

ADVANCING TAX COMPLIANCE

MRA TADAT Training Programme for Enhanced Revenue Collection

DEVELOPING A RISK-BASED COMPLIANCE PLAN FOR CUSTOMS

Mauritius strengthens regional cooperation and institutional capacity in Customs administration

MRA EDUCATIONAL TOUR 2026

Secondary School Students welcomed at ICCC



EDITORIAL NOTE

From Authority to Partnership: Redefining the future of Tax Administration

February 2026 signals more than progress, it marks a decisive shift in how the Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA) defines its role in a rapidly evolving economic landscape.

Traditionally viewed through the lens of enforcement, revenue authorities worldwide are now being called upon to do more: to educate, to engage, and to build trust. The MRA is rising to this challenge with clarity of purpose and strategic intent. The emergence of initiatives such as the Tax Connect Programme reflects a fundamental transformation, from regulator to partner, from authority to enabler.

This shift is neither cosmetic nor incidental. It is grounded in a clear understanding that sustainable revenue mobilisation depends not only on robust systems and controls, but on the strength of the relationship between the institution and the taxpayer. Trust, transparency, and accessibility are no longer complementary ideals—they are operational imperatives.

At the same time, the MRA continues to reinforce its core mandate. Investments in capacity building, such as the TADAT programme and international collaborations, are sharpening institutional performance and aligning operations with global standards. Enhanced risk-based compliance strategies and strengthened border protection measures demonstrate that efficiency and enforcement remain uncompromised.

The road ahead demands agility, innovation, and continued collaboration. As global economic pressures intensify and compliance landscapes grow more complex, institutions must evolve or risk obsolescence. The MRA's current trajectory signals that it is not only adapting, but leading.

The message is clear: the future of taxation in Mauritius is not defined solely by policy or enforcement. It is defined by partnership, trust, and a shared commitment to progress.

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DEVELOPING A RISK-BASED COMPLIANCE PLAN FOR CUSTOMS

SMARTER CONTROLS STRONGER BORDERS



The Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA), in collaboration with the International Monetary Fund's AFRITAC South (IMF AFS), hosted a seminar on Developing a Risk-Based Compliance Plan for Customs, this month at the Integrated Customs Clearance Centre (ICCC), Le Chaland Road, Plaine Magnien.

The seminar brought together customs officers from developing and emerging economies and aims to strengthen institutional capacity through the adoption of an Integrated Risk Management (IRM) approach. The programme focused on reinforcing customs controls, encouraging voluntary compliance, and enhancing trade facilitation in an increasingly complex global trade environment.

A Continental Platform for Practical Reform

Customs officials from ten English-speaking African countries participated in the seminar, namely Botswana, Eswatini, Kenya, Lesotho, Mauritius, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe, alongside ten officers from the Mauritius Revenue Authority.

The engagement created a shared platform to strengthen institutional capacity through the adoption of an Integrated Risk Management approach, recognised as a cornerstone of effective Customs administration.



Rather than focusing solely on theory, the seminar emphasised practical implementation, enabling participants to translate risk concepts into operational tools within their respective administrations.

What Risk-Based Compliance means in practice

The programme was designed to equip Customs administrations with the ability to move from broad controls to precise and intelligence driven interventions.

Core areas of focus included:

- Understanding the concept and importance of an Integrated Risk Management approach within Customs governance
- Identifying the key components required to implement an effective IRM framework
- Developing a risk based compliance improvement plan using the IMF Fiscal Affairs Department technical note
- Establishing, monitoring, evaluating and refining effective selectivity criteria
- Enhancing the flow and use of risk information across enforcement and compliance units, including mechanisms for acting on intelligence and reporting outcomes

Through case studies, group work and interactive sessions, participants explored how to balance enforcement, trade facilitation and voluntary compliance within a coherent framework.

Government priority capacity that delivers results

At the launching ceremony, Hon. Dhaneshwar Damry, Junior Minister at the Ministry of Finance, highlighted Government's commitment to capacity building as a key pillar for sustainable and inclusive economic growth.

He noted Mauritius' growing international standing as a hub for knowledge sharing and institutional development, supported by a structured approach to resource allocation and development programmes.

