

**PARLIAMENT WRITTEN QUESTION**

**FRIDAY 14 March 2025**

**11/2025 Hon. Inia Seruiratu to ask the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Finance and Strategic Planning, National Development and Statistics – Can the Deputy Prime Minister update Parliament on all newly introduced fees and revised charges approved by the Cabinet from 2023 to 2024 that are unrelated to the VAT increase to 15%, including the following –**

- a.) A detailed breakdown of all new Government-imposed fees, levies, and service charges introduced during this period, categorised by Government ministry or agency;**
- b.) A comprehensive list of all new fees and charges introduced by each municipal council during this period; and**
- c.) A list of existing fees and charges that have been increased, including the specific amount of increase, presented separately for Government ministries and each municipal council.**

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**a.) New Government-Imposed Fees, Levies, and Service Charges**

In 2023 and 2024, no new fees, levies and service charges were introduced by the Coalition Government.

**b.) New Fees and Charges Introduced by Municipal Councils**

In 2023, there were no new fees and charges introduced by the Municipal Councils. However, in 2024, the Cabinet approved new Garbage Fees for Tavua Town Council and new fees and charges for Nakasi Market, which is administrated by the Nausori Town Council.

These new fees and charges will be implemented by the respective Councils following the Gazette of regulations by the Office of the Solicitor-General. The following is a summary of new fees and charges by both municipal councils:

**Table 1: New Fees and Charges by Municipal Councils**

| <b>Nausori Town Council</b>         |                                 |                                 |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>Market Stall</b>                 | <b>Nakasi Market Fees (VEP)</b> | <b>Comments</b>                 |
| Vegetables/Root Crops/Local Fruits  | \$3.00                          | New facilities and bigger space |
| Fish                                | \$0.50/kg                       | Per kg                          |
| Kai                                 | \$4.50/Bag                      | 50 kg bag                       |
| Car park                            | \$2.00/Hour                     | -                               |
| User pay - Public Convenience       | \$0.50                          | Per visit                       |
| Taxi base                           | \$50.00                         | Monthly                         |
| Sweet meat                          | \$65.00                         | Per space                       |
| Variety bazaar                      | \$30.00                         | 3x3 tent                        |
| <b>Tavua Town Council</b>           |                                 |                                 |
| <b>Ratepayers</b>                   | <b>Garbage Fees</b>             | <b>Annual Fees</b>              |
| Residential Ratepayers              | \$0.25 per collection           | \$36.00                         |
| Commercial Ratepayers (Micro)       | \$0.50 per collection           | \$72.00                         |
| Commercial Ratepayers (Small)       | \$1.00 per collection           | \$144.00                        |
| Commercial Ratepayers (Medium)      | \$2.00 per collection           | \$288.00                        |
| Commercial Ratepayers (Large)       | \$3.00 per collection           | \$432.00                        |
| Commercial Ratepayers (Extra Large) | \$5.00 per collection           | \$720.00                        |

c.) **Existing Fees and Charges that have been increased by Government Ministries and Municipal Councils**

Two of the Government agencies have reviewed their fees and service charges in 2023 and 2024. This includes the increase in gravel royalty rates administered by the iTaukei Land Trust Board (TLTB) and increase in slaughter fees by Fiji Meats Industry Board (FMIB), which was last reviewed in 2014 and 2005 respectively.

**Table 2: Increase in Existing Government Fees and Charges**

| <b>Royalty Rates for Extraction</b> |                      |                             |                     |                          |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Particulars</b>                  | <b>Existing Rate</b> | <b>New Rate 01 Jan 2024</b> | <b>\$ Change</b>    | <b>Percentage Change</b> |
| Sand and Gravel                     | \$6.61/cubic meter   | \$10.40/cubic meter         | \$3.79/cubic meter  | 57.3%                    |
| Clay and Soil                       | \$4.13/cubic meter   | \$6.50/cubic meter          | \$2.37/cubic meter  | 57.4%                    |
| Rock                                | \$3.31/cubic meter   | \$5.21/cubic meter          | \$1.90/cubic meter  | 57.4%                    |
| Topsoil                             | \$24.79/cubic meter  | \$38.99/cubic meter         | \$14.20/cubic meter | 57.3%                    |
| River Spalls                        | \$4.96/cubic meter   | \$7.80/cubic meter          | \$2.84/cubic meter  | 57.3%                    |
| <b>Slaughter Fees</b>               |                      |                             |                     |                          |
| <b>Particulars</b>                  | <b>Existing Fees</b> | <b>New Fees 01 Jan 2024</b> | <b>\$ Change</b>    | <b>Percentage Change</b> |
| Cattle                              | \$0.37/kg            | \$0.57/kg                   | \$0.20/kg           | 54.1%                    |
| Pig                                 | \$0.55/kg            | \$0.75/kg                   | \$0.20/kg           | 36.4%                    |
| Sheep                               | \$0.50/kg            | \$1.00/kg                   | \$0.50/kg           | 100.0%                   |
| Goat                                | \$0.24/kg            | \$1.00/kg                   | \$0.76/kg           | 316.7%                   |

