

Beat: News

## President of maldives calls on president of india

### Committed To “India First” Policy

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**USPA NEWS** - The President of the Republic of Maldives, Mr. Abdulla Yameen Abdul Gayoom calling on the President, Mr. Pranab Mukherjee, at Rashtrapati Bhavan, in New Delhi on April 11, 2016.

Government Of Maldives Is Firmly Committed To Its “India First” Policy

Mr. Abdulla Yameen Abdul Gayoom, the President of Republic of Maldives called on President Pranab Mukherjee at Rashtrapati Bhavan on April 11.

Welcoming Mr. Gayoom to India, the President said India attaches high importance to its “neighbours first” policy. Within that Maldives has a place of privilege. India also appreciates the “India first” policy of Maldives.

The President said relations between India and Maldives have grown over the centuries substantially, building on the people to people relations that the two countries share. India is committed to its policy of supporting Maldives in every way including in building the capacity and infrastructure of Maldives. India as the largest democracy will continue to extend all support for the strengthening of democratic institutions in Maldives. The President said India and Maldives are natural partners in the Indian Ocean region.

Reciprocating the President’s sentiments, the Maldivian President said the Government of Maldives is firmly committed to its “India First” Policy. India is the only foreign country he has visited more than once and this was his third visit in two years. He said the two countries are bound by strong civilizational and cultural links.

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