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## Gov't stresses reviving nationalism for independence & sovereignty

Minister of Dhivehi Language, Culture, and Heritage Adam Naseer Ibrahim has emphasised the necessity of reviving nationalism to uphold a country's independence and sovereignty.

Speaking to PSM News, Minister Ibrahim underscored the shared memories among citizens, likening them to a familial bond. He also stressed the importance of transferring these collective experiences to future generations.

Additionally, Minister Naseer highlighted the resilience of Maldivians throughout history. He pointed out how unity and nationalism enabled Maldivians to surmount various challenges, including adversity, illness, and inclement weather. He credited the people's love for their country with safeguarding it from external threats.



Furthermore, Minister Naseer emphasised the role of nationalism in fostering religious and behavioral harmony, asserting that it is pivotal for maintaining both individual and sovereignty. He noted President Dr. Mohamed Muizzu's prioritisation of nationalism's preservation and revival.

Efforts by the heritage ministry to revive nationalism include initiatives such as starting classes with the national anthem to cultivate love for the nation among students. Additionally, plans are underway to establish a national college and a centre for heritage studies.

National Patriotism Day is held annually on March 6 and serves as a reminder of the importance of defending the country's identity and security. The heritage ministry underscores the interconnectedness of religion, language, culture, customs, and history in fostering patriotism and emphasises the need for compassion towards an individual's homeland to ensure its protection and preservation.

SOURCE : PSM



## President vows to consult residents & councils before projects

President Dr. Mohamed Muizzu has pledged to depart from the practice of initiating projects in the islands without prior consultation with the residents and councils. He made the commitment while speaking at a gathering with the residents of Mulah, Meemu Atoll.

Speaking at the gathering, President Dr. Muizzu acknowledged the historical pattern of commencing projects without community and council input, leading to difficulties and limited benefits for the residents. He stressed the necessity for adjustments during project implementation and announced the government's decision to abandon the unilateral approach.

Additionally, President Dr. Muizzu highlighted that his early engagement with the citizens aims to solicit their insights prior to commencing development initiatives. Emphasising the desire for inclusive development aligned with the community's needs, he underscored the importance of direct interaction to enhance participation in decision-making. He also noted the tangible advantages of decentralisation for the citizens.

Furthermore, President Dr. Muizzu committed to fulfilling the request of the residents for a 1,400 feet harbour in Mulah, prioritising the development of the fishing harbour given the region's significance in fishing activities. He vowed to expedite the asphaltting of island roads, repair the jetty, and establish a waste management facility. In addition, he said that plans include elevating the island health centre to a hospital level, establishing a youth centre, and facilitating ATM services.

SOURCE : PSM





## The Maldives Calls for Imposing an Immediate Arms Embargo on Israel

The Maldives has called for an immediate arms embargo to be imposed on Israel. The Maldives made this call in the statement delivered today by Chargé d'affaires Ambassador Dr Ali Naseer Mohamed at the Plenary Meeting of the United Nations General Assembly on the 'Use of the veto'.

In his statement, Chargé d'affaires Ambassador Mohamed stated that the latest veto in the United Nations Security Council on 20 February gave Israel a license to continue with impunity and kill more than a hundred Palestinian civilians and injure hundreds more during the incident of 29 February. The Maldives said that the civilians that Israel killed on that day and since then were those who had been deprived by Israel, of food, water, and other necessities.

Chargé d'affaires Ambassador Mohamed called on the Security Council to take immediate action to stop Israel's ongoing genocide in Palestine. He urged the Council and the international community to move beyond rhetoric and take decisive action to halt Israel's actions and hold it accountable for war crimes against the Palestinian people.

SOURCE : Ministry of Foreign Affairs



True and lasting peace can only be achieved in the Palestine-Israeli conflict by establishing an independent Palestinian state based on pre-1976 borders.

His Excellency President  
Dr. Mohamed Muizzu



## Government seeks well being of all citizens, 'magey saafu raajje' as a vital component of this: Minister Thoriq



The national waste management plan "Magey Saafu Raajje" is a vital component of the Government's aim of the well being of all citizens, says Minister of Climate Change, Environment and Energy Thoriq Ibrahim.

