

**PRESS RELEASE**

**RACE FOR SURVIVAL EVENT**

17<sup>th</sup> October 2014

The new Assistant Health Minister, Honorable Veena Bhatnagar will launch an event focused on improving children's health across the country in Labasa tomorrow (Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October).

Save the Children's Race for Survival is a 1500m relay Race with more than 400 children involved in this year's event at the Guru Nanak Primary School Oval in Labasa.

The race is part of a global action with more than 60 countries taking part to give children a voice on their concerns surrounding their own health.

In Fiji, the race and exhibition held at Guru Nanak Primary School Oval will show children and the public how to create cost-effective ways to protecting your health in dry weather.

SC Fiji CEO, Raijeli Nicole, said this dry weather is proven to increase the risk of diarrhea and other illnesses which can be very harmful to young children and infants.

*"In the previous drought in Fiji water was prioritized for cooking before it was used for hygiene and this is a concern for us as proper sanitation is proven to protect children from diarrhea and other illnesses."*

*"The Race for Survival event is focused on this as we will be showing how communities and children can create cost-effective ways to both conserve water and protect their health as the dry conditions are expected to worsen in the coming months," she said.*

**END**

**Event:** Photo, interview opportunities at Guru Nanak Primary School.  
Contact the media team to arrange access.

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