

## High Commission of India

Suva

\*\*\*

### India – Fiji Bilateral Relations

**Historical Perspective:** India's links with Fiji commenced in 1879 when Indian labourers were brought here by the British under indenture system to work on sugarcane plantations. Between 1879 and 1916 around 60,553 Indians were brought to Fiji in 87 ships. Beginning with early 20<sup>th</sup> century, Indian traders and others also started arriving in Fiji. In 1920, the indenture system was abolished.

Prior to Fiji's independence in 1970, India had a Commissioner since 1948 to look after the interests of people of Indian origin. It was later upgraded to High Commissioner after Fiji's independence in 1970. Fiji's Prime Minister Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara visited India in 1971 and Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi visited Fiji in September 1981.

Following political developments in Fiji, the High Commission of India and Indian Cultural Centre were closed in May 1990. The High Commission of India was subsequently reopened in March 1999 and the Indian Cultural Centre in February 2005. Fiji established its High Commission in New Delhi in January 2004.

**Political Relations:** India-Fiji relations are continuously strengthening, particularly after the visit of Hon'ble Prime Minister of India to Fiji in November 2014, when the First Meeting of the Forum for India-Pacific Islands Co-operation (FIPIIC-I)" was also held. Fijian Prime Minister Josaia Voreqe Bainimarama participated in 2<sup>nd</sup> Summit of FIPIIC (FIPIIC-II) at Jaipur in August 2015. Fijian PM Bainimarama visited India on 19-21 May 2016 during his stopover, on his way to the United Nations World Humanitarian Summit in Turkey, and had meeting with Indian Prime Minister. Fijian PM also participated in the Founding Conference of the International Solar Alliance (ISA) held at New Delhi in March 2018.

**Foreign Office Consultations (FOC):** The Fifth round of India-Fiji FOC was held on 18 July 2022 at Suva. Secretary (East), Shri Saurabh Kumar led the Indian delegation, while Permanent Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Amb. Yogesh Karan led the Fijian side to review the whole gamut of bilateral/multilateral cooperation activities.

#### **PM Modi's visit**

Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, visited Fiji on 19 November 2014. During the visit, three MoUs were signed with Fiji: (i) MoU for Extending a US\$ 70mn Line of Credit for Establishing a Co-Generation Plant in Fiji (which was later restructured to US\$45 mn for revival of three sugar factories and US\$ 25mn for Upgradation of Fijian rail-link on Fijian request. However, the LoC could not be made effective as FSC did not submit the documents for making the LoC Agreement effective. **In view of this, the LOC has been annulled by Govt.** (ii) MoU on Cooperation in the field of training of diplomats, and (iii) MoU on the Earmarking of Land for their Diplomatic Missions in the respective Capitals.

**EAM Dr. S. Jaishankar visit:** Hon'ble EAM visited Fiji from 14-17 February 2023 to attend the 12th World Hindi Conference held in Nadi, Fiji from 15-17 February. On 16 February 2023 EAM visited Suva for bilateral engagements. Besides the delegation level talks with Fijian side led by Prime Minister Sitiveni Rabuka, EAM also called on Fijian President, Ratu Williame Katonivere during the visit Visa Waiver Agreement for Diplomatic and Official passport holders was signed between India and Fiji on 16 February 2023. Three side events were also held in Suva during EAM's visit - i) Launch of Solarisation of the Pacific Head of State Residences at the State House, ii) Inauguration of the renovated Girit Gallery in Fiji Museum funded by GOI and iii) Unveiling of bust of Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel at India House followed by an interaction with the vibrant members of diaspora.

**Visit of MOS (RRS) and Administrator of Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu and Lakshadweep:** Dr. Rajkumar Ranjan Singh, Hon'ble Minister of State for External Minister and Praful Patel, Administrator of Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu and Lakshadweep visited Fiji

from 14 to 16 May 2023 for Girit Day Celebration in Suva. On 15 May 2023, Hon. MoS (RRS) was guest of honor at the 144<sup>th</sup> Girit Day celebrations organized by the Fijian Government. Hon'ble Administrator, Shri Praful Patel also attended the celebrations.

**Forum for India-Pacific Islands Cooperation (FIPI)-I :** The First Summit of Forum for India-Pacific Islands Cooperation (FIPI-I) was held in Fiji during the visit of PM Modi in November 2014 with the participation of 14 Pacific Island Countries (PICs) which include Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, Niue, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.

**FIPI-II:** Fijian delegation led by PM Bainimarama, visited India to attend 2<sup>nd</sup> Summit of Forum for India-Pacific Islands Cooperation (FIPI-II) held at Jaipur on 21 August 2015.

**FIPI-III:** The 3rd Forum for India-Pacific Islands Cooperation (FIPI) Summit was held in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea on 22 May 2023, which was hosted by Hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi and PNG Prime Minister, James Marape. Fijian delegation led by PM Sitiveni Rabuka attended the Summit at PNG on 22 May 2023. A 12-step action plan was announced by the Hon. Prime Minister of India for the 14 Pacific Island Countries including Fiji during the 3rd FIPI summit .On behalf of the Fijian President, H.E. Mr. Ratu Wiliame Maivalili Katonivere, Prime Minister Rabuka bestowed Prime Minister Modi with the highest honor of the Republic of Fiji – the Companion of the Order of Fiji (CF).

**Solar Electrification of 2800 houses in 14 Pacific Islands Countries, 200 houses in each country (announced by PM During FIPI-II in 2015):** The project of 'Solar Electrification of 2800 houses in 14 Pacific Islands Countries' was announced by Hon'ble PM in Second Summit of 'Forum for India Pacific Islands Cooperation (FIPI-II)' held at Jaipur in August 2015. JS(South), Ministry of External Affairs, on behalf of the President of India signed an agreement on 25 May 2016 with Barefoot college for implementation of this project with an estimated cost of US\$ 1.5 million. Under this project, Government of India, provided 6-month long training to 70 solar mamas at Barefoot College, Rajasthan.

The second phase consists of providing equipment for 'solar electrification of 200 houses each in 14 Pacific Island countries' (for 04 countries under the jurisdiction of this Mission), to be supplied by barefoot college and then assembled in the respective countries. Under this project, Soar Electrification has been completed in 300 houses in Fiji.

**India-Pacific Islands Sustainable Development Conference (IPI-SDC):** Under the umbrella of Forum for India Pacific Islands Co-operation (FIPI), Government of India organized the IPI-SDC, which was held at Suva, Fiji on 25-26 May 2017. Minister of State for External Affairs Gen. (Dr.) V.K.Singh (Retd.) hosted the event. The Conference saw the participation of several high-profile leaders from the 14 PICs. Notable outcome of the conference included the following:

- India signed MoUs for setting up of Centers of Excellence in Information Technology (CEIT) with Fiji, Cook Islands, Nauru, Samoa and Niue.
- India and Fiji also signed three MOUs for 'Co-operation in Youth Development', 'Cooperation between Broadcasting Agencies' and 'Cooperation in the field of Renewable Energy'.
- Prasar Bharati of India also gifted programmatic content on India for telecast to all the Pacific Island Countries.
- India announced assistance of US\$ 1mn for Fiji's COP23 Presidency Trust Fund and handed over the same on 19 June 2017.

