



# Fiji Teachers Union

(The Child Our Hope)

## NEWSLETTER

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### GREETINGS

Warm greetings to all our valued members.

### 83<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2013

Suva Branch is fully geared up to host the 2013 AGM and Conference. The details of the conference are as follows:

**Host Branch: Suva**

**Dates: 29<sup>th</sup> April – 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2013**

**Venue: Kshatriya Hall, Suva**

**Theme: "Status of Teachers in an Evolving Democracy"**

**Chief Guest: Professor Biman Chand Prasad.**

Professor Biman Chand Prasad, Professor of Economics at the University of the South Pacific has accepted our invitation to be the Chief Guest and Keynote Speaker at the 83<sup>rd</sup> AGM & Conference.

Professor Prasad has received numerous research grants on key development issues in the region.

Professor Prasad is a recipient of the 2011 Vice Chancellor's Prize for Excellence in Research Leadership at the University of the South Pacific.



He is a regular media commentator and has given numerous interviews to local and international media as well as contributing columns to newspapers and magazines on various political and economic issues in the region.

### CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE

Branches are requested to bring large delegations to the 83<sup>rd</sup> AGM in order to make a strong statement to the authorities on the numerous matters of grave concern pertaining to the status of teachers and workers at large in the country.

### BILLETING

Suva Branch will soon be advising all Branch Secretaries of the billeting arrangements. Branches can also contact Bro Rajnesh Lingam on 8399482, 9928024.

### CULTURAL NIGHT

Members who wish to perform during the Cultural Night on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2013 are to give their names to their Branch Secretaries before 25<sup>th</sup> April 2013.

### SPORTS

As usual sports will once again be a major feature of the conference. Branches are expected to prepare the teams to participate in soccer, netball and volleyball. If any other sport is organized, Suva branch will inform the branches in advance.

## CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

### Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2013

- 10.00am : National Executive  
Committee Meeting  
2.00pm : Sports Committee Meeting

### Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2013

- 8.30 – 9.00am : Registration of delegates  
9.15 : Guests and delegates get seated  
9.30 : Official Opening of 83<sup>rd</sup> AGM and  
Annual Conference  
: Welcome Address by Chairperson –  
Suva Branch  
: Presidential Address  
: Keynote Address & Official Opening  
: Vote of Thanks  
10.30 : Morning Tea  
11.00 : Annual General Meeting: Minutes of  
the 2012 AGM. 2012/2013 Activities  
Report including Audited Financial  
Report.  
: Resolutions  
2.00pm : Lunch  
3.30pm : Sports – Teams  
Parade/Official Opening –  
Chief Guest  
7.00pm : Cultural Night

### Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2013

- 9.00am : FTU Co-operative Thrift &  
Credit Society Ltd AGM  
10.30 : Morning Tea  
11.00 : Women's Wing Meeting  
1.00pm : Lunch  
2.00 : Sports  
7.00pm : CTCL Social

### Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2013

- 8.30am : FTU Sports  
Presentation of Trophies and  
Prizes  
10.00am : Post Conference National  
Executive Meeting

## NOTICE OF ELECTION OF OFFICERS – 2013

All financial members of the Union, whose names appear on the Electoral Roll, which closes on 22nd March 2013, are notified that nominations have been received as outlined below and elections will take place as per the schedule prescribed herein.

Elections will take place on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> of April 2013.

### Election of President (1 only)

1.	MUNIAPPA GOUNDAR	Unopposed
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### Election of Vice Presidents (2 only)

1.	NASEEM ALI	
2.	PRANESH SHARMA	
3.	VIDYA SINGH	

### Election of General Secretary (1 Only)

1.	AGNI DEO SINGH	
2.	JOWAHIR LAL	

### Election of Assistant General Secretary (1 only)

1.	RAJNESH ISHWAR LINGAM	Unopposed
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### Election of General Treasurer (1 only)

1.	SÁSHI MAHENDRA SHANDIL	Unopposed
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### Election of Personnel Officer (1 only)

1.	VISHNU SHARMA	Unopposed
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### Election of Publicity Officer (1 only)

1.	MANHAR KUMAR	Unopposed
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### Election of Executive Comm. Members (3 only)

