

National Counter Terrorism Centre



NCTC Newsletter - Volume 50: May 2021

Government Strengthens Security Measures Following a Terrorist Attack



photo: President's Office

The Government has taken multiple measures to strengthen security across the country after an explosion on the 6th of May left the Speaker of the Parliament, former President Mohamed Nasheed with numerous injuries. The incident occurred outside the Speaker's residence and wounded several members of his security detail and innocent bystanders.

Following the attack, President Ibrahim Mohamed Solih condemned the heinous attack and convened emergency sessions of both the National Security Council and the Cabinet to deliberate on different measures that should be taken by the security forces and relevant agencies to strengthen the security of the nation.

...continued on page 2



Maldives Police Service has so far apprehended 4 individuals in direct connection to the attack along with individuals suspected of further extremist activities. The Police is currently being aided by the Australian Federal Police in their investigations.

The President has also instructed the Attorney General to amend laws to strengthen security for the Speaker and Chief Justice and other senior officials of the Government. The Government is also conducting an audit of the intelligence apparatus, to identify areas that need to be strengthened to intercept and neutralize future threats.



Furthermore, the National Security Services Committee of the Parliament, which is mandated with holding the security forces accountable, is also investigating the attack to identify measures that can be undertaken to enhance the security response to face future threats.

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“The highest result of education is tolerance .”

Helen Keller

NCTC and Education Ministry Officials Discuss Ways to Strengthen Resilience Against VE at Schools

17 May 2021

Minister of Education Dr. Aishath Ali and a team of senior officials from the Ministry of Education met with NCTC officials to discuss ways to strengthen resilience against VE at the school environment.

During this meeting, the Minister highlighted the issues facing schools in regard to propagation of extremist ideologies and discussed ways to empower the education sector to increase resilience.

DG of NCTC Brigadier General Zakariyya Mansoor remarked upon the importance of increasing collaboration between the education sector and other stakeholder agencies.

The meeting concluded with officials from both institutions agreeing to form a working group to formulate a proper response mechanism to address VE ideologies in the school environment.



As education is the cornerstone of the national preventive efforts, empowerment of teachers and students is vital to build a peace-loving and tolerant generation for the future.

NCTC Officials Participate in UNODC Roundtable Discussions with Stakeholders on Risk Assessment Tool for Violent Extremist Prisoners

22 May 2021

NCTC officials participated in a roundtable discussion held by UNODC to review the Dhivehi translation of the Risk Assessment Tool for Violent Prisoners. The document is part of the assistance by UNODC to establish a Special Management Unit in the prison for segregation and assessment of violent extremist prisoners.

Officials from the Ministry of Home Affairs and Maldives Correctional Services also took part in the discussion. Officials discussed the way ahead before finalizing the document.

Part of strengthening criminal justice response to terrorism involves addressing radicalization of prisoners. UNODC has been providing valuable assistance to modernize and build capacity of Maldives Correctional Service to establish a better rehabilitation mechanism for prisoners.

Delegation of Maldives Participates in the Second high-level dialogue on SAN-PVE, the regional network of PVE practitioners of South Asia

24-25 May 2021



A delegation of Maldives participated in the online Second high-level dialogue on SAN-PVE, the regional network of PVE practitioners of South Asia. The delegation comprised of officials from NCTC, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Youth, Sports and Community Empowerment, Ministry of Islamic Affairs, Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Maldives Police Service, and the Judiciary. Delegates from Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and India participated in the event in addition to the Maldives.

In his opening remarks on behalf of the delegation from Maldives, DG of NCTC Brigadier General Zakariyya Mansoor stressed on the importance of utilizing CSOs to address social grievances that push vulnerable individuals toward violent extremism.

