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

**Prime Minister and Minister for Finance, Strategic Planning, National Development and Statistics, Public Service, Peoples Charter for Change and Progress, Information, iTaukei Affairs, Sugar Industry and Lands and Mineral Resources**

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**SPEECH AT THE OPENING OF THE DREKETI WATER PROJECT**

**Wailevu Mon. 8th Sept., 2014**

**CAKAUDROVE 1400 Hours**

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**The Turaga Na Tui Wailevu;**

**Turaga Ni Mataqali;**

**Invited Guests;**

**Ladies and Gentlemen.**

First I must thank the people of Dreketi for inviting me to officiate at the opening of Dreketi Water Project.

It’s a great occasion given that you will now have access to safe and clean water.

Let me again reiterate that access to clean and safe drinking water is a right of all Fijians as set out under our Constitution and my Government will see that all Fijians are provided with clean and safe drinking water.

I am told that the community contribution on this water project was around $10,000 and my government contribution was $18,641.90.

It’s the result of 3 years work by the community and my government to successfully complete this water project and I wish to thank the project management and the community for their hard work.

This shows that through our integrated effort we can do anything and this water project implementation is a good example.

I urge everyone to learn from this and work together as a nation in order to bring a better Fiji for all.

Proper water supply is important since it raise our standard of living and also keeps you and your children healthy. This is why I want all Fijian to have clean and safe drinking water no matter where they live.

I am also aware of the current weather situation in Vanua Levu which has affected most of the water supply and I need to emphasize to all government agencies to be proactive and make sure that we continue to provide all Fijians with clean and safe water even when such situation arises.

Before I officially open this water project I must remind you all that we have an important national event going on right now and I encourage everyone to exercise their right by voting.

This national event is very critical given that you will have the opportunity to vote the candidate or party to lead our country forward and I urge you all to choose wisely.

With those few words I now have the privilege to officially opening the Dreketi water project.

Thank you - Vinaka Vakalevu.

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