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President affirms most pledges in Week 14 Roadmap fulfilled

President Dr. Mohamed Muizzu has affirmed that nearly all the commitments outlined in the Week 14 Roadmap have been met. This affirmation was made during the "Raees ge Javaab" series, providing a platform for direct public interaction with the President on a range of issues.

Responding to a citizen's inquiry about the fulfillment of pledges made to the public, President Dr. Muizzu highlighted the primary focus on meeting the commitments outlined in the government's Week 14 Roadmap. He mentioned that almost all the pledges within the roadmap have been fulfilled, and significant progress has been made on various projects during the dedicated 14 weeks.

President Dr. Muizzu revealed that the roadmap included 161 pledges, and over 155 of them have been successfully accomplished. He emphasized the comprehensive nature of the roadmap, covering various sectors, and assured that each ministry is providing detailed reports on their achievements. The President also mentioned the initiation of long-term plans alongside ongoing projects, demonstrating the government's commitment to fulfilling its obligations.

SOURCE : PSM

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Our target is to ensure that every Maldivian has access to adequate house before the end of our five-year term.

His Excellency President
Dr. Mohamed Muizzu

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Market food prices are being monitored : STO

The Managing Director of the State Trading Organisation (STO) Shimadh Ibrahim Mohamed has assured the public of regular monitoring of food prices, especially those commonly used for consumption during the Holy month of Ramadan.

President Dr. Mohamed Muizzu has noted the commitment to ensure that commonly consumed items are priced lower and more affordable during Ramadan, with STO being the primary company working towards this goal in collaboration with the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade. The ministry has formulated a list of basic food essentials, and in partnership with STO, is working to ensure the availability of these items while monitoring, regulating, and controlling their prices.

In an interview at PSM News, Shimadh Ibrahim emphasised STO's readiness for the month of Ramadan. He highlighted STO's efforts to facilitate easy access to essential food commodities for the Maldives, particularly in the face of global challenges in sourcing onions in December.



Although STO does not typically import onions, eggs, and potatoes, Shimadh Ibrahim noted that the company would assess import barriers if there is a significant surge in demand. He confirmed that STO is actively working to import these commodities and has already imported lemons to lower their prices in preparation for Ramadan.

SOURCE : PSM





Met Office urges caution over extreme heat

The Maldives Meteorological Services (Met Office) has issued a warning to prioritise safety during the peak hot season in the Maldives.

In a statement released on Monday, Met Office highlighted that March and April are the hottest months in the Maldives. During this period, weakened winds, clear skies, and high humidity exacerbate the warm air temperature, resulting in a "feels like temperature" that is higher than the actual recorded temperature.



They further disclosed that the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) has warned of temperatures surging above normal, coinciding with another El Niño event.

The highest temperature of the day is typically observed around 1400hrs. The the highest temperature is likely to reach 40 degrees Celsius, with "feels like" temperatures exceeding 42 degrees Celsius in central atolls on March 12.

As the heat is expected to intensify over the next few days across the Maldives, Met Office has urged caution from the public due to potential health concerns. These concerns include fatigue, dizziness, headaches, dehydration, and eye damage, among others.

The public is advised to avoid taking children outdoors during high heat, use umbrellas for shade, wear light-colored clothes that cover more skin, don wide hats, and follow other essential precautionary measures, such as using sunscreen to prevent sun damage.

SOURCE : PSM



Gov't optimistic about Maldives futsal recognition globally

Minister of Sports, Fitness, and Recreation Abdulla Rafiu has expressed optimism about the global potential of the Maldivian futsal team.

Following the conclusion of the Sonee Sports Golden Futsal Challenge 2024, Minister Rafiu highlighted the nation's talented young athletes as a source of optimism for success on the international stage. He stressed the importance of transitioning to indoor futsal for international competitions, acknowledging it as a significant challenge.

Minister Rafiu also underscored the crucial need for Maldives to excel in indoor sports and advocated for their promotion and development within the country. He disclosed ongoing governmental initiatives aimed at constructing a comprehensive five-stadium complex to support various sports, including football and netball. The allocation of land for this ambitious project was a pivotal step outlined in the Week 14 Roadmap.

SOURCE : PSM

60 voters register in ECM's visually impaired registry

Election Commission of Maldives (ECM) has revealed that 60 individuals have been registered in the visually impaired registry. These individuals will be afforded the opportunity to participate in the upcoming parliamentary elections.

Speaking on a programme aired on PSM News, Vice President of ECM Ismail Habeeb underscored that a significant portion of visually impaired people, as per records from National Social Protection Agency (NSPA) and other administrative bodies, are eligible to vote. He highlighted the distribution of voting templates across the Maldives for the 2023 presidential elections, specifically designed to accommodate those with visual limitations.

Despite the substantial costs incurred, Habeeb pointed out that only a small fraction of the blind population participated in the previous elections. He mentioned the establishment of this registry resulted from discussions with relevant authorities, aiming to facilitate greater voting accessibility for visually impaired individuals. Notably, visually impaired individuals have consistently reported challenges in exercising their voting rights independently. However, they were able to vote independently during the previous year's presidential elections, following amendments made to the Election General Act.

Habeeb also announced that voting templates for the visually impaired were dispatched to all polling stations, featuring raised edges on the paper to assist in identifying candidates' names and numbers. It was reported that 45 visually impaired people utilised these templates to cast their votes during presidential election 2023.

SOURCE : PSM