

## In this issue...

2020



## MRA Blood Donation

*1647 pints of blood  
to save lives!*



# Blood Donation 2020

To mark the 14<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA), a blood donation was organised on 19 August 2020 at the following four locations:

- MRA Head Office, Ehram court, Cnr. Sir Virgil Naz & Mgr. Gonin Streets, Port Louis;
- Custom House, Mer Rouge;
- PATS Freight Forwarders Centre, Old Airport Road, Plaine Magnien, and
- SSR International Airport

Dr. the Honourable Kailesh Kumar Singh Jagutpal, Minister of Health and Wellness graced the event as Chief Guest. To further consolidate its relationship with the Ministry of Health and Wellness - by extension to the Government of Mauritius, the MRA offered an Aberrometer and two Multi-Parameter Patient Monitors to the Ministry of Health and Wellness for an optimal use.



An Aberrometer is a diagnostic device that measures refractive aberrations of the eye and the Multi-Parameter Patient Monitor, on the other hand, provides a number of information that is needed to understand a patient's condition.



During the event, 1647 pints of blood were collected at the four locations. As at date, the MRA has remitted around 13000 pints of blood to the Blood Bank, and nowadays, the MRA is recognised as one of the top Blood Donation organisers in Mauritius. The first blood donation was organised in 2007 on the occasion of the first anniversary of the MRA and since then, the event has been perpetuated and is now anchored in the MRA's corporate culture.





# Blood Donation 2020



Blood Donors not only help the Blood Transfusion Service towards the daily need for blood but their collected blood is systematically tested for Rhesus blood grouping, screening for antibodies and screening for transfusion transmitted infections.



The blood donation event was an opportunity for the MRA to meet its stakeholders on another note where the emphasis is sharing of life. The organisation of the MRA event not only creates the bonding between MRA and its stakeholders but reinforces the working relationship of the MRA personnel. Staff of the MRA join hands together to organise this event and actively participate to donate their blood.



# Blood Donation 2020

## Efforts of MRA geared towards the socio-economic betterment of Mauritians

As its core mission, the MRA collects approximately 90% of all tax revenues in Mauritius and it is the backbone of the national economy. Its contribution is phenomenal in the advancement of Mauritius. However, the responsibility of the MRA is not only limited to the collection of revenues but it is also geared towards societal betterment.

Apart from collection of taxes, the MRA also implements government's policies which contribute to improve the socio-economic condition of people.

For example;

- Payment of Negative Income Tax to employees deriving basic salary not exceeding Rs 9,900 per month;
- Payment of a Special Allowance to full time employees deriving a monthly basic pay of less than Rs. 9,000;
- Refund of VAT on the construction of a residential building or the purchase of a residential apartment or house from a property developer;
- Refund of VAT on the purchase of equipment by operators in the agro-industrial, fisheries and bakery sectors and musicians;
- Payment of allowances under the Government Wage Assistance Scheme (GWAS) and the Self-Employed Assistance Scheme (SEAS) for persons who have suffered a loss of revenue as a consequence of the lockdown following the COVID-19 pandemic. These two schemes have been extended to the Tourism and Tourism related sectors as these sectors have not been able to take off since the territory is still closed.

### MRA's Go-Green Initiatives

In line with the MRA's Go-Green initiative, each year green plants are offered to people who volunteer to give their blood. As at date, MRA has distributed more than 15000 green plants. This year, MRA received some 1450 plants from the Ministry of Environment, the Ministry of Agro Industry and the Ministry of Local Government. The plants were distributed to blood donors who embellished their immediate environment and participated in the Go-Green initiative.

In support to the Go-Green initiative, the MRA has taken some additional measures as follows:

- The MRA has achieved almost 100% electronic filing of individual income tax returns;
- All payment of taxes and duties may be effected through internet banking, direct debit and other electronic means;
- The e-objection has been introduced;
- This year, the MRA introduced the e-EDF, and
- Most of the Customs services are electronic.



The Go-Green initiative at the MRA has considerably decreased recourse to paper.



# e-Employee Declaration Form (e-EDF) -2020/21

An Employee Declaration Form (EDF) should be filed by every employee who wishes to claim Income Exemption Relief and other allowances and deductions for the purpose of calculating PAYE (Pay As You Earn) to be withheld from their monthly emoluments.

As from this year, employees may submit their Employee Declaration Form (EDF) ONLINE through MRA website: [www.mra.mu](http://www.mra.mu) The facility to file the e-EDF for the current financial year is already available on the website of the MRA.



## Employees

In order to access the e-EDF, employees have to go onto the MRA website, click on the banner e-EDF 2020/21, and insert the following information:

- National Identity Card Number (NID) or Non-Citizen ID (NCID) – Applicable for non-residents and
- Mobile Phone Number (to receive an One-Time-Password-OTP)

On accessing the electronic EDF, employees will have to select their respective Income Exemption Threshold and other reliefs and allowances to which they are eligible. Before submitting the e-EDF, they will have to confirm the correctness of the information provided therein.

