



MINISTRY OF JUSTICE

Suvavou House, Victoria Parade, P.O.Box 2226, Government Buildings, Suva
Tel: (679) 3308 600 Website: www.justice.gov.fj



Honourable Siromi Turaga Minister for Justice

Written Questions 236/2024:

Can the Minister inform Parliament on the following –

- a) how many Justices of Peace have been appointed in the last 6 months by Province and Division;
- b) the names and address of these newly appointed Justice of Peace; and,
- c) how many applications were received for the appointment of Justice of Peace from January to June, 2024 and how many of those applications have been processed?

Response:

Mr. Speaker Sir, I would like to acknowledge Hon. Lenora Qereqeretabua for raising the question on the number of Justices of Peace appointed in the last six months, their names and addresses and the number of applications received and processed from January to June of this year.

The Fiji Coalition Government has made significant strides in increasing the number of Justices of the Peace (JP) across the country. Justices of the Peace play a vital role in both our legal system and broader community.

Their primary functions include:

- Witnessing the signing of important documents, such as affidavits of service and statutory declarations.
- Certifying copies of documents.

These services are crucial for various legal proceedings, ensuring that individuals can fulfill their legal obligations and access necessary benefits. Some documents verified by JPs may be required for court cases, while others are needed for everyday legal and administrative processes.

The appointment of an individual as a Justice of the Peace carries with it a profound trust in their honesty, diligence, and caution in performing their duties. JPs are entrusted with a duty of care, particularly when handling the documents they witness or certify. This responsibility requires them to follow correct procedures at all times to prevent any potential harm.

For instance, if a Justice of Peace fails to properly witness the signing of a document, and this oversight results in someone suffering a financial loss, the affected individual may have legal recourse against the Justice of Peace. Therefore, the role demands a strong commitment to accuracy and adherence to legal protocols to uphold the trust placed in them by the community.

Justices of the Peace are bound by a strict code of conduct, which is thoroughly explained during their induction process. They are appointed for a three-year term, during which they must uphold the standards outlined in this code. The code of conduct sets clear expectations for their behavior and responsibilities. Upon appointment, each Justice of Peace is assigned a unique registration number, which they are encouraged to include in their official stamp when providing services to the public.

Before assuming their duties, Justices of Peace are made aware of the following key points:

- **TERM OF APPOINTMENT:** Justices of Peace serve a three-year term.
- **CODE OF CONDUCT:** They must adhere to the established standards of behavior.
- **JP REGISTRATION NUMBERS:** Each JP is issued a unique number for identification.
- **NOTIFICATION OF CHANGES:** JPs are required to notify the Ministry of Justice if there are changes in their name, address, or contact details.

- **MOVING OVERSEAS:** JPs must inform the Ministry if they plan to move abroad.
- **DEATH OF A JP:** The Ministry must be notified in the event of a JP's passing.
- **TRAINING:** JPs are expected to participate in any training offered by the Ministry of Justice.
- **CHANGE OF ADDRESS:** JPs must promptly inform the Ministry if their address or contact information changes.
- **DISPLAY OF CERTIFICATE:** A JP must display their certificate of appointment at the location where they provide services, as registered with the Ministry of Justice.

These guidelines ensure that JPs maintain the highest standards of professionalism and accountability throughout their term

As part of their responsibilities, Justices of the Peace are required to submit reports detailing the services they provide to the public. These reports are due in March and September each year during their term of appointment. Maintaining these reports is crucial for the following reasons:

- **OFFICIAL REQUIREMENT:** Submitting these reports is a formal obligation set by the Ministry.
- **RECORD OF SERVICES:** It helps JPs track the type of services they have provided and to whom.
- **SERVICE TRANSPARENCY:** The reports offer a clear reflection of the services rendered to the public.
- **FRAUD PREVENTION:** They protect JPs from potential fraudulent claims or issues.
- **RENEWAL CONSIDERATION:** The Minister uses these reports to assess whether a JP's appointment should be renewed at the end of their term.

- **MINISTRY OVERSIGHT:** The reports enable the Ministry to monitor the quality and integrity of the services provided, especially if a complaint is lodged against a JP.

These reports ensure accountability, transparency, and professionalism, supporting both the JPs and the Ministry in their shared mission of upholding justice.

