determination” era noda toa ni vala ena qito ni tamata era sega ni tuvaki vinaka nodra itovo ni bula kei na yagodra ia era mai vorosausau

ka vakakina na wini ni timi ni leweyavitu mai Hong Kong me sa yabaki lima veitaravi kina.”

Vakaraitaka ko Peresitedi Konrote kivei ratou na leweni timi mera dau vakaukauwa yago tiko ka maroroya na yagodra ka qarauna talega na kakana era vakania i yagodra.

Oqo ena rai ni nodra sovaraka na matanitu e \$400milioni me baleta na valuti ni mate sureti se non-communicable diseases.

Kuria ko Peresitedi ni vota ni lavo vakaoqo ena dodonu me dau rawa ni vakagolei ena qito kei na vuli ka mera yalomatua kina na gone dauqito.

Totoka nodra tokoni noda marama

VILIAME TIKOTANI

ESA na vakalevutaki nodra vukei ka tokoni na marama ena vakaduri kei na vakacivivaki bisinisi lewa matau ena dua na veivuke ni veitokoni mai na Kabani ni volitaki yaya na Courts kina koronivuli ni vuli bisinisi na South Pacific Business development (SPBD)

Oqori na nodra vakaraitaka na Minisita ni Marama Mereseini Vuniwaqa na veitokoni era sainitaka na rua na soqosoqo oqo me vakavoui kina na veiqaravi veitokoni sa tekivutaki taumada.

Vakaraitaka na Minisita ni Yavu ni Vakavulewa ni matanitu 2013 e vakarautaki kina na dodonu ni rawaka vakailavo se vakatubuilavo ni lewenivanua kece ena noda vanua wilikina oira na noda marama



Ko Minisita Vuniwaqa kei ira na marama ena sainitaki ni veitokoni kei Courts. iTaba: VAKARAUTAKI

kei ira na sega ni tuvaki vinaka tu na nodra bula ka ra sotava tiko na dredre ni bula ena veisiga.

Kuria okoya ni veivuke vakaoqo ena uqeti ira na daunibisini mera veitokoni mai ena nodra bula na marama vakabibi nodra vakatorocaketaki kei na tokoni ni rawaka kei na vakatubu ilavo.

Na usutu levu ni veitokoni oqo mera tuberi vakavoleka kina na marama ena nodra voli yaya mai na kabani na Courts mera vukea kina na nodra sasaga ni vakatubui-

lavo kei na rawaka vakailavo. Era vukea talega kina na nodra vuvale ka veitokoni talega mai kina kina na matanitu.

Vakaraitaka na Minisita ni cakacaka vakavoleka sara tiko kei ira na veitabana kei na soqosoqo ena rai ni kena vakavinakataki na veiqara ka dau vakarautaki vei ira na marama me baleta na nodra bula ena veisiga.

Vakaraitaka na manidia levu ni SPBD ko Elrico Munoz ni nodra tokoni ka vukei na marama ena

semati ira vinaka kina cakacaka ni veivakatorocaketaki ena loma ni nodra vuvale ka vakilai na vinaka oqo ena taudaku ni veivuvale ena noda vanua kei na tikotiko.

Na manidia ni Courts Mr. Anil Senewiratne e vakananuma na veiqaravi nei vuniwai vakacegu sa bale Dr. Jiko Luveni ena nodra tekivuna na veiwekani vinaka oqo mera vukei kina na marama ka valuti kina na dravudravua ena noda vanua.

PM: Duavata kei Sri Lanka

VILIAME TIKOTANI

ERA duavata kei na vanua ko Sri Lanka kei ira na kena lewenivanua na liuliu ni matanitu noda vanua Paraiminista Voreqe Bainimarama ena lolosi kei na loloma nodra mai vakaleqai e 300 vakacaca na bula ka mavoa e 300 vakacaca tale ni oti na kena vakakacabote taki ni valenilotu mai vei ira na tamata dauvakacaca.

Era vakacabotetaka na valenisokalous ena macawa balavu ni siga ni mate kei na tucake tale.

Vakaraitaka ko PM Bainimarama ni mataqali itovo vakaoqo esega na kena vanua ena noda bula nikua me vaka e lolovira ka vakarerevaki.

Keimami na kai Viti keimami na tutaka na kena valuti na imataqali itovo vakaoqo ka keimami na vakacala ka veimataqali itovo oqo.

Keimami na lewe ni vanua e Viti e sema veiwekani tu vakamatanitu kei Sri Lanka ka keimami raica na itovo oqo ni dua na veivakacacani ena bula tiko veimaliwai, veiwekani.

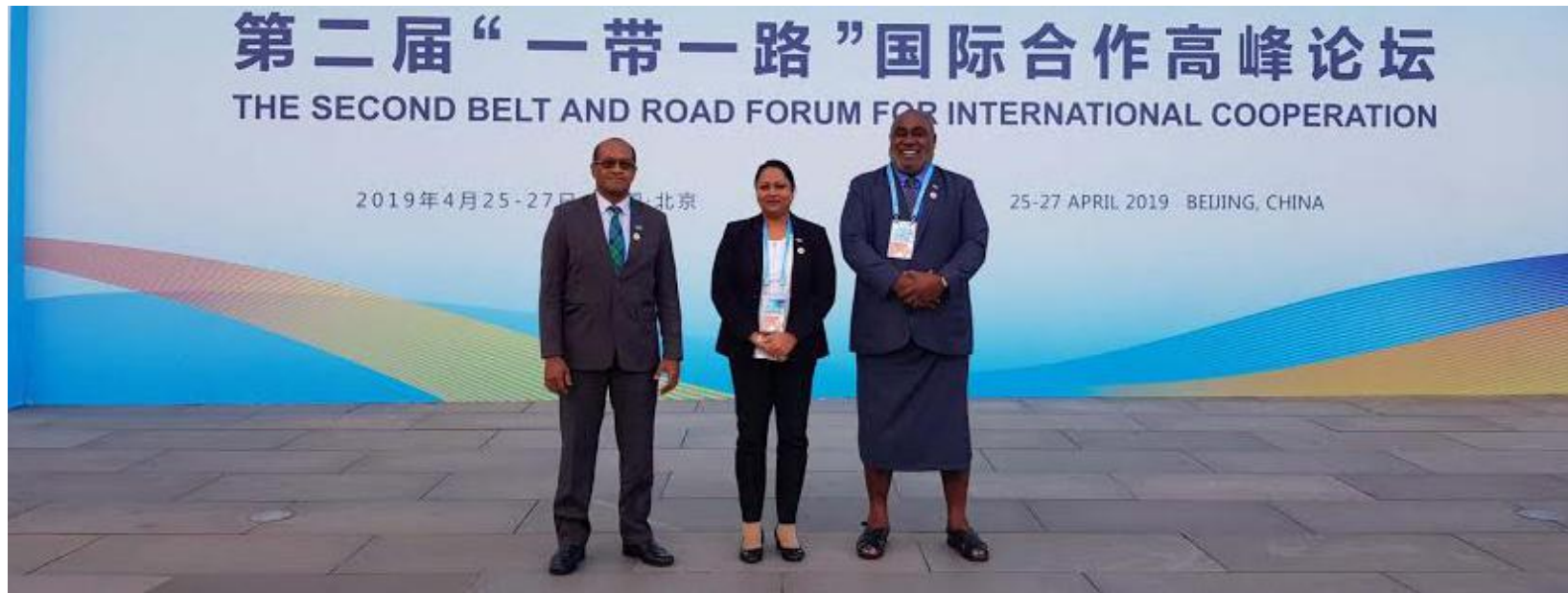
Tale katoa na boseka ni vakasaqarai cakacaka

VILIAME TIKOTANI

EMai tale katoa na imatai ni boseka ni vakasaqarai cakacaka ka vakayacori ena FMF gymnasium e Suva. Na osoqo e vakayacori ena sasaga ni matanitu vua na kena Minisitiri ni Cakacaka ka dua na gauna vina-ka vei ira na itaukei ni cakacaka kei na kabani mera mai sotavi ira na gone vakasaqarai cakacaka.

Na soqo oqo era mai vakaraitaki cakacaka talega kina na kabani kei na veitabana vakamatanitu me baleta na gagadre e tiko vakacakacaka, kila kei na itagede ni vuli e gadrevi kina.

Vakaraitaka ko Isimeli Vono ni marautaka sara vakalevu na nodra vakarautaka na soqo oqo na Matanitu me vaka ni oqo sa qai imatai ni soqo vakaoqo.



Ko ratou na ivakalesilesi matataki Viti kina na boseka i Jaina, Minisita n i Veilakoyaki Jone Usamate, Minisita ni Bisinisi Premila Kumar kei Minisita ni iQoliqoli Semi Korolavesau. iTaba: VAKARAUTAKI

Vukei Viti ko Jaina

VILIAME TIKOTANI

KO Viti edua na matanitu ena Pasivika ka sa vakayagataki Jaina vinaka tiko ena veimataqali veivuke kei na soli iyau sa vakarautaka tiko ena sasaga ni Belt and Road se Beleti kei na Gaunisala ni sasaga ni veivakatorocaketaki ena vuravura nei Jaina.

Ena macawa sa oti erau tiko voli mai jaina

ko Minisita ni Bisinisi ko Premila Kumar kei Minisita ni Cakacaka, Veilakoyaki kei na Draki ko Jone Usumate kei Minisita ni Qoliqoli Semi Korolavesau me ratou laki matataki Viti ena boseka ni sasaga oqo. Vakaraitaka ko Minisita Kumar ni sa kena dodonu me vakayagtaka vinaka ko Viti na veivuke vakarautaka mai ko Jaina ena loma ni bai ni tuvatuva ni beleti kei na gaunisala. Oqo me na rawa kina vua na matanitu

me kunei ira na daunibisini ka ra via mai vakatubuilavo ena noda vanua ka salamuria mai na vakatubu cakacaka vou me rawa ni ra yaga kina na lewenivanua mera vukea kina nodra matavuvale.

Kuria ko Minisita Kumar ni ratou sasaga tiko ena veitalanoa oqo mera rawa ni vakauyaya volitaki ki Jaina. Laki dolava ko Peresitedi Xi Jinping mai Jaina na boseka oqo.



