



## Maldives Increases Efforts to Counter Terrorism and Violent Extremism

### INSIDE

- Editorial
- NCTC meets with U.S. Military Information Support Team
- Friday sermon on the role of Armed forces
- High level discussion with IAS
- DG meets Chancellor of IUM
- DG Meets Vice Chancellor of MNU
- RAFY conducts “Mother Queen” program
- NCTC signs MoU with WEAM
- Routine affairs

***“NCTC will work to establish relations with governmental, civil society and international partners in support of implementing this strategy.”***

*National Strategy on Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism*



His Excellency President Abdulla Yameen Abdul Qayoom states that Maldives is diligently working to prevent and counter the threat of terrorism and violent extremism. Speaking at the ceremony to mark the 126 MNDF Day, President Abdulla Yameen said that the present government is keenly aware of the threat posed by the spread of extremism and terrorism, and that the necessary measures are being enacted to increase the capacity of security and law enforcement agencies and authorities.

Honorable Minister of Defence and National Security Adam Shareef Umar also spoke in a similar vein. In his remarks, Defence Minister highlighted the legislative and institutional changes that have been enacted by President Abdulla Yameen’s government to counter terrorism and violent extremism. He also briefly outlined some of the key focus areas of the counter terrorism effort, including the functioning of National Counter Terrorism Centre, which is the apex inter-agency framework that incorporates security and law enforcement agencies such as Maldives National

Defence Force, Maldives Police Service, Maldives Immigration and Maldives Customs Services. Minister Adam Shareef also stressed on the importance of the ongoing collaboration with civil society organizations as well as international organizations and partner states.



Defence Minister Adam Shareef also stated that a concerted effort is focused on tourism security as well as other national critical infrastructure, and that work is underway to design and develop fast maritime platforms to enable MNDF Special Forces and other troops to quickly respond to incidents in tourist resorts. He further stated that the government has pledged significant funds to strengthen the ongoing efforts to prevent and counter the menace of terrorism and violent extremism.

The international community has welcomed the initiatives of the government on this important front.

## NCTC MEETS THE INFORMATION SUPPORT TEAM OF THE US EMBASSY

The officers of the National Counter Terrorism Centre met the Information Support Team of the US Embassy to discuss how they could be of assistance in conducting surveys and programs to counter radicalism and violent extremism in the Maldives. This visit is also both the farewell visit of the previous team and the introductory visit of the new team that would take on the responsibilities of the Information Support operations of the US Embassy in Sri Lanka.



## FRIDAY SERMON ON THE IMPORTANCE AND THE ROLE OF THE ARMED FORCES IN AN ISLAMIC SOCIETY

The Friday sermon of 20th April 2018 by the Ministry of Islamic Affairs was on the importance and the role of Armed Forces in an Islamic Society. The Friday sermon stated that the nation sleeps a peaceful sleep because the armed forces are awake to defend the nation. It also stated that Jihad in a Muslim nation should be sanctioned by the Commander-in-Chief and the Army is the entity that is entitled to wage Jihad on behalf of the nation.



## HIGH LEVEL DISCUSSION WITH IAS TO FOSTER COOPERATION

Director General Brigadier General Zakariyya Mansoor met the Managing Director of Island Aviation Services Mr. Abdul Haris to discuss the possibility of signing an MOU with the Island Aviation Services. The proposed MOU would benefit both organizations in attaining their goals. NCTC would be able to provide training and certain security audits, while the Maldivian of IAS would be able to provide air fares at a concession rate to NCTC and other organizations that travel on request from NCTC to conduct programs.



## DG MEETS CHANCELLOR OF IUM

DG met the Chancellor of IUM Dr. Mohamed Shaheem Ali Saeed to discuss ways in which NCTC could assist them in conducting the programs that IUM have planned for the academic year 2018 to counter radicalism and foster peace and harmony. IUM have planned to conduct eight such programs which were shared with the Counter Radicalization Committee of NCTC





## DG MEETS THE VICE CHANCELLOR OF MNU



DG met the Vice Chancellor of MNU Dr. Ali Fawwaz Shareef to discuss the possibility of conducting regular monthly lectures to the college students and the general public of some of the contentious issues faced by the youth. The topics would be selected from relevant and contentious social, religious and technology related issues

## RAFY CONDUCTS “MOTHER QUEEN”



Regional Alliance for Fostering Youth (RAFY) is conducting a program named “Mother Queen” from 23<sup>rd</sup> April to 13<sup>th</sup> May 2018. This program is designed to master and re-transform the 4 aspects of Human beings, namely the Soul, Heart, Body and Mind.

This is a knowledge based transformative & nurturing program for mothers who are going through the phase of menopause and is very much disconnected from the social circle.

This program will help to reprogram elderly mothers with the assistance of young volunteers and specialists of different fields to regain their confidence. This program is unique in its concept as the mothers are all gifted with a child during the program to help and guide mothers.

## NCTC SIGNS AN MOU WITH WEAM



National Counter Terrorism Centre and Women Entrepreneurs Association of Maldives signs an MOU to facilitate the conducting of programs in empowering Maldivian women. The MOU was signed by Director General Brigadier General Zakariyyaa Mansoor and the Chairperson of WEAM Ms. Shaira Saleem. The MOU signing ceremony was witnessed by members of the Counter Radicalization Committee and senior officials of WEAM and NCTC

## ROUTINE AFFAIRS

- DG met the head of the Counter Terrorism Department of the Maldives Police Service to discuss the issue of prosecution of the returning Foreign Terrorist Fighters
- NCTC Officials meet the team from UNDP to discuss future programs and projects for 2018.

---

***“Terrorism and violent extremism can only be prevented with the coordination and assistance of all institutions.”***  
*State Policy on Terrorism and Violent Extremism*

---