



MINISTRY OF WATERWAYS

Press Release

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June, 2020

Conclusion of Nasivi River Desilting Brings Relief to Tavua Communities

The issue of constantly losing crops, livestock and infrastructure due to flooding for communities living along the Nasivi River has been addressed.

This is after the completion of six kilometers of river desilting works at the Nasivi River in Tavua by the Ministry of Waterways.

While witnessing the completion of desilting works in Tavualevu village in Tavua, Minister for Agriculture, Waterways and Environment Hon. Dr. Mahendra Reddy said that river desilting works have increased the water discharge capacity of the river by removing approximately 45,000 cubic meters of silt material.

Dr. Reddy noted that the increased amount of annual rainfall, and the various activities upstream such as logging, poor agriculture practice and other developments are now hindering the water flow of the river by reducing its discharge capacity.

Dr. Reddy reiterated that the desilting works have not only addressed flooding for the communities in Tavua, but will also boost the business activities in Tavua town and will further support farmers along the Nasivi River to venture into commercial farming.

Minister Reddy further alluded that the Fijian government through the Ministry of Waterways has been reaching out to communities and will continue to protect their households, infrastructure and agricultural farms.

"I want to assure on behalf of the government that we will protect every community from the effects of climate change and continue to build a sense of security for every community in Fiji," he said.

Tavualevu village Turaga-ni-Koro Filimoni Caucau has acknowledged the desilting works done by the Ministry of Waterways which will protect and safeguard communities and business sectors in Tavua Town.

"Before during the annual rainy season, parts of Tavua Town and communities and farms along the Nasivi River used to get flooded. But now this has been resolved as the river has been desilted and have been cleared," he said.