Vinaka Japani

Mai vakaraitaka na vakavinavina ni matanitu o Viti kivei Japani na noda vunilawa ni matanitu ko Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum. Oqo baleta na levu ni veivuke lelevu vakailavo kei na loloma edau cau tumai kina na matanitu ko Japani ena bula ni veiqaravi veivakatorocaketaki. Rau sota ena boseka ni baqe ni veivakatorocaketaki kei Esia ka vakayacori mai Nadi ena macawa sa oti na Vunilawa kei na Minisita ni Bula Vakailavo nei Japani Taro Aso. Vakamacala kina vakabalavu na Vunilawa ka vakaraitaka na bula veiwekani vinaka nei Viti kivei Japani. Vakavinavinakataki Viti ko Minisita Aso ena nodra mai vakayacori ena noda vanua na boseka levu vakayabaki oqo ni baqe kei esia.

Sotavi boso ni UNESCAP

Laki sotava talega na liuliu ni UNESCAP na Vunilawa Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum. Ko Hongjoo Hahm e vukevuke ni vunivola ni Matabose Cokovata kei vuravura ena tabana ni rawaka vakailavo kei na bula raraba ena wasewase ni vanua ko esia kei na pasivika. Rau dabe ena veitalanoa na liuliu e rua ka rau veitalanoataka na veika me baleta na veivuke vakailavo ka dua vei ira nodra vukeyi na marama. Vakavinakataki na Vunilawa na veitokoni nei UNESCAP kivei Viti ena tabana ni veiqaravi ena waitui ena noda yasana ni vuravura.

Talanoataki na tubu ni sauni lisi

Erau bau laki cau talega na liuliu ni matabose ni qele maroroi ni noda vanua no Teviiia Kuruduadua ena bosa kei na baqe ni veivakatorocaketaki kei esia ka vakayacori ena noda vanua ena macawa sa oti.

Veitalanoataki kina na sasaga me vakatuburi ni sau ni lisi ka me vakavinakataki na veiqaravi ena matabose ni qele maroroi vei ira na tauri lisi kei ira na itaukei ni qele.

Oqo ena rai levu ni cicivaki ni bisinisi me vaka ni qele edua na vurevure levu ka vinaka ni rawaka vakailavo.

Veitalanoa kina ko Kuruvakadua kei ira na ivakalesilesi ena ADB ena sala rawarawa cava eratou rawa ni vukeyi kina na sasaga oqo. Kaya kina ko koya ni sa veivuke tiko na ADB kina TLTB ena cakacaka ni veiqaravi vakamonalivaliva ka merawa ni biu na veiqaravi oqo ena monalivaliva me vakarawarawataka ne veiqaravi raraba.

Sa qai vakarerevaki tikoga

Sa qai vakarerevaki tikoga mai na ua luvu ena gauna etau bisa tiko kina na lagi baleta na drakiveisau eda bula curuma tiko nikua.

Oqori na ivakasala nodra na liuliu ni matanitu Paraiminisita Voreqe Bainimarama me baleta na leqa ni draki suasua kei na uca bisa ka yacovi Viti raraba tiko ena loma ni vula ko Evereli.

Rua na gone era vakayalia kina nodrau bula ni kuitaki rau na ua ena gauna esa tubu kina na wai ena levu ni wai ni uca.

Yali talega na bula ni dua na uabula ena ka vatatalega oqo ni sa rui kui kaukauwa na wai. Vakaraitaka ko PM ni levu na gaunisala kei na uciwai ena noda vanua esa vakarerevaki saraga ena gau-na edau tau bisa kina na uca.

Vakilaisara vakalevu na uca bisa oqo kei na kaukauwa ni draki ca e wai maina muaira kei Lau.

VILIAME TIKOTANI

‘Digidigi vakadodonu’

VILIAME TIKOTANI

UQETI ira gonevuli ena vuli torocake e Univesiti mera digia donu na gaunisala era muria me baleta na nodra tiko bulabula na Minisita ni Bula ko Dr Ifereimi Waqainabete. Vakamacala tiko na Minisita ena soqo ni tiko bulabula vakayacori mai na Univesiti ni Ceva ni Pasivika.

Vakadreti ira na gonevuli ko Minisita mera qarauna na ituvaki nodra vakasama kei na rai baleta oqo ena vakadaberi ira ena dua na yavu dei mera qarauna kina na nodra bula ni tiko bulabula.

Kuria okoya ni levu tiko na kisi ni mate sureti laurai tiko vei ira na gone yabaki rua saga vulu kalima ka levu era itabagone keina gonevuli. Qoka e wili kina na mate vaka na HIV kei na vuqa tale na mate varerevaki ni veiyacovi sega ni vakayagataki kina na itatarovi vinaka.

Vakadreta ko Minisita ni dodonu mera vakalevutaka nodra qito kei na vakaukauwa yago ka mera vakamatautaka na vodo basikeli se taubale ki valenivuli mai na vodo motoka kei na basi.

Tokona na rai oqo na Vukeyi ni liuliu ni Univesiti Professor Richard Coll ni kaya ni dodonu mera taura vakabibi na itukutuku oqo oira na gonevuli me vaka nisa ripote levu tiko ena gauna oqo na mate sureti.

Kuria okoya ni kaya ni dodonu mera qarauna talega na kakana era kania kei na nodra vakaukauwa yago.



Ko Minisita ni Bula Dr Ifereimi Waqainabete kei na dua na gonevuli tauri vola ena Univesiti kei Viti. iTaba: VAKARAUTAKI

Inaki ni scouts

VILIAME TIKOTANI

Na inaki ni scouts sa ikoya me vakavinakata ka vakatorocaketaka na bula raraba ni itabagone ena noda vanua tabusakayani.

Oqori na noda vosa na turaga Peresitedi ko Jioji Konrote ena nodra laki dolava na bosa vakayabaki ni soqosoqo ni scouts ena noda vanua.

Vakaraitaka ko Konrote ni veivakatorocaketaki oqo ena wilikina na kaukauwa vakayago, vakaivakasama, veimaliwai raraba ka mera lewenivanua yalomatua daukakacaka veiqaravi vinaka ena veivanua ga era lesi kina.

Kuria okoya ni scouts era laki veiqaravi sega ni ra mai qaravi ka dua itavi bibi edau vakacolati kina vei ira ena noda vanua ka tukuna nira muria cala na itabagone na gaunisala nikua baleta ni sega na dusidusi vinaka vei ira na matua cake.

Vakaraitaka ko Konrote ni soqosoqo ni scouts e solia edua yavu vinaka vei ira na itabagone mera vakarautaki ira kina ena bolebole ni bula satu mera na colata ka susugi kina na bula veirogoci veilomani kei na veitokani vinaka.



Ko Peresitedi Konrote kei ne dua na lewe ni scouts ena bosa ka vakayabaki. iTaba: VAKARAUTAKI

Matataki o Viti ena bosa ni vakaitukutuku ni vuravura

SOLO LEWA

MATATAKI Viti ena bosa ni lewai matau ni vakautukutuku ni vuravura mai Geneva na mata nei Viti ena Matabose kei Vuravura o Nazhat Shameem Khan. Vakabibitaka kina o Khan na bolebole eda sotava na veivanua ena kena vakavinakataki na noda rawa ni sotava na revurevu ni draki veisau kei na leqa tubu koso. Vakabibitaka talega o Khan na bolebole eda sotava ena kena sagai me rawati na tekete ni Veivakatorocaketaki Lewai Matau ena vuku ni draki veisau.

Tukuna talega kina o Khan na bibi ni kumuni ni itukutuku me tukuna na levu ni vanua kei na fika taucoko e baleta ka vakatokai na CommonSensing Project e Viti ena yabaki oqo.

Na veiqaravi oya eratou cakacaka vata kina o Viti, Vanuatu, Yatu Solomoni kei na Space Agency ni Peritania, the United Nations Operational Satellite Applications Programme (UNOSAT) kei na United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR).

Tukuna o Khan ni bibi na kumuni ni itukutuku keina fika ni dua na vanua me rawarawa kina nodra kunea na iwali ni revurevu ni draki veisau.



Ko Nazhat Shameem kei na dua na ivakalesilesi ni bosa e Geneva. iTaba: VAKARAUTAKI



Kumar: Me kaukauwa ko Viti

Na inaki dina ni boseka sai koya me vakaukauwa taka na noda veiqaravi salamuria yani me vakaukauwataka na noda vanua. Oqori edua na mala ni vosa nodra na Minisita ni Veivakacacakataki, Qito kei na itabagone Parveen Bala nodra laki dolava na nodra bose na ivakalesilesi ni veitabana baleta na taqomaki vinaka kei na tiko bulabula ena valeniacakaka. Na kena ikau na bosa oqo oya na tiko bulabula kei na taqomaki ni vanua ni cakacaka me baleta na cakacaka ena gauna sa vakarau vavaci yani.

ITaba: FELIX LESINAVALU



Soqo ni vakaraitaka itovo mai Jaina

E laki vulagi dokai na Minisita ni vuli Rosy Akbar ena soqo ni vakaraitaka itovo ni Jaina ka ratou vakarautaka na valenivolavola ni itovo vaka Jaina i Suva. Uqeti ira kina na lewenivanua na Minisita mera kauta lesu mai ki Viti eso na ka era vulica mai Jaina. Eda vuli mai ena so na vanua eda veisiko kina ka sega ni baleta meda gade ga yani ka laki tiko vakamarautaki, meda kauta lesu mai eso na vuli kei na kilaka ka vakayagataka ena noda vanua. Vakaraitaka okoya na nodra vakavinaka kivua na matanitu ko Jaina ena kena vakarautaki tiko mai eso na mataqali vuli vakaoqo me vukea na lewenivanua.

ITaba: NANISE NEIMILA



Soqo ni vakasaqara cakacaka

Sa dua na soqo vinaka vei ira na tabagone na soqo ni vakarautaki veiqaravi vakacacaka ka vakayacori e Suva. Levu sara na gone era vakayagataka mera laki vulica kina eso na ka baleta na cakacaka kei na kila vakavuli e gadrevi kila. Oqo edua na tuvatuva talega ni matanitu ka sagai kina ke semati kina na lewenivanua vakasaqara cakacaka kei ira na itaukei ni kabani, se vanua ni cakacaka.

ITaba: NANISE NEIMILA



Veisiko mai ko Amerika

Era mai veisiko na daunipolitiki mai Amerika kina noda vanua ka ra vakayacora evica na boseka lalai kei na matanitu.

Liutaka na boseka oqo na Minisita ni Veitaqomaki ko Inia Seruiratu kei na Vunivola Tudei ena tabana ni Veika mai Vanuatani Ioane Naivalurua.

Oqo na imatai ni veisiko vakaoqo mai Amerika ki na noda vanua ni oti e 7 na yabaki.

Eratou lewena mai na vei Seneta ko Richard Shelby ena tabana vakailavo, Michael Crapo ena tabana ni baqe kei na vale, John Boozman, Jeamen ni tabana vakailavo, kei na mataisau ni mataivalu, Deb Fischer Tabana ni mataivalu, kei John Kennedy ena tabana vakailavo.