**Interaction with Pacific Islands Developing States (PSIDS):** Hon'ble Prime Minister held a historic interaction with Pacific Islands Developing States (PSIDS) Leaders on 24 September 2019 on the sidelines of the 74<sup>th</sup> UNGA. Hon. PM inter alia announced US\$ 1 million grant to each country for projects of their choice and concessional Line of Credit of US\$150 million for projects aimed at solar, renewable energy and climate related projects. Other announcements included visit of parliamentarians to India, support to capacity building including special training of diplomats, deputation of technical experts to provide training and offer to organise specialised courses also under ITEC programme in priority areas identified by partner countries.

**Climate Disaster Risk Insurance Project:** GoI approved funding of US\$850,000 for Fiji's project proposal "Developing Climate Disaster Risk Financing Framework and Parametric Insurance" on 19 May 2020 through 'India-UN Development Partnership Fund'. On 25 August 2021, United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) Pacific Team officially launched the project. The project has been completed and benefitted in more than 500 family members in Fiji.

**Solarisation of Head of State Residences:** A regional Solarisation Project to improve resilience in the Pacific was signed on 1 June 2020 in Suva between United Nations Resident Coordinator and Pacific Islands Development Forum (PIDF). The two-year project, costing US\$1.31 mn has been largely funded by Government of India – US\$ 400,000 from UN Development Partnership Fund and US\$700,000 from India-UN Development Partnership Fund Commonwealth Window. Under the project, Photovoltaic (PV) systems will be installed on buildings of national significance, such as the executive administrative residence of 11 countries (Fiji, Federated States Micronesia, Palau, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Solomon Islands, Timor Leste, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu). As of now, the Solar panels have been installed at State House in Fiji and the project was launched by the EAM, Dr. S. Jaishankar on 16 February 2023 in Fiji. On 22 May 2023, two sites in Bau Island the Meeting Hall (Ulunivua) of the Great Council of Chiefs and the official residence of Paramount Chief of the Kubuna Confederacy (Mataiwelagi) were inaugurated by the High Commissioner and Turaga Bale na Vunivalu na Tui Kaba Ratu Epenisa Seru Cakobau on Bau Island. For Kiribati, Tonga and Tuvalu, the equipments have reached the site and installation is expected to be completed by February 2024.

**Fiji affirms commitment to building resilient infrastructure:** On 17 March 2021, at the virtual International Conference on Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (ICDRI 2021) was inaugurated by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. Prime Minister of United Kingdom, Boris Johnson; Prime Minister of Italy, Mario Draghi also participated in the inaugural session along with Fijian Prime Minister Bainimarama.

**Cooperation in the field of agriculture and allied sectors between India and Fiji -** A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Cooperation in the field of agriculture and allied sectors between India and Fiji was signed on 22 June 2021 during a virtual event. From the Indian side, the MoU was signed by Shri Narendra Singh Tomar, Hon. Minister for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare and from the Fijian side by Hon Dr. Mahendra Reddy, Minister of Agriculture, Waterways and Environment. The scope of this MoU covers avenues for promotion of joint ventures between private sectors of both countries, promotion of investment in marketing and value addition of agricultural commodities to create opportunities for direct trade of agriculture products through market access. The MoU also provides for establishment of Indo-Fiji Working Group for dealing with phytosanitary issues, and any other form of cooperation.

**Establishment of Sustainable Coastal and Ocean Research Institute (SCORI) at Fiji:** During the 2nd Summit of FIPIC held at Jaipur on 21 August 2015, it was announced that India would assist in establishing an "Institute for Sustainable Coastal and Ocean Research" in the Pacific region and a network of Marine Biology Research Stations in various island nations. In this connection, a scoping mission by an Indian delegation from the Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) & National Centre for Coastal Research (NCCR) visited Fiji during July 2019 and submitted a report to the Ministry for the establishment of SCORI at USP in Fiji. A consultative meeting moderated by MoES was organized on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2021. *Subsequent to the meeting a draft MoU was prepared by NCCR (MoES) in 2021 and shared with USP which was shared with USP for their comments. The MoU was later re-visited and in March 2023 a revised Draft MoU was signed in May 2023 with the soft launch of the project by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India during the FIPIC III Summit in Papua New Guinea (PNG).*

#### **Assistance & LOC to Fijian Sugar Industry**

i) **LOC of USD 50.40 million for Restructuring the sugar industry in Fiji:** The LoC Agreement of US \$ 50.40 million was signed with the Fiji Sugar Corporation (FSC) on 7 November 2005 and the Agreement was made effective on 12 January 2006. Under this LoC, total 16 contracts for supply of various equipment and services cumulatively valued at US \$ 50.33 million were approved. Total disbursements made under the LOC amount to US \$ 48.73 million.

ii) **LOC of USD 5.38 Million for Up gradation of sugar industry in Fiji:** The LOC Agreement was signed on February 4, 2015 and the Agreement was made effective on October 05, 2015. Under the LOC a total of 6 contracts aggregating USD 2.53 million have been covered, out of which 4 contracts [Including the PMC] aggregating USD 2.31 million have been completed. One contract of USD 2.46 million awarded to S.S. Engineers has been terminated by FSC.

iii) Request for restructuring of LOC: FSC stopped repayment on the LOC overdues in 2019 due to its acute financial condition. During the meeting of EAM with the Fijian delegation in February 2023, it was conveyed that LOC overdue will be restructured. A formal request was received from Fijian side in April 2023.

**iv) LOC of USD 70.00 Million for financing [i] Upgradation of sugar factories at Lautoka, Labasa and Rarawai at a cost of USD 45 million and [ii] Upgradation of Railway Network of FSC at a cost of USD 25 million:** The LoC Agreement was signed between EXIM Bank and Fiji Sugar Corporation (FSC) on February 4, 2015. However, the LoC could not be made effective as FSC did not submit the documents for making the LoC Agreement effective. In view of this, the LOC has been annulled by GoI.

(iv) India provided a grant of US\$ 1.06 mn to the Fiji Sugar Corporation (FSC) for purchase of 05 Tata Lorries, 05 Mechanical Cane Planters, and 05 Mahindra Tractors along with several agricultural related equipment from India in December 2017.

(v) Ten senior engineers of the FSC completed 30 weeks training (10 weeks each year since 2015) at Vasantdada Sugar Institute (VSI), Pune, Maharashtra in January 2018.

