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Head of State encourages students to listen to their parents and teachers



Students of Bright Little One's Kindergarten School recently visited the State House. The visit culminates a week-long study of Fiji's history and celebration of Fiji Day. In his address to the students, the President Ratu Wiliame Katonivere urged them to listen to their parents and teachers and work hard so they could achieve their goals. The Head of State wished the students well in their future endeavors. The students were accompanied by their teachers and parents. **Photo: NANISE NEIMILA**

Fiji embraces “Pacific Zone of Peace”

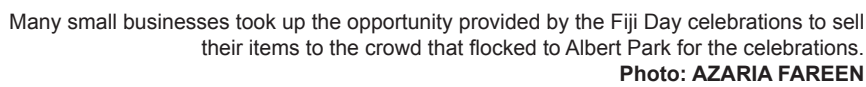
By PRASHILA DEVI

Fiji has thrown its support to the “Pacific Zone of Peace” as part of the Blue Pacific’s invaluable contribution to global order. This concept, which was brought up during the recently held United Nations General Assembly, reinforces dedication to fostering regional and global collaboration while sending a resounding message that Fiji was a staunch advocate for peace, both at home and on the international stage. As part of their 53rd Fiji Day message, President, Ratu Wiliame Katonivere, and Prime Minister, Sitiveni Rabuka, touched on this commitment. In the same vein, President Katonivere

acknowledged Fiji’s disciplined forces personnel serving as United Nations peacekeepers and volunteers for their sacrifices. “They are always at the forefront of our minds on Fiji Day because they embody the notion of service to our nation rather than self-serving,” he added. Prime Minister Rabuka explained, “The “Pacific Zone of Peace” was rooted in the fundamental values of mutual respect for each other’s sovereignty, territorial integrity, and political independence”. He said in a rapidly developing nation, peace was the catalyst for innovation, investment and economic growth. Elaborating further on this, President Katonivere said, “I reiterate the call of our Prime Minister, Sitiveni Rabuka

in his statement at the United Nations General Assembly on the introduction of the Zone of Peace as the contribution of our Blue Pacific to World Order”. The Head of State said after 53 years, Fiji was more resolute than ever to remain on that path of self-determination and self-governance. Prime Minister Rabuka added “as we celebrate our independence, we are reminded that peace is not only the absence of conflict but also the presence of cooperation and understanding among our people”. “In our multicultural society, peace serves as the cornerstone that nurtures unity and drives progress. It empowers us to harness the collective strength of our diverse backgrounds, cultures, and traditions,” he said.

“In our rapidly developing nation, peace is the catalyst for innovation, investment, and economic growth. It attracts partners and investors who recognise the stability and potential of a peaceful Fiji.” President Katonivere, while acknowledging the forefathers of the land who contributed immensely to Fiji’s development, said as a progressive economy and the hub of the Pacific in many areas, Fiji will continue to foster regionalism in facing regional and global challenges. “As we rebuild our nation together, we celebrate an inclusive Fiji, tolerant of all races, cultures and diversity whilst empowering the vulnerable. We celebrate Fiji that is our identity, our history, our future and our home,” he added.



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Aroma Kitchen takes full advantage of Fiji Day celebration



Owner of Aroma Kitchen, Felicia Keeys at her booth during the Fiji Day celebrations at Albert Park. **Photo: JAMIL SULEMAN**

By JAMIL SULEMAN

FIJIANS from around the country converged into the capital city to commemorate Fiji's 53rd year of independence. It was a joyous occasion with crowds of families, friends and civil servants dressed up in blue to participate in the Fiji Day celebrations and enjoy the Fiji Day market stalls at Albert Park.

The Fiji Day market stalls at Albert Park was a clear favourites as people took advantage of homemade products, food, and artworks that was on sale. Entrepreneur, Felicia Keeys, said she was so grateful to be part of the Fiji Day celebrations as it provided a good opportunity for businesses to grow their clientele.

"Today you get to see many new faces, new customers, you get to tell them about your products and listen to their stories," Mrs Keeys said. The business owner of Aroma Kitchen said Fiji Day was all about coming together.

The business that was founded in 2019 specialises in gluten and sugar free products which is also vegan. "It consists of pickles, dips and chutneys which you can incorporate it into a condiment or sauce," Mrs Keeys said.

"The concept came because my husband is gluten free and in 2018 Fiji did not have enough gluten free products to cater. So, I did my research and found out that all these traditional Indian pickles are gluten free," she added.

Mrs Keeys further added that their products use local ingredients that are readily available except for Himalaya salt that she imports from New Zealand.

She added the business name "Aroma Kitchen" originated from the aroma that was emitted by their products which attracts customers to their stall.

Mrs Keeys further highlighted that the business has gained popularity during the Rock Markets.



Daku thankful for Fiji Day celebration

By JAMIL SULEMAN

PEOPLE from all walks of life turned up in numbers to mark the day Fiji gained independence 53 years ago.

One of them was 69-year-old Ilimo Daku who was among the many Fijians at the celebration enjoying his second Fiji Day event at Albert Park after more than 50 years.

Mr Daku, who originally hails from Vanua Levu, said the festivities on Fiji Day made everyone joyful and reminded them of how much they previously enjoyed the Fiji Day holiday.

The Tamavua resident also said everyone had a great time and felt united by the event.

"I am so proud, after so many years we see people so happy to get together and enjoy their Fiji Day celebration," Mr Daku said

"I came by myself to join the crowd and celebrate with the people."

"This is my second time, the very first time was back in the 70's so after so many years I came back today," Mr Daku further said.



Arieta Naisoro with her two grandchildren. **Photo: PRASHANT SINGH**



Ilimo Daku from Vanua Levu enjoying his outing during the Fiji Day celebration at Albert Park. **Photo: JAMIL SULEMAN**

He recalled living in Savusavu when Fiji gained its independence in 1970, then coming to Suva for his secondary school education in 1971.

"It is very good to see there has been very big changes in regards to the people, the environment and the economy," Mr Daku said.

"Hopefully they will continue on with this kind of celebration in the next 10 or 15 years, so much the better," he further elaborated.

For Arieta Naisoro, who is originally from Lomaiviti but currently resides in Lami, it was a day to celebrate with her two grandchildren so that they can witness the Fiji Day celebration.

"For me, Fiji Day brings back memories of when we were in school and today I just wanted to bring my grandchildren to Albert Park as their dad is away in Australia," Mrs Naisoro said.

This year the Fiji Day celebrations were marked at multiple locations, including Albert Park in Suva, Natabua Golden Age home, Churchill Park in Lautoka, Subrail Park in Labasa and Levuka.

Early Fiji Day celebrations for France



[L-R] First Lady Filomena Katonivere, Sikeli Cawanikawai, Waisea Vosa, Teiti Sikuri, President Wiliame Katonivere and Asaeli Daulakeba during the President's tour at the French Foreign Legion in Paris, France **Photo: FELIX LESINAIVALU**

By FELIX LESINAIVALU

THE early celebrations of Fiji Day by the Fijian community in Lormont, Bordeaux France meant a lot for 29-year-old Waisea Vosa who has not been home in a while.

"This means a lot to Fijians living so far from home, to have a taste of what it's like to have someone like the President here to celebrate Fiji Day with us."

"It was an awesome experience to celebrate Fiji Day with Fijians from all over France."

Mr Vosa, who is in the French Foreign Legion, thanked his family in Kinoya for always supporting him and said he could not wait to be back home with them.

The President, Ratu Wiliame Katonivere, who was the chief guest during the Fiji Day celebrations, said it was a privilege for him to mark Fiji Day celebrations in the city of

Bordeaux, and especially in the suburb of Lormont, with the Fijian community.

"I was a young child when Fiji gained its independence."

"But I remember the aspirations that our parents had for Fiji. They envisioned a Fiji that is strong and resilient, that valued unity and equality in diversity that embraced the world with openness and curiosity, despite its geographical isolation."

The Head of State added that they dreamt of a Fiji that was inclusive and respectful of difference.

"A prosperous and progressive Fiji that offered economic opportunities and social justice to all its citizens."

"We have realised that we cannot build a future on the foundations of inequality, greed, or opportunism."

President Katonivere said Fijians have discovered that we can only build a future on the pillars of inclusive policies and social cohesion.

Lal goes down memory lane

By AZARIA FAREEN



Octogenarian, Rattan Lal inside his furniture shop. Photo: AZARIA FAREEN

IT has been 53-years since Fiji gained independence from Great Britain in 1970 and 80-year-old Rattan Lal fondly recalls his participation during the celebrations at the Albert Park on that day.

“I went to attend the celebrations of the Fiji Independence Day with the head of a Ramayan Mandali who had received an invitation from the Sanatan Dharam of Fiji,” Mr Lal recalled.

“I must have been in my mid 20’s and I was working at a furniture shop back then. There were a few people who I went with and we took a copy of the Ramayan and the Bhagavat Gita which we presented to Prince Charles (now King Charles).”

“I met a lot of dignified people at the celebration that time and I remember being in class three when the late Queen Elizabeth visited Fiji,” he added.

Mr Lal, while reminiscing his earlier memories, shared that he was with some students standing in a line near the roadside with a flag during the visit by late Queen Elizabeth.

“There were a lot of happy people around cheering, clapping and a lot of dancing was happening,” he said.

“Back then, the Fiji currency used to be in pounds and shillings which was very

strong compared to some countries. With very little money you could manage your household compared to now.”

“I set-up my furniture shop in the month of November in 1970 after Fiji’s independence and it is still operational today,” he added.

Mr Lal relays that it has been 53-years since he started his business and it is doing well, in particular getting contracts from the hospitals and schools.

“When the Tropical Cyclone Winston and Tropical Cyclone Yasa hit Fiji, a lot of schools were damaged and needed rehabilitation,” he said.

“In this regard, the Australian High Commission gave me a contract of making and delivering chairs and tables for 27 schools,” he added.

Also attending the Fiji Day celebrations at Albert Park last week was Amina Bibi commended the hype and good spirit of those gathered to partake in the celebration.

“I reside in Nadawa and came here to be part of this celebration to honour my country,” she said.

“During the celebration of the Fiji Independence Day in the year 1970, I was schooling and used to live in Toorak then.”

“I was in class four and I remember my school celebrating the occasion with the students and teachers,” she added.

Double Fiji Day celebration for six new citizens

By ILISAPECI TUIVALE

SIX individuals who were granted citizenship on Fiji Day now have another reason to celebrate the country’s most anticipated national holiday.

Officiating at the event that was a first of its kind during the Fiji Day celebration this year, the President, Ratu Wiliame Katonivere presented Abel Qiolevu, Zanima Qoqonokana, Elainah Ratoto, Bulou Amalaini Ratoto, Philippe Garand and Ali Ahmad their Citizenship Certificates.

The presentation was done in the presence of the Attorney-General, Siromi Turaga, the Minister for Home Affairs and Immigration, Pio Tikoduadua, Legal Aid Commission’s acting director, Seremaia Waqainabete and other high-level Government dignitaries.

The Head of State congratulated the recipients and reminded them to exercise their right to vote, be law-abiding citizens and ensure their civic responsibilities and contributions to their communities are conducted.

“I am pleased to say that we have improved in our processes of issuing citizenship awards. Previously, these awards were simply certificates posted or collected at the counters or other preferred mode by the applicant.”

“Today we convene at the State House and I thank the Minister of Home Affairs for this foresight and commitment to have this ceremony eventuate. Most importantly to see through that there is inclusivity in all applicants that have applied for their citizenships and all due diligence is attended to accordingly.”

“The Coalition Government recognises the existence of dual nationality and permits former Fiji citizens under Part 5, clause 14 of the Citizenship of Fiji Act 2009 to re-apply for Fiji citizenship.”

“Former Fiji citizens who have become naturalised citizens of another country can apply for Fiji citizenship. To offer some clarity, a person who has dual citizenship or dual nationality is one who is simultaneously a citizen of two different nations.