ITaba: ISAAC LAL



Bose ni Yasana ko Lau

Era boseka na yasana ko Lau mai Tubou, Lakeba ena vula sa oti ko Evereli. Laki dolava na bosa na ivukevuke ni Minisita ni veika vakaitaukei ko Adimaitoga Selai. Era vakayacori kina na veisisivi vakaraitaki ni tei vui kei na vakaraitaki ni vakamarautaki ena meke. Uqeti na lewenivanua mera cukena na nodra itavi vakavanua ka mera teitei vakalevu.

ITaba: ERONI VALILI





Rawati e \$10.6m ena teitei e Lau

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

NA yabaki tolu ni teitei e Lau ko ya na 2016 kina 2018 e kaya na iliuliu ni tabana ni teitei e Lau/Rotuma ko Nimilote Waqabaca ni rawati kina e \$10.6 na milioni.

“Keitou raica ni veika e rawa mai na yabaki 2016-2018 na veika vaka ilavo se *cash flow* e rawa mai na niu, na yaqona, kena volitaki na uvi ena kena veimakete lalai kei na vei voli tale eso era volitaka tiko e rauta tiko ni \$10.6m.

“Sa mani tuvatuva ka kina na tabana ni teitei ena 2019 kina 2022 na kena tuvani

eso na ituvatuva me rawa kina na rawa ka vakailavo.”

“Matai sara ga ni ka e taketetaki tiko oqo sai koya na niu. Ni da raica na niu, na levu ni niu e qaravi ena 2016-2018; na levu tau-coko ni loga ni niu e Lau e tiko ena rauta ni 6686 na ekatea,” tukuna ko Waqabaca.

“E rauta tikoga ni 25 na pasede e vakayagataki tiko. Na kena ta tiko na niu kei na kena kau tiko na vuana ki Suva kei na kena caka tiko na virgin coconut oil (VCO).”

“Sa tuvatuva tiko kina na tabana ni teitei mai na \$10.6m rawati ena yabaki oqo kina \$26.3m ena 2022.

“Ena wili tiko kina na kena vakalevutaki

na niu, vavi niu ni sa dola mai na ivavi ni niu mai Lakeba, dola e dua na iqaqi ni niu mai Cicia. Sa sagai tiko kina me vakalevutaki na niu me rawa tiko kina na bula ni matavuvale,” tukuna ko Waqabaca.

“Sa tiko neitou ituvatuva mena vakalevutaki na niu ena veivanua e rawa ni caka kina. Na yaqona sa vakanamata ga ki Moala Matuku Lakeba kei Vanua Balavu ena ituvatuva ni ilavo ka tu mai.

“Ena uvi sa vakanamata tiko ena yanuy-anu ko Lakeba vata kei Cicia. Na kumala sa sagai me keitou na tea ena yanuyanu ko Lakeba.”

Lutu sobu na curu-suka ni kai Lau

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

SA vakaraitaki ena loma ni bose ni yasana vakaturaga ko Lau mai Tubou na nona vakavinavinaka na Komisina ni Tabacakacaka ni Veivakadodonutaki ko Francis Kean ena kena sa lutu na kedra iwiliwili na dau curu suka na gone ni yasana.

Vakadewataka na itukutuku oqori vei ira na lewe ni matabose ni yasana na ivukevuke ni Komisina ni Tabacakacaka ni Veivakadodonutaki o Salote Panapasa.

“Vakavinavinaka levu tikoga na iliuliu ni Tabacakacaka kina yasana vakaturaga ko Lau ena kena sa lutu na iwiliwili ni gone ni Lau era dau curu suka ena vale ni veivakadodonutaki,” tukuna ko Panapasa.

“Sa vakavinavinakataki talega na kena lutu tiko na kedra iwiliwili na gone ni Lau era curu tiko ena vanua ni veivakadodonutaki. Era curu tiko ni kua e rauta ni lewe123 na gone ni Lau. Na levu kece ni lewe ni vanua era curu tiko e vanua ni veivakadodonutaki edaidai e koto ena 2311.”

Soqo bula na veisisivi tei uvi e Lau

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

LAGILAGI dina na veisisivi uvi e vakayacora na Tabana ni Teitei ena soqo ni bose ni yasana o Lau mai Tubou e Lakeba. Ni kune kina nodra sa gumatuataka na cauravou kei na turaga ni Lau na teivaki ni kakana dina oqo na uvi.

Vakaraitaka na iliuliu ni Tabana ni Teitei e qaravi Lau kei Rotuma ko Nimilote Waqabaca ni sa dau veivakauqeti tiko na Tabana ni Teitei me ra tea vakalevu mai Lau na kakana oqo na uvi baleta ni rawa ni tu vakadede ka dau yaga vakalevu ena gauna ni leqa tubukoso.

“Qoka na kakana vinaka ni gauna ni cagilaba baleta ni dua tu vakadede ka sa vakayacori kina na veisisivi vakaoqo me veivakauqeti ira,” tukuna ko Waqabaca.

“E tiko ena Tabana ni Teitei e dua na porokaramu ka vakatokai na “Veisisivi Lailai”. Na veisisivi oqo e dau vakayacori ena veikoro, veitikina kei na gauna ni bose ni yasana.”

“Au kila qoka se qai ikarua ni gauna me vakayacori kina na veisisivi oqo, na imatai ni veisisivi a vakayacori mai Suva ena yabaki 2017 ena soqo ni Adi Natuicake,” tukuna o Waqabaca.

“E wase vakatolu na veisisivi uvi. Na imatai ni iwasese e veisisivitaki kina na uvi na Filipaini, na ikarua ni wase-wase na veisisivi uvi balavu, kena ikatolu na uvi bibi duadua.” Ia, na icovi levu duadua sa dau soli ki vua e taukena na loga ni uvi levu duadua.”

“Soli talega na icovi ni dau tei uvi gone duadua. Era vakaicovi kece na vakaitavi ena veisisivi oqo.”

“Ka ni marau me vakaraitaki ni mai soli kina na icovi ni itaukei ni loga ni uvi levu duadua vei Jone Colati e dua na turaga ni Yadrana ni tea rawa ena yabaki oqo e 9800 na uvi,” tukuna o Waqabaca.

Vakavinavinakataka o Colati na Tabana ni Teitei ena kena soli mai na nodra icovi na dau teitei.



Ko vukevuke ni Minisita Adimaitoga kei ira na lewe ni vanua mai Lakeba ena kena soli na nodra basi vou na gonevuli e Uluiqalau District School e Lakeba, Lau.

Soli nodra basi na gonevuli e Uluiqalau

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

Elaki solia na ivukevuke ni Minisita ni Veikavakaitaukei ko Selai Adimaitoga na nodra basi na gonevuli ni Uluiqalau District School e Lakeba, Lau ena vuku ni vale ni volavola ni Paraiminisita ena gauna ni bose ni yasana ko Lau mai Tubou e Lakeba.

Na basi oya e tiki ni veivuke ni Matanitu kina vei koronivuli era vuli tiko kina na gonevuli ka vakaleqai tu eso na ituvaki ni yagodra.

Vuabale na marau nei Seniteteva Tupou na qasenivuli liu ni Uluiqalau District School ena nona sa ciqomi na isolisoli levu oqo ni Matanitu ena vukudra na gonevuli kece ni Lakeba e vakaleqai tu na ituvaki ni yagodra se *physically handicap*.

“E tekivu ena yabaki sa oti ena nodratou a mai caka vuli e Lakeba na *Special Education Unit*. Ni bera na vuli oya au a vakayacora e dua na vakadidike me baleta na nodra rawa ka vakavuli na noqu gonevuli kau kunei kina ni sa lutu vakalevu nodra rawaka vakavuli neitou gonevuli kau raica ni dua tiko na vuna ni lewe 3 vei ira na gonevuli oqo e vakaleqai tu na ituvaki ni yagodra.

“Au mani sureta na Daurairivuli me mai raica na noqu vakadidike sa vakadeitaki kina ni tiko ena noqu koronivuli eso na gone ka vakaleqai tu na ituvaki ni yagodra,” kaya ko Seniteteva.

Kuria ko koya ni yabaki sa oti sa rejisitaki sara na neitou koronivuli me dua na Special School, sa mani tukuni vei au mai veiratou na Talai Veivuke ena Tokalau ni tiko na veivuke ni Matanitu kina vei koronivuli era vuli tiko kina na gone e vakaleqai tu na ituvaki ni yagodra.

“Au sa mani solia e dua noqu ivola kerekere ka veitokoni kina na Talai Veivuke ena Tokalau me dua mai na basi.

“Na veivuke levu oqo ena sega ni yaga vei ira na noqu gonevuli ena yaga raraba ena veiqaravi vei ira na vakaleqai tu na ituvaki ni yadra ena yanuyanu o Lekeba,” kaya o Seniteteva.

Vakaraitaka ko qasenivuli ni kena mai soli vua na veivuke

oqo ni valenivolavola ni Paraiminisita mai vua na ivukevuke ni Minisita ni Veikavakaitaukei sa vakadinadinataka kina ni Matanitu e dinata tiko na nona vakabibitaka tiko na vuli.

“Sa solia vei au edua na bolebole ena noqu itutu vaka qasenivuli liu mei laveta tale noqu veiqaravi vei ira na gone vakaleqai na ituvaki ni yagodra kina dua tale na itagede, au kila ni isolisoli oqo ena vakauqeti keimami kece na qasenivuli e Lakeba me keimami laveta cake neimami veiqaravi.

“Au vakavinakavinaka vua na Paraiminisita kei na Minisita ni Vuli vakatalega kina vua na iliuliu ni vuli ena Tokalau, Daurairivuli ena Tokalau kei SEO Special Education.”



Yavu dei ni iTaukei na vuvale

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

“NA noda matavuvale sa yavu dei ni noda bula na kawa iTaukei ka bucini mai kina na ivakavuvuli kei na ivakaraui ni loloma.”

Oqori edua na mala ni nona vosa na ivukevuke ni Minisita ni Veika Vakaitaukei ko Selai Adimaitoga.

“Na noda matavuvale talega e dau kune kina na veinanumi, na veivakakarokorokotaki e kilikili ni salavata na noda itovo na

kawa iTaukei.”

Tukuna na ivukevuke ni Minisita ni Veika Vakaitaukei ni okati kina na noda dau veidokai vei ira na noda iliuliu ni matavuvale, liuliu ni tokatoka, iliuliu ni mataqali kei na iliuliu ni Yavusa.

