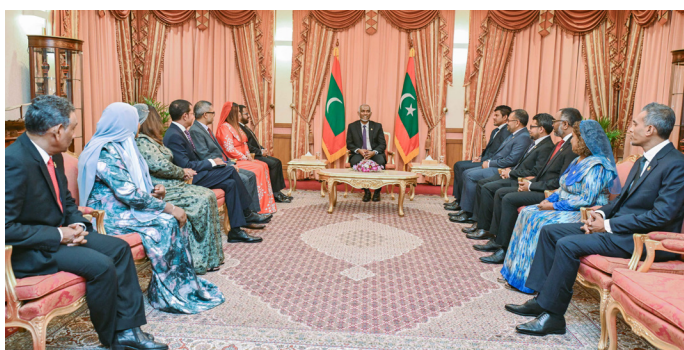


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The President appoints Ambassadors, High Commissioners and Permanent Representatives to foreign countries and international organisations



President Dr Mohamed Muizzu appointed nine Ambassadors, High Commissioners and Permanent Representatives to some foreign countries and international organisations.

The appointees are as follows:

1. Mohamed Hussain Shareef as Ambassador of the Republic of Maldives to the United Arab Emirates (UAE)
2. Iruthisham Adam as High Commissioner of the Republic of Maldives to the United Kingdom
3. Dr Fazeel Najeeb as Ambassador of the Republic of Maldives to China
4. Dr Ali Naseer Mohamed as Permanent Representative of the Republic of Maldives to the United Nations (PMNY)
5. Geela Ali as Ambassador of the Republic of Maldives to the Kingdom of Belgium and to the European Union
6. Dr Mariyam Shabeena Ahmed as High Commissioner of the Republic of Maldives to Malaysia
7. Masood Imad as High Commissioner of The Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka
8. Dr Salma Rasheed as Permanent Representative of the Republic of Maldives to the United Nations Office in Geneva
9. Mohamed Luveiz as High Commissioner of the Republic of Maldives to the Republic of Singapore

The President presented the letter of appointment to them at a ceremony held at the President's Office this morning.

SOURCE : President's Office



Efforts are underway to develop Fisheries College

Maldives National University (MNU) has announced that opportunities for students to enroll for the August intake in the Fisheries College. The initiative aims to fulfil the unwavering commitments made by President Dr. Mohamed Muizzu, outlined in the government's manifesto. The president initially unveiled plans to set up a first-of-its-kind Fisheries College while speaking at the function commemorating the 43rd Fishermen's Day.

Speaking at a press conference, Vice Chancellor of MNU Aishath Shehenaz revealed that efforts are underway to establish the Fisheries College, noting that several fisheries courses will be available for the August intake. Additionally, she highlighted the ongoing preparations of the university to commence courses in the agricultural field such as accrediting the courses, noting that these courses will be conducted in islands with a great land area.



Previously, President Dr. Muizzu stated that the Fisheries College would be established in collaboration with the Maldives National University (MNU). Administrative efforts to realise the plan are in motion as part of the Administration's 'Hafuthaa 14' roadmap. Furthermore, the president revealed plans to conduct a special training programme to ensure that every fishing vessel has at least one crew member certified as a "rescue diver."

The government's efforts to develop the industry can be observed through the various initiatives implemented. As such, efforts are underway to create a dedicated agency to advertise and promote fish products to foreign markets under a distinctive Maldivian brand.

SOURCE : PSM





Operation Kurangi: Information collected from 164 immigrants



Ministry of Homeland Security and Technology has announced that information and data have been collected of 164 immigrants within four hours, under the first phase of Operation Kurangi. Operation Kurangi is an initiative undertaken by the government aiming to address the issue of illegal immigrants in the Maldives.

Speaking at a programme aired on PSM News, the Minister of State for Homeland Security and Technology Uz. Ahmed Siddeeq stated that the information collected were from Himmafushi, Kaafu Atoll, while revealing plans to conduct the operation at a nation-wide level, identifying the total number of illegal immigrants. As such, the operation launched will embark on a data collection initiative, gathering fingerprints, photographs, and pertinent information of all foreign residents within the Maldives over the course of a year.

Highlighting that the operation will be conducted in a joint collaboration with the Maldives Immigration and the Maldives Police Service (MPS), Minister Siddeeq disclosed that a special task force teams was formed to conduct the operation. The minister further revealed that these teams will travel to resorts and islands under industrial development, while stating that Councils will also assist in overseeing the operations.

The post-initial phase of the operation includes biometric identification procedures which will target undocumented immigrants, culminating in their deportation through coordinated efforts with the respective embassies. Minister Siddeeq affirmed that this phase is significant in order to determine the total number of immigrants and the number of illegal immigrants within the nation.

