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**Ref No:** 37-08-2020/21 **Date:** 31st August 2020

## MARKET ANNOUNCEMENT

## FIRE AT COURTS NADI MARKET ROAD BRANCH

In the afternoon of Friday 28<sup>th</sup> August 2020, at the Courts Nadi Market Road branch, a fire that started upstairs in the rear bulk storage area, extensively damaged the upper rear section of the building. It is suspected the stock and contents inside the building may have suffered damages due to the heat, smoke and water used to douse the fire.

At the time of the fire, the branch was open for business and all staff members and customers were safely evacuated out of the building. These staff members will be deployed to other nearby branches until the building is repaired and the branch reopened for business.

The Police and the NFA completed their initial forensic investigations on Sunday the 30<sup>th</sup> of August, 2020. Consequently, the building will be accessed today to assess the damages.

The temporary closure of this branch is not expected to have any noticeable impact on the revenues and profitability of the Company. The branch was insured for material damage and business interruption.

The building is owned by an external landlord. Discussions will commence with the landlord to establish a timeframe for carrying out repairs to the building, so that branch operations can recommence.

The cause of the fire is yet to be established by the authorities.

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DIRECTOR

COMPANY SECRETARY

For more information please contact the Company Secretary on <u>info@vil.com.fj</u> or phone 679 – 3381 333





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