



**HONOURABLE ALITIA VAKATAI BAVOU CIRIKIYASAWA
BAINIVALU
MINISTER FOR FISHERIES AND FORESTRY**

**WRITTEN RESPONSE (264/2025) TO
HON. RATU ISIKELI TUIWAILEVU-**

**HOW MANY ICE PLANTS ARE STATIONED IN THE RURAL
AND MARITIME REGIONS, PER DIVISION; AND
ARE THERE PLANS TO INSTALL MORE ICE PLANTS AND IN
WHICH AREAS OR LOCATION.**

**PARLIAMENT OF FIJI
DATE: MONDAY 24TH NOVEMBER 2025**

Honourable Speaker,

To respond to the Honorable Member regarding the number of ice plants currently stationed in the rural and maritime regions, and the Ministry's plans for further installations

Honorable Speaker,

The Ministry of Fisheries has reaffirmed its commitment to supporting rural and maritime communities through the expansion and modernization of its

ice plant network across Fiji. These facilities provide essential support to coastal and island communities by ensuring access to quality ice for safe fish handling, improved product value, and enhanced market opportunities.

Honorable Speaker,

The Ministry of Fisheries currently operates 24 ice plants nationwide, located within Fisheries Stations in the Central, Western, Northern, and Eastern Division. The distribution of these existing facilities is as follows:

Central Division (2 plants):

Wainibokasi Fisheries Service Centre and the Navua Fisheries Service Centre.

Western Division (5 plants):

Sigatoka, Lautoka, Ba, Rakiraki, and Namarai Fisheries Service Centers.

Northern Division (8 plants):

Kubulau, Nabouwalu, Lekutu, Labasa, Wainikoro, Savusavu, Rabi, and Taveuni Fisheries Service Centers.

Eastern Division (9 plants):

Vunisea, Kavala, Gau, Lakeba, Vanuabalavu, Moala, Levuka, Rotuma, and Cicia Fisheries Service Centers.

Honorable Speaker,

My Ministry has strategic plans to install more ice plants, with its consistent maintenance of these facilities. It remains a priority due to their importance in sustaining livelihoods in isolated communities. The Ministry continues to work with development partners, including the Overseas Fishery Cooperation Foundation (OFCF) of Japan, to support maintenance, repairs and equipment upgrades.

Under this collaboration, the Ministry has initiated two immediate initiatives:

1. **Taveuni:** Replacement of the ice machine is underway under the OFCF Japan Fisheries Development Assistance Program (Phase 8) to ensure reliable supply.
2. **Labasa:** Installation of three new ice machines funded under Japan's Economic and Social Development Programme (ESDP) to improve access and fish quality.

Honorable Speaker Sir,

Additionally, as part of ongoing efforts to improve fisheries infrastructure, the Ministry has begun work on several new developments in specific locations:

1. New Ice Plant for Koro Island

A new ice plant, together with a Fisheries Service Centre and staff quarters, will be constructed at Navaga, Koro Island. This project is funded in the current financial year with a budget allocation of \$620,000.00 and is aimed at strengthening services to fishers in the Lomaiviti region.

2. Upcoming Facility in Cawaro, Udu

The Ministry has allocated a budget of \$340,000.00 for the construction of a new Fisheries Station and Ice Plant in Cawaro, Udu. Additionally, significant groundwork has already commenced, including the construction of a water dam, site leveling, and road access development. These works mark a major milestone in preparing the location for full construction in the next financial year.

3. New Station and Ice Plant for Cakaudrove

The Ministry has allocated a preparatory works budget of \$56,250.00 for the construction of a new station and ice plant at Matakunea, Navatu, Cakaudrove. This facility is intended to serve the coastal communities of Navatu, Naweni, Koroalau, Natewa, and Vaturova districts, boosting economic activity across the Natewa Bay region.

Honorable Speaker,

These developments reflect the Ministry's commitment to strengthening fisheries support services, enhancing rural productivity, and ensuring that fishers in remote areas have access to the essential infrastructure needed to sustain their livelihood. The Ministry will continue to work closely with partners and local communities to ensure the timely delivery of these projects.

Vinaka Vaka Levu & Thank You.