

**54/2017 Hon. Viliame Gavoka to ask the Minister for Industry, Trade, Tourism, Land and Mineral Resources – Can the Minister provide an indication if the public area at Natadola can have its own facilities, especially the conveniences for day trippers, including those from Cruise Liners, as opposed to them using the facilities of the two resorts at Natadola Beach.**

I wish to thank you for your question.

The Ministry has been working with the relevant agencies and stakeholders to address the issue of public facilities in Natadola. This, however, is especially required during peak season when the resort properties are not able to cater for additional visitors.

In this regard, a consortium has been formed between the Ministry of Lands, Tourism operators, Fiji Police Force and the community in the area to look at the construction of a community police post, public utilities, as well as bure facilities that will enable local communities to engage in income generating activities. The communities utilizing the facilities will work with the neighboring tourism operators to maintain these facilities.

My Ministry has always encouraged stakeholder collaboration that would assist Government's efforts in developing our grass-root communities. I have been assured by my team at the Department of Lands that this application has been received and they are undergoing the necessary procedures to process this application.

Thank you.