

COVID-19 Situation Report #56

Sunday, 1 November 2020

Key numbers



Confirmed Cases	11659
Recoveries	10814
Isolation Facilities	251
Active Cases in Maldives	800
Hospitalized Cases	55
Number of New Cases in the past 24 hours	16

Public health risk alert levels			
National	Level 2	YELLOW	
Male' City	Level 4	RED	

WHO Risk Assessment		
Global Level	Very High	
Global Status	Pandemic	

*Note: Update on Covid-19 cases as of 31st October 2020, 18:00 https://twitter.com/hpa mv

Updates from the Government of Maldives

The first case of a positive COVID-19 result in a residential island of Maldives was reported in Male' City on 15 April 2020. The alert level of Male' City remains at level IV. The total of active cases in Maldives by 6:00 pm on 31 October was 800, with 55 hospitalized and 38 reported deaths.

Socio Economic Sector

- The Ministry of Education <u>launched an online portal</u> to monitor matters of school admissions and transfers on 28 October 2020, aiming to increase convenience for parents.
- Maldives Immigration has <u>updated regulations</u> to allow for expatriates with existing work visas currently abroad to make payments for their work visas online.
- Family Protection Agency (FPA) revealed that there has been a <u>spike in the number of domestic violence cases</u> reported to the agency in the third quarter of 2020 with a total of 242 cases reported from July to September.
- The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) fined state-owned Fenaka Corporation Limited for <u>violating due procedures with regards to required permits</u> in moving the powerhouse of GDh. Nadella to a different location.
- Public Interest Law Centre (PILC) filed a complaint at the Human Rights Commission of Maldives (HRCM) requesting to review the decision by the Maldives Police Service to repatriate the unpaid migrant workers under RIX Maldives Pvt. Ltd. following the unrest in B. Bodufinolhu in August 2020.
- Maldives Police Service arrested a <u>total of 16 Maldivian individuals</u> in connection to the hijacking of a fishing boat 'Faskuri' last week.
- The Ministry of Communications, Science and Technology has handed over the management of digital portal 'islands.mv' launched by President Solih in March 2019 to the Ministry of Tourism. The portal aims to provide information on each inhabited island of Maldives for interested visitors.
- As per the Maldives Police Service, the body of the 31-year-old found dead at sea on 23 October 2020 will be sent to India for the autopsy process at the earliest.

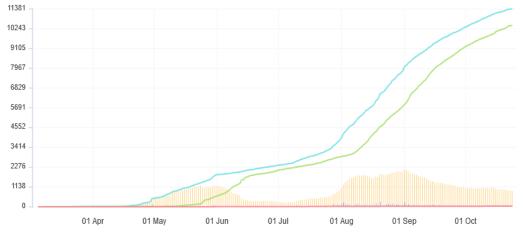


Political Sector

• In his brief visit to the Maldives on 28 October 2020, the United States' Secretary of State, Michael Pompeo stated that China <u>presents a threat to the people of Maldives</u>. The Chinese Embassy in Maldives <u>released a statement shortly after</u> refuting Pompeo's remarks and stating that China's development is an opportunity for the country.

Health Sector

- The number of daily positive cases identified in Maldives <u>continue to decrease</u> over the past 2 weeks with 16 new cases identified on 31 October 2020.
- The <u>total number of confirmed cases</u> stand at 11,659 with 800 active cases and 55 hospitalizations. An <u>additional</u> <u>death was recorded</u> on 31 October 2020, bringing the total count up to 38.
- The Health Protection Agency (HPA), temporarily halted sample collection for the ongoing seroprevalence study on 29 and 30 October 2020. Work in relation to the survey resumed on 31 October 2020 and authorities urge for public cooperation.
- HPA also <u>issued new travel guidelines</u> with regards to islands with ongoing community spread of COVID-19 on 29 October 2020. As per the new guidance, groups of more than 10 people can only depart from islands with active cases after presenting a negative PCR test taken 72 hours prior to departure.
- As per the Indhira Gandhi Memorial Hospital (IGMH), a <u>total of 46 patients have been treated</u> so far at the Stroke Centre established in late August this year



Total Cases	11659
Active Cases	800
New Cases	16
Recoveries	10814
Deaths	38

Fig 1: Details of Community
Spread

Travel Restrictions

- Maldives Immigration revealed that 37,468 tourists have <u>arrived in the country</u> since borders were opened on 15 July until 28 October 2020.
- As per Maldivian Aero, <u>over 8000 migrant workers have been repatriated</u> via the national carrier to Bangladesh due to the impacts of COVID-19 to date.
- Seaplane services have commenced in India with the assistance of crew and pilots of Maldivian Aero.
- According to Maafaru International Airport, <u>private jet movements have seen an increase</u> with a total of 42 jets landing within October 2020.
- Go Air is scheduled to resume operations to Maldives in November 2020 following temporary halting of services due to COVID-19.