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### President confident in nation's development with super majority

President Dr. Mohamed Muizzu has expressed confidence in the nation's trajectory towards development following the securing of a super majority in Parliament. He made the remarks during a celebratory event in Artificial Beach in Male' City, marking the government's victory in the parliamentary election.

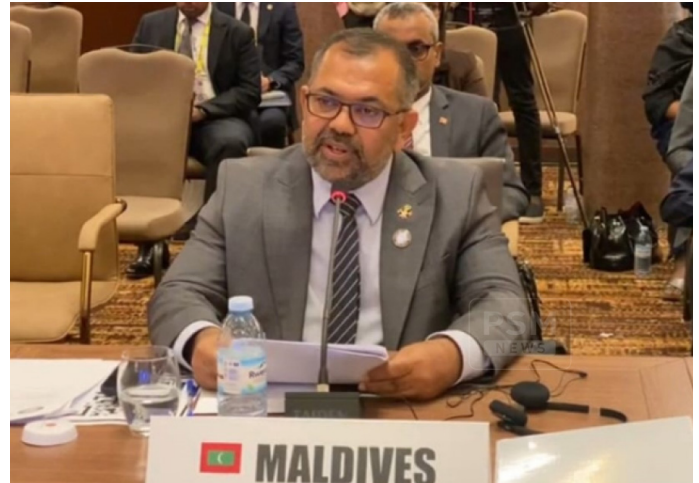
Speaking at the event, President Dr. Muizzu highlighted the imperative of steering the country away from a negative course. He underscored the significance of harnessing the collective effort of the citizens towards progress, particularly emphasising the adherence to the principles of Islam. He exuded optimism about the nation's future, citing the demonstrated commitment of the public to safeguarding independence and propelling rapid development.

Additionally, President Dr. Muizzu outlined a roadmap focused on parliamentary initiatives aimed at propelling national development. He reiterated his dedication to resolving the housing crisis, pledging to leave behind past grievances. Highlighting the strides made in revitalising the economy, he stressed the necessity of legislative action to consolidate progress.

Furthermore, President Dr. Muizzu emphasised the public's call for tangible action over rhetoric, pledging strong measures for national development. He highlighted the significance of unity and patriotic resolve in fulfilling pledges.

In conclusion, President Dr. Muizzu affirmed the right of the citizens to shape their nation's future, urging elected officials to persist in their commitment to serve. He also expressed confidence that such dedication would yield the desired outcomes for citizens.

SOURCE : PSM



### Maldives extends condolences to China amidst devastating floods

In the wake of the relentless downpours that have besieged southern China, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Maldives Moosa Zameer has extended a heartfelt message of condolence to his counterpart Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China, Wang Yi.

Expressing profound sadness over the catastrophic floods that have ravaged Guangdong province and beyond, Minister Zameer conveyed his sympathies to the government and people of China. With millions affected and a significant loss of lives reported, the Minister emphasised solidarity with the families enduring profound losses and the countless individuals displaced by the calamity.

In his message, Minister Zameer pledged unwavering support from the Maldives, offering thoughts and prayers during this arduous period.

As the Chinese authorities continue efforts to mitigate the aftermath of the floods, the international community, including the Maldives, stands in solidarity with China, affirming the enduring bonds of friendship and support during times of crisis.



SOURCE : PSM





## Preparations completed to commence practical works of Dhangethi Harbour



Maldives Transport and Contracting Company has mobilised the site in preparations to commence the practical works of the project of developing the harbour of Dhangethi, Alif Dhaalu Atoll. The current harbour developed on the island has a length of 700ft and a width of 300ft.

Dhangethi is widely recognised for its extensive local tourism, with a population of 1,200 residents. While the island accommodates 18 guest houses catering to over 240 beds, the lack of development of the harbour and space constraints has posed significant challenges, given its daily usage.

Providing an insight on the developmental project to PSM News, Vice President of Dhangethi Island Council Imran Ahmed highlighted the difficulties in providing services to the ships and boats embarked due to the lack of space. He further affirmed that this obstruction will be resolved following the development of the harbour, while assisting to expand the local tourism industry within the

island.

The scope of the project includes reclaiming 35,500 cubic meters of land, excavating 69,500 cubic meters from the harbour, dredging 33,600 cubic meters of canals and 7,800 cubic meters of the area designated for swimming. Additional works include constructing of a 71m outer wall, establishing a concrete bridge with a length of 35m, developing a concrete ramp with a length of 11m, developing a 3,052m pavement along with installing lights.

The project is funded by the government and is worth USD 4.6 million.

