

Statement by the Chairperson of the Electoral Commission

Mr Suresh Chandra

Results App, Results Website and Special Edition Lavetiviti Launch

Suva - 10-07-18 - 10.00am

Fellow Electoral Commissioners,
The Supervisor of Elections,
Members of the Diplomatic Corp,
Invited Guests,
Members of the Media.

Bula vinaka ladies and gentlemen.

Firstly, congratulations to the Supervisor of Elections and the Fijian Elections Office [FEO] on another successful and innovative approach towards the dissemination of Electoral information.

The development of the *Results App* is indeed groundbreaking, and the Fijian Elections Office has once again shown that modern technology is a useful tool for Electoral Management Bodies.

Ladies and gentlemen, this innovation is in line with best practices which the FEO has always aspired to, and exemplifies our efforts to always strive for the best in service delivery to all Fijians by moving away from old election practices to new elections.

Individuals can now download the *Results App* onto their smart devices and familiarize themselves with this service.

Through this service, users will be able to get updated results of the 2018 General Elections, on your smart-phones and tablets where-ever they are, so long as they are connected to the internet.

The FEO has shown time and again that modernizing, and adopting technological advancement will not only help to enhance and improve service delivery but also boost the transparency process.

We are mindful that Fijians are moving with the times, smart devices are a household item and the **USE** of these devices is prevalent among all age groups - not just the younger generation as some may perceive.

Ladies and gentlemen, together with the Results App, the FEO has also developed a *2018 General Election Results Website*.

This operates in a similar manner to the Results App and has all the same information. The website is meant for individuals who may not have a smart device but have access to a computer or laptop.

I expect the news media will find this website quite helpful in their election coverage and analysis of results.

Both these services were developed in-house by the hard working staff of the Fijian Elections Office and I commend the individuals behind the successful launch of the App and the website.

Ladies and gentlemen, my other task this morning is to unveil the special edition of *Lavetiviti* - marking four years since the Fijian Elections Office first opened.

This is the first full cycle of operations for the FEO from one election year to another. It is momentous and deserves recognition.

The 4th Anniversary edition of *Lavetiviti* carries insight and reflections from the experiences of 2014, our progress in the last four years and hopes and aspirations for future elections.

Ladies and gentlemen, the Newsletter is also available on the FEO website for anyone to download and read.

As you would be aware, the Electoral Commission has adopted the theme that the 2018 General Election is a 'Platform for Fijians to express their will with Confidence, Security and Freedom'.

The launch of these new services, and indeed every initiative of the FEO, is geared towards this ambition.

In conclusion ladies and gentlemen, I urge all Fijians and those around the world to download the FEO Results App or visit the Results website to stay up to date on all 2018 General Election results.

With those few words, I once again congratulate the FEO on another milestone achievement and the wish them all the best.

Vinaka.