



MEDIA RELEASE

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Politicians who inhibit aspirations of Maldivians do not have nation's best interest at heart – President Yameen

President Abdulla Yameen Abdul Gayoom has said that the political leaders who claim to advocate for reform, but who inhibit the aspirations of the Maldivian people, do not hold onto our “red, green and white” colours. The President made this remark while speaking at a function held by the Progressive Party of Maldives. First Lady Fathimath Ibrahim was also in attendance at the function.

In his speech, the President reiterated that he wasn't in competition with personalities but rather that his Administration's aim has been to ensure that the Maldives be counted amongst the happiest, richest, and most fulfilled nations in the world. The President welcomed substantive criticism from all political figures, who claim allegiance to our red, green and white shades, to bring tangible reform to the country.

Continuing in this vein, the President welcomed any reform work of import from the opposition, saying that everyone must work towards the improvement of the country. However, the President questioned if the opposition actually were trying to bring any real improvement in any sector.

In his speech, President Yameen stated that a democratic system was one where those elected by the people worked towards achieving community aspirations. In this regard, the President underlined that the public would want their voice to reach the President himself – outlining their concerns and challenges faced, and suggest improvements they desire for the country. He further said that, unlike previously, he does receive, and is open to, any message from any Maldivian from any part of the country. The President also highlighted that concerted efforts have been made to entrench his social bond with the people, and encouraged everyone to continue utilising such means to bring matters to his notice.

Speaking at the function, President Yameen reiterated that he does not influence the courts, or any judicial proceedings. He further gave his assurance that he would never attempt to influence the outcome of any court case.

The President was accompanied at this evening's function by Cabinet Ministers and members of the parliament.

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