



**High Commission of India
Suva**

**World Environment Day and World Bicycle Day
9 June 2019**

The High Commission of India, Suva celebrated the 150th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi by organizing 'World Environment Day' and 'World Bicycle Day' on 9 June (Sunday), 2019.

2. The High Commission of India has planned to plant 3000 mangrove saplings but in view of great response and public participation, the final count of sapling planted reached 7700. We planted 7700 mangrove saplings with the support of the Ministry of Forests at the Nasese Seawall at My Suva Park from 0700hrs to 0900hrs. The Hon. Assistant Minister for Youth Sports, Mr. Alipate Nagata and Swami Sanyuktanand, Leader of Fiji Sevashram Sangha was both present at the event and enthusiastically participated in the sapling plants drive. The 'World Environment Day' was followed by a cycling event. The cycle rally started from My Suva Park Bure to the FNU Government Training Centre along the Queen Elizabeth Road in Nasese and return.

3. Hon. Alvick Maharaj, Assistant Minister for Employment, Productivity, Industrial Relations and Youth & Sports graced the occasion as the Chief Guest and highlighted the importance of Bicycles in his speech. He encouraged people to start using bicycles not only as means of transportation but to combat NCDs in Fiji and air pollution.

4. There were almost 100 cycling enthusiasts who came out to celebrate and participated in the cycle rally. Leading the cycle rally was the Hon. Assistant Minister for Employment, Productivity, Industrial Relations and Youth & Sports, Mr. Alvick Maharaj, Hon. Assistant Minister for Youth & Sports, Mr. Alipate Nagata and Swami Sanyuktanand of Fiji Sevashram Sangha.

5. The High Commission also gratefully acknowledges the presence of almost 250 people including Business houses, Cycling Fiji and affiliates, and the Ministry of Forests and Ministry of Youth and Sports.