

APPENDICES

Appendix 1

Written Evidence

Ministry of Lands and Mineral Resources



PARLIAMENT STANDING COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

MINISTRY OF LANDS AND MINERAL RESOURCES ANNUAL REPORT: 2016
- 2017

“CLARIFICATION OF ISSUES”

26/01/2021

QUESTIONS

1. Reference to page 3 of the annual report:
 - a) Can the Ministry provide names of the twenty eight (28) villages that were identified for relocation, what is the progress to date?

*As part of the ministry's contribution towards the Post TC Winston rehabilitation activity, a team was tasked to carry out the relocation assessment survey (**Refer to Annexure 1**). Although there were 28 villages identified, the team had assessed and identified more than 28 villages that were to be relocated as the result of TC Winston.*

The assessment involved identification of landslide and landslide prone areas, rock falls and slope failures, coastal erosion along the access roads and village coastlines. Land issues were required to be resolved before the final sites were confirmed. Also, the team had to ensure that the relocated sites did not fall along the geological fault lines (that ran through village boundaries).

All these assessment reports were compiled and submitted to either the respective offices; namely Commissioner/Roko/Provincial.

List is tabulated below:

No.	Name of Island	Village (s)
1.	<u>Kor o</u>	1) Nabasovi 2) Tavua 3) Navaga 4) Kade 5) Mucu 6) Nakodu 7) Namacu 8) Sinuvaca 9) Naqaidamu 10) Nasau 11) Nacamaki 12) Nabuna
2.	<u>Vanua Levu</u>	13) Nacekoro 14) Naweni 15) Nukubalavu
3.	<u>Batik i</u>	16) Naigani
4.	<u>Moturik i</u>	17) Uluibau 18) Daku 19) Yanuca
5.	<u>R a</u>	20) Nabukadrau

6.	<u>Ovalau</u>	21) Tokou 22) Natokalau 23) Vuma 24) Toki 25) Vatukalo 26) Nauouo 27) Arovudi 28) Taviya 29) Rukuruku
7.	<u>Tailevu</u>	30) Qoma 31) Qelekuro 32) Dakuinuku 33) Nasinu 34) Driti 35) Silana
8.	<u>Vanua Balavu</u>	36) Narocivo 37) Namalata 38) Susui 39) Dakuilomaloma 40) Sawana 41) Levukana 42) Boitaci 43) Muamua 44) Daliconi 45) Avea 46) Mualevu 47) Lomaloma

b) Can the Ministry give a brief detail of the “on-line lease registration”?

- **On-Line Lease Registration** – The Register of Titles office is responsible for the on-line registration of leases. Our team can only follow up on-line on the state land leases.
- **On-line lease applications** – Application forms and checklist for ‘type of lease applied for’ are available on the ministry website. Also available is the relevant state land advertisement for reference purposes.

The ministry has yet to develop the online services.

2. Reference to page 12 of the annual report, heading “Challenges” – Can the Ministry brief the committee on the reasons for the lack of Registered Surveyors - is it still a challenge? What is the Surveyor Registration Board doing to increase the number of surveyors?

The lack of registered surveyors in government resulted in the high number of resignation of young surveyors to operate their own private firm and also the retirement of ageing surveyors.

The last surveyors to be registered by the Board was in 2012.

The Ministry together with the Surveyors Registration Board is working on enhancing collaboration with corporate entities, private surveying company to address the shortage of surveyors. Also, it provide incentives to young graduates vying for registration.

As the result of the above initiative, there were 9 new Registered Surveyors from 2017 – 2020:

- 2017 – 3;
- 2018 – 1;
- 2019 – 4; and
- 2020 – 1

It is anticipated that 2 surveyors are to be registered in 2021.

Further, the ministry will ensure two or more graduates will get registered every financial year by the Surveyors Registration Board.

The Surveyors' Registration Board has approved 24 graduates to carry out their projects for their registration.

The total Registered Surveyors in Fiji as of January 2021 is 42. Twenty seven (27) of these are above the age of 55 years (equivalent to 64%); while fifteen (15) are below the age of 55 (equivalent to 36%).

Only five (5) from the 42 Registered Surveyors are working in government (equivalent to 12%); while thirty-seven (37) are working in the private sector (equivalent to 88%).

3. Reference to page 31 of the annual report, point number 5 under the Highlight subheading, Can the Ministry brief the Committee on the location of the accident and the outcome of the investigation? Was the conveyance of the hazardous material was in compliance with the Dangerous Goods Act?

Cyanide Spill Accident at Wailotua, Wainibuka along the Kings Highway.

MY Transport Company had been transporting cyanide to Vatukoula Gold Mine Limited. The Mineral Resources Department (MRD) was advised by VGML on the accident that the truck loaded with container of cyanide chemical veered off the road and ended in the creek.

The team managed to contact all emergency centres including NFA, Police, Ministry of Health, WAF, OHS (Ministry of Labour), ORICA Company regarding the incident.

All stakeholders were at the sight to assist the Department in removing the container with caution as the team are all aware of the environment and health impact of cyanide in the environment especially the creek.

The MRD team with WAF conducted water sampling on hourly basis to determine traces of cyanide spill in the water system. Tests were also conducted using the cyanide spill kit which was carried out for 1 week in that area where the accident happened; and also at the Wainibuka downstream (about 10km) from the accident site.

The team managed to remove the container without any cyanide spill in the system, and had also monitored the site for 2 days, after the incident occurred to confirm that no cyanide trace in the river system.

An update was provided to the media by the then Permanent Secretary on March 1, 2016 (**Refer to Annexure 2**).

4. Fiji being the champion for Climate Change, the committee wish to share its concern on the continuation of reclaiming foreshores. Can the Ministry explain how these reclamation of mangrove growth areas are being approved?

The Foreshore process include the following:

- Stage 1 - Consultation & Consent from Fishing Rights
- Stage 2 - Acceptance and Vetting of Application
- Stage 3 – Environment Impact Assessment(EIA) & Fisheries Impact Assessment(FIA) Survey Consultation
- Stage 4 - Referral to Mangrove Management Technical Committee and Review of Report
- Stage 5 - Compensation Payment & Public Advertisement
- Stage 6 - Lease Preparation/execution and registration of lease/license
- Stage 7 - Monitoring, Evaluation & Reporting

* The above process is quite thorough and a lengthy exercise. However, this is done to ensure that all related and affected parties and stakeholders are being adequately consulted and fairly compensated. The Foreshore unit is also responsible in the monitoring of these foreshore development and rehabilitation activities and programs.

5. Can the Ministry explain the following:

- a) What is the annual rent fee?

Annual rent is the rent charged annually on a lease document which is payable two times a year (31st January & 31st July). Rent reassessments vary according to the different classes of lease issued. Some are reassessed every 5, 10, 15 and 25 years respectively. These assessed rentals are calculated by the government registered valuers

b) Why the 2016 Rent Arrears not shown in the report?

It was an oversight that the 2016 rent arrears was not reflected in the report. A summary of the 2016 rent arrears is attached (Refer to Annexure 3).

c) How much fell into arrears? What was the ratio of Arrears for the year to Annual Rent? *Based on the existing CLLS system record in 2016, there were approximately a total of 16,333 leases.*

From the 16,333 leases, 7,322 leases were in arrears at the beginning of 2016

(44.8%). These 7,322 leases comprises a total of \$14,161,016.61 of rental arrears.

Lease Rental Arrears by Division:

Division	Amount of Rental Arrears
Central Eastern	\$5,157,509.96
Western	\$990,684.60
Northern	\$8,012,822.05
Total	\$14,161,016.61

6. Has the 2 Qualified Opinions by the Auditor General been resolved? Please elaborate more?

Both qualified opinion have been resolved.

Qualified Opinion 1



The Ministry has strengthened its internal processes through daily verification and reconciliation of revenue received together with Cash Analysis against the Crown Land Lease



The variance was due to:

- i. The expired leases not updated to the CLLS for those agencies that make one-off payments for large listings of lessees such as Fiji Sugar Corporation (FSC), Post Fiji and Housing Authority. Payment was received in bulk from FSC but upon updating this payment to the individual account (Oracle System) it shows that their lease has been expired.*
- ii. The inconsistency in the timeframe for processing of renewal of leases.*



The Way Forward in addressing the issue was to activate expired leases accounts in CLLS for the purpose of receipting and deactivate them at the end of the process.

Qualified Opinion 2



The issue was concerning Revolving Fund Allocation (RFA) . The Ministry has strictly adhered to the appropriate procedures in the issuance and clearance of Accountable Advance.

- In regards to the Expenditure – The Ministry has ensured that all expenditures incurred are cleared within the same financial year
- All payments are facilitated through Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT) and monitored through monthly reconciliation.

7. How is the Ministry addressing the Sustainable Development Goals, SDG's?

No.	Sustainable Development Goal	Ministry Contribution	How they Are Addressed
1)	Goal 6: Clean water and Sanitation	Groundwater Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Groundwater development for 2016/2017 focused mainly Viti Levu and Vanua Levu. This was due to the unavailability of consistent shipping services to the targeted small maritime islands hindering timely transportation of equipment, assessment and drilling works. • There were a total of 35 site assessments and investigations conducted in 2016/2017, with an additional 77 reconnaissance site surveys undertaken. • On borehole drilling, a total of 31 boreholes were drilled and developed out of the annual target of 25. From the 31 boreholes drilled, 19 (61%) boreholes were successful. • A total of 12 reticulation works were conducted in 2016 /2017 which benefitted more than 200 households. • The groundwater project progress implementation for 2016/2017 continues to show growing interest by the general public in groundwater as a source for water supply. This is one of Government's initiatives to develop and empower the rural communities to have clean and safe water supply. • The Department continues to survey and investigate potential groundwater sites in order to increase production and access to sustainable clean and safe drinking water. • The Department will continue to drill more boreholes and linked to standard reticulation systems and supplied to households.
2)	Goal 13: Climate Action	Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The periodic monitoring of the illegal river gravel extraction around the two main islands Viti Levu and Vanualevu. • The formulation of the draft River Gravel Extraction Guideline and quarry approval process • The ministry took a lead role in the monitoring of an accident site involving a truck transporting the chemical cyanide, the monitoring of rehabilitation during the year, Nawailevu Bauxite Mine and Nasauoko Manganese Mine. • Also the strengthening of inter-agency collaborations through forums and joint-inspections between Department of Environment, iTLTB and Ministry of Lands and Mineral Resources.

3)	Goal 11: Sustainable cities and communities	Housing	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Contribution</th> <th>Division</th> <th>Location/Total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td rowspan="3">Regularization of informal settlements</td> <td rowspan="3">Central Eastern (4)</td> <td>• Tokotoko DSS 2053 (Navua)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Salumi DSS 2070 (Kinoya)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Wainadoi DSS 2073 (Navua)</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Western (5)</td> <td>• Field 40 • Natabua Tramline Squatters • Tavola Squatters (Near Ba H/Centre) • Kulukulu • Volivoli Settlement (Rakiraki ra)</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Northern (4)</td> <td>• Valebasoga Stage 2 & 3 • Boca Stage 1 & 2 • Dreketi • Naveria</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Issuance of Approval Notice</td> <td>Central Eastern</td> <td>89 ANs were issued (Kinoya, Tokotoko, Wainivedio, Naulu, Vakacegu and Naitata)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Contribution	Division	Location/Total	Regularization of informal settlements	Central Eastern (4)	• Tokotoko DSS 2053 (Navua)	• Salumi DSS 2070 (Kinoya)	• Wainadoi DSS 2073 (Navua)		Western (5)	• Field 40 • Natabua Tramline Squatters • Tavola Squatters (Near Ba H/Centre) • Kulukulu • Volivoli Settlement (Rakiraki ra)		Northern (4)	• Valebasoga Stage 2 & 3 • Boca Stage 1 & 2 • Dreketi • Naveria	Issuance of Approval Notice	Central Eastern	89 ANs were issued (Kinoya, Tokotoko, Wainivedio, Naulu, Vakacegu and Naitata)
			Contribution	Division	Location/Total															
			Regularization of informal settlements	Central Eastern (4)	• Tokotoko DSS 2053 (Navua)															
					• Salumi DSS 2070 (Kinoya)															
• Wainadoi DSS 2073 (Navua)																				
	Western (5)	• Field 40 • Natabua Tramline Squatters • Tavola Squatters (Near Ba H/Centre) • Kulukulu • Volivoli Settlement (Rakiraki ra)																		
	Northern (4)	• Valebasoga Stage 2 & 3 • Boca Stage 1 & 2 • Dreketi • Naveria																		
Issuance of Approval Notice	Central Eastern	89 ANs were issued (Kinoya, Tokotoko, Wainivedio, Naulu, Vakacegu and Naitata)																		
4)	Goal 15: Life on land	Food Security	<u>Issuance of Renewal of Agricultural Leases</u> A total of 66 lessees in the Western Division received their registered agricultural lease documents																	
5)	Goal 5: Gender Equality	Gender	Refer to question 11																	

8. Can the Ministry provide the committee on the strategies implemented as way forward in terms of tackling the challenges stated from August 2016 – July 2017?

