

EAM S Jaishankar 3 Day Visit To Maldives

Why In News

- **External Affairs Minister, Dr. S Jaishankar**, is embarked on a three-day official visit to the Maldives from August 9-11, 2024. This visit underscores the **deepening ties between** the two nations and follows closely after the recent visit of Maldivian President **Dr. Mohamed Muizzu** to India, where he attended the swearing-in ceremony of the new Cabinet and Council of Ministers.



About The Visit

- Dr. Jaishankar's visit is strategically important, as it **reflects India's commitment to strengthening** its partnership with the Maldives, amid the recent political shifts in the diplomatic ties between the two nations.
- The Ministry of External Affairs said, the visit is aimed at **strengthening the close partnership between** the two countries and to explore avenues to enhance the bilateral relationship further.



What's In Agenda

- During his stay, Dr. Jaishankar is scheduled to hold official talks with the **Maldivian Minister of Foreign Affairs, Moosa Zameer**. The discussions will center on reviewing the existing bilateral cooperation and identifying further areas of mutual interest.



- The two ministers will also preside over the inauguration of several completed projects under the **High Impact Community Development Projects (HICDP)** initiative and the Line of Credit facility provided by the **EXIM Bank of India**.
- One of the highlights of the visit will also be the exchange of **Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs)** on key areas such as capacity building, commerce, and

trade, which are expected to further cement the robust relationship between India and the Maldives.

- These agreements will play a crucial role in **fostering economic and developmental cooperation** between the two countries.
- In addition to his official engagements, Dr. Jaishankar will also pay a courtesy call on President Dr. Mohamed Muizzu, during the high-level visit.



- Jaishankar and Zameer inaugurated a mental health unit, a speech therapy unit, education support unit, streetlights in different towns and atolls.
- An MoU between the **National Centre for Good Governance** and the Civil Service Commission for 1,000 additional slots for training Maldivian civil servants was also renewed on the occasion.
- Besides the high impact community development projects inaugurated, India will hand over **water and sewerage projects across 28 islands** in the Maldives.
- Jaishankar would be meeting the Maldives **Minister of Economic Development and the Minister of Finance**. He would also meet the **Defence Minister** to take stock of the mutual defence and security engagement. The EAM added that India would also be hosting the third **'Voice of the Global South' Summit**.



About India-Maldives Ties

- This visit marks Dr. Jaishankar's first official trip to the Maldives since he assumed office for a second term in June 2024. His previous visit to the Maldives was in January 2023.

