



NFP

NATIONAL FEDERATION PARTY

**OUR VISION
FOR FIJI**

2022 GENERAL ELECTIONS
#TogetherForFiji'sFuture



WHO WE ARE

The National Federation Party is Fiji's oldest and longest-serving Political Organisation. The Party was born out of the struggles for self dignity and justice for the ordinary people of Fiji.

INTRODUCTION

We are ready for the 2022 general election. We have the resources and we have the candidates. We have a strong partnership with our friends in The People's Alliance (PA). And we have a vision for our country. This is what we share with you in this document.

Our policies are similar to, but not the same as PA's – but this is as our Partnership Agreement allows. We will be in government together – but sometimes the parties will take different positions to the table when in Government. Then we will discuss and work out which one is best. That is why, if you support our policies and want us to deliver them in Government, you should vote NFP.

The reign of the Fiji First Government is ending. The next government will be left with a huge mess to manage, including the massive Government debt.

How are NFP's policies different from others?

The difference is partnership with our people, agreeing on a shared vision and delivering on the agreed plan. For 16 years, the Government has ignored Fiji's biggest resource – the talents and experience of our people. It has divided us into those who support the Government and those who do not. It is afraid of meaningful views that are better. This must change. We want everyone's ideas, whichever political party you support in 2022.

We want the people to lead the way, supported by their Government. The Government must stop controlling everything and get behind the people's vision and energy. Governments can legislate, spend money and re-direct resources – but only when guided by a national vision which is clear to everyone so we all know the direction in which we are going. We must all work together to progress. The current Government's rule by fear, division and dictatorial rule must end.

We are bringing to you the vision we wish to share with the people of Fiji when we are in Government. Not every idea is here. But we hope you will see that NFP is ready for leadership. Because, together we are Fiji's future.

This is our time.



Leader, National Federation Party
Professor Biman Prasad
(Candidate 427)





When we are the new government, we will work with the people to transparently set the economic and social priorities of the nation.





OUR VISION FOR FIJI

Our vision of Fiji is of a country and people who work together, live well and enjoy our lives:

- we practise democracy and respect each other's human rights, because this is the best way to live.
- we celebrate diversity and different cultures.
- we work in unity for a resilient and sustainable future against climate change, our children's biggest challenge.
- we work together for good living standards for all through sensible economic development and diversification.

TO KNOW WHERE WE ARE GOING, WE MUST FIRST UNDERSTAND WHERE WE ARE.

We are a nation of hard working and resourceful people. Our country is blessed with fertile soil and tropical weather. We are secure in our island borders and far from major conflicts. We have all we need to be a prosperous, successful and happy country, dealing with the world on our own terms.

But poor leadership and a self-serving, chaotic government have sent us backwards.

- Our current two-man government leadership is tired, self-serving and dictatorial. It listens to no one and works with no one. It cannot unite us; it cannot communicate a vision or a long-term plan for our country.
- Excessive dependence on mass tourism, remittances, and Government borrowing and spending has endangered our economy. We now have back-breaking public debt.
- Our sugar industry, once the bedrock of our economy, has not changed for the last 15-20 years. It is dying because of failed policies.
- In a land of sunshine, rain and rich soil, our non-sugar agriculture development is non-existent. We export \$100m in non-sugar exports a year. Compare this to our fuel imports of \$700 million a year.
- The Government talks about being climate change "champions" around the world. But at home we allow our environment to be trashed.
- Education is the path to future success. Yet, our education system belongs in the 20th century, not the 21st. Our teachers and school owners and managers should be partners in educational success, not mistreated, bullied and ignored.
- There is no wealth without health. Our public health system is in near-collapse. Our hospitals cannot treat our sick people or give basic medications to the poorest. Our health as a nation is poor. Our adults have some of the highest NCD rates in the world. One child in every classroom may have rheumatic heart disease.

- We have shocking rates of violence and abuse against women and children.
- Our indigenous languages and culture are a unique and precious resource. Yet the institutions of the Taukei have been ignored, demeaned and deemed irrelevant because the Government will not consult with its leaders. It will not acknowledge ethnicity, culture and identity in national life.
- We have no town and city councils because the Fiji First Party cannot control them. Local government services are collapsing because they cannot collect rates. More than \$60 million is owing.
- Our public service should be strong and independent. Now it is politicised and fearful. Public servants are frustrated by bad practices which are all for show but which do not help the people.
- Our religious, social and community organisations are bossed around and their activities restricted. Government leaders are afraid that NGOs will be more popular than them.
- Many young people fear the Police – others see it as corrupt, inefficient and politicised.
- Long-term investment and economic stability is threatened as our business people are bullied, frustrated by ever-changing laws and policies and pressure to pay money to the Fiji First Party.
- In foreign policy Fiji has become an unreliable friend, even to our near neighbours Australia and New Zealand, who have supported us through every disaster. Once we led the South Pacific region. Now, through needless fights in the Pacific Forum and at USP we are no longer respected. We diminish democracy by staying silent on human rights abuses in China and our neighbour West Papua.



