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**Rear Admiral J.V. Bainimarama, CF(Mil), OSt.J, MSD, jssc, psc**

**Prime Minister of Fiji and Minister for Finance, Strategic Planning, National Development and Statistics, the Public Service, People’s Charter and Change and Progress, Information, I - Taukei Affairs, Provincial Development, Sugar Industry and Lands and Mineral Resources**

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**PRIME MINISTER’S SPEECH
OPENING OF KOROVOU CEMETERY PROJECT**

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**Korovou Tuesday 8th July, 2014**

**Tailevu 9:00am**

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**The Chairman of the Korovou Cemetery Upkeep Committee;**

**Members of the Committee;**

**The Turaga Na Komai Teanuca and people of Matacula;**

**The Advisory councilors;**

**Civil Servants;**

**Invited Guests;**

**Ladies and Gentlemen.**

**Good morning, ni sa bula vinaka**

**I’m pleased to be here this morning, to witness and open the upgraded Korovou cemetery.**

**The land on which this cemetery has been built upon was generously donated by the Naduki family of Matacula village for the use of all races living in the northern part of the Tailevu province stretching from Verata, Wailevu to communities living close to the boarder of Ra Province.**

**My government acknowledges and commends the generosity of the landowners of Matacula village for providing this land.**

**The crematorium was built in 1970, and has been used by the surrounding communities for the last 40 years. I’m also thankful to the chairman of the Korovou Cemetery committee and its members who had volunteered to maintain the upkeep of the crematorium till to date.**

**However, it is noted that over the years these structures have outworned their capacity and needed urgent repairs and upgrading. I’m glad that through the initiative of the committee, it approached my office for assistance to upgrade the crematorium structures which we are witnessing today.**

**In addition, we have also provided assistance in terms of providing a water tank and a waiting shed. I’m sure as of to date people in your communities are using the existing crematorium which my office had provided a total funding of $76,154.39.**

**These new upgraded crematorium will certainly bring about a greater feeling of respect and humility to those who use this crematorium to farewell relatives and friends who had passed on.**

**I am glad that this project not only help bring about feeling of togetherness amongst the community of Korovou, but also remind us all that one day we are born and one day we will pass on.**

**Lastly, I wish to commend the Chairman of the Korovou Cemetery Committee and all those who have helped maintain the cemetery.**

**With that, I have much pleasure to declare open the Korovou Cemetery Projects.**

**Thank you, vinaka Vakalevu.**

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