“Although this is prohibited in certain nations, it is important to keep in mind that citizenship carries both rights and responsibilities. While a person may have citizenship in two or more countries and

benefit from each one, they may also be subject to tax regulations or national service requirements,” President Katonivere said.

One such recipient, Zanima Qoqonokana, said that it was her father’s employment that brought her family to Fiji.

Originally from the Solomon Islands, Zanima said she loves everything about Fiji and it has been her home since 2013.

She attended Indira Gandhi Primary School and Jai Narayan College before pursuing her Bachelor’s Degree in marine science at The University of the South Pacific (USP).

“My father works at the Pacific Eye Institute and planning to join the workforce in Fiji was what encouraged me to apply for

citizenship as my dad is already a citizen of Fiji,” Ms Qoqonokana said.

Philippe Garand, a Frenchman who has been in Fiji for more than 14 years shared the special moment with his family who were present at the presentation of his certificate.

He is the Culinary Director at Holiday Inn Suva and has actively contributed to the country’s tourism industry through the training and skills development of students enrolled in tourism courses at the Fiji National University and USP.

For Mr Garand, it was the attachment that he has formed with the locals that got him to make Fiji his home in the Pacific.



Phillipe Garand, second from left, with his family and the Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs, Lenora Qereqeretabua after the Citizenship Award ceremony at the State House on 10th October, 2023. Photo: ILISAPECI TUIVALE

Recipient grateful for Government grant

By AZARIA FAREEN

THE director for Amazon Tyres, Aman Prasad, who is operating from Makoi has hailed the Fiji Government's initiatives as a blessing for budding entrepreneurs.

Mr Prasad and his brother Narendra Prasad had jointly applied for monetary assistance from the Fiji Government in the form of zero-rated concessional loan.

"I applied for a loan from the Government during COVID-19 time and received the assistance which helped me buy stocks for the company," he said.

"That time the shipping companies had increased their prices which then led to the increase in prices for certain products and services which adversely affected us financially."

"The assistance was very timely and we were able to top up our stock and paid wages to the staff," Mr Prasad added.

He said that he was lucky to receive the sum of \$14,000 as his business was doing well and he wasn't getting many customers.

"Four people were employed by my company and despite the challenges caused by COVID-19, we did not let any staff go

home," he said.

"Currently we have two people employed by the company and my brother and I also work here."

"We buy new vehicle tyres from overseas and retail them in Fiji and if someone has an emergency situation where they need their tyres repaired then we do that as well," he explained.

Mr Prasad added that this has been a great initiative by the Government which has assisted a lot of people and he urges those looking to start or grow their business to do the same.

"I am thankful to the Government for providing me with timely assistance which saved me from the challenges we were facing in the business," he said.

"Anyone involved in their business needs to be loyal, honest and dedicated to their work to offset the challenges faced in our everyday life, particularly with the rise and prices of goods and services in the country."

"I want to grow my business and I am looking at other options and overseas suppliers at the moment, which will allow me to employ at least two more people," he added.



The director for Amazon Tyres, Aman Prasad, in his office in Makoi. Photo: AZARIA FAREEN

Florist acknowledges Government for flourishing business

By AZARIA FAREEN

NINA Tuimouta hails from Nasau, Koro Island and has been a recipient of the Government's COVID-19 Concessional Finance Support Package to support Fiji's Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises.

The 54-year-old who lives in Kinoya received \$7,000 in the form of concessional loan in 2021 which she used in growing her small business.

"I was so happy and very fortunate to be selected as one of the recipients from the Suva municipal market and I would like to thank the Fiji Government for helping us," Ms Tuimouta said.

"I paid an accountant to fill out the application form for me and I went through the process patiently and got the loan which really helped me during my hard time," she added.

"I used to sell fruits and vegetables before and it used to be very hard as you have to sit in the corridor to sell your produce. I have been operating from the Suva market as a florist for the past 25-years and I get to go home by 3pm to 4pm, which is way better."

"This is a really good venture to get into and any woman staying home can do this easily as being in this business is just like putting on make-up, as I use dark colored flowers because it's very striking and it is popular with the customers too," Ms Tuimouta added.

She considers herself very lucky to get orders from some five-star hotels such as the Grand Pacific Hotel in Suva and Kokomo Island in Nadi to whom she has



54-year-old Nina Tuimouta at her flower stall at the Suva Municipal Market. Photo: AZARIA FAREEN.

been supplying flowers to.

"I also supply flowers to Fiji Television, Suva Private Hospital, the Bank of Baroda and the Bank of the South Pacific are my loyal clients," she highlighted.

"My business was running well but when I received the concessional loan, my business just rose to another level which prompted me to buy my stocks for the flowers. I was so lucky to have made use of that \$7,000 wisely."

"I employ some ladies to help me when I am busy just like today, I am preparing an order for a wreath and other days you are so busy that you cannot do it alone - we just have to share and care," she added.

"I plant my own flowers at home and put them together myself. I believe we just have to keep working until it is your calling. Our age does not change the way you do your work," Ms Tuimouta further added.

She says that some ladies at the Suva

Municipal market are about 65-years old and still sitting and selling their produce, and also look for flowers to sell.

"I have an idea of doing a pot plant business which comes under flower arrangement," Ms Tuimouta shared.

"My advice to the ladies at home is not to rely on your husbands all the time. You need to stand up for yourself and if I can do this then you can do it too."



Empowering Nukutocia: a bridge to progress and unity

In a significant milestone for Nukutocia village, a government-funded foot crossing worth \$26,000 was inaugurated a day after the Fiji Day Celebration in Ovalau. This newly constructed bridge connects the eastern and western sections of the village, granting vital access to 195 residents in 45 households. The Minister for Rural and Maritime Development and Disaster Management, Sakiasi Ditoka, emphasised the Government's commitment to the welfare of every Fijian, regardless of their location.

Photos: SUPPLIED



Fiji Day celebrations

Members of the Republic of the Fiji Military Forces (RFMF) Third Fiji Infantry Regiment (3FIR) trooped the Presidential colours during the 53rd Fiji Day parade held at the Albert Park. The President of Fiji and Commander-In-Chief of the Republic of the Fiji Military Forces (RFMF), Ratu Wiliame Katonivere, reviewed the parade led by the Commanding Officer of the 3FIR Lieutenant-Colonel Atunaisa Vakatale. President Katonivere thanked the men and women for an outstanding parade and wished all Fijians a happy Fiji Day. In addition to the national celebrations, families from all walks of life enjoyed entertainment and various sporting activities.

Photos: PRASHANT SINGH



Fiji Day celebrations at Golden Age Home in Lautoka



The Golden Age Home in Lautoka came alive with vibrant colors and joyful spirits as residents and staff gathered to celebrate Fiji Day, commemorating Fiji's rich history and culture. The Golden Age Home, which provides care and support to elderly citizens became a hub for community gatherings as Fiji Day celebrations held there were a testament to the enduring spirit of unity and patriotism.

Photos: DIPESH KUMAR



Thailand to strengthen economic cooperation with Fiji



(L to R) First Secretary at the Royal Thai Embassy in Canberra, Nathavat Pongsuvan, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Thailand to Fiji, Arjaree Sriratanaban, Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs, Lenora Qereqeretabua, Director Asia Mr. Josefa Tuima, the Acting Principal Foreign Service Officer, Hansel Whippy. **Photo: SUPPLIED**

AS Southeast Asia’s second largest economy, Thailand aims to strengthen partnership with Fiji in agriculture, economy, trade and tourism.

This was conveyed by the non-resident Ambassador of the Kingdom of Thailand to Fiji, Arjaree Sriratanaban while paying a courtesy call to the Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs, Lenora Qereqeretabua.

Asst Minister Qereqeretabua congratulated Ambassador Sriratanaban and wished her well for the new diplomatic role.

She welcomed the discussions and commitment demonstrated by Thailand to advance development cooperation in economy and trade, tourism and agriculture.

Asst Minister Qereqeretabua acknowledged Fiji’s cooperation with Thailand International Cooperation Agency (TICA) in providing educational training courses and scholarships for capacity building.

It was mentioned that Fiji recipients to these training courses, programmes and scholarships, have benefitted in terms of increasing productivity and enhancement of the development priorities in Fiji.

On multilateral fora, Thailand has shown

interest to enhance cooperation with the Pacific Island countries by organising a regional meeting next year.

Ambassador Sriratanaban said she was pleased with the warm hospitality accorded to her during her first visit to Fiji and the Pacific region.

She expressed optimism on the various discussions she had while in Fiji as there are enormous opportunities to strengthen the economic cooperation in sugar industry, agritourism, agriculture and fisheries.

There are prospects for investment ventures to be explored as well in the tourism sector through increased connectivity.

As the largest exporter of canned tuna, Thailand is keen to expand cooperation with Fiji’s export and trade industries and even value adding to Fiji’s agricultural sector.

Ambassador Sriratanaban said the Kingdom of Thailand stands ready to support and realign cooperation in line with the development needs and priorities of Fiji.

The ambassador will be based at the Royal Thai Embassy in Canberra, Australia during her new diplomatic assignment.

(Source: Ministry of Foreign Affairs)

Foreign Affairs officials selected for the Pacific Diplomacy Training



(centre) Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs, Lenora Qereqeretabua with the New Zealand High Commissioner, Charlotte Darlow at the farewell of the foreign affairs officials selected for Pacific Diplomacy Training Programme. **Photo: SUPPLIED**

THE New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT) an opportunity has provided to cohort six staff of Fiji’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) to undergo the three weeks of Pacific Diplomacy training programme.

The training, which MFA has welcomed, will be conducted at the Victoria University of Wellington’s Pipitea campus in New Zealand from October 9 to October 27, 2023.

In an event organised at the New Zealand High Commission (NZHC) in Suva, the Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs, Lenora Qereqeretabua and New Zealand High Commissioner, Charlotte Darlow congratulated the MFA staff and wished them well for the training.

The Permanent Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Dr Lesikimacuata Korovavala,

and the Deputy High Commissioner at the New Zealand High Commission, Alex Shahryar-Davies, were also in attendance at the program.

Asst Minister Qereqeretabua said this initiative demonstrates New Zealand’s unwavering commitment and ongoing support for Fiji’s development, with professional training program being an important area of Fiji-New Zealand cooperation.

She also thanked High Commissioner Darlow and the NZHC Team for their incredible support and swift coordination of this new initiative.

In response, High Commissioner Darlow reaffirmed New Zealand’s commitment to support Fiji through such training programs.

“We are delighted that a cohort of talented Fijian foreign affairs officials will be

Canada to establish resident diplomatic mission in Fiji



(L to R) Counsellor for the High Commission of Canada, Jillian Senkiw, High Commissioner of Canada to Fiji, Joanne Lemay, Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs, Lenora Qereqeretabua and Acting Director Oceania Bureau at Fiji Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Laite Ratuuvuki. **Photo: SUPPLIED**

FIJI’S Ministry of Foreign Affairs is working closely with the Canadian counterparts in establishing a new Canadian High Commission in Fiji and the implementation of Canada’s Indo-Pacific Strategy.

This marks a new era in strengthening the diplomatic relations with one of the world’s larger economies.

The expanded diplomatic ties will bolster opportunities for cooperation in economic development, trade and tourism, climate change resilience, people-to-people links, and diaspora engagements.

This was conveyed during a meeting between the Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs, Lenora Qereqeretabua and the High Commissioner of Canada to Fiji, Joanne Lemay.

The discussions highlighted Canada’s Indo-Pacific Strategy to support Fiji by establishing its first international assistance program for the Pacific Islands region.

The new program will build on Canada’s current development initiatives in the region, including projects such as The Kiwa Initiative – Nature-based Solutions for Climate Resilience, Pacific Islands Markets for Change, Support to the Climate Finance Access Network and Strengthening Small-scale Fisheries.

