

Indonesia to relocate capital

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In news- Indonesia's parliament has passed a bill to relocate the nation's capital from Jakarta to a jungled area of Kalimantan on Borneo island.

More information-

- It is reported that Indonesia's current capital Jakarta is slowly sinking and experts are predicting that up to a third of the city could be underwater by 2050.
- New capital site is located 2,000 kilometers away from Jakarta and will be named **"Nusantara"** which means "archipelago" in Javanese language.
- It will cover about 56,180 hectares in East Kalimantan province on the Indonesian part of **Borneo, which the country shares with Malaysia and Brunei.**
- The new city will be governed by a body dubbed the State Capital Authority, with leadership appointed to five-year terms directly by the president.
- The government has envisioned the new capital as a **low-carbon "superhub"** that will support pharmaceutical, health and technology sectors and promote sustainable growth beyond Java island.
- Indonesia is not the first country in the region to relocate from an overpopulated capital.
- Malaysia moved its government to Putrajaya from Kuala Lumpur in 2003, while Myanmar moved its capital to Naypyidaw from Rangoon in 2006.

Indonesia new capital plan



About Indonesia-

- Indonesia is the **largest country in Southeast Asia**, with a maximum dimension from east to west of about 5,100 km.
- It shares a **border with Malaysia in the northern part of Borneo and with Papua New Guinea in the centre of New Guinea.**
- Its current capital is Jakarta and the currency is Indonesian rupiah.
- **Its islands** can be grouped into the Greater Sunda Islands of Sumatra (Sumatera), Java (Jawa), the southern extent of Borneo (Kalimantan), and Celebes (Sulawesi), the Lesser Sunda Islands (Nusa Tenggara) of Bali and a chain of islands that runs eastward.
- Indonesia was **formerly known as the Dutch East Indies (or Netherlands East Indies).**
- The major Indonesian islands are characterized by **densely forested volcanic mountains** in the interior that slope downward to coastal plains covered by thick alluvial swamps that, in turn, dissolve into shallow seas and coral reefs.
- Indonesia encompasses the junction of three major sections of the Earth's crust and involves a complicated series of shelves, volcanic mountain chains, and deep-sea trenches.