

STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL AFFAIRS

REPORT ON THE PETITION OF NADROGA NAVOSA PROVINCIAL HIGH SCHOOL



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CHAIR'S FOREWORD

I am pleased to present the first report of the Parliament's Standing Committee on Social Affairs on the Petition for Parliament to consider that the Government to review and rescind its decision to Transform Nadroga/Navosa Provincial High School into a Technical College.

The Parliamentary Standing Committee under the 2013 Constitution and Parliament Standing Orders aims to enhance transparency and accountability by public agencies and officials.

The report examines oral presentations by the Ministry of Education and the Committee's public hearings and submissions at Nadroga/ Navosa Province.

The Committee held its first meeting on 14th July 2015. The Committee unanimously agreed on a work plan to conduct interviews and received submissions in Suva and in Nadroga Navosa from the stakeholders. At the same time in response to a call for submissions, the Committee held a series of meetings from 15th of July to the 14th of August, 2015 to receive submissions and oral presentation which were conducted through rounds of consultations with the Ministry of Education and in the Nadroga Navosa Province.

On behalf of the Honourable Members of the Committee, I would like to express my sincere thanks and appreciation to all those organisations, groups, individuals and respective government agencies that made a submission and/or attended oral presentation during our Public Consultation in Suva and Nadroga Navosa area. The strength and depth of the Committee's inquiry rests with the voluntary commitment and time of groups and individuals making submissions and appearing at public hearings. This was evident in the high quality of submissions received and with presenters at the public hearings, who candidly provided their opinions and advice to the Committee.

I also wish to extend my thanks to the Honourable Members and the Secretariat Team involved with the production of this bipartisan report: my Committee colleagues Hon. Salote Radrodro MP (Deputy Chairperson), Hon. Veena Bhatnagar MP (Member), Hon. Vijay Nath MP (Member) and Hon. Anare Vadei MP (Member).

I also wish to acknowledge the valuable contribution of the alternate Members who sat during the Standing Committee's meetings on the compilation of this report, the following alternate membership arose pursuant to Standing Order 115(5):

1. Hon. Mikaele Leawere (Alternate Member for Hon. Salote Radrodro);
2. Hon. Alivereti Nabulivou (Alternate Member for Hon. Veena Bhatnagar); and
3. Hon. Alvick A. Maharaj (Alternate Member for Hon. Vijay Nath)

Further to the above, I would like to also extend my sincere appreciation and thank all those people who were involved in the Public Consultations in Nadroga Navosa Province. To name a few:

1. Mr. Viliame Seuseu Burenivalu – Roko Tui Nadroga Navosa

2. Mr. Iliesa Delasau – Assistant Roko Tui Nadroga Navosa
3. Mrs. Sera Saladuadua – Senior Education Officer, Sigatoka
4. Mr. Vishnu Sharma – Education Officer, Sigatoka
5. Mr. Kiniviliame Naciqa – Principal, Navosa Central College
6. Mr. Jeremaia Tuwai – Principal, Sigatoka Valley High School
7. Mr. Navneet Deepak Mishra – Principal, Cuvu College
8. Mr. Napolioni Locoloco – Teacher, Cuvu College
9. Mr. Solomoni Koroitamana – Principal, Nadroga Navosa High School
10. Mr. Apenisa Kurisaqila – Principal, Nadroga Arya College
11. Mr. Nizam Ali – Principal, Lomawai Secondary School

In undertaking the consultations, it was found that majority of the submittees that provided submissions fully supported the idea of a Technical College but only few objected the transformation of Nadroga Navosa High School to be a Technical College.



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HON. VIAM PILLAY (MP)
CHAIRPERSON

RECOMMENDATIONS

This report outlines key recommendations to the Petition based on submissions received from key stakeholders of the school which included individual groups, government agencies, Schools and the public at large.

Recommendation 1:

The Technical College to move forward with its approval process since majority of the Petitioners and the Nadroga Navosa Public had changed their views and mindsets positively to support the proposed conversion of the Nadroga Navosa High School to be a Technical College. The whole 30 submissions received fully supported the idea of a Technical College in Nadroga Navosa but 3 objected the transformation of Nadroga Navosa High School to be a Technical College.

Recommendation 2:

Ministry of Education to conduct extensive public awareness around Nadroga Navosa Province on what the proposed Technical College will offer with regards to entry criteria, Courses, Duration of Courses and Costs, Industrial Attachments, Career path, Transportation issue and College facilities.

LIST OF ACCRONYMS:

AGM	Annual General Meeting
FNU	Fiji National University
NNPC	Nadroga/Navosa Provincial Council
NNHS	Nadroga/Navosa High School
TELS	Tertiary Education Loans Scheme
USP	University of the South Pacific

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Background

Using the legislative powers provided to the Committee, this report examines the Petition tabled by Hon. Viliame Gavoka for Parliament to consider that the Government Review and Rescind its Decision to transform Nadroga Navosa Provincial High School into a Technical College.

The Report is divided into three Chapters:

- **Chapter One** covers the role and responsibilities of the Committee and the inquiry process undertaken.
- **Chapter Two** focuses on the Petition, the purpose of the Committee's consultations in Suva and the summaries of all oral and written submissions; and
- **Chapter Three** details the Committee's deliberations and analysis of submissions received, followed by Recommendations to Parliament.

The Standing Committee on Social Affairs Committee

The Committee is a standing committee of the Fijian Parliament and was established under Section 109(2) (b) of the Standing Orders (SO) of the Parliament of the Republic of Fiji. The Committee comprises five Honourable Members, drawn from both the Government and the Opposition parties.

The Committee is mandated to examine matters related to health, education, social services, labour, culture, media and their administration.

On Thursday 9th July 2015, Honourable Viliame Gavoka introduced a Petition for Parliament to consider that the Government review and rescind its decision to transform Nadroga/Navosa Provincial High School into a Technical College.

The House resolved that the Petition be committed to the Standing Committee on Social Affairs to examine and report back to Parliament during the July sitting.

Procedure and Program

On Saturday 1st August, Monday 3rd August, Wednesday 5th August and Saturday 8th August, 2015 the Committee called for submissions on the venues identified that are closer to the Petitioners by placing an advertisement in the two local newspapers (Fiji Times and Fiji Sun). The Committee also wrote to government agencies, seeking submissions and to appear before the Committee at a public hearing.

Committee Members

The members of the Standing Committee on Social Affairs are as follows:

- | | | |
|---------------------------|---|---|
| 1. Hon. Viam Pillay | - | Chairman |
| 2. Hon. Salote Radrodro - | | Deputy Chairman |
| 3. Hon. Veena Bhatnagar | - | Assistant Minister for Health and Medical Services |
| 4. Hon. Vijay Nath | - | Assistant Minister for Infrastructure and Transport |
| 5. Hon. Anare Vadei | - | Member of Parliament |

During the Standing Committee's meetings, the following alternate membership arose pursuant to Standing Order 115(5):

4. Hon. Mikaele Leawere (Alternate Member for Hon. Salote Radrodro);
5. Hon. Alivereti Nabulivou (Alternate Member for Hon. Veena Bhatnagar); and
6. Hon. Alvick A. Maharaj (Alternate Member for Hon. Vijay Nath)

2.0 PETITION OF NADROGA NAVOSA PROVINCIAL HIGH SCHOOL

Introduction

The Committee received 1 oral submission from the Ministry of Education On 14th July, 2015 and further received 8 submissions and heard oral presentation from 21 submissions in Nadroga Navosa area, from 11th to 14th August, 2015.

Key themes raised in submissions and at public hearings

All Petitioners and other Stakeholders for the proposed conversion of Nadroga Navosa Provincial High School to be a Technical College, whether in their written submissions or when presenting to the Committee, are outlined in the following subsection (2.3) of this report which included their recommendations.

Oral and Written submissions received

The purpose of the Committee was to conduct wider consultations and receiving written and oral submissions to ascertain the position and the views of the wider population of Nadroga Navosa Province, relevant Agency and nearby Secondary Schools on the proposed conversion of Nadroga Navosa Provincial High School to be a Technical College.

The Committee's consultation in Suva was conducted to get the Ministry of Education's view and future plan for the proposed conversion of Nadroga Navosa Provincial High School to be a Technical College.

The Committee heard five (21) oral and received three (8) written submissions which are summarised below.

Submission One: Mr. Orisi Terei, Provincial Education Committee
Nakalavo Village
Nadroga

- i. The concern raised by the Education Committee Member that the School does not meet and achieve the required passing rate y Ministry of Education;
- ii. The Committee noted that 60% of the Students of Nadroga Navosa Province attended Fiji National University and the University of the South Pacific;

**Submission Two: Mr. Ilikimi Kunagogo, Provincial Education Committee Chairman
Vunaqoru Village
Nadroga**

- i. Expressed concern at the decreasing performances by students of the Provincial School. Compared to other Provincial Schools, NNHS has been very lowly rated.
- ii. Highlighted that every year, the Province holds its Nadroga Navosa festival with the aim of developing education for the children of the Province. Percentage distribution of money collected from the festival, as follows: 80% – Education; 20% - Province, and 30% - NNHS.
- iii. Supports the transformation of NNHS into a technical college, saying that this will greatly bridge the gap in bettering the academic performance of students in the Nadroga/Navosa Province, thereby enabling greater employment opportunities.

**Submission Three: Mrs Mere Diligolevu, Soqosoqo Vakamarama Rep,
Education Committee Member**

- i. Positively highlighted that the transformation will create employment for unemployed youths of the Province.
- ii. Expressed concern that not much time was given to the community of the change, not allowing the information to filter down to the grassroot level in the Province. Because of these, parents were concerned about the inconveniences of changing schools.
- iii. Supports fully the transformation of NNHS to a technical college.

**Submission Four: Mr. Maika Nakora, Education Committee Member,
Appointee of the Commissioner Western, NNPC**

- i. Emphasized that his submission was his own personally, and not as a member of the Education Committee, neither the Provincial Council Committee member.
- ii. Expressed concern that there has not been enough consultation, and that information was not taken down to the grass root level, to all villages. It was done hurriedly.
- iii. Entreated that more consultation should be done before the Report goes to Parliament.

**Submission Five: Mr. Josua Rayawa, Tikina of Sigatoka,
Education Committee Member**

- i. Supported the transformation of NNHS becoming a technical college.

- ii. However, requested for more consultation on the issue in the Nadroga Navosa Province?

**Submission Six: Mrs. Sera Saladuadua
Divisional Senior Education Officer
Nadroga/Navosa**

- i. Highlighted the following factors, why NNHS is the best choice of becoming a technical college:
- *Location of the School – closer to the other schools that the Ministry could distribute the teachers and students.*
 - *Has the number of students and teachers easy to distribute.*
 - *Composition students NNHS – Only 56 from the Tikina of Cuvu. The rest from other Tikinas, which means the Ministry can easily distribute students closer to their villages.*
 - *The dwindling number of students at NNHS, from 218 in 2012 to 179 in 2015.*
 - *There are boarders in other districts. Capacity of boarders at NNHS should total 80 students, however current occupancy by 50 boarders only. A lot of the boarders hail from Navosa, and recommendation that they be moved to Navosa Central College.*
- ii. Acknowledged that Principals of nearby schools and in the Navosa District are enthusiastic to take on more students from NNHS, including boarders.
- iii. When questioned about the stand the Ministry has taken on school dropouts, Mrs. Sera Saladuadua emphasized on the Compulsory Education Programme, and that arrangements have been made with School Principals to take back students that have dropped out early from schools.
- iv. Acknowledged that the Ministry has taken into consideration that students who cannot perform academically can be absorbed in the proposed technical college.

Submission Seven: Ratu Aisea Waka Vosailagi, Roko Tui Nadroga

- i. As background information, Nadroga Navosa Provincial High School (NNHS) is owned by the Nadroga Navosa Provincial Council. The Council provides financial support for the general upkeep of the School and ongoing support for the wages of the School's auxiliary staff, made possible through the levies collected from the annual Adi Nadroga Navosa Festival.

- ii. Highlighted that as owners, the Provincial Council had approved, in principle the conversion of the School into a technical college.
- iii. Informed the Committee that many students enrolled at NNHS are those who have been turned away from schools of their preferences due to low marks. As a result, the overall performance of the School in terms of the passing rate when compared to other schools has been below average.
- iv. In addition, with limited resources and financial constraints, has been, and will continue to be, a challenge for the owners (NNPC) to create a learning environment at NNHS that is conducive to the needs of the students enrolled.
- v. Positively noted that the technical college will bring benefits to the whole Province. It will help in the up-skilling of youths and decrease the number of dropouts from higher education. It will also mean that these young adults will be able to stay within their Province and the supervision of their parents and guardians.
- vi. Further, this improved access to higher education will improve employment opportunities, which in turn will help combat many of the social ills that exist within the Province.

Submission Eight: Mr. Siva Toroca, Retiree, School Volunteer

- i. Emphasized that children were gifts from God, and if not all were good academically, they will be good at something because God created them for something. Therefore it was suggested that the Ministry of Education should have a system in place whereby students are nurtured or streamlined into the fields they are good at.
- ii. Recorded his disappointment at the poor status of the School, NNHS; School compound not being fenced, in the classrooms the teachers yelling at the students because of indiscipline.
- iii. Supports totally the idea of having the technical college at NNHS.
- iv. Further, the Subcommittee highlighted that after looking at the Paper, which was presented by the Senior Education Officer, which says that it was going to accommodate all the youths. The Subcommittee just wondering the numbers, how many can be catered and accommodated in this technical college?
- v. The second part of it, there will be one technical college in every district. So, in this district of Nadroga, there was going to be one. If Nadroga miss this, there will be no other chance to have this opportunity.

vi. The other issue raised was the duration of courses. Further raised, it was only going to be a year for Certificate II. At universities, one course costs about \$200 plus for Certificate level. Some question raised by the Subcommittee are as follows:

- *Have the costs of courses being considered, because of the background of the community?*
- *Were they able to put in the costing for the students in order to attend a technical college?*
- *Was there also a provision, like the Matua Programme being done in Suva for those who are working to upgrade themselves?*
- *Also, the boarding facilities, will it cater for all, because the Province starts from the coast right up to the interior?*
- *Will the technical college cater for all the needs, taking into account the traditional crafts, or is there going to be any management course, so that people graduating can manage their own companies and start their own businesses.*
- *Has all these been considered in this technical college or just for the sake of employing them, to be employed by others?*
- *Another issue raised, will the teachers coming in should be scrutinized? The Subcommittee said this because he came across some that graduated from FNU, but were still out there looking for jobs. Some of them come with two or three pieces of paper, and when they go to the workplaces they cannot be employed because of the quality of the facilitators at those institutions because they only do theories, and no practical. Given the above, that was why people continue to look for other courses for other disciplines.*
- *So, these should be considered properly. Where will these people end up at the end of the day?*

**Submission Nine: Mr. Seru Raumakita, Old Scholar, Nadroga Navosa High School
Tutor, FNU**

- i. Does not support the transformation of NNHS to be a technical college.
- ii. The old scholar feels that the old scholars are to be blamed for the poor performance of its students, because they take their kids to other schools blaming the move on discipline issues.
- iii. Suggested the introduction of cadet at the School could have mitigated the problems at NNHS.

- iv. Suggested there should be a referendum by consensus prior to making better informed decision.
- v. *Tikina* of Cuvu was a span of 5 kilometres along the coast which comprised of eight villages and settlements apart from the biggest hotel in Fiji and with a high the concentration of population and that was the purpose of the request for Forms 3, 4, 5 and 6 students to be retained. Also, because of the religious background of that hill that was the reason the old scholars strongly felt because it was the only school that will looked after their culture, tradition and religion.

**Submission Ten: Mr. Kinivuwai Naba, Youth Interim President
Nadroga Navosa Provincial council**

- i. The Youth President acknowledged that the Technical College will bring about development and growth to the Province, rather than the youths going outside the Nadroga/Navosa Province. Youths would also access more study opportunity at the Technical College.
- ii. Expressed the Youth's concern, that there was no clear and proper consultation or information taken down to the communities.

**Submission Eleven: Mr. Inoke Kadralevu, Former Chairman,
Nadroga/Navosa Provincial Council**

- i. Wholeheartedly supports the transformation of NNHS to being a technical college, due to the poor performance of the School, easy access, et cetera.
- ii. Informed the Committee that the School was poorly administered. The parents themselves did not support the School. Payments of fees were very poor.
- iii. Acknowledged Government's initiative to bring in the technical college to the Nadroga Province, for the development of the Province's early school dropouts.
- iv. The Chairman called on Honourable Gavoka and the President of the Old Scholars of NNHS to withdraw their Petition submission, out of respect for the Province's Paramount Chief, who had endorsed the transformation of NNHS to become a technical college.

Submission Twelve: Mrs. Matila Naivua, Parent, Nadroga/Navosa Secondary School

- i. The parent raised that the Consultation should have been done before the proposal being tabled into Parliament to decide on the conversion of Nadroga Navosa Provincial High School (NNHS) to be a Technical College.
- ii. The School is weak in terms of the performance of the students and the management.

- iii. The Annual General Meeting of the School were always held at the Nadroga Navosa Provincial Office, Talenavuruvuru House which should have been held in School so that the Management could look at the condition of the School bathroom, Dining Hall and other School facilities.
- iv. The parent further proposed that the NNHS should have been a Technical College long ago given the financial difficulties faced by the School.
- v. The parents fully supported the proposal of having a Technical College but requested if another building be built for the Technical College.

Submission Thirteen:

Mrs. Siteri Toge, Parent, Nadroga/Navosa High School

- i. Informed the Committee that former School Principal, Mr. Apenisa Kurisaqila had been instrumental in the set-up of a mother's group that looked after the students meals, and even supported the teachers in bettering their services to the students and the School.
- ii. Mentioned that prior consultations should have been done first.
- iii. Most times additional financial requests from the School cannot be met by parents, as they cannot afford to take on more financial responsibilities, thus resulting in poor parental support for the School.
- iv. Assistancess have come from American donors to feed the students at NNHS.
- v. Supports the transformation of NNHS to become technical college.

Submission Fourteen:

Mr. Niko Sulala, Village Headman, Nawai, Bavu

- i. On behalf of the people of Nawai, the Submittee confirmed that they supported the transformation of NNHS to be a Technical College.
- ii. Since this transformation would reduce the expenses of sending children to Lautoka, Nadi and other towns for higher education and to further their study.

Submission Fifteen:

**Mr. Josateki Kunaluveya, Rukurukulevu Village
Old Scholar, NNHS**

- i. Informed the Committee on the history of NNHS. The School was originally named Cuvu Mission School, before it changed to Nadroga/Navosa High School in 1976.

- ii. Expressed concern that each of the 14 Provinces have their own Provincial schools, but why take away Nadroga's Provincial School.
- iii. Clarification and confirmation was sought from the Principal of Cuvu College, since NNHS has a Methodist Church Minister, and if the students from NNHS move to Cuvu College will they be taught the same Christian teachings?
 - *Senior Education officer responded that part of the Ministry of Education's deliverables is that all Schools to observe all religious and cultural activities.*
 - *Principal, Cuvu College assured the parents that Cuvu College's curriculum incorporates all cultural and religious activities.*
 - *Religion and culture are accommodated in the School curriculum. The School upholds and respects each and every religion, and that the Institution would not be an obstacle to the increase in values of Christianity.*
- vi. The submittee raised given that some parents do not agree with the proposal and do not want their children to go to Cuvu College and Sigatoka Methodist it was further proposed that it would be more convenient if Government used the 7 -13 acres of land that was available to be build more classrooms to cater for Forms 3, 4, 5 and 6 given that the land was already paid for but were unutilized.

Submission Sixteen: Mrs. Torika Matainadroga, NNHS Committee Member

- i. It was noted that during the term of the former Principal, Mr. Apenisa Kurisiqila at NNHS, a piece of land was given to the School for laying of pipes or water for the School which Government also assisted in the upgrading of the School's water system.
- ii. Also mentioned by the School Committee Member that any student who attended Cuvu College, Sigatoka Methodist and other Schools who were in Forms 3, 4, 5 and 6, and when failed exams they were sent to NNHS to repeat forms.
- iii. The proposal to transform Nadroga Navosa High School into Technical was not supported by the School Committee Member.

Submission Seventeen: Ms. Mere Gonewai, Rukurukulevu Village, Nadroga

- i. The submittee informed the Committee that she worked at the Hotel Industry which has the current minimum qualification of Form 6 level and those who apply and do not reach Form 6 will not be taken in.

- ii. So, the request was if the School can continue running and the forms to be up to Form 6 so that students while leaving school could work at the Hotel industry.
- iii. Clarification and confirmation was sought from the Senior Education Officer on how long will Government be paying fees and bus fares for the school children?
 - *Senior Education officer responded that the issue raise will be taken up to decision makers of Government who will be in right position to answer those type of issues/questions.*

**Submission Eighteen: Hon. Viliame R. Gavoka, Member of Parliament,
Republic of Fiji**

- i. Parochialism was evident in the meeting as mentioned by the Subcommittee given that the history of the School which was built back in 1976, and even when the school was under performing, there were some strong feelings that were attached to the School in many ways which was sentimental.
- ii. The Honourable Member pointed out that it was understandable the need to build a technical college and with its location which was most ideal because of its proximity to the transport system, the highway, the Sigatoka Town. Given the comments, the Subcommittee further raised that the Consultation to come to a compromise.
- iii. Further noted, that the former Manager of the School said there was about 14 acres of land remain vacant and there was room to build a technical college within the vicinity between Cuvu District School and Nadroga/Navosa High School. In this case, the Subcommittee believed was the best compromise.
- iv. The Subcommittee further said that the people were not saying, 'No, to a technical college' but were very reluctant to sacrifice their provincial school to make way for a technical college.
- v. Also raised, that the Committee should note the number of birth rates in Nadroga Navosa.

Submission Nineteen: Mr. Neumi Mosimalua, Rukurukulevu Village, Nadroga

- i. The Subcommittee supported the proposed technical college to be established at the current NNHS, but also requested the Government if it can establish a Secondary School for Cuvu District School.

Submission Twenty: Ms. Kelera Tuku, Old Scholars, NNHS

- i. A question raised by the Subcommittee on why was NNHS chosen to be the venue for the technical college and why not any other school in the Nadroga area?

- The Senior Education Officer responded to the question saying that the choice was made based on various reasons based on the following issues:
 - *location of the School, it would not be too difficult to redistribute the students because there were some schools in the vicinity or other students who come from the other Tikina's could easily attend schools close to them. Also mentioned that Ministry has the breakdown in terms of the percentages of where students originate from or where they come from.*
 - *Second the number of students. It will be easier for the current 179 students of NNHS to distribute, rather than distributing students from, for example, Sigatoka Methodist College which is about 700 or so in total to redistribute them.*
 - *Third, was the composition of students. These were just the proposals which the Ministry had given to the Principal, who was to approach the Yasana. It was their decision and not the Ministry.*
 - *Looking at the composition of students, only 56 in number come from the Cuvu Tikina. The rest come from the other Tikina's, for example: Sigatoka comprising 25 (15%), Noikoro 22 (19%), et cetera, which means, the students could be easily moved to schools close to them.*
 - *Fourth was the dwindling number in the School. The number had continued to decrease from 218 in 2012 to 179 in 2015.*
 - *The other reason was that, if the Ministry were to return boarders from other districts, who were boarding at the current School, the Ministry has also gone to see the capacity of other boarding facilities in other schools. Further the Ministry found that Navosa Central has a capacity to take in more boarders. St Theresa, what used to be Bemana Catholic School now has the capacity to take in more at the Sigatoka Valley as well.*
- Those were just some of the reasons that gave rise to having NNHS being chosen for the technical college.
- The Ministry also looked at Sigatoka Methodist, but Sigatoka Methodist was going to be relocated at a new location in a few years' time.

Submission Twenty One: Mr. Napolioni Vitau, Village Headman, Nasama Village, Nadroga

- i. The village Headman submitted that as the Paramount Chief of Nadroga had agreed that NNHS to be converted to Technical College, so be it the village will support the proposal.
- ii. The Headman confirmed that the people of Nasama villge fully support the idea, and out of respect for their Paramount Chief, the *Na Ka Levu* the people of Nasama village will not go against the wishes of their High Chief.

Submission Twenty Two: Mr. Kiniviliame Naciqa, Principal of Navosa Central School

- i. The Principal had provided a brief, on the history of the School, the School was established in 1976 by the chiefs of *Colo* West or what was now called Navosa. The purpose of the establishment of the secondary school was to solve their burdens of going down to the town areas and staying with their relatives. That was the idea behind the establishment of Navosa Central College.
- ii. The School was developed and the hostel was built by the support and contributions of the people of Navosa through fundraisings such as being done on the day of the visit, by the *Vanua* of Navosa.
- iii. The College now has Form 7. The School had two streams up to Form 6 and one stream of Form 7 and also had a Vocational Centre for catering, tailoring, carpentry and joinery to cater for the needs of the people of Navosa rather than them going down to the town area which would have been a burden to them.
- iv. The current School roll was 289. In 2013 the School roll was 203. The purpose of my posting was to increase the roll of the school and improve the result of Nadroga Central College. So, in 2013 it was 203, in 2014 the roll has come up to 237 and now in 2015 the roll was 289. The passing percentage before year 2013 was never gone up to 50 per cent for Form 6, and in 2013 the percentage pass went up to 58 per cent, and in 2014 it was 61 per cent for Form 6.
- v. The challenge was faced with a lot of challengers and the challenge is for the teachers to improve their performance because parents now do school shopping. We need to improve the image of the School in order to get the students. Even though we are facing a lot of challengers, we are slowly getting results. That is a brief on the School at the moment.
- vi. The School had plans for the changes that will be to Nadroga/Navosa Provincial High School (NNHS). The School had planned and still have spaces available to cater for the students of NNHS who were the students of Navosa. The School was established for the students of the Province, and the purpose of the extension was for meant for them.
- vii. The main purpose of the fundraising that was undertaken during the visitation day was to improve the staff quarters. The School had plans and were thankful that the Parliamentary Committee on Social Affairs was there to witness the drive by the parents of Navosa to keep improve the school.
- viii. The school was owned by the people of Navosa. The *Colo* West or Navosa consist of the *Tikina* of Nadrau, Navatusila, Noikoro, Nasikawa, Namataku, Bemana, Koronasau, Korolevuiwai, Naqalimare and Komave. There are 12 *Tikinas* of Navosa and this was the upper Navosa.

Submission Twenty Three: Mr. Tevita Naisiga, Manager, Navosa Central College

- i. The School was established by the people of that District which the School was located, from the highlands right down to the coast in the *Tikina* of Komave. The purpose was to provide education for the people up here. Also, the unique thing about the School was that most of the school buildings that were possibly build through the fundraisings done by the parents and people of Navosa.
- ii. The new School Principal who came in had been advised to work hard to improve the standard of education here in terms of their pass rate so that they can maintain them here in Navosa. The people of Navosa were thankful that the Committee was here in Navosa to receive their submissions concerning the Provinces struggle over the years to maintain the students here at Navosa Central College.
- iii. With regards to zoning, it was noted that was ineffective in Navosa because the students still continued to travel down to the coast.
- iv. Further, a request to the Ministry of Education if the School Principal could be maintained given his two years term performance after took over Navosa Central College and improved the students passing rate which had gone really up, and the Committee therefore request that he remain at Navosa.

**Submission Twenty Four: Mr. Sakenasa Bure, School Chairman,
Tikina Namataku Rep & Education Committee Member,
Nadroga Navosa Provincial Council**

- i. The Chairman of the Navosa Central College mentioned that there was a Nursing Station in the Government Station.
- ii. In 2014, there were plans by Government to have the Nursing Station become a Health Centre, which was why in 2013 Government gave \$400,000 for the upgrade.
- iii. On behalf of the people of Navosa and as Chairman of the School the School fully support the idea of converting NNHS to become the Technical College.

Submission Twenty Five: Mrs. Sera Saladuadua, Senior Education Officer, Ministry of Education, Sigatoka

The information provided by the Senior Education Officer shows on how the students from Nadroga Navosa Provincial High School would be absorbed in other schools.

- i. First, the **Navosa Central College** is situated in the middle of Navosa province which has the capacity of 50 Boys and 50 Girls but currently the occupancy of 12 Boys and 34 Girls

- ii. Given the available space, it was further raised that if the school has to reach the maximum capacity than the boys hostel would need to be furnished with 20 bunkers and 20 sleeping mattresses.
- iii. The option of **St Teresa of Luieux College**, it is located beside the Sigatoka river in the upper valley some 35 km from the district education Office. The current occupancy of the hostel is 23 Boys and 26 Girls, and the capacity of hostel is 45 boys and 45 girls. Like Navosa central the school would also require 20 bunkers and sleeping mattresses to cater for the influx of students. Consequently the school would also need more furniture in the classroom to cater for the increased number of students entering the school.
- iv. **Sigatoka Valley High School**, This school is situated beside the Valley West Road, 20 kilometres from the Nadroga Navosa Education Office. It is a very centrally located secondary school for majority of the upper valley students. It has a multiracial population of students and teachers and the current facilities are also adequate to cater for increased day scholars.
- v. The School currently shares the **Waicoba Primary School** boarding facilities and if it has to accommodate any new students then hostel facilities need to be set up I the school. This would require the construction of boys and girls hostel with dining room and cooking place. To do this, the school has to be provided with additional grant to commence the construction of boarding facilities.
- vi. The School wants a hostel to cater for 30 boys and 30 girls. Currently 5 boys and 7 girls are housed in the primary school hostel.
- vii. **Nadroga Navosa Provincial High School** has a current roll of 179 students. Given the number of students, it would be easily accommodated in Cuvu College, which is one kilometre away from Nadroga Navosa Provincial High School, Nadroga Arya College, Sigatoka Methodist College and Sigatoka Andhra Sangam College.
- viii. There would be no problem faced in the new academic year to allocate students to the nearby schools and the 3 other upper valley schools from where about 15% of the students are coming from.
- ix. All students who would qualify for the bus voucher in the new academic year would also be provided with it. It is therefore understood that the conversion of Nadroga Navosa Provincial High School would be a smooth transition.