1.	NAKUL DEO BARMAN	
2.	NILESH CHAND	
3.	PRATOSH KUMAR	
4.	RAMESHWAR LAL	
5.	ROHITESH CHAND	
6.	SAROJ KUMAR	

## ELECTORAL ROLL

The Union membership for election closes on 22<sup>nd</sup> March, 2013. The Electoral Roll will be availed to all Branch Secretaries in advance so that branches and members can verify and update their membership. In the event of any errors or omissions, the member concerned or the Branch should inform the Secretariat in writing before 28<sup>th</sup> March 2013. Cash paying members, whose subs are not renewed by 28<sup>th</sup> March, 2013, will not be included in the Electoral Roll.

New recruits, whose subscriptions are not deducted at source, must pay for the year in full. Applicants whose membership is approved by 22<sup>nd</sup> March, 2013 will be included in the list.

## ELECTORAL PROCEDURE

Members are restricted to voting at their Branch Polling Station(s). However, if for some reason, a member wishes to vote at a different Polling Station, he/she must take a written consent from the General Secretary.

## POSTAL BALLOT

Selected remote school members will cast their votes through postal ballot. These schools will normally be in localities where FTU does not have branches. Postal ballot will be forwarded on 18<sup>th</sup> March, 2013 and must reach the Chief Scrutineer at the Head Quarters before 12<sup>th</sup> of April 2013.

## ELECTION CAMPAIGN REMINDER

Candidates and their campaign agents and members are reminded that campaign material should be positive, properly authorized and free from character assassination. All candidates and their campaigners are cautioned that campaign materials should not be slanderous or defamatory. Everyone must ensure that we act and carry out our election responsibilities respectfully and within the laws.

## JOURNAL

Members are invited to write an article for this year's journal. National Executive members are reminded of the requirement to submit an article for the Journal. The due date for the article is 15<sup>th</sup> of April 2013. Articles can be e-mailed on: [ftu@connect.com.fj](mailto:ftu@connect.com.fj) or to the Publicity Officer on: [kumar.manhar@yahoo.com](mailto:kumar.manhar@yahoo.com)

## POLLING STATIONS (to be verified)

Branch	Polling Station	Opening Time	Closing Time
Suva	FTU HQ	9am	2pm
Nasinu	Rishikul College	9am	2pm
Rewa	Vunimono Sanatan Pri	9am	2pm
Tailevu	Korovou Pri	9am	12pm
Ra	Penang Sangam Pri	9am	12pm
Ra	Vunikavikaloa Arya	9am	12pm
Tavua	Tavua Primary	9am	1pm
Ba	Ba Sangam Pri	9am	2pm
Lautoka	Lautoka Central Pri	9am	2pm
Nadi	Andrews Pri	9am	2pm
Nadroga	Sigatoka Methodist	9am	2pm
Navua	Vashist Muni Pri	9am	12pm
Labasa	St. Mary's	9am	2pm
Labasa	Dreketi Pri	9am	2pm
Labasa	Daku Bhartiya	9am	12pm
Labasa	Seaqqa Sec	9am	12pm
Savusavu	Khemendra Bhartiya	9am	12pm
Taveuni	Bucalevu Sec	9am	12pm
Bua	Lekutu Bhartiya	9am	12pm
Levuka	Levuka Primary	10am	3pm

## MEMBERSHIP

It is pleasing to record that the Union membership has increased substantially in the last 12 months. The same is the case with the FTU CTCL. CTCL Loan ceiling has

been raised from \$60,000.00 to \$75,000.00. Members will note that the larger the membership the better the benefits.

### **SELF FUNDING MEDICAL PLAN**

This initiative was approved by the 2011

AGM in Rewa. It is indeed pleasing to report that the scheme is doing extremely well. All the members and their families who needed treatment have been assisted and the fund enjoys a strong surplus. As predicted, the benefits are going to be increased incrementally.



*Ms. Rose Sharma, Senior Education Officer - Central (Seated third from Right) was the Chief Guest at the IWD Celebration in Rewa*

## **REFLECTION... 2002 AGM HOSTED BY SUVA BRANCH**

