



FOCUS

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Prime Minister, Sitiveni Rabuka, takes a drink of water after officiating the groundbreaking of the \$50 million Fiji Wai Water Bottling Plant in Ra as chairperson of Fiji Wai Pte Ltd and its parent company, Unit Trust of Fiji, Lavinia Kaumaitotoya, looks on. Children from nearby communities during the ground breaking. (Below) Photo: NANISE NEIMILA

Fiji, a global premium water market

By NANISE NEIMILA

Fiji is further cementing its position as global premium bottled water market with a \$50 million investment. This as Prime Minister, Sitiveni Rabuka, last week officiated at the groundbreaking ceremony for the Fiji Wai company’s Water Bottling Plant Project in Ra and commissioned of new bore-hole sites, marking a significant milestone in Fiji’s commitment to sustainable development and rural empowerment. Valued at \$50 million, the project owned by Fiji Wai, a subsidiary of Unit Trust of Fiji represents a major national in-

vestment in the development of Fiji’s natural resources and highlights Government’s commitment to inclusive economic growth through strong partnerships with landowning communities. PM Rabuka said the initiative reflects a forward-looking vision for Fiji’s economic future. “Today, we launch a venture that represents our commitment to sustainable development and rural empowerment. This project is more than an industrial expansion—it is a strategic investment in our natural resources and a bold testament to the power of inclusive partnership with our landowning units.”

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PM Rabuka urges civil servants to reflect on service and faith at Easter service



Civil servants listen attentively during the Easter service at Centenary Church in Suva. Photo: NANISE NEIMILA

Prime Minister Sitiveni Rabuka addresses civil servants during an Easter service at Centenary Church in Suva, calling for humility and dedication in their work for the nation. Photo: NANISE NEIMILA

By NANISE NEIMILA

PRIME Minister and Minister for Civil Service, Sitiveni Rabuka, has encouraged all civil servants to remain committed to their calling, guided by faith and a spirit of service. “When the time comes, remember to serve and to forgive- ‘Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do.’ Be faithful and strong, knowing you have been called and blessed to serve,” Prime Minister Rabuka told civil servants attending the Easter service at the Centenary Church in Suva on Wednesday. The Head of Government called on civil servants to remain steadfast in their faith and committed to service which was also attended by Cabinet Ministers and permanent secretaries. Addressing officers from a number of ministries, Prime Minister Sitiveni Rabuka acknowledged the

organisers for bringing everyone together, noting that such gatherings provide an important opportunity for reflection, unity, and spiritual renewal. He emphasised the significance of the Easter season, particularly the message of Palm Sunday, reminding those present of the values of sacrifice, humility, and forgiveness in both personal and professional life. Reflecting on the Scriptures, Prime Minister Rabuka spoke about the crowd’s cries of “Hosanna” and drew parallels to the realities of public service. Meanwhile, the President of the Methodist Church in Fiji and Rotuma, the Reverend Dr Semisi Turagavou, reminded those present that true peace comes from knowing God. He urged believers to seek God with reverence in all aspects of their lives, particularly during the Easter season, referencing teachings from the Gospel of St. Luke, chapter 19.

Government announces measures on fuel

By PRASHILA DEVI

WITH no resolution to the conflict in the Middle East in sight, the Fiji Government will be looking at several contingency measures to offset the impact of the global fuel crisis. In announcing some possible measures, Minister for Information, Environment and Climate, Lynda Tabuya, emphasised on the distinction in the local fuel situation. “Right now, Fiji still has fuel. Our supply is stable, and fuel is available across the country,” Minister Tabuya said. “This is not a fuel shortage right now. This is a fuel price issue.”

In explaining the rationale behind the fuel price increase effective as of April 1, she said, fuel companies must keep buying fuel for the months ahead since international prices have more than doubled in a short span of time. “The price you pay today is not just for the fuel already here- it reflects the higher cost of replacing that fuel,” Minister Tabuya said. However, the other austerity measure would be to limit consumption as the Minister urged Fijians to “start saving fuel now”.

“The Government will continue to reassure the public, encourage normal buying behaviour, reduce non-essential travel, and work with international partners.” Some of the slight changes that the public can assist will be:

- carpooling,
- using public transport,
- reducing unnecessary trips,
- saving electricity at home,

- and using online meetings or working from home where possible.

The Government, Minister Tabuya highlighted, for its part will lead by example by further cutting back on travel and reducing the use of Government vehicles.

She said if the situation does not improve, where fuel stocks are between 40 and 50 per cent then the next phase will be activated.

“This may include reducing Government vehicle use, limiting after-hours travel, moving to a four-day work week, moving to a four-day school week, and encouraging businesses to do the same.”

If the situation deteriorates further with fuel level between 30 to 40 per cent, Minister Tabuya said the next phase where “we must share fuel fairly and protect essential services”.

This would translate into limits on fuel purchases, set days for refuelling, set days for driving, more people working from home and reduced business hours.

The essential services that will be prioritised includes hospitals, transport, water, power and emergency services.

If fuel reaches very low levels of below 20 per cent, Minister Tabuya said, “we will move into emergency measures” and there may be strict controls-limited Government operations and vehicle curfews.

She has assured that “we are not at this stage yet” but “we must be prepared”.

■ More on the fuel price change on page 6

Condolence books to be opened in honour of the late former President Ratu Epeli Nailatikau

THE Government of Fiji wishes to advise the public that condolence books will be placed across all four divisions in honour of the late former President, Ratu Epeli Nailatikau. Members of the public are invited to record messages of condolence and reflect on the life and service of the late former President, whose contributions to Fiji spanned decades of distinguished public service.

The location for these books will be, Offices of the Divisional Commissioners for the Western, Northern and Eastern Divisions. For the Central Division, a condolence book will be available at the Ground Floor, New Wing, Government Buildings in Suva, during the same period and hours.

These will be open to the public from Tuesday, 7 April 2026, and will be available Monday to Friday, from 9am to 4pm, until Friday, 18 April 2026



Fiji, a global premium water market

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The business will see the construction of a state-of-the-art commercial water bottling facility over the next nine months, designed to meet high-value export market demands and operate under stringent international ISO standards.

PM Rabuka emphasised that the facility would strengthen Fiji's position in the global premium water market.

“By adhering to rigorous international standards, we are ensuring that this facility not only strengthens our industrial capacity but also reinforces Fiji's global competitiveness in the premium water sector.”

Once completed, the plant will be among the most advanced in the country, with the capacity to produce up to 36,000 bottles per hour and is scheduled for commissioning in January 2027.

Highlighting the importance of community collaboration, PM Rabuka acknowledged the partnership with the Vanua of Nasayani, particularly the Mataqali Tawa.

“Our national development is fundamentally rooted in the strength of our partnerships with the Vanua. By aligning our commercial objectives with the aspirations of our landowning units, we ensure that progress is not only sustainable but deeply inclusive.”

“As we scale our global reach, the benefits of our natural resources must remain anchored in the prosperity of our communities honouring traditional custodianship while driving collective economic empowerment.”

Chairperson of Fiji Wai Pte Ltd and of its parent company, Unit Trust of Fiji, Lavinia Kaumaitotoya, highlighted the significance of the project from a private sector and partnership perspective.

“This project reflects the strength of collaboration between Government, investors, and landowners. It demonstrates our shared commitment to building a sustainable industry that not only meets international standards but also delivers meaningful benefits to local communities.”

“We are proud to be part of an initiative that will position Fiji strongly in the global premium water market while ensuring that development remains inclusive and environmentally responsible.”

Commitment to national social cohesion reaffirmed

By NANISE NEIMILA

STRENGTHENING social cohesion, inclusivity, and unity across Fiji's diverse communities.

This was the reaffirmed commitment by the Government the National Social Cohesion Stakeholder Conference held in Suva this week.

In addressing the conference, Prime Minister, Sitiveni Rabuka, highlighted the importance of building trust and understanding among citizens and between communities and the State, describing social cohesion as a cornerstone of national stability and development.

The conference brought together representatives from Government institutions, faith-based organisations, civil society, and international partners, serving as a platform for inclusive dialogue and knowledge sharing aimed at fostering a more harmonious and resilient Fiji.

“Building trust between Government and citizens, while strengthening relationships across communities, is essential to ensuring a peaceful and resilient society,” PM Rabuka said.

He noted that social cohesion encompasses both vertical co-

hesion relations between citizens and Government and horizontal cohesion in the relationships among individuals and communities, both of which are critical to national unity.

PM Rabuka also acknowledged the increasingly complex global environment, including economic uncertainties, climate change impacts and shifting geopolitical dynamics, which continue to test national resilience.

“In times of global uncertainty, our commitment to social cohesion has never been more critical”.

He highlighted key Government initiatives aimed at strengthening national unity, including the reintroduction of significant public holidays such as Ratu Sir Lala Sukuna Day and Girmit Day, recognising Fiji's diverse history and the contributions of its people.

The establishment of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in December 2024, the Prime Minister pointed out, was a critical step in address-



Prime Minister, Sitiveni Rabuka, flanked by Dirk Wagener, United Nations Resident Coordinator to Fiji, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu and Munkhtuya Altangerel - Resident Representative of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Pacific Office at the National Social Cohesion Conference in Suva. **Photo: NANISE NEIMILA**

ing historical grievances and fostering national healing.

PM Rabuka further underscored the importance of Fiji's National Security Strategy (NSS), which places social cohesion at the centre of national security by promoting inclusive governance, equitable opportunities, and trust between communities and the State.

“Modern security is multidimensional. By addressing the root causes of insecurity and strengthening social bonds, we build a more resilient nation,” he said.

“Working in silos is no longer an option. We must embrace the spirit of solesolevaki,

where our collective strength surpasses individual efforts,” PM Rabuka emphasised.

United Nations Resident Coordinator to Fiji, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu, Dirk Wagener, commended Fiji's efforts to promote inclusive dialogue and strengthen social cohesion.

Mr Wagener highlighted that social cohesion is critical in addressing global challenges such as climate change, economic uncertainty, and social inequality, noting that strong, inclusive societies are better equipped to respond to these pressures.

Mataqali Nadala celebrate the return of their land

By NANISE NEIMILA

MATAQALI Nadala of the Yavusa Nubu in Nadarivatu celebrated a historic and emotional milestone, marking the return of their land after more than 120 years under government ownership and 42 years of continuous efforts to have it returned.

Speaking on behalf of the landowning unit, Luke Vauvau of Mataqali Nadala, Yavusa Nubu, described the occasion as a long-awaited blessing for his people.

“We are truly blessed to witness this day—something our great-grandfathers could only hope for. For 42 years, we have been seeking the return of our land from previous governments, and today that hope has finally been realised,” he said.

Mr Vauvau added that the mataqali has development plans in place, including pine and mahogany plantations, and was ready to work closely with the Government to ensure sustainable development for future generations.

Prime Minister, Sitiveni Rabuka, officiated at the formal return of land known as Native Grant No. 2 (NG2) during a ceremony held at Nadala Village inland of Ba.

The return marks a significant milestone in the Government's commitment to uphold Constitutional provisions and strengthen partnerships with iTaukei landowners through the restoration of land rights.

“This is a historic moment that reaffirms the deep connection between the iTaukei people and their land and the Government's responsibility to return land once its intended public purpose has been fulfilled,” he said.

NG2, comprising approximately 15,000 acres (6,070 hectares), was originally acquired on 15 June 1905 for public purposes, including the establishment of a sanatorium, forest conservation and research, and agricultural initiatives such as cocoa and coffee cultivation.

PM Rabuka emphasised that the return of the land was carried out in accordance with Section 28(2) of the Constitu-



Prime Minister Sitiveni Rabuka presented the land documents to members of Mataqali Nadala during the handover ceremony in Nadala Village.

tion, which provides for the return of land to original owners once the purpose of acquisition has been met.

He acknowledged the collaborative efforts of key government institutions, including the Ministry of Lands and Mineral Resources, the iTaukei Affairs Board, and the Solicitor-General's Office, in ensuring that all legal and administrative processes were completed to facilitate the return.

PM Rabuka also outlined important considerations moving

forward, including the continued surveying of land boundaries by the iTaukei Lands Commission and the exclusion of land currently occupied by the Public Works Department from the returned area.

He encouraged the landowners to utilise the land wisely and sustainably, highlighting opportunities for development in partnership with relevant government agencies in sectors such as agriculture, business, and tourism.



Minister Tabuya opens Vaka Forum, puts spotlight on people driving recycling in Fiji

“ENVIRONMENTAL protection is not only driven by policies, strategies or international agreements. It is also driven by people.”

Minister for Information, Environment and Climate Change Lynda Tabuya highlighted this while opening the VAKA Forum with the Collection Pillars of Recycling in Suva recently.

Appreciating the work of the Collection Pillars of Recycling, Minister Tabuya announced that the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change will be sourcing protective gears for the Collection Pillars of Recycling. She said their work was essential to the functioning of Fiji’s recycling system.

Minister Tabuya said the people making the greatest difference are often not those speaking at international conferences, but those working quietly at the grassroots level. She added that if Fiji is serious about addressing its waste challenges, it must recognise and support the people who are already part of the solution.

“Your work keeps valuable resources in circulation and prevents waste from entering our rivers, drains and oceans,” she stated.

The forum, representing the first step toward the formation of Fiji and the Pacific region’s first National Collection Pillars of Recycling Alliance, gathered Collection Pillars of Recycling from across Fiji.

“There is something powerful about the work that Collection Pillars of Recycling does. Where many people see rubbish, you see opportunity. Where others see something discarded and worthless, you see something that can still have value. In many ways, you are not only



Minister for Information, Environment and Climate Change, Lynda Tabuya, opened the Vaka Forum in Suva. **Photo WANSHIKA**

recycling materials. You are redefining value itself.”

Minister Tabuya said the work of Collection Pillars of Recycling reminds us that waste is not only an environmental problem, but also a reflection of how society sees, or fails to see, the resources around us.

“To the Collection Pillars of Recycling gathered here today: Your work protects our environment. Your resilience strengthens your communities. And your leadership has the potential to shape the future of recycling in Fiji. What begins here this week is more than a forum. It is the beginning of a movement.

“You are here to inspire the rest of Fiji to do the needful.”

Minister Tabuya acknowledged the Pacific Recycling Foundation and its founder Amitesh Deo for their

leadership in advancing recycling efforts. One of the significant changes by Pacific Recycling Foundation has been recognising that those previously referred to as “waste pickers” are in fact Collection Pillars of Recycling, which reflects the reality that their work supports recycling systems, reduces pollution, and creates value from materials others discard.

The Minister also commended the Fiji Women’s Crisis Centre led by Shamima Ali, Women in Informal Employment: Globalizing and Organizing (WIEGO), and the Ministry of Women, Children and Social Protection for their partnership in supporting the initiative.



Minister for Environment and Climate Change, Lynda Tabuya, at the launch of the new trash boom in Sigatoka. **Photo: WANSHIKA KUMAR**

Govt commits to five additional trash boom projects

By WANSHIKA KUMAR

WASTE management efforts reached Sigatoka last week with the installation of the third trashboom by the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, under the United Nations Environment Programme support. Reaffirming the Government’s commitment towards reducing litter, Minister for Environment and Climate Change, Lynda Tabuya, announced plans to fund further five installations nationwide, scaling the solution where it needed most.

“This trashboom is simple but powerful. It stops waste before it reaches the ocean. What we have seen from other sites is clear — our rivers are carrying everything from plastics and diapers to electronic waste and household rubbish,” Minister

Tabuya stated. “This is not accidental. It is a result of poor choices. “This is our third Trashboom under UNEP support, with two more to follow. Government is not stopping there — we will fund a further five installations nationally, scaling this solution where it is needed most.”

The trashbooms serve two key purposes: intercepting waste before it reaches the ocean and providing valuable data on the types of rubbish flowing through Fiji’s waterways.

The information collected will support national initiatives such as the National Plastics Inventory and help strengthen waste management policies.

“Today is not just about stopping waste. It is about understanding it.”

Minister Tabuya underscored the power of partnerships, reinforcing that collaboration leads to real change.

“Let this not just be a launch. Let it be a reminder of our responsibility to the environment.

“Protecting our environment is not a one-day effort. It is a daily decision.”

The project was delivered through collaboration between the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, the Government of Japan, UNEP, Trashboom Pacific, municipal councils and community partners.

Fiji signals Pacific led climate leadership with announcement of COP31 Pre-COP dates



Fiji’s Minister for Environment and Climate Change, Lynda Tabuya, (seated, second from right) announces that Fiji and Tuvalu will co-host the COP31 Pre-COP in October, highlighting the Pacific’s commitment to driving urgent global climate action. **Photo: SUPPLIED**

Fiji is set to host the COP31 Pre-COP from 5 to 8 October this year, signalling a pivotal milestone in the lead-up to next year’s negotiations.

Minister for Information, Environment and Climate Change, Lynda Tabuya, on behalf of Fiji, in close consultation with Tuvalu, recently announced the proposed dates for the COP31 Pre-COP at the third Pacific Climate Change Ministers Meeting in Brisbane, Australia.

The Pre-COP dates have been strategically sequenced following the 81st Session of the United Nations General Assembly and ahead of the World Bank Annual Meetings. This positioning is intended to maximize ministerial participation, strengthen political momentum, and align with the broader multilateral calendar.

In a deliberate move away from the traditional format, Fiji has proposed an extended three-and-a-half-day programme to the Ministerial Talanoa, reflecting both the urgency of the climate crisis and the Pacific’s commitment to delivering substantive, solutions-oriented outcomes.

At the heart of this design was a dedicated Leaders’ component spanning one and a half days, including a segment to be hosted in Tuvalu. This approach highlights the

region’s strategic intent to elevate political leadership and provide clear guidance at a critical juncture in the COP31 cycle.

Complementing this high-level engagement, the programme will incorporate structured technical discussions to enable deeper engagement on priority thematic areas requiring sustained attention and consensus-building.

This integrated approach reflects the Pacific’s emphasis on aligning political ambition with technical rigor.

“We have also received strong interest from Indigenous Peoples, civil society organizations, and the private sector to engage meaningfully in this process. The proposed structure will therefore create space for inclusive participation, consistent with UNFCCC practice, while maintaining the integrity of Party-led discussions,” Minister Tabuya stated.

Fiji looks forward to working in close partnership with all Parties and stakeholders to further refine the programme and ensure that Pre-COP 31 delivers concrete, forward-looking outcomes—commensurate with the urgency of the climate crisis and the shared global responsibility to act.

(Source: Ministry of Environment and Climate Change)



PM opens Fiji's first Government Communication's Conference

By WANSHIKA KUMAR

FIIJIS communication landscape reached a milestone with the inaugural Fiji Government Communications Conference, marking a significant step toward strengthening public engagement.

Hosted by Ministry of Information in collaboration with the United Kingdom Government Communication Service, the one-day conference brought together government media liaison officers and communication coordinators to connect, learn, and help shape the future of government public engagement and communication.

Speaking at the event, Prime Minister, Sitiveni Rabuka, emphasised the critical role communication plays in government success.

“Today, I have come to tell us that the government cannot succeed if it cannot communicate. When citizens understand what the government is doing and why, they are more likely to engage, to trust, and to participate in our democracy, our mission,” PM Rabuka stated.

Acknowledging the rapid pace of information flow, the Prime Minister said public trust and the quality of messaging are constantly being tested.

“Every day across the world, governments are trying to maintain trust and public confidence. Every day we are being tested by those who seek to undermine our democracy and to change what we are communicating.

“Communication is something which we must do as well on every platform and in every community.” The conference also marked two significant milestones:

-the launch of SAUTU Counter-Disinformation Framework. SAUTU is a Fijian-localised version of the UK Government's RESIST 3 counter-disinformation framework, adapted for the Fijian context.

-and the formal launch of the Government Communications Guidebook, which provides practical standards and guidance for communicators across government.

The Prime Minister labelled SAUTU as “our shield against disinformation,” particularly in this age of information warfare and as the country approaches national elections.

“With elections on the horizon, the information environment will intensify. There are people who will try to exploit uncertainty, sow division, and undermine public confidence in our institutions. We must be ready. No need to panic. Just be ready.”

PM Rabuka described media liaison officers as the bridge between government and the people.

First-ever Fiji Government Communications Conference

By WANSHIKA KUMAR

BRITISH High Commissioner to Fiji, Kanbar Hossein-Bor has reflected that effective government communication is a life-saving infrastructure.

Speaking at the first-ever Fiji Government Communications Conference, High Commissioner Hossein-Bor said, “Getting communication right means helping citizens understand decisions, access services and act quickly when it matters”.

“Today, Fiji is investing in that capability, building internal cross- government systems that are professional, coordinated, resilient and ready to meet the challenges of the modern information environment,” High Commissioner Hossein-Bor said.

He added that a free, safe, and independent media, along with a healthy information ecosystem, is the lifeblood of our democracies.

High Commissioner Hossein-Bor said the UK's partnership with Fiji was a leading example of how international collaboration can strengthen institutions, empower communications, and uphold shared values.

“We look forward to continuing this partnership in capacity building, counter disinformation, crisis preparedness, and strategic communications planning across governments.”

Minister for Information, Environment and Climate Change, Lynda Tabuya, said for the first time, government communicators are united under one roof, to connect, to learn, and to shape the future of how they communicate with the people.



Visible improvements at Ogea Village in the Lau Province after government-funded works including a seawall, drainage and footpath helped strengthen the village against coastal challenges

“With the valued support of the UK Government and the Government Communication Service, we are strengthening not just skills, but a professional network that will carry our work forward with clarity and purpose,” Minister Tabuya said.

She said the conference was about one thing: moving as one voice, strengthening collaboration across ministries, building confidence in the craft, and deepening trust between government and the media.

“It is also about listening to your experiences, your challenges, and your solutions, as we set a clear and shared direction for 2026.”

