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On February 12, 2025, the community of Naseyani in Ra Province celebrated a significant milestone with the commissioning of the new Naseyani Bridge, officiated by the Minister for Public Works, Meteorological Services, and Transport, Honorable Ro Filipe Tuisawau. The inauguration of this crucial infrastructure not only enhances transport connectivity but also serves as a beacon of growth and prosperity for the local communities.

During the ceremony, Honorable Minister Tuisawau expressed the importance of the bridge, stating, “The new bridge is not

merely a structure for crossing; it symbolizes a pivotal milestone in the journey of growth and prosperity for your community.” He emphasized that with the bridge’s completion, residents will have improved access to crucial markets in Rakiraki and Suva, making it easier for farmers to sell their produce and return safely to their families.

Connecting the villages of Nananu and Narauyaba No.2 to Kings Road, the Naseyani Bridge serves approximately 200 people, playing a vital role in uniting the interior of the Rakiraki District with the Saivou District. The bridge’s strategic location facilitates the movement of people, goods, and services,

enhancing the overall economic vitality of the region.

Minister Tuisawau further acknowledged the bridge’s significance, highlighting its importance for women and children who rely on access to essential services. He remarked, “As we commission this new bridge, we are not only celebrating infrastructure development but also a commitment to the resilience and sustainability of our communities.” The bridge has been engineered to withstand Fiji’s extreme weather conditions, ensuring a safe passage for all users.

With a project cost of approximately \$3.281 million, the Naseyani Bridge was financed by the Fijian government. The Minister took a moment to commend the Fiji Roads Authority (FRA) and all stakeholders involved in the project for their dedication and hard work, praising their ability to complete the work on time and within budget.

The inauguration of the Naseyani Bridge stands as a hallmark of public investment in infrastructure development, fostering greater connectivity and enhancing the quality of life for the citizens of Ra Province. As the community looks to the future, this vital structure will surely play a pivotal role in supporting local economies and facilitating greater access to services for years to come.



The Minister for Public Works, Meteorological Services and Transport, Honorable Ro Filipe Tuisawau officiates at the commissioning of Naseyani Bridge, 12th February, 2025.



The Fiji Roads Authority (FRA), in a collaborative effort with the Suva City Council, is currently undertaking crucial pavement works at the Suva Bus Stand. This essential project aims to significantly improve the functionality and accessibility of the bustling transportation hub, benefiting both bus services and the thousands of commuters who rely on it daily.

The improvements are multifaceted, addressing long-standing infrastructural challenges and paving the way for a more efficient and user-friendly environment. The initial phase of the project focuses on tackling persistent drainage issues. This includes critical jetting works to clear existing blockages and ensure effective water runoff, preventing the build-up of stagnant water that can cause damage to the pavement and create an unpleasant experience for commuters.

Following the resolution of the drainage problems, the project will transition into extensive pavement works. This will involve a comprehensive refurbishment of the existing surfaces, with the goal of restoring the Suva Bus Stand to optimal, serviceable conditions. The FRA and the Suva City Council recognize the importance of a smooth, durable pavement for the safe and efficient movement of buses and pedestrians.

The benefits of this collaborative undertaking are far-reaching. The



improved infrastructure will undoubtedly lead to enhanced accessibility for bus services, facilitating smoother operations and reduced delays. This will translate to a more reliable and punctual public transportation network for the city.

For commuters, the improvements will mean a more comfortable and convenient experience. A well-maintained pavement, free from potholes and waterlogging, will make navigating the bus stand safer and more pleasant.

This is particularly important for the elderly, individuals with disabilities, and those carrying heavy luggage. The project underscores the commitment of the FRA and the Suva City Council to improving public spaces and supporting the daily commute of the people of Suva.

The ongoing pavement works at the Suva Bus Stand exemplify a proactive approach to infrastructure maintenance and upgrade. By addressing existing challenges and investing in essential improvements, the FRA and the Suva City Council are not only revitalizing a critical transportation hub but also contributing to the overall well-being and economic productivity of the city.

The completion of this project will mark a significant step towards a more efficient and accessible public transportation system, benefiting the entire community for years to come.



The Fiji Roads Authority (FRA) has commenced vital pavement works along Khalsa Road in Suva, an initiative designed to significantly improve safety and accessibility for the many commuters who utilize this route for their daily travels. The project encompasses a series of targeted interventions, including jetting works, addressing longstanding drainage issues, and comprehensive pavement refurbishment.