**Cooperation at International Forums:** Recently Fiji supported Indian candidatures at various international forums:

- i. Fiji signed and ratified Framework Agreement for International Solar Agreement (ISA). It has become a founder member of the ISA by depositing the Instrument of Ratification at New Delhi on 25 September 2017.
- ii. India's candidature for World Custom Organization in June 2019.
- iii. India's candidature in UNSC in June 2020
- iv. India's candidature to Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in October 2020
- v. Re-election as a member of the Human Rights Council (HRC) held in UNGA in New York in October 2021.
- vi. Election for the International Law Commission (ILC) for the term 2023-27 held on 12 November 2021 in New York.
- vii. Candidature to (ICPO-INTERPOL) – Elections during the 89<sup>th</sup> Interpol General Assembly in Turkey on 23-25 November 2021.
- viii. Candidature for the World Heritage Committee Election was held on 25 November at the 23<sup>rd</sup> Session of the General Assembly of States Parties to the World Heritage Convention.
- ix. Conveyed written support for Ongoing Fisheries Negotiations at WTO.
- x. Re-election to the Council of IMO in Category 'B' for the term 2022-23.
- xi. Fiji supported India's candidature to Asian Productivity Council (APO), Tokyo on 3 June 2022.
- xii. Fiji supported India's candidature for membership in the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf for a five year term beginning in 2023 on 10 June 2022.
- xiii. Fiji supported India's candidature for IMO under Category B for the biennium 2024-25.
- xiv. Fiji supported India in the UNESCO ICPRCP Election, in Paris on 15 Nov 2023.

## **Indian Assistance**

In the past, GOI provided funds for 05 cars for Fiji Police; 500 sewing Machines; 05 Ambulances for hospitals; 134 Water Tanks for primary and higher secondary schools; Mobile Library Vehicle for Suva City Carnegie Mobile Library; 4x4 Double Cab for Rarawai & Penang Cane Producers' Association; Up-gradation of a road in Kieuva near Suva; Equipment & books for TISI Sangam

college of Nursing & Health Care Education in Labasa; A total of US\$ 100,000/- in February 2009 after Cyclone Tomas in March 2010.

GOI provided assistance for the following:

- US\$ 200,000 in July 2012 following floods in January and March 2012,
- US\$ 100,000 in 2013 after cyclone Evan.
- In January 2014 grant was also provided for purchase of medicines from India at a total cost of Rs.10 lakhs.
- India supplied indelible ink and five Mahindra Genio and five Mahindra Scorpio vehicles to Fiji Elections Office in 2014.
- In September 2015, 300 Sewing Machines were given to Ministry for Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation for economic empowerment of rural women.
- 5000 Akash Tablets were donated in September 2015, to Ministry of Education to complement Government of Fiji's policy of one device per child.
- 800 medical diagnostic kits were donated to Ministry for Health and Medical Services kits for Primary Health care facilities in February 2016.
- In June 2016, India donated two Mahindra tractors and two units of Mahindra Scorpio Double cab to Fijian Ministry of Agriculture.
- India also contributed, in July 2016, US\$ 250,000 (FJ\$515,037.50) to the President elect of the UN General Assembly, Ambassador Peter Thomson of Fiji.
- US\$ 1.3 million were donated to Fiji for repair of 20 schools in February 2017.
- Funding of Rs. 15,48,100 for visit of Fijian National Security and Defence Review Team to India on 24-26 October 2016 – US\$22,867/-.
- Funding of Rs.19,19,850 for visit (training) of Fijian National Security and Defence Review Team to India on 07-29 July 2017 – US\$29,595/-.
- Procurement of 4-wheel Drive Twin Cab (Mahindra Scorpio) for Nasinu Town Council – US\$25,941/-.
- In 2018, a grant of US\$5 million was provided to the SME Sector.
- Government of India assisted worth FJ\$ 307,730/- as Grant for upgradation of IT facilities in the Mahatma Gandhi Memorial High School in 2020.
- Financial assistance FJ\$ 6000/-for construction of a toilet and bathroom in community hall in the village of Nadakuni in Naitasiri Province in December 2020.
- Funding of a sum of FJD 39,602/- to the Ministry of Commerce, Trade, Tourism & Transport for construction of two roadside stalls on the sides of highways of Fiji.
- India had donated Medical Supplies worth of Rs. 3,55,861.80 containing Anti-Retroviral drugs for HIV patients in Fiji on 01 December 2021 and second tranche of Medical Supplies containing Anti-Retroviral drugs, PPE kits and N95 masks (125,000pcs) and Tuberculosis medicines worth of Rs. 30,45,320.00 on 11 April 2022.
- India supplied four Mahindra twin cab vehicles (FJ\$ 2,48,000) and 5500 bottles of indelible ink (INR 1,18,57,790/-) to Fiji Elections Office in 2022 to facilitate the 2022 General Election.
- India funded FJ\$ 35,000/- for Fiji Museum to renovate the exhibition revamping work in its main maritime gallery through Grant-in-Aid and inauguration held on 16 Feb by EAM Jaishankar.
- India donated 2 Mahindra twin cab vehicles (F\$109,908.26) to Tavua and Rakiraki Town Councils on 02 March 2023.
- Third tranche of Medical Supplies containing Anti-Retroviral drugs & Tuberculosis medicines worth of INR 1,07,23,960.00 gifted by Gol in August 2023.
- On 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2023, GOI gifted two Mobile soil testing laboratories to Ministry of Agriculture and Waterways worth FJD 179,752.30.

#### **Assistance to Fijian Election Office (FEO)**

- On 26 February 2018, High Commissioner handed over a cheque of FJ\$ 67,830/- (eq. US\$ 33,915) to the Permanent Secretary in the Office of the Prime Minister, Ambassador Yogesh Karan, for 01 Mahindra SUV for the Fijian Election Office.
- On 24 July 2018, India donated 04 Mahindra SUVs costing FJ\$2,24,000 (eq. US\$ 112,000) to (FEO) as further assistance from India to Fiji in organizing the General Elections held in 2018. This assistance was in addition to the 6000 bottles of indelible ink (worth US\$ 122,340) to the FEO for use during General Elections.

- On 30 June 2022 India donated 04 Mahindra twin cab vehicles costing FJ\$ 248,000/- and in October 2022, 5500 bottles of indelible ink (INR 1,18,57,790/-) to Fiji Elections Office to assist in the forthcoming general elections in Fiji.

### **Humanitarian Assistance & Disaster Relief Support to Fiji**

#### **Assistance provided after Tropical Cyclone (TC) Winston struck Fiji on 20 February 2016**

- India donated US\$ 1mn to Fijian PM's relief fund.
- Supplied US\$ 3 million worth relief material after TC Winston.
- Indian Naval Ship Sumitra visited Fiji in October 2016 and five tons of vegetable seeds, worth FJ\$ 2.3mn (US\$ 1.2mn) carried by INS Sumitra, were handed over to Minister of Agriculture, Government of Fiji.

**Indian assistance after Tropical Cyclone (TC) Yasa :** Fiji was hit by a Category 5 Tropical Cyclone Yasa on December 17-18, 2020, which caused extensive damage and destruction of critical infrastructure. Responding to the appeal of the Government of Fiji seeking humanitarian assistance in the aftermath of STC Yasa, a consignment of 6 tons of relief materials consisting of 1000 sleeping mats and dignity kits airlifted from India for the cyclone-affected people, reached Fiji in the first week of January, 2021.

**Covishield (AstraZeneca) vaccines for Fiji:** A consignment of 100,000 doses of Made in India Covishield (AstraZeneca) vaccines was handed over to Hon Prime Minister Bainimarama at the Nadi International Airport on 29 March 2021 by Acting High Commissioner. The vaccines supplied by GOI through grant assistance helped launch the successful national Covid- 19 vaccination programme in Fiji.