On regulatory and compliance matters, he reiterated the importance of a robust risk based approach in line with the Financial Action Task Force review process, making it clear that Mauritius will uphold international standards of transparency, governance and financial integrity.



Hon. Dhaneshwar Damry, Junior Minister, Ministry of Finance

Data-Driven Customs targeting what matters most

Mr. Rohit Ramnawaz, Director-General of the Mauritius Revenue Authority, highlighted that risk-based compliance planning enables Customs administrations to deploy resources where they have the greatest impact.

In 2025, a total of 356,645 Customs declarations were validated in Mauritius, of which 46,461 were subjected to scanning or physical examination.



Mr. Rohit Ramnawaz, Director-General, MRA

During the same period, Mauritius recorded 1.4 million tourist arrivals, each representing a potential risk profile requiring informed and proportionate intervention.

He underlined that targeted and intelligence driven controls remain essential to safeguarding borders while facilitating legitimate trade and travel.

"Through effective risk profiling and risk management techniques, officers are able to focus efforts where they matter most".

He further highlighted that more than one tonne of dangerous drugs, with an estimated street value exceeding Rs 8.4 billion, was intercepted in 2025, reflecting the effectiveness of targeted customs controls.



Global expertise regional impact

Her Excellency Ms. Kate Chamley, High Commissioner of Australia to the Republic of Mauritius, highlighted the importance of capacity development and peer learning in strengthening institutions.



Her Excellency Ms. Kate Chamley, High Commissioner of Australia to the Republic of Mauritius

Mr. Sukhwinder Singh, Director of the International Monetary Fund's Africa Training Institute and AFRITAC South, commended Mauritius for its role in advancing practical risk-based compliance planning across Sub-Saharan Africa.

The seminar was facilitated by IMF AFRITAC South experts:

- Mr. Stephen Mendes
- Mr. Augusto Azael Perez Azcarraga
- Mr. Aldo Marco Silvano



Mr. Sukhwinder Singh, Director of the International Monetary Fund's Africa Training Institute (ATI) and AFRITAC South

A shift towards intelligence-led Customs

The seminar reflects a broader evolution in Customs administration, moving from uniform controls towards intelligence driven operations.

Through initiatives of this scale, Mauritius continues to consolidate its position as a regional hub for capacity development while strengthening cooperation among African revenue authorities.



IN QUEST FOR EXCELLENCE

TADAT IS BACK



The Mauritius Revenue Authority undertook a key preparatory initiative ahead of its forthcoming Tax Administration Diagnostic Assessment Tool (TADAT) evaluation by organizing a structured pre-mission workshop for senior officers. This initiative reflects MRA's strong commitment to continuous institutional improvement and its proactive approach to aligning tax administration practices with internationally recognised standards and benchmarks.

The pre-mission activities were conducted in two phases. An initial virtual session was held on 19 February 2026, followed by in-person workshops on 23 and 24 February 2026 at Custom House, Mer Rouge. These sessions were facilitated by members of the TADAT team and brought together the Management Team and senior officers across the organisation.

The workshop aimed to familiarise participants with the TADAT framework, methodology, and performance outcome areas (POAs), while also ensuring a clear understanding of the assessment process. Similar to the previous assessment conducted in 2017, the upcoming exercise will involve structured interviews and evidence-based evaluations to measure MRA's performance against internationally recognised indicators.

By proactively engaging in this pre-mission workshop, the MRA has reinforced its readiness for the TADAT assessment and its broader objective of enhancing institutional effectiveness, transparency, and service delivery.

International expertise supporting capacity building

The workshop was facilitated by:

- Ms. Priscilla Banda Chitatu, IMF Mission Chief, Washington
- Mr. Ravinder Saroop, Tax Administration Advisor, IMF AFRITAC South
- Ms. Jimena Acedo, Senior Economist, TADAT Secretariat

Key areas of discussion included:

- Integrity of the Registered Taxpayer Database (POA 1)
- Effective Compliance Risk Management (POA 2)
- Timely filing of tax declarations
- Accuracy of tax reporting
- Effective tax dispute resolution
- Accountability and transparency



TADAT - Field Guide 2025 Edition

TADAT is a global diagnostic tool used by countries to assess the strengths and weaknesses of their tax administration systems. It provides a standardized framework to evaluate the health and maturity of key components of tax administration against international good practices.