No.	Challenges	Way Forward
1.	<i>Improper execution of the Annual Work Programmes (AWP) for the Capital Project.</i>	<i>Annual Work Plans (AWPs) to be followed stringently, and considerations for ad-hoc work to be incorporated.</i>
2.	<i>No proper Feasibility Study conducted for particular projects which led to delay in work.</i>	<i>Feasibility studies are done strictly prior to Budget Submissions.</i>
3.	<i>Poor coordination with Procurement team on procurement processes for Capital works.</i>	<i>Training on procurement processes to be attended by responsible/appropriate officers.</i>
4.	<i>Lack of monitoring of budget utilisation for ministry projects.</i>	<i>Familiarisation of budget allocation and utilization. Assign team leaders to monitor budget on monthly basis and report to Divisional Heads.</i>

5.	<i>Shortage of Registered Surveyors</i>	<i>Strengthen capacity building so that individuals are encouraged to pursue surveyors' registration in order to perform land survey functions effectively and efficiently.</i>
6.	<i>Irregular meeting of external authoritative bodies to endorse capital purchases.</i>	<i>Management intervention and involvement in order to push for stagnant procedures.</i>
7.	<i>Delay in the Purchasing of the Acquisition of Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV).</i>	<i>Proper coordination with the Ministry Procurement unit on one-off purchases.</i>
8.	<i>Lack of proper market research.</i>	<i>Proper market research to be conducted prior to budget submissions and proper planning.</i>
9.	<i>Renewal of iTaukei Lease did not meet target for the financial year due to stringent external factors.</i>	<i>Higher authority intervention to be sought or explored.</i>
10.	<i>Misunderstanding by the public on the roles and responsibilities of the Division.</i>	<i>Ministry to hold radio talk back shows and road-shows to engage the public in disseminating correct and factual information in regards to the role of the ministry and the processes involved.</i>
11.	<i>Staff Turnover - A total of six (6) staffs resigned for greener pastures and side transfers.</i>	<i>The Corporate Services Division (CSD) to have a retention plan in order to secure the staffs currently employed at the Division.</i>
12.	<i>Staff retention.</i>	<i>The CSD to develop a Retention Policy for scarce technical officers.</i>
13.	<i>Staff in need of training in appropriate fields of work, which are scarce locally.</i>	<i>Adamant researches to be made by the Division in close consultation with CSD Training Unit on the Training needs of the Division.</i>
14.	<i>Low turnout of landowners at the consultation/awareness meetings.</i>	<i>To explore other forms of disseminating information to the landowners through radio stations and the local dailies.</i>
15.	<i>The low turn-out of stakeholders during consultation.</i>	<i>Working together in close collaboration with stakeholders.</i>
16.	<i>Exploration companies not adhering to village laws "Code of Conduct"</i>	<i>During Consultation process, the exploration companies must be thoroughly briefed on "village by-laws".</i>
17.	<i>Delay in processing of applications.</i>	<i>Adherence to the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs).</i>
18.	<i>Delay in applications sent to other government departments.</i>	<i>SOP to be reviewed and realistic timelines to be amended where applicable for the benefit of both workers and clients</i>

19.	<i>Landowner issues and delay in response from other government agencies in regards to application processing.</i>	<i>Higher authority intervention for applications that are with other govt. agencies, as it delays the whole process and production line. In many cases, the ministry has to bear the blame.</i>
20.	<i>Lack of operational vehicles delays teams' movement that need to meet request and vehicle are limited to 4wd tracks only. Teams are often tracking for hours before the actual mapping can commence or any other assessment</i>	<i>Liaise with Manager Finance on the possibility of acquiring more appropriate vehicles.</i>
21.	<i>Limited resources such as field laptops, as more than one team can be out on field duties concurrently.</i>	<i>Submissions to be made on the procurement of more field laptops in order to carry out work more effectively and efficiently.</i>
22.	<i>Managing and monitoring of the environment through enforcement of environmental laws.</i>	<i>On-going monitoring of rehabilitation sites. Re-strategizing to adopt a more efficient system of data gathering and interpretation. Also, the review of work processes and policy directives to be adopted.</i>
23.	<i>Lack of monitoring and notification given to the companies of any breaches to the related Acts and conditions set out for these operations.</i>	<i>Strengthen the unit's role in the EIA process through conducting EIA reviews to identify and record impacts on the environment and communities.</i>
24.	<i>Monitoring expenses and safety eg equipment costs and access to remote areas.</i>	<i>Provision of emergency funding considering the different seasons and weather changes</i>
25.	<i>Delays from other approving authorities.</i>	<i>Consistent follow-up to be done and higher authority intervention to be sought where necessary.</i>
26.	<i>Delays in submissions for the formulating of Cabinet Paper.</i>	<i>Divisional Heads to be reminded to take responsibility of their outputs under Output 1. Higher intervention especially in obtaining comments from other government ministries.</i>
27.	<i>Ad-hoc work being carried out which leads to some major outputs not achieved.</i>	<i>Inclusion of ad-hoc activities while planning for the operational budget in the annual work plan (AWP). At times, instructions from higher authority must be prioritized.</i>
28.	<i>Low return of the lease arrears collection, as some clients not adamant on paying arrears.</i>	<i>Incentives to be given to those who wish to make payments eg 'Waiver of Interest'.</i>

9. Can the Ministry quantify the number of expired agricultural leases around Fiji and how many leases were renewed from August 2016 – July 2017?

Expired Agriculture Leases	
District	Total
North	121
West	977
Central Eastern	113
TOTAL	1,211

Renewed Agriculture Leases	
District	Total
North	21
West	74
Central Eastern	4
TOTAL	99

10. How many rating valuations were carried out by the Ministry for municipalities during the operational year, August 2016 – July 2017?
- *Nadi Town valuation was undertaken which included 2,722 properties.*
 - *Various letters were also written to Suva, Lami, Nasinu, Levuka, Ba, Tavua, Rakiraki and Savusavu Town Council and Ministry of Local Government and to undertake valuation of their municipalities, however Councils proceeded on their valuation in 2020.*
11. Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 5 empowers women and girls “Gender Equality” – how is the Ministry committing to SDG 5 in terms of all its operations? Please provide a brief summary of the ratio of women in the workforce.
- *2016 – Out of the 62 vacancies advertised 14 vacancies were filled by women.*
 - *2017 – Out of the 96 vacancies advertised 34 vacancies were filled by women.*
12. Reference to page 32 – Challenges - How effective is the enforcement of the Environment Laws within the Environment Division of the Ministry in regards to company breaches and the costing of such exercise?
- Environment monitoring is conducted when complaints are received. It is carried out on a monthly basis for mines, quarries, tenement together with other operations within the ministry. There is a need to strengthen the monitoring role of the division with the support of the Department of Environment through joint inspection.*

In 2019, the Ministry of Lands and Mineral Resources managed to create positions and recruit officers for River Gravel Monitoring which are deployed to the divisions. Their role is basically monitoring of illegal extraction, breaches in EIA approval and license conditions. It's a 1 year project post with budget allocated for this positions. This was the outcome of the UNDP project on Neglected Development Mineral for monitoring of illegal river gravel and sand extraction in Fiji.

Awaiting confirmation from the Ministry of Environment on the gazetting of Environment Inspectors for the ministry since the establishment of the ministry's Environment Division.

13. Reference to page 38, key output 2, The Ministry resolved 37 complaints, how many complaints was received by the Ministry?

- *Total received – 46*
- *Total Resolved – 37*
- *Total Pending – 9*

Complaints are registered as and when received either by the responsible unit or by the divisional offices after which the process of handling complaints begins.

14. Reference to page 38:

- a) Under the heading Policy, Planning (Land) & Quality Assurance Division, Can the Ministry brief the committee on the state land arrears collected for Project Saumia?

The Project Saumia focuses on the collection of state land lease rental arrears.

In the 2016/2017 financial year, a total of \$13,570,432.52 was collected. The total target was \$15m, hence 90.4% was achieved.

The project comprises 2 project officers who identified, verified and travelled to the field to visit the lessees as per annual work plan. These project officers were also assisted by the established staffs in the Quality Assurance unit.

During field deployments, lessees are being reminded and informed on their role and responsibilities to fulfil the lease conditions. Deployment and monthly reports are prepared and submitted to Management for their update.

A significant challenge faced during the collection was the impact of TC Winston in early 2016. Most lessees had financial difficulties in paying their lease rental including the arrears.

- b) Furthermore, can the Ministry provide state land arrears for the whole of Fiji? There is a difference of figures in highlights and key outputs on harmonized lands, a figure of 1,611 and 1,494, please clarify?

The annual target for the harmonisation team in 2016 was 1,500. The team actually harmonised 1,611 leases during the 2016/2017 financial year (achievement of 107.4% as mentioned on p.38).

Out of the 1,611 leases that were harmonized, the team managed to update a total of 1,494 leases in the state land database.

The balance of 117 leases required further verification and deliberation from either the lessees, divisional offices and/or external parties such as Registrar of Titles or the court.

15. Reference to page 41 under the heading key performance areas - General Administration – Can the ministry give an update on the number of missing files during August 2016 to July 2017?

Missing files normally occur due to staff negligence where files have been moved by staff without any marking in the oracle or system or evidence of dispatch in the manual dispatch book.

There is no actual record of number of files missing, nevertheless, perceived missing files are usually circulated via emails to all staffs as and when a missing file occurs, for which staffs with the files would then inform the email sender.

16. Can the Ministry explain the delay in the review of visitor charges for Nukulau?

The Ministry intends to submit a review of the fees upon the completion of works towards upgrading Nukulau Island facilities. The island currently receives an Annual Budget of \$15,000, which is used generally for island maintenance.

MLMR SMB DISMAC MEETING



Meeting Minutes		
Purpose of the Meeting:	DISMAC Updates and Ministry's assistance to disaster recovery	
Time	Date	Venue
12.00pm	Sunday 06 th March, 2016	HQ, Conference Rm
Attendees:	Malakai Finau (MF), Apete Soro (AS), Raijeli Taga (RT), Raymond Mohammed (RM), Rigieta Ravuiwasa (RR), Jonati Railala (JR), Akata Takala (AT), Jale Kunawalu (JK), Timoci Samisoni (TS), Nicholas Narayan (NN)	
Apologies:	William Singh (WS), Tonga Karutake (TK), Taraivini Ratumudu (TR), Kaake Teke (KT), Thomas Fesau (TF)	
Chaired by:	Mr. Malakai Finau - PSLMR	

Agenda:

1. Welcome
2. Update from DISMAC Office
3. Ministry's Response to DISMAC requests
4. Action Items
5. Schedule next follow-up meeting

Discussion Points:

1. Welcome

- 1.1 The Chairperson (MF) welcomed everyone to this urgent DISMAC meeting called on short notice
- 1.2 He further reminded the team that we are still in the state of emergency and need to be prepared physically, emotionally and spiritually to any call from his office.

2. Update from DISMAC Office

- 2.1 Daily meetings are still held on weekends as well and all representatives to these meetings need to attend. Our rep (PSLMR) has been attending these meetings which could be held twice in a day. There will be another meeting at 3.00pm this afternoon.
- 2.2 DISMAC has requested for the Ministry's assistance particularly the Mineral Resources Department in some of the processes involved in Public Service Delivery.

3. Ministry's Response to DISMAC requests

- 3.1 The urgent need to rebuild some of our critical infrastructures such as roads and jetty's has

- created huge need in the accusation and access to rock and gravel resources. Fiji Road Authority has requested our assistance in the processing of application for quarry and rock resources to be quickened.
- 3.2 PSLMR has asked the team to look into how these processing times could be worked around so that all required aggregates for new approvals and delivery of services is done in a timely manner. He suggested looking at existing sites that could be used for these services.
 - 3.3 There is also need to look at necessary permits and assessments for Blasting, Explosives, Mining and Quarrying.
 - 3.4 This need is urgently required for Koro and Vanuabalavu Island. PSLMR has requested for two (2) teams from MRD to be deployed as soon as possible to carry out assessment on these Islands. There will need to be a representative from Mines, Geological Survey, Geological Services and Environment for the EIA to be part of these teams.
 - 3.5 The teams will need to carry out assessment on gravel and rock resources and also identify potential new sites for relocation since most villages has been damaged and washed away. This will also be the opportunity to survey current sites for boreholes in Vanuabalavu which hasn't been done for quite a while.
 - 3.6 Approval for Quarries – Due to the state of emergency and urgency in getting these approvals done, PSLMR has suggested if the Ministry to take over the whole process and maybe Department of Environment to delegate some powers in terms of the EIA or more so the EIA process be waived and have reps to be present on sites to make assessment and approve to quicken the process.
 - 3.7 The teams will also need to calculate any royalty and these rates will need to be taken from TLTB and Lands. These royalties will contribute well to the rehabilitation and provide some source of revenue for these affected villages.
 - 3.8 Geospatial Division will be providing maps as and when requested during this period.
 - 3.9 Fiji Electricity Authority has requested the Ministry for assistance in restoring all the broken and damaged power poles in Ba, Tavua and Rakiraki. JR to confirm whether there is any rig available to dig holes for these power poles.
 - 3.10 For any services rendered we will need to charge fees especially for FEA, FRA, Maps from Mapshop etc. Quotations to be provided.
 - 3.11 One team is already in Taveuni as mentioned by RR and PSLMR has asked if they could assess the existing boreholes, rock resources and quarry sites while they are still there.
 - 3.12 PSLMR has advised that each Ministry will need to fund their own expenses and Manager Finance has confirmed that the travel vote and subsistence allocation can be used.
 - 3.13 Since there was no representative from Lands Department and absence of A/DL for consultation, PSLMR will advise later on what sort of assistance can be provided especially on the state lease:
 - Whether there is need for teams to go and inspect state leases and assess on damaged properties and infrastructures on the ground;
 - Waiver of lease rentals for specific period, etc.
 - 3.14 PSLMR again reminded everyone to be ready for any call that will come on short notice since this is abnormal time and we are in the state of emergency. We need to be alert and prepared. He has also suggested for a "Dry Operation" this week (no grog).
 - 3.15 The meeting was closed at 1.15pm.

4. Action Items

- 4.1 MRD to finalize by Monday 07th March the two teams that will go to Koro and Vanuabalavu. These teams will need to be mobilized by Wednesday 09th March.
- 4.2 RT and RM to look into the requirement's that can be waived for Environment EIA and Quarries respectively.
- 4.3 JR to confirm on the availability of the RIG which can be used to assist FEA drill holes for the Power poles.
- 4.4 AT to clarify on the active State Leases in the Western Division. Total leases and leases on affected zones.
- 4.5 Any other information's that needs to be prepared and ready for PSLMR should be made available to him in advance due to the urgency and sudden requests from DISMAC Office and PM's Office.

5. Next Meeting

Date:	Time:	Venue:
Monday 07 th March, 2016	12.00pm	HQ, Conference Rm

Minute By:	Signature:	Date:
Nicholas Narayan	<i>nicholas</i>	06 th March, 2016

- (e) all government resources in a district shall come under the disposition of the District Officer;
- (f) all agencies and persons in a district shall be subordinate to the District Officer.

Immunity from Liability

- 24.** A person performing a role or discharging a responsibility in accordance with the National Disaster Management Plan, Agency Support Plan or any regulations which apply during an emergency situation shall not be liable for an injury or loss sustained by any other person, unless such loss or injury is caused by or arises from negligence or willful default.

Part 5 - SPECIAL POWERS DURING DECLARATION OF NATURAL DISASTER

Minister Responsible to Inform Cabinet of Necessary Action

- 25.** (1) If a natural disaster is declared under Part 4, the Council through the Minister responsible will inform Cabinet of any action which may be necessary including the making of regulations for -
- (a) the evacuation of people in their own interests, or in order to facilitate the necessary operations of the police or military personnel;
 - (b) the temporary acquisition or control of any property, undertaking or land;
 - (c) the entering and search of any premises;
 - (d) the supply and distribution of essential relief supplies, medical assistance, shelter and other resources;
 - (e) the maintenance of the means of transportation by land, sea or air and the control of the transport of persons and resources;
 - (f) the payment of compensation and remuneration to persons affected by government action or under special powers;
 - (g) directing the movements of persons by land, seas or air in the interests of safety;
 - (h) prohibiting the unjustified exploitation of a disaster for profit.
- (2) Regulations under this section may prescribe penalties for contravention not exceeding \$2,000 and 12 months imprisonment.

