



MINISTRY OF WATERWAYS

Press Release

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Environment ambassadors Receive Cash for Environmental Restoration Works.

The effort to safeguard our environment through restoration and rehabilitation works has been further boosted through awarding of cash grants to six communities in Ba under the Ministry of Environment's Jobs for Nature Program (J-NR).

These communities were provided \$1000 cash to carry out environment rehabilitation works in their respective communities.

While handing over the cheques, Minister for Environment, Agriculture and Waterways Hon. Dr. Mahendra Reddy said that industrial and poor agricultural activities in some instances have degraded the natural resources over the years. Environmental restoration is vital for our future generations.

Minister Reddy reiterated that communities should take responsibility for protecting their resources and the government will continue to support and fund them through their various programs such as J-NR.

"This program empowers the community groups, community leaders, youth groups to mobilize themselves and their resources to rehabilitate the loss of biodiversity, build resilience amongst the stock of biological resources, to restore the nature, to clean up the nature and to create awareness amongst the broader community about the need to protect their resources," he said.

One of the recipients, Hansel Vatuinaruku, who is the President of Koronubu Youth club in Ba thanked the Ministry of Environment and said that this program motivates youths to take ownership of their environment through restoration work.

"This program is very important as it links us back to biodiversity restoration and we are just deeply grateful that we are one of the recipients and have been given a chance to give something back to our environment," he said.

Mr. Vatuinaruku has encouraged other youth groups and social clubs to come forward and be part of this initiative to protect our resources.

..End.