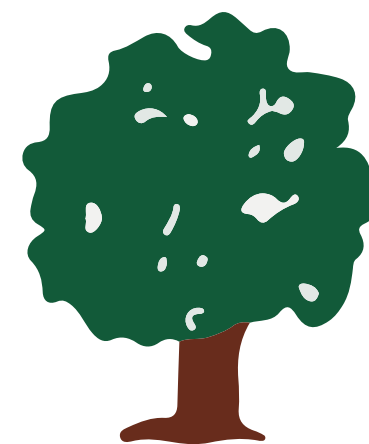


MAKING OUR VISION WORK

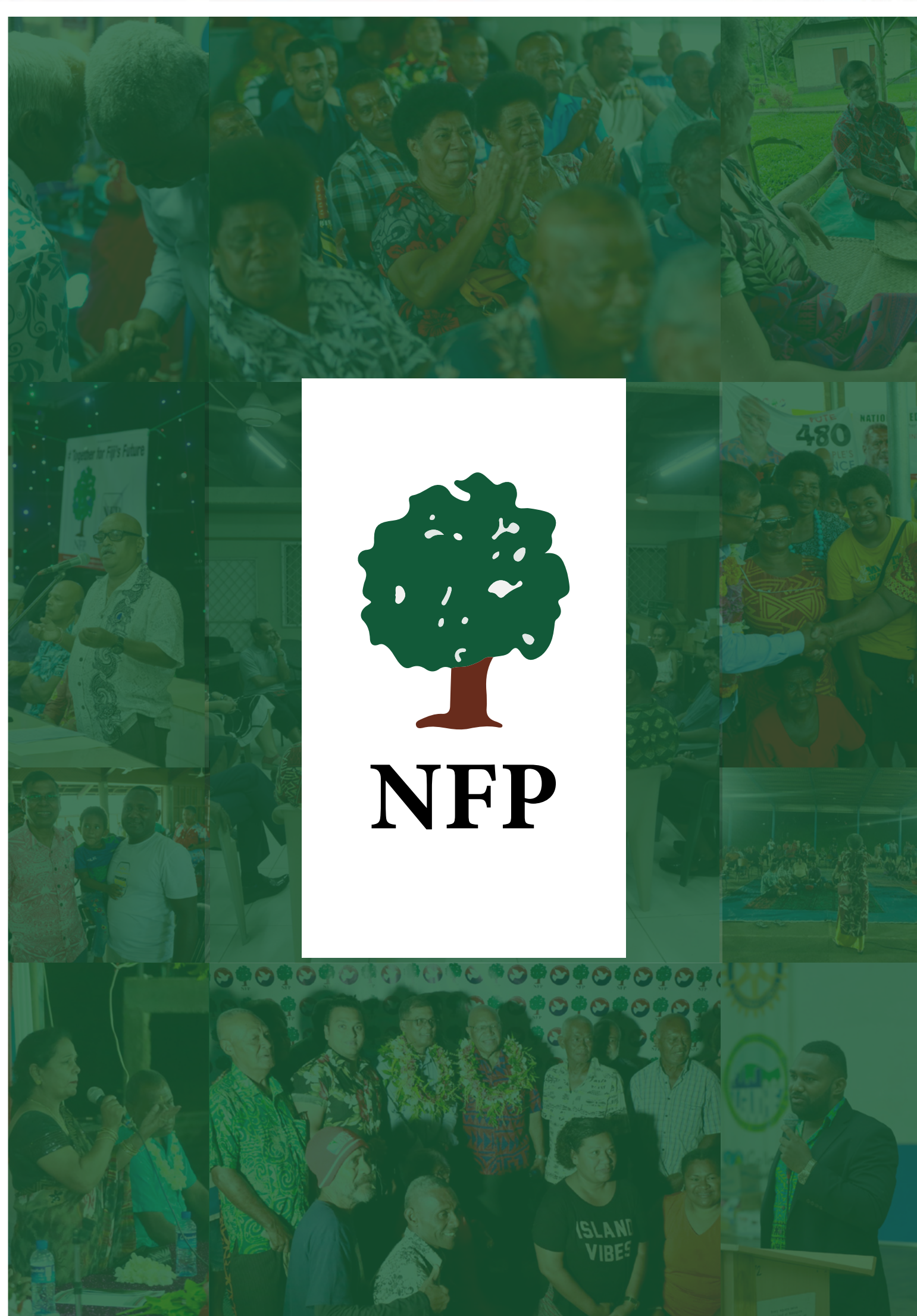
We want to build, with Fiji's people, a shared 20-year vision to make Fiji a better, happier and more prosperous country, in whose success we all share. Not everything will go according to plan. We live in an uncertain world. There will be setbacks and failures. Sometimes we will need to change course but good leadership must keep us all together, working on our common goals.

In a democratic country, different people and parties will lead us over 20 years. We must respect and plan for this. Our Parliamentary system must keep all our political leaders focused on the most important goals, even when we disagree on other things. **Governments must be transparent and generous.** Oppositions, well-resourced and informed, must hold governments accountable.

This is how a democratic system works for the best results.



NFP





GOVERNANCE & ECONOMY

“Good governance and a strong economy go hand in hand. Good governance includes everyone.

People speak up without fear and contribute to national solutions.

Working together confidently, working on new ideas for this country, will make our economy stronger”

1 Our vision is for better democratic government which:

- Respects the people and follows its own laws.
- Gives power to elected people in local government and through community service.
- Protects human rights, land and the environment.
- Gives confidence to foreign and local investors.
- Stops making rules for people and helps them instead.
- Consults widely and listens carefully before passing laws and making important decisions.
- Listens to its critics, and works with its opponents.

2 Our vision is for a Government that operates in partnership with the people:

- Organised in town, city and rural advisory councils, community groups such as school and hospital committees, religious, social and sporting bodies, neighbourhood watch groups and advocacy groups for health, the environment, social reform, etc. – and politics.
- We want the power of the community working for the whole country. We want strong local government where the people can be heard and are part of decision making.