Submission Twenty Six: Mr. Jeremaia Tuwai, Principal of Sigatoka Valley High School

- i. There were 3 spare classrooms available that were not used.
- ii. The current school roll stands at 239 students, 23 teachers and 10 classrooms.

- iii. Given the available facilities, the students of Nadroga Navosa High School who would want to join the school are welcome.
- iv. The School is currently using bore hole as their water source and the school is owned by the Tikina of Nasesevia which included 4 villages, namely Vagadra, Nasavatava, Narewa and Narata.
- v. Feasibility study and assessment was done to improve the School performance.
- vi. There were no restrictions for student entry.
- vii. The School supports the initiative to change Nadroga Navosa High School to be a Technical College.

Submission Twenty Seven: Mr. Navneet Deepak Mishra, Principal of Cuvu College

- i. It was confirmed by the Principal that there were ample space available for any student who would want to join the school.
- ii. It was confirmed that the school has 33 -32 students in one form and 10 - 20 additional students can be accommodated in one form.
- iii. The current student roll stands at 598 and it was confirmed that have no problem in accommodating 90 – 100 additional students.
- iv. The declining in numbers of students for Cuvu College is a challenge and the proposed transformation of Nadroga Navosa High School.
- v. The School supports the proposed conversion of Nadroga Navosa High School to be a Technical College.

Submission Twenty Eight: Mr. Solomon Koroitamana, Principal of Nadroga Navosa High School

- i. It was confirmed by the Principal that the allegiance of the parents and scholars was a challenge.
- ii. Many parents regarded the school as the last school to take their children to if there were no other option.
- iii. In 2013, the school roll was 215 and then in 2014 it drops to 210 and major decline in 2015 which the roll stands now at 187.

- iv. Parents are not supportive to any programs organised by the school.
- v. Only few parents were committed to the school.
- vi. The best performers (students) and have other skills always moved to another schools and when they failed they always come back.
- vii. The Manager of the School is the Roko Tui Nadroga Navosa and the management of the school were not providing the required support that the school needs.
- viii. \$20,000 was budgeted for auxiliary salary for those who work for the school except for Teachers.
- ix. It was confirmed by the Principal that the Ministry of Education would be managing the school once it is converted into the College.
- x. The School support the proposed transformation of the school to be a Technical College.

Submission Twenty Nine: Mr. Apenisa Kurisiqila, Principal of Nadroga Arya College

- i. It was confirmed by the Principal that the school roll had declined over the years from 2013 which was 355, 2014 was 318 and 2015 now stands at 312.
- ii. The current student to teacher's ratio now stands at 37 students per class out of the 9 classrooms that are available.
- iii. Further noted that the School Management Board had agreed to extend some more classrooms in the School land that are still vacant.
- iv. The only challenge faced by the school is the teacher's delivery.
- v. There were fundraising activities done in the school.
- vi. Students movement rate were determined by various factors which may include rugby sports.
- vii. The School supports the initiative to change the Nadroga Navosa Provincial High School to be a Technical College.

Submission Thirty: Mr. Nizam Ali, Principal of Lomawai Secondary School

- i. The School Management were discussing with the communities the proposed Technical College.

- ii. The Technical College would set a standard for the Province of Nadroga Navosa.
- iii. Some parents raised that transportation was an issue on that area which covers Nabou, Tau, and other villages that are located far off from the main road which was requested that the Technical College need to provide transportation in the morning for students who would be interested in joining the College in future.
- iv. Given the small number of students, the school would appreciate the transformation of Nadroga Navosa High School since students that would be moving to Lomawai will increase the School roll which has been decreased due to the zoning policy by Government.
- v. The Disciplinary Measures in place by the school was to counsel students, which the Counsellor always came from the Ministry of Education.
- vi. The School Management requested if the Technical College could be based at Lomawai but the response from the Ministry of Education that there would be only one Technical College in Nadroga and cannot be two. Further, the Ministry had chosen Nadroga Navosa High School to be a Technical College was based on the assessment that was undertaken by the Ministry on all schools around Nadroga Navosa Province.
- vii. The current student roll of Lomawai stands at 275 and the school is under the Native Land.

3.0 COMMITTEE DELIBERATIONS ON THE PETITION, 2015

The Committee received submissions and deliberated on key issues that are tabulated below:

Submittee	Questions	Responses from Ministry of Education & School Principals:
WEDNESDAY, 15TH JULY, 2015 – Ministry of Education, Director, Technical College		
Mr. Chairman	Who is the owner of this premises?	Response from Ministry of Education – Mr. Mudaliar The owner of the land is the Methodist Church which is leased by the Nadroga/Navosa Provincial Council for the School, so at the moment, the lessee is the Provincial Council.
Hon. V. Nath	What will happen to the students if you convert that into a technical college? How will you cater for that? At this point in time, the outcry is, the students' welfare.	Response from Mr. Mudaliar The Ministry will relocate the students. The Ministry will profile every student and see the closest school they can go to and we will provide the bus fares as well. The Ministry of Education has undertaken that if the school nearby does not have provision for the classrooms, we will create classrooms for them as well. We have considered this so once the MOA has been signed, then we will start profiling the students and see where the closest school each and every student can go to. We will also accommodate them with bus fares.
Hon. V.K. Bhatnagar	When you talk about the closest school, how close will this be this closest? Do you have a fair idea of how many kilometres would they have to travel?	Response from Mr. Mudaliar At the moment, we have not started with the profiling of the students, we are waiting for the agreement (MOA), and then we will start profiling. We understand that there are many other secondary schools and eventually, we will provide bus fare coupons as well. However,

Submittee	Questions	Responses from Ministry of Education & School Principals:
		once the MOA is in place, then we will start profiling and identifying the schools.
Hon. S.V. Radrodro	What is the timeframe that the Ministry of Education has, if this goes through to, sort of, change the school?	Response from Mr. Mudaliar At the moment, we are looking at the end of December. We are already in the process of negotiating basically, a discussion of the MOA. As soon as this MOA is agreed, then it will go to Parliament for approval of conversion and once that is done, we will sign off the MOA. Then we will start our work.
	<p>Mr. Chairman, just following on from that question; you started the consultation process in May and you would like to conclude this in December, and as a parent myself, I find this as a very short time to be able to conduct consultation and also, what is the Ministry's explanation to that because the biggest stakeholder, in as far as the school is concerned, are the parents. The parents have not been consulted.</p> <p>You said you have consulted the Nadroga/Navosa Provincial Council but there has been no consultation done with the parents because these are the people, who will have to relocate their children and there will be a lot of economic and social costs that the parents will have to bear. Like the Ministry is saying that you are going to be looking after transportation but you know, they are grassroot parents and they have to look at other costs to be able to put these children to school.</p> <p>Having raised that, what is the Ministry's plan in terms of consultation to be conducted with parents?</p>	Response from Mr Mudaliar Mr Chairman and honourable Members, the owner of the School is the Provincial Council. We have approached them, and they have called in all the reps. – youth reps, women's reps, headmen, for this special meeting. We believe that the consultations have taken place because the reps. have voted in the Council to convert, so it is the prerogative of the Council and they have agreed. They are the owners of the School and they must have conducted consultations. We approached the owners of the School and it is up to them. The School roll is 184.
Mr. Chairman	There is a boarding whereby 50 to 60 students are staying there. What will happen to that boarding if you turn the School into a technical college?	Responses from Mr. Mudarliar The Government is providing bus fare subsidy, free education, books, et cetera, and I do not

Submittee	Questions	Responses from Ministry of Education & School Principals:
		think the parents opt to object but like honourable Radrodro said, the major stakeholder are the parents. As a committee, we will be doing public consultations but today I would like to highlight the benefits of this because for them to understand and accept the change, they will need to know what the benefits will be. So, I, as a Committee Member, would like to know the benefits of this so that we can go and discuss this with them.
Hon. A.T. Vadei	I have a question on the courses because TPAF is offering that and these technical colleges. What comparisons will there be in these two institutions when offering these courses to our youth?	Response from Mr. Mudarliar The difference is that, we are competency based. For example, in a unit where you have to service a battery, in a week, we teach one hour of theory, three hours of practical depending on the unit, so it is more of hands-on. What will happen is, it is a national qualification we are offering. National Qualifications, a national assessor from the Fiji Higher Education Commission (FHEC) will come and assess the student on his/her ability to service a battery, for example, to physically show them how it is done rather than sitting a theory exam which is done by FNU or USP. It is more on competency.
Hon. S.V. Radrodro	When you get this Trade Certificate I and II qualification, and I hear honourable Nath saying that you can continue and do a Diploma. Can this qualification be cross-credited and to which institution?	Response from Mr. Mudaliar Mr. Chairman and honourable Members, all the high education institutes are registered under one body – the FHEC. We are pegged against the Fiji National Curriculum Qualification Framework (FNCQF), so any institute should cross-credit

Submittee	Questions	Responses from Ministry of Education & School Principals:
		because we are all registered under the same system and the same criteria.
	So, you are saying that these students can go on and undertake a programme at FNU or University of Fiji?	Yes.
Hon. A.T. Vadei	To add on to that, Mr. Chairman, comparing these programmes with our neighbouring countries – Australia and New Zealand, they started off TAFE, we started off with TPAF. What I am asking here is the reliability of these certificates from this Institute, whether they will be recognised locally and internationally in that context?	<p>Response from Mr. Mudaliar</p> <p>At the moment, most of the developing countries are moving towards technical colleges. What Fiji's approach has been is registering a regulatory body which is the FHEC. This is similar to NZ, they have NZQA. If you look at it, they provide the curriculum (qualification) and the service providers take it, they unpack it, for example, they develop it further, and then they deliver. We have taken the same approach – FHEC is similar to NZQA. If you have an opportunity, please go and look at the website wherein the qualifications are listed and the latest materials (curriculum) are also there. What they do in New Zealand, they go to NZQA, they take it and start their own technical college. This is similar with FHEC and their curriculum is developed in consultation with the industry and other stakeholders. Once they have done this, they roll then out to us and we are offering those programmes. It is also recognised because FHEC is registered with a number of bodies who recognise them, and we are working towards their registration. So, we will also be recognised.</p>

Submittee	Questions	Responses from Ministry of Education & School Principals:
Hon. V. Nath	Would you like to highlight, how successful is your Nadi and other similar institutes?	<p>Response by Mr. Mudaliar:</p> <p>We are five months into inception of three technical colleges. At the moment, we have done two enrolments. We have 1,230 students in three technical colleges, averaging over 400 per college.</p> <p>We offer 11 programmes, depending on the demand and approximately 55 short courses. To date, we have trained approximately 350 short courses participants, in progress it is about 500. We are running short courses for 500 participants, and in waiting is 500. The demand is very big. We are targeting the general public, who do not have the opportunity to train, for example, we are having housewives who want to learn how to bake proper and we are giving them free education and a certificate as well, who can create a career out of it. We are teaching them how to make salads, cakes. In construction, they are learning how to estimate how long a construction will take, they learn that. So, the number speaks for itself, how successful technical colleges are – 1,200 in Certificate II programme, in total, over 800 in training and have finished; 500 are still waiting.</p>
Mr. Chairman	In the communities, there are carpenters who are able to make a structure of a house, there are plaster men, tillers who do not have certificates and they are not qualified. These people when they go outside, they are not paid as they should be. Are they also considered or are there ways to give those certificates and provisions?	<p>Response from Mr. Mudaliar</p> <p>Mr. Chairman, our programmes have credit points which comes out of national hours, so they have to spend some hours in training and then, they have to have an assessment done. If they spend so many hours in theory and so many hours in practical and assessment and have</p>

Submittee	Questions	Responses from Ministry of Education & School Principals:
		successfully passed, they will get a certificate. The provisions are there. At the moment, there are a number of students, for example, in Nabua who are just labourers doing tilings, painting, et cetera, who are training. When our assessors assess them, they are almost perfect. They are also the people we are training.
Hon. S.V. Radrodro	Are these programmes free of charge?	Response from Mr. Mudaliar There are two types of programmes. The short courses are free of charge. Certificate I and Certificate II are under the TELS.
	So, basically, the one that you are going to have a recognised kind of qualification which is Certificate I and Certificate II and which you said, have got credit points and which I believe, are the ones that could be cross-credited to higher tertiary institutions are under TELS?	Response from Mr. Mudaliar All the programmes have credit points. They use the same model being used in USP and FNU.
	But the Trade Certificate I and II are the ones under TELS. The short courses which also have credit points are free?	Yes.
	How long are the short courses?	Response from Mr. Mudaliar Short courses vary. Depending on the hours required for training, we determine the number of days. For example, it can be seven days in the evening for three hours. This is for labourers or people who want to gain an extra skill. So, three hours in seven days, approximately 21 hours. In that, there are assessments which are in place. We are looking at cross-crediting these certificates to Certificate Levels 1 and 2 through RPO (Recognition of Prior Learning) have done theory proper, we will ask them; "Alright, these many hours, we will cross-credit from that particular Unit, however you will have to do assessments". We

Submittee	Questions	Responses from Ministry of Education & School Principals:
		will recognise them if they go through us again and we are in the process of setting this up.
	Further to that, was there a feasibility study undertaken on this particular school in terms of the demand? I mean, you are going to have it under TELS.	Response from Mr. Mudaliar No, there was no feasibility study undertaken.
Hon. V. Nath	The difficulty I can see now is for parents to pay the uniform. For the uniform, can you assure the Committee whether the students from this school can use the same uniform when going to the other school or they will have to change their uniform?	We can make arrangements for them to use the same uniform. Maybe, we can just change the badge, to start with.
Hon. A.T. Vadei	The issue here is about Nadroga/Navosa Provincial Secondary School and the land is owned by the Methodist Church. Why cannot the Ministry, on that same piece of land, develop that institute and also phasing out slowly with the academic Nadroga/Navosa and convert it at a later stage to a technical institute once the information sinks properly with the parents and province?	Response by Mr. Mudaliar Our strategy is that we want existing infrastructure (classrooms). We will build workshops. What will happen is, rather than building everything again, if we have the classrooms for teaching, we can quickly build the workshops and bring the services to the district – bring the services to their door straightaway. If we start building classrooms and workshops altogether, it will take a lot of time. Our target is by early 2016, we want to start enrolment.
Hon. S.V. Radrodro	We used to this programme which is like an extension like, for example, vocational. There were schools identified that are already on the ground in which they have another programme where students who do not do well academically, can go to. I remember they used to have it in RKS, I am not too sure about the one in Nabua, so why the shift in this new concept in totally developing this whole school and turn it into a vocational?	Response by Mr. Mudaliar We are offering a competency-based programme which is totally different from what is being offered in vocational schools at the moment. The technical college is a shift towards the global trend which is technical college as in New Zealand, Australia, Germany, London, et cetera. We have created our own culture where students have a conducive learning environment rather than having a school environment.

Submittee	Questions	Responses from Ministry of Education & School Principals:
		<p>Our programmes are totally different. We are offering national qualifications. The vocational schools are not offering national qualifications, we are offering national qualifications and this is recognised. At the moment, if we take an MOE two year programme in vocational school, they will do trade certificate again. We are providing 50 per cent of the trade certificate, that is, Certificate IV and Certificate V, we are offering 50 per cent of it to the students at the moment. In vocational, they have to start up again. The shift here is that, we are preparing students that after Year 10, they do a one-year programme, and they can go to the workforce or proceed to do Trade Certificate from Level III to Level IV.</p>
PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS – NADROGA/NAVOSA PROVINCE		
DAY 1 – TUESDAY, 11TH AUGUST, 2015		
Hon. A.T. Vadei	<p>The approval to absorb students to nearby schools, has there been any confirmation from these schools?</p>	<p>Response from the Senior Education Officer:</p> <p>The Ministry officials approached the Principals of the nearby schools, and they have been assured that these schools can take on additional students.</p> <p>Also visited Navosa Central College, Principal assured that they can take in a good number of students.</p> <p>NCC had also received a grant to improve and built hostel facility, so the School can cater for more boarders as well.</p>
	Does the Province have safety nets, for students who dropout from the	In some cases, students have dropped out of school early in

Submittee	Questions	Responses from Ministry of Education & School Principals:
	mainstream, so that they are channelled again into the mainstream?	Form 4, but because of Government's Compulsory Education Programme, School Principals have been requested to take back these students who have left school for a year or so.
Hon. M. Leawere	Has there been an analysis conducted to find out what is the cause of the students moving away from Nadroga/Navosa, compared to the schools that have big numbers?	<p>Response from the Senior Education Officer:</p> <p>Yes, comparative analysis with all other schools have been done, and for the last two years, the Navosa Central College has gone up with 100 per cent passes, about 50 per cent in Form 6 and 50 per cent in Form 7, and looking at the School roll of NNHS, 15 per cent of these students are from Navosa.</p>
Mr. S. Toroca	What would happen to the students from the other schools and vocational centres?	<p>Response from the Senior Education Officer:</p> <p>For the technical college, students from the vocational centres will be joining the technical college.</p>
Hon. V.K. Bhatnagar	Will the technical college be recognised?	<p>Response from Senior Education Officer:</p> <p>The recognition is higher. The Higher Education Commission recognises the technical college higher than the vocational centres.</p> <p>And, in terms of where they will do their practical, that will be done in consultation with the employers.</p>
DAY 2 – WEDNESDAY, 13TH AUGUST, 2015		

Submittee	Questions	Responses from Ministry of Education & School Principals:
Mr. J. Kunaluveya (Rukurukulevu Village, Old Scholar, NNHS)	Question to Principal Cuvu College, If students from NNHs are moved to Cuvu College, will they be taught the Christian values, as well as the <i>itaukei</i> culture?	Response from Senior Education officer: In all schools, there are no barriers to religion and culture. As part of the Ministry's deliverables, all schools observe all religious and cultural activities.
		Response from Principal Cuvu College: The School incorporates all cultural and religious activities in its curriculum. The School is multiracial, multicultural, thereby upholds and respects each and every religion and cultural activity in the School. Principal assured that the institution would not be an obstacle to their increase in values of Christianity or other religions in the School.
	A lot of children from the Nadroga/Navosa Province are sent to Nadi and Suva for further studies on courses like Diploma in Tourism, etc. Will similar courses be offered at the technical college?	Senior Education Officer reiterated on the presentation she did on the types of courses the technical college will offer.
Mrs. Mere Gonewai (Rukurukulevu Village)	How will the tertiary college assist? The hotel industry requires Form 6 passes for one to be employed, and for those dropping out of school at Form 4 will not be able to be employed.	Sen. Education Officer explained that it is up to the students if he or she wants to go up to Form 6 or 7. If a student wants to attend the technical college, that is their decision. It does not mean that all Nadroga/Navosa children will only reach Form 4 level. It is not the intention of Government in establishing the technical college for the

Submittee	Questions	Responses from Ministry of Education & School Principals:
		<p>students to only go up to Form 4. If some students want to go up to Form 5 and above, they will be moved to Cuvu College or nearby schools. If the students still want to board in the Schools, there are vacant spaces in other boarding schools. But, if the students want to travel by bus, their bus fares will be provided.</p>
	<p>How long will the Government be paying the students bus fares, those attending the technical college?</p>	<p>Senior Education Officer replied that, the students that have decided to stay at the technical college can request for scholarship. All the students attending technical colleges today are on scholarships and their fees, bus fare and lunch, as well as boarding fees are paid. This amount will be paid back to Government once they are employed.</p> <p>The decision of how long Government will be paying, the Senior Education Officer replied that that will be up to Government to decide.</p>
<p>Mrs. Kelera Tuku (Old Scholar, NNHS)</p>	<p>Why was NNHS chosen to be the venue for the technical college and not any other school in the Nadroga/Navosa Province?</p>	<p>Response from Senior Education Officer, Nadroga.</p> <p>The choice was due to various reasons:</p> <p>1. Location of the School - it would not be too difficult to redistribute the students because there are some schools in the vicinity or other students who come from the other <i>Tikina</i>'s could easily attend schools</p>

Submittee	Questions	Responses from Ministry of Education & School Principals:
		<p>close to them. We also have the breakdown in terms of the percentages of where students originate from or where they come from.</p> <p>2. The total number of students at NNHS easy to distribute. NNHS has 179 students, rather than distributing the 700 students from Sigatoka Methodist College, et cetera.</p> <p>3. Composition of student – Only 56 students in NNHS come from the Cuvu <i>Tikina</i>. The rest come from the other <i>Tikina</i>'s, for example: Sigatoka comprising 25 (15%), Noikoro 22 (19%), et cetera, which means, the students could be easily moved to schools close to them.</p> <p>4. The dwindling number in NNHS – School roll has continued to decrease from 218 in 2012 to 179 in 2015.</p> <p>5. Boarding facilities in other schools has capacity to take on more boards.</p> <p>6. The Ministry also looked at Sigatoka Methodist, but Sigatoka Methodist will be relocating soon.</p>
Mr. S. Toroca	How many students will be accommodated at the technical college?	Response from the Senior Education Officer:
	At universities, one course costs about \$200 plus for Certificate level? Has the Ministry taken into consideration the background of the community, in terms of costs? Will the people of Nadroga/Navosa be able to afford the courses provided at the technical	Those students that are accepted at the technical college apply for the TELS Scholarship, which means it will assist the students with their fares, food and accommodation expenses.

Submittee	Questions	Responses from Ministry of Education & School Principals:
	college?	<p>There are two types of courses. Short courses may be for two or six weeks. That will be free for the community. If there are backing and tailoring courses, women may apply for it. That will be free.</p> <p>The long term courses will be the one requiring payment of fees. But, students accepted at the technical college apply for TELS scholarship, and students pay back when they start work.</p>
	Will the technical college include in its curriculum Management Courses, Traditional Crafts making, et cetera?	
	Will programmes like the Matua Programme be done also in the Nadroga Province?	
	Will the boarding facilities at the technical college be able to cater for all, because the Province starts from the coast up to the interior?	
DAY 3 – THURSDAY, 13 TH AUGUST		
Hon. A.T. Vadei	In the next five years, if the Government converts NNHS, can the Navoca Central College cater for the increase in students?	<p>Responses from School Manager:</p> <p>The <i>Tikina</i> of Navosa is ready. If there is need for further extension to the School, 10 acres of land outside the School area can be used for that.</p>
	In terms of infrastructure; electricity, water, internet, et cetera, is there sufficient supply?	<p>Responses from School Manager:</p> <p>There is no problem to internet connection. There is a new Vodafone transmitter in the area.</p> <p>In terms of water, water that the School is currently using is being extracted from the nearby river, and regulated by the Water Authority of Fiji. A new source from somewhere in the highlands has also been established.</p> <p>The <i>Tikina</i> is willing to work hand in hand with Government to accommodate growth in the School.</p>
		<p>Response from School Principal:</p>

Submittee	Questions	Responses from Ministry of Education & School Principals:
		<p>The FEA grid goes up to the primary school, so the School is connected to the FEA line.</p> <p>The water supply is done by the WAF personnel located at Navatumali Govt Station. They are also putting in another reservoir from the other side.</p> <p>For the internet, a team from the Ministry of Information visited the School in 2013 to do a survey, and the feedback was that the signal was slow. But now, up the next hill after the river, there is a big tower there, and signal has been very good, better than being in the town area.</p>

Gender Issues

Under SO 110(2), where a committee conducts an activity listed in clause (1), the committee ensures full consideration will be given to the principle of gender equality so as to ensure matters considered with regard to the impact and benefit on both men and women equally. The Committee considered range of issues including the impact of the proposed conversion of NNHS to be a Technical College would have equal benefits for women and men and this is evident when they were given the same opportunity to provide comments during the consultation process. In particular, the Committee invited both women and men to give submissions during the Consultation exercise in villages and schools at Nadroga Navosa Province.

4.0 CONCLUSION

The Standing Committee on Social Affairs has fulfilled its mandate approved by Parliament which was to examine the Petition of Nadroga Navosa High School. The Committee had conducted a round of consultations in Nadroga Navosa Province and found out that people of Nadroga Navosa have supported the idea of the Technical College.

The Committee is a bi-partisan one and contributions from both sides have provided the final report, closely supported by the Secretariat.

The responses were overwhelming and the input was from a good cross-section of society. The submissions received orally and also in written form.


The Committee has assembled few recommendations as the result of the overall public submissions made to the Committee. The Committee's was primarily focused on the petitioners view but also seek other stakeholders view on the proposed Technical College.

In summary, the Committee after examining the petition and conducted consultations exercise around Nadroga Navosa Province it has confirmed that the public supported the proposed Technical College but the consideration of the recommendation would meet the needs on the ground in Nadroga Navosa Province with regards to the proposed Technical College.

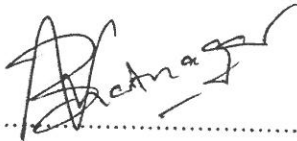
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STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL AFFAIRS



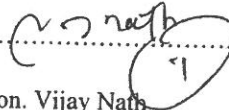
Hon. Viam Pillay
(Chairperson)



Hon. Salote Radrodro
(Deputy Chairperson)



Hon. Veena Bhatnagar



Hon. Vijay Nath



Hon. Anare Vadei

25/08/15

(Date)

APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1: PETITION OF NADROGA / NAVOSA HIGH SCHOOL

APPENDICES

Appendix 1: PETITION OF NADROGA NAVOSA HIGH SCHOOL

This form is to be used by Honourable Members to submit petitions



Petition

Member's certificate of endorsement

In my opinion, the attached petition is respectful, does not promote disharmony, and is deserving of presentation

Signature: Willie J. Saville

Name of member submitting the petition: Hon. WILLIAM GAVOKA

I wish to present this petition to Parliament on the following date: 09/07/15

Date Submitted: 06/07/15

Attach this form to the petition

For staff use only

Date and time received: _____

Name of person receiving the form: _____

Petition must be attached to this form.

Version 1.1 November 2014

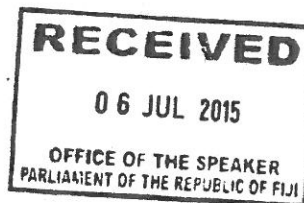
DSG,
Please grateful
for our
Facilitation
D.N
8/07



OFFICE OF THE LEADER OF OPPOSITION
Parliament House
SUVA

SCP
for processing

6 July 2015



Speaker of Parliament
Parliament of Fiji
Government Buildings
Suva

Dear Madam,

Re: Petition for Parliament to Consider That the Government Review and Rescind
Its Decision to Transform Nadroga/Navosa Provincial High School into a
Technical College

In accordance with Standing Order 37 of Parliament, submitted herewith is a petition
for presentation to Parliament for due consideration.

This petition calls for the Parliament of Fiji, to direct, according to relevant powers
within the Standing Orders, that a relevant committee review the decision to transform
Nadroga/Navosa High School into a technical college with the possibility of calling for
Government to rescind its decision in this regard.

Members of the public and particularly those in the Nadroga / Navosa area have
signed this petition and we submit approximately 248 signatures. Please refer to
attachments for signatures.

We submit this petition for your further action in accordance with Standing Order 37.

Should you have further queries in relation to this petition, please do not hesitate to
contact either the undersigned or Ms. Laisani Qaqanilawa on Ext. 3812522.

Sincerely,

Hon Viliame Gavoka
Member of Parliament

PARLIAMENT HOUSE
Left Level 2, Government Buildings, SUVA
Tel: (679) 322 5657
Fax: (679) 33154063

**Public Petition for Parliament's Consideration That the Government
Review and Rescind its Decision to Transform Nadroga / Navosa
Provincial High School into a Technical College**

Government's Policy on Establishment of Technical Colleges in Fiji

- The Ministry of Education has begun its reforms of Fiji's tertiary technical education system with the establishment of ten technical colleges around the country in 2016.
- This new initiative has received an allocation of \$7 million to begin work in 2015 and envisaged to improve the quality of technical education in Fiji and to promoting it as an attractive alternative to university study. Government has so far established two technical colleges, one in the North and the other in Nadi.
- Recently, the Nadroga Provincial Council has indicated the Nadroga/Navosa Provincial High School located in Cuvu, Nadroga will now become a registered technical college as per alignment with Government's policy on technical colleges.
- The decision to convert the Nadroga / Navosa Provincial High School into a technical college was made without thorough consultation with impacted stakeholders who are – the parents of students of the school, the students and current teachers, the villagers of Nadroga/Navosa and the faith – based organizations that have provided support to the school over the years.

BACKGROUND

What will this Change Mean for Nadroga/Navosa Provincial High School:

- Of critical concern is that this significant change will greatly impact the way of life of indigenous Fijians who have relied on the school for their education needs. Present students are used to the environment, culture, and way of life at the school and will find it hard to adjust to any forced change let alone a new school environment.
- Majority of the students are from the very remote parts of the Nadroga/Navosa province who experience economic hardships. Faith based organizations currently support parents with the educational needs of students at the school. This support will be foregone if the school is transformed into a technical college and current students have to attend other schools further from the area.
- Approximately 50-60 student's board at the school and such significant change will be difficult to adjust to with the risk that this change will result in some of the current students falling out of the education system altogether.
- Parents will have to pay more to send their children a new school which will further strain finances.
- Presently, the Ministry of Education has only said it will find schools for the current students. This is causing great uncertainty with parents, the students,

APPENDIX 2: VERBATIM

Appendix 2: Verbatim

VERBATIM REPORT OF INTERVIEWS CONDUCTED BY THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL AFFAIRS ON WEDNESDAY, 15TH JULY, 2015 IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM, EAST WING, GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS AT 9.30 A.M.

