RAGS TO RICHES
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MEGHAN BACK IN FILM

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BUSINESS

Tourism 'alert'

By DIONISIA TABUREGUCI

TOURISM red flag: Australians are going elsewhere for holidays and Fiji is losing growth momentum in its traditional visitor segment — young families.

ANZ economist Kishti Sen, co-author of the latest ANZ Pacific Insight titled: "Fiji's silver surge, rise in retiree tourism", cautions: "Don't take tourists as granted to drive growth. It's a case of us shaping up or they ship out leaving us in the doldrum."

This, as the Reserve Bank of Fiji in its latest economic review said the economy was set to grow for the fourth consecutive year this year, driven largely by tourism.

■ Full report: PAGE 16



Cabbies on thigh mode

TAXIDRIVERS TURN TO DRUGS TO STAY AWAKE

By REPEKA NASIKO

LONG hours behind the wheel and rising payment pressures are driving some taxidrivers to dangerous extremes.

In Lautoka, reports have surfaced of some drivers turning to drugs to stay awake to meet daily or weekly vehicle payments demanded by taxi owners.

The Lautoka Zone Taxi Association says the strain of keeping up with financial obligations has pushed some operators beyond safe limits, raising fears about passenger and road safety.

Many drivers face a tough

choice between losing their cars or risking their health just to keep up with payments.

The issue has reignited

calls for compulsory drug testing of public service drivers as authorities confront a growing concern on Fiji's roads.

Editorial Comment: P8





To all our members, we say

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