

Fiji

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Fiji Latest News

A surprise announcement by the Quad to build a “model” port in Fiji recently sparked hopes that the US, Australia, India, and Japan will fund a \$1.82 billion plan to relocate the nation’s main dock.

About Fiji

- It is a **country** located in the **South Pacific Ocean**, surrounding the **Koro Sea**, to the **northeast of New Zealand** and **southwest of Hawaii**.
- It does **not share land borders with any other country**.
- It is made up of about **300 islands**, only about 100 of which are inhabited.
- The islands feature a **central range of mountains**, giving way to plateaus, lowlands, and coastal plains.
- **Almost half** of Fiji’s total area **remains forested**, while dry grasslands are found in western areas of the large islands.
- The **capital, Suva**, is on the **southeast coast of the largest island, Viti Levu** (“Great Fiji”).
 - Viti Levu accounts for **more than half of Fiji’s land area**.

- It includes the **country's highest peak, Mount Tomanivi**, standing at 1,324 m (4,344 ft).
- Fiji Islands are largely the **product of volcanic action, sedimentary deposit**, and **formations of coral**.
- The **majority** of Fijians are of **mixed Melanesian-Polynesian ancestry**, with a **large South Asian minority**.
- Fiji's **major languages** are **English, Fijian, and Hindi**, and its major **religions** are **Christianity, Hinduism, and Islam**.
- **Currency: Fiji dollar**.
- Fiji has one of the **most developed economies in the Pacific**, relying heavily on its **tourism and sugar industries**.
- **Political History:**
 - Fiji **became independent in 1970** after nearly a century as a **British colony**.
 - On independence, Fiji **adopted a constitutional democratic form of government** based on the **Westminster system**.
 - A **series of coups (1987, 2000, and 2006)** slowed Fiji's progress to its current **parliamentary democracy under the 2013 Constitution of Fiji**.
 - Fiji has a 55-seat **unicameral parliament**.

Source: FP

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