One of the foremost priorities of the FRA's efforts is to rectify persistent drainage problems that have plagued Khalsa Road. By implementing jetting works to clear away debris and blockages from drainage systems, the FRA is committed to preventing water accumulation during heavy rain. Ensuring that water can flow

freely will not only protect the roadways but also mitigate the risk of accidents and damage to vehicles, thereby enhancing the overall safety for all road users.

While the drainage works are ongoing, FRA is also simultaneously upgrading the pavement. The refurbishment is set to bring Khalsa Road back to optimal, serviceable conditions, providing a smoother and safer driving and commuting experience for the community. The FRA understands the importance of well-maintained roadways, especially in keeping traffic flowing efficiently and providing a reliable route for daily commuters. As the works progress, the FRA emphasizes the significance of these improvements for local residents and businesses. Khalsa Road is a vital artery in Suva's transportation network, connecting

various neighborhoods and facilitating access to essential services. The expected enhancements will not only benefit commuters but will also contribute positively to the local economy by encouraging smoother transport of goods and services.

Reports from the project site indicate that work is steadily progressing, with the FRA committed to completing the entire endeavor within the coming weeks. This timeline reflects the organization's dedication to minimizing disruption while ensuring quality and effectiveness in road rehabilitation. By prioritizing efficiency, the FRA aims to have Khalsa Road fully operational as soon as possible, making it a safer and more accessible route for everyone.



FRA EMPOWERING RURAL WOMEN THROUGH INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

As we recognised International Women's Day with the theme "Accelerate Action," it is crucial to acknowledge and celebrate the significant contributions of women in critical infrastructure development. Women have been at the forefront of transformative projects that enhance the quality of life for communities worldwide, from sustainable energy initiatives to innovative transportation systems. Their diverse perspectives and solutions have not only driven economic growth but have also prioritized inclusivity and sustainability in infrastructure planning and execution.

The Fiji Roads Authority (FRA) recognizes the vital role women, particularly in rural areas, play in our communities, as well as the challenges they face. In many rural areas, inadequate road networks limit access to essential services such as healthcare, education, and markets. Poor infrastructure can restrict the mobility of women and girls, making it harder for them to find work, attend school, or seek medical assistance. For example, a mother may have to travel long distances on unpaved roads to get her child to a clinic, often risking their safety and health due to the lack of proper transportation. To address these challenging issues, the FRA is actively working on significant infrastructure initiatives. We are currently preparing designs for 40 critical bridges and 3 jetties. Recognizing that many structures are high-priority, we have engaged a consulting firm to conduct feasibility studies and due diligence, laying the groundwork for these much-needed upgrades. The 40 Bridges and 3 Jetties design



Women sharing ideas to improve our road infrastructure through focused group discussions

that is currently undertaken by BECA International is reaching its completion stage for the ten bridges under the Priority 1 group with the construction of the four most critical bridges (Lami, Medraukutu, Sabeto, and Viseisei) expected to begin in mid-2025. Our goal is to replace critical bridges in poor condition, improving service, safety, and reliability across the network while accommodating future growth. Our approach to infrastructure development prioritizes social inclusion and gender equity. We aim to enhance the FRA's capacity in planning, design, management, and maintenance by taking a

holistic view that incorporates climate change considerations, gender-responsive design, and disaster risk factors like cyclones, flooding, and rising sea levels. In the design of 40 bridges and 3 jetties, the Gender Action Plan (GAP) has been incorporated into the design. For example, all the new bridge designs will include separate footpaths on the bridge alignment to improve safety and remove physical barriers and constraints on access by women and children. In some of the bridges, an access way including the handrail will be provided for easy and safe access for the local community, especially women.

Engaging women through public consultations and focused group discussions in the planning and implementation of these projects is crucial. They have valuable insights into the specific challenges they face, and their perspectives can lead to more meaningful improvements in their communities. The benefits of enhanced infrastructure are truly transformative. Improved transportation connects women to essential services and opens up new economic opportunities. For instance, women entrepreneurs can reach broader markets to sell their products—whether fresh produce or handmade crafts—stimulating local economies and creating jobs.

