

# Session 2.2: Mr. Neel Singh

- ◆ Registrar-General
- ◆ Ministry of Justice
- ◆ Fiji
- ◆ BIO
- ◆ Abstract





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# The Positive Impact of Financial Incentives on Birth Registration Completeness in Fiji

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FIJI GOVERNMENT



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DATA FOR  
HEALTH INITIATIVE

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# Introduction

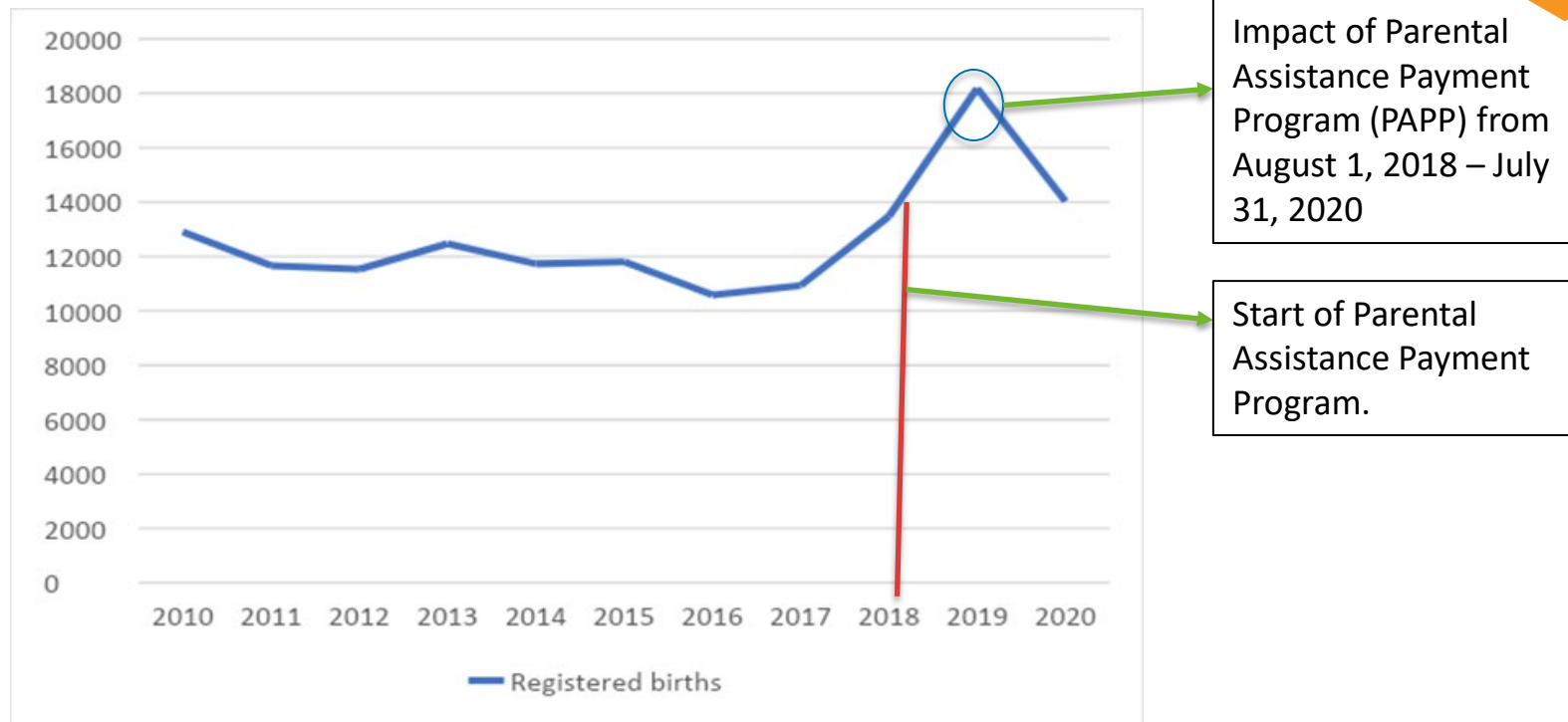
- ◆ The Fiji Government through its budget announcements had put in place two separate assistance programs to assist the poor, needy and underprivileged and these schemes were for children and individuals
- ◆ The programs were initiated in 2018 and 2022 respectively
- ◆ Birth Registration Number used as unique identifier

# Work Performed

- ◆ The first initiative was the Parenthood Assistance Payment Program ('PAPP')
- ◆ Rolled out in 2018 where \$1,000 were given to the mother of the child
- ◆ \$500 were issued instantly after the birth was registered and another \$500 stays in the bank account till the child is enrolled in year 1 of the school

# Data from MOJ

Figure 1 Births registered within one year, by year of birth (2010-2020), MOJ data



# Inflation Mitigation Assistance (‘IMA’)

- ◆ The second initiative – The Inflation Mitigation Assistance (‘IMA’)
- ◆ Rolled out in 2022 to assist the low-income families pay for food and other essential items
- ◆ BRN was one of the compulsory requirement while lodging this application
- ◆ Approximately 11,000 birth were registered within 6 weeks

# IMA

- ◆ It was noticed that there was an increase in registration of birth compared to past months
- ◆ 23/05/2022 – 2/07/2022 (6 weeks) – 1086 births were registered
- ◆ 4/07/2022 – 14/08/2022 (6 weeks) – 2021 births were registered



# Conclusion

- ◆ Generally, an increase in birth registrations were observed
- ◆ The results so far show a positive impact of these incentives
- ◆ Continuation of economic incentives should be considered to improve the rate of birth registration completeness for all sub-sets of the population

