



1 JULY 2024

ISSUE 81



The President decides to establish an at-risk children's rehabilitation centre

President Dr Mohamed Muizzu decided to establish a reform and rehabilitation centre to support at-risk children affected by crime, following recommendations from his Cabinet.

The decision was reached after thorough discussions on a paper presented by the Ministry of Homeland Security and Technology during today's Cabinet meeting.

The paper outlines the proposed centre, which envisions a "long-term residential care facility" situated on an uninhabited island in accordance with the Juvenile Justice Act. The facility would provide specialised treatment and unwavering support to children at risk of being subjected to juvenile delinquency and those with varying circumstances leading to juvenile delinquency.

The paper also provides a detailed outline of the recommended facilities and programmes that should be implemented in the proposed facility.



Gov't to Develop Facilities to Run National Center for Holy Quran



Minister of Islamic Affairs Dr. Mohamed Shaheem Ali Saeed has affirmed that the government will establish a special facility to run the National Center for the Holy Quran during the current presidential tenure. The remarks were made by the minister during the inaugural ceremony of the 36th National Quran Competition.

Speaking at the ceremony, the minister noted that several students who took part in the competition were well-trained and continue to represent the Maldives in international competitions. Highlighting that the current National Center for the Holy Quran operates in King Salman Mosque, he revealed that the government will establish facilities designated for the center during this tenure.

Furthermore, Minister Dr. Shaheem acknowledged that the National Quran Competition is the most prestigious competition related to the Holy Quran in the Maldives, with over 1,000 participants each year. He emphasized the importance of implementing significant improvements to enhance the competition. These include streamlining the recitation schedule to allow participants from outside the Malé region to complete their recitations and depart more quickly, introducing a brief informational booklet about the competition for participants, and revising the prize awards.

Additionally, Minister Dr. Shaheem affirmed that efforts are underway to hold discussions about modifications to the organization of the competition, despite not bringing policy changes.





Expatriates Operating Businesses Without Permits to be Deported



Controller General of Immigration Mohamed Sham'aan Waheed has declared that expatriates operating their own businesses without permits will be deported as per regulations. The Maldives Immigration has launched a joint operation in collaboration with the Maldives Police Service (MPS) to identify illegal immigrants across the nation. Under this operation, several immigrants have been brought into the custody of Maldives Immigration.

In a post shared on social media regarding the operation, Controller General Sham'aan revealed that several self-employed expatriates without valid permits and those involved in activities outside the permitted activities have been identified during the operations. He affirmed that the illegal expatriates will be deported as per the Maldives Immigration Act.

Underscoring the commitment of President Dr. Mohamed Muizzu to address the issue of illegal immigrants in the nation, Sham'aan stated that Immigration will ensure the fulfillment of this pledge responsibly. The current administration has been exerting efforts to resolve the issue. As such, the ongoing operation aims to identify and deport all illegal immigrants with no relevant documents.

During the first day of the operation, several areas within the Greater Malé region were investigated and approved. MPS disclosed that they have observed some local markets and other areas as well. Under the operation, 50 immigrants who did not have the relevant documents are currently under the custody of Immigration.



CMCA and Shandong Collaborate to Share Cultural Information

The China-Maldivian Cultural Association (CMCA) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Chinese province of Shandong have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on sharing cultural information between the two nations. The MoU was signed during a discussion held to sustain the culture and friendship between the Maldives and China. The Shandong Province Friendship City Education and Culture Exchange Center signed the MoU on behalf of Shandong.

CMCA revealed that the agreement would pave the way to build and strengthen cultural ties and exchange information between the youth of both nations. The agreement will allow local students to visit China and enhance their knowledge of Chinese culture. Founder of CMCA and Chairman Mohamed Rasheed stated that strengthening ties between the Maldives and China would be beneficial for Maldivian students and the association. During the discussion, local students inquired about Chinese culture and gained knowledge from the Chinese delegation.

CMCA was established in 2015 by private organizations and aims to create a platform for youth to foster global awareness, create opportunities for international collaboration, and develop skill sets that bridge and celebrate relationships between the peoples of China and the Maldives through arts and culture.