3 Our vision is for a stronger, more diverse economy with:

- Value-adding agriculture, including organic farming of land and marine resources – including foreign investors, local businesses and SMEs, built on a strong identity as an environmentally conscious country.
- Active policies to encourage self-reliance by producing and consuming our own products – our own food, and manufactured products – to reduce unnecessary imports.
- Tourism with stronger linkages to the community so that tourists have experiences and products which not only generate more money in Fiji, but also show them the cultural richness of Fiji.
- New 21st century services - call centres and business outsourcing; e-business; medical and dental tourism and aged care; permanent residence status for retired foreigners who will invest in Fiji; offering English language and other training to foreign students to generate wealth here
- The creation of a Pacific hub for re-invigorated manufacturing, port services and re-exporting, shipbuilding, aviation and other technical services.
- Supporting our people to become global citizens – to travel and work around the world in hospitality, professional sports, nursing and aged care industries so they reach their full potential, become overseas ambassadors who promote Fiji, can support their families at home and improve their savings.
- Respect for research and development – bringing together our universities and businesses to innovate, invest in the future, and build global competitiveness.
- Opportunities in sport and leisure – two fast-growing global industries to which Fiji's people are ideally suited.
- Special focus on some of the bigger islands and Vanua Levu. Large tracts of land and resources are lying idle. Vanua Levu can drive the productive sectors such as fisheries, forestry and agriculture – we need a “look Vanua Levu and Islands” policy.

4 Our vision is to reduce poverty in Fiji to negligible levels:

Prosperity in Fiji can only come when we can all live well. We must support and uplift those who need help and are living in poverty through:

- Partnerships with NGOs and faith-based organisations who already support vulnerable families, and who know their histories and their needs.
- Direct support through technology and reverse taxation – using technology to return money to the needy for essential store-bought items such as food and other groceries.
- Integrated health and welfare systems so that chronically ill people are supported by one system managing their medical, welfare and housing needs.
- Supporting enterprise through training, financial support and infrastructure development – not in wasteful government programmes but supporting people-to-people training and mentorship.

5 Our vision is for a robust and secure business environment where:

- We consult continuously and year-round through the annual National Economic Summit (NES) and permanent NES Secretariat and committees.
- We reduce government interference and bullying. We abolish pointless laws to reduce restrictions and red tape.
- Changes in tax and fiscal measures will be announced 6-12 months before implementation, for long term certainty and stability - no surprises.
- We work with business to build voluntary codes of compliance, not sudden new rules and pointless fines and penalties.
- Laws on Employment, Tax and Customs, Transport, FNPF, and company regulation are simplified.
- Businesses are rewarded and supported when they invest in community projects.
- Businesses and universities collaborate through research and development to create new “Fiji made” products and services.
- Investors are assured of a secure investment environment without political interference and inconsistent application of law.

6 Our vision for the public service:

is to be an efficient executive arm of the Government dedicated to serving the people with:

- A reformed Public Service Commission with strong, independent leadership and a well-supported secretariat as the key human resources agency for Government responsible for appointments, discipline and remuneration of public servants. Ministers and Permanent Secretaries cannot choose and promote “favourites”.
- A complete overhaul of public service processes – removing needless laws and regulations so public servants focus on the right things.
- Digitizing Government files and transforming communications through technology.
- Formal career paths and professional development mechanisms for employees to develop rewarding careers in public service with new pay scales for professionally skilled civil servants. Doctors and teachers and town planners should not have to leave their skilled work to become senior administrators to be paid well – they should have their own professional pay scales which equal the administrators' pay.
- An end to short-term contracts and restoring the retirement age to 60 across the civil service and all statutory organisations, government entities and municipal councils.
- Moving some Government departments and staff out of central Suva, improved technology for communications and internal meetings – meaning lower office rents, reduced travel time for employees, reducing politicians' influence, and improving accessibility to the public.
- Improved transparency and accountability by ongoing online public reporting of Government departments' spending against Budget.
- Public servants motivated to innovate and save money, which they can then divert towards approved community projects.
- Businesses and the public services coming together to improve working relationships, share solutions and understand each other's viewpoints. Business is not the enemy!





EDUCATION, WOMEN, YOUTH, ARTS & SPORTS

“We reform our relationship with USP – to return the Vice-Chancellor to the Laucala campus in Suva, to once again be a trusted and reliable” partner to our regional neighbours; to pass laws which protect the independence of USP and other Fiji-based regional organisations”

1 Our vision is for an exemplary education system:

Serving the needs of Fiji and its future. A system where:

- We create an independent National Education Council (NEC) with expert representatives from all education sectors to continuously inform and advise the government on education related policies, best practices, infrastructure needs and planning.
- Teaching becomes a rewarding lifelong career choice and teachers are motivated and well-supported with clear career objectives, pathways and professional development opportunities
- Students learn critical thinking, contribute to their communities as part of their education, and can learn flexibly.
- School owners have autonomy and the right to organise, fundraise in partnership with their local community and to choose their leaders.
- Schools are centres of the community, including adult education, community consultation and other important community activities.

2 Our vision for IT Learning:

- Educational infrastructure is continuously assessed and improved in a planned way with special consideration to remote and marine regions. This includes buildings, playing fields, IT and communications, libraries and vocational training facilities.
- Government uses technology to make education accessible to all students, including remote students.
- Online education resources and social media supplement face-to-face teaching and improve general and civic knowledge.
- There is equity in education for the urban and rural students and there is no “digital divide”.

