



# MINISTRY OF WATERWAYS

## Press Release

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### Media Release

#### Water for Namau Farmers

Twelve farmers of Namau settlement in Ba thanked government for providing water to expand their agricultural activity.

This follows the Government's intervention through the completion of the Multi-purpose gravity-fed Irrigation Water project by the Ministry of Waterways.

While commissioning the \$7,500 water project in Namau Ba on Friday (17/06/22), Minister for Agriculture, Waterways and Environment Hon. Dr. Mahendra Reddy said the project would cater to the water needs of the farming community, which has been an issue during the dry spells experienced in the area.

Minister Reddy said the assistance was provided to specifically address the issue of drought and increase agricultural production to cater to both the local and export market.

“The water source is expected to boost farming activities for the settlement and benefit more than twelve households, determining the sustenance of livelihoods through agriculture production and socio-economic development,” he said

“We are now working very closely with the farmers to ensure that not only we promote export, but also those crops that we have a strategic advantage which we are importing can be grown here. So this kind of assistance marks a significant step towards achieving this development agenda for the agriculture sector,” he said

Meanwhile, a Namau resident, Mr. Harish Chand who is a livestock and crop farmer acknowledged the Government assistance as it would further boost the farming activities in the settlement.

“During the drought, farming becomes very difficult here and farmers tend to lose a considerable number of animals and crops due to the impacts of drought. We used to carry water from the river to the farm using bullocks.

‘With this irrigation project, the farmers now will no longer have to worry about their stock during the drought as they can now access water in their homes,’ he said

The irrigation project can be used for crop and livestock farming, as well as for the basic household needs. This project was completed at a cost of \$7,500.