He made this statement speaking in the closing ceremony of the workshop held to train island councils and other stakeholders in waste management practices.

In his statement Minister Thoriq said that he had held multiple meetings with Island and Atoll Councils since assuming office. In all these meetings, he said, the one common concern shared by all Councils was the issue of effective waste management in their communities. This, he said, was an indicator of how pressing the issue was.

"Today, I want to assure you all that through the 'Magey Saafu Raajje' program, and with the support and collaboration of the Councils, we will have a well-rounded and sustainable solution to the issue," he said.

Once implemented, "Magey Saafu Raajje" will spearhead the creation of waste management centers in 100 inhabited islands. This will be supported by resources, machinery and capacity building initiatives in the islands.

"Magey Saafu Raajje" was launched by First Lady Sajidha Mohamed on 22nd February 2024. The program addresses the waste management needs of the country and is part of the 100-day pledges of President Dr. Mohamed Muizzu.

The program seeks to bring a sustainable and a largescale solution to waste, from the start to the end. It also seeks to adapt and implement green solutions to waste management.

The program trained 35 individuals from 13 Island Councils from Zone 4 and Zone 5. Additionally, members from Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Utilities Regulation Authority (URA), Waste Management Corporation Limited (WAMCO) and Ministry of Climate Change Environment and Energy took part in the training.

SOURCE : Ministry of Climate Change, Environment and Energy



## Minister of Tourism outlines vision for the future at ITB Berlin



Minister of Tourism Ibrahim Faisal, on 5 March 2024, addressed attendees at the Maldives Press Meet held at ITB Berlin, the World's Leading Travel Trade Show. The Minister outlined the Maldives' vision for the future of its tourism industry, emphasizing a focus on strategic development, environmental protection, and enhanced connectivity.

"The Maldives has long been known for its stunning beauty and luxurious resorts," stated Minister Faisal. "However, we are committed to offering a much richer and more diverse experience to our visitors, while also ensuring a sustainable future for our islands."

The Minister highlighted the Maldives' commitment to responsible tourism practices, including the recent launch of a groundbreaking eco-tourism framework. Additionally, he emphasized the role of technology in enhancing the visitor experience and fostering sustainable practices.

"Beyond the luxurious resorts, the Maldives offers a unique opportunity to experience the authentic Maldivian way of life through community-based tourism," Minister Faisal added. "We are confident that our unwavering commitment to excellence, sustainability, and innovation will maintain our position as the World Leading Destination."

Minister Faisal acknowledged the long-standing popularity of luxury resorts in the Maldives, while emphasising Maldives' commitment to offering a wider range of experiences. He specifically highlighted community-based tourism as a unique opportunity for visitors to immerse themselves in the authentic Maldivian way of life. This approach goes beyond resorts, fostering connections with local communities and their traditions, while also contributing to their economic well-being through tourism.

This year's participation at ITB Berlin underscores the Maldives' commitment to showcasing its diverse tourism offerings on a global stage. As the leading travel trade fair, ITB Berlin attracts over 160,000 visitors and connects participants with industry professionals and media representatives, presenting an ideal platform for the Maldives to reach a wide audience.

Notably, Germany has consistently ranked among the top 10 source markets for the Maldives, currently holding the 5th position with over 27,500 visitors as of March 3rd, 2024. Maldives Marketing & PR Corporation is participating in ITB Berlin 2024 alongside a strong delegation of 214 representatives from 107 Maldivian tourism companies, demonstrating the collective effort to solidify the Maldives' position as a leading tourist destination.

SOURCE : Ministry of Tourism

## "Gov't projects will revolutionise the maritime sector"

Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Maldives Ports Limited (MPL) Mohamed Wajeeh Ibrahim has emphasised the potential of the government's initiatives to expand the maritime sector. He made the remarks while speaking at the inauguration ceremony of the Maldives Maritime Conference.

The conference was held at the Villa Nautica Maldives Resort. It was inaugurated by Minister of Homeland Security and Technology Ali Ihusaan. The event was organised by MPL and has drawn participation from renowned international experts in the maritime sector.