Since 2012, the Canada Fund for local initiatives has supported 39 development projects in Fiji.

High Commissioner Lemay will be visiting one such project on the Beqa Island, which was making positive impact in the communities by helping women to improve their business management skills, expand their businesses and enhance traditional and cultural activities and practices.

Asst Minister Qereqeretabua thanked

Canada for its ongoing support to Fiji and the work undertaken to open Canada’s resident High Commission in Fiji to increase its engagement in the Pacific Islands.

She acknowledged Canada’s commitment to align their partnership with Fiji’s national development priorities and needs.

The discussions also focused on increasing trade and tourism through strengthened air connectivity via Fiji and Canada direct flights and visa accessibility.

Another important area of cooperation was enhancing Fijian diaspora engagements in Canada to enable them to contribute to Fiji’s development.

The discussions coincided with Asst Minister Qereqeretabua’s meeting with Fijian diaspora in Ottawa, via a zoom session, which highlighted the potential collaboration opportunities to further deepen relations between Fiji and Canada.

Fiji notes the launching of Canada’s Indo-Pacific Strategy in November 2022 and its growing diplomatic presence in the region, starting with Canada’s first resident diplomat in Fiji.

Asst Minister Qereqeretabua assured High Commissioner Lemay of Fiji’s continued support as both the nations aspire to build enduring partnerships at regional and global arena.

In turn, High Commissioner Lemay reaffirmed Canada’s determination to expand cooperation through the opening of the new Canadian High Commission in Fiji.

The meeting which took place at the Fiji Ministry of Foreign Affairs headquarters, signifies the cordial relations and cooperation between the two nations.

(Source: Ministry of Foreign Affairs)

travelling to New Zealand to be part of this exciting professional development course.

“It is a great opportunity for them to further develop their diplomacy skills and to engage with counterparts from New Zealand and other Pacific countries,” she said.

The Pacific Diplomacy training programme sponsored by the New Zealand’s MFAT aims to build capacity in the Pacific foreign services by encouraging closer collaboration amongst Pacific diplomats and officials.

Utilising a practitioner-led approach, the training will concentrate on providing fundamental and practical skills, as well as the necessary knowledge and competencies for foreign services officers working and engaging in international diplomacy.

This first pilot residential programme includes a three-week block delivered in New Zealand and a further two-week block delivered in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea.

On this programme, participants will learn about: Fundamentals of the foreign service in the Westminster system, Te Ao Māori in foreign policy, Pacific regional architecture and diplomacy, international diplomacy, tradecraft, protocol, and consular services, practical frameworks and tools of diplomacy, introduction to international law and treaty making, trade policy, bilateral trade agreements, economic architecture, climate change and natural resource diplomacy, the United Nations system and multilateral diplomacy, and communication skills, information management.

(Source: Ministry of Foreign Affairs)

Digital literacy a necessity to meet evolving demand



Minister for Education, Aseri Radrodro, has emphasised the importance of providing digital tools as the Ministry intends to increase e-learning connectivity to 100 per cent of all schools around Fiji. **Photo: SUPPLIED**

By PRASHILA DEVI

THE Ministry of Education has increased e-learning connectivity to schools to an average of 57 percent of schools throughout Fiji to equip for a future where learning platforms will need to adapt to ever evolving demands.

The Minister for Education, Aseri Radrodro, speaking in Parliament last month, explained how the COVID-19 pandemic had disrupted traditional education for children and in light of this, the Ministry's intent to increase e-learning connectivity to 100 per cent, a huge target given the geographical location of schools.

“By promoting digital literacy, educators and policy makers strive to equip students with essential skills for the future while minimising educational disruptions during crisis, like the COVID-19 pandemic,” Minister Radrodro said.

He said following the Ministry's continued audits to assess the current status in Fiji, it was pushing for an increase in budget in the next financial year to reach 100 percent connectivity so that those children from rural, remote and maritime areas will be able to browse the web and use technology "very different from what most of us had back in the early days".

Currently there were several initiatives that the Ministry was engaged in to boost e-learning and these include:

- The “I am digital” initiative that educates students on online safety being carried out in partnership with Save the Children Fiji, engaging student leadership bodies which has been piloted in 10 schools so far.

- The “Girls in ICT training project”, which was conducted this year in collaboration with the Ministry of Trade and Communications.

- The Ministry of Education (MOE) with the University of the South Pacific was developing 1500 Open Education Resources (OER) for STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) subjects. A government initiative in partnership with the Asian Development Bank (ADB).

- MOE was also developing an audio-visual studio with relevant stakeholders with a funding of \$100,000 in this financial year for the project.

The studio will include six recording rooms for: school broadcasting programmes; production of education channel content; airing of education channel lessons; live lessons (distance learning) for our rural, remote and maritime schools; and airing of recorded lessons.

Aside from this, Minister Radrodro said the Ministry has a Moodle for Heads of Schools and teacher online training which was a talanoa forum for teachers and sharing of resources.

Tourism industry to make valuable contribution



Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Tourism and Civil Aviation, Viliame Gavoka launched the Muanivatu Trail project in in Wailevu, Cakaudrove.

Photo: JOSIA RALAGO

By PRASHILA DEVI

TOURISM industry stakeholders want to add value to the local economy, safeguard and promote cultural heritage and actively contribute to fulfilling career and quality employment.

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Tourism and Civil Aviation, Viliame Gavoka, speaking in Parliament on the National Sustainable Tourism Framework, highlighted the issues that came up during the first round of consultation with over 600 people.

DPM Gavoka said in the discussions in the first phase, the stakeholders collectively expressed the desire for a future that, amongst others, ensures equitable returns to indigenous communities and encourages pro-quality investments.

“This is the future we want for tourism. Looking at the data from April to December 2022, visitors to Fiji contributed \$2.9 billion to the economy. The average visitor spent \$376 per night, compared to \$353 in 2019, and \$3,572 per trip up from \$3,379 in 2019,” he said.

“So, the demand for Fiji is high with visitors staying longer, spending and doing more, and we want to build on that. Because of this strong performance, we are now looking at an eight percent economic growth this year.”

DPM Gavoka said a private sector led steering committee was closely overseeing and contributing to the development of the framework, which consists of Fiji Hotel and Tourism Association, Fiji Airways, Tourism Fiji, Duavata Sustainable Collective, Society of Fiji Travel Associates, Savusavu and Suncoast Tourism Associations.

To inform the next phase, he explained, which was the development of the framework, the various discussions from Phase A has been synthesised into a summary report.

This report also captures the emerging priorities of the industry to be reflected in the Framework.

Some of the critical areas that would need to be built and added on to includes:

- Improving the policy and regulatory environment;
- Embedding sustainability;
- Visitor economy and its contribution to the national wellbeing;
- Different markets;
- Asset and experience - creating more diverse operations;
- Having in place measurable Tourism Standards beyond economic indicators;
- Financing on investments;
- Workforce and skills required;
- Environmental, social and cultural sustainability;
- Enhancing risk management in tourism; and
- Monitoring and evaluation for sustainable tourism

DPM Gavoka added that when tourism does well, so does the economy.

Education Ministry strategically addresses teacher shortage

By PRASHILA DEVI

THE Ministry of Education has recruited graduates and re-engaged retired teachers to fill the gap left by the exodus of 469 teachers from Fijii's education sector.

Minister for Education, Aseri Radrodro, while speaking in Parliament last month, explained the response of the Ministry to the resignations which included re-engaging teachers who lost their jobs due to the No Jab, No Job Policy.

He said from the number of teachers who have resigned from January to June 2023, 80 percent of have migrated for greener pastures and 20 percent have moved around to other job opportunities in the Pacific region and in Fiji.

“Re-engagement was done through expression of interest processes and for 2023, there were 38 Secondary School teachers who have retired in 2022 and 24 were re-engaged due to lack of teachers in specific areas,

like Maths, Physics, Computer and Office Technology,” Minister Radrodro said.

As for PEMAC and Industrial Arts teachers, he explained, “Retirees were re-engaged as even the new graduates do not meet the demand in this specialised area”.

He assured Parliament that the criteria for recruitment was based on merit and nepotism was not entertained.

“Another strategy that the Ministry of Education has used is the re-engagement of teachers who suffered termination due to the ‘No Jab No Job policy’. There were 190 teachers who were terminated and 119 showed interest and have been re-engaged,” Minister Radrodro explained.

The Ministry, he said, has already executed the plans to ensure that quality education in all our 176 Secondary Schools, 736 Primary Schools and more than 800 ECE Centres are not at any time compromised as we are committed to 'leaving no child



Minister for Education, Aseri Radrodro, in Parliament last month, explained the strategies of the Ministry in addressing shortage of teachers. **Photo: SUPPLIED**

behind'.

In the long term, Minister Radrodro said, “The Ministry of Education is currently working and discussing with local universities and training institutions on the alignment of subject combination on the intake of education programmes in line with the need in our schools as we are the biggest employers of graduates from universities in regards to the teaching profession.”

Football unites people: Minister Saukuru



“THE Inter District Competition (IDC) is a significant platform that not only promotes national unity and fervour but also serves as a breeding ground for future sporting talents.”

The Minister for Youth and Sports, Jese Saukuru, highlighted this during the medal presentation of the IDC 2023 at the HFC Stadium in Suva last weekend, where Ba emerged victorious with a score of 2-1 against Lautoka.

Minister Saukuru congratulated the respective teams for the performance displayed at the IDC and on Ba’s well-deserved win this year.

He acknowledged the immense effort put forth by the players, coaches, and supporting staff in preparing for and competing in this prestigious event.

“Each team displayed a remarkable level of sportsmanship and passion throughout the competition, contributing to an incredible tournament that captivated the nation,” Minister Saukuru said.

“As the nation reflects on its shared history and celebrates nationhood, the tournament brought people together through the spirit

of sports and it strengthens the bond that unites us as Fijians.”

“Football transcends boundaries and unites people from all walks of life. It teaches us discipline, encourages teamwork, and instils the values of fair play and sportsmanship,” he added.

“The Courts Inter-District Championship not only promotes healthy competition but also showcases the remarkable talent we have in our nation. This tournament is a testament to the passion and dedication that our youth possess towards the sport of football,” he further added.

Minister Saukuru emphasised the important role of the tournament in identifying and nurturing future football stars and extended his appreciation to the Fijian Football Association, sponsors, organisers, and all stakeholders for their unwavering support and commitment to making the IDC 2023 a resounding success.

“The event could not have been possible without their collective effort and dedication,” Minister Saukuru said.

(Source: Ministry of Youth and Sports)

Minister for Youth and Sports, Jese Saukuru, with the Ba team who took home the trophy for the Inter District Competition (IDC) 2023 at the HFC Stadium in Suva last weekend. Below, Minister Saukuru with Fiji Football Association officials. Photo: SUPPLIED



Noda Viti

Lotulevu 19th ni Okotova 2023. 8 Drauniveva; 12 ni Tabana; 14 ni lavelave ni ivola | www.fiji.gov.fj @FijianGovt Fijian Government



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Buli vou tale ko Viti



Peresitedi Ratu Wiliame Katonivere, Paraiminisita Sitiveni Rabuka, Na vosa Vakadua Salesi Temo, kei na Peresitedi ka Speaker Vakacegu, Ratu Epeli Nailatikau ena soqo ni vakananumi kei Viti

NODA sa yacova mai na 53 ni yabaki ni bula ni tu vakagalala vaka edua na vanua kei na matanitu esa dua naikalawa levu ni bula ka vakaraitaka na nodra yalo ni duavata kei na toso vata ena dela ni veivakatovolei kei na bolebole ni bula ena veiyabaki eda bula donuia mai.

Vakatoka oqori na nodra mala ni vosa na Paraiminisita Sitiveni ena siga ni marautaki kei Viti.