Currently, the number of JPs in Fiji stands at **625**. In the last six months, the total number of Justices of the Peace (JP) appointed is **84**. The breakdown as per province is as follows:

Province	Total Number of JPs
Lomaiviti	1
Kadavu	0
Rewa	8
Naitasiri	24
Tailevu	7
Ra	1
Ba	22
Nadroga	3
Serua	0
Namosi	3
Lau	0
Macuata	8
Bua	3
Cakaudrove	4
Total	84

The breakdown of the total number of JPs as per division in the last six months is as follows:

Divisions	Total Number of JPs
Central	39
Eastern	1
Western	26
Northern	18
Total	84

For the information of the Parliament, I present the list of 84 newly appointed Justices of the Peace, including their names and respective addresses. This comprehensive list reflects our ongoing commitment to ensuring equitable access to justice and upholding the integrity of our legal system.

No.	Names	Addresses
1.	Abdul Shaizad	Velovelo, Lautoka
2.	Abraham Dalip Pratap	8 Tabua Place, Ba Town
3.	Aisea Buludrau Korovuli	Laselase Village, Sigatoka

4.	Alan Walker Petersen	Tovu Tovu, Naselesele, Taveuni
5.	Alipate Tuinabai Tavai	Padarath Road, Saweni, Lautoka
6.	Amuk Prasad	Bulileka, Labasa
7.	Anaseini Bulivativati	Navuni-ivi Village, Navitilevu, Ra
8.	Apisalome Waqainavunivalu Metuisela	Jalil Lane, Togoru Road, Navua
9.	Avitesh Rohit Deo	Naduna, Labasa
10.	Bhim Chand	Nabouono, Taveuni
11.	Cordelia Martha Stolz	Vunimaqo Estate, Matei, Taveuni
12.	Dharam Raj	Airport Road, Waiqele, Labaasa
13.	Dharmendra Raj	Navukula Street, Tavua Town
14.	Eparama Uluiviti	Nakelo District School Compound, Nakelo, Tailevu
15.	Fazim Sheik Tahsheen	Nawaka, Nadi
16.	Ilisoni Taginadavui Nairobi	Nasawana Village, Nadi, Bua
17.	Isaia Maku	Koro Island Government Station, Koro
18.	Isikeli Banuve	NASOSO, NADI
19.	Jitendra Kumar	Siberia, Labasa
20.	Kiritesh Sandeep Prasad	Lomawai Health Centre, Lomawai, Nadroga
21.	Milia Lideth Simmons	44 Macuata Drive, Delailabasa, Labasa
22.	Mohammed Shafeem Manu	Lovu, Lautoka
23.	Nemani Tarotaro	Government Quarters 279, Waya Street, Lautoka
24.	Nilesh Shailend Singh	Tomuka, Tavakubu, Lautoka
25.	Pushpa Karan Nadan Naicker	Lot 23 Kartaram Road, Votualevu, Nadi
26.	Rajend Singh	Matanitobua street, suva
27.	Rajesh Sharma	Matanagata Back Road, Vatukoula, Tavua
28.	Ranadiniceva Raluna	Vunivutu Village, Nadogo, Macuata
29.	Ro Bolamatua Pauliasi Taukeinikoro	Bua Provincial Council Compound
30.	Sanaila Yamaka	Malawai, Billa, Votualevu, Nadi
31.	Shahil Shajal Kumar	12 Loloma Street, Tavua
32.	Shiu Narayan	Vitadra, Bulileka, Labasa
33.	Shyam Kumar	Mataniwai Settlement, Tavua
34.	Simeli Cokomata	Bilolo, Sorokoba, Ba
35.	Steven Abraham Tikina	Yavulo Village, Sigatoka
36.	Taniela Naika	Narokorokoyawa Village Sabeto
37.	Tekata Toaisi	Nacula Methodist Compound, Naodamu, Labasa
38.	Timoci Tinaviti	Bua Provincial Quarters, Nabouwalu
39.	Veena Kiran Sharma	Navau, Ba
40.	Viliame Saqusaqu	Lot 15 Kartaram Subdivision, Votualevu, Nadi.