Power to Direct Government Agencies During An Emergency Situation

- 26.** (1) The National Disaster Controller is responsible for controlling and co-ordinating the activities of government agencies and the allocation of available resources from government as he considers necessary for responding to an emergency situation.

- (2) The National Disaster Controller may direct any government agencies to do or refrain from doing any act or to exercise or to refrain from exercising any function during an emergency situation.
- (3) If a direction is given to a government agency under subsection (2)
 - (a) the government agency must comply with the direction;
 - (b) the direction prevails over anything to the contrary on any Act or law.

Obstruction An Offence

- 27.**
- (1) It is an offence to obstruct, hinder or in any way interfere with a person engaging on any activity as a member, officer or volunteer of an agency performing a role or discharging a responsibility in accordance with this Act, the National Disaster Management Plan, Agency Support Plans or any regulations made under Section 25.
 - (2) A police officer may arrest without warrant any person whom he has reasonable cause to believe is acting in breach of subsection (1).
 - (3) A person who contravenes subsection (1) commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine of \$1,000 and to imprisonment for 12 months.

Relief Assistance

- 28.**
- (1) The Minister through the National Disaster Controller, National Disaster Co-ordinator, Divisional Commissioners and District Officers shall be responsible for on-going relief and assistance to disaster-stricken communities.
 - (2) The National Disaster Management Office shall provide a plan of action for on-going relief assistance if requested by the Minister and the Council.
 - (3) The Government and recognized Non-Government Organizations shall provide disaster relief assistance during an emergency situation until the community has restored its self-reliance.
 - (4) The distribution of relief supplies shall be undertaken by District Officers in accordance with criteria and guidelines approved by the Minister or by the Council.

Immediate Relief Assistance

- 29.**
- (1) The District Officer shall be responsible for immediate relief assistance to disaster victims at designated evacuation centres in a district.
 - (2) The District Officer shall seek prior approval for distribution of immediate relief assistance from his Divisional Commissioner.



KEEPING FIJIANS CONNECTED

NEWS

No threat to Wainibuka from Sodium Cyanide

JACQUEE SPEIGHT
MARCH 1, 2016 6:48 PM



A ten wheeler truck carrying a hazardous chemical – Sodium Cyanide is still lying in a small waterfall in Tailevu, after it veered off road yesterday.

Permanent Secretary for Lands and Mineral Resources Malakai Finau says there’s nothing to worry about – but villagers in the area are concerned.

Sodium Cyanide is a highly toxic element which can be fatal to humans.

ARTICLE CONTINUES AFTER ADVERTISEMENT



CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF
FIJIAN INDEPENDENCE



At around 6:30 yesterday morning this MY Transport container truck was traveling from Suva to the Vatukoula Gold Mine when veered into a small waterfall near Wainivo settlement.

Rusiate Rakumbalou of Wainivo Settlement was one of the first to arrive at the accident scene.

'It was early morning and we were about to have tea. We heard the truck veer off the road, we came and checked, we thought it was transporting food. It was lucky that there was one truck following from behind. The driver had blood all over his face and the other truck took him to hospital. We were still standing here when we saw the European Boss from Vatukoula Mines, explaining the hazardous effects of the chemical, the fire brigade came and tried to lift the container out last night but the European man said to wait till daylight because if it leaked it could kill everyone around here'.

The waterfall runs into the Wainibuka River which then feeds into the entire Rewa Delta.

Villagers who have little information about what Sodium Cyanide is – are nonetheless worried about a toxic chemical spill.

Anaseini Tirikalou of Wailotua Village 1 is concerned with their current food source.

"you can see that Winston just left us, we are still trying to gather whatever we have left and then we just received word regarding this. We have no food, breadfruit and cassava are all gone and we are relying on the food from the river, rourou, Kai and ota. We really don't know now where we can get our food from'.

Siteri Tolomana of Wainivo Settlement shared the same sentiments.

'the Government workers came and explained that if the chemical leaks from the truck, it will damage our rivers and streams. It will destroy all our water sources. We won't be able to bathe in the waters if that is the case. The same stream is used by all our cattle'.

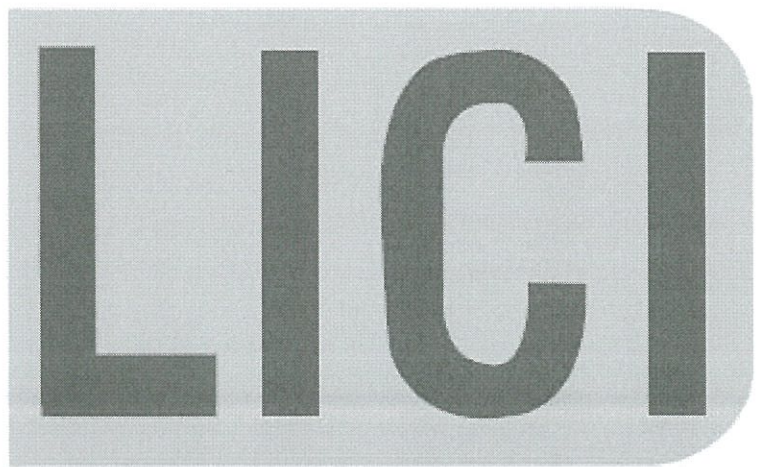
FBC News spoke with Permanent Secretary for Minerals Malakai Finau who says that there is no immediate danger, as the container fell into a creek and not directly into the Wainibuka river.

'The container got damaged on impact because of the incident and thankfully the rescue service of the National Fire Authority was on site last night and they did a very good job in securing the container. It's secured at the moment, the contents of the cyanide are intact and it's not compromised at the moment. The authority also managed to divert the water that's coming from the waterfall, so the area where the container is, it's dry because the big danger is if it comes into contact with water which could cause dissolution and then dissemination into the water bodies'.

Initial tests by technical organisations say there's no evidence that Cyanide has contaminated surrounding waters.

In the meantime until the container has been safely removed, people living along the Wainibuka and Rewa River are to refrain from swimming, fishing, washing or any type of contact with the river.

SPONSORED LINKS



LIFE INSURANCE CORPORATION OF INDIA

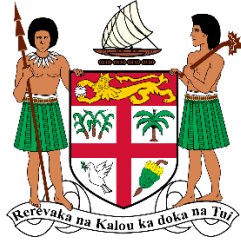
Claim Your Money Today!

Please click here to check and inform us at Claim@licifiji.com.fj to help us settle. **CHECK LIST**

BY LICI

2016 Rent Arrears Summary

Lease Type	No. Of Lease	Arrears Amount
AGRICULTURAL	2043	\$ 4,653,605.41
COMMERCIAL	284	\$ 1,695,659.10
DEVELOPMENT	10	\$ 17,073.18
EDUCATIONAL	49	\$ 29,807.11
FORESHORE	19	\$ 65,360.38
GARDENING	26	\$ 34,461.46
GRAZING	12	\$ 31,053.81
INDUSTRIAL	271	\$ 1,989,896.03
JETTY	3	\$ 25,777.81
PIPE LINES	8	\$ 8,547.14
RECREATION	11	\$ 6,372.10
RELIGIOUS	60	\$ 24,349.85
RESIDENTIAL	4153	\$ 4,618,298.71
RIGHT OF WAY	1	\$ 5.65
SPECIAL	228	\$ 740,610.35
TENN AT WILL	90	\$ 108,417.71
TOURISM	50	\$ 111,615.50
TRAMLINE	4	\$ 105.31
Total		\$14,161,016.61



PARLIAMENT STANDING COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

MINISTRY OF LANDS AND MINERAL RESOURCES ANNUAL REPORT: 2017 -
2018

“CLARIFICATION OF ISSUES”

QUESTIONS

- 1) Reference to page 7 of the annual report please clarify below:
- a) Can the Ministry provide a list of the Buy Back Land Schemes in Fiji and the current status of each in terms of land mass and arrears?

No	LAND NAME	TIKINA	PROVINCE	AREA (Ha)	Arrears
1	DEDEGA	DAWASAMU	TAILEVU	11.5587	\$42,032.84
2	MATAKUNEA	NAVATU	CAKAUDROVE	22.7	\$121,559.60
3	NAMAQUAQUA	SERUA	SERUA	13.9945	\$165,576.67
4	MARAKALULU	NAITASIRI	NAITASIRI	71.6714	\$88,442.50
5	TOVA	NAKOROTUBU	RA	62.3747	\$36,417.37
6	MATASAWALEVU	MACUATA	MACUATA	8.2578	\$165,577
		MACUATA	MACUATA	5.8171	\$66,940
7	VAKABALEA	SERUA	SERUA	38.4932	\$153,900
8	KORODOGO	DOGOTUKI	MACUATA	202.34	\$24,000
9	MATAVATUCOU	SAWAKASA	TAILEVU	48.8633	\$53,100
10	NUKULOVA	SAVUSAVU	CAKAUDROVE	20.2543	\$96,714
11	VUNIVESI	SAWAKASA	TAILEVU	19.628	\$121,183.50
12	NASOQO	NABAITAVO	NAITASIRI	60.705	\$291,273.93
13	MATACADRA	WAINIBUKA	TAILEVU	80.94	\$145,000
Total				667.598	\$1,571,717.08

- b) Can the Ministry identify the 91 provinces under the designated i'Taukei Land?

The list is appended. Provided is the list of the 91 designated land By Province.

- 2) In reference to page 9, under the subheading “New Initiative”, can the Ministry enlighten the committee on the following:

- a) The progress of commercial grazing and the introduction of Australian Holstein cows?
The period 2017-2018 saw the active consultation with the investors where 5,000 plus acres of land in Nadala highlands was identified for big scale commercial beef and dairy farming due to its favourable altitude.

However, the inability of the investor to secure a piece of state land in Ra [RR 36] for their stock pile and operations due to its proximity to Ellington port delayed the timely implementation of this project.

As of to-date, the leasing arrangement has been suspended.

- b) The Natadola biomass Energy solar and windmill farm in Batiri, Natadola through its marketing strategies?

The American Investors operating by the name Infinite Power Company had secured the designated land in Noinatogo for their renewable energy development but was not able to secure and obtain the Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) a significant component of their operation with EFL which drastically affected their ability to set-up operations in Fiji. The company has now rescinded their lease offer and withdrawn operations from Fiji.

- 3) Page 13 – Challenges: What has the Ministry done to avoid high staff turnover under the Geospatial Information Division?

The ministry has taken the following actions to address the high staff turnover:

- i. Encouraged more internship programmes to groom its base grade incumbents and create a larger pool source of employees;*
- ii. Participated in the whole of government Job Evaluation Exercise which saw the increase of salaries for specialised positions. Salaries were benchmarked against market rates; and*
- iii. Actively pursued contract employment for temporary staffs through intensive recruitment exercise.*

- 4) Can the Ministry elaborate on the strategies implemented in encountering the challenges as mentioned across all divisions?

Apart from the suggested way forward mentioned alongside the challenges for the respective divisions, the ministry actively pursue SWOT periodic analysis which is used for planning activities to address challenges faced.

- 5) Page 17: Valuation Division. Can the ministry elaborate on the archaic acts that is still guiding the Valuation division, is there any progress on the review of such acts?

The local government Act is one of the Act that needs to be reviewed in areas that captures the Unimproved Capital Value (UCV). However, this Act is not administrated by the ministry.

The valuation work is also guided by the State Lands Act on the rental clause of 6% of UCV, the State Acquisition of Lands and the professional fees in the Valuer's Fees by Laws – 1986. It is in our view that the 6% UCV needs to be reviewed. There had been proposal for the State Land Act to be reviewed however due to budget constraints, this did not eventuate.

Further, a Terms of Reference (TOR) was prepared for the proposed Land Valuation Act whereby a consultant was identified, however due to budget constraints, this also did not progress.

Through the Land Valuation Act, all the valuation aspect of work will be consolidated with Director of Lands as the controlling authority.

- 6) Reference to page 18: Survey Division. Can the Ministry explain the functions of the CORS stations?

The Continuously Operating Reference Stations (CORS) collects and records (in an automotive manner) the Global Position Satellite (GPS) data at a known location with the specified position.

Relevant users and parties such as Surveyors, Geospatial Developer, Engineers and scientists who collect GPS data through modern equipment such as GPS equipment, are able to access data from the CORS to apply differential correction to improve the precision of their positions.

Such positioning data are used to map out the location of critical infrastructure such as hospital, health centres, bridges, jetty, villages, EFL sub station, schools, evacuation centres to name a few.

Positioning is also critical in disaster preparedness and post disaster rehabilitation.

7) Page 22, Survey Division:

- a) Is the Ministry content with the current arrangement of surveying iTaukei Lands for state leasing?

Yes, the ministry is content with the current arrangement. The acquiring of iTaukei Land to be leased to state follows the iTaukei Land Trust Board (iTLTB) leasing process.

- b) Can the Ministry explain the process of acquiring iTaukei land to be leased to the state?

Upon receiving interest of a subject land from government agencies, relevant applications are made to TLTB. Once TLTB offers the land for leasing, analysis of rental offer, premium and lease conditions are undertaken with necessary negotiations with TLTB.

- c) The process of regularizing informal settlements?

Before any regularization takes place, a socio-economic survey is conducted to record details of the sitting occupants. This includes the confirmation of the number of existing houses. This is done to ensure that no new house is built when surveying is in progress.

After the survey works are completed, a scheme plan is prepared and submitted to the Department of Town and Country Planning (DTCP) for approval.

Once the scheme plan is approved, a second socio-economic survey is carried out to verify and to reconfirm the number of occupant from the previous socio-economic survey.

Only registered occupant from the first socio-economic survey is regularized given that the scheme plan was designed to regularize those sitting occupants.

Any new occupant (that came after the survey was done) will be moved to another (available) settlement.

- 8) **Page 27, Geological Services Division:** Can the Ministry name the borehole sites in each division which were drilled under the year reviewed?

A total of 21 boreholes were drilled within the financial year 2017/2018 as tabulated below:

No.	Division	Province	Location
1)	North	Bua	Nasaisavua villge, Kubulau

2)			Navasua Government Station, Kubula
3)			Navatu village, Kubulau
4)			Ratu Emeri Primary School, Kubulau.
5)			Waililai Settlement, Wainunu
6)			Nautoloulou, Wainunu
7)			Lekutu Government Station, Lekutu
8)		Cakaudrove	Nalovo, Taveuni
9)			Namawa Estate, Savusavu
10)			Maravu Estate, Savusavu
11)			Benau Estate, Savusavu
12)			Wina Estate, Savusavu
13)			Vatudamu Estate, Savusavu
14)		Macuata	Dreka Settlement, Batiri
15)			Nakanacagi Village
16)	Western	Nadroga	St. Peter School 2, Korolevu
17)		Serua	Votua Lailai
18)			Ratu Latianara High School
19)	Central Eastern	Tailevu	Vatani village, Kaba
20)			Tai District School
21)		Lau	Cikobia Is, Vanua balavu

- 9) Can the Ministry brief the committee on the process and timelines involved in renewing land leases?