Vakaraitaka ko PM Rabuka ni gadreva me tomana na veiwasei oqo ena raiyawa ni veisemati ena veivanua ena Pasivika ni okeda edua na vanua sautu dina ena

Pasivika.

Kuria ko PM Rabuka ni nodra laki boseka ena vanua o Amerika ena UNGA e Niu Yoka era veitalanoa taka kina na Pacific Zone of Peace me vaka me cau ni pasivika kina vuravura.

Na raivata oqo e salamuria tikoga na nodra tiko veilomani, doka kei na duavata ena noda wasewase ni vuravura.

E veiwekani na rai oqo kei na noda veidokai okeda kei na nodra yalo ni duavata ena gauna ni dredre se bolebole me da kua ni dau bale rawarawa.

Vakaraitaka ko PM Rabuka ni okeda ena Pasivika eda dau sotakaya na dredre mevaka na draki veisau ni tarai keda saraga ena noda koro se yanuyanu.

Ka sa dau ivakaraitaki vinaka kina okeda na pasivika ni dina ni tu na leqa eda dau yalo qaqa voli ena vei qaravi.

Kuria ko PM Rabuka ni da marautaka tiko na siga kei Viti, oqo edua na soqo meda dau liaci keda talega kina ni dodonu meda dau duavata talega ena gauna ni dredre vaka kawa tamata.

Eda sa bula ne!

Eda sa bula ne !
Veikune tale tu
Eda qai reki sara ga ka sere vei Jisu
Kaukauwa ga va Kalou karoni keda ga
Vei Jisu me da cuva ne Ka masu tu vua.
Oqori na qaqa ni sere ka rawa ni da tukuna ni dina ena nodra bula na lewe 250 na lewei Viti era vuka lesu mai Isireli ena dela ni veivaluti mai ke ya.
Era Cavuta kina ko Paraiminisita Sitiveni Rabuka na Same I Tevita Same 23 ena soqo ni nodra cerevi ka kidavaki lesu mai kina noda vanua ena dela ni veivaluti mai Isireli.
Era vei qaravi kina na vanua o Nadi kei Tui Nadi nodra ciqomi ira lesu mai. Era lewena na ilakolako oqori na Marama Roko Tui Dreketi.

Paraiminisita Sitiveni Rabuka kei ira na imatalawalawa era lesu mai Isireli ena soqo ni nodra mai ciqomi lesu kina noda vanua.



Bose ni Kovana ni Baqe kei na Minisita ni ILavo kei Vuravura

E RA liutaka edua na imatalawalawa ni matanitu ko Viti, na Minisita ni iLavo ni noda vanua, ka Vukevuke ni Paraiminisita, Professor Biman Prasad ena Bose ni Kovana ni Baqe kei na Minisita ni iLavo kei Vuravura. Vakayacori na boseka ogo ena vanua ko Marrakech, Morocco ena 10 ni Okotova ena vei qaravi vakayabaki ni World Bank/ International Monetary Fund se Baqe kei Vuravura kei na Matabose ni Vei qaravi Vakailavo ena vuravura. Liutaka na boseka na Manidia Daireketa ni IMF Ms. Kristalina Georgieva ka dikevi bousei kina na veimataqali veivakatorocaketaki kei na gagadre sa yaco tiko ogo ena vuravura, na vei ririko e salamuria mai na veimataqali vakatubuilavo ena veiyasai vuravura, kei na vuqa tale na bolebole esa tauri vuravura tiko ena siga nikua me vaka na iwiliwili ni lewenivanua kei na yaubula ka vakakina na veitokiyani ni tamata tabusakayani ena veimatanitu ena veiyasai vuravura. Vakaraitaka ko Professor Prasad na tuvatuva ka sa vakayacora tiko na matanitu ena vanua ko Viti me vaka esa sa yaco tiko ena loma ni 9 na vula me vaka na kaukauwa na tubu ena 20 na pasede sa vakilai oti ena noda vanua ena mua ni yabaki sa oti ka vakakina na nakinaki ni kena na tubu tale ena 8 na pasede na ituvaki ni veika vakailavo ena noda vanua ena yabaki ogo. Kuria ko koya na tuvatuva ka ni veivakatokocaketaki lewa vakamatau esa vakayacori tiko ena noda vanua. Vakaraitaka talega ko Professor Prasad ni veika e yaco tiko ena vuravura e tarai



Viti talega me vaka ni sa laurai tiko nikua na nodra sa tokitaki na lewenivanua ena nodra vakasaqara cakacaka ena vanua tani, kei na bolebole ni veisau ni draki ka sa vakadredretaka na toso kei na vakatubu i ilavo ena noda vanua. Dua na sabolo oya na kena tauri Viti mai na mate dewa ena COVID-19 ka sa vakavuna na tubu ni dinau kei na tubu ni isau ni yaya kei na kakana ena noda vanua.

Veivakadeitaki ena isaumi ni dinau

E RA vakaraitaka na Minisita ni ILavo ka Vukevuke ni Paraiminisita kei Viti, Professor Biman Prasad ni matanitu ko Viti esa vakadeitaki koya tikoga ena nona sausaumi ena dinau me vaka ni matanitu lailai sara ka sega ni kaukauwa tu na bula vakailavo. Kuria ko Professor Prasad ni ogo na tuvatuva ni vei qaravi ena sausaumi ni dinau ena dodonu mera salamuria vakavinaka na veimatanitu lalai ena vuravura. Ko Viti e tomana ko Professor Prasad esa biuta vata edua na tuvatuva ka lewa matau ka qarauni kina na kena qaravi vinaka na sausaumi ni nona dinau ka vakakina na kena tomani tikoga n veivakatorocaketaki lewa matau me vukea tikoga na kena vakatubuilavo na matanitu ka sega ni guileca kina na kena qaravi na tuvatuva ni kena valuti na veisau ni draki baleta ni tiko talega kina na veivuke levu edau yaco mai ena Baqe kei vuravura kei ira na matanitu lelevu. Sa ka bibi kina me vakamuria vinaka tikoga na tuvatuva ni veivakatorocaketaki lewa matau ena veimatanitu lalai se yanuyanu ena lalai ena vuravura me vaka ni 60% na pasede na matanitu era sa donuia tu na lusi kei na vakacaca vumai ena leqa tubukoso.

E 9% na pasede a leqa tubu koso ogo ena veimatanitu lalai e tautauvata ni 30% na kaukauwa ni nodra bula vakailavo. Ogo e vakatauvatani ni lailai mai 1% na pasede na kaukauwa ni bula vakailavo vei ira na matanitu lelevu ka kaukauwa nodra bula vakailavo. Kuria ko Professor Prasad ni oira na baqe ni veivakatorocaketaki lelevu ena vuravura era sa liutaka tikoga na kena vakailavo taki na veivuke ena vakacaca vumai na vurevure ni draki veisau ia na veivuke ogo ese tikoga era. Sa kacicava talega okoya ni sa dodonu mera laveta cake na nodra veivuke vakalevu na baqe era vei qaravi tiko ena tabana ogo. Vakabauta ko Viti ena nodra vukea vakatautauvata na veimatanitu ena veiwasevase ni vuravura vakai na Pasivika baleta ni tautauvata na nodra dui bolebole era sotava mevaka mada na draki veisau, veivolikati se veiyawaki ni vanua era tiko kina main a makete ni veivoli kei na nodra yau bula ni vakatauvatani ena nodra rawaka vakailavo. Uqeta vakalevu ko Professor Prasad na kena vakalevutaki nodra vukei vaka wasewase ni vanua ena veiyasai vuravura



Vakatulewa mai na bouse yaco se kebineti ni matanitu

E RA sa lewa na matabose yaco ni matanitu ena kena kebineti ena Okotova 11th ni siga ena ena ika tini ka Vitu ni bouseka ena yabaki ogo. Oya mesa ra saumi vakailavo tale na timi ni Viti era vakaitavi tiko ena Qito Rakavi kei Vuravura 2023 mai Varanise. Lewa na bouseyaco mera tau ya \$5,000 na leweni timi yadua ka wilikina oira na kena ivakalesilesi yadua. Ogo baleta nira yacova na qito ena kotafainala ni oti maina qito vakatobu. Segani tax taki se saumi na kena

vakacavacava na \$5,000 ogo. Ogo talega na ikarua ni wasewase ni vota ilavo ka saumi veira na timi ni Fiji Water Flying Fijians Rugby World Cup team 2023 me vaka ni sa saumi oti edua na \$5,000. Vakaraitaka na tukutuku tabaki mai na bouseyaco ni kebineti ni matanitu ni ratou na timi wilikina oira na ivakalesilesi, dauni-veitavulici kei ira na manidia ni ra kauta mai na marau vei keda na lewenivanua ena nodra kauta caka tale na yacai Viti ena kotafainala ni oti e 16 na yabaki me vaka ni otioiti era a yacova ena 2007.



Kidavaki na ilakolako mai na Matanitu Cokovata kei Vuravura

ERA kidavaki ira na ilakolako kina noda vanua mai na veta ecake ni Matanitu Cokovata kei Vuravura na noda liuliu ni matanitu, Paraiminisita Sitiveni Rabuka

Era sotavi Ms. Kanni Wignaraja na marama ka liutaka tiko main a ilakolako oqo. Ko Ms Wignaraja e nodra vukevuke ni Vunivola Levu ni veiqaravi ena UNDP.

Era veitalanoa taka na liuliu erua na veika vakacakacaka erau wasea vata me vaka na kena vakaqacotaki tale na veiwekani ni matanitu. Na veiwekani oqo esa rui bibi sara baleta ni rawa ni laveta kina na ituvaki ni veiqaravi ni veivakatorocaketaki lewa matau ena noda vanua ka salamuria tikoga main a rai raraba ni matanitu cokovata kei vuravura ena vei ulutaga levu ka bibi eso me vaka na drake, veisau kei na kena qaravi vakavinaka na veimatanitu kei na veiliutaki ena Pasivika.

Vakavinakataka ko PM Rabuka na veiqaravi taumada ni UNDP se Matanitu Cokovata kei Vuravura ena tabana ni veivakatorocaketaki lewa matau ka vakakina na kena rawati eso na bolebole lelevu ni veivakatorocaketaki ka sa tuvalaki mai ena vuravura vei ira na liuliu ka salamuria tikoga na veiqaravi ni noda matanitu.

Niutaka ko PM Rabuka ni na tiko eso na vanua vou ni veiwekani ka rawa ni vakaqacotaki talega kina nodrau veiwekani o Viti kei UNDP.

Vakaraitaka ko Ms. Wignaraja na nodra doka na veikidavaki maqosa ko Viti kei na vakanananu ni vakaqacotaki ni veiwekani ka sa makosoi sara ena rai ni veivakatorocaketaki.



Gadrevi me laveti na vuli ka



ENA gauna ni dredre kei na bolebole edau dredre sara na qaravi ni vuli kei ka sa qai dau dredre talega me dau semati ira yani na lewenivanua na vuli baleta walega na duidui ni vanua kei na tagede ni bula sa tiko rawa ka sad au ni vakatatao ni veiqaravi ni bula raraba kei na veivakatorocaketaki kei na vakatubuilavo.

Oqori na veika era cauraka na Minisita ni Ilavo, ka Vukevuke ni Paraiminisita ni mtanitu Professor Biman Prasad. Era a tiko voli ena dua na veitalanoa baleta na vuli ena boseka ni Kovana ni Baqe kei Vuravura ka vakayacori mai Morocco.

