
WRITTEN QUESTION 272/2024

Monday 2nd December 2024

Hon. Lenora Qereqeretabua to ask the Minister for Lands and Mineral Resources – Can the Minister inform Parliament on the following –

a) total number of applications received in the period from 1 January 2023 to 31 July 2024 for license to extract low value minerals by division –

A total of **81 applications** was received from 1 January 2023 to 31 July 2024 for license to extract low value minerals (Tabulated below is the breakdown by Divisions).

b) total number of licenses issued in the period from 1 January 2023 to 31 July 2024 to extract low value minerals by division –

A total of **65 licenses** was issued from 1 January 2023 to 31 July 2024 for license to extract low value minerals (Tabulated below is the breakdown by Divisions).

c) total number of applications rejected or shelved in the period from 1 January 2023 to 31 July 2024 for license to extract low value minerals by division –

Applications rejected/shelved from 1 January 2023 to 31 July 2024:

- ✓ North – 12
- ✓ West – 2
- ✓ Central Eastern - 0

Low value mineral refers to aggregates such as river gravel and sand which is administered by the Director of Lands who grants licenses that are issued for extraction.

Tabulated below is the breakdown on the applications and approved licenses for the duration mentioned above (a-b):

Division	Total Application Received	Total number of Licenses Issued	Total Application Rejected/Shelved	Variation
North	32	16	12	4 – In process
W West	33	31	2	0
Central Eastern	16	18	0	2 – previous application
Total	<u>81</u>	<u>65</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>6</u>

The Variation between the applications and the licenses issued are due to:

- The application being held up with ITaukei Lands & Fisheries Commission (ITLFC)
- Application received and license issued prior are being processed within the period January 2023 – 31st July 2024

Thank you.

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