



ODPP MEDIA UPDATE

Date: 17 April 2026

Name of Accused: Savenaca Damuni, Vinay Prakash Chandra and Shushila Devi

Charge: Manslaughter arising from breach of duty contrary to section 240 (a)(b) and (c) (i) and (ii) read with section 241 (1) (2) of the Crimes Act 2009.

Corporate Manslaughter contrary to section 240 read with section 51, 52 and 54 of the Crimes Act 2009 and section 56 (3) (b) of the Land Transport Act 1998

Update:

The Acting DPP has sanctioned charges against a father and two directors of a timber and hardware company in relation to the death of a 6 year old boy.

Savenaca Damuni is charged with one count of manslaughter arising from breach of duty. It is alleged that the accused failed to take necessary precautions by allowing his six-year-old son to stand on the blade of a forklift whilst it was in operation and as a result the child fell over and came under the forklift which caused his death.

Vinay Prakash Chandra and Sushila Devi, directors of Raviravi Investment Timber & Hardware (PTE) Ltd permitted their employee Savenaca Damuni to operate a forklift despite knowing that he did not hold a valid driver's licence to operate an industrial truck and such a negligence contributed to the death of the child.

The alleged incident happened on 2 May 2023 at the timber yard in Vatuwaqa, Suva.

The matter was called today at the Suva Magistrates' Court. The accused persons have been released on bail under strict bail conditions.

The matter has been transferred to the Suva High Court for first mention on 8 May 2026.

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