Speaking at the inauguration ceremony, Wajeeh underscored the significance of the conference as a pivotal gathering in advancing the maritime sector of the Maldives. He highlighted the opportune moment for stakeholders, both local and international, to convene and deliberate on the sector's challenges and progress, steering vital discussions towards shaping its future trajectory.

Additionally, Wajeeh reiterated the government's commitment to enhancing the maritime sector's prominence and its consequential economic impact. He also expressed confidence in the upcoming revolutionary changes stemming from the expansion plans.

In collaboration with esteemed entities such as the International Ports and Harbors (IAPH), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the Port of Johor in Malaysia, and the Port of Valencia in Spain, the Maldives Maritime Conference aims to serve as a platform for fostering dialogue and knowledge exchange among global maritime stakeholders. It seeks to explore avenues for sectoral development and address challenges, drawing upon the insights of maritime companies, local and international stakeholders, and field experts in attendance.

SOURCE : PSM

Maldives has witnessed revolutionary advancement, preserving natural wonders while redefining luxury through innovative, eco-conscious resorts, beaches and underwater rooms and restaurants.

His Excellency President  
Dr. Mohamed Muizzu





## President announces plans to launch housing projects across the country

President Dr. Mohamed Muizzu has confirmed the launch of housing projects across the Maldives this year. The announcement took place during a gathering with Felidhoo residents in Vaavu Atoll.

President Dr. Muizzu emphasised that addressing the housing issue stands as a top priority for the government, with administrative efforts already underway. He outlined the government's goal of implementing 40,000 housing units in the atolls during this term, spreading projects across the nation in the coming year. The President disclosed plans for housing projects on private land, with accompanying support through provided loans for private land house development.

Speaking to Felidhoo citizens, President Dr. Muizzu unveiled plans for an island reclamation project, aiming to commence and complete the project within the year. He also confirmed additional housing projects on the reclaimed land. He stated the most crucial step for Felidhoo is expanding its land area, adding and reclamation of the island is expected to be completed this year.

Additionally, the President pledged to enhance health facilities, expand school areas, and initiate a significant solar power project in numerous schools this year. Responding to women's requests in various islands, a project establishing sport facilities for women in islands is set to launch next year.

President Dr. Muizzu underscored the government's commitment to expeditious development, aiming for swift progress and tangible outcomes.

SOURCE : PSM

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RasMale' is a unique project aimed at revolutionizing urban living and promoting innovation, sustainability and inclusivity

His Excellency President  
Dr. Mohamed Muizzu

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SOURCE : The President's Office

## President announces commencement of seventy-five housing units in Dhiggaru this year

President Dr Mohamed Muizzu stated that the development of seventy-five housing units in Dhiggaru is set to commence this year. He made these remarks at the meeting with the residents of Dhiggaru Island today.

The President highlighted that alongside the harbour development, essential actions will be taken to ensure basic amenities such as water and sanitation on reclaimed land, and incorporating road construction, to realize the comprehensive plans for island development. The President underscored the recent initiatives undertaken by the current Government to tackle economic challenges and bolster revenue streams.

Emphasizing the Government's commitment to creating opportunities for citizens to accumulate wealth, the President pointed out that permitting the local Councils to acquire islands for economic benefits, either within or outside its jurisdiction, aligns with this objective. Additionally, he mentioned the inclusion of more islands in the list available for such applications, along with an extension of the lease duration from 10 to 25 years as per the Government gazette. This modification aims to provide enhanced opportunities for businesses across various sectors to operate on these islands.

## President commits to establishment of a hospital in Mulah



President Dr. Mohamed Muizzu has committed to dedicating all necessary efforts to establishing a hospital on Mulah, Meemu atoll. The President made the remarks while speaking with the residents of Mulah.

In his remarks, the President said that the health centre would be upgraded to a hospital as pledged and assured that provisional measures would be implemented to cater to the immediate healthcare needs of the community. The President committed to expanding the harbour to 1400 feet long and facilitating the efforts towards fisheries progress on the island. The President also assured to meet the developmental needs of the community.

The President expressed a commitment to establish a comprehensive local governance system. As part of this initiative, the President regularly visits the islands to engage directly with local councils. He noted that these visits allow the President to personally assess the progress of development projects and empower local councils to play a more significant role in these efforts.

SOURCE : PSM