



**High Commission of Maldives**  
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

# Newsletter

**January 2025**

**Issue 7**



## Students from Maldives National University Visit the High Commission

24 January



Students from the Maldives National University's Student Union visited the High Commission during an exposure trip to Malaysia.

The students were welcomed at the High Commission by High Commissioner H.E. Dr. Mariyam Shabeena Ahmed, who also briefed them on the mission's work and activities.



## High Commissioner Calls on Royal Malaysian Customs Director-General

16 January



High Commissioner H.E. Dr. Mariyam Shabeena Ahmed paid a courtesy call on Dato' Anis Rizana Binti Mohd Zainudin, the Director-General of the Royal Malaysian Customs Department.

During the meeting, the High Commissioner and the Director-General exchanged views on various matters. The High Commissioner explored ways to enhance customs facilitation for Maldivian travelers at airports and discussed potential areas of cooperation between the Royal Malaysian Customs Department and the Maldives Customs Service.



## High Commissioner Meets with Senior Officials from Maldives National University

30 January



High Commissioner H.E. Dr. Mariyam Shabeena Ahmed met with senior officials from the Maldives National University (MNU), including Vice-Chancellor Dr. Aishath Shehenaaz Adam, Deputy Vice-Chancellor Dr. Raheema Abdul Raheem, and Dean of the School of Medicine Dr. Sheeza Ali.

The discussions focused on exploring academic partnerships and research collaborations with Malaysian institutions, as well as enhancing cultural exchange programs at the High Commission’s Maldives Centre.

## High Commissioner Meets with Perdana University

14 January

High Commissioner H.E. Dr. Mariyam Shabeena Ahmed met with representatives from Perdana University to explore opportunities in higher education and academic exchanges.

The discussions focused on medical scholarship opportunities and strengthening academic ties between Perdana University and institutions in Maldives.



## High Commissioner Attends Malaysia Economic Forum 2025

9 January



High Commissioner H.E. Dr. Mariyam Shabeena Ahmed attended the inaugural Malaysia Economic Forum 2025, officiated by Prime Minister YAB Dato’ Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

The forum, themed “Seizing Malaysia’s Moment,” was held on 9 January 2025 at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre. It provided a platform for regional leaders to discuss key economic priorities, innovation-driven growth, and strategies for sustainable development. Discussions encompassed topics such as fiscal and monetary policies, technology advancements, and education reforms, aligning with Malaysia’s chairmanship of ASEAN in 2025.

## High Commissioner Attends Malaysia Trade Performance 2024

27 January



High Commissioner H.E. Dr. Mariyam Shabeena Ahmed attended the Malaysia Trade Performance 2024 event, organized by the Malaysia External Trade Development Corporation (MATRADE), Malaysia’s national trade promotion agency, under the Ministry of International Trade and Industry.

The event highlighted Malaysia’s trade achievements and provided insights into emerging trends and economic opportunities within the region.

## High Commissioner Engages with National Cancer Society Malaysia

23 January

High Commissioner H.E. Dr. Mariyam Shabeena Ahmed met with Dato’ Dr. Saunthari Somasundaram, President of the National Cancer Society Malaysia, to gain insights into their work and operations.

The discussions focused on exploring volunteer opportunities for Maldivians and the possibility of exchange programs and training between NCSM and the Cancer Society of Maldives.



## Science Diplomacy and Research Discussed with UCSI and MIGHT

15 January

High Commissioner H.E. Dr. Mariyam Shabeena Ahmed had a productive discussion with representatives from UCSI University and Y.Bhg Tan Sri Zakri, Joint Chairman of the Malaysian Industry-Government Group for High Technology (MIGHT).

The meeting focused on their upcoming high-level dialogue on Science Diplomacy in the Global South, as well as potential avenues for cooperation in higher education and research.



### High Commissioner Attends Opening of AISSE'25

20 January



High Commissioner H.E. Dr. Mariyam Shabeena Ahmed attended the opening ceremony of the Asia International Security Summit & Expo 2025 (AISSE'25), inaugurated by Deputy Prime Minister of Malaysia YAB Dato' Seri Dr. Ahmad Zahid Bin Hamidi.

