



Minister for Multi-Ethnic Affairs & Sugar Industry

## Launch of Grower Management System for Sugar Cane Growers Council

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2024, 10:00-11:00 hours, SCGC Boardroom, Lautoka, Fiji

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### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

The SCGC Board Chair, Jinendra Singh  
CEO, Sugar Cane Growers Council, Vimal Dutt,  
CEOs and Senior Personnel of Sugar Institutions  
present,

Invited participants,

Ladies, and gentlemen.

Bula Vinaka and good afternoon to you all.

- 1.1 Today marks a pivotal moment in the Sugar Industry landscape as we launch the Grower Management System for the Sugar Cane Growers Council.
- 1.2 This innovative solution marks a significant milestone in the journey of our sugar industry, one that promises to revolutionize the way we interact with and support our invaluable cane farmers, their families and many more.
- 1.3 The Grower Management System, or GMS, represents a vital step forward in our efforts to digitally capture farmers information and utilize it for operational excellence.
- 1.4 This pioneering system, funded by the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF)

through the parametric insurance introductory phase, is the first standalone database for the SCGC and on this note I would like to register my sincere appreciation to the United Nations.

1.5 It underscores our commitment to leveraging technological advancement for the benefit of our farmers and the sustainability of the sugar industry.

1.6 Furthermore, I am very pleased to announce the collaboration between the Sugar Cane Growers Council and the Anchor Care Migration & Consultancy Ltd in rolling out the expression of interest in engaging foreign workers from Bangladesh.

1.7 The partnership underscores our commitment to supporting farmers with access to labor for the

sugar industry, as you all know currently, we are facing labor shortages in all sectors.

- 1.8 Foreign workers will have a crucial role in supporting agricultural activities, particularly during peak seasons of harvesting.
- 1.9 And later on, they will work on sugarcane farms including assisting the agriculture sector.
- 1.10 By facilitating this collaboration, we not only address the labor shortage faced by our farmers but also foster cultural exchange and mutual learning between our communities.
- 1.11 I would like to extend my appreciation to the Sugar Cane Growers Council ,the CEO - Vimal Dutt and all those involved in bringing these innovative solutions to fruition.

- 1.12 Together, we are laying the foundations for a more resilient, inclusive and sustainable sugar industry for now and the future.
- 1.13 Let us embrace the opportunities that lie ahead and work hand in hand towards a brighter future for our farmers, our communities and our nation.
- 1.14 And I can assure you of my Ministry's and government's full commitment to the sugar industry.

Thank you.