

## Press Release

### Sending-off Ceremony for 'Team Maldives for India Athletic Training Camp 2023'



On 13th January 2023, a Sending-off Ceremony for 'Team Maldives for India Athletic Training Camp 2023' was organised by Athletics Association of Maldives at the iconic Ekuveni Synthetic Track Ground in Male. 10 athletes and 03 coaches are going to India to attend a 6-month long athletic camp at Netaji Subhash Sports Authority of India (SAI) Bengaluru from Jan 2023 to Aug 2023. Netaji Subhash Sports Authority of India Bengaluru is a premier institute under Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Government of India.

The event was graced by H.E. Ahmed Mahloof, Minister of Youth, Sports & Community Empowerment, High Commissioner of India Munu Mahawar, Mr. Ahmed Saleem, Commissioner of Sports and Mr. Ahmed Azeel, Vice President, Athletics Association of Maldives, among others. The event also had the presence of Maldives' Men and Women Athletic Teams and sports enthusiasts.

Minister Mahloof in his remarks thanked India for the unwavering support to the development of sports in Maldives including the support through USD 40 million Line of Credit which will have a significant impact on the landscape of sports infrastructure in the Maldives.

High Commissioner in his remarks called the camp a fitting example of the longstanding India-Maldives friendship and growing cooperation in the field of sports. He was confident that the camp would further augment skills of the athletes through customized training modules with an aim to achieve successful results in the 2023 Indian Ocean Island Games and various other National and International events.

The 6-month long camp has been organised on the request of the Athletics Association of Maldives and Minister of Youth, Sports & Community Empowerment.

This is the 5<sup>th</sup> training camp at Sports Authority of India's facilities since 2017. The last such camp was in 2019 and the Maldivian team achieved various positions including Podium finishes at Indian Ocean Island Games 2019 and Gold Medal in South Asian Games 2019.

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