Tukuna ko Professor Prasad ena gauna oqo ni sa da lesuva na bula ni vakaqacotaki ni noda bula vakailavo ni oti na leqa ni bula vakailavo ka salamuria mai na mate dewa, sa ka bibi ka ganiti me vakabibitaki tale na vuli ka vakauasivi na kena vakailavotaki. Baleta na vuli edua na gaunisala ni noda vakaqacotaki keda tale ena nodra bula raraba ni oti edua na leqa tubukoso se leqa vakailavo. Na vuli e dua talega na duru ni veiqaravi ena kena sagai na veivakatorocaketaki ena rawaka vakailavo kei na bula raraba ka sa bibi kina meda vakalevu taka na veimataqali gaunisala me vukea keda me vaka na veivuke vakailavo, voladusidusi se lawatu ena tabana ni vuli ka me dikevi vou tale ka

veisautaki ka vakakina na kena laurai vakamatua na veiwekani eso ka rawa ni vukei kina na vuli mai vua na Matanitu, taudaku ni matanitu, veira na tokani se tabana era dau veivukei ka vakakina na tabana ni lotu se veiqaravi raraba ni lewenivanua.

Sa dodonu me veivuke mai kina na Baqe kei Vuravura kei ira na matabose ni veika vakailavo ena vuravura ka mera vukei na tabana era gadreva na veivuke ena tabana ni vuli ena muri vuli beka se sova ni vuli, primary, secondary kei na vuli torocake, na vuli tara se TVET, kei ira na via laveta nodra kila ena cakacaka.

Na veiwekani kei na cakacaka vata ena gauna ni leqa tubu koso kei na dredre e kaya ko Professor Prasad e ka yaga.

Sa dodonu me dikevi tale ka veisautaki na lesoni se tabana ni vuli ena gauna dredre kei na bolebole eda bula donumaka tu nikua. Sa yaga kina me laurai na yaga kei na kena vakayagataki na monalivaliva ena vuli ka vakavinakataki na nodra gacagaca ni tauri vuli kei na veikavulici na qasenivuli ka me wilikina na vuli ena monalivaliva.

Sa yaga me laurai talega na veiwekani ni matanitu kei na veitabana ni veiqaravi eso ena bula raraba ena taudaku ni matanitu ka merawa ni veiwaseitaki na iyau, kei na kila merawa ni vukea na laveti cake ni tagede ni vuli.

Matataki ko Viti ena talanoa ni vakailavotaki ni vuli e vuravura



SA rui ka bibi na vukei ni vuli ena gauna ni bolebole lelevu ka sotavi vuravura tiko ena siga nikua.

Oqori ena kena vakailavotaki tikoga ka me tosoi tikoga na veika baleta na nodra vuli na lewenivuravura ka merawa ni tuberi ka susugi vinaka kina na tamata me na laveta talega na veiqaravi ena veigauna e liu.

Oqori edua na veitalanoa ka laki lewena na matanitu ko Viti me baleta na kena vakailavotaki na vuli.

Era matataki Viti kina na Minisita ni Ilavo, ka Vukevuke ni Paraiminisita ni matanitu ena noda vanua, Professor Biman Prasad.

Era veitalanoataki kina na bolebole eso era sotava na veimatanitu ena vuravura ka vakakina ena nodra sa dui manidiataka voli na bolebole oqo ena dela ni dredre ni bula vakailavo kei na sasaga ni vakalesui vakatotolo se vakaqacacolesutale na veiqaravi ena vuli.

Vakaraitaka ko Professor Prasad ni vuli se na kena bibi na vuli ena sega ni rawa tale ni vakamelei n aka me baleta, ni vuli e usutu ni bula ni veiqaravi ena vuravura vakabibi ena kena susugi ka tuberi na tamata se lewenivanua ena veika baleta na bula torocake, bula vakailavo, vakatubuilavo kei na laveti cake ni bula raraba kei na veivakatorocaketaki lewa matau.

Na vuli ena vukea na tamata ka vakaqacotaka na lewenivanua ka bulia na veimatanitu.



Vulagi dokai na Turaga Itaukei Bolatagane



ERA mai vulagi dokai na Peresitedi ni noda vanua lomani ko Viti, Ratu Wiliame Katonivere ena soqo ni siga kei Viti. Ka vakayacori na soqo oqori ena rara na Albert Park e Suva ka ra mai liutaka kina na voleni vakaivalu ni bera ni ra qai vakayagataki dakai na sotia se liga ni wau ni noda matanitu. Era vakaitavi ena vanataki ni dakai oqori na ikatolu imataivalu (3FIR) ka ra rewataka na kala nei Peresitedi ka me vakananumi kina na iyabaki 53 ni vanua ko Viti ena nona tu galala vakaikoya. Ni oti na veivakarurugi mai vua na sala ni Ranadi Vikatoria na ikarua ka sa vakacegu talega. Era qai dikeva na nodra maji pasi mai na sotia na Turaga Tui Macuata ka Itaukei Bolatagane ka dikeva vata kei Commanding Officer of the 3FIR Lieutenant-Colonel Atunaisa Vakatale. Era qai solia nodra vakavinaka na Peresitedi veira na marama kei na turaga era vakaitavi ena voleni vakaivalu. Era qai vakayacori talega na veivakamarautaki, vakatagi kei na qito. Era osota talega na lewenivanua na rara na Albert park mera laki sarasara ka marautaka vata na veiqaravi ni mataivalu ena voleni vakaivalu ka vakauasivi na yabaki 53 ni noda tu vakagalala vaka matanitu.



Veivakamarautaki ena nona vale vakamatanitu ko Peresitedi



ENA na yakavi sobu ni siga ni marautaki ni siga kei Viti era qai vakayaco soqo ni veivakamarautaki na Peresitedi Ratu Wiliame Katonivere ena nodra vale vakamatanitu.

Era sureti yani kina na liuliu ni matanitu Paraiminisita Sitiveni Rabuka kei ira na nodra lewenivale, Mrs Sulueti Rabuka. Ka vakakina oira na leweni nona bose yaco se kebineti ka vakakina na to ni veisaqa.

Wili talega kina na mata sureti main a veimatani era veiwekani voleka mai ki Viti ka ra sa tu nodra valenivolavola ena noda vanua



Laveta edua na bilo ni vakavinavinaka ko Ratu Wiliame



E RA mai laveta edua na bilo ni vakavinavinaka ko Peresitedi Ratu Wiliame Katonivere vei ira na leweni mataivalu e ra vei qaravi ena volenia vakaivalu me vakananumi ni siga ni tu vakagalala kei Viti. Era vakayacori na soqo ni vakavinaka se garden party ena State House ka vakavinaka kina o Ratu Wiliame veira na sotia ena nodra vakarautaka vinaka na soqo oqo me rawa ni marautaki na soqo ni siga kei Viti.



Marautaki na yabaki 53 ena koroturaga



E NA koroturaga e Suva era liutaka na tabacakacaka vakamatanitu na soqo ni marautaki ni yabaki 53 kei Viti ena dua na maji pasi ka teki-vutaki main a Flea market levu e Suva ena mataka ni Tusiti Okotova 10th 2023.

Edua na gauna vinaka veira na ivakalesilesi vakamatanitu mera taubale ka marautaka kina na nodra vei qaravi vakamatanitu ena vanua o Viti.

Era tomana na maji pasi oqo na veikabani kei na baqe ena noda vanua ka laki cava sara ena rara levu na Albert Park.

Soqo ni siga kei Viti e Ovalau



E RA laki vulagi dokai ko Minisita Sakiasi Ditoka na minisita ni veivaka-torocaketaki ena taudaku ni koro vakavalagi kei na leqa tubu koso ena soqo ni marautaki ni siga kei Viti ka vakayacori mai Levuka Ovalau.

Era vakayacora talega kina na lewenivanua ekeya na kena dramataki talega na kena soli ko Viti e Peritania. Era osota yani na loma ni tauni na lewenivanua

Sega ni guileca oira noda matua ena Siga kei Viti



NA soqo ni marautaki ni siga kei Viti e ya-sayasa Muaira e tekivutaki toka ena nodra laki sikovi na noda matua era sa tiko vakaitikotiko ka qaravi ena Golden Age Home e Lautoka.

Era yadrava mai na veivakamarautaki oqo na matua era tiko ena vale oqo ka sara marautaki yani vei ra ivakalesilesi kei ira na weka nodra yaco vakananuma

siga kei Viti ka vakakina na bibi ni nodra bula veicurumaki ena noda itovo, meke kei na vanua.

Vakavinavinataki ira na lewenivanua ena muaira ko Komisina, Mr Apolosi Lewaqaia ka kuria ni kaya na bibi ni duavata kei na veirokovi ni da sa mai duavata na taba tamata. Ka sega ni guilecavi kina oira na matua me vaka nira sac au oti talega ena kena rawati na tugalala

Marautaki na Siga kei Viti e Labasa.

Na siga kei Viti nikua e baleti kemuni na nomuni vei qaravi vinaka ena noda vanua.

Oqori na mala ni vosa nodra na Vukevuke ni Minisita Jovesa Vocea ena nodra laki vulagi dokai ena soqo kei Viti mai Labasa.

Era voleka ni 40 na drau vaca ena lewei Labasa era taura na ked aka veisemati vinaka veira na lewenivanua kei ira na vakalesilesi ni matanitu.



Noda Viti

Lotulevu 19th ni Okotova 2023 8 Drauniveva; 12 ni Tabana; 14 ni lavelave ni ivola | www.fiji.gov.fj @FijiGovt Fiji Government



Oira na Marama Roko Tui Dreketi, Ro Teimumu Kepa keira na marama keina na turaga era lewena nai lakolako lesu mai Isireli.

Lesu bula mai Isireli e 255 na lewenivanua

ERA yalo marau na liuliu ni matanitu Paraiminisita Sitiveni Rabuka ena nodra yaco bula mai noda vanua na lewe 255 na lewenivanua era vodoka main a Fiji Airways chartered flight mai Ben Gurion Airport mai Isireli. Dina ga ni yaco tiko na tikoyavavala mai na tokalau eloma ena nodrau valu tiko na Matanitu ko Isireli kei na Soqosoqo ni Bati Kadi na Hamas Era lewena mai na ilakolako oqo oratou na gonevuli mai na koronivuli ni tabana ni teitei ka ratou a lako vakavuli I Isireli ka vakakina oira na 200 na lewenivanua e Viti era lako vakagade ena lakolako ni sota mai Isireli kei ira na veimatanitu me baleta na kanavata ni lako sivia se feast of Tabernacles ka wilikina oira main a Pasivika. Vakavinakataki ira kece na PM ena nodra sasaga me rawati na ilakolako oqo ka tukuna ni gauna dredre ka bolebole ena donumaka oqo sa yaga kina meda veinanumi tiko veira na vakaleqai ena yasana ruarua ko Isireli kei na Hamas.

Sa nona masu me na totolo walega na wali laivi na leqa tubukoso oqori ka me vakalesui tale main a bula sautu kei na tuvata duavata kei na marau veira kece. Vakavinakataki ira na kabani ni Fiji Airways kei ira na kan ivakalesilesi ko PM Rabuka ena nodra vakayacora na nodra itavi mera vakadewataki main a lewenivanua e Viti ka ra tiko voli mai Isireli, dina ga ni yaco tiko na veivaluvaluti. Oqo beka edua na imatai beka ni waqavuka mera vakadewataki mai kina na lewenivanua mai Isireli ena gauna ni valu.





अमरस मौल की प्रस्तावित योजना से भारी लाभ **2**

गन्ने के किसानों के लिए सरकार द्वारा खास सहायता कार्यक्रम **3**

बाढ़ का पानी चढ़ने, उसके दौरान और बाढ़ में क्या करें इसका उपाय **6**

ज़मीन वाले विषयों से निपटने के लिए टास्कफोर्स **6**

फ़ीजी नगरपालिका चुनाव 2024 पर आम जनता के लिए जानकारी **7**

फ़ीजी दिवस समारोह



राष्ट्रपति महामहीम रातु विलियामे कातोनिवेरे तथा प्रधान मंत्री माननीय सितिवेनी रम्बूका फ़ीजी दिवस के मौके पर सरकारी भवन में जश्न मनाते हुए चित्र : प्रदान किया गया

रोनल देव

फ़ीजी दिवस के तिरपनवें (53rd) वर्षगांठ पर प्रधान मंत्री माननीय सितिवेनी रम्बूका ने देश के नाम अपने संदेश में फ़ीजीवासियों को याद दिलाया कि शान्ति और अमन केवल सभी तरह के विवाद को खत्म करता है बल्कि यह दिखाता है कि हमारे देशवासी किस तरह साथ मिलकर काम करते हैं तथा उनके बीच समझबूझ है। हमारे बहु-जातीय और बहु-संस्कृतिक समाज में शान्ति से एकता बढ़ती है तथा देश की उन्नति होती है। यह पूँजीपतियों को

भी आकर्षित करती है जो देश की स्थिरता और शान्तिप्रिय फ़ीजी की काबिलियत पहचानते हैं। हम जबकि देश की आज़ादी की भावना का आनन्द ले रहे हैं तो ऐसे में आइए हम उस शान्ति की रक्षा करने और उसे बढ़ाने के प्रति अपनी प्रतिबद्धता को फिर से जागृत करें जो हमारी प्रगति का आधार है। प्रधान मंत्री ने कहा कि एक साथ मिलकर, एकजुट लोगों के रूप में हम एक ऐसे फ़ीजी का निर्माण करना जारी रखेंगे जो अधिक रूप से समृद्ध हो और एकता का एक चमकदार उदाहरण बन जाए।

फिलहाल, राष्ट्रपति महामहीम रातु विलियामे कातोनिवेरे ने फ़ीजी दिवस के अवसर पर अपना संदेश देते हुए फ़ीजी की प्रगति और आधुनिक को आकार देने वाले योगदान के लिए आभार व्यक्त किया। उनका कहना है कि फ़ीजी जैसे एक प्रगतिशील अर्थव्यवस्था और प्रशांत के क्षेत्र में एक केंद्र के रूप में जाना जाता है, जो क्षेत्रीय और वैश्विक चुनौतियों का सामना करते हुए क्षेत्रीय एकता को बढ़ावा देने के लिए समर्पित है। “वैश्विक समाज के हिस्से के रूप में, फ़ीजी अपनी बढ़ी हुई अंतरराष्ट्रीय

जिम्मेदारियों को पहचानता है और सभी देशों का सम्मान करते हुए सम्मान की माँग करता है राष्ट्रपति ने फ़ीजी के पुनर्निर्माण का जश्न मनाने और कम-जोर लोगों को सशक्त बनाने में देश की एकता पर जोर दिया। जैसा कि हम अपने इतिहास पर विचार करते हैं, मैं सभी नागरिकों से माँग करता हूँ कि हमने जो जीत हासिल की हैं, उसका जश्न मनाए और भविष्य पर ध्यान केंद्रित करें। आज हम जो निर्णय लेंगे उसका हमारे राष्ट्र के भविष्य पर दूरगामी प्रभाव पड़ेगा।

अमरस मोल की प्रस्तावित योजना

रोनल देव

अमरस मोल की प्रस्तावित योजना पूरी होने से रेवा, ताईलेवू तथा नईतासिरी प्रांत के निवासियों के लिए नौकरियों के अवसर पैदा होने के अलावा उन्हें सेवाओं के लिए दूर नहीं जाना पड़ेगा तथा नौसोरी इलाके में व्यापार को बढ़ावा मिलेगा। लकेना नौसोरी में बन रहे इस मोल की योजना की शुरुआत का विमोचन हुए उप प्रधान मंत्री तथा फायनेन्स मंत्री माननीय बिमान प्रसाद ने व्यापार बढ़ाने की उनकी दृष्टि, लोगों के लिए और नौकरियाँ उपलब्ध करने और देश की अर्थ-व्यवस्था की बढ़न्ती में योगदान देने के लिए अमरस परिवार को धन्यवाद दिया। इस योजना में पचीस हजार डोलर का खर्च बैठने का अनुमान है जिसका निर्माणअगले साल शुरू होने की आशा है तथा 2025 तक योजना पूरी होने की उम्मीद है। “हमारे लिए यह भी बहुत प्रसन्नता की



उप प्रधान मंत्री तथा फायनेन्स मंत्री माननीय बिमान प्रसाद, अमरस मोल की प्रस्तावित योजना की घोषणा के दौरान कम्पनी के मालिकों के सहयोगियों के साथ

चित्र :प्रदान किया गया

बात है कि हमारी स्थानीय क्षमता और हमारे स्थानीय पूँजीपति सामने आ रहे हैं और ये महत्वपूर्ण पूँजी लगा रहे हैं,” उप प्रधान मंत्री प्रसाद ने कहा। अमरस हायर प्लान्ट लिमिटेड के मेनेजिंग डायरेक्टर महेन्द्र सिंह का कहना है कि नया मोल उनके और उनके तीन भाईयों की 1992 में कम्पनी की शुरुआत से ही एक सपना की तरह है।

“उस वक्त ज़मीन की खोदाई का काम करते थे, धीरे से हमने लकड़ी के ट्रीटमन्ट प्लान्ट का काम शुरू किया और फिर हमने मुर्गी का व्यापार किया। हमने फिर लकड़ी बेचने का व्यापार शुरू किया, इस तरह हमने हमेशा अलग-अलग तरह के व्यापार किए। अमरस मोल लकेना रोड पर स्थित रहेगा

जहाँ तीन सौ से ज़्यादा लोगों के लिए नौकरियाँ पैदा होंगी, दो सौ सत्तर से ज़्यादा गाड़ियों के लिए कार-पार्क, एक सर्विस स्टेशन, मेडिकल क्लीनिक, दवा खाना, नाई की दुकान, अन्य दुकानें, दफ्तरों की जगह, एक फूड कोट तथा कार्यक्रमों के लिए भी जगह रहेगी।

इकैती में नया मिनी मार्केट



इकैती मिनी मार्केट की नई सुविधाओं से लाभ उठाती हुई कुछ महिला विक्रेता - चित्र चोसईया रलान्गो

रोनल देव

यह बेहद ज़रूरी है कि मार्केट विक्रेताओं को अपना संचालन करने के लिए सुरक्षित और उचित जगह मिलें। नया इकैती मिनी मार्केट का उद्घाटन करते हुए हाउज़िंग तथा लोकल गर्वमन्ट मंत्री माननीय मादिउ नलुमिसा ने प्रकाश डाला कि यह बेहद ज़रूरी है कि विक्रेताओं के लिए उचित जगह हो। इकैती उत्तरी विभाग का बढ़ता हुआ व्यापारिक केन्द्र है। इकैती एक प्रसिद्ध जिला है जहाँ हर दिन कई सौ की संख्या में वितिलेवू, बूआ, लम्बासा तथा सावूसावू से सफर करने वाले लोग रुककर कुछ न कुछ खरीदबीन करते हैं तथा अपनी यात्रा जारी करने से पहले जल्दी से कुछ खा लेते हैं और खुद को तरोताज़ा कर लेते हैं। लेकिन पिछले कई सालों से वहाँ एक उचित मार्केट नहीं बनाया गया। इकैती लम्बासा और नम्बोवालू के बीच में पड़ता है जो कि लम्बासा से साठ किलोमीटर और नम्बोवालू से पैसठ किलोमीटर की दूरी पर स्थित है। मंत्री ने कहा कि एक समाज के लिए एक मार्केट, उसका दिल और आत्मा होती है जो स्थानीय विक्रेताओं के लिए एक मंच प्रदान करता है, ताकि वे अपने व्यापार को बढ़ा सकें, नौकरियाँ पैदा करने के साथ-साथ देश की अर्थ-व्यवस्था में योगदान दे सकें। मंत्री ने कहा कि यह तो शुरुआत है जबकि सरकार ने एक बड़ा मार्केट बनाने की तैयारी करने के लिए राष्ट्रीय बजट में एक लाख डोलर अलग किया है। मंत्री के अनुसार हालांकि वो स्वीकार करते हैं कि यह एक अस्थायी मार्केट है, यह समाज उनके लिए बड़े विकास लक्ष्यों की दिशा में एक महत्वपूर्ण कदम है। यह स्थानीय विक्रेताओं को तुरन्त राहत प्रदान करता है जो उचित मार्केट के बिना कई कठिनाईयों का सामना कर रहे थे। इस नए मिनी मार्केट के बनने से विक्रेता, खराब मौसम में भी अपना सामान बेच सकेंगे तथा उन्हें कोई चिन्ता नहीं होगी। इस नई सुविधा में मार्केट के लिए नई छत और पाखाना की व्यवस्था है जबकि पहले ऐसी कोई सुविधा नहीं थी।

प्रधान मंत्री रम्बूका ने अमेरिकी राष्ट्रपति से मुलाकात की



फीजी के प्रधान मंत्री माननीय सितिवेनी रम्बूका, अमेरिकी राष्ट्रपति जो बाएडन से मुलाकात करते हुए - चित्र: प्रदान किया गया

रोनल देव

प्रधान मंत्री माननीय सितिवेनी रम्बूका ने हाल में वाशिंगटन अमेरिका स्थित व्हाइट हाउस में अमेरिकी राष्ट्रपति जो बाएडन से मुलाकात की। सोमवार पचीस सितम्बर को यू एस पेसिफिक आपलेन्ड फोरम लीडर्स की सभा में राष्ट्रपति बाएडन ने अपने स्वागत भाषण के बाद प्रधान मंत्री रम्बूका के साथ अनऔपचारिक चर्चा की, अनुभव को बाँटा तथा अपने करियर पर बातचीत की। राष्ट्रपति बाएडन ने क्षेत्रीय और वैश्विक चुनौतियों से निपटने में अमेरिकी-फीजी साझेदारी की ताकत पर ज़ोर देते हुए, फीजी के प्रति श्री रम्बूका के समर्पण की सराहना की। श्री रम्बूका ने राष्ट्रपति बाएडन की भावनाओं का आदर करते हुए, फीजी और अन्य प्रशान्त द्वीप देशों के लिए एक मूल्यवान सहयोगी और भागीदार के रूप में अमेरिका के लिए अपनी गहरी सराहना व्यक्त की। दोनों नेताओं ने विशेष रूप से प्रशांत क्षेत्र में जलवायु परिवर्तन, सुरक्षा और आर्थिक विकास जैसे महत्वपूर्ण विषयों को संबोधित करने में खुली बातचीत और अंतर्राष्ट्रीय सहयोग के महत्व

पर ज़ोर दिया। उन्होंने और देशों के बीच साझेदारी बढ़ाने और समृद्धि को बढ़ावा देने के लिए यू.एस.-पैसिफिक आइलैंड्स फोरम लीडर्स की सभा में अन्य नेताओं के साथ मिलकर काम करना जारी रखने की प्रतिबद्धता जताई। दोनों नेताओं के बीच सहज आदान-प्रदान ने व्यक्तिगत संबंधों की शक्ति और अंतरराष्ट्रीय कूटनीति के क्षेत्र में साझा अनुभवों पर प्रकाश डाला। इस मुलाकात ने अमेरिका और प्रशांत द्वीप देशों के बीच स्थायी मित्रता को मजबूत किया, साथ ही उज्ज्वल भविष्य की दिशा में मिलकर काम करने के लिए नेताओं के समर्पण को भी मजबूत किया। प्रधान मंत्री रम्बूका ने कहा कि इस सभा में हिस्सा लेकर उन्होंने सम्मानित महसूस किया जिसकी मेजबानी राष्ट्रपति जो बाएडन व्हाइट हाउस में की थी।

यह शिखर सम्मेलन, अपनी तरह का दूसरा, अट्ठारह देशों के प्रशान्त द्वीप समूह फोरम की छत्रछाया में प्रशांत द्वीप के नेताओं को एक साथ लाता है, जो अमेरिका और प्रशांत द्वीप देशों के बीच मौजूद साझेदारी और सहयोग के मजबूत बंधन की पुष्टि करता है। अमेरिका ने अधिकारिक तौर पर दो और प्रशान्त द्वीप देशों, कुक आइलैंड्स तथा न्यूवे की स्वतंत्रता को मान्यता दी जिससे सभी देशों के लिए आत्मनिर्णय और स्वशासन के महत्व को बल मिला। अमेरिका ने क्षेत्र में बुनियादी ढाँचे के विकास के लिए आर्थिक सहायता प्रदान करने का वादा किया, जिसमें समुद्र के नीचे केबल के माध्यम से इंटरनेट संपर्क में सुधार के प्रयास भी शामिल हैं। अमेरिका प्रशांत क्षेत्र के लोगों को लाभ पहुँचाने वाले बुनियादी ढाँचे को बढ़ावा देने के लिए प्रतिबद्ध है। अमेरिका का लक्ष्य है जलवायु परिवर्तन, आर्थिक विकास, स्वास्थ्य और गैर-कानूनी ढंग से मछली पकड़ने का मुकाबला करने के साथ-साथ अपनी साझेदारी को मजबूत करना।

मिलाद-उन-नबी का जलसा

रोनल देव

राष्ट्रीय एकता और धार्मिक सद्भावना के एक महत्वपूर्ण प्रदर्शन में राष्ट्रपति महामहीम रातू विलियामे कातोनिवरे ने राष्ट्रीय मिलाद-उन-नबी के जलसे की शोभा बढ़ाई। यह जलसा प्रिन्स चार्ल्स पार्क नान्दी में हुआ जहाँ राष्ट्रपति मुख्य मेहमान थे। इस जलसे ने पैगंबर मोहम्मद के जन्म का जश्न मनाने के लिए विभिन्न धार्मिक लोगों को एक साथ लाया। अपने भाषण में राष्ट्रपति ने कहा कि राष्ट्रीय मिलाद-उन-नबी का जलसा का फीजी में गहरा महत्व है, क्योंकि वे अंतरधार्मिक संवाद, समझ और एकता को बढ़ावा देने के लिए एक मंच के रूप में काम करते हैं। उन्होंने करुणा, एकता और सामाजिक न्याय के मूल्यों पर जोर दिया, जिन्हें पैगंबर की शिक्षाएं बढ़ावा देती हैं, और

ये मूल फीजी के बहुसांस्कृतिक और विविध समाज के साथ कैसे मेल खाते हैं। मैं फीजी के इस्लाम मजहब का एक धार्मिक, शैक्षिक और राष्ट्रीय संगठन होने के नाते फीजी मुस्लिम लीग के महान और विशाल प्रयासों को स्वीकार करना और उनके प्रति अपना सम्मान व्यक्त करना चाहता हूँ। इसने शिक्षा और सामाजिक कल्याण के क्षेत्र में बहुत योगदान दिया है और इसके सदस्यों ने आध्यात्मिक और सबसे महत्वपूर्ण रूप से सामाजिक-आर्थिक दृष्टिकोण से फीजी के विकास में सक्रिय रूप से भाग लिया है और योगदान दिया है। पैगंबर मोहम्मद सब कुछ एक साथ, एक धार्मिक शिक्षक, एक समाज सुधारक, एक नैतिक व्यक्ति थे, मार्गदर्शक, एक शानदार प्रशासक, एक वफादार दोस्त, एक अदभुत साथी, एक समर्पित पति और एक प्यार करने वाला पिता थे।



राष्ट्रपति महामहीम रातू विलियामे कातोनिवरे राष्ट्रीय मिलाद उन-नबी के जलसे पर लोगों से मुलाकात करते हुए

गाँधी दिवस समारोह



रोज़गार मंत्री माननीय अग्नि देव सिंह गाँधी जयन्ती के मौके पर दिया जलाते हुए

चित्र: प्रदान किया गया

रोनल देव

महात्मा गाँधी एक ऐसे नेता थे जिन्होंने अहिंसा के बलपर लाखों लोगों को प्रेरित किया और भारत को स्वतंत्रता संग्राम में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाई। रोज़गार मंत्री माननीय अग्नि देव सिंह ने गाँधी जयन्ती के अवसर पर महात्मा गाँधी मेमोरियल हाई स्कूल के अध्यापक तथा छात्रों के साथ यह समारोह मनाते हुए ऐसा कहा। “महात्मा गाँधी भारतीय स्वतंत्रता संग्राम के प्रमुख नेताओं में से एक थे, जिन्होंने अपना जीवन शान्ति और समानता को बढ़ावा देने के लिए समर्पित कर दिया।” गाँधी जयन्ती का घथणथ वर्ष में यह पुष्टि की जा सकती है कि हम सभी को उनके जीवन का जश्न मनाने पर गर्व है क्योंकि वह एक प्रेरणा थे, एक प्रेरणा हैं और भविष्य में हमारी प्रेरणा रहेंगे। आइए हम सत्य, अहिंसा और सामाजिक न्याय द्वारा निर्देशित अपने कार्यों के माध्यम से दुनिया को एक बेहतर जगह बनाने के लिए प्रतिबद्ध हों। आइए

हम वह बदलाव बनें जो हम दुनिया में देखना चाहते हैं, जैसा उन्होंने सोचा था। तो इस गाँधी जयन्ती पर आइए उस व्यक्ति को अपना सम्मान दें जिन्होंने हमें सिखाया कि एक बेहतर दुनिया का रास्ता हममें से हर एक से शुरू होता है। आइए अपने जीवन में अधिक दयालु, सच्चे और शान्तिपूर्ण बनने का प्रयास करें। फीजी में महात्मा गाँधी दिवस महत्वपूर्ण है क्योंकि यह राष्ट्र के बहुसांस्कृतिक ताने-बाने में भारतीय समुदाय के योगदान को मान्यता देता है। यह उन स्थायी मूल्यों की याद दिलाता है जिनका महात्मा गाँधी ने समर्थन किया था, जिनमें न्याय, करुणा और एकता शामिल है। मंत्री ने कोलिशन सरकार के दृढ़ समर्थन को भी दोहराया। यह दिन सभी फीजीवासियों के लिए एक साथ आने और महात्मा गाँधी के जीवन और योगदान का जश्न मनाने का एक अवसर है, जबकि हम उन महान आदर्शों के लिए खुद को प्रतिबद्ध करते हैं जिनके लिए वे खड़े थे और हम उनके द्वारा स्थापित मूल्यों को बनाए रखने और बढ़ावा देने का प्रयास करते हैं।

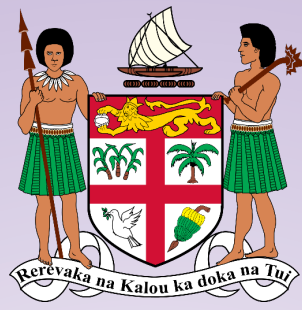
किसानों के लिए सहायता कार्यक्रम



बहु जातीय मामले तथा चीनी मंत्री चरण जीत सिंह, चीनी व्यवसाय के साझेदारों के साथ

रोनल देव

बहुजातीय और शुगर मंत्री माननीय चरण जीत सिंह ने चीनी व्यवसाय को पुनः सशक्त बनाने के लिए किसान और लीस प्रीमियम सहायता कार्यक्रम की शुरुवात की। कार्यक्रम के दौरान, माननीय चरण जीत सिंह ने इस बात पर प्रकाश डाला कि यह सहायता लीस की समाप्ति बढ़ने तथा और बढ़ते प्रीमियम के समस्याओं को देखते हुए शुरू की गई है। उन्होंने यह भी कहा कि कार्यक्रम की घोषणा 2017/2018 राष्ट्रीय बजट में की गई थी और बाद में यह 2020/2021 वित्तीय वर्ष तक चलती रही और गठबंधन सरकार ने इस साल के 2023/2024 राष्ट्रीय बजट में चीनी व्यवसाय के लिए लगभग दो मिलियन डोलर निकाला है। “इसमें से \$1.5 million उन किसानों को जाएगा जो ज़मीन की लीस बढ़ाना चाहते हैं तथा \$5 million उन नए किसानों के लिए है जो शुगर क्षेत्र में पहला कदम रखने जा रहे हैं जो ज़मीन खरीदना या लीस पर लेना चाहते हैं।” “सरकार \$7500 या तीस प्रतिशत लीस प्रीमियम लागत पर ग्रांट सहायता प्रदान करेगी। इस ग्रांट को दो भाग में किया गया है: एक जो उन निर्धारित नये किसानों के लिए है जो शुगर क्षेत्र में पहला कदम रखने जा रहे हैं और दुसरा उन किसानों के लिए है जिनकी लीज़ की समाप्ति निकट आ रही है।



बाढ़ से बचने के उपाए

बाढ़ से पहले

- ध्यान में रखे कि परिवार के सभी सदस्य सुरक्षित एक जगह हो
- पीने वाला पानी किसी अच्छे कोंटेनर में भरकर रखे क्योंकि पानी के सप्लाई में बाधा पहुँच सकती है
- घर के सामानों को किसी उँचे स्थान पर रखसका दे और उन चीजों को सुरक्षित कर दें जो बाढ़ में बह सकती हैं
- पशुओं को उँचे स्थानों पर लेजाकर बाँधे
- उपर जा रहे बाढ़ के पानी पर निगरानी रखें
- आपातकालीन सुझावों को सुनें
- जब सुरक्षित हों तो ही अपने घर से निकलें
- ऐसी जगह न जाए जहाँ बाढ़ चढ़ने का खतरा हो
- बाढ़ चढ़ी नदी नालों को पार करने की कोशिश न करें
- घर से निकलने से पहले बिजली का मुख्य स्वीच बन्द कर दें

बाढ़ के दौरान

- बच्चों को बाढ़ के पानी या नाले में न खेलने दें
- बाढ़ चढ़ी रास्ते या पुलों को पार न करें
- उन नदी नालों को पार न करें जहाँ पानी घुटनों से उपर हो
- जानवर अच्छी तरह तैर सकते हैं। उन्हें बन्द जगह या दरवा में बन्द न करें, गेट खोल दे तथा जानवरों की रस्सी भी खोल दें ताकि वे सुरक्षित जगह भाग सकें

बाढ़ के बाद

- पीने का पानी उबाल लें
- खराब होने वाले भोजन की जाँच करें
- बाढ़ वाले इलाक़ों से दूर रहे
- घरों या इमारतों में वापस जाने पर सावधान रहें जबकि वहाँ टूटे हुए शीशे, छत वाले ढीले टिन या बिजली के खुले हुए तार पड़े हो सकते हैं
- ज़रूरत पड़ने पर फ्लेश वाली बत्ती का उपयोग करें, हाथ वाली बत्ती या मोमबत्ती नहीं क्योंकि इससे आग भड़क सकती है
- अगर इमारत बाढ़ के पानी के नीचे थी तो बिजली ओन करने की कोशिश न करें और किसी विशेषज्ञ की जाँच का इंतज़ार करें
- पानी में खड़े होने या भीगे होने पर बिजली के स्वीच को न छुएं
- बिजली के उपकरणों का तबतक उपयोग न करें जबतक उनकी अच्छी तरह सफाई, सूखा होना या नुकसान के लिए उसकी जाँच न की गई हो
- संबंधित अधिकारियों को बिजली, पानी या टेलिफोन के लाईन्स में हुए नुकसान की रिपोर्ट करें

ये सलाह नेशनल डिज़ास्टर मैनेजमेंट ऑफिस की ओर से है।

ज़मीन वाले विषयों से निपटने के लिए टास्कफोर्स

रेनल देव

कोआलिशन सरकार ने ज़मीन की लीस, रिन्यू करने तथा प्रिमियम वाले विषयों से निपटने के लिए एक टास्कफोर्स की स्थापना की है।