Employees may also avail themselves of the step by step guide on the MRA website for the purpose of enabling them to successfully file the e-EDF. Employees, who are unable to file an e-EDF, may download and print a copy of the EDF from the MRA website and submit same to their employers, after having filled-in the information required.



## Employers

An Employer will have to login to the MRA e-services using his **EMPLOYER REGISTRATION NUMBER (ERN)** and **PASSWORD** to download an excel file showing the deductions claimed by his/her employees in their e-EDFs for the year ending 30 June 2021.

## TV Programme on e-EDF

Mr M. Oozeer, Director, Operational Services Department (OSD) at the MRA participated in the MBC TV programme entitled 'Business Connect' where he provided a detailed explanation on e-EDF.

Click on the thumbnail to watch the [video](#).



# Drug Seizures by the Customs Anti-Narcotics Section (CANS) of the MRA

Cannabis and MDMA (ecstasy) worth around Rs. 136,000 were secured from five unclaimed parcels at the Parcel Post Office (PPO) on Friday 28 August 2020, by officers of the Customs Anti-Narcotics Section (CANS) of the Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA). The parcels were sent from Netherlands and Canada and were addressed to inhabitants of Midlands, Tamarin and Quartier Militaire.



Being unclaimed, the parcels were opened by the CANS officers and, upon examination, the content, suspected to be cannabis and MDMA of respective market value of Rs. 32,202 and Rs. 104,400, were seized. The suspected drugs were handed over to the Anti-Drug and Smuggling Unit (ADSU) of the Port for further investigation.

Members of the public are reminded that they may report suspected drug cases/ illicit activities to the MRA through the MRA Stop Drug Platform: [www.mra.mu](http://www.mra.mu) or by calling on the **Hotline 8958**.

## MRA Staff Association (MRASA) elections 2020

MRA staff voted on 31 August 2020 to elect sixteen Executive Committee members to serve the Mauritius Revenue Authority Staff Association (MRASA) for the period 2020/22. Three voting centres were operational at Eham Court, Port Louis; Custom House, Mer Rouge and PATS, Plaine Magnien. The election was conducted by the Office of the Electoral Commissioner.

The following candidates were elected:

S/N	ELECTED CANDIDATES	CATEGORY
1	JONCKEER, Jean Claude	<b>Category A: Officer/Customs Officer I/II</b>
2	CALEECHURN, Tarun Kumar	
3	BHICAJEE, Dharma Dev	
4	BEEJMOHUN, Soomun Kumar	
5	BUTTOHEE, Monesh, also known as Neil	
6	KARIA, Shersingh	
7	MOHUN, Chooramane, also known as Kamlesh	
8	IMRIT, Mohammad Imtiyaz Ahmad	
1	MOOTHIEEN, Vijay	<b>Category B Technical Officer</b>
2	THECKA, Madhosing, also known as Rakesh	
3	WONG YIN SANG, Marie Noelcie Christiane Soo Lee Lin	
4	JOGLIAH, Randhir	
5	ISSORY, Nunkoomar	
1	UJODHA, Phoolchand	<b>Category C Team Leader</b>
2	FOKEER, Sewraj	
1	POOSI, Soondiren, also known as Niven	<b>Category D Support Officer</b>



The team of Nu Droit won the elections and Mr. Jean Claude Jonckeer was elected President for the third consecutive mandate.

# Health and Safety

The promotion of employees' safety and health is a mutual objective of the MRA and its employees. The MRA acts in accordance with the provisions of the Occupational Safety and Health Act 2005 to protect its employees and other stakeholders whose safety and health may be affected by its activities or services.



The MRA has set up a Safety and Health committee which meets every 2 months or earlier, in case the circumstances warrant to look into and make recommendations for the implementation of safe and healthy work practices. Members of the MRA Staff Association also form part of the Committee.



To ensure safety of staff and any person in the building during an emergency at Eham Court, Belfort Tower and Custom House, the following Health and Safety measures were taken in the month of August 2020:

- Safety & Health Committee;
- Training on Fire Safety for Fire Wardens;
- Risk Assessment for SES was updated;
- Certificate for Registration of Factory for the Mechanical Workshop was obtained;
- Site visits were conducted at Rennel, UFSL, Port Scanning Unit, Port Examining Unit, Eham Court, Custom House, Belfort Tower and Champs de Mars Lodge;
- Inventory of First Aid Cabinets at Eham Court, Custom House, Belfort Tower and BSP was carried out;
- Issuance of First Aid Kits to all MRA Outposts were done;
- Issuance of Informative Memo on GPA to MRA Staff Association was done;
- Mail on obstructed emergency exits was issued to concerned Departments, and
- The Disaster Preparedness Plan was updated





# e-PAYMENT OF TAXES

*Services redefined*

Register yourself for the  
**DIRECT DEBIT** facility

**HOW?**

Download a  
**PLACH DIRECT DEBIT MANDATE form**  
from MRA website: [www.mra.mu](http://www.mra.mu)

**Print** a copy and  
fill-in the required information.

**Send** a signed copy of the form to the  
head office of the MRA,  
**Ehram Court, Port Louis.**

For additional information, visit MRA website or  
phone MRA helpdesk on 207 6000.

