

High Commission of India,
Wellington, New Zealand

INDIA - NIUE: BILATERAL BRIEF

Government of India approved establishment of diplomatic relations with Niue in February 2012 at the request of the Government of Niue. Subsequently, a Joint Communiqué to this effect was signed in August 2012. High Commissioner presented his credentials to Hon. Toke Talagi, Premier of Niue on 26 October 2017.

2. In keeping with India's policy to develop closer engagement with the Pacific region, India has been providing annual Grant-in-Aid (GIA) to Niue for its economic development since 2006. In 2009, GOI had increased the GIA amount to US\$1,25,000/- from \$1,00,000/-. Hon'ble PM Modi announced increasing this grant to US\$ 200,000 at the First FIPIC Summit in Fiji in November 2014. The details of GIA sanctioned to Niue till date are:

- (i) Grant-in-aid of US\$ 100,000 was provided to Niue Government in June 2008 for the following projects:
 - National Road Project
 - Village Upliftment Project
 - Internal Communication Facility.
- (ii) Grant-in-aid of US \$ 100,000 was extended to Government of Niue in June, 2009 for the following three projects:
 - Lialagi Restoration Project (Phase 2)
 - Tamakautoga New Pastor's Residence Project
 - Sunema Training Centre
- (iii) Grant-in-aid of US \$ 100,000 was released to Government of Niue in January 2011 for the following two projects:
 - Liku Village Pastor's Housing Project.
 - Re-roofing and renovation of Niue Sports & Recreation and Training Centre.
- (iv) Grant-in-Aid to the tune of US\$ 99,639.32 was sanctioned in February 2013 for funding of the following projects:
 - Renovations of the Niue Youth Centre at a total cost of NZ\$ 46,558.36.
 - Up-gradation of the Niue Market Place at a total cost of NZ\$ 76,000.
- (v) India has recently provided assistance of USD910,700 equivalent to NZ\$1,232,341 to Niue for setting up of a 4-G network project on 27 January 2017. The project is under implementation.

Recent Bilateral Interactions:

3. **Sustainable Development Summit:** The Premier of Niue Hon Toke Tofukia Talagi, who led a two-member delegation to attend the Sustainable Development Summit held in Suva, Fiji from 25-26 May, 2017. During the sidelines of this Summit, India and Niue signed an MoU for establishing a Centre of Excellence in IT at Niue.

4. **FIPIC Summits:** Prime Minister of Niue Hon Toke Tofukia Talagi attended the Pacific Leaders' Summit convened by Hon'ble Prime Minister of India at Suva, Fiji on 19th November 2014. The Prime Minister of Niue, Hon Toke Talagi, led a 5-member delegation to the 2nd Summit of the Forum for India-Pacific Islands Cooperation (FIPIC), held at Jaipur on August 21, 2015. One journalist from Niue visited India from August 17-24, 2015, as part of the familiarization trip organized by XP Division, MEA, during the 2nd FIPIC Summit.

Development Initiatives:

5. Consequent to the decisions taken at the two FIPIC Summits, Government of India has approved grant of gratis e-TV to nationals of 14 Pacific Islands Countries including Niue. Other proposals which are currently being pursued for implementation are: deputation of ITEC experts, setting up of Tele-medicine centre and supply of medicines by Indian Pharma PSUs directly to PICs subject to relaxed regulatory approvals. For the year 2017-18, five ITEC slots have been allocated to Niue.

(November 2018)