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Sustainable Tourism Award earned by Maldives instils pride in all citizens



The Chairperson of Maldives Marketing and Public Relations Corporation (MMPRC) Ayesha Nurain Janah has asserted that the Sustainable Tourism Award achieved by the Maldives is a commendation that must evoke pride among all the citizens of the nation. The remarks were made by Nurain, following the remarkable achievement of the Maldives in earning four prestigious awards at the World Travel Awards.

MMPRC, a state-owned corporation, that also functions as a tourism board, actively engages in various events, advertising the Maldives all over the world. The noteworthy awards the nation continues to receive from the tourism industry attribute to the success of the unwavering and dedicated efforts of MMPRC to promote the Maldives as a prominent tourism destination. Maldives has received four awards at the World Travel Awards (Indian Ocean Category) during the Arabian Travel Market (ATM) 2024 held at the Dubai World Trade Center.

The categories that the Maldives has won for this year are:

- Indian Ocean's Leading Destination 2024
- Indian Ocean's Leading Honeymoon Destination 2024
- Indian Ocean's Leading Green Destination 2024
- Indian Ocean's Leading Dive Destination 2024

In regard to the significant accomplishment of the Maldives, Chairperson of MMPRC Nurain highlighted the steadfast efforts of MMPRC to nominate the Maldives for the awards and conduct several campaigns, aiming to earn votes.

Recognising the collaborative efforts with several tourism agents to promote the nation in various platforms, including social media, Nurain revealed MMPRC's ambitious vision of securing a world-class award at the World Travel Awards, which will be announced near the end of this year.

Furthermore, Nurain noted that the achievements earned indicate the sustainable efforts of the Maldives to maintain its reputation as one of the world's most popular destinations, while also observing that it represents the perfection of services provided to guests and tourists who visit the country. Additionally, she stated that the awards acknowledge the efforts of the MMPRC team to advertise tourism industry of the Maldives as well.

Efforts of MMPRC to promote the tourism sector of the Maldives include; partaking in significant global fairs and events, conducting roadshows, bringing world-class celebrities and promoting the nation through them and conducting campaign events through various platforms including social media.

While the Maldives secured the Indian Ocean's Leading Green Destination 2024, the award was achieved by Madagascar for the past seven years. Nurain reiterated MMPRC's overarching goal of achieving a new award, stating that the Indian Ocean's Leading Green Destination 2024 award received by the Maldives evidenced the accomplishment of this target. She additionally asserted that the Sustainable Tourism Award conferred by the Maldives is a commendation that ought to instill a sense of pride among all the citizens of the nation. Nurain also affirmed the commitment of MMPRC to expand the tourism industry, aiming to attract over two million tourists.

SOURCE : PSM

Gov't aims to ensure Maldivian society is a safe environment for children

Minister of Social and Family Development Dr. Aishath Shiham revealed the government's aim of ensuring the Maldivian society is a safe and secure environment for children. The remarks were made by the minister in a special message given, commemorating World Children's Day.

Minister Dr. Aishath Shiham underscored the government's overarching objective of ensuring the community provides the necessary care and attention to children. The minister further stated that building a society which ensures the provision of care and support to children is also a target of the government.

In the message, Minister Dr. Aishath Shiham conveyed heartfelt felicitations, celebrating World Children's Day.

SOURCE : PSM





Over USD 713M generated attributing to revenue increasing by 3.7%



Ministry of Finance has revealed a remarkable surge in the government’s revenue generated as of April 25, which exceeds USD713 million. The latest weekly fiscal report publicised by the ministry indicates that this contributes to a 3.7% increase in revenue in comparison to the revenue of USD693 million, generated within the same period, in 2023.

The fiscal report shows that the revenue comprises USD 596 million in tax revenue, USD116 million in non-tax revenue, and USD3 million in aid received. Tax earnings include import duty, business and property tax (BPT), goods and services tax (GST), as well as earnings from GST. The breakdown of revenue generation includes USD45 million from import duties, USD168 million from BPT, USD330 million from GST, USD24 million from green tax, USD22.6 million from airport service charges, and departure tax.

Expenditures until April 25 totalled USD817 million, with USD629 million allocated to recurrent expenses and USD181 million to capital expenditures. This represents a significant reduction in expenditures compared to the USD961 million spent by the government in 2023, during the corresponding timeframe.

Recurrent expenses cover USD207 million for salaries and allowances and USD408 million for administrative work. Meanwhile, capital expenditure primarily encompasses expenses related to structural development.