Senior delegates from partner countries also welcomed the new platform and agreed on the benefits of continuing with a regional PVE Network to strengthen regional cooperation on PVE and implement international standards, including United

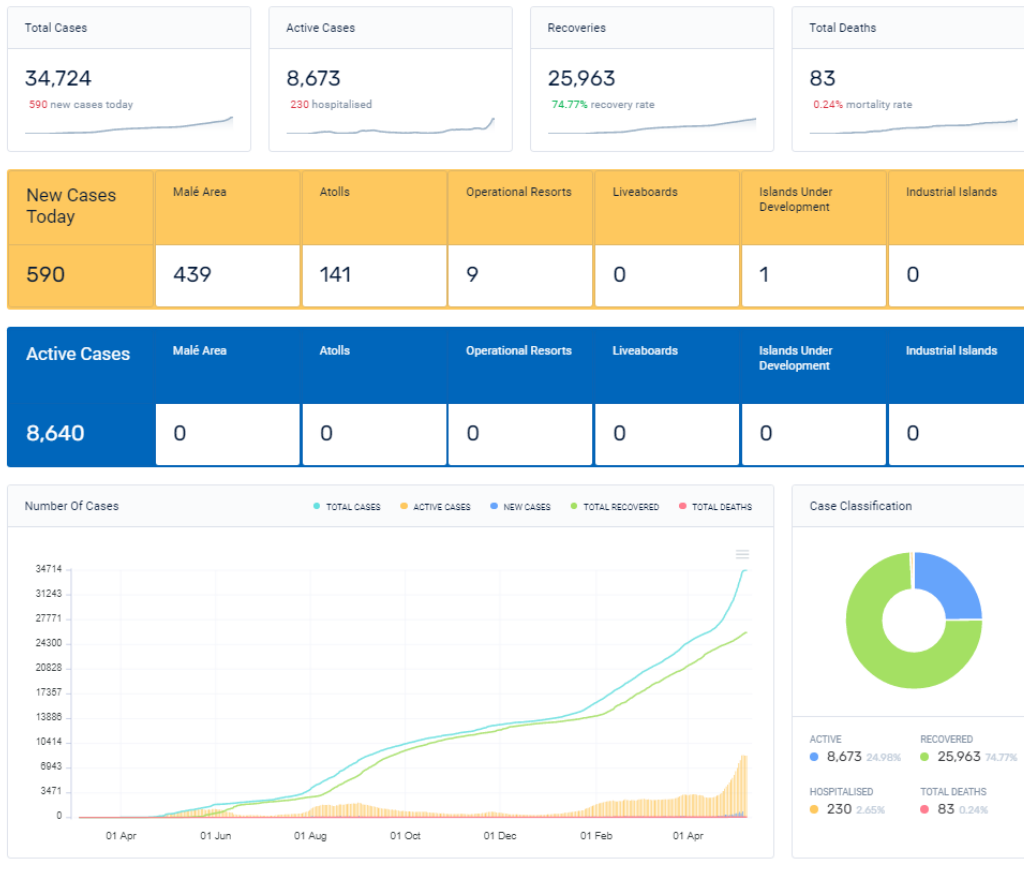


Nations Security Council resolution 2396, the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and the United Nations Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism.

At present, Maldives holds the administrative office of SAN-PVE and the goal is to have all countries of South Asia actively take part in endeavor as the threat of terrorism and violent extremism requires a regional solution for sustainable stability and peace in the region.

COVID-19 LOCAL UPDATES

09 May 2021 - 15:00
 This dashboard will be updated within 2 hours of any new live updates.
 For live updates follow us @hpa_mv.



Source: covid19.health.gov.mv

Intellectual bigotry is a closed-minded system which refuses to accept any contrary beliefs or opinions

Some of the characteristics of bigot/ intolerant person:

Absolutely believes in his belief.

Does not accept dialog or revision in this regards.

Condemns anyone who disagrees with him.

will to confront anyone who disagrees with him violently.

