

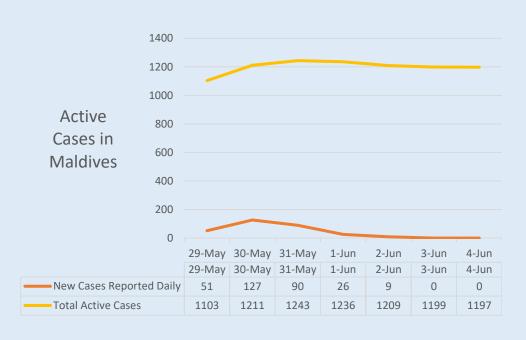
COVID19 - Weekly Situation Report

4 June 2020



- A **total of 1850 cases** have tested positive in Maldives with 1197 active cases, and 644 recoveries, and 7 reported deaths as of 4 June.
- Since the first case of community spread was reported on 15 April 2020 in Greater Male' area, authorities have so far identified over 8500 contacts through contact tracing but have not yet identified initial source of contraction, with the patient having not travelled or interacted with a positive case.
- Alert levels were raised to red (level IV) and a temporary lock down has been implemented effective 1530 on 15 April 2020 with limited eases to lockdown announced on 28 May

Confirmed Cases	1850
Recoveries	644
Isolation Facilities	1235
Quarantine Facilities	1484
Active Cases in Maldives	1197



Public Health Risk Alert Levels			
Greater Male' Area	Red		
National	Yellow		
WHO Risk Assessment			
Global level	Very high		
Global status	Pandemic		

Updates from Covid19 Dashboard as of 13:24, 4 June 2020



Impact

Health & Social Sector

- Limited <u>relaxation of lockdown measures</u> commenced on 29 May with some easing of movement for essential services, business operations and special provisions for the elderly.
- This week's highest daily figure of infection peaked at 127. There are a total of 1197 active patients and 7 recorded deaths as of 4 June.
- As of 3 June, 432 buildings/apartments remain <u>under monitoring</u> with over 8500 contacts identified through contact tracing.
- COVID-19 is generating <u>increasing social issues</u>, with 80 people currently under the temporary care of the State. To date, the Ministry of Gender, Family and Social Services reported that the Government has provided temporary shelter for 354 people amid the pandemic.
- The newly established social support services hotline 1421 receives an average of 670 calls per day with a total of 220 evictions were reported from 17 April to 31 May.
- According to officials of the universal health insurance scheme 'Aasandha', there are over 30 patients combating long-term illnesses who require travel abroad to seek treatment unavailable in Maldives
- On 2 June Maldives Police Service (MPS) <u>arrested 133 migrant workers</u> amid a clash between the police and the migrant workers in Industrial Island, K. Thilafushi due to not receiving payment from their employer for 3 months. 126 workers were released with 7 remaining in detention.
- 384 arrests were made and 6975 individuals were fined by Maldives Police Service for breaching lockdown rules.
- The Government was criticized widely for the guideline released by Ministry of Health on 31 May which empowers the State to utilize private residences as quarantine facilities.

Economic Sector

- The Ministry of Finance published the fifth Spending Report on 1 June 2020. A total of MVR 892.3 million (US\$ 57.5 million) has been spent as of 28 May, which is a 2.9% increase from the week before with National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) and Indhira Ghandi Memorial Hospital (IGMH) accounting for the majority of spending towards COVID-19 response efforts.
- Over half of NDMA's spending accounted for medical consumables and equipment with MVR 1.4 million spent by IGMH for medical consumables.
- The Housing Development Corporation (HDC) has <u>extended its deferment</u> on monthly rent payments to June and July 2020.
- Income support allowance worth MVR 1.06 million (US\$ 103,186) introduced due to the Covid19 crisis has been <u>disbursed</u> to 255 applicants as of 3 June

Political Sector

- The Parliamentary Committee on National Security and Foreign Relations will inquire on the issues in repatriation of Maldivians stranded abroad, the conditions of prisons, and the clash that took place in K. Thilafushi between migrant workers and the Police.
- Maldives Police Service are <u>investigating</u> a physical altercation that occurred at the Parliament Chamber in the late hours of 1 June, following opposition MP Ahmed Shiyam being asked to leave the chamber for interrupting the Speaker. The sitting was held to vote for the issue of extending the term of local councilors with regards to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The Government is being heavily criticized by the general public on social media with regards to the arrest of over 130 migrant workers on 2 June.