“Sai koya saka talega oqori na yavu ni veiqaravi sa mua kina na Tabacakacaka iTaukei kei na Matabose ni Veika vakaitaukei ena kena vakabibitaki na veisusu kei na veivakavulici mai na noda veimata-vuvale,” tukuna na ivukevuke ni Minisita

Adimaitoga. Duavata kei na vosa nei ivukevuke ni Minisita Adimaitoga o Ili-soni Taoba na iliuliu ni Matabose ni Yasana vakaturaga o Lau.

“Me vaka sa vakaraitakai na ivukevuke ni Minisita ni Veika Vakaitaukei o ira na tukada era dau vakabibitaki na veidokai veivakarokorokotaki kei na muri lewa ena nodra matavuvale sa qai dewa kina tokatoka, mataqali koro yavusa dewa sara kina yasana. Sa dodonu meda dei tiko kina na iTaukei edaidai meda kua nu kuitaki va-

karawarawa ena cagi ni veisau,” tukuna o Taoba.

Duavata kina na mata ni tikina o Totoya o Josateki Temo ka kaya ni bibi dina n matavuvale ena bula ena noda koro.

“Ni vinaka na vuvale ena lai vinaka kina na yavusa ka na lai vinaka kina na koro kei na vanua raraba. Na ka oqo era veisemati kece tu, tukuna o Temo.

Na yasana o Lau e tiko kina na kena veimata-vuvale ena loma ni 72 na koro kei na 13 na tikina.

Lagiti na veiqaravi ni baqe na BSP



Maraudaki na veiqaravi ni baqe e Kabara.
iTaba: VAKARAUTAKI

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

ERA sa vakavinavinakataka eso na mata ni tikina ena bose ni yasana vakaturaga ko Lau mai Tubou e Lakeba na nona sa vakadabera na nona misini ni EFTPOS na baqe na Bank South Pacific (BSP) ena ciwa na positovesi ena yasana ko Lau.

Sega ni kinoca rawa na nona matalau na mata ni tikina ko Kabara ko Tukana Rokobuli nona sa via vakaraitaka ena loma ni bose ni yasana o Lau na nona vakavinavinaka kina baqe na BSP ena veiqaravi oqo.

“Ko ira na cakacaka vaka Matanitu sa rawa vei ira me ra vakayagataka ga nodra card ni BSP me ra taura kina na kedra isau vakacacacaka ena veimacawa rua ena nodra vakayagataka na misini ni EFTPOS na BSP ka sa oqo ena neimami Positovesi.”

Vaka kina na mata ni tikina ko Totoya ko Josateki Temo e kaya ni ra sa kerei koya na vakaillesilesi vakamatani tu me mai vakaraitaka ena bose na nodra vakavinavinaka kina matanitu kei na baqe na BSP ena kena sa tiko ena nodra Positovesi na misini ni EFTPOS ni BSP.

“Na kena sa dabe tiko ena neimami Positovesi na misini ni EFTPOS ni BSP sa kauta laivi na lomaocaoa ni tamata cakacaka vakamatani tu e Totoya vaka kina ko ira na itaukei ni sitoa. Sa vakarawarawataka vei keimami na bula ena tauri ilavo. Sa yaga talega vei ira na tauri ilavo ni malumalumu,” tukuna ko Temo.

Maraudaki ko Isikeli Taoi na iliuliu ni veiqaravi ena taudaku ni veikorolelevu ni baqe na BSP na isausau sa mai tekia ena yasana ko Lau na veiqaravi ni baqe.

“Ni kua keitou sa tekia edua na isausau e Lau na baqe na BSP ena neitou sa vakadabera na neitou misini ni EFTPOS ena positovesi kece e ciwa ena yasana o Lau,” tukuna o Taoi.

“Keitou vakavinavinaka ki na Matanitu ena veitokoni ena neitou vakamuria tiko na potokaramu ni matanitu ena kena kau yani na veiqaravi ni baqe vei ira e sega tu nira qaravi ka vakatokai na porokaramu ni Government Financial Inclusiveness.”



Vale ni bose mai Tubou e Lakeba ka vakayacori kina na bose ni yasana ko Lau. iTaba: ERONI VALILI

Uqeti ko Lau ena solesolevaki

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

SA vakauqeti ira na lewe ni matabose ni yasana vakaturaga ko Lau na ivukevuke ni Minisita ni Veika Vakaitaukei ko Selai Adimaitoga me ra vakaliuca na solesolevaki ena noda vakamuria na ituvatuva ni veivakatoroketaki ni yabaki 5-20 ni Matanitu.

“E dua na noda itovo ka dau matalia kina na kawa itaukei na solesolevaki ka yavutaki mai ena noda cakacaka vata keina noda tuvatuva ka,” tukuna o ivukevuke ni minisita Adimaitoga.

“Sa tiko na noda ituvatuva levu ni matanitu ena loma ni 5 kina 30 na yabaki mai oqo se National Development Plan 5-20.”

“Eda sa vakauqeti na lewe ni matabose oqo ena noda veitalanoa vakawasoma kei ira na lewe ni koro”

“Ena vakavure vakasama me rawati na noda bula sautu kei na tiko vinaka,” tukuna o ivukevuke ni minisita Adimaitoga.

“Au sa vakamasuti kemuni a veituraga ni koro na mata ni tikina ena kena vakaleleci sobu yani ena loma ni vei vuavale na itukutuku ni tuvatuva ka oqo.”

“Na solesolevaki eda na rawata kina e levu naka ni vakatauvatani kei na cakacaka yadudua.”

“Sa veitalanoataki vei keda ka veiwal-



Na veiqaravi vakavanua vua na vulagi dokai ena bose ni yasana ko Lau. iTaba: ERONI VALILI

taki na ka e baleta na bisinisi ni iTaukei e dau tukuni talega na ivosavosa nida dravudravua toka ga ena dela ni noda vutu ni iyau,” tukuna o ivukevuke ni minisita Adimaitoga.

“Sa sasaga ni noda tabacakacaka mena moici na noda vakasama. Kada rai ena noda raivou ni kena vakayagataki vakamatau ni noda iyaubula.”

“Ka vakabibi na qele me noda ivurevure

ni ilavo vei keda eda sa ciciva yani na vuvura ni bisinisi meda vakatubura kina nanoda iyau me baleti ira na noda kawa ena veisiga ni mataka,” tukuna na ivukevuke ni minisita Adimaitoga.

Sa vakanuinui na ivukevuke ni miniista vei ira na lewe ni Bose ni Yasana o Lau ni toso vinaka tiko na kena teivaki na nodra qele me rawati kina na noda tiko vinaka kei na bula sautu.

Noda Viti

Vukei Viti
ko Jaina

2



Matataki o
Viti ena bose ni
vakautitukutuku
ni vuravura

3



Soli nodra
basi na
gonevuli e
Uluigalau

6



Ko Paraiminisita Voreqe Bainimarama kei ira na lewe ni vanua e Vio ena veiqaravi ni vakasobu ni bera nodra laki dolava na livaliva ena koro ko Vio. iTaba: LITIA VULAIDAUSIGA

Siga lagilagi e Vio

SOLO LEWANAVANUA

“E daidai e dua na siga lagilagi ena loma ni koro ko Vio baleta ni oqo na ivesu ni koro e Viti me vakalivalivataki ena ivurevure ni livaliva savasava se na *clean renewable electricity*.”

Oqori na mala ni vosa nei Paraiminisita Voreqe Bainimarama ena nona dolava tiko na livaliva savasava e Lautoka.

“Na waqaci ni cina e Vio e vakatakila na itekitekivu ni veivuke ena taudaku ni koro lelevu ka vakatokai na *Fiji Rural Electrification Fund*.”

“Oqo e dua na ituvatuva me vukea na veivakalivalivataki ena taudaku ni koro lelevu. Ka sega ni sema ena livaliva

e vakawaqaca na veitauni kei na koro lelevu.”

“Au vakavinavinakataki kemuni na lewe ni koro kei na lewe ni yanuyanu ena nomuni sasaga ka sa mai vakavotukanataki e daidai.”

“Na ivurevure ni livaliva e savasava se na vosa vakaperitania na *renewable energy*.”

“Na *Fiji Rural Electrification Fund* e ivesu ni ituvatuva ka vu mai ena nona liutaka ko Viti na COP23.”

“Me vaka ni sa tiko na tatadra ni Matanitu me baleta na veivakalivalivataki ena ivurevure savasava oqo sa itekitekivu ni cavu ikalawa ena kena rawati na tatadra oqori ena veigauna mai muri.”

“Sa oti na gauna era dau vosota kina na

gonevuli na cina tabu cagi ka sa cila na rarama ni veivakatorocaketaki ena loma ni yanuyanu ko Vio.”

“Na veivakalivalivataki sa itekitekivu ni kena basuraki na ilati ni veivakatorocaketaki ena noda vanua.”

“Sa rawa ni vure eso na iwalewale vou ni vakaduri bisinisi nisa tiko na livaliva.”

“Au gadreva meu vakavinavinakataki na *Leonardo Di Caprio Foundation*, ena vuku ni nodratou veivuke kei na cakacaka vata kei na Matanitu o Viti.”

“Au gadreva talega meu vakavinavinakataki na marama na mata nei Peritania e Viti e dabe tiko oqo ena nodratou veivuke ena vuku ni *Fiji Rural Electrification Fund*.”

“O rau oqo e ivesu ni matanitu kei na isoqosoqo me vukea na Matanitu Viti na kena rawati na veivakalivalivataki ena ivurevure savasava.”

“Au gadreva meu vakavinavinakataki talega na *Synergise* keina *Energy Fiji Limited* ena nodrau vukea e dua na veiwekani vakacakacakaca ena kena rawati me vukei o Viti ena rawati ni veivakalivalivataki ena ivurevure savasava.”

“Au gadreva talega meu vakavinavinakataki kina *Fiji Locally Managed Marine Areas* se FLMMA.”

“Sa tiko na ituvatuva ena kena vakalivalivataki e 300 na veitikitiko vakaoqo ena noda vanua. Dou sa tekivuna na ilakolako oqo e Vio.”

