

HON. Dr. Mahendra Reddy Minister for Agriculture and Waterways & Environment

Ministerial Response to Parliamentary Questions

Written Question 62/2020: Can the Minister inform Parliament on the current status of drainage work being carried out by the Ministry in the following areas –

- a) Lomary schools;
- b) Sigasiganilaca;
- c) Galoa Village;
- d) Nakoba Settlement;
- e) Draunikula Village; and
- f) Naboutini Village.
- 1. I thank the Hon. Mikaele Leawere for his question. The Department of Waterways at Ministry of Waterways and Environment (MoWE) carries out drainage works as requested from the individuals, Community, Tikina's, Provincial Offices, or Commissioner's Office after scoping and surveying the area for requested assistance.
- 2. The drainage works carried out by MoWE entails the following:
 - i. De-silting of existing drains
 - ii. Excavation of new drains
 - iii. De-silting of creeks
 - iv. Manual formation of Drains
 - v. Construction of Crossing
 - vi. Boulder Protection

- 3. Drainage issues along Galoa, Culanuku, and Naboutini village were raised to Hon. Minister, during the Ministerial tour. Following the above, the technical team from MoWE HQ and Central Division Office was mobilized for scoping drainage activity that needs to be carried out in the above locations.
- 4. MoWE has carried out the following works at above 3 sites;

Locality	Desilting of Existing Drain(Lm)	Excavation of New Drain (Lm)	Manual formation of drain (Lm)	Construction of Crossing (No)
Galoa	2,000	200	400	-
Culanuku	3,000	500		2 no of -900mm x 2.44m
Naboutini	6,000	300	400	2 no of 450 x 2.44m

5. Nakoba settlement

The Ministry is carrying out **River Bank Protection at Nakoba village**. This work has been 100% completed. Works executed included the following;

- i. Site clearing
- ii. Placing of 800mm-1000mm boulders and installing pine post as toe protection.
- iii. Diversion of river flow.

The riverbank protection works is being carried out by the Central Division Technical and construction team.

Nakoba settlement is a flood-prone area, and the current inhabitant of the settlement has built a house on floodplain without any improvement to land to alleviate. The Ministry has established that the Nakoba sub-division plan has been rejected by relevant authorities due to the exact reason of it being flood-prone. However, despite this people have settled in the area willingly knowing it is flood-prone. Despite this, the Ministry has listed Nakoba settlement as one of the hot-spot areas requiring urgent drainage with drainage works planned.

6. Drainage works have been carried out **Lomary School** and adjacent areas in past drainage maintenance and will be carried out as routine maintenance work in the future. For the other areas mentioned by the Hon. Member; **Sigasiganilaca and Draunikula**, we have scoped the area, and drainage works will be implemented soon.

7. The Ministry of Waterways and Environment is keen to assist everyone equally. All requests received are been scooped to identify the real issue affecting the nearby's and proper works are suggested to minimize impacts.

Thank you....