Present:

- | | | | |
|----|-------------------------|---|--------------------|
| 1. | Hon. Viam Pillay | - | Chairperson |
| 2. | Hon. Salote V. Radrodro | - | Deputy Chairperson |
| 3. | Hon. Vijay Nath | - | Member |
| 4. | Hon. Veena Bhatnagar | - | Member |
| 5. | Hon. Anare T. Vadei | - | Member |

In Attendance:

Mr. R. Mudaliar - Director, Technical College of Fiji, Ministry of Education

Secretariat

Mr. Savenaca Koro - Secretariat

Honourable Members, I welcome you all to our meeting. I also welcome Mr. Mudaliar, who is with us this morning, and would like to thank him for his presence in a very short time.

(Introduction of Members by Chairman)

As we all know, there is a petition for Parliament to consider the Government's decision to transform Nadroga/Navosa Provincial High School into a technical college, and that is the reason we have called you this morning to give us an update on this issue so that we can make the Committee's views known and also we can further decide if we really do need to visit Nadroga/Navosa to get the views of the community. I will now give the floor to you, Director, and after your submission, honourable Members will ask you questions, if they have any. The questions should be based on the issue that is being discussed today.

MR. R. MUDALIAR.- Mr. Chairman and honourable Members, I thank you all for the opportunity given to the Ministry of Education to shed some light on the due process that we have taken to consider Nadroga/Navosa Provincial High School as one of the technical colleges. The process is very simple and straightforward. What we have done is, on 20/05/15, we approached the Chairman of the Nadroga/Navosa Provincial Council, Ratu Waka, and we verbally advised him that we are interested in converting the School into a technical college. Some members of the Education Committee of the Provincial Council were there as well, who is responsible for the school. So, we had a discussion, we had an informal presentation there, it was a verbal presentation. Questions and answers were exchanged so after that, the Chairman requested that we make a formal presentation to the full Education Committee. So, they requested one of our Education Officers to present. We prepared a presentation for the Education Officer, who is Sera Saladua, the Senior Education Officer Nadroga/Navosa, who presented to the Education Committee of the Nadroga/Navosa Provincial Council.

After the presentation which was on 26/05/15, senior members were invited to present in front of the whole Provincial Council. There was a special meeting called on 12/06/15 where we presented

again the same presentation to the full Council with full members present – youth reps, women’s reps. After the presentation, we moved out because they had started a motion to vote for the conversion. We clearly said to them; “you have to write to us, advising us if the Council is interested in the conversion”.

The Council put a media release on 13/06/15 that they were interested, it was in the papers as well (Fiji Sun). On 22/06/15, we received confirmation via email from the Chairman and on 23/06/15, we received a memo on the letterhead of the Council that they agreed to convert. So, in this due process, the Council had already approached the landowners as well, the Methodist Church, and the Council had written to us that they are in full support of the conversion. So, this was the simple process that we took to approach the Provincial Council to convert Nadroga/Navosa Provincial High School into a technical college.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman and honourable Members.

MR. CHAIRMAN.- Thank you for your presentation, Mr. Mudaliar. I will now request Members if they have questions to ask you but before that, I have a question. Who is the owner of this premises?

MR. R. MUDALIAR.- The owner of the land is the Methodist Church which is leased by the Nadroga/Navosa Provincial Council for the School, so at the moment, the lessee is the Provincial Council.

HON. V. NATH.- Mr. Chairman, through you, can I ask the Director if both the parties have given their consent and according to your statement, both parties have given their consent. Would you be able to tell us, I believe the number of students is quite large, 300, what will happen to the students if you convert that into a technical college? How will you cater for that? At this point in time, the outcry is, the students’ welfare. Parents are concerned as to what will happen to their child or children. Will they be denied the education priority or what is your plan?

MR. R. MUDALIAR.- Mr. Chairman, we will relocate the students. We will profile every student and see the closest school they can go to and we will provide the bus fares as well. The Ministry of Education has undertaken that if the school nearby does not have provision for the classrooms, we will create classrooms for them as well. We have considered this so once the MOA has been signed, then we will start profiling the students and see where the closest school each and every student can go to. We will also accommodate them with bus fares.

HON. V. BHATNAGAR.- Mr. Mudaliar, when you talk about the closest school, how close will this be this closest? Do you have a fair idea of how many kilometres would they have to travel?

MR. R. MUDALIAR. - At the moment, we have not started with the profiling of the students, we are waiting for the agreement (MOA), then we will start profiling. We understand that there are many other secondary schools and eventually, we will provide bus fare coupons as well. However, once the MOA is in place, then we will start profiling and identifying the schools.

HON. V. BHATNAGAR. - Mr. Mudaliar, what is the closest school from Nadroga/Navosa Provincial School, how far approximately, about a kilometre?

MR. R. MUDALIAR. - Most probably yes, one to 1½ kilometres.

HON. S.V. RADRODRO. - What is the timeframe that the Ministry of Education has, if this goes through to, sort of, change the school?

MR. R. MUDALIAR. - At the moment, we are looking at the end of December. We are already in the process of negotiating basically, a discussion of the MOA. As soon as this MOA is agreed, then it will go to Parliament for approval of conversion and once that is done, we will sign off the MOA. Then we will start our work.

HON. S.V. RADRODRO. - Mr. Chairman, just following on from that question; you started the consultation process in May and you would like to conclude this in December, and as a parent myself, I find this as a very short time to be able to conduct consultation and also, what is the Ministry's explanation to that because the biggest stakeholder, in as far as the school is concerned, are the parents. The parents have not been consulted.

You said you have consulted the Nadroga/Navosa Provincial Council but there has been no consultation done with the parents because these are the people, who will have to relocate their children and there will be a lot of economic and social costs that the parents will have to bear. Like the Ministry is saying that you are going to be looking after transportation but you know, they are grassroot parents and they have to look at other costs to be able to put these children to school.

Having raised that, what is the Ministry's plan in terms of consultation to be conducted with parents?

MR. R. MUDALIAR. - Mr. Chairman and honourable Members, the owner of the School is the Provincial Council. We have approached them, and they have called in all the reps. – youth reps, women's reps, headmen, for this special meeting. We believe that the consultations have taken place because the reps. have voted in the Council to convert, so it is the prerogative of the Council and they have agreed. They are the owners of the School and they must have conducted consultations. We approached the owners of the School and it is up to them. The School roll is 184.

MR. CHAIRMAN. - I also believe there is a boarding whereby 50 to 60 students are staying there. What will happen to that boarding if you turn the School into a technical college?

MR. R. MUDALIAR. - Mr. Chairman, we are looking at maintaining the boarding facilities and we will facilitate for the outer island students as well for this School, for example, whoever comes from the islands, we will have the boarding in place, and we will facilitate those students who require boarding in technical colleges.

HON. V. BHATNAGAR.- The Government is providing bus fare subsidy, free education, books, et cetera, and I do not think the parents opt to object but like honourable Radrodرو said, the major stakeholder are the parents. As a committee, we will be doing public consultations but today I would like to highlight the benefits of this because for them to understand and accept the change, they will need to know what the benefits will be. So, I, as a Committee Member, would like to know the benefits of this so that we can go and discuss this with them.

MR. R. MUDALIAR. - Mr. Chairman and honourable Members, I will start with a brief overview of technical college.

Technical college offers two types of programmes – one is a short course programme which is free for all general public who are over 15, and they get a certificate after they do a short course. In short courses, we teach students on competency on a particular topic, for example, on how to service a battery on an automotive vehicle, how to bake scones, how to make salad, so these are short courses which we are running at the moment, which is provided by the technical college and provided in four areas – construction, engineering, hospitality and agriculture.

The other programme that we also offer is Certificate II Programme which is a one-year programme with three trimesters. We have Level I and Level II Units and include a full trimester of industrial attachment. So, these are the two programmes we offer. They are offered for 15 years and over students, so we are targeting the youth of Fiji, that is, 15 to 35 years old.

At the moment, if you look at FNU, USP, their enrolment is Year 12 (Form 6) and over, but we target Year 10 and above. If they have done Year 10, we enrol them and they have to be 15 years and over. So, the benefit to the general public is that, the target group which we have targeted is very different and has not been targeted currently because it is all Year 12 and over. Form 5 and over, if they do not qualify in USP or FNU, they stay home. They work as labours so we are giving them the opportunity to obtain certain skills.

If you look at our pathway, there are two different pathways at the moment in the academic process; there is Cognitive Pathway which is basically from Year 1 to Year 13, then Diploma, Degree, Masters and PhD. For Skills Pathway, we have until Year 10 and then we have Certification II level, Certificate III and Certificate IV, and they end up by the age of 17 or 18 with a Trade Certificate. After that, they have the opportunity to do Diploma, Trade Diploma, Degree, Masters and PhD. So, we are giving students who have an aptitude in skills, who are good with their hands, to further proceed with their education which we did not have. At the moment, it was only academic, from Year 1 to Year 13 but in here, we are giving the students the choice, what their aptitude is and how they can proceed with that. At the end of the day, the goal merges and everyone can end up with either a Trade Certificate, a Trade Diploma, Masters or PhD so any person can now go through the trade skills side, take a skills pathway and still end up with a proper qualification and education.

HON. A.T. VADEI. - I have a question on the courses because TPAF is offering that and these technical colleges. What comparisons will there be in these two institutions when offering these courses to our youth?

MR. R. MUDALIAR. - The difference is that, we are competency based. For example, in a unit where you have to service a battery, in a week, we teach one hour of theory, three hours of practical depending on the unit, so it is more of hands-on. What will happen is, it is a national qualification we are offering. National Qualifications, a national assessor from the Fiji Higher Education Commission (FHEC) will come and assess the student on his/her ability to service a battery, for example, to physically show them how it is done rather than sitting a theory exam which is done by FNU or USP. It is more on competency.

HON. V. NATH. - Mr. Chairman, to open up on more interaction and discussion, allow me to slightly brief on it because I, being a former Assistant Minister for Education.

Let us look at the roll which is 184 so you will find Year 9 and Year 13, about 60 students will be out, so you are talking about only 120 students who will be deployed. For this 120 students, the Ministry will find the location, that is, the nearest school from their home and, of course, bus fare vouchers are given. Year 13, they will complete high school and will move on to FNU or USP. After Year 8 completes their education, they will go to another school for Year 9.

Looking at Year 10, as the Director has mentioned, if a student fails, he will be given as Government grant to repeat, if he chooses and if he wants, he can go to the technical college. In technical college, it will offer Certificate I and II which no other tertiary institution is offering. FNU and Fiji University is not allowed to offer these two Trade Certificates courses. Of course, the students will be given all the certificates.

There is another good thing I have seen when I was in the Ministry of Education is that, after graduation, the Ministry of Education has promised to give hands-on tool to the students. They may

choose to go in the field right from Certificate II which will allow the child who will be furnished fully to start his garage business, for example, after completion of Certificate II. If not, he will probably pursue to FNU and other institution. I now with the Ministry I am handling, we have shortage of technical people and I am optimistic that this Technical College of Fiji will be able to assist in this regard.

I believe the closest school is about 1.3 kilometres from Nadroga/Navosa Provincial Secondary School and I believe if consultations have been done, if all the stakeholders have taken part, then I would request that the Minutes of that meeting could be forwarded to you, Mr. Chairman, if they can release it. If not, it is not a problem.

HON. S.V. RADRODRO. - Mr. Chairman, if I can just add on that consultation bit because I heard the Director saying that their responsibility is to do the presentation, consult with the Provincial Council and the Provincial Council will do the ground consultation to the people.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to highlight here that the Ministry of Education, not the Provincial Council, is the custodian of the taxpayers' money and it is their responsibility to conduct the consultation with the students and parents, to ensure that this project does not fail. It is not the responsibility of the Provincial Council. Therefore, I would like to state and urge that the Ministry of Education should take on that role and not the Provincial Council because at the end of the day, the taxpayers' money is being given to the Ministry of Education to ensure that that money is rightfully used in this new technical college.

My question is, when you get this Trade Certificate I and II qualification, and I hear honourable Nath saying that you can continue and do a Diploma. Can this qualification be cross-credited and to which institution?

MR. R. MUDALIAR.- Mr. Chairman and honourable Members, all the high education institutes are registered under one body – the FHEC. We are pegged against the Fiji National Curriculum Qualification Framework (FNCQF), so any institute should cross-credit because we are all registered under the same system and the same criteria.

HON. S.V. RADRODRO. - Thank you for that, so you are saying that these students can go on and undertake a programme at FNU or University of Fiji?

MR. R. MUDALIAR. - Yes.

HON. A.T. VADEI.- To add on to that, Mr. Chairman, comparing these programmes with our neighbouring countries – Australia and New Zealand, they started off TAFE, we started off with TPAF. What I am asking here is the reliability of these certificates from this Institute, whether they will be recognised locally and internationally in that context?

MR. R. MUDALIAR. - Mr. Chairman and honourable Members, at the moment, most of the developing countries are moving towards technical colleges. What Fiji's approach has been is registering a regulatory body which is the FHEC. This is similar to NZ, they have NZQA. If you look at it, they provide the curriculum (qualification) and the service providers take it, they unpack it, for example, they develop it further, and then they deliver. We have taken the same approach – FHEC is similar to NZQA. If you have an opportunity, please go and look at the website wherein the qualifications are listed and the latest materials (curriculum) are also there. What they do in New Zealand, they go to NZQA, they take it and start their own technical college. This is similar with FHEC and their curriculum is developed in consultation with the industry and other stakeholders. Once they have done this, they roll then out to us and we are offering those programmes. It is also

recognised because FHEC is registered with a number of bodies who recognise them, and we are working towards their registration. So, we will also be recognised.

HON. V. NATH. - Director, would you like to highlight to honourable Members, how successful is your Nadi and other similar institutes?

I have been a provincial member for a long long time, all the provincial development members, including advisory councillors, turaga-ni-koro, would you like to highlight

MR. R. MUDALIAR. - Mr. Chairman, we are five months into inception of three technical colleges. At the moment, we have done two enrolments. We have 1,230 students in three technical colleges, averaging over 400 per college.

We offer 11 programmes, depending on the demand and approximately 55 short courses. To date, we have trained approximately 350 short courses participants, in progress it is about 500. We are running short courses for 500 participants, and in waiting is 500. The demand is very big. We are targeting the general public, who do not have the opportunity to train, for example, we are having housewives who want to learn how to bake proper and we are giving them free education and a certificate as well, who can create a career out of it. We are teaching them how to make salads, cakes. In construction, they are learning how to estimate how long a construction will take, they learn that. So, the number speaks for itself, how successful technical colleges are – 1,200 in Certificate II programme, in total, over 800 in training and have finished; 500 are still waiting.

MR. CHIARMAN. - On the same note, I just want to get some clarification on as we know, in the communities, there are carpenters who are able to make a structure of a house, there are plaster men, tillers who do not have certificates and they are not qualified. These people when they go outside, they are not paid as they should be. Are they also considered or are there ways to give those certificates and provisions?

MR. R. MUDALIAR. - Mr. Chairman, our programmes have credit points which comes out of national hours, so they have to spend some hours in training and then, they have to have an assessment done. If they spend so many hours in theory and so many hours in practical and assessment and have successfully passed, they will get a certificate. The provisions are there. At the moment, there are a number of students, for example, in Nabua who are just labourers doing tiling, painting, et cetera, who are training. When our assessors assess them, they are almost perfect. They are also the people we are training.

HON. V. BHATNASAR.- In fact, I believe, every person's talent varies and people who do not do academically well, they may have talent in abundance and I very much agree to this technical college to be in Nadroga/Navosa because I am wondering, I mean, to pursue education, people go as far as London. They go overseas to pursue education. What is moving ahead than going 1½ km further than what I am currently in. So, parents will have to accept this.

Another thing I want to highlight here is, if we do not have them because looking at what the technical college is going to give to the students who are basically some who are dropouts from Form 5 and 6. Sometimes, they do not do anything because they are not absorbed into any other institution, so their time and life is wasted because they are not given an opportunity. If we do not have any technical institute in Nadroga, how far will those students travel to an institute that is closest to them?

MR. R. MUDALIAR. - Honourable Member, they will be travelling from Sigatoka to Nadi. In a bus, it would be almost like an hour because it stops and goes.

HON. V. BHATNAGAR.- I am just highlighting the importance of having one in Nadroga/Navosa.

HON. S.V. RADRODRO.- Mr. Chairman, can I just ask the Director; are these programmes free of charge?

MR. R. MUDALIAR.- There are two types of programmes. The short courses are free of charge. Certificate I and Certificate II are under the TELS.

HON. S.V. RADRODRO.- So, basically, the one that you are going to have a recognised kind of qualification which is Certificate I and Certificate II and which you said, have got credit points and which I believe, are the ones that could be cross-credited to higher tertiary institutions are under TELS?

MR. R. MUDALIAR.- Mr. Chairman and honourable Members, all the programmes have credit points. They use the same model being used in USP and FNU.

HON. S.V. RADRODRO.- But the Trade Certificate I and II are the ones under TELS. The short courses which also have credit points are free?

MR. R. MUDALIAR.- Yes.

HON. S.V. RADRODRO.- So, how long are the short courses?

MR. R. MUDALIAR.- Short courses vary. Depending on the hours required for training, we determine the number of days. For example, it can be seven days in the evening for three hours. This is for labourers or people who want to gain an extra skill. So, three hours in seven days, approximately 21 hours. In that, there are assessments which are in place.

We are looking at cross-crediting these certificates to Certificate Levels 1 and 2 through RPO (Recognition of Prior Learning) have done theory proper, we will ask them; "Alright, these many hours, we will cross-credit from that particular Unit, however you will have to do assessments". We will recognise them if they go through us again and we are in the process of setting this up.

HON. S.V. RADRODRO.- Further to that, was there a feasibility study undertaken in terms of the demand? I mean, you are going to have it under TELS.

MR. R. MUDALIAR.- Madam, the whole idea of technical college was that vocational schools

HON. S.V. RADRODRO.- No, I am just asking about this particular school.

MR. R. MUDALIAR.- No, there was no feasibility study undertaken.

HON. V. NATH.- Mr. Chairman, looking at all the presentations, I believe the parents of students are in the plus point.

HON. S.V. RADRODRO.- You cannot say that, they already signed and given their petition!

HON. V. NATH.- The difficulty I can see now is for parents to pay the uniform. For the uniform, can you assure the Committee whether the students from this school can use the same uniform when going to the other school or they will have to change their uniform?

MR. R. MUDALIAR.- Mr. Chairman, we can make arrangements for them to use the same uniform. Maybe, we can just change the badge, to start with.

HON. V. BHATNAGAR.- Mr. Chairman, the concern from honourable Radrodro that the petition was signed, I believe, accepting change immediately is like very difficult for anyone. Maybe, that is initially why the parents did sign this petition. However, after all these explanations on the benefits to them, their children who may have studied up to Year 11 and Year 12, now they are doing nothing and explaining to them the opportunity given by the Ministry of Education, it might change their minds and should definitely agree to this.

I feel for the children who are roaming the streets, those working at the rate of \$2.32, I mean, they are not skilled. They do not have any creditability because they do not have any certificates but this technical institute will give them loads and loads of opportunities and I believe that every parent should accept this in the best interest of their children.

When you said; "that is why they signed the petition", may be because there were not aware of all these things, the benefits and that is why I had particularly asked this question; "How will each student benefit?" It will not only for the students from Nadroga, may be it could be other students from other districts who will be absorbed into this institute.

HON. S.V. RADRODRO.- Mr. Chairman, if I can just highlight again, that I am not disagreeing to the need that Fiji's youth, need this kind of education. What I am trying to highlight is, this is based on what? The fact that there was no feasibility study conducted, these are all based on hearsay.

There is no survey or research done to be able to support this initiative and with that, that is why I am highlighting this because we are talking about taxpayers' money that is on the line here, it is not our money. Our duty is to ensure that this money is used properly for the purpose it is being identified. The concern is the fact that due processes were not being undertaken. We heard that there was no feasibility study so to and establish this technical college and based on what. That is my point that I am trying to highlight.

Secondly, there was no wide consultation done with the people, the parents. These are the due processes that I am trying to highlight that need to be undertaken and where we can say; "Yes, taxpayers' money is going to be used very wisely."

HON. V. NATH.- Mr. Chairman, regarding feasibility studies, yes, there was one undertaken but I am not really sure about Nadroga/Navosa Provincial Secondary School. When you say feasibility study, Director, whatever courses that are being offered in Nadi, we do not want people from Nadroga/Navosa to be deprived from the course. So, initially, we have found the demand where we are lacking in Fiji at this point in time. Why we have a lot of people from outside coming in and working here, when we have our own people here? They are untrained, paid less, so by getting a certificate, they will match the other people too. The feasibility study was undertaken generally and courses conducted are according to the demand.

HON. A.T. VADEI.- Mr. Chairman, the issue here is about Nadroga/Navosa Provincial Secondary School and the land is owned by the Methodist Church. Why cannot the Ministry, on that same piece of land, develop that institute and also phasing out slowly with the academic Nadroga/Navosa and convert it at a later stage to a technical institute once the information sinks properly with the parents and province?

MR. R. MUDALIAR.- Mr. Chairman and honourable Members, our strategy is that we want existing infrastructure (classrooms). We will build workshops. What will happen is, rather than building everything again, if we have the classrooms for teaching, we can quickly build the workshops and bring the services to the district – bring the services to their door straightaway. If we start building classrooms and workshops altogether, it will take a lot of time. Our target is by early 2016, we want to start enrolment.

HON. S.V. RADRODRO.- Mr. Chairman, just one final question. We used to this programme which is like an extension like, for example, vocational. There were schools identified that are already on the ground in which they have another programme where students who do not do well academically, can go to. I remember they used to have it in RKS, I am not too sure about the one in Nabua, so why the shift in this new concept in totally developing this whole school and turn it into a vocational?

MR. R. MUDALIAR.- Mr. Chairman, we are offering a competency-based programme which is totally different from what is being offered in vocational schools at the moment. The technical college is a shift towards the global trend which is technical college as in New Zealand, Australia, Germany, London, et cetera.

We have created our own culture where students have a conducive learning environment rather than having a school environment. Our programmes are totally different. We are offering national qualifications. The vocational schools are not offering national qualifications, we are offering national qualifications and this is recognised. At the moment, if we take an MOE two year programme in vocational school, they will do trade certificate again. We are providing 50 per cent of the trade certificate, that is, Certificate IV and Certificate V, we are offering 50 per cent of it to the students at the moment. In vocational, they have to start up again. The shift here is that, we are preparing students that after Year 10, they do a one-year programme, and they can go to the workforce or proceed to do Trade Certificate from Level III to Level IV

HON. V. NATH.- Mr. Chairman, just adding on to that, vocational centres are just like backyard but the Technical College of Fiji will be a top notch, it will be a college of its own separately. That is why there is a shift, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN.- Thank you, honourable Members. I believe we have had a very healthy discussion and the clarifications have been given by the Director.

Mr. Mudaliar, on behalf of the Committee, I must thank you once again for appearing before the Committee and clarifying on issues that needed to be clarified by honourable Members. You are also invited for tea.

The Committee adjourned at 10.25 a.m.

The Committee resumed at 11.55 a.m.

Presenter: Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation
In Attendance

Dr. Josef Koroivueta	-	Permanent Secretary
Mr. Rupeni Fatiaki	-	Director, Social Welfare
Ms. Luse Qereqeretabua	-	Principal Research Officer

(Welcome and Introduction by Mr. Chairman)

We request that you take us along with the Report that you have presented to us and which was also tabled in Parliament. At the end of your presentation, honourable Members might like to ask questions or seek clarifications from you and we request that you respond accordingly. You now give you the floor.

DR. J. KOROIVUETA.- Mr. Chairman and honourable Members of this Committee, on behalf of my team, I would like that you for this privilege to be here to present on the business of the Ministry and looking back at 2013, a report of which has been tabled in Parliament.

We have a powerpoint presentation which we thought would be an easier way to communicate to this Committee.

(Ministry's submission on powerpoint shown to Members)

Mr. Chairman, in 2013, the Ministry was branded as the Ministry of Social Welfare and Poverty Alleviation but following the 2014 Elections and with the new portfolio that has been we were given a new name to be the Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation.

Purpose of the Ministry in the social sector is to provide an efficient and effective service delivery that are targeted to the disadvantaged communities and rural women groups.

The 2015 Vision is empowering the women, children and the disadvantaged and certainly, the Mission is that families and communities are supported through Social Welfare Initiatives and Gender mainstreaming programmes

When you look at the core values that are key to the business or the deliverables of the Ministry, we divide it into four and they are:

- 1) Commitment to excellence at all levels – central, divisional and also at the ground level;
- 2) Integrity;
- 3) Customers, which are very key to our business delivery; and
- 4) Human dignity.

As I had initially articulated, we are very small in numbers, very thin on the ground but we are expected to be looking after the social determinants in all aspects and in all geographical settings in our communities.

The total count as of today is 249; 179 established and 33 unestablished. In terms of our community penetration, we are very disadvantaged in that sense compared to the other social sectors, for example, in Health and Education where the community penetration is very, very good. We are 'one down' with the side of things but that should not be the excuse to deliver as per the Government mandate.

When you look at the establishment of the Ministry, in 2015 now, we have three main Departments which is Poverty Monitoring which used to be with the Prime Minister's Office and has moved to our Office but traditionally, there has always been two Departments – the Department of Social Welfare and the Department of Women. That is the organisation structure (referring to the powerpoint) and when you look at it, I think with sympathetic eyes, we quite know the weaknesses in there. There is no Deputy Secretary and only this year, we have set up an Executive Support Unit for the Minister and Permanent Secretary. So, that is the key change that we have established. We have basically beefed up some of the weak areas that we had, and that is in expertise in gender, expertise in monitoring and evaluation, in policy and also in legal. There are key areas that were lacking in the Ministry, so that is the change from 2013 uptil now.

When you look at the roles and responsibilities of the Ministry, you can basically categorise them into five areas, as follows:

- 1) Care and protection of children;
- 2) Provision of income support which is in the form of social protection programmes;
- 3) Provision of policy intervention for older persons;
- 4) Provision of policy intervention for persons with disabilities ;
- 5) Promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women.

We have certain statutory obligations and these are the Acts for which we are the lead agency, the custodians of, as follows:

1. Adoption of Infant Act Cap 58 1978;
2. Community Work Act 1994;
3. Family Act 2003;
4. FNCDP Act 1994;
5. Juveniles Act Cap 56 1973;
6. Probation Act 1978;
7. Domestic Violence Decree 2009;
8. Child Welfare Decree 2010; and
9. Social Justice Act 1997.

For the information of the Committee, all these Acts are under review at the moment because as you know, they are pretty archaic and really needs to be modernized to measure up to the international standing that we have right now.

Our commitments internationally, are as follows:

- 1) Convention on the Rights of the Child 1993;
- 2) ILO (Trafficking, Child Labor);
- 3) Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women 1995;
- 4) Beijing Platform for Action 1995;
- 5) Madrid – International Plan of Action on Ageing 2002; and
- 6) Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

I have given you the brief and this is based on the audited financial statement in 2013, I think the notes are fairly explanatory. If you look at the budget allocations, a major chunk of the budget of the Ministry is spent on the Social Welfare. The Department of Women are very disappointed but I felt when we look back, there has been a significant increase in the budgetary allocation to the Department of Women in the last five years, something like a 300 per cent increase. Social Welfare takes \$27,924,587 and the Department of Women is \$1,912,896.

If you look at the financial standard of the policy, yesterday we had the opportunity to respond to the Public Accounts Committee and basically those (referring to powerpoint) were the issues that we dealt with. Looking at the processes in the Corporate, both administrative and financial; looking at systems and processes and policies within the programmes on social protection and also in the programmes in the Department of Women.

When you look at the Department of Women, Mr. Chairman, we have five critical areas, and honourable Radrodro knows that very well since she was the former Director for Women, and they are as follows:

- 1) Formal Sector Employment and Livelihoods.
- 2) Equal Participation in Decision Making.
- 3) Elimination of Violence against Women & Children (EVAW&C).
- 4) Access to Basic Services including health, education, Sexual Reproductive Health & HIV&AIDS, roads, water, electricity, etc (Promotion of Equal Opportunities and Equal Livelihoods).
- 5) Women and the Law which is an area of priority to us.

When we macroscopically look at Social Welfare's responsibilities, we can basically understand it in four ways, the:

- 1) Social Protection Programmes for the Disadvantages;
- 2) Support for the Disabled Persons;
- 3) Child Protection Programme; and
- 4) Support for Older Persons.

In 2013, the first Programme that I will inform the Committee is on the Poverty Benefit Scheme. This Scheme was initially the Family Assistance Scheme where the beneficiaries were individually targeted. Under the World Bank study, there was recommendation that we need to exit from that Scheme and move to the new scheme which is the Poverty Benefit Scheme which targets households. The data in Fiji shows that we have about 200,000 households. Our beneficiaries now stands at 22,000 and times four, you are looking at about ...because the mean household number is about four to five, so it is about 88,000. So, 88,000 of the 22,000 are the ones that are within the beneficiary list for the Social Protection Programmes.

In 2013, the amount given to households vary, depending on the eligibility and the numbers that would qualify within the households. So, if it is only for one person - \$60 which is a cash allowance and there is a \$30 food voucher.

In 2015, we have shifted. Now, they have a \$50 food voucher and it now varies from \$30 up to \$120 but whatever the range, the food voucher of \$50 stands uniform.

In 2013, the Care and Protection, stands at \$5.9 million and the allowances given to children who are eligible for this, and these are orphans, children of single mothers, children of prisoners, children in Homes and institutions under the Ministry, and also in faith-based organisations, and the allowances range from \$30 to \$110, depending on whether they are in the primary school or in the secondary school but under the law (Child Welfare Decree), any person under the age of 18 is considered as a child so the cut-off age for this support is 18 years old.

When you look at the Social Benefits Programme and this is the Government Pension Scheme for the older person over the age of 70 and this Scheme is \$30 per month, which was increased to \$50 from this year.

