Outdoor Fitness equipment handover ceremony

Press Release

Outdoor Fitness equipment for 61 islands across the Maldives was formally handed over by High Commissioner in a ceremony held on 13 July 2020 in Male' city. Ministry of Youth, Sports and Community Empowerment is implementing the project under a cash grant of MVR 8 million extended by India.

City/Island Councils are steering 18 such projects across the Atolls covering different facets of Maldives-India cooperation, under a total grant assistance of MVR 106 million from India.

Other important projects being implemented under this grant assistance include coastal erosion project (Rasdhoo), installation of street-lights in Kolhufushi, procurement of vehicles and machinery for development of the Male' city council, , upgrade of police training academy in Vaani, construction of classrooms (Lhohi and Kinolhas), upgrade of ice plants (Maduvvari and Gaafaru), emergency health services (Dharavandhoo) centre, vehicles for Maldives Correctional Services, infrastructure and equipment for Special children Kulhudhufushi Education Needs (schools in and Fuvahmulah), infrastructure and equipment for Fiyavathi community centre in Fokaidhoo, development of Hulhumale' Central Park and renovation of the Arrival Jetty, procuring Children's Park Equipment for 67 island communities, Development of Wetland Park Area (G. Dh. Faresmathoda) etc.

The Fehendhoo-Goidhoo student Ferry was formally handed over in an event held in Male' on 8 July 2020. Several other projects are lined up for inaugural over the coming days viz. Coastal protection project in Rasdhoo, police training Academy in Vaani, Kolhufushi street-lights project, handover of vehicles and machinery for the Male' City council etc.

The Government of President Solih is firmly committed to improving public health across the Atolls. Setting up of outdoor gyms would play a key role in realizing this goal. For India, this is among the most important projects being implemented under the cash grant scheme, primarily as it would enhance the quality of life of communities across 61 islands. The installation of equipment would involve participation of all 61 Island Councils and further strengthen the idea of decentralization which is the cornerstone of a healthy democracy and a cherished ideal for President Solih's government. India is happy to partner with the Ministry of Youth, Sports and Community Empowerment, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Island Councils to realize this project.

The small grant projects reflect the true nature of the development partnership between India and the Maldives, which is transparent at its core and participative in its approach. The projects being undertaken under this grant are not only tailored to the requirements of the local communities but are also steered by them through the participation of local Councils.

The Government of India hopes for the swift completion of all projects under this grant scheme by the end of the year.