“Today, we also mark two important

milestones: the launch of the SAUTU Counter-Disinformation Framework, and the Government Communications Guidebook.” Minister Tabuya explained that both were designed to equip the government communicators with practical tools to navigate an increasingly complex

SCAN FOR FULL VIDEO



Govt assistance improves resilience in Ogea Village



The Government-supported works in Ogea Village in the Lau Province to address saltwater intrusion, including the construction of a seawall, drainage system and footpath. **Photo: JESE TUISINU**

By SERAN DEVI

VILLAGERS in Ogea in the Lau Province have benefited from \$34,241 in Government assistance to construct a seawall, drainage system, footpath and solar streetlights to strengthen protection against coastal and environmental challenges.

Provincial Administrator for Lau, Yakobo Waqanidrola, said the funding enabled the village to complete key infrastructure improvements aimed at reducing risks faced by the coastal community.

“The support followed a Government visit to the village, where officials assessed the community's needs and worked with residents to identify practical solutions,” Mr Waqanidrola said.

He said discussions with the provincial council confirmed that relocation was not an option the community wished to pursue.

“As a result, we tried very hard to find the best solution that would allow them to remain in the village while improving their safety and resilience.”

The project was implemented through a partnership between government agencies and the villagers.

While the government provided hardware equipment and funding, the community contributed labour and natural materials such as rocks and boulders used in the construction of the seawall.

Mr Waqanidrola said the villagers responded positively once materials were delivered and worked quickly to complete the project within the agreed timeframe.

“The response from the community was overwhelming. They were very happy and worked together to finish the project.”

He acknowledged the role played by the Ministry of Information in highlighting the issues faced by the village, which helped prompt swift action from senior management within government.

The village remote location also posed logistical challenges, as access was often limited and dependent on tidal conditions.

Despite these difficulties, the project progressed successfully with support from nearby communities who assisted in

supplying materials to continue additional work.

He added that further discussions involving government departments and non-government organisations were expected to explore long-term solutions that could support vulnerable maritime communities for the next 15 to 20 years, with involvement from agencies including the Fiji Ministry of Agriculture and Waterways.

Meanwhile, the Ogea success story was brought to the attention of the media liaison officers during the inaugural Government Communications Conference held in Suva recently as they have the platform to shine light on the issues faced by the people which can result in quick action.

SCAN FOR FULL VIDEO





New fuel and LPG prices for April 2026

The Fijian Competition and Consumer Commission (FCCC) announced the revised fuel prices for April 2026, following the latest review of international refined fuel prices (MOPS), freight rates and exchange rate movements. In addition, FCCC has also concluded the assessment of Butane Contract Price (CP), freight rates and exchange rates which is reflected in the domestic price of Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) prices. The new prices come into effect from Wednesday, 1 April 2026.

Factors contributing to the Fuel Price Change

For the assessment period, the following factors attributed to the increase in fuel products.

(i) The price of motor spirit and premix is based on the same international refined price and international freight benchmarks, which reflected the increase in the international refined fuel price of motor spirit by 41.64 per cent together with the strengthened USD currency by 0.39per cent despite the decrease in the international freight rate marker by 6.74 per cent.

(ii) The price of kerosene and diesel will also increase due to the increase in the international refined fuel price of kerosene by 59.80 per cent and increase in the refined price for diesel by 56.22 percent. In addition, the USD currency strengthened by 0.25 per cent while the international freight rate marker decreased by 6.74 percent when compared to the last review.

Measures to Cushion Impact

For the April 2026 fuel price assessment, the FCCC has implemented measured adjustments to cushion the impact on consumers and businesses. These measures include the absorption of partial cost increases within the pricing structure by averaging the MOPS for the month of February till 20 March 2026, close monitoring of freight and supply chain costs and continued regulatory oversight.

Ensuring Fuel Supply Security

Fiji’s priority remains the continuous availability and sustainability of fuel supply across the country. In current global environment, securing fuel shipments may require procurement at relatively higher costs. The FCCC acknowledges that while prices may increase, ensuring that suppliers are able to access, and secure supply is critical to prevent shortages and maintaining economic stability.

World Market Reason on Crude Oil Price According to OPEC, crude oil futures prices averaged higher in February 2026, month-on-month, supported by increased geopolitical risk premiums, concerns regarding potential supply disruptions, and firm physical market fundamentals. Price volatility remained elevated over the month amid heightened uncertainty across geopolitical and macroeconomic fronts. In the final week of the month, crude oil prices were supported by elevated geopolitical risk premiums amid developments in the Middle East. The escalation of war, entering the day 26 as of 25 March 2026, has severely impacted the crude oil price in March 2026 as approximately 20 per cent of the world’s

total seaborne oil supplies travel through the Strait of Hormuz.

LPG Price Change Factors

The major reason(s) for the decrease noted in the prices for cylinder products while prices for Bulk and Autogas remain constant in April 2026 is due to USD exchange rate weakened by 2.52per cent, which outweighed the increase in Butane Contract Price (CP) and international freight by 3.85 percent and 0.04 percent respectively when compared to last month’s review.

World Market Reasons

The LPG Contract Price (CP), commonly called the “Saudi CP” is the international price benchmark set at the beginning of each month by Saudi Arabia’s state -

owned oil company Saudi Aramco. Fiji is a price taker of the refined fuel products and LPG products, as our country’s domestic demand needs for LPG is insignificant when compared to the world demand.

Enforcement and Compliance

As part of the FCCC’s enforcement and compliance of fuel and LPG prices, our Enforcement Team will conduct inspections at wholesale/retail outlets and service stations to ensure authorised prices of Petroleum and LPG products comply with the allowable maximum prices. The following FCCC officers will conduct inspections in various divisions:

- The Central team can be reached via mobile phone number 8921991 or 9988917

for Nausori residents.

- The Western Team can be reached via mobile phone number 8911623 or 9982437 for Sigatoka residents.
- The Northern Team can be reached via mobile phone number 8911624.

The prices issued by FCCC are maximum wholesale and retail prices, and the wholesalers and retailers can sell the Refined Fuel and LPG products on the maximum wholesale and retail prices or below the authorised prices. The FCCC inspectors will continue to conduct checks during the coming weeks to ensure ongoing compliance.

(Source: Fijian Competition and Consumer Commission)



FIJIAN
COMPETITION &
CONSUMER
COMMISSION

NEW APPROVED FUEL PRICES FOR
APRIL 2026



FUEL

SCHEDULE 1

ANY AREA ON THE ISLAND OF VITI LEVU LOCATED WITHIN 3 KILOMETRES FROM ANY PUBLIC ROAD

PRODUCTS	Current Price (Until 31/03/26)	New Approved Price (Effective 01/04/2026)	Price Change (\$)
Motor Spirit	\$2.44 (VIP)	\$2.93 (VIP)	\$0.49 ↑
Premix	\$2.28 (VIP)	\$2.76 (VIP)	\$0.48 ↑
Kerosene*	\$1.69 (VAT exempt)	\$2.40 (VAT exempt)	\$0.71 ↑
Diesel	\$2.14 (VIP)	\$2.89 (VIP)	\$0.75 ↑

SCHEDULE 2

ANY AREA ON THE ISLAND OF VITI LEVU LOCATED BEYOND 3 KILOMETRES FROM ANY PUBLIC ROAD

PRODUCTS	Current Price (Until 31/03/26)	New Approved Price (Effective 01/04/2026)	Price Change (\$)
Motor Spirit	\$2.49 (VIP)	\$2.98 (VIP)	\$0.49 ↑
Premix	\$2.37 (VIP)	\$2.86 (VIP)	\$0.49 ↑
Kerosene*	\$1.76 (VAT exempt)	\$2.48 (VAT exempt)	\$0.72 ↑
Diesel	\$2.19 (VIP)	\$2.93 (VIP)	\$0.74 ↑

SCHEDULE 3

ANY AREA ON THE ISLANDS OF VANUA LEVU AND OVALAU LOCATED WITHIN 3 KILOMETRES FROM ANY PUBLIC ROAD

PRODUCTS	Current Price (Until 31/03/26)	New Approved Price (Effective 01/04/2026)	Price Change (\$)
Motor Spirit	\$2.47 (VIP)	\$2.96 (VIP)	\$0.49 ↑
Premix	\$2.41 (VIP)	\$2.90 (VIP)	\$0.49 ↑
Kerosene*	\$1.75 (VAT exempt)	\$2.47 (VAT exempt)	\$0.72 ↑
Diesel	\$2.17 (VIP)	\$2.92 (VIP)	\$0.75 ↑

SCHEDULE 4

ANY AREA ON THE ISLANDS OF VANUA LEVU AND OVALAU LOCATED BEYOND 3 KILOMETRES FROM ANY PUBLIC ROAD

PRODUCTS	Current Price (Until 31/03/26)	New Approved Price (Effective 01/04/2026)	Price Change (\$)
Motor Spirit	\$2.51 (VIP)	\$3.00 (VIP)	\$0.49 ↑
Premix	\$2.45 (VIP)	\$2.93 (VIP)	\$0.48 ↑
Kerosene*	\$1.78 (VAT exempt)	\$2.50 (VAT exempt)	\$0.72 ↑
Diesel	\$2.21 (VIP)	\$2.95 (VIP)	\$0.74 ↑

SCHEDULE 5

ANY AREA WITHIN THE REPUBLIC OF FIJI OTHER THAN THE ISLANDS MENTIONED IN SCHEDULES 1, 2, 3, 4 AND 6

PRODUCTS	Current Price (Until 31/03/26)	New Approved Price (Effective 01/04/2026)	Price Change (\$)
Motor Spirit	\$2.80 (VIP)	\$3.29 (VIP)	\$0.49 ↑
Premix	\$2.69 (VIP)	\$3.18 (VIP)	\$0.49 ↑
Kerosene*	\$2.24 (VAT exempt)	\$2.96 (VAT exempt)	\$0.72 ↑
Diesel	\$2.49 (VIP)	\$3.24 (VIP)	\$0.75 ↑

SCHEDULE 6

ANY AREA ON THE ISLAND OF ROTUMA

PRODUCTS	Current Price (Until 31/03/26)	New Approved Price (Effective 01/04/2026)	Price Change (\$)
Motor Spirit	\$2.97 (VIP)	\$3.49 (VIP)	\$0.52 ↑
Premix	\$2.86 (VIP)	\$3.37 (VIP)	\$0.51 ↑
Kerosene*	\$2.38 (VAT exempt)	\$3.14 (VAT exempt)	\$0.76 ↑
Diesel	\$2.65 (VIP)	\$3.43 (VIP)	\$0.78 ↑

Note: *Kerosene price is the VAT exempt and zero rated.

No change

Decrease

Increase

Maria Naloli’s journey highlights Government support for education

By NANISE NEIMILA

FOR 23-year-old Maria Ranadi Naloli of Volivoli, Nadroga, the dream of becoming a pilot began not in the cockpit but in a classroom. From her early days at Yat Sen Kindergarten and Yat Sen Primary School through her Yat Sen Secondary School years, Ms Naloli held firmly to one ambition: to one day take to the skies. Today, that dream has steadily becoming a reality, thanks not only to her hard work but also to government initiatives that support education and skills development for iTaukei landowners. Ms Naloli has successfully completed her Commercial Pilot License (CPL) and Entrepreneur Pilot License (EPL) and has now started working on completing her multi-command hours and instrument flying—critical steps toward becoming a fully certified pilot. Her journey received a major boost when she was selected as one of 15 students awarded scholarships under the newly established iTaukei Education Scholarship Programme by the iTaukei Land Trust Board (TLTB). The programme has been part of the Government’s broader effort to strengthen human capital development among landowners, ensuring that financial barriers do not prevent talented young Fijians from pursuing higher education and professional careers. “My dad has been paying for my fees,

and that has allowed me to continue my aviation training. Completing my CPL and EPL has been a major achievement. I know how expensive pilot school can be, and I am truly grateful for the support of my parents, the TLTB scholarship, and above all, God for giving me this opportunity.” She reflected on the sacrifices her family made, sharing that there were times when school fees had to be paused, which made her realise that every sacrifice her parents made was for her future. “These hardships motivated me to work even harder, stay focused, and push beyond my limits. I want to make them proud and show that their sacrifices were worth it. “To all young Fijians dreaming big—never give up. Work hard, stay disciplined, seek support when needed, and be grateful for the opportunities you receive. Always give back to your community.” “Becoming a pilot is not just about flying; it’s about representing Fiji and inspiring other young people, especially girls, to pursue careers in aviation. I want to be a role model, proving that with determination, support, and hard work, even the sky is not the limit.” Prime Minister Sitiveni Rabuka, while officiating at the scholarship ceremony, highlighted the importance of the initiative in the Government’s agenda to strengthen human capital development. “This scholarship programme represents the next significant step in our journey. Sustainable prosperity requires not only



Prime Minister, Sitiveni Rabuka presented Maria Naloli with her pilot’s license, marking a significant milestone in her aviation career. **Photo: NANISE NEIMILA**

custodianship of land but also deliberate investment in human capital,” PM Rabuka said. “By investing in education, we strengthen households, uplift communities, and contribute meaningfully to national development—particularly in sectors where iTaukei participation remains limited and where national capacity is critical.” The iTaukei Education Scholarship Pro-

gramme reflects the Government’s commitment to ensuring that talented young Fijians have the support they need to pursue education and careers that benefit both their families and the nation. Ms Naloli journey was a testament to this support—showing that with determination, guidance, and government-backed initiatives, the dreams of young Fijians can soar.

Dedication and hardwork pays for Daya Nand

By NANISE NEIMILA

FOR more than three decades, farming has been a way of life for Daya Nand of Koronubu, Ba and his dedication have now earned him the title of Gold Star Farmer of the Year. Mr Nand, who has been a sugarcane farmer since 1991 and ventured into tobacco farming in 2003, has successfully diversified his operations to include vegetables, rice, cattle, and goat farming thereby demonstrating resilience and sound farm management. Cultivating one and a half acres of tobacco, he produces between 15 and 16 tonnes annually, earning approximately \$15,000 after deductions. “I am very happy to receive this award today and I dedicate this achievement to the farmers of Koronubu and Ba,” Mr Nand said. He highlighted the importance of hard work, collaboration and community support, noting that farmers in Koronubu work closely together and support one another to succeed. “There is sweet success in hard work. With dedication, we can move forward and overcome any challenge,” he said. Mr Nand also acknowledged the support provided by British American Tobacco Fiji, stating that access to farming inputs, equipment, and technical assistance has significantly improved productivity and livelihoods. British American Tobacco (BAT) Fiji general manager, James Goldring, said the Star Farmer Programme reflects the company’s long-term commitment to supporting Fiji’s agricultural sector and rural communities. Mr Goldring added that BAT was proud to

partner with local farmers and support initiatives that build capacity, improve productivity, and promote sustainable farming practices. “The Star Farmer Programme is about recognising excellence while equipping farmers with the knowledge and tools they need to succeed in a changing agricultural landscape. Our continued investment is aimed at strengthening livelihoods and contributing to Fiji’s broader economic growth,” he said. A total of 90 farmers were recognised at this year’s awards, including six platinum, 12 gold, and 72 silver recipients, underscoring the growing impact of the programme across Fiji. Prime Minister, Sitiveni Rabuka, praised the dedication and excellence of Fijian farmers, highlighting the critical role of partnerships in driving agricultural growth at the BAT Fiji Star Farmer Awards in Nadi. The Head of Government said the programme stands as a strong example of how investment, innovation, and good farming practices can transform Fiji’s agriculture sector and improve livelihoods across rural communities. “Agriculture remains a cornerstone of Fiji’s development, providing food security, employment, and income for many of our people. Our vision is to transform the sector into a vibrant engine of a fast-growing, resilient, and modern economy,” PM Rabuka said. He reaffirmed Government’s commitment to achieving at least six percent gross domestic product (GDP) growth annually by boosting investment, increasing productivity, and expanding export opportunities. PM Rabuka acknowledged the longstanding



Daya Nand proudly displays his Star Farmer of the Year 2025 award presented by BAT Fiji in recognition of his work. **Photo: NANISE NEIMILA**

ing contribution of British American Tobacco Fiji in supporting local farmers through structured training programmes that enhance technical capacity, promote best practices, and improve yields and incomes. “Partnerships like these demonstrate the important role of the private sector in complementing Government efforts and delivering inclusive and sustainable development outcomes,” he said.

Since its establishment in 2022, the Star Farmer Programme has trained more than 600 farmers in agronomy and modern farming techniques. The initiative promotes innovation, knowledge sharing, and sustainable practices, helping farmers improve crop quality, increase productivity, and adapt to climate challenges.



PM Rabuka urges civil servants to reflect on service and faith at Easter gathering



Prime Minister Sitiveni Rabuka has called on civil servants to remain steadfast in their faith and committed to service during an Easter service attended by civil servants, including Cabinet Ministers and permanent secretaries, at the Centenary Church in Suva this afternoon.

Photo: **NANISE NEIMILA**



New home brings hope for Nadi family



For years, Mr. Filimoni Vananalagi worked hard to support his family of four while struggling to build a safe and permanent home. That long-held dream became a reality when the family received the keys to their newly completed house in Votualevu, Nadi.

The home was built through the Government's Rural Housing Assistance (RHA) Programme with the Ministry of Rural and Maritime Development and Disaster Management, which helps families improve their living conditions through a cost-sharing arrangement.

Photos: **SUPPLIED**



New kindergarten and infant school for Dakuni Village



A big step forward for children in Dakuni Village, Beqa Island.

The groundbreaking for the village's first-ever kindergarten and infant school means young children will soon have access to early education right at home, no more long travel to Dakuibeqa Primary School.

Officiated by Assistant Minister for Youth and Sports, Hon. Alikhi Bia, the project highlights the importance of investing in education from an early age and ensuring children in rural communities are not left behind.

Photos: SUPPLIED



Minister Kiran calls for stronger pathways for women WIN Convention 2026



Minister for Women, Children and Social Protection, Sashi Kiran, is calling for stronger systems to help more Fijian women step into leadership roles.

Speaking at the close of the WIN Convention 2026, she made it clear: "It's not enough to celebrate the first woman—we must make it easier for the second, third, and hundredth to succeed."



Photos: SUPPLIED

NROC meeting strengthens indigenous voice

By MELI NAISELE

THE recent meeting of the National Resource Owners Committee (NROC) in Nadi has reinforced the critical role of indigenous communities in shaping environmental policy across Fiji.

The gathering brought together representatives from all 14 provinces, alongside senior government officials, including Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, permanent secretary Dr Sivendra Michael and his team.

Established under the Environment Management Act 2005, the NROC serves as a platform for resource-owning communities to provide advice to the National Environment Council on issues affecting land, water, and biodiversity.

The committee plays a vital role in ensuring that indigenous perspectives are included in national decision-making processes.

Speaking at the meeting, Panapasa Drevula, the “mata ni tikina” representative from Nawaka Village, Nadi emphasised the importance of balancing development with environmental protection.

“As Fiji continues with development and

projects, it is also important to protect our natural ecosystem and its resources,” he said.

Mr Drevula expressed gratitude to the Government, particularly the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, for organising the session and facilitating dialogue between provincial representatives and senior officials.

He noted that the outcomes of the meeting are expected to benefit communities at the grassroots level, especially in terms of awareness and outreach on environmental issues.

Mr Drevula also stressed the urgency of conservation efforts for future generations.

“There is a real need to safeguard our biodiversity now so that future generations of Fiji can continue to benefit from it,” he said.

At the occasion, he further acknowledged the government’s proactive approach toward sustainability, including support from partners and agencies that provide funding for environmental protection initiatives.

Mr Drevula called on all citizens to play their part in being responsible citizens when it comes to environmental protection.

“Protecting the environment is not only the government’s responsibility—it is ours as well as citizens of Fiji,” he added.



Permanent Secretary for Environment and Climate Change, Dr Sivendra Michael, answering questions and concerns raised by people. Photo: MELI NAISELE

Oceania Tourism set to add US\$112 billion and 1.1 million jobs by 2034



Members of the Vanuatu Tourism attending the South Pacific Tourism Exchange (SPTe) event in Nadi. Photo: MELI NAISELE

By MELI NAISELE

OCEANIA’S travel and tourism sector has the potential to inject an additional US\$112 billion (FJ\$252.8b) into the regional economy by 2034, with growth expected to support a further 1.1 million jobs.

This was according to a World Travel and Tourism Council report highlighted at the South Pacific Tourism Exchange (SPTe) in Nadi.

Speaking at the opening of the event, the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Tourism and Civil Aviation, Viliame Gavoka underscored the Pacific’s readiness to capitalise on the global tourism rebound, emphasising the region’s unique appeal and strategic direction.

“Two years ago, a World Travel and Tourism Council report highlighted that Oceania’s travel and tourism sector has the potential to inject an additional US\$112 billion into the regional economy by 2034. This growth could support a further 1.1 million jobs,” DPM Gavoka said.

“The Pacific continues to position itself as a destination defined by authenticity, value, and unique experiences, as global travel recovers, we are ready to re-engage

key markets with confidence.”

He noted that sustained growth in the tourism sector will depend not only on market development but also on resilience in the face of global challenges.

“Importantly, we recognise that effective crisis management is not separate from growth, it is central to it, strong response strategies build resilience, reassure investors, and support faster recovery across the region,” he said.

The SPTe plays a pivotal role in advancing these goals by fostering collaboration and business development across the region.

The occasion brought the world to the Pacific attaining global attention on the Pacific’s tourism industry.

“In just a few days, participants establish relationships, secure business opportunities, and showcase what our region has to offer achievements that would otherwise take months or even a year to accomplish,” DPM Gavoka said.

“Connectivity, local ownership, cultural pride and partnerships is no longer an option; it is a strategic imperative, aligning aviation and tourism is essential to driving growth, and improving access to global markets, as well as intra-Pacific connectivity.”

From field to family: A lifetime of tobacco farming sustains Nadroga farmer

By NANISE NEIMILA

FOR 60-year-old Watisoni Vatunitaukia of Nalebaleba in Nadroga, tobacco farming was more than just a livelihood—it is a legacy passed down through generations.

Standing on the same land his father once cultivated, Mr Vatunitaukia reflected on a journey that began in his childhood.

