

National Counter Terrorism Centre



NCTC Newsletter - Volume 59: September 2022

Defence Minister Emphasizes the Necessity in Building a Peaceful and Resilient Society

12 September 2022



Minister of Defence Uza. Mariya Didi briefed the work done in building a peaceful and resilient society and discussed security challenges facing the nation.

Minister made her remarks speaking at the panel discussion at the third “Viavathi Raajje” conference held at L. Atoll Gan. The two-day conference organized by the Local Government Authority was officiated by HEP Ibrahim Mohamed Solih, cabinet ministers, and senior leadership of various government institutions. In her remarks, Minister stated that the government’s Zero Tolerance Policy on Terrorism and the whole-of-government and whole-of-society effort to build peace, resilience and curb violent extremism in all its forms was a national priority.

Minister also shared the progress of the National Action Plan on P/CVE endorsed in July 2020 and the enormous work done to educate and promote the true peaceful messages of Islam.

Furthermore, She also raised security concerns across the defence sector and called for greater

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interagency cooperation and collaboration for sustainable peace and prosperity.

In addition to security and building resilient communities, the conference included discussions on a variety of topics such as gender equality, formulation of land-use plans, and fiscal autonomy of local councils.

The third conference was held for the local governments and the representatives of the Women's Development Committees (WDC) from Maldives' southern atolls.

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لَا مَوْزُونٌ:

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“Peace is not the absence of conflict but the presence of creative alternatives for responding to conflict - alternatives to passive or aggressive responses, alternatives to violence.”

Dorothy Thompson

Dorothy Thompson

NCTC Briefs P/CVE Efforts in the Maldives to A Delegation from U.S. Mission Maldives

13 September 2022

A delegation from U.S. Mission Maldives met with NCTC officials to discuss the P/CVE efforts in the Maldives.

During the meeting, officials discussed ongoing work by NCTC to build resilience and promote social cohesion in the Maldives. Officials also discussed challenges faced in the national prevention effort and deliberated upon ways to

further collaborate to strengthen PVE in the Maldives.

America has been a long-standing partner of NCTC and other stakeholders to strengthen community-based efforts to establish a peaceful, resilient, and tolerant society.

Joint Exercise “Vidhuvaru Ekatha 2022” Commences in Laamu Atoll

5 September 2022



Joint Exercise “Vidhuvaru Ekatha 2022” hosted by the Maldives with the Indian Navy has commenced at MNDF Central Area Command.

Leadership of MNDF Marine Corps and MNDF Central Area Command attended the event in addition to senior officials from the High Commission of India in the Maldives.



Joint exercises such as these achieve two vital outcomes: they enhance operational readiness of our marines and increase interoperability with our allies.



Lieutenant Colonel Ibrahim Naveen Zubair,
Director—Marine Corps



The joint exercise, which is set to conclude on 3 October 2022 includes marines from the Special Operations Group of MNDF Marine Corps and marine commandos of the India Navy. The exercise will focus on combat shoots, VBSS, demolition, and other maritime special operations skills.

NCTC Officials Attend Maahara Conference Held Under the PRIME Project

18-19 September 2022



NCTC Officials attended Maahara Conference held at Bandos Maldives. The conference was held as part of PRIME (Promoting Resilience in the Maldives) project funded by the United States Agency for International Development through Transparency Maldives.

The 2-day conference was held to share research outputs conducted as part of PRIME and explore the possibilities for creating a network of actors. As such, participants representing different sectors from both state and non-state actors attended the event.

The conference focused on four key areas and included research studies, presentations, panel discussions, case studies, and discussions focused on strengthening P/CVE efforts in the Maldives. Key areas of the conference were:

1. Legislative and regulatory reforms within the criminal justice system to support rehabilitation and reintegration efforts;
2. Strengthening prevention and response measures to address vulnerabilities within prisons, rehabilitation centers and other state care facilities;
3. Promoting effective social reintegration and preventing recidivism;
4. Community, civil society and the state: cooperation and collaboration for resilience building.

NCTC welcomes efforts by CSOs and INGOs to build a cohesive and resilient society in the Maldives, as such an enormous undertaking is beyond the scope of a few government agencies and instead demands a truly inclusive whole-of-nation effort to curb violence in all its forms.

Strengthening critical infrastructure is a vital component of a holistic effort to mitigate threats emanating from terrorism and violent extremism.

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Ministry of Youth, Sports and Community Empowerment Conducts “Hafthaares” in Noonu Atoll in Collaboration with NCTC

27 September-1 October 2022



Ministry of Youth, Sports and Community Empowerment in collaboration with NCTC conducted a “Hafthaares” program in N.Manadhoo.

The five-day program included sessions for local leaders, teachers, youth, CSOs, Island Aviation staff, students, and CSOs.

The objective of these sessions is to foster community cohesion, friendliness, and build a harmonious society, as well as to address societal issues and raise awareness among citizens and youths and improve psychosocial wellbeing of the community and respect for differences in opinion. In addition to the awareness sessions,



refreshments with entertainment events were hosted by the island community.

In addition to Youth Ministry, NCTC partnered with Ministry of Education, Ministry of Islamic Affairs, and Ministry of Gender, Family and Social Services, Maldives Police Service, Islamic University of Maldives, Local Government Authority of Maldives, and the Maldives National Defence Force to conduct a variety of sessions concerning



community empowerment. NCTC also conducted awareness sessions for senior educators, teachers, and students of N.Velidhoo and N.Holhudhoo.

Establishing social cohesion through community engagement through a whole-of-governent and



whole-of-society effort such as “Hafthaares” is vital for spreading awareness, empowering communities, and developing and maintaining a well-informed, cohesive and resilient society.

Activities of the MNDF Contingent at IMCTC in Saudi Arabia



MNDF delegation attended a lecture on Standards of Decency delivered by HE Sheikh Dr Saad Al-Shathri, advisor to Royal Court, member of Council of Senior Scholars on 4th September. During the lecture, he discussed norms of decency between people based on Sharia & patterns followed by terrorists' personalities.



A delegation of the Maldives headed by Ambassador of the Republic of Maldives to KSA, H.E. Mohamed Khaleel met with the leadership of IMCTC on 13th September. During the meeting, IMCTC briefed him on IMCTC's CT efforts & the latest developments regarding terrorist groups and incidents around the world.



The Maldivian delegation also participated in a presentation on "Identifying & Mitigating Cybersecurity Risks Based on GRC Efforts" on 28th September. Dr. Ahmed Al-Dammas, a cybersecurity expert, delivered the presentation. In his presentation, he covered cybersecurity risks and the role of governance and compliance in reducing its risks.

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Youth have a vital role in ensuring a bright future for the nation.
Young people must strive hard to create a peaceful society.

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National Counter
Terrorism Centre



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