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## RESPONSE TO WRITTEN QUESTION 170/2023

**Hon. Kalaveti. Vodo Ravu.**

**Minister for Fisheries and Forestry**

**Venue: Parliament Complex, Suva**

**Date: 21st of November 2023**

Hon. Jovesa Vocea to ask the Minister for Fisheries and Forestry– Can the Minister update Parliament on the following – (a) how many ice plants have been installed around the country in the last eight years from 2014 to 2022 by location;

The Ministry of Fisheries and Forestry currently has a vast and wide footprint in our four geographic divisions. Ice plants have been very beneficial to our rural communities in recent years and have greatly assisted the development of subsistence fishers to small scale artisanal fishers and providing the infrastructure necessary for preserving and maintaining the quality of fish products, enabling coastal communities to participate more effectively in the fisheries industry and enhancing their economic well-being.

According to the latest Annual report 2021-2022 tabled in 2023 the Ministry has 32 fisheries stations all over Fiji. Of these 32 Fisheries Service Centers, the Ministry also has 24 ice plants. Listed below are the 24 fisheries service centers that have ice plants.

<b>Central Division</b>		
Service Center Locality	Facility	Status
Wainibokasi Fisheries Service Center	Ice plant	Operational
Navua Fisheries Service Center	Ice plant	Operational
<b>Western Division</b>		
Sigatoka Fisheries Service Center	Ice plant	Operational
Lautoka Fisheries Service Center	Ice plant	Operational
Ba Fisheries Service Center	Ice plant	Operational
Rakiraki Fisheries Service Center	Ice plant	Operational
Namarai Rural Fisheries Service Center	Ice plant	Operational
<b>Eastern Division</b>		
Vunisea Rural Fisheries Service Center	Ice plant	Operational
Kavala Rural Fisheries Service Center	Ice plant	Operational
Gau Fisheries Service Center	Ice plant	Operational

Lakeba Fisheries Service Center	Ice plant	Operational
Vanuabalavu Fisheries Service Center	Ice plant	Operational
Moala Fisheries Service Center	Ice plant	Operational
Levuka Fisheries Service Center	Ice plant	Operational
Rotuma Fisheries Service Center	Ice plant	Operational
<b>Northern Division</b>		
Kubulau Fisheries Service Center	Ice plant	Operational
Nabouwalu Fisheries Service Center	Ice plant	Operational
Lekutu Fisheries Service Center	Ice plant	Operational
Labasa Fisheries Service Center	Ice plant	Operational
Wainikoro Rural Fisheries Service Center	Ice plant	Operational
Savusavu Fisheries Service Center	Ice plant	Operational
Rabi Fisheries Service Center	Ice plant	Operational

Since 2014 to 2022 the Ministry of Fisheries and Forests have established four additional (4) ice plants as outlined below;

<b>Service Center Locality</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Year Established</b>	<b>Total Budget</b>
Kubulau Fisheries Service Center	Operational	2018	\$1,600,000.00
Rotuma Fisheries Service Center	Operational	2017	\$1,700,000.00
Moala Fisheries Service Center	Operational	2019	\$852,930.00
Cicia Fisheries Service Center	Operational	2019	\$852,930.00

**(b) How many will be installed this financial year by location**

The Ministry of Fisheries and Forestry has plans of establishing one (1) ice plant for the financial year 2023-2024. Government has allocated \$900,000.00 of funding for a fisheries Service Center, Ice plant and staff quarters in Navaga, Koro Island in the province of Lomaiviti.

Requisition to Incur Expenditure proposal has been approved by the Ministry of Finance for project implementation.

Also included in this financial year budget 2023-2024 is the development of groundwork and site assessment for the establishment of a Fisheries Service center, ice plant and staff quarters for the next financial year. This Fisheries Service Center earmarked to be established in Cawaro, Udu in the province of Macuata.

This is expected to be progressed at the mid of the 2nd quarter of this financial year.

The Ministry of Fisheries of Forestry would like to acknowledge the Overseas Fishery Cooperation Foundation of Japan for assisting the Ministry through its funding for procurement of ice machines and the guidance of technical specialists that assisted in the set-up, and maintenance of ice machines.

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