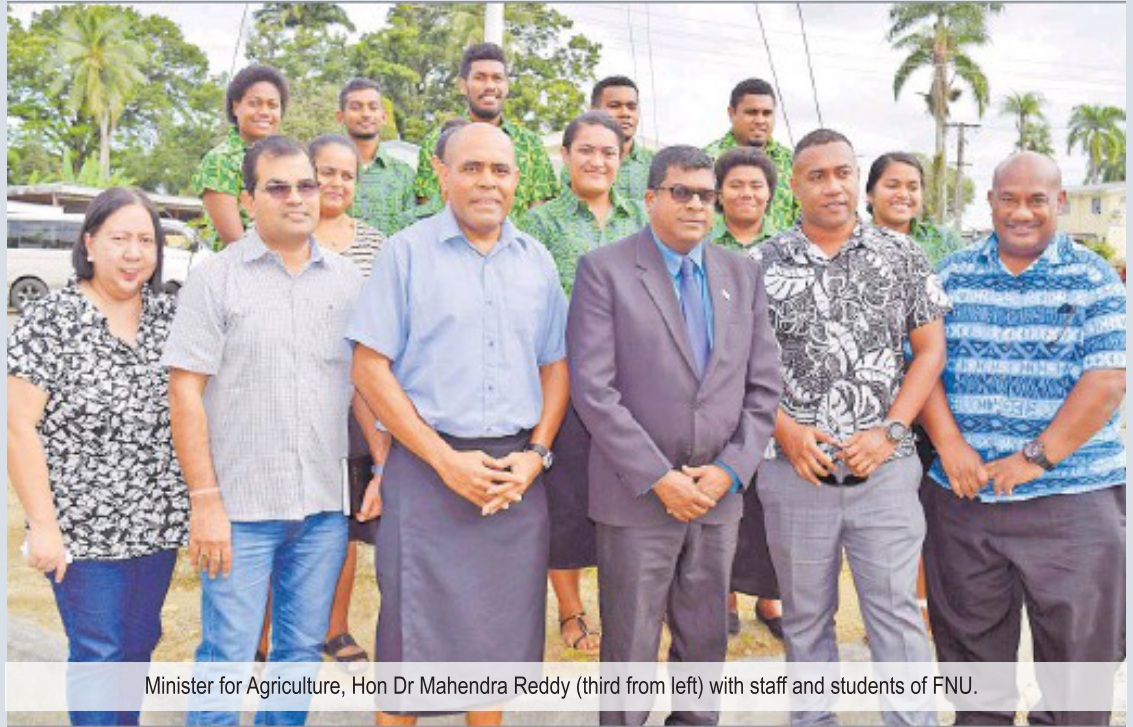


## Nine FNU students to study in Israel



Minister for Agriculture, Hon Dr Mahendra Reddy (third from left) with staff and students of FNU.

**N**ine students from the Fiji National University's (FNU) College of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (CAFF) have been given an opportunity to study in Israel.

The initiative which is a first for Fiji is aimed at providing a boost to the Fijian agricultural sector.

The group selected are second-year Bachelor of Agriculture Science students.

According to the Minister for Agriculture, Dr Mahendra Reddy, this initiative has been possible through a culmination of works after the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the ministry and Israel's Agency for Development and Corporation in 2017.

"Normally after the signing of MoUs it is very difficult to put them into action because there are all kinds of issues including resource implication or maybe because at the time of the signing there were resources available and this has changed and there is a lack of drivers," said Hon Reddy.

"Through this MoU we are generating future policymakers, examination agriculturalists, and architects of agriculture in Fiji."

Minister Reddy, while farewelling the students, advised them:

"what you are going to get from this visit is something that you cannot get here because technology that you get here is far behind than what we have in other countries."

"You are our ambassadors, therefore, build networks and visit places."

"Maintain your best behaviour because you carry your country's name and the future of other students to also participate in this opportunity hinges on your performances."

Meanwhile, student Lepani Rokodei said he would be studying Crop Protection during the group's 11-month study in Israel.

The Koro native from Lomaiviti said he looked forward to sharing with the agricultural sector what he learnt from Israel considering they were very advanced in the agricultural sector.