3 Our vision for Vocational Training:

- Vocational training and skills building are integrated into the education spectrum, listening to local communities and businesses about what they need.
- Support for privately run vocational and training programmes.

4 Our vision for Tertiary Institutions:

- Means-tested support for university and technical courses, including more scholarships to students from low income families and loans with tax deductions and other support for loan repayments.
- Our universities become resources of knowledge for our government – through research, data collection and analysis and policy advice from academics and experts in many fields, such as economics, housing, welfare, environmental policies, agriculture, technology, business, health, and public administration.
- Our education and business sectors work together, addressing innovation and business needs, training for future employment demands and positioning our graduates to be successful job holders and job creators.

5 Our vision is for domestic safety and empowerment of women and girls through:

- Partnerships with NGOs and domestic violence advocates (not working against them).
- Targeted legislation, community engagement and support to reduce domestic violence and abuse of women and children.
- Strong, Government-supported NGO advocacy, education, and communal leadership efforts through schools, businesses and community organisations.
- Improved support and resources for victims of domestic violence.
- Developing local training and entrepreneurship building to support women in independent income generation.

6 Our vision for information and literacy includes:

- A new approach to public and official information – allowing people access to information held by the Government, to improve transparency and accountability.
- A strong national library system where information in paper and electronic form is made available for the public, administered by accredited and upskilled librarians and information professionals.
- Upgrading information resources and library systems in schools, to allow students access to extra-curricular information to allow them to learn research skills and critical thinking.

7 Our vision for the roles of religious, social, art, sporting and community organisations:

People power and partnership with the Government. Our vision is to:

- Bring out these reserves of “people power” for national development.
- Bring community organisations to the centre of policymaking, law-making, Government services and community outreach and engagement.
- Pass a new Incorporated Bodies Act to simplify the processes to set up non-profit bodies, maintain their registration and accountability and allow community organisations to thrive.
- Have a special unit in the Government to support community organisations with governance, financial advice and accountability to their stakeholders.
- Bring together these organisations with businesses and international funders to create independent resources for community development in health, education, environmental protection and public facilities. Let the people design and carry out the work themselves. Government does not have to be involved in everything!
- Work with organizations to enhance art, music, performing arts, fashion and other activities that reflect and promote the diverse and rich heritage of all the peoples of Fiji and which bring us together.

8 Our vision for sport is to make it transformative:

- Sports is now a fast-growing global business with huge economic opportunities. We want to partner with businesses, sporting organisations and universities to create a class of Fiji athletes, sporting managers, promoters, physical trainers and therapists who can go confidently into the world, earn good money and promote Fiji.
- We know that sports brings our people together, improves public health and therefore national productivity. We want to turn these ideas into reality.
- An annual Sports Summit will map out strategies not just for the sake of sport but for economic benefit, health and national unity.
- We want strategies for not just major sports like rugby and soccer but also athletics, netball, cricket, volleyball and minor sports.
- We want sportspeople and the disciplined forces to lead the way in promoting sports and recreation for better public health.





HEALTH, AGED CARE & PEOPLE LIVING WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

“Government supports community organisations, the disciplined forces and sporting bodies to lead the way in promoting good health through good nutrition, active lifestyles and early monitoring of illnesses such as diabetes and rheumatic heart disease”

1 **Our vision is for a world class health system. A system where:**

- We first meet people's basic needs and can distribute basic medications.
- Government supports community organisations, the disciplined forces and sporting bodies to lead the way in promoting good health through good nutrition, active lifestyles and early monitoring of illnesses such as diabetes and rheumatic heart disease.
- Preventative medicine and healthy practices are resourced for community involvement.
- We support and encourage investment in private for-profit health care infrastructure for medical tourism. We should work and earn from health services to others while using the same resources for ourselves.
- We respect and support our doctors, nurses and other medical personnel and let them contribute to health policy and laws; we ensure they have good professional opportunities to keep them in Fiji, not working somewhere else.
- A national health insurance scheme supported by the FNPF to help to fund deliver better medical care.

2 **Our vision is for a caring, compassionate welfare system where we work in partnership to support the most vulnerable in our society:**

- Consulting and learning from welfare groups, faith-based organisations, community organisations who already know and understand the problems and already support thousands of vulnerable people.
- Mobilising our humanity – finding ways to support and remove restrictions on volunteers, businesses supporters and others who give their time to support our poorest people.
- Re-directing Government funds to charities, NGOs and faith-based organisations who can provide better welfare support more efficiently than the Government.
- Bringing education, health and business stakeholders into welfare consultations to move families to better health, housing, education and employment.

3 **Our vision for the elderly is:**

- To improve inter-generational communication and participation by encouraging youth volunteers to engage and support them.
- Working with international bodies who specialise in issues for the aged, to ensure that their rights are respected and that they can be better integrated into the community. working with faith-based organisations to ensure age care facilities exist in every district in Fiji for the care of elderly.

4 **Our vision for people with special needs:**

- To create employment opportunities through stronger partnerships and incentives for public and private sector employers.
- To improve partnerships between the government, local NGOs and international organisations who support people with disability and to benefit from their resources and expertise.



ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE

“We plan long-term climate change mitigation investment in consultation with local communities, governance and leadership.”