Health & Social Sector

- The National Emergency Operations Centre revealed that all 5 regional COVID-19 medical facilities in development will be operationalized by 15 June.
- The Government has provided 45,000 meals to people in temporary shelters, people with no cooking arrangements, and people facing financial difficulties with the assistance of UNICEF and local NGOs.
- UK-based World Wise Foods <u>donated</u> 75,000 surgical masks to the National Disaster Management Authority.
- State Trading Organization (STO) has facilitated provision of medication unavailable in Maldives for 2507 prescriptions to date.
- The Maldivian Red Crescent (MRC) has received over MVR 1.3 million (US\$ 83,838.68) for the migrant relief fund launched on 1 May

Political Sector

- President Solih <u>ratified Law No. 5/2020</u>, which is intended to ensure the continued functioning of decentralized government in the Maldives defining the powers and expected conduct of council members who remain in office in an interim capacity amid the pandemic.
- A total of 200 Bangladeshi nationals were <u>repatriated</u> via Maldivian Airlines.
- The Indian High Commission in Maldives announced that additional flights would be scheduled to repatriate Indian nationals stranded in Maldives from 16 – 18 June.
- On 3 June, Maldives participated in the High-Level Pledging Event <u>calling for</u> <u>international solidarity</u> to overcome the humanitarian crisis ongoing in Yemen.
- The Supreme Court conducted its first live virtual hearing on 2 June.

Government Response

Economic Sector

- The government announced the plan to <u>reopen borders for visitors</u> by July 2020 with no extra fees for tourists.
- Employees of resorts that are not under monitoring status have been permitted to return to work. Staff from islands placed under monitoring status in the last 14 days will be allowed to return to work after completing the mandatory quarantine period.
- Frontline workers will be granted special allowances for the months following March 2020, once the Ministry of Economic Development concludes their assessments.
- The Government has initiated a programme to assist in growing and marketing local products under efforts to move towards economic diversification through the Business Centre Corporation Limited (BCC).
- Addu City Council announced a six-month moratorium on land rent.
- The Ministry of Economic Development has <u>publicized</u> hours for deliveries and business operations for local shops and restaurants as well as cafés, during the first phase of the lockdown ease plan, applicable for businesses that have the valid permit, issued through the Maldives Police Service (MPS), to operate amid the lockdown.
- The State of Health Emergency Bill 2020 was <u>submitted</u> to the Parliament on 29 May focusing on taking special measures to provide safety and assistance to vulnerable people and families who have been deprived of their essential needs and businesses amid the pandemic.
- Attorney General Ibrahim Riffath ensured that private properties of individuals will be <u>protected by the state</u>, in response to concerns over the government's decision to utilize private residences as quarantine facilities on 1 June



UN Actions

WHO:

- Support to the National Emergency Operations Centre & Ministry of Health in response and in developing easing out plans from the lockdown
- Provided 3000 reactions of E gene assays for COVID-19 testing and 700 ampules of Midazolam to Ministry of Health
- Translated Home Quarantine Guidelines by the Health Protection Agency

UNODC: With European Union support, contributed health care equipment and personal protective gear to the Maldives Correctional Service.



UNDP: Procurement of PPE	_			
Health First: Protecting Health Services & Systems	Protecting People: Social Protection & Basic Services	Economic Response & Recovery	Macroeconomic Response & Multilateral Collaboration	Social Cohesion & Community Resilience
 WHO: Supported maintenance of essential health services Technical support to communicable diseases, immunization, RMNCAH, Health System, food safety, AMR & environmental health programs Provided essential care items for elderly to Ministry of Gender, Family and Social Services Developed material and disseminated messages for World No-Tobacco Day 2020 in dual languages Supported Madhiri Ho Ho - Dengue/Vector Control Campaign 	 UNICEF: The COVID-19 Education Response Plan, developed in partnership Ministry of Education was presented to the Social Council chaired by the Vice President on 3 June Supported the development of tools for the Rapid Response Teams to assess and respond to incidences of violence and abuse during home visits Supported strengthening capacity of Social Workers through technical supervision WHO: Provided guidance to Ministry of Education on adjusting public health measures and planning for school reopening UNODC:		 UNDP: Implementation of Japan-funded COVID-19 recovery project with Government of Maldives supporting entrepreneurs Submitted Final draft report 'Mapping of the Strategic Action Plan (2019-2023) of Maldives with SDGs' with President's Office. 	 UNICEF: Launched the 3rd video featuring the First Lady of the Maldives highlighting the importance of keeping in touch with family & neighbors and attending to those in need during COVID-19 WHO: Supported final production of 'EkugaiEmmen Solidarity Campaign, disseminated widely in unison with NEOC UNDP: Assisting to develop a Graduate Diploma course on water education in partnership with IHE-Delft Institute for Water Education and other partners in the global south, with a SIDS focus Working with Maldives National University or a Values and Crisis Assessment. Launched 'Frontier Dialogues' podcasts focusing on the voices from Maldives on the COVID-19 frontlines