



# MINISTRY OF WATERWAYS

## Press Release

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### **Emergency Drainage works to commence: Dr. Reddy**

Emergency Drainage works for the Northern Division will commence from this week to assist farmers in normalizing their agricultural activity.

This was assured by the Minister for Waterways, Environment and Agriculture Hon. Dr. Mahendra Reddy while visiting rice farmers in Bua yesterday.

Minister Reddy reiterated that this is part of the Ministry of Waterways ongoing drainage for farm lands program and TC Yasa rehabilitation program to assist farmers in the North.

Dr. Reddy said the emergency de-silting works will be done in the most affected farming communities to allow farmers in their land preparation and normalize their farming activities.

"We will be mobilizing our machines to this rice farming communities where we will be doing the Public and the main drains only on our cost to ensure that you can get your land prepared and start farming immediately after completion of the work,"

"Our priority is the farmers and we want to make sure that Agricultural activity here in the Northern Division comes back to normal as soon as possible with farmer's collaborating with the government," said Minister Reddy.

He further assured that farmers will not have to pay any cost for the De-silting of Public and the main drains that will be done to boost agricultural activities.

Meanwhile the advisory councilor chairman for the Bua Mr. Mohammad Janif acknowledged the timely assistance provided by the Waterways and Agriculture Ministry to motivate farmers to get their land under production immediately.

He acknowledged Government's intervention, through the Ministry of Waterways and Agriculture, who delivered on their commitment to ensure farmers' livelihoods get normalize and taking immediate action towards meeting their targets through their rehabilitation programs.