SOURCE : PSM



Operation Kurangi: Information collected from 532 immigrants

Minister of Homeland Security and Technology Ali Ihusaan has revealed that information and relevant data for over 532 immigrants have been collected under Operation Kurangi. The remarks were made by the minister on a post shared on social media. Operation Kurangi is an initiative undertaken by the government aiming to address the issue of illegal immigrants in the Maldives.

Operation Kurangi launched its first phase on May 2, in Himmafushi, Kaafu Atoll. 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 Ihusaan revealed plans to launch operations in additional five areas in the nation simultaneously, in the near future. The minister also expressed his appreciation towards Himmafushi Island Council, for their support and assistance in conducting the operation.



During the inauguration of the operation, Minister Ihusaan outlined the objectives of the operation, aiming to resolve the illegal immigration challenge within a three-year timeframe. As a primary measure, he said that the ministry 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.

Furthermore, Minister Ihusaan stated that the information collected during the first phase of the operation is not for the sole purpose of taking action against the illegal immigrants. The minister stated that the opportunities will be provided to illegal immigrant such that they can enter the Maldives legally.

SOURCE : PSM

“ The biggest contributors to the development of the Maldives and the advancement it is seeing in various areas are, without doubt, the industrious workers

His Excellency President
Dr. Mohamed Muizzu



MNU seeks contractors for Medical School and Teaching Hospital



The Maldives National University (MNU) has announced a call for contractors to undertake the construction of the Medical School and Teaching Hospital, a project jointly funded by the Pakistan Government.

MNU has also unveiled plans for the establishment of a comprehensive medical infrastructure, including a medical school, teaching hospital, faculty of health sciences, and school of nursing. The medical school and teaching hospital will adhere to university-provided blueprints, while the School of Nursing and Accommodation Block will follow a design and build approach. The opportunity to submit proposals for the two projects are open until May 24.

The medical school, equipped to accommodate 100 students simultaneously, will boast state-of-the-art amenities. Meanwhile, the teaching hospital, envisioned as a 300-bed facility equipped with cutting-edge technology, aims to deliver top-tier patient care. The facilities are slated for construction in Hulhumale', with MNU earmarking 5,700sqm of land for their development, including dedicated student housing within the hospital precinct.

MNU also plans to construct separate buildings for the Faculty of Health Sciences and the School of Nursing, spanning 69,000 sqm. The structures will include additional amenities such as accommodation, sports facilities, and a conference hall, all outfitted with modern conveniences.

SOURCE : PSM



Foreign Minister Zameer departs on an Official Visit to the State of Qatar

The Minister of Foreign Affairs, Moosa Zameer, departs for the State of Qatar on an Official Visit from 11 – 13 May 2024.

During the visit, Minister Zameer will engage in high-level discussions with the Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of the State of Qatar, Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim Al Thani, and explore avenues for further strengthening the longstanding bilateral relations between the two countries. This year will mark the 40th anniversary of bilateral relations between the Maldives and Qatar.

Minister Zameer is also scheduled to meet with other senior officials from the government to explore opportunities to enhance cooperation in various sectors between the two countries.

Minister is accompanied by Secretary, Bilateral, Dr Hala Hameed, Ambassador-at-Large, Dr Fazeel Najeeb, and Assistant Director, Lamha Saleem.

SOURCE : Foreign Ministry

Minister confirms redeployment of all Indian militants

Minister of Defence Mohamed Ghassan Maumoon has disclosed that the 76 Indian militants stationed in the Maldives have been successfully redeployed. The redeployment of foreign troops from the nation is a commitment of President Dr. Mohamed Muizzu.

The withdrawal of the Indian military troops stationed by May 10 in the Maldives, as per the pledge of President Dr. Muizzu, were officially announced today at a press conference held at the President's Office. The troops were redeployed in batches, with the first batch redeployed in March. This was followed by the withdrawal of the second batch of militants in April and the last batch on May 10.

Details on the withdrawal of the foreign troops are as follows: In March, a total of 26 soldiers who were stationed in Gan, Addu City were redeployed, with 12 militants redeployed on March 7 and 14 militants on March 9. Meanwhile, 25 military personnel in Hanimaadhoo, Haa Dhaalu Atoll withdrew, with 13 soldiers redeployed on April 7 and 12 on May 9. The troops stationed in Kadhdhoo, Laamu Atoll were redeployed with 12 personnel withdrawing the platforms on May 7 and 13 by May 9.

Speaking at the press conference, Minister Ghassan revealed that the foreign soldiers working at Senahiya Military Hospital are doctors, and there were no plans to redeploy them. The minister assured that these soldiers were not partaking in any military roles.

SOURCE : PSM