“I was still young when my dad cultivated our land and planted tobacco. I’m 60 years now and I am continuing with this tradition,” he shared.

What started as a family practice has evolved into a dependable source of income, shaping not only his life but the future of his family.

Over the years, Mr Vatunitaukia explored planting other crops, hoping for higher yields but soon discovered that bigger harvests did not always translate into better returns.

“I had come to realise that planting other crops and getting larger yields did not give us the value for our money,” he said.

In contrast, tobacco farming provided something many farmers struggle to secure—a reliable market.

“For tobacco, we already have a market. It has taught me to manage my time so I can plant more and enjoy the rewards of hard work.”

With discipline and experience, he has learned to maximise productivity, ensuring that every planting season contributes meaningfully to his household income.

Tobacco farming has played a vital role in supporting his family, particularly in meeting the cost of his children’s education.

“It has assisted me in taking care of my family, especially with my children’s education,” he said.

According to Mr Vatunitaukia, earnings from tobacco depends largely on the size of land cultivated and the level of investment put into production after taking into consideration the costs such as manure, land preparation and labour are taken into account.

“When we deduct the costs needed for planting, cultivating, and production, we can still make a good return. It depends on how much effort and land you put into it.”

His story was one of many being celebrated under the Star Farmer Programme, an



Watisoni Vatunitaukia reflects on how his childhood experiences helped shape his journey and success in tobacco farming. Photo: NANISE NEIMILA

initiative by British American Tobacco (BAT) Fiji that recognises outstanding farmers across the country.

BAT Fiji general manager, James Goldring, said the programme reflects the company’s long-term commitment to supporting Fiji’s agricultural sector and rural communities.

Mr Goldring added that BAT was partnering with local farmers and support initiatives that build capacity, improve productivity, and promote sustainable farming practices.

A total of 90 farmers were recognised at this year’s awards, including six platinum, 12 gold, and 72 silver recipients, underscoring the growing impact of the programme across Fiji.

“I want to encourage my fellow farmers to plant tobacco. It provides good revenue. Other crops may decline in the market, but tobacco remains stable,” he said.

For Mr Vatunitaukia, the fields of tobacco are more than rows of crops—they are a testament to resilience, tradition, and the enduring value of hard work.

The Government, through its Ministry of Agriculture, has also consistently highlighted the importance of agriculture and partnerships that strengthen farming opportunities for rural communities.

In recent collaborations with BAT Fiji, the Ministry has emphasised how joint efforts such as seedling programmes help improve yields, expand production capacity, and reduce reliance on imports.



New water tanks end long-standing crisis in Waica, Taveuni

By JACKSON TUVICI

THE people of Waica and surrounding areas in Taveuni are forever grateful for the assistance rendered to them by the Ministry of Health and Medical Services.

It was through the Ministry’s Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) Program, that residents are now free from water-related tensions after receiving new water tanks.

National WASH Program Coordinator, Toga Vosataki, said that annual visits are conducted to identify areas that need assistance.

“We conduct visitations throughout the country to inspect areas that really need this support and in doing so we are able to then release water tanks accordingly for a sole aim of trying to prevent communicable and infectious diseases,” Mr Vosataki said.

Since the 1950s, Waica has sourced its water from a neighbouring settlement through a Catholic Church-supported initiative.

However, the growing demand over the

years has led to recurring conflicts, as multiple communities depend on a single shared water source.

Waica resident, Polonia Raiova, said the ongoing water crisis has at times led to disputes within the community causing intermittent water supply to every household.

“We have been facing this issue since the 1950s, and because water is needed everywhere, the three settlements that share this water source sometimes end up in conflict. We get frustrated when someone turns off the main key line to the water source, causing two settlements to receive less water than the other,” Mrs Raiova said.

Residents of Waica expressed gratitude for the support received from the Government and the Ministry as the recent assistance has helped ease the burden.

The availability of water storage tanks now allows households to store water for essential uses such as cooking and drinking.

The Ministry visited other schools and communities in Taveuni to commission projects under their WASH Program.



Polonia Raiova stands next to the water tank provided by the Ministry of Health and Medical Services. Photo: JACKSON TUVICI

Aquaculture support boosts prawn farming in Labasa



Shofeen Bano's pond in Waidamudamu, Labasa, part of government push to boost local prawn production and slash import costs. Photo: JACKSON TUVICI

By JACKSON TUVICI

A 30-YEAR-OLD aquaculture farmer from Waidamudamu, on the outskirts of Labasa, has utilised Government support by venturing into prawn farming.

Shofeen Bano shared her experience, saying the idea of putting to use an abandoned pond on their land came from her husband.

The couple sought assistance from the Ministry of Fisheries to begin prawn farming.

It was through funding available under the \$250,000 Government assistance facility aimed at strengthening Fiji’s aquaculture sector that Mrs Bano received support to establish her farm.

The initiative aligns with the Ministry’s 10-year plan to increase local shrimp production to 1,000 metric tonnes by 2029 and reduce reliance on imports.

Mrs Bano began prawn farming in January 2026, noting that harvests can

be made within three months.

She said the work required was minimal, with the Ministry assisting in key processes, including harvesting.

“We started this prawn farming in January this year and it takes only three months before we can harvest to sell. The Ministry of Fisheries did everything for me and only I assist them in harvesting,” Mrs Bano said.

She added that prawn farming can generate around \$1,000 in income after expenses, which will help towards meeting the family’s land payment costs.

“Since we are still paying to clear the cost of our land, the income we get from prawn farming will help with payments,” Mrs Bano said.

The project aims to grow aquaculture by supporting small-scale farmers to transition into commercial operations while promoting better farming practices and stronger business skills.

Na Vualiku bringing new life to Vanua Levu



Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Tourism and Civil Aviation, Viliame Gavoka speaks in Parliament. Photo: SUPPLIED

By AZARIA FAREEN

A NEW chapter is unfolding in Vanua Levu, with the Fiji Government’s efforts to unlock the North beginning to turn long-standing challenges into real opportunities for communities.

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Tourism and Civil Aviation, Viliame Gavoka, speaking in Parliament last month, highlighted the significance of the Na Vualiku initiative, describing it as “a strategic response to decades of underinvestment that have limited the North’s full economic potential”.

“At the centre of this transformation is improved access - with runway upgrades already underway at Labasa Airport, the region is seeing one of its most important infrastructure developments in years,” DPM Gavoka relayed.

“For families, farmers, and small business owners, better connectivity means faster movement of goods, easier travel, and new economic possibilities. Improved access is not just an infrastructure achievement; it is a catalyst for opportunity across the North.”

“Supported by the World Bank, the Na Vualiku programme goes beyond aviation. It includes strengthening utilities, protecting the environment, and encouraging enterprise development. Importantly, it places communities at the heart of growth,” the Minister said.

The local people are being equipped with the skills and confidence to actively participate in the tourism sector through the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) Community-Based Tourism initiative.

From homestays to guided tours, communities are now able to share their culture and environment while generating income.

“Complementing this is the Pilot Tourism Micro and Small Enterprises Fund, which supports small operators in upgrading their facilities and improving visitor experiences. This ensures that growth is not only visible but also sustainable and locally owned,” DPM Gavoka highlighted.

“As access improves, confidence is also rising. Airlines are exploring new routes, investors are showing interest, and local businesses are planning with greater certainty.”

“For many in the North, this transformation is about more than infrastructure—it is about inclusion. It ensures that communities are no longer on the sidelines of development but are active participants in shaping their future,” he added.

With Na Vualiku gaining momentum, Vanua Levu is steadily positioning itself as a key contributor to Fiji’s economic growth, proving that when development is planned and inclusive, it can truly reach every corner of the nation.



Building Fiji as a regional hub: Fiji-Australia Business Mission in Cairns

INVESTMENT Fiji wrapped up its final forum of the Fiji-Australia Business Mission in Cairns.

Following the forums that was held in Melbourne and Adelaide, Cairns focused on key sectors like marine services, logistics, and tourism investment.

This forum was specifically designed to tap into the unique synergies between Fiji and Far North Queensland, bringing together logistics operators, port authorities, and real estate investors to explore high-level collaborations.

Increasing awareness of Investment Fiji's role was a priority, as Investment Fiji worked to educate the Cairns market on the strategic benefits of doing business in Fiji. Discussions highlighted high-value opportunities and building Fiji as a regional export hub for commercial agriculture and addressing the growing demand for hotel rooms and

affordable housing.

These conversations showed how expertise from Cairns can directly support Fiji's economic goals and import substitution efforts.

By strengthening our engagement with the diaspora and local investors, we are building a platform for long-term partnerships that extend beyond simple trade.

The connections have paved the way for new investment flows and a more integrated business environment between our two regions.

The delegation was led by Fiji's Minister for Finance, Commerce and Business Development, Esrom Immanuel, and the Assistant Minister, Sachida Nand was also part of the delegation.

(Source: Investment Fiji)



Products of Fiji on display. Photo: SUPPLIED

Launch signals proactive measures to respond to emerging issues

By NANISE NEIMILA

THE Ministry of Policing and Communications recently launched Strategic Plan 2025–2030, the National Cybersecurity and Resilience Strategy 2026–2031 and the National Cybersecurity Website. This marked a decisive step forward in advancing the Government's priorities of good governance, transparency, accountability, and national resilience.

These initiatives position Fiji to respond proactively to emerging security challenges in an increasingly complex global environment.

Prime Minister, Sitiveni Rabuka, who officiated at the launch, highlighted that the Strategic Plan reinforces ethical leadership and professionalism across the Ministry, recognising that public trust is fundamental to effective governance.

"The Strategic Plan provides a clear roadmap for strengthening Fiji's national security governance, today and into the future. It also advances a whole-of-government and whole-of-nation approach, ensuring security responses are coordinated, evidence-based, and aligned with national development priorities," PM Rabuka said.

The Strategic Plan sets out the Government's key priorities:

- Developing a secure digital economy
- Strengthening digital communications and cybersecurity capabilities
- Combating organised crime and illicit drugs
- Enhancing maritime and border security
- Strengthening community policing partnerships
- Modernising policing capabilities
- Protecting critical infrastructure and information
- Building ethical leadership across the Ministry, which will extend to the wider public service

The National Cybersecurity and Resilience Strategy demonstrates Fiji's forward-looking commitment to building a secure, inclusive, and resilient digital economy.

As financial systems, public services, and infrastructure become increasingly digitised, safeguarding these systems is essential for economic growth, efficient service delivery, and public confidence.

The Strategy establishes a coordinated national framework to:

- Strengthen cybersecurity governance
- Protect critical infrastructure



Prime Minister, Sitiveni Rabuka officiated at the launch of the Ministry of Policing and Communications' Strategic Plan 2025–2030, the National Cybersecurity and Resilience Strategy 2026–2031 and the National Cybersecurity Website. Photo: NANISE NEIMILA

- Enhance incident response capabilities
- Build national awareness and capacity

The National Cybersecurity Website provides a central platform for cybersecurity awareness and education, reporting cyber incidents, sharing security advisories, and supporting organisations and individuals to strengthen their digital security practices.

"No nation can address these challenges alone, Fiji values the continued support of its development partners, including Australia, Japan, the United Kingdom, and the United States, in strengthening our national capabilities."

The Government will continue to lead through policy, legislation, and institutional strengthening. However, lasting impact depends on the active participation of:

- Communities
- Traditional and faith-based leaders
- Civil society
- The private sector
- Every citizen

This collaboration is particularly important in addressing issues such as drug abuse, cyber awareness, and community safety.

"Our national security efforts are not only about protecting Fiji but also about contributing to a stable, secure, and resilient Pacific region," PM Rabuka said.

The launch was attended by members of the Diplomatic Corps, Members of Parliament, Cabinet Ministers, and key stakeholders.

Levuka residents take part in the draft NID Bill Consultation

By WANSHIKA KUMAR

LEVUKA residents gathered in the old capital this week to add their voices to Fiji's plan to roll out a national identification system aimed at improving access to services across the country.

Speaking during the Draft National Identification (NID) Bill consultation, Reserve Bank of Fiji chief manager Financial Markets, Petaia Tuimanu, said Fiji was not alone in making the shift.

"More than 90 countries have already adopted a foundational national ID system, and several of our neighbouring countries are also transitioning to digital identity platforms," Mr Tuimanu said.

He explained that the digital ID will support multiple sectors of the economy, improving efficiency and service delivery nationwide.

Mr Tuimanu assured that registration will not be compulsory, and the system will not require every Fijian to own or use a digital device.

"People without access to a smartphone or internet will still be able to use a physical identification card."

"Implementation will be supported by robust legislation to ensure trust, privacy and strong protections for all users."

He stressed that the initiative was long overdue, noting that "every moment of delay represents a missed opportunity for national progress."

One of the residents raised concerns about how the system would be implemented and whether individuals would be assigned identification numbers.

In response, Mr Tuimanu confirmed that each person will receive a unique identification number in line with international standards, along with other biometrics data.

Resident Diana Lomawai, 40, said the system could ease the burden of travel.

"Some of us have lost our IDs, and to sort it out we have to pay to travel to Suva. So, I strongly believe that this national identity system will be something that will be of advantage to those of us in the maritime islands," she said.

Vula Kido, 50, echoed similar sentiments, describing the initiative as a welcome development for outer island communities.

The Ministry of Policing and Communications, along with the Reserve Bank of Fiji, will continue to conduct consultations around Fiji, allowing more Fijians to take part in the nationwide discussion and help shape the future of identity in Fiji.

Key things to know:

- The National ID will be OPTIONAL
- An independent National ID Authority will manage the system
- Lost or stolen cards can be replaced



A staff member of Reserve Bank of Fiji speaks to Levuka residents who participated in the National Identification (NID) Bill consultation. Photo: WANSHIKA KUMAR



Scan this code to get updated public consultation dates and venues

Drug crisis threatens students

By SERAN DEVI

THE growing drug crisis is now impacting schools and students, raising national concern. Minister for Education Aseri Radrodro warned Parliament during his response to the President’s address that the issue was no longer a distant threat. “Fiji is facing a drug crisis. Not a distant threat — a present danger,” Minister Radrodro said. He highlighted that there were increasing reports of drug trafficking, including the use of school children as couriers. Minister Radrodro also highlighted rising addiction rates among young people and growing health concerns, including HIV cases

linked to drug use. “This is not just a law-and-order issue. This is a national survival issue.” Minister Radrodro said the response required coordination across multiple sectors, including education, health, law enforcement and communities. “This is not business as usual. This is a whole of nation mobilisation.” Measures being implemented include school-based awareness programs, counselling services, rehabilitation pathways and community outreach initiatives. He also called on parents, teachers and communities to work together to address the issue and protect young people.



Minister for Defence and Veteran Affairs, Pio Tikoduadua, seen here in a file photo during a handover of TruNarc and First Defender chemical analysers which are advanced devices that allows officials at the borders to detect narcotics, explosives, and hazardous substances swiftly and safely. Minister Tikoduadua has called the drug issue “most serious security challenges facing Fiji today”.
Photo: SUPPLIED

Drug threat among Fiji’s most serious security challenges – Tikoduadua

By NANISE NEIMILA

MINISTER for Defence and Veterans Affairs, Pio Tikoduadua, has labelled the growing threat of illicit drugs and transnational crime as among the “most serious security challenges facing Fiji today”. Speaking in Parliament in response to the address by the President, Ratu Naiqama Lalabalavu, during the opening of Parliament, Minister Tikoduadua said Fiji’s security landscape was evolving and now includes a range of non-traditional threats. Minister Tikoduadua said, while traditional security concerns remain important, the country must increasingly respond to challenges such as transnational organised crime, illicit drug trafficking, cybersecurity risks, people smuggling, and other criminal activities that operate across national borders. “These threats have real consequences for communities across Fiji,” he said. The Minister stressed that the spread of illicit drugs has become one of the most serious issues affecting many communities across the country. “The impact of drug abuse extends beyond criminal activity. It affects families, places pressure on our public health systems, and threatens the long-term wellbeing of our young people.” Minister Tikoduadua said addressing the problem requires a comprehensive national

response. Law enforcement agencies must continue strengthening their operational capabilities to disrupt criminal networks that facilitate the movement of drugs into the country. However, Minister Tikoduadua emphasised that strong families and responsible parenting remain the first line of defence against drug abuse. “Families and parents play a critical role in guiding young people and ensuring they grow up with the values, discipline, and support needed to avoid involvement in drugs and criminal activity,” he said. Minister Tikoduadua acknowledged that the Fiji Police Force carries the primary responsibility for law enforcement and continued support for the police remains essential as they strengthen their investigative capacity and operational effectiveness. He added that the evolving nature of security threats requires a flexible and coordinated national response capability. Consideration was currently being given to the development of a hybrid framework under which the Republic of Fiji Military Forces (RFMF) could support national authorities when specialised capabilities are required. Such arrangements, he said, would operate within the framework of the law and complement the work of civilian institutions, particularly the police.

Major reform to overhaul education system



Minister for Education, Aseri Radrodro, while addressing the Parliament recently.
Photo: SUPPLIED

By SERAN DEVI

THE country’s education system is set for its biggest transformation in more than six decades with the introduction of the Education Bill 2025. Minister for Education, Aseri Radrodro, told Parliament during his response to the President’s address that the new legislation would replace the existing 1966 law, describing it as outdated and no longer fit for purpose. “The 1966 Act belongs to a colonial era; it cannot serve a modern Fiji,” Minister Radrodro said. He said the Bill was “the most significant legislative reform in more than 60 years” and would reshape how education is delivered across the country. The proposed law will establish a National Curriculum and Assessment Authority and enforce compulsory education with greater accountability. It will also bring early childhood education, primary, secondary, Technical and Vocational Education and Training, and higher education under one regulatory framework. Minister Radrodro said the reforms would introduce provisions for home schooling and private schools while ensuring a future-focused curriculum. “This Bill is not just a legal document — it is the architecture of Fiji’s future.” The curriculum will incorporate emerging areas such as artificial intelligence, digital literacy, climate change, civic responsibility and

cultural identity. He said the reforms were part of broader efforts to modernise the education system and address long-standing structural challenges. Meanwhile, widespread learning gaps among students have been highlighted as a major concern, prompting urgent reforms in the education sector. Minister Radrodro said findings from the Fiji Education Commission revealed significant weaknesses in literacy and numeracy. “These findings justify the scale and urgency of our reforms,” he said. He told Parliament that more than 80 per cent of schools reported Year 4 students performing below mathematics standards. Nearly two-thirds of schools also reported Year 4 students below expected levels in reading and writing, while close to half of secondary schools reported Year 9 students below proficiency. Recent Literacy and Numeracy Assessment results showed improvement in literacy, with Year 5 increasing from 90 per cent to 95 per cent and Year 7 from 93 per cent to 95 per cent. However, numeracy performance remains a concern, with Year 5 results at 74 per cent and Year 7 declining from 83 per cent to 81 per cent. Minister Radrodro said the Government was implementing targeted strategies to improve numeracy outcomes. He added that the system must move towards a “Learning First” approach focused on critical thinking, problem solving and meaningful learning outcomes.



Bringing reliable water closer to every Fijian

By AZARIA FAREEN

FOR thousands of Fijian families, turning on a tap and seeing clean water flow is no longer a daily uncertainty—it is becoming a reliable reality, thanks to the Fiji Government’s investment in the water sector.

Speaking in the last Parliament sitting, the Minister for Public Works, Meteorological Services & Transport, Filipe Tuisawau, emphasised that “access to clean, safe, and reliable water is not merely an infrastructure concern; it is a fundamental right of our people.”

“Over the past three years, the Water Authority of Fiji has made notable strides in expanding access and in the 2022/2023 financial year alone, 3,308 new water connections and 204 wastewater connections were delivered, bringing long-awaited services to communities that had previously gone without,” he highlighted.

Major packaged water treatment plants also improved supply reliability for over 10,000 Fijians. “Progress continued into 2023/2024, with 31.57 kilometres of pipeline extensions completed, benefiting 47,350 people,” he added.

“Key projects such as the Korovouto–Veinuqa Upgrade and the Koronivia–Lokia Water Mains Project have strengthened water supply systems

in the Central Division, with the latter benefiting around 164,000 residents.”

“In rural areas, the impact has been life-changing. In Nadroga, the Vusama and Navisabasaba Village Water Project delivered 8.4 kilometres of pipeline, providing reliable tap water to 120 households for the first time,” the minister added.

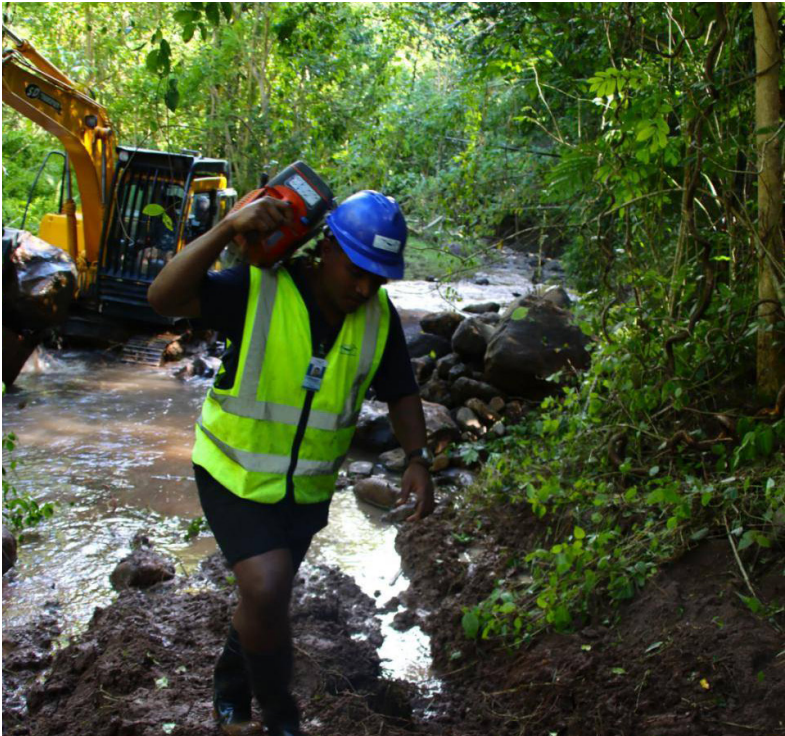
Across the country, 10 rural water projects brought safe water to 2,905 Fijians.