1 Our vision is for a practical, relevant environment and climate change policy where:

- Protection of our environment using our own scientific research and traditional practices becomes part of Fiji's global identity – to support tourism, businesses, and exports of sustainable resource-based products.
- We aggressively pursue international organisations and businesses ready to fund environmentally sustainable economic opportunities.
- We consult and plan ahead with long-term strategies and short-term goals on fossil fuels; plastics; garbage, automobile imports, recycling, hazardous materials (including batteries) and waste; preservation of reefs, rivers and mangroves and marine protected areas.
- We engage and support local community action through grants and other public resources.
- We plan long-term climate change mitigation investment in consultation with local communities, governance and leadership.

2 Our vision is for a tourism industry which is more localised, sustainable, environmentally driven and diverse:

- With new small, high-quality and locally-owned accommodations and experiences that leave value in Fiji.
- Sensibly regulated by efficient and forward-thinking new laws, developed with industry owners.
- Where tourism owners (not Fiji Airways) decide how to promote Fiji.
- Offering grants and tax incentives to tourism operators to source consumables locally and reinvest in local communities.
- Which develops Fiji into a global destination of choice in terms of services, ecology, experiences, affordability, uniqueness, and availability and diversity of choices.
- Where industry owners partner with communities to preserve the environment and demonstrate the balance between eco-conservation, development, support of local communities, and consumer experiences.
- Where tourism taxes are partly directed towards the well-being, training and improvement of the lives of tourism workers.

3 Our vision for environmental and natural resources management:

- Our vision is to put in place new strategies and measures to ensure the utilisation of natural resources are in a manner that retains maximum value for the country, and provides maximum benefits to resource owners.
- We strongly believe that protecting Fiji's biodiversity is an important environmental challenge requiring research, regulation and protection through sustainable land management practices, good forestry practices, creation of reserves and corporation of land owners and relevant stakeholders.
- We will work in partnership with environmental NGOs, towards environment stewardship in light of rapid urban development and other significant influences.
- To create transparent and consistent policies for environmental management because it plays such a positive and essential role and securing environmental wellbeing.



HUMAN RIGHTS, DISASTER MANAGEMENT, DEFENCE, TAUKEI ADMINISTRATION, ROTUMAN AFFAIRS

“We will **repeal Bill 17**
(the iTaukei Land Trust
(Amendment) Act 2021). It
was not agreed to by the
people (and serves no useful
purpose anyway!)”

1 Our vision is for a law, order and justice environment where:

- We return to strong community-based policing and police beats through police posts supported by community members, neighbourhood watch schemes, faith-based and community organisations.
- Police strengthen, serve and protect communities (not VIPs and motorcades).
- We will professionalise and modernise our Police operations supported by our neighbours Australia and New Zealand.
- We foster professionalism, confidence in and accountability of the Police force, with an open and transparent Police Standards Authority to discipline Police brutality, extra-judicial violence, and prevent corruption.
- We will review Police pay scales to create a career path for long-serving loyal officers.
- A forward-thinking court system offers new options for offenders including community service, reparations, home detention and rehabilitation.
- The assessor system is restored for fairer trials.
- Court processes are simplified to make court action quicker and more cost-efficient.
- Alternate Dispute Resolution (ADR) mechanisms such as arbitration and mediation are encouraged and supported.
- Human rights and responsible free speech are strongly supported, the Fiji Human Rights and Anti-Discrimination Commission is overhauled and strengthened so that it stands with the people, not the government.

2 Our vision is for committed, efficient disciplined forces (military, police, corrections) who:

- Create opportunities for employment and personal growth for our young people.
- Contribute positively in the world in close co-operation with foreign governments through peacekeeping and disaster management.
- Effectively guard our borders and exclusive economic zones.
- Engage with the community positively, becoming focal points for public health and sport, leadership, problem-solving and disaster relief.

3 Our vision is for a friendly, reformed and efficient system of iTaukei administration that:

- Carefully consults and listens to the indigenous people on a unique leadership body for the Taukei. Will it be the same as the Bose Levu Vakaturaga? Will it be something else? That is for the indigenous people to decide and for the Government to carry out.
- Is designed after wide consultations to govern in a manner of the I-Taukei's choosing.
- Actively promotes and protects the use of all indigenous languages and dialects of Fiji; develops literacy in those languages and dialects, books, and TV and similar content in indigenous languages.
- Actively investigates, invites discussion, and proposes solutions for issues that the Taukei believe to be unique to them including in the preservation of culture, health, education, poverty alleviation, criminal law and prison reform.

4 Our vision for Rotuma and the Rotuman community in Fiji is:

- To begin a new round of consultations with the Rotuman community on their administration and laws.
- We do not support the changes in the current proposed Rotuma Bill.

5 Our vision for Disaster Management is preparedness and partnership, with:

- A transparent, audited and community-led National Disaster Fund so that funds are always available for immediate response. The Prime Minister's Fund will be abolished.
- Community organisations and disaster relief experts will work more closely with the National Disaster Management Office (NDMO).
- Community-led Natural Disaster Readiness Committees ready to react with pre-positioned relief supplies, deploying volunteers who can cook meals, distribute supplies, restore power and communications and clear cyclone and flood damage – an organised community in action.
- Partnership with the military (including a reinvigorated army engineering corps).
- Fiji as a regional leader in national disaster management, using its training and skills to help regional neighbours and using that learning for Fiji's benefit.





INFRASTRUCTURE, EMPLOYMENT, HOUSING & TRANSPORT

“Employers, unions and government will hold annual summits to ensure that there is harmony and good will on all matters governing the welfare of the workers in all sectors.”