**Handing over of Agricultural Seeds consignment to Fiji:** A consignment of 7 tons of agricultural seeds with 14 varieties of fruit and vegetable seeds worth FJ\$1.75 million was formally handed over by Government of India to Government of Fiji on 01 September 2021 at the Ministry of Agriculture (Fiji) premises in Suva. High Commissioner and the Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture, Waterways and Environment of the Government of Fiji, H.E. Dr. Mahendra Reddy were both present on the occasion. The seed consignment helped in the restoration of livelihood of Fijian communities affected by Cyclone Yasa.

**Artificial limb fitment camp in Fiji:** Mission in collaboration with the Fijian Ministry of Health and Medical Services and Bhagwan Mahaveer Viklang Sahayata Samiti (BMVSS), Jaipur (Rajasthan) organized the Jaipur Foot Camp and fitted 629 limbs in Fiji at three locations Suva, Nadi and Labasa, from 01 November – 17 December, 2022. The camp was organized on the request of the Government of the Republic of Fiji at an expenditure of FJD670,000 /- fully funded by the Government of India as part of "India for Humanity" programme.

### **Other Areas of Cooperation**

**Air Sector Cooperation:** Attorney-General and Minister of Economy Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum visited New Delhi and signed Air Services Agreement with Indian Civil Aviation Minister on 8 March 2017. Fiji Airways also signed Code-Share Agreement with former Indian airlines Jet Airways in March 2017. After the closure of Jet Airways in April 2019, Fiji Airways entered into code sharing arrangement with Air India. TATA SIA Airlines Ltd. (Vistara) has now been designated as Indian scheduled carrier to operate on agreed services between India and Fiji. The Department of Civil Aviation of Government of Fiji has confirmed the completion of internal procedures by the Aeronautical Authorities of Fiji for entry into force the provision of Air Services Agreement between the two nations.

**The Indian Naval ship, INS Satpura,** visited Suva on 01 September, 2022 as part of a two-day goodwill visit. During the visit, a number of social welfare activities were organized by the Mission including a Free Health Screening Camp, a Yoga session on the deck of the ship and planting over 1000 mangrove saplings. The ship was also open to members of the public on 01 September, 2022 for a limited period of time.

**Training:** Under our flagship capacity building and human resource development programme “**Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation – ITEC**” (Following our PM’s announcement during his visit to Fiji in 2014, annual ITEC slots had been increased from **55 to 110**, which were further increased to **170 for 2015-16**), the details of utilization ITEC slots are as follows:

- In 2017-18, 70 slots were utilized out of 125 ITEC slots and 07 Colombo Plan Slots.
- In 2018-19, 70 slots were utilized out of 100 slots and in 2019-20, 50 slots have been utilized out of 100 offered to Fiji.
- 17 slots were utilized out of 100 offered in 2020-21 and out of 100 slots offered in 2021-22 16 have been utilized. 100 slots have been offered in 2022-23 and so far 14 have been utilized.

Fiji was offered one slot each for 2017-18 and 2018-19 for three years training at National Defence College (NDC). Additional Slots are also available for training of Defence personnel. Fiji was offered one slot each for 2017-18 and 2018-19 for three years training at National Defence College (NDC).

One Fijian diplomat attended Professional Course for Foreign Diplomats (PCFD) in July-August 2016. Two Defence Ministry officials got training with our National Security Council Secretariat (NSCS) in July 2017. One Fijian Defence Ministry official Ms. Eileen Pickring (as per the special request from Fijian side) had undergone 64<sup>th</sup> PCFD Course at New Delhi in September-October 2017. One officer from MoFA undergone 69<sup>th</sup> PCFD course in October 2022 and two officer undergone 3<sup>rd</sup> Special course for Diplomats from Pacific Island Countries from 20 February to 03 March 2023 at SSIFS in New Delhi.

**Mahatma Gandhi-Centre of Excellence in Information Technology (MG-CEIT):** Government of India and Government of Republic of Fiji signed an MoU for setting up of Mahatma Gandhi Centre of Excellence in Information Technology (MG-CEIT) on 24.05.2017 during the India Pacific Islands Sustainable Development Conference (IP-SDC) at Suva, Fiji. As per MoU CDAC was nominated by GoI for implementation of the project and Fiji nominated Fiji National University (FNU) as the implementing Agency in Suva. 6 Master trainers have already completed their 6 months training program at CDAC in Pune. CDAC had also deputed two IT professionals, one as Centre Head and second as trainer at MG-CEIT for the period of two years. Both of them have returned to India after completion of their assignment. The Project Monitoring Team led by Dr. Devyani Khobragade, JS (DPA-II) visited Fiji from 19-20 December 2020. The project commenced on Nov 15, 2019 and was completed on 27 January, 2021.

**Pravasi Bhartiya Divas (PBD) / Pravasi Bhartiya Samman (PBS):** Fiji's leading NGO, Sai Prema Foundation Fiji, has been awarded the prestigious "Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award 2021" at the 16<sup>th</sup> PBD. The Foundation was duly recognised for its "Outstanding Community Service" and was one of the only four organisations bestowed with the award globally. Other PBS awardees from Fiji are: (i) Mr. Mahendra Chaudhry, former PM (2004); (ii) Golfer Mr. Vijay Singh (2005); (iii) Late Sir Moti Tika Ram, former Supreme Court Judge (2007), (iv) Late Mr. Y.P. Reddy, Reddy Group Chairman and Chairman, (v) Girmit Council (2010), (vii) RamKrishna Mission (2014) (viii) Late Mr Vinod Patel, businessman got award for social service in (2017).

**General Scholarship Scheme under ICCR-** There are 20 scholarships available annually from 2022-23. Before 2022-23 GOI offered 30 slots for Fijian citizens under the General Scholarship scheme (GSS) to pursue higher education in India under Indian Council of Cultural Relations (ICCR) Scholarship programme.

Fiji utilized 13 scholarship slots out of 29 offered in 2015-16; 10 slots out of 35 offered in 2016-17; 9 slots out of 35 offered in 2017-18; 10 slots out of 35 offered in 2018-19; 10 slots out of 35 offered in 2019 – 20; 10 slots out of 30 offered in 2020-21; 10 slots out of 30 offered in 2021-22; 09 slots out of 20 offered in 2022-23.

**Other Scholarships:** Non-country specific scholarships are also offered for Diaspora Children: Certificate/Diploma Course in Hindi conducted by Kendriya Hindi Sansthan, New Delhi & Agra and AYUSH scholarship scheme in traditional medicine, One hundred slots of Global ICCR

Scholarships in Music & Dance. One student from Fiji availed of AYUSH scholarship for the first time in 2012. Assistance worth Rs. 26 Lakhs (US\$ 40,000) was provided to University of South Pacific (USP) in 2016 and another Rs. 26 Lakhs was provided in 2019 for continuation of Hindi studies programme in the University. One student from Fiji joined Masters in Ayurveda under AYUSH scholarship in November 2018. One student from Fiji was granted admission in Kendriya Hindi Sansthan, New Delhi in 2019-20.