The Food Voucher Programme which is called the Expanded Food Voucher Programme was the initiative undertaken with the Ministry of Health to promote early booking of women who are pregnant because there was an issue about late booking, so this was introduced as an incentive for mothers to book early, especially with those in the rural areas. That is given all throughout pregnancy until after one month after birth.

If you look at Child Welfare cases, there were 312 reported cases to the Ministry and these are cases that are reported of varying in nature from health professionals, teachers and Police as well but we do that there is disparity in the numbers – the ones that go to the Sexual Offences Unit of the Police, the ones in the Ministry of Health, the ones in the Ministry of Education and the ones in our Ministry so the key issue is to have a reliable information system on the National Child Welfare cases throughout Fiji.

Mr. Chairman and honourable Members, 348 cases reports were submitted relating to Child Welfare cases and the Ministry undertakes a response to all the cases that are reported. These are communicated to higher authorities and even when it is required in court.

Under the Decree for older persons, there is a governance structure called the National Council of Older Persons which has been mandated to look after macroscopic issues relating to the welfare of senior citizens. This National Council is given an annual grant of \$200,000 per year and has a membership of nine and is chaired by the PS of the Ministry. The objectives are basically in two-folds, to:

- 1) strengthen the partnership and collaboration between the Government, families, community based organizations, traditional village communities, non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations and the private sector, in creating an inclusive, protective, healthy and supportive environment for older persons. I think the key area here, is that we are living in a society where family values are being affected or an erosion in family values and the outcome of that is that, the older persons are left to fend for themselves, being left to live on the streets now; or even to crowd up the senior

citizens facilities that we have around. Basically, out of the comfort of the homes that they have sweated for in their lives.

- 2) representing the rights and interests of older persons in Fiji at all levels and this is proposing to Government what the Council feels is the right platform to address the key challenges facing older persons in Fiji, that may lead on to policy issues and the other thing is, putting matters across to international forums on the rights of older persons.

There is a very warming move now upon having the Convention on the Rights of the Older Persons at United Nations level and I think that Convention is going on in New York right now to look at that.

The functions of the Council are basically to:

- 1) Be the Adviser to Government on all aspects of ageing and the welfare of older persons;
- 2) Be Strategist; they look at development and implementation of national policies and strategies designed to produce health and social gain for older persons;
- 3) Advocate; promotion of international instruments on the rights of older persons, which is fairly enshrined within the Constitution, understanding of ageing and social security of older persons; and
- 4) Regulator - Regulates and monitors activities of organizations providing services to older persons and there is a move right now to have a standard for residential facilities caring for the older citizens in Fiji. Basically, we want to up the game on the quality of institutions whether it is State-based or is run by faith-based organisations because we do not want to compromise the standards that are being provided to them. I think that should be addressed because we feel that we need to address them inclusively and also in equality. So, whether they are in faith-based institutions or government institutions, the standard applies to both of them.

Mr. Chairman, those are the achievements of the Council and the list is fairly comprehensive. The number one key issue is the Council is mandated to register all the facilities that care for senior citizens in this country. So, we now have 10 that are registered and are listed there.

These are the achievements, projects that the Ministry funded for improvements to these facilities from the grant of \$200,000 that has been given every year by the Government to these institutions:

- Father Law Home
- Vincent House
- Home of Compassion
- Pearce Home
- Ba Senior Citizens Centre
- Housing Assistance Relief Trust
- Fiji Council of Social Services

It is not much, but it is something that does help. It is something that contributes to the other support that has been given from the other agencies, and also from the philanthropic organisations and corporate organisations.

Those are the projects for 2015. At the moment, it is the interim period, the Council is basically within the Ministry. The vision is that, it has to be independent, they have to find a home, have to find an office with a proper secretariat to maintain this independent role and pursue the role of the Council as justified in the Decree itself.

These are the pursued projects for this year:

- Greater awareness in partnership.
- NCOP Structure not established.
- Interim measures – under the Director for Social Welfare.
- Looking at budget increase in 2016.
- Looking at activities based on the Strategic Plan.

There is a now a sense that we are now having a close look at senior citizens now in the Government in discussion with the Ministry of Health to move these facilities from the Ministry of Health and Medical Services into the Ministry in 2016. So, we have to prepare ourselves and look at the smarter way to ensure that these facilities are actually taken on board in a more friendly, sustainable and continued manageable because there are many big issues there, they are not just homes but they are basically caring for the mentally challenged and people with all sorts of illnesses. So, it is not really the home for the person. It is like a mini hospital within a home.

We just thought that we just brief the Committee today on some of the initiatives that we are pursuing now:

Child Help Line Initiative which was established with a cost of \$200,000. It is a first facility for Fiji. It is a line internationally with existing facilities abroad but it is only the facility within the South Pacific. Basically, it is for counselling, providing information and it is an avenue where a child could report, professionals can report or even parents can seek counselling. So it is not just for children but for parents as well.

With regard to hits from January this year, there were some prank callers and some genuine cases, but the prank callers, once we identify the prank callers, those are pursued with the vendor, MSP, in co-operation with the Ministry. So, this is the existing mechanism whereby we respond to callers who do utilise this line. It is a free call line, it is available right throughout Fiji and it is a collaboration between the three telecommunication companies - Telecom, Digicel and Vodafone. So, as long as the child is near a phone, he/she are able to access this facility and it is a free call whether it is from a mobile, easytel or from your landline.

Those are some of the other new projects. We are now looking at women shelters for victims of domestic violence. We do not have that facility right now and there is a need because of the rising cases of domestic violence and we need to take care of them in the immediate phase before we could find a proper home or they return back to their family in that area.

We are now looking at facilities which are areas that we do not have at the moment, and we need to take care of them because otherwise, they will crowd our streets as it is happening now.

These are based on the profiling work that we did with the beggars where we found that most of them are mentally challenged, some of them are homeless and also disabled. So, we need to take care of them and the solution would be a residential facility for them.

The other thing is mainstreaming; we care for senior citizens in public services, and one of them is mainstreaming them into bus facilities, which has been launched last week. So, now, the Fiji Bus Operations has allocated the first five rows have actually reserved as priority seating for the elderly, the disabled and even the expectant mothers. We just wanted to bring back the value of respecting our older people, the women, the disabled and those who are expectants.

The other area we are looking at now is mainstreaming this into banks, that they have a priority queue there in the bank and also within hospitals when they come in for outpatient visitations, if they could be given a priority lane in there for them to be attended earlier too, likewise for school children in that regard. I think that will be a big breakthrough, to show the rest of the world, that we are very serious when we talk about the welfare and the numerous support that we do give.

It is quite well known, based on the international evidence, that here is a growing number of older people right throughout the world and that includes Fiji, and we know that as years go by, more people are ageing and I think people are living longer, and that we should brace ourselves to look after for the care and support for people who are senior citizens of the land.

One of the programmes that we have taken to address high risk communities with violence against women and children was to take them on, on a programme called the Zero Tolerance Violence Free Community and we have a set targets. We are looking at 32 in 2015. It is a very community-based, community-owned, community-managed and community-sustained programme.

It is a ten-phase programme and costs the Government about \$6,000 from Phase 1 to Phase 10. It basically has certified phases all throughout but in the end, there is a phase of declaration where they are given the status that they eliminate violence from the community. We know that when this programme was initiated, there was a lack of monitoring and evaluation for declared communities. So, this year, we are now taking a scope of work to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness and success of the communities that have been declared, just to ascertain the gaps, the strengths and areas of improvement in the programme that has been there all the years. We do not want to run a "business as usual" approach, but we always keep a very eagle eye that there are areas that we need to improve.

The other initiative is the Social Pension Scheme for the elderly who are 70 years old, has been reduced to 68 years.

The other thing is the Operation Loloma which basically started off with the beggar, but it was actually intended for the social ills within the municipalities. So, we are looking at glue sniffing, prostitution, child trafficking and child labour, child pornography and all the various ills that operate like the methylated spirit but the beggar was the initial start. We have actually developed a model for Suva, and we have declared to adopt that model to be used in other facilities whilst they are up and running. We call it "Operation Loloma" because that was the initial name for it.

In regards to Social Work, it has always been in the Department's core responsibilities not only to promote economic equality for the disadvantage but also to promote social wellbeing and

empowerment and one of the key areas that we are looking at right now, Mr. Chairman, Sir, is actually to graduate people out of the Social Welfare Scheme. It is a key challenge because we are dealing with people who have been here for generations, people who are so dependent on the free handouts, and people who do not have the self-reliance mindsets, and that is quite a challenge right now to us.

We now have moved on from what it was and our new initiative now is that, they come in and they will be given a three-year mandate. No one is given a lifetime support for social welfare, and we are now looking at all those who are able-bodied, except for those who are disabled and those who are really in poverty and should remain in the scheme. We basically want to promote people helping themselves, finding opportunities for better lives to saturate the SME market because I think it is a good avenue to contribute to the national economy. When you look at the SME market in Fiji compared to other countries, we are still in a big deficit compared to these big countries.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, that is a very brief presentation on our work and we stand ready to answer questions from the Committee.

MR. CHAIRMAN.- On behalf of the Committee Members, I would like to thank you PS and your team for a well presented presentation. I will now invite honourable Members if they have any questions, they may do so.

HON. A.T. VADEI.- Mr. Chairman, can we firstly turn to page 17 of the Report. PS, can you clarify the tables to us in more simple terms?

DR. J. KOROIVUETA.- Mr. Chairman, these are the shortfalls during those particular periods based on the allocation given to us.

HON. S.V. RADRODRO.- Mr. Chairman, first of all, I would like to say to the team; "thank you" for your presentation and as mentioned, it is a ministry that I have a lot of interest in because of their areas of responsibilities. If we are to look at the children, is it now called the Department of Children, Rupeni?

DR. J. KOROIVUETA.- Yes, Madam, it is now called the Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation. Unfortunately, we still maintain the name "social welfare" because our legislation has not changed. So, in the Juveniles Act, which is with the SG's Office, it still refers to the Director of Social Welfare and that is why we have still maintained it.

HON. S.V. RADRODRO.- Then hopefully, you will be able to synchronise it at a later time, but my point of interest is; are there any programmes or how are we looking at addressing our children we come into our Homes, and they have to leave because they have reached the age of 18 years?

MR. R. FATIAKI.- Yes, that is one of the challenges that we face. At the moment, we are trying to encourage foster caring, especially for those children who come in at a very young age so we encourage foster parenting and then adoption. However, for those who are already in the system that most probably will not be adopted because of their age because most applicants normally prefer those who are very young. So, for these children, we try and work with NGOs. Some still have their parents but unfortunately, some of the parents have reneged their responsibility and they do not come in or not even visiting them. So, we work with NGOs and we are pleased to see that some of the NGOs – faith based organisations that are willing to take these children and not only to work with them in the Homes, but also for aftercare planning. As you have mentioned, yes, this is one of the challenges that we face, especially in placing these children when they reach the age of 18.

HON. S.V. RADRODRO.- Just further to that, this morning we heard the presentation from the Ministry of Education on Technical College and I understand that they have free programmes. I just want to highlight that issue that there is this programme available with the Ministry of Education in their upcoming institutions whereby you could link up those children from the Homes.

MR. R. FATIAKI.- Yes, Madam, we do. We currently have some of our boys at the Juveniles Centre, who are schooling in schools that offer technical training because of their academic inability. We have started with the Boys Centre and now we are looking at putting some of our children in the Homes.

HON. S.V. RADRODRO.- Just on the Department of Women, I know that budget had always been an issue and it is still our issue. Government has not always been looking at the Department of Women through a generous eye lenses but I note that you have mentioned women shelter, so I am just wondering how you are going to fund this?

Secondly, I note the expansion of the ZTVFC, and I am just wondering if a report will be tabled in Parliament on this in terms of its evaluation, particularly because there is still a continuous rise in violence against women and children and may be requesting if the FWCC Report could be tabled in Parliament, which I believe may be good to look at those recommendations. I think this report was in 2013. I had earlier requested the Minister in one of her sessions in Parliament if this report could be tabled, so that this Committee could look at the recommendations.

DR. J. KOROIVUETA.- Mr. Chairman, the issue about violence against women, children and girls is a very hot issue and to us, it is like a priority – day in, day out, every hour and we are now looking at the urgency when you are looking at the responses because from our own experience, we feel that the response given to victims of domestic violence are not regarded as being urgent. I think

we need to promote that this be given a state of urgency so that women are basically not disadvantaged right from the word go in that setting. We have been bombarded to come and assist in that regard, and whether it is a crime of a different nature, the priority given by the law enforcement is very different. To us, it is something we felt is not right, and we would certainly see that women are given the immediate response in the very immediate phase.

With regard to women shelter, we have worked within basically to convert one of our existing institutions into one before the end of the year, and the way forward would be to outsource it to faith based organisations in terms of daily supervision and also in terms of management. However, the Ministry will come into oversight the running of the facility, to ensure that it meets up to the expectation, that it will provide immediate shelter to the women in times of their needs and there are effective mechanisms put in place for the exits of the victims of domestic violence.

We are working very closely with one of our key agency – Homes of Hope in this regard, to look at the shelter for women and also for an upcoming issue is CSAC (Commercial Sex Against Children) which we feel is brewing, and is something that we need to take it by the horn.

MR. A.T. VADEL.- Mr. Chairman, sexual abuses as reflected in your Report is on the rise. Considering those information, what are your proposals in order to arrest those problems because just lately, a nine year old student was a victim of that. So, maybe the holistic approach to this need to be addressed or what are you planning to undertake?

MR. R. FATIAKI.- Mr. Chairman, the increase in child sexual abuse, at the moment, we have five officers who are doing awareness ...There is this programme which we are working together with UNICEF which is called “Children are Gift from God” and this programme has been done nationwide. In fact, there is awareness conducted in communities and this has been going on for the last couple of years.

Yes, there is a need for a holistic approach from this social ill because it is an issue that affects all of us, so we are trying our best to work together, especially with the churches and religious organisations because of the influence that they have, especially in awareness programmes.

Likewise, in the schools, our hotline is one of the initiatives that we come up with so that children will be able to raise issues with us. One of the reasons, I believe, in the increase of the figures is that, there is awareness and people are now reporting those cases. The sad part is that, as we come across in our experiences that a good number of those cases are coming from within the family and the perpetrators are significant adults within those families, and that is the greatest challenge that we have.

So, we are going back to strengthening family institutions and one of the things that we are doing now is to take a paper to Parliament for Cabinet to endorse that there should be recognition of family institution – programmes are put up to highlight the importance and the need to strengthen our family institutions. So, those are some of the things that we are working on and as you have mentioned, that we will need not just the work of the Ministry but a holistic approach from all members of the community.

DR. J. KOROIVUETI. – Just to add on that, Mr. Chairman, we had looked at the social landscape in Fiji which has changed over the last years, and the pressure on our children and pressure on families are very different. Different sets of pressures are operating right now, and the

key areas that we need to holistically approach is through marital life, family life, family values and also parenting. Often, we feel that children are often blamed and even the parents need to be assisted on how to bring up their children. These are key areas that need to be addressed.

The issue about discipline which is basically a national issue, we really need to look at some programmes to instil discipline into this generation because we feel that indiscipline is somewhat very well remarked in different sectors. This is the approach, as we have said, we cannot be just responding to the epidemic that we have right now but we need to take more preventative measures and we think the holistic is the way to go, knowing how functional the faith-based organisations operate within the society and we have very well institutionalised faith-based organisations who, we feel are willing to come on board and address these other bigger national problems.

HON. A.T. VADEL.- Mr. Chairman, what I am worried about is the urbanisation and globalisation we are faced with right now. That is my main worry because children will be leaving their parents, for example, those from the rural and maritime zones and are staying with family members in urban centres. Most of the targeted victims are mostly the ones from the rural and maritime areas. So, what sort of preventative measures to address such problems?

DR. J. KOROIVUETA.- Yes, on social media, the effects are so vast and none of us can arrest it. The only thing we can do is to build up a resilient population to cushion its effects. Sometimes we feel for parents because they are not computer-literate and they are not into social media, and they lack that knowledge/skills to actually advise their children or to properly mentor their children on this. They just lack it, and I think that is why we are coming in about parenting in these changing social times.

Now, the issue about children being left to the mercy of distant relatives in the urban areas is a real issue. In fact, quite a number of these cases do arise from there and this is why we said; the family life. The other thing I did not mention here, Mr. Chairman, and I think is the big battle that Fiji will go through is on gender and gender issue is a battle that we have today because it has been very archaic. The bailing system that has been there over the years and managers and leaders now will really need to go through that. In fact, we now say that violence against women and children is a symptom of gender inequality. That is what it is, so unless we address gender, then we should be able to take care of that. So, gender with holistic partnerships and approach towards pre-marital family life and all those, I think should be able to tackle that.

HON. V. BHATNAGAR.- Mr. Chairman, my question is on the awareness officers provided by the Ministry. Actually, I always have a feeling that there is not enough awareness on the services provided by the Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation because quite a number of times when we visit communities, what I found is that, they do not know about the pension scheme, they do not know about the food voucher. So, I am wondering what are you doing in regards to these programmes?

DR. J. KOROIVUETA.- Thank you very much for your question. That is why I said at the beginning that we are very pretty thin on the ground. So, if we rely on that mechanism, then obviously the awareness would not be more effective. But we now have a great opportunity this year where there is a platform whereby we can enhance information sharing to the community at large.

We have partnered with UNDP through the Government of Japan through a project called REACH. REACH basically is to enhance our service delivery to communities that are disadvantaged, going into the rural communities. The platform to do this is a very hi-tech mobile bus, not the ordinary bus and we have actually had partnership with the Legal Aid Commission. So, we will be taking the services of the social sector and also with the Justice, also with the Government agencies, and even Department of Women and Children, right into the communities.

Also, the issue about mobile messaging on public transportation, it is a very big one that we will come out very strongly because I think this is a more efficient way to reach people because people are always travelling and people access some form of travelling one way or the other. So, these buses will be in a platform whereby we will communicate the services that are available to us, apart from the roadshows that have been done by the Government, even at the Government centres sharing information but I do understand that we need to work in a bigger way, to ensure that information about the service done by the Ministry is effectively communicated to people.

HON. V. BHATNAGAR.- Does the Department of Social Welfare have ever think of having thought of putting out these awareness messages or email messages on mobile phones so that it does flicks up any time whenever a person is using a mobile, he/she may receive this kind of messages?

DR. J. KOROIVUETA.- Yes, Madam, we know that the communication probably ever changes and in a ministry like this, it is essential and it is the expertise that we do not have. So, we have actually expressed our interest. We need a person with the background in anthropology to be obviously in social marketing. We need it not only for that, but we are dealing with change behaviour towards women, children, older persons, so it is a big scale and we want to do it in a more progressive way.

HON. S.V. RADRODRO.- Perhaps, I would like to add to the discussion and always, I take my hat off on the staff of the Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation and as the Permanent Secretary had allude that they are only thin on the ground, and I hope the Government will adequately resource the Ministry.

Having said that, I am interested to know whether the review on the FNCDP Act has been completed and if it has, whether Fiji has ratified the Convention on Disabled Persons?

DR. J. KOROIVUETA.- Mr. Chairman, yes, Fiji has actually completed the review, we have actually went on to develop the new Decree and has gone through several rounds of revisions. The status quo right now is, it is with the Solicitor General's Office and the next phase would be to present it to Cabinet, it is a Discussion Paper for endorsement, before it proceeds to Parliament. We have ratified the Convention.

HON. V. BHATNAGAR.- PS, if you could elaborate more on the graduation programme. How many people have graduated?

MR. R. FATIAKI.- The graduation programme includes the funding for recipients. At the moment, we have graduated about 140 recipients. A budget of \$500,000 was given to us, part of that budget is the funding of the ICP projects. These are recipients who are abled bodied persons and projects include agricultural projects, canteens, and small business projects.

At the moment, we have partnership with NCSMED who conducts training for us. Previously, the Ministry implemented those projects and in 2010, there was an audit report that highlighted the discrepancies because of the amount of work that was required. Again, when recipients were not trained, like when the funds were given it was misused and there were no projects when they came to audit it. So, with that, we had an agreement with NCSMED to conduct training on how to run a business, training on banking and proposal development. So, they went through the phase of training and once they are trained, they are given these funds and they are monitored by NCSMED and also officers.

It is quite a slow process because the fact that they are not given the total amount, they are given in phases so once they acquit the first part of the money given to them, then they are given the second phase. So, that is the process now but we are looking at how we could try and work out other avenues where we could try and hasten the pace. Maybe, looking at other partners because that is one of our concerns because you will understand that now, a lot of the cases are coming in and there is unnecessary budget and skills for us to work with them in there. So unless we remove them, those who are not ready to be removed will continue to clog the system and then will deprive all those people who are genuinely supposed to be in the system. That is one of the things that we are looking at and we are planning on how we are going to do and improve that in the coming years.

HON. V. BHATNAGAR.- So, when you say 140 have graduated, that means they are taken off the system?

MR. R. FATIAKI.- Yes, they are taken off the system. Once we give them the assistance, we give them a grace period of about three to six months, to ensure that they are able to sustain themselves and then we remove them from our books.

HON. V. BHATNAGAR.- I just heard about the new initiatives and residential facilities for the mentally challenged and physically disabled. I was talking to honourable Radrodro this morning that I had visited yesterday, the Board of Visitors Senior Citizens Home and St. Giles Hospital. They face this challenge that once the patients are treated, the family members they do not want to take ownership. They do not want to take them back home. So, what happens is, from St. Giles, they are transferred to Senior Citizens Home and there is a risk there. I mean, both the institutes are actually full with people. We are talking about residential facilities, how far have you progressed with that?

DR. J. KOROIVUETA.- We now have good offers on the land and we are now working together with colleagues from the mental health hospital on the design scope for the mental health facility. In fact, we have two good land offers right now that we are pursuing legally, to get clearance so that they could be leased for humanitarian purposes.

HON. V. BHATNAGAR.- I also heard the National Council for Older Persons (NCOP). They do regulate these institutes, inclusive of Senior Citizens Home. So, where does the Senior Citizens Home actually come under right now?

DR. J. KOROIVUETA.- They are under the Ministry of Health right now.

HON. V. BHATNAGAR.- Yes, but the NCOP, are they the regulating body?

DR. J. KOROIVUETA.- Yes, they are the regulating body, at the moment, they are housed within our Ministry but their functions are very different, but they are given the mandate to look after all the facilities which include the State facilities, plus the ones that are being run by the other faith-based organisations.

HON. V. BHATNAGAR.- Thank you so much, Sir.

Another question is on the pregnant mothers, they get this pregnancy allowance. Can you elaborate on that? How many children do they get before this is stopped?

DR. J. KOROIVUETA.- This is for their first three. This is done in partnership with the Ministry of Health and Medical Services, that is where they are identified and we take over the bit to actually process it and actually provide for them. We find that the list is actually provided from the Ministry of Health and even the awareness is also done by all the facilities. It is only given to rural pregnant women and there is a set listing approved by Cabinet for which we look at. We have modified it because we do know that some women from rural areas prefer to come to urban centres. That one obviously will still be within the ...

HON. V. BHATNAGAR.- Is check in place to see that this is not misused in between, I mean, they are rightfully given to the people who should get it or how is that managed?

MR. R. FATIAKI.- Madam, the process is that, they will have to register with the health centre or nursing stations where they are from. Once they are registered, there is a form that they fill and it is filled by the health workers in stations and that is the form that is sent to us. We work on the forms that are provided to us and the information that are provided in the forms. Our role in this programme is to create the vouchers and distribute them to health centres, and they do the distribution to their recipients.

HON. S.V. RADRODRO.- I have another question to the PS, Mr. Chairman. So, what is that project for, population incentive boost?

DR. J. KOROIVUETA.- No, the programme is to actually promote early booking of pregnant women from rural areas in alliance to the MDGs 4 and 5, and also for promotion of nutrition for the lactating/pregnant women. It is a form of poverty alleviation as well.

HON. A.T. VADEL.- Through you Mr. Chairman, this is not in regards to the Report but this was done last year, the Women's Expo. The traditional artefacts and also products that are produced during the Expo, what I am worried about is the benchmarking. I believe there are a lot of non-genuine products around like some of the virgin oil. For the next Expo, are you prepared for the benchmarking so that you have confidence in their products and also, they can sustain the market rather than flooding the market with non-genuine products and we might lose the art of doing things in a cultural and traditional way?

DR. J. KOROIVUETI.- Mr. Chairman, I think the honourable Member has already stated correctly, in fact, the theme this year is; "Connecting Women to the Market and Making it Happen". We have changed our stance from last year.

Last year, the platform was like learning to us. We got in 2,000 women for the first time in a huge expo, to basically display what they could produce – handicrafts, food crafts and other crafts

for that matter. This year, we have changed to be quality focussed, looking at creativity, innovative designs and benchmarking with the Fiji Arts Council which are the only professional evaluators on the programme, and promoting Fiji Made designs, as well as promoting things for the tourism market because last year, it was not tailor-made to the tourism market.

We are putting the competition setting for this year so for women groups, they have to pass the test before we could fund them to come to the Show. The very last one will be next week; we have done it now to all the Divisions where all the women are basically coming to display their products and they are judged in there through a high competitive rating by the Fiji Arts Council, then they are given the pass to come over. So, not all women's groups in Fiji will come but only those who have been rated as being of quality and value or value adding products that will now come to this year's Expo.

Mr. Chairman and honourable Members, we had to do that because the return from last year's investment was low, and we had to ensure that the Government investment this year, that we have a good return on investment. Also, we are actually promoting women business entrepreneurs, and actually promoting them to market so this is sustainability of the business for that matter because we do know that women are the best agents of change. When there is an entrepreneur in the family, they are looking after about four or five; certainly it can make a big difference on the family welfare.

MR. CHAIRMAN.- Honourable Members, I would like to take this time to thank the PS and his Team for coming this afternoon. I must commend you and thank you for your well-presented submission and we had the opportunity to better understand the role and activities of your Ministry. Once again, on behalf of the Committee, thank you very much.

The Committee meeting adjourned at 1.05 p.m.

VERBATIM REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL AFFAIR'S PUBLIC CONSULTATION HELD AT THE PROVINCIAL COUNCIL OFFICE, SIGATOKA (DAY 1) ON TUESDAY, 11TH AUGUST, 2015 AT 9.40AM.

(Welcome and introduction by the honourable Chairman)

Submittee 1: Mr. Orisi Terei

Education Committee Member
Nadroga/Navosa Provincial Council

MR. O. TEREI.- Mr. Chairman and honourable Members of the Committee, I would like to give a short submission on why we need Nadroga Navosa High School to become a Technical College.

In your programme, Sir, if you go to Nadroga Navosa High School (NNHS), you may be able to access the Five Year academic results Forms 6 and 7. There you will one witness and see for yourself that NNHS has not been in par with the results required by the Education Ministry. The whole Nadroga Navosa Province and the Nadroga Navosa Provincial Council is concerned about that, and that is one of the very reason we are supporting the setting up of the Technical College was supported. The records will reveal that the current NNHS is not competent in the area of pure academics for Forms 6 and 7.

The second reason is that, by looking at the Programme that was presented to us by the Committee that came with the Director Technical College, 60 per cent of our Nadroga Navosa students who attend FNU are actually in this category. They are away from home, living in Suva with relatives, finding it difficult to cater for their stay in Suva. If we bring these similar courses to Nadroga, 60 per cent of our very own people and students of this Province will be assisted.

The third important point is, as we are all may be aware of, Nadroga has the hotel industry, agriculture, forestry and even fisheries industry, and by bringing these courses closer to us through the transformation of NNHS into a Technical College will not only assist us financially but productivity as well. It will be a drive whereby Nadroga will thrive, and I believe that is one of the Government's initiative. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Submittee 2 :

Mr. I. Kunagogo

Board Member, Nadroga/Navosa Provincial Council
Chairman, Nadroga/Navosa Education Committee

MR. I. KUNAGOGO.- Mr. Chairman, from my own experiences as a former Principal of a high school in Suva in the last four years, I see the advantages of NNHS being turned into a high institution that will assist our students in their search for jobs in the locality. That is an advantage because out of the 14 Provinces in Fiji, I think Nadroga is in the lower fifth in terms of education and holding higher posts. We are here trying to bridge the gap that Nadroga has been facing.

Mr. Chairman, I think the submission done by parents of the NNHS, they were using a binoculars and looking at the education in Nadroga not knowing the real problems that we are facing. Our Committee has gone to the School and we were given an analysis of performance of the School, and it is a low performing school. There are high performing schools like Natabua High

School, Xavier College and high schools in Suva, and we also have mid-performing and low-performing schools, but NNHS is in the low performance category.

In terms of our villages, we are not that well developed out in the Province, and having the Technical College in the Province will help the lives of most families. A good example is Epi Gonewai who conducted a training course for drop outs in villages. He brought one student from each *tikina* and we started with about six who already found jobs. Our verification for that was to get one from each village where no one in the family works. The point is, as I have said before Mr. Chairman, we are in the last category in terms of education compared to the other Provinces. We are good in rugby, we are good in terms of economy but in terms of education that touches the family unit, we are not good in that. We therefore propose that NNHS be turned into a technical school.

Mr. Chairman, every year we conduct the Adi Nadroga Navosa festival to try and help our students go to higher institutions. Sir, 80 per cent of money earned in the Festival goes to the education, 20 per cent is used by the Province, and 30 per cent of the money goes to Nadroga/Navosa High School. So, overall the government will look after the school and the province will use that funding in other areas of development within the Province.

Mr. Chairman, I support the proposal that we have the Technical College in Nadroga to be established at NNHS.

Submittee 3: Mrs Mere Diligolevu

Soqosoqo Vakamarama Rep, to Nadroga/Navosa
Education Committee

MRS. M. DILIGOLEVU.- *Vinaka!* Mr. Chairman and honourable Members of the Social Affairs Committee, much has been said about the transformation of NNHS to become a technical college. I think if you look at the advantages, there are more advantages to having the School changed to a technical college compared to what it is now.