Imposes his belief on the other person by force.

photo: @limctc_en

Activities of the MNDF Contingent at IMCTC in Saudi Arabia



MNDF delegation attended a presentation entitled "Islamophobia between Mental Image and Challenges" on the 26th of May. H.E. Dr. Ali bin Ibrahim Al-Namlah gave the presentation in which he addressed concept and causes of Islamophobia.

photo: @imctc_en

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Members of the Maldivian delegation also participated in a presentation entitled "International Requirements for Combating Money-Laundering and the Financing of Terrorism" presented by Mr. Turki Al-Majhad, Advisor at CMA on the 27th of May. During his presentation, he addressed the quality of policies applied by states to combat the financing of terrorism.

photo: @imctc_en

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Members of the MNDF delegation also attended a presentation entitled "Dialog Strategy in Countering Violent Extremist Ideology via the Internet" presented by Dr. Abdulmonem Al-Mushawah, Head of Al-Sakina Program to Promote Moderation and Counter Terrorism, at IMCTC headquarters in Riyadh. The presentation was held on the 31st of May.

photo: @imctc_en

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NCTC Official Participates in Excel Training for Operational Analysts Online Course Conducted by INTERPOL

3-5 May 2021

Program Coordinator of NCTC participated in the Excel Training for Operational Analysts Online Course Conducted by INTERPOL. The program is part of INTERPOL's "Counter Terrorism – Sri Lanka and The Maldives Program" that aims to build the capacity of countries to detect, prevent, and investigate terrorism and terrorism-related activities.

Data analysis is a core component of intelligence fusion and is vital for information sharing among stakeholder agencies leading to a stronger intelligence apparatus.



NCTC Conducts an Awareness Session for Judges in Partnership with Department of Judicial Administration

22 May 2021



justice response to terrorism. Judges from the Criminal Court attended the session.

This session is a continuation of government's effort in the whole of nation approach to promote peace in the Maldives and strengthen criminal justice response to terrorism.

NCTC conducted an awareness session for judges in partnership with Department of Judicial Administration.

The session was conducted by Director of NCTC Lieutenant Colonel Ibrahim Naeem and covered how to prevent terrorism and violent extremism and strengthen the role of judges in the criminal

NCTC Official Participates in “Seminar on the Dynamics of Youth and Terrorism: Understanding and Countering the Issue” conducted by SEARCCT, Malaysia

24 May- 1 June 2021



Head of Research, Publications and Communication of NCTC participated in the online “Seminar on the Dynamics of Youth and Terrorism: Understanding and Countering the Issue” conducted by the Southeast Asia Regional Centre for Counter-Terrorism (SEARCCT) of Malaysia.

The online seminar covered the basic understanding of youth and the psychological view of youth, focusing on how they think, how they react and their perception. Moreover, the seminar also addressed push and pull factors of youth engaging with terrorism and the modus operandi for recruiting youth to join terrorist groups and elements of extremism and radicalization affecting university undergraduates.

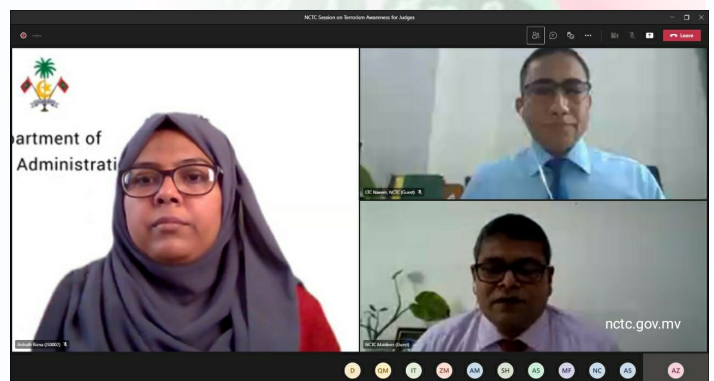
Terrorist organizations often target youth and exploit their social grievances and other factors

that make youth susceptible to violent ideologies. Therefore, identifying ways to prevent youth from becoming victims to terrorism through recruitment and exploitation is vital to increase resilience and promote peace, tolerance, and build a harmonious nation.



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