Briefly listed below is the process involved in the renewing of leases:

1. The lessees are to be notified 6 months prior to expiry of lease on their lease status and if they intent to renew their lease or not;
2. After which, 15-days is given for inspection and preparation of submission to Director Lands (DL) for approval, should the lessee agree to renew their lease. The process will only continue upon DL's consent for renewal;
3. When consent is given by DL, within 5 days, diagrams are prepared, rental assessments are conducted and lease offer are also prepared;
4. The lessee is given up to 1 month to accept the offer
5. Once the offer is accepted, the lease document is given to the lessee who is given 6 months to execute the documents(sign and witnessed by a lawyer) and to return the document;
6. The executed lease documents is submitted to HQ for registration within 3 months
7. Upon receiving the registered lease documents, within 2 days the documents are to be returned to the respective divisions to notify the lessee to pay rental dues (if any) and to collect their lease.

- 10) What are the challenges faced by the Ministry in regards to the backlog of lease application?

Most of the challenges faced by the ministry are beyond its control. Applications are processed accordingly, however delays occur due to the following reasons:

- i. Non acceptance of offer letter by lessee;
- ii. The lessee has deceased and the beneficiaries have difficulty in extracting probate;
- iii. in ability to pay the required fees;

- iv. *Dispute amongst lessee's (cases where there is more than one lessee); and*
- v. *Lessee has migrated without informing the ministry (change in address) or a foreigner.*

In order to overcome these challenges, the staffs would provide advice and organise meetings with lessee or beneficiaries in regards to the various process listed below:

- i. *How a probate can be extracted;*
- ii. *Arrangement of undertaking for cases of rental dues or lending institutions to agree to pay; and*
- iii. *Resolving disputes.*

- 11) Page 29, Geological Services Division: How many early warning systems have been installed and what are their operational status/way forward?

A total of 13 Tsunami Siren have been installed and are in operation in areas from Kinoya to Lami. The seismology section in collaboration with National Disaster Management Office (NDMO) undertake monthly Siren performance Test, public Awareness and the planning for the extension of the Tsunami Siren Network.

Currently, there are 3 seismic station operational and 3 non-operational. The upgrade of the 6 VSAT station is currently in the initial stages of procurement. Timely procurement and installation is critical to avoid non-operational of the seismic network.

- 12) Page 32, Environment Division

- a) What is the relationship or link between the Environment Division under the Ministry of Lands and Mineral Resources and the Ministry of Environment?

The environment division of the ministry is mandated under the Environment Management Act 2005 (EMA) to monitor and also provide advice to the Director of Environment who is the EIA Administrator. Accordingly, the environment division of the ministry not only contributes to the compilation of the EIA report but is also its enforcement arm of the EMA (Part 5).

- b) Can the Ministry explain the process of Environment Impact Assessment and its timeframe in obtaining this assessment reports?

The environment division of the ministry monitors and ensure that all the requirements in the report are met. The environment division carry out random monitoring and the inspection of sites. There are three major parts to the EIA process:

- i. **Screening** : Application for screening of a proposal
 - 1) *Every proponent of a development proposal must apply for screening of the proposal in accordance with these regulations and section 27 of the Act.*

- 2) A proponent who wishes to apply for screening of a proposal must apply to the approving authority on Form 1 in Schedule 1 to these Regulations and pay the prescribed fee.
- ii. **Scoping** : The purpose of scoping of a proposal is to establish the scope of the EIA study on the proposal and to decide the terms of reference (“TORs”)
 - 1) Site inspection - proposed inspection at least 7 days after the noticed is served.
 - 2) Collecting samples (water, soil etc.)
 - 3) Consultation and public participation
 - 4) Scoping meeting
 - 5) Preparation of TOR
 - 6) TOR meetings
 - 7) Compilation of TOR
- iii. **EIA STUDY** - EIA study on a proposal is—
 - 1) To identify and assess the potential environmental and resource management impacts of the proposal;
 - 2) To recommend appropriate methods to eliminate or mitigate those impacts;
 - 3) To enable the proponent to modify the proposal by mitigating potentially significant impacts before an EIA report is produced; and
 - 4) To facilitate the production of an EIA report on the proposal.

The EIA report is to be submitted to the processing authority within 12 months.

- c) Has the Ministry considered reviewing its annual operational plan in view of the current economic climate brought by the pandemic and recent cyclones?

YES, the Ministry is in the process of reviewing its Business plan and work plans through consultation with the Senior Management. This is to assist the unit in facilitating the process for proposed developments approved by the ministry and also in the monitoring of the impact of this development current economic climate brought by the pandemic and recent cyclones. For the environment division it include the following:

- the processing of application for the proposed River Gravel and Sand extraction for road upgrades, construction purpose and other uses such as hard rock quarrying; and
- compliance to EIA monitoring and license in terms of operation for workforce retention and employment to these companies.

- d) Does the Ministry have a one-stop-shop service?

YES, in terms of Environment Assessment and approvals to proposed development within the ministry for example License and EIA/EMP monitoring.

- 13) Challenges and Way Forward has been highlighted in all the divisions under the period being reviewed. How effective is the staff retention policy considering the resignation of fully trained and experienced staff?

The ministry is aligned to the government reform guidelines on Recruitment & Selection, Job Evaluation, Learning & Development Guideline and Performance Management. Listed below are the retention activities that have been actively pursued:

- ✓ increasing salaries for scarce skilled position was part of the Job Evaluation Exercise(JEE);
- ✓ training incentives through the Learning & Development Guideline;
- ✓ contract employment through OMRS; and
- ✓ Performance pay under the PMF.

Generally, the ministry scarce skill professions such as Surveyors, Valuer's, Miners, Geologist are also scarce in the market and whilst government has actively pursued to reform initiatives to retain staffs, the private and lucrative offers outside the ministry are what lures experienced staffs away. However, the ministry continues to operate as others are able to fill in where others have pursued greener pastures.

14) Page 34, Mines Division

- a) Can the Ministry explain any other minerals found in other parts of Fiji apart from bauxite and gold?

There are other minerals found in almost every other part of Fiji but in small quantities. Minerals found in economically viable quantities are classed as Mineral Resources. Listed below are the other high value mineral types and the areas it can be found in Fiji:

- Silver – Vatukoula, Tuvatu
- Iron Magnetite – Ba Delta, Sigatoka District
- Copper – Namosi District, Udu, Mouta Prospect, Wainikoro, Vunivesi, Vatunimakadre Creek, Matailabasa, Coqeloa, Rama Creek
- Lead - Udu, Mouta Prospect, Wainikoro, Vunivesi, Vatunimakadre Creek, Matailabasa, Wainivesi
- Zinc – Udu, Mouta Prospect, Wainikoro, Vunivesi, Vatunimakadre Creek, Matailabasa, Wainivesi
- Manganese – Nausocoko, Nabu, Vunamoli, Koroviko, Votualevu, Sivia Creek, Olo, Tabuquto, Natabuquto

- b) One of the challenges highlighted in the Mines Division is the increasing number of experience staff leaving the Ministry, what are the reasons for their departure?

Some reasons include:

- *The global demand for scarce skill sets possessed by qualified mining professionals;*
- *Lucrative offers for employment and also experience offered by the private sector mainly by mining or exploration companies which the Department could not match in terms of remuneration;*
- *Retirement and other personal reasons; and*
- *The OMRS system did not effectively take into account the experience that some officers had particularly in the field of mining and higher positions within the Mines Division'. The OMRS system required higher qualifications which these officers did not possess but did however possess the relevant experience. Some of these experienced staff were then not considered during the application process due to*

their lack of qualifications which most likely caused them to seek out better opportunities in the private sector.

- c) Can the Ministry provide a list of valid licenses for exploration and mining?
Listed below is the number of valid license & lease given out by the ministry

Viti Levu: Special Prospecting License (SPL)

License Number	Area Name	License Holder	License Expiry Date
SPL1201	Rabulu Gap	Goldbasin Mining (Fiji) PTE Limited	2025-03-21
SPL1296	Yavuna	Lion One Limited	2025-08-23
SPL1344	Balevuto	Goldbasin Mining (Fiji) PTE Limited	2024-10-17
SPL1360	Toge	Goldbasin Mining (Fiji) PTE Limited	2024-10-17
SPL1420	Namosi	Newcrest	2023-08-10
SPL1421	Sawakasa	Asia Pacific Resources Limited	2023-07-23
SPL1425	Tikituru	Thunderstruck Limited	2024-05-30
SPL1452	Block A - Wainivalau	Dome Mines Limited	2022-08-26
SPL1463	Sorokoba	Amex Resources Limited	2022-10-01
SPL1512	Navilawa	Lion One Limited	2024-05-13
SPL1283	Tuvatu	Lion One Limited	2025-08-23
SPL1452	Block B - Wainivalau	Dome Mines Limited	2022-08-26
SPL1442	Malomalo	Oak Mines Limited	2024-11-12
SPL1416	Korokayiu	Thunderstruck Limited	2025-08-23
SPL1495	Kulukulu	Magma Mines Limited	2022-02-10

Kadavu

License Name	Area Name	License Holder	License Expiry Date
SPL1451	Vunisea, Kadavu	Dome Mines Limited	2023-06-24

Special Mining Lease (SML)

License Number	Area Name	License Holder	License Expiry Date
SML54	Tovatova	Vatukoula Gold Mines Limited	2025-03-21
SML55	Tovatova	Vatukoula Gold Mines Limited	2025-03-21
SML56	Tovatova	Vatukoula Gold Mines Limited	2025-03-21
SML58		Asia Pacific Resources Limited	2028-07-23
SML60		Amex Resources Limited	2033-06-11
SML62	Tuvatu	Lion One Limited	2025-01-21

Vanua Levu: Special Prospection License (SPL)

License Number	Area Name	License Holder	License Expiry Date
SPL1424	Nasarowaqa	Aurum Exploration (Fiji) Limited	2021-02-15
SPL1428	Navakasobu	Aurum Exploration (Fiji) Limited	2021-02-15
SPL1430	Seaqqaqa	Aurum Exploration (Fiji) Limited	2021-02-15
SPL1429	Koroina-solo	Aurum Exploration (Fiji) Limited	2021-02-15
SPL1509	Vuya	Aurum Exploration (Fiji) Limited	2020-11-13
SPL1427	Tabia	Aurum Exploration (Fiji) Limited	2021-02-15
SPL1511	Coqeloa	Kalo Exploration Limited	2021-04-10
SPL1464	Cirianiu	Kalo Exploration Limited	2023-07-09
SPL1423	Wainunu	Aurum Exploration (Fiji) Limited	2021-02-15
SPL1510	Kubulau	Aurum Exploration (Fiji) Limited	2020-11-13

Special Mining Lease (SML)

License Number	Area Name	License Holder	License Expiry Date
SML59		Aurum Exploration (Fiji) Limited	2021-05-12
SML61	Naibulu East	Aurum Exploration (Fiji) Limited	2034-01-14

- d) Can the Ministry identify the exploration companies that spent approximately \$18 m in 2017 and 2018?

The exploration companies are as follows:

1. Amex Resources Ltd
2. Asia Pacific Resources Ltd
3. Aurum Exploration (Fiji) Ltd
4. Beta Ltd
5. Dome Mines Ltd
6. Geopacific Ltd
7. Kalo Exploration Ltd
8. Kirrikurra Holdings Pte Ltd
9. Lion One Ltd
10. Magma Mines Ltd
11. Matai Holdings Ltd
12. Michellen Development (Fiji) Pvt Ltd
13. Millennium Mining (Fiji) Ltd
14. Namosi Joint Venture
15. Rainsky Mining Company (Fiji) Ltd
16. Resource Group Advisory (Fiji) Ltd
17. Thunderstruck Ltd
18. Vatukoula Gold Mines Ltd

- 15) Can the Ministry explain why the staff organization chart was not provided for the period under review? (Recommendation):

The Management structure for each division has been listed in the annual report. However, the divisional organisation structure for all divisional staffs can be included in the next compilation of Annual Reports if required by management.

- 16) Page 37, Geoscience Support Services Division

- a) Can the Ministry elaborate on the distribution of the 80% royalty?

The distribution of 80% royalty was part of the newly enacted Fair Share of Mineral Royalties Act which specifies the royalty percentage paid from land under which mineral production was occurring.

The distribution is 80% of royalties received from these mining activities would be paid to the landowning unit whilst the 20% was retained by the state.

The Mineral Resources Department through its Mines Division became the administrator of this Act from May 2018 and was responsible for collecting and distributing the fair share of mineral royalties received.

- b) Can the Ministry further elaborate on the private funded projects for non-mining activities and the procedures to acquire these funds?

The Non Mining Activities are Geotech assessment and Groundwater development such as borehole drilling that are also privately funded.

- c) Can the Ministry explain and provide a list of completed digitized maps?

There are a total of 14 map sheets for Vanualevu and 20 map sheets for Vitilevu on a scale 1:50000. The digitizing work as of FY 2017/2018 is tabulated below:

Sheet Name	Sheet Number	Island Name
<u>Cikobia</u>		<u>Vanua Levu</u>
<u>Rukuruku Bay</u>	3	<u>Vanua Levu</u>
<u>Dreketi</u>	4	<u>Vanua Levu</u>
<u>Nabouwalu</u>	9	<u>Vanua Levu</u>
<u>Wainunu Bay</u>	10	<u>Vanua Levu</u>
<u>Savusavu Bay East</u>	12	<u>Vanua Levu</u>
<u>Tavua</u>	1	<u>Viti Levu</u>
<u>Vaileka</u>	2	<u>Viti Levu</u>
<u>Balevuto</u>	5	<u>Viti Levu</u>
<u>Nadarivatu</u>	6	<u>Viti Levu</u>
<u>Wainibuka</u>	7	<u>Viti Levu</u>
<u>Lodoni</u>	8	<u>Viti Levu</u>
<u>Lomawai & Momi</u>	9	<u>Viti Levu</u>
<u>Keiyasi</u>	11	<u>Viti Levu</u>
<u>Namosi</u>	12	<u>Viti Levu</u>
<u>Vunidawa</u>	13	<u>Viti Levu</u>
<u>Naduruloulou</u>	14	<u>Viti Levu</u>
<u>Sigatoka</u>	16	<u>Viti Levu</u>
<u>Korolevu Bay</u>	17	<u>Viti Levu</u>
<u>Navua River</u>	18	<u>Viti Levu</u>
<u>Mau</u>	19	<u>Viti Levu</u>
<u>Suva</u>	20	<u>Viti Levu</u>

17) Page 42, Policy, Planning and Quality Assurance Division

- a) Can the Ministry confirm the involvement of the Town and Country Planning and the respective Town councils with the relevant stakeholders in the consultation process of the Drafting of the State Land Use Master Plan?

