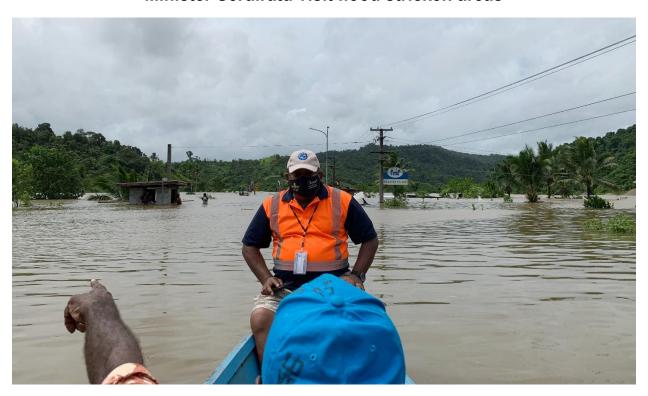


MINISTRY OF RURAL AND MARITIME DEVELOPMENT AND DISASTER MANAGEMENT PRESS RELEASE 05/2022

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** For Immediate Release **

Minister Seruiratu visit flood stricken areas



Caption: Minister for Rural and Maritime Development and Disaster Management Hon. Inia Seruiratu visit Wailotua No.1 and Wailotua No.2 in Wainibuka, Tailevu yesterday afternoon.

SUVA - Minister for Rural and Maritime Development and Disaster Management Hon. Inia Seruiratu visited two flood-stricken villages in Wainibuka, Tailevu yesterday afternoon.

Minister Seruiratu was joined by the Commanding Officer of the Republic of Fiji Military Forces (RFMF) Lt. Col Ben Naliva during his visit to Wailotua No. 1 and Wailotua No. 2.

While addressing villagers at Wailotua No.2, Hon. Seruiratu reminded the villagers of the need to ensure that parents were supervised at all times and that they be kept away from flooded areas.

"Please keep yourselves safe, there is only one life. Ensure that villagers stay away from flooded rivers and streams," he said.

Hon. Seruiratu reminded the villagers that the country was still recording COVID-19 cases and it was critical that they ensured that COVID-19 protocols were strictly adhered to by the villagers.

Minister Seruiratu also assured the villagers of the deployment of the Fiji Navy and Police to assist in transporting the sick villagers to seek urgent medical attention as roads were still submerged in floodwaters.

Hon. Seruiratu had also visited Naqali in Naitasiri where he met several stranded villagers who were being assisted by officers from the Fiji Police Force. As part of these visits to flood affected communities in the Central Division, Minister Seruiratu also visited a small farming community at Buiduna, outside Nausori.



Caption: Minister for Rural and Maritime Development and Disaster Management Hon. Inia Seruiratu is greeted by a senior police officer at Wailotua No. 1 in Wainibuka, Tailevu yesterday afternoon.



Caption: A red flag had been raised by villagers of Wailotua No.1 in Wainibuka, Tailevu to indicate that they were in danger from the floods brought about by TC Cody.

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