### Healthcare

**Sahyadri:** An Agreement between the Sahyadri Group of Hospitals, Pune and Ministry of Health, Government of Fiji was signed in July 2012 to provide tertiary health care facilities in Fiji (valid for five years). The contract concluded on 16 September 2017. Team of specialist doctors from India used to come every quarter and carry out health screening camps and conduct 'heart and other surgeries' in Fiji. Several Fijian patients travel to India for medical treatment in super specialty hospitals (like Apollo, Forties, BLK, Devyani Hospitals etc.). Apollo Hospitals in April 2013 signed an MoU with the Fiji National University (FNU), for cooperation in training and capacity building and organizing a telemedicine/mobile-health programme. Apollo-Fiji Health Forum was held at Suva on 21 April 2017. Apollo Hospitals started tele-medicine hub at Suva in August 2018.

### Commercial and Economic Relations

Bilateral Trade:

Year	Fiji's Export (US\$ Millions)	Fijian Import (US\$ Millions)	Trade Imbalance (US\$ Millions)
2014-2015	1.8	49.75	47.95
2015-2016	0.37	44.15	43.78
2016-2017	0.60	52.70	52.10
2017-2018	0.49	54.24	53.75
2018-2019	0.71	60.80	60.09
2019-2020	0.57	55.70	55.13
2020-2021	1.33	46.90	45.57
2021-2022	0.49	57.96	57.47
2022-23	0.10	80.02	79.92

(Source: Department of Commerce, Government of India)

**Banking:** MoU on Supervisory Cooperation and Exchange of Supervisory Information between the Reserve Bank of India and the Reserve Bank of Fiji was signed in March 2013.

**Public Sector Undertakings:** Four Government of India undertakings, viz, New India Assurance Company Ltd. (since 1954), Life Insurance Corporation of India (since 1956), Bank of Baroda (since 1961) and Water and Power Consultancy Services (WAPCOS) Ltd (2015) are functioning in Fiji.

**Tourism:** India participated in the Hibiscus Festival of 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018. The Festival is held in August every year in Suva. In 2019 and 2020, the Festival did not take place.

**Consular:** The number of Indians living in Fiji is about 2300, mostly engaged in services like IT, management, finance, banking, educational, medical, hotel industry etc.

**Cultural Relations:** An Indian Cultural Centre- Swami Vivekanand Cultural Center (SVCC) in Fiji was established by GOI in 1972 (which was then the first ever such centre abroad). SVCC provides classes in seven streams: Indian classical music (Carnatic, Tabla, Harmonium) and dance (Bharatnatyam, Kathak), Hindi language and Yoga. SVCC organizes cultural evenings, exhibitions, film shows, workshops and discussions regularly.

**12<sup>th</sup> World Hindi Conference:** 12<sup>th</sup> WHC was held in Nadi from 15-17 February 2023 organized in collaboration with the Government of Fiji. EAM led the Indian delegation comprising MOS(VM),



Shri V. Muraleedharan; MOS (Home Affairs), Shri Ajay Kumar Mishra; Members of Parliament, Hindi Scholars and senior officials. Fijian President Ratu Wiliame Katonivere and EAM jointly inaugurated the Conference on 15 February 2023. Prime Minister, Sitiveni Rabuka, and three Deputy Prime Ministers viz. Biman Prasad, Manoa Kamikamica and Viliame Gavoka; Minister for Education, Aseri Radrodro; Minister for Multi-Ethnic Affairs and Sugar, Charan Jeeth Singh; Minister for Employment, Productivity and Industrial Relations, Agni Deo Singh; and other senior Government officials participated in the conference from Fijian side. The Opening Ceremony saw the release of a commemorative postal stamp by the Government of Fiji. A special Samarika and five other publications were also released on the occasion. About 1000 participants from over 31 countries attended the Conference, including about 500 from India and 300 from Fiji.

### **ICCR-sponsored activities**

- ICCR-sponsored six-member Group led by Pt. Sanjeev Abhyankar, performed at various places in Fiji as part of health awareness campaign organized by Fijian Ministry of Health.
- ICCR-sponsored 10-Member Bollywood Dance Group led by Ms. Shipra Goyal participated in Hibiscus Festival as well as performed in different cities of Fiji (Suva, Ba, Lautoka and Labasa) in 2016.
- ICCR-sponsored 11-member Lavani dance group performed in different cities of Fiji (Suva, Ba, Lautoka, Sigatoka and Labasa) in July-August 2017 for health awareness campaign focusing towards disabled persons.
- ICCR-sponsored 12-Member 'Taka-Dimi-Ta' Bollywood Dance Group led by Mr Narendra Kumar participated in Hibiscus Festival as well as performed in different cities of Fiji (Suva, Ba, Lautoka and Labasa) in 2017.
- 10-member contemporary dance group 'Tapasya' led by Mr Ajay Kumar visited Fiji 13-25 August 2018 and performed in Suva, Labasa and Lautoka cities.
- International virtual Conference "Leveraging the Soft Power of India" was organised by ICCR on 16 October 2021. Ms. Rosy Akbar, Hon'ble Minister for Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation, Government of Fiji was the as Guest of Honour.
- In association with Indian Ministry of Culture, MEA, ICCR, Ministry of Tourism, Mission organized six-month long 'Namaste Pacifika', a Festival of India, with an involvement of 12 groups, 125 artists and 55 events in Fiji and six concurrently accredited countries from 28 October 2017 to March 2018. Fijian President inaugurated 'Namaste Pacifika' on 28 October 2017. Some of the highlights included performances by Sabri Brothers (ICCR-sponsored), Mrs Meera Das Odissi Dance Group (M/o Culture-sponsored), Jatayumoksham by Kalakshetra Foundation (M/o Culture sponsored), Yugpursuh Drama (Shrimad Rajchandraji Mission-sponsored, Dharampur, Gujarat sponsored), Dr. Yashodha Thakore Kuchipudi Dance Group (M/o Culture-sponsored), ICCR-sponsored 'Centre-stage' Bollywood dance group led by Rishi Sharma. Two Indian master chefs (M/o Tourism-sponsored) presented their culinary skills at Grand Pacific Hotel, Suva during Indian Food Festival held from 26-29 October 2017.
- High Commission of India, Ministry of Education, Heritage & Arts of Fiji and FSSS jointly organized First Ever 'International Ramayan Conference (IRC)' in Fiji from 14-16 October 2016. Twenty-Five Ramayan experts from eight countries: India, Fiji, Mauritius, Malaysia, Guyana, Trinidad, Australia, New Zealand, participated in the conference. ICCR-sponsored six Indian Ramayan experts and a 15-member traditional Ram Lila Group from Ayodhya Shodh Sansthan, Ayodhya.
- ICCR-sponsored 30-Member artist, three folk dances and one Sufi music performed at 12<sup>th</sup> World Hindi Conference and also performed during the festivals of India 2023 in two locations in Fiji (Suva & Lautoka). Folk dance Mohiniyattam group lead by Pallavi Krishnan, Brij group led by Geetanjali Sharma, Bhangra group led by Jarnail Singh Bagga and Sufi singing group led Abhishek Mukherjee.
- ICCR sponsored a 4-member devotional group led by Pandit Dev Prasad Pandey for a six-day long Ram Lalla Utsav in Fiji from 16-22 January 2024. The group performed at various places in Fiji ; Nadi, BA, Labasa, Singatoka and Suva.

