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Malé Republic of Maldives

Reference no: PMC/2022/09

## PRESS STATEMENT

Maldives Police Service (MPS) has launched a high priority investigation into this morning's violent disruption of an event held at the National Stadium. Perpetrators had sought to incite fear by forcefully entering, destroying property and attempting to assault participants of the event. The event was attended by international Diplomats, state dignitaries and members of the public.

The Serious and Organized Crime Department of the Crime Investigation Command is investigating the incident with utmost urgency. As of now, the evidence indicates that the demonstrators were using items taken from the office of the Progressive Party of the Maldives (PPM). So far, six male Maldivians have been taken into custody regarding this case.

Additionally, an internal review of the police response to the incident has been initiated. We assure the public that we will take all necessary measures to ensure the safety of our whole community.

21st of June 2022