

Press Release

India gifted Cricket Equipment worth MVR 1 million to Cricket Board of Maldives (CBM)



On 30th April 2022, a Cricket Equipment Handover Ceremony was organised by CBM at iconic Ekuveni Synthetic Track Ground at Male.

The event was graced by H.E. Vice President Faisal Naseem, H.E. Ministry of Youth, Sports and Community Empowerment, H.E. Ahmed Mahaloof, High Commissioner of India - H.E. Munu Mahawar and CBM President Mr. Mohamed Faisal.

On the occasion, there was a video message by H.E. Mr Anurag Thakur, Hon'ble Minister of Youth Affairs & Sports, Government of India. In his message, Minister conveyed his best wishes to Maldivian sports person. He wished that the gift will contribute to Government of Maldives' push to Sports Culture and healthy lifestyle policies.

Minister Mahloof in his remarks thanked India for the close relationship and unwavering support for the development of sports in Maldives including the support through USD 40 million Line of Credit which will change the whole landscape of sports infrastructure in the Maldives.

High Commissioner in his remarks mentioned gift as a token of the longstanding India-Maldives friendship and increasing cooperation in the field of sports and wished that the equipment will give a further thrust to the development of cricket in the Maldives.

The gift of the cricket equipment was made on the request by the CBM. **The Cricket equipment of worth approximately MVR 1 million have been sent by Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Government of India to Cricket Board of Maldives (CBM).**

The event had the presence of Maldives' Men and Women National Cricket Teams (senior and junior) and cricket enthusiasts too.

Later there was a friendly cricket match between teams of India and Maldives.

India-Maldives Youth & Sports Cooperation:

Cricket Cooperation :

India-Maldives cooperation in cricket received a tremendous impetus with the visit of His Excellency President Ibrahim Mohamed Solih to attend an Indian Premier League (IPL) match in Bengaluru in April 2019. To take forward our cricketing ties, Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) conducted training programmes for Maldivian cricket coaches and umpires.

Both sides are working together for further cooperation to train Maldives National Men's and Women's cricket teams at India's premier Centre for Sports Science in Chennai, India with aim to further augment their skills through customized training modules.

Youth & Sports Cooperation:

Sports and youth development is a promising area of cooperation for the India-Maldives partnership. It enhances people-to-people ties, and builds bridges of friendship between the youth on both sides.

Under the India-Maldives MoU on Sports and Youth Affairs, youth exchange is happening every year. In 2021, a 14 member Maldivian Youth delegation visited India and similar such programmes shall happen in 2022.

India's thrust on sports cooperation is reciprocated in full measure by the commitment of Govt of Maldives under the leadership of President Solih, to develop sports infrastructure in the Maldives.

Male Ekuveni Track, a sporting landmark in Male' city, was recently re-developed by the Maldives Sports Ministry through Indian grant assistance.

Maldives Sports Ministry has also set up outdoor gyms and children's parks across 61 islands, with support of the grant assistance from India.

A state-of-the-art Cricket Stadium will be constructed in the Maldives under the USD 800 million Line of Credit (LoC) extended to the Maldives.

In addition, a USD 40 million LoC dedicated to development of sports infrastructure in Maldives was concluded in 2021 and will be used for the construction of a variety of stadia and sports complexes across Maldives that cater to football, athletics, badminton, tennis, table-tennis and a range of indoor sports. It will also help prepare Maldives for hosting the Indian Ocean Island Games in 2025.