Ten-member Shobhna Channel group participated in the ICCR's 'International Folk Dance Festival' at New Delhi in November-December 2016. Fiji Broadcasting Corporation (FBC)'s dance group participated in the 'Asian Broadcasting Union International Dance Festival' at Hyderabad on 13-15 January 2017.

**Nationwide Ramayan Sammelans:** A three-day Ramayan Sammelan was organized by Shri Sanatan Dharm Sabha of Fiji in Lautoka on 28-30 November 2019. Hindi Parishad of Fiji (Northern Branch) organized another Ramayan Sammelan in the northern Island of Fiji – Vanua Levu on 4-7 December 2019. In collaboration with Seaqaqa Sanathan Dharam Sabha a three-day Ramayan Sammelan was held in Labasa northern island of Vanua Levu on 4-6 March 2020. Similar Ramayan Sammelans were also organized in Suva on 6-8 March 2020 and in Nausori on 13-15 March 2020 in collaboration with local Diaspora organizations India-Fiji Friendship Forum and Vunimono Maha Sabha. This Mission-supported the initiative launched to organize Ramayan Sammelans all over Fiji to celebrate Fiji's renowned tradition of Ramayan Mandalis.

**Fiji attends 6th International Ramayan Festival organized by Indian Council for Cultural Relations in India:** Shree Satsang Ramayan mandali, a cultural group represented Fiji and participated at the 6th International Ramayan Festival from 17 - 28 October, 2022 in India. A delegation of 10 members from Fiji participated at this festival. Their first performance was at the Kamani Auditorium in Delhi on 20 October, 2022 which was attended by the Minister for Infrastructure, Meteorological Services, Lands and Mineral Resources, Jone Usamate and High Commissioner of the Republic of Fiji to India, Kamlesh Prakash. Their other performances were held in Bhopal and Ayodhya, Ahmedabad.

**Film Festivals:** Fiji National University and Film Fiji, in association with the High Commission of India and others organized International Film Festivals in 2012; 2013, 2014 and 2015. India participated in Film festival organized by UNICEF in December 2016 and "Mary Kom" was screened during the event.

**Regional International Hindi Conference:** The first ever Regional International Hindi Conference was held in Suva on 25 January 2020. The conference was jointly inaugurated by Shri Akhilesh Mishra, Director General, ICCR from India and Mr. Yogesh Karan, Foreign Secretary & Permanent Secretary to Prime Minister of Fiji. The Conference saw enthusiastic participation from Hindi teachers from all over Fiji and was well-attended by various Ministers, Academicians and Media.

**PM's address at the opening of a Children's Heart Hospital in Fiji:** Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, addressed the opening of Shri Sathya Sai Sanjeevani Hospital in Fiji on 27 April 2022 via a video message. The inauguration ceremony was attended by Fijian Prime Minister Bainimarama.

**Centenary celebrations of arrival of last Girmit Ship:** The Mission organized centenary celebrations of arrival of last Girmit Ship (Sutlej-V on 11 November 1916) on 11 November 2016 and honoured 12 eminent persons for spreading Girmit values and culture.

**Girmit Day:** As part of the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav (AKAM), celebrating 75 years of India's Independence, the High Commission of India in Suva (Fiji), in association with Post Fiji Limited, brought out a set of commemorative postage stamps and first day cover to mark the 143rd Girmit Day in Fiji. Prime Minister of the Republic of Fiji Bainimarama jointly released the commemorative stamps and the first day cover with the High Commissioner of India to Fiji, P.S. Karthigeyan, at a grand function held at the Suva Civic Centre to mark the 143rd Girmit Day in Fiji. Separately, the 143<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary Girmit Remembrance Day of Fiji was organised in New Delhi on 14 May. MoS (External Affairs), Shri Rajkumar Ranjan Singh graced the occasion as the chief Guest at the program organized by the Resident Fijian High Commission in collaboration with the Girmitiya Foundation based in India.

144th Girmit Day celebration was organized by the Fijian Government on 15 May 2023. Dr. Rajkumar Ranjan Singh, Hon'ble Minister of State for External Minister, was guest of honor at the celebrations.

**International Day of Yoga:** Since its inaugural event in 2015, the International Day of Yoga is celebrated with much enthusiasm and fervour every year in Fiji with participation from all walks of life and the event has been honoured by the presence of some of the highest authorities of the country, including His Excellency the President of the Republic.

On 21 June 2023, Mission organized the International Day of Yoga (IDY 2023) at the iconic Grand Pacific Hotel in Suva. The event was attended by more than 100 yoga enthusiasts including Government officials, members of diplomatic corps, Indian diaspora community and friends of India.

\*\*\*\*\*

January 2024

**Annexure-A**

**Visits to India**

<b>Year 2015</b>		
<b>Sr. No.</b>	<b>Name of the dignitary / official</b>	<b>Period</b>
1.	Attorney General & Finance Minister Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum and Minister for Industry Trade & Tourism Faiyaz Koya for CII Partnership Summit in Jaipur	January 2015
2.	Minister for Agriculture Inia Seruiratu for 51 <sup>st</sup> Ministerial Meeting of the Asia Pacific Coconut Community in Kochi	January-February 2015
3.	Minister for Health and Medical Services Jone Usmate	March 2015
4.	Prime Minister Josaia Voreqe Bainimarama for 2 <sup>nd</sup> Summit of Forum for India-Pacific Islands Co-operation (FIPIC) at Jaipur	August 2015
5.	Acting Minister of Health and Medical Services Veena Bhatnagar for Advantage Health Care Summit at New Delhi.	October 2015
<b>Year 2016</b>		
1.	Acting-Commander RFMF Rear Admiral Viliame Naupoto attended International Fleet Review held in Visakhapatnam, India	5 February 2016
2.	Attorney-General & Minister for Economy Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum visited New Delhi to discuss Air Services Agreement	16 February 2016
3.	Attorney-General Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum visited New Delhi for IMF Conference, Advancing Asia	11 March 2016
4.	David Kolitagane, Permanent Secretary for Public Enterprise attended Maritime India Summit held in Mumbai	14-16 April 2016
5.	Prime Minister Bainimarama visited India during his stopover, on his way to the United Nations World Humanitarian Summit in Turkey and had meeting with Indian Prime Minister.	19-21 May 2016
6.	Justice Sunil Lal visited India to attend 17 <sup>th</sup> International conference for chief justice of the world, in Lucknow.	9-15 November 2016
7.	Four member delegation led by Amb. Esala Teleni Chairman of National Security Strategy Secretariat (NSSS) with Fijian Defence Secretary, visited India for seeking Indian assistance for setting up of their NSSS	October 2016
8.	Mr Inia Seruiratu, Minister of Agriculture, attended the First Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (AMCDRR), in New Delhi	2- 5 November 2016
<b>Year 2017</b>		
1.	Ms Rosy Akbar, Minister for Health and Medical Services, visited New Delhi for Raisina Dialogue.	17-19 January 2017
2.	Supervisor of Elections, Mohammed Saneem, visited New Delhi and signed MOU with Election Commission of India (ECI)	24 January 2017
3.	Amb Yogesh Karan, Fijian Permanent Secretary to the Office of Prime Minister, and Amb Robin Nair, Permanent Secretary Foreign Affairs visited New Delhi for 3 <sup>rd</sup> round of Foreign Officers Consultation (FOC) held in New Delhi. Amb Karan visited Vasantdada Sugar Institute (VSI), Pune and explored the agricultural equipment after FOC.	21 February 2017
4.	Attorney-General Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum visited New Delhi on and signed Air Services Agreement with Indian Civil Aviation Minister on 8 March 2017. Fiji Airways also signed Code-Share Agreement with Jet Airways on	March 2017

