

# FIJIAN ELECTIONS OFFICE

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**MEDIA RELEASE**

*For Immediate Release*

## **Voter Services temporarily suspended from 12 to 24 July 2017**

Following the conclusion of the 2017 Nationwide Voter Registration Drive, the Fijian Elections Office will temporarily suspend voter services from 12 to the 24 July 2017 to carry out an adjudication and data cleaning process.

In explaining the reasons behind this temporary exercise, Mr. Mohammed Saneem, Supervisor of Elections explains “In the past 7 weeks, we received 240,152 voters at our booths and this is a large amount of data that now needs to be entered into the database and all our registration kits updated with the most latest registration information.”

“We will also carry out data matching and cleaning process to identify attempts at duplicate registrations and remove deceased voters from the Voters Register.”

For the next 12 days, the FEO will suspend the registration of new voters, updating of voter details, replacement of VoterCards and requests for change of polling venues.

“Since we have just concluded the Nationwide Voter Registration Drive, any voter who desperately needed such services was expected to have already taken advantage of the many opportunities made available to access those services.”

The statistics for total engagement are as follows:

- Central Division – 69,439
- Western Division - 102,694
- Northern Division – 49,082
- Eastern Division – 18, 937

It is an international best practice that the voter register is regularly updated by an election management body and the FEO has continued the consistent registration and updating exercise of Fiji’s National Register of Voters. The recent approval of the objections and appeals process by the Electoral Commission has enhanced ownership of the Register and at the same time strengthened the integrity of the Voters Register.

**-Ends-**

Please forward all media queries to the FEO Communications team at [communications@feo.org.fj](mailto:communications@feo.org.fj)