



Honorable Charan Jeath Singh
Minister for Multi-Ethnic Affairs and Sugar Industry

Reply to Written Question 216/2025

Hon. Viam Pillay to ask the Minister for Multi-Ethnic Affairs and Sugar Industry—

“Can the Minister update Parliament on the full repair and maintenance schedule for the Rarawai Mill, including the total estimated cost with respect to the following –

- (a) the projected date for the mill’s full completion; and
 - (b) the definitive timeline for the resumption of milling operations at Rarawai.”
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1. Mr. Speaker, I thank the Honourable Member for the question.

2. Following the unfortunate fire incident at the Rarawai Mill this year, the Fiji Sugar Corporation Limited (FSC) has been implementing a comprehensive rehabilitation and maintenance programme to restore the mill to full operational capacity.

3. The repair works are progressing steadily and are being implemented in accordance with the approved schedule. The rehabilitation programme covers major mechanical, electrical, and instrumentation works, all of which are critical to the safe and efficient operation of the mill.
4. As of October 2025, progress achieved stands at:
- 50% for Mechanical and Civil Works,
 - 36% for Electrical Works, and
 - 33% for Instrumentation and Control Systems.
5. These works form part of the broader recovery effort to restore the Rarawai Mill following the fire incident. The recovery plan also includes the realignment and relocation of equipment and instruments to improve overall efficiency and effectiveness.
6. The Corporation anticipates completing the necessary rehabilitation works to enable factory operation trials by the last week of November 2025, with the commencement of crushing operations by the **first week of December 2025**.
7. The balance of works — mainly building and roofing rehabilitation, and the delivery and installation of standby

diesel generators — is expected to be completed by May 2026.

8. This extended timeline is primarily due to manufacturing and shipping lead times for imported components and equipment. However, these balance works will not impact on the mill resumption slated for the first week of December.
9. Mr. Speaker, the total cost of the damage is not available for publication at this stage, as the assessment process is still ongoing. The fire report has not yet been finalized, and the insurer is continuing its evaluation. There are various levels of assessment involved, each of which takes time to complete, and there are also legal obligations that must be met before the final figures can be released.
10. FSC continues to work closely with its technical partners to ensure the project remains on track despite procurement and logistical challenges.
11. All works are being carried out under strict safety and quality standards, with regular progress monitoring and reporting to ensure adherence to the rehabilitation plan.
12. Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Fiji Sugar Corporation is confident that milling operations at the Rarawai Mill will resume safely and efficiently by the first week of December 2025, following successful commissioning and trial runs.

13. Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Rarawai Mill rehabilitation represents a critical step in maintaining our national milling capacity and safeguarding the livelihoods of the many farmers who depend on it.
14. The Government, through FSC, is closely monitoring progress and remains committed to ensuring the successful and timely restoration of the mill.

Thank you, Mister Speaker Sir.
