

**Memorandum of Understanding  
Between  
The Government of the Republic of India  
and  
the Government of the Republic of Maldives**

**on Combating International Terrorism, Illicit Drug Trafficking and  
Enhancing Bilateral Cooperation in Capacity Building, Disaster  
Management and Coastal Security**

The Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Republic of Maldives hereinafter referred to as "Parties";

Guided by the traditional friendly relations between the two countries and their endeavour to contribute to the further development of their bilateral relations;

Deeply concerned with the expansion of International Terrorism, Crime, Illicit Trafficking in Drugs and Money Laundering;

Convinced of the need to enhance bilateral cooperation in Capacity Building, Disaster Management and Coastal Security and to Combat International Terrorism, Crime, Illicit Drug Trafficking and Money Laundering;

Recognizing the mutual advantages of such cooperation for both Parties in accordance with their national laws and regulations;

Taking into consideration the relevant international treaties to which they are Parties;

Desiring to improve the effectiveness of both countries in Combating terrorism, drug trafficking and money laundering and to establish a framework for enhancing cooperation between the officials of law-enforcement agencies of the Parties;

Have agreed to the following:



Article 1  
Objective

The Parties shall, within the framework of this Memorandum of Understanding and subject to their domestic laws and regulations, cooperate in Capacity Building, Disaster Management and Coastal Security and in Combating International Terrorism; Illicit Trafficking in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances including their Precursor Chemicals and Money Laundering.

Article 2  
Bilateral Cooperation

- (1) The Parties have resolved to cooperate in their joint fight against terrorism, crime and money laundering in all its forms and, to this end, shall:
- (a) exchange information and intelligence on the activities of terrorists and criminals and their associates including those providing front or cover to individuals or groups engaged in the planning, promoting or executing acts of terrorism and crime against the Parties as well as those which may operate from or use the territory of either Party;
  - (b) identify and exchange information on sources of financing of terrorism and crime which may be located in the territory of either party and take steps to seize and confiscate such sources.
  - (c) coordinate their approaches to combat international terrorism;
  - (d) cooperate and share experience in areas of hostage rescue and negotiations, hijack termination and protection of VIPs and innocent victims;
  - (e) facilitate cooperation in preventing access to arms, explosives, and other prohibited substances to terrorists and criminals;
  - (f) enhance cooperation and intelligence sharing between the law enforcement agencies of the Parties;
  - (g) provide mutual assistance including exchange of professional expertise and training of security and law enforcement personnel and organizing seminars and conferences and
  - (h) address any other matter within the scope of this Memorandum of Understanding as mutually agreed upon between the Parties.

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**Article 3**  
**Illicit Drug Trafficking**

For suppression of Illicit Trafficking in Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances and Precursor Chemicals, the Parties shall:

- (a) Exchange and share information about persons involved in narcotic drug trafficking, their modus operandi, as well as other relevant details of such crimes, in so far as these are necessary for the prevention or suppression of crimes;
- (b) Exchange the results of their criminal and criminological research on narcotic drug trafficking and abuse of narcotic drugs;
- (c) Share and exchange of samples of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances of natural or synthetic origin usable for abuse; and
- (d) Subject to its domestic laws and international obligations, facilitate the controlled delivery of illicit narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances in order to render possible the arrest of the persons to whom it will be delivered as well as any persons involved in the trafficking provided that the necessary information is submitted at least 48 hours prior to the requested action.

**Article 4**  
**Disaster Management**

- (1) In the areas of Disaster Management, the Parties shall mutually:
  - (a) Cooperate in the areas of early warning, emergency response, rescue and relief; and
  - (b) Exchange regulations, publications and scientific research in the areas of mutual interest.

**Article 5**  
**Coastal Security**

- (1) In the areas of Coastal Security, the Parties shall establish operational link between coastal police of both countries at national and field level to exchange real time information with the aim to prevent infiltration, illegal movements of subversive elements, drugs, arms and explosives etc.

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**Article 6**  
**Implementing Agencies**

- (1) The Ministry of Home Affairs will be the nodal agency on the Indian side responsible for the implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding.
- (2) The Ministry of Home Affairs shall be the nodal agency on the side of the Government of the Republic of Maldives.
- (3) The Parties shall nominate such agencies for cooperation in various areas under this Memorandum of Understanding, as deemed necessary.

**Article 7**  
**Coordination Committee**

- (1) The Parties shall set up a Coordination Committee including representatives of nodal agencies and law enforcement agencies to promote and review the cooperation within the terms of this Memorandum of Understanding.
- (2) The Committee shall meet at least once every year on mutually convenient dates and time and the venues of the meetings of the Coordination Committee shall alternatively be in India and Maldives.
- (3) The Coordination Committee shall lay down the detailed modalities to exchange real time information in the field of terrorism, crime, drug trafficking and money laundering. The parties may specify their respective law enforcement and other agencies for exchange of such information in these fields and nominate nodal officers indicating their communication details to facilitate contact on a priority basis.

**Article 8**  
**Confidentiality and Limitation of Use**

- (1) The Coordination Committee shall observe complete confidentiality in the conduct of its work.
- (2) Any confidential information provided by one Party pursuant to this Memorandum of Understanding shall not be passed on or disclosed to a third party without the express consent of the Party providing such information.

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**Article 9**  
**Refusal of Request for Cooperation**

Either Party may deny a request for cooperation, in whole or in part, if the request affects its national sovereignty, endangers its security or violates its laws and regulations.

**Article 10**  
**Settlement of Disputes**

Any dispute arising out of the interpretation of this Memorandum of Understanding shall be settled through negotiations between the Parties through diplomatic channels.

**Article 11**  
**Compatibility with other Treaties/ Memoranda of Understanding**

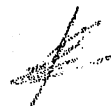
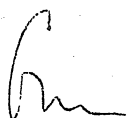
The provisions of this Memorandum of Understanding shall not affect the obligations assumed by the Parties pursuant to other bilateral or multilateral agreements to which they are Parties.

**Article 12**  
**Amendment**

This Memorandum of Understanding may be amended or revised, as deemed necessary, by mutual written consent of the Parties.

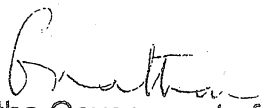
**Article 13**  
**Entry into force and termination**

- (1) This Memorandum of Understanding shall come into force from the date of signature and shall remain in force for an indefinite period.
- (2) Either Party may at any time terminate this Memorandum of Understanding by giving six months advance written notice to the other Party indicating its intention to terminate this Memorandum of Understanding. The Memorandum of Understanding shall cease to have effect on the expiry of the notice period.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being duly authorized thereto by their respective Governments, have signed this Memorandum of Understanding.

Done at Male on the Twelfth day of November in the year Two Thousand Eleven in two originals each in Hindi and English languages. All the texts being equally authentic, in case of any divergence of interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

  
For the Government of  
Republic of India

  
For the Government of  
Republic of Maldives

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