

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 2003
ANSWERED ON- 12/12/2024

OUTCOME OF THE VISIT OF PRESIDENT OF MALDIVES

2003. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :-

- (a) the details of the outcome of the visit of the President of Maldives;
- (b) whether any talks/ties took place with Maldives to redeploy a small contingent of Indian troops as earlier, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) to what extent the State-visit of President of Maldives to India could be termed as the paradigm shift in the mutual relationship?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

(a to c) During the State visit of the President of Maldives from 6-10 October 2024, both countries adopted "A Vision for Comprehensive Economic and Maritime Security Partnership", a first in bilateral relations at the leadership level, outlining ways to enhance bilateral cooperation in an action oriented manner. Further, both leaders virtually inaugurated the following developmental projects/initiatives:

- i. Handing over of 700 social housing units built under EXIM Bank's Buyers' Credit Facilities;
- ii. Inauguration of the new runway of Hanimaadhoo International Airport (HIA), financed under Indian line of credit; &
- iii. Launch of RuPay Card in Maldives.

In addition, following MoUs were also signed during the visit:

- Currency Swap Agreement between the RBI and the Maldives Monetary Authority under which the MMA is eligible for financing support from the RBI amounting to USD 400 million under the US Dollar/Euro Swap Window and Rs 30 billion under the INR Swap Window;
- MoU between Rashtriya Raksha University of the Republic of India and National College of Policing and Law Enforcement of the Republic of Maldives;
- MoU between Central Bureau of Investigation and Anti-Corruption Commission of Maldives for bilateral cooperation on preventing and combating corruption;
- Renewal of MoU between National Judicial Academy of India (NJAI) and the Judicial Service Commission (JSC) of Maldives on Training and Capacity Building Programs for Maldivian judicial officers;
- Renewal of MoU between India and Maldives on Cooperation in Sports and Youth Affairs.

Maldives is an important maritime partner for India and forms part of India's "Neighbourhood First" policy and Vision SAGAR, i.e., Security and Growth for All in the Region. India has been working closely with the Government of Maldives in advancing the comprehensive bilateral partnership for the benefit of both the countries. Further, on the request of the Government of Maldives, the Government has deputed Indian technical personnel to operate aviation platforms, which provide medevac and humanitarian services to the people of Maldives.
