

# OFFICE OF THE MINISTER FOR PUBLIC WORKS, METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES AND TRANSPORT

Nasilivata House 87 Ratu Mara Road, Samabula Private Mail Bag, Suva, Fiji Telephone: (679) 3384111 Website: www.mims.gov.fj

22<sup>nd</sup> August 2024

## MEDIA RELEASE

## Prepare for Water Shortage as Dry Spell Looms

The Ministry of Public Works, Meteorological Services and Transport wishes to advise the general public to use water sparingly as the approaching dry weather conditions may affect the supply of water in the coming months.

Climatologically, Fiji has two distinctive seasons. The *Wet Season* which extends from November to April and the *Dry Season* which extends from May to October.

Currently, Fiji is in its Dry season and as such, minimal rainfall is experienced from various meteorological station.

#### **Current status**

Rainfall observations recorded over the last 3 months indicates that Fiji is well and truly in its Dry season with rainfall amounts of well below the normal monthly average.

As a result, the Water Authority of Fiji (WAF) has released information on several water reservoirs that are now at critical levels.

### Measures to counter dry spell impact

With the current dry spell expected to persist for at least the next 2 months, the Ministry is working closely with relevant authorities and critical sectors such as Tourism, Health and Education in monitoring the situation and planning necessary measures to lessen the effects and to keep the public informed.

We urge all residents to use water sparingly during this period to ensure that the available resources can meet the essential needs of everyone across the country. Simple steps like reducing water usage for non-essential activities, fixing any leaks, and reusing water where possible can make a significant difference.

WAF will continue to monitor the situation closely and provide updates as needed. In the meantime, the Ministry is working with Ministry of Rural and Maritime Development to supply water to affected areas, including maritime communities.

We ask everyone to contribute to water conservation efforts to help manage the available resources effectively.

Thank you for your cooperation during this challenging time.

Honorable Ro Filipe Tuisawau

Minister