

Forum for India-Pacific Islands Cooperation

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Forum for India-Pacific Islands Cooperation Latest News

Recently, Indian External Affairs hosted a meeting of the foreign ministers of the Forum for India-Pacific Islands Cooperation (FIPIC) in New York.

About Forum for India-Pacific Islands Cooperation

- It is a **multilateral platform** established by India to enhance cooperation with the **Pacific Island countries**.
- It was **established in 2014** during the Prime Minister of India's visit to Fiji
- **Member countries:** FIPIC includes 14 of the island countries – Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu.
- **In line with the "Act East Policy"**, through FIPIC, India has primarily focused its efforts on the Pacific Islands.
- **Economic Cooperation:** · At this moment, total annual trade of about \$300 million between the Indian and Pacific Island countries, whereas exports are around \$200 million and imports are around \$100 million.

- **FIPIC Summits held:** Since 2014 three FIPIC summits have been held, **1st 2014** (Suva, Fiji), **2nd 2015** (Jaipur, India), **3rd 2023** (Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea).

Key Initiatives of India related to FIPIC

- Setting up of a special **USD one million fund** for adapting to **climate change** and clean energy, establishing a trade office in India,
- Pan **Pacific Islands e-network** to improve digital connectivity,
- Visa on arrival at Indian airports for all the 14 Pacific Island countries,
- Cooperation in **space technology applications** for improving the quality of life of the islands, and **training to diplomats from** Pacific Island countries.

Source: News On Air

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