

MEDIA RELEASE

STAGE ONE COMPLETION ON NATILA ACCESS ROAD BRINGS NEW HOPE FOR VILLAGERS IN TAILEVU

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After 49 years of having no access to roads, the village of Natila in Tailevu breathed a sigh of relief after stage one of the Natila Access Road was completed by the Fiji Roads Authority (FRA).

Village headman Iliesa Kadavu says their days of walking miles and travelling by boat to reach hospitals, towns and other facilities is now a thing of the past.

"For so long we have used boats because there was no other means of transport. We do not have any public transport available and it has been very difficult, especially during the adverse weather conditions, especially for the women and children."

Mr Kadavu said the new pilot cut road has given them a new vision and they were anticipating the full completion of the access road.

"On behalf of the people of Natila, we would like to convey our greatest appreciation to the Government and the FRA."

FRA Acting Chief Executive Officer Robert Sen says after learning about their challenges, they were determined to complete the new 1.3km access road project which will help elevate their standard of living.

"We have completed the first stage and the second stage is expected to commence next month," Mr Sen said.

"Our contractor K Lal and Sons Investment (Fiji) Ltd is progressing well and we thank the villagers for their patience and support during these works."

The project was under the Construction of Rural Roads under Day Works- Namata Access Village Road, Natila Access Road (Logani-Seba Road) and Sawanikula Korovou Road led by Mr Johari Abdullah (Engineer to Contract), Moshin Hussain (Engineer's Assistant) and Ropate Sokoiwasa (Construction Supervisor).

Works on Namata Access Road has been completed, the Natila Access Road Stage One has been completed and Stage Two will commence next month. Works on the Sawanikula Road will start next week.



Contractor Jagdish singh, FRA Engineer to Contract Mr Johari Abdullah, FRA Divisional Representative- Central Jese Veibuli and FRA Engineer Moshin Hussain



Picture Caption: Right: Village headman Iliesa Kadavu with the villagers and FRA representatives

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