

High Commission of India
Suva

FACTSHEET - TUVALU

<u>GENERAL</u>	
Official Name	Tuvalu
Capital	Funafuti; Became independent country on 1 October 1978
Area	30 sq. kms. (4 th smallest country in the world)
Current Weather	Maximum temperature: 32 °C; Minimum temperature: 26 °C
Population	11,891 (2021 UN)
Tuvalu Day	1 st October
Languages <i>(with %age of speakers, if available)</i>	Tuvalu and English
Religions <i>(with %age, if available)</i>	Christians 98.4%, Baha'i 1% and other 0.6%
Currency Exchange rate with US\$ & INR	Australian dollar AU\$ 1 = US\$ 0.68 (February 2024) AU\$1 = Rs. 56.497 (February 2024)
Political Structure	Parliamentary System; Unicameral Parliament with 15 members and are being elected every four years.
Head of State	HM King Charles – III (since 8 September 2022) (King is represented by Governor General (Hon. Tofiga Vaevalu Falani)
Head of Government (Prime Minister)	Under caretaker government. General elections took place in January 2024.
Minister for Foreign Affairs	-
<u>ECONOMIC INDICATORS</u>	
Economy	Tuvalu consists of a densely populated, scattered group of nine coral atolls with poor soil. The country has no known mineral resources and is almost entirely dependent upon imported food and fuel. Subsistence farming and fishing are the primary economic activities. Fewer than 1,000 tourists, on average, visit Tuvalu annually. Job opportunities are scarce and public sector workers make up most of those employed. About 15% of the adult male population work as seamen on merchant ships abroad and remittances are a vital source of income. Substantial income is received annually from the Tuvalu Trust Fund (TTF) an international trust fund established in 1987 by Australia, NZ, and the UK and supported by Japan and South Korea.

GDP at market price	US\$ 64.5 mn (2021) [https://stats.gov.tv/]
GDP per capita	US\$ 5291.5 (2021) [Source: www.worldbank.org]
GDP Growth Rate	3% (2021) [Source: www.worldbank.org]
Total Trade	US\$ 72.08 mn (2020)
Imports	US\$ 60.01 mn (2020)
Exports	US\$ 12.07 mn (2020) [Non-fillet Frozen Fish: US\$ 10.4mn] [Source: http://oec.world/en/resources/about]
Bilateral Trade	US\$ 0.22 million (2020-21)
Exports from India	US\$ 0.22 million (2020-21)
Imports to India	US\$ 0.00 million (2020-21) [Source: Ministry of Commerce, Government of India]
OTHERS	
<p>Tuvalu is one of the few nations that continue to have strong diplomatic relations with Taiwan and supports Taiwan's bid to join the United Nations. In turn, Taiwan maintains a resident embassy in Tuvalu and has a large assistance program in the islands with "several mobile medical missions". Taiwan funded the construction of Tuvalu's largest building, a three-story administrative building. In 2019, Taiwan aid provided a contribution of \$7.06 million to Tuvalu's budget. Australia is other country to have a resident Mission in Tuvalu apart from Taiwan.</p>	
INDIA SPECIFIC INFORMATION	
Indian Origin/ Permanent Residents	Total: About 50 (Almost all Fiji-Indians)
Indian Expatriates <i>(composition and any pertinent information that may be of interest)</i>	Total: Two
Indian Organizations	
Banks	Nil
PSUs	Nil
Government Organizations	Nil
Others	Nil

January 2024