

Vanuatu's Citizenship By Investment Program

Source: IE

Vanuatu's citizenship-by-investment (CBI) program, commonly known as the "golden passport, allows wealthy individuals to purchase its passport, raising concerns over security and transparency.

- Vanuatu's CBI Program: Allows individuals to acquire citizenship in a country by making significant financial contributions to its economy.
 - As per the <u>Henley Passport Index 2025</u>, Vanuatu's passport ranks 53rd, granting visa-free access to 113 countries, ahead of China (59) and India (80).
 - As a <u>tax Haven</u>, Vanuatu has no personal income tax, capital gains tax, inheritance tax, making it attractive for high-net-worth individuals.
- Vanuatu: An island nation in the South Pacific, consists of 83 islands and lies to the east of Australia and the north of New Zealand. Its capital is Port Vila.
 - It is home to active volcanoes like **Mount Yasur, Vanuatu** experiences frequent volcanic activity.
- **Concerns:** Criminals, and fraudsters acquire Vanuatu citizenship to evade scrutiny and access global markets.
 - Countries like the UK and EU have called the scheme a potential gateway for money laundering and tax evasion.
- Citizenship in India: The Indian Constitution (Articles 5-11) defines citizenship. India does
 not grant citizenship solely based on financial contributions.



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