TADAT assessments are particularly helpful in:

- Identifying the relative strengths and weaknesses in tax administration.
- Facilitating a shared view on the condition of the tax administration among all stakeholders (e.g., country authorities, international organizations, donor countries, and technical assistance providers).
- Setting the reform agenda, including reform objectives, priorities, initiatives, and implementation sequencing.
- Facilitating management and coordination of internal or external support for reforms and achieving faster and more efficient implementation.
- Monitoring and evaluating reform progress by way of repeat assessments at 3 to 5-year intervals.

Assessments focus on the administration of key “core taxes,” which serve as proxies for the overall national tax system. While TADAT evaluates administrative performance within a country’s existing revenue policy framework, findings often inform both administrative improvements and policy reforms.

Performance outcome areas

TADAT assesses the performance of a country’s tax administration system by reference to nine outcome areas:

- 1. Integrity of the registered taxpayer base:** Registration of taxpayers and maintenance of a complete and accurate taxpayer database is fundamental to effective tax administration.
- 2. Effective risk management:** Performance improves when risks to revenue and tax administration operations are identified and systematically managed.
- 3. Supporting and facilitating compliance:** Usually, most taxpayers will meet their tax obligations if they are given the necessary information and support to enable them to comply voluntarily.
- 4. On-time filing of declarations:** Timely filing is essential because the filing of a tax declaration is a principal means by which a taxpayer’s tax liability is established and becomes due and payable.
- 5. On-time payment of taxes:** Non-payment and late payment of taxes can have a detrimental effect on government budgets and cash management.
- 6. Accurate reporting in declarations:** Tax systems rely heavily on complete and accurate reporting of information in tax declarations. Audit and other verification activities, and proactive initiatives of taxpayer assistance, promote accurate reporting and mitigate tax fraud.
- 7. Effective tax dispute resolution:** Independent, accessible, and efficient review mechanisms safeguard a taxpayer’s right to challenge a tax assessment and get a fair hearing in a timely manner.
- 8. Effective performance and efficient revenue management:** Tax administrations must be effectively managed, and their performance monitored to improve performance, cost effectiveness and overall efficiency. Tax revenue collections must be fully accounted for, monitored against budget expectations, and analyzed to inform government revenue forecasting.
- 9. Accountability and transparency:** As public institutions, tax administrations are answerable for the way they use public resources and exercise authority. Community confidence and trust are enhanced when there is open accountability for administrative actions within a framework of responsibility to the minister, legislature, and general community.



STRENGTHENING INTEGRITY THROUGH INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION

MRA HOSTS TRA DELEGATION ON LIFESTYLE AUDIT BENCHMARKING



In a continued effort to reinforce transparency, accountability, and institutional integrity, the Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA) hosted a high-level delegation from the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) from 23 to 27 February 2026. This benchmarking visit marked an important milestone in regional cooperation, knowledge sharing, and the collective fight against tax evasion and corruption.

The visit followed an expression of interest by the TRA in November 2025 and was subsequently approved, recognising the MRA's Lifestyle Audit framework as a regional best practice model. The delegation, led by Mr Shaibu A. Mmari, Director of Internal Affairs at TRA, comprised senior officials specialising in investigations and integrity oversight, along with a Technical Advisor from the German Development Corporation (GIZ).

A strategic exchange of expertise

The primary objective of the visit was to enable the TRA to benchmark the MRA's Lifestyle Audit systems, including governance frameworks, asset-verification methodologies, intelligence integration, and enforcement mechanisms.

Structured around a comprehensive Terms of Reference (TOR), the programme addressed seven critical pillars:

- Legal and Institutional Framework
- Risk Profiling and Case Selection
- Lifestyle Audit Methodology
- Intelligence Inputs and Data Analytics
- Inter-Agency Collaboration
- Reporting Standards and Enforcement
- Governance, Oversight, and Safeguards

Through a series of presentations, discussions, and practical sessions, participants engaged deeply with MRA's operational model, gaining valuable insights into both strategic and technical dimensions of lifestyle audits.

Showcasing the Mauritian experience

A highlight of the programme was the presentation on "The Mauritian Experience", which illustrated how the MRA has successfully embedded lifestyle audits into its broader compliance and integrity framework.