As we look ahead, it's vital to consider the intersection of gender and infrastructure. Enhancing rural infrastructure is a key step toward achieving gender equality. By supporting initiatives that improve transportation networks, we can empower women, uplift communities, and foster sustainable development.

40 BRIDGES AND 3 MARITIME STRUCTURES PROJECT

40 BRIDGES			
1. Medraukutu Bridge	Lami, Central Division	21. Nadi River Bridge	Nadi, Western Division
2. Lami Bridge	Lami, Central Division	22. Natogadravu	Rewa, Central Division
3. Navutu Bridge	Nadroga, Western Division	23. Watyanitu Bridge	Navua, Central Division
4. Vunitogoloa Bridge	Ra, Western Division	24. Naduru Bridge	Naitasiri, Central Division
5. Viseisei Bridge	Nadi, Western Division	25. Savu 6 Bridge	Naitasiri, Central Division
6. Vitawa Bridge	Ra, Western Division	26. Wainisusu 2 Bridge	Navua, Central Division
7. Navola	Nadroga/Navosa, Western Division	27. Renwick Nabukalou Creek	Suva, Central Division
8. Matawalu Bridge	Lautoka, Western Division	28. Koronubu 2 Bridge	Ba, Western Division
9. Sabeto Bridge	Lautoka, Western Division	29. Narewa/Namotomoto	Nadi, Western Division
10. Lomolomo Bridge	Lautoka, Western Division	30. Naboutolu 2 Bridge	Ba, Western Division
11. Vinuinidrovo	Naitasiri, Central Division	31. Oinafa	Rotuma
12. Sarava Bridge	Rewa, Central Division	32. Wainalako 2 Bridge	Levuka, Central Division
13. Sawani Bridge	Naitasiri, Central Division	33. Naivicula - Wainaviti Bridge	Korovou, Central Division
14. Namoli 2 Bridge	Macuata, Northern Division	34. Navaca Bridge	Taveuni, Northern Division
15. Labasa Bridge	Labasa, Northern Division	35. Buca Crossing	Cakaudrove, Northern Division
16. Savarekareka Bridge	Savusavu, Northern Division	36. Qacavulo 2 Crossing	Taveuni, Northern Division
17. Kulukulu Bridge	Macuata, Northern Division	37. Sese Bridge	Cakaudrove, Northern Division
18. Vulovi Bridge	Savusavu, Northern Division	38. Wai Bridge	Taveuni, Northern Division
19. Naseakula Bridge	Macuata, Northern Division	39. Waica	Taveuni, Northern Division
20. Lomaloma Slip (New Bridge)	Labasa, Northern Division	40. Naba / Karoko Bridge	Cakaudrove, Northern Division

3 JETTIES	
1. Nabouwalu	Northern Division
2. Natovi	Central Division
3. Savusavu	Northern Division



WORLD
ENGINEERING DAY
SHAPING OUR SUSTAINABLE FUTURE
THROUGH ENGINEERING

**CELEBRATING THE ARCHITECTS OF FIJI'S FUTURE: WORLD ENGINEERING DAY
AND THE PATH TO PROGRESS**



As we celebrated World Engineering Day, it is essential to recognize not just the technical expertise that engineers bring to our communities, but also the profound impact of their work on the environment, economy, and social fabric of Fiji. Engineers are the unsung heroes behind the physical and digital structures that connect us, enabling the movement of people and goods while fostering economic growth and enhancing the quality of life for our citizens. In Fiji, this celebration is especially relevant as we honor those who are dedicated to building a more connected and resilient nation.

We find ourselves at a pivotal moment where innovative engineering solutions can address the pressing challenges of our time. The brilliant minds of engineers—both young and experienced—are tasked with not only maintaining the existing infrastructure but also envisioning smarter, sustainable designs that resonate with Fiji's unique environment and diverse population. These professionals are committed to paving the way for a future that embraces connectivity and resilience, essential elements for a prosperous nation.

The effort to build a stronger Fiji is inherently collaborative, involving various stakeholders, including government bodies, contractors, community leaders, and, importantly, the engineers at the forefront of these initiatives. The Fiji Roads Authority (FRA), recognizing the crucial role of these

professionals, has made significant strides in enhancing, upgrading, and maintaining our road networks. This commitment goes beyond mere construction; it reflects an understanding that roads are not just links between locations but pathways to opportunity. Fiji is at the mercy of natural disasters, making resilient infrastructure a priority for the FRA. The authority is acutely aware that quality roads and transportation systems are foundational to economic development and disaster response efforts. This year's theme for World Engineering Day **"Shaping our Sustainable Future through Engineering"** aligns seamlessly with our objective of building sustainably and innovatively. We are not just focusing on concrete and steel; instead, we are dedicated to bridging communities and connecting people, which ultimately fosters economic growth and social well-being.

