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The National Quran Competition will be one of the most prestigious and highly awarded competitions starting next year, says the President



The President, Dr Mohamed Muizzu, has announced that the National Quran Competition will be the most prestigious and highly awarded competition starting next year.

The President made the announcement at the closing of the 36th National Quran Competition held at the Islamic Centre's meeting hall this evening.

Speaking at the ceremony, the President stated that committing to promoting and achieving victory for the Islamic faith is considered a national duty and that spreading knowledge of the holy Quran will receive

the highest priority. Additionally, he stated that the administration would prioritise training, encouraging, and opening pathways to create more Huffaz (individuals who have memorized the Holy Quran). The President underlined that his government policy is to increase facilities, provide special incentives to develop more Huffaz and double their current allowance amount.

The President stated that the government will prioritise facilitating the adornment of Islamic culture in the people's lives. He announced the expansion of the service to include free Quran classes across the country.

Speaking at the ceremony, the President stated that the government is taking significant measures to promote the art and knowledge of reciting the Holy Quran. To fund these activities, the administration is developing two additional waqf facilities, 'DaarulSalaam' and 'Daarul Arqam'.

The President emphasised the importance of setting up a dedicated facility to educate and promote the knowledge of the Holy Quran. He also announced that land would be allocated for the reconstruction of the National Centre for the Holy Quran in line with the administration's manifesto.

The President concluded his address by stressing the audience's need to establish the Holy Qur'an as the foundation of their lives.

SOURCE : The President's Office

Foreign Minister Moosa Zameer sends congratulatory message for the newly appointed Foreign Minister of Nepal



Minister of Foreign Affairs of The Republic of Maldives, His Excellency Moosa Zameer

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Maldives, Moosa Zameer has congratulated his Nepali counterpart, Dr. Arzu Rana Deuba on her appointment to the position.

In his message, Minister Zameer conveyed congratulations and reaffirmed the Maldives' commitment to strengthen the partnership between Maldives and Nepal, for the mutual benefit of the two nations. He also said that he welcomed a close working relationship in expanding the enduring ties of friendship between the two countries.

The Maldives first established diplomatic relations with the Kingdom of Nepal on August 1, 1980. As the founding members of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), both Nepal and the Maldives have been playing instrumental roles in the evolution of regional cooperation in South Asia and in institutionalizing SAARC process. The two countries share similar views on many international issues and work closely at various international forums.

SOURCE : Ministry of Foreign Affairs





Islamic Ministry to launch new website with E-book library



Minister of Islamic Affairs Dr. Mohamed Shaheem Ali Saeed has announced that the Ministry will launch a revamped Ministry website, with public being able to access an e-library.

The new website is expected to be launched on July 26th.

The e-library, Minister Shaheem said, will feature books collected from the Ministry from 2008 onward. The books can be downloaded as well. The Minister also said that the video reports on the stories of Prophet Mohamed (SAW) will also be available from the new website.

Episodes of the Risaalath Program will also be made available on the website, in both English and Dhivehi. He further revealed that administrative information, policies, and forms can be accessed via the new website.

The Islamic Ministry has increased their outreach programs aimed at increasing the religious awareness among the public.

SOURCE : PSM



ADB to provide US\$25 million to Maldives Customs

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has decided to provide the Maldives Customs Service with a grant fund of US\$25 million.

Addressing the Parliamentary Committee on National Security Services the Commissioner General of Customs Yoosuf Maaniu said this would be utilised to computerize and digitize customs operations as well as set up IT infrastructure.

The funds, he said, will be made available before the end of 2025.

Maaniu stated that this fund will help Customs to establish IT infrastructure and strengthen security without adding to the budgetary burden.

Additionally, Maaniu said that they have held successful discussions with India to provide free, six months training programme for 100 customs officers this year. He stressed that all the expenses of the training will be borne by the government of India.

SOURCE : PSM

Previous administrations neglected advice: MMA Governor

Maldives Monetary Authority (MMA) Governor Ali Hashim has criticised previous administrations for their failure in implementing the technical advice issued by the Bank and international financial institutions.

He said the central bank had offered critical information, guidance, and support aimed at averting economic crises.

Hashim's statements come after the Parliamentary Committee on Public Accounts voted to advise President Dr. Mohamed Muizzu to remove him as MMA Governor. The recommendation, proposed by Deputy Speaker Ahmed Nazim, is based on allegations that Hashim has not adequately fulfilled his responsibilities.

The committee had criticised the MMA for failing to contribute effectively to economic improvements, noting that Hashim did not provide any pertinent advice to the government. As a result, the committee decided to remove Hashim and issued summons for an inquiry - a request Hashim declined by submitting a report instead. In his report, Hashim highlighted the efforts of MMA over the past two years to alert the government and stakeholders about urgent measures needed to safeguard the economy.



He emphasised that the current economic challenges and the threat of a crisis stem from the-then government's disregard for the advice of MMA and a lack of fiscal discipline. He also stressed the need for collective effort to address the crisis.

The Committee issued final summons for an inquiry on the Governor to respond to the no confidence motion. A recommendation to dismiss is expected to follow.

SOURCE : PSM



Maldives needs to tap into ocean resources to generate energy: Climate Envoy



Special Envoy for Climate Change Ali Shareef stated that ocean resources are yet to be utilised to the maximum to generate energy and that countries such as Maldives were primed to make the most of it.

The remarks were made by the special envoy during an international conference; Sustainable Materials and Advances in Renewable Technologies.

Shareef underscored the critical importance of countries like the Maldives, to utilise ocean resources to generate hydroelectric power. He added that while the Maldives has a small land area, installing solar panels is not sustainable, with the increasing population and capacity. Therefore, he asserted that the Maldives must strive to enhance its energy production by using the available resources.



The global conference aims to serve as an international platform in which educators and experts working to achieve the Sustainable Developmental Goals (SDGs), individuals conducting researches for various industries and discuss strategies to achieve common goals. During the conference, the most challenging issues will be highlighted and discussions seeking sustainable solutions with the assistance of modern technology will be held. Research papers will be presented in nine fields and experts will participate in the conference.

SOURCE : PSM



US, China to supply drones for border monitoring: Customs

Maldives Customs Service has revealed that United States and China have agreed to supply two drones to the agency to monitor vessels entering the country's borders.

This was disclosed in a hearing of the Committee on National Security Services.

Commissioner General of Customs Yoosuf Maniu Mohamed announced that the drones will be used by Maldives National Defence Force (MNDF) Coast Guard and Customs.

He said that Customs currently lacks a system to monitor vessels entering the country and emphasised the need for drones to cover areas that are otherwise inaccessible without physical presence. He also said that the drones will also be utilised in cooperation with the newly established MNDF Air Corps.

Customs, he said, was in the process of expanding their operations, with the addition of a 85-foot vessel, donated by the Government of Japan. China has pledged two additional vessels, as well as one from the US.

SOURCE : PSM



Vice President attends the closing ceremony of the 36th National Quran Competition