VOQA NI DAVUI

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

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

Vakarauwai
9pm (30 na miniti)
Radio Fiji One

Sigatabu
8.45pm (30 na miniti)
Radio Fiji One

फीजी फोकस



फीजी के लिए अई डी बी गवना तथा बोर्ड ऑफ़ गनवर्ज़ के चेया, अटोनी जेनरल तथा मिनिस्टा ऑफ़ इकोनोमी - अईयाज़ सईयद खईयूम जापान के सहायक प्रधान मंत्री तारो असो के साथ फोटो: ननीसे नेईमिला

अई डी बी की सभा

वीरन्द्र लाल

एशियन डिवेलपमेंट बैंक ने एक नया एक्शन प्लेन लॉन्च किया है जिसके तहत औशन हेल्थ और मरीन इकोनोमी प्रोजेक्ट्स के लिए फायनेंसिंग और तकनीकी सहायता में बढ़ोत्तरी की गई है।

इस साल से सन् दो हजार चौबीस (2024) तक इन योजनाओं के लिए दस दसमलव सात (\$10.7b) डोलर अलग किए गए हैं। इसकी घोषणा करते हुए अई डी बी के अध्यक्ष ताकेहिको नकाव ने कहा कि एशिया और प्रशांत के देश, समुद्री प्रदूषण का सामना कर रहे हैं जिससे उनकी अर्थ-व्यवस्था पर विपरीत असर पड़ रहा है।

उन्होंने बताया कि फीजी में सभा करके, अई

डी बी ने छोटे द्वीप राष्ट्रों को यह मौका प्रदान किया है कि वे अपनी समस्याओं के बारे में बताएं और अपनी चुनौतियाँ आम करें।

सभा बुधवार को शुरू हुई और सभा से पहले श्री नकाव ने फीजी के लिए अई डी बी गवना तथा बोर्ड ऑफ़ गनवर्ज़ के चेया, अटोनी जेनरल तथा मिनिस्टा ऑफ़ इकोनोमी - अईयाज़ सईयद खईयूम के साथ बैठक की। उनका पारम्परिक स्वागत शुक्रवार को किया गया।

स्वागत भाषण में प्रधान मंत्री वीरेन्गे बाइनिमारामा ने कहा कि दो बातों के लिए यह सभा यहाँ इतिहास कायम कर रही है, एक तो पहली बार यह सभा फीजी में हो रही है और दूसरा, इस सभा में दो हजार से ज्यादा डेलेगट्स भाग ले रहे हैं। प्रधान मंत्री ने कहा कि यह सभा, दुनिया भर से लोगों को फीजी

खीच लाई है।

प्रधान मंत्री के अनुसार फीजी केवल क्षेत्र का ही नहीं बल्कि पूरे प्रशांत का हब बनने जा रहा है। उन्होंने बताया कि और बड़ा कोन्वेंशन सेन्टर बनाने की योजना है जिसमें साढ़े चार हजार लोग एक साथ बैठ सकेंगे। उन्होंने बताया कि इससे इनटानेशनल मोनेट्री फण्ड और वोल्ड बैंक की सभाएं भी यहाँ हो सकेंगी।

फीजी सन् उन्नीस सौ सत्तर (1970) में अई डी बी में शामिल हुआ था और तब से अई डी बी की कई योजनाएं यहाँ जारी हैं। फीजी में विश्वास रखने के लिए प्रधान मंत्री बाइनिमारामा ने अई डी बी को धन्यवाद दिया। उन्होंने कहा कि फीजी को इस बात का गर्व है कि वह अई डी बी के साथ मिलकर काम कर रहा है।

प्रशांत के लिए अई डी बी के रीजनल डायरेक्टा

मासायुकी ताचीरी ने बताया कि इसकी सम्भावना है कि नांदी में एक फलड मेनेजमेंट प्रोजेक्ट अपनाया जाए। उन्होंने बताया कि इससे शहर को बहुत फायदा होगा और इस प्रोजेक्ट के लिए वे तैयारियाँ करने लगे हैं।

ताचीरी के अनुसार प्राकृतिक विपत्तियों से छोटे राष्ट्रों की अर्थ-व्यवस्था पर बहुत बुरा असर पड़ता है।

पहली बार फीजी में इस स्तर की सभा हुई जिसमें तिरासी (83) देशों के कई सौ की संख्या में डेलेगट्स ने भाग लिया। एक सौ से ज्यादा विदेशी पत्रकार इस सभा पर रिपोर्ट देने के लिए फीजी आए हुए थे। कई देशों में इस सभा का सीधा प्रसारण भी हुआ। फीजी इस सभा की मेज़बानी करने वाला पहला प्रशांत राष्ट्र हो गया है।



फीजी का पहला जोब फेयर



सुवा के नेशनल जिम्नेज़ियम में हुवे जोब फेयर के उद्घाटन के दौरान रोज़गार मंत्री प्रवीन कुमार वाला , सहायक यूथ मंत्री अलिपाते नंगाता और अन्य लोग
फोटो: ननसे नेईमिला

सोनम सामी

एक सौ से भी अधिक फीजियन्स गम्भीर वर्षा होने के बावजूद फीजी में आयोजित सब से पहले जोब फेयर में भाग लिया।

सुवा के नेशनल जिम्नेज़ियम में हुवे इस जोब फेयर का उद्घाटन करते हुए रोज़गार मंत्री प्रवीन कुमार वाला ने कहा कि जोब फेयर यह अवसर प्रदान करता है जहाँ लोग मिलते हैं, नेटवर्किंग करते हैं और मज़दूर मालिक संभावित साझेदारी बनाते हैं।

उन्होंने बताया कि जोब फेयर लोगों को अपने करियर बढ़ाने के लिए सूचना प्राप्त करने का अवसर भी प्रदान करता है।

इस दो दिवसीय कार्यक्रम में बेरोज़गार लोगों को ज्ञान और हुनर के साथ सशक्त किया गया और प्रशिक्षण प्रदान किया गया जिससे उन्हें नौकरी ढूँढने में आसानी होगी।

मंत्री वाला ने कहा कि इस तरह की व्यवस्थाएं, स्कूल लीवज़ और ग्रेजुवट्स को कार्य की दुनिया में सुचारू रूप से प्रवेश करने में मदद करेंगी।

एक तरफ नौकरी चाहने वालों को मज़दूर मालिकों को अपनी ओर आकर्षित करने की आवश्यकता है और दूसरी ओर, मज़दूर मालिकों को सबसे अच्छे ग्रेजुवट्स या उम्मीदवारों के लिए अनुकूल परिस्थिति तैयार करने की ज़रूरत है।

इस जोब फेयर में बीस (20) प्रायवट सेक्टर संस्थाओं, मिडिया, नौ (9) उच्च शिक्षा संस्थानों और तेरह (13) सरकारी मंत्रालयों ने भाग लिया।

होंग कोंग के व्यापारी फीजी आना चाहते हैं

वीरन्द्र लाल

होंग कोंग से और पुंजीपतियों को फीजी आकर्षित करने पर काम हो रहा है। होंग कोंग के दौरे पर व्यापार मंत्री प्रेमिला कुमार ने होंग कोंग फीजी चेम्बा ओफ़ कोमेस के प्रधान और सदस्यों से मुलाकात की।

मंत्री के साथ मंत्रालय के स्थाई सचिव शहीन अलि, ट्रैडिंग कमिश्नर/चीन में फीजी के कौंसल जनरल डाक्टर योलिंदा चैन, होनोरीरी कौंसल डाक्टर डेस्मन ली तथा अन्य उच्च अधिकारियों ने चेम्बा ओफ़ कोमेस के साथ व्यापार और पुंजी की योजनाओं के बारे में विचार किया।

होंग कोंग चेम्बा ओफ़ कोमेस की स्थापना सन् दो हजार बारह में की गई थी और तब से फीजी में कुल मिलाकर छब्बीस (26) योजनाओं में पूंजी लगाई गई है जिनका मूल्य पचाव्हे दसमलव छः मिलियन (\$95.6m) डोलर से ज्यादा बताया गया है। चेम्बा ओफ़ कोमेस होंग कोंग सेवन्स जैसे इवेंट्स का इस्तेमाल करके भी वहाँ व्यापारिक समुदाय में फीजी का बढ़ावा देता है।

मंत्री कुमार ने बताया कि फीजी की सरकार नए पुंजीपतियों को समर्थन प्रदान करने के लिए तैयार है जो देश में नए विचार और उपकरण लेकर आयेंगे।

मंत्री ने कहा कि पैसिफिक के हब होने के नाते फीजी के पास यातायात, संचार, व्यापार, अंग्रेज़ी बोलने वाले लोग और इनटर्नेट की अच्छी व्यवस्था होने के रूप में बहुत कुछ देने को है और इससे होंग कोंग के पुंजीपतियों को पूरे प्रशांत क्षेत्र के बाज़ार उपलब्ध हो जाएंगे।

चेम्बा ओफ़ कोमेस के चेयामेन पीटा लुई ने बताया कि उनके सदस्य फीजी में व्यापार करने में दिलचस्पी दिखा रहे हैं और गम्भीरता से यह विचार कर रहे हैं कि फीजी में किन क्षेत्रों में पूंजी लगाई जाए।

मंत्री ने मकाउ का भी दौरा किया जहाँ उन्होंने मकाउ फीजी चेम्बा ओफ़ कोमेस की स्थापना की। इससे फीजी और मकाउ के बीच सीधा व्यापारिक सम्बंध हो जाएगा। मंत्री ने स्थानापन्न चीफ एडमिनिस्ट्रिटर जनरल चैन होई फेन और स्थानापन्न कमिशनर वेंग डोंग से भी मुलाकात की।



विमन, चिल्लर एन्ड पोवटी अलेविअईशन मंत्री मेरेसईनी वुनिवांगा और शिक्षा मंत्री रौज़ी अक्वर कुछ अधिकारियों के साथ
फोटो: ननसे नेईमिला

विज्ञान में दिलचस्पी बढ़ाने में मदद करने वाली एक योजना

वीरन्द्र लाल

स्कूल में लड़कियों में साइंस, टेक्नोलोजी, एन्जीनिरिंग एन्ड मेथमेटिक्स (STEM) की पढ़ाई करने में दिलचस्पी जगाने के लिए एक योजना लॉंच की गई है। इस योजना की लॉंचिंग एक गैर-सरकारी संस्था, ग्रेजुवट विमन ने सरकार के साथ मिलकर की है।

स्टेम (STEM) नाम की इस योजना के तहत तीस लड़कियाँ चार दिनों के एक कैम्प में साथ आयेंगी और एक्सपेरिमेंट्स में भाग लेंगी और साइंस, टेक्नोलोजी, एन्जीनिरिंग एन्ड मेथमेटिक्स (STEM) की पढ़ाई करने में दिलचस्पी जगायेंगी। इस योजना की लॉंचिंग के अवसर पर विमन, चिल्लर एन्ड पोवटी अलेविअईशन मंत्री मेरेसईनी वुनिवांगा और शिक्षा मंत्री रौज़ी अक्वर उपस्थित थीं। दोनों मंत्रियों ने इसपर ज़ोर दिया कि महिलाओं और लड़कियों के हुनर और ज्ञान विकसित करने में मदद करने वाली किसी भी योजना का सरकार समर्थन करेगी।