Government investment has remained strong as in 2024/2025, a \$259 million budget supported continued expansion, including 1,818 new water meters and major projects like the Nabouwalu Water Treatment Plant and the Varaqe–Saru Pipeline in Nadi, improving water security for 25,500 people.

Looking ahead, major developments such as the Elevated Princess Road Project and the Tamavua Modular Water Treatment Plant are set to deliver 24/7 supply to over 230,000 people in the Suva corridor.

Minister Tuisawau said that despite challenges such as climate change, ageing infrastructure, and rising demand, the Government continues to strengthen planning and resilience.

“These efforts reflect our unwavering commitment to upholding every citizen’s constitutional right to clean and safe drinking water.”



The Water Authority of Fiji (WAF) undertaking restoration works on sections of the raw water trunk mains conveying water from the Waiwai and Varaciva Dams to the Waiwai Water Treatment Plant in Ba. The Minister for Public Works, Meteorological Services & Transport, Filipe Tuisawau, emphasised that “access to clean, safe, and reliable water is not merely an infrastructure concern; it is a fundamental right of our people.”
Photo: SUPPLIED

Connecting communities and opportunities through better roads



The sealing of Legalega Road in Nadi has been completed, along with drainage improvement works. A total of 650 meters has been sealed, providing safer, and more reliable access for daily commuters, school children, and nearby residents. Minister for Public Works, Meteorological Services & Transport, Filipe Tuisawau, highlighted that infrastructure development is not just about roads and bridges, but about “progress that touches every Fijian household”. **Photo: SUPPLIED**

By AZARIA FAREEN

FROM busy urban streets to remote island roads, Fiji’s transport network is undergoing steady transformation—making daily life easier, safer, and more connected for thousands of families.

In delivering his Parliamentary address, Minister for Public Works, Meteorological Services & Transport, Filipe Tuisawau, highlighted that infrastructure development is not just about roads and bridges, but about “progress that touches every Fijian household.”

He highlighted that in the 2024/2025 financial year, the Fiji Roads Authority invested \$371 million in capital works, completing more than 125 kilometres of road surfacing. Key upgrades in Suva, including Rewa Street, Princes Road, and Laucala Bay Road, have improved traffic flow. At the same time, works in Nadi—such as Main Street and Wailoaloa Road—have supported tourism and local businesses.

“Development has also extended beyond urban centres. Road upgrades across islands, including Lakeba, Moala, Koro, Gau, Vanuabalavu, Rotuma, Cicia, and Matuku, have improved access for

over 15,000 households,” he said.

“These upgrades mean farmers can get produce to market faster, students can travel safely to school, and families can access healthcare more easily.”

“Major infrastructure projects are also shaping the future, such as the Tamavua I Wai Bridge, supported by a \$70 million grant, which is expected to strengthen a key transport corridor, while the \$13 million Rewa Vutia Road and Bridge project is moving into construction.”

“In the Western Division, ongoing works across Rakiraki, Lautoka, Nadi, Tavua, and Vatukoula are improving road safety and durability,” Minister Tuisawau added.

Meanwhile, maritime upgrades, including jetties and solar lighting installations, are enhancing connectivity for island communities.

Looking ahead, the \$300 million Vanua Levu China Road Project is progressing towards contractor bidding, promising further improvements in connectivity.

The Government continues to prioritise resilience, with Minister Tuisawau noting, “our mandate is clear: to deliver safe, reliable, and climate resilient infrastructure.”

Energy sector investment powers lives and expands prospects



The Minister for Public Works, Meteorological Services and Transport, Ro Filipe Tuisawau, recently commissioned the Navatusila Grid Extension Project, marking a major milestone in the Government’s commitment to inclusive development and equitable access to essential services. **Photo: SUPPLIED**

By AZARIA FAREEN

ACROSS Fiji, access to reliable electricity is opening doors—from lighting homes in remote villages to supporting businesses and essential services.

Minister for Public Works, Meteorological Services & Transport, Filipe Tuisawau, described energy security as “a national priority for economic growth and community wellbeing.”

“Significant progress has been made in expanding access, noting that during the 2024/2025 financial year, the Government invested \$12.7 million to extend 50 grid schemes, benefiting 1,232 households nationwide,” he said.

“At the same time, a \$14 million initiative delivered 1,000 Solar Home Systems, providing clean energy to nearly 5,000 Fijians in rural and remote areas,” he highlighted.

“These efforts align with the National Energy Policy, which aims to achieve full electricity access by 2026, 100 per cent renewable electricity generation by 2036, and a 36 per cent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2035.”

“Further progress is already underway. For 2025/2026, \$10 million has been allocated

for 29 new grid extension schemes, while \$2.5 million is supporting Solar Home Systems for 1,800 households. As of February 2026, 462 households have already benefited from this initiative,” Minister Tuisawau added.

In remote regions, innovative solutions are making a difference. Under the Fiji Rural Electrification Fund, solar hybrid systems are being installed in Yacata, Kioa, and Yadrana, with completion expected by December 2026, and additional projects are planned for 17 more sites.

Minister Tuisawau acknowledged and thanked the international partnerships, which are also strengthening the sector. The LAKARO Project will upgrade solar systems in Lakeba, Kadavu, and Rotuma, while support from development partners is advancing the Buca Hydro Power Project and a solar mini-grid in Tiliva Village.

“While challenges such as supply chain pressures and workforce capacity remain, the Government is focused on building resilience.”

Minister Tuisawau emphasised that these investments are about ensuring “a more resilient, efficient, and responsive energy sector” for all Fijians.



Employment reforms central to tackling poverty: Minister Singh



Minister for Employment, Productivity and Workplace Relations, Agni Deo Singh, on his way to the Parliamentary Chambers.
Photo: SUPPLIED

By SERAN DEVI

MORE than \$795,000 in unpaid wages was recovered for Fijian workers over the past seven months as the Government strengthened labour standards to address poverty and household hardship. Speaking in Parliament in response to the President’s Address, Minister for Employment, Productivity and Workplace Relations, Agni Deo Singh, said employment reforms remained one of the most direct ways to improve the livelihoods of Fijian families.

“In the last seven months, my Ministry has settled 484 complaints with a total recovery of more than \$795,000 unpaid wages for affected workers,” Minister Singh said.

He said strengthening labour protections and expanding access to decent work remained central to addressing the financial pressures many households faced.

“Work remains the most sustainable pathway out of poverty. However, work must be accessible, safe, fairly paid, and protected by law.”

Minister Singh said the Government had also increased the national minimum wage from \$4.00 to \$5.00 between 2024 and

2025 as part of efforts to respond to rising living costs.

“In this context, wage policy must respond responsibly to cost-of-living pressures.”

He added that the reinstatement of tripartite wage councils would ensure wages continued to be reviewed through consultation between Government, employers and worker representatives.

Labour mobility programmes were also contributing significantly to household incomes.

Minister Singh said more than 2,000 Fijians had participated in the Pacific Australia Labour Mobility (PALM) and Recognised Seasonal Employer (RSE) schemes in 2025.

“Remittances from these programs surpassed one billion dollars, directly supporting families through household expenses, education, housing, healthcare and small business investment.”

The Ministry had strengthened pre-departure training and in-country support mechanisms while expanding reintegration pathways so returning workers could apply their skills and experience within Fiji’s economy.

Minister Singh also highlighted the Family Accompaniment Pilot Program under the PALM scheme, which allowed workers to bring their families with them overseas.

“Since its introduction in 2024, about 90 Fijian families have participated in the programme.”

“This initiative reduces the social strain of long-term separation and supports family wellbeing.”

The Ministry was also working to expand employment access across the country through inclusive labour market initiatives.

“We are expanding employment access across rural, maritime and urban communities through job fairs, structured attachments and volunteer programmes.”

At the same time, key legislative reforms were underway to strengthen worker protections and improve workplace safety.

Minister Singh said the Employment Relations (Amendment) Bill 2025 and the Work Care Bill 2025 would modernise Fiji’s employment framework.

Govt progressing constitutional review, says Minister Turaga



Acting Attorney-General and Minister for Justice, Siromi Turaga, with the Minister for Information, Environment and Climate Change, Lynda Tabuya, on their way to the Parliamentary Chambers.
Photo: SUPPLIED

By SERAN DEVI

THE Acting Attorney-General and Minister for Justice Siromi Turaga has reaffirmed Government’s commitment to constitutional reform and national security.

Speaking in response to the President’s address at the opening of the 2026 session of Parliament, Minister Turaga said the Constitution remained the supreme law of the nation and that any review process must reflect the will and realities of the people of Fiji.

“A Constitution is not an ordinary statute. It is the supreme law and establishes the architecture of the State. It distributes power, protects rights and defines the relationship between the people and the Government.”

Minister Turaga said Fiji’s constitutional journey had evolved through several phases, noting that the country had experienced four successive constitutions, each shaped by the historical circumstances of its time.

“And as these things change with time and situations, the Constitution becomes a living instrument and must endure and also adapt.”

He said discussions around constitutional reform had grown in recent years through civic engagement, parliamentary debate and institutional processes.

Minister Turaga noted that Parliament had previously debated the Constitution

(Amendment) Bill 2025, although it did not secure the required majority support.

“But its introduction demonstrated something important – that elected representatives were prepared to engage directly with constitutional questions where they believed reform was necessary.”

He said the Government had also referred key constitutional questions to the Supreme Court when uncertainty arose about interpretation and amendment procedures.

“That is how the separation of powers is meant to operate, to address constitutional uncertainty, we must submit to the rule of law. We do not step outside the constitutional system.”

He said Cabinet had approved the establishment of a Constitution Review Commission to gather views from citizens across the country.

“In addition, a draft National Referendum Bill 2025 has been prepared and is currently before the relevant Parliamentary Standing Committee.”

“This Bill is a critical enabling measure as it establishes the legal framework necessary to conduct any national referendum, including one required under the Constitution for its amendment.”

Minister Turaga said the Government’s approach to constitutional review was guided by three key principles.

“Respect for democratic constitutionalism, adherence to the rule of law and meaningful public participation remain the foundation of this process.”

Aviation Master Plan and legislative reforms strengthen Fiji’s growth

By AZARIA FAREEN

AS Fiji continues to grow its tourism and aviation sectors, a strong foundation is being built to ensure that progress is not only rapid but sustainable and well-regulated.

The Minister for Tourism and Civil Aviation, Viliame Gavoka, outlined how the Civil Aviation Master Plan and ongoing legislative reforms are working together to

shape the future of connectivity in Fiji.

“Aviation is a driver for tourism growth. One cannot exist without the other.”

“The Civil Aviation Master Plan—Fiji’s first integrated aviation roadmap—sets out a clear direction for airport upgrades, airspace management, and safety systems. It ensures that infrastructure keeps pace with increasing visitor numbers while maintaining high standards,” DPM Gavoka said.

“Among the forward-looking initiatives is a

feasibility study for airport development in the Yasawa region. This project will assess long-term access needs, environmental considerations, and economic viability, ensuring that any future investment is both strategic and sustainable,” he highlighted.

“At the same time, plans to revamp Gau Airport aim to accommodate larger aircraft, opening new pathways for tourism and economic activity in the Lomaiviti Group.”

“While infrastructure is being strengthened, equal focus is being placed on governance.

The revised Civil Aviation Bill, now nearing completion, will modernise the regulatory framework and ensure compliance with international standards”.

In addition, new tourism legislation will establish a unified system for industry standards and sustainability, reinforcing Fiji’s reputation as a trusted destination.

The proposed Commercial Use of Marine Areas Bill is also under consultation, addressing long-standing issues around marine resource management and providing greater certainty for sustainable commercial use.

DPM Gavoka also highlighted the importance of informed decision-making, particularly for young Fijians aspiring to enter the aviation industry.

“Obtaining a Commercial Pilot Licence is an important achievement, but it does not automatically guarantee employment,” he noted, urging careful planning and understanding of the industry.

“Together, these reforms and plans create a balanced approach—where infrastructure growth is supported by strong governance. It ensures that Fiji’s aviation and tourism sectors continue to expand with confidence, integrity, and long-term vision,” the Minister added.



Cabinet endorsed the Civil Aviation Master Plan and Implementation Plan for Fiji 2026–2031. Photo: SUPPLIED

Fiji

FOCUS

Constitution review - important step towards strengthening Fiji's democracy



The President, Ratu Naiqama Lalabalavu with the seven-member Constitutional Review Commission (CRC), Chief Justice, Salesi Temo, Speaker of Parliament, Filimone Jitoko, Cabinet Ministers and Members of Parliament after the swearing-in of the CRC commissioners at State House. **Photo: NANISE NEIMILA**

By NANISE NEIMILA

A SEVEN-MEMBER Constitutional Review Commission (CRC) chaired by seasoned lawyer Sevuloni Valenitabua was recently sworn-in by the President, Ratu Naiqama Lalabalavu at State House. The issuance of the Presidential Warrant establishing the Commission and the swearing-in of the members of the Commission marked the beginning of the constitutional review process. The CRC includes Ami Kohli, Professor Unaisi Nabobo-Baba, Dr Neelesh Gounder, Merewalesi Nailatikau, Dr John Fatiaki and Conway Beg. The review is an important step towards strengthening Fiji's democracy and improving the nation's governance. The commission will submit its Final Report to the President by August 31, 2026 and after Cabinet, it will be tabled in Parliament. Prime Minister, Sitiveni Rabuka,

Speaker of Parliament, Filimone Jitoko, the Chief Justice Salesi Temo, Cabinet Ministers; and family members of the CRC Commissioners attended the ceremony. The establishment of the commission reflects Government's commitment to ensuring that the supreme law, the Constitution reflects the needs and aspirations of its people. The commission's work will also address observations made by the Supreme Court of Fiji regarding democratic shortcomings in the 2013 Constitution. The commission will inquire into these concerns by consulting the public, receiving and analysing submissions, and reporting its findings and recommendations to the President. The review process aims to help shape a Constitution that reflects the wishes and needs of the people of Fiji and strengthens the country's democratic governance. The commission will be supported by

a secretariat and constitutional law experts with an allocation of \$1 million.

The commissioners

Mr Valenitabua has worked as a senior barrister and solicitor admitted to practice in Fiji, Solomon Islands, Nauru and Australia as well as served as a Commissioner of the Fiji Human Rights Commission, legal counsel in the Public Defender's Office in the Solomon Islands, and Director of the Public Defender's Office in Nauru. Mr Kohli is a Labasa based senior lawyer and Principal of Kohli & Singh law firm, with more than 40 years of experience in legal practice and governance. He has served as a member of Fiji's Electoral Commission. Dr Fatiaki, who currently serves as managing director of Epworth Clinic in Suva, is a distinguished medical practitioner with nearly four decades of experience in both public and private

healthcare.

Prof. Nabobo-Baba, the current Vice-Chancellor of Fiji National University, is an internationally recognised education and development specialist with more than 35 years of academic and leadership experience. Dr Gounder holds a Ph.D in Economics from Griffith University, is a senior lecturer in economics at the University of the South Pacific and has served as Chief Policy Advisor to the Fiji Government. Ms Nailatikau is a public policy and communications specialist with more than 15 years of experience in stakeholder engagement, strategic communication and research across the Pacific. Mr Beg is a distinguished Fijian architect and Principal of Conway Architects in Suva, recognised for his innovative design and master planning work across the Pacific.

Noda WITANI

Veivakadeitaki na matanitu ni se tiko na waiwai, sa kerei meda tiko vakacegu

2

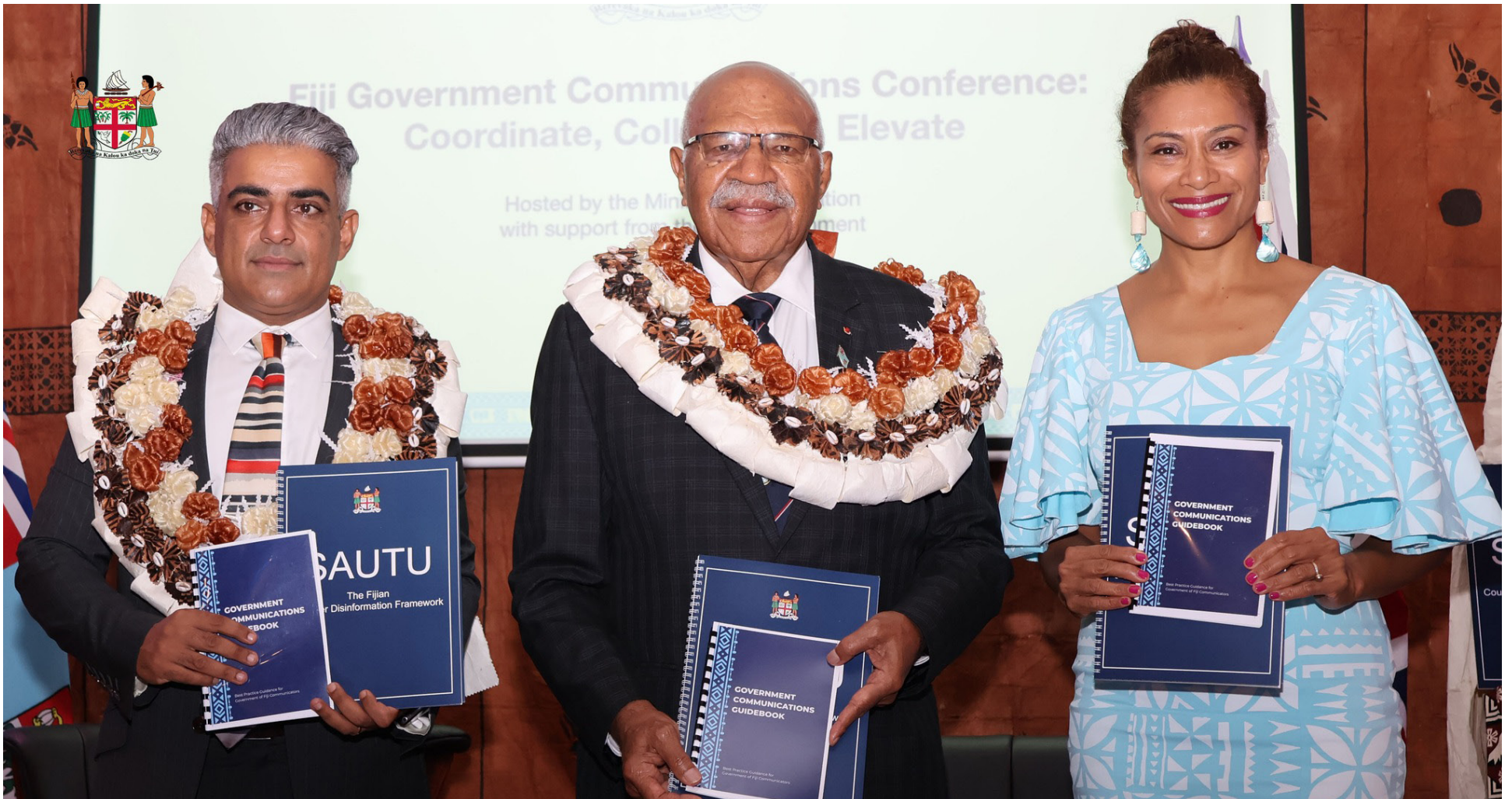
Ra cavuisausau na Marama ena Vakayagataki Qele

6

Era na Talaci Vakamatani na iTaukei Naisogolaca.

7

Sevu ni Bose ni Dauvolaitukutuku ni Matanitu



Na mata ni Veimataki nei Peritania e Viti Kanbar Hossein Bar, Na iliuli ni noda matanitu Hon Sitiveni Rabuka, ka vaka kina na Minisita ni Tabana ni Tukutuku ni Matanitu Hon Lynda Tabuya ena soqo ni kena mai tavoci na SAUTU me baleta na daunivolaitukutuku ena noda vanua ka vakayacori e Suva. Taba :Wanshika Kumar.

Vola ko WATISONI BUTABUA

Edaidai e a mai dolava kina ena GPH e Suva, na iliuli ni noda matanitu Prime Minisita Hon Sitiveni Rabuka na isevu ni bose levu ni dauvolaitukutuku ni veitabana vakamatani, na Fiji Government Communications Conference. E vakarautaka na minisitiri ni tukutuku ni matanitu ka cakacaka vata kei na tabana ni vakau itukutuku ni matanitu o Peretania kei na kena matanitu Na dua na siga ni bose oqo ,era mai tiko kina na dauvola itukutuku mai veitabana vakamatani, kei ira na dau vakaitukutuku ni matanitu, mera mai veitalanoataka ka veiwaseitaka ka veivuke talega ena gaunisala me toso kina ki liu na matanitu ena cakacaka ni veisemati kei na vakau itukutuku.

“Edaidai au gole mai meu mai vakaraitaka ni sega ni rawa ni toso duadua na matanitu, kevaka e sega ni rawa ni vakadewataki se vakau

na kena itukutuku.

Ena gauna esa na matata kina vei ira na lewenivanua, na veika esa qarava tiko na matanitu ka vaka kina na vuna e qaravi tiko kina na kena cakacaka, esa na rawarawa sara vei ira mera sema ka vakabauta ka vakaitavi ena bula galala ni veiliutaki kei na kena sasaga.”

Dina ga ni vakavinavinakataki na totolo ni kena dau vakau kei na kena vakadewataki na itukutuku, e kaya na iLiuli ni Matanitu, ni dau vakatovolei na nodra veivakabauti na lewenivanua kei na ivakatagedegede ni tukutuku e vakadewataki ka rogoci.

“Ena veiyasa ni bula taucoko e vuravura, edau saga na matanitu me vakadeitaka tiko na veivakabauti kei na nodra yalodei na lewenivanua. Eda vakatovolei ena veisiga mai vei ira era dau vakalolovirataka ka dusia na cakacaka ni matanitu, ka ra dau laki veisautaka tale na itukutuku esa dau vakadewataki tiko vei ira.

“Na vakau itukutuku, esa dodonu

me dau vakadewataki vakadodonu ena veigaunisala taucoko sara ni vakau itukutuku, ka vaka kina ena noda itikotiko taucoko sara.”

Na bose talega oqo esa mai tavo kina erua na ituvatua lelevu ni veiqaravi:

Me vaka na ivola dusidusi ni kena dau saqati vakaukauwa na itukutuku cala na SAUTU Counter-Disinformation Framework, ka sa toqai vakamatata koto kina na ivakadewa ni tuvatuva ni cakacaka mai Peretania ka dodonu me na mai vakadadamuri talega e Viti.

Ka vaka kina na ivola dusidusi ni cakacaka ni dau vakau itukutuku ni matanitu na Government Communication Guidebook ka vakarautaki koto kina na ivakatagedegede ni cakacaka kei na kena idusidusi mera na dau vakamura na dau vakau kei ira na dau vola itukutuku ni matanitu.

E vakaraitaka na Prime Minister ni yaca ni ivola dusidusi na SAUTU, e isasabai ni kena vakadodonutaki na itukutuku cala, vakabibi ena

gauna eda sa donumaka tu oqo ka vaka kina ni da vakanamata tiko yani kina na noda veidigidigi levu.

“Me vaka ni sa voleka tiko mai na Veidigidigi Levu, esa na levu sara na itukutuku eda na rogoca. Era na tiko eso era na veivakayavalati, era rawa ni ra vakavu tatawasewase, ka ra saga mera na vakamalumalumutaka na nodra veivakabauti na lewenivanua ena veitabana taucoko sara.

E dodonu meda na tu Vakarau. Sega ni dodonu meda taqaya. Ia, meda Vakarau tikoga.

E vakaraitaka na iLiuli ni Matanitu, ni nodra itavi na dau vola itukutuku ni veitabana vakamatani mera isema ni matanitu kei ira na lewenivanua.

Ia, e vakamatatataka o Kanbar Hossein Borna Matani Veimataki nei Peretania e Viti, ni nodra veiqaravi vinaka na dauvola itukutuku kei na dau vakau itukutuku ni veitabana vakamatani edua na inuinui nuitaki ni veiqaravi ni cakacaka ni matanitu.



TUKUTUKU RARABA NI MATANITU-BALETA NA WAIWAI

Ni sa bula vinaka.

Ena bogi edaidai, Au na vosa tiko vei kemuni ena dua na leqa ka sa tarai keda taucoko tiko na lewenivanua... oya na waiwai.

Mai na veiyasai vuravura, e yaco tiko na tiko yavavala kei na duidui ena Tokalau e Loma, ka okati tiko kina o Irani, Isireli kei Amerika.

Sa qai levu tikoga na kena ca, ka na rawa ni ca vakalevu sara.

E dua na kauwai levu, sai koya na wasawasa qiqo ni veisokoyaki ni waqa ka vakatokai na Strait of Hormuz.

Dua na iwase levu ni waiwai e vuravura e takosova tiko na wasawasa qiqo oya.

Ena gauna e dau yaco kina na duidui, e laki tara na isau ni waiwai ka vaka kina na kena vakau ki na veiyasai vuravura.

O ni na taroga se cava e kauwai kina o Viti?

E rawarawa sara na kena isau.

O Viti e vakanuinui tikoga ena waiwai mai vanuatani.

E sega ni vakarautaki vakalevu ena noda vanua.

Ena gauna e tao kina na vakau mai ni waiwai, eda na mai vakila, ena tubu ni isau kei na bolebole ni kena vakau mai na waiwai.

Ya na vuna sa cakacakataki koya kina na matanitu.

Sega walega ni baleta na veika esa yaco tiko edaidai, ia, e baleta ni dodonu meda vakarau kevaka ena mani ca vakalevu sara.

Taumada au na tekivu ena noqu vakamacalataka na veika eda sa kila tiko.

Ena gauna qo, e se tiko na waiwai e Viti.

Na kena vakau mai ese daumaka tiko ena gauna oqo, ka se tiko na waiwai ena veiyasai Viti.

Au via vakamatatataka

Ni sega ni se lailai na waiwai ena gauna oqo.

Ia, na leqa sa ikoya na isau ni waiwai.

Ena imatai ni Epereli, esa tubu kina na isau ni waiwai e Viti.

O ni taroga se cava na vuna e toso cake kina na kena isau, dina ga ni se levu tu na waiwai?

Na kena isau oqo.

Na veikabani ni waiwai e dodonu mera voli waiwai tikoga ena veivula.

Na isau ni waiwai o ni sauma tiko edaidai e sega walega ni mai waiwai ka sa tiko rawa ena noda vanua, ia, e boroya edua na iyaloyalo, ni na tubu na isau ni waiwai e voli tiko mai.

Baleta na tiko yavavala e yaco tiko ena Tokalau e Loma, kei na tao ni nodra veitosoyaki na waqa, e tubu totolo sara

kina na isau ni waiwai e vuravura.

Dua na kena ivakaraitaki, na isau ni waiwai e tubu mai na \$95/dua na dramu ki na \$230/dua na dramu ena dua na gauna lekaleka ga oqo.

E kena ibalebale ni waqa ka sa gole tiko mai oqo ki Viti, esa na tubu tale na kena isau.

Kevaka ena sega ni dua tale na veisau ena veika esa yaco tiko e vuravura,ia, ena tubu cake tale na kena isau.

Ni se tikoga na waiwai edaidai, sa tubu talega na kena isau.

Ya na vuna e dodonu meda sa qarauna na kena vakayagataki.

E tiko tale na veika eso eda se bera tiko ni kila.

Eda sega tiko ni se kila na levu ni waiwai ena vakau mai ena loma ni vica tale na vula mai oqo vakabibi ena vula o Me, kei na Jiune.

Eda sega talega ni lewa na veika e yaco tiko e vuravura, na duidui, na waiwai kei na soko ni waqa.

Eda sega ni kila na veika ena yaco.

Ya na vuna e dodonu meda sa caka-cakataki keda ka tu Vakarau.

Na cava sa cakava tiko na matanitu?

Sa davo tiko edua na ituvatuva na Fiji National Fuel Emergency Action Plan.

Oqo na kena ituvatuva yadudua, ka na idusidusi ena iwalewale ni veika me vakayacori ke yaco na veisau.

E dodonu me matata na noda ituvatuva, ka kakua ni tuvatuva ena dua na ka e vakanananutaki wale tu ga.

Eda sa tiko oqo ena imatai ni ituvatuva.

E rawarawa sara, e se tiko na waiwai ka sivia na 50 na pasede na kena levu.

Ia, e dodonu meda maninitaka na kena vakayagataki.

Ese tiko na waiwai, ia, esa tubu ga na kena isau, ka da sega ni kila na veika ena yaco tarava.

E rawarawa sara na veika meda na cakava

Maninitaka na vakayagataki waiwai.

Ena tomana tikoga na Matanitu na nona veivakadeitaki vei kemuni na lewenivanua, ena veivakauqeti meda volivoli vakarauta, kua na veitosoyaki vakaveitalia, ka da cakacaka vata kei ira na veimatanitu mai vanuatani.

Au sa kerei kemuni yadudua sara mo ni veivuke ena :

Na vakayagataki ni dua ga na lori ena vanua eda vakaitikotiko kina

Vakayagataki na basi me sala ni veito-soyaki

Vakalailaitaki na veitosoyaki

Qarauni ni vakayagataki livaliva

Vakalevutaki ni bose ena mona livaliva se cakacaka tu ga e vale ke gadrevi vaka kina.

Sa na liutaka sara ga na matanitu na

ituvatuva oqo.

Sa tu Vakarau na matanitu me vakalailaitaka na nona veitosoyaki, ka vaka kina na vakalailaitaki ni lori ni matanitu e vakayagataki.

Kevaka ena sega ni veisau na veika e yaco tiko, ka lutu sobu na iyalayala ni waiwai ena maliwa ni 40 ki na 50 na pasede, eda na taura na ikalawa ka tarava.

Oqo na kena sa na vakaukauwataki me vakalailaitaki na vakayagataki waiwai, ka da maroroya me baleta na siga ni mataka.

Oqo ena rawa ni wili kina na vakalailaitaki ni wiliwili ni lori ni matanitu era vakayagataki, na vakalailaitaki ni veitosoyaki ni sa oti na gauna ni cakacaka, na toso sobu me va na siga ni cakacaka ena dua na macawa, na toso sobu me va na siga ni vuli, ka ra na vakauqeti na daunibisinisi mera na vakamuria talega.

Eda sa na rawa ni vakarautaki keda ena kena wasewasei na vakayagataki waiwai.

Kevaka e sa lutu toso tale na iyalayala ni waiwai ena maliwa ni 30 ki na 40 na pasede, eda sa na taura tale na ikalawa ka tarava.

Sa na rawa ni yalani na levu ni waiwai e rawa ni vakayagataki, lokuci edua na siga me gauna ga ni vakatawa waiwai, digitaki ga na siga ni veitosoyaki, ka me levu era cakacaka mai vale, kei na vakalailaitaki ni gauna ni veiqaravi.

Na takete e rawarawa sara, me kakua ni tao na veiqaravi e yaga raraba.

Valenibula

Lori

Wai

Livaliva

Leqa tubukoso

Kevaka esa na dreka sobu sara na iyalayala ni waiwai, ka lailai sobu mai na 20 na pasede, esa na toso ki na kalawa ka tarava oya na tiko leqa.

Ena gauna oya, esa na vakayagataki ga na waiwai me baleti na veiqaravi bibi.

Ena qarauni matua sara, vakalailaitaki ni veiqaravi ni veitabana vakamatanitu, ka vakatabui na veitosoyaki ni lori.

Dodonu me matata tiko, eda sega ni se tiko ena ituvatuva oya ena gauna oqo.

Ia, e dodonu meda vakavakarau.

Na noda vakatulewa ena vakatau ena iyalayala ni waiwai.

Ena gauna e levu mai kina na waiwai, meda na wanonova matua sara.

Kevaka ena lutu, eda vakalailaitaki na kena vakayagataki

Ke sa mani lutu sobu sara, esa na wase-wasei

Ke sa mani lutu sobu sara, esa na qai toso ki na ituvatuva ni tiko leqa.Oqo

me na qarauni tikoga kina ni kalawa eda toso kina me veiraurau, matata, ka yavutaki ena itukutuku dina.

Ena dau vakasavui tiko yani na kena itukutuku.

Ena dau matata na kena itukutuku, me dina, me kua kina na taqaya.

Ena vakayagataki na raitio, raitio ya-loyalo, mona livaliva kei na veivakara-ramataki.

Ena dau saqati vakaukauwa na itukutuku lasu.

Na itukutuku raraba ka tarava ena qai vakaraitaki tale yani ni sa oti na kena railesuvi na veika sa yaco ena Vukelulu na ika 8 ni siga ni Epereli.

Vei kemuni na lewenivanua

Sa vakaraitaki tiko yani qo me kua na taqaya, ka da yadrava na noda itavi...

Kau sa vakavinavinaka kina vei Kemuni.

Ena gauna oqo, na ka bibi eda rawa ni cakava sa ikoya:

Me toso tikoga na noda voli waiwai ena ivalavala sa dau matau tu mai vei keda

Kua na veitosoyaki vakaveitalia.

Da kila na veika esa yaco tiko

Ka da vakayacora eso na veisau me maroroi kina na waiwai

Na veika lalai taucoko eda cakava, ena dau basika kina na veisau vinaka.

Sa da vakamatautaka rawa tiko yani oqo, me rawa ni vukei keda ena vakilai ni waiwai ena dua na gauna e muri.

Esa na liu tiko na Matanitu,

Sa na vakalailaitaki na veitosoyaki, lewai vakamatau na vakayagataki ni lori, ka vakayacori na bose ena vakayagataki ni monalivaliva.

Sa na qarauni vakamatau na iyau ni matanitu kei na kena itavi.

Vei kemuni na lewenivanua

E sega ni gauna meda taqaya kina

Sa gauna ga ni vakavakarau.

Kevaka eda cakacakataki keda rawa oqo,da vakadeitaki keda, ka da caka-caka vata, ena rawa ni lakocuruma na mataqali draki vaka oqo o Viti.

Ena dau wanonova matua o Viti, na veika esa yaco tiko, ka na dau vakasalataki kemuni na lewenivanua.

Ena gauna oqo au sa kerea na nomuni veimasulaki.

Me masulaki na noda vanua

Me masulaki na tiko sautu ena noda vuravura

Ka da masulaka me yaco na tiko sautu ena Tokalau e Loma .

Da qaqarauni, Da maroroya na noda Vuvale, ka da dau veinanumi.

Meda duavata ena ilakolako qo.

Vinaka vakalevu.



VEIKA E VAKADONUI ENA BOSE YACO

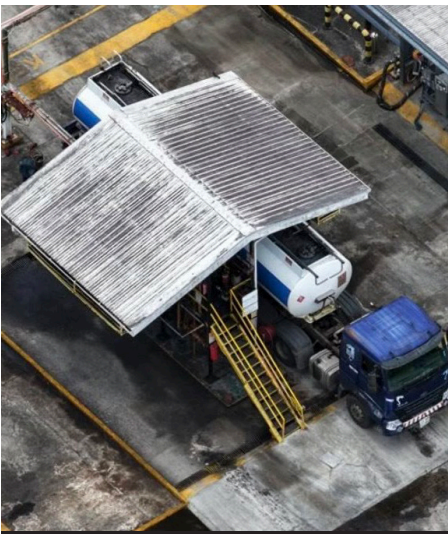
Esa qarauna na matanitu na ikalawa me toso kina ena kena laveti cake tikoga na kena qarauni me maroroi tiko e levu na waiwai e Viti me rawa ni dau veisotavi ke leqa na kena makete e vuravura.

Sa lewa na Boseyaco me buli na kena lawa me tokona na mataqali gauna vaka oqo, ka me okati tiko kina na kena wa-sei vakamatau na waiwai ka mera na nanumi tiko na veiqaravi yaga raraba kei na veicakacaka bibi tale eso ke ga-drevi vaka kina.

Ena kena gadrevi me taladrodro na veiqaravi oqo, e sa vakadonuya talega na Boseyaco na:

- Digitaki ni Vunivola Tudei ni Caka-caka, Draki kei na Veilakoyaki me lewa na kena Soli na Waiwai.
- Digitaki ni Komiti ni Veivakasalataki ni Waiwai se Fuel Advisory Committee, ka mera na lewena na Vunivola Tudei ni veitabana vakamatanitu.
- Digitaki edua na Komiti Lailai ni Va-kavure kaukauwa Vakalivaliva- mai na Boseyaco, me na dau raica na gagagaca ni veiqaravi ena vakavure kaukauwa vakalivaliva, ka me na veivakasalataki tiko.

Na ituvatuva oqo me na dau wanonova na leqa e basika ena Tokalau e loma ni



Vuravura, kei na veiveisau e yaco tiko ena makete ni volitaki waiwai e vura-vura, ka rawa ni vakataotaka na kena veikauyaki na waiwai e vuravura ka vaka kina na kena isau.

Sa vakayaco veitalanoa oti na matanitu ena kena vakau mai na waiwai ka na rawa ni mai tauri keda tiko ena loma ni 3 tale na vula mai oqo.

Esa na tomana tikoga na matanitu na kena wanonovi matua na veika sa yaco tiko e vuravura, okati tiko kina na usani mai ni waiwai, ka vaka kina na kena ivakarau ena kena tobu e Viti.

Sa na sega tale vakadua na vodo Bilibili



Ena dua na gauna balavu, o ira na wekada mai na Korolevu ena Tikina o Navatu ena loma ni Yasana o Cakaudrove, era dau vakanuini tu ga ena Bilibili, ke sega sa ra na qalo kosova ga na uciwai oya ki tai kadua ena kena laki qaravi na veicakacaka yaga eso.Ena gauna ni taubi ni uca esa na dautubu na iyalay-ala ni wai, ka ra sa leqataka vakalevu ka ni ririkotaki na bula ni na rawa ni yaco kina na vakacalaka ke takosovi ena mataqali gauna vaka oya.

Ena veisiga era na dau mai veitalata-lata ena bati ni uciwai na itubutubu vei ira na luvedra mera laki vuli.Ia, vei ira na vo tale ni lewenivanua, era na dau sasaga ki Valenibula ke basika na tau-vimate, se na kena dau vakau na ivoli ki na makete .

Ena vula sa dromu a laki solia kina edua na waqa ka 23 na fute na kena balavu kei na kena idinicavu e 60 na horsepower vei ira mai na Korolevu me vaka a vakaitavi kina na iLiuliu ni noda Matanitu, Prime Minisita Sitiveni Rabuka.

Na veivuke qo e laki yacova na \$25,761.84 ka vakailavotaka na nona Valenivolavola na iLiuliu ni Matanitu.

Era vakaraitaka na lewenikoro ni sa

qai dua na iloloma vinaka duadua me bau soli, me vaka ni ra sa waraka tu mai vaka balavu.

Sa na veivuke vakalevu sara na waqa kei na kena idinicavu vei ira na lewe 55 na Vuvale ena loma ni Yavusa Korolevu ena kena qaravi na cakacaka ena veisga.

E kaya o Prime Minisita Rabuka ni sa ikoya oqo na sasaga ni matanitu mera vukei na vakaitikotiko ena taudaku ni veikoro lelevu kei na veianuyanu, me rawa ni laveti cake kina na nodra bula ena veisiga.

“Na uciwai oqo e sega walega ni vure-vure ni bula, ia, e tukuni kemuni ka sa koto kina na noda itavi. Na maroroi ni nomuni ikanakana, e taqomaki kina na veika bula tale eso, vaqacacotaki ni kena taqomaki na ivurevure ni bula ena veisiga vei kemuni ena gauna oqo kei ira na nomuni kawa ni mataka”

E kaya o Lepani Tuisoba na Turagan-ikoro ni sa qai sega tale ni leqataki dua na ka ena gauna oqo me vaka ni sa tu na waqa, mera vakayagataka..

E kaya o Tuisoba ni sa na vakaya-gataki talega na waqa oqo me qarauni ka yadravi matua sara kina na nodra iqoliqoli.

Tutaki Ni Bula Galala Ni Veiliutaki



“Na matanitu o Viti ena sega ni rawa ni gole tani mai ena bula galala ni veiliutaki”.

Oqori na nona mala ni vosa na iliuliu ni noda matanitu, Prime Minisita Sitiveni Rabuka ena nona a vosa tiko ena vale ni Boselawa ena dabe ni Bose L awa ena yabaki oqo.

“Au vakavinavinakataka kina na nodra itukutuku na Peresitedi ni noda matanitu, Na Turaga Bale na Tui Cakau Ratu Naiqama Lalabalavu”.

E tukuna na iliuliu ni noda matanitu, ni dodonu vei Viti me dau vakabibitaka na yaga ni veiliutaki ena bula galala ka ni koto kina na ituvatuva ni matanitu kei keda na lewena.

- E vica na tikina e vosa kina na Paraiminisita a oya na takete ni 6 na pasede ni tubu ni bula vakailavo ni noda vanua me yacova yani na 2050.
- Na sainitaki ni veidinadinati kei na matanitu levu o Amerika, me vakar

awarawataki mai kina na ilavo ena ruku ni Millennium Challenge Corporation.

- Na imatai ni wasewase ni kena raile suvi na veiqaravi vakamatani- tu, esa na okati tiko kina na valenivolavola ni Prime Minisita, Minisitiri ni ilavo , Minisitiri ni Navunavuci, kei na Wiliwili, Minisitiri ni Cakacaka vakamatani- tu kei na Minisitiri ni Veivakato-roicaketaki ena Taudaku ni Veikoro Lelevu, Veianuyanu kei na leqa tubukoso.
- Sa na nodra itavi na Vunivola Tudei na kena sainitaki na veidinadinati ni cakacaka ena Seviteba ni 2026, okati kina na gauna ni cakacaka, na itu vatuvu ni cakacaka kei na vakarau taki ni vuli ena vakayagataki ena veitabana taucoko ni matanitu.
- Na ituvatuva ni 5 na yabaki ni kena vakarautaki na tamata cakacaka kei na makete ni cakacaka.
- Na cakacaka levu ka wili kina na iwalili ni waluvu e nadi, kei na vanua ni vuli ka vaka kina na vanua ni teitei e Ra.

Mai dola e Viti na Valenivolavola ni Veimataki nei United Arab Emirates



Sa vakadonuya na Boseyaco na kena mai dola e Suva, edua na Valenivolavola ni Mata ni Matanitu o United Arab Emirates.

Qo e muria tikoga na kena semati tikoga na nodrau veiwekani vakamatani- tu o Viti kei na UAE.

A tekivu na nodrau veiwekani vaka matanitu o Viti kei na UAE, ena 2010, ka sa laki dola rawa kina edua na noda Valenivolavola ni Veimataki ki Abu Dhabi ena 2012.

Na vakatutu ni kena mai dola edua na Valenivolavola ni UAE e Viti esa na kena isevu ni matanitu mai na Gulf, ka

sa na rawa ni tadola talega na katuba ni kena dola eso tale na valenivolavola vata vaka oqo ena veianuyanu tale eso ena Pasivika.

Na kena sa mai dola edua na Valenivolavola ni United Arab Emirates ena vaqacacotaki kina na nodrau cakacaka vata kei Viti ena vica na tikina me vaka na vakavure kaukauwa vaka livaliva, draki veisau, veivoli kei na vakatubuilavo, vuli kei na veivuke ni veivakato-roicaketaki ka vakabibi na nona yadra va na nona itavi o Viti me vaka ni sa isema tiko se dewadewa ni veimatanitu tale eso ena Pasivika.

Veivakatoroicaketaki ena Mua Ira

Era laki veisiko na iLiuliu ni noda matanitu Hon Sitiveni Ligamamada Rabuka kina Muaira ni noda vanua ena kena laki dolavi e vica na veivakatoroicaetaki oka kina na Yard 4 Container Project ena wavu e Lautoka ka vaka kina na kena tavoci na Lautoka Port Master Plan.

“Ena kena sa vakalevutaki na vei-ka oqo eda sa vakarabailevutaka ka rawa ni vakadeitaka ni Matanitu o Viti mesa dua na vanua ni veivoli ena Wasa Pasivika”.

E vakaraitaka na mata ni Matanitu o Ositerelia ki Viti Peter Roberts “Na Matanitu o Ositerelia esa tu vakarau ena kena tokoni na veivakatoroicaketaki ena noda vanua, na veivakacacacakataki, na vakatubu I lavo ena veitikitiko ena noda vanua”

Era laki solia talega na icocovi ki vei ira na Dautei Tavako ni Viti e Nadi ka vakatokai tiko na British American Tobacco (BAT) Fiji Star Farmer Awards e Nadi. Era vakaitavi taiga ena kena tavoci na Major Climate Adaptation Initiative to Strengthen Flood Resilience ka veitokoni kina na matanitu o Ositerelia. Ni bera nira mai vakacavara ena kena mai dolavi na valenivolavola vou ni Fiji Revenue and Customs e Lautoka.

Taba: Nanise Neimila





Vakasobu Duru e Vuniniudrovu

Esa cavu i kalawa na Matanitu ena vuku ni kena sa mai vakayacori na vakasobu duru ena koro o Vuniniudrovu me sana tokitaki e 5 na vale kina vanua cere me vaka nisa vakilai tiko na draki veisau.

Era laki vakaitavi ena soqo ni vakasobu duru na Minisita ni Tutuku kei na Draki Veisau Hon Lynda Tabuya e vakaraitaka ni toki oqo e vakaraitaka na kaukauwa ni cakacakavata ni Matanitu ena kena taqomnaki na bula ni lewenivanua.

“Au vakavinavinaka kina, ki na Global Centre for Climate Mobility (GCCM) ena kena vakarautaki na Community Climate Adaptation Facility (C-CAF), e dua na tobu ni yau vakailavo, mera volakerekere kina na noda veikoro kei na veitikotiko, era sotava tu na revurevu ni drakiveisau”.

Taba: Wanshika Kumar





Ra cavuisausau na Marama ena Vakayagataki Qele



O Katarina Baleisuva na marama ni Savusavu ka mai ciqoma na cocovi ni Marama Gugumatua ena Vakayagataki Qele ni yabaki 2026 ka vakayacori na kena soqo e na Grand Pacific Hotel e Suva. **Taba: Agriculture**

Vola ko WATISONI BUTABUA

O Katarina Baleisuva edua na marama ni Savusavu ka sa mai vakadinadinataka tiko na yaga ni vakayagataki qele ena vanua esa mai vakaitikotiko kina e Nakasi ena gauna oqo. A gole vei Katarina na icocovi ni Marama Gugumatua ena Vakayagataki Qele ni yabaki 2026, (Best Overall National Women in Primary Industries Enter-

preneur), ena soqo ni soli Cocovi ni Marama Dau vakayagataki qele na National Women in Agriculture Symposium Gala Award Night a vakayacori ena Otela na Grand Pacific e Suva ena bogi ni Tusiti na ika 11 ni Maji, 2026. E kaya o Katarina ni a sega ni namaka tiko na ulu ni covi. “ Taumada au vakavinavinaka. Au a namaka tiko ni na noqu na icocovi ni Marama Dau Susu Maleya. Io dua na ka na noqu luluvu kei na noqu sa mai

rogoca na kena sa kacivaki mai na ya-
caqu meu mai taura na ulu ni covi ni
Marama Dau Gugumatua ena Teitei ni
2026.”
E kaya o Katarina ni sega ni yaco vaka-
calaka, baleta ni ka kece oya e sa cakava
tale tikoga, ka solia kina na nona dina.
“Na ka ga au veivakadeitaki kina, na
dina lailai ga au cakava tu mai oya, au
kila na matanitu e raici au kina. Koya ya
e solia kina vei au na icocovi ena bogi
nikua.”
E vakaraitaka o Katarina ni dau kere
veivuke ki na Matanitu.
“ Au vakavinavinaka ni ratou tiko na
Tabana ni Qoliqoli, ratou vukei au tiko
yani se ratou solia tiko yani na ivakasala
ena vuku ni noqu susu maleya. Au dau
kere veivuke, kere vakasala. Ratou dau
tu Vakarau me ratou dau veivuke. Vaka
kina vei ratou na tabana ni teitei. Dina
ni yaco dua na gauna au mai tauyavuta-
ka edua na mataqali teitei e vou vei ra-
tou na tabana ni teitei ka vou talega vei
au. Io au vakavinavinaka ena gauna e
lako mai kina na ituvatuva oya na teitei

e loma ni vale...au kere veivuke au kere
vakasala talega.”
E vakaraitaka talega o Katarina ni va-
kavinavinakataki ratou na tabana ni
teitei ni veika esa cicivaka tiko oya, sa
vakavotukana sara tiko.
E kuria ni dua ga na ka e qai raica oya
ni lailai na ka e tea, ka levu tiko na ka e
gadrevu mai na makete.
“Dua walega na ka au via vakadeitaka
vei keda na marama, o keda sara mada
ga na marama meda dau dinati keda se
dau saga meda solia na noda gauna, e
keda eda rawa talega ni vurevure ni il-
avo ena noda matavuvale vakauasivi da
saga meda dina ena ka lalai eda rawa
ni cakava,ka lalai o sa cakava tiko, iko
maroroya, solia kina nomu dina qai
cakacakataki iko kina.
Ya talega edua na vanua ena rawa ni
kauti iko kina ki na dua na vanua ra-
bailevu.”
24 taucoko na icocovi a soli ena soqo
oya ka a vulagi dokai kina na Minisita
ni Marama, Gone kei na Bula Raraba,
Sashi Kiran.

Veitataunaki na Matanitu ena tubu na Sau ni Waiwai

Esa ciqoma tiko na matanitu na tubu
ni isau ni waiwai, me vaka esa tekivu
vakilai edaidai, ka sa kila tiko ni na laki
tara bi na kena icolacola ena loma ni
noda vuvale, tamata cakacaka, kei ira
na daunibisinisi.
Eda sa kila tiko ni tubu ni isau ni
waiwai ena laki tara na isau ni bula ena
veisiga, na isau ni cicivaki bisinisi, mai
na veitosoyaki ki na kakana kei na ivoli
taucoko sara.
Na matanitu esa tu raviti keda tu na

lewenivanua e Viti, ena mataqali gauna
vaka oqo vakabibi na gauna bolebole
eda sa curuma oqo.
Na isau ni waiwai e lavaka na matabose
ni isau kei na veiqati vakabisinisi na
Fiji Competition and Consumer Com-
mission, edua na tabana tu vakaikoya.
e kena ibalebale ni kena dau lavaki na
isau e tu vakatikitiki kina na matanitu,
ka yavutaki tiko na isau ni waiwai mai
na isau ni waiwai ena kena makete e
vuravura ka vaka kina na kena dau

cakacakataki na isau ni waiwai.
Eda duavata ena isau ni waiwai e vura-
vura, ia, eda na kidroa kina. Dina ga ni
sega ni tu na kaukauwa ki na Matanitu
me baleta na lavaki ni sau ni waiwai, esa
cakacaka tiko na matanitu ena veika
eso me rawa ni veivuke ena revurevu ni
tubu ni isau ni waiwai. oqo e okati kina
na tokoni ni vuvale era sega ni rawaka
vakalevu, vukei ira na daunibisinisi era
sotava na tubu ni isau ni vei qaravi, na
vakadeitaki tiko ni veika bibi ena bula

vakailavo ni matanitu.
Sa veivakananumi tikoga vei keda na
lewenivanua na matanitu, ni dodonu
meda maninitaka na vakayagataki
waiwai, vakabibi ena vuku ni noda
veitosoyaki.
Esa dei tikoga na Matanitu ena kena
dau tokoni ka vakabibitaki na veika e
baleti keda na lewenivanua, dina ni
sa vakilai tiko na sau levu ni waiwai e
vuravura.

FIJIAN COMPETITION & CONSUMER COMMISSION				NEW APPROVED FUEL PRICES FOR APRIL 2026			
FUEL							
SCHEDULE 1				SCHEDULE 2			
ANY AREA ON THE ISLAND OF VITI LEVU LOCATED WITHIN 3 KILOMETRES FROM ANY PUBLIC ROAD				ANY AREA ON THE ISLAND OF VITI LEVU LOCATED BEYOND 3 KILOMETRES FROM ANY PUBLIC ROAD			
PRODUCTS	Current Price (Until 31/03/26)	New Approved Price (Effective 01/04/2026)	Price Change (\$)	PRODUCTS	Current Price (Until 31/03/26)	New Approved Price (Effective 01/04/2026)	Price Change (\$)
Motor Spirit	\$2.44 (VIP)	\$2.93 (VIP)	\$0.49 ↑	Motor Spirit	\$2.49 (VIP)	\$2.98 (VIP)	\$0.49 ↑
Premix	\$2.28 (VIP)	\$2.76 (VIP)	\$0.48 ↑	Premix	\$2.37 (VIP)	\$2.86 (VIP)	\$0.49 ↑
Kerosene*	\$1.69 (VAT exempt)	\$2.40 (VAT exempt)	\$0.71 ↑	Kerosene*	\$1.76 (VAT exempt)	\$2.48 (VAT exempt)	\$0.72 ↑
Diesel	\$2.14 (VIP)	\$2.89 (VIP)	\$0.75 ↑	Diesel	\$2.19 (VIP)	\$2.93 (VIP)	\$0.74 ↑
SCHEDULE 3				SCHEDULE 4			
ANY AREA ON THE ISLANDS OF VANUA LEVU AND OVALAU LOCATED WITHIN 3 KILOMETRES FROM ANY PUBLIC ROAD				ANY AREA ON THE ISLANDS OF VANUA LEVU AND OVALAU LOCATED BEYOND 3 KILOMETRES FROM ANY PUBLIC ROAD			
PRODUCTS	Current Price (Until 31/03/26)	New Approved Price (Effective 01/04/2026)	Price Change (\$)	PRODUCTS	Current Price (Until 31/03/26)	New Approved Price (Effective 01/04/2026)	Price Change (\$)
Motor Spirit	\$2.47 (VIP)	\$2.96 (VIP)	\$0.49 ↑	Motor Spirit	\$2.51 (VIP)	\$3.00 (VIP)	\$0.49 ↑
Premix	\$2.41 (VIP)	\$2.90 (VIP)	\$0.49 ↑	Premix	\$2.45 (VIP)	\$2.93 (VIP)	\$0.48 ↑
Kerosene*	\$1.75 (VAT exempt)	\$2.47 (VAT exempt)	\$0.72 ↑	Kerosene*	\$1.78 (VAT exempt)	\$2.50 (VAT exempt)	\$0.72 ↑
Diesel	\$2.17 (VIP)	\$2.92 (VIP)	\$0.75 ↑	Diesel	\$2.21 (VIP)	\$2.95 (VIP)	\$0.74 ↑
SCHEDULE 5				SCHEDULE 6			
ANY AREA WITHIN THE REPUBLIC OF FIJI OTHER THAN THE ISLANDS MENTIONED IN SCHEDULES 1, 2, 3, 4 AND 6				ANY AREA ON THE ISLAND OF ROTUMA			
PRODUCTS	Current Price (Until 31/03/26)	New Approved Price (Effective 01/04/2026)	Price Change (\$)	PRODUCTS	Current Price (Until 31/03/26)	New Approved Price (Effective 01/04/2026)	Price Change (\$)
Motor Spirit	\$2.80 (VIP)	\$3.29 (VIP)	\$0.49 ↑	Motor Spirit	\$2.97 (VIP)	\$3.49 (VIP)	\$0.52 ↑
Premix	\$2.69 (VIP)	\$3.18 (VIP)	\$0.49 ↑	Premix	\$2.86 (VIP)	\$3.37 (VIP)	\$0.51 ↑
Kerosene*	\$2.24 (VAT exempt)	\$2.96 (VAT exempt)	\$0.72 ↑	Kerosene*	\$2.38 (VAT exempt)	\$3.14 (VAT exempt)	\$0.76 ↑
Diesel	\$2.49 (VIP)	\$3.24 (VIP)	\$0.75 ↑	Diesel	\$2.65 (VIP)	\$3.43 (VIP)	\$0.78 ↑
Note: *Kerosene price is the VAT exempt and zero rated.				No change ↓ Decrease ↑ Increase			



MPWMST
MINISTRY OF
PUBLIC WORKS, METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES
AND TRANSPORT



VEIVUKE NI KENA VAKAU NAI YAYA NI

TARA VALE ENA VEIYANUYANU.

Na Matanitu e sa vakarautaka tiko na veivuke me saumi na kena vakaleleci nai yaya ni tara vale ki na vei yanuyanuu ena vei yasai Viti ena waqa ni Matanitu.

1. Ko ira na qai taukena edua na vale enai matai ni gauna.

-i matai ni gauna mo tara vale

-Vakavinakataki se vakalevutaki ni nomu itikotiko

2. Koronivuli ena veiyanuyanuu

-Tara koronivuli vou

-Vakavinakalevutaki se vakavinakataki ni valenivuli se vale ni qasenivuli

3. Veivakatorocaketaki vakaitikotiko

Veivakatorocaketaki vakaitikotiko e tokoni ena:

- veiliutaki ena koro

- valenivolavola ni yasana

Ni gole mai moni mai kumuna e dua na tikidua ni kerekere ena:

Nasilivata House- Taba 3,
38 Ratu Mara Road
Samabula, Suva

Ena kenai tukutuku matata , Qiriti keitou na ena:

3384 111. Kerea mo vosa vei iratou na Tabana ka Qarava na Veilakoyaki (Department of Transport) me baleta na Maritime Building Materials Transportation Assistance.

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Sigatabu, 5 ni Evereli 2026

6



Solesolevaki na Yasana o Naitasiri



Na soqo ni solesolevaki ena loma ni Yasana o Naitasiri ka vakayacori ena rara ni koronivuli e Naqali. **Taba: Tabacakacaka iTaukei**

Talanoa: Itaukei Affairs

Era matanataka na lewe ni yasana o Naitasiri na yalo ni kena solevaki na sasaga ni vanua ni oti na nodra kumu-na rawa e \$155,142.60 ena siga rua ni soli ni vanua.

Ea vakayacori na soqo ena rara ni koronivuli e Naqali ena Lotulevu kei na Vakaraubuka ni macawa sa oti, 19 kei 20 ni siga ni vula o Maji, 2026.

Era a dolava na soqo oqo na luvei Naitasiri ka ra tu vakacakacaka ena veiyasana e Viti ka vakakina mai valagi, ka ra solia rawa kina e sivia e \$34,000.

Na soqo oqo e dua talega na vatavata ni kena vakabulabulataki na itovo kei na ivakarau dina e kilai tani kina na yasana.

Era a veisisivi ena meke ni vanua, sere, veisisivi vosa kei na serekali kei na vakaraitaki buiniga vei ira na nodra na goneyalewa kei ira na marama.

Era a qai sogota na soli na turaga ni koro kei ira na mata ni tikina ena loma ni yasana ka ra sogota na soli ena \$12,955.

Na 16 na tikina ena loma ni yasana e solia rawa e \$101,603.25 ka ra veitokoni talega yani na veitabana ni Matanitu kei na veitabana ni cakacaka ka ra veisemati ena loma ni yasana.

E vakaraitaka na Roko Tui Naitasiri, Ratu Waisake Tuisese na vakavinavinaka levu vei ira na lewe ni yasana ena vuku ni kena mai qaravi rawa na itavi oqo kei na tikina bibi ni veisotaraki vaka veiwekani.

Yaga na Vakaturubuilavo



E ciqoma na ivakayaga ena vuku ni valenivolavola ni yasana na iliuliu ni Bose ni Yasana o Tailevu, ka Turaga na Tui Nabou o Semi Matalau teiteivaki na valenivolavola ni Yasana o Tailevu(Tailevu Provincial Council) kei na kabani cokovata ni loba sucu ni yasana. **Taba: Itaukei Affairs Board.**

Talanoa: iTaukei Affairs Board

E mai ciqoma edaidai na vua ni nodrau teiteivaki na valenivolavola ni Yasana o Tailevu(Tailevu Provincial Council) kei na kabani cokovata ni loba sucu ni yasana(Tailevu Dairy Farmers Cooperative Association Limited) e \$39,849.54 mai na kabani na Tailevu Holdings Pte Limited.

Oqo na ivakayaga ni vakatubu ilavo ena kabani ni yasana na Tailevu Holdings Pte Limited ka sa sivia oqo e 40 vakacaca na yabaki ni kena cici tiko mai.

Ea vakayacori na soqo oqo ena valenivolavola ni yasana e Nausori na Ratu Cakobau House.

E vakaraitaka na ivakalesilesi ni kabani o Talei Rokotuibau ni 54%(\$21,959.61) e suka tale vei ira na lewe ni yasana ka soli ena valenivolavola ni yasana, ia e 45%

(\$17,889.93) e gole kina kabani cokovata ni loba sucu ni yasana.

E ciqoma na ivakayaga ena vuku ni valenivolavola ni yasana na iliuliu ni Bose ni Yasana o Tailevu, ka Turaga na Tui Nabou o Semi Matalau.

E mata mai na Tailevu Dairy Farmers Cooperative Association Limited o Ru-siate Korovusere.

Na kabani ni yasana oqo na Tailevu Holdings PTE Limited esa dau veivuke tiko mai ena dua na gauna balavu ena loma ni yasana me vaka na nodra sikolasivi na gone, veivuke ki na Soqosoqo Vakamarama ni yasana kei na vakato-roicaketaki ni valenivolavola ni yasana ena yabaki sa oti.

E rau vakavinavinakataka na kabani erua na kena tutaki tiko na kabani ni yasana mai vei iratou na cicivaka tiko ena gauna oqo ka sa dau laurai tiko na kena drodrovi ira sobu tiko yani na lewe ni yasana na kena yaga.

Kevaka e dua naka me tawasei kedaru na mate duadua ga

Vola ko KATARINA NAQARASE

Oqori na nodrau vosa ni yalayala o Vaulo Tulega kei Luisa Salusalu ena gauna erau mai vakamau kina vakamatani-tu mai na koro ko Lutu ena tikina o Wainimala ena loma ni yasana o Naitasiri.

E sega ni vakatao taka na nodrau vauci vata na veisivi ni yabaki me vaka ni rau sa lomavata ruarua kina.E kaya o Luisa nisa oti vinaka oqo e 12 na yabaki na nodrau veiwatini tu mai.

“E levu na bolebole keirau sotava kai-vakatatao tu ni neirau vauci vakamatani-tu, ia keirau vakavinavinaka ena siga ni-kua nisa mai rogoci na neirau masu”.

E salamuria tiko ga ena kena kau vakavoleka yani eso na veiqaravi ena veitabana vakamatani-tu enai tuvatuva ni Porokaramu na REACH ka vakayacori mai na koronivuli o Muaira District School mai Lutu Wainimala ena itekivu ni vula oqo.

Na porokaramu ni REACH e wili tiko kina e vica na veiqaravi ni matanitu me vaka na Tabana ni Marama ,Gone kei na Bula Raraba, Tabana ni Sucu, Mate kei na Vakamau mai na valenivolavola ni Lawa, Tabana ni Lavo Musuki, Tabana

ni Kasitaba kei na Kumuni Vakacavacava, Valenivolavola ni Veitarogivanua kei na Wai ni Qoliquoli, Tabana ni Qele kei na iYaubula, Tabana ni Veivakatoricaketaki ena Taudaku ni Veikoro Lelevu, Veiyatu Yaniyanu kei na Leqa Tubukoso, Tabana ni Tukutuku ni Matanitu ka vaka kina na Biosecurity kei na vica tale.



O Luisa Salusalu na marama ni Lutu Wainimala kei Vaulo Tegu ena kena mai vakayacori na nodrau vakamau ena kena kau yani vakavoleka yani na veiqaravi ni REACH Program ena colo kei Naitasiri. **Taba: Katarina Naqarase**

Era na Talaci Vakamatani-tu na iTaukei Naisogolaca



Esa vakadonuya tiko na Boseyaco me na vakarewa veimama toka ga na drotini ni noda vanua, me tekivu edaidai na imatai ni siga ni Evereli me vakananumi kina na nodra bula na iTaukei Naisogolaca Ratu Epeli Nailatikau na Peresitedi vakacegu ni noda vanua.

Era a veiqaravi vakadede sara ena loma ni noda matanitu. Na vakarewa veimama ni drotini ni noda matanitu ena vaka tiko oya na kena irairai me yacova ni na qai dua tale tiko yani na kena itukutuku matata. Sa vakadonui talega ena kena

qaravi na Veibulu Vakamatani-tu vei ira na iTaukei Naisogolaca Ratu Epeli Nailatikau na Peresitedi Vakacegu ni noda vanua.

Era sa cau vakalevu sara ena noda matanitu me vaka ni ra a iLiuliu ni Mataivalu, Mata ni Matanitu o Viti ki Peretania, Minisita ni Matanitu, Mata ni kena Valuti na mate ni AIDS ena Pasivika, ka ra yacova na itutu vaka Kanala ena Mataivalu ni Viti. Sa liutaka tiko na ituvatuva eso vaka matanitu, na Minisitiri ni Tataqomaki ka na cakacaka vata kei na Vuvale ka vaka kina na Vanua.

Noda VITI

Veivakadeitaki na matanitu ni se tiko na waiwai, sa kerei meda tiko vakacegu

2

Ra cavuisausau na Marama ena Vakayagataki Qele

6

Era na Talaci Vakamatanitu na iTaukei Naisogolaca.

7

QAQA NA TIMI NI FIJIAN DRUA MAI BA



Vola ko WATISONI BUTABUA

Rau a sota na iLiuliu ni noda Matanitu Prime Minisita Hon Sitiveni Rabuka kei Phil Waugh na Vunilewa ni Rugby Australia ena gauna rau a laki sara qito kina ena rara na 4R Stadium mai Ba.

Muria tikoga oqo na nodrau a sota ena dua na wavoki ni sotasota ni Shop and Save Super Rugby Pacific na noda mata timi ni Fijian Drua kei na timi ni ACT Brumbies mai Ositerelia.

Na nodrau sota o Prime Minisita Rabuka kei Waugh, esa mai vaqacacotaki tale

kina na nodrau veiwekani vakamatanitu o Viti kei Ositerelia ena ruku ni veidinadinati ni Vuvale Partnership, vakabibi tiko oqo ena qito kei na kena vakatoroicaketaki.

A solia talega na nona vakauinui vinaka ki na timi ni Drua, na noda Prime Minisita .

A mai qaqa ena qito oya na timi ni Drua ni a vakadrukai Brumbies ena kai 42 kei 27 ena siga Vakarauwai na ika 14 ni siga ni Maji, 2026.

Isevu talega ni gauna me vakayacori kina edua na qito levu ni Super Rugby Pacific ena rara vou na 4R Stadium mai Ba.

Qo ena siga guiguilecavi dre-



फ़ीजी दर्पण



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फायनेन्स मंत्री माननीय एस्रोम इमेनुअल, मंत्रालय के पेमनन्ट सकेटरी श्री गाउन्डर तथा अन्य अधिकारी बजट पर परामर्श के दौरान चित्र: प्रदान किया गया

राष्ट्रीय बजट पर परामर्श

रोनल देव

फायनेन्स मंत्रालय ने आने वाले राष्ट्रीय बजट के लिए आम जनता से परामर्श लेना शुरू कर दिया है।

इस परामर्श ने लोगों को अवसर प्रदान किया है कि वे आर्थिक प्राथमिकताओं, चुनौतियों तथा सुविधाओं पर अपना विचार दें। पिछले दिनों, फ़ीजी कोमेस एन्ड एम्प्लोयर्स फ़ेडरेशन, फ़ीजी चेम्बा ओफ़ कोमेस, असोसिएशन ओफ़ बेन्क्स, टेक्सटाईल क्लोदिंग एन्ड फ़ुटवयर काउन्सल, इंशुरन्स कम्पनियाँ तथा ब्रिटिश अमेरिकन टोबैको ने परामर्श में हिस्सा लिया।

इस मंच ने पारदर्शी फैसला लेने के प्रति सरकार की प्रतिबद्धता को उजागर किया, जिसमें प्रतिभागियों ने प्रमुख राष्ट्रीय प्राथमिकताओं पर खुली चर्चा की। चर्चा किए गए विषयों में कला और संस्कृति के लिए लगातार निधि की ज़रूरत, स्वास्थ्य सेवाओं को मजबूत करना और ज़िम्मेदार तथा टिकाऊ बजट तैयार करना शामिल थे। परामर्श में भाग लेने वालों ने यातायात, एच.आई.वी और नशीली दवाओं से संबंधित चुनौतियों के प्रति राष्ट्रीय प्रतिक्रिया और फ़ायल की कीमतों में अस्थिरता के कारण परिवारों और व्यवसायों पर पड़ने वाले असर के बारे में भी चिन्ता व्यक्त की।

सरकारी प्रतिनिधियों ने प्रतिक्रियाओं का स्वागत किया और संतुलित तथा दूरदर्शी नीतिगत उपायों के माध्यम से इन विषयों को हल करने के प्रति अपनी प्रतिबद्धता की पुष्टि की। यह महत्वपूर्ण चर्चा आने वाले दिनों में एक मजबूत और अधिक उत्तरदायी राष्ट्रीय बजट तैयार करने में सीधे तौर पर सहायक होगी, जिससे यह सुनिश्चित होगा कि देश की विकास प्राथमिकताओं में जनता की आवाज़ें भी शामिल हों। मंत्रालय इस बात पर ध्यान दे रहा है कि फ़ीजी के विकास और प्रगति को समर्थन देने वाले बजट को आकार देने में सभी

क्षेत्रों की आवाज़ों पर विचार किया जाए। राष्ट्रीय बजट पर अगला परामर्श, मंगलवार सात अप्रैल को शाम पाँच बजे से लेकर रात सात बजे तक, नमोसी प्रोविन्शल काउन्सल होल नावुआ में होगा। बुद्धवार आठ अप्रैल को शाम पाँच बजे से रात सात बजे तक नान्दी सिविक सेन्टर नान्दी में, गुरुवार नौ अप्रैल को शाम पाँच बजे से रात सात बजे तक बा सिविक सेन्टर बा में और आखिरी परामर्श शाम तीन बजे से पाँच बजे तक लम्बासा कोलज लम्बासा में होगा।



सूचना, वातावरण तथा मौसम में हो रहे बदलाव मंत्री माननीय लिंडा तम्बूया का राष्ट्र के नाम संबोधन

मेरे प्यारे फीजिवासियों, सभी को सादर नमस्ते आज मैं आपसे उस विषय पर बातें करने जा रही हूँ जिसका असर हम सबपर पड़ रहा है, और वो है फियूल। दुनिया भर में तनाव तथा लड़ाई-झगड़े बढ़ रहे हैं खास करके मध्य पूर्व में इरान, इज़रैल और अमेरिका के बीच। स्थिति गम्भीर है, और शायद ये और भी खराब हो जाए। हमारी सबसे बड़ी चिन्ता है, विश्व का शिपिंग मार्ग/ जिसे स्ट्रेट ऑफ होर्मुज़ कहते हैं। दुनिया भर के फियूल सप्लाई का सबसे भारी हिस्सा इसी इलाके से होकर गुज़र रहे हैं। जब इस इलाके पर बाधाएं होती हैं तो दुनिया भर में इसका असर फियूल के दाम और सप्लाई पर होता है। आप सोच रहे होंगे कि इससे फीजी का क्या लेना-देना। जवाब बिलकुल आसान है। फीजी विदेश से आ रहे फियूल पर निर्भर हैं। हम खुद अपना फियूल उत्पादित नहीं करते। इसलिए जब विश्व के फियूल सप्लाई पर असर पड़ता है, तो फियूल का दाम उपर जाता है तथा सप्लाई की चुनौतियों से इसका असर हमें यहाँ होता है। इसी वजह से सरकार अब कदम उठा रही है। ऐसा इसलिए नहीं कि हम संकट में हैं, बल्कि हमें तैयार रहना है/ अगर स्थिति और खराब हुई। हम शुरूआत करते हैं, जो हमें पता है। अभी फीजी के पास फियूल है। सप्लाई भी समान्य है तथा देश भर में फियूल उपलब्ध है। मैं यह साफ कर देना चाहता हूँ कि: अभी फियूल की कोई कमी नहीं है। विषय है फियूल का दाम। पहली अप्रैल से फीजी में फियूल का दाम उपर गया है। आप शायद सवाल करेंगे कि दाम उपर क्यों गया जब देश में अभी फियूल है? जवाब यह है कि: फियूल कम्पनियों को लगातार आने वाले कई महीनों के लिए फियूल खरीदना जारी रखना है। फियूल के लिए जो दाम आप अभी भर रहे हो वो केवल यहाँ उपलब्ध फियूल के लिए नहीं है, बल्कि यह दिखाता है कि इस फियूल की जगह उसकी कीमत कितनी ज़्यादा हो गई है। मध्य पूर्व में चल रही लड़ाई की वजह से शिपिंग के मुख्य मार्ग में बाधाएं पहुँची हैं इसलिए दुनिया भर में फियूल की कीमत बहुत ज़्यादा हो गई

है। उदाहरण के तौर पर बहुत ही कम समय में फियूल का दाम प्रति बैरल 95 पचान्चे डोलर से बढ़कर दो सौ तीस डोलर प्रति बैरल हो गया है। इसका मतलब है कि फीजी आने वाले अन्य शिपमन्ट में फियूल का दाम और ज़्यादा होगा। दुनिया की स्थिति अगर नहीं सुधरी तो कीमत और ज़्यादा बढ़ सकती है। इसलिए भले ही आज फियूल उपलब्ध लेकिन इसकी कीमत ज़्यादा हो रही है। इसीलिए हमें सोच समझकर फियूल का उपयोग शुरू कर देना चाहिए। कुछ ऐसी बातें हैं जो अभी हमें पता नहीं हैं। हमें नहीं पता है कि आने वाले महीनों में खास करके मई और जून में फियूल का सप्लाई कैसा होगा। विदेश में जो हो रहा है, जैसे लड़ाई-झगड़े, विश्व सप्लाई तथा शिपिंग के मार्ग पर भी हमारा कोई काबू नहीं है। अभी भी कुछ संदेह है। इसलिए हमें जल्द कदम उठाना चाहिए और तैयार रहना चाहिए। तो सरकार क्या कर रही है? हमने एक फीजी नेशनल फियूल इमेजेन्सी इक्शन प्लेन यानि फीजी राष्ट्रीय फियूल आपातकालीन कार्य योजना लागू किया है। योजना के तहत एक के बाद एक कदम उठाया जाएगा, जो स्थिति बदलने पर हम कैसी प्रतिक्रिया देंगे इसका मार्गदर्शन करेंगी। हम अनुमान पर नहीं बल्कि स्पष्ट संकेतों के आधार पर कार्यवाई करेंगे। हम अभी इस योजना के पहले चरण में हैं। तो आसान शब्दों में, फियूल का स्टोक पचास प्रतिशत से ज़्यादा है, इसलिए सोच समझकर इसका उपयोग करें। फियूल उपलब्ध है लेकिन दाम ज़्यादा है और भविष्य में आने वाले सप्लाई पर संदेह है। इसलिए हमारा ध्यान सरल बातों पर आधारित है। फियूल की बचत शुरू कर दो। सरकार लगातार आम जनता को आशवासन देना जारी रखेगी कि वे खरीददारी का सामान्य रवैया अपनाएं, बेवजह सफर न करें तथा अंतराष्ट्रीय साझेदारों के साथ मिलकर काम करें। हम सभी से मदद करने की माँग करते हैं: कि वे एक दिशा में जा रहे हो तो एक गाड़ी का उपयोग करें, सार्वजनिक यातायात का उपयोग करें, बेवजह सफर न करें, घर पर बिजली की बचत करें, जहाँ तक हो सके ऑनलाईन सभाएं करें

तथा घर से काम करें। सरकार मिसाल कायम करेगी। हम सफर को कम कर रहे हैं/ सरकारी गाड़ियों का उपयोग भी कम कर रहे हैं। अगर स्थिति नहीं सुधरी जहाँ हमारे फियूल का स्टोक चालीस से पचास प्रतिशत के बीच हुआ तो हम अपनी योजना के दूसरे चरण में जाएंगे। यहाँ पर हम फियूल का उपयोग मज़बूती से कम करेंगे तथा आने-वाले दिनों के लिए सप्लाई सुरक्षित की जाए। इसमें शायद शामिल होगा सरकारी गाड़ियों का उपयोग और कम करना, काम करके के घण्टे के बाहर सफर सीमित करना, सप्ताह में चार दिन काम करना तथा व्यापारियों से भी ऐसा करने के प्रोत्साहित करना। हम फियूल को रईशन करने की तैयारी करेंगे। अगर देश में फियूल के स्टोक और कम हुआ जो कि तीस से चालीस प्रतिशत तक पहुँचा तो हम योजना के अगले चरण में जाएंगे जहाँ हमें ज़रूरी सेवाओं की सुरक्षा के लिए फियूल का उचित बटवारा करना होगा। फियूल की खरीददारी सिमित की जाएगी, फियूल भरने के लिए दिन तय किए जाएंगे, गाड़ियाँ चलाने के दिन तय किए जाएंगे, और भी लोग घर से काम करेंगे तथा व्यापारों के संचालन के घण्टे कम किए जाएंगे। ज़रूरी सेवाओं जैसे अस्पताल, यातायात, पानी, बिजली तथा आपातकालीन सेवाओं का संचालन जारी रखने के लिए लक्ष्य बिलकुल साफ है। अगर फियूल का स्टोक बीस प्रतिशत से कम हुआ तो हम इमेजेन्सी यानि आपातकालीन उपायों को अपनाएंगे। उस समय फियूल का उपयोग केवल गम्भीर स्थितियों के लिए किया जाएगा। कड़े नियंत्रण लागू हो सकते हैं, सरकारी कामकाज सीमित हो सकता है तथा गाड़ियों पर कफ्यू लग सकता है। यह स्पष्ट है कि हम अभी उस स्थिति पर नहीं पहुँचे हैं। लेकिन हमें तैयार रहना चाहिए। हमारे फैसले फियूल के दर पर आधारित होंगे। जब सप्लाई मजबूत हो हम उसपर निगरानी रखेंगे। जब सप्लाई गिरेगी, हम उपयोग कम करेंगे। सप्लाई और गिरने पर हम फियूल रईशन करेंगे। और सिर्फ गम्भीर स्थिति आने पर ही हम आपातकालीन उपाए अपनाएंगे। यह इस बात का ध्यान रखेगा कि हर एक कदम जो हम उठाएंगे वो निष्पक्ष, स्पष्ट और सच पर आधारित हो। हम लगातार आपको नई-नई

जानकारियाँ देते रहेंगे। हमारा संवाद स्पष्ट, शान्त और इमानदार होगा। हम रेडियो, टेलिविज़न, सौशल मिडिया तथा सामाजिक पहुँच का उपयोग करेंगे। हम झूठी जानकारियों पर जल्द से प्रतिक्रिया देंगे। स्थिति पर गौर करने के बाद हम बुद्धवार आठ अप्रैल को अगली जानकारी देंगे। मेरे प्यारे फीजिवासियों आपने शान्ति और ज़िम्मेदारी दिखाई है जिसके लिए हम आपको धन्यवाद दे रहे हैं। अभी आपको जो सबसे ज़रूरी चीज़ करनी है वो है: फियूल का उपयोग सामान्य रूप से करें, बेवजह सफर न करें, नविनतम जानकारी रखें, फियूल बचाने के लिए छोटे-मोटे बदलाव करें, हर छोटा प्रयास फर्क ला सकता है। अभी से कदम उठाने से हमें बाद में असली कमी से बचने में मदद मिलेगी। सरकार मिसाल कायम करेगी। हम यात्रा कम करेंगे, गाड़ियों के उपयोग पर काबू करेंगे तथा ऑनलाईन सभाएं करेंगे। हम सावधानी तथा ज़िम्मेदारी पूर्वक सार्वजनिक संसाधनों को सम्भालेंगे। मेरे प्यारे फीजिवासियों, यह घबराने का समय नहीं है। यह तैयारी करने का समय है। अगर हम जल्द कदम उठाएंगे, शान्त रहेंगे, साथ काम करेंगे तो फीजी इस संकट से उबर जाएगा। सरकार लगातार स्थिति पर निगरानी रखेगी और आपको जानकारी देती रहेगी। ऐसे समय में मैं सभी फीजिवासियों से साथ प्रार्थना करने की माँग करती हूँ। अपने राष्ट्र के लिए प्रार्थना करें। विश्व शान्ति के लिए प्रार्थना करें। मध्य पूर्व में चल रहे लड़ाई-झगड़े के लिए प्रार्थना करें कि यह शान्ति से सुलझ जाएं। अपना ध्यान रखें, अपने परिवार वालों का ख्याल रखें तथा एक दूसरे की देखभाल करें। साथ मिलकर कम इस संकट से निकल जाएंगे। धन्यवाद। ईश्वर की आशीश आप पर रहें तथा ईश्वर की कृपा फीजी पर बनी रहें।



बढ़ती प्रदूषण चुनौतियों के समाधान तैयार किए गए



सूवा में वाका फोरम का उद्घाटन करने के बाद प्रधान मंत्री सितिवेनी रम्बूका, संसदीय स्पीकर, अन्य मंत्रियों तथा सहायक मंत्रियों के साथ चित्र: प्रदान किया गया

रोनल देव

प्रधान मंत्री सितिवेनी रम्बूका ने सूवा में वाका फोरम का उद्घाटन करते हुए इस बात पर जोर दिया कि कचरे को सही तरह से सम्भालने के लिए सरकारी नीतियों को स्थानीय समाज और ज़मीनी स्तर पर काम करने वाले रिसाएकल कर्मियों के वास्तविक अनुभवों के साथ जोड़ना बेहद ज़रूरी है। इस सम्मेलन का उद्देश्य है नेताओं, विशेषज्ञों और कचरा उठाने वाले कर्मचारियों को एकजुट करके फीजी की बढ़ती प्रदूषण चुनौतियों के लिए व्यावहारिक, टिकाऊ और समावेशी समाधान तैयार करना है। सम्मेलन के मुख्य आर्कषण: जमीनी स्तर पर ध्यान केंद्रित: नीतियाँ उन लोगों द्वारा

बनाई जानी चाहिए जो प्रति दिन कचरा उठाने का काम करते हैं, न कि केवल उपर से थोपे गए फैसलों द्वारा। कार्रवाई योग्य कचरा समाधान: इस पहल का उद्देश्य राष्ट्रीय अगुवाई को मजबूत करना और एक स्वच्छ वातावरण का निर्माण करना। आगामी बदलाव: सरकार कूड़ा अधिनियम को मजबूत करने और कचरा दर को कम करने के लिए कंटेनर-जमा योजनाओं को शुरू करने पर काम कर रही है। इस कार्रवाई के साथ-साथ, वातावरण तथा जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय, लिटा एक्ट में कुछ संशोधन कर रहा है, तथा संसद में पेश करने से पहले इसपर कानूनी जाँच प्रक्रिया चल रही है। इन सुधारों का उद्देश्य है नितियों को मजबूत करना और इस सिद्धांत को भी मजबूत

करना कि फीजी के वातावरण की रक्षा करना कि यह एक राष्ट्रीय ज़िम्मेदारी है। सरकार कंटेनर डिपोजिट नियमों को भी आगे बढ़ा रही है, जिसके तहत पेय पदार्थों के कंटेनरों पर वापसी योग्य जमा पैसे लगाए जाएंगे, जिसे निर्धारित केन्द्रों पर लौटाने पर वापस लिया जा सकता है। प्रधान मंत्री रम्बूका ने कहा कि रिटर्न एन्ड अर्न जैसे कार्यक्रमों ने पहले ही यह साबित कर दिया है कि फिर से इस्तेमाल योग्य सामानों को मूल्य देने से समाजों को रिसाएकलिंग में भाग लेने के लिए प्रोत्साहन मिलता है। नई कंटेनर डिपोजिट प्रणाली फीजी के पहले अनुभवों पर आधारित होगी। इससे उत्पाद बनाने और बेचने वाली कंपनियों से लेकर उन्हें खरीदने और उपयोग करने वाले लोगों तक सभी की ज़िम्मेदारी बढ़ेगी।

प्रशान्त क्षेत्र में, ये प्रयास ब्लू पैसिफिक कोटिन्टनेंट के लिए 2050 रणनीति के अनुरूप हैं, जो देशों को महासागर की रक्षा और विकास को बढ़ावा देने के लिए मिलकर काम करने के लिए प्रोत्साहित करती है। प्रधान मंत्री सितिवेनी रम्बूका ने कहा कि वातावरण की देखभाल फीजी के व्यापक “शान्ति का महासागर” दृष्टिकोण का भी हिस्सा है, जो प्रशान्त क्षेत्र को शान्ति, सहयोग तथा एक समान लाभों के स्थान के रूप में बढ़ावा देता है। वाका फोरम को वातावरण मंत्रालय और सूवा सिटी काउन्सिल का समर्थन प्राप्त है ताकि सामाजिक कार्रवाई को राष्ट्रीय नीति से जोड़ा जा सके।

स्वर्गीय रातू इपेली का होगा राजकीय अंतिम संस्कार

रोनल देव

मंत्रीमण्डल ने स्वीकृति दी है कि फीजी, भूतपूर्व राष्ट्रपति तथा संसदीय स्पीकर स्वर्गीय रातू इपेली नइलातिकाउ के जीवन और सेवाओं को राजकीय सम्मान के साथ, उनको अंतिम

विदाई देगा। स्वर्गीय रातू इपेली ने अपना जीवन राष्ट्र की सेवा में समर्पित किया और कई महत्वपूर्ण पदों पर रहे - रोयल फीजी सैनिक बलों के कोमान्डर से लेकर यूनाइटेड किंगडम में फीजी के उच्चायुक्त, एक सरकारी

मंत्री, प्रशान्त क्षेत्र के लिए यू एन एड्स के सद्भावना राजदूत और रजिमेंट के कर्नल तक। फीजी के प्रति उनके नेतृत्व, सेवा और प्रतिबद्धता ने एक अमिट विरासत छोड़ी है जिसे आने वाली पीढ़ियाँ याद रखेंगी। रक्षा और वेटरन अफेयस का मंत्रालय

अंतिम संस्कार की व्यवस्थाओं की अगुवाई करेगा और प्रमुख हितधारकों और वनुआ के साथ मिलकर एक उचित राष्ट्रीय विदाई सुनिश्चित करेगा। रातू इपेली का देहान्त गुरुवार 2026 को हुआ।



किसानों की कड़ी मेहनत के लिए उन्हें प्रधान मंत्री द्वारा सम्मानित किया गया



प्रधान मंत्री सितिवेनी रम्बूका ने किसानों की कड़ी मेहनत के लिए उनकी सराहना की और कृषि क्षेत्र के विकास के लिए व्यवसायों और सरकार के संयुक्त सहयोग के महत्व पर भी प्रकाश डाला। उन्होंने नान्दी में ब्रिटिश अमेरिकन टोबैको फीजी स्टार फार्मर अवोड्स समारोह में भाषण दिया, जहाँ किसानों को उनकी उपलब्धियों के लिए सम्मानित किया गया। प्रधान मंत्री ने कहा कि फीजी के लिए कृषि बहुत महत्वपूर्ण है क्योंकि यह कई लोगों को भोजन, रोजगार और आमदनी प्रदान करती है। उनके अनुसार सरकार इस क्षेत्र को विकसित करना चाहती है और इसे मजबूत, अधिक आधुनिक और मौसम में हो रहे बदलाव जैसी चुनौतियों का सामना करने में सक्षम बनाना चाहती है।



जलमार्ग की सुरक्षा के लिए लगाए गए ट्रैशबूम

वातावरण और जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्री माननीय लिंगा तम्बुईया का कहना है कि हमारे वातावरण की रक्षा की शुरुआत हमारे रोजमर्रा के फैसलों से होती है। मंत्री ने सूवा में दो नए ट्रैशबूम का विमोचन करते हुए यह बयान दिया। इस कार्य के लिए जापान सरकार तथा संयुक्त राष्ट्र वातावरण कार्यक्रम ने आर्थिक सहायता दी है। ये ट्रैशबूम नकासी में और सूवा में होलिडय इन और ग्रेड पैसिफिक होटल के बीच लगाए गए हैं। नम्बुकालु कीक के अलावा कई अन्य ट्रैशबूम ने प्लास्टिक की बोतलों और पैकेजिंग से लेकर डायपर, खिलौने, इलेक्ट्रॉनिक कचरा और अन्य घरेलू कचरे तक भारी मात्रा में अन्य पदार्थ इकट्ठा किए हैं। ये सामान ऐसे ही हमारे नदी नालों में नहीं पाए जाते हैं बल्कि कुछ गैर-जिम्मेदार लोगों द्वारा इन्हें फेंके जाते हैं।



प्रधान मंत्री ने फीजी के पहले सरकारी संचार सम्मेलन का उद्घाटन किया

फीजी सरकार ने आम जनता से संवाद करने के तरीके में एक महत्वपूर्ण मोड़ लिया जब प्रधान मंत्री माननीय सितिवेनी रम्बूका ने पहली बार आयोजित फीजी सरकारी संचार सम्मेलन का उद्घाटन किया। इस कार्यक्रम का उद्देश्य है सरकार द्वारा जनता से जुड़ने और संवाद करने के तरीके को बेहतर बनाना। सूचना मंत्रालय द्वारा युनाइटेड किंगडम सरकारी संचार सेवा के सहयोग से आयोजित इस एक दिवसीय सम्मेलन में सरकारी मिडिया अधिकारी और संचार दल विचारों का आदान-प्रदान करने, एक दूसरे से सीखने और जनता की भागीदारी बढ़ाने के लिए एकत्रित हुए। कार्यक्रम में बोलते हुए प्रधानमंत्री ने सरकार की सफलता के लिए स्पष्ट संचार के महत्व पर प्रकाश डाला। उन्होंने कहा कि यदि जनता को यह समझ नहीं आता कि सरकार क्या कर रही है, और क्यों, तो सरकार अपना काम ठीक से नहीं कर सकती। जब जनता को जानकारी होती है, तो उनके सरकार पर भरोसा करने और राष्ट्रीय विकास में भाग लेने की सम्भावना अधिक होती है। उन्होंने यह भी कहा कि आज की तेजी से बदलती दुनिया में, जनता का विश्वास बनाए रखना अधिक चुनौतिपूर्ण होता जा रहा है। हर जगह की सरकारें स्पष्ट और सटीक रूप से संवाद करने के लगातार दबाव में हैं, खासकर इसलिए क्योंकि गलत सूचना जनता के विश्वास और समझ को प्रभावित कर सकती है।



तादिरूआ में महिला अगुवाई वाली सहकारी समिति का उद्घाटन हुआ

तादिरूआ, सूवा में स्थित महिला अगुवाई वाली सहकारी समिति ने शुक्रवार सप्ताईस मार्च 2026 को अपने नए कार्यालय और गोदाम के उद्घाटन के साथ एक महत्वपूर्ण उपलब्धि हासिल की है। इस कार्यक्रम की अगुवाई सहकारिता निदेशक और रजिस्टार, इयोसेफो कोरोइदिमुरी ने किया। विक्टोरियस पीपल मल्टी-पुर्पस कोर्पोरेटिव लिमिटेड की शुरुआत सितंबर 2025 में मात्र दस सदस्यों के साथ हुई थी। केवल छः महीनों में ही यह सात समूहों में पचपन तक बढ़ गई है, और इसका मुख्य कार्यालय अब तादिरूआ में स्थित है। सहकारी समिति आर्थिक रूप से भी अच्छा प्रदर्शन कर रही है, जिसकी संपत्ति 106,000 फीजियन डॉलर से अधिक है। इसमें सदस्यों के हिस्से, बचत और कर्ज शामिल है जिनसे पहले ही तैतीस सदस्यों को सहायता मिल चुकी है। विकास जारी रखने के लिए, सहकारी समिति लोजिस्टिक और रिटेल क्षेत्र में विस्तार कर रही है। इसने पहले ही एक गाड़ी और शिपिंग कंटेनर खरीद लिए हैं, और सदस्यों को अपना सामान बेचने में मदद करने के लिए इस साल जून में उत्पाद विक्री व्यवसाय शुरू करने की योजना बना रही है। यह प्रगति सहकारी संस्था के लम्बे समय की योजना 2031 लक्ष्यों का हिस्सा है, जिसका उद्देश्य है सदस्यों को अधिक आमदनी अर्जित करने और स्थायी आजीविका बनाने में मदद करना।



फियूल की कीमतों में वृद्धि के कारण

पेट्रोल और प्रीमिक्स की कीमतों में वृद्धि हुई क्योंकि फियूल की अंतरराष्ट्रीय कीमत में लगभग 41.6 प्रतिशत की वृद्धि हुई। अमेरिकी डोलर भी थोड़ा मजबूत हुआ जिससे आयात महंगा हो गया। हालांकि शिपिंग लागत में लगभग 6.7 प्रतिशत की कमी आई जिससे वृद्धि को कुछ हद तक कम करने में मदद मिली। वैश्विक फियूल कीमतों में वृद्धि के कारण केरोसीन की कीमत में लगभग 59.8 प्रतिशत और डीज़ल की कीमत में 56.2 प्रतिशत की वृद्धि हुई।



अप्रैल 2026 के लिए फियूल के नए दाम



फियूल

पहला शेडूल

विति लेवू द्वीप पर कोई भी इलाका जो सार्वजनिक रास्ते से तीन किलोमीटर के दायरे में पड़ता हो

PRODUCTS	Current Price (Until 31/03/26)	New Approved Price (Effective 01/04/2026)	Price Change (\$)
Motor Spirit	\$2.44 (VIP)	\$2.93 (VIP)	\$0.49 ↑
Premix	\$2.28 (VIP)	\$2.76 (VIP)	\$0.48 ↑
Kerosene*	\$1.69 (VAT exempt)	\$2.40 (VAT exempt)	\$0.71 ↑
Diesel	\$2.14 (VIP)	\$2.89 (VIP)	\$0.75 ↑

दूसरा शेडूल

विति लेवू द्वीप पर कोई भी इलाका जो सार्वजनिक रास्ते से तीन किलोमीटर से बाहर पड़ता हो

PRODUCTS	Current Price (Until 31/03/26)	New Approved Price (Effective 01/04/2026)	Price Change (\$)
Motor Spirit	\$2.49 (VIP)	\$2.98 (VIP)	\$0.49 ↑
Premix	\$2.37 (VIP)	\$2.86 (VIP)	\$0.49 ↑
Kerosene*	\$1.76 (VAT exempt)	\$2.48 (VAT exempt)	\$0.72 ↑
Diesel	\$2.19 (VIP)	\$2.93 (VIP)	\$0.74 ↑

तीसरा शेडूल

वनुआ लेवू द्वीप पर कोई भी इलाका जो सार्वजनिक रास्ते से तीन किलोमीटर के दायरे में पड़ता हो

PRODUCTS	Current Price (Until 31/03/26)	New Approved Price (Effective 01/04/2026)	Price Change (\$)
Motor Spirit	\$2.47 (VIP)	\$2.96 (VIP)	\$0.49 ↑
Premix	\$2.41 (VIP)	\$2.90 (VIP)	\$0.49 ↑
Kerosene*	\$1.75 (VAT exempt)	\$2.47 (VAT exempt)	\$0.72 ↑
Diesel	\$2.17 (VIP)	\$2.92 (VIP)	\$0.75 ↑

चौथा शेडूल

वनुआ लेवू द्वीप पर कोई भी इलाका जो सार्वजनिक रास्ते से तीन किलोमीटर के दायरे में पड़ता हो

PRODUCTS	Current Price (Until 31/03/26)	New Approved Price (Effective 01/04/2026)	Price Change (\$)
Motor Spirit	\$2.51 (VIP)	\$3.00 (VIP)	\$0.49 ↑
Premix	\$2.45 (VIP)	\$2.93 (VIP)	\$0.48 ↑
Kerosene*	\$1.78 (VAT exempt)	\$2.50 (VAT exempt)	\$0.72 ↑
Diesel	\$2.21 (VIP)	\$2.95 (VIP)	\$0.74 ↑

पाँचवा शेडूल

फीजी का कोई भी इलाका जो शेडूल एक, दो, तीन, चार और छः में शामिल न हो

PRODUCTS	Current Price (Until 31/03/26)	New Approved Price (Effective 01/04/2026)	Price Change (\$)
Motor Spirit	\$2.80 (VIP)	\$3.29 (VIP)	\$0.49 ↑
Premix	\$2.69 (VIP)	\$3.18 (VIP)	\$0.49 ↑
Kerosene*	\$2.24 (VAT exempt)	\$2.96 (VAT exempt)	\$0.72 ↑
Diesel	\$2.49 (VIP)	\$3.24 (VIP)	\$0.75 ↑

छटा शेडूल

रोतुमा द्वीप का कोई भी इलाका जो तीन किलोमीटर के दायरे में पड़ता हो

PRODUCTS	Current Price (Until 31/03/26)	New Approved Price (Effective 01/04/2026)	Price Change (\$)
Motor Spirit	\$2.97 (VIP)	\$3.49 (VIP)	\$0.52 ↑
Premix	\$2.86 (VIP)	\$3.37 (VIP)	\$0.51 ↑
Kerosene*	\$2.38 (VAT exempt)	\$3.14 (VAT exempt)	\$0.76 ↑
Diesel	\$2.65 (VIP)	\$3.43 (VIP)	\$0.78 ↑

ध्यान रखें: केरोसीन के दाम पर कोई वेट या रईट लागू नहीं है

=

कोई बदलाव नहीं

↓

दाम नीचे गया

↑

दाम उपर गया

Sunday April 5, 2026

7

ऑनलाईन सुरक्षा को बेहतर बनाने के लिए नई योजना बनाई गई है



प्रधानमंत्री माननीय सितिवेनी रम्बूका, ऑनलाईन सुरक्षा की नई योजना का उद्घाटन करते हुए
चित्र: प्रदान किया गया

रोनल देव

फीजी ने देश को खासकर ऑन लाईन सुरक्षा को बेहतर बनाने के लिए एक नई योजना शुरू की है। प्रधान मंत्री माननीय सितिवेनी रम्बूका ने इस योजना का उद्घाटन करते हुए कहा कि यह योजना सरकार पर भरोसा बढ़ाने और अगुवाई में सुधार लाने में सहायक होगी। इस योजना का उद्देश्य है:

- ऑनलाइन प्रणालियों को सुरक्षित रखना
- संचार और साइबर सुरक्षा में सुधार करना
- अपराध और नशीली दवाओं से लड़ना
- सीमा सुरक्षा को मजबूत करना
- समाजों के साथ मिलकर काम करना
- समुदायों के साथ मिलकर काम करना
- पुलिस सेवाओं को उन्नत करना

• महत्वपूर्ण प्रणालियों और डेटा की सुरक्षा करना

साइबर सुरक्षा रणनीति, बैंकों और सरकारी सेवाओं जैसी चीजों को साइबर हमलों से बचाने में मदद करेगी। नई वेबसाइट लोगों को साइबर सुरक्षा के बारे में जानने, समस्याओं की रिपोर्ट करने और नई जानकारी प्राप्त करने में मदद करेगी। फीजी को ओस्ट्रेलिया, जापान, ब्रिटेन और अमेरिका जैसे देशों से भी समर्थन मिल रहा है। सरकार का कहना है कि इसमें सभी, समाज, व्यवसाय और व्यक्ति की भूमिका है। कुल मिलाकर, लक्ष्य है फीजी को अधिक सुरक्षित बनाना और भविष्य के लिए बेहतर ढंग से तैयार करना।

फीजी के भविष्य के लिए पर्यटन और विमानन महत्वपूर्ण है



उप प्रधान मंत्री तथा टूरिज़्म मंत्री माननीय विलियामे गवोका चित्र: प्रदान किया गया

शीलता सिंह

उप प्रधान मंत्री और टूरिज़्म मंत्री माननीय विलियामे गवोका ने संसद में सरकार की योजनाओं के बारे में जानकारी दी, जो टूरिज़्म और विमान क्षेत्र को मजबूत बनाने पर केंद्रित हैं।

उन्होंने बताया कि मंत्रालय टूरिज़्म विकास के लिए पाँच मुख्य बातों पर काम कर रहे हैं- पहुँच, रहने की व्यवस्था, आकर्षण, सुविधाएँ और लोग। इसका मतलब है कि यातायात, होटल, टूरिज़्म स्थल, सेवाओं और स्थानीय समुदाय की भागीदारी को बेहतर बनाया जाएगा।

एक महत्वपूर्ण पहल ना-बुआलिकु टूरिज़्म विकास कार्यक्रम है, जिसे विश्व बैंक

का समर्थन मिला है। इसका उद्देश्य है वानुआ लेवु में टूरिज़्म को बढ़ावा देना, जिसके तहत हवाई अड्डों का सुधार, बेहतर बुनियादी ढांचा और स्थानीय व्यवसायों के लिए नए अवसर बनाना। लम्बासा हवाई अड्डा का नया रनवे यात्रा को आसान बनाएगा और भागीदारों को आकर्षित करेगा।

गावोका ने यह भी बताया कि सरकार लाउ सहित समुद्री और ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में टूरिज़्म का विस्तार करेगी, साथ ही यह सुनिश्चित करेगी कि विकास टिकाऊ हो और स्थानीय समुदायों को लाभ मिले।

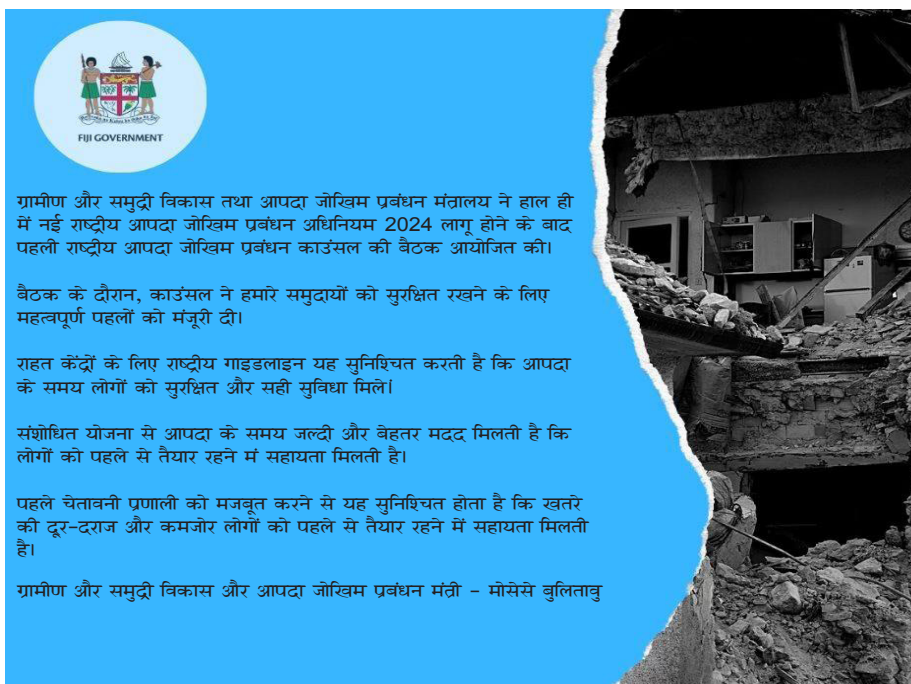
उन्होंने कहा कि फीजी का टूरिज़्म और विमान क्षेत्र के द्वारा लोगों की आजीविका बेहतर होगी।

फीजी में आपदा प्रतिक्रिया और मजबूत होगी

सरकार नई राष्ट्रीय योजनाओं के माध्यम से फीजी में आपदाओं से निपटने की तैयारी को मजबूत कर रही है, ताकि समुदायों की बेहतर सुरक्षा हो सके। संसद में, ग्रामीण और समुद्री विकास तथा आपदा जोखिम प्रबंधन मंत्री माननीय मोसेसे बुलितावु ने नए राष्ट्रीय आपदा

जोखिम प्रबंधन विधायन 2024 के तहत हुई पहली बैठक के मुख्य परिणामों की जानकारी दी।

इन पहलों से आपदाओं के लिए बेहतर तैयारी हो सकेगी, तेज़ी से प्रतिक्रिया मिलेगी और लोगों की सुरक्षा सुनिश्चित होगी।



फीजी में हेचआईवी

एक बढ़ता हुआ संकट

नवीनतम आंकड़े:

2,003 नए मामले, 2025 में

↑ 2024 में 1583 से बढ़े

जाच दर: 226 प्रति 1,00,000 लोग
(2019 में 13 प्रति 1,00,000 से बढ़कर)

महिलाओं और परिवारों पर बढ़ता प्रभाव:

गर्भवती महिलाओं में हेचआईवी:

3.1%

देशभर में

3.7% सीडक्लूपम अस्पताल में 2025 में ↑

2023 में 0.34% से बढ़कर 2024 में 1.82%, फिर 2025 में 3.7% हो गया।

समाज में हेचआईवी फैल रहा है

वच्चे भी अब जोखिम में हैं

↑ तुरंत कदम उठाने की जरूरत है

फ़ीजी दर्पण



फ़ीजी सरकार का रेडियो कार्यक्रम

नवराष्ट्र

फ़ीक्वन्सी

105.0FM सूवा, नान्दी, लोताका, तावुआ, लम्बासा

104.8FM सिंगालोका, वा

105.4FM राकीराकी

6.30PM

मंगलवार गुरुवार शुक्रवार रविवार





फायनेन्स मंत्री माननीय एस्रोम इमेनुअल, मंत्रालय के पेमनन्ट सकेटरी श्री गाउन्डर तथा अन्य अधिकारी बजट पर परामर्श के दौरान चित्र: प्रदान किया गया

राष्ट्रीय बजट पर परामर्श

रोनल देव

फायनेन्स मंत्रालय ने आने वाले राष्ट्रीय बजट के लिए आम जनता से परामर्श लेना शुरू कर दिया है।

इस परामर्श ने लोगों को अवसर प्रदान किया है कि वे आर्थिक प्राथमिकताओं, चुनौतियों तथा सुविधाओं पर अपना विचार दें। पिछले दिनों, फ़ीजी कोमेस एन्ड एम्प्लोयस फ़ेडरईशन, फ़ीजी चेम्बा ओफ कोमेस, असोसिएशन ओफ बेन्क्स, टेक्सटाईल क्लोदिंग एन्ड फ़ुटवयर काउन्सल, इंशुरन्स कम्पनियाँ तथा ब्रिटिश अमेरिकन टोबईको ने परामर्श में हिस्सा लिया।

इस मंच ने पारदर्शी फैसला लेने के प्रति सरकार की प्रतिबद्धता को उजागर किया, जिसमें प्रतिभागियों ने प्रमुख राष्ट्रीय प्राथमिकताओं पर खुली चर्चा की। चर्चा किए गए विषयों में कला और संस्कृति के लिए लगातार निधि की ज़रूरत, स्वास्थ्य सेवाओं को मजबूत करना और ज़िम्मेदार तथा टिकाऊ बजट तैयार करना शामिल थे। परामर्श में भाग लेने वालों ने यातायात, एच.आई.वी और नशीली दवाओं से संबंधित चुनौतियों के प्रति राष्ट्रीय प्रतिक्रिया और फ़ायल की कीमतों में अस्थिरता के कारण परिवारों और व्यवसायों पर पड़ने वाले असर के बारे में भी चिन्ता व्यक्त की।

सरकारी प्रतिनिधियों ने प्रतिक्रियाओं का स्वागत किया और संतुलित तथा दूरदर्शी नीतिगत उपायों के माध्यम से इन विषयों को हल करने के प्रति अपनी प्रतिबद्धता की पुष्टि की। यह महत्वपूर्ण चर्चा आने वाले दिनों में एक मजबूत और अधिक उत्तरदायी राष्ट्रीय बजट तैयार करने में सीधे तौर पर सहायक होगी, जिससे यह सुनिश्चित होगा कि देश की विकास प्राथमिकताओं में जनता की आवाज़ें भी शामिल हों। मंत्रालय इस बात पर ध्यान दे रहा है कि फ़ीजी के विकास और प्रगति को समर्थन देने वाले बजट को आकार देने में सभी

क्षेत्रों की आवाज़ों पर विचार किया जाए। राष्ट्रीय बजट पर अगला परामर्श, मंगलवार सात अप्रैल को शाम पाँच बजे से लेकर रात सात बजे तक, नमोसी प्रोविन्शल काउन्सल होल नावुआ में होगा। बुद्धवार आठ अप्रैल को शाम पाँच बजे से रात सात बजे तक नान्दी सिविक सेन्टर नान्दी में, गुरुवार नौ अप्रैल को शाम पाँच बजे से रात सात बजे तक बा सिविक सेन्टर बा में और आखरी परामर्श शाम तीन बजे से पाँच बजे तक लम्बासा कोलज लम्बासा में होगा।