



**MINISTRY OF TOURISM
REPUBLIC OF MALDIVES**

C I R C U L A R

Ref Number: 88-PS/CIR/2020/77

Date: 7th November 2020

To: All Tourist Resorts

Subject: **Random testing of staffs in Tourist Facilities**

Dear Sir/Madam,

As a pro-active COVID-19 prevention measure, Health Protection Agency (HPA) has decided to conduct random testing of staffs at tourist facilities. This testing is aimed at early detection and mitigate possible undetected spread of COVID-19 in tourist facilities.

Early detection would help manage the situation and could also be a safeguard towards potential revenue loss and impact on the image of the facility, should the facility be placed under monitoring due to wide-spread of COVID-19.

All costs associated with random testing of staffs at the tourist facility is to be borne by the respective tourist facility. The indicative process of random testing and protocols are detailed below.

DURATION

Random testing is to be a continuous process on intervals of two weeks until further notice. We will notify the tourist resort on commencement date.

SAMPLING

- Ten percent of the staff would be included in the sample for each fortnightly batch.
- Sample selection will be done in accordance with the procedures set forth by HPA, based on factors such as guest contacts, age, etc.
- Sampling is to be done by the authorized medical staff at the tourist facility.





TESTING/TEST RESULTS

- Tourist facilities can liaise with transportation providers to dispatch the selected samples to an approved testing laboratory.
- Staff will be notified of the results irrespective of the outcome.
- If any sample is tested positive, HPA will contact the tourist facility and will proceed to execute the existing protocols.

We thank you for all for your continued support and cooperation during this challenging time and request all tourist facilities to adhere to the procedures and guidelines announced by the Ministry and HPA.

Yours sincerely,

Ali Razzan

Senior Executive Director