The summit served as a platform for regional dialogue on emerging security challenges and strategic cooperation.

### Exploring Training Opportunities for Maldives

15 January

Officials from the High Commission met with representatives of the Malaysian Technical Cooperation Programme (MTCP) to explore capacity-building opportunities for Maldivian government employees.

The discussions focused on enhancing professional development programs and knowledge-sharing initiatives aimed at strengthening the Maldivian public sector.



### High Commissioner Signs Condolence Book in Memory of Former U.S. President Carter

3 January

High Commissioner H.E. Dr. Mariyam Shabeena Ahmed signed the book of condolence at the Embassy of the United States of America in Kuala Lumpur in memory of the late former President of the United States, The Honorable James E. Carter Jr.

The High Commissioner conveyed heartfelt condolences on behalf of the Government and the people of the Maldives, honoring President Carter's enduring legacy in advancing global peace and democracy.





## Official Welcoming Ceremony for the Prime Minister of Singapore

7 January

High Commissioner H.E. Dr. Mariyam Shabeena Ahmed attended the official welcoming ceremony for H.E. Lawrence Wong, Prime Minister of Singapore, during his recent official visit to Malaysia.

The ceremony was marked by the official reception of H.E. Lawrence Wong by Malaysian Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim, was attended by dignitaries, including Malaysian Cabinet members and representatives of the diplomatic corps.

## High Commissioner Joins India's 76th Republic Day Celebrations

29 January

High Commissioner H.E. Dr. Mariyam Shabeena Ahmed attended the reception celebrating India's 76th Republic Day.

On this occasion, the High Commissioner extended heartfelt greetings to the Government and people of India



## Reception Commemorating Australia Day

22 January



High Commissioner H.E. Dr. Mariyam Shabeena Ahmed attended the reception marking Australia Day and the commemoration of 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Australia's diplomatic presence in Malaysia.

## High Commissioner Visits Yunus Emre Institute

27 January

High Commissioner H.E. Dr. Mariyam Shabeena Ahmed visited the Yunus Emre Institute Turkish Cultural Centre in Kuala Lumpur to gain insights into the operations of the centre.

The visit provided an opportunity to explore collaborative initiatives between the Yunus Emre Institute and the Maldivian Cultural Centre.



## Consular Statistics of January

In January, the High Commission's Consular Department processed a total of 345 cases and enquiries. The department remains committed to delivering timely and professional support across a range of consular services.

Here's a breakdown of the services provided:

► **Passport Renewals and Cancellations:**

Passport renewals and cancellations were processed for 9 individuals. Passport applications are only accepted from individuals holding long-term visas.

► **Certificates of Identity:** A total of 10 emergency travel documents were issued for cases involving lost passports and newborns. Citizens are advised to report any lost passport to the nearest police station immediately. For newborns, obtaining a birth certificate from Malaysian authorities is a prerequisite before submitting a travel document application.

► **Document Verification and Attestation:** A total of 12 documents were sent for verification, and 83 documents were attested as true copies during the month. Documents are verified with the relevant Maldivian authorities before attestation. The document verification process generally takes three to five working days, and early submission is strongly recommended to avoid delays.

► **Email Correspondence:** The Consular Department managed 164 email inquiries addressing diverse consular matters, including visa assistance, passport renewals, family relationship letters, and license verifications.

► **Visa-Related Assistance:** Seven individuals sought assistance with visa-related matters, and a total of 21 visa-related letters were issued. Students and families are advised to request assistance through email and maintain communication via the same channel. For expedited visa processing, students should initially consult their university for assistance. If the issue is not resolved within the designated timeframe, the High Commission may be contacted, with all relevant supporting documents included, for assistance.

► **Meranaa and Medical Services:** A total of 31 applications were verified. Applicants are strongly advised to upload updated visas and ensure all details are accurately completed to prevent the application from getting rejected.

► **Miscellaneous assistance provided:** Three letters were issued for marital status, passport notifications, and license verification. Furthermore, consular support was given to four individuals detained at the airport.