1 Our vision is for an inclusive and consultative employment relations policy where:

- We return to the days where we respect worker rights through the Tripartite Forum and other consultative bodies.
- Unions are respected as partners in national development and strengthened as organisations who can deliver help and benefits to their members.
- Workers and unions will receive permission to have public rallies and marches for their constitutional rights.
- Worker representatives will return to the Fiji National Provident Fund Board.
- All anti-worker legislation enacted in the last 15 years will be reviewed in consultation with worker representatives, including new laws to simplify and speed up employment disputes.
- Inquiries will be opened into all unfair dismissals and redundancies implemented by the FijiFirst Government (including at Fiji Airways and ATS).
- Employers, unions and government will hold annual summits to ensure that there is harmony and good will on all matters governing the welfare of the workers in all sectors.

2 Our vision is for a housing and urban development policy where:

- Democratic, accountable, local governments – elected town and city councils - respond to people's demands on local development issues.
- Community-driven planning addresses the growing need for housing, especially in urban areas.
- We innovate for lower-cost housing using local materials, resources and technology.
- We put families into “core” houses which are basic but safe, letting families build and extend in future as they earn and save.
- We use innovative financial tools to improve young people's access to mortgages with smaller deposits.
- We incentivise employers to build housing for their employees, increasing housing stock and reducing travel between work and home.
- The Government uses technology to work smarter, moving government offices to Nasinu, Nausori, Navua and other cities around Fiji, creating regional employment, minimising traffic and daily road congestion in Suva.
- We share long-term, environmentally responsible urban design plans for each town and city so everyone can understand and plan their developments.
- We support green and community spaces, environmental work, sports and seaside activity for better health and quality of life.
- City and town rates can be paid through the national tax system or as part of housing loans to reduce ratepayer arrears.
- We support and incentivise people to live in city centres, making cities safer and more energetic places at night.
- We encourage better public transport, walking and cycling, pedestrian-only roads.
- We work with landowners to open up more iTaukei land for housing, agriculture and other activities based on trust and on appropriate rental levels so that both landowners and tenants benefit.
- We improve rural infrastructure, resources, and opportunities to avoid excessive rural-urban migration and overcrowding of urban centres.

3 Our vision is for a revitalised and better regulated land transport system where:

- We review, re-organise and simplify the Land Transport Authority and its laws and regulations, including for buses, mini-vans and other public service vehicles.
- We review the e-ticketing system to make it fairer and more convenient for passengers. This includes alternative payment methods such as cash when the e-ticketing system is not available or not working.
- We investigate more environmentally sensitive transport and information delivery systems using new technology such as electric vehicles and drones.
- We reform communications to minimise the movement of paper and instead work electronically and move goods within Fiji more efficiently.

4 Our vision is for people-focused, effective and robust national infrastructure:

- Ensuring consistent, reliable and affordable water and power with the help of international partners and investors. This is a priority. Until we fix these problems, we cannot grow our economy.
- Reforming our public-private partnership laws to ease private sector investment in infrastructure.
- Focusing our resources on sustainable electricity through hydro, wind, solar and wave power and away from polluting diesel and Heavy Fuel Oil (HFO) generation.
- Creating an affordable national digital infrastructure and partnering with communications businesses (not threatening them as is done with Walesi).
- Developing a proper, well-funded national road system with funding for maintenance and clear, transparent plans for the public to see.
- Ensuring long-term plans for infrastructure development – planning for the people, natural resources and building skills we need.
- Working with shipping and aviation companies to provide reliable, affordable and safe communications to Vanua Levu, Taveuni and maritime areas.
- Including communications, education sector, health networks, and disaster management systems and services, along with economic development when considering national infrastructure development.



A photograph of a sugarcane field. In the foreground, a white truck is partially visible, its bed filled with harvested sugarcane stalks. A man wearing a light-colored shirt and a hat stands next to the truck. The background shows rolling hills covered in sugarcane under a clear sky.

SUGAR INDUSTRY, AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY & FISHERIES

“Create a National Master Lease for farming lands to guarantee returns to landowners for farming land and to eliminate conflict and ill-will over unpaid rents.”

1 Our vision for the sugar industry is to use our generations-old skills and knowledge to transform it and which:

- Returns to an elected sugar cane growers' council that is accountable to farmers.
- Holds annual sugar summits to listen to the concerns of farmers, landowners, Fiji Sugar Corporation and field, transport and mill workers.
- In consultation with stakeholders, maps out a strategy for a modernised, more efficient, value-adding industry, manufacturing products that earn higher returns than raw cane sugar.
- Protects the homes and lives of farming families so:
 - *if they wish to continue to farm cane, they are supported to improve efficiency;*
 - *if they wish to leave farming, their leases are re-designed to keep them in their family homes;*
 - *if they wish to do different farming, they are supported in their transition.*
- Creates a national master lease for farming lands to guarantee returns to landowners for farming land and to eliminate conflict and ill-will over unpaid rents.
- development of fisheries and aquaculture industries that are sustainable, environmentally responsible, respect traditional values and customs, and primarily benefit Fiji and its citizens.
- An effective, efficient, better organised and restructured sugar industry offering better economic returns to farmers.

2 Our vision is for a strong sustainable Forestry Industry which:

- Brings together key stakeholders including landowners, the construction industry, environmental groups and long-term financiers.
- Makes Landowners part and parcel of the process of growing and maintaining forests and utilising traditional knowledge and techniques.
- Develops and supports a national register of forest resources that is available to the public and key stakeholders.

