

GOVERNMENT WAGE ASSISTANCE SCHEME (GWAS) AND SELF-EMPLOYED ASSISTANCE SCHEME (SEAS)

For the Month of March 2021

Following the decision of the Government of the Republic of Mauritius to extend the **Government Wage Assistance Scheme (GWAS)** and the **Self-Employed Assistance Scheme (SEAS)** for the month of **March 2021**, the Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA) wishes to inform employers and self-employed Individuals of the conditions applicable and the measures taken by the MRA for payment of the allowances.

A. Tourism Sector

The financial assistance under GWAS and SEAS will continue to be provided to operators in the tourism industry in Mauritius and Rodrigues for the month of March 2021, **in full**.

The monthly allowance payable under GWAS is equivalent to one month's basic wage of all employees drawing a monthly basic wage of up to Rs 50,375, capped at Rs 25,375 of assistance per employee.

The monthly allowance under SEAS is Rs 5,287.

B. Sectors other than the Tourism Sector

With the lockdown in the island of Mauritius for the period 10 March 2021 to 25 March 2021, the financial assistance under GWAS and SEAS is extended to all other sectors, and the allowance is payable on the basis of **half of a month**.

GWAS

Under GWAS, employers in the private sector, approved or registered charitable institutions as well as charitable trusts and charitable foundations are eligible, for the month of March 2021, to a financial assistance equivalent **to a half month basic wage** of all employees drawing a monthly basic wage of up to Rs 50,375, capped at Rs 12,688 in respect of Mauritian and expatriate employees, in full-time or part-time employment in Mauritius.

SEAS

Under SEAS, eligible self-employed individuals in the Island of Mauritius are entitled, for the month of March 2021, to a financial assistance of Rs 2,550, topped up by an amount of Rs 94, representing compensation 2021, to bring the total amount payable to Rs 2,644.

C. Application for GWAS and SEAS to the MRA

Employers are required to apply for GWAS electronically using the facilities that will shortly be made available on the MRA website, www.mra.mu.

Self-employed individuals who have already made an application for SEAS for any of the months of March 2020 to February 2021 are **NOT** required to make an application for SEAS for the month of March 2021. Only eligible self-employed individuals, who had not previously applied for SEAS, are required to make an application for March 2021. The necessary facility will shortly be made available on the MRA website, www.mra.mu.

Self-employed individuals who have previously made an application for SEAS and are not eligible to the allowance for the month of March 2021, are requested to withdraw their application, by 19 March 2021, using the facility available on the MRA website: www.mra.mu.

Payments under GWAS and SEAS will be credited by the MRA directly to the bank account of eligible employers and self-employed individuals.

For further information, kindly visit the MRA website: www.mra.mu or phone the MRA helpdesk on **207 6000** during working hours.