“एक महिला को शिक्षित करने से महिला का

विश्वास और उनका आत्म सम्मान बढ़ता है। इससे महिला को सामाजिक कारवाइयों में भाग लेने का बढ़ावा मिलता है। महिलाओं को शिक्षा सम्बंधी निर्णय लेने में शामिल होने की ज़रूरत है”, मंत्री वुनिवांगा ने कहा।

उन्होंने बताया कि शिक्षा के लिए बराबर का मौका उपलब्ध कराने और स्कूल में लड़कियों की संख्या बढ़ाने में सरकार और समाज दोनों को मिलकर काम करना होगा।

मंत्री वुनिवांगा के अनुसार इससे गरीबी कम होगी जबकि लम्बे दौर में एक शिक्षित महिला अपने बच्चों को जीवन में बेहतर चुनाव करने में मदद करेगी।

मंत्री अक्वर ने यही बात दोहराते हुए बताया कि उनका मंत्रालय इस योजना का समर्थन कर रहा है और उन्होंने कहा कि माता पिताओं को भी इस तरह की योजनाओं में आगे रहने की ज़रूरत है।

इस योजना के लिए कुल मिलाकर दो सौ (200) अर्जियाँ मिली थी लेकिन केवल तीस (30) लड़कियों को चुना गया है जिनकी उम्र छः से तेरह (6 - 13) साल के बीच है। यह कैम्प उन्तीस अप्रैल से दो मई (April 29 - May 2) तक हुआ।



“एक महिला को शिक्षित करने से महिला का विश्वास और उनका आत्म सम्मान बढ़ता है। इससे महिला को सामाजिक कारवाइयों में भाग लेने का बढ़ावा मिलता है। एक शिक्षित महिला अपने बच्चों को जीवन में बेहतर चुनाव करने में मदद करेगी।

विमन, चिल्लर एन्ड पोवटी अलेविअईशन मंत्री मेरेसईनी वुनिवांगा

नेशनल मिनिमम वर्डज पर पुनः विचार

वीरन्द्र लाल

सरकार एमप्लोयमेंट मंत्रालय के जरिए नेशनल मिनिमम वर्डज और वेतन से सम्बंधित कानूनों पर पुनः विचार कर रही है। इसमें अर्थव्यवस्था के फोमल और इनफोमल सेक्टर में मजदूर और मजदूर मालिकों को निशाना बनाया जा रहा है।

इसपर मंत्री मंडल की सहमति मिलने पर रोजगार मंत्री प्रवीन कुमार बाला ने कहा कि समाज के सहज से शिकार होने वाले लोगों को बचाने और गरीबी हटाने के इरादे से उन्हें सामान्य जीवन स्तर प्रदान करने के लिए ऐसा किया जा रहा है।

“हमारा मंत्रालय ने पिछले महिने के मध्य से देश के सभी विभागों में सर्वे शुरू कर दिया है। तीसरी बार अर्थ-शास्त्री डाक्टर पारथा गंगोपाध्याय सरकार की पुनः विचार कमीटी की अगुवाई करेंगे। इसमें मंत्रालय के कुछ अधिकारी रहेंगे। कुल मिलाकर अट्ठासी (88) इनिउमेरडेटज सर्वेक्षण में शामिल हैं। सर्वे समाप्त होने पर और कौंसल्टन्ट्स वर्डज सर्वे रिपोर्ट निकलने पर मंत्रालय देश भर में लोगों से इसपर उनका विचार लेगा। इस रिपोर्ट को फिर एमप्लोयमेंट रिलीशन्स एडवायज़री बोर्ड Employment Relations Advisory Board (ERAB) के समक्ष रखा जाएगा और विचार करने और निर्णय लेने के लिए फिर मंत्री-मंडल को सौंपा जाएगा।”

मंत्री बाला ने सभी मजदूर मालिकों, कर्मचारियों और आम जनता से इस ज़रूरी कारवाई में भाग लेने की मांग की है ताकि उनके विचारों को इसमें शामिल किया जाए ताकि यह न्यायसंगत रहे, सुबूत पर आधारित रहे और ज्यादा से ज्यादा जानकारी प्रदान करे।

उन्होंने लोगों से इनिउ-मेरडेटज के पहचान पत्र देखने की मांग की।



शिक्षा मंत्री रौज़ी अक्बर, फीजियन टीचर्स असोसिएशन के सलाना डेलिगेट्स कोन्फरन्स का उद्घाटन करती हुई।

एफ टी अई डेलिगेट्स कोन्फरन्स का उद्घाटन

वीरन्द्र लाल

बच्चों के साथ बात-चीत अध्यापकों की भूमिका का एक अहम भाग है। शिक्षा मंत्री रौज़ी अक्बर, फीजियन टीचर्स असोसिएशन के सलाना डेलिगेट्स कोन्फरन्स में बोल रही थी। इस कोन्फरन्स का थीम “साथ मिलकर हम एक उज्ज्वल फीजी बना सकते हैं” था और इसमें एक सौ पच्चास से ज्यादा डेलिगेट्स ने भाग लिया।

मंत्री ने कहा कि टीचर्स, बच्चों के अलावा माता

पिताओं को भी सलह प्रदान करते हैं।

“मुझे इसकी पुष्टि करते हुए खुशी होती है कि जो टीचर्स कौंसलिंग प्रदान करने में दिलचस्पी लेते हैं, उनके हुनर बढ़ाने की दिशा में हम कदम उठा रहे हैं। हम सामाजिक संस्थाओं के जरिए, स्कूल्स और टीचर्स को प्रोफेशनल कौंसलिंग सपोर्ट प्रदान करेंगे।”

मंत्री अक्बर ने कहा कि लेसन प्लेन्स पर पुनः विचार करने की ज़रूरत है ताकि हम अन्य देशों के साथ रहें।

“अपना लेसन प्लेन तैयार करते वक्त बच्चों की सीखने की क्षमता पर ध्यान रखें और यह देखें कि लेसन दिलचस्प हों जिससे बच्चे उसमें दिलचस्पी लें। टीचर्स को शिक्षा को जीवन से जोड़ना चाहिए ताकि सफल होने के लिए बच्चे ज़रूरी हुनर हासिल करें।”

मंत्री ने कहा कि बच्चों की देखभाल को लेकर, टीचर्स को ज़िम्मेदार होना चाहिए।

उन्होंने कहा कि बच्चों पर हाथ उठाने वाले टीचर्स के खिलाफ कदम उठाया जाएगा।



राष्ट्रपति मईजा जेनरल (रिटायर्ड) चोची कोन्रोते, फीजी स्काउट्स असोसिएशन की आम सभा के दौरान देश भर के अन्य स्काउट्स के साथ

स्काउटिंग समाज में एक प्रमुख भूमिका निभाता है

वीरन्द्र लाल

युवा लोगों के विकास में फीजी स्काउट्स असोसिएशन काफी योगदान देता है। यह कहना है राष्ट्रपति मईजा जेनरल (रिटायर्ड) चोची कोन्रोते का जो फीजी स्काउट्स असोसिएशन की आम सभा में बोल रहे थे।

“इससे युवाओं का शारीरिक, दिमागी, समाजिक और धार्मिक विकास होता है और वे अपने स्थानिए समाज, राष्ट्रीय और अंतर्राष्ट्रीय समाज के ज़िम्मेदार सदस्य होते हैं।”

राष्ट्रपति कोन्रोते ने कहा कि सभी स्काउट्स को समर्थन प्रदान किया

जाएगा जो अच्छा करना चाहते हैं।

“स्काउटिंग आज हर सभ्य समाज में एक प्रमुख भूमिका निभाता है। युवा लोग जब बड़ों की निगरानी में नहीं रहते हैं, तो गलत कार्यों में फस जाते हैं जैसे नशीले पदार्थों का सेवन, चोरी चमारी और मार-पीट इत्यादि।”

राष्ट्रपति ने बताया कि स्काउटिंग युवाओं को गलत कार्यों से दूर रखता है और अपने आप-पास रहने वाले लोगों के बीच दोस्ती बढ़ाती है तथा उनके बीच समझ-बूझ बढ़ाता है।

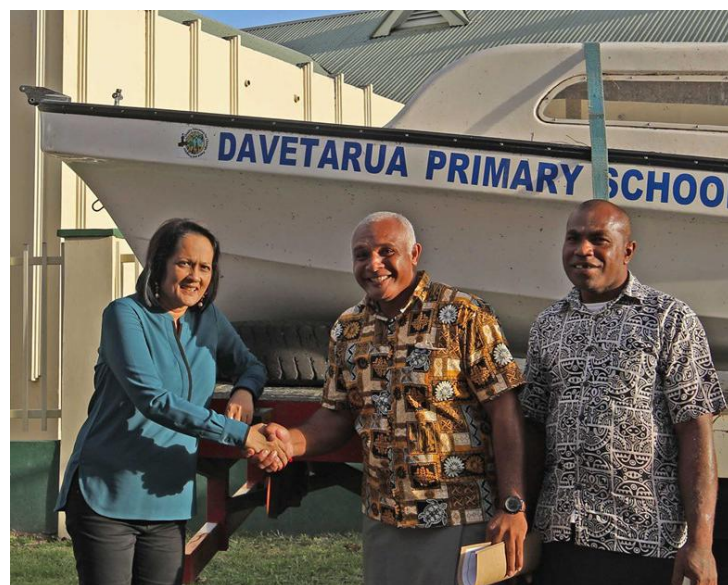
सभा में फीजी भर के स्काउट्स ने भाग लिया था।



राष्ट्रपति ने भारत की नई हाय कमिशनर का स्वागत किया

राष्ट्रपति मईजा जेनरल (रिटायर्ड) चौची कोन्गेते ने भारत की नई उच्चायुक्त महामहोम पदमजा का प्रमाण पत्र स्वीकार किया। महामहोम पदमजा जो अपने पति श्री मनोज पांडे के साथ राष्ट्रपति भवन गई थी, फीजी आने से पहले नई दिल्ली भारत में इंडियन कौंसिल ऑफ कल्चरल रिलेशन्स में सहायक डायरेक्टर जेनरल थी। इससे पहले वह नई दिल्ली भारत में मिनिस्ट्री ऑफ एक्सटर्नल अफेयर्स में जॉईंट सेक्रेटरी थी। वह भारत और इंग्लैंड में कूटनीतिक पद सम्भाल चुकी हैं। उनके पास एमिएनट हिस्ट्री में मास्टर ऑफ आर्ट्स डिग्री है।