3 Our vision is for a sustainable Fisheries Industry that:

- Develops our Fisheries management system that recognises traditional custodians of the resources and to encourage viable and sustainable use and development of fisheries. This policy will also aim to control illegal, unregulated and unreported fishing.
- Supports the marketing of fish and the development of storage facilities in outer Islands.



REGIONAL & FOREIGN POLICY

“Work with our regional neighbours, Australia and New Zealand for more access to work opportunities for Fiji citizens and for greater skills exchange and investment”

1 Our vision for our foreign policy is Fiji and region-driven. Our foreign policy will:

- Align us with countries that support freedom, democracy, rule of law and human rights.
- Work for international climate change reform and action – less talk and travel, more action at home, with respect for other small island states, their leadership and their work.
- Work with our regional neighbours, Australia and New Zealand for more access to work opportunities for Fiji citizens and for greater skills exchange and investment.
- Align our laws with international best practice so they are harmonised and welcoming to foreign investors.
- Listen to our international partners on ways to improve our economic and social policies.
- Strongly maintain our military's tradition in the world as peacekeepers.
- Focus us on rebuilding trust with our south pacific neighbours to develop trade, development support and skills exchange.
- Respect the work and contributions to Fiji of regional and international organisations based in Fiji - and reform our domestic laws to guarantee their independence and effectiveness, not block their work.
- Contribute towards development of shared resources and infrastructure, e.G. E-government and digital resources, to facilitate and enhance trade, education, health, and the celebration of cultures of and between the peoples of the South Pacific.
- Develop a long term plan with incentives for our diaspora to return and invest in Fiji.
- Promote a fair and just outcome for the people of West Papua.

National Federation Party

#TogetherForFijisFuture

Our Vision for Fiji

2022 GENERAL ELECTIONS

We are bringing to you the vision we wish to share with the people of Fiji when we are in Government. Not every idea is here. But we hope you will see that NFP is ready for leadership. Because, together we are Fiji's future.

This is our time.



Professor Biman Prasad
Leader



NFP



FIRST 100 DAYS:

SUMMARY

- | | |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Slash Government Ministers' salaries and allowances by one-third. We will appoint an independent Parliamentary Emoluments Committee (with no politicians) to recommend appropriate Ministerial and Parliamentary salaries and allowances. ✓ End Ministerial motorcades and pool all Government Ministerial vehicles, cut their use by 50%, and sell or end the leases where we can. ✓ Request the Auditor-General to help the Finance Ministry to cut overspending, waste, pilferage and other losses in Government departments. ✓ Begin the process of organising summits on the economy, sugar, housing, health, education, poverty, agriculture, sports and other pressing issues. Listening and learning is the key to better government. ✓ Set up a committee focused on simplifying laws to work for the people – birth certificates and identification, e-ticketing and other complicated rules and regulations. This will include the new voter registration laws requiring to matching birth certificates. These will be reversed. ✓ Stop holding Government meetings and consultations at expensive hotels and resorts, instead paying schools, religious bodies and community organisations for their halls and venues and catering. ✓ End the contract of Qorvis Communications. Expensive foreign propaganda companies are not NFP's style! ✓ Repeal I-Taukei Land Trust (Budget Amendment) Act 2021, known as Bill No.17. ✓ Work on alternatives to e-ticketing where systems fail and people cannot get access to public transport. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Begin the process of organising summits on the economy, sugar, housing, health, education, poverty, agriculture, sports and other pressing issues. Listening and learning is the key to better government. ✓ Request the Auditor-General to help the Finance Ministry to cut overspending, waste, pilferage and other losses in Government departments. ✓ Reform Parliament and give the Speaker independent legal support. ✓ Change Standing Orders to plan for vernacular languages to be used in Parliament (with simultaneous translation as soon as possible). ✓ Prioritize establishment of national advisory bodies for Education, Health, Communications, Agriculture and Welfare. ✓ Begin national consultations on reviving the district and provincial services structure. ✓ Prepare position papers on protection of human rights, freedom of speech, bill of rights, and consumer protections (especially in the digital world) for all Fijians. ✓ Return the Vice-Chancellor of USP to Fiji and begin the task of restoring Fiji's relationship with USP, including work permits for regional employees of USP. ✓ Inquire into the millions of dollars wasted on the Walesi project and allow private TV stations to return to using their own transmission systems. ✓ Lift the entry ban on the late Professor Brij Lal's wife, Dr Padma Lal, to allow her return to Fiji with his ashes ✓ Fairly addressing employment grievances of civil servants and others due to the covid vaccination policy with the objective of restoring their employment. |
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NFP - IN OUR FIRST 6 MONTHS:



NFP

RESTORE THE RIGHTS AND FREEDOM OF TRADE UNIONS AND WORKERS

- ✓ Amend legislation to allow for Right to strike and picket. Strengthen Collective bargaining for all workers.
- ✓ Legislate Right to assembly, free speech and protest.
- ✓ Remove contract employment for civil servants and other public sector employees.
- ✓ Increase civil service retirement age to 60 years.
- ✓ Remove retirement age for municipal workers like other workers.
- ✓ Restore essential services to ILO standards which means only a few industries as legislated previously, instead of all.
- ✓ Increase grievance reporting time for essential workers.
- ✓ Allow individual and collective grievance reporting.
- ✓ Improve dispute settlement processes, including Tribunals.
- ✓ Empower Tribunals and Courts to settle all disputes.
- ✓ Facilitate and host an annual employment summit.
- ✓ Implement and adhere to genuine Tripartism and facilitate within the Tripartite Forum wages and fixing guidelines.
- ✓ Legislate an annual minimum wage review with a view to achieving a living Wage.
- ✓ Put a stop to exploitation of workers by publicly funded contractors.
- ✓ Complete all labour law reviews within the first year of government.
- ✓ Review of FNPF structure by amending FNPF Decree, including governance to restore workers' say in Funds that are 100% owned by them.
- ✓ Restoration of contribution rate of 8% for Employee and 10% for Employer.
- ✓ Restoration of FNPF Pension scheme and contractual obligation to give some security and comfort to retirees.
- ✓ Re-visiting the 1% Employer/Employee contribution for a medical scheme to be shifted into pension fund if not used.



