

# **ODPP MEDIA UPDATE**

# ODPP Rape and Sexual Offences Statistics – February 2025

The following data is authorised for release by the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP) and relates to the number of formal indictments (*Information*) filed in the High Courts of Fiji by the Director of Public Prosecutions throughout the month.

This data is confined to incidents of serious sexual offences only.

### Cases

There were eight indictments (Information) filed in the High Court with a total of 15 counts of sexual offences in February. The counts for sexual offences were rape (9), indecent assault (1), and sexual assault (5).

#### **Accused and Victims**

There were eight accused persons charged with a total of 15 counts of sexual offences. Of the eight accused persons, two were juveniles.

There were eight victims of whom four victims were under the age of 18 years. There were six female victims and two male victim.

### **Domestic Incidents**

There were five incidents where the victims and the accused were related to one another.

A 68-year-old man was charged with indecent assault and sexual assault of his 8-year-old niece while in another incident, a 43-year-old man was charged with the rape of this 19-year-old niece.

A 32-year-old man was charged with the rape of his 16-year-old nephew, however, this matter was discontinued after the victim could not be located or contacted.

There was one incident where a 15-year-old boy was charged with the rape and sexual assault of his 12-year-old cousin brother.

In another incident, a 17-year-old boy was charged with the rape and sexual assault of his 10-year-old stepsister.

### **Other Incidents**

A 33-year-old man was charged with two counts of sexual assault of a 19-year-old woman during a drinking party.

In another incident, an 18-year-old man was charged with the rape of a 34-year-old woman.

### Nolle Prosequi

Two cases were withdrawn after discontinuances (Nolle Prosequi) were filed after the victim could not be located and contacted and insufficient evidence.

Refer to the table entitled *ODPP Rape and Sexual Offences February 2025* for a break-down of these statistics.



### **ODPP Rape and Sexual Offences Statistics February 2025**

|  | Rape | Indecent assault | Defilement | Sexual Assault | Total |
|--|------|------------------|------------|----------------|-------|
| No. of Counts  | 9    | 1                | 0          | 5              | 15    |
| Total No. of Victims   | 6    | 1                | 0          | 4              | 8*    |
| No. of Victims under 18 years  | 3    | 1                | 0          | 3              | 4*    |
| Tota*l No. of Accused<br>Persons   | 6    | 1                | 0          | 4              | 8*    |
| No. of Accused Persons<br>under 18 years                                 | 2    | 0                | 0          | 2              | 2*    |
| No. of incidents involving people in domestic relationships or relatives | 4    | 1                | 0          | 3              | 5*    |
| No. of <i>Nolle Prosequi</i> filed                                       | 2    | 0                | 0          | 0              | 2     |
| No. of False Complaints  | 0    | 0                | 0          | 0              | 0     |
| Source: ODPP Fiji  |      |                  |            |                |       |

<sup>\*</sup> Please note that a number of rape victims as well as victims under the age of 18 years and victims in domestic relationship were also victims of other serious sexual offences. Similarly, a number of accused persons were also charged with more than one offence.