



**Honorable Laisenia Tuitubou
Minister for Youth and Sports**

**Response to Parliamentary Question
154/2018 – 19 April 2018**

Parliamentary Question 154/2018

Hon. Ratu Suliano Matanitobua to ask the Minister for Youth and Sports – Can the Minister update the House on youth and sports issues drawn to his attention by way of consultation since his appointment as a Minister.

Madam Speaker, I wish to thank the Honorable Member for the question raised.

Since my appointment in September 2014, I have visited and consulted youth clubs and individuals in the four divisions. These consultations basically enabled me to understand the challenges our youth face on the ground better and to see how best my Ministry can help to address these challenges.

Madam Speaker, during my visits I have been told by older community members that this was the first time, as far as they could remember, that a Minister for Youth and Sports had visited their community.

During my consultations from 2014 to 2017, I received 948 requests or issues from communities and youths. These ranged from water sanitation, education and training, farm roads, agricultural inputs, entrepreneurial needs, sports equipment, even sports facilities, pension payments – a wide range of issues.

Madam Speaker, out of the 948 requests, 302 were forwarded to relevant stakeholders and Government Ministries while 646 requests were issues relating to my Ministry.

I am proud, **Madam Speaker**, to say that out of the 646 requests or issues raised with me, 91% have been addressed by my Ministry while the other 9% are ongoing – including the development of rural sports fields and sports complexes.

Madam Speaker, these achievements were possible because most of these requests were in line with my Ministry's Strategic Plan and Operational Plans.

I thank the Government of the day for funding provisions enabling my Ministry to reach out to the needs of young people and in every way possible help improve their livelihoods. As the Honorable Acting Prime Minister said on Tuesday, this Government takes the needs of our youth seriously. We are proud that we listen to the next generation and that we help them step up to become the leaders of tomorrow today.

I must also thank the Government for that; it listens to the Ministry when we request the need of a 14 Youth and Sports Administrator, in 2014 to be accommodated at the Provincial Administrators Office and Youth and Sports Worker in each District where we recruited 50 in 2017 to 2018 FY, 21 in 2018 to 2019 FY.

This initiative were always chosen by the Provincial Council in the past Government, where Youths of the Nations do not involved themselves, left out, and not aware of Government Developments in their surrounding Province. They remain with the Roko of the Province and become workers in the Office and their allowance depends on the Soli Ni Yasana.

I thank you **Madam Speaker** and I can give the Honorable Member a table of figures on request.

Tables below shows the requests per division and total from 2014 – 2017.

Year		Central	East	West	North	TOTAL
2014			26	19	20	65
2015		14	86	118	294	512
2016			199	8	48	255
2017			28	4	84	116
Total		14	339	149	446	948

No of Request Facilitated by MYS	No Of Requests forwarded to be Facilitated by Other Government Ministries
52	13
311	201
182	73
101	15
646	302

Vinaka.