



HON. SIROMI TURAGA
MINISTER FOR JUSTICE & ACTING ATTORNEY
GENERAL
REPUBLIC OF FIJI

RESPONSE TO WRITTEN QUESTION 78/2026

DATE: Monday 25th May 2026

YELLOW RIBBON PROGRAMME – OPERATIONAL AND FINANCIAL OUTPUTS

Monday 25th May

Written Question:

78/2026 Hon. Jone Usamate to ask the Minister for Justice and Acting Attorney-General – Can the Minister provide Parliament a detailed statement regarding the operational and financial outputs of the Yellow Ribbon Programme from the 2022 financial year to the 2025-2026 financial year, specifically –

- (a) the total number of inmates who were officially enrolled in the Yellow Ribbon Program for each financial year; and
- (b) the total value of financial or material assistance provided directly to these enrolled inmates upon their release or reintegration.

Response: (a) the total number of inmates who were officially enrolled in the Yellow Ribbon Program for each financial year; and

The Yellow Ribbon Programme does not operate solely as an inmate enrolment-based programme. Rather, it is a broad rehabilitation and reintegration framework comprising various programmes, activities, awareness initiatives, stakeholder engagements, and post-release support mechanisms.

Participation is therefore measured through involvement in various programme initiatives, including rehabilitation activities, vocational and life-skills training, employment expos, counselling support, stakeholder engagements, reintegration programmes, and post-release assistance.

The financial commitment for each financial year in question are as follows:

Financial Year	Funds allocated	Funds Utilized
2022	\$200,000.00	\$195,730.32
2023	\$200,000.00	\$185,917.61
2024	\$200,000.00	\$197,242.74
2025–2026	\$225,000.00	\$222,776.43

Mr. Speaker Sir, enrolment into the Yellow Ribbon Programme includes inmates participating in pre-release rehabilitation programmes, counselling sessions, vocational and life skills training, family engagement programmes, and reintegration preparation activities conducted by the Fiji Corrections Service and its stakeholders.

Mr. Speaker Sir, the Fiji Corrections Service acknowledges that successful rehabilitation and reintegration requires a whole-of-society approach. As such, the Yellow Ribbon Programme continues to focus not only on reducing recidivism, but also on restoring dignity, promoting accountability, and providing former inmates with meaningful opportunities to become productive members of society.

Response (b) the total value of financial or material assistance provided directly to these enrolled inmates upon their release or reintegration.

Utilization of the Ex-Inmates Livelihood Support Fund and the estimated value of financial or material assistance provided directly to former inmates upon release or reintegration are as follows:

Financial Year	Type of funds Provided	Total funds committed	Number of Inmates Assisted	Remarks
2021/2022	\$100,000.00	\$37,205.10	25	Few applications were received and processed due to COVID 19
2022/2023	\$100,000.00	\$67,852.53	48	Inmates need to go through relevant rehabilitation programs to qualify. Approval will be based on the nature of the business required as well as processes that is in place that they have to go through in the business sector
2023/2024	\$100,000.00	\$83,936.76	53	
2024/2025	\$100,000.00	\$80,571.65	52	
2025/2026	\$112,500.00	\$70,987.19	38	