The delegation explored key processes such as:

- Asset declaration management, including submission, storage, and retrieval systems
- Risk-based selection of cases for verification
- Analytical techniques to assess discrepancies between declared income and actual lifestyle
- Reporting standards and enforcement pathways

Particular emphasis was placed on the role of data-driven decision-making, where advanced analytics and third-party information are increasingly used to identify high-risk profiles with greater accuracy.

A whole-of-institution approach to integrity

The visit also underscored the importance of a holistic institutional approach. The MRA demonstrated how its Internal Audit Division (IAUD) and Internal Affairs Division (IAFD) operate in synergy to promote ethical conduct, ensure compliance, and address integrity breaches effectively.

Sessions further highlighted the significance of:

- Strong governance safeguards
- Conflict-of-interest management
- Independent oversight and review mechanisms
- Preventive controls such as surprise inspections and disciplinary frameworks

The inclusion of key concepts such as transparency, accountability, and integrity, alongside references to the Revised Arusha Declaration and Integrity Development Guide, reinforced the ethical foundation underpinning the MRA's operations.

Collaboration beyond borders

Another key dimension of the benchmarking exercise was the emphasis on inter-agency collaboration. The MRA shared its experience in working with partner institutions such as law enforcement agencies and anti-corruption bodies, highlighting both the benefits and challenges of joint investigations.

These exchanges provided the TRA delegation with practical insights into building effective cooperation frameworks, supported by legal instruments and information-sharing platforms.

Key outcomes and way forward

The benchmarking visit successfully achieved its objectives, equipping the TRA with actionable insights to strengthen its own lifestyle audit programme. Among the key takeaways were:

- The effectiveness of Mauritius' legal framework, including the Declaration of Assets Act and the Financial Crimes Commission Act, in addressing unexplained wealth
- The value of integrated governance structures for sustaining institutional integrity
- The growing role of data analytics and intelligence in enhancing audit precision
- The importance of preventive and corrective mechanisms in maintaining ethical standards

The programme concluded with a feedback and debriefing session, during which both institutions reaffirmed their commitment to continued collaboration and mutual learning.

Reinforcing MRA's leadership in Integrity Management

This successful engagement not only strengthened ties between the MRA and the TRA but also reaffirmed the MRA's position as a centre of excellence in lifestyle audit practices within the region.

By sharing its expertise and embracing international cooperation, the MRA continues to advance its mission as "Partners in Progress", contributing to stronger tax administrations and enhanced public trust across borders.



Participants from the Tanzania Revenue Authority:

- Mr. Damjan Sarvan, Technical Advisor, GIZ
- Mr. Shaibu A. Mmari, Director, Internal Affairs
- Ms. Flora Ernest Haraka, Ag. Manager Internal Affairs Investigation
- Mr. David Elias Sindila, Principal Internal Affairs Officer
- Ms. Sophia Emmanuel Gura, Senior Internal Affairs Officer

MRA resource persons:

- Rajeev Gobin, Officer In Charge, IAFD
- Ahmed Bachun, Team Leader, IAFD
- Cajee Cadinouche, Technical Officer, IAFD
- Karisma Foolessur, Technical Officer & Programme Coordinator, IAFD
- Arangen Botharrygadoo, Technical Officer, IAFD
- Najah Maghooa, Technical Officer, IAFD
- Jasendranath Rupear, Technical Officer, IAFD
- Viswanee Mukhood, Technical Officer, IAFD
- Sameer Dulmeer, Team Leader, RPP

TAX CONNECT INITIATIVE

MRA SHIFTS GEARS



February 2026 marks a pivotal turning point for the Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA) as it moves beyond its traditional role of revenue collection toward a philosophy of “connection.” Throughout this month, MRA has been working diligently behind the scenes to finalise the rollout of the MRA Tax Connect Initiative 2026, as mentioned in our newsletter edition of January 2026, an ambitious one-year program designed to bridge the gap between the taxman and the taxpayer.

Following our January 2026 announcement, MRA is finalising the new project by focussing the year-long program dedicated to bridge the gap between the tax office and taxpayers.

The initiative represents a strategic shift in MRA’s mission. By prioritising engagement, compliance and trust, MRA aims to shed its image as a rigid enforcement body and instead position itself as a “partner in progress” for the Mauritian economy.

