



PRESS RELEASE

TRADER INSPECTIONS FRUITFUL

THURSDAY 26 APRIL 2018

Ground inspections being undertaken by the Fijian Competition and Consumer Commission (FCCC) in the Western Division are proving successful as traders are cooperating and showing their understanding to ensure proper compliance.

The team which has been mobilised in the west for a week are undertaking inspections of traders and businesses to ensure compliance with the Fijian Competition and Consumer Commission Act 2010 (FCCC Act 2010). The inspections are being done in the areas affected by the recent floods caused by Tropical Cyclone Josie and Keni to minimise the chances of unethical market practices.

Yesterday the team was in Lautoka and a total of **97** traders were inspected. Out of these **16** were issued with infringement notices for failing to comply with the FCCC Act 2010. The issues found included no price marking/display, overcharging of Price Control Items and no marked pull dates. While a handful of traders were issued with infringement notices, it was overwhelming to see majority of the businesses in compliance with the FCCC laws.

On Tuesday the team conducted a total of **72** trader inspections in Nadi Town of which **19** traders were issued with infringement notices for similar offences. On Monday the team conducted **61** inspections in Sigatoka Town whereby **12** traders were issued with infringement notices.

The inspections have allowed for traders, particularly those issued with infringement notices, to undertake appropriate remedial actions to ensure compliance. The FCCC team will revisit the traders issued with infringement notices to follow up on the same. Should non-compliance persist, traders will be warned for possible prosecution.

Simultaneously, the team has conducted a total of 5 trader and community awareness sessions in Lautoka and 6 in Nadi and 4 in Sigatoka with innumerable stakeholder meetings. These have allowed FCCC to forge greater relations with the external stakeholders and create awareness amongst the businesses and consumers alike regarding FCCC's roles and functions.

FCCC through this proactive measure intends to ensure that despite the situation at hand, traders do not breach provisions of the FCCC Act 2010 by engaging in unethical acts.

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