41.	Adi Lusiana Buna Qolikoro Navusolo	14 Kautoni Street, Waiyavi, Lautoka
42.	Akili Masi	Viseisei Village, Lautoka
43.	Amar Deep Narayan	Lot 27 Stage 1, Kalokalo Crescent, Makoi
44.	Amrit Narayan Singh	Lot 2 Bau Road, Nausori
45.	Anthony Suliano	Vunivau, Labasa
46.	Apimeleki Tola	Lot 7 Nabou Road, Davuilevu Housing
47.	Ashni Prasad Ashyanna Ali	Lot 9 Nawame Road, Tacirua East
48.	Avishay Shahil Singh	10 Miles Farm Road, Nakasi
49.	Deep Chand	Lot 40 Laqio Road, Davuilevu Housing
50.	Emori Koroiravudi	River Road, Narere, Nasinu
51.	Epineri Qila	Lot 27 Kaci Road, Legalega, Nadi
52.	Jiokapeci Beitaki Baledrokadroka	Delainabuni Road, Stage 1 Cunningham Road, Suva
53.	Kirtik Kaushak Prakash	Lot 40 Vatoa Road, Narere, Nasinu
54.	Leone Naivalu	Navatuyaba Village, Toga, Rewa
55.	Maleli Nasaunivotua	Vuninokonoko Road, Navua
56.	Melania Daliga Alumita	Lot 2 Waituri Road, Vuci
57.	Mereoni Senivesi Tadulala	Nabitu Village, Tokatoka, Tailevu
58.	Mohammed Ishtehar Hussan	60 Panapasa Road, Namadi Heights
59.	Paulo Ravunikau Baleinakorodawa	51 Yasiyasi Road, Nadera
60.	Peni Naqaqa Drodrolagi Tove	15 Nuqa Place, Valelevu
61.	Peni Vuli	Lot 5 Wainibuku Road, 9 Miles
62.	Peni Yabakivou	Lot 1 Tamole Street, Newtown, Nasinu
63.	Radhikash Kapoor	Lakha Singh Road, Tacirua
64.	Rahul Ritesh Sharma	Varadoli, Ba
65.	Ratu Iosefo Roragaca Vereivalu	Lot 12 Saqali Place, Nawanawa, Nadera
66.	Risita Devi	Kavuli, Tavua
67.	Samisoni Reboni Waqavou	Lomaivuna, Naitasiri
68.	Sanjeet Prasad	Lot 21 Vishnu Deo Road, Nakasi
69.	Sanjeesh Abay Nand	Muaniwani College Compound, Naitasiri
70.	Satya Deo	C.O Singh Road, Koronivia, Nausori
71.	Shanti Singh	Yalalevu, Ba
72.	Shubila Wati	Lot 16 Pundit Mahanbu Maharaj Street, Vesivesi Road, Kinoya
73.	Suruje Deo	20 Raghu Raj Street, Davuilevu, Nausori
74.	Tarisi Ratawa	Bagasau Village, Fawn Harbour, Cakaudrove
75.	Uday Singh	6 Cunningham Street, Nausori Town
76.	Umesh Chand	Tuatua, Labasa
77.	Vijay Singh	Nakoba Settlement, Galoa, Pacific Harbour

78.	Vijendra Mani	Nawai, Nadi
79.	Vineshwar Chand Sharma	Lot 27 Kaci Road, Legalega, Nadi
80.	Wee Kong Ou	15A Tikaram Street, Namadi Heights
81.	Niko Buke Waqadau	Lot 11 Soqe Place, Nadera, Nasinu
82.	Jacoro Kenatale	Vuci Road, Nausori
83.	Amitab Amit Prasad	92 Kalokalo Crescent, Makoi, Nasinu
84.	Bimla Wati Deo	Lot 13 Frangipani Avenue, Waila

Between January and June 2024, a total of 76 applications were received for the appointment of Justices of the Peace. Of these, 38 applications were deemed complete and have been submitted for interview. Of these applicants, 28 are male while 10 are female.

Tabulated below are the applicants distributed according to (I) **Ethnicity**, (II) **Division** and (III) **Province**:

I.

Ethnicity	Total Number of JPs
I-Taukei	12
Indo-Fijian	26
Others	0
Total	38

II.

Divisions	Total Number of JPs
Central/Eastern	21
Western	11
Northern	6
Total	38

III.

Province	Total
Lomaiviti	2
Kadavu	-
Rewa	7
Naitasiri	7
Tailevu	5
Ra	4
Ba	7
Nadroga	-
Serua	-
Namosi	-
Lau	-
Macuata	4
Bua	-
Cakaudrove	2

Apart from these 38 applicants, there are 28 applications still pending due to missing support documents required for further processing. One application was found to have an adverse criminal record spanning over 10 years, and the individual has been advised to obtain a rehabilitation certificate. Additionally, 9 applications are currently awaiting police reports to proceed further.

As more applications are received, the Ministry will facilitate the induction process to ensure that these services are enhanced and made readily available to the public. Our goal is to continuously improve access to these vital services for the community.

In conclusion, the Ministry of Justice is making significant strides in modernizing its operations and enhancing service delivery for the people of Fiji, particularly in the appointment and support of Justices of the Peace. These individuals play an essential role in upholding justice and ensuring access to legal services across the country. The Ministry's ongoing efforts reflect a strong commitment to integrity, efficiency, and fairness in the appointment process, ensuring that Justices of the Peace are well-prepared and fully equipped to serve their communities with professionalism and dedication.