

WRITTEN QUESTION 218/2026

Tuesday 29th September 2026

Hon. Sakiusa Tubuna to ask the Minister for Lands and Mineral Resources – Can the Minister update Parliament on the process undertaken to secure iTaukei Leases for Government purposes, including the following –

- (a) the number of iTaukei leases currently secured through the iTaukei Land Trust Board;
- (b) how the Ministry maintains a database for Government iTaukei Leases including lease term, purposes, annual rentals, rental reviews and expiry dates; and
- (c) the total budgetary allocation for land rents payable to the iTaukei Land Trust Board for the 2026/2027 financial year.

The Valuation Division (the Division) of the Ministry of Lands and Mineral Resources is officially responsible for the acquisitions of iTaukei land leased to the State which goes through six consecutive stages.

The lease acquisition process follows these consecutive stages:

- a) **Initiation:** The line ministry identifies the need to establish a station on a specific site and initiates the lease proposal;
- b) **Consultation:** Joint meetings are held between the line ministry, the iTaukei Land Trust Board (TLTB), and Land-Ownning Unit Representatives to establish a verbal agreement to lease;
- c) **Application:** The Ministry of Lands prepares a formal lease application and submits it to the TLTB to begin their standard processing;

- d) **Evaluation:** Upon receiving the formal lease offer from the TLTB, the Department of Lands analyses the terms to determine whether to accept the offer or enter into further negotiations;
- e) **Execution:** Once terms are finalised, the lease offer is forwarded to the line ministry to process the required payments; and
- f) **Registration:** The Director of Lands, on behalf of Government, signs and endorses the final lease document to formalise registration.

The Director of Lands through the iTaukei Land Trust Board currently has **874** active leases. This encompasses all government services in the rural areas, interior of Viti Levu and Vanua Levu, and the maritime islands. Government services such as:

- **Medical facilities:** nursing stations, health centres, and hospitals;
- **Law enforcement:** police stations, police posts, and community posts;
- **Public administration:** agriculture stations and government stations;
- **Education Institutions:** government schools only. For non-government schools, the division only negotiates the lease offer. However, Ministry of Education pays the lease; and
- **Residential developments:** Informal settlements, such as the *Waidamudamu* Informal Settlement.

Furthermore, the Department of Lands have a database that captures all the leases with each relevant lease details. The database is frequently updated to capture new leases and the surrender of unutilized leases. Additionally, the Geospatial Division of the Ministry is currently working on a platform to capture all relevant lease details with a scanned copy of the registered lease so that it is accessible during field inspections and meetings.

The total budgetary allocation for land rents payable to the iTaukei Land Trust Board on an annual basis is \$4,327,000.00.

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