उप प्रधान मंत्री तथा फायनेन्स मंत्री माननीय विमान प्रसाद, ईतउकैई मामलों के मंत्री माननीय इफेरेमी वासू, चीनी तथा बहु जातीय मामले के मंत्री माननीय चरण जीत सिंह के साथ ईतउकैई लेन्ड ट्रस्ट बोर्ड के प्रतिनिधियों की एक सभा हुई कि ज़मीन की लीस वाले विषयों को कैसे सुलझाया जाए।

सभा में रज़ामन्दी हुई कि एक टास्कफोर्स की स्थापना की जाए जिसमें विभिन्न मंत्रालय तथा एजेन्सीस होंगे जैसे कि:

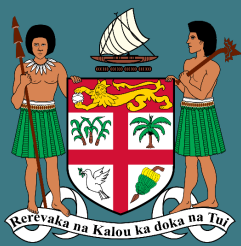
- फायनेन्स, रणनीतिक योजना, राष्ट्रीय विकास तथा आकड़ों के मंत्रालय
- ई-तउकैई मामलों के मंत्रालय
- बहु जातीय मामले के मंत्रालय
- लेन्ड्स और मिनरल रिसोर्स मंत्रालय
- कृषि और वोटरवैस मंत्रालय
- ई-तउकैई लेन्ड ट्रस्ट बोर्ड

यह टास्कफोर्स इसी साल अक्टूबर महीने के मध्य से केन्द्रीय, पश्चिमी तथा उत्तरी विभाग में ज़मीन के विषयों को लेकर ज़मीन मालिक तथा किसानों के

साथ परामर्श करने के लिए सभाएं करेगा और ज़मीन मालिकों, किसानों तथा असामियों को आश्वासन देगा कि कोआलिशन सरकार ज़मीन के मामले पर गौर कर रही है और लम्बे समय के समाधान के लिए रणनीतियों तथा प्रस्तावों पर काम कर रही है।

टास्क फोर्स ज़मीन मालिकों, असामियों तथा सभी साझेदारों को आश्वासन देता है कि सरकार, ज़मीन की लीस के संबंध में कुछ मुद्दों को हल करने के लिए कम से कम समय में काम करेगी जो लम्बे समय से हल नहीं हुए हैं।





फीजी नगरपालिका चुनाव 2024 आपको क्या जानना ज़रूरी है प्रस्तावित जानकारी

1 नगरपालिका चुनाव क्या हैं? इस साल वाले नगरपालिका चुनाव में मतदाता बोर्ड काउन्सिलस का चुनाव करेंगे जो टाउन और सिटी काउन्सिल्स में उनका प्रतिनिधित्व करेंगे

2 मत देने के लिए कौन योग्य हैं?

- जो अट्ठारह वर्ष के हैं
- जो पहले ही नेशनल रेजिस्टर ऑफ वोटर्स में रेजिस्टर हैं जिनका प्रयोग आम चुनाव के लिए होता है
- जो लगभग तीन महीनों से नगर की सीमा के अन्दर निवास करता हो

3 इस चुनाव के क्षेत्र कौन-कौन से होंगे? हर एक नगर या शहर की अपनी सीमा होती है (जिन्हें नगरपालिका की सीमा कहते हैं)। हर एक नगरपालिका की सीमा, बोर्ड में विभाजित हैं। हर एक नगरपालिका की अपनी नगरपालिका काउन्सिल होगी। नगरपालिका चुनाव के लिए एक बोर्ड ही चुनाव क्षेत्र है। मतदाता अपने बोर्ड के काउन्सिलस को मत देंगे। इसका मतलब है कि एक बोर्ड के रेजिस्टर्ड मतदाता:

- उस बोर्ड के मत देने के लिए रेजिस्टर होंगे
- उस बोर्ड से चुनाव लड़ने के लिए लोगों को मनोनीत करेंगे
- विभिन्न नगर या शहर की काउन्सिल में उनका प्रतिनिधित्व करने के लिए बोर्ड काउन्सिलस का चुनाव करेंगे

4 कौन उम्मीदारी कर सकता है? कोई भी नगरपालिका चुनाव में उम्मीदारी कर सकता है अगर वो महिला या पुरुष:

- फीजी का नागरिक है और उनके पास किसी अन्य देश के नागरिकता नहीं है;
- उस नगरपालिका के रेजिस्टर ऑफ वोटर्स में रेजिस्टर है जहाँ से उन्हें मनोनीत करने का इरादा है;
- पिछले एक साल से उसी इलाके में रहता हो जहाँ से उन्हें मनोनीत किया जा रहा है;
- उनका दिवालिया न निकला हो
- वो चुनाव कमिशन का सदस्य नहीं होना चाहिए या मनोनीत होने से चार साल पहले तक सदस्य नहीं है
- मनोनीत होने से पहले उसे जेल की सज़ा न हुई हो
- मनोनीत होने से आठ साल पहले तक उसे किसी जुर्म के लिए दोषी नहीं पाया गया हो जिसके लिए बारह महीने या उससे ज़्यादा की जेल की सज़ा है
- चुनाव संबंधी, राजनितिक पार्टियाँ या मतदाताओं को रेजिस्टर करने संबंधी किसी अपराध के लिए उसे दोषी नहीं पाया गया हो

5 एक व्यक्ति जो उम्मीदारी के योग्य है, वह चुनाव लड़ने के लिए मनोनीत कैसे कर सकता है? ऐसा प्रस्ताव है कि जो उम्मीदारी करने के योग्य है वो मनोनीत कर सकता है। जिन बोर्ड से उम्मीदारी की जाएगी वहाँ के लगभग बीस रेजिस्टर मतदाताओं का समर्थन प्राप्त होना चाहिए। कोई रेजिस्टर्ड राजनीतिक पार्टी उम्मीदवार को मनोनीत कर सकती है या व्यक्ति एक स्वतंत्र उम्मीदवार बनकर चुनाव लड़ सकता है।

6 किस तरह की चुनाव प्रणाली का उपयोग होगा?

- ऐसा प्रस्ताव है कि एक नगरपालिका के अन्दर हर एक बोर्ड के काउन्सिलस का चुनाव बहुसदस्यीय खुली सूची प्रणाली के तहत होगा। हर एक मतदाता के पास एक मत होगा तथा प्रत्येक मत का मूल्य समान है।
- प्रस्तावित बदलाव पर और जानकारी के लिए नगरपालिका चुनाव संबंधी ड्राफ्ट लोकल गर्वमन्ट (संशोधित) बिल पर यह लिंक <https://www.mlg.gov.fj/> पर जाएं



संपर्क और प्रतिक्रिया

और जानकारी के लिए,
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या आप ऑनलाईन सवालों की सूची भर सकते हैं जो यहाँ
उपलब्ध है

या आप खुद लेजाकर
इस पते पर दे सकते हैं:
लौकल गर्वमन्ट मंत्रालय,
पेमानेंट स्क्रेटरी
लेवल 2 एफ एफ ए बिल्डिंग
ग्लेडस्टन रोड,
सूवा

सभी लिखित सबमिशन सोमवार सोलह अक्टूबर 2023 की शाम चार बजे तक
स्वीकार किया गया।

अपनी लौकल गवमन्ट चुनाव प्रक्रिया को आकार देने के लिए अपनी आवाज़
को महत्व दें

फ़ीजी दर्पण

Thursday October 19, 2023 | 8 pages | Issue 12 Vol 14 | www.fiji.gov.fj | [@FijianGovt](https://www.facebook.com/FijianGovt) | [Fijian Government](https://www.facebook.com/FijianGovernment)



फ़ीजी दिवस के तिरपनवीं वर्षगांठ पर कई सौ की संख्या में फ़ीजीवासी एलबर्ट पार्क सूबा में उपस्थित हुए तथा इस मौक़े पर राष्ट्रपति महामहीम रातू विलियमस कातोनिवरे ने कुछ फ़ीजीवासियों को सम्मानित भी किया चित्र: प्रदान किया गया



मंत्रिमण्डल के फैसलें

रोनल देव

पीपल्स कोआलिशन सरकार ने तीन अक्टूबर को मंत्रिमण्डल की अपनी सोलहवीं बैठक की जहाँ कुछ ज़रूरी फैसलें लिए गए।

इन फैसलों में अगले साल की सार्वजनिक छुट्टियों की घोषणा हुई।

मंत्रिमण्डल ने 2024 सार्वजनिक छुट्टियों को स्वीकृति दी।

नए साल की छुट्टी - सोमवार पहली जनवरी

गुड फ्रायडे - शुक्रवार उनतीस मार्च

ईस्टर सटडे - शनिवार तीस मार्च

ईस्टर मनडे - सोमवार पहली अप्रैल

गिरमिट दिवस - सोमवार तेरह मई

रातू सर लाला सुकूना दिवस - शुक्रवार

इक्तीस मई

पैगम्बर मोहम्मद का जलसा - सोमवार

सोलह सितम्बर

फ़ीजी दिवस - गुरुवार दस अक्टूबर

दिवाली - शुक्रवार पहली नवम्बर

कीसमस डे - बुधवार पचीस दिसम्बर

बोक्सिंग डे - गुरुवार छब्बीस दिसम्बर

अगले साल वाली सार्वजनिक छुट्टियों की

घोषणा कुछ संस्थाओं और मंत्रालयों की सलाह के बाद की गई है जिनमें:

* दिवाली उत्सव के लिए श्री सनातन धर्म प्रतिनिधी सभा फ़ीजी से;

* गिरमिट दिवस के लिए फ़ीजी गिरमिट काउन्सल से;

* पैगम्बर मोहम्मद के जलसे के लिए फ़ीजी मुस्लिम लीग से;

* ईस्टर की छुट्टियों के लिए फ़ीजी

काउन्सल ऑफ चर्चस से; रातू सर लाला सुकूना दिवस के लिए ई-तउकेई,

संस्कृति, विरासत और कला मंत्रालय से और किसमस, बोक्सिंग डे तथा फ़ीजी

दिवस की छुट्टियों के लिए सोलिसिटर जनरल के दफ्तर से। अगले साल वाली

सार्वजनिक छुट्टियों की सूची गेज़ट में छापी जाएगी। इसके अलावा मंत्रिमण्डल

ने खास करके लाएसेन्स हायर(LH), लाएसेन्स मिनिबस (LM) तथा लाएसेन्स

रेन्टल (LR), लाएसेन्स केरियर्स (LC) के लिए सार्वजनिक गाड़ियों के पेरमिट प्रदान

करने वाली रोक को हटाने की स्वीकृति दे दी है। मंत्रिमण्डल राजी हुआ है बाकी पी

एस वी पेरमिट जैसे कि रोड रूट लाएसेन्स (RRL), लाएसेन्स टेक्सीस (LT) तथा रोड

कोन्ट्रेक्ट लाएसेन्स पर फिर से गौर किया

जाए जिसके बाद ये लाएलेन्स प्रदान करने के पेरमिट प्रदान करने के रोक को हटाने

का कोई फैसला लिया जाएगा। पी एस वी पेरमिट प्रदान करने पर रोक दो हजार

ग्यारह में लागू की गई थी। अनुमान है कि लेन्ड ट्रान्सपोर्ट अथोरिटी आठ हजार

आठ सौ सोलह पेरमिट्स का प्रशासन करती है जबकि ज़्यादातर पेरमिट्स, केन्द्रीय और

पश्चिमी विभाग में हैं। मंत्रिमण्डल ने जो तीसरा फैसला लिया

वो था डेलाइट सेविंग को स्थगित करना। इसके साथ कुछ कानूनों में बदलाव करने

की सम्भावना है जिनमें डेलाइट सेविंग एक्ट 1988 रद्द करना भी शामिल है।

फ़ीजी में डेलाइट सेविंग साल 1998 से शुरू होकर दिसम्बर 2020 और जनवरी

2021 के बीच समाप्त हुआ।