	6 <sup>th</sup> March 2017.	
5.	Ratu Inoke Kubuabla, Fijian Minister of Defence visited Mumbai and New Delhi and signed an MOU on defence cooperation	28-30 May 2017
6.	Amb. Esala Teleni, Chairman of National Security Strategy Secretariat (NSSS) visited India for further discussions on Indian assistance for setting up of Fijian NSSS	23-29 July 2017
7.	Fijian Minister of Agriculture and their COP23 Climate Champion Mr. Inia Seruiratu participated in FICCI's Business and Climate Summit alongwith Fiji's COP23 team.	31 August – 1 September 2017
<b>Year 2018</b>		
1.	Seven PIO MPs participated in the First Pravasi sansad Sammelan (PIO Parliamentarians Conference) held at Delhi	9 January 2018
2.	Mr. Faiyaz Koya, Fijian Minister of Industry, Trade and Tourism attended "South Asia's Travel and Tourism Exchange", New Delhi. He met Commerce Minister and Tourism Minister on 1 Feb 2018	31 January to 2 February 2018
3.	Mr. Aiyaz Sayed Khaiyum, Attorney General and Minister of Economy, Public Enterprises, Civil Service, Communications and Education visited New Delhi to attend the World Sustainable Development Summit. He met Railways Minister Shri Piyush Goyal, Minister of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Dr. Harshvardhan also during the visit.	15-17 February 2018
4.	Fijian PM Bainimarama participated in the Founding Conference of the International Solar Alliance at New Delhi	10-12 March 2018
5.	Ambassador Yogesh Karan, PS to PMO and Ms. Amelia Kotobalavu Katoa Komaisavai, Chief Asstt Secretary Office of Prime Minister visited New Delhi for attending the first General Assembly of International Solar Alliance	1-6 October 2018
<b>Year 2019</b>		
6.	Mr. Sanjeshwar Ram, Director Cooperate Services from Fijian Elections Office participated in the Election Visitor Programme (EVP) 2019	11 April to 19 May 2019.
7.	Dr. Mahendra Reddy, Minister of Agriculture, Rural and Maritime Development, Waterways and Environment visited India to attend UN Convention to Combat Desertification	9-10 September 2019
8.	Mrs. Veena Bhatnagar, Assistant Minister for Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation and Deputy Speaker of Parliament of Fiji invited as the Chief Guest to attend Deepotsav 2019 at Ayodhya (India).	25 – 28 October 2019
9.	Hon. Jone Usamate, Minister of Infrastructure, Transport, Disaster Management & Meteorological Services visited India for Second General Assembly of International Solar Alliance	30 October to 2 November 2019
<b>Year 2020</b>		
1.	Hon. Rosy Sofia Akbar, Minister for Education, Heritage and Arts invited at Women at the Centre of Our Universe Programme held at Chennai	08-14 February 2020
<b>Year 2022</b>		
1.	Hon. Jone Usamate, Minister for Infrastructure & Meteorological Services attended the 5th Session of the International Solar Alliance (ISA) General Assembly Meeting in New Delhi.	17 – 20 October 2022
2.	Dr. Anjeela Jokhan, Permanent Secretary for Education, Heritage and Arts, Government of Fiji, led a three-member delegation for launching of website and logo for the 12th World Hindi Conference (WHC) to be held in Nadi (Fiji).	27 – 28 October 2022
<b>Year 2023</b>		
1.	Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Finance, Strategic Planning, National Development and Statistics of Fiji, Biman Chand Prasad visited India to attend India Energy week in Bangaluru. During his visit he met with EAM Dr. S. Jaishankar on 08 February 2023 in Delhi. DPM Prasad also met with MoS (RRS), Dr Rajkumar Ranjan Singh, Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas & Housing and Urban Affairs Shri Hardeep Singh Puri.	05-10 February 2023
2.	Minister for Sugar, Charan Jeeth Singh traveled to Hyderabad, India to	19 to 23 February

	attend Sugar Conference and the International Society of Sugar Cane Technologist (ISSCT) Congress. Mr Singh met some state-owned mill owners and millers and also visited the Ganpati Sugar Industries Limited and the Sugar Research Centre.	2023
3.	Minister for Health & Medical Services Hon. Dr Ratu Atonio Rabici Lalabalavu attended the Asia Pacific Leaders Conclave on Malaria Elimination in India. In Delhi Minister met with MOS (RRS).	24-25 April 2023
4.	Minister for Rural and Maritime Development and Disaster Management, Sakiasi Raisevu Ditoka, visited Hyderabad to attend Asia-Pacific Regional Meeting.	16 <sup>th</sup> to 22 <sup>nd</sup> September, 2023
5.	Hon. Ro Filipe Tuisawau, Minister for Public Works, Transport and Meteorological Services, visited India for Sixth General Assembly of International Solar Alliance (ISA) in New Delhi.	31 October to 01 <sup>st</sup> November 2023.
6.	Hon. DPM and Minister for Tourism and Civil Aviation Viliame Govaka visited India from 15-21 January 2024 to attend the WINGS INDIA 2024 in Hyderabad.	15-21 January 2024

### Visits from India

Year 2015		
Sr. No.	Name of the dignitary / official	Period
1.	Indian delegation led by Shri Dharitri Panda, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, visited for Second Joint Working Group	July 2015
2.	Shri Chaudhary Birender Singh, Minister for Rural Development visited Fiji for 30 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of CIRDAP Executive Committee (EC-30) and 20 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of CIRDAP Governing Council (GC-20) & 7 <sup>th</sup> CIRDAP Regional Policy Dialogue (RPD-7)	August 2015
Year 2016		
1.	Sambhu Kumaran, Joint Secretary (PIC) and Commander Sanjeev Kumar JD, DNI visited Fiji to held discussion with Fijian Navy on Defence cooperation.	15-17 February
2.	A specialized team from India including Atul Kumar Agarwal, DGM of PGCIL, Mukesh Khanna, AGM of PGCIL, Rajesh Sharma, GM NHPC, and Padam Narayan, Deputy Manager of SECI visited Fiji to assist with the restoration of power to areas affected by TC Winston.	10 April
3.	A delegation consisting of Jawhar Sircar, CEO, Prasar Bharati, and P Das DDG (Tech & IR) visited Fiji to attend the ABU Pacific Media Partnership Conference, held in Nadi, Fiji	20-21 May 2016.
4.	Five-member Water and Power Consultancy Services Ltd. ( <b>WAPCOS</b> ) Team led by Shri M.K.Gupta, Chairman and Managing Director visited Fiji in July 2016	July 2016
5.	RS Sharma, Chairman, TRAI and Sanjeev Banzal, Advisor TRAI attended Global Policy Forum Meeting in Nadi	7-9 September 2016
6.	Shashi Ranjan Kumar, Joint Secretary (T), DOT and I S Shastri, Joint Administrator (Tech), DOT attended 56 <sup>th</sup> Council Meeting and the Annual Forum of the Commonwealth Telecommunications Organization (CTO)	12-16 September 2016
7.	H.K. Sharma, Director (DPA-II), MEA, attended the biennial 45th Consultative Committee Meeting (CCM) of the Colombo Plan held in Suva.	28-30 September 2016
8.	S.Mohan Kumar, Addl. General Manager and Rajender Mohan, Manager (P) NBCC visited Fiji in connection with adoption of 20 schools by India.	2-7 October 2016
9.	Exim bank delegation consisting of Ajay Rana, Chief Manager, Varun Talwar, Manager and Saurabh Arora, Manager visited Fiji	23-28 October 2016
10.	Indian Naval Ship Sumitra visited Fiji and five tons of vegetable seeds, worth FJ\$ 2.3mn carried by INS Sumitra, were handed over to Minister of Agriculture, Government of Fiji.	26-29 October 2016
Year 2017		
1.	Smt. Ananya Ray, Special Secretary (Ministry of Finance) & Member	14-16 March 2017