फोटो: एम कोरेईतानोआ



शिक्षा मंत्री ग्रामीण और समुद्री इलाकों में स्कूलों की यातायात सहायता पहुंचाती हुई

शिक्षा मंत्री गैज़ी अक्वर ने वार्डसोमो हाउज़ युवा में ग्रामीण और समुद्री इलाकों में स्कूलों के मुख्यों को यातायात की सहायता पहुंचाई। दवेतारू प्रायमरी स्कूल (नाउ), डाक विलज स्कूल (नाईलेवु), कोमो विलज स्कूल (कम्बारा), नकासलेका डिस्ट्रिक्ट स्कूल (कन्दावु) और मोटे डिस्ट्रिक्ट स्कूल (लाउ) को एक एक बोट और एक एक एंजिन मिली है। वार्डनिमाला सेकन्डरी स्कूल (नईतामिरी) को उसके बोट के लिए एक एंजिन मिली है। गेनुमा हाय स्कूल और लेबुका में सर्टेट जूनियर कोलज को एक एक स्कूल बस मिली है। मंत्री ने कहा कि यातायात प्रदान करके सरकार यह कोशिश कर रही है कि ज्यादा से ज्यादा बच्चे शिक्षा हासिल करें।

फोटो: सप्लाय किया गया था



स्थानिए लोग दुनिया को अपनी कला का प्रदर्शन कर रहे हैं

स्थानिए लोग देनाराउ नांदी में एशियन डिबेलमेंट बैंक की आम सभा का फायदा उठाते हुए, सभा में भाग लेने वाले विदेशी डेलिगेट्स को अपनी कला और हुनर का प्रदर्शन कर रहे हैं। इन प्रदर्शनकारियों का कहना है कि उनकी कला और हुनर ने काफी विदेशी डेलिगेट्स को आकर्षित किया। तेइस वर्षिए एस्टन प्रेस्कॉट जो कंन्वस पर पेंट करते हैं, ने बताया कि आई डी बी की इस सभा ने उन्हें दुनिया को अपनी कला दिखाने का एक सुनहरा मौका प्रदान किया।

फोटो: हलितेश दत्त



आई डी बी की सभा में भाग ले रहे डेलिगेट्स

आई डी बी के अध्यक्ष ने सभा में भाग लेने वालों के लिए नाश्ता की आयोजना की। अर्तोनो जेनरल आईयाज़ सईयद खईयूम और एशियन डिबेलमेंट बैंक के अध्यक्ष ताकैहिको नाकावा नाश्ते के दौरान हंसी मजाक करते हुए। सभा के दूसरे दिन थैटी अन्डा थैटी सब के जुवान पर थी। इस दिन ओशन हेल्थ, जलवायु परिवर्तन से

कैसे निपटा जाए और आई डी बी की अमरकारिता पर चर्चा हुई। सभा के तीसरे दिन सबका पारम्परिक स्वागत किया गया जिसमें प्रधान मंत्री वीरेन्ना बाइनिमारागा ने भाग लिया।

फोटो: हलितेश दत्त





फल आयात कम करने का सरकार का प्रयास जारी

वीरेंद्र लाल

फल और शाक सब्जी के आयात से होने वाले व्यापारिक घाटे को सरकार कम करने की दिशा में काम कर रही है।

सरकार की एक नई योजना - एस्टब्लिशमेंट ऑफ फ्रूट ट्री ओर्चार्ड्स (Establishment of Fruit Tree Orchards) को लॉन्च करते हुए कृषि मंत्रालय के डेपुटी सेक्रेटरी फॉर एगरिकल्चर डिवेलपमेंट, चोने सोवालावा ने ऐसा कहा।

“फीजी अपने पारम्परिक फल जैसे केला, अनरस, पपीता और आम पर सालों से निर्भर है और सेब, संतरा, पेया और अंगूर आयात किए जाते हैं जबकि इनकी भी काफी मांग है।”

कृषि आँकड़ों के मुताबिक फीजी हर साल इक्कीस दसमलव चार मिलियन डॉलर (\$21.4m) मूल्य

के ताज़ा फल और तीन लाख तीस हजार डॉलर (\$330,000) मूल्य के प्रोसेस्ड फल आयात करता है।

“फीजी आयात बिल पचास प्रतिशत से घटाने की क्षमता रखता है। यहाँ और फल उत्पादित किए जा सकते हैं। अभी अपने टूरिज़्म क्षेत्र की माँगों की पूर्ती करने के लिए फीजी, आयात किए गए समानों पर निर्भर रहता है। ग्रामीण और समुद्री इलाकों में भोजन की सुरक्षा को लेकर, फीजी की अर्थ-व्यवस्था के विकास में कृषि क्षेत्र भारी योगदान दे सकता है।”

सोवालावा ने कहा कि आयात किए गए फलों की जगह स्थानीय फल काम में लाए जा सकते हैं। उन्होंने ने कहा कि कृषि मंत्रालय इस खोज पर काम कर रहा है कि स्थानीय कृषि क्षेत्र कैसे सही मात्रा में उच्च स्तर के समान लगातार उत्पादित कर सकते

हैं जिससे कि इन समानों का सप्लाय मार्केट में बना रहे।

“इस योजना के तहत मंत्रालय यह देखेगा कि जगह जगह पर स्थानीय फल हमारे स्थानीय लोगों के लिए, टूरिज़्म व्यवसाय के लिए और निर्यात बाज़ार के लिए उपलब्ध रहें।

किसानों को फलों की नई वेरायटीज़ उपलब्ध कराई जायेंगी ताकि वे अपना उत्पादन बढ़ा सकें। उत्पादन बढ़ाने से इन सामानों को आयात नहीं करना पड़ेगा और इसके साथ साथ इन सामानों को निर्यात भी किया जा सकेगा।

कृषि मंत्रालय इसपर भी अनुसंधान कर रहा है कि किस तरह से कम खर्च में ज्यादा सामान उत्पादित किए जाएँ और कीड़े मकड़ों तथा बीमारियों के साथ साथ मौसम में बदलाव से भी कैसे इन सामानों पर असर ना पड़े।



अहमद सलेम अलवेहडव और विदेश मंत्री इनिया सेरुईरातु

फीजी और कुवैत के बीच सम्बंध और मज़बूत

वीरेंद्र लाल

फीजी और कुवैत के बीच सम्बंध और मज़बूत होने की सम्भावना है।

फीजी के लिए कुवैत के राजदूत, अहमद सलेम अलवेहडव ने फीजी के रक्षा एवं विदेश मंत्री इनिया सेरुईरातु से मुलाकात की। सभा के दौरान दोनों नेता, फीजी के प्राथमिकता वाले क्षेत्रों में मिलकर काम करने पर सहमत हुए खासकर जलवायु परिवर्तन से पड़े असर से निपटने और समुद्री सुरक्षा के क्षेत्र में।

कुवैत ने सन् दो हजार पाँच में फीजी के साथ कुटनितिज्ञ सम्बंध स्थापित किया था।

कुवैत अपने डिवेलपमेंट अजेन्सी के जरिए फीजी को तकनीकी सहायता पहुँचाता है। इसमें सावुसावु वोटा और वर्डस्ट-वोटा इनफास्ट्रक्चर का अध्ययन करना शामिल है। यहाँ पहला पेरिफेरिक आयलैंड्स डिवेलपमेंट फोरम Pacific Islands Development Forum (PIDF) शिखरवार्ता रखने में भी कुवैत सहयोग दे रहा है। फीजी के कुछ लोग फिलहाल कुवैत में काम भी कर रहे हैं खासकर सेकिउरिटी और रिटर्नल क्षेत्र में।

अंतराष्ट्रीय शांति और सुरक्षा बनाए रखने में दोनों देश शांति सेवा में भी योगदान दे रहे हैं।

कुवैत अभी राष्ट्र संघ सुरक्षा परिषद् का स्थाई सदस्य नहीं है। फीजी के सैनिकों ने मध्य-पूर्व में शांति सेवा प्रदान की है खासकर कुवैत में।



स्वास्थ्य मंत्री डाक्टर इफेरेमी वागाइनम्बेते चीनी दूतावास के अधिकारियों से औज़ारों को स्वीकार करते हुए फोटो: ननिसे नेईमिला

एन सी डीज़ का जल्द पता करने के लिए औज़ार

वीरेंद्र लाल

सरकार को चीन की सरकार से ऐसे औज़ार मिले हैं जिनकी मदद से स्वास्थ्य अधिकारी दिल सम्बंधी बीमारियों, मधुमेह, साँस लेने सम्बंधी बीमारियों और केन्सा का जल्द पता कर सकेंगे।

इन औज़ारों को स्वीकार करते हुए स्वास्थ्य मंत्री डाक्टर इफेरेमी वागाइनम्बेते ने चीनी सरकार को

धन्यवाद देते हुए कहा कि स्वास्थ्य मंत्रालय अब इन बीमारियों के परिक्षण में तेज़ी लायेगा ताकि बीमारी के शुरूआती दिनों में ही उसे दबा दिया जाए।

“एक वेलनस पासबुक पर काम किया जा रहा है और यह सत्तर (70) वर्ष तक के सभी फीजियन्स को दिया जाएगा। इसमें लोगों के स्वास्थ्य के बारे में सभी जानकारी रहेगी।”

सत्तरह हजार अमरीकी डॉलर (\$US17,000) मूल्य के इन औज़ारों से जीवन जीने सम्बंधी बीमारियों यानि नोन कोम्मुनिक्वल डीजीसस (NCD's) का जल्द पता लगाया जा सकेगा। इन औज़ारों में ब्लड प्रेशर मोनिटर, स्टेथेस्कॉप्स, वय स्कईल्स और ब्लड ग्लूकोस मोनिटर शामिल हैं।

डाक्टर वागाइनम्बेते ने सभी

फीजियन्स से हर साल अपना डाक्टरी परिक्षण कराने की माँग की है ताकि उन्हें बीमारियों के बारे में पता चले और यह भी पता चले कि कौन सी बीमारी होने की सम्भावना बनी हुई है।

चीनी दूतावास के हुवांग सुहु ने कहा कि इस सहायता से फीजी की सरकार को देश में नोन कोम्मुनिक्वल डीजीसस (NCD's) पर काबु पाने में मदद मिलेगी।



एक वेलनस पासबुक पर काम किया जा रहा है और यह सत्तर (70) वर्ष तक के सभी फीजियन्स को दिया जाएगा। इसमें लोगों के स्वास्थ्य के बारे में सभी जानकारी रहेगी।