Aiming to resolve the issue of illegal immigrants, initiatives were taken under the previous administration as well. However, as the top-priority was given to solve the issue within Male' City, no immigrants residing in islands were monitored from the system. Meanwhile, the current government has an overarching goal to resolve the illegal immigration challenge sustainably, within a three-year timeframe.

SOURCE : PSM

Foreign Minister Moosa Zameer to undertake an Official Visit to India



The Minister of Foreign Affairs His Excellency Moosa Zameer will undertake an Official Visit to India from 8 to 10 May 2024.

During the visit, Minister Zameer will meet with India's Minister of External Affairs Dr S. Jaishankar and hold discussions in deepening and expanding the longstanding partnership between the Maldives and India.

This is Foreign Minister Zameer's first official visit to India since assuming office.

SOURCE : Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Maldivians must always advocate for rights of Palestinians: Minister

Minister of Housing, Land, and Urban Development Dr. Ali Haidar Ahmed has underscored the obligation of every Maldivian to actively support Palestine's defense. He made the remarks in an interview with PSM News.

The Maldives' recent statement at the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) garnered public acclaim for its steadfast stance. Numerous individuals lauded the statement, echoing similar sentiments.



During the interview, Minister Dr. Haidar extended gratitude to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for providing the opportunity to represent the nation's support for Palestine. He expressed a sense of privilege in delivering the statement after Israel, allowing for a more impassioned delivery.

In the General Assembly, the Maldives voiced deep concern over the suppression of justice for Palestinians, lamenting the stifling effect of a single vote. It urged the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) to consider abolishing the veto power, noting that the USA's sole veto obstructed Palestine's full UN membership.

SOURCE : PSM





Discussions held with French Ambassador to train Maldivian athletes



Minister of Sports, Fitness and Recreation Abdullah Rafiu has held discussions with the Ambassador of France to Sri Lanka and to the Maldives Jean-François Pactet, to train Maldivian players and athletes under the long run plan to develop the sports field. The meeting was held on May 6, in the Ministry of Sports, Fitness and Recreation.

During the discussion, the Ambassador expressed his opinions on how France can assist the Maldives to develop the sports industry and train athletes in France. The meeting was concluded with the French Ambassador invited Minister Rafiu to the Olympic Games to be held in France and the 11th Commonwealth Ministers Meeting. On this stance, the Ambassador highlighted various sports policies and suggested seeking the assistance of the Commonwealth to resolve significant issues. The 11th Commonwealth Ministers Meeting is scheduled to be held on July 24 and 25.

While discussions were held with the French Ambassador to train athletes, Minister Rafiu announced a bilateral agreement with Malaysia aimed at enhancing sports development in the Maldives. Furthermore, the minister revealed that efforts are underway to hold discussions with additional two countries; the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

SOURCE : PSM

Water system testing initiated in Huraa



Huraa Island Council and the Utility Regulatory Authority (URA) have signed to monitor the quality of freshwater supplied by fresh water production systems.

The agreement of the venture was signed by the Director of the URA Fathimath Fizna Yoosuf and the President of Huraa Council Eesa Ahmed.

Under this agreement, URA will collaborate with the council to regularly sample and test the water supplied to ensure its safety and drinkability. Additionally, council employees will receive training to take water samples for testing purposes.

This initiative aims to ensure safe and drinkable water for residents, starting with Huraa in Kaafu Atoll, which will be the first island outside the greater Male' region to have its water supply systems regularly regulated. Plans are also underway to extend this testing to other islands in the near future.

Moreover, URA has the statutory responsibility to ensure the safety of water supplied by freshwater sources in the Maldives. Currently, water samples are collected and tested daily from a total of 13 areas in the Male' region.

SOURCE : PSM

BCC assists over 6,000 SMEs so far



Business Center Corporation (BCC) has released a statement commemorating its 7th anniversary, which highlighted that the corporation has assisted over 6,000 small and medium enterprises (SMEs). BCC was established in 2017, with the primary objective of developing and supporting SMEs.

Commemorating the 7th anniversary of the corporation, the Managing Director of BCC Ibrahim Ziyau Mohamed reiterated the corporation's target of assisting firms in all sectors, highlighting that their top priority of building an innovative and ingenious society. He further affirmed that efforts are underway to enhance the laws and regulations relating to small businesses.

The statement released by BCC shed light on several efforts and initiatives undertaken by the corporation. As such, a shop under the name of "Authetic Maldives" was established, aiming to expand and obtain a market for SMEs, along with the development of Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) Hub and a co-workspace; SEED. Additionally, the statement revealed that BCC has provided its services, actively assisting over 6,000 SMEs up to date.

BCC disclosed its plans to formulate its future initiatives and plans, focusing on fields that have been devoid of economic assistance in the past. On this stance, BCC recognised the policy of President Dr. Mohamed Muizzu regarding the development of SMEs, claiming that it was a huge encouragement for the corporation.

SOURCE : PSM