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Maldives' new Prez to begin India visit today

NEW DELHI, 15 DECEMBER

Maldives new President Ibrahim Mohamed Solih will arrive in New Delhi on Sun-



day on a three-day state visit that is expected to reflect his regime's desire to strengthen ties with India.

He will hold talks on Monday with Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who had attended the new government's swearing-in ceremony in Male on 17 November.

The two countries are expected to sign some key agreements during the visit.

This is Solih's first overseas visit after taking over as the President, suggesting that he would stick to the archipelago's traditional 'India First' policy unlike his predecessor Abdulla Yameen, who took many controversial administrative to favour China at the cost of India.