

## **Special Economic Zones** in Maldives

The Government of Maldives invites investors to invest under the Special Economic Zones (SEZ) Act and avail themselves to the whole host of incentives offered under the framework.



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The Government seeks investments in the following nine strategic areas, with a minimum investment value of \$100,000,000. At least 50% of the total investment shall be earmarked for investments in the strategic areas listed. The Act also offers flexibility to utilize 40% of total investment committed in resort and tourism related businesses.

- 1. Manufacturing
- 2. Transshipment port, logistics, port, airport, bulk breaking, bunkering, docking services
- 3. University, tertiary hospital, specialty hospital, world renowned research and development center
- 4.ICT park and related facilities
- 5. International financial services, international trade centers
- 6. Renewable energy
- 7. Introduction of new technologies
- 8. Food security
- 9. Gas exploration

## **Simple and Transparent Procedure**

- 1. Developer submits proposal to SEZ Board.
- 2. Board grants interim permit (within 28 days).
- 3. Developer submits detailed proposal (within 180 days).
- 4. Board grants Developer permit (within 90 days).
- 5. Signs concession agreement between Developer and Government (within 30 days).
- 6. Developer commences project.

## **Exclusive Advantages**

To accelerate the Government's agenda on economic diversification and provide increased opportunities for investors, the SEZ creates enormous potential for foreign investors to take part in the Government's high-growth initiatives across several sectors.

Developers and investors are guaranteed concessions and incentives in the following areas subject to the scale and scope of the investment:

- Exemption from import duties for materials exported for development.
- Exemption from Income Tax
- Exemption from GST
- Exemption from taxes in the sale and purchase of land
- Exemption from Withholding Tax
- Tax relief and tax credits as per specified procedures.
- · Free repatriation of capital and profits

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