

MALDIVES

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President Dr Muizzu constitutes the National Cyber Security Agency

President Dr Mohamed Muizzu has constituted the National Cyber Security Agency under the Ministry of Homeland Security And Technology today. He established the new institution under the discretion vested in him by Article 116 of the Constitution of the Republic of Maldives. This announcement was made in the President's Office Directive 07/2024.

According to the directive, all correspondence addressed to the National Cyber Security Agency shall use the number 500, per the numbering system for state agencies. The National Cyber Security Agency aims to serve as a focal point for all issues pertaining to the state and its residents' cyber security on a national scale.

This agency strives to establish national cyber security policies and standards, support the growth of Government institutions' cyber defence capabilities, and work at the national level to obtain the instruments and resources required to improve the nation's cybersecurity capabilities.

SOURCE : President's Office



Law amended granting city council status to Thinadhoo Island Council



An amendment has been proposed to change the status of Thinadhoo, Gaafu Dhaalu Atoll, from an island council to a city council. The amendment, put forward by Parliamentarian Hisaan Hussain, was approved by the parliament with 42 votes.

The change in status was deemed necessary as Thinadhoo had been granted the status of a city on August 30, 2023, by the previous government. However, despite being recognised as a city, the status of the island council remained unchanged due to legal challenges.

The Decentralisation Act outlines the criteria for granting an island the status of a city, which includes meeting specific requirements and a decision by the president. It also stipulates that despite the change in status, the current island council elected to govern the island will continue until the completion of their term.

Thinadhoo's island council raised concerns about the discrepancy in their status, prompting the Decentralisation Committee to propose amendments to the law. Hisaan's bill included five amendments, aligning with the modifications suggested by the Decentralisation Committee.

The proposed amendments state that when an island's status changes to that of a city, the island council's status must also change accordingly. This includes renaming the council's president and vice president to Mayor and Deputy Mayor, respectively. The amendments also clarify that the current council members will remain in office until the end of their term.

Furthermore, the amendments outline procedures for multiple islands forming a city together, abolishing the atoll council in such cases and transferring all authority to the city council. The city council would then be responsible for providing all services mandated by law.

SOURCE : PSM



Gov't stresses early Olympism to boost Maldives sports



Minister of Sports, Fitness, and Recreation Abdulla Rafiu has emphasised the importance of teaching children with the values of Olympism early on to bolster sports participation in the Maldives.

Speaking at the Maldives Olympic Committee's annual general meeting held at Meerumaa, Minister Rafiu underscored the sincerity behind efforts to promote sports, stressing their noble intent. He highlighted the upcoming National Sports Veterans Ambassadors register, honoring the stalwarts of Maldivian sports.

Additionally, Minister Rafiu advocated for the engagement of every institution in fostering sports across the Maldives, emphasising the significance of innovative approaches. He cautioned against singular pursuits, asserting that collective endeavors are paramount for tangible impact. Stressing the role of sports in fostering joy, cultivating positive habits, and enhancing societal esteem, he emphasised the holistic benefits it offers.



Furthermore, Minister Rafiu expressed optimism about the Maldives' potential to host the Indian Ocean Island Games (IOIG) and South Asian Games within the next decade, aiming for podium success at the 2030 Asian Games. The aspirations, he noted, are integral parts of the long-term sporting strategy, necessitating concerted efforts from all sports associations and institutions for realisation.

SOURCE : PSM



President plans elevator installation in Hiyaa towers by April

President Dr. Mohamed Muizzu has announced plans to begin practical work for the installation of additional elevators in the Hiyaa towers in April. The announcement was made came during a session of the "Raees ge Javaab" series, designed to foster direct public engagement with the President on various matters.

During the series, Haleema Shahiya from Faresmaathoda, Gaafu Dhaalu Atoll, raised concerns about the timeline for installing additional elevators in the Hiyaa towers within Hulhumale' Phase II. In response, President Dr. Muizzu disclosed that the contract for the installation of additional elevators in the Hiyaa flats has been awarded to a contractor.

Additionally, President Dr. Muizzu revealed that detailed design preparations are currently in progress for the elevator installations in the Hiyaa flats, with plans to mobilise the installation work in April. He assured that the advance payment to the company will be disbursed imminently, highlighting that the agreement mandates commencement of work within a month of receiving the advance.

Furthermore, President Dr. Muizzu outlined that each building will have two elevators, one of which will be a spacious elevator designed for transporting stretchers to facilitate patient transportation. He said that the agreement has been finalised, with the project slated for completion within a year.

The Housing Development Corporation (HDC) has entrusted Shenyang Yuanda Intellectual Industry Group Company Limited with the contract to install the additional elevators in the Hiyaa flats. The agreement encompasses the installation of 32 extra elevators, including a dedicated stretcher or patient elevator, as well as a 14-seater elevator.

SOURCE : PSM

