



MINISTRY OF WATERWAYS

Press Release

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Waterways Ministry Partners with Private sectors for Emergency Creek De-silting in Western Division

The Ministry of Waterways has partnered with private sector companies to immediately undertake de-silting works to mitigate flooding in the Western Division. This partnership will greatly benefit communities living along the rivers, creeks and other waterways.

Under the Public Private Partnership, 90.5 kilometers of rivers and creeks will be de-silted in the Western Division which includes 9 creeks.

These emergency creeks de-silting works have been approved by the Department of Lands for Waiver of Fishing Rights and also has been EIA approved by the Ministry of Environment.

While handing over the offer letters to the contractors at the Legalega Research station in Nadi, the Minister for Waterways, Agriculture and Environment Hon. Dr. Mahendra Reddy acknowledged the involvement of private civil contractors who will be carrying out the Emergency Creek de-silting works for the flood mitigation purpose around the country.

Minister Reddy alluded that this PPP agreement will enhance the economic activity in the vicinity through provision of proper drainage services.

Dr. Reddy further added that private operators will work closely with the Ministry of Waterways to help alleviate localized flooding caused by sediment laded creeks and in doing so use the de-silt material. This shall be at no cost to the government.

Minister Reddy reiterated that Emergency Creek De-silting works will be undertaken in all the divisions around the country to ensure that communities are safeguarded and are protected from the Waterways.

"The Fijian Government is committed to protect communities around Fiji, irrespective of their location to safeguard their infrastructure, households, businesses and agricultural farms and will build a sense of security for communities from flash floods and socio-economic damage incurred during flooding," he said.