

Subject: Response to Written Question – February 2022 Parliament Session

Hon. Peceli Vosanibola to ask the Minister for Commerce, Trade, Tourism and Transport – Can the Minister update Parliament on the following –

(a) how many lighthouses are looked after by the Ministry and listed by Division; and

Fiji has a total of approximately 69 lighthouses, which gives continuous or intermittent signals to navigators for the safety of vessels at Sea.

From the 69 lighthouses, 14 are located in the Central Division, 19 in the Eastern Division, 13 in the Northern and 23 in the Western Division.

(b) the status of reconstruction of destroyed lighthouses, including the lighthouse at the Natubari Passage, Levuka.

The lighthouse at Na Tubari Passage, Levuka was completely destroyed in February 2016, during TC Winston. A leading light and Day mark was constructed in place of the lighthouse. This day mark is on the Catholic Church Tower. Agencies have been requested to repair and is part of its planned maintenance schedule.

The Australian Government through the Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) carried out an assessment of the area with MSAF and GSS in December 2016. The AMSA supplied two International standard Navigation Buoys fully equipped with Solar LED Marine Lanterns. Installation was carried out by AMSA, MSAF and GSS in January 2017.

One navigation buoy was destroyed in Tropical Cyclone Ana in February 2021. However, MSAF has been provided with a capital expenditure for the procurement and installation of a buoy. This new aid to navigation is planned to be installed by June this year.

Thank you.

Hon. Faiyaz Siddiq Koya
Minister for Commerce, Trade, Tourism and Transport