



# MINISTRY OF WATERWAYS AND ENVIRONMENT

## Press Release

318 TOORAK ROAD, BALI TOWER, SUVA

P O BOX 1292, SUVA

Phone: (679) 3383155 Fax: (679) 3383546

---

18<sup>th</sup> March 2020

**Attention: Chief-of-Staff**

**For immediate Release**

### **Recycling alludes to waste Reduction: Dr. Reddy**

The importance of recycling and its associated benefits contributing towards the sustainable and healthy environment was reiterated during the 2020 Global Recycling Day celebrations at Denarau in Nadi today.

While highlighting the importance and impact of recycling that would have on the environment and the need for more efficient waste management practices, the Minister for Agriculture, Rural and Maritime Development, Waterways and Environment Hon. Dr. Mahendra Reddy alluded to the positive economic impact of recycling on the country.

Minister Reddy reiterated recycling is linked to waste reduction, or minimization of wastage that will have a positive economic impact on the micro-units, households and the business sectors.

“Whenever we talk about waste reduction, we not only talk about the economic impact out of waste reduction, but we are also talking about how we are protecting our environment and our natural resources from the negative effects arising out of these waste materials that will end up in our environment,”

“Environmental pollution is not a localize issue, environment pollution will affect where ever you go because pollution of the environment will affect the quality of the air, the quality of the surrounding, and ability of the waterways to sustain the livelihood of people,”

Acknowledging the enormous contribution done by the business sector towards protecting the environment through recycling, Dr. Reddy stressed on the importance of positive and negative externalities contributed towards the environment.

“In the environment literature, externalities play a very important and critical role, and we must always talk about positive and negative externalities arising out of any commercial or economic activity because commercial and economic activities are driven by self-agenda for maximizing of profit.

“In any commercial activities about negative and positive externalities, particular the negative externalities will have a long-lasting impact on the environment, on our natural resources and the health of our communities,”

Dr. Reddy further alluded to the importance of handling and managing waste through recycling arising from business and economic activities, to protect its threat to the Natural Environment, and Health concerns.

Dr. Reddy further encouraged the community youths and respective leaders of the various institutions for the support and implementing recycling to further avoid its threat toward the environment.