SOURCE : PSM

## New Parliamentarians to swear-in on May 28

During the Parliament sitting, Speaker Aslam disclosed that preparations are currently underway by the Parliament to host the oath taking ceremony on the date. The current Parliament's tenure will conclude on May 15 under the Parliamentary Privileges and Powers Act. Decisions have been made such that the last meeting of the current Parliament will be held on May 13. On this stance, Aslam assured that the Parliament will persist in its work until the tenure is concluded. Following the parliamentary elections held on April 21, the majority of the current parliamentarians have experienced defeats. The ruling party, People's National Congress (PNC), achieved a super majority by securing 66 out of 93 seats as per the preliminary results. A total of 74 candidates elected were endorsed by President Dr. Mohamed Muizzu.



SOURCE : PSM

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There will no longer be delays in search and rescue operations. 900,000 square meters will constantly be under surveillance from now on, we have the guarantee that we will be able to find any person at risk



His Excellency President  
Dr. Mohamed Muizzu

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## Citizens gain confidence in ECM following the election

Elections Commission of the Maldives (ECM) has received several praises for conducting a smooth, peaceful, transparent, and credible parliamentary elections without any issues. A total of 368 candidates contested for 93 constituencies in the parliamentary elections held on April 21. This includes 6 additional constituencies in comparison to the current parliament.w

Speaking to PSM News, Member of ECM Hassan Zakariyya expressed confidence that the parliamentary elections granted citizens

the freedom of expression. He highlighted that several initiatives were taken after observing previous elections to ensure that the parliamentary elections run seamlessly. As such, each ballot box is open for 500 individuals, aiming to reduce queues.

Furthermore, Zakariyya observed significant ease due to the provision of prior information regarding polling stations and ballot boxes to the locals. He emphasised this initiative contributed to establishing public confidence and trust in the ECM, garnering acclaim.

Polling stations were arranged such that the voting process for elderly people and individuals with disabilities are convenient. Arrangements have also been implemented to facilitate mobility of individuals who utilise wheelchairs.

ECM revealed that no complaints were submitted to the commission that could alter the preliminary results of the parliamentary elections. The team of international observers has also hailed the ECM for establishing systems and arrangements to ensure the smooth running of elections.



## President appoints Heena Waleed as Chief Spokesperson at President's Office



President Dr. Mohamed Muizzu has appointed Heena Waleed as Chief Spokesperson at the President's Office marking the first time a female is appointed to the position.

Heena Waleed would continue to serve as the CEO of the National Social Protection Agency (NSPA) while undertaking the Chief Spokesperson's position's responsibilities at the President's Office and would not be offered additional remuneration.

She previously served as a political director at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and held various positions in the media. Heena Waleed also previously held several high-ranking positions in the state media, including Head of News at Public Service Media (PSM).

Chief Spokesperson Heena Waleed attained higher studies in mass communication, journalism, and advertisement.

## Muli Airport development nearing completion

Muli Island Council has announced that the airport development project of Muli, Meemu Atoll, is nearing completion, affirming that airport services will commence this year.

Meemu Atoll, consisting of eight inhabited islands, is one of the few atolls of the nation in which an airport has not been established. Therefore, the Maldives Transport and Contracting Company (MTCC) was awarded the contract for the airport development project, with the practical work of the project kicking off in October 2021.

Providing an insight on the project to PSM News, Vice President of Muli Council Ahmed Shakif stated that the airport developmental project would serve as a transformative undertaking for the island, revealing that the project was nearing completion. Consequently, asphalt had been laid on the runway whereas 90% of the airport terminal was nearly completed.

Shakif proclaimed that the establishment of an airport would be a significant convenience for the inhabitants of the atoll, particularly for those visiting the island frequently for travel and healthcare purposes.

Muli Airport will be developed on the 40ha land reclaimed in 2018. The airport will be established with a 1200m long runway with a width of 30m along with a taxi-way and an airport apron under the project with its value exceeding USD14 million.

SOURCE : PSM

## Saleem ensures super majority will not be misused

Parliamentarian Ahmed Saleem has affirmed that, despite ruling party People's National Congress (PNC) gaining a super majority in the incoming parliament, no efforts will be made to misuse the power held and that minorities will be respected as well. These remarks were directed towards PNC securing over 70 seats in various constituencies.

Speaking at the parliament, Saleem underscored that political power and influence will always not be in the hands of one person, emphasising that it changes as circumstances change. He further emphasised the misuse of these powers would not yield positive outcomes.



Furthermore, Saleem asserted that the majority of the Maldives Democratic Party (MDP) had impeded the work of PNC parliamentarians, who were in the minority during the previous parliament. Additionally, he reiterated that owing to excessive pressure exerted by MDP, minority parliamentarians had experienced psychological disruptions. Saleem stressed the importance of not intimidating or mentally weakening individuals.

Moreover, Saleem conveyed that the allocation of power to a selective group of individuals will exacerbate the disparity between the rich and poor, resulting in detrimental impacts on their psychological and physical health. He emphasised that every government ought to engage in proactive efforts, reducing poverty and enhancing conditions.

SOURCE : PSM