The Department of the Town and Country Planning (DTCP) were included in the consultation process due to their regulatory role under the relevant Act. The DTCP under the Act regulate the land zoning uses of all towns and urban areas in Fiji.

The Sustainable Land Use Planning team of the ministry also consulted municipal councils and key stakeholders such as the Fiji Sugar Corporation (FSC), Ministry of Agriculture and the tourism industry in the compilation of the initial draft of the Sigatoka – Nadi corridor Plan so to have an inclusive state land use planning document while avoiding inconsistency and confusion of its proposed land use planning document.

- b) Can the Ministry explain on the implementation of the concept plan that was conducted for Nadelei Organic Farm and Housing Project?

The Nadelei Housing project was a proposed development for an Integrated Retirement Village Concept. The proposed housing concept was on a 103 acre of agricultural state land which required funding to implement and develop the project

- The Nadelei Organic report was developed as an initiative to diversify agricultural activities and to also address the high rate of absentee sugarcane farmers from within Nadelei farming community.*

- c) There is an error in the percentage calculation of state land being harmonized as shown in the annual report? Can the Ministry clarify?

The target was 2,000 state leases to be harmonised and not 15,000. The team harmonized a total of 2379 with the achievement rate of 118%.

18) Page 54, Audited Financial Report

- a) What was the annual rent and arrears from 1st August 2017 to 31st July 2018?

Rent and Arrears from 01st August 2017 to 31st July 2018 was \$22,222,503.40.

- b) Can the Ministry clarify on the miscellaneous revenue?

Miscellaneous Revenue is defined as other revenue of various types that the Ministry collects from different sources or apart from the main revenue item we usually collect such as Nukulau Permit, ID, Short Courses and Lanyard.

- 19) Can the Ministry update the committee on the rental arrears for year ending, 31st July 2017 – 01st August 2018?

- *The Financial year runs from August 1st, 2017 to July 31st 2018.*
- *The Rental Arrears for the year ending 31st July 2018 was \$22 million (approx.).*

- 20) Can the Ministry provide an update to the committee on the number of registered Valuers available in Fiji?

Fiji has a total of Fifty nine (59) Registered Valuers. A copy of Gazette Notice is attached.

Designated land by province

NO	PROVINCE	MATAQALI	YEAR
1.	BUA	Mat NALUTU	2011
2.		Mat NORO	2011
3.		Mat NAICOBO	2011
4.		Mat NAICOBO	2011
5.		Mat NAITA	2014
6.		Mat NAITA	2014
7.	NADROGA	Mat LEWEINADROGA (Tok BITOBALAVU)	2011
8.		Mat BURENITU	2011
9.		Mat KORONIKULA (Tok SARAVI)	2011
10.		Mat NADRANI [TOK TUBAILOMAWAI]	2012
11.		Mat BITOLEVU	2014
12.		Mat NADOTADRA	2011
13.		Mat NATIVI	2012
14.		Mat NAKOROSAGO	2013
15.		Mat MATAIDREKE	2013
16.		Mat SOVUTA	2014
17.		Mat KOROLEVU	2015
18.		Mat MATALEVU	2017
19.		Mat NAIKASARUA	2017
20.		Mat NAVALEVATU	2017
21.		Mat LUVUKA	2011
22.		Mat YALAMARAWA [TOK NAVUTI]	2011
23.		TOKATOKA LALO	2012
24.		Mat YALAMARAWA [TOK NAQILOVATU]	2012
25.		Mat VUNAMAOLI [TOK VUNAMASEI]	2012
26.		Mat KETEKETE	2012
27.		Mat YAVUSA SIVO	2012
28.		Mat WAYASEWA	2013
29.		Mat NACIRI	2014
30.		Mat NATOGO	2015
31.		Mat NATOGO	2017
32.		Tok NAKULUKORO	2018
33.	KADAVU	Mat NAVUSA	2011
34.		Mat NAVAKAUNU	2011
35.		Mat VUNIVADRA	2011
36.		Mat NATUSARA	2012
37.		Mat QALITAKALA	2012
38.		Mat MUAICAKAU	2017
39.		Mat LOMANIKORO	2017
40.		Mat KOROVOU	2018
41.	REWA	Mat NATODRE	2011
42.		Mat NAKAUSOQO	2012
43.		Mat NABARAMAI	2013
44.		Mat NATODRE	2015

45.		Mat VUNINOKONOKO	2017
46.	TAILEVU	Mat NANIUKALOU	2011
47.		Mat NAIKIAKIA	2011
48.		Mat NABATI	2012
49.		DESC OF MERE MARAMANIVULU	2012
50.		Mat NAVORARA	2013
51.		Mat NAYARAGA	2014
52.		Mat VUNILOLO	2015
53.		Mat NUKUDAMU	2017
54.		Mat VUSAKOLI	2017
55.		CAKAUDROVE	Mat NAKOSO
56.	Mat VOLIVOLI		2012
57.	Mat VOLIVOLI		2014
58.	Mat NAQARANIQOLI		2014
59.	Mat NAKOSO		2014
60.	LOMAIVITI	Mat MATANIVUNUKU	2011
61.		Mat BATILEKA	2012
62.		Mat QALITU	2015
63.		Mat MATANIVANUA	2015
64.	NAITASIRI	Mat NAKOROVATU	2012
65.		Mat NAVORA	2012
66.		Mat NAOCOKAVIKA	2012
67.		Mat NAIRAIRAI	2012
68.		Mat BALEIMOTO	2013
69.		Mat TORA	2013
70.		Mat MATASAU	2013
71.		Mat NAOCOKAVIKA & Yav NADAKUNI	2013
72.		Mat NAVORA	2013
73.		Mat NAVAKASIBI & Mat LEWEIKORO of Yav VERATA	2014
74.		Yav VIWA	2014
75.		Yav NAKORO	2014
76.		Mat NABUKEBUKE	2013
77.		Mat NABUKEBUKE	2017
78.		MACUATA	Mat BUREIWAQA
79.	Mat DEVO		2013
80.	Mat BUREWAQA		2017
81.	Mat NAGASAUDRAU		2017
82.	Mat NASIO		2017
83.	Mat TABUAILAGI		2013
84.	Mat TAUYASA		2013
85.	Mat NOIBULI		2014
86.	Mat RARALEVU		2014
87.	Mat KOROSILA		2017
88.	Mat NATABUIVALU		2017
89.	Mat KETENATUKANI		2017

90.		Mat NALOTAWA	2017
91.		Mat SAVAI	2017

MEMORANDUM

From: The Solicitor-General **Phone:** 330 9866
To: The Permanent Secretary for Lands and Mineral Resources **Date:** 29 January 2021
Subject: Register of Valuers

"CONFIDENTIAL AND LEGALLY PRIVILEGED"

Attention: Ms Irena Nayacalevu

1. We refer to your memorandum received on 25 January 2021 in relation to the publication of the Register of Valuers and our subsequent correspondence on this issue.
2. Please find attached a copy of the Gazette Notice of the Register of Valuers which was published in the Gazette today as Gazette Notice 73 of 2021.
3. Should you require further clarification, please contact the undersigned.

Thank you.



Timaima Vakadewabuka
Principal Legal Officer
for **THE SOLICITOR-GENERAL**

Attachment: GN 73 of 2021: Register of Valuers



GOVERNMENT OF FIJI GAZETTE
PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY OF THE FIJI GOVERNMENT

Vol. 22

FRIDAY, 29th JANUARY 2021

No. 68

VALUERS REGISTRATION ACT 1986

REGISTER OF VALUERS

IN exercise of the powers conferred on me by section 7(2) of the Valuers Registration Act 1986, I hereby publish the names of all registered valuers as at 31 December 2020—

No.	Name	Registration Number	Business Address
1.	Awindra Prasad	9	Sydney, Australia
2.	Mitieli Bulanauca	10	Real Property Worth Suva GPO Box 180, Suva
3.	Silio Koroï Toronibau	12	Northern Property Valuations & Consultant Limited, Labasa
4.	Senitieli Natale	17	S.T n Son Valuation Ltd PO Box 5918, Lautoka
5.	Apolosi Racule Vinau	20	RC Archdiocese of Suva Nicholas House Pratt Street, Suva
6.	Seremaia Deve Turogo	24	Nakula St, Lami
7.	Babu Lal	25	Professional Valuations, Nadi
8.	Kalivati Ratucicivi	28	Independent Valuation Services PO Box 10608, Nabua
9.	Vinod Bala	33	Pacific Valuations Limited 2 Marau Pl Lautoka
10.	Abdul Hassan	43	South Pacific Property Consulting Services Ltd 293 Victoria Parade Suva
11.	Josefa Dulakiverata	50	Property Solutions Limited PO Box 2084 Government Buildings, Suva
12.	Vidya Narayan	54	Vidya Narayan Valuation Office AD Sutaria Bldg, 66 Cumming St Suva
13.	William Ambrose Singh	59	Votua Road, Samabula GPO Box 13730, Suva
14.	Isikeli Cokanasiga Navuda	63	Housing Authority, Suva
15.	Josefa Waqairatu Saronicava	67	Delainavesi, Lami
16.	Ela Mainalulu Manuku	73	Drex Consultants, Nadi
17.	Salaciel Lomaiviti	74	Landprop Valuations, Suva
18.	Paula Daniva Raqekai	75	University of the South Pacific, Suva
19.	Setefano Naqata Rauto	77	Delainavesi, Lami
20.	Joreti Vuaka Dakuwaqa	78	Fiji Embassy Seoul Korea

No.	Name	Registration Number	Business Address
21	Malakai L Nalawa	81	Lower Ragg Avenue Namadi Heights, Suva
22	Ramesh Behari	82	Fairview Valuations 137 Waimanu Rd, Suva
23	Kaake Teke	83	Raiwai, Suva
24	Akesa Cavalevu	84	Trumarket Valuations and Property Consultant Limited, Rakiraki
25	Isoa Vakaciwa Kata	86	Westate Consultants Pillay Naidu & Associates Bldg PO Box 1972, Nadi
26	Tonganibeia Karutake	87	Lands Department, Suva
27	Irena Nayacalevu	89	Lands Department, Suva
28	Taraivini Ratumudu	90	Land Use Division, Suva
29	Opeti Seniyaro	93	Fiji Water Authority, Suva
30	Malvin Anand	94	Lomara Valuations, Suva
31	Farzana Khan	95	Lands Department, Suva
32	Jope Volai	96	Housing Authority, Suva
33	Sanjay S Kirpal	97	Professional Valuations, Suva
34	Filipe Rokovasa	98	Landmark Valuations, Suva
35	Eroni T Rauto	99	iTaukei Land Trust Board, Suva
36	Louzanne Sahib	100	Lomara Valuations, Suva
37	Seremaia Vueti	101	Jerry Valuations, Lautoka
38	Bimal Prasad	103	Hexagon Group of Hotels, Nadi
39	Peni C Korokorovata	104	Market Reflection Valuation, Lautoka
40	Savenaca Ralagi	106	Fiji Road Authority, Suva
41	Peremo Caginivula	107	Landworths PRC, Cakaudrove
42	Josefa Vuniamatana	108	Lands Department, Suva
43	Ema Natadra	109	iTaukei Land Trust Board, Nadi
44	Vaseva Ranadi Loco	110	Jaylan Property Consultants, Nadi
45	Maureen Hazelman	111	Asian Development Bank, Suva
46	Pritt Vandhana Lata	112	Prime Property Valuation, Lautoka
47	Janice Joy Reuben	113	Lands Department, Suva
48	Inosi Tavoli	114	Rakiraki
49	Matt Myers	115	South Pacific Property Advisors
50	Radhikesh Prasad	117	Pacific Valuations, Nadi

No.	Name	Registration Number	Business Address
51	Afatareki McKenzie	118	SP Rolle Valuation 99 Gordon St PO Box 16011, Suva
52	Josaia Waqairatu	119	Labasa
53	Eremodo Muavesi	120	Lomara Valuation, Suva
54	Intaz Faiyaz Hussain	121	Lands Department, Suva
55	Meredani Naboro Tuitubou	122	Lands Department, Labasa
56	Penvel Govind Raj	123	Lands Department, Lautoka
57	Rajiv Raj	124	Home Finance Ltd, Suva
58	Sandeep Narayan	125	SP Rolle Valuation 99 Gordon St PO Box 16011, Suva
59	Marika Kurisese	126	SP Rolle Valuation 99 Gordon St PO Box 16011, Suva

Dated this 25th day of January 2021.