A total of three Town Councils revised their fees and charges in 2024 are as follows:

**Table 3: Increase in Existing Municipal Councils Fees and Charges**

| <b>Particulars</b>           | <b>Current Fees (VEP)</b> | <b>New Fees (VEP)</b> | <b>\$ Change</b> | <b>Percent Change</b> |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Rakiraki Town Council</b> |                           |                       |                  |                       |
| Vegetables Inside Stalls     | \$0.74/Block              | \$1.10/Block          | \$0.36/Block     | 48.8%                 |
| Vegetables Outside Stalls    | \$0.74/Block              | \$1.10/Block          | \$0.36/Block     | 48.8%                 |
| Grocery                      | \$0.87                    | \$1.20/Block          | \$0.33/Block     | 38.0%                 |
| Handicraft                   | \$0.74                    | \$2.00/Block          | \$1.26/Block     | 170.6%                |
| Dry Kava                     | \$0.96/Block              | \$1.60/Block          | \$0.64/Block     | 67.3%                 |
| Mix Kava                     | \$2.83/Block              | \$3.50/Block          | \$0.67/Block     | 23.8%                 |
| Ground Space                 | \$0.65/Block              | \$1.10/Block          | \$0.45/Block     | 68.7%                 |
| Wholesale                    | \$6.65/Trip               | \$8.05/Trip           | \$1.40/Trip      | 21.0%                 |
| Juice                        | \$2.17/Block              | \$3.50/Block          | \$1.33/Block     | 61.0%                 |
| Suki                         | Nil                       | \$2.00/Block          |                  |                       |
| Fish                         | \$0.26/kg                 | \$0.60/kg             | \$0.34/Kg        | 130.0%                |
| Sweet Cart                   | \$11.48/Week              | \$19.80/Week          | \$8.32/Week      | 72.5%                 |
| Carrier                      | \$14.22/Month             | \$33.00/Month         | \$18.78/Month    | 132.1%                |
| Taxi                         | \$14.22/Month             | \$33.00/Month         | \$18.78/Month    | 132.1%                |
| Mini Bus                     | \$30.00/Month             | \$45.00/Month         | \$15.00/Month    | 50.0%                 |
|                              |                           |                       |                  |                       |
| <b>Tavua Town Council</b>    |                           |                       |                  |                       |
| Vegetables Inside Stalls     | \$0.65/Block              | \$1.70/Block          | \$1.05/Block     | 160.7%                |
| Grocery                      | \$0.91/Block              | \$1.25/Block          | \$0.34/Block     | 36.9%                 |
| Raw Grog                     | \$0.96/Block              | \$4.00/Block          | \$3.04/Block     | 318.2%                |
| Mix Grog                     | \$2.83/Block              | \$4.00/Block          | \$1.17/Block     | 41.5%                 |
| Ground Space                 | \$0.65/Block              | \$1.00/Block          | \$0.35/Block     | 53.3%                 |
| Wholesale                    | \$2.04/Trip               | \$5.00/Trip           | \$2.96/Trip      | 144.7%                |
| Juice                        |                           | \$1.50/Block          |                  |                       |
| Fish                         | \$0.26/Kg                 | \$0.50/kg             | \$0.24/Kg        | 91.7%                 |
| Suki                         |                           | \$1.10/Block          |                  |                       |
| Sweet Cart                   | \$9.09/Week               | \$16.35/Week          | \$7.26/Week      | 79.9%                 |
| Carrier                      | \$12.50/Month             | \$32.70/Month         | \$20.20/Mon      | 161.7%                |
| Taxi                         | \$12.50/Month             | \$32.70/Month         | \$20.20/Month    | 161.7%                |
| Mini Bus                     | \$28.43/Month             | \$54.50/Month         | \$26.07/Month    | 91.7%                 |
| Bus Stand                    | \$0.10/Trip               | \$0.50/Trip           | \$0.40/Trip      | 379.2%                |
|                              |                           |                       |                  |                       |
| <b>Levuka Town Council</b>   |                           |                       |                  |                       |
| Vegetables/root crops/fruits | \$2.00                    | \$4.00 Per Day        |                  |                       |

| <b>Particulars</b> | <b>Current Fees (VEP)</b> | <b>New Fees (VEP)</b> | <b>\$ Change</b> | <b>Percent Change</b> |
|--------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| Eggs               | \$2.00                    | \$6.00 per day        | \$4.00 per day   | 200.0%                |
| Fish               | -                         | \$6.00 per day        |                  |                       |
| Handicrafts        | \$2.00                    | \$6.00 per day        | 4.00 per day     | 200.0%                |
| Yaqona             | -                         | \$10.00 per day       |                  |                       |

Ends