Firstly, as our Chairman has already stated, it creates employment for unemployed youths that are in the villages right now. By attending the technical college will help them earn money, and help their parents financially.

Secondly, the courses are learnt by doing hands-on training, and the qualification goes out to PhD level. I am not saying that the other institutions do not have PhD, like USP and the rest, but that is one of the advantages. It starts from Certificate to Diploma, Degree and up to PhD level.

Sir, most of the members or representatives of the Nadroga Provincial Council had approved of NNHS being transformed into a technical college. I think one of the reasons why this petition was made was due to the fact that we did not give time to the community to inform them of the change. I think we tended to act fast, instead of allowing the information to filter down to the grass root level in the villages before we made the submission. However, I think the Province will benefit more from having the NNHS transformed into a technical college rather than leaving it at its present state.

I think those that signed the petition may be thinking of the inconvenience that their children may have in changing schools, but that will be dealt with by the Ministry of Education as we had

been informed during the *Bose ni Tikina* or the Provincial Council Meeting. The Ministry of Education will take care of the rest as far as students finding schools, their bus fares and what not.

All in all, Mr. Chairman and honourable Members of Parliament, I support the fact that NNHS be transformed to a technical college. *Vinaka!*

Submittee 4 : **Mr. Maika Nakora**
Member, Nadroga Navosa Education Committee
Appointee of the Commissioner Western, NNPC

MR. M. NAKORA.- Firstly, I support what our Chairman has said about the advantages of this new proposal, and I also agree with the lady member of the Council on what she has said. Perhaps, Mr. Chairman, the point I am going to make here is, I am not making it as a member of the Education Committee neither the Provincial Council Committee, I am saying this personally.

Some of it has been said by the Madam member. The time is very short and that is why the Standing Committee on Social Affairs Committee is here today because of the petition that was presented in Parliament by the honourable Gavoka. There has not been enough consultation and I am going to reiterate again I am speaking personally here.

I think I would go along with what she had said as well that this information was never brought down to the grass root level to the villages. It was done hurriedly. Was it because of time constraints, I do not know.

Also, I was not in the meeting when this was approved by the Provincial Council. I would have said this at that meeting. It was hurriedly called the Special General Meeting by the Provincial Council in which the Provincial Council Members with the *tikina* representatives came and were told of this proposal and they said, yes. It did not go down to the villages. The *tikina* representatives should have been told at that meeting that they were to go back to their various *tikinas* and inform the parents or the village or grass root people.

That is my point. Again, I reiterate that I am saying this personally. I reiterate that I am not against the change but we need more consultation before this perhaps goes to Parliament again.

Thank you Mr. Chairman

Submittee 5: Mr. Josua Rayawa
Tikina of Sigatoka
Member, Education Committee, NNPC

MR. J. RAIYAWA.- Mr. Chairman, we support that Nadroga Navosa High School become a technical college, but my question is, will there be more consultations on this issue in Nadroga/Navosa?

MR. CHAIRMAN.- Thank you. The Committee has been tasked by Parliament to go around and get the views of the people. The Ministry of Education is also doing their part in consultation with the Provincial Council and the stakeholders, and they have met. Our role is just to get your views and make a report that will go to Parliament, and it is up to the Government to decide whether this will be done or not.

The way I have been hearing from the Chairman and members of your Committee, I believe you also agree that it is important to have a technical college here, but the other issue is the consultation part which we also discussed with the Director, Technical College, and they assured the Committee during our meeting in Parliament that the Ministry will also be doing their part as far as consultations is concerned. The Ministry is looking into that, but our role right now is to get the submissions and report back to Parliament. Thank you.

MR. I. KUNAGOGO.- Mr. Chairman, just a point on what Mr. Nakora has said, that the consultation was not done. I think we had done a fair consultation by consulting the School Board, and we have done our part by consulting the 22 *Tikina*'s who came into the Special Meeting.

On the issue of the timeframe, there was not enough consultation because the Ministry of Education informed us that we need to work quickly because we want to start by February next year. That will be very good for Nadroga/Navosa and we support that.

Mr. Chairman, the *Na Kalevu* was also there, and he blessed the meeting. He said that he is very happy about the idea of the technical college since the School has not been performing. He told the members of the Council that the change into a technical school would really help the Province with technical skills.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN.- Just a question, Chairman. Who is the owner of this Technical College?

MR. I. KUNAGOGO.- The Government.

MR. CHAIRMAN.- I mean, the land lease?

MR. I. KUNAGOGO.- The School land belongs to Cuvu, which the *Kalevu* is the boss, but the Methodist Church was given this land.

MR. CHAIRMAN.- So, it is lease land?

MR. I. KUNAGOGO.- Yes.

MR. CHAIRMAN.- How many years lease is there?

MR. I. KUNAGOGO.- Can I ask the *Roko*, who is the Manager of the School?

MR. V. BURENIVALU.- *Vinaka* Mr. Chairman. The School belongs to the Nadroga Navosa Provincial Council, and the land belongs to the Methodist Church of Fiji, and the lease is for 99 years.

MR. CHAIRMAN.- Thank you.

Submittee 6 : Mrs. Sera Saladuadua
Divisional Education Officer
Nadroga/Navosa

MRS. S. SALADUADUA.- Mr. Chairman and honourable Members of the Committee. The Ministry of Education feels that the Nadroga/Navosa High School is the best choice of becoming a technical college based on a number of factors:

1. The location of the school – One that is closer to the other schools that we could distribute teachers and students to. Cuvu College is close by and we have Lomawai Secondary School and we have Sigatoka Methodist College on the side plus the other schools in the upper Navosa region and in the Navosa area where there a lot of schools there as well.
2. Number of students that will be distributed – to look for a school which is easy for us to distribute students and teachers to. In comparison to the schools close by, Cuvu College has a total roll of about 500 to 600 students while Sigatoka Methodist has that number as well. Currently Nadroga Navosa Provincial High School has a total of 179 students so it would be easier for that smaller number to distribute to the neighbouring schools if we have to do so. It will be difficult to distribute 500 students or 600 students to schools around.
3. The composition of students at Nadroga/Navosa High School, not all of them are from Cuvu District. In fact, out of that total, only 56 (33 per cent) students are from Cuvu, the rest are from the other districts. What it means is that we can easily distribute students to the nearby schools, closer to their villages. So we have students coming as far as Nawaicoba and Naqalimare. We have two Secondary Schools up there we have Bemana and Navosa Central College.
4. The dwindling number of students at Nadroga/Navosa High School: the total student roll in 2012 - 218, in 2013 - 220, 2014 – 201, and this year, 2015 – 179, which means that the number has been steadily decreasing.
5. We have borders from other districts. Nadroga/Navosa has the capacity of 80 student boarders at the moment, but there are only 50 borders. We have boarding schools all over the districts that will cater for students if they wish to board even though they could be travelling close to home. We have also done a check on the other schools that have boarding facilities, and they have the capacity to take in students into their boarding facility.

A lot of students come also from Navosa, and they could board at the Navosa Central College as it has a capacity of about 80 students. At the moment, there are only 55 boarders there.

Then we have Sigatoka Valley High School and we also have Bemana St. Theresa College. They also have hostel facility where students who wish to board could easily board in otherwise they could just travel from home to the nearby schools.

Mr. Chairman and honourable Members of the Social Affairs Committee, those are some of the reasons why we chose NNHS to be transformed into a technical college. The other details we have in our submission that we will present to you. Thank you.

MR. CHAIRMAN.- Thank you. I was also concerned about the students who are boarding within the school premises, and we were also advised by the Director that they will be taken care of and they have facilities nearby that can cater for the students. So, thank you for your submission.

HON. A.T. VADEI.- Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Regarding what has been mentioned today, the approval to absorb the students to the various schools, are there any confirmation from the nearby schools? Because, they are not owned by the Ministry of Education they are owned by faith based and other society based organization. Can you get that confirmation?

MRS. S. SALADUADUA.- Yes, Sir.

MR. I. KUNAGOGO.- Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think the Ministry of Education official will be the best person to answer that, because as we were informed, that would be the part of the Ministry of Education.

MRS. S. SALADUADUA.- Mr. Chairman, and honourable Members, we had approached the Principals of the school nearby, as well as Cuvu College, as to who would be able to take in an additional 56 students. Cuvu College has at the moment about 30 to 40 students per class, but class capacity is around 45 so they have assured us that they can take in more students.

About a month ago we had gone up to Navosa Central at Sigatoka Valley. With Navosa Central, they had big classrooms and hostels as well. Currently, they received the grant to improve and build hostel facility which means that they can take in a good number of students. Even within the year when we had questions coming from Nadroga/Navosa Provincial with the issues of students going into hostels, we did our part in requesting the principals from those Navosa areas if they could take in the students and they have done that. Their numbers are quite low in comparison to the other schools.

HON. A.T. VADEI.- Do you have safety nets for the Province, for those who drop out from the mainstream so that they are channeled again into the mainstream? Who will be able to absorb these students who drop out, may be due to personal reasons; parents might be separated or something like that?

MRS. S. SALADUADUA.- Sir, in some cases students have dropped out of school early in Form 4 and stayed home, but because of the Compulsory Education Programme we have requested school principals to take back these students. This is not just in NNHS, but we have done that in the Sigatoka Valley, Navosa Central, and Lomawai Secondary School requesting the principals to take back the students who have left school for a year, a term or so. That is the option we have.

HON. M. LEAWERE.- Mr. Chairman, just a few points may be coming in as a question as well. I was listening to the first presenter who mentioned something about the academic results for

the last five years. Just a question to the presenter. How can the school guarantee that the issue of the technical college in terms of its introduction to Nadroga/Navosa will be successful in terms of the results that have been coming out of the school for the last five years?

Mr. Chairman, I was also listening to the Senior Education officer and she mentioned that the numbers seems to be decreasing all those years. Has there been an analysis conducted to find out what is the cause of the students moving away from Nadroga/Navosa compared to the schools that have big numbers? Maybe there are some reasons behind that.

MR. I. KUNAGOGO.- Mr Chairman, I think one of the major reasons of students moving away is the result. Before I became a farmer, I was a school principal and I was at Bucalevu. At that time, Niusawa was not performing, as well as Wairiki and we tried to increase the first year's results. My roll was 300 in the first year and in the second year it rose to 400 plus students, and students Niusawa and Wairiki moved to Bucalevu. So, I still maintain that one of the major reasons that parents withdraw their students is because of the results.

MRS. S. SALADUADUA.- Yes, Sir we have done comparative analysis with all the other schools and we know for a fact that for the last two years, the Nadroga/Navosa Central College has gone up with 100 per cent passes, about 50 per cent in both Fiji School Leaving Certificate and Fiji Seventh Form Exams. That is the improvement in results.

Looking at the school roll too, we have about 15 per cent of students and from the whole of Nadroga we have 66 per cent and 15 per cent from Navosa, which means that the results has gone up or improved, while the number in some schools has gone down.

HON. M. LEAWERE.- Mr. Chairman, further to that, we may need to get clarification from the Ministry, she mentioned something about Bemana, I stand to be corrected, and other schools up in the hills. It was suggested that students will be billeted there and then brought down to Nadroga/Navosa or Cuvu College. I believe there are plans in place for students to be brought down in terms of bus fares and lunch provided for the students, because the road is quite far. It is good to have a plan in place so that it can accommodate the students when they attend Nadroga/Navosa Technical College.

MRS. S. SALADUADUA.- Honourable Leawere, I was referring to the distribution of students from Nadroga/Navosa High School, if they were in the hostel they could be distributed to the hostels in Navosa Central College, St Teresa College and Sigatoka Valley High School if they wish to, otherwise they could just travel from their own homes to attend the School.

We have also taken into consideration the fact that some students who cannot perform academically they can be absorbed in the proposed technical college.

HON. V.K. BHATNAGAR.- (Inaudible!)

MRS. S. SALADUADUA.- Honourable Bhatnagar, that is the very purpose for the establishment of the technical college and they do not have to pass Forms 6 or 7. They could go in from whatever level, as long as they are 15 years old to pursue that path. If they wish to pursue Diploma or even Degree they could do that, Madam.

MR. CHAIRMAN.- Thank you for that clarification.

Submittee 7 : Ratu Aisea Waka Vosailagi
Roko Tui Nadroga

MR. O. TERESI.- Mr. Chairman, I have with me the submission from the Chairman of the Nadroga Navosa Provincial Council, and it would be a privilege to read through.

(Reads from Written Submission)

Submittee 8 : Mr. Siva Toroca
Retiree, School Volunteer

MR. S. TOROCA.- Mr. Chairman and honourable Members of the Committee, thank you for this opportunity.

Mr. Chairman, God does not make junks. Children are gifts from God and children know that they are somebody because God created them. Not all children are good academically, but everyone is good at something. What they all have needs to be nurtured. Unfortunately we do not have the education system that will identify what children are good at.

When I visited the Nadroga Navosa Provincial School, I was not impressed by the site of the school locality by looking at the facilities in that school. Compounds not being fenced and in the classrooms the teachers were yelling at the students because of indiscipline. That normally happens there including the other schools that I have been to. Most of the children do not even know why they are in schools. Generally, they are there to be educated. To be educated for what, that is where they are lost. They need to get motivated on why they go to school and that needs to be inculcated from home as soon as they enter primary schools, because when they go to school they need to be there as somebody and they are going there for a purpose when they leave home. Those are some of the weakness of what I have seen from the schools that I visited.

Mr. Chairman, the idea is good, the change to be a technical school. The question is, what would happen to the other schools and vocational centers? Will they be closed or will they still be open? The other thing is, when students go there, at the end of their training will they go back to FNU or straight to the market place? What I have noticed is that after Forms 6 and 7 studies, these students go back to FNU and money again is spent on them before they go to work places. Why can we not have a system whereby they separate the students by nurturing what they are good at? Straight after school you streamline them in whatever field they are good at. As I have already said not all of them are good academically but they are good at something. That is God's gift to the children and that I what I believe is lacking now days.

Also I was at Korotogo Sangam and the teachers told me that as soon as this Technical College is in place they will close down their vocational center. That is going to be happening there.

Also, Sigatoka Methodist is about to move again. It is normally a two way stop in order for them to reach the school so the education of the students will be affected in the Province.

Mr. Chairman, if the students in the Nadroga Province are not properly nurtured and pointed in the right direction, I think the children will suffer because I believe God created all children and what they are good at needs to be nurtured.

Thank you very much for listening.

MR. CHAIRMAN. - Thank you for your submission. I believe you raised one question about the location of the school. Maybe the Education Officer will want to answer that or add more to it.

MRS. S. SALADUADUA. - Honourable Chairman, just to comment on the students who are not good academically. As I have mentioned earlier that there is a pathway for all students to choose whether they wish to go to the technical college after they leave Form Four when they turn 15 or they could do that after Year 12. There is a choice, there is an alternative pathway.

For the technical college the students from the vocational centers will be joining the technical college, which means there is spaces for students from Nadroga Navosa Provincial to fill in at the schools vocational centers and when the students move across.

HON. V. BHATNAGAR.- Will it be recognized?

MRS. S. SALADUADUA. - The recognition as well is higher. The Higher Education Commission recognizes the technical college higher than the vocational centers. And, in terms of where they will do their practices, that will be done in consultation with the employees.

HON. A.T. VADEI. - Mr. Chairman, may I ask a question to the Ministry?

The vocational centers are run through the programmes set by the FNU or USP, as well as the Education Ministry. How can they gauge those performances so that they are realigned to those higher institutions? I am worried about is because they might stop dead there rather than furthering their education because the technical college is recognised by the Higher Education Commission at the moment, and advancing their career further will be a stumbling block to them.

MR. CHAIRMAN. - You may clarify that Madam, but I believe we will go back to Suva and take presentation from the Director and other senior officials in the ministry.

HON. M. LEAWERE. - Mr. Chairman, Mr. Toroca mentioned something about vocational schools and the infrastructure, and he asked the question about what will happen to them. My question is, what will happen to these equipment's that are not going to be used in the Technical College?

MR. CHAIRMAN. - I believe we will sought clarification from the Director and the officials in Suva in this regards.

Submittee 9 : **Mr. Seru Raumakita**
Old Scholar, Nadroga Navosa High School
Tutor, FNU

MR. S. RAUMAKITA.- Thank you, Mr. Chairman and honourable Members of Parliament for giving us the opportunity to express ourselves at this meeting.

Firstly, I am from the *Tikina* of Cuvu. My father is from Cuvu, as well as my mother, and I am one of the pioneers of the Nadroga/Navosa High School in 1976. I had planned to go to QVS in 1975, but my father told me, 'Seru, you will be one of those to pioneer studying at NNHS.' Now, 39 years later, I am happy and proud of it.

I did work in Vanuatu and Cook Islands twice. My father went to the Solomon War, with Tai Ratu Kini Vosailagi, the former Chairman of the Nadroga Navosa Provincial Council, and now the Paramount Chief of the Nadroga/Navosa Province, the *Kalevu*. My father was also one of those warriors in the formation of this School. He was one of the longest working Committee for the School.

The Old Scholars of Nadroga Navosa have been quietly preparing to celebrate the School's 40th Anniversary next year (1976-2016). Just like our culture in Nadroga, we do it quietly. That is being done, and we thank the Chairman of our Provincial Council for facilitating this meeting because socially, culturally and economically, and ecologically is one of those perimeters in every implementation we do, we have to take those into considerations.

I will not talk long here, because the old scholar's team will be doing their presentations at Rukurukulevu Village tomorrow. Basically, that is just the gist of it. We are not against the decision of the Provincial Council, we respect it. However, we want to add some options or alternatives. What are the options of leaving that School alone, and we build a Technical College?

Mr. Chairman, there are mitigating issues, and most of these problems are affecting the performance of the School. We had our discussions or *talanoa* sessions as old scholars and we feel that we are to be blamed because we have been taking our kids to other schools. The old scholars from the *Tikina* of Cuvu take our children to Cuvu College, RKS, QVS, et cetera. There are reasons for making those choices, and one of them is the discipline issue. They say that to go and get disciplined in Cuvu College with our Indian brothers is much better rather than leaving them alone as *itaukei*'s of Nadroga Navosa. I strongly feel that this could have been mitigated 15 years ago, by introducing Cadet in our provincial school. It would have helped a lot.

To cut my submission short, Mr. Chairman, the rest will be deliberated in Rukurukulevu tomorrow. There are many issues that affect our immediate people, socially, economically, in the middle term and long run, so the question of viability and sustainability of introducing the College needs to be clarified. That is why we suggest, there should be a referendum by consensus prior making such a decision for a better informed decision.

Mr. Chairman, just a quick one. I was doing my Workshop at FNU last week with 30 students, and the Head Mechanical, Western, who is from Kadavu, Mr. Rupeni said to me, '*Tau, kemudou sa ca na ulumudou?*' I asked why he said that, and he replied, '*O keitou mada e mosi tiko qo na ului keitou na vakavulici ira na dropout mai na fomu 4*'. I think that is loud and clear for my neighbours. Are we going to train our kids just to remain at Form 4 or go beyond and break it? There are only about 12 per cent or 50 per cent that go for Trade, some go to the hotel industry, and working in the hotel industry is a challenge also for us. From my experience, a lot of people got terminated from the hotels and they could not find work because of their levels of education. So, what is the purpose of education? The turnover too for the Technical School will be high. There are issues to be taken into consideration, which is why we need more expertise advice on this.

With all due respect to my provincial council, *vinaka!*

MR. CHAIRMAN.- Thank you. Your point has been noted.

MR. I. KUNAGOGO.- Mr. Chairman, I would like to respond to that presentation. We are not closing the door to higher education for the rest of the students. The choice is by the parents and the students. We are encouraging our students to go to higher institutions, and they know their capabilities within Forms 3, 4, and these vocational schools are not catering for dropouts. The current problems that the parents and students are facing, is the main reason why we prefer this technical college, after consultation with our various *Tikina*'s. The choice was given in consultation with the Provincial Council, Mr. Chairman. I thank my two colleagues for their presentation.

Mr. Chairman, we still propose to have the Technical College for the current situation that Nadroga/Navosa is facing. With due respect to all that the old scholars have done, the School is just dropping out by itself as one has seen the School Roll from 200 plus to 100 plus students. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CHAIRMAN.- Thank you, Sir. Do we have any other presenter? There being none, we will take 30 minutes break and return to take some more submissions. Thank you.

The Committee adjourned for morning tea at 10.55 a.m.

The Committee resumed at 11.30 a.m.

Submittee 10: Mr. Kinivuwai Naba

Youth Interim President
Nadroga Navosa Provincial council

MR. K. NABA.- Mr. Chairman, I am the interim President of the Nadroga Navosa Provincial Council Youth, looking after 22 Districts and 122 villages around the Nadroga/Navosa Province. I am here to present a submission this afternoon regarding the NNHS being transformed into a technical college.

With regards to the education, there are so many unemployed youths in the Province. One advantage of the technical college is because it will bring about development and growth to our Province, rather than them going further outside Nadroga/Navosa.

Mr. Chairman, we are also supporting this because many of our people get to stay in the Province. When they have the talents and the skills, it will take them to another level. So, yes this technical college will be an advantage to the Province and it will develop the accessibility of young people to access more studies with the technical college.

Our concern, Mr. Chairman, is that there was no clear and proper consultation or information taken down to the communities. But I believe we have to pursue and adjust the changes happening to proceed further.

The impact of transforming Nadroga/Navosa High School into a technical college, as I mentioned earlier are just some of the advantages. We all know that Nadroga/Navosa are environmentally oriented and a lot of young people just see tourism as a source of income or as the place to work in. But as I mentioned, having the technical college will assist the people of this Province get qualified and go into other areas of work.

And, those that signed the petition, they did so without thinking and because there was no or lack of consultations. So I recommend if the views of the youths can be taken into consideration on this matter. *Vinaka!*

Submittee 11 : Mr. Inoke Kadralevu

Former Chairman,
Nadroga/Navosa Provincial Council

MR. I. KADRALEVU.- Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman and honourable Members.

My name is Inoke Kadralevu, from Cuvu Village, but I now live in the Valley Road as a farmer.

I worked as the Assistant *Roko* for Nadroga/Navosa Province from 1984 to 1989, and became the *Roko* or Chairman of the Nadroga/Navosa Provincial Council from 1990 to 2000.

I wish to inform the Committee this afternoon that I wholeheartedly support the transformation of Nadroga/Navosa High School (NNHS) to being a technical college.

The NNHS was established by me and the current *Na Kalevu* or Chief of Nadroga/Navosa, Ratu Kinijioji Vosailagi. From what I saw, if it was not for the current *Kalevu* the School would not have been established. The Nakuruvarua Company spent so much on the establishment of the School, and it was two years after its running that the *Roko* then and current *Na Kalevu* gave the School to the Nadroga/Navosa Provincial Council to take ownership of the School. Therefore, the Nadroga/Navosa Provincial Council has been the owner of the School.

At the 27th June, Provincial Council Meeting, I was also invited to be part of the meeting, to hear the presentation from the Ministry of Education. At the end of the June Provincial Council meeting, the 22 *Tikina* representatives that attended the meeting all gave their endorsement that the Nadroga/Navosa Provincial was to be converted to a technical college. No one had gone against that presentation. The reason why I attended that meeting was because as the Assistant *Roko* at that time, I gave my life and my possessions for the establishment of the Nadroga/Navosa Provincial High School in my time as the Assistant *Roko Tui* Nadroga/Navosa.

Also at this meeting, the current Paramount Chief of Nadroga/Navosa, the *Kalevu* from the Chiefly house of Nakuruvarua had given his endorsement and spoke on endorsing the establishment of the technical college at the Nadroga/Navosa Provincial High School.

From my view, the views of the Chiefly house of Nakuruvarua should always be paramount because it had handed over the establishment and upgrading of the School from the Methodist Church to the Nadroga/Navosa Provincial Council.

I took over from Ratu Kini Vosailagi as the *Roko Tui* of Nadroga/Navosa and during my time as *Roko Tui*, I will honestly say that the School was poorly administered. The parents themselves did not support the School. Payments of fees were very poor. One day as I sat in my Office as the *Roko Tui*, the Principal of the School came to see me, was very emotional to inform me of the deteriorating state the School was in, and the lack of support from the parents.

As the *Roko Tui*, and for this reason I gave land which is just opposite to the School to be used by students and teachers for planting purposes. Within two years, they had done their planting. I gave this land, and they had done their planting, but still there was poor support from families.

From my view, there is enough secondary schools in the Nadroga/Navosa area to cater for all the students. It would be good as well to have a technical college established to help and also take in dropouts because there are a lot of dropouts in the villages. These dropouts are from Forms 5, 6 and 7. This would greatly assist them go back to schools.

I request at this stage that the two representatives, honourable Gavoka and the President of the Old Scholars of NNHS withdraw their petitions, because both of them are from the District of Cuvu, the same District as the *Kalevu*, the Paramount Chief of the Province, because their going against the endorsement of the *Kalevu* would be seen as disrespect.

To conclude, Mr. Chairman, I would wish that majority of the people of this Province will support this worthy course, the establishment of the technical college. Thank you very much to the Government for choosing Nadroga/Navosa Provincial High School because it is just close by to the

town, close to the main road for easy access for students and there would be teachers to move around for accessibility. That is why I wholeheartedly support that this is the best venue for the technical college in the Nadroga/Navosa Province. Thank you very much.

MR. CHAIRMAN.- Thank you very much, Sir. We also acknowledge all that you mentioned, while you were presenting your submission of your hard work. The Committee acknowledges that, and be rest assured your submission is also taken in by the Committee.

MR. I. KADRALEVU.- *Vinaka vakalevu!*

MR. CHAIRMAN.- Since there are no other submissions, we will adjourn for lunch and resume at 2p.m.

The Committee adjourned at 12.45p.m.

The Committee resumed at 2.30 p.m.

MR. CHAIRMAN.- Honourable Members, since there are no other submissions, we will now adjourn today's public consultation, and resume tomorrow at 9.00 a.m. Thank you!

The Committee adjourned at 4p.m.

VERBATIM REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL AFFAIR'S PUBLIC CONSULTATION HELD AT RUKURUKULEVU VILLAGE, CUVU, NADROGA (DAY 2) ON WEDNESDAY, 12TH AUGUST, 2015 AT 10.00AM

(Welcome and introduction by the honourable Chairman)

Submittee 1 : **Mrs. Matila Naivua**
Rukurukulevu Village
Parent, Nadroga/Navosa High School

MRS. M. NAIVUA.- Mr. Chairman, and honourable Members of Parliament. I appreciate the convening of the meeting since we have been hearing the news that the School is going to be turned into a technical college, and this consultation should have been done earlier on in the first place, prior to making any decision.

Sir, the School is quite weak in terms of its management, from the School Management right down to the students currently attending the school.

Since the School Annual General Meeting (AGM) is usually held in the Provincial Council building at Talenavuruvuru, most of us parents do not attend. We would have wished the AGM to be held at the School so that the School Management sees the status of the School, such as its bathrooms, dining hall and the other school facilities.

I am a parent, and I work closely with the teachers. I know what they go through and they do not receive much but a mere income from the School Management. This is also the same for the School Church Minister. I have been close with the Church Minister, and he informed me of the issues of the difficulties in the School and the type of meals that students have always been given until today. I was one of the parents that had drawn up the weekly menu for the school which cost \$453.09 per week.

Mr. Chairman, I propose that it should have been a technical college from long ago because students are always facing difficulties with not enough food, forcing them to go to their relatives looking for more food.

We support the idea of having a technical college but we propose that another building be built for the technical college.

Another issue, Sir, is that the students pay \$120 per term for their boarding fees but they have reduced that to \$60.00 per term. Most parents, even with the reduced fee of \$60 per term, could still not afford to pay their children's boarding fees. That is another difficulty faced by the School and parents of the School.

The other issue is that, when students from other schools like Sigatoka Methodist, Sigatoka Andhra College and Cuvu College dropout from these schools, they are received at NNHS to re-sit their external exams. That is all my submission, Sir.

HON. A.T. VADEI. - Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask a question. The School Management or the *Yasana* has given its contribution. Is there any support when the School faces all the issues of not enough food, et cetera? What is the contribution that comes from the *Tikina* towards the school?

MRS. N. NAIVUA.- That question is best answered by the *Mata ni Tikina* who is with us today.

MR. E. MATALAU.- Mr. Chairman, I Eroni Matalau from the Provincial Council chosen by the *Roko Tui* to represent the Council in this meeting.

The amount that the Provincial Council provides for the school is budgeted by the Provincial Council. Monies collected at the provincial council is the contribution from the people of Nadroga/Navosa. What this means is that, if there is an increase in the contribution from the Provincial Council to the School, then that contribution should come from the people or the members. The reason being is, if an increase in contribution is to take place towards the School then it should come from the people that contribute to the Provincial Council because the Council is the owner of the School so decisions will come from the people.

I hope that had answered your question, Sir.

HON. A.T. VADEI.- Just another question. How many provincial schools is in the Province?

MR. E. MATALAU.- One Sir, funded by the Province.

MR. CHAIRMAN.- Thank you.

Submittee 2 : **Mrs. Siteri Toge**
Rukurukulevu Village
(Parent & Committee Member, NNHS)

MRS. S. TOGE.- Mr. Chairman and honourable Members of the Committee, government officials, officials from the Provincial Council Office, ladies and gentlemen. I am thankful that we are given this time to make our submissions to the Committee.

First, I wish to correct and confirm an issue raised earlier. The School has often had its AGM held at the School, during the late *Kalevu's* time. In the beginning of this year, the School AGM was held at Talenavuruvuru, and we were informed of the issues and the problems that the School has been facing.

Sir, during Mr. Apenisa Kurisaqila's time as Principal of NNHS, he was instrumental in the set-up of a mother's group that would look after the catering of meals for our children in the School and even support the teachers in bettering their services to the students and the School. We had then been informed of the issues and problems that the school had been facing, and that is why we agree with the idea of the set-up of the technical college.

Mr. Chairman, also as mentioned earlier, the finances for the School comes from the people of Nadroga/Navosa to the Provincial Council, but most times additional financial requests from the School cannot be met by us because we cannot afford. That is why some of us support the idea of having a technical college.

As mentioned earlier by Matila, on the issues regarding food at the School and others, assistances have been coming from our American donors that help feed the students of the School. That is also why we support the idea of a technical college.

That is all my submission, Mr. Chairman and honourable Members of the Committee. At the same time I would like to apologise if there have been certain things that we may have done that offended you, we seek your apologies. *Vinaka!*

Submittee 3 : **Mr. Niko**
 Village Headman, Nawai
 Bavu

MR. NIKO.- Mr. Chairman, I am thankful to be here this morning. As I look inside this hall, about 10 per cent of us are from Nawai Public School. We are here this morning representing Nawai Secondary School.

Sir, we appreciate the fact that we are part of the submission this morning that there will be a technical college established in the *Yasana*. The technical college would be able to take our children that had dropped out from Forms 5, 6 and 7.

Previously our children attend technical colleges in Suva, Lautoka, Nadi and other places, and we are truly thankful that we will have a technical college in the *yasana*. That is my submission. *Vinaka!*

MR. CHAIRMAN.- I would like to acknowledge the presence of honourable Viliame Gavoka, and also the Principal of Cuvu College, Mr. Mishra and Head Teacher, Mr. Sashi Kumar, and also the *Turaga ni Koro* and people of Wai. Thank you very much for coming over and giving your submissions. Thank you.

Submittee 4 : **Mr. Josateki Kunaluveya**
 Rukurukulevu Village
 Old Scholar, NNHS

MR. J. KUNALUVEYA.- Mr. Chairman, while we appreciate the plans to have Nadroga/Navosa High School as a technical college, I would like to say something about the history of Tavuki. It was owned by the Methodist Church of Fiji in the 18th or 19th century, and was called Cuvu Mission School, similar to Adi Cakobau School. From 1976, the school name was changed to become Nadroga/Navosa High School (NNHS), and our recently installed Paramount Chief, Ratu Kini Vosailagi was the gentleman who initiated the move, and the Church Minister, Reverend Taniela Lutu.

Sir, we have been proud to have our Provincial school. The 14 Provinces of Fiji have their provincial schools, and if you take away this, there will be no provincial school for Nadroga. I have a question for the Principal of Cuvu College. In Tavuki or NNHS, we have a Methodist Church Minister who helps guide the students with their Christian teachings. If the students from NNHS come to Cuvu College, will they be taught the Christian values as well as the *itaukei* culture? That is my question to Mr. Mishra. Thank you, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN.- Give it to the Senior Education Officer, Nadroga to respond to that.

MRS. S. SALADUADUA.- Before the Principal answers, I will answer on his behalf.

Sir, in all schools, there are no barriers to religion and cultures. I think the Principal will be able to elaborate more, but that is the stand of the Ministry. That is part of our deliverables as well, that we observe all religious activities, we observe all cultural activities, so that we appreciate one another's culture and understand one another's religion and culture.

MR. MISHRA.- Thank you, Madam. As far as the School curriculum is concerned, dear parents, guardians, and honourable Members of Parliament, we incorporate all cultural activities in the School regardless of whether it is Hinduism, Christianity or Islam. With the current vision for the country, even our curriculum is designed in a manner whereby all religions, cultures are accommodated in the curriculum. And, just for your information, we will also celebrate all cultural and religious activities in the School. We regard the School as multiracial, multicultural institution and we will uphold and respect each and every religion and cultural activity in the School. I can assure the students who may join Cuvu College from NNHS that the institution would not be an obstacle to their increase in values or the rise in values of Christianity or for that matter any other religion in the School. I believe that the parents need to also understand that during the normal school operation, we have the academic curriculum, which is paramount to us, as teachers. Our priority is to impart that knowledge of the structured formal curriculum in the education arena, and with these, for us to accommodate other religious and cultural activities is a bonus for the students, and I can assure you that students will be well catered for at Cuvu College. Thank you.

MR. J. KUNALUVEYA.- Mr. Chairman, a lot of our children are sent to Nadi and Suva for courses like Diploma in Tourism, et cetera. Will similar courses be offered at the technical college?

MRS. S. SALADUADUA.- Mr. Chairman, earlier on in my presentation, I had presented on the types of courses that will be offered or provided at the technical college.

MR. S. RAUMAKITA.- Mr. Chairman and honourable Members of Parliament, I will not bore you this time. I will be speaking on behalf of the old scholars of NNHS. Our views, in short, we appreciate the formation of the institution, but please, we want to revive our Forms 3-6. We can

have Form 7 to go to Cuvu College. I was the coach and captain of Cuvu College in 1981. *Vinaka* Master!

Sir, we want to take a holistic approach to all these. One will also see the crowd is not here, because, this issue has been approved by our Provincial Council. It has been in the news, and in the daily newspapers that this has been approved by our Paramount Chief, so some of them are being disoriented. They say that it is no point appearing before this Committee because it has already been approved by our Provincial Council. However, that is the reason why we appreciate your Committee's presence to listen to our submissions.

History and Traditional Culture: Our Paramount Chief had initiated the establishment of this School, but we have been lying dormant. However, we are planning to celebrate the School's 40th anniversary next year, so we highly request the Committee to take our request into consideration, because we are geared up to revive the programme, and of course, the facilities and amenities of the School are really bad, and it is in our five-year programme for Government and 20 years assistance from Government to assist in that area.

The problems with us in Fiji, especially the *itaukei*'s, our memories are too short. We only live for now. We never see the history properly, for us to be guided to the future. For us the old scholars, we were always fascinated by our former teacher, Mr. Ganesh, who taught us about history, the history of civilization, before Jesus was born. For us in Fiji, please understand us, it is not even 200 years that Christianity arrived. So, 40 years of our School, there are a lot of social and economic issues. The School is tumbling, you can hear it from them, so we need Government assistance within these five years to revive this.

I am sorry, Sir, I want to express this because you heard from one of the old scholars saying earlier about Christianity issue. In the 1920s, the Girmitiyas made their schools their Sangam Schools, the Andhara's and plenty other schools, and of course, the Muslim schools, Mahatma Gandhi, Shri Vivekanandra, et cetera. In 1976, our *Roko Tui* back then, and is our new Paramount Chief now was the one who established this School. As you have heard from the old scholars' point of view, we see the 40 years struggle for the school and what has transpired now is a big challenge to us. We are guilty that we did not do our job. We are thankful to Mr. Reddy for flogging the sleeping horse. We want to mention at this juncture that from next year, we want to revive and really help the School. In fact, Sir, we were planning to visit the *Na Kalevu*. We do not want to politicize this issue, because we want to follow our traditional protocol first, by showing respect to our *Vale Levu*, to go and discuss our concern there. That is also one reason why you will see that most of the old scholars are not here also, because we were supposed to go there first. However, the initiation by your Committee, has made some of us come here to give our submission.

Sir, we appreciate that the Principal is here to welcome in our students of NNHS to Cuvu College. However, in our time also, Sir, there have been dropouts from Cuvu College. Even the Cuvu College founder....

MR. CHAIRMAN.- I believe you had already given your submission yesterday.

MR. S. RAUMAKITA.- Yes, Sir. I was supposed to come and present it here.

MR. CHAIRMAN.- You came to the Provincial Council Office, and gave your same submission there. I think you should allow others to give their submission, because you are repeating what you submitted yesterday to the Committee.

MR. S. RAUMAKITA.- I am voicing the concerns of the people of this area, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN.- We have already heard that yesterday.

MR. S. RAUMAKITA.- In fact, most of them want me to repeat it, especially my fellow old scholars.

MR. CHAIRMAN.- Especially for us as a Committee, we have already received your submission at the Provincial Council yesterday. The way I see it, you are repeating the same things you said yesterday. So, please if you can allow other people to give their submissions. Thank you.

Submittee 5 : Mrs. Torika Matainadroga
NNHS Committee Member

MRS. T. MATAINADROGA.- Mr. Chairman, I have been a Committee member for NNHS, and during that time the Principal was Mr. Apenisa Kurisaqila. At that time, I had given part of my land for the laying and upgrading of pipes or water for the School, and the Government had committed itself to the upgrading of the School's water system. While that is still in place, the decision now is to turn the School into a technical college.

Mr. Chairman, the other point that I would like to mention here is that the students who attend Cuvu College, Sigatoka Methodist and other schools are taken into Forms 3, 4, 5 and 6, but when they dropout or fail their exams, they are sent to NNHS to repeat forms. The discussion is that, when they fail or dropout from other schools they are accepted at NNHS and that is why the School will always accept them back because as *itaukei*'s we tend to accept any student of Nadroga/Navosa coming from other schools. That is why I do not support the idea of having NNHS transformed into a technical college.

HON. V. NATH.- Madam, there will be no more dropouts now because the Government of the day is paying their fees, all school principals have to accept all students.

MR. CHAIRMAN.- Madam, we will take note of your concerns.

Submittee 6 : Mrs. Mere Gonedwai
Rukurukulevu Village

MRS. M. GONEDWAI. - Honourable Chairman, I work in the hotel industry and the requirement there is Form 6 level, and for those that come in with Form 4 level they will not be taken in, so the request is if the School continues up to Form 6 so that they will be able to be taken into hotels.

HON. V. BHATNAGAR.-Thank you. There needs to be a clarification like honourable Vijay and the Education Officer have said, because we are not stopping or the Ministry of Education will not stop anybody from furthering their studies as much as they can. You go to Form 6 and

Form 7 but if in case your child is not able to go beyond Form 5 or Form 6 then the technical college is the best option for them.

MRS. S. SALADUADUA.- Mrs. Merewai, as I have already explained before, it is up to the students if he or she wants to go up to Form 6 or 7. If a student has completed Form 4 and wants to attend the technical college then that is their decision. It does not mean that all the Nadroga/Navosa children will only reach Form 4 level. The students can be moved to Cuvu College or Navosa Central College or Sigatoka Valley to do further than that. If they still want to board in the schools, there is still vacant spaces in schools that have boarding facilities. We have already sighted all this last month. But if they want to travel by bus their bus fares too will be provided.

However, I want to stress that it is not the intention of Government in establishing the technical college for the students to only go up to Form 4. If some students want to go up to Form 5 and above, then they will be moved to Cuvu College.

MRS. M. GONEWAI. - Madam Education Officer, how long will the Government be paying the bus fares for students attending the technical college?

MRS. S. SALADUADUA. - As I have already explained before, if the students have decided to study at the technical college they can also request for the scholarship. All the students attending the technical college today are on scholarships and their fees, bus fare and lunch and their boarding fees are paid. This amount will be paid back to Government once they are employed. At the Nadi Technical College all the students there are on scholarship and they will pay back to Government once they are employed.

MRS. M. GONEWAI. - How long will Government be paying fees and bus fares?

MRS. S. SALADUADUA. - Those issues will be taken up to those who are making decisions in Government.

MR. J. KUNALUVEYA.- Mr. Chairman, I think the parents of Nadroga/Navosa are reluctant to send their children to Cuvu College and Sigatoka Methodist but I have a proposal or a request. Cuvu District School has about 13 acres and about 7 acre is still left vacant. We request if Government can construct a few more classrooms to cater for Forms 3, 4, 5 and 6 students because the land is being paid but the land is still vacant. We have the gentleman from Cuvu here we can ask him. Thank you Sir.

Submittee 7 : Hon. Viliame R. Gavoka
Member of Parliament

HON. V.R. GAVOKA. - Honourable Chairman, if I may. Welcome to the *Tikina* of Cuvu and also to honourable Members. It is indeed a wonderful day to have Members of Parliament sit here with us to have dialogue on this issue which is very dear to us.

I was just explaining to them the process of Parliament. Where the petition started and that you are here, and you draw conclusions from this and will present to Parliament. To also celebrate the freedom that Parliament has which is available to everyone in this country, I just thought I would encourage them not to be reluctant to voice their opinions on this major issue.

In fact, Mr. Chairman, what you will see today is a strong feeling of parochialism. They are very parochial here and they built this School back in 1976, and even though it has been underperforming, there are some really very strong feelings that are attached to this school in many ways and it is a sentimental one. As one of our colleagues was sharing with us today, it was built about 100 years ago as a Methodist school. Indeed the chiefly village of Cuvu had given a lot of their land to the Methodist Church including Tavuki. This School is not Nadroga/Navosa, it is 'Tavuki'. That is the name we use generally for the School, and I believe even the First Lady, the President's wife, even went to the School sometimes back.

Mr. Chairman, we understand the need to build a technical college and we also understand the location here is most ideal because of its proximity to the transport system, the highway, the Sigatoka Town and all that. We could perhaps come to a compromise here, Mr. Chairman and honourable Members of the Committee.

The former Manager of the School said there is about 14 acres of land there. There is room to build a technical college within the vicinity between Cuvu District School and Nadroga/Navosa High School. That I believe is the best compromise. We are not saying, 'No, to a technical college' but we are very reluctant to sacrifice our provincial school to make way for a technical college. I think we need to factor that into the equation as we discuss this. A number of things that will also need to be taken into consideration. I presume you would have carried out your assessments on the project like the number of birth rates in Nadroga/Navosa whether the school system is able to cope. Here in Cuvu while we have this Cuvu High School a remarkable institution which goes back to 1957, 1957 I believe they have done very well but over the years can it cope?

I belong to a generation where we all went to RKS, QVS, ACS, Lelean and all that, but now with the growth rate, and the number of people in this country, we are now going to local schools

and Cuvu High School has featured quite prominently. So you may just need to look into that and you can do away with the school that is already there catering about 200 students as we learnt today.

There is also the injection of support from outside, a faith-based organization that is helping greatly in the running of the school. I think there could also be an awareness today waking us up to do more for Nadroga/Navosa, and as has been alluded to quite a number of students have gone on to Universities from Nadroga/Navosa High School.

One of the major challengers also is that those who cannot make it to Forms 6 and 7 elsewhere come to Nadroga/Navosa High School and have excelled. It may have something to do with the culture of the villages that we tend to mature a little later in life after failing Form 7 elsewhere we return and apply ourselves and then are able to succeed in life.

As the one who presented this Petition in Parliament, I think we need to appreciate the very strong opinions for the School and the need to have a technical college and perhaps strike a compromise in building a proper college within the vicinity of the area.

I was talking with honourable Mahendra Reddy on this and he is not very receptive to the idea but I believe asking the old scholars and asking everyone here they would compromise on that nature and it can work and can be acceptable as well. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

MR. S. RAUMAKITA.- Mr. Chairman, Sir, just adding on to that, our *Tikina* of Cuvu is a span of 5 kilometres along the coast. We have eight villages and settlements apart from the biggest hotel in Fiji and with a high the concentration of population. That is why we are humbly request for our Forms 3, 4, 5 and 6 students to be retained. Also, because of the religious background of that hill that is the reason why we feel strongly because it is the only school that will look after our culture, tradition and religion. Thank you

Submittee 8 : Mr. Neumi Mosimalua
(Rukurukulevu Village)

MR. N. MOSIMALUA.- Mr. Chairman, I wish to submit that I am for the technical college to be established at the current NNHS, but requesting the Government if it can establish a Secondary School for Cuvu District School.

MR. CHAIRMAN.- Thank you, Sir.

Ladies and gentlemen, we will take two more submissions as we are running out on time, and because we have to be at Nasama Village after this.

Submittee 9: Mrs. Kelera Tuku
(Old Scholar, NNHS)

MRS. K. TUKU.- Mr. Chairman, just a question. Why was NNHS chosen to be the venue for the technical college and not any other school in the Nadroga area?

MRS. S. SALADUADUA.- Mr. Chairman, if I could just give an explanation. The choice of NNHS being chosen over the other institutions in Nadroga was due to various reasons.

First, looking at the location of the School, it would not be too difficult to redistribute the students because there are some schools in the vicinity or other students who come from the other *Tikina*'s could easily attend schools close to them. We also have the breakdown in terms of the percentages of where students originate from or where they come from.

Second the number of students. It will be easier for the 179 students of NNHS, which is the total at the moment to distribute, rather than distributing students from, for example, Sigatoka Methodist College which is about 700 or so in total to redistribute them.

Third, is on the composition of students. These were just the proposals which we had given to the Principal, who was to approach the *Yasana*. It was their decision, not ours. These were just some of the factors that contributed to the choice.

Looking at the composition of students, only 56 in number come from the Cuvu *Tikina*. The rest come from the other *Tikina*'s, for example: Sigatoka comprising 25 (15%), Noikoro 22 (19%), et cetera, which means, the students could be easily moved to schools close to them.

Fourth is the dwindling number in the School. The number has continued to decrease from 218 in 2012 to 179 in 2015.

The other reason is that, if we were to return boarders from other districts, who are boarding at the current School, we have also gone to see the capacity of other boarding facilities in other schools. We found that Navosa Central has a capacity to take in more boarders. St Theresa, what used to be Bemana Catholic School now has the capacity to take in more at the Sigatoka Valley as well. We have the numbers which we will be submitting as well. Those were just some of the reasons that gave rise to having NNHS being chosen for the technical college.

We also looked at Sigatoka Methodist, but Sigatoka Methodist is going to be relocated at a new location in a few years' time. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

MR. S. TOROCA.- Thank you, Mr. Chairman and honourable Members of the Parliament Committee. Yesterday, when giving my submission, I highlighted some things because of the social ills that has been faced and going around in schools. After looking at this Paper, which was presented this morning by the Senior Education Officer, it says that it is going to accommodate all the youths. I am just wondering the numbers, how many can be catered in this technical college?

The second part of it, there will be one technical college in every district. So, in this district of Nadroga, there is going to be one. If we miss this, there will be no other chance to have this.

The other issue is the duration of courses. It says that it is only going to be a year for Certificate II. At universities, one course costs about \$200 plus for Certificate level. Has it been taken into consideration the costs of courses, because of the background of the community? Are they able to put in the costing for them in order to attend a technical college? Is there also a provision, like the Matua Programme being done in Suva for those who are working to upgrade themselves? Also, the boarding facilities, will it cater for all, because the Province starts from the coast right up to the interior? Will this technical college cater for all the needs, taking into account the traditional crafts, or is there going to be any management course, so that people graduating can manage their own companies and start their own businesses. Has all these been considered in this technical college or just for the sake of employing them, to be employed by others?

Another issue, Mr. Chairman, the teachers coming in should be scrutinized. I have come across some teachers that graduated from FNU are still out there looking for jobs. Some of them come with two or three pieces of paper, but still they cannot find employment because of the quality of the facilitators at those institutions, because they only do theories, and no practical. That is why people continue to look for other courses for other disciplines. So, these should be considered properly. Where will these people end up at the end of the day? Thank you, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN.- Thank you, Sir.

MRS. S. SALADUADUA.- Sir, just to answer some of your questions. It will be up to the youths, whoever applies to attend the technical college.

In terms of fees, I had discussed that earlier on as well. For those that apply, and those that are taken in, they apply for the TELS Scholarship, which means it pays for their fees, and they also apply for the other scholarships, which means it will assist them with their fares, food and accommodation.

In terms of courses, there are two types of courses. Short courses, I think this was done in a presentation as well. Short courses which may be for six weeks or two weeks, that will be for free for the community. If there are baking courses, tailoring courses, women may apply for it. That will be for free.

The long term courses will be the ones that require paying fees. But, as we have been informed that once a student is taken into this technical college, they apply for the TELS scholarship, which means that they pay back when they start work.

The other issue on FNU, we will not be able to answer that, because that is to do with FNU, and that should be raised with FNU. Thank you.

MR. S. TOROCA.- Mr. Chairman, we request that teachers brought in to teach these courses should be scrutinized, because most students schooling at FNU, though we they have paid so much, they still cannot find work. Thank you.

MR. CHAIRMAN.- (Vote of Thanks)

The Committee adjourned at 12.40 p.m.

VERBATIM REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL AFFAIR'S PUBLIC CONSULTATION (DAY 2) HELD AT NASAMA VILLAGE, NADROGA ON WEDNESDAY, 12TH AUGUST, 2015 AT 3.20 PM

The Committee resumed at 3.20 p.m.

(Welcome and introduction by the honourable Chairman)

Submittee 1 : **Mr. Napolioni Vitau**
 Village Headman, Nasama Village, Nadroga

MR. N. VITAU.- Mr. Chairman and honourable Members of the Parliament Committee, welcome to Nasama Village.

Our submissions will be, as the Paramount Chief of Nadroga has agreed that we convert NNHS to become the technical college, so be it. We fully support the idea, and out of respect for our Paramount Chief, the *Na Kalevu* we will not go against the wishes of our chief. Thank you.

The Committee adjourned at 4.00p.m.

VERBATIM REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL AFFAIR'S PUBLIC CONSULTATION (DAY 3) HELD AT THE NAVOSA CENTRAL COLLEGE GROUNDS, NAVOSA ON THURSDAY, 13TH AUGUST, 2015 AT 11.20AM.

(Welcome and introduction by the honourable Chairman)

Submittee 1 : Mr. Kiniviliame Naciqa
Principal, Navosa Central School, Navosa

MR. K. NACIQA.- Thank you, Sir. Briefly, on the history of the School. The School was established in 1976 by the chiefs of *Colo* West or what is now called Navosa. The purpose of the establishment of this secondary school is to solve their burdens of going down to the town areas and staying with their relatives. That was the idea behind the establishment of Navosa Central College.

Over the years, Mr. Chairman, and honourable Members, the School was developed and the hostel was ably built by the support and contributions of the people of Navosa through fundraisings such as being done today, by the *Vanua* of Navosa. The College now has Form 7. We have two streams up to Form 6 and one stream of Form 7 and we also have a Vocational Centre for catering, tailoring, carpentry and joinery to cater for the needs of the people of Navosa rather than them going down to the town area which would have been a burden to them.

That, Mr. Chairman, is a brief history and the purpose of the establishment of the school.

The School roll is 289. I was posted here in 2013, and that year the School roll was 203. The purpose of my posting was to increase the roll of the school and improve the result of Nadroga Central College. So, in 2013 it was 203, in 2013 the roll has come up to 237 and now in 2015 the roll is 289. Our percentage pass before year 2013 has never gone up 50 per cent for Form 6, and in 2013 our percentage pass went up to 58 per cent, and last year it was 61 per cent for Form 6.

We are faced with a lot of challengers and the challenge is for the teachers to improve their performance because parents now do school shopping. We need to improve the image of the School in order to get the students. Even though we are facing a lot of challengers, we are slowly getting results. That is a brief on the School at the moment.

The School has plans for the changes that will be coming in from the provincial school that is Nadroga/Navosa Provincial High School (NNHS). We have planned for that and we have spaces available to cater for the students of NNHS who are our students of Navosa. This is their School, and the purpose of the extension is for them.

Sir, the purpose of the fundraising that you see going on now is for improving of the staff quarters. We have got plans and we are thankful that the Parliamentary Committee on Social Affairs is here to witness the drive by the parents of Navosa to keep improving the school.

HON. A.T. VADEI.- Is the school owned by the parents?

MR. K. NACIQA.- The school is owned by the people of Navosa. The *Colo* West or Navosa consist of the *Tikina* of Nadrau, Navatusila, Noikoro, Nasikawa, Namataku, Bermana,

Koronasau, Korolevuiwai, Naqalimare and Komave. These are the people of Navosa. There are 12 *Tikinas* of Navosa and this is the upper Navosa. The school caters for the Navosa people and this is Navosa. *Vinaka!*

Submittee 2: Mr. Tevita Naisiga

Manager, Navosa Central College

MR. T. NAISIGA.- Mr. Chairman, just to add on to the explanation done by the School Principal. Like he has mentioned, the School was established by the people here in the District, from the highlands right down to the coast in the *Tikina* of Komave. The purpose was to provide education for the people up here. Also, the unique thing about the School is that most of the school buildings that we have were possibly build through the fundraisings done by the parents and people of Navosa, one of which you are witnessing today.

Sir, with the game of Sevens included, we do this to remember one of the founders of the School, Mr. Nasokia. He was a teacher at Ratu Navula. They had to go during the night to bring him over, to come and run the School, and as time went on, the District down at the coast they decided that they could remain down there because it was too far to come up, so at this point in time, as we can see today the remaining 12 are still here with their very own children attending the School.

Mr. Chairman, one day I watched he live broadcast of the Parliamentary Session concerning the petition. I was very grateful and I thanked God for the opportunity because we, the people of Navosa have been trying so hard to maintain our students here in Navosa for a good number of years, but to no avail. Most of the students travel down to the coast to receive their education at NNHS. As I listened to that session, I only wished that if Parliament had allowed for people to call freely from outside into the Parliament to give their submissions then, I would have said that I support the idea because it has been our vision to keep the students of Navosa here in Navosa.

Sir, when the new School Principal came in, I had advised him to work hard to improve the standard of education here in terms of their pass rate so that they can maintain them here in Navosa. The people of Navosa are thankful that today, the Committee is here in Navosa to receive their submissions concerning the Provinces struggle over the years to maintain the students here at Navosa Central College.

Mr. Chairman, with regards to zoning, I think it has been ineffective here in Navosa because the students continue to travel down to the coast.

Secondly, and a big request to the Ministry of Education if the School Principal could be maintained. After two years of his posting here at Navosa Central College, we have seen that the students results has gone really up, and we therefore request that he remain here.

Mr. Chairman, and honourable Members, as you know, we have close traditional links with the people of Cuvu. I have witnessed myself that most of the parents from the nearby villages in Cuvu continue to send their children to Cuvu College or other schools, whereas the students from here in Navosa are educated at NNHS. So, I really support the idea that Navosa students attend school here at Navosa, and that NNHS be transformed to become the technical college.

HON. A.T. VADEI.- Through you, Mr. Chairman, School Manager, in the next five years, if the Government converts NNHS, can the Navosa Central College cater for the increase in students to Navosa Central for the next five years?

MR. T. NAISIGA.- Mr. Chairman, the *Tikina* of Navosa is ready. The existing land that is given to the School is 12 acres, and if there is a need for further extension, there is another 10 acres outside the current School area that can be used for that. We are willing to accommodate if there is any growth in accommodation to accommodate increasing students.

Sir, we would also request Government's funding assistance should there be a need for more hostels for boys and girls of the School. Thank you.

HON. A.T. VADEI.- In terms of infrastructure; electricity, water, internet, et cetera, is there sufficient supply here?

MR. T. NAISIGA.- Mr. Chairman, in terms of the infrastructure, there is a new Vodaphone transmitting station somewhere, so for internet connection, I think that is not a problem. But, if there is some plans concerning Tele-Centre, we will also be ready to accommodate that at the School.

In terms of water, currently, the water that we are using now is being extracted from the river and that is regulated by the Water Authority of Fiji (WAF), and they have just established the new source from somewhere in the highlands, and the p[plumbing works have been done by WAF.

Sir, in terms of infrastructure to accommodate the growth, we are willing to work hand in hand with the Government to accommodate that.

MR. K. NACIQA.- Thank you, Sir. Just to add on to your question, the FEA grid goes up to the primary school, so the School is connected to the FEA line. The water supply is done by the Water Authority personnel that we have here at the Navatumali Government Station, and to cater for the increasing population, they are putting in another reservoir from the other side.

Sir, for the internet, there was a team from the Ministry of Information that came in 2013 to do a survey, and the feedback was that the signal was slow. But, now the next hill after the river, there is a big tower there, and if you look at your phone, it is five bar and it is much better than being in the town area. The School has its own, from its computer allocation, has bought its own internet for the students to do research in the computer lab, and the offices also have its own internet. Thank you, Sir.

HON. A.T. VADEI.- What about the hospital, can it cater for the increasing number of people here in Navosa?

MR. T. NAISIGA.- The *Mata ni Tikina* can answer that, Mr. Chairman.

Submittee 3 : **Mr. Sakenasa Bure**
School Chairman, Navosa Central College
Tikina Namataku Rep
Education Committee Member, NNPC

MR. S. BURE.- Mr. Chairman, I am the Chairman of the Navosa Central College. Currently we have a Nursing Station that is in the Government Station. In 2014, there were plans by Government to have this Nursing Station become a Health Centre, which was why in 2013, Government gave \$400,000 for this upgrade. An additional \$500,000 was approved by mouth only, but money was never been sent in to date to enable upgrading works at the intended Health Centre at Navosa continue. The facilities are only there, but it has not been officially opened so that the Health authorities here could move on and upgrade the Nursing Station to Health Centre.

HON. V.K. BHATNAGAR.- *Bula vinaka!* First of all, I am very much impressed and very happy to see the people of Navosa trying to retain your children here in the Schools here, educate them. You know, when the kids are near your homes, you have easy access to the School. You can see them, you can feed them the way you want to. You can keep an eye on them. I am very impressed that everyone here is trying so hard to keep their people here, and of course, you know the Government of the day is doing quite a lot in terms of water, electricity, education and of course, health. Your request has been taken on board, and definitely we are working throughout the country to enhance and improve on our health facilities, nursing stations to be upgraded, health centres and of course, providing facilities with the staff, of course we are working towards improving on those. So, definitely, Navosa is on the map and in future, and in time to come, we will be visiting again all these areas right from Keiyasi and every places, all the nursing stations and health centres and see whatever their needs are so that we can facilitate. So, definitely you are on the map, and we will definitely be developing on the nursing stations. *Vinaka vakalevu*, and thank you again for being here today.

MR. T. NASIGA.- Mr. Chairman, this is just an issue that I wish to clarify concerning the existing school ground. I think last year, in 2014, it appeared in one of the daily newspapers that there has been a tender to upgrade this playing ground to a multipurpose court, but to date, we are still waiting. We would kindly request if that could be also taken on board, our clarification on that issue, Sir.

Lastly, Mr. Chairman, on behalf of the people of Navosa, we fully support the idea of converting NNHS to become the technical college.

MR. CHAIRMAN.- Thank you, School Manager. We have taken note of your issues, and we will go back and talk to the honourable Minister for Youth and Sports. Since, we also have to visit other schools, I now would like to thank you, thank the Principal of Navosa Central College and the people of Navosa for being here in this meeting today. I must thank you for your time. The information you have given is very important, it has been taken note and in regards to the Tele-Centre we will also inform the honourable Prime Minister to see how best that can be accommodated here.

Once again, on behalf of the Committee, the honourable Prime Minister and all the honourable Members, I thank you all. *Vinaka vakalevu!*

The Committee adjourned at 11.55 a.m.

APPENDIX 3: LIST OF SUBMISSIONS AND ADVERTISEMENT

Appendix 3: List of submissions and Advertisement

Find below are the list of groups, individual and government agencies that provide submissions for the Petition:

ORAL AND WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS

The Committee subsequently received 24 submissions and heard all stakeholders view at public hearings held at the Parliament Committee Room East Wing and also in Nadroga Navosa Province.

- Technical College Department, Ministry of Education.
- Senior Education Officer, Ministry of Education Office, Sigatoka.
- Education Committee, Provincial Office.
- Nadroga Navosa Provincial High School Committee
- Old Scholars.
- Parents.
- Casual Staff of NNHS.
- Youth Groups.
- Representatives of each Tikina.
- Representatives of the Rukurukulevu, Cuvu and Nasama village
- Principals of nearby Secondary Schools.
- Petitioners and
- Responsible concerned Individuals.



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PARLIAMENT

REPUBLIC OF FIJI

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Public Notice

Calling for Oral and Written Submissions from the Nadroga Navosa Public

The Standing Committee invites Petitioners, interested persons or organizations wishing to express views on the proposed transformation of Nadroga Navosa Provincial High School into a Technical College, to prepare oral submissions to present during the Public Consultation/Hearing at the following venues:

No.	Venue/Location	Dates	Time
1.	Nadroga Navosa Provincial Office, Talenavuruvuru	Tuesday 11 August, 2015	9.00am – 1.00pm 2.00pm - 4.30pm
2.	Rukurukulevu Village & Cuvu Village (Morning Session) Nasama Village (Afternoon Session)	Wednesday 12 August, 2015	9.00am – 1.00pm 2.00pm - 4.30pm
3.	Visitation of Secondary Schools	Thursday 13 August, 2015	9.00am – 1.00pm 2.00pm - 4.30pm

All those invitees who will be making oral submissions during the Public Consultation are also required to provide a written submission to be addressed to:

The Chairman
Standing Committee on Social Affairs
Government Buildings
SUVA

For clarification and further information please contact the Committee Secretariat (Mr. Savenaca Koro) on phone 3225680 or email to savenaca.koro@govnet.gov.fj

**APPENDIX 4: COPIES OF WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS RECEIVED BY THE STANDING
COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL AFFAIRS**

**Appendix 4: Copies of written submissions received by the Standing Committee
on Social Affairs**

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

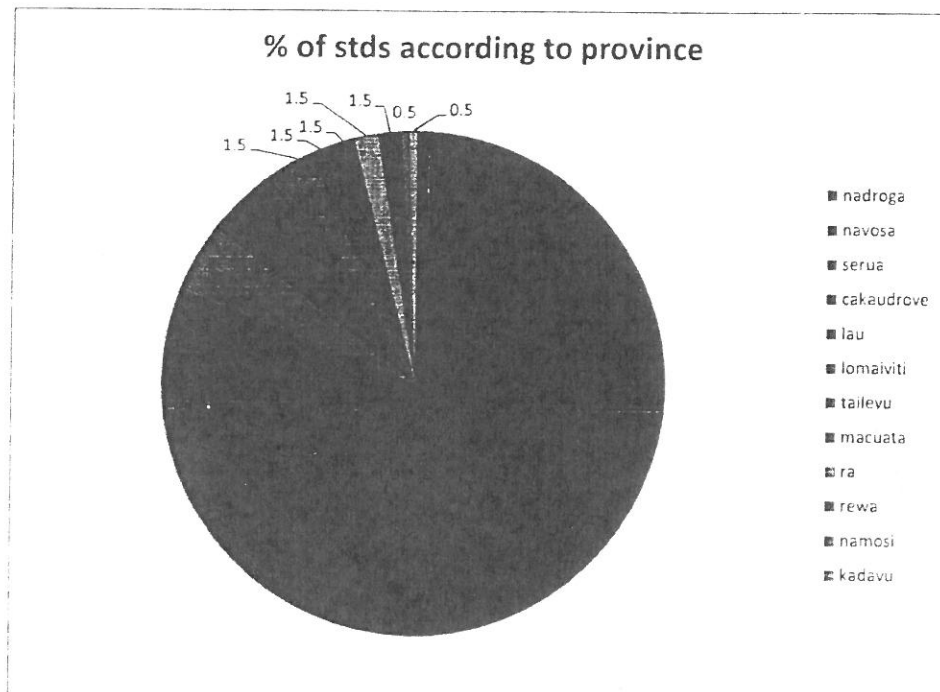
NADROGA NAVOSA EDUCATION OFFICE

**NADROGA NAVOSA PROVINCIAL HIGH
SCHOOL**

BRIEF

NADROGA NAVOSA EDUCATION OFFICE
NADROGA NAVOSA PROVINCIAL HIGH SCHOOL
NUMBER OF STUDENTS ACCORDING TO PROVINCE

Province	Number	Percentage
Nadroga	118	66%
Navosa	27	15%
Serua	7	4.5%
Cakadrove	5	3.5%
Lau	4	2.5%
Lomaiviti	2	1.5%
Tailevu	2	1.5%
Macuata	2	1.5%
Ra	2	1.5%
Rewa	2	1.5%
Kadavu	1	.5%
Namosi	1	.5%



NADROGA NAVOSA EDUCATION DISTRICT
HOSTEL CAPACITY OF 3 BOARDING SCHOOLS

This information is provided to give a feedback on how the students from Nadroga Navosa Provincial High School would be absorbed in other school for accommodation should they need this. Many students are traveling from these schools catchment zone.

Navosa Central College

This school is situated in the middle of Navosa province and has hostel facilities. The current occupancy of the hostel is

Boys - 12

Girls - 34

Capacity of the Hostel facility

Boys - 50

Girls - 50

If the school has to reach the maximum capacity than the boys hostel would need to be furnished with 20 bunkers and 20 sleeping mattresses.

St Teresa of Luieux College

This school is located beside the Sigatoka river in the upper valley some 35km from the district education Office. The current occupancy of the hostel is:

Boys - 23

Girls - 26

Capacity of the hostel

Boys - 45

Girls - 45

Like Navosa central the school would also require 20 bunkers and sleeping mattresses to cater for the influx of students. Consequently the school would also need more furniture in the classroom to cater for the increased number of students entering the school.

Sigatoka Valley High School

This school is situated beside the Valley West Road, 20 Kilometers from the Nadroga Navosa Education Office. It is a very centrally located secondary school for majority of the upper valley students. It has a multiracial population of students and teachers and the current facilities are also adequate to cater for increased day scholars.

The school currently shares the Waicoba Primary School boarding facilities and if it has to accommodate any new students then hostel facilities need to be set up in the school. This would require the construction of boys and girls hostel with dining room and cooking place. TO do this, the school has to be provided with additional grant to commence the construction of boarding facilities.

The school wants a hostel to cater for 30 boys and 30 girls. Currently 5 boys and 7 girls are housed in the Primary schools hostel.

NADROGA NAVOSA EDUCATION OFFICE
NADROGA NAVOSA PROVINCIAL HIGH SCHOOL
NUMBER OF STUDENTS ACCORDING TO TIKINA

Tikina	Number	Percentage
Cuvu	56	33
Sigatoka	25	15
Noikoro	22	13
Tuva	11	7.3
Serua	5	3.5
Malolo	5	3.5
Naqalimare	4	2.5
Namataku	3	1.7
Vugalei	2	1.5
Noco	2	1.5
Malomalo	2	1.5
Nasikawa	2	1.5
Vatukasa	2	1.5
Lakeba	2	1.5
Bemana	2	1.5
Rabi	2	1.5
Conua	2	1.5
Korolevu-i-wai	2	1.5
Ruwailevu	1	.5
Vatulele	1	.5
Sanima	1	.5
Bermitu	1	.5
Wai	1	.5
Nalolo	1	.5
Berenitu	1	.5
Davutukia	1	.5
Tawake	1	.5
Kamove	1	.5
Cawalevu	1	.5
Mavua	1	.5
Nokonoko	1	.5
Saqani	1	.5
Nalawa	1	.5
Koro	1	.5
Wairiki	1	.5
Raviravi	1	.5
Nabehevia	1	.5
Macuata	1	.5
Koroinasau	1	.5
Lau	1	.5
Matuku	1	.5
Namuka	1	.5
Namosi	1	.5
Korotubu	1	.5

Rukurukulevu 11	Yanuya 4	Navuevu 12	Yadua 16	Nabasovi 1	Nukuliavu 2	Nasama 4	Ekubu 1	Wainiyavu 1
Mualevu 1	Koroisagana 1	Nawairuku 1	Draba 1	Nayawa 1	Nairilaca 1	Nabau 2	Nabudrau 1	Waicoba 1
Sila 4	Balekoro 1	Tavua 2	Nakoro 4	Momi 1	Korolevu 6	Naboutini 1	Mavua 2	Sigatoka 4
Dreketi 1	Tubou 2	Nalebaleba 2	Vunavutu 4	Noikoro 1	Matuku 1	Naiborebore 1	Kabisi 1	Navunitivi 1
Tabia 1	Volivoli 3	Nadrata 1	Matokana 3	Navisabasaba 1	Cuvu 11	Vatubalavu 4	Namacawa 1	Draubuta 1
Lakeba 1	Keyasi 3	Savu 1	Lomawai 2	Korotogo 1	Biaugunu 1	Vatubalavu 1	Namaqumaua 1	Vunatovau 1
Nabuyanitu 1	Belo 2	Laselese 7	Navutulevu 1	Tabiang 1	Tore 1	Yavulo 1	Biausevu 2	Nabukelevu 4
Sanasana 1	Emuri 5	Tagage 1	Naimasimasi 1	Drue 1	Naveyago 3	Wainika 1	Tilivalevu 1	Tavuki 1
Semo 3	Volua 1							

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NADROGA NAVOSA EDUCATION OFFICE

NADROGA NAVOSA PROVINCIAL HIGH SCHOOL

POSSIBLE ABSORPTION OF STUDENTS IN OTHER SCHOOLS

Nadroga Navosa Provincial High School has a current roll of 179 students. Two students are not included in the data above as they are either Fijian of Indian descent or Part European Fijian. The Year roll is as follows:

Year 9	31 students
Year 10	38 students
Year 11	38 students
Year 12	34 students
Year 13	17 students
Vocational	21 students

At the end of this academic year 38 students would leave school as they are either in Year 13 or Vocational Class. The left over student roll would be 141.

These students would be easily accommodated in Cuvu College, which is one kilometer away from Nadroga Navosa Provincial High School, Nadroga Arya College, Sigatoka Methodist College and Sigatoka Andhra Sangam College.

Other students who now reside in the hostel and are from Niokoro and Navosa area would be catered for the the three schools in the upper valley.

In Conclusion, there would be no problem faced in the new academic year to allocate students to the four nearby school and the 3 other upper valley schools from where about 15% of the students come from. All students who would qualify for the bus voucher in the new academic year would also be provided with it. It is therefore understood that the conversion of Nadroga Navosa Provincial High School would be a smooth transition.

NADROGA NAVOSA PROVINCIAL HIGH SCHOOL

YEAR 9A FORM LIST 2015

FORM TEACHERS: MR.M.MATANATOTO

	NAMES	DOB	VILLAGE	TIKINA	PROVINCE
1	Kelera Bucobuco	8/4/2001	Rukurukulevu ✓	Cuvu	Nadroga ✓
2	Litia Nai	21/06/01	Rukurukulevu ✓	Cuvu	Nadroga ✓
3	Loata Leano (B)	15/04/2001	Yanuya ✓	Malolo	Nadroga ✓
4	Merewalesi Liku Selala	12/5/2001	Rukurukulevu ✓	Cuvu	Nadroga ✓
1	Alivereti Rasolosolo (B)	8/10/1999	Yanuya ✓	Malolo	Nadroga ✓
2	Asivurusi Turagalevu	27/03/01	Navuevu ✓	Cuvu	Nadroga ✓
3	Erami Qarivolili Nasawira	30/09/01	Yadua ✓	Cuvu	Nadroga ✓
4	Harry John (B)	6/12/1999	Nabasoni ✓	Koro	Lomaiviti ✓
5	Ilai Nakabu	30/9/2000	Nukuilau ✓	Noikoro	Navosa ✓
6	Isei Ratubuli	10/5/2001	Nasama ✓	Sigatoka	Nadroga ✓
7	Joseva Ravula	31/10/2000	Ekubu ✓	Vatulele	Nadroga ✓
8	Josevata Tuinavilevu(B)	10/9/2000	Wainiyavu ✓	Namosi	Namosi ✓
9	Mosese Namomo (B)	21/08/00	Yanuya ✓	Malolo	Nadroga ✓
10	Samisoni Kakaivalu	26/12/00	Sila ✓	Cuvu	Nadroga ✓

NADROGA NAVOSA PROVINCIAL HIGH SCHOOL

YEAR 9B FORM LIST 2015

FORM TECHERS : MR. K. TUI; MRS K. KALOU

	NAMES	DOB	VILLAGE	TIKINA	PROVINCE
1	Arieta Nai Senicago (B)	21/06/01	Balekoro ✓	Davutukia	Nadroga ✓
2	Kesaia Bilo (B)	5/11/2000	Tavua ✓	Malolo	Nadroga ✓
3	Imeri Cebu (B)	16/02/00	Nakoro ✓	Noikoro	Navosa ✓
4	Laisani Rokovono(B)	15/06/01	Matokana ✓	Noikoro	Navosa ✓
5	Makelesi Liku (B)	6/7/2000	Nakoro ✓	Noikoro	Navosa ✓
6	Mereavi Namulo	16/07/01	Momi ✓	Raviravi	Nadroga ✓
7	Siteri Naioba (B)	6/8/2000	Korolevu ✓	Noikoro	Navosa ✓
1	Bemana Kuruimali (B)	31/12/97	Naboutini ✓	Serua	Serua ✓
2	Anare Mudunavere (B)	11/3/2001	Rukurukulevu ✓	Cuvu	Nadroga ✓
3	Jiasa Duwai	4/3/2001	Mavua ✓	Mavua	Nadroga ✓
4	Jone Kuruwaso	27/04/00	Yadua ✓	Cuvu	Nadroga ✓
5	Kelepi Mataitoga	5/3/2001	Navuevu ✓	Cuvu	Nadroga ✓
6	Michael Christopher E. N. Soko	6/1/1999	Sigatoka ✓	Sigatoka	Nadroga ✓
7	Rt Aca Silatolu Peue	22/08/01	Tabia ✓	Rabi	Cakaudrove ✓
8	Savenaca Batimala	13/04/00	Volivoli ✓	Sigatoka	Nadroga ✓
9	Tevita Tora (B)	7/4/2000	Yanuya ✓	Malolo	Nadroga ✓
10	Tomasi Narovini (B)	2/10/1999	Nadrara ✓	Conua	Nadroga ✓

NADROGA NAVOSA PROVINCIAL HIGH SCHOOL

YEAR 10 FORM LIST 2015

FORM TEACHERS: MR. S. ROKOVUNISEI & MRS V. WAQA

	NAMES	DOB	VILLAGE	TIKINA	YASANA
1	Adi Unaisi Cema Bua	22/01/2000	Navisabasaba/	Malomalo	Nadroga/
2	Ateca Francis Tuwaci	7/4/1999	Cuvu ✓	Cuvu	Nadroga/
3	Irinietia Marama (B)	12/05/01998	Vatubalavu ✓	Noikoro	Navosa ✓
4	Ivamere Kelea	25/01/1999	Namacawa ✓	Noikoro	Navosa ✓
5	Karalaini Logaulu Lalabalavu	16/07/1999	Cuvu ✓	Cuvu	Nadroga/
6	Karalaini Uqeuqe	4/8/1999	Rukurukulevu ✓	Cuvu	Nadroga/
7	Makereta Ranadi Nahimo	19/05/1999	Rukurukulevu ✓	Cuvu	Nadroga/
8	Mere Narabe	29/05/2000	Yadua ✓	Cuvu	Nadroga/
9	Merelita Bonnie Nabobo Najavuevu Toge	2/6/1999	Rukurukulevu ✓	Cuvu	Nadroga/
10	Mereseini Naola (B)	8/7/1999	Draubuta ✓	Noikoro	Navosa ✓
11	Meresela Turagadrau (B)	5/3/2000	Nubuyanitu ✓	Noikoro	Navosa ✓
12	Miriama Gale (B)	25/10/99	Belo ✓	Vatukasa	Nadroga/
13	Racakacaka Joane Tokaulala Lesikicilo Natwa (B)	4/4/2000	Belo ✓	Vatukasa	Nadroga/
14	Salote Tawake	27/03/2000	Rukurukulevu ✓	Cuvu	Nadroga/
15	Savaira Lewanikeli (B)	1/1/1998	Korolevu ✓	Noikoro	Navosa ✓
1	Akei Nainoca	4/2/1999	Laselase ✓	Sigatoka	Nadroga/
2	Apisai Ratuoleca (B)	10/7/1999	Navutulevu ✓	Serua	Serua ✓
3	Bethel Toaisi	31/10/00	Tabiang ✓	Rabi	Cakaudrove ✓
4	Esala Mateiwai	10/12/1999	Yadua ✓	Cuvu	Nadroga/
5	Etuate Kaveni	29/12/1998	Tore ✓	Cuvu	Nadroga/
6	Ifereimi Kubukawa	3/3/1999	Yavulo ✓	Sigatoka	Nadroga/
7	Inia Ratulevu Vakarusalawa	27/08/2000	Yadua ✓	Cuvu	Nadroga/
8	Inia Tasere	12/8/1999	Nasama ✓	Sigatoka	Nadroga/
9	Iokimi Senitiri Finau (B)	24/06/2000	Biausevu ✓	Korolevu-i-wa	Nadroga/
10	Jone Nakalevu Daubitu	19/07/2000	Yadua ✓	Cuvu	Nadroga/
11	Kitone Ray Waqavonovono Mateiwai	4/1/2000	Yadua ✓	Cuvu	Nadroga/
12	Kitone Tuidala Nalao (B)	3/3/1999	Nabukelevu ✓	Burenitu	Serua ✓
13	Lemeki Qereqeretabua	19/03/98	Sila ✓	Cuvu	Nadroga/
14	Mosese Taginaselala	9/1/1997	Sanasana ✓	Malomalo	Nadroga/
15	Natovu, Sakeasi	28/03/2000	Nasama ✓	Sigatoka	Nadroga/
16	Orisi Tobua	6/7/1998	Nukuilau ✓	Noikoro	Noikoro ✓
17	Ratu Luke Nakulanikoro	12/10/2000	Cuvu ✓	Cuvu	Nadroga/
18	Ratu Nemani Senibua Natuvau Tokulanibewa	24/06/2000	Cuvu ✓	Cuvu	Nadroga/
19	Savu Koroi Tikosaya	7/9/1999	Cuvu ✓	Cuvu	Nadroga/
20	Sitiveni Bainivalu	4/10/1998	Emuri ✓	Cuvu	Nadroga/
21	Tevita Niuvou Mateiwai	1/8/1999	Yadua ✓	Cuvu	Nadroga/
22	Viliame Volavola	26/06/1999	Nasama ✓	Sigatoka	Nadroga/
23	William Robert Raymond Bennion	27/08/1998	Mataqe ✓	Cuvu	Nadroga/

NADROGA NAVOSA PROVINCIAL HIGH SCHOOL

YEAR 11A FORM LIST 2015

FORM TEACHERS: MRS.S.NIUMATAIWALU : MR J. TURAGASILA

	NAMES	DOB	VILLAGE	TIKINA	PROVINCE
1	Adi Asinate Taufu Botiki	22/09/98	Naimasimasi ✓	Vugalei	Tailevu ✓
2	Adi Vika (B)	15/5/98	Emuri ✓	Tuva	Nadroga ✓
3	Aliti Tuiqamea	24/4/98	Drue ✓	Sanima	Kadavu ✓
4	Anaseini Nagera	30/6/98	Cuvu ✓	Cuvu	Nadroga ✓
5	Kinisimere Lalabalavu	22/9/98	Cuvu ✓	Cuvu	Nadroga ✓
6	Luisa Roqima (B)	7/8/1999	Naveyago ✓	Naqalimare	Navosa ✓
7	Ruci Lewakulati	16/10/96	Waini-ika ✓	Tawake	Cakaudrove ✓
8	Talica Tuva	4/7/1998	Tilivalevu ✓	Nokonoko	Nadroga ✓
9	Varanisese Nameha Quto (B)	30/06/99	Rukurukulevu	Cuvu	Nadroga ✓
1	Alesiko J. Avoko	6/4/1996	Tavuki ✓	Wairiki	Cakaudrove ✓
2	Kavaia Rawaqa	21/6/98	Dreketi ✓	Macuata	Macuata ✓
3	Matia Mata Tuibaravi	3/12/1996	Rukurukulevu	Cuvu	Nadroga ✓
4	Napolioni Kurusiga	23/4/99	Emuri ✓	Tuva	Nadroga ✓
5	Peniame Vulea	6/1/1999	Tubou ✓	Lakeba	Lau ✓
6	Ratu Luke Vunilase	11/2/1997	Navuevu ✓	Cuvu	Nadroga ✓
7	Rusiate Ratu	24/08/99	Nalebaleba ✓	Bemana	Navosa ✓
8	Taniela Katonitabua	25/05/98	Vunavutu ✓	Sigatoka	Nadroga ✓
9	Vilitati Cobilevu	11/4/1998	Nalebaleba ✓	Bemana	Navosa ✓

**NADROGA NAVOSA PROVINCIAL HIGH SCHOOL
YEAR 12 FORM LIST 2015**

FORM TEACHERS: MRS H. REDDY & MR. P. SHARMA

	NAMES	DOB	VILLAGE	TIKINA	PROVINCE
1	Adibuli, Miriama	19/04/97	Mavua ✓	Ruwailevu	Nadroga ✓
2	Bui Keasi	5/4/1997	Nayawa ✓	Sigatoka	Nadroga ✓
3	Buliasewa Makirina	15/08/97	Vunavutu ✓	Sigatoka	Nadroga ✓
4	Burasia, Amalaini, Drugu	4/10/1998	Nairilaca ✓	Noco	Rewa ✓
5	Cara, Merewalesi (B)	6/1/1996	Matokana ✓	Nasikawa	Navosa ✓
6	Duwariba, Melaia	8/7/1997	Naveyago ✓	Naqalimare	Navosa ✓
7	Gatule, Sainiana	15/09/97	Emuri ✓	Tuva	Nadroga ✓
8	Lewanitoga, Mereani	27/08/97	Yadua ✓	Cuvu	Nadroga ✓
9	Lewasavu, Akanisi Eta	14/04/97	Vunavutu ✓	Sigatoka	Nadroga ✓
10	Mocelutu, Eleni	25/02/96	Laselase ✓	Sigatoka	Nadroga ✓
11	Navuga, Kolora	15/05/97	Matokona ✓	Nasikawa	Navosa ✓
12	Niunisava, Anise	4/3/1997	Nabau ✓	Tuva	Nadroga ✓
13	Qarau, Kesaia	29/01/97	Laselase ✓	Sigatoka	Nadroga ✓
14	Ratumaitavuki, Josivini Manila	29/02/96	Nabudrau ✓	Noco	Rewa ✓
15	Silina, Senimelia (B)	19/06/98	Korolevu ✓	Noikoro	Navosa ✓
16	Tabualevu, Salote	4/5/1998	Yadua ✓	Cuvu	Nadroga ✓
17	Tonono, Arieta (B)	2/12/1998	Korolevu ✓	Noikoro	Navosa ✓
18	Toroca, Laisa (B)	4/5/1998	Naveyago ✓	Naqalimare	Navosa ✓
1	Cadovi, Eroni	8/2/1997	Waicoba ✓	Nahehevia	Nadroga ✓
2	Drau, Vilimoni	15/11/97	Navuevu ✓	Cuvu	Nadroga ✓
3	Karikarisau, Kaiava (B)	21/02/98	Lakeba ✓	Namuka	Macuata ✓
4	Kunagogo, Ilikimi	8/2/1999	Sigatoka ✓	Sigatoka	Nadroga ✓
5	Moore, Henry Ako	7/6/1997	Keiyasi ✓	Namataku	Nadroga ✓
6	Naciqa, Simeli (B)	28/01/98	Saru ✓	Koroinasau	Nadroga ✓
7	Namata, Emoni Kuricegu	5/6/1997	Keiyasi ✓	Namataku	Navosa ✓
8	Namata, Jone Limaiwale	25/8/98	Keiyasi ✓	Namataku	Navosa ✓
9	Rokolewa, Epeli (B)	25/12/96	Nabukelevu ✓	Burenitu	Serua ✓
10	Sakiusa, Koroi	3/7/1998	Cuvu ✓	Cuvu	Nadroga ✓
11	Sigatabu, Vonivate (B)	20/06/97	Korolevu ✓	Noikoro	Navosa ✓
12	Susu, Setareki (B)	12/4/1996	Biausevu ✓	Komave	Nadroga ✓
13	Tui, Simone	29/06/98	Yadua ✓	Cuvu	Nadroga ✓
14	Tusoba, Ilesa Komavuniboko (B)	5/7/1997	Tavua ✓	Cawalevu	Lomaiviti ✓
15	Veikoso, Joseva Qainuci (B)	9/11/1997	Lomawai ✓	Nalolo	Nadroga ✓
16	Willy, Joe	1/1/1997	Korotogo ✓	Conua	Nadroga ✓

NADROGA NAVOSA PROVINCIAL HIGH SCHOOL

YEAR 13 FORM LIST 2015

FORM TEACHERS: MR.I.FINAU MR S. PRASAD

	NAMES	DOB	VILLAGE	TIKINA	PROVINCE
1	Lalakobau, Salaseini Cocotabua(B)	14/02/97	Biaugunu ✓	Saqani	Cakaudrove ✓
2	Matainadroga, Ulamila Eukebuke Dorothy(B)	24/11/95	Sigatoka ✓	Sigatoka	Nadroga ✓
3	Matamalumu, Lanieta	12/7/1997	Yadua ✓	Cuvu	Nadroga ✓
4	Motia, Eleni	7/8/1996	Navuevu ✓	Cuvu	Nadroga ✓
5	Radave, Vasemaca	14/08/96	Vatubalavu ✓	Noikoro	Navosa ✓
6	Ratudamu, Meresimani	10/9/1994	Laselase ✓	Sigatoka	Nadroga ✓
7	Tabua, Mere	20/11/95	Rukurukulevu ✓	Cuvu	Nadroga ✓
8	Tonono, Salote	25/01/95	Laselase ✓	Sigatoka	Nadroga ✓
9	Tove, Frances Stephanie	10/6/1997	Sigatoka ✓	Sigatoka	Nadroga ✓
10	Tuvou, Kasanita	27/07/95	Laselase ✓	Sigatoka	Nadroga ✓
1	Ali, Izac Seefaz	9/5/1997			
2	Nair, Parmesh	8/4/1996			
3	Nakala, Ilaijia Lalai	9/10/1996	Navuevu ✓	Cuvu	Nadroga ✓
4	Natasiwai, Ratu Emitai Nalibu	21/12/95	Lomawai ✓	Wai	Nadroga ✓
5	Naulu Timothy Patrick	14/06/96	Namaqumaqa ✓	Serua	Serua ✓
6	Qasenikoro, Elik Sigakeidra	26/10/96	Emuri ✓	Tuva	Nadroga ✓
7	Tagidrug, Aminio Sogotubu	27/11/96	Navuevu ✓	Cuvu	Nadroga ✓

NADROGA NAVOSA PROVINCIAL HIGH SCHOOL
VOCATIONAL FORM LIST 2015
FORM TEACHER: MR. E. SEUSEU

	NAMES	DOB	VILLAGE	TIKINA	PROVINCE
1	Jone Domonitui	15/4/97	Navuevu ✓	Cuvu	Nadroga ✓
2	Jone Kuricivi	19/11/97	Vunatovau ✓	Tuva	Nadroga ✓
3	Josateki Toutou	4/6/1998	Nakoro ✓	Noikoro	Navosa ✓
4	Kurisarua, Rt Kinijoji	19/01/97	Semo ✓	Tuva	Nadroga ✓
5	Lawakilevu, Jone	28/05/97	Yadua ✓	Cuvu	Nadroga ✓
6	Lomani, Mosese	7/9/1997	Volivoli ✓	Sigatoka	Nadroga ✓
7	Nainoca, Etika	21/05/97	Laselase ✓	Sigatoka	Nadroga ✓
8	Nagata, Apete	28/03/95	Semo ✓	Tuva	Nadroga ✓
9	Naituvi, Wame	18/05/96	Semo ✓	Tuva	Nadroga ✓
10	Naruma, Tevita	26/05/1998	Cuvu ✓	Cuvu	Nadroga ✓
11	Natovu, Ravuame	30/12/97	Yadua ✓	Cuvu	Nadroga ✓
12	Nemia Nanawa	6/4/1996	Nakoro ✓	Noikoro	Navosa ✓
13	Niko Rokomatu	24/07/97	Navuevu ✓	Cuvu	Nadroga ✓
14	Ratulevu, Navitalai	16/10/96	Yadua ✓	Cuvu	Nadroga ✓
15	Semi Qocici	11/4/1998	Navuevu ✓	Cuvu	Nadroga ✓
16	Senibalolo, Tomasa	27/11/96	Yadua ✓	Cuvu	Nadroga ✓
17	Sevanaia Ratumaitavuki	31/03/97	Votua ✓	Korolevu -i-wai	Nadroga ✓
18	Solomoni Raymond	8/6/1997	Cuvu ✓	Cuvu	Nadroga ✓
19	Vasuitaukei, Alipate	1/1/1997	Navuevu ✓	Cuvu	Nadroga ✓
20	Viliame Lakia	6/1/1997	Nabukelevu ✓	Serua	Serua ✓
21	Votuqe, Isei	23/04/1997	Nabau ✓	Tuva	Nadroga ✓

11/08/15

Chairman
Standing Committee & Social Affairs
Government Building
Suva

VAKATUTU – NADROGA/ NAVOSA PROVINCIAL HIGH SCHOOL KINA TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Isara

Korau saka ko Inoke Kadralevu, Koro ko Nakabuta, Tikina ko Nokonoko, Nadroga Navosa
Au a cakacaka Roko Veivuke Nadroga Navosa – 1984 – 1989
Roko Tui Nadroga – 1990 – 2000

Sa koya saka ogo na noqu Vakututu

1 Au tokona sara vakalevu na lewa ni Tabacakacaka ni Vuli me sa na vuki me Technical College na koro ni vuli ni Yasana na Nadroga Navosa Provincial High School

2 TAUKEI NI KORO NI VULI

Sa dabe oti na Bose ni Yasana ko Nadroga/ Navosa nai taukei ni Koronivuli na Nadroga Navosa Provincial High School ena ika 12/06/15 ka lokuci na Bose ni Yasana vakatabaki dua na vuku ni veisau ni koronivuli ni Yasana me sa Technical College

Na lewa ni Bose ni Yasana

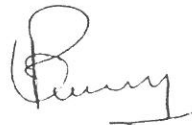
Sa lewa na Bose ni Yasana vakaturaga ko Nadroga Navosa me sa veisau na koronivuli ni Yasana me sa Technical College. E na Veivakadonui ni 22 na Turaga nai Liuli ni Bose ni Tikina ena loma ni Yasana. Sa qai kena lutua na nodra sa veivakadonui na Vale Levu e Nakuruvakarua na gone Turaga Baie Na Ka Levu na Tui Nadroga ko Ratu Kinijaoi Vosatagi

3 NADROGA NAVOSA EDUCATION AREA

E rauta ni 12 na secondary schools e sa cici tiko ena Yasana ogo ka sa dodonu me sa tauyavu kina e dua na koronivuli ni Technical College me na ciqomi ira na gone vuli e ra lutu mai ena Form 4 5 6 7 me ra vuli cakacaka ni liga kina

4 KERE VAKA SUKA


Au kerea saka vua na Mata ni Paimeidi Hori, Mame Gavoka kei na Peresitedi ni Sodosodo ni Vuli oti ko Seru Raunakita me rau vaka suka na nodrau sega ni duavata na veisau sa mai yaco e Nadroga Navosa Provincial High School



5 MEU TINIA SAKA

- A Au sa nidei ena vuni yaloqu taudoko ni dua na waselevu ni Lewe ni Yasana e ra tokoni na sasaga yaga-oqo
- B Vinaka vakalevu kina Matanitu na kena digitaki na koronivuli ni Nadroga Navosa High school e yawa tani mai ena taudaku ni koro lelevu voleka na bati ni gaunisala ni highway vakarawarawataka na veitoso yaki ni gone vuli
- C Au sa vakatura

Vinaka saka vakalevu


Inoke Karalevu (JP)
Roko Tui Nadroga/ Navosa Vakacegu



Committee Chairperson
Standing Committee on Social Affairs
Parliament of the Republic of Fiji
SUVA

Public Consultation – Conversion of Nadroga Navosa High School into a Technical College

I write on behalf of the Nadroga Navosa Provincial Council in my position as Chairman of the Council.

Background

Nadroga Navosa High School (NNHS) is owned by the Nadroga Navosa Provincial Council (NNPC). The Council provides financial support for the general upkeep of the school and ongoing support for the wages of the school's auxiliary staff. This is made possible through the levies collected from the annual Adi Nadroga Navosa Festival.

In the second provincial council meeting in November 2014, the topic of higher education opportunities and the future prosperity of students from the province was deliberated upon and discussed at considerable length. The general consensus reached was that the provision of proper education support was the solution to most, if not all, social ills affecting the province. Evidently, the efforts of the council over the years through financial support from levies collected towards this were not sufficient. Increasing levies from province members would be deemed harsh and unrealistic given the members' limited disposable income.

Invitation Extended to Ministry

When the possibility of setting up of a technical college within the province was first mooted, we looked into the opportunity as a matter of urgency. The following sequence of events took place:

1. In May 2015, through the provincial council office, we invited officials from the Education Ministry to meet and discuss the subject with members of the School Board and members of the Provincial Council Education Subcommittee;
2. The School Board and Education Subcommittee gave their overwhelming support towards this tentative proposal and emphasized that members of the Provincial Council would need to be informed of this and, in the process, seek Council approval;
3. In June 2015, a special Council Meeting was convened in Lawaqa. The proposal for the conversion of the High School into a Technical College was tabled as the main agenda item;
4. Officials from the Ministry were invited to present their proposal and to answer questions during the discussion and deliberation session;
5. The Council reached a consensus with a resolution fully supporting the conversion of the current school into a Technical College.



Submission in Support of NNPC Decision

- 1 Should Government review and rescind its decision to transform Nadroga Navosa Provincial High School into a Technical College?

Answer: Absolutely not! If anything, the Provincial Council Office should have been consulted by the honorable MP in order to get credible and accurate facts surrounding the decision by the NNPC with regards to this matter.

At this juncture, it would be appropriate to mention for the record that as owners, the NNPC have consented to and approved, in principle, the conversion of the school into a technical college. The approval in itself from the owners of the school should be respected.

NNPC is well versed on the hardships the school has endured from its inception and the continual struggles it has endured over the years to make ends meet. With limited resources, it has continued to meet the bare minimum level it could afford. This has compromised the quality of service it has been able to offer and resulted in a below average outcome in terms of students' pass rate over the years.

- 2 *The impact of transforming NNHS into a Technical College*

Answer: The Council does not see any major impact as a result of this. If anything, it should work out for the betterment of students currently enrolled.

As it stands, many of the students enrolled at the school are those who have been turned away from schools of their preference due to low marks. As a result, the overall performance of the school in terms of pass rate when compared to other schools has been below average.

With limited resources and financial constraints, it has been, and will continue to be, a challenge for the owners (NNPC) to create a learning environment at NNHS that is conducive to the needs of the students enrolled.

With financial support from the Government, the Technical College will be able to provide better educational opportunities and access to resources for the students. It will also lessen the financial burden on the members of the province who are currently supporting the school through levies. NNPC will be able to redirect this levy money to other areas of need within the province or provide additional scholarships for higher education.

3. *Any other views specific to the Petition that would help the Committee in moving forward with the Petition?*

Answer: Parents of NNHS need to be reassured that every effort will be made to assist them if their children need to be relocated to other high schools in the area. Parents need to be made aware of the potential advantages of moving to schools with a wider academic range and better resources than those currently experienced at NNHS. However, the parents do have a legitimate concern, so they should be informed of all plans to provide alternative places, bus fare vouchers etc, etc. They must be assured that




their children will not be lost or forgotten in the transition. They may not have been furnished with this information at the time of the petition. I hope this was not deliberately done to deny our youth, our future leaders of tomorrow, these opportunities that would provide them with this great platform for their future.

Conclusion

The Technical College will bring benefits to the whole province, not just for the district of Cuvu. It will help in the up-skilling of youths and decrease the number of dropouts from higher education. At present, many youths have to be sent to Suva to further their education. This places a huge financial burden on their parents and means that they are often billeted with relatives which compounds the burdens that already exists within these households. With peer pressure, the distraction of city life and limited adult supervisor with their studies, this produces low result achievements which contributes to high percentage dropouts.

The establishment of a Technical College in the region will mean that these young adults will be able to stay within their province and the supervision of their parents and guardians. This improved access to higher education will improve employment opportunities, which will, in turn, help combat many of the social ills which exist within the province.



Aisea Wake Vosilagi
Chairman
Nadroga Navosa Provincial Council



Sagunu
Cuvu Village
NADROGA

12 August 2015

Chairperson
Standing Committee for Social Affairs
Parliament of Fiji

I'saka

VEITOKONI ENA KENA VEISAUTAKI NA KORONIVULI NI YASANA (NNHS) ME TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Au via vakaraitaka na noqu veitokoni ena ulutaga ni kena veisau taki na Koronivuli ni Yasana me Technical College, me vaka na nodra vei vakadonui na Matabose ni Yasana, ka ra taukena na koronivuli.

Ena gauna ni noqu veiliutaki vaka Roko Tui ena yasana ko Nadroga Navosa, au a liutaka na kena tauyavu taki na koronivuli oqo. Eso nai wase lailai ni lewenivanua era a sega ni duavata ena kena vakaduri na koronivuli oqo. Ia, ena vuku ni kena rokovi na vakatulewa ni Matabose ni Yasana ena gauna koya, keimami colata ka sotava na kena dredrei me yacova na kena mai vakacavari vinaka ka tawani.

E laurai ni vakatalega kina ena vakatutu oqo. Esa na tamata sara tuga ena bula ni veimurimuri kara rawai rawarawa na yalodra ena vosa vakamikamica ni so, kara sega ni kila vinaka na dredre ni bula era sotava tu na lewe vuqa.

Ena noqo i tutu ni veiliutaki vakavanua ena Yasana Vakaturaga ko Nadroga Navosa, au a sa solia na noqu veitokoni kei na vei vakadonui ena vuku ni nodra vakatutu na Matabose ni Yasana.

Au kerea, ena vukudra na Lewe ni Vanua ko Nakuruvakarua me rokovi na vakatulewa sa mai tau ena Matabose ni Yasana.

Keimami sa raitayaloyalo taka tu na vei vakatorocake ena kauta mai kina Vanua na kena mai vakadaberi na koronivuli oqo ena loma ni Yasana.

Koi, au ko


Ratu Jijiji Nanovo Vosailagi
Turaga Na Melevu

9395 NAVOSA CENTRAL COLLEGE

SCHOOL INFORMATION

School Name: NAVOSA CENTRAL COLLEGE

Registration No: 9395

Principal: MR KINIVILIAME T. NACIQA

Year: 2015



SECTION A

SCHOOL INFORMATION

Name: NAVOSA CENTRAL COLLEGE

Registration No: 9395

Year of Establishment: 1976

Land Lease type: Native Land [school]

Duration: 50 years

Residential Address: Vatumali, Navosa.

Postal Address: Box 13, Keiyasi

School Grade: ED2B

Telephone No: 6232857

Fax No: -

Email Address: navosacentral@gmail.com

Bankers: ANZ

Account No: 3101982

Foundation Members:

1. Epeli Navukula
2. Ilaisa Calevuilagi
3. Kaminieli Burogolevu
4. Alifereti Nasokia
5. Rt Leveni Naivua
6. Apimeleki Sigatabu
7. Apisai Namata
8. Ulaiasi Sauvacia
9. Jone Donu
10. Jovesa Vaileba
11. Luke Sisiwa
12. Josaia Warado
13. Jioji Navabale
14. Rt Viliame Vatureba [Tui Namataku]
15. Venaga Vasimaka
16. Rt Samueli Taninacule [Tui Nasaunivalu]
17. Ameniasi Navukula
18. Rt Taniela Buakula
19. Dr Ilikimi Kunagogo Saurautu
20. Rt Tevita Katonisau
21. Rt Tevita Dikedike [Tui Davutukia]
22. Sakiusa Naisami
23. Mosese Tiqara
24. Rt Qoro Latianara [Tui Noikoro]
25. Nasoni Batiqolo
26. Rt Epi Batirerega [Tui Nasikawa]
27. Uraia D No. 2
28. Josefa Toutou

Brief History associated with the school including the background on its establishment:

The school establishment was on the basis that Navosa students need not go and stay with relatives in towns to attend secondary schools. The school was then established in 1976 on the endorsement of the chiefs of Navosa region. The following chiefs were involved: Tui Namataku, Tui Noikoro, Tui Magodro, Tui Davunukia, Tui Nasaunivalu, Tui Nadrau and Tui Nasikawa.

The *vania* of Navosa then fundraised for the payment of building, hostel and teachers quarters over the years.

Any other significance of the school:

The school started as a Junior Secondary school. Namataku District School's Class 7 and Class 8 were entered as Form 1 and Form 2 in 1976. The trend then continued to Form 4.

1984 - Beginning of Form 5 stream.

1999 - Vocational Catering and Tailoring began.

2012 - Form 7 Begins.

2015 - Vocational Carpentry and Joinery Begins.

SECTION B

MANAGEMENT INFORMATION

Controlling Authority: School Management Committee

Manager: Tevita Naisigani Mobile Contact: 9557267

Chairman/President: Sakenasa Bure Mobile Contact: 9092357

Secretary: Peniasi Vure Mobile Contact: 9333135

Treasurer: Tevita Saula Mobile Contact: -

AGM Month: March

SECTION C

DEVELOPMENT HISTORY SINCE INCEPTION AS PRINCIPAL

2012 THE YEAR I STARTED

YEAR	TYPE OF DEVELOPMENT	COST	ASSISTED BY
2015	Renovation of Girls & Boys Dorms, Dining Hall, construction of 1 Teachers Quarters	\$80,179.85	PM's Office
2015	Painting of the School Buildings	\$10,000.00	PM's Office
2014 - 2015	Internet Connection in the School Office and Computer Lab	\$5,000.00	School Grant
2014	Building of 1 Teachers Quarters	\$38,097.60	Commissioner Western's Office
2014	Tiling of Home Economics Room & School Office	\$3,000.00	School Grant

Gender	Teacher Training Record for Academic Staff				
	TT Certificate	TT Diploma	B.Ed	PGCE/M.Ed	No Teacher Training
Male		5	8		1
Female		4	4		
Total		9	12	nil	1

Names of Teachers without Teacher Training

	Name	TPT	Discipline/Subject
1	Mr Mosima Rokodau [ongoing]	87891	Vocational - Carpentry & Joinery
2			
3			
4			

For the purpose of this report, the following information is provided for the purpose of this report.

SECTION F

POST OF RESPONSIBILITY

Position	Name	TPT	Substantive Position	Indicate if acting and state reason
Vice Principal	Ateca T.K Turagakece	80265	ED5D	Acting
Assistant Principal	Sanjay Prasad	80227	ED5C	Acting
HOD Languages	Raman Kumar	80439	ED5D	Confirmed
HOD Maths	Ronald Ravimesh Chand	82181	ED8G	Acting
HOD Science	Sunny Prasad	84215	ED8G	Acting
HOD Social Sc	Alipate Daganiyasi Tui	87124	ED8G	Acting
HOD Commerce	Mereani Radinivuna Kebubu	83368	ED8G	Acting
HOD IA	Penaia Driyalewa	84964	ED8A	Acting
HOD H/Lc.	Taleitaki L. V Naciqa	68486	ED8A	Acting
HOD PEMAC	Iosefo Senisiri Nailoilo	85919	ED8A	Acting
Counsellor				

For the purpose of this report, the following information is provided for the purpose of this report.

SECTION F

STUDENT INFORMATION

YEAR LEVEL	MALE	FEMALE	I-TAUKEI	IJIJIAN	FOREIGN
9	31	26	56	1	-
10	26	33	59	-	-
11	28	31	59	-	-
12	28	24	52	-	-
13	15	23	38	1	-
VOCATIONAL	13	7	20	-	-
TOTAL	141	144	284	2	-

For the purpose of this report, the following information is provided for the purpose of this report.

SECTION G

LEVELS AND SUBJECTS TAUGHT

LEVEL	SUBJECTS OFFERED
Year 9	English, Mathematics, Social Studies, Basic Science, Commercial Studies, Agriculture Science, Vosa Vakaviti, Home Economics, Basic Technology, Family Life, Religious Education, Physical Education, Visual Arts
Year 10	English, Mathematics, Social Studies, Basic Science, Commercial Studies, Agriculture Science, Vosa Vakaviti, Home Economics, Basic Technology, Family Life, Religious Education, Physical Education, Visual Arts
Year 11	English, Mathematics, Geography, History, Economics, Accounting, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Home Economics, Vosa Vakaviti, Applied Technology, Technical Drawing, Family Life, Religious Education, Careers, Physical Education
Year 12	English, Mathematics, Geography, History, Economics, Accounting, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Home Economics, Vosa Vakaviti, Applied Technology, Technical Drawing, Family Life, Religious Education, Careers, Sports
Year 13	English, Mathematics, Geography, History, Economics, Accounting, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Home Economics, Vosa Vakaviti, Applied Technology, Technical Drawing, Family Life, Religious Education, Careers, Sports
Catering & Tailoring	Catering, House Keeping, Business Management, Tailoring, Religious Education
Carpentry & Joinery	Mathematics, Carpentry [Theory & Practical], Joinery [Theory & Practical], Religious Education

SECTION H

SPECIAL PROGRAMMES

- Extra Classes [Night Classes: 7.30pm – 9.30pm]
- Spiritual Aspect of students: Midday Prayer Session
- Beautification
- Gender Meetings
- Motivational Talks

SECTION I

SCHOOL DONATIONS

DONORS	DESCRIPTION OF DONATIONS
Sigatoka River Safari	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sporting Gears • Sporting Jackets • Rugby Jerseys • School Emblem
Leslie Rugby College	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rugby Balls • Shorts
Judy Kumar – Navosa Netball Association	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Netball Uniforms

SECTION J

CHALLENGES FACED

CHALLENGE	REMEDIES
Literacy and Numeracy Level from Feeder Schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contact Hours in the classroom has increased from 40 minutes to 1 Hr • Aptitude Test • Extra Classes
Truancy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Counselling of Students • Summoning of Parents [repeated offenders]
Absenteeism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Absent Letter [1 day] • Summon Parents [2 or more days] / Counselling if need be
Parents Teachers Interview Attendance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Held in conjunction with PTA to draw parents to school • Newsletters

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## SECTION K

## SCHOOL NEEDS

|    |                                                                                                                                                         |
|----|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1  | Hostel water supply to come from the main supply line from Draiba to the new reservoir                                                                  |
| 2  | Building of two Hostel blocks to cater for the increase of Hostel Roll and the closing of Nadroga/Navosa Provincial High School                         |
| 3  | Chain link for Girls and Boys Hostel to provide safety for students                                                                                     |
| 4  | Chain link for the whole school including the Teachers Quarters, School Ground and Classrooms.                                                          |
| 5  | Tele Centre for Public Use also                                                                                                                         |
| 6  | Building of new Library and Computer Laboratory to cater for the increase of students                                                                   |
| 7  | Construction of Double Story Building to cater for the increase in streams that the school will apply for and this will include the Staff Toilet        |
| 8  | Building of Vocational Block for Carpentry & Joinery, Automotive Engineering and Agriculture Engineering                                                |
| 9  | Multipurpose Court for the school ground so students are accustomed to play on a hard court                                                             |
| 10 | Houses for Rent to be built on school vacant land to cater for the increase in government workers in Vatumali                                           |
| 11 | FNU Technical Centre at vacant school lease to cater for the needs in the Navosa area                                                                   |
| 12 | Homestay for Government Officials and NGOs visiting the Navosa region                                                                                   |
| 13 | School tractor for Hostel Farm and cutting of grass in the school ground                                                                                |
| 14 | Tables and Chairs for Meeting/Conference in school Dining Hall                                                                                          |
| 15 | Upgrade of Fish Pond, Poultry Farm, Piggery Farm for Income Generating Project                                                                          |
| 16 | Walkway from Hostel to School, School to Ablution Block and to the Vocational Block. This is to shelter students during unfavourable weather conditions |
| 17 | School RSL Carrier to generate school income and improve standard of service                                                                            |

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CONCLUSION

Based on the report provided above, it can be inferred that Navosa Central College is still in the process of developing. While the primary objective is to improve exam results, the school aspires as well to improve the school facilities where it creates a globalised environment for our students in Navosa so that they are in par with students in urban areas as we live in this 21st century.



PRINCIPAL

Sketch map of the school area and building in an A4 size paper



NADROGA ARYA COLLEGE ROLL: 2013 - 2015

YEAR	MALE			FEMALE			ITAUKEI			FIJIAN			TOTAL		
	2013	2014	2015	2013	2014	2015	2013	2014	2015	2013	2014	2015	2013	2014	2015
Y9	45	35	35	53	37	36	45	35	35	53	38	36	98	72	71
Y10	38	38	31	42	47	35	32	38	32	48	46	34	80	85	66
Y11	36	31	27	35	35	48	30	22	38	41	44	37	71	66	75
Y12	25	28	30	35	30	40	18	24	28	42	34	42	60	58	70
Y13	22	10	12	24	27	18	11	06	11	35	31	19	46	37	30
TOTAL	166	142	135	189	176	177	136	125	144	219	193	168	355	318	312
%	47%	40%	43%	53%	60%	57%	38%	39%	46%	62%	61%	54%			



1734 CUVU COLLEGE Newsletter

18th June 2015

SUCCESS THROUGH ENDEAVOUR

Volume 1, Issue 1

From the Principal



COLA VINA, NAMASTE and WARM GREETINGS TO ALL,

Thank you for choosing Cuvu College for your child's education. We need to realize that **EDUCATION** is critical for **growth and development** as well as for **poverty alleviation**. The changing Educational Policies and reforms **demand** a greater level of **commitment** from all stakeholders and Cuvu College is no exception. After a critical review of our schools academic standard and discipline the college team has been tasked to relook at strategies and processes teaching and learning with the support from the Board of Governors of Cuvu College. Implementing strategies and monitoring of daily operational procedures together with the **demand for commitment by teachers and students** at CUVU COLLEGE will definitely ensure that we achieve a **100 % target** set for all levels. We need your **support** and **prayers** to accomplish the Theme for 2015.

THEME: "REGAIN GLORY for CUVU"

VALUES: 1. DISCIPLINE 2. ATTITUDE 3. TEAM

Special points of interest:

College Admin. Team:

Principal : Mr. Navneet Mishra

V. Principal : Mr. Bimlesh Narayan

A. Principal : Mr. Shakil Kumar

Teaching Staff : 42

Ancillary : 5

Sch. Roll : 618

Inside this issue:

2014 External Exams Results 1

Education Reforms 2

College Internal Reforms 2

Term One Examinations 3

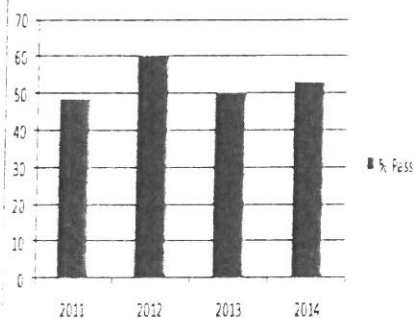
Community Outreach 3

Commemoration of Events 4

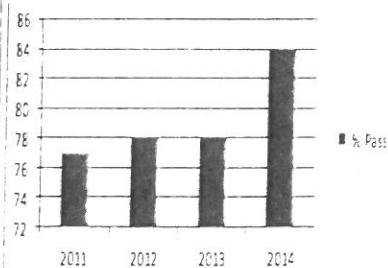
Annual General Meeting 4

2014 External Exams Results

Year 12 Certificate Examination



Year 13 Certificate Examination



External Exams Dates

Y10CE: Oct. 5th—13th

Y12CE: Nov. 2nd—16th

Y13CE: Oct. 26th—Nov. 6th

Annual Exams Dates

Y10CE— Term 2, Week 13

Y12CE— Term 2, Week 13

Y13CE— Term 2, Week 13

Standard Annual Exams Dates

Y9 : 9th—13th Nov.

Y11 : 3rd—13th Nov.

*"Be the Change
you want the
world to be"*

Ghandi

Cuvu College**Reunion:**4th & 5th July,
2015*All Welcome***MINISTRY OF EDUCATION REFORMS 2015**

Changes have been implemented in the school curriculum this year. This includes the re-introduction of the Fiji Junior Examination (FJC) at Year 10 el, now known as the **Fiji Year 10 certificate Examination** and this will mean the phasing out of the Internal Assessment programme not only for Year 10 but for Year 9 as well. The examination will have the inclusion of new paper known as the Arts and Healthy Living exam, extending the seven examinable subjects to eight. In addition, there will be removal of scaling in all three external exams (FY10CE, FY12CE & FY13CE). Years 9 & 11 will have the standard Annual Examination with papers prepared by the Ministry of Education's Exams and Assessment Unit. (Refer to Examination Dates.)

College Internal Reforms

Year 12 Team Maths preparing for AMC

With this year's theme being *"Regaining Glory for Cuvu"*, the school has embarked on a serious mission of trying to raise the standard of education at the College. To ensure that a marked improvement is seen in the results of the external exams this year, a number of internal reforms have now been

implemented to set the benchmark for high achievement. This includes a series of strategic plans such as the fortnightly short tests at all year levels; regular remedial and intervention programmes for slow learners; extra classes including Saturday classes and many more.

Emergency Drills

With the unpredictable changes to Fiji's climatic conditions, a result of CLIMATE CHANGE, the school is vulnerable to the effects of the natural disasters that is now becoming quite frequent in our region. The school is prone to flooding and tsunami and thus, emergency drills for such disasters have been carried out. Students are informed about the drills and have **evacuation plans** and maps in their classrooms. Teachers and students are well aware of the assembly areas as well as the warning sirens for such drills.

College Reunion

There will be a reunion for former students and teachers of the College from 4th—5th of July this year. The event is set to welcome back to the school many former students from around the world, especially those that now reside in NZ, Australia and Canada. A number of activities have been organized and the organisers are optimistic that this event will provide a platform and opportunity for many who have lost touch with their old friends to travel down memory lane.

Term 1 Examination



Miss Swamy and Mr. Sharma during a PTI session

The Term 1 Exam was conducted in Week 14 last term. The exam carried a weighting of 85% with 15% weighting calculated from the Mid Term Exam that was held in week 8. This totaled to a 100% weighting. After remedial for the exam was carried out in week 1 of Term 2, teachers now have a clear picture of the scope of work and preparation needed to improve on the results so that the **100% target** for all year level exams are met. **Parents and guardians are to ensure that students are supervised and monitored at home in their revision for the upcoming exams.**

Community Outreach Programme

To raise awareness on the Ministry of Education's Reforms, the school had embarked on this programme trying to reach a wide cross section of our parents and guardians population so that they as an important stakeholder to the students' education are well aware of the changes that have been implemented this year. Several visits were made by the teachers to various communities and villages and the turn out to these sessions were quite encouraging. The school seeks the support of the parents and guardians to uplift the performance of the students in this year's examinations.



Parents of Semo, Emuri & Nabau at a Community Outreach programme

Sports News

- * U 16 & U 18 school rugby teams have qualified for the Western Zone Deans quarterfinals.
 - * U 17 school Soccer Team has qualified for the South Western Zonal competition.
- Congratulations Team Cuvu.**



Careers Expo

The Year 13 students attended a Careers Expo organized by the District Education Office that was held at the Sigatoka Valley High School in Term 1. Students are now studying the opportunities available for them at the various tertiary institutions that will pave their career pursuits. This term, there have been visits by USP and UniFiji to the school to raise awareness to the students about the opportunities available to them. The school will continue to support the students in their educational pursuits.



Sports is part of HOLISTIC education

CUVU COLLEGE



P.O. Box 265
Sigatoka
Phone : (679) 6500436
Fax : (679) 6520257
E-mail:
cuvucollege@connect.com.fj

College Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting for 2015 was held in week 10 of Term 1. The event coincided with the Parents and Teachers interview and was a very successful occasion. Compared to previous years where there was always a lack of quorum in the first and second call, this year's event marked a very high parents and guardians attendance. This is a positive indication about parents and guardians involvement in the school's running. Elections for new office bearers for the school's management board was the highlight of the meeting. The new board members are as follows:

Dr. Dhirendra Lal (President), Mr. Vatilai Kasowaqa (V. President), Mr. Mun Reddy (Manager), Mr. Solomon Wagaivanua (Secretary), Mr. Jehnend Kumar (Treasurer).



Commemoration of Events held in the School

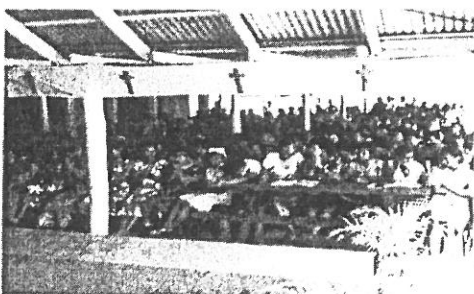
World Day Against Child Labour

This event was held in week 5 of this term. The Social Science department organized activities that included creative writing, poetry dreaming, poster and classroom display competitions. Students were made aware of the current world and national statistics for child labour as well as the unfortunate experiences that some children in Fiji as well as in the region face through child labour.

Substance Awareness Campaign

Mr. Toroca of NASSAC is a regular visitor to the school since week 4 to raise awareness on substance abuse to the students of the college.

Right : Mr. Toroca drives home a point in one of his sessions.



Dear Parents / Guardians, please forward your comments and suggestions to the school's e-mail address or the principal at nayneetdmishra@gmail.com



Left : Students at this year's Easter Service. The school observes the religious events of the three major religious groups in the school. Term 1 saw to the celebration of *Easter, Holi, Ram Naumi, and Eid Mubarak*.

Upcoming Events

- International Day Against Drugs & Illicit Trafficking
- Term 2 Exams
- Chef's Competition