I. NAYACALEVU
Registrar of Valuers

[74]

NOTICE OF WINDING UP ORDER

Company Name : Touchwood Sawmiller Pte Limited
 Company No. : 2019RC000110
 Address : 2 Kings Road, Navua, Fiji
 Court : High Court of Fiji
 Application No. : Companies (Winding Up)
 No. HBE 20 of 2020
 Date of Order : 18 January 2021.
 Name and address : The Office of the Official Receiver
 of liquidator 1st Floor, Suvavou House,
 Victoria Parade, Suva

JACKSON BALE LAWYERS

Barristers & Solicitors
 Suite 2 Level 2
 11 Bureta Street
 Tamavua, Suva
 (T) 4502966 or 4502977
 (F) 3373000
 (E) info@jacksonbale.com

RR 1360

[75]

**NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF LIQUIDATOR/
PROVISIONAL LIQUIDATOR**

Company Name : Touchwood Sawmiller Pte Limited
 Company No. : 2019RC000110
 Address : 2 Kings Road, Navua, Fiji
 Court : High Court of Fiji
 Application No. : Companies (Winding Up)
 No. HBE 20 of 2020
 Date of Order : 18 January 2021
 Name and address : The Office of the Official Receiver
 of liquidator 1st Floor, Suvavou House,
 Victoria Parade, Suva

JACKSON BALE LAWYERS

Barristers & Solicitors
 Suite 2 Level 2
 11 Bureta Street
 Tamavua, Suva
 (T) 4502966 or 4502977
 (F) 3373000
 (E) info@jacksonbale.com

RR 1360

VALUERS REGISTRATION ACT 1986

REGISTER OF VALUERS

In exercise of the powers conferred on me by section 7(2) of the Valuers Registration Act 1986, I hereby publish the names of all registered valuers as at 31 December 2020—

No.	Name	Registration Number	Business Address
1.	Awindra Prasad	9	Sydney, Australia
2.	Mitieli Bulanauca	10	Real Property Worth Suva GPO Box 180, Suva
3.	Silio Koroi Toronibau	12	Northern Property Valuations & Consultant Limited, Labasa
4.	Seniteli Natale	17	S.T n Son Valuation Ltd PO Box 5918, Lautoka
5.	Apolosi Racule Vinau	20	RC Archdiocese of Suva Nicholas House Pratt Street, Suva
6.	Seremaia Deve Turogo	24	Nakula St, Lami
7.	Babu Lal	25	Professional Valuations, Nadi
8.	Kalivati Ratucicivi	28	Independent Valuation Services PO Box 10608, Nabua
9.	Vinod Bala	33	Pacific Valuations Limited 2 Marau Pl Lautoka
10.	Abdul Hassan	43	South Pacific Property Consulting Services Ltd 293 Victoria Parade Suva
11.	Josefa Dulakiverata	50	Property Solutions Limited PO Box 2084 Government Buildings, Suva
12.	Vidya Narayan	54	Vidya Narayan Valuation Office AD Sutaria Bldg, 66 Cumming St Suva
13.	William Ambrose Singh	59	Votua Road, Samabula GPO Box 13730, Suva
14.	Isikeli Cokanasiga Navuda	63	Housing Authority, Suva
15.	Josefa Waqairatu Saronicava	67	Delainavesi, Lami
16.	Ela Mainalulu Manuku	73	Drex Consultants, Nadi
17.	Salacieli Lomaiviti	74	Landprop Valuations, Suva
18.	Paula Daniva Raqekukai	75	University of the South Pacific, Suva
19.	Setefano Naqata Rauto	77	Delainavesi, Lami
20.	Joreti Vuaka Dakuwaqa	78	Fiji Embassy Seoul Korea

No.	Name	Registration Number	Business Address
21	Malakai L Nalawa	81	Lower Ragg Avenue Namadi Heights, Suva
22	Ramesh Behari	82	Fairview Valuations 137 Waimanu Rd, Suva
23	Kaake Teke	83	Raiwai, Suva
24	Akesa Cavalevu	84	Trumarket Valuations and Property Consultant Limited, Rakiraki
25	Isoa Vakaciwa Kata	86	Westate Consultants Pillay Naidu & Associates Bldg PO Box 1972, Nadi
26	Tonganibeia Karutake	87	Lands Department, Suva
27	Irena Nayacalevu	89	Lands Department, Suva
28	Taraivini Ratumudu	90	Land Use Division, Suva
29	Opeti Seniyaro	93	Fiji Water Authority, Suva
30	Malvin Anand	94	Lomara Valuations, Suva
31	Farzana Khan	95	Lands Department, Suva
32	Jope Volai	96	Housing Authority, Suva
33	Sanjay S Kirpal	97	Professional Valuations, Suva
34	Filipe Rokovasa	98	Landmark Valuations, Suva
35	Eroni T Rauto	99	iTaukei Land Trust Board, Suva
36	Louzanne Sahib	100	Lomara Valuations, Suva
37	Seremaia Vueti	101	Jerry Valuations, Lautoka
38	Bimal Prasad	103	Hexagon Group of Hotels, Nadi
39	Peni C Korokorovata	104	Market Reflection Valuation, Lautoka
40	Savenaca Ralagi	106	Fiji Road Authority, Suva
41	Peremo Cagivivula	107	Landworths PRC, Cakaudrove
42	Josefa Vuniamatana	108	Lands Department, Suva
43	Ema Natadra	109	iTaukei Land Trust Board, Nadi
44	Vaseva Ranadi Loco	110	Jaylan Property Consultants, Nadi
45	Maureen Hazelman	111	Asian Development Bank, Suva
46	Pritt Vandhana Lata	112	Prime Property Valuation, Lautoka
47	Janice Joy Reuben	113	Lands Department, Suva
48	Inosi Tavoli	114	Rakiraki
49	Matt Myers	115	South Pacific Property Advisors
50	Radhikesh Prasad	117	Pacific Valuations, Nadi

No.	Name	Registration Number	Business Address
51	Afatareki McKenzie	118	SP Rolle Valuation 99 Gordon St PO Box 16011, Suva
52	Josaia Waqairatu	119	Labasa
53	Eremodo Muavesi	120	Lomara Valuation, Suva
54	Intaz Faiyaz Hussain	121	Lands Department, Suva
55	Meredani Naboro Tuitubou	122	Lands Department, Labasa
56	Penvel Govind Raj	123	Lands Department, Lautoka
57	Rajiv Raj	124	Home Finance Ltd, Suva
58	Sandeep Narayan	125	SP Rolle Valuation 99 Gordon St PO Box 16011, Suva
59	Marika Kurisese	126	SP Rolle Valuation 99 Gordon St PO Box 16011, Suva

Dated this 25th day of January 2021.

I. NAYACALEVU
Registrar of Valuers

[74]

NOTICE OF WINDING UP ORDER

Company Name : Touchwood Sawmiller Pte Limited
 Company No. : 2019RC000110
 Address : 2 Kings Road, Navua, Fiji
 Court : High Court of Fiji
 Application No. : Companies (Winding Up)
 No. HBE 20 of 2020
 Date of Order : 18 January 2021.
 Name and address : The Office of the Official Receiver
 of liquidator 1st Floor, Suvavou House,
 Victoria Parade, Suva

JACKSON BALE LAWYERS

Barristers & Solicitors
 Suite 2 Level 2
 11 Bureta Street
 Tamavua, Suva
 (T) 4502966 or 4502977
 (F) 3373000
 (E) info@jacksonbale.com

RR 1360

[75]

**NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF LIQUIDATOR/
PROVISIONAL LIQUIDATOR**

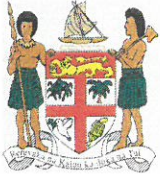
Company Name : Touchwood Sawmiller Pte Limited
 Company No. : 2019RC000110
 Address : 2 Kings Road, Navua, Fiji
 Court : High Court of Fiji
 Application No. : Companies (Winding Up)
 No. HBE 20 of 2020
 Date of Order : 18 January 2021
 Name and address : The Office of the Official Receiver
 of liquidator 1st Floor, Suvavou House,
 Victoria Parade, Suva

JACKSON BALE LAWYERS

Barristers & Solicitors
 Suite 2 Level 2
 11 Bureta Street
 Tamavua, Suva
 (T) 4502966 or 4502977
 (F) 3373000
 (E) info@jacksonbale.com

RR 1360

Appendix 2
Supplementary Response
Ministry of Lands and Mineral Resources



Ministry of Lands & Mineral Resources

Head Office
iTaukei Trust Fund Board Complex
Nasese, Suva
(South Wing Ground Floor & First Floor)

P O Box 2222
Government Buildings, Suva, Fiji
Ph: (679)3313555 Fax: (679) 3239754
Website: www.lands.gov.fj

MEMO

From: The Permanent Secretary for Lands & Mineral Resources

To: The Chairperson - Parliament Standing Committee on Natural Resources

Date: 10.03.2021

RE: **MINISTRY OF LANDS AND MINERAL RESOURCES
RESPONSES TO THE CLARIFICATION OF ISSUES –
2016/2017 and 2017/2018 ANNUAL REPORTS**

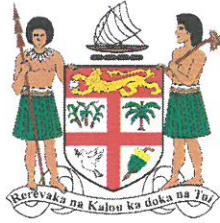
- 1.0 The Ministry of Lands and Mineral Resources has been advised by your high office to provide responses to the above subject that was sent on 03/03/2021.
- 2.0 Accordingly, please find attached is the Ministry responses submitted for your consideration.
- 3.0 We will be glad to provide assistance should you require further clarifications.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rajjeli Taga'.

Rajjeli Taga (Mrs)

Permanent Secretary for Lands and Mineral Resources.



PARLIAMENT STANDING COMMITTEE ON NATURAL
RESOURCES

MINISTRY OF LANDS AND MINERAL RESOURCES ANNUAL REPORT:
2016/2017 and 2017/2018

“CLARIFICATION OF ISSUES”

10/03/2021

MINISTRY OF LANDS AND MINERAL RESOURCES
2016 – 2017 and 2017 – 2018 SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTIONS

Financial Year 2016-2017

Trend of Arrears Ratio

Rather than asking questions every year for arrears and how it is related to Annual Rents (as they will differ and different things happening each year), it would be better to ask or request for trend of arrears ratio to annual rents over the years say 10 years - the trend from 2010 to 2020. The ratio will give us the average increasing or reducing of arrears compared to annual rent. If ratio is reducing then it is okay, but if ratio is increasing then we ask questions why and how to improve for them to explain.

As computerized it will be easy to produce - For each year, total arrears is divided by total annual rents x (multiply) by 100 to get the % of arrears over annual rent for each year - and we can see the trend over 10 years or whatever years back they can give us easily.

They can produce the trend over those years for each major Land Uses (Agriculture, Residential, Commercial, Industrial, Tourism, and Special Leases) and by location/division. These information will give us clearer average indication of arrears status on Crown/State Land.

1. Please produce Trend of Arrears Ratio to Annual Rents for each year over the last 10 years (or whatever year they can easily go back on by computer) by major Land Uses and by Location/Division.

Year	Arrears	Rent Charged	Ratio
2010	\$5,222,155.25	\$4,825,240.22	108.23
2012	\$6,923,012.28	\$5,829,701.90	118.75
2014	\$7,188,820.26	\$6,479,708.81	110.94
2016	\$9,190,985.32	\$6,785,892.39	135.44
2018	\$14,945,662.55	\$8,294,659.15	180.18
2020	\$23,375,176.90	\$10,036,379.29	232.90

**By Land Uses & Division is attached.*

2. Page 60 Note 3:

- a. The trend of existing leases for the last 5 to 10 years

YEAR	No. ACTIVE LEASES
2010	16,023
2012	18,119
2014	17,701
2016	17,402
2018	18,352
2020	18,953

**By Types of Leases is attached.*

b. The trend of annual rent each year for the same period?

Year	Rent Charged
2010	\$4,825,240.22
2012	\$5,829,701.90
2014	\$6,479,708.81
2016	\$6,785,892.39
2018	\$8,294,659.15
2020	\$10,036,379.29

c. The trend of arrears for each year for the same period?

Year	Arrears
2010	\$5,222,155.25
2012	\$6,923,012.28
2014	\$7,188,820.26
2016	\$9,190,985.32
2018	\$14,945,662.55
2020	\$23,375,176.90

d. The trend of arrears/annual rent ratio for the same period?

Year	Ratio (Arrears/annual rent)
2010	108.23
2012	118.75
2014	110.94
2016	135.434
2018	180.18
2020	232.90

*Note: It can be seen that the ratio fluctuates over the two year intervals. The reason for the increase in the ratio include:

- i. Lack of ownership by lessees to pay their ground rent
- ii. Charging of retrospective rent
- iii. Transmission of Schedule 'A' & 'B' lands while there are new leases issued
- iv. Rentals are normally charged twice per annum in a calendar year until to-date, however since 2016 & 2017, the government financial year had changed.
- v. Difference in rental re-assessment years (5, 10, 15 or 25years etc...)
- vi. Financial constraints faced by lessees due to internal and external events
 - a. 2010 – TC Thomas
 - b. 2016 – TC Winston

c. 2020 – COVID 19 Pandemic

- vii. The system normally show rent & arrears as one accumulated figure, while actual arrears must be calculated manually. Further, once rent is due and payment is not made, the amount becomes arrears automatically.

Ways of Improvements:

- i. The ministry is currently working with Office of the Solicitor General on legal avenues to implicate rent defaulters eg. re-entry;
- ii. Currently, the ministry is carrying out file verification after which its land information data is updated in the system so that we may have a more accurate and updated data;
- iii. Reviewed its 2015 SOP; and
- iv. Strengthen its monitoring system.

3. Why has there been very low renewal of leases in 2015/16? What about for 2017/18?

In 2015 & 2016 the renewal of leases may have taken time due to various reasons such as Estate Matters, Breaches of Lease Conditions, probate matters, family disputes and rental arrears to name a few. The renewal of leases under such land dealings and issues takes time and would roll over to another new financial year.

For 2017 & 2018, there were 19 leases whose leases reached its expiry term.

Financial Year 2017 – 2018

1. Can the Ministry advise the outcomes of those drills of bore holes? – Page 4/5 of the MLMR responses.

A total of 21 boreholes were drilled in the financial year 2017/2018. Overall, out of the 21 drilled boreholes 7 was reticulated by the ministry whereby 89 household and a total of 362 people benefited.

Tabulated below is the outcome of the drilling conducted and data on the beneficiaries for the boreholes the ministry conducted reticulation on:

No.	Division	Province	Location	Status / Outcome	Beneficiaries
1)	North	Bua	Nasaisavua villge, Kubulau	Borehole source have been reticulated to the village	Households – 13 Population - 61
2)			Navasua Government Station, Kubula	Borehole source have been reticulated to the station	Household – 4 Population - 15
3)			Navatu village, Kubulau	Borehole source have been reticulated to the village	Households – 36 Population - 64

4)			Ratu Emeri Primary School, Kubulau.	Borehole source have been reticulated to the school	Household – 7 Population - 107
5)			Wailailai Settlement, Wainunu	Borehole source have been reticulated to the settlement	Household – 5 Population - 20
6)			Nautoloulou, Wainunu	Reticualtion work still in progress due to the extension of the reticulation coverage to Wainivesi /Taraqiluqilu and the delays of solar pump installion.	Household – 12 Population - 55
7)			Lekutu Government Station, Lekutu	Borehole source have been reticulated to the station	Household -12 Population - 40
8)		Cakaudrove	Nalovo, Taveuni	Abandoned.	
9)			Namawa Estate, Savusavu	MRD to drill borehole and reticulation will be done by the owner.	
10)			Maravu Estate, Savusavu	MRD to drill borehole and reticulation will be done by the owner.	
11)			Benau Estate, Savusavu	MRD to drill borehole and reticulation will be done by the owner.	
12)			Wina Estate, Savusavu	MRD to drill borehole and reticulation will be done by the owner.	
13)			Vatudamu Estate, Savusavu	Partly Reticulated and awaiting the electric pump from the donor.	
14)		Macuata	Dreka Settlement, Batiri	Borehole source have been reticulated.	Household – 12 Population - 50
15)			Nakanacagi Village	Borehole source have been reticulated to the village	Household – 58 Population - 234
16)	Western	Nadroga	St. Peter School 2, Korolevu	School will in charge to reticulate.	Household – 9 Population 213
17)		Serua	Votua Lailai	For commercial interest	
18)			Ratu Latianara High School	Borehole source have been reticulated to the Secondary/ Primary school.	Household – 26 Population - 817
19)	Central Eastern	Tailevu	Vatani village, Kaba	Borehole source have been reticulated.	Household – 34 Population – 160
20)			Tai District School	Borehole source have been reticulated.	
21)			Lau	Cikobia Is, Vanua balavu	Borehole source have been reticulated to the village.

