



Rear-Admiral (Ret'd) Hon. J.V. Bainimarama, CF (Mil), OSt.J, MSD, jssc, psc

Prime Minister of Fiji and Minister for iTaukei Affairs and Sugar Industry

PARLIAMENTARY - WRITTEN QUESTION NO. 136/2019

- **Fri. 17th May, 2019**

QUESTION:

Hon Ratu Naiqama Lalabalavu to ask the Prime Minister and Minister for iTaukei Affairs and Sugar Industry – Can the prime Minister explain to Parliament the number of native leases which have been issued by the TLTB since 2010?

RESPONSE:

1. Mr. Speaker, the iTaukei Land Trust Board (TLTB) was established in 1940 and mandated by law under the iTaukei Land Trust Act 1940 to control and administer iTaukei land for the benefit of landowners.

2. The TLTB continues this role today with a view to support livelihoods of many Fijian citizens and investors interested in making a living through the development of iTaukei land.
3. Between 2010 to the end of 2018, TLTB issued 18,787 leases on iTaukei land for various uses such as agriculture, residential, commercial, industrial, government, tourism, water catchment and, more recently, forest conservation leases. (Refer to details in Tables 1 & 2).
4. The TLTB lease portfolio has increased in count by 23% from 35,725 in 2010 to 43,943 at the end of 2018. The total leased area at the end of 2018 was 421,301.9 hectares.

5. The Annual Rent of the Board's lease portfolio significantly increased by 48% from 2010 to 2018. This is an annual growth rate of 4% per year for new leases issued. (Refer to Table 1 below.)

Table 1: New Leases Activated and Total Lease Count (2010 – 2018)

Year	New Lease Activated	Lease Count	Leased Area	Annual Rent
2010	1244	35725	427581.5608	\$ 26,979,725.24
2011	1550	36073	445377.0969	\$ 28,551,554.26
2012	1724	36741	445979.9064	\$ 29,160,652.91
2013	2186	37928	435952.2735	\$ 29,975,611.33
2014	2511	38394	403017.5757	\$ 30,736,514.43
2015	2535	39823	419879.7582	\$ 32,243,635.89
2016	1780	40532	411658.3507	\$ 33,743,355.05
2017	2159	42123	414607.333	\$ 35,440,602.92
2018	3098	43943	421301.8555	\$ 38,058,620.31
Cumulative New Lease Activated	18787			

Table 2: New Leases Activated (from 2010 – 2018) by Lease Type

Lease Type	New Lease Activated from 2010 - 2018
Residential	10052
Agricultural	6254
Commercial	973
Other	464
Industrial	330
Water/Mineral	206
Forestry	193
Tourism	120
Government	104
Educational	91
Total	18787

6. A total of 10,052 new leases for residential purpose were issued from 2010 to 2018. The trend of new leases issued by TLTB from 2010 to 2018 demonstrates the demand in land for residential purposes. This is due to the increasing demand for housing in Fiji considering the 2017 population and housing census results, coupled with initiatives by Government to encourage Home Ownership such as the First Home Owners Grant.
7. In 2010, forestry leases occupied the most area of leased iTaukei land and agricultural leases accounted for the highest Annual Rental. (Refer to Table 3).
8. By 2018, residential leases increased by 46% in count, and its leased area increased by 28% and currently demands the highest lease rental. (Refer to Table 4).

Table 3: Summary of Active iTaukei Leases by Type in 2010

Lease Type	Count	Area	Annual Rental
Residential	16647	4003.9837	\$ 5,159,289.30
Agricultural	13998	170823.4781	\$ 8,111,801.95
Commercial	1683	19420.6883	\$ 2,857,188.96
Other	998	33324.6504	\$ 959,965.70
Industrial	567	1346.8888	\$ 1,403,915.98
Educational	530	2262.5580	\$ 429,720.30
Government	458	17627.9709	\$ 1,474,253.29
Forestry	412	173696.8214	\$ 1,324,663.40
Tourism	252	4052.1408	\$ 5,241,779.42
Water/Mineral	180	1022.3804	\$ 17,146.94
Total	35725	427581.5608	\$ 26,979,725.24

Table 4: Summary of Active iTaukei Leases by Type by end of 2018

Lease Type	Count	Area	Annual Rental
Residential	24357	5163.7034	\$ 9,249,630.87
Agricultural	13970	164194.4337	\$ 8,661,128.24
Commercial	2062	14959.2629	\$ 4,572,469.99
Other	1131	37777.3265	\$ 1,882,818.36
Industrial	811	884.6708	\$ 1,994,316.35
Educational	566	2392.3947	\$ 546,872.23
Government	476	17666.2096	\$ 2,011,609.40
Forestry	266	172823.1499	\$ 1,791,893.64
Tourism	260	3553.6111	\$ 7,018,151.09
Water/Mineral	44	1887.0929	\$ 329,730.14
Total	43943	421301.8555	\$ 38,058,620.31

9. Mr. Speaker, to conclude, between 2010 to the end of 2018, TLTB issued 18,787 leases on iTaukei land.

Through this provision of land for residential purposes, agriculture, commerce, industries, tourism, mining, forestry, dairy, conservation and renewable energy, TLTB continues to strengthen its contribution towards elevating Fiji's Economy.

Thank you Mr Speaker.