SUGAR, LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND MEDIA

- ✓ Restore status of cane growers as most important stakeholders in the sugar industry.
- ✓ Repeal amendments to the Sugar Industry Act imposed by Fiji First that prohibited elections for Sugar Cane Growers Council.
- ✓ Facilitate the conduct of elections for a representative Growers Council to be held before the start of the 2023 harvesting and crushing season.
- ✓ Re-establish Mill Area Committees to hold Fiji Sugar Corporation to account in all aspects of operations linked to growers including mill performance.
- ✓ Develop plans for FSC to rebuild a new state of the art sugar mill in Penang, Rakiraki, that was closed down in 2016 by Fiji First.
- ✓ Review the cane payment system to enhance growers' nett profit per tonne to above \$25.
- ✓ Develop an incentive system to increase sugar cane production to over \$3 million tonnes per annum to ensure a viable and size-optimal sugar industry.
- ✓ Engage experts to review the cane railway network and develop its viability for transporting other goods in the Western Division and for tourism purposes.
- ✓ Understate a full review of the economic viability of Fiji Sugar Corporation to return to its financial soundness.
- ✓ Re-look at the grower's insurance scheme implemented by Fiji Care Ltd under which growers pay at least three times more than their share in premiums when it is supposed to be only \$52 per annum.
- ✓ Hold a sugar summit to obtain widespread consultation on the efficacy of initiatives named above.
- ✓ Restoring rights of ratepayers and citizens of town and city councils.
- ✓ Repeal changes to the Local Government Act imposed by the Bainimarama regime that led to dissolution of elected town and city councils in early 2009.
- ✓ Facilitate the free and fair conduct of municipal elections to ensure truly representative town and city council elections.
- ✓ Invite Commonwealth Local Government Association to re-establish its office in Fiji to provide expert advice on operations of elected councils.
- ✓ Restore full Media Freedom.
- ✓ Repeal the Media Industry Development Act 2010 to ensure full and unequivocal freedom to Fiji's media industry, which will also remove restrictions on commercial television like Sky Pacific from airing local news and selling commercials, prevention of which has affected their profitability.
- ✓ Encourage re-establishment of Fiji Media Council to allow freedom to the media to self-regulate without any State control.
- ✓ Ensure Public Service Broadcast grant or fee is not a monopoly and aimed at showing profit for a broadcaster
- ✓ De-monopolising government newspaper advertising that has been exclusive to one newspaper only since the last decade.



EDUCATION

- ✓ Complete review of TELS to ensure fairness of existing student loans to the State and student loan write-offs where merited and prudent.
- ✓ Complete review of guarantee and "stop departure" rules on TELS students.
- ✓ Scholarships extended to merit-based to reward students from poor families not qualifying under the prescribed marks benchmark of in excess of over 300.
- ✓ Awarding scholarships or long term loans to students undertaking any program irrespective of whether or not they have qualified through Year 13 or Foundation studies.
- ✓ Removing restrictions on free bus fare to students that currently is confined to zoning or a certain stage in bus fare system.
- ✓ Appoint an Education Commission to holistically carry out a review of the education sector and come up with a report by end of December 2023.

REDUCING COST OF LIVING

- ✓ Review duties and charges on imported goods and services.
- ✓ Legislate, as a Budget consequential amendment, charging duty and VAT on FOB or Freight on Board instead of CIF – cost, insurance, freight – as is currently the case to lower costs incurred by businesses. This is to be a temporary measure until the full recovery of the economy.
- ✓ Increasing the number of zero-rated or VAT-free essential goods to include prescribed medication.

HEALTH

- ✓ Develop a budget strategy to get the Health Ministry funded to \$500 million per annum or the required WHO international benchmark by second year in office.
- ✓ Reviewing the procurement procedures of medication at Fiji Pharmaceutical Services to ensure availability of medicine at all times.
- ✓ Repealing all laws that compromise the recruitment of medical personnel and establishment of pharmacies v that were enacted by Parliament through the Fiji First government.
- ✓ A holistic inquiry into all aspects of public health and medical services delivery with an aim to ensure immediate improvement to basic services within six months and positive changes to diagnostics, advanced medical care and surgeries by early 2024.

TERMITE INVASION

- ✓ Address the issue of termite invasion that has for more than a decade caused millions of dollars in damage by severely damaging homes in Lautoka and is now spreading to other districts.
- ✓ The NFP govt will provide support to our under resourced and vulnerable families.
- ✓ Support Biosecurity Authority of Fiji to tackle this issue with urgency and decisively, as well as by getting help from experts in overseas.

NOTES



Top image: Jai Ram Reddy & Sitiveni Rabuka - 1999
Bottom Image: Biman Prasad & Sitiveni Rabuka - 2022

