

SUBJECT  
cc Ops  
Master



*File*  
PRIME MINISTER'S  
PERSONAL MESSAGE  
SERIAL No. T 2426/85

10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

30 December 1985

*Dear Mr. President.*

Thank you for your letter of 21 November. You will by now have received my letter of 15 November.

We recognise the priority your Government attaches to the proposed new hospital to be built in Male, and are happy to agree in principle to provide equipment for it.

I accept that we should regard this assistance as having first call on the development funds allocated to the Maldives. However, I do not think we need to think in terms of 'special assistance' as there are adequate funds in the programme beyond the present financial year which have yet to be committed to specific projects and are therefore available for this project.

We shall of course need to settle the details of the equipment to be provided and the timing, since it will need to be co-ordinated with the building timetable for the hospital. I understand that the visit by an official from our High Commission in Colombo, which I mentioned in my letter of 15 November, was postponed at your Government's request and will now take place in January. I hope that it will be possible to make progress on these questions then.

*Yours sincerely*  
*Rajiv Gandhi*

*JA*

His Excellency Maumoon Abdul Gayoom



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

24 December 1985

*Dear Charles,*

*Adoptive*

Maldives: Assistance for a new hospital at Male

You will recall that President Gayoom of the Maldives, when he called on the Prime Minister at Nassau on 19 October, raised with her the question of support for a new hospital at Male. The Prime Minister subsequently wrote to him on 15 November to say that we were looking into the matter (copy enclosed for ease of reference).

Before receiving her letter, President Gayoom wrote to the Prime Minister (copy enclosed) requesting that we provide equipment for the proposed new hospital in Male urgently and that we do so as "special assistance" additional to the regular aid allocation for the Maldives. Although the President's letter gives the impression that the equipment will be needed very soon, we understand that the Maldivians are in fact still seeking finance for the building of the hospital. We have already indicated to them our willingness to provide equipment at the appropriate time; the equipment inputs would need to be phased into the construction timetable, which the Maldivians have not provided so far. (The project details, which the President says in his letter he was forwarding separately, contain no mention of timing.)

We see no grounds for offering the equipment as an addition to the Maldives' normal programme, however, since there are adequate funds still uncommitted for spending in 1986/87 and beyond. I enclose a draft letter which the Prime Minister may wish to send to President Gayoom.

*Yours ever*

*R N Culshaw*

(R N Culshaw)  
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq  
10 Downing Street

**DRAFT:** minute/letter/teleletter/despatch/note

**TYPE:** Draft/Final 1+

**FROM:**  
Prime Minister

Reference

**DEPARTMENT:**

**TEL. NO:**

**SECURITY CLASSIFICATION**

**TO:**

Your Reference

- Top Secret
- Secret
- Confidential
- Restricted
- Unclassified

His Excellency Maumoon Abdul Gayoom  
President  
Republic of Maldives

Copies to:

*SRWANT*

**PRIVACY MARKING**

**SUBJECT:**

.....In Confidence

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**CAVEAT**.....

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Enclosures—flag(s).....