



**PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION**  
**THURSDAY, 01 May 2025**

**59/2025      Hon. Premila Kumar to ask the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Finance and Strategic Planning, National Development and Statistics – Can the Deputy Prime Minister inform Parliament on the following –**

- (a) number of accidents involving Government vehicles from January 2023 to February 2025, including the total cost of repairs and write-offs, and the number of new drivers appointed during this period, along with how many were involved in those accidents; and**
- (b) what disciplinary actions have been taken against drivers found at fault, including the number of drivers surcharged and the total value of surcharges to be recovered.**

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**a) Number of accidents involving Government vehicles from January 2023 to February 2025, including the total cost of repairs and write-offs, and the number of new drivers appointed during this period, along with how many were involved in those accidents.**

1. From January 2023 to February 2025 there have been 756 vehicle accidents.
2. The total estimated cost of repairs for the accidents amount is around \$7,146,267.13. However, leased vehicles are all insured, and Government has only been responsible for the insurance excess amount of \$566,150.01. The insurance excess amount is recovered from the driver responsible if they are negligent through a surcharge procedure on the advice of the Solicitor General.
3. A total of 2,330 authorised drivers were onboarded from January 2023 to February 2025, of which, the Fiji Police Force had appointed 2,084 Police Officers who are also an authorised driver.
4. Of the newly appointed drivers, a total of 143 new drivers were involved in an accident for the period from January 2023 to February 2025.

**b) What disciplinary actions have been taken against drivers found at fault, including the number of drivers surcharged and the total value of surcharges to be recovered?**

5. For the period January 2023 to February 2025, the total value of surcharge approved and imposed was \$203,362.48. The breakdown of the total amount is stipulated below:
  - i. \$122,182.06 in total insurance excess payments for accidents on 119 Government leased vehicles; and
  - ii. \$81,180.42 in total costs for 12 Government-owned vehicles.
6. There was a total of 56 leased vehicles approved to be written off by the insurance companies between January 2023 to February 2025.

7. The estimated cost of repairs is around \$2.75 million and a sum of \$56,300.00 has been paid as insurance excess by the driver responsible through surcharge process.
8. A total of 131 cases were received by the Surcharge Unit whereby drivers have been subject to surcharge action through salary deduction (disciplinary). The total value of surcharges recovered from January 2023 to February 2025 was \$125,992.69.
9. The Government Fleet Management Unit in conjunction with Ministry of Civil Service, Fiji Learning Institute for Public Service and Fiji Road & Safety Education will conduct a Code of Conduct and Defensive Driving Refresher course for all Government drivers around Fiji on May and June this year. This training is to address Government drivers' attitude, conduct and to be a safe driver.