



MINISTRY OF WATERWAYS AND ENVIRONMENT

Press Release

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Attention: Chief-of-Staff

For immediate Release

Flood mitigation works undertaken in Nasivi River

In order to safeguard communities from flood, a major drainage and flood mitigation works in the Nasivi River has been undertaken by the Ministry of Waterways and Environment.

The Flood mitigation project undertaken by the Ministry of Waterways and Environment completed at a cost of \$6680.00 that included the clearing of the debris from the river, Tavua Bailey Bridge and Tavua FSC Tramline Bridge.

The Minister for Waterways, Environment and Agriculture Hon Dr. Mahendra Reddy highlighted the importance of Building resilience to climate change-induced waterways hazards through the provision of flood mitigation project by the Waterways Ministry.

Minister Reddy reiterated that future waterways hazards such as flood events could be more frequent and severe, where this operational objective is designed to increase the adaptive capacity of all Fijians to waterways related hazards.

Dr. Reddy added that the work done is for the betterment of communities, Tavua Town and other low lying area adjacent to the river during the rainy season.

He further added that this would also allow farmers and the communities to have clean and safe access to water for farming purposes either for irrigation or livestock farming.

He said the project will also avoid the infrastructural damage caused by the debris during the floods.

Dr. Reddy notes that they will continue to be vigilant in clearing the waterways so that it is able to have the capacity to discharge water to its full capacity and thus the adjacent infrastructure and communities are not affected negatively.

Meanwhile Mateni Tikina for Tavua village Mr Filimoni Caucau acknowledge the work done by the Ministry of Waterways while approaching towards the flooding season.

“This was very much needed by the people of Tavua as we are approaching towards the flooding season, and often the low lying areas gets flood quickly because of the debris and silt that are stuck which block the water flows in the river,” he said.

Mr Caucau said the activity undertaken by the Ministry of Waterways would benefit whole of Tavua town, Tavua village and other low lying areas.