



**High Commission of India
Suva**

Press Release

**Handing Over of Vehicles to Fijian Elections Office
(30 June 2022)**

Responding to a request from the Fijian Elections Office (FEO) to assist in the forthcoming general elections in Fiji, the Government of India gifted four multi-purpose Double Cab Vehicles to the Fijian election body on 30 June 2022.

On behalf of the Government of India, the High Commissioner of India to Fiji, His Excellency P. S. Karthigeyan handed over the four made in India Mahindra 4-wheel Double Cab Vehicles to the Chairperson of the Electoral Commission of Fiji, Mr. Mukesh Nand at a simple ceremony held at the Fijian Elections Office Warehouse, Suva.

Also present on the occasion were the Supervisor of Elections, Mr. Mohammed Saneem and other senior government officials and High Commission representatives.

Speaking at the event, High Commissioner Karthigeyan underlined the special and historical ties between India and Fiji and the various aspects of bilateral development cooperation. As the World's largest and most vibrant democracy, he said India is delighted to assist the Fijian Election Office in the forthcoming general elections. He also conveyed that

as a friend of Fiji, India stands ready to further assist the election body in any area of electoral management.

The Government of India (GoI) has been regularly assisting the FEO in the past Fijian General Elections. In 2014, GoI donated ten Mahindra SUV Vehicles and 4400 bottles of inedible ink and for the 2018 elections in Fiji, five Mahindra SUV Vehicles and 6000 bottles of inedible ink were delivered. In addition, a three-member delegation from the Election Commission of India participated in the Multinational Observer Group (MOG) during the previous elections along with representatives from Australia and Indonesia.

In his remarks, the Chairperson of the Electoral Commission Mr. Mukesh Nand thanked the Government of India for the generous assistance and said the support will greatly help the FEO in efficiently conducting the elections. Mr. Nand also recalled the ongoing cooperation between FEO and the Election Commission of India.