Innovative design solutions are more critical than ever in addressing the challenges associated with climate change and urbanization. Whether through advanced materials that withstand extreme weather, sustainable practices that reduce waste, or the integration of technology that enhances safety and efficiency, these design philosophies are essential for shaping a resilient infrastructure in Fiji. While we celebrate the accomplishments of today's engineers, it is equally important to invest in the next generation of leaders in this field. Education and mentorship are crucial for winning the hearts and minds of young Fijians, encouraging them to explore careers in engineering and related disciplines. By fostering a sense of curiosity, creativity, and

responsibility in the next generation, we can ensure that they are equipped to meet the challenges of tomorrow with innovative solutions that reflect Fiji's unique identity and needs.

It is heartening to see various initiatives that aim to inspire and empower future engineers. Workshops, scholarships, and internships provide aspiring professionals with real-world experience, enabling them to take on the complexities of modern engineering challenges. By nurturing these young minds, we are not just shaping their futures but also the future of Fiji. As we celebrate World Engineering Day, let us recognize the dedication of engineers who contribute to a more resilient and interconnected Fiji. The FRA's commitment to enhancing our road network is a testament to the importance of investing in infrastructure that supports both economic development and community well-being. The road forward, quite literally, is one of innovation and collaboration.

In conclusion, let us honor and celebrate the brilliant minds shaping our world today, particularly those dedicated to crafting a stronger, more connected Fiji. Let us continue to innovate and build sustainably while empowering the next generation of engineers to lead us into the future. Together, through their unwavering dedication and ingenuity, we will forge a path where connectivity and resilience are not mere aspirations but the foundation for a prosperous Fiji.



On March 4, 2025, the Fiji Roads Authority (FRA) proudly hosted Year 3 Bachelor of Civil Engineering students from the Fiji National University (FNU) for an insightful field visit to the Suva Bus Stand. This event coincided with the celebration of World Engineering Day, exemplifying FRA's dedication to nurturing a culture of knowledge transfer and fostering practical learning experiences for the next generation of engineers.

During the visit, the students gained firsthand exposure to the intricate stabilization processes and various ongoing works at the bus stand, significantly enriching their understanding of civil engineering principles while enhancing their technical competencies. Dr. Gangadhara Reddy, Acting Head of School and Assistant Professor at FNU, emphasized that the primary objective of the visit was to offer practical insights into base course stabilization techniques employed at the site. He highlighted the visit's significance in bridging the gap between theoretical knowledge and real-world practices, allowing students to observe stabilization methods, material utilization, and construction challenges firsthand.

The visit attracted 35 eager students enrolled in the Bachelor of Engineering (Civil Engineering-Honors) program at FNU. Dr. Reddy noted the importance of this event on World Engineering Day,



recognizing the vital role engineers play in sustainable development and the relevance of practical exposure for future professionals. "The collaboration not only enhanced students' education but also facilitated the transfer of knowledge between academia and industry, allowing students to confront real engineering challenges and explore effective solutions. The learning outcomes of the visit were substantial, with students understanding the significance of stabilization in road projects, mastering materials and techniques for stabilization, and gaining insights into quality control and testing procedures, particularly using tools like the nuclear density gauge machine.

This field visit significantly strengthened students' ability to connect theoretical concepts to practical applications, providing them with an invaluable learning experience. The FRA team and contract professionals who facilitated this initiative deserve commendation for their support, and both institutions look forward to continuing such collaborations in the future to further enhance practical knowledge and skill development among students, ultimately preparing them to address the infrastructure challenges faced in Fiji and throughout the South Pacific region," he said.

UPGRADE WORKS ON PRINCES ROAD



Resealing works on Princes Road to enhance road safety and improve its overall performance.

This involves a surface treatment of bitumen spray and aggregate, which aims to restore serviceability, protect the underlying pavement structure, and optimize travel experience.