A Multi-Cluster Approach: Tailored Solutions through Direct Dialogue

Following its January 2026 launch, the Tax Connect Initiative has moved into its multi-cluster operational phase, leveraging expertise from across MRA’s core divisions, including the Operational Services Department (OSD), the Internal Affairs Division (IAD) and the Medium and Small Taxpayers Department (MSTD).

Coordinated by the Taxpayer Education and Communication Department (TECD), the project is now deploying targeted engagement strategies across the five identified clusters: SMEs, Manufacturing Companies, Professionals, HSC Students and Start-Ups.

To ensure these sessions are truly impactful, MRA conducts face-to-face meetings with stakeholders from every cluster. These consultative sessions allow MRA to gather direct feedback on specific fiscal obligations and address the unique questions of each sector. By identifying these needs first, each workshop is tailored to provide practical and relevant guidance. Following these meetings, TECD closely monitors and follows up on every interaction to streamline the final setup of the workshops.

February: The Month of Blueprinting

While the Tax Connect Initiative is a year-long engagement, February 2026 has been a month of intensive “blueprinting” and strategic fieldwork. This is an ongoing, year-round process where the Taxpayer Education and Communication Department (TECD) acts as a central hub, continuously liaising with clusters and key stakeholders to ensure the project remains grounded in the realities of the business community.

This proactive approach relies on monthly, theme-based activities and a multi-channel strategy: spanning digital platforms, traditional media and direct ground work to ensure tax education reaches every corner of the island. To keep the initiative on track, progress is meticulously documented thus allowing MRA to fine-tune its outreach in real-time based on direct taxpayer feedback.

The Road Ahead: Manufacturing in the Spotlight

The planning phase is already yielding tangible results. As February draws to a close, the MRA has confirmed that the first major sectoral outreach will target the Manufacturing Companies cluster.

In a strategic partnership with the Mauritius Export Association (MEXA), a high-level workshop has been scheduled for March 3, 2026. This session will serve as a pilot for the “Enhancing Compliance through Partnership” strategy, allowing manufacturing stakeholders to engage directly with tax officials to resolve sector-specific challenges and encourage a culture of voluntary compliance.

The workshop will dive into critical operational themes, including:

- **Why Tax Matters:** Supporting Growth in the Manufacturing Sector.
- **Payroll & Contributions:** The operation of the Cumulative PAYE System, the PRGF (Portable Gratuity Fund) and CSG/NSF contributions.
- **Administrative Compliance:** Practical guidance on the Filing of Mandatory Returns.

As the MRA Tax Connect Initiative moves from the boardroom to the field, the message from the MRA is clear: the future of taxation in Mauritius is not just about the numbers—it’s about the relationship.

TAX CONNECT

Engage • Educate • Empower

FROM AWARENESS TO RESPONSIBILITY

INSIDE THE MRA EDUCATIONAL TOUR 2026



On Friday 20 February 2026, the Mauritius Revenue Authority welcomed 189 secondary school students and their educators to the Integrated Customs Clearance Centre. Participants came from Westcoast International Secondary School, Loreto College Mahebourg, Royal College Curepipe, Forest Side SSS and France Boyer SSS.

Organised by the Taxpayer Education and Communication Department, the initiative aimed to strengthen tax awareness among the younger generation while providing direct exposure to the role and operations of the Mauritius Revenue Authority.

In his welcome address, Mr. Amick Teeluckdharry, Assistant Director of the Taxpayer Education and Communication Department, drew inspiration from Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I have a dream" speech.

He said: *"At the Mauritius Revenue Authority, we too have a dream. And our dream is about you! You represent thousands of young Mauritians and Rodriguans across our Republic. You are the thinkers, the innovators, the professionals, the entrepreneurs, and perhaps even the policymakers of tomorrow. As such, we want to prepare you, to nurture you and empower you to become active and responsible citizens, true torchbearers of the socio-economic development of the Republic of Mauritius."*

Mr. Teeluckdharry highlighted that the MRA's education tour is designed to demystify taxation, border protection, and trade facilitation. Rather than viewing these as mere technicalities, he framed them as the essential pillars supporting vital national infrastructure, such as hospitals and schools. *"By engaging the youth now," he concluded, