

Fiji



FOCUS

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PM hails community for fulfilling obligation



Prime Minister, Sitiveni Rabuka, hands over the land title to the Mataqali Sovanivonu of Matakunea settlement in the district of Drekeniwai in Cakaudrove last week. **Photo: NANISE NEIMILA**

By NANISE NEIMILA

PRIME Minister, Sitiveni Rabuka, has hailed the Mataqali Sovanivonu of Matakunea settlement in the district of Drekeniwai in Cakaudrove as they received their land titles after meeting the repayment agreement.

It was an emotional day for the families of the mataqali as they received their land titles from the Prime Minister last week.

PM Rabuka expressed his gratitude to the Mataqali Sovanivonu and its members for the incredible effort and earnest hard work undertaken to fulfil the obligations of their repayment agreement, which was discharged in an efficient and timely manner.

He said they represent a beacon of

hope for other landowning units aspiring to clear their dues in anticipation of acquiring full possession of their freehold land titles that are still administered by the Director of Lands and yet to be transferred.

“The Buyback Scheme was initiated by the Government to assist Indigenous landowners in repurchasing their ancestral land for their socio-economic wellbeing. Certificate of Title (CT) 4929 was purchased on 16 August 1991 by the Government through the Buyback Scheme for the Mataqali Nasovanivonu of Yavusa Navatu in the District of Nasavusavu, Cakaudrove.”

PM Rabuka reminded those present not to forget the individuals who initiated the process that led to the retrieval of the 56 acres of land previously alienated during the colonial era.

“The vision, wisdom, and foresight of

those men and women in seeking Government assistance for the purchase of Freehold Title CT 4929 stand as a testament to their perseverance and determination to shape their own destiny. The handover ceremony marks the culmination of their dreams and the realisation of decades of labour.”

He said that from today, the Mataqali begins a new chapter, enriching itself by increasing the size of its Mataqali allotment (I'kanakana) to support the sustainable livelihoods of its growing members.

Village Headman, Jone Naitini, of Nabalebale Village, Cakaudrove, said the community had waited nearly 30 years for this historic day.

He described the handover as a moment of relief, pride, and fulfilment for the Mataqali Sovanivonu.

“For almost three decades, we have

carried this responsibility together as one family. This land was once privately owned, and reclaiming it was not easy. We contributed approximately \$140,000 towards its repayment. We sold copra, root crops, and other farm produce, and every family played their part so that one day we could regain ownership of what rightfully belongs to us,” he said.

Mr Naitini acknowledged the elders who initiated the process years ago, saying their determination and sacrifice laid the foundation for today's achievement.

“Some of those who started this journey are no longer with us, but their vision lives on. Today we honour their sacrifice. This title is not just a piece of paper — it represents our identity, our security, and the future of our children.”

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Fiji and U.S. strengthen economic partnership through MCC compact development



The Compact Development Funding Agreement was signed during the recent visit by the U.S. Deputy Secretary of State, Christopher Landau, and Fiji's Minister for Finance, Commerce, and Business Development, Esrom Immanuel. **Photo: SUPPLIED**

THE Government of Fiji and the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) took an important step forward fostering private sector-led growth and boosting economic ties between Fiji and the United States.

The Compact Development Funding Agreement was officially signed during the recent visit by the U.S. Deputy Secretary of State, Christopher Landau, and Fiji's Minister for Finance, Commerce, and Business Development, Esrom Immanuel.

The agreement enables joint technical work to design projects that will enhance Fiji's economy while creating new opportunities for U.S. trade and investment.

"This is more than an agreement—it's a catalyst for prosperity. By working with Fiji, we aim to design a compact that drives investment in Fiji, opens new markets for American companies, and strengthens the foundation for a free and open Indo-Pacific," Deputy Secretary Landau said.

"This agreement reflects Fiji's commitment to good governance, economic freedom, and investments that foster growth," Minister Immanuel said.

"Together, we will tackle key development challenges and create lasting benefits for Fijians."

Fiji was selected by MCC's Board in August 2025 to develop a compact program, recognising the nation's reform momentum and its key role as a regional hub for transport, business, healthcare, and workforce development.

MCC compacts are five-year agreements that fund programmes addressing the main barriers to economic growth. This agreement initiates a data-driven design process to identify priority sectors and develop projects that support Fiji's long-term growth and shared interests in the Pacific.

MCC continues to expand its presence in the Pacific, with ongoing or developing programs in the Solomon Islands, Kiribati, and Tonga.

To date, MCC has already committed nearly \$115 million to help Pacific Island nations address unique economic challenges and connect to global markets and U.S. businesses.

The Millennium Challenge Corporation is an independent U.S. Government agency focused on unlocking growth through results-driven foreign assistance.

MCC's grants support large-scale infrastructure, strategic reforms, and economic modernization.

Fiji strengthens ties with India through high-level engagements

Fiji continues to strengthen co-operation with India on its priority area of healthcare.

This was one of the key discussions during the recent visit to India by the Minister for Finance, Commerce and Business Development, Esrom Immanuel, who made great inroads during in moving forward the Fiji Government's efforts to strengthen cooperation in areas of mutual interest and deepen the long-standing relationship.

During the visit, Minister Immanuel met with India's Union Minister of State for External Affairs and Textiles, Shri Pabitra Margherita.

Both leaders acknowledged the deep historical bonds shared by Fiji and India and agreed on the importance of further strengthening this enduring partnership.

Minister of State Margherita reaffirmed India's readiness to support Fiji in key sectors including healthcare, e-governance and digitisation, agricultural development, cultural exchanges, education and skills training, trade, and expanding people-to-people connections.

Minister Immanuel also met with executives from Apollo Hospitals in Delhi to explore potential partnerships that could expand access to tertiary healthcare services for Fijians.

During his visit, the Minister officiated at the MIOT 27th Founder's Day celebration in Chennai.

Fiji and India share a long history in healthcare, with thousands of Fijians

travelling to India for specialised medical treatment.

With MIOT already expanding its presence in Fiji through the management of cardiac care at Lautoka Hospital in partnership with Aspen, Fiji is now seeking even closer collaboration with Indian private healthcare providers to help transform health service delivery.

The Minister also held a series of productive meetings with senior Indian officials and institutional leaders. These included the CEO of the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI), Bhuvnesh Kumar; the Chairman and Managing Director of the National Small Industries Corporation of India, Dr. Subhansu Sekhar Acharya; the Controller General of Accounts at India's Ministry of Finance, T.C.A. Kalyani; and a delegation from the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI).

Discussions focused on opportunities for collaboration to support Fiji's digital transformation and drive economic development.

The Fiji-India partnership is grounded not only in a rich shared history, but also in common values of democracy, freedom, mutual respect, and social justice — principles that continue to guide and strengthen relations between the two countries.

(Source: Ministry of Finance, Commerce and Business Development)



Minister for Finance, Commerce and Business Development, Esrom Immanuel, made great inroads during his recent visit to India on moving forward the Fiji Government's efforts to strengthen cooperation in areas of mutual interest and deepen the longstanding relationship. **Photo: SUPPLIED**

Fiji removed from EU blacklist following comprehensive tax reforms

Fiji has officially been removed from the European Union list of non-cooperative jurisdictions for tax purposes (EU Blacklist).

This was announced by Fiji Revenue and Customs Service (FRCS) on February 18, 2026, after the EU placed Fiji on blacklist back in March 2019.

Fiji was required to address issues related to tax transparency, fair taxation, and the implementation of Base Erosion Profit Shifting (BEPS) minimum standards.

Over the last few years, FRCS has undertaken extensive legislative, policy, and institutional reforms to ensure Fiji is successfully removed from the EU Blacklist.

The removal from the EU blacklist restores confidence in Fiji's tax framework strengthens Fiji's international reputation and demonstrates the country's commitment to global cooperation and responsible tax governance.

Minister of Finance, Esrom Immanuel, stated that removal from the EU Blacklist enhances Fiji's international relationship, especially with countries under the European Union Forum, as this will restore confidence with foreign investors, trading

partners and major development partners. This will further enhance our free trade with European Union countries under the EU-Pacific Interim Economic Partnership Agreement.

During the submission of the FRCS 2021–2022 Annual Report to the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defence on 2 April 2025, the Chief Executive Officer made a commitment that Fiji will secure removal from the EU blacklist within 12 to 18 months. This commitment has now been honoured in 10 months.

The chief executive officer, Udit Singh, stated that the work undertaken by the FRCS team for the removal of Fiji from the EU blacklist is commendable as it required extensive technical expertise, consistency, and commitment in achieving this important milestone for Fiji.

Mr Singh also expressed his sincere appreciation to the Government of Fiji, the Ministers for Finance, the Ministry of Finance team, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for their continued support and coordination throughout the reform process.

He also acknowledges the technical assistance and continued support provided

by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development in ensuring the implementation of required international tax standards for the benefit of the Fijian economy.

FRCS remains committed to maintaining compliance with international standards

and will continue with reforms that maximise tax revenue collection, promote tax transparency, fairness, tax compliance and economic resilience.

(Source: Fiji Revenue and Customs Services)



The Minister for Finance, Commerce and Business Development, Esrom Immanuel, Chief Executive Officer -FRCS, Udit Singh, Chief of Staff/ Director Corporate Services – FRCS, Shavindra Nath in Paris, France for the signing of the Multilateral Convention on Mutual Administrative Assistance in Tax Matters (MAAC). **Photo: SUPPLIED**



Land title handover opens new economic opportunities for Mataqali Sovanivonu in Cakaudrove

continued from page 1

The 28 years of financial commitment and sacrifice should now inspire a forward-looking vision for the next 28 years.

PM Rabuka encouraged reflection on past achievements while planning strategically for the future use of the land.

Looking ahead, he stressed that development must be guided by current realities, modern challenges, and lessons from the past. While difficulties may arise, he expressed confidence in the collective good that this land transfer represents.

PM Rabuka urged that the voices of the younger generation of the Mataqali Sovanivonu be heard and their talents recognised to ensure the optimal use of the 56 acres of viable land.

He said elders have an obligation to promote inclusivity and unity—values that can be proudly passed on to the next generation.

With the handover of the title comes accountability, and he expressed hope that ownership would further strengthen unity among members.

“Mataqali sovanivonu is one of eleven landowning units that have successfully repaid their government debt—two years ahead of schedule. Land is a scarce commodity, and with it comes immense opportunity. This achievement demonstrates what can be accomplished through coordination, cooperation, and unity,” he said, encouraging the maximisation of land development for sustainable livelihoods and productive economic activity.

PM Rabuka also acknowledged the Ministry of Lands and Mineral Resources for facilitating the completion of the land transfer process.

He welcomed discussions between the landowners and the Ministry of Fisheries and Forests regarding the establishment of a state-of-the-art ice plant, training facility, and research centre for aquaculture, spat, and mariculture farmers across the country.

He further stated that the Government has allocated \$56,000 in the 2026–2027 National Budget to the Ministry of Fisheries and Forests for preparatory works and land acquisition at Matakunea.

This initiative has the potential to transform economic activity, strengthen food security, and create meaningful livelihoods for communities around Natewa Bay.

The Prime Minister acknowledged the challenges posed by the rising cost of living and emphasised the Government’s expectation of increased agricultural production from resource owners to enhance food security.

As a strong advocate of iTaukei entrepreneurship, he expressed confidence that the Mataqali would unlock its full potential, take calculated risks, and forge strategic business partnerships to grow into a successful, profitable, and impactful landowning unit.

Mr Naitini said the Mataqali was now focused on ensuring the land is developed wisely and sustainably for the benefit of present and future generations. “We do not take this lightly. With ownership comes responsibility. We want to use this 56 acres productively, whether through agriculture, fisheries partnerships, or other development opportunities so that it creates income, employment, and stability for our people. Our goal is unity and progress, ensuring that our children and grandchildren will never again have to struggle to reclaim what is theirs.”

He added that the handover has strengthened unity among members of the Mataqali and renewed their commitment to work together in advancing their socio-economic wellbeing.

International Women’s Day



Minister of Women, Children and Social Protection, Sashi Kiran, opened the Macuata women artisans training session in the Northern Division this week where she also joined the participants in commemorating International Women’s Day. **Photo: SUPPLIED**

By PRASHILA DEVI

TODAY is International Women’s Day!

It is a day dedicated to the mothers, wives, daughters, aunts, grandmothers, sisters, the girl child and to bringing into the light topics that are often discussed in hushed voices.

Despite being the nurturers, the first person you meet as you come into this world or the grandmother who cherishes her grandchild, women are often subjected to violence- physical and mental- both at home and outside, discriminated based on gender and often kept away from leadership role.

Minister for Women, Children and Social Protection, Sashi Kiran, says March 8th is an important date not just to celebrate women but for advocacy on issues that are less spoken about.

In highlighting a few of these issues, Minister Kiran said the violence perpetrated on the girl child and the neglect faced by widow and elderly women were some of the difficulties being faced.

To this end, she said much work, not just by Government but also by civil society organisations (CSOs), has been done to reverse the violence and fallacies perpetuated against the women and girl child but a lot more action was needed.

“This is why it’s heartening to see corporate bodies and the private sector joining the civil society organisations and Government in their advocacy work and acknowledging women professionals, not just acknowledging but providing them equal opportunities to thrive.”

“The Government also has done a lot of work through the Fiji National Action Plan to Prevent Violence

Against All Women and Girls 2023-2028 and it will continue to do more work as women and children continue to be victims of violence and sexual abuse,” Minister Kiran said.

She also highlighted that the Ministry was not only delivering economic empowerment programmes but also extending grants and support to women across the country.

Being inclusive in the delivery of its different programmes will also see this year’s IWD celebrations being spread across the country.

Minister Kiran said several ministries and disciplined forces have joined in the programmes lined up across the country which was clear indication of the significance they place in empowering the women in their organisations.

Note: See full list of events for International Women’s Day on Page 4.

Global headwinds pose challenges for Fiji



Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Tourism and Civil Aviation, Viliame Gavoka, and the Minister for Finance, Commerce and Business Development, Esrom Immanuel, with staff of the Air Terminal Services after high-level engagements recently to strengthen a unified Team Fiji approach across the aviation sector. **Photo: SUPPLIED**

THE Government is closely monitoring the ongoing conflict in the Middle East and its potential economic and fiscal implications for Fiji.

Minister for Finance, Commerce and Business Development, Esrom Immanuel, said oil prices have increased significantly from around US\$60 (FJ\$132.63) per barrel last year to approximately US\$84 (FJ\$185.68) per barrel today.

Minister Immanuel explained that projections indicate that if the conflict continues and global oil supply disruptions intensify, prices could rise further to triple digits.

“As a small island economy and a price taker in global markets, such increases would pose significant challenges for Fijian businesses, consumers and the broader economy,” he said.

“Higher fuel prices will affect transportation cost, production costs and household expenses, placing upward pressure on inflation and

cost of living. At the same time, if global economic conditions weaken, Fiji could face additional challenges through softer tourism demand, reduced export demand and slower investment flows.”

Furthermore, Minister Immanuel said, “We are particularly mindful of the potential impact on the tourism sector and national carrier Fiji Airways, as rising fuel costs and weaker global demand could affect travel and tourism activity”.

He said tourism remains a key driver of Fiji’s economy, and any slowdown would have broader implications for growth, employment and foreign exchange earnings.

The Government, Minister Immanuel said, was also closely observing how the conflict may affect the economies of our key trading partners, global stock markets and overall global economic stability.

These developments will influence Fiji’s trade, tourism flows, investment and overall economic growth.

“While these risks are real, there is no need for panic. Fiji currently has adequate foreign exchange reserves, which provide an important buffer against external shocks. Social protection frameworks are flexible enough to respond with mitigating measures, if required. Government will continue to assess the situation carefully and will explore options to support consumers and businesses should global conditions worsen.

At the same time, he said it was “important that we all remain vigilant and prepared”.

“Global uncertainties such as these remind us of the importance of prudent economic management and collective readiness.”

Minister Immanuel said the Government will continue to keep the public informed as the situation evolves.

(Source: Ministry of Finance, Commerce and Business Development)



A gift of life: Shyleen's brave fight

By SHILTA SINGH

ONE and half year old, Shyleen Kumar from Lautoka has already overcome a challenge that would test even the strongest among us.

Shyleen recently underwent critical heart surgery at the Sri Sathya Sai Sanjeevani Children's Hospital in Suva, a procedure that has given her the chance to grow up healthy and strong.

For her mother, Shweta Kumar, the experience has been both emotional and life changing.

Shyleen would tire quickly and struggle to catch her breath after small bursts of activity.

As any concerned parent would, Ms Kumar sought medical advice. Further examinations revealed that her daughter was living with a heart condition that required specialised surgical care.

"It was difficult news to accept," she recalled. "But I knew I had to stay strong for her."

With hope in her heart, she travelled alone from Lautoka to Suva, placing her trust in the skilled hands of the paediatric cardiac team.

The days leading up to the surgery were filled with prayer and quiet determination.

"I cannot explain the feeling," Ms Kumar said. "I was just thankful. It felt like my child had been given a new beginning."

Shyleen was later recognised during a recent Gift of Life ceremony officiated by the President, Ratu Naiqama Lalabalavu, who acknowledged the dedication of the medical professionals and the positive impact of specialised cardiac services for children in Fiji and the wider Pacific.

Since opening its doors, the hospital has continued to expand access to advanced paediatric heart care, easing the burden on families and ensuring that financial constraints do not stand in the way of treatment.

For Ms Kumar, the support shown by doctors, nurses and hospital staff made all the difference.

"They cared for my daughter as if she were their own. I will always be grateful," she said.

Now focused on her daughter's recovery, the young mother encourages other parents to act promptly if something seems unusual with their child's health.

"Follow your instincts and seek medical help early," she advised. "It can save your child's life."

As Shyleen regains her strength, her journey serves as a powerful reminder of how timely medical intervention and compassionate care can transform fear into hope and give even the smallest hearts the chance to beat strongly for years to come.



Shweta Kumar with her one-year-old daughter, Shyleen Kumar during the Gift of Life ceremony at the Sri Sathya Sai Sanjeevani Children's Hospital in Suva. Photo: WANSHIKA KUMAR

International Women's Day 2026- A success story of women's empowerment

AS Fiji celebrates International Women's Day 2026 under the theme "RIGHTS. JUSTICE. ACTION. For all women and girls", the inspiring journey of Eseta Mauvu stands as a powerful success story of women's empowerment.

Originally from Nasoki, Moala in Lau, and now residing in Tovata, Makoi in the Central Division, Ms Mauvu turned her vision of owning a piggery farm into a thriving enterprise.

It was through determination, resilience, and strong leadership that she established Victorious Farm, which now manages 55 pigs and continues to expand toward full commercial operations in 2026.

Her success was strengthened through support from the Women's Economic Empowerment Grant (WEEG), an initiative of the Ministry of Women, Children and Social Protection.

With this assistance, Ms Mauvu improved her farm infrastructure, increased livestock numbers and strengthened her business management systems. The grant provided more than financial assistance, it created opportunity, restored confidence, and enabled sustainable growth.

What makes Ms Mauvu's journey a true success story is not only the growth of her farm, but the impact she has made on other women.

She has opened her doors to mentor and train aspiring women farmers in livestock care, financial record-keeping, and business planning.

The women in her community, through her leadership, are gaining practical skills, generating income, and building confidence to start their own ventures.

Her enterprise has also created employment opportunities for women in the Central Division, contributing to household income, improved living standards, and stronger community resilience.

By stepping into a sector traditionally dominated by men, Ms Mauvu is challenging stereotypes and demonstrating that



women can successfully lead in agriculture and agribusiness. Ms Mauvu's story reflects the essence of Rights, Justice, and Action. Her economic participation affirms women's rights to access resources and productive assets.

Her leadership advances justice by breaking barriers in entrepreneurship.

Her achievements demonstrate action, translating government support and policy commitments into measurable results: jobs created, income generated, and women empowered.

Today, Victorious Farm is more than a piggery business. It is a symbol of courage, opportunity, and transformation.

Ms Mauvu's journey reminds us that when women are given the right support and opportunities, they do not just succeed individually, they uplift families, strengthen communities, and contribute meaningfully to national development.

Her story is a celebration of what is possible when women's empowerment moves beyond words and becomes reality.

(Source: Ministry of Women, Children and Social Protection)

Ministry activities for International Women's Day 2026

THE Ministry of Women, Children and Social Protection will hold activities across Fiji to mark International Women's Day (IWD) 2026.

The theme of observance this year is "RIGHTS. JUSTICE. ACTION. For all women and girls." It is both a reaffirmation and a call to move faster.

Rights mean gender equality is a constitutional and human right for every woman and girl in Fiji.

Justice means addressing gender-based violence, economic exclusion, and low representation of women in leadership.

Action means turning policies into real results through joint efforts by government, civil society, the private sector, and communities.

This year's program will focus on women's health, economic empowerment, access to justice and protection services, online safety, and strengthening women's leadership. Below are the planned events that will be held across the four Divisions:

8 March – Western Division

A church service and awareness program on women's rights, gender-based violence, and child protection will be held in Tavua Village in Malolo Island.

9–11 March – Suva

The National Women Farmers Symposium will be held in Suva, led by the Ministry of Agriculture and supported by the Ministry of Women, Children and Social Protection and the Ministry of Fisheries and Forests.

9–10 March – Western Division

Women's business mentoring and coaching sessions will take place in Tavua Village, followed by community engagement activities on 11 March.

10 March – Northern and Central Division

An outreach will be conducted at Loa Village, Tunuloa, Cakaudrove, focusing on economic empowerment with the Fiji Development Bank and the Department of Cooperatives. Justice and awareness services will also be provided by the Legal Aid Commission, Fiji Women's Crisis Centre, and the Fiji Police Force.

Women exhibitors will also showcase their products at Albert Park, Suva (10–11 March).

11–12 March – Central Division

Outreach services through the Ministry's REACH Programme will be delivered at Muaira District School, Wainimala, Naitasiri to bring government services directly to communities.

12 March – Northern & Eastern Divisions

In Naiviqiri Village, Bua (Northern Division), activities will include financial literacy, mental health awareness, and health screenings.

In Namuana Village, Tavuki, Kadavu (Eastern Division), a talent show, health and wellness sessions, storytelling, and the formation of a women's forum will take place.

13 March – Suva

The public is invited to join the IWD March from Suva Flea Market to Albert Park (9.00am–9.45am), led by the Republic of Fiji Military Forces. A careers fair will follow at Albert Park to encourage young women to join the disciplined forces.

(Source: Ministry of Women, Children and Social Protection)



Airports Fiji Limited highlights plans

By AZARIA FAREEN

A MEETING centred on enhancing inter-ministerial coordination and collaboration, while ensuring all initiatives remain aligned with the National Development Plan, was held by the Office of the Commissioner Western recently.

Discussions highlighted key divisional priorities, pressing community needs, and areas requiring improvement, where participating ministries provided operational updates and outlined challenges affecting service delivery.

The engagement fostered improved efficiency and responsiveness; reinforced a whole-of-government approach to development planning and implementation.

In highlighting the organisational forecast, Airports Fiji Limited chief executive officer, Mesake Nawari, discussed logistical challenges and strategic plans for a project in the Pacific region, emphasising the importance of food supply and infrastructure upgrades.

“In the last two years, we’ve been able to save \$200 million to take us through the project,” he said.

“We will promote digital transformation, including promotion of the decoder and integration of biometrics as an objective for the project.”

“Projections for 2035 from Fiji Airways include 6 million people passing through the Nadi International Airport,” Mr Nawari added.

Landowners were also encouraged to get into business by being tenants at the Nadi International Airport to benefit from the Tenancy Loyalty Programme.

“We will be expanding in terms of the hotel transit and business hub, which are other opportunities that are available at the Nadi International Airport,” Mr Nawari said.

“We want more tourists to come in, and such we need to set our landmarks in Fiji, which should be promoted internationally so that it can attract different segments of tourism into the country,” he added.

He further stressed the importance of thinking outside the box and having a dominant role in the Pacific.

The meeting concluded, reaffirming the Government’s commitment to inclusive, people-focused development and the pursuit of sustainable outcomes for communities throughout the Western Division.

PM Rabuka launch AMA Insurance Company Limited

By WANSHIKA KUMAR

PRIME Minister, Sitiveni Rabuka, officially launched the AMA Insurance Company Limited last week, marking a new chapter for Fiji’s insurance sector.

AMA Insurance Company Limited, a subsidiary of Apia Insurance Company Limited of Samoa, will initially employ 10 to 12 Fijian professionals, with plans to expand its workforce to 15 to 20 within the next 18 months, creating new opportunities and strengthening local expertise in the industry.

PM Rabuka said the entry of a new institution into Fiji’s insurance sector signals confidence in the economy and in the nation’s long-term prospects.

“Insurance is not merely a financial service; it is a cornerstone of resilience,” he said.

“It enables families to recover from hardship, allows businesses to manage risk responsibly, and strengthens national economic stability in an increasingly uncertain world.”

PM Rabuka described the establishment of the company as a timely and welcome addition to Fiji’s evolving financial landscape.

“It brings with it the promise of broader coverage, improved service standards and renewed innovation in designing products that promotes greater consumer trust while supporting sustainable economic advancement across the country.”

Reflecting on its economic impact, he said AMA Insurance will expand choice within Fiji’s insurance market, encourage healthy competition, improve service standards and broaden product innovation tailored to the needs of households, small enterprises and



AMA Insurance Company Limited officials and guests at the launch last week by Prime Minister, Sitiveni Rabuka, in Suva. **Photo: WANSHIKA KUMAR**

communities.

“AMA’s establishment also contributes to employment and professional development within the financial services sector. It helps cultivate the technical expertise that is essential to a modern insurance industry.

“Importantly, this investment reflects regional confidence in Fiji’s regulatory and business environment, workforce capability and economic trajectory. It reinforces Fiji’s reputation and standing in the region as a credible destination for responsible investment.”

AMA Insurance Company Limited chairman, Tuiaopo Ah Liki, said the company enters the Fijian market to expand access, improve affordability and strengthen resilience for communities across Fiji and the wider

Pacific.

“In Samoa, our reputation is built on honouring claims. We stand with our customers in their moments of need, when disaster strikes, they aren’t looking for fine print, they’re looking for support. That same commitment will guide AMA Insurance in Fiji,” Mr Ah Liki stated.

“Insurance is not about collecting premiums; it is about keeping promises.

“Tonight, we do more than launch a company, we launch a promise. A promise to protect lives, build futures and strengthen the resilience of every Pacific community.”

He added that the company is committed to hiring locally, training locally and building expertise in underwriting, claims, risk assessment and governance.

Fiji takes its place on the global stage at ITB Berlin

THE Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Tourism and Civil Aviation, Viliame Gavoka, led Fiji’s delegation to ITB Berlin in Germany, where Fiji joined more than 180 countries at the world’s premier international tourism trade exhibition.

Accompanied by Tourism Fiji chief executive officer, Dr Paresch Pant, regional staff and senior industry representatives, the delegation leveraged the global platform to strengthen strategic partnerships, reinforce market presence and promote Fiji’s premium tourism offerings.

ITB Berlin provides direct access to key European tour operators, aviation partners, wholesalers and investors.

With tourism contributing approximately 40 per cent of Fiji’s gross domestic product (GDP), sustained engagement at this level ensures the country remains competitive in a marketplace increasingly shaped by sustainability standards, digital transformation and evolving traveller expectations.

Europe remains an important high-yield market for Fiji. In 2025, the region accounted for 4.7 per cent of total visitor arrivals, including 32,757 travellers from Continental Europe and 13,607 from the United Kingdom, reflecting continued opportunity for growth in the long-haul segment.

DPM Gavoka’s participation underscores Government’s commitment to strengthening air connectivity and advancing the high-value, low-impact tourism model outlined in Fiji’s National Sustainable Tourism Framework.

During the week, he met with high-ranking tourism officials of the Federal Government of Germany and prominent global tour operators.

Fiji exhibited alongside other Pacific Island destinations, reinforcing a collective regional presence and highlighting tourism’s critical



Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Tourism and Civil Aviation, Viliame Gavoka, led Fiji’s delegation to ITB Berlin in Germany where he was joined by Tourism Fiji chief executive officer, Dr Paresch Pant. **Photo: SUPPLIED**

role in economic resilience and climate adaptation for Small Island Developing States.

“Our engagement at ITB Berlin underscores Fiji’s commitment to strengthening global partnerships, expanding high-value tourism markets, and ensuring sustainable growth for Fiji and the wider Pacific.” —DPM Gavoka said.

In speaking with Fiji’s trade and press partners, he also shared Fiji’s recent removal from the European Union’s list of non-cooperative jurisdictions for tax purposes.

“Fiji’s removal from the EU’s list of non-cooperative jurisdictions is a positive development that strengthens confidence in Fiji as a trusted destination for investment and travel. For tourism, it sends a clear

signal to our European partners that we are committed to transparency, stability, and strong governance.”

On the margins of ITB Berlin, Fiji was also formally recognised for excellence in tourism destination and governance at an event hosted by the Pacific Area Travel Writers Association (PATWA) reflecting the industry’s continued dedication to quality and sustainable destination management.

Fiji’s participation at ITB Berlin signals a clear commitment to ensuring tourism continues to deliver inclusive prosperity for the nation and the wider Pacific region.

(Source: Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation)

60-year-old farmer cultivates hope and opportunity in Sabeto

By AZARIA FAREEN

AT 60, when many begin to slow down, Naboutini farmer Vinod Chand is still waking up before dawn — proving that age is no barrier when passion for toiling the land runs deep.

For the past 35 years, Mr Chand has dedicated his life to sugarcane farming in Sabeto, learning the trade from his parents and passing on the value of discipline, patience and perseverance through his own example.

“You can’t just become a farmer overnight. You need patience. You must educate yourself about what you want to plant and understand the timeline of your produce,” Mr Chand highlighted.

Mr Chand takes pride in his farming schedule and notes that his day begins at sunrise.

“I wake up at 5am sharp every day, have my tea and go to the farm and work there until 8am. You need to take advantage of the weather and plan your day accordingly. If you start late, then the sun is already up, and it is too hot.”

Despite his years in farming, Mr Chand is not content with sitting idle. As an advisory councillor in his area, he was approached by the chairman of New Valley Processors (Fiji) Pte Ltd to bring farmers together and collaborate with the company.

“The chairman asked me to engage about eight farmers and form a committee, which I did in a day,” Mr Chand recalls.

Since then, the partnership has opened



Vinod Chand, on far left in black shirt, during the event. **Photo: AZARIA FAREEN**

new doors. Farmers have been attending meetings to align production with market expectations — what to plant and when to deliver.

A nursery has been established, and seedlings including bongo chillies, tomatoes and cowpeas have been distributed to boost production.

“There has been a lot of positive impact on the farmers,” he says. “I have planted bongo chillies, wild chillies and cowpeas. I am making another plot specifically for cowpeas, which will be supplied to the company.”

With initiatives like these, New Valley Processors (Fiji) Pte Ltd has been creating structured opportunities for farmers to re-engage in agriculture, diversify crops and increase production — ensuring they maintain a steady income stream.

For Mr Chand, farming has always been more than a livelihood. “I ran my household through farming and even got my three daughters married,” he shares proudly.

Today, his 63-year-old wife works alongside him, caring for seven goats and 10 sheep while helping with vegetable farming.

She recently introduced value-adding ideas, including neatly packed chillies for sale at Shop N Save in Votualevu.

“When your produce is packed, it looks neat and automatically attracts customers,” he said.

With only six years remaining on his land lease, Mr Chand reflects realistically on the future.

“Considering my age, I am not able to farm like I used to. If the lease is extended, then I will see if I can continue farming,” he added.

Mr Chand’s spirit remains strong, and he stands ready to mentor others and encourage backyard farming.

“I am ready to assist new farmers who need advice. I also urge people to do backyard farming, so you have vegetables at your convenience because you will save money, and you are not reliant on market produce.”

For Mr Chand, farming is not just about crops — it is about resilience, community and cultivating opportunity, one sunrise at a time.

Scholarship recipient grateful for the financial support

By NANISE NEIMILA

FOR Rebekah Caucau, the path to becoming a doctor has been paved with determination, sacrifice, and the unwavering support of her family.

Last week, her perseverance was rewarded when she joined 14 other outstanding students in receiving a scholarship from the iTaukei Land Trust Board (TLTB) under the newly established iTaukei Education Scholarship Programme.

As a fifth-year medical student pursuing a Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery at the Fiji School of Medicine, Ms Caucau knows the challenges of financing a demanding medical degree all too well.

“I am grateful to God for this opportunity to continue my studies. I was a private student, and my siblings all worked to support me. This scholarship will ease the financial burden on my family,” she said.

Ms Caucau described the scholarship as more than a financial support; it was a renewed motivation to complete her studies and give back to her community.

“This scholarship is not just for me, but for my whole family. It motivates me to work harder and complete my degree so that I can contribute to improving healthcare services in Fiji.”

Prime Minister, Sitiveni Rabuka, described the initiative as a pivotal step in strengthening human capital development among landowners.

“This scholarship programme represents the next significant step in our journey. It reflects a clear understanding that sustainable prosperity requires not only the custodianship of land but also deliberate investment in human capital,” PM Rabuka said.

The iTaukei Education Scholarship has been established to support the education of iTaukei landowners by providing a structured mechanism to expand access to quality learning and skills development, particularly for those facing financial hardships.

“This scholarship initiative is not merely financial assistance. By investing in education, we strengthen households, uplift communities, and contribute meaningfully to national development, especially in sectors where iTaukei participation remains limited and where national capacity is critical.”

The 15 recipients form the inaugural cohort and will pursue studies across six specialised fields:

- Aircraft Engineering • Biotechnology
- Civil Engineering • Commercial Pilot Training
- Land Surveying
- MBBS (Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery)

The Head of Government highlighted that these disciplines were carefully selected to align with national development priorities and the policy’s vision of cultivating high-calibre professionals.

“This is a strategic investment in sectors essential to Fiji’s long-term resilience—infrastructure development, healthcare capacity, aviation connectivity, and scientific advancement.”

The Prime Minister further emphasised the importance of education as a transformative tool.

“While land is our foundation, education is our most enduring asset. It empowers individuals to innovate, to lead, and to safeguard the interests of their communities in a rapidly evolving world.”



Rebekah Caucau, seen here with Prime Minister, Sitiveni Rabuka, is all smiles as she receives the scholarship from the iTaukei Land Trust Board (TLTB) under the newly established iTaukei Education Scholarship Programme. **Photo: NANISE NEIMILA**

PM Rabuka reminded the recipients of the responsibility they now carry.

“You carry the sacrifices of your families and the aspirations of the communities you represent. You now become ambassadors of a great vision realised. Your journey from this day forward is not merely about personal accomplishment, but about the collective advancement of our people and our nation.”

“The scholarship you receive today is a foundation. Its true value will be realised

through your discipline, perseverance, integrity, and commitment to service. Excellence must be your standard, and contribution must be your purpose.”

“As you embark on this new educational journey, be assured that TLTB remains your steadfast partner. Your success will be celebrated not only as an individual achievement but also as progress for the entire iTaukei community.”

160 years of waiting — light finally reaches Navatusila

By VILIAME TIKOTANI

AS the month of August approaches — the month remembered for the arrival of Christianity in the highlands of Navatusila in 1865 — the district now celebrates another historic milestone: the arrival of electricity. The District Representative of Navatusila, Orisi Nawawabalavu, 69, explained that from the time the missionary Reverend Thomas

Baker arrived in August 1865 until today, it has felt like 160 years of darkness. He said this reflects the long period the people waited to be connected to electricity. Mr Nawawabalavu expressed gratitude on behalf of the vanua, the district and the mataqali for the Government’s support and commitment in delivering this electrification project. The electrification programme covers seven villages within the district of Navatusila, including

Nasauvakarua, located across the river towards Sigatoka. The eighth village, Navaga, falls under the Tikina of Magodro in Ba Province. Millions of dollars have been invested in the project, benefiting close to 3,000 people across the district. Mr Nawawabalavu advised that every development comes with both positive and negative aspects. He urged villagers to remain grounded in faith and to use these new developments wisely.

“Electricity and telecommunications bring both benefits and challenges, but we must choose to embrace what is good,” Mr Nawawabalavu added. The connection to electricity has improved services within the villages and enhanced the daily lives of residents — from household activities to long-term development opportunities. After 165 years, Navatusila is no longer in darkness but has entered a new era of light and progress.



The community members of Nabutautau in the district of Navatusila, Navosa, after the Fiji Government the successfully delivered the electrification project to the district under the Department of Energy's programme. **Photo: VILIAME TIKOTANI**

After years of darkness, Nasauvaukarua celebrates the arrival of electricity

By VILIAME TIKOTANI

FOR 36-year-old Alipate Naqia of Nasauvakarua, the arrival of electricity marks a truly historic and joyful moment for the district, ending what he describes as 160 years of darkness. Mr Naqia said the electrification of Navatusila was a day of great celebration, bringing meaningful change to daily life — especially for women who carry the responsibility of caring for families, preparing meals and supporting their children’s education. “In the past, life was difficult for our people,” he said. “We cooked using firewood, relied on kerosene lamps, and later used solar power. The lighting was often dim and slow. Today, with electricity, everything is brighter and faster.” Mr Naqia explained that household chores, food preparation and daily responsibilities are now easier

and more efficient. The improved amenity also supports children in their studies, allowing them to learn under better conditions. Mr Naqia believes life before electricity was very different, but today the change was visible as living conditions have improved, people are happier, and the community was experiencing positive transformation. He expressed gratitude to the Government leaders and the Minister responsible for bringing electricity closer to their community, describing it as a proud and memorable achievement. Furthermore, Mr Naqia also acknowledged the presence of Government officials who visited to witness and share in the community’s celebration of this milestone. The arrival of electricity represents not only development but a new chapter for Navatusila — a district that now steps fully into a brighter future.



Alipate Naqia, 36, of Nasauvakarua, says the arrival of electricity marks a truly historic and joyful moment for the district, ending what he describes as 160 years of darkness. **Photo: VILIAME TIKOTANI**

Navatusila’s 100-year wait ends with life-changing electricity upgrade



An elated Adi Kaveni Salaivalu, 70, of Nabutautau Village, who has waited for the arrival of electricity in her village. **Photo: VILIAME TIKOTANI**

By VILIAME TIKOTANI

FOR 70-year-old women leader Adi Kaveni Salaivalu of Nabutautau Village, the arrival of electricity was more than infrastructure — it was the fulfilment of a promise generations waited over a century to see realised. Speaking on behalf of the women and people of Nabutautau in the district of Navatusila, Navosa, Adi Kaveni expressed heartfelt gratitude to the Fiji Government following the successful electrification of the district under the Department of Energy’s programme. “We are thankful and very fortunate to have been heard,” she said. “We are located deep in the interior of Viti Levu, in the upper hills and mountains. For many years we waited. Today, we see the love and care shown to us through this development.” The Navatusila electrification project (Scheme SG15/17) has connected 407 houses across 10 villages and one settlement, directly benefiting 2,035 individuals. The total investment by the Government through Energy Fiji Limited (EFL) amounts to over \$5 million, with an additional \$351,753.46 allocated for house wiring works. Nabutautau Village alone saw 29 homes connected, with works commenced in early 2023. For generations, women relied on firewood stoves, manual washing, and daylight hours to complete daily chores. Today, refrigerators, washing machines, and other appliances are slowly becoming part of village life. “As women, our work is now much easier and faster,” Adi Kaveni said. “Before, we used firewood and washed clothes by hand. Now our children’s school uniforms can be washed quickly. We have more time for our families.” Beyond household convenience, the project strengthens rural resilience. Reliable electricity improves health outcomes through food preservation, enhances education through better study conditions, and opens opportunities for small business activities within the district. The electrification programme covered villages including Nanoko (181 houses), Navaga (41), Mare (25), Tuvaatu (19), Natoka (17), and others across the district. For Navatusila, a district long regarded as one of the most interior regions of Viti Levu, this development symbolises inclusion. “We have waited more than 100 years for this,” Adi Kaveni reflected. “Now we see change not only in our homes, but in our future.” She hopes that other remote and rural communities across Fiji will continue to receive similar upgrades to improve their standard of living and ease the burden on women and families.

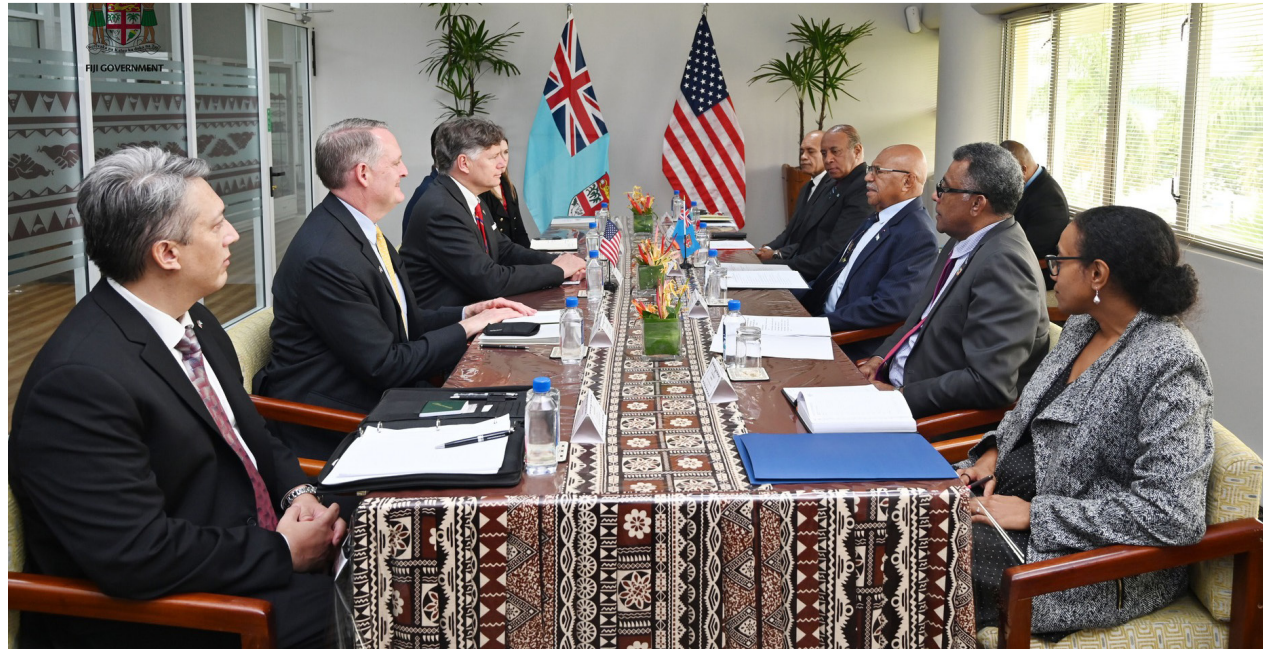
Prime Minister Rabuka welcomes US Deputy Secretary Christopher Landau to Fiji



Prime Minister Sitiveni Rabuka recently hosted U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Christopher Landau on his first official visit to Fiji and held a bilateral meeting to reaffirm the strong and growing ties between the United States and Fiji.

The meeting marked the first in-person meeting between Prime Minister Rabuka and Deputy Secretary Landau.

Photo: **NANISE NEIMILA**



Vanuaso cooperatives step up their game



Cooperatives across Tikina Vanuaso in Gau are building stronger, smarter businesses after completing a three-day Cooperative Management Training in Vanuaso Village.

From newly proposed groups to long-established cooperatives, participants gained practical skills in governance, leadership, record-keeping and accountability the foundations of any successful cooperative.

Photos: **SUPPLIED**



Values begin at home: Employment Minister



Leadership does not begin with a badge, it begins at home.

That was the reminder from the Minister for Employment, Productivity and Workplace Relations, Agni Deo Singh when officiating at the Labasa College Prefect Induction Ceremony.

“Mentoring and teaching values begins at home,” Minister Singh said.

“The quality of our children’s upbringing determines their behaviour, their respect for others, and the values they carry into society and into leadership.”

Photos: SUPPLIED



Safer crossing for Naqaidamu families



Days of worrying about children crossing a flooded stream to get to school are now over for parents in Naqaidamu Village on Koro Island.

That worry has now eased with the commissioning of a new footcrossing for the community.

Funded under the Ministry of Rural and Maritime Development and Disaster Management’s Community Access Roads and Footpaths Programme (CARFF), the Naqaidamu Village Footcrossing now provides safer access for families and school children travelling to Qalivakabau District School and the main road.

Photos: SUPPLIED



Government outreach supports Yasawa communities

By MELI NAISELE

MORE than 120 young people across the Yasawa Group have graduated with a Certificate in Mobile Skills Training in Tourism and Hospitality, marking a significant inroad to bringing education and employment opportunities closer to maritime communities.

The graduations were held in Tamusua Village, Matacawalevu Village, Soso Village, Viwa Village and Nalauwaki Village, with the then Minister for Youth and Sports, Jese Saukuru, officiating.

The training programme was delivered through a collaborative effort between the Ministry of Youth and sports, the New Zealand High Commission and Fiji National University.

The initiative brought accredited training directly to the doorsteps of youths in the Yasawa Islands, eliminating the need for many to travel to the mainland to pursue further studies.

Given that the Yasawa islands are internationally recognised for their pristine beaches and thriving tourism industry, the programme focused on equipping participants with practical skills tailored to the hospitality sector.

Graduates are now better positioned to secure employment in resorts, tour operations and other tourism-related businesses within their own communities.

Speaking at the ceremonies, Minister Saukuru reaffirmed Government’s commitment to ensuring that no young person is left behind due to geography.

“The Government is determined to make sure services reach our maritime communities. Education and skills training should not only be accessible to those in urban centres. We are taking programmes to the islands because our youths deserve equal opportunities to learn, work and succeed,” he said.

The Minister added that investing in youth development was a key pillar of national development,



Representatives from government ministry’s providing services to the villagers of Soso village, Yasawa.
Photo: MELI NAISELE

particularly in regions where access to education, employment and government services can be limited by distance and cost of travel.

By decentralising training

through mobile programmes, Government aims to reduce rural-urban migration, strengthen local economies and empower young people to build livelihoods within their villages.

In addition to the graduation ceremonies, several youth groups in Yasawa received Income Generating Project support to help kick-start small business ventures.

The assistance is designed to promote sustainable livelihoods and encourage entrepreneurship, ensuring that skills gained through the training can translate into tangible economic benefits.

Minister Saukuru also delivered a strong message to graduates, urging them to stay away from drugs and become positive role models in their communities.

“You are leaders in your villages. Use your knowledge and skills to inspire others and bring positive change,” he said.

During the visit, two sets of gym equipment were handed over to youths in Naisisili Village and Yaro Village to promote healthy lifestyles and constructive engagement.

A multi-agency outreach pro-

gramme was also conducted alongside the events, demonstrating a whole-of-government approach to service delivery in maritime areas.

Participating agencies included the Ministry of Employment, Productivity and Workplace Relations; the Ministry of Commerce and Business Development; the Fiji Revenue and Customs Service; the Ministry of Health and Medical Services; the Fiji Police Force; the Ministry of iTaukei Affairs; and the National Youth Band, which provided entertainment throughout the visit.

The outreach enabled villagers to access essential services, business advice, health information and awareness programmes without travelling to larger centres, further underscoring Government’s commitment to inclusive development.

The Yasawa initiative reflects a broader national strategy to expand skills training, promote youth empowerment and ensure equitable access to services across Fiji’s rural and maritime communities.



The Government officials serving the people of Matacawalevu village in the Yasawa Islands.
Photo: MELI NAISELE

Naisisili youth leader urges young people to stay away from drugs

By MELI NAISELE

YOUTH leader Kolinio Waqa has called on young people in Naisisili and across Fiji to remain vigilant and stay away from drugs, stressing that substance abuse poses a serious threat to the nation’s future.

Mr Waqa, one of the recent graduates of the Certificate in Mobile Skills Training programme, made the comments during a graduation ceremony officiated by the Minister for Youth and Sports, Jese Saukuru, at Naisisili Village in Yasawa.

Speaking at the event, he expressed gratitude to the Ministry of Youth and Sports for delivering training opportunities directly to rural and maritime communities.

He said the Mobile Skills Training programme has empowered youths with practical knowledge and skills that can help them secure employment or start small businesses.

“We are thankful to the Ministry for bring-

ing these opportunities right to our doorstep, it shows that the government is committed to ensuring that no community is left behind, especially those in maritime areas,” Mr Waqa said.

He also acknowledged the Government’s broader efforts to improve access to essential services in remote communities, saying such initiatives demonstrate a strong commitment to inclusive development.

Mr Waqa noted that investments in youth training, infrastructure and community resources reflect the Government’s recognition of young people as key drivers of national progress.

The youth leader also thanked the Ministry for providing new sets of gym equipment to the village.

He encouraged young people to make full use of the facility by staying active and participating in local sports tournaments.

“Keeping ourselves busy in positive activities like going to the gym and taking part in sports will help keep our minds focused

and away from negative influences,” he said.

Mr Waqa urged youths throughout Fiji to take responsibility for their actions and strive to bring positive change to their communities. He warned that the growing influence of drugs among young adults is deeply concerning and could have long-term consequences for the country.

“I worry about the future of Fiji if we allow drugs to control our generation, we must stand together, support one another and choose a better path,” he said.

The graduation ceremony highlighted the Government’s ongoing commitment to youth empowerment through skills development programmes, particularly in rural and maritime regions.

The Ministry, through initiatives such as the Mobile Skills Training programme, aims to equip young people with the tools they need to build sustainable livelihoods and contribute meaningfully to national development.



Kolinio Waqa after the graduation ceremony at Naisisili village, Yasawa. Photo: MELI NAISELE



New Borehole brings reliable water to Natewa Village

by NANISE NEIMILA

FETCHING water from distant sources will soon be a thing of the past for the villagers of Natewa in Cakaudrove following the commissioning of a \$137,000 borehole project.

The new system will serve 60 households, including the community post office, Natewa District School, and the health centre, benefiting more than 244 people.

Prime Minister, Sitiveni Rabuka, highlighted the critical role water plays in daily life, noting that groundwater was a vulnerable resource that must be managed sustainably and prioritised for drinking purposes only.

“Therefore, I urge you all to take ownership of this borehole and manage it wisely. Complement groundwater use with other sources, such as rainwater harvesting, to ensure sustainability,” he said.

“As the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 6 emphasises— ‘Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all’—safe and reliable water is a fundamental right. Ensuring every Fijian has access to this necessity remains a key priority for Government.”

PM Rabuka reminded villagers that water was precious and requires careful stewardship to ensure availability for future generations.

He warned that groundwater resources face threats from climate change, contamination, and over-use and must therefore be used responsibly alongside other water sources.

The Head of Government added that the responsibility for monitoring, maintaining, managing, and protecting both the groundwater resource and the water supply infrastructure rests with the community and the Natewa Water Committee.

“I encourage you all to support your Water Committee in scheduled maintenance activities to ensure uninterrupted and sustainable water access. Government will deliver what is best for our people, but the true success of this project lies in our collective duty to use it responsibly.”

PM Rabuka acknowledged the hard work, dedication, and commitment behind the project, thanking field officers, supervisors, and management of the Mineral Resources Department, many of whom spent weeks away from their families to complete the borehole on schedule.

Director of Mineral Resources, Apete Soro, explained that the project was first identified in 2017, with scoping in 2018 to determine the appropriate water source.

Underground inspections and surveys were conducted in 2020 where it was found that borehole reaches a depth of 21 metres, with



Prime Minister, Sitiveni Rabuka, takes a glass of water following the commissioning of borehole project at Natewa in Cakaudrove recently. **Photo: NANISE NEIMILA**

the water table at five metres.

Surveyors confirmed the system can pump approximately one litre every five seconds and will be powered by solar energy.

The community expressed hope that the borehole will be used responsibly to provide safe and reliable drinking water.

Natewa Village headman, Tanielau Taukei, recalled the decades of hardship villagers faced, particularly during heavy rainfall when water sources became flooded

and muddy.

“For decades, access to clean and safe drinking water has been one of our biggest challenges,” he said.

“Families would wake before dawn to walk long distances to collect water, carrying buckets along slippery paths. When it rained, streams would overflow and turn brown. We worried constantly about our children getting sick.”

Mr Taukei spoke of the extra bur-

den carried by children, mothers, and the elderly in collecting water.

“Water is life, we had no choice but to find a way,” he said.

Describing the borehole’s commissioning as a turning point for the village, he added: “Today marks a new chapter for Natewa. This is more than just a borehole; it is security for our families, dignity for our women, and a healthier future for our children”.

Korolevu village embraces a new chapter with lifeline boat for safety and ocean stewardship

By NANISE NEIMILA

FOR generations, the people of Korolevu Village in the district of Navatu, Cakaudrove, have relied on bamboo rafts and at times their own strength to cross the river that connects them to essential services and opportunity.

During heavy rain, when the river swells up and currents grow ominous, fear often replaced routine. Parents had to wait anxiously as children made their way to school, while villagers weighed the risks of seeking medical help or transporting goods to market.

All this became a worry of the past after Prime Minister, Sitiveni Rabuka, last week officially handed over a 23-foot fiberglass boat and 60-horsepower outboard engine to Korolevu village, a development many villagers describe as a long-awaited turning point.

Valued at over \$25,761 and funded under the Office of the Prime Minister’s 2025–2026 Development Grant Budget, the vessel was delivered through the professional services of Safeway Marine (Fiji) Pte Ltd and Niranjans Autoport Pte Ltd.

The boat will significantly improve transportation and safety for the village’s approximately 55 households and the investment extend far beyond mobility.

Korolevu holds stewardship over the

customary fishing grounds of the Yavusa Korolevu within the Navatu District, including designated Marine Protected and Managed Areas (MPMA) waters that sustain both livelihoods and biodiversity.

PM Rabuka said the initiative reflects the Government’s commitment to equipping rural and maritime communities with practical resources that strengthen resilience and sustainability.

“These waters are more than a source of sustenance; they are a living inheritance,” he said.

“They represent identity and responsibility. The protection of these ecosystems sustains biodiversity, strengthens food security, and provides livelihood opportunities for both present and future generations.”

The dedicated vessel will enhance the community’s capacity to conduct regular surveillance of MPMA, respond to illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing activities, support conservation initiatives, facilitate environmental monitoring, and ensure safer travel across customary fishing grounds.

Importantly, the boat will also be made available to Fisheries officers undertaking official duties in Navatu, Koroalau, and Vatuova a collaborative approach between Government and vanua aimed at strengthening sustainable fisheries management and maritime security.

For village headman, Lepani Tuisoba, the



For generations, the people of Korolevu Village in the district of Navatu, Cakaudrove, have relied on bamboo rafts but all that became a thing of the past after Prime Minister, Sitiveni Rabuka, handed over a 23-foot fiberglass boat and 60-horsepower outboard engine to the community recently. **Photo: NANISE NEIMILA**

handover marks the end of a struggle that has spanned nearly two decades.

“For many years, we have lived with the daily challenge of crossing the river using bamboo rafts. During heavy rain and flooding, parents would worry constantly about the safety of their children. On some days, we simply could not take the risk.”

He explained that limited transport affected nearly every aspect of village life — from children travelling to school, to patients seeking urgent medical attention, to families transporting essential goods.

“There were times when we felt isolated. When the river swelled, we were cut off. This boat gives us confidence and peace of mind, knowing that our children and families can travel safely.”

Beyond transportation, Mr Tuisoba said the fibre boat would empower the village to take greater ownership of protecting its customary fishing grounds.

“We have seen an increase in illegal fishing within our waters. Without proper transport, monitoring was difficult. Now we can actively safeguard our resources for our children and future generations.”

The handover signifies a transition from survival-based adaptation to structured support and strengthened partnership.

“This shows that we have not been forgotten, it strengthens our hope and our commitment to care for the resources entrusted to us.”

Vanuaso Cooperatives strengthen governance with targeted management training

COOPERATIVES across Tikina Vanuaso have strengthened their governance and business management skills following a three-day Cooperative Management training program held at Vanuaso Village on Gau Island.

The workshop, designed to build capacity among both emerging and long-established cooperatives, drew strong participation and was widely praised for its practical relevance.

Members of the proposed Kaivunimoli Cooperative said the sessions provided a clear and much-needed foundation for their operations.

“The training fully met and even exceeded our expectations. What we learned will guide our early growth,” Semesa Tuibua

said.

For the newly registered Miramira ni Savuralele Cooperative of Lekanai Village, members also reported significant gains in understanding operational standards.

“We now have a clearer picture of good governance, member roles, and why proper record-keeping and regular meetings matter,” Tirisa Maibau said.

“Having by-laws that every member understands is essential for unity.”

District Officer Gau, Iliseva Salabogi, commended the commitment shown by all cooperatives throughout the program.

Ms Salabogi highlighted the strong involvement of women-led groups, saying their leadership continues to be an important driver of economic activity within village communities.



Members of the Miramira ni Savura Lele Women's Co-operative during the three-day Cooperative Management training. **Photo: SUPPLIED**



Participants with their certificate after completing the three-day Cooperative Management training program held at Vanuaso Village on Gau Island. **Photo: SUPPLIED**

“The momentum shown by women’s co-operatives is encouraging and reflects the broader energy returning to the sector,” she said.

Ms Salabogi added that the resurgence of interest in cooperatives across Gau signals growing confidence in community-based enterprise.

She noted that three new cooperatives have recently been established in Tikina Vanuaso and said the training would help ensure they develop on firm governance principles.

Participants emphasised key themes such as accountability, responsible leadership, and integrity. Vanuaso Women’s cooperative members said the program broadened their perspective on what it takes to man-

age a successful business.

“The training made clear the dedication and courage required, but it also motivated us,” Makereta Ledua said.

She adds that her cooperative, which currently operates a small shop, aims to expand into wholesale trading.

“With regular boat services to Gau, we believe this goal is realistic,” she stated.

The program closed with certificate presentation and Ms Salabogi congratulated the participants for their active engagement and encouraging them to apply the lessons learned.

(Source: Ministry of Commerce and Business Development)

Reviving Fiji’s workforce: How DDS Therapy is redefining holistic healing and prevention

By AZARIA FAREEN

THE Ministry of Health has endorsed a growing wellness initiative that is quietly transforming lives across Fiji.

At the heart of it is DDS Rehabilitation Therapy, a treatment model rooted in Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) and now expanding its reach through structured wellness programmes for Fijian workers.

Leading the movement is Dr Mansfield Lam, a Hong Kong-born New Zealander who has called Fiji home for more than six years.

From clinics established in Nadi and Suva, Dr Lam and his team are introducing what he describes as “a holistic way of restoring the body’s natural balance”.

“This therapy is based on traditional Chinese medicine principles that have existed for more

than 3,000 years and are recognised by the World Health Organization,” he explained.

“We don’t just treat symptoms. We look at the whole body — how organs connect, how energy flows, and where imbalance begins.”

“DDS Therapy operates on the concept that the body has 12 major meridian channels, each linked to a specific organ,” Dr Lam said.

When blockages occur, symptoms appear and using advanced bioelectricity technology grounded in ancient TCM wisdom, practitioners identify and clear these blockages to reactivate what Dr Lam calls the body’s “self-healing system.”

“Nothing is more powerful than our natural healing force. Our ultimate goal is to reactivate that system,” he stated.

What makes DDS Therapy unique is its comprehensive, three-in-one approach. Alongside

bioelectricity therapy, patients may receive herbal medicinal mud treatments designed to dispel accumulated “cold” and toxins from the body — a common issue in tropical climates due to lifestyle habits such as air-conditioning exposure and cold showers.

The programme also incorporates alfalfa enzymes aimed at detoxifying the blood, reducing excess sugar and lipids, and improving digestion.

The clinic’s credibility has grown steadily. Dr Lam is a member of the Fiji Wellness Coalition, working in association with the Ministry of Health alongside organisations such as the Stroke Foundation and cancer support groups.

DDS Therapy is also accredited under BSP Life Health Insurance and the Fiji Police Force insurance schemes, with referrals coming from doctors trained with



Founder of DDS Rehabilitation Therapy, Doctor Mansfield Lam (seated) with his staff at a seminar. **Photo: SUPPLIED**

Western medicine.

“More than 90 per cent of our patients report high satisfaction — even after the first or second sessions, and many tell us they sleep like a baby or feel fully energised again,” Dr Lam added.

“One senior officer in his 50s, once counting down to early retirement due to chronic pain and fatigue, changed his mind after several sessions,” he added.

“He told me, ‘I don’t want to retire anymore. I’ve applied for a new position.’ That is not just

physical healing — that is mental transformation.”

“Beyond treatment, DDS Therapy is focused on prevention. Through education sessions, presentations and workplace wellness programmes, we hope to improve longevity and quality of life for Fijians,” he stressed.

“I’m not thinking about profit. I’m thinking about how many lives we can change — how we can help people live longer, healthier, and with hope.”



PM Rabuka signs condolence book for the late PC Racagi

“HE died the way he lived “Salus Populi-service to the people”. These were the emotional sentiments shared by the Prime Minister Sitiveni Rabuka after signing the condolence book for the late Police Constable Peniasi Racagi at the Fiji Police Headquarters recently. The Head of Government expressed his gratitude to the late PC Racagi for his dedicated service and commitment to the people and our beloved nation. He noted that the late officer’s sacrifice and devotion to duty will always be remembered with deep respect and pride. Prime Minister Rabuka also conveyed his deepest condolences to the family and loved ones of PC Racagi, and members of the Fiji Police Force during this time of mourning. The late PC Racagi will be laid to rest in his village at Naviqiri in Navakasiga, Bua.



Prime Minister Sitiveni Rabuka signs the condolence book for the late Police Constable Peniasi Racagi at the Fiji Police Headquarters recently. Photo: SUPPLIED

Fiji and Australia deepen cooperation on Digital Transformation and Cybersecurity

THE Minister for Policing and Communications, Ioane Naivalurua met with Australia’s Ambassador for Cyber Affairs and Critical Technology, Jessica Hunter to strengthen bilateral cooperation in digital transformation, cybersecurity and critical technology resilience. During the meeting, which was also attended by the Australian High Commissioner, Peter Roberts, and Permanent Secretary for Policing, Bernardo Daveta, discussions highlighted how Australia implemented the social media restriction for users under the age of 16.



Minister for Policing and Communications, Ioane Naivalurua during the meeting with Australia's Ambassador for Cyber Affairs and Critical Technology, Jessica Hunter, which was also attended by Australian High Commissioner to Fiji, Peter Roberts. Photo: SUPPLIED

Minister Naivalurua reaffirmed Fiji’s commitment to strengthening its national cyber security posture, through the upcoming Cybersecurity and Resilience Strategy including the operationalisation of Fiji’s Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT) and requested continued Australian support in resourcing and capacity building. Ambassador Hunter reiterated Australia’s willingness to support implementation efforts across digital transformation, the digital economy, cyber security and the protection of critical infrastructure. Both sides also discussed artificial intelligence (AI) and the importance of government and industry working together to manage emerging technologies responsibly. There was shared recognition of the need to build foundational capacity, particularly in digital literacy and institutional capability, to ensure digital transformation delivers secure and inclusive outcomes. On online safety and social media regulation, Minister Naivalurua referenced Australia’s work in restricting social media access for children under the age of 16 and thanked the Ambassador as Australia continues to share its approach. The Ambassador conveyed that upon in implementing the restrictions, approximately 4.6 million accounts were removed within a Sunday March 8, 2026

two-week period. She also highlighted the challenges of working with large technology companies, the importance of inter-agency coordination to assess impacts, and the need for evidence-based policymaking when addressing the societal effects such as that of social media platforms. In the policing space, the Ministry of Policing permanent secretary highlighted the needs of the Fiji Police Force, particularly in strengthening digital forensics capabilities and enhancing investigative capacity in the digital arena. The High Commissioner also updated the Minister on some additional resourcing support being committed by the Australian Federal Police (AFP), reinforcing Australia’s ongoing commitment to strengthening operational capability and cooperation in law enforcement. The Minister expressed appreciation for Australia’s continued support under the Vuvale Partnership and reaffirmed Fiji’s commitment to deepening cooperation in digital transformation, cyber security and law enforcement collaboration.

(Source: Ministry of Policing and Communications)

First Global Oceans Meeting sets stage for protecting the high seas



Minister for Environment and Climate Change, Lynda Tabuya, with fellow participants at the Ocean Pioneers Ministerial Meeting in Lisbon, Portugal last month. Photo: SUPPLIED

Fiji is pushing for strong action to protect the world’s oceans as countries prepare for the first ever Conference of the Parties (COP1) under the new High Seas Treaty. Speaking at the Ocean Pioneers Ministerial Meeting in Lisbon, Portugal, Minister for Environment and Climate Change, Lynda Tabuya, said the upcoming March 2026 talks in New York (called PrepCom 3) will help set the rules and structure for this first global oceans’ conference. The ministerial meeting was funded by Oceano Azul Foundation.

What is this about?

The High Seas Treaty (officially known as the Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction Agreement or BBNJ) became law on 17 January 2026. It allows countries to create marine protected areas in international waters, parts of the ocean that don’t belong to any one country. These waters make up nearly half the planet. The March meeting (PrepCom 3) will be the last preparatory meeting ahead of COP1, which will be the first major global decision-making meeting for this new ocean’s treaty.

Why is Fiji speaking up?

Countries around the world have agreed to protect at least 30 per cent of the world’s land and oceans by 2030 — known as the “30 by 30” goal under the Kunming–Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

But Fiji made it clear?

- We cannot reach 30 percent protection

if we only protect areas inside our own national waters.

- We must also protect the high seas, which is the vast ocean areas beyond national borders.

Minister Tabuya stressed that protection must be real, not just on paper. “It is not enough to simply draw lines on a map. Marine protected areas must be properly managed, monitored and enforced, guided by science and regularly reviewed. Otherwise, they risk becoming paper parks, protected in name only,” Minister Tabuya stated.

Science Must Lead

Fiji is calling for the quick setup of the treaty’s Scientific and Technical Body, so that decisions about high seas marine protected areas are based on the best science and handled transparently.

Why This Matters to Fiji?

For Fiji and the Blue Pacific, the ocean underpins food security, supports jobs and livelihoods, sustains culture and ways of life, and strengthens resilience to climate change. Global promises must translate into real protection of the ocean, not just statements at meetings. Fiji will continue working with partners at the March negotiations to ensure that the first global oceans conference (COP1) delivers real progress toward protecting our shared ocean by 2030. For us as Pacific people, protecting the ocean is not optional. It is about survival, stewardship, and responsibility.

(Source: Ministry of Environment and climate change



Minister for Environment and Climate Change, Lynda Tabuya, makes a point at the Ocean Pioneers Ministerial Meeting in Lisbon, Portugal held last month as permanent secretary Dr Shivendra Micheal looks on. Photo: SUPPLIED



Ministry of Information

(Fiji Focus, Noda Viti, or Fiji Darpan)

Customer satisfaction survey

About this survey

The Ministry of Information is conducting research to understand how people read and use Fiji Focus (also known as Noda Viti in iTaukei and Fiji Darpan in Fiji Hindi), and how we can improve it. This survey is completely anonymous — we will not collect your name or contact details, and your individual responses will never be shared with anyone. The results will only be used in summary form to help make Fiji Focus more useful and relevant to readers across Fiji.

The survey should take around 8–10 minutes to complete.

Thank you for taking part.

If you have any questions about this survey, please contact the following: prashila.devi@minfo.gov.fj or call 3301806

Section A: About You

These questions help us understand who is reading Fiji Focus. All responses are anonymous.

A1. What is your age group? (Please circle one)

- 18–24
- 25–34
- 35–44
- 45–54
- 55–64
- 65 or older

A2. What is your gender? (Please circle one)

- Male
- Female

A3. What is the main language you speak at home? (Please circle one)

- English
- iTaukei
- Fiji Hindi

A4. Which city, town, or province do you live in? (Please write below)

Section B: Awareness and How You Read Fiji Focus

B1. Before today, had you heard of Fiji Focus (Noda Viti / Fiji Darpan)? (Please circle one)

- Yes
- No

If you answered No, please skip to Section E.

B2. How did you first come across Fiji Focus? (Please circle all that apply)

- Through the Fiji Times newspaper
- From a friend or family member
- At a post office
- Online
- Other (please specify): _____

B3. How often do you read Fiji Focus? (Please circle one)

- Every issue
- Most issues
- Occasionally (a few times a year)
- This is my first time reading it
- I have heard of it but have not read it

B4. Which version of Fiji Focus do you read? (Please circle all that apply)

- Printed copy (through the Fiji Times)
- Digital version online
- I have not read it yet but would like to

B5. Which language version do you read? (Please circle all that apply)

- English (Fiji Focus)
- iTaukei (Noda Viti)
- Fiji Hindi (Fiji Darpan)

Section C: Your Views on Fiji Focus

C1. Overall, how satisfied are you with Fiji Focus? (Please circle one)

- Very satisfied
- Satisfied
- Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied
- Dissatisfied
- Very dissatisfied
- Not sure / haven't read enough to say

C3. How well does Fiji Focus cover issues that are relevant to your community or daily life? (Please circle one)

- Very well — it regularly covers things that matter to me
- Fairly well — it sometimes covers things that matter to me
- Not very well — it rarely covers things relevant to me
- Not at all — the content does not feel relevant to my life
- Not sure

C4. How easy is the language in Fiji Focus to understand? (Please circle one)

- Very easy to understand
- Fairly easy to understand
- Sometimes difficult to understand
- Often difficult to understand
- Not sure

Section D: Content Preferences

D1. From the list below, which topics do you most value in the current Fiji Focus? (Please circle up to three)

- Government projects and services
- Health information
- Education
- Economic and business news
- Climate change and environment
- Youth issues and young people
- Community and human interest stories
- Culture, heritage, and history
- Women's issues
- Crime and safety
- Stories about the work of the President, Prime Minister, and Cabinet
- Government Ministry and Department profiles
- Other (please specify): _____

Section E: Digital Access and the Future of Fiji Focus

E1. Do you currently access any government information online? (Please circle one)

- Yes, regularly
- Yes, occasionally
- No
- Not sure

E2. The Ministry of Information is relaunching the free digital version of Fiji Focus that you will be able to browse online. If it were available, how would you most likely access it? (Please circle all that apply)

- On my phone through a website
- On a computer or tablet through a website
- Through a link shared on Facebook
- Through a link shared on another social media platform
- Through a dedicated app
- I would not use a digital version
- Not sure

E3. What would make you more likely to read Fiji Focus regularly? (Please circle all that apply)

- Easier to find online
- Topics that are more relevant to my community
- Shorter and easier to read
- Available on Facebook
- More photos, video, or visual content
- More local stories from my area
- Other (please specify): _____

Section F: How You Get Government Information

F1. Where do you most commonly get information about government services and initiatives? (Please circle up to three)

- Fiji Focus / Noda Viti / Fiji Darpan
- The Fiji Times
- Radio
- Television
- Fiji Government website
- Fiji Government Facebook
- Fiji Government X
- Fiji Government YouTube
- From friends or family
- From community or village leaders
- From religious leaders
- Other (please specify): _____

Thank you for completing this survey.
Your feedback will directly help improve
Fiji Focus for all readers across Fiji.

Scan the QR
for online
questionnaire





MINISTRY OF HEALTH
& MEDICAL SERVICES

PROTECT YOURSELF FROM LEPTOSPIROSIS

WHAT IS LEPTOSPIROSIS?

A common zoonotic disease
(transmission from animals to humans) in
the world.

Caused by infection with the
Leptospirosis bacteria.

Occurs mainly in tropical or sub tropical
countries (like Fiji) in both urban and rural
settings.

The incubation period* for Leptospirosis is
usually 5–14 days.

**The incubation period is from the time of
exposure to the bacteria until you show
the first symptoms.*



SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS



Fever



Dizziness



Vomiting



Nausea



Conjunctival suffusion
(redness of the white
portion of the eyes)



Muscle
Pain



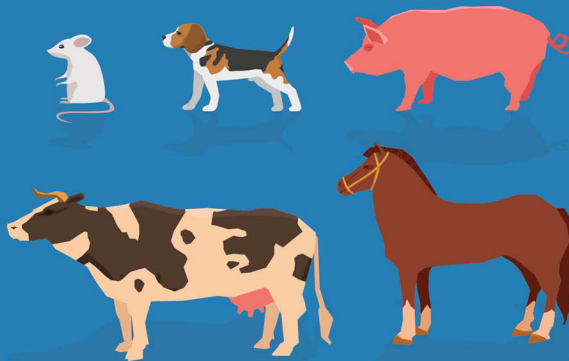
Headache



Abdominal pain

HOW IS IT SPREAD?

Infection is caused by the Leptospirosis
bacteria that are excreted in the urine of
infected animals,
**including rodents, domestic pets,
livestock and wildlife.**



When the bacteria is released in the
environment, it can survive in soil or water for
weeks or longer.

Humans can become infected through direct
contact with infected animals, or through
contact with soil or water contaminated by the
urine of infected animals.

There is no human to human transmission.



HOW TO PREVENT



No swimming or wading in water
that might be contaminated with
animal urine (especially after a
heavy rainfall or flood).



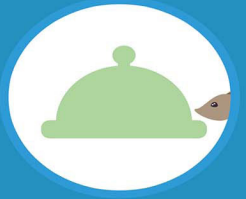
Eliminate contact with
potentially infected animals
including your own pets.



Protective clothing or
footwear should be worn by
those exposed to contaminated
water or soil.



Appropriate personal
protective equipment to be
worn by those who work in
farms & abattoirs.



Properly cover food at all times
to protect it from rodents
(rats and mice).



Ensure your homes are
free of rodents.



Children to avoid playing
in muddy water or puddles.



Keep livestock away
from your compound.

Fiji

FOCUS



The President, Ratu Naiqama Lalabalavu, at the State opening of Parliament where he highlighted the legislative and policy priorities of Government for the year 2026. **Photo: SUPPLIED**

President calls for unity, responsible leadership and inclusive growth

By NANISE NEIMILA

THE President, Ratu Naiqama Lalabalavu, has called for responsible public discourse, urging leaders, media practitioners and citizens to exercise discernment and integrity in the sharing of information, considering emerging challenges posed by artificial intelligence and misinformation.

Speaking at the State opening of Parliament, the Head of State highlighted the Government's legislative and policy priorities for the year ahead.

Prior to this, the President inspected a 100-strong Guard of Honour mounted by the Republic of Fiji Military Forces before delivering the address for the State Opening of Parliament.

President Lalabalavu reflected on Fiji's constitutional and democratic journey, acknowledging the nation's progress since the Deed of Cession and

Independence, while emphasising that democracy must be actively sustained through dialogue, compromise, and respect for the rule of law.

"As we move toward an election year, leaders carry an even greater responsibility."

"The strength of our democracy lies not only in the ballot, but in the conduct of leaders and citizens alike."

The President confirmed that Government has commenced a review of the Constitution, underscoring that the supreme law is a living document that must evolve to reflect the aspirations and lived realities of the people.

He assured that the review process will be guided by democratic constitutionalism, transparency, and meaningful public participation.

The Constitution Amendment Bill will undergo extensive public consultation before consideration by Cabinet and Parliament.

The President reaffirmed Government's commitment to macroeconomic stability, prudent fiscal management, and debt reduction, while advancing inclusive growth that creates decent employment and raises living standards. Key economic priorities include:

- Strengthening the sugar sector and supporting agricultural productivity;
- Promoting climate-smart and sustainable farming practices;
- Advancing fisheries and forestry reforms to ensure long-term sustainability;
- Supporting private sector-led growth and expanding opportunities for small and medium enterprises, women, and youth;
- Driving digital transformation and modernising public finance and commercial laws; and
- Expanding tourism responsibly and geographically to ensure shared national benefits.

President Lalabalavu emphasised that

economic diversification and value addition are essential to building resilience against global shocks and ensuring that more wealth is retained within Fiji.

He highlighted Government's continued investment in education, health, housing, and social protection. Reforms in the education and health sectors will focus on quality, equity, and accessibility, particularly for interior, rural, and maritime communities.

The Government will also strengthen social protection systems, promote gender equality, and develop a comprehensive poverty reduction strategy to support vulnerable households.

Upgrading informal settlements and expanding access to home ownership remain key priorities to improve living standards across the country.

Noda VITI

**FIJI GOVERNMENT
RADIO PROGRAM**

Voqa Ni Davui

93.0FM
Suva, Navua, Nadi, Deuba
Lautoka, Savusavu, Korovou
Yasawa Taveuni

92.8FM
Sigatoka,
Coral Coast, Ba

93.2FM
Tavua, Vatukoula

93.4FM
Rakiraki

Monday
Tuesday

8.30PM

Wednesday | Thursday

8.00PM

Sunday

9.05AM



Dola ni Boselawawa ni 2026



Na Peresitedi ni noda vanua Turaga na Tui Cakau Ratu Naiqama Lalabalavu, ena kena mai dolavi na Bose Lawa ni 2026. **Taba: Nanise Neimila**

Vola ko WATISONI BUTABUA

Na railesuvi ni Yavu ni vakavulewa, na veisemati ni vanua kei na matanitu ena noda vakatoroicaketaki na kawa iTaukei, na noda vakanamata kina noda veidigidigi levu, kei na kena qarauni na vakadewataki ni tukutuku, dina ka dodonu.

Oqori e vica na tikina era vosa vakabibi kina na Turaga na Peresitedi ni noda vanua, na Turaga Bale na Tui Cakau Ratu Naiqama Lalabalavu nodra dolava tiko na Bose Lawa ena yabaki oqo 2026.

“Sa toso tikoga na cakacaka ni matanitu ena kena dikevi na Yavu ni Vakavulewa, me vaka ni lawa

cecere ka lawa bula ni noda vanua ka dodonu me koto kina na veika eda rawa ni veisautaka, na veika eda dau vakabibitaka, kei na veika eda bulataka na lewenivanua”.

“Na yavu ni vakavulewa e dodonu me koto kina na duavata, taqomaki ni dodonu, kei na kena maroroi na veika era dau vakabibitaka na lewenivanua e Viti”.

Na uto ni railesu oqo, oya na kena vakaibalebale na nodra vakaitavi na lewenivanua, ena caka dodonu kei na veitalanoa.

E sasaga ni matanitu me qarauna me rogoci ka rokovi na domodra na lewe iViti, mai na nodra itikitiko, ka vaka kina ena taudaku kei Viti Na nodra vakaitavi na kena dau kei na qaravi ni veitalanoa tuvai

vakamatau, ena qai cakacaka ena dua na rai rabailevu ka koto kina na veivakabauti ena idavodavo ni yavu ni vakavulewa ka tutaki kina na galala ni veiliutaki.

“Na lawa vakatututaki ni railesuvi ni Yavu ni vakavulewa, me vaka taka ga edua na lawa vakatututaki, ena dau vakaraitaki raraba, ka na muri na kena gaunisala taucoko ni veitalanoa raraba, ka vakacakulei na kena itukutuku ni bera ni qai kau cake ki na Boseyaco kei na Bose Lawa”.

Ena cakacaka oqo, ena dei tikoga na matanitu ena veika e dau vakabibitaka raraba, kei na kena wasei vakadodonu, me vakadeitaki kina na lewa ni Yavu ni Vakavulewa ka tokona na veisaututaki, na toso

ki liu, na duavata me baleti keda kei ira na noda kawa ena siga ni mataka.

Na cavuikalawa ki liu ni noda vanua, e yavutaki sega walega ena ituvatuvava eso kei na veitabana eso, e wasei kina na veitikina bibi eso me vaka na vakabauta, yalololoma, veidokai kei na veiqaravi.

Me vaka ni da matanitu vei curumaki vaka mata tamata ka duidui vakabauta, e vaqacacotaka o Viti na bula e saqati kina na veivakaduiduitaki kei na sasaga me rawati na bula sautu, vaqarai ni wali ni leqa kei na veivakabauti.

Kuri ni tukutuku namaka ena drauniveva 2



Sa da vakanamata tiko kina veididgidigi levu

Na veididgidigi, e dodonu me basika kina na vakasama kei na rai yawa, ka yali kina na ririko se tawase. Na qaqaco vinaka ni noda bula galala ni veiliutaki e sega walega ni tiko ena pepa ni veididgidigi, ia, e koto kina na veiliutaki kei ira na lewena, sega walega ena gauna ni veididgidigi, ia, ni da vakanamata yani ka vaka kina ni sa oti na veididgidigi. Ena kena sagai na bula galala ni veiliutaki, o ira era veiliutaki kei ira na dau veitokoni vaka politiki e dodonu mera tomana tiko-ga na nodra vaqara na iwali ni leqa, na veivosoti, kei na kena rokovi na lawa. “Au sa kerekere kina vei kemuni taucoko na veiliutaki, o kemuni na dau veitokoni ena isoqosoqo vaka politiki kei kemuni na kena mata, e dodonu mo ni caka dodonu, veimaliwa vinaka, ka rokova na noda bula

veimaliwai kei ira na veimata tamata”. Na ituvatuva sa davo edaidai, ena koto kina na rai yawa ni veivakabauti, noda wili ka me kua kina na veivakayavalati, ka me dokai kina na yavu ni Soli nei Viti, kei na noda tu galala, ka da vakarautaka na noda vanua kei ira na lewena ena gauna bolebole ni veisau eda sa donumaka. Na yaga ni rai yawa ena vakatau vei keda yadudua na lewenivanua ka sega walega ni matanitu. Esa dui tu ga na noda itavi taucoko sara, na veitabana ena taudaku ni matanitu, na mata vakabauta, lewenivanua raraba, ena vei koro, vei Vuvale, kei ira na lewe ni matanitu. Sa vakanuinui tiko ni Dabe ni Palimedi ena yabaki oqo ena yavutaki ena yalomatua, veivakauqeti kei na duavata ena duavata ga na kena inaki.



Na kena vakayacori na voleni vakaivalu ena kenaq dolavi na Bose Lawa ni 2026. **Taba: Nanise Neimila**

Me rau sema vinaka na matanitu kei na vanua

Na uma vanua kei na uma kawa (qele, qoliqoli kei na maliwa lala). Sa vakamamasu tiko na matanitu vei keda na iTaukei ni Qele, veitabana tale eso kei na veitikotiko se vanua meda caka-caka vata, ena kena vakayagataki na noda iYau bula, ena kena iwalewale e matau ka me okati tiko kina na veivakatoroicaketaki e gadrevi dina. Qo e wili tiko kina na vakayagataki qele, saravanua, vakavure kaukauwa vakalivaliva, veivakavaletaki, kei na vanua ni buli yaya ka yaga vakalevu me vukea na laveti cake ni bula ena veisiga, na maroroi ni veika e vakavure kaukauwa vakalivaliva, kei na kakana, ka vaka kina na tadola ni katuba me vakavure ilavo. “Ena qai rawa ga na toso ki liu, keda sa cakacaka vata na iTaukei ni Qele, na Matanitu, Veitabana ena Taudaku ni matanitu, kei na Veimatanitu tale so ka yavutaki kina na caka dodonu, veivakabauti, kei na wasei vata ni dua na ituvatuva balavu”. Ena vakabibitaka na matanitu na dei ni kena dau cakacakataki na bula vakailavo, ia, ena gauna vata oya ena tadola kina na katuba ni cakacaka, ka tosoi cake na ivakatagedegede ni bula ena veisiga.

Curu kina Mataivalu nise qai yabaki 18

Vola ko KATARINA NAQARASE

A sega vakadua ni bau tadra o Kini Tuisolia ni na toqai na yacana ena ivola tukutuku ni veigauna ni oti na nona sa biuta na nona ivola kerekere ni gadreva me sa laki lewena na Mataivalu ni noda vanua ena 1988. Se qai yabaki 18-kina ena gauna oya ka sa vakacavara talega na nona vuli ena koronivuli ni secondary. Ni oti ga erua na macawa sa kacivi ki na keba ena dua na ilakolako ka na laki veisautaka vakadua na nona bula. “Au nanuma na siga au sa vakarautaka kina na noqu isulu oya ena mataka ni Siga Tabu,” e kaya o koya. “E na yakavi tiko ga ni siga oya sa mua

kina na I golegole ki Nasinu sa tawa vakamatau kece na noqu isuliu ka tarogi au na marama na Tinaqu se sa gole beka ivei , kau dabe ka vakadewataka vua niu sa gole meu laki curu kina vuli mataivalu”. “Vei au na noqu mai curu kina Mataivalu e vakavulici au ena bula vakayalo, vaka vakasama, na ituvaki ni yago, vakauasivi na bula vakaivakarau”. Enai ka 5 ni Veverueri 1988 e tiki ni siga guiguilecavi dredre ena kena sa toqai ena drau ni veva vou nisa curu kina mataivalu enai sevu ni gauna e lewe 42 na goneyalewa. Era vakaitavi taki ira sara ena loma ni Mataivalu na marama oya ena cakacaka ni veisaututaki kina matanitu o East Timor, Lapanoni, Sinai, Iraki kei Go-



Nai isevu ni marama era curu kina Mataivalu ni noda vanua ka mai vakananumi e Delainabua ena loma ni yabaki oqo. **Taba: Nanise Neimila**



lan Heights. “Vei au dua naka au na tugana ki yaloqu sai koya na noqu digitaki meu gole kina United Nations Disengagement Observer Force e Sainiai kau digitaki kina me Regimental Sergeant”. “Na itutu oqo na Regimental Sergeant e dau soli ga vei ira na turaga , kau kaya ki lomaqu ni sega ni dua naka e dredre”. A mai vakacegu ena vei qaravi ena mataivalu o Kini ena 2023 enai tutu ni Warrant Officer Class 2 , ka biuta tu mai na ivakavuvuli ni cakacaka matau, votsota ka vaka kina na yalo ni veiliutaki.



Lewa ni Boseyaco



Dola na Valenivolavola ni Veimataki nei Tonga e Viti.
Sa vakadonya na Boseyaco na kerekere ni Matanitu o Tonga me sa mai dola ena isevu ni gauna edua na Valenivolavola ni Veimataki nei Tonga e Viti.Na valenivolavola nei Veimataki nei Tonga ena vaqacotaki tale kina na nodrau veiwekani vaka vanua kei na veiwekani vaka matanitu o Tonga kei Viti. Esa na vakarawarawataka sara na kena vakalevutaki na veitalanoa ni cakacaka vata kei na kena matanataki na veika esa bosei. Na valenivolavola vou oqo e namaki me na :
• Vaqacotaki ni veimaliwai vakamatanitu ena veika vaka politiki, vaka kina vo kei na veiwekani vaka vanua
• Vaqacotaki ni Cakacaka vata
• Tokona na Veivoli, vakatubuilavo kei na dola ni cakacaka
• Vakavinakataki cake ni veiqaravi vei ira na lewe iToga kei Viti.Na veiwekani ni matanitu erua oqo, esa na vakatitobutaki kina na nodrau duavata ena vakavinakataki ni veimaliwai ni veimatanitu ena Pasivika.

Sa vakadonuya na Boseyaco na kena vakayagataki edua na ivakarau ka vaka kina na iwalewale ni kena qolivi na urau.
Sa ikoya oqo na ivakarau e sa vakatututaki ena 4 na mataqali urau.
• Uraukula/Urauvatuvatu me 90 na mm na kena balavu ka me tekivu qalona lelevu me yaco ki biuna.
• Uraudina me 120mm na kena balavu.
• -rautamata me 120mm na kena balavu.
• Vavaba/ivinibola me 85mm na kena balavu
Ena ikuri ni vakatutu oya e koto talega kina na kena sa tekivu me qarauni na maroroi na urau.
• tabu ni qolivi se volitaki ena noda vanua na urau yalewa
• tabu ni qolivi ena noda wasawasa se volitaki ena noda vanua na ura se



Gadrevi na Duavata ena kena Valuti na Waigaga



Era kerea na nodra veivakalougataki na Turaga kei na Marama bale lewe ni Bose Levu Vakaturaga na iliuliu ni Tabana ni Ovisa, Rusiate Tudravu ena kena sagai tiko me valuti na vei bolebole eda sa lako curuma tiko ena gauna oqo.
E a vosa tiko o Tudravu ena Bose Levu Vakaturaga ka veivakararamataki tiko vei ira na lewenibose ena vuku ni veiqaravi ka sa vakaitavi taki koya tiko kina na Tabana ni ovisa ena vuku ni waigaga ni veivakamatenitaki. E tomana ka kaya ni tiko saraga ena vuvale na kena vakaqacotaki na vanua na iwali ni leqa ka sa tara tiko na noda vanua ena gauna oqo.
“E sega ni tiko ena tabana ni ovisa na iwali leqa, na iwali ni noda leqa e tiko sara tiko ga ena vanua eda tiko kina. “Au kerea kina me vakaqacotaki na veika me baleti keda, baleta au kila mai vuniyaloqu kevaka sa matata vinaka ga e dua na vuvale, dua na itokatoka dua na mataqali, sa basika ena dua na koro ka drodrova yani na tikina kei na yasa-

na ka sa teteva sara yani na noda vanua. “Au vakavinavinaka taka saka kina ni sa tekivu vakaqacotaki mai na tikina oqo baleta e mai tara saka tiko na gagaca ni veiqaravi ni Tabana ni Ovisa,” ekaya o Tudravu.
E tomana ka kaya o Tudravu ni da sa tiko oqo ena dua na gauna ka sa viritaki na veika kecega vei iratou na tabana ni ovisa
“Au mai kerea tiko kina na nomuni veitokoni, veivakasalataki kei na veivakadeitaki ni sega ni wali ni leqa e tiko ena tabana ni ovisa,” ekaya o Tudravu. E kaya ni dodonu me da sa na cakacaka vakaveivolekati sara ena kena sagai tikoga me tarovi na vei bolebole eda sa lako curuma tiko ena gauna oqo.
E tomana ka kaya ni sa lako curuma tiko ena gauna oqo edua na imusu ni gauna ka yavalati kina vakalevu na veika eda dau mareqeta na itaukei.
Ka sa tiko na vakanuinui ena Bose Levu Vakaturaga ena kena cakacakataki na maroroi ni veika eda vakamareqeta na kawa iTaukei.

Sa boko na yacai Viti mai na European Union



Sa vakaraitaka na minisita ni ilavo, Esrom Immanuel na vakatulewa ni soqosoqo cokovata ni European Union, ena kena sa boko na yaca i Viti mai na kena sega ni dau muri tu vakadodonu na inaki ni kena lavaki na ivakacavacava. Na vakatulewa oqo e dusia tikoga na nona sa tokona na matanitu cokovata me lewai vakadodonu kei na kena sa vakaraitaki raraba, ka vaka muri kina na ituvatuva levu ni lawa ni vakacavacava e vuravura.
Esa na qai matata ka dei kina na veivakabauti ena veiveisau e vakayacori e viti ka sotavi kina na ituvatuva ni veika vakailavo, esa ra vakamatautaka tu ka vakayagataka tu vuravura.
E kaya na minisita ni ilavo, ni sa na qai qaqaco vinakata tale, na veiqaravi nei viti ki na isoqosoqo cokovata oqo, ena vuku ni kena irogorogo.



Butuka na Yatu Yasawa na King Baton

Vola ko KATARINA NAQARASE

E mai cegai e dua na drau ni veva vou ena itikotiko vakaturaga vua na Tui Naviti ena kena mai butuki saka na nodra dela ni soso ena kena kau voleka mai na Kings Baton ena vuku ni vakavakarau kina Commonwealth Wealth Games kana vakayacori tiko e Glasgow ena matanitu levu o Sikotaladi.

Ena kena mai ciqomi ena koro vakaturaga o Soso e vakaraitaka na Minsita ni Tabagone kei na Qito Hon Jese Saukuru ni kena kau mai ena Yatu Yasawa Balabalavu na Kings Baton e sa dua na cavu I kalawa levu ena vuku ni veivakatoroicaketaki ena qito. Vei ira na gonevuli e Ratu Apenisa Memorial School ena nodra mai ciqoma na Baton esa dua na tukuni ni veigauna kina nodra bula.

“E vica na luvei Yasawa era sa vakarogoi Viti ena Qito Rakavi e sa cavu ikalawa kina na matanitu ena nodra nanumi na gonevuli ena veiyatu yanuyanu mera bau vakadinadinataka talega”.

E vakaraitaka na Turaga mai na Tikotiko vakaturaga nodra na Tui Naviti ni dua dina na siga marautaki nira sega ni tadra ni na mai ciqomi ena koro vakaturaga o Soso ena tikina o Naviti na Kings Baton, levu vei ira na sa liu yani era na tatadra taka tu beka ia era kalougata na itaba ena gauna nikua nira donumaka.

Sa veitataunaki o Hon Saukuru nisa dodonu meda veitokoni ena vuku ni kena sa siko tiko mai ena noda vanua na Kings Baton .

Taba: Meli Naisele







10,025 na gone iTaukei era tokoni ena veivuke ni vuli ni TLTB



Na Tabana ni Qele Maroroi (TLTB) e vakadeitaka tale nona veidinadinati mena tokona na nodra vuli na gone iTaukei ena porokaramu ni Early Withdrawal Minors Education Assistance. A tekivutaki ena yabaki 2024 me rawa ni vakayagataki na ilavo ni lisi me qaravi kina vakatotolo na gagadre ni vuli. Na Minisita ni Veika vaka iTaukei ka Dairekita ni Tabana ni Qele Maroroi , Hon Ifereimi Vasu, e kaya ni 2,356 na gone era sa vukei ena tekivu ni yabaki oqo, ka me yacova mai qo, e sa 10,025 sa vukea ni vuli ena yabaki vakavuli 2024, 2025 kei na 2026.

E a tekivutaki na itavi oqo ni sa laurai na bibi ni tnodra tokoni oira na gone ena gauna sara ga era gadreva kina na veivuke. Na inaki levu ga me rawa ni vakayagataki e dua na wase ni ilavo (minors) me baleta na vuli ni primary kei na secondary , ia na vo ni ilavo ena qai vakayagatakji nisa yacova na yabaki 18 na na gone. E kaya o Minisita Vasu ni sa laurai na yaga ni Early Withdrawal of Minors School Assistance vei ira na gone iTaukei, ka tokona talega na porokaramu ni vuli ni matanitu ena primary ka vaka kina na secondary .
Taba: TLTB

Wainigunu vou e Natewa



Vola ko KATARINA NAQARASE

“E na veiyabaki sa sivi dua-naka keimami sa dau sotavi voli mai sai koya na leqa ni wai, vakabibi ena kena dau tau na uca edau esa dau vakacacana na ivakaso ni wai , ka keimami sa dau vakayagataka saraga na wai ni uca”. Na itukutuku era vakaraitaka na Turaga Ni Koro e Natewa o Taniela Taukei ena vuku ni kena sa mai dolavi na wainigunuvou ni oti na nodra dau lakova tu e dua na vanua balavu ena kena laki kau mai na wai, ni dau sotavi na draki ucauca esa dau vakadredre taka saraga. “Na wai keimami dau gunuva tu esa dau duka saraga ia kemamin sa dau saga ga e

dua na sala mena rawa nira kua ni tauvimate kina na luvei keimami , ira na tinai keimami era colata tu na colacola bibi ena kena vakasaqarai na wai, ia na siga nikua keimami sa marau vakalevu”. Esa dua na siga marautaki vei ira na lewenikoro e Natewa , nira sa vakila nisa sotavi na nodra gagadre ena kena sagai me gunuvi na wainigunusavasava me rawa nira gone bulabula vakauasivi ena kena vuku ni veivakatoroicaketaki ni bula raraba ena loma ni koro. Au vakavinavinakata na Matanitu ka vaka kina na Tabana ni iYaubula kei na Qele ena vuku ni veivuke levu esa mai matanataki tu ena vuku ni nodra vukea na lewenivanua ena taudaku ni koro lelevu.

Na Tobunilavo ni Veivuke kina Bisinisi ni iTaukei e tauyavutaki me veitokoni ena vakaqacotaki kei na vekeuqeti ena cicivaki bisinisi vei keda na Itaukei.

E. vakarautaki na Tobuilavo qo me vukei keda vakailavo , vakarautaki eso na ituvatuva ni vuli, kei na veisemati na ituvatuva eso a vakauqeta na bisinisi tudei. E tokona talega na lalawaka ni vakatubu ilavo mai na noda iyaubula , na veivakacacakataki, kei na madigi mo vakatubu cakacaka ga vakataki iko. Na vakasama oqo e salavata kei na veika e vakabibi taka na Matanitu, oka kina na kena uqeti na nodra vakaitavi na iTaukei ena buturara ni bula vakailavo, na veivakatoroicaketaki ena taudaku ni koro lelevu kei na kena vakalailaitaki na bula dravudravua.

iTukutuku Raraba

Sa veisureti na Matabose ni Veika Vakaitaukei mo vola kerekere mai o kemuni na iTaukei e tiko na nomuni Bisinisi , na veisoqosoqo taukei ni Qele, soqosoqo cokovata(Cooperatives),

Matabose ni ilavo maroroi , iSoqosoqo ni Tabagone kei na marama, moni kerekere mai ena Tobunilavo ni Veivuke kina Bisinisi ni iTaukei 2026, ka tiko ena ruku ni Porokaramu ni Vakaqacotaki ni Bula Vakailavo ni Matabose ni Veika Vakaitaukei.

Naki ni Tuvatuva.

Na veivuke vakailavo oqo e vakanamata me tokoni ira na daunibisinisi iTaukei kei ira na veibisinisi lalai ena loma ni koro kei na veitikotiko. Na kena inaki me vakaqacotaka na bula vakailavo, ka vakaraitaka na ituvatuva ni cicivaki bisinisi tudei. Veika Moni Kila E raw ani oni kerea na fomu ni vola kerekere ena Valenivolavola ni Yasana) Me ¼ ni cau mai na levu ni lavo e kerei vei ira sa vakadonui na nodra kerekere. Tiki ni siga e sogo kina: 14 ni Maji 2026 5pm Ena itukutuku matailalai eso raw ani oni veitaratara ki vei Filimoni Naiqumu ena email : fnaiqumu@tab.gov.fj mobile: 9904150



“Oqo e dua na itukutuku ni veitabagauna ena loma ni neitou koro me gole sobu mai na Turaga Minisita kei na Vunilewa me mai solia ki na Mataqali Naiyalasa, Yavusa Nakurukuruvakatini edua na isolisoli levu me vukei keitou ena neitou sasaga vakabisinisi. Vinaka Vakalevu TLTB!”



NACANIELI VALEVATU
Turaga ni Mataqali Naiyalasa
Naraiyawa, Namosi

165 na yabaki ni waraki — sa yaco na rarama e navatusila navatusila

Na voleka na vula o Okosita, na vula e dau nannumi kina na yaco mai ni Kosipeli ena loma ni veidelana o Navatusila ena yabaki 1865, sa qai yaco tale ga e dua na itukutuku levu ena nodra bula na lewe ni tikina — na waqa mai ni livaliva. Na Mata ni Tikina o Navatusila, o Orisi Kubunadakai Nawawabalavu, yabaki 69, e vakamacalataka ni mai na gauna e yaco mai kina na talai ni Kalou, o Rev. Thomas Baker, ena vula o Okosita 1865, me yacova mai nikua, e vaka ni oti e 165 na yabaki ni butobuto. Ekaya ni oya tale ga na balavu ni gauna era waraka tiko kina na semati ni veivakalivalivataki ena nodra vanua. E vakaraitaka na nona vakavinavinaka ena yacadra na vanua, na tikina kei na mataqali ena vuku ni loloma kei na veivuke ni Matanitu ena kena vakayacori na cakacaka ni vakalivalivataki oqo. Na parokaramu ni veivakalivalivataki e wili kina e vitu na koro ena loma ni Tikina o Navatusila, wili kina o Nasauvakarua ka tiko ena tai ni uci-

wai yasana yani ki Sigatoka. Na kena ikawalu ni koro o Navaga, e tiko ena Tikina o Magodro ena yasana o Ba. E milioni na ilavo sa vakayagataki ena cakacaka oqo, ka voleka ni 3,000 na lewenivanua era sa vakalougatataki ena semati ni livaliva. E tukuna o Orisi ni veivakatorocaketaki kece e tiko kina na vinaka e tiko talega na kena na ca. E vakasalataki ira na lewenivanua mera vakaravi ena Kalou ka vakayagataka vakavuku na veika vou oqo. “Na livaliva kei na talevoni e kauta mai na vinaka kei na ca, ia me da taura ga na kena vinaka,” e kaya. Na semati ni livaliva e sa kauta mai na rawarawa ni veiqaravi ena koro, ka veivuke ena nodra bula na lewe ni vanua e veisiga — mai na cakacaka vakavale, ki na nodra vakatorocaketaki na bula ni mataka. Ni oti e 165 na yabaki, sa sega ni tiko tale ena butobuto o Navatusila, ia sa curuma na gauna vou ni rarama ka basika talega na gauna ni veivakatorocaketaki.



Tuvatuva ni iTaukei Wealth Fund



- 30% - Vakatikitikitaki me baleta na noda tauyavu kei na cicivaki ni noda bisini nai taukei (Taukei Development Fund Facility se TDFF).
- 25% - Vakatikitikitaki me baleta na kena voli lesu tale eso na lisi lelevu ena loma ni veitaoni ka sa mai cava tiko na kena lisi (compensation).
- 20% - Vakatikitikitaki me baleta na noda veisemati ka toso vata kei ira eso era gole mai me ra mai caka bisinisi vata kei keda (Joint Venture/Partnership).
- 20% - Vakatikitikitaki me baleta na veivakatoroicaketaki se vidauidai ni qele (land development).
- 5% - Vakatikitikitaki me baleta na nodra vuli na luveda (Education).

iSevu ni Adi Walesi



Vola ko KATARINA NAQARASE

“A u vakavinavinaka niu isevu ni marama meu taura na itutu ni veiliutaki vaka Adi Walesi , kau vakasamataka lesu na itekivu ni gauna ni noqu veiqaravi ena walesi edua sara na gauna dredre kau vakavinavinaka ena yalo ni veivakabauti”.
Na itukutuku e vakaraitaka o Nai Kamanalagi ka cavutu mai na vanua o Nabulebulewa ena yanuayanu o Qoma ena baravi kei Tailevu ni siga, ka sa oti oqo e 39 na yabaki na nona veiqaravi vakadaunikacikacivaki ena siteseni na Domoiviti ka vakarurugi ena kabani levu na Fijian Broadcasting Corporation.
Na Retio e 1 na ka eda rawa ni tukuna ni nodra vakalevu na tiko I vale, ena vuku ni kena dau vakadewataki yani na itukutuku ena noda vanua, na itukutuku ni draki, na kena usutu levu sai koya na veivakamarautaki ena sere se italoa.
“Na gauna e mai tekivu kina na veiqaravi

me yacova mai na gauna nikua esa veisau sara vakabibi ena vuku ni mona livaliva, ka vaka kina vei ira na dau vakarorogo na kena ena vuku ni sere ena gauna e liu e sega na katokatonu ia na gauna nikua sa veisau sara.
E kalougata ni bau donumaki ira na veiqaravi dede tu ena Vale Ni Walesi ena dua na gauna ka ra kena dau ena vosa oka kina o Sokoveti Ravovo se o Nau Soko na yaca ka kilai levu kina ena noda valeniwalesi , Apakuki Coka, Urupeni Seniubulu , Wame Waqanisanini.
Au via veivakauqeti e sega ni 1 na ka e dredre , sai koya na ka ga e bibi na vosa , sai koya mo na vakayagataka na vosa e matau, na kena itautau ka rorogo vinaka vei ira era rogoca.
Sa 72 nayabakini veiqaravini noda Valeniwalesi na Fijian Broadcasting Corporation me vaka ni a se tekivu kakaburaki sara ena noda vanua ena 1954.
A vakananumi tiko ena ika 13 ni siga ni Veverueri na Siga ni Reitia se Walesi ena noda vuravura ka bau marautaki talega ena noda vanua.



“

Au tu meu vakadinadinataka ni sega ni ka vou na nodratou veivuke vei keda na Matabose. E ka vinaka ! Me na vueti keda cake na kawa itaukei ena noda sasaga ni vakaduri bisinisi kei na vakayagataki qele.
Vinaka Vakalevu !

”



JOSEFA ULUVULA
Mataqali Waimaro
Navoka, Naitasiri

Tukutuku ni veivakananumi vei kemuni na dauqoli kei kemuni na dau voli sasalu

S a veivakananumi tiko vei keda na lewenivanua na Minisiteri ni Qoligoli ni vakatarai tikoga vakalawa na veisasalu mera na qolivi ka volitaki.
Na veisasalu taucoko oqori sa tiko ga na kabani ka sa vakadonuya na matanitu me na volia na nomuni i voli na dauqoli vakalaiseni ni sasalu.
Vei keda na dauqoli ka sa tiko vei keda na kena ivolatara kei na kena ilavelave se laiseni ni kena qolivi kei na volitaki e vakaroti ni na vakayacori ga na veivoli ena vanua e vakadonui mai vakamatanitu mena qaravi kina.
Na vanua ni veivoli e vakadonui sai ira na Siteseni ni Minisiteri ni Qoligoli voleka vei kemuni.
Esa vakaroti talega vei ira na vei kabani oqo ni vakatarai ga mera veivoli ena vanua sa vakarautaki se vadonui mai na Minisitiri ni Qoligoli. E dodonu vei ira na vei kabani oqo mera na qarava ga na veivoli o ira ga na nodra tamata cakacaka se mata ni kabani ena loma ni gauna e vakadonui.
O ira na kabani e dodonu me ra lavaka vakadodonu na isau e vakarautaki (bidding prices) ka me ra solia na resiti ni veivoli kecega, se ena pepa ni kabani se ena dregati ni sitaba ni kabani me ivakadinadina ni veivoli.
Na veivoli me qaravi ga ena veivanua sa vakadonui vakalawa kei na kena gauna ka sa

vakadonui taumada mai, na 8AM na mataka kina 4PM na yakavi ni kena qaravi na veivoli mai vei ira na kabani.
Kevaka e dua na kabani sega ni muria na ivakaro oqo, ena rawa ni bokoci na nona i vola tara se totoqi taki mai na lawa sa virikotora tu na tabana ni qoligoli me baleta na kena canumi se qolivi ni sasalu.
Era sa vaka nanumi na noda dauqoli me ra vakabutara rawa ka me vukea na kena rawati na tubu vinaka ni veidutaitaki vata kei na kena e volitaki droka. Nai vakarau oqo e vakalevutaka na kena rawati na tubu vinaka ka maroroya talega na kena tuvaki se vakatagedegede koya gadrevi ena kena volitaki, ka vakauasivi e vakalailaitaka talega na vakacacani ni nomuni voli.
Na Minisiteri ni Qoligoli e via vakaraitaka na nona vakavinavinaka kei na nona veitokoni vei ira kece nai taukei ni qoligoli, dauqoli, kabani ena kena na nanumi tiko ka maroroi na noda i qoligoli, ka muri tiko na lawa kei na kena vakayagataki tiko vakamatau na noda vei qoligoli kece sara ena yasana e 14 e Viti, ka sa koto kina na vakanuinui nida na cakacavata, ka taro I vakasala mai vei ira nai vakalesilesi ni kena segati na bula sautu kei na tiko vinaka.
Na kena i tukutuku matailalai, ni qai sikova na nodratou i Volamata na Tabana ni Qoligoli

Noda VITI



FIJI GOVERNMENT
RADIO PROGRAM

Voqa Ni Davui

93.0FM
Suva, Navua, Nadi, Deuba
Lautoka, Savusavu, Korovou
Yasawa Taveuni

Frequency
92.8FM
Sigatoka,
Coral Coast, Ba

93.2FM
Tavua, Vatukoula

93.4FM
Rakiraki

Monday
Tuesday

8.30PM

Wednesday | Thursday

8.00PM

Sunday

9.05AM



Suka Iesu na Qele e Nasovanivanua



Na iLiuli ni noda matanitu Hon Sitiveni Rabuka kei ira na marama ena koro ko Nasovanivonu ena soqo ni kena soli Iesu tale na Qele. **Taba: Nanise Neimila**

Vola ko KATARINA NAQARASE

E dua na siga guigilecavi dre-dre ka vakaturu wainimata vei ira na lewe ni Mataqali e Nasovanivonu ena tikotiko ko Matakunea ena koro ko Nabalebal ena loma ni yasana o Cakudrove ni oti na nodra mai ciqoma na Iesu mai na matanitu na nodra tiki ni qele ni oti e 30 na yabaki ni sausaumi. Era mai vakaita-

vi ena kena soli Iesu na iliuli ni noda matanitu Hon Sitiveni Rabuka. E ra vakavinavinavinakataka na veilitaki ena Mataqali kei ira na lewe ni mataqali ena vuku ni duavata kei na cakacakavata ka rawa ni vakavotukana kina na sasaga ena kena saumi na ilavo mena veisemati kei na tuvatuva esa vakarautaki tu. “Na Buypack Scheme e teivutaka na matanitu me vukei ira na itaukei ni

qele ena nodra volia Iesu mai na nodra qele me baleta na cakacakataki ni nodra bula vakailavo kei na bula rarawa, na Certificate of Title 4929 e voli ena ika 16 ni Okosita kina mataqali o Nasovanivonu ena loma ni yasana o Cakaudrove”. E vakaraitaka na Turaga ni Koro o Jone Cakova Naitini nisa waraka tu na vanua na veika ka oqo ena loma ni 30 na yabaki ka sa mai vakavotukana.

“Me voleka ni tolu na drau na yabaki, keimai sa colata vata tiko na itavi oqo me vaka e dua na vuvale. Na qele oqo sa dau taukena vakatautauvata e dua na tamata yadua e liu, ka sega ni rawarawa na kena suka Iesu mai. Keitou a vakacuruma voleka ni \$140,000 me saumi Iesu kina. Keitou a volitaka na copra, kakana ni qele kei na so tale na vuata ni iteitei, ka sa dui cakava na nona itavi na vuvale yadua me rawa kina ni donu

फ़ीजी दर्पण





फ़ीजी सरकार का रेडियो कार्यक्रम

नवराष्ट्र

फ़ीक्वन्सी

105.0FM **104.8FM** **105.4FM**

सूवा, नान्दी, लौतोका, तावुआ, लम्बासा

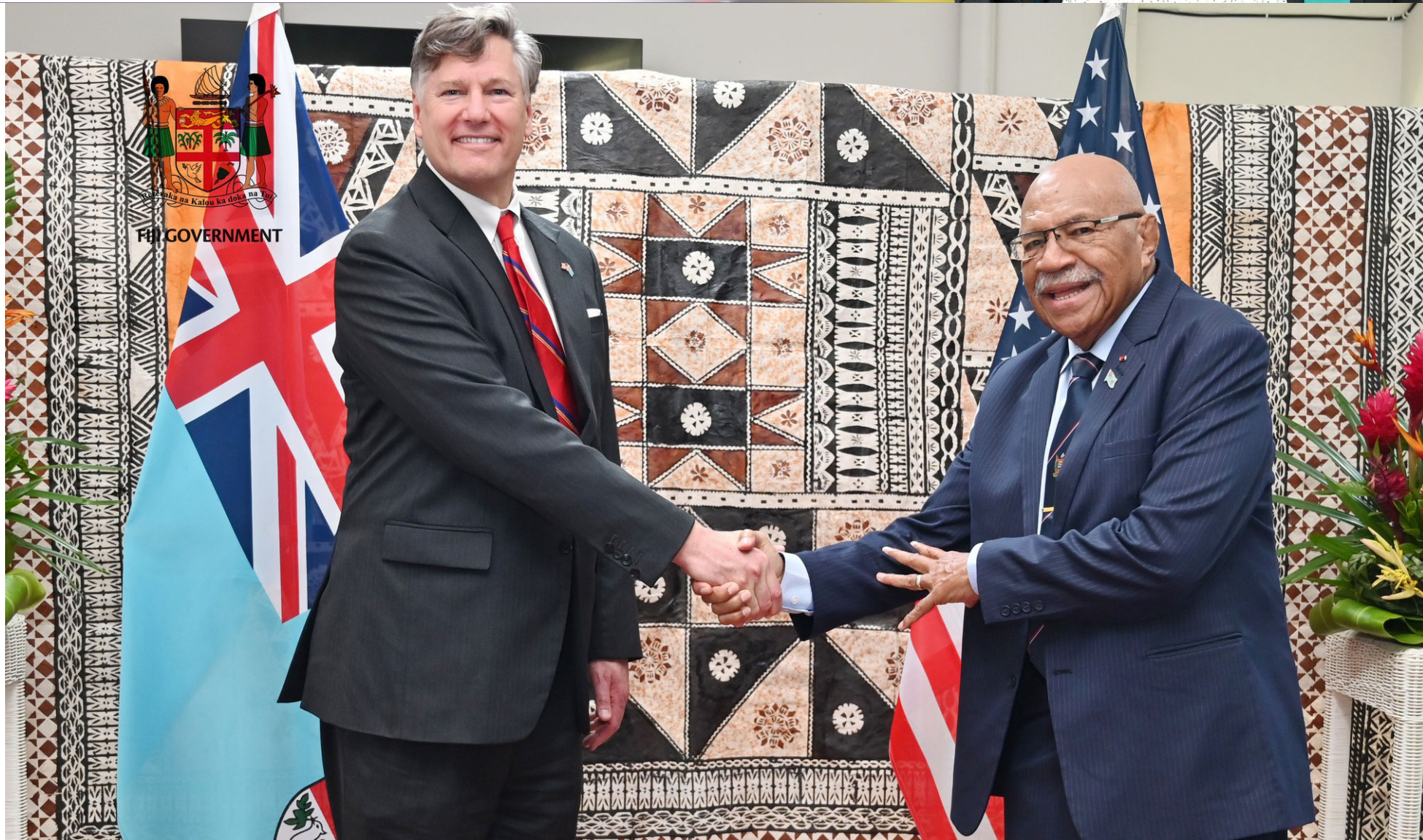
सिंगातोका, वा

राकीराकी

6.30PM

मंगलवार गुरुवार शुक्रवार रविवार





प्रधान मंत्री माननीय सितिवेनी रम्बूका, अमेरिका के डेपूटी सकेटरी ओफ स्टेट किस्टाफा लंडाउ से मुलाकात करते हुए चित्र: प्रधान मंत्री दफ्तर

फ़ीजी-अमेरिका के बीच अटूट संबंध

रोनल देव

प्रधान मंत्री माननीय सितिवेनी रम्बूका ने अमेरिका के डेपूटी सकेटरी ओफ स्टेट किस्टाफा लंडाउ को फ़ीजी की उनकी पहली औपचारिक यात्रा पर स्वागत किया। दोनों नेताओं ने अमेरिका और फ़ीजी के बीच मजबूत और बढ़ते संबंधों की पुष्टि करने के लिए एक द्विपक्षीय बैठक की। ये बैठक प्रधान मंत्री रम्बूका और उप सचिव की पहली आमने-सामने की मुलाकात थी।

प्रधान मंत्री ने उप सचिव का स्वागत करते हुए फ़ीजी के साथ मिलेनियम चैलेंज कोपेरेशन समझौते को विकसित करने में उनके प्रयासों की सराहना की, जिससे अमेरिका और फ़ीजी, दोनों को ठोस लाभ प्राप्त होंगे। मिलेनियम चैलेंज कोपेरेशन की यह पहल फ़ीजी-अमेरिका संबंधों में एक

महत्वपूर्ण मील का पत्थर है और महत्वपूर्ण चुनौतियों तथा विकास प्राथमिकताओं को संबोधित करने में अपार संभावनाएं रखती है। अपने संबोधन में प्रधान मंत्री ने द्वि-पक्षीय संबंधों के प्रति फ़ीजी की प्रतिबद्धता और व्यापार तथा आर्थिक सहयोग को आगे बढ़ाने और दोनों देशों के परिवारों तथा समाजों के जीवन स्तर को बेहतर बनाने के उद्देश्य से जन-केंद्रित पहलों के प्रति हमारी एक समान प्रतिबद्धता को दोहराया।

“हम उप सचिव को उनकी समयोचित यात्रा के लिए धन्यवाद देते हैं, जो हमारे दोनों देशों के बीच अटूट संबंधों और मित्रता का प्रतीक है। फ़ीजी क्षेत्रीय स्थिरता और विकास को बढ़ावा देने के लिए संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका तथा अन्य समान विचारधारा वाले साझेदारों के साथ मिलकर काम करने के लिए प्रतिबद्ध है, जो प्रशांत

महासागर को शान्ति का सागर बनाने की हमारी परिकल्पना के मूल लक्ष्य हैं,” उन्होंने ने कहा।

प्रधान मंत्री और उप सचिव इस बात पर सहमत हुए कि आज संबंधों की मजबूती एक समान मूल्यों और सहयोग के लम्बे इतिहास के कारण है। दोनों पक्षों ने एक समान हितों और पारस्परिक लाभ के क्षेत्रों में दोनों देशों के बीच सहयोग का उल्लेख किया। इनमें निजी क्षेत्र की अगुवाई में आर्थिक विकास, समुद्री सुरक्षा, स्वास्थ्य सुरक्षा और अंतरराष्ट्रीय अपराधों से लड़ना शामिल है, जिनमें अंतरराष्ट्रीय नशीली तथा गैरकानूनी पदार्थों की तस्करी, बिना रिपोर्ट किए और बिना नियम के मछली पकड़ना शामिल है।

उप सचिव लैंडो ने माननीय प्रधान मंत्री और फ़ीजी की जनता को उनके गर्मजोशी भरे स्वागत और अतिथि सेवा के लिए

धन्यवाद दिया।

उन्होंने फ़ीजी और इस क्षेत्र के प्रति अमेरिका की प्रतिबद्धता को दोहराते हुए कहा, “प्रशान्त क्षेत्र में फ़ीजी का एक विशेष स्थान है।

आपकी अगुवाई, क्षेत्रीय सुरक्षा में योगदान और अंतरराष्ट्रीय समुदाय में आपकी मुखरता, ये सभी हमारे एक समान भविष्य को आकार देने में फ़ीजी की महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका को दर्शाते हैं। एक साथी प्रशान्त के रूप में, संयुक्त राज्य के रूप में, यू.एस. आई और फ़ीजी कई मूल्यों को बाँटते हैं, जिनमें ईश्वर में आस्था, अपने नेताओं को चुनने और खुलकर अपनी बात कहने की क्षमता और अपने परिवारों और समाजों के जीवन को बेहतर बनाने की प्रतिबद्धता शामिल है। हमें आपका साझेदार होने पर गर्व है,” अमेरिका के डेपूटी सकेटरी ओफ स्टेट किस्टाफा लंडाउ ने कहा।



पंद्राह छात्रों को मिली ई-तउकेई छात्रवृत्ति



प्रधानमंत्री माननीय सितिवेनी रम्बूका ने पंद्राह छात्रों को छात्रवृत्ति प्रदान किया चित्र: प्रधान मंत्री दफ्तर

रोनल देव

पंद्राह छात्रों को नए स्थापित ई-तउकेई एडुकेशन स्कोलाशिप कार्यक्रम के नीचे छात्रवृत्ति यानि स्कोलाशिप प्रदान किया गया है। एक औपचारिक समारोह में प्रधानमंत्री माननीय सितिवेनी रम्बूका ने इस पहल को ज़मीनमालिकों के बीच मानव पूँजी विकास को मजबूत करने की दिशा में एक महत्वपूर्ण कदम बताया है। उन्होंने कहा कि यह छात्रवृत्ति कार्यक्रम हमारी यात्रा में अगला ज़रूरी कदम है। यह इस बात की स्पष्ट समझ को दर्शाता है कि सतत समृद्धि के लिए न केवल ज़मीन का संरक्षण बल्कि मानव पूँजी में सुनियोजित पूँजी भी ज़रूरी है। ई-तउकेई एडुकेशन स्कोलरशिप की स्थापना, ई-तउकेई ज़मीनमालिकों की शिक्षा का समर्थन करने के लिए की गई है, ताकि योग्य शिक्षा और कौशल विकास तक पहुँच बढ़ाने के लिए एक संरचित तंत्र प्रदान किया जा सके, विशेष रूप से

आर्थिक कठिनाईयों का सामना कर रहे लोगों के लिए। यह छात्रवृत्ति पहल मात्र आर्थिक सहायता नहीं है। शिक्षा में पूँजी लगाकर हम परिवारों को सशक्त बनाते हैं, समाजों को उन्नत बनाते हैं और राष्ट्रीय विकास में सार्थक योगदान देते हैं, विश्व रूप से उन क्षेत्रों में जहाँ ई-तउकेई की भागीदारी सीमित है और जहाँ राष्ट्रीय क्षमता अत्यंत महत्वपूर्ण है। छात्रवृत्ति पाने वाले पंद्राह छात्र पहले बैच का हिस्सा है और छः विशिष्ट क्षेत्रों में अध्ययन करेंगे:

- विमान इंजिनियरिंग
- बायोटेकनोलोजी
- सिविल इंजिनियरिंग
- कोमेशल पायलट ट्रेनिंग
- ज़मीन का सेवए
- एमबीबीएस (बेचला ओफ मेडिसीन और बेचला ओफ सेजरी)

प्रधानमंत्री ने कहा कि ज़मीन हमारी नींव है, लेकिन शिक्षा हमारी सबसे स्थायी सम्पत्ति है।

सरकार ने सेमो कोरोवासियों को धन्यवाद दिया

रोनल देव

एक सरकारी प्रतिनिधीमण्डल जिसकी अगुवाई पब्लिक वोक्स तथा ट्रान्सपोर्ट मंत्री माननीय रो फिलिपे तुईसवाउ कर रहे थे ने नलेले तथा सेमो कोरो का दौरा किया और ग्यारह फरवरी को सेमो क्वींस हाईवे के एक हिस्से के ढह जाने के बाद भारी सहायता प्रदान करने के लिए वहाँ के ज़मीन मालिकों तथा आम लोगों के प्रति गहरी कृतज्ञता व्यक्त की। रास्ता भसक जाने के बाद नान्दी, सिंग गातोका और वितिलेवू के बीच अधिकांश इलाकों के बीच आवा-जाही पर असर पड़ा। इसके जवाब में ग्रामीण समुदाय ने उदारता पूर्वक और बिना हिचकिचाहट

के अस्थायी बाईपास के निर्माण के लिए ज़मीन उपलब्ध कराई, जिससे मरम्मतकार्य के दौरान यातायात सुचारू रूप से चलता रहा। इस दौरान ने कोरोवासियों को अवसर दिया कि वे उनके द्वारा सामना की जा रही चुनौतियों को सरकार के सामने रखें जैसे की साफ पानी उपलब्ध न होना, कोरो तक पहुँचने वाली सड़कों पर मरम्मत तथा मुख्य रास्तों में लगातार सुधार शामिल है। कोरो के नेताओं ने व्यक्तिगत रूप से हुई मुलाकात और क्षेत्र के लिए वर्तमान योजनाओं और भविष्य की विकास प्राथमिकताओं पर दी गई जानकारी के लिए आभार व्यक्त किया।

फीजी में नई इंशुरन्स कम्पनी का विमोचन हुआ



प्रधान मंत्री माननीय सितिवेनी रम्बूका नई इंशुरन्स कम्पनी का विमोचन करते हुए चित्र: प्रधान मंत्री दफ्तर

रोनल देव

प्रधानमंत्री माननीय सितिवेनी रम्बूका ने हालमें अई एम अई इन्शूरन्स कम्पनी लिमिटेड का विमोचन किया, जिससे फीजी के बीमा क्षेत्र के लिए एक नए अध्याय की शुरुआत हुई है। अई एम अई इन्शूरन्स कम्पनी लिमिटेड, सामोआ स्थित अपीया इन्शरन्स कम्पनी लिमिटेड की सहायक कम्पनी है जो शुरुआत में दस से बीस स्थानीय विशेषज्ञों को नौकरी प्रदान करेगी जबकि अगले अठ्ठारह महीनों में कर्मचारियों की संख्या बढ़ाकर बीस करने की योजना है जिससे व्यवसाय में नए अवसर पैदा होने के साथ-साथ स्थानीय विशेषज्ञता को मजबूत किया जाएगा। विमोचन के दौरान प्रधानमंत्री ने कहा कि फीजी के बीमा क्षेत्र में एक नई संस्था का प्रवेश अर्थव्यवस्था और देश की लम्बे समय की सम्भावनाओं में विश्वास का संकेत है। बीमा केवल एक आर्थिक सेवा नहीं है: बल्कि यह लचीलेपन का आधारशिला है। यह परिवारों को कठिनाईयों से उबरने में सहायता देता है, व्यवसायों को जोखिम का ज़िम्मेदारीपूर्वक प्रबंधन करने की अनुमति देता है, और तेजी से अनिश्चित होने वाली विश्व में राष्ट्रीय आर्थिक स्थिरता को मजबूत करता है। माननीय रम्बूका ने इससे उपभोक्ताओं के विश्वास को बढ़ावा देता है और साथ ही देश भर में आर्थिक विकास का समर्थन करता है। इसके आर्थिक प्रभाव पर विचार करते हुए, प्रधानमंत्री ने कहा कि अई एम अई इन्शूरन्स कम्पनी लिमिटेड, फीजी के बीमा बाज़ार में विकल्पों का विस्तार करेगा, स्वस्थ प्रतिस्पर्धा को प्रोत्साहित करेगा, सेवा मानकों में सुधार करेगा और

परिवारों, छोटे व्यवसायों और समाजों की ज़रूरतों के अनुरूप उत्पाद नवाचार को व्यापक बनाएगा। अई एम अई की स्थापना आर्थिक सेवा क्षेत्र में रोजगार और व्यवसायिक विकास में भी योगदान देती है। यह आधुनिक बीमा व्यवसाय के लिए ज़रूरी तकनीकी विशेषज्ञता को विकसित करने में मदद करता है। सबसे ज़रूरी बात यह है कि यह पूँजी फीजी के नियामक और व्यवसायिक वातावरण, कार्यबल की क्षमता और आर्थिक प्रगति में क्षेत्रीय विश्वास को दर्शाता है। यह ज़िम्मेदार पूँजी के लिए विश्वसनीय गंतव्य के रूप में क्षेत्र में फीजी की प्रतिष्ठा और स्थिति को मजबूत करता है।” अई एम अई इन्शूरन्स कम्पनी लिमिटेड के अध्यक्ष तुईओपो एन्डू अह लिकी ने कहा कि कम्पनी फीजी के बाज़ार में प्रवेश कर रही है ताकि फीजी और प्रशान्तीय क्षेत्र के समाजों के लिए पहुँच का विस्तार किया जा सके, सामर्थ्य में सुधार किया जा सके और मजबूती बढ़ाया जा सके। “सामोआ में हमारी प्रतिष्ठा दावों का सम्मान करने पर आधारित है। हम अपने ग्राहकों के साथ उनकी ज़रूरत के समय खड़े रहते हैं, जब विपत्ति आती है, तो वे बारीक शर्तों की तलाश नहीं करते, वे समर्थन चाहते हैं। यही प्रतिबद्धता फीजी में अई एम अई इन्शूरन्स का मार्गदर्शन करेगी,” अध्यक्ष ने कहा। बीमा का मतलब प्रीमियन इकट्ठा करना नहीं है; इसका मतलब है वादे निभाना। हम सिर्फ एक कम्पनी की शुरुआत नहीं कर रहे हैं, हम एक वादा की शुरुआत कर रहे हैं। जीवन की रक्षा करने और प्रत्येक प्रशान्त समुदाय के लचीलेपन को मजबूत करने का वादा।”





कोरोलेवू निवासियों को सरकार ने दी नई नाव और इंजन

रोनल देव

नवातू, दकाउड्रोवे स्थित कोरोलेवू के निवासियों के लिए खुशियों का ठिकाना न रहा जब उन्हें सरकार की ओर से एक नाव और इंजन प्रदान की गई। कोरोवासियों को अब बांस से बनी नाव तथा तैरकर नहीं पार नहीं करना पड़ेगा। पचीस हजार डोलर से ज़्यादा लागत तई स फीट लम्बी फायबाग्लास नाव तथा साठ होसपावर वाली इंजन प्रदान करते हुए प्रधानमंत्री माननीय सितिवेनी रम्बूका ने कहा कि यह पहल ग्रामीण और समुद्री समुदायों को विकास, लचीलापन और स्थिरता को आने बढ़ाने के लिए ज़रूरी व्यावहारिक संसाधनों को प्रदान करने के प्रति सरकार की लगातार प्रतिबद्धता को दर्शाती है।

यह सहायता प्रधानमंत्री दफ्तर के 2025-2026 विकास ग्रांट बजट के नीचे दी गई है। कोरोलेवू कोरो हालांकि लगभग पचपन परिवारों का घर है, लेकिन यह नवातु जिले के अन्दर यावुसा कोरोलेवू के पारं परिक मछली पकड़ने के क्षेत्रों, जिनमें नामित समुद्री संरक्षित और प्रबंधित क्षेत्र शामिल है, के व्यापक पैमाने और महत्व की ज़िम्मेदारी निभाता है।

वहाँ के नदी का पानी केवल जीविका का स्रोत नहीं है,; ये एक जीवित विरासत है। ये पहचान और ज़िम्मेदारी का प्रतीक हैं, खाद्य सुरक्षा को मजबूत करता है और वर्तमान तथा भविष्य की पीढ़ियों के लिए आजीविका के अवसर प्रदाब करता है। “ये जलमार्ग केवल जीविका का स्रोत नहीं हैं। ये पहचान और ज़िम्मेदारी का प्रतीक हैं। ये खाद्य सुरक्षा को मजबूत करता है अर वर्तमान तथा भविष्य की पीढ़ियों के लिए आजीविका के अवसर प्रदान करता है।”

प्रधानमंत्री रम्बूका ने आगे कहा कि नाव और इंजन की व्यवस्था केवल बुनियादी ढाँचे का हस्तांतरण नहीं है, बल्कि समुदाय की अगुवाई में समुद्री संरक्षण में एक रणनीतिक पूँजी है। ये विशेष पोत समुदाय की क्षमता को महत्वपूर्ण रूप से बढ़ाएगा।

“सबसे ज़रूरी बात यह है कि नाव और इंजन नवातु, कोरोआलाउ और वतुरोवा में आधिकारिक कर्तव्यों का पालन कर रहे मत्स्य अधिकारियों को भी उपलब्ध कराए जाएंगे। यह सतत मछली प्रबंधन और समुद्री सुरक्षा को बनाए रखने के लिए सरकार और वनुआ के बीच एक व्यावहारिक और सहयोगात्मक दृष्टिकोण को दर्शाता है,” उन्होंने कहा।



नवातू, दकाउड्रोवे स्थित कोरोलेवू के निवासियों को सरकार की ओर से एक नाव और इंजन प्रदान किया गया चित्र: प्रधान मंत्री दफ्तर

नौरिया युवा क्लस्टर ने कृषि पहल की पहली वर्षगांठ मनाई गई



कृषि और चीनी मंत्री माननीय तोमासी तुनाबुना कृषि भवन में भारत के कृषि और किसान कल्याण मंत्री श्री शिवराज सिंह चौहान के साथ चित्र: प्रदान किया गया

रा प्रांत के नालावा जिले के नौरिया कोरो के नौरिया युवा क्लस्टर ने अपनी कृषि पहल की पहली वर्षगांठ मनाई। इस अवसर पर एक वर्ष की प्रगति पर प्रकाश डाला गया, जिसमें खेती के मान्द्यम से गरीबी कम करने और आजीविका सुधारने की दिशा में महत्वपूर्ण कदम उठाए गए। इस साल दस फरवरी को स्थापित इस क्लस्टर में चौवालिस शणणत्त रेजिस्टड सदस्यों को साथ लाया गया, जिन्होंने यं गोना, डालो, और कसेरा की खेती को स्थाई आमदनी के स्रोत के रूप में अपनाने का संपल्प लिया है। इस पहल की शुरूआत कोरो के बुजुर्गी के सहयोग से हुई है। उन्होंने युवकों को खेती की ओर प्रेरित किया, ताकि नशे की लत वाली समस्या, शहरों में आकर बसना और इंटरनेट की लत जैसी चुनौतियों का समाधान किया जा सके। क्लस्टर के नेता तनिएला कोरो ने कहा कि प्रथम वर्ष ने ही समूह के संकल्प को और मजबूत किया है। “यह पहल हमारे युवकों को उद्देश्य, सम्मान और अपने हाथों से भविष्य बनाने का अवसर देने के बारे में है,” उन्होंने कहा।

वर्षगांठ समारोह में कृषि, जलमार्ग और चीनी व्यवसाय के सहायक मंत्री माननीय

इनोसी कुरिड्रानी भी उपस्थित थे। उन्होंने युवकों की कृषि और सामुदायिक विकास के प्रति प्रतिबद्धता की सराहना की और कहा कि यह प्रयास युवकों को सशक्त बनाने तथा ग्रामीण अर्थव्यवस्था को मजबूत करने में सहायक है। क्लस्टर ने पहले ही स्थानीय बाज़ारों से सं पर्क स्थापित कर लिया है और अपने लम्बे समय के लक्ष्य की ओर काम कर रहा है जो की है, तीन साल में अपने यंगोना के फार्म की पहली फसल की कटाई करना। इस फसल को पूरी तरह नौरिया में ही तैयार किया जाएगा। इसे धोया फिर सुखाया जाएगा, कूटकर इसे वैक्यूम पैक करके बिकरी के लिए तैयार किया जाएगा। शुद्ध “वाका” की कीमत एक सौ बीस डोलर से लेकर एक सौ चालिस डोलर प्रति किलोग्राम रहने की उम्मीद है, जिससे सदस्यों को अच्छी आमदनी होगी तथा समुदाय की आर्थिक स्थिति मजबूत होगी। पहली वर्षगांठ समारोह ने क्लस्टर की उपलब्धियों पर प्रकाश डाला और टिकाउ कृषि के माध्यम से युवकों को सशक्त बनाने की उसकी प्रतिबद्धता को दोहराया।

कहानी : कृषि मंत्रालय

बा टाउन काउन्सिल कर्मचारियों को मिलेगा “कोला” पईमन्ट

रोनल देव

बा टाउन काउन्सल तथा नेशनल युनियन ओफ वोकस जो फीजी टर्ईड्स युनियन कोन्ग्रेस के नीचे है के बीच समझौता हुआ है कि युनियन के सदस्यों को 2024, 2025 और 2026 के लिए कोस्ट ओफ लिविंग अजेस्टमन्ट का पैमन्ट दिया जाएगा। युनियन और काउन्सल के बीच समझौता रोज़गार मंत्री माननीय अग्नी देव सिंह द्वारा बातचित करने से हुआ है। मंत्री ने दोनों पक्षों के बीच वार्ता को सुगम बनाने के लिए हस्पक्षेप किया और दोनों पक्षों से मामले को और बढ़ने से रोकने की माँग

की। मंत्री ने कहा कि यह समझौता एक संतुलित दृष्टिकोण को दर्शाता है जो कर्मचारियों की भलाई को ध्यान में रखता है। 2024 का कोला पईमन्ट तीन भागों में किया जाएगा: इस साल ईस्टर के दौरान या उससे पहले, दूसरा पईमन्ट, जुलाई महीने के अंत से पहले तथा तीसरा दस अक्टूबर के दिन या उससे पहले। 2025 का पईमन्ट, दो भागों में किया जाएगा, पहला इस साल किसमस से पहले और दूसरा पैमन्ट अगले साल मार्च महीने के मध्य में किया जाएगा। 2026 का कोर्ल पईमन्ट अगले साल पहली जनवरी से असर में आएगा।



रोजगार मंत्री माननीय अग्नी देव सिंह दोनों पक्षों के बीच सुलाह करते हुए

बा और लौतोका में बाढ़ से असर पड़े परिवारों को राहत मिली

हालही पश्चिमी विभाग में बाढ़ चढ़ने के कारण जिन परिवारों को राहत केन्द्रों में शरण लेनी पड़ी है को सरकार की ओर से राहत तथा सहायता समान दिए गए हैं जिससे उन्हें काफी मदद और सहारा मिला है। ग्रामीण तथा बाहरी द्वीपों के विकास मंत्री माननीय मोसेसे बुलितावू तथा पश्चिमी विभाग की आपातकालीन टीम ने कल बा तथा लौतोका में स्थित चार राहत केन्द्रों में असर पड़े परिवारों को यह सामान बाँटा।

मंत्री बुलितावू ने टीम के साथ बा में नसोलो विलज होल, नईलांगा विलज होल तथा लौतोका में लोवू संगम प्राथमरी स्कूल तथा सन ब्लेक अपार्टमन्ट का दौरा किया। परिवारों को ऐसे राहत सामान दिए गए हैं जो उन्हें घर लौटने की तैयारी करने में सहायता देंगे।

मंत्री बुलितावू ने उन परिवारों को औपचारिक चेतावनी सुनने के बाद अपने और अपने परिवार की सुरक्षा के लिए राहत केन्द्रों में आकर शरण लेने के लिए धन्यवाद दिया। उन्होंने ने असर पड़े परिवारों को प्रोत्साहित किया कि वे इन राहत समानों का अच्छा उपयोग करें जबकि वे अपने घरों और जिन्दगी को दोबारा बसाने का प्रयास कर रहे हैं।

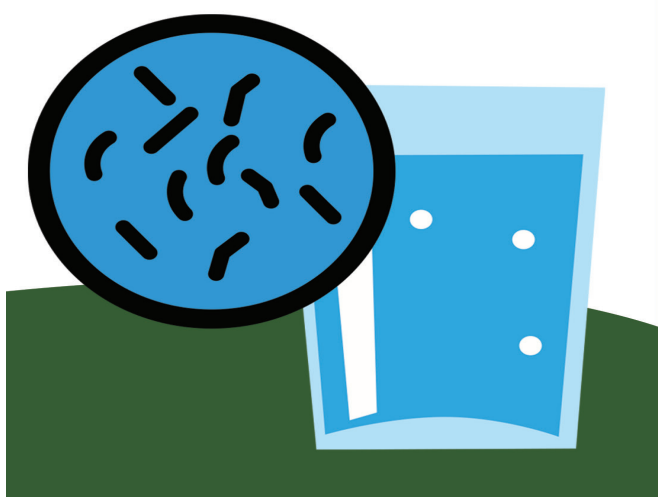
ग्रामीण तथा बाहरी द्वीपों के विकास मंत्रालय, ऑस्ट्रेलिया और न्यूजीलैंड की सरकारों का भी आभार व्यक्त कर रहा है जिन्होंने यह सामान प्रदान किए हैं, जिससे बाढ़ के बाद असर पड़े परिवारों को मिलेगी।



टाइफोइड बीमारी क्या है?

- इसे टाइफोइड भी कहते हैं, जो कि बुखार संबंधी एक जानलेवा बीमारी है, जो सलमोननेला टाएफी कीटाणू से होता है।
- टाइफोइड बड़ी आसानी से एक व्यक्ति से दूसरे तक फैलता है।
- टाइफोइड पकड़ने की अवधि सात से चौदह दिन है।

* यह अवधि व्यक्ति कीटाणू के संपर्क में आने और पहला लक्षण नज़र आने के बीच की है



चिन्ह और लक्षण



बुखार



सर दर्द



लाल धब्बे



पेट में दर्द



जी मिचलाना



कब्ज या कभी कभी डायरिया होना

यह कैसे कैसे फैलता है?

पीड़ित व्यक्ति अपने मल के द्वारा कीटाणू अपने शरीर से बाहर निकालकर फैला सकता है लेकिन मूत्र से कीटाणू निकलने की सम्भावना कम है।

यह बीमारी वो भोजन करने या पानी पीने से फैलता है जो पीड़ित व्यक्ति के मल से दूषित हुआ है

अगर कोई व्यक्ति वो भोजन या पानी पीता है जो पीड़ित व्यक्ति के मल या मूत्र के थोड़े से हिस्से के संपर्क में आया है तो उस व्यक्ति की तबियत खराब हो जाएगी तथा टाइफोइड बुखार विकसित होगा।

टाइफोइड कहाँ पर ज़्यादा आम है?

टाइफोइड बीमारी उन जगहों पर

आम है जहाँ साफ पानी और

स्वच्छता की पहुँच बहुत खराब है





लेप्टोस्पाइरोसीस क्या है?

एक आम बीमारी है जो जानवरों से मानव तक फैलती है

लेप्टोस्पाइरोसीस कीटाणु से पीड़ित होने पर यह बीमारी होती है

ज्यादातर यह गर्म और नम वाले मौसम वाले देश जैसे फीजी में होती है जो शहर या गाँव में भी हो सकती है

लेप्टोस्पाइरोसीस पकड़ने की अवधि पाँच से चौदह दिन है

* यह अवधि कीटाणु के संपर्क में आने और पहला लक्षण नज़र आने के बीच की है



चिन्ह और लक्षण



बुखार



चक्कर आना



उलटी होना



जो मिचलाना



आँख का सफेद हिस्सा लाल होना



माँसपेशियों में दर्द



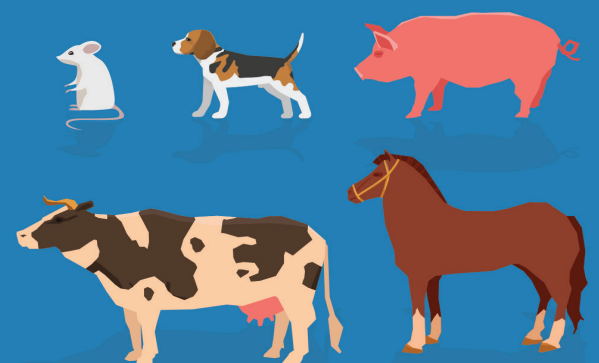
सर दर्द



पेट में दर्द

यह कैसे फैलता है?

यह लेप्टोस्पाइरोसीस कीटाणु से फैलता है जो कीटाणु पीड़ित जानवरों के पेशाब में पाया है जिनमें, चूहे, पालतू जानवर, पशु तथा जंगली जानवर हो सकते हैं।



जब यह कीटाणु वातावरण में आता है तो यह मिट्टी और पानी में कई सप्ताह या उससे लम्बे समय तक जीवित रह सकता है।

जानवरों के सीधे संपर्क में आने से लोग पीड़ित हो सकते हैं, या जिस मिट्टी और पानी में पीड़ित जानवर ने पेशाब किया है के संपर्क में आने से वे बीमार हो सकते हैं।

यह बीमारी एक व्यक्ति से दूसरे तक नहीं फैलती है।



फीजी दर्पण प्रश्नसूची

नाम: _____

कौन सी नौकरी करते हैं (ज़रूरी नहीं है): _____

नगर/शहर/प्रांत: _____

मोबाईल/ईमेल का पता (ज़रूरी नहीं है): _____

कृपया अपने जवाब पर घेरा बनाए

- यह अखबार आप कब-कब पढ़ते हैं?
 - अक्सर
 - कभी-कभी
 - कभी-कभार
- आपको इस अखबार की कोपी कैसे मिली?
 - पोस्ट ऑफिस से
 - किसी दोस्त या रिश्तेदार ने दिया
 - फीजी टाइम्स अखबार से
- क्या आपको यह अखबार जानकारी से भरा और उपयोगी लगा?
 - जी हाँ
 - जी नहीं
 - पता नहीं
- अखबार में उपयोग की गई भाषा आपको कैसे लगी:
 - समझना आसान है
 - समझना कठिन है
 - बेहतर हो सकता है
- सरकारी जानकारी हासिल करने के लिए आप अन्य किन मंचों का उपयोग करते हैं (फीजी सरकार का वेबसाइट, फेसबुक, यूट्यूब, ट्वीटर)?
 - फीजी सरकार का वेबसाइट
 - फीजी सरकार का फेसबुक
 - फीजी सरकार का यूट्यूब
 - फीजी सरकार का ६
 - अन्य सौशल मिडिया चैनल? _____
- कृपया घेरा बनाए कि फीजी दर्पण में आप क्या पढ़ना पसन्द करते हैं? आप जितने चाहे घेरा बना सकते हैं।
 - राष्ट्रपति, प्रधान मंत्री तथा उनके मंत्रीमण्डल के मंत्रियों के काम के बारे में कहानियाँ
 - राष्ट्रपति, प्रधान मंत्री तथा उनके मंत्रीमण्डल के मंत्रियों के भाषण
 - राष्ट्रपति, प्रधान मंत्री तथा उनके मंत्रीमण्डल के मंत्रियों की तज़वीरें
 - फीजी भर में सरकारी योजनाएं तथा समारोह की कहानियाँ तथा तज़वीरें
 - यहाँ बताए कि इस अखबार के बारे में आपको क्या कुछ और पसन्द है: _____
- कृपया नीचे लिखकर बताए कि आप फीजी दर्पण में क्या कुछ और जानकारी पढ़ना चाहते हैं?
 - सरकारी मंत्रालयों/विभाग तथा सरकारी कर्मचारियों की रूपरेखा
 - संपादक के नाम पत्र का कोलम
 - सरकारी कार्यक्रम और योजनाएं
 - नेशनल आर्काईव्स ऑफ फीजी द्वारा इतिहास के पन्ने को मुड़कर देखना
 - पाठकों के लिए खेल
 - यूवा पाठकों के लिए कोलम
 - यह भी बताए कि आप और क्या पढ़ना चाहते हैं:

8. अखबार को बेहतर बनाने के लिए आप कुछ और जोड़ना चाहते हैं?

अपना जवाब आप स्क्रीनशोट करके deoronal1980@gmail.com पर ईमेल सकते हैं



प्राकृतिक विपत्ति के लिए हमेशा तैयार रहें

अपना घर आँगन सुरक्षित रखें

प्राकृतिक विपत्ती के दौरान:

- * देखें कि आपका घर और संपत्ति गिरे हुए पेड़ों से सुरक्षित हों
- * या बिजली के गिरे तार से दूर रहें जो आपके परिवार को नुकसान पहुँचा सकते हैं
- * ध्यान में रखें कि आपके पालतू जानवर सुरक्षित हैं
- * समाचार सुनते रहें और जगह खाली करने के लिए तैयार रहें

खबर रखें

प्राकृतिक विपत्ति के दौरान

- * बैटरी वाले रेडियो का उपयोग करे ताकि प्राकृतिक विपत्ती पर जानकारी और सार्वजनिक सेवाओं की घोषणाएं मिलती रहें
- * अपने फोन का इस्तेमाल ठीक तरह से करें ताकि बैटरी बच सके
- * हमेशा खबर रखें कि आपके परिवार कहाँ हैं
- * मौसम और स्थिति पर जानकारी के लिए www.met.gov.fj या एन डी एम ओ के फेसबुक पेज पर जाएं

भोजन सुरक्षित रखें

- * लेप्टोस्पाइरोसिस, टाइफाइड, डेंगी और डायरिया बीमारी से बचे
- * भोजन और पीने का पानी ढाँक कर रखे या बंद बर्तन में रखें
- * पीने का पानी उबाल लें और अच्छी तरह से रखें
- * बासी भोजन ना खाएं और इसे तुरन्त फेंक दे
- * ध्यान में रखें कि आपका परिवार पौष्टिक भोजन करें
- * स्तनपान कराने वाली माताओं को अपने बच्चों को स्तनपान कराते रहना चाहिए
- * सभी कच्ची सब्जियों को खाने से पहले धो लें

अच्छी स्वच्छता का अभ्यास करें

प्राकृतिक विपत्ति के दौरान:

- * भोजन छूने से पहले, शौचालय जाने के बाद या सफाई का काम खत्म करने के बाद हाथ धोएं
- * सभी कचरे को ठीक तरह से समेटे
- * ध्यान रखें कि आपके बच्चे हर समय अच्छी स्वच्छता का अभ्यास करें

दूसरों को दिलासा दें

- * विपत्तियाँ लोगों को मानसिक और भावनात्मक रूप से प्रभावित कर सकती हैं
- * आपके लिए एक महत्वपूर्ण समय है जब आप अपने आसपास के लोगों को दिलासा देने में मदद कर सकते हैं
- * खास कर के बच्चे, विकलांग और बुजुर्गों के लिए
- * ध्यान रखें कि उन्हें प्यार और देखभाल मिले और वे सुरक्षित महसूस करें

- * स्थिति से निपटने में उनकी मदद करने के लिए एक सुरक्षित स्थान बनाएं
- * हमेशा अपने परिवार के साथ संपर्क बनाए रखें जो आपके साथ नहीं रहते

भावनात्मक सहारा

विपत्ति के बाद लोग शायद उलझन में दुखी या निराश हो सकते हैं

- * बच्चे, विकलांग लोग, महिलाएं तथा बुजुर्ग लोग अकेला या डरे हुए महसूस कर सकते हैं
- * कई लोगों ने शायद अपनी संपत्ति या जीवन भर की जमा पूँजी खो दी हो
- * अब सही समय है पीड़ित लोगों के लिए समय निकालने का। उनकी ज़रूरतों का ध्यान रखें। ध्यान में रखें कि उन लोगों को चिकित्सा की सहायता मिले जिन्हें इसकी ज़रूरत है

संकेत और लक्षण

किसी भी प्राकृतिक विपत्ति के बाद बीमारियाँ जैसे कि लेप्टोस्पाइरोसिस, टाइफोईड, डायरिया तथा डेन्गी की महामारी होना आम बात है।

- * याद रखें कि आप बीमारियों को फैलने से रोकने के लिए हमेशा अपने हाथों को साबुन पानी से धोते रहें।
- * अगर आप या जिन्हें आप जानते हों, बीमार हैं और उन्हें यह लक्षण दिखाई देते हैं जैसे:

तेज़ बुखार
गम्भीर रूप से डायरिया
उल्टियाँ आना
शरीर में दर्द
लाल दाने दिखे

तो जल्द से जल्द नज़दीकी अस्पताल जाएं

साफ सफाई और मरम्मत

किसी प्राकृतिक विपत्ति के बाद यह ज़रूरी है कि आस-पास के वातावरण को साफ रखा जाए।

- * कूड़ा-कर्कट को सावधानी से हटाएं।
- * पानी के स्रोत को सुरक्षित करें अगर उसे नुकसान पहुँचा हो।
- * बिजली के तारों से दूर रहें और गिरे हुए तारों की शिकायत के लिए ई एफ एल को 913 पर कोल करें।
- * मच्छर पैदा होने वाले सभी स्थानों को नष्ट करें
- * अपने और अपने परिवार की सुरक्षा के लिए घर के कुछ भाग पर मरम्मत कर लें या एक अस्थाई घर बनाएं
- * उन लोगों तक पहुँचे जिन्हें शायद ज्यादा सहायता की ज़रूरत है जैसे कि अगर कोई बीमार हो, बच्चे, बुजुर्ग, महिलाएं तथा विकलांग लोग।

अच्छी स्वच्छता अभ्यास

किसी प्राकृतिक विपत्ति के बाद याद रखें कि कोई भी बीमारियों से पीड़ित हो सकता है।
* लेकिन आप, फैल रही बीमारियों से अपने आप, अपने बच्चों और चाहने वालों को सुरक्षित रख सकते हैं

यह सब केवल भोजन तैयार करने से पहले या पाखाना इस्तेमाल करने या साफ सफाई के बाद साबुन और पानी से हाथ धोने से शुरू होता है।
* पीने वाले पानी को उबालकर अच्छी तरह सम्भालकर रखें

आपतकालिन किट

प्रकृतिक विपत्ति के दौरान:

देखें कि आपकी आपातकालीन किट अच्छी तरह से तैयार है

किट में यह होना ज़रूरी है:

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

अगर आप प्रकृतिक विपत्ति के दौरान जगह खाली कर रहे हैं तो जितनी जल्द हो सके चले जाएं

अपना इमेजेन्सी किट और जरूरी समान साथ लेकर जाए पहले से बीमार परिवार के सदस्यों को अपनी विपत्ति योजना में शामिल रखें

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

सुनिश्चित रखें कि आपके पालतू जानवर सुरक्षित हैं, उन्हें दिन के समय कोई उँची जगह ले जाएं

घर पर तैयार रहें

प्राकृतिक विपत्ति के दौरान:

पर्याप्त भोजन और पीने का पानी भर लें।

पानी को उबालकर रखें।

टोर्च और मोमबत्ती तैयार रखें

फोन और पावर बेन्क चार्ज कर लें

घर पर बुजुर्गों, विकलांग और अपने पड़ोसियों का ध्यान रखें। बच्चों को घर के अन्दर रखें।

देखें कि आपके पास पर्याप्त दवाईयाँ हों

मौसम और स्थिति पर जानकारी के लिए www.met.gov.fj या एन डी एम ओ के फेसबुक पेज पर जाएं

अपने फोन का इस्तेमाल ठीक तरह से करें ताकि बैटरी बच सके

यह जरूरी नंबर ध्यान में रखे:

पुलिस/एम्बुलेन्स के लिए 917,

आग के लिए 910,

ई-एफ-एल के लिए 913,

वोटर अथोरिटी ओफ फीजी के लिए 5777,

मिट्टी भसकने और जमीन पर फिसलन के लिए 917 या 910 पर कोल करें

फ़ीजी दर्पण



फ़ीजी सरकार का रेडियो कार्यक्रम

नवराष्ट्र

फ़ीक्वन्सी

105.0FM
सूवा, नान्दो, लाताका, तावुआ, लम्बासा

104.8FM
सिंगातोका, वा

105.4FM
राकीराकी

6.30PM

मंगलवार गुरुवार शुक्रवार रविवार





पोलिसिंग मंत्री माननीय इयोंवाने नईवालुरुआ लामी में नशीले पदार्थों पर दो दिवसीय कार्यशाला का उद्घाटन करते हुए चित्र: प्रदान किया गया

नशीले पदार्थों की समस्या एक आपातकाल है

रोनल देव

पोलिसिंग मंत्री माननीय इयोंवाने नईवालुरुआ ने लामी में नशीले पदार्थों पर दो दिवसीय कार्यशाला का उद्घाटन करते हुए कहा कि हर आंकड़े के पीछे एक टूटा हुआ परिवार, एक खोया हुआ अवसर और एक तनावग्रस्त समाज छिपा है। इसलिए इस राष्ट्रीय वातचित सत्र को केवल चर्चा तक सिमित न रखकर अनुशासन की ओर बढ़ना चाहिए। सिर्फ पिछले साल ही नशीले पदार्थों से संबंधित दो हजार चार सौ से ज़्यादा मामले सामने आए थे।

मंत्री ने चेतावनी दी है कि मेथैमफेटमीन तथा हर्डिच आए वी के बढ़ते मामलों में लगातार संबंध देखा जा रहा है, जो दिखाता है कि यह संकट केवल पुलिस व्यवस्था का मामला नहीं है, बल्कि एक गम्भीर सार्वजनिक स्वास्थ्य चिंता का विषय भी है।

चुनौतियों के बावजूद, मंत्री नईवालुरुआ ने स्पष्ट और दृढ़

संदेश दिया: फ़ीजी, नशीले पदार्थों के खिलाफ युद्ध हारा नहीं है। कुछ लड़ाईयों में हार स्वीकार करते हुए, मंत्री ने कहा कि देश ने अब नई गति और एक स्पष्ट दिशा प्राप्त कर ली है। उनके अनुसार हो सकता है कि फ़ीजी ने इधर-उधर कुछ छोटी-मोटी लड़ाईयाँ हारी हों। लेकिन अब हमारे पास एक नई गति है। हम एक नई दिशा पर ध्यान दे रहे हैं। हमने नशीले पदार्थों के खिलाफ युद्ध में हार स्वीकार नहीं किया है।

उन्होंने इससे जुड़ी संस्थाओं तथा व्यक्तियों से माँग की है कि वे सच्चाई के साथ गौर करें कि क्या काम कर रहा है क्या नहीं, 2026 से 2028 तक चौबीस महीने की एक कार्य योजना तैयार करें, स्पष्ट ज़िम्मेदारियाँ और समय सीमा निर्धारित करें, वार्ताओं को मजबूत करें जिसमें नशीली दवाओं के खिलाफ ब्यूरो की प्रगति शामिल है - और जवाबदेही को और अधिक सुनिश्चित करें।

उन्होंने जोर दिया है कि संतुलित प्रतिक्रिया ही सशक्त

प्रतिक्रिया होती है।

“यह पूरे देश का सामूहिक प्रयास है। पुलिस अकेले यह भार नहीं उठा सकती। स्वास्थ्य विभाग अकेले यह भार नहीं उठा सकता। समाज अकेले यह भार नहीं उठा सकते। सरकार अकेले यह भार नहीं उठा सकती, लेकिन स्पष्टता, अनुशासन और साहस के साथ मिलकर हम स्थिति को बदल सकते हैं। मैंने ऐसे माता-पिता से मुलाकात की है जो असहाय महसूस करते हैं, ऐसे अधिकारियों से मुलाकात की है जो अत्याधिक दबाव में हैं, चर्च के नेताओं और बुजुर्गों से मुलाकात की है जो अपने समाजों में घट रही घटनाओं का बोझ ढो रहे हैं। हर युवा फ़ीजीवासी अवसर का हकदार है। हर माता-पिता आशा के हकदार है। हर समाज सुरक्षा का हकदार है।”

उन्होंने कहा, “यह वार्ता स्पष्ट हो, अनुशासित हो और इससे कार्रवाई हो। और अगले दो वर्षों में राष्ट्रीय कार्यान्वयन प्रदर्शित हो, न कि केवल चिंता।