

**COMMODORE JOSAIA VOREQE BAINIMARAMA, CF (Mil), OStJ, MSD, jssc, psc**

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

**COMMISSIONING OF FEA GRID EXTENTION IN NAVOSA, UNVEILING OF ADRA COLLECTION CENTRE SIGNBOARD AND LAUNCHING OF THE FNU COMMERCIAL AGRICULTURE PROGRAM FOR NAVOSA**

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Vatumali Govt Station Wed. 31st July, 2013**

**Keiyasi, NAVOSA 1200 Hours**

1. **Welcome**

**Distinguished Guests;**

**Members of Cabinet;**

**Government Officials;**

**Students and Community of Navosa.**

Cola vina.

1. **The Event**

* it gives me great pleasure to officiate at the commissioning of the FEA Grid Extension from Vatubalavu to Keiyasi.
* I wish to acknowledge the Traditional Ceremonies of Welcome accorded to me this morning.
* I have been a frequent visitor to Mavosa and I am well aware of the challenges faced by the Government Officials stationed at Vatumali and also the communities who live and work in Keiyasi.
* I was, therefore, quite pleased to be informed that electricity supply has finally reached the interior of Navosa.
* Our desire is to have access to electricity in our homes and hopefully the benefits will trickle down to our younger generation.
* I am also here today to launch the commercial Agriculture Program taught by the Fiji National University and also to inaugurate the NZAID/ADRA funded Packing Centre.
* Development is progressing very well in Navosa in the areas of education, business, agriculture, and rural development.
* You would have witnessed the upgrading of roads up to Nawaicoba, the commencement of work on the Vatumali Hospital and the development of education in Navosa.
* Vatumali and the two villages of Keiyasi can now access electricity and it is Government’s intention to extend electricity further into the interior through the partnership of the FEA and the Ministry of Rural & Maritime Development and Disaster Management.
* I wish to reiterate to you the communities of Navosa, that you will utilize the services provided for by Government to improve the quality of your lives.
* Government has brought electricity to your doorsteps and hopefully we anticipate to see as many students from Navosa enrolled at tertiary institutions locally and abroad in the not too distant future.
* It is our duty as parents to guide our children along the right path so that they can become useful citizens of our beloved fiji.
* On the same token, I urge you the communities of Navosa to support the Commercial Agriculture Program to ensure that the right outcomes are achieved.
* This initiative is closely linked to the launching of the NZAID/ADRA Packing Shed which will ensure that your produce fetches a good price because of its marketable quality.
* We now have some of the essential ingredient to ensure better utilization of our resources and consequently a better standard of living for our families.

**C. Constitution**

* You may be aware that Government is working on our

new Constitution which will come into effect in September this year.

* I wish to re-emphasize to us the iTaukei landowners that our land is well protected under the provisions of the new Constitution.
* Please do not be misled by rumours that argue otherwise.
* Our rights as iTaukei and as citizens of this country are protected by our new Constitution.

**D**. **Election**

* The General Elections will be held in 2014 under our new Constitution.
* I urge you all the communities of Navosa to register so that you are eligible to vote in the upcoming Elections.
* I am hopeful that you will make the right decision in electing good representatives to Fiji’s next Parliament.
* Dirty politicians will play their usual role and try to manipulate you into making wrong decisions.

**E** **Conclusion**

I wish to conclude by acknowledging FEA for completing phase one in the extension of the FEA Grid.

I also congratulate FNU for extending the Commercial Agriculture Program to the interior of Navosa.

I have hopes that Navosa will prosper in terms of development in years to come.

Vinaka vakalevu.

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