	(Customs) visited Suva to attend the World Customs Organisation Asia-Pacific Heads of Customs Meeting.	
2.	Dr. Sandip Halder, Director (GEM Division) and Shri Ashok Kumar Dhiman, Senior Architect (GEM Division), MEA visited Suva regarding acquisition of property for construction of Chancery, Cultural Centre and staff residences.	23-26 April 2017
3.	Gen (Dr.) V K Singh (Retd.) led Indian delegation for India Pacific Islands Sustainable Development Conference and he hosted the Conference	24-26 May 2017
4.	Shri Om Prakash Dhankar, Haryana's Minister for Agriculture, Development & Panchayat, Mines & Geology, Animal Husbandry & Dairying and Fisheries led a 13-member delegation to Fiji	19-20 June 2017
5.	Mr. Arun Kumar Mehta, Additional Secretary, M/o Environment, Forest and Climate Change & Mr. Ajay Raghava, Deputy Director participated in Pre-cop23 meeting at Nadi.	17-18 October 2017
6.	Mr. Varun Sindhu Kul Kaumudi, ADG, BPR&D; Mr. Arun Sobti, Under Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs & Mr. Upadhyay, ADG (Prisons), Maharashtra participated in 37 <sup>th</sup> Asian and Pacific Conference of Correctional Administrators held at Nadi, Fiji	5-9 November 2017
7.	Mr. Avinash K Srivastava, Secretary, Department of Consumer Affairs & Mr. Atya Nand Deputy Secretary attended workshop on Cold Chain and Logistics management for Agrifood Products from	10-15 December 2017

<b>Year 2018</b>		
1.	Dr. Satya Pal Singh, Minister for State for Human Resource Development visited Fiji to attend the 20 <sup>th</sup> Conference of Commonwealth Education Ministers in Nadi	19-24 February 2018
2.	Three member experts' team from RITES Limited visited Fiji to review the Fijian Railway Link	27 Feb-2 March 20
3.	Mr. Mansukh L. Mandaviya, Hon'ble Minister of State for Road Transport, Highways, Shipping and Chemicals & Fertilizers of India visited Tonga and Fiji. This was visit to Tonga basically; Fiji was transit.	25-26 April 2018
4.	Shri B. Rath, Commissioner, representative from Ministry of Agriculture attended the 34 <sup>th</sup> Session of Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Regional Conference for Asia and Pacific, held in Nadi, Fiji.	9-13 April 2018
5.	Shri Pranav Kumar Das, Special Secretary and Member Customs, Mr. Satya Srinivasan, Joint Secretary (Customs), accompanied by First Secretary, High Commission of India, Singapore attended the World Customs Organization Asia Pacific Regional Conference held in Nadi.	13-18 May 2018
6.	Mr. Ashwini Kumar Choubey, Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare visited Fiji on his way to Tuvalu	27-29 May 2018
7.	A Joint MEA-CDAC Team visited Fiji on preparatory visit for establishment of Mahatma Gandhi Centre for Information Technology	6-7 August 2018
8.	INS Sahyadri visited Fiji	14-16 August 2018
9.	Mr. Sunil Bhadu, Dir (T), Dept. of Telecom led 3-member delegation for participation in ITU Conference	18-19 October 2018
10.	Mr. Yagya Dutt Sharma, Commissioner (C&S), CBDT led 2-member delegation to attend 39 <sup>th</sup> Commonwealth Association of Tax Administrators	12-16 November 2018
11.	Two member delegation led by Mr. Mukesh Chand Sahu, Chief Election Officer, Assam for observing Fijian Parliamentary Elections.	11-18 November 2018
<b>Year 2019</b>		
1.	Hon. Minister of State for Home Affairs, Kiren Rijju visited Fiji for the constitution and inaugural session of the first-ever Town Official Language Implementation Committee (TOLIC).	15-16 January 2019

2.	Shri Rajiv Mehrishi, Comptroller & Auditor General of India led the three-member delegation to 28 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the INTOSAI Working Group on IT Audit (28 <sup>th</sup> WGITA) & 9 <sup>th</sup> Performance Audit Seminar on IT Audit "IT Security Audit" (9 <sup>th</sup> PAS)	2-5 April 2019
3.	Shri Subhash Chandra Garg, Secretary (Finance & EA) & ADB Governor General led the three-member delegation to 52 <sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Asian Development Bank's (ADB) Board of Governors	1-5 May 2019
4.	Dr. Devyani Khobragade, JS (DPA-II), MEA led two member PMT visit to MG-CEIT in Fiji National University.	19-20 December 2019
<b>Year 2020</b>		
1.	03-member delegation led by Shri Akhilesh Mishra, DG, ICCR, visited Suva to attend Regional Hindi Conference organised by High Commission of India	25 January 2020
<b>Year 2022</b>		
1.	Secretary (East) Shri Saurav Kumar, and US (Oceania) Shri Siva Harsha Kara visited Suva for 5 <sup>th</sup> Foreign Office Consultation.	18 -19 July 2022
2.	Indian Naval Ship Satpura visited Fiji as part of its Goodwill visit. As part of social activities a medical camp organised on 02 September 2022 at Albert Park and mangrove saplings planted at the Nasese Foreshore, Suva.	01-03 September
<b>Year 2023</b>		
1.	EAM led the Indian delegation comprising MOS(VM), Shri V. Muraleedharan; MOS (Home Affairs), Shri Ajay Kumar Mishra; Members of Parliament, Hindi Scholars and senior officials to the 12th World Hindi Conference, held in Nadi, Fiji organized in collaboration with the Government of Fiji.	14-17 February
2.	MOS (RRS) for External Affairs and Administrator of Dadranagar and Haveli and Daman & Diu and Lakshadweep participated in the Girmit day celebration on the invitation of Gov. of Fiji.	14-17 May 2023

\*\*\*\*\*

**January 2024**