स्वास्थ्य मंत्री
डाक्टर इफेरेमी
वागाइनम्बेते

ओर्डर ओफ फीजी सम्मान के लिए नामांकन

वीरेंद्र लाल

ओर्डर ओफ फीजी सम्मान के लिए लोगों से नाम देने की मांग की जा रही है। ऐसे लोगों के नाम देने की मांग की जा रही है जिन्होंने कोई बहादुरी का काम किया हो। ऐसे लोगों का नाम जिन्होंने बहादुरी का काम करते वक्त अपनी जान जोखिम में डाला हो।

अगर आप ऐसे बहादुरी का काम करने वाले किसी व्यक्ति को जानते हैं और आप सोचते हैं कि व्यक्ति को इस कार्य के लिए सम्मानित करना चाहिए और उन्हें पुरस्कार मिलना चाहिए, तो आपको उनका नाम देना चाहिए।

इसके लिए एक फॉर्म तैयार किया गया है जिसमें नाम देने वाले और जिनका नाम सम्मान के लिए दिया जा रहा है, के बारे में जानकारी भरनी होगी।

फॉर्म आप राष्ट्रपति के दफ्तर से प्राप्त कर सकते हैं।

फॉर्म भरकर समय पर लौटाना होगा ताकि जिस घटना की जानकारी आपने दी है, उसकी पुष्टि की जा सके और उस बारे में और जानकारी हासिल की जा सके।

यह सम्मान अक्टूबर में फीजी डेय के दौरान दिया जाता है।



सोला हायब्रिड प्रोजेक्ट के उद्घाटन के अवसर पर इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर मंत्री चोने उसामाते तुकावेसी के लोगों के साथ फोटो:जोसईया रलांगो

सोला हायब्रिड प्रोजेक्ट से लोगों को फायदा

वीरेंद्र लाल

तुकावेसी में सोला हायब्रिड प्रोजेक्ट से तीन सौ से ज्यादा लोगों को फायदा होगा।

प्रोजेक्ट का उद्घाटन करते हुए इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर मंत्री चोने उसामाते ने बताया कि ब्यान्वे (92) घरों को और पास के कामा डिस्ट्रिक्ट स्कूल को बिलजी मिलेगी। उन्होंने बताया कि इस योजना से तीन सौ बाहत्तर (372) लोगों के जीवन में सुधार आयेगा। उन्होंने बताया कि सरकार ने इस योजना में एक मिलियन डॉलर की पूंजी लगाई है।

मंत्री ने कहा कि सरकार सन् दो हजार इक्कीस

(2021) तक सभी फीजियन्स को बिजली प्रदान करने की आशा करती है। “पिछले दस सालों में सरकार ने ग्रामीण बिजली योजनाओं (Rural Electrification Projects) में दो सौ तीस मिलियन (\$230m) डॉलर से ज्यादा पैसा लगाया है। इनमें ई एफ एल ग्रिड एक्सटेंशन, सोला हौम सिस्टम्स, मायको-हायड्रो और एनेजी हायब्रिड सिस्टम्स शामिल हैं।”

मंत्री उसामाते ने बताया कि सरकार ने इस बजट में इस तरह की योजनाओं के लिए इक्सठ दशमलव पाँच मिलियन डॉलर (\$61.5m) अलग किया है जोकि सन् दो हजार चौदह के मिलान में

तीन गुना ज्यादा है।

“सरकार इस दिशा में काम करना जारी रखेगी ताकि सन् दो हजार इक्कीस (2021) तक सभी फीजियन घरों में बिजली रहे, कोई घर में अंधेरा न रहे।”

मंत्री उसामाते ने सभी से बिजली ज़िम्मेदारी के साथ काम में लाने की मांग की।

उन्होंने कहा कि लोग इसके इस्तेमाल करके अपनी आमदनी बढ़ा सकते हैं और व्यापारिक मौकों उपलब्ध कर सकते हैं। उन्होंने कहा कि लोग अपना और अपने बच्चों का भविष्य संवार सकते हैं।

सन् दो हजार उन्नीस सुरक्षा तथा काम पर स्वास्थ्य विश्व दिवस

वीरेंद्र लाल

उत्तरी विभाग में सन् दो हजार उन्नीस सुरक्षा तथा काम पर स्वास्थ्य विश्व दिवस के अवसर पर एक दिवसीय कार्यशाला की आयोजना की गई थी।

कार्यशाला जिसका लक्ष्य था लोगों को काम पर सुरक्षा के बारे में जानकारी देना, का उद्घाटन करते हुए सहायक रोजगार मंत्री एल्विक महाराज ने कहा कि इस दिवस को हर साल उन कर्मचारियों की याद में मनाया जाता है जो काम पर मारे गए हैं, घायल हुए हैं या काम के कारण से बीमार पड़े हैं।

“यह इस लिए भी मनाया जाता है कि काम पर कैसे दुर्घटनाओं और बीमारियों को रोकने का बढ़ावा दिया जाए। हमें यह विचार करने का मौका मिलता है कि हमने काम की जगहों पर क्या किया है और इसे कैसे और सुरक्षित बनाया जाए।”

मजदूर मालिकों के प्रतिनिधि नोएल तोफिंगा ने कहा कि कर्मचारी अक्सर काम पर सुरक्षा को लेकर चौकन्ना नहीं रहते हैं।

उन्होंने कहा कि लोगों को अपने कोन्ट्रैक्ट के आधार पर काम करना चाहिए और साथ साथ अपने स्वास्थ्य और अपने परिवार के स्वास्थ्य का भी खयाल रखना चाहिए। उन्होंने कहा कि देखा जाए तो अभी फीजी में काफी लोगों की मृत्यु सत्तावन (57) की उम्र में हो जाती है।



स्वास्थ्य विश्व दिवस के अवसर पर कार्यशाला में भाग ले रहे लोग फोटो:जोसईया रलांगो

अंतरराष्ट्रीय लईबा संस्था (ILO) की प्रतिनिधि सुकाफा काताफोनो ने बताया कि कर्मचारियों को हर वक्त ओकुपईशनल हेल्थ एंड सैफ्टी (OHS) का पालन करना चाहिए। उन्होंने कहा कि हमें अपने काम पर हर वक्त खतरों से बचने का प्रयास करना चाहिए।

सहायक रोजगार मंत्री एल्विक महाराज ने सभी कर्मचारियों और मजदूर मालिकों से एक दूसरे के साथ मिलकर काम पर वातावरण सुरक्षित बनाने की मांग की है।

इस कार्यशाला में उत्तरी विभाग के पब्लिक और प्रायवट सेक्टर के पचास से ज्यादा लोगों ने भाग लिया।



ORDER OF FIJI (COMPANION)



OFFICER OF THE ORDER OF FIJI



MEMBER OF THE ORDER OF FIJI

OBVERSE

फीजी फोकस



फीजी
का पहला
जोब फेयर

2



स्काउटिंग
समाज में एक
प्रमुख भूमिका
निभाता है

3



प्रधान मंत्री वोरेंगे बाइनिमारासा सेन्टर का उद्घाटन करते हुए फोटो: ननिसे नेईमिला

दिल की बीमारी का पता लगाने के लिए मशीन

वीरेन्द्र लाल

फीजी में बच्चों में दिल की बीमारी का पता लगाने के लिए मशीन हो गई है। नसेसे में साई प्रेमा फाउंडेशन द्वारा संचालित संजीवनी मेडिकल सेन्टर में लोग जाकर मुफ्त में बच्चों के हार्ट स्क्रीनिंग करा पायेंगे।

सेन्टर की पहली वर्षगांठ पर प्रधान मंत्री वोरेंगे बाइनिमारासा ने बताया कि अच्छी स्वास्थ्य व्यवस्था हर फीजीवासी का संविधानिक अधिकार है और उनकी सरकार स्वास्थ्य सुविधाएं सुधारने की दिशा में काम करती रहेगी।

साई प्रेमा फाउंडेशन सन् दो हजार सोलह से सरकार के साथ मिलकर काम कर रहा है और पिछले लगभग एक साल में नसेसे स्थित मेडिकल सेन्टर ने पाँच हजार से ज्यादा लोगों को मुफ्त में सेवा प्रदान की है। यहाँ हार्ट सेजरीज भी हुई हैं और अब यह सुविधा साल भर उपलब्ध रहेगी। इसके अलावा सेन्टर पर जेनरल

कोन्सल्टईशन, ई सी जी (ECG), महिलाओं के स्वास्थ्य संबंधी सभी सेवाएं जिनमें गुप्तांग की जाँच के लिए पेप-स्मिया शामिल है और एन सी डीज़ (NCD's) की रोकथाम की खातिर सलह देने के लिए डायटीशियन उपलब्ध है। बाहर से आने वाले विशेषज्ञ डाक्टर यहाँ रहते भी हैं।

प्रधान मंत्री ने कहा कि जब किसी का बच्चा किसी गम्भीर बीमारी का शिकार हो जाता है, तब माता पिता बहुत परेशान हो जाते हैं।

वे चाहते हैं कि किसी भी तरह से बस उनका बच्चा ठीक हो जाए। प्रधान मंत्री के अनुसार स्थानिए रूप से हार्ट स्क्रीनिंग सुविधा उपलब्ध होने से माता पिता सुरक्षित महसूस करेंगे जबकि उनमें यह आशा की किरण जागी है कि उनका बच्चा ठीक हो सकता है और साई प्रेमा फाउंडेशन की मदद से यह इलाज मुफ्त में होगा।

उन्होंने कहा कि मोबाएल हार्ट स्क्रीनिंग डिवाइस की मदद से

ग्रामीण और भीतरी इलाकों में भी जाकर हार्ट स्क्रीनिंग किया जा सकता है। प्रधान मंत्री ने बताया कि इस उपकरण की मदद से दिल की बीमारी का पता चलने पर उसका इलाज जल्द किया जायेगा जिससे एक और जान बच जाए।

इस दौरान प्रधान मंत्री ने जानकारी दी कि स्वास्थ्य मंत्रालय अस्पतालों और हेल्थ सेन्टर में सुधार कर रहा है और बीमारियों के इलाज करने में तेजी लाने पर काम कर रहा है। उन्होंने यह भी बताया कि पब्लिक- प्रायवट पार्टनरशिप में काफी प्रगति हो रही है जबकि सरकार ओस्ट्रेलियन कम्पनी एस्पेन मेडिकल और एफ एन पी एफ (FNPF) के साथ मिलकर बा और लौतोका अस्पतालों को विश्व के अन्य अस्पतालों के स्तर पर लाना चाहती है।

लोगों के जीवन बचाने के लिए प्रधान मंत्री ने साई प्रेमा फाउंडेशन को धन्यवाद दिया और कहा कि राष्ट्र के स्वास्थ्य के प्रति उनके योगदान को कभी भुलाया नहीं जायेगा।