LABASA HOSPITAL'S ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE UPGRADES



The Fiji Roads Authority (FRA), in partnership with the Ministry of Health, is implementing vital upgrades to the Labasa Hospital's road infrastructure.

This collaborative effort with the Ministry of Health will result in enhanced roads, parking areas, footpaths, and clear signage, ensuring accessibility, safety, and overall efficiency for patients, staff, and visitors.

CICIA ISLAND JETTY RESTORATION



The structural enforcement and restoration work at Cicia Island Jetty is now complete. The restored jetty is now safer and better equipped for serviceability, making transportation easier for the community. The Fiji Roads Authority remains committed to strengthening jetty infrastructure and is focused on facilitating a more resilient infrastructure in its future plans.



The Traffic Congestion Taskforce, a collaborative effort between the Ministry of Public Works, Meteorological Services and Transport (MPWMST), the Land Transport Authority of Fiji (LTA), Fiji Roads Authority (FRA), and the Fiji Police Force (FPF), is taking decisive action to address the growing issue of traffic congestion in Fiji's Central Division.

Under the leadership of the Assistant Minister for MPWMST, Mr. Naisa Tuinaceva, the task force conducted intensive site inspections from 18-21 February 2025, focusing on critical congestion points.

These inspections identified high-traffic areas requiring immediate intervention to improve flow and reduce delays, including Wainivula Road, the junction near Rishikul Sanatan College in Valelevu, and the Khalsa Road junction via Princess Road. These locations have been flagged for prioritized traffic management improvements. To complement these measures, the police and LTA will conduct joint enforcement operations. They will ensure strict compliance with traffic regulations, especially at key junctions and bus bays, where illegal parking and accidents often cause unnecessary delays. This enforcement is expected to drastically enhance traffic efficiency and road safety. Hon. Tuinaceva urged the public's cooperation to help alleviate



congestion. He called on all road users to take simple, effective actions such as:

- Prioritising main roads to ease pressure on secondary and residential routes.
- Minimising non-essential morning travel to reduce peak-hour traffic.
- Opting for public transportation to decrease the number of private vehicles on the road.

"These changes in travel habits will have a powerful collective impact in reducing congestion, improving safety, and creating a smoother commuting experience for everyone," said Hon. Tuinaceva.

"While infrastructure improvements and enforcement are essential, public participation is equally crucial in creating lasting solutions."

The Government remains fully committed to finding practical and sustainable solutions for traffic congestion. The task force will continue monitoring the situation, assessing measures' impact, and making necessary adjustments. Motorists and pedestrians are urged to remain patient and exercise caution, as we work together to create safer and more efficient roads.

STAY SAFE ON FIJI'S ROADS: FRA URGES CAUTION DURING INCLEMENT WEATHER



As the weather in Fiji continues to be unpredictable, the Fiji Roads Authority (FRA) is reminding members of the public to exercise extreme caution when traveling, especially during periods of continuous rainfall. Such conditions can lead to flash flooding, causing damage to roads, low-level crossings, and approach washouts, making road networks inaccessible.



The FRA is urging the public to plan their travel carefully, taking into account the weather forecast and potential road closures. If possible, consider alternative routes or detours to avoid flooded areas. However, if you must travel through flooded areas, please be extremely cautious and never attempt to cross flooded roads or streams. The force of the water can be powerful, and it's always better to err on the side of caution. During periods of inclement weather, the FRA will continue to advise the public of road closures through various channels.

However, the Authority also encourages members of the public to be proactive and stay informed about the weather conditions during the cyclone season. Stay tuned to weather updates and follow evacuation orders if necessary. To ensure your safety and that of others, the FRA advises taking steps to minimize risks associated with traveling during inclement weather. This includes:

- Checking the weather forecast before embarking on a journey.
- Avoiding travel during heavy rain or strong winds.

- Following road closures and detour signs.
- Never crossing flooded roads or streams.
- Reporting road infrastructure damage to the FRA.

To report road infrastructure damage, you can call our toll-free number, 5170, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday to Friday. Alternatively, you can email us at info@fjiroads.org. Your reports are invaluable in helping us identify areas that require urgent attention.

At the Fiji Roads Authority, we are committed to ensuring that our roads are safe for everyone. By working together, we can minimize risks associated with traveling during inclement weather. Stay up-to-date with the latest weather updates and road conditions by visiting our website or following us on social media.