2. The Ministry has not provided the annual reports from 01st Jan 2014 -31st July 2016.

- Financial Year 2014: the ministry is currently collating the report.
- Financial year 2015: the ministry is finalizing the report and will submit to cabinet/parliament in this financial (2020/2021) year – Fourth Quarter.
- Financial Year 2016/2017: the report has been submitted to cabinet and also presented in parliament.

Process and Timeline involved in the renewal of Land Leases

3. With reference to file reference:

- a) 4/11/389 - why there is non- renewal of lease though the lease had expired in 2015. Please explain?
 - Further clarification on the file reference is required.
- b) 4/1/1620 - lease expired in 2010 and lease renewal application fee paid on 21/10/2011 but the lessee has not received the registered lease. Please explain?

The lease renewal process was put on hold due to an ongoing court case. The Case was sealed on the 15/11/2019 and the order was to subdivide the land and issue a new residential lease to Mohammed Hakim, Abdul Latif and the balance lot to the Estate of Kunjalbi.

The Offer letters were sent to Mohammed Hakim and Abdul Latif. We have yet to issue an offer letter to the Estate of Kunjalbi as we are awaiting the provision (have yet to receive the) of Letter of Administration De Bonis Non for the Estate of Kunjalbi.

4. Leasehold Market Value (LMV) - Can the Ministry explain the reason of imposing LMV though the development cost of subdivision is borne by the lessee?

Lease Market Value (LMV) is a form of penalty that is imposed due to change in values from lower use to higher use as per department policy which is limited to 20% of difference in value (*There is no correlation of development cost to value as these are different commodities*).

By doing so, the lessee is able to sell these lots at open market value gaining much profit. However in the process, the Director of Lands (owner) does not receive any benefit other than lease rentals. Hence, the policy was implemented for government's interest.

5. How does the Ministry confirm ownership of the land before the 80% royalty is distributed?

The ownership of land is confirmed during the exploration stages. Landowners of target area for Mining are identified and clarified through iTaukei Land & Fisheries Commissioning and TLTB.

Before issuance of Mining Lease, TLTB will liaise with the rightful landowning unit to consent on the surface lease. These are the same landowners who will be entitled for the mineral royalty distribution.

Native owned land -The Ministry then will liaised with VKB Unit at Ministry of ITaukei Affairs to verify on the latest VKB records of these landowners before any distribution is done.

For all freehold land, the Ministry will liaise directly with owner(s) of the freehold land.

For all state land, royalty payment is directly paid to the Director of Lands.

Appendix 3
Annual Report Summary
Ministry of Lands and Mineral Resources



Annual Report Summary – Ministry of Lands and Mineral Resources Annual Report for 2016 - 2017 and 2017 - 2018

For the Standing Committee on Natural Resources

	2016 - 2017	2017 - 2018
Vision	Vibrant, Equitable, Dynamic Management of our Land & Minerals for a Sustainable Environment and Economic Future	
Mission	Implementing the established platforms by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vigorously implementing government's reforms and policy initiatives on lands, minerals and groundwater resources; • Provide outstanding administrative and facilitate services to our customers; • Keeping abreast with technological changes and modern approaches to ensure timely and quality services; • Improving revenue collection to assist with government nation building efforts; • Embracing a corporate culture that is based on ethical and moral values; • Moulding team leaders and members to be agents of change; • Developing a sense of societal and environmental responsibility; • Recruiting, developing, motivating, rewarding and retaining capable personnel through good leadership and conducive working environment. 	
Principal Activity	The Ministry of Lands and Mineral Resources is responsible to provide effective administration and management of all state lands that initiate socio-economic development across the country and reflects the needs of the diverse communities it serves. The Ministry has two major departments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Department of Lands and Survey; and • Department of Mineral Resources 	
Achievements/ Major Highlights	<u>Department of Lands & Survey</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Survey Division deals with the Regulation and Checking of all land surveys attended by Registered Surveyors in accordance with the Surveyor Act Cap. 260 and Surveyors Regulation. The three Divisional sectional offices which are located in Central Eastern, Western and Northern divisions are tasked to carry out subdivision and survey of; leased State Land, Native Lands leased to State (Native and 	<u>Department of Lands & Survey</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Land Use Division continues its land administration role of complimenting the operations of the iTaukei Land Trust Board to reform existing land administration processes of availing underutilized iTaukei and State lands for development purposes attaining optimal returns for both, Native Resource owners and the State.



	<p>Freehold), Informal Settlements, Approval Notices and Nukurua Mahogany Survey Lease.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Under the National Geodetic Infrastructure project, the Control Unit aimed to establish 30 standard survey control marks along the Nabouwalu - Daria Road. The team managed to go beyond their target by completing the survey, establishing 38 standard control marks and maintained 24 trig stations. The survey plan has been completely drawn and submitted to Plan Assessment office for approval. ➤ Nakini Boundary Dispute & - MSG Survey - The work was carried out and completed with the redefinition survey plan drawn and verified. ➤ Work carried out by the Divisional Sectional Offices <u>Central Eastern:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Regularization of Informal Settlements - 4 ○ Approval Notice (AN) Issued - 89 ○ I-Taukei Land Lease to State – 8 <u>Western:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Regularization of Informal Settlements – 5 ○ I-Taukei Land Lease to State – 6 <u>North:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Regularization of Informal Settlements – 4 ○ I-Taukei Land Lease to State – 4 <p><i>(full details can be seen on pages 8-12 of the annual report)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Geospatial Division's core responsibility is the managing of geospatial information, whose task is not only to align the division with data captured within the division, but includes all other data that are required for the formulation of a strategic information system 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ There is a total of 107 Designated Land comprising an area of 10003.0119 Ha of land. As of to-date, there are 50 current leases in Land Bank, with a generated income of FJD9, 104,624.68. ➤ An allocated budget of \$2.5 million dollars was assigned to the division for its 2 Capital Projects in Legalega and Yako in Nadi. They are residential subdivision developments piloted by Government under the Land bank Investment programme. Both Capital Projects are set to be completed by the end of 2018/2019, where landowners will receive 100% lease money from the 102 residential lots. ➤ New Initiatives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Commercial Grazing - There had been a secured interest for big scale commercial grazing at the Nadala highlands where 5,000 acres of designated land is now in process for leasing. Following a meeting with the Minister of Agriculture Hon. Mr Inia Seruiratu in March, the subject land has been identified to breed 500 of the best Holstein cows in Australia. The project is of national significance: contributing towards the health of the Fijian people, create employment, socio-economic development but most importantly, save foreign reserves. ○ Marketing of designated Native and State Land available for leasing - The Division leased out 231 acres of designated land to an American company located in Natadola for the purpose of building a biomass Energy solar
--	--	---



	<p>incorporating data from the State Land Administration, the Survey Division, Valuation and from other stakeholders.</p> <p>➤ Achievements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Acquisition of Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV): Purchase of UAV (Drone) - Purchase was completed and item was received ○ Land Use Master Plan - Launching of Vanua GIS ○ Satellite Imagery Data Sharing (17th of February 2017) - the Ministry in collaboration with TLTB signed a Memorandum of Understanding ○ Fiji Public Service Survey Draughting (FPSSD) Programme - Three staff received completion certificate for participating in Fiji Public Service Survey Draughting Programme <p><i>(full details can be seen on pages 13 & 14 of the annual report)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Lands Administration Division is responsible for the administration of all State Land in Fiji in compliance with the provisions of the State Lands Act, Land Transfer Act, Property Law Act, Land Sales Act, Land Acquisition Act, Agricultural Land Tenancy Act, State Land Policies and MLMR Lands Administration Standard Operational Procedures (SOP). <p>➤ Highlights</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Divisional Lands Office West (DLOW) implemented changes, in which the Division was streamlined into two (2) Teams: North West and South West. This restructure allowed for two Senior Lands Officers to lead the two respective teams, including the addition of two lease inspectors to assist with correct on-the-ground lease verification. 	<p>farm as well as windmill in Batiri village, Natadola through its marketing strategies.</p> <p><i>(full details can be seen on pages 7-10 of the annual report)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Geospatial Information Management Division - Through Management of Land and Geospatial Information Systems and services, maps were produced according to specifications and Survey Plans were aligned to the Surveyors Regulation requirements ensuring timely and quality service. <p>➤ Capital Projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Acquisition of Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) ○ Purchase of Large Format Scanner <p><i>(full details can be seen on pages 11-13 of the annual report)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Lands Administration Division - contributed towards the Regularization of Informal Settlements through the preparation of Approval Notices before issuance. A total of 79 ANs were issued benefitting a total of 79 families, namely in the Western & Northern part of Fiji. <p><i>(full details can be seen on pages 14 & 15 of the annual report)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Valuation Division - Assessments of Property Rates for Towns and Cities, Periodic Reassessments of Rents on State Land, Verification of Rents on Natives Leases to State, Acquisitions of Land Required for Public Purposes, Compilation and Analysis of Property Market Information. <p>➤ Highlights</p>
--	---	--



	<p>As a result, the re-organization improved the processing of lease files in the Western Division and was able to progressively deal with pending cases from as far as 10 years ago.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Issuance of Renewal of Agricultural Leases – a total of 66 leases in the Western Division received their registered agricultural lease documents. <p><i>(full details can be seen on pages 15 & 16 of the annual report)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Valuation Division is responsible for: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Acquisitions and Special Valuations, and General Administration of iTaukei Leases to State; 2. Undertaking Ratings Valuation, and Statistics and Property Market Researches; 3. Rental and Estate Matters; and 4. Secretariat to the Valuers Registration Board. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Achievements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Commonwealth Heads of Valuation Agencies [CHOVA] - A government-hosted public sector conference that focuses on valuation for government purposes such as rating, property tax, asset values and compensation for Commonwealth countries for the first time was hosted by the Valuation Division in Fiji. ○ Payment of Municipal Council Rate Arrears - The government is required to pay city/town rates to Councils for its properties within municipal boundaries; this payment was done in full and amounted to \$1.5m. <p><i>(full details can be seen on pages 17 & 18 of the annual report)</i></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Acquisition of land requirement and payment of compensation totalling \$3.8m for the government Wairabetia Special Economic Zone project. ○ Acquisition of 5 properties for the Waiqele Airport obstruction light project with a total compensation of \$40,000.00. ○ Payment of town/city rate for all government properties totalling \$2m to all Municipal Councils. <p><i>(full details can be seen on pages 16 & 17 of the annual report)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Survey Division's main function is to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Regulate and check all land surveys carried out by all surveyors (Government and Private) in Fiji in accordance with the Surveyors Regulations. 2. Provide and maintain a network of survey controls to integrate and standardize all surveys carried out in Fiji. 3. Develop State Lands to highest and best economic use to encourage economic development and also provide residential sites for needy families. 4. Regularize illegal tenant by carrying out subdivision survey. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Central-Eastern Division <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Survey of iTaukei Land Lease to State - Nasau Health Center - Lomaiviti; Karo Island Police Post - Lomaiviti; Mataiono Nursing Station - Lomaiviti; Navua Hospital - Navua.
--	--	--



- A role of the **Land Use Division** is to develop a Land Use Bank to facilitate the efficient leasing of native lands which are currently idle and un-utilized under terms and conditions which are attractive to both the landowners and tenants.

- **Highlights**

- Total acreage of **viable land deposited** was 1804.5 ha; this surpassed the target of 870ha.
- The number of **Valuations conducted** for designated land was 20, surpassing the target of 8 to be conducted per financial year.
- Survey Unit managed to have **nine (9) survey plans approved**, thus increasing the number of land available for leasing.

- **Capital Projects**

- **Legalega Subdivision** - Amended Scheme Plan approved- from 35 Lots to 76 Lots, this will lead to the increase in potential land owners.
- **Yako Subdivision** - Government Tender Board (GTB) approval received for the following:
 1. Re-scheme of the Subdivision
 2. Re-design of subdivision
 3. New Environment Impact Assessment (EIA)

(full details can be seen on pages 19 & 20 of the annual report)

Department of Mineral Resources

- **Mines Division**

- **Tenement Unit** is to provide efficient and timely mineral title approvals essential for the long term growth of the State's minerals sector. It includes legislating and regulating to ensure security of

- **Maintenance of State Land Subdivisions** - This project was aimed at upgrading and improving infrastructure on existing state land subdivisions, thus help improve living standards and relevant state land lots. Areas covered were: Construction of footpath and drain completed in Kinoya Subdivision and Wainibuku Subdivision.
- **Construction of Continuous Operating Reference Stations (CORS)** – Koro, Taveuni, Nabouwalu, Labasa, Rotuma, Kadavu and Lakeba.

- **Western Division**

- **Survey of iTaukei Land Leased to State** - Yanuya Nursing Station, Nawaicoba Police Post, Lawaqa Government Station and Raiwaqa Nursing Station.
- **Regularization of Informal Settlement** - Rasasuva Settlement, Navo Settlement, Stone Crusher Settlement and Nasivi Settlement.
- **Maintenance of Existing Sub-division - Completed construction of the access road** - Maiolo Transmitter Sub-Division and Road Maintenance work completed - Barara Flats Sub- Division.

- **Northern Division**

- **Survey of iTaukei land leased to State** - Namalata Nursing Station, Nacolata Agriculture Station, Lagi Rural Market and Nabiti Hydrology Station.



tenement and provides accurate information on land availability for mineral exploration and mining, advising on land access matters and land status, determining tenement applications in accordance with relevant legislation and ensuring compliance with tenement obligations.

➤ **Resource Geology Unit**

- Total exploration and Mining in 2016 Number of Exploration Tenements - 35
- Number of Mining Leases - 8

(full details can be seen on pages 22-25 of the annual report)

- The **Geological Services Division's** responsibilities and tasks are achieved through groundwater assessment and investigation to confirm potential borehole sites/locations for drilling and development. In addition, the Division also provides laboratory services through chemical and microbiological water analysis for groundwater and waste water discharge from mines and quarries.

➤ **Hydrogeology Section**

- Groundwater Investigation and geophysics – 35
- Preliminary /Reconnaissance Visit – 77

➤ **Drilling Section**

- No. of boreholes drilled - 31
- Abandon wells - 9
- No. of boreholes reticulated – 11

➤ **Lab Section**

- The section was also able to complete the disposal of all the old/expired and obsolete samples from the old storage area near the garage which was identified as high risk.

- **Regularization of Informal Settlement** - Valebasoga stage 4, Bulileka Low-cost, Naveria, Dreketi, Bangladesh 1 and Boca Stage 3.

(full details can be seen on pages 18-25 of the annual report)

Department of Mineral Resources

- The **Geological Services Division** contributes to Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6 "Clean Water and Sanitation", and NDP strategic goal 6 "Water and Sanitation". These goals are supported through the undertakings of the Hydrogeology, Drilling and Laboratory Sections that ensure water security and also offer alternative water sources, after careful inspection, water sample testing before moving on to drilling and reticulation where appropriate.

➤ **Achievements**

- The re-evaluation, re-design and revival of the **Groundwater Monitoring Program** was also executed.
- Continuous update and upgrade of the **National Groundwater Database** to ensure relevancy and to be user-friendly. The database is also now linked to GIS to allow data presentation on thematic maps.
- A total of **21 boreholes** out of the 20 targeted for the financial year were **drilled**. The Division surpassed its annual target of which 12 were successful and 9 abandoned due to unsuccessful yields. These were for both, large and small islands.



- The upgrade of the geochemical room was also achieved this year, with the installation of the Atomic Absorption Spectrophotometer (AAS) and Microwave Digester (MD) and basic training provided by the supplier for installation of air-con, gas tanks and all other associated technical work/fittings.

➤ **Seismology Section**

- A remarkable progress advancement so far for the Section is the monitoring operation of seismic activities extending from the normal working hours of the day to a fully-fledged 24 hours of shift work operation.

(full details can be seen on pages 26 & 27 of the annual report)

- The role of the **Geological Surveys Division** is to provide timely geoscience information to support the sustainable development of mineral (metalliferous and industrial), hydrocarbon and geothermal resources within Fiji and its EEZ and to provide advisories on geo-hazard, aggregate resources and geotechnical assessments for development.

- **Maintenance of vessels - RV Yautalei and Vatutalei** - As a way of revamping the section by conducting future coastal and offshore geological assessments, the marine geology section is responsible for the bi-annual certification from MSAF on the sea worthiness of the two (2) vessels, as well as their maintenance. This year saw major repairs made to the RV Yautalei with the replacements of its engines, and replenishment of expired items such as flares. The flat-bottom vessel,

(full details can be seen on pages 27-29 of the annual report)

- With the strategy "Encourage and accelerate growth through foreign investors", the **Geological Survey Division** through its activities has aligned itself to the NDP goal of ensuring that Fiji is "A Sustainable Mining Industry". This is carried out through the promotion and marketing of mineral prospects to foreign investors.

➤ **Achievements**

- **STAR Conference** - A presentation was done on Mineral Prospects during the STAR conference. This enhanced and equipped the audience on potential mining areas around Fiji. The Conference was attended by over 100 (approx.) overseas and regional participants.
- The Divisional compiled 100% of data package of 2013 to 2016/17 prospects. The **updated geological data** assisted the landowners and the exploration companies interested in conducting further exploration work.

(full details can be seen on pages 30 & 31 of the annual report)

- The **Environment Division** exists to ensure effective management of environment regulations through implementing environment control and safety regulations. This is conducted through monitoring of safety regulations within Mining and Quarries. In the process of this responsibility, the Environment Division hence supports the National Development Plan goal of a "Sustainable Mining and Quarry Industry".



Vatutalei underwent its usual bi-annual certification for sea worthiness.

- The **Environment Division** is comprised of the Environment Unit of Mineral Resources Department (MRD) and the Foreshore Unit of the Lands Administration Section. The Environment Unit and the Foreshore Unit conduct inspections concurrently due to their regulatory role and responsibilities. However in terms of environmental monitoring and risk assessments, the Environment Division is responsible for this. The Foreshore Development under the Lands Administration is responsible for foreshore leasing.
 - The division conducted inspections to **monitor active mines** including Vatukoula Goldmines Ltd, Xinfra Aurum (Nawailevu), Asia Pacific Resources (Wainivesi), AMEX, Viti Mining and quarries for total compliance with the environmental Act. This is apart from the monitoring on the Namosi Copper Prospect during exploration and rehabilitation site work.
 - **Highlights**
 - Monitoring of the **illegal river gravel extraction** around the two main islands Viti Levu and Vanua Levu.
 - Inspection on the **Naibulu spillage** in September, 2016.
 - Formulation of the **draft River Gravel Extraction Guideline** and **quarry approval process**.
 - Working in collaboration with ACP/EU and UNDP **Neglected Development Mineral Project**.
 - The division had to take a lead role in the **monitoring** of an **accident site** involving a truck

➤ **Achievements**

- On-going **Formulation of River Gravel Management Guideline**. This reference material on gravel and sand management is a first of its kind for the Ministry and can be used for education, regulation and environmental improvement- hence ensuring efficiency in the services provided by the Division, Department and Ministry as whole.
- A **new budget allocation of \$110,000 for environmental monitoring work** in this financial year was earmarked to the Division which has allowed the engagement of six (6) Technical Officers [TA]Projects officers to assist in monitoring of river gravel and sand extraction and other development administered by the ministry from the Central Eastern, Western and Northern.

(full details can be seen on pages 32 & 33 of the annual report)

- Under the National Development Plan (NDP) goal of "A Sustainable Mining Industry", the **Mines Division** oversees and facilitates development of the country's mineral sector, and manages the development of the Mining and Quarrying Sector.

➤ **Achievements**



transporting the chemical cyanide. Staffs were released to monitor the safe removal of the chemicals and check levels of contamination in the surrounding waterways.

- On-going monitoring of **rehabilitation** during the year and for **Nawailevu Bauxite Mine** and **Nasaucoko Manganese Mine**.

(full details can be seen on pages 30-32 of the annual report)

- **Geoscience Support Services Division** – for full details, refer to pages 33 & 34 of the annual report.

● **Mineral Resources Department – Capital Projects**

- Geological Survey Division – **Mineral Investigation Project** - \$1,902,000
- Geological Services Division:
 - **Groundwater Assessment and Develop Small Islands** - \$480,000
 - **Groundwater Assessment and Develop Large Islands** - \$750,000

(full details can be seen on page 35 of the annual report)

- **Policy, Planning (Land) & Quality Assurance Division** - Provides Executive Support to the Hon. Minister, PS & DS through:

1. Providing policy advice through research;
2. Conducting Quality Assurance including Harmonization and State Land Rent Arrears Collection;
3. Identification of un/under-utilized state land and making recommendations;
4. Customer advocacy; and

- **Mining Exploration Investment** – the mining companies on exploration work in Fiji fetched approximately \$18m into the local economy.
- Successful **construction** of the **Core Repository** which had been officiated. This will centralise storage for drill core samples and will benefit our internal customers by reaching better technical capabilities.

(full details can be seen on pages 34-36 of the annual report)

- **Geoscience Support Services Division** is responsible for the following:

1. Administrate all Corporate matters;
2. Facilitate all Financial matters;
3. Management of day to day book keeping of all Mineral Resources Department data & publications; and
4. Provision of Geospatial service through Information Technological system support.

➤ **Achievements**

- A total of **\$1.8m** was collected in **mining revenue** where they were either held in the Government Consolidated Fund Account or in the Trust Fund by the Department. The beneficiaries of the Trust Accounts were the Mining Companies and land owners within the mining areas/prospects who are now entitled to receive 80% from the fair share of royalty payment. Other monies held in the trust are for private funded projects used for non-mining



	<p>5. Media publication of Ministry's activities and programs.</p> <p>➤ Highlights</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Project Saumia - Collected a total of \$13,570,432.52 (90.4%) State Land Rent and Arrears. ○ Issued a total of 299 Arrears Notices within the Central Eastern Division. ○ Project Harmonization - Harmonized a total of 1,611 State Land leases in areas around the Central Eastern Division (Muaniweni, Baulevu, Wainibuku and Nakasi), Ba, Tavua and Rakiraki. <p><i>(full details can be seen on page 37-39 of the annual report)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Corporate Services Division – for full details, refer to pages 40 & 41 of the annual report. 	<p>activities which the communities and general public also benefit from.</p> <p><i>(full details can be seen on pages 37 & 38 of the annual report)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Policy, Planning & Quality Assurance Division facilitates and coordinates 'existing legislation review' as well as land/mineral related policies and Cabinet papers through research working in close collaboration with Technical Directors and relevant central agencies and stakeholders. The Division is also responsible in monitoring the Ministry's internal processes and procedures and two (2) projects: <i>state land rental arrears collection</i> and the <i>harmonizing of state land files.</i> ➤ The Right of landowners to fair-share of mineral royalties was distinguished under the Fiji 2013 Constitution Section (30). As the first of its kind, the Fair Share of Mineral Royalties Bill was passed in Parliament on 16th May, 2018 and was gazetted on 18th May. This allowed for an 80:20 fair share that is the respective landowners are entitled to 80% of royalty payments whereas the govt. retains 20% for administration costs. The beneficiaries to this will be the land owning units as well as owners of freehold land that extraction of minerals take place in. ➤ Sustainable Land Use Unit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A draft State Land Use Master Plan has been completed for state land use along the Sigatoka - Nadi corridor.
--	---	--



		<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Concept Plan - this is formulated through research, ground inspections, socio- economic surveys and investigations on underutilized state land. The team compiled the Concept Plan reports for the following:<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Nadelei Farm and Housing Project2. Vatuwaqa Mangrove Project3. Nadelei Organic Farms➤ Projects<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Project Saumia - There had been positive responses and stronger collaboration between the Government and its state land lessees. This was demonstrated by the improvement of revenue collection (rent and arrears) totalling up to \$14,132,506.95 (94.2%). Field inspections and consistent follow-up with a more friendly approach encouraged lessees to be more responsive and cooperate.○ Project Harmonization - The team harmonized a total of 2379(118%) from a target of 15,000 state land leases. The Team for the first time inspected 100 state land leases in the Northern Division visiting areas around Labasa town and its peripheries. <i>(full details can be seen on page 40-43 of the annual report)</i>● Corporate Services Division – for full details, refer to pages 44-46 of the annual report.
--	--	--



Financial Position			12 months 31 July 2017 \$	12 months 31 July 2018 \$	
	Total Revenue			15,781,820	17,865,992
	Total Operating Expenditure			17,496,502	20,711,241
	Total Capital Expenditure			5,426,736	10,599,342
	Total Expenditure			23,994,403	32,672,474
	Total Receipts – Department of Lands			5,341,865	10,298,995
	Total Receipts – Department of Mineral Resources			724,171	1,168,073
	Total Payments – Department of Lands			3,343,268	9,913,619
	Total Payments – Department of Mineral Resources			819,898	148,845
	Net Surplus/(Deficit) – Department of Lands			6,229,494	6,614,870
Net Surplus/(Deficit) – Department of Mineral Resources			4,386,308	5,405,536	
Auditor’s Opinion (OAG)	2016 - 2017		2017 - 2018		
	<p>The Auditor has audited the financial statements of the Ministry of Lands and Mineral Resources, which comprise the Statement of Receipts and Expenditure, Appropriation Statement and Trust Account Statement of Receipts and Payments for the year ending 31 July 2017, and notes to and forming part of the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.</p> <p>In Auditor’s opinion, except for the effects on the matters described in the Basis of Qualified Opinion paragraph, the accompanying financial statements are prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with the Financial Management Act, Finance Instructions 2010 and Finance (Amendment) Instruction 2016.</p>		<p>The Auditor has audited the financial statements of the Ministry of Lands and Mineral Resources, which comprise the Statement of Receipts and Expenditure, Appropriation Statement, Statement of Losses and Department of Lands Trust Account Statement of Receipts and Payments, Department of Minerals Trust Fund Account Statement of Receipts and Payments for the year ending 31 July 2018, and notes to and forming part of the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.</p> <p>In Auditor’s opinion, except for the effects on the matters described in the Basis of Qualified Opinion paragraph, the accompanying financial statements for the year ended 31 July 2018 are prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with the Financial Management Act 2004, Finance Instructions 2010 and Finance (Amendment) Instruction 2016.</p>		



	<p><u>Basis of Qualified Opinion</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. There is an unreconciled variance of \$673,811 in Land and Property Rent collected as recorded in the Crown Land Lease System of \$12,745,771 and FMIS general ledger balance of \$13,419,582. Consequently, Auditor could not confirm the accuracy and completeness of Land and Property Rent of \$13,419,582.2. Expenditure amounting to \$157,174 in the Statement of Receipts and Expenditures did not relate to the financial year 2016-2017. This amount relates to the posting of an unsupported journal voucher of \$105,870 to clear prior year's Revolving Fund Account balances and the recording of \$51,304 expenditure in 2016-2017 for goods and services received in 2017-2018. As such, the expenditure balance for the year ended 31/7/17 is overstated by \$157,174. <p>The Auditor conducted the audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISA). The responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities paragraph of the report. The Auditor is independent of the Ministry in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to the audit of the financial statements in Fiji and the Auditor has fulfilled other responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. The Auditor believes that the audit evidence obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for his opinion.</p>	<p><u>Basis of Qualified Opinion</u></p> <p>Trust Fund Account balance for Department of Lands amounting to \$6,614,870 was not supported with detailed listing of claimants of the monies held in the trust As such, the Auditor was unable to satisfy himself on the accuracy and completeness of the Trust Fund Account balance as at 31 July 2018.</p> <p>The Auditor conducted the audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISA). The responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities paragraph of the report. The Auditor is independent of the Ministry in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to the audit of the financial statements in Fiji and the Auditor has fulfilled other responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. The Auditor believes that the audit evidence obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for his opinion.</p>
--	---	---



Gender Equality	No information on Gender was provided in the annual reports.
------------------------	--

07 October 2020

Disclaimer
This Annual Report Summary was prepared to assist the Standing Committee on Natural Resources in its review of the Ministry of Lands and Mineral Resources 2016 - 2017 and 2017 - 2018 Annual Reports. This summary should not be relied on as a substitute for specific advice. Other sources and information should be consulted. Whilst every effort has been made to ensure that the information is accurate, the Parliament of the Republic of Fiji will not accept any liability for any loss or damage which may be incurred by any person acting in reliance upon the information. The Parliament of the Republic of Fiji accepts no responsibility for any references or links to, or the content of, information maintained by third parties. For further information please email: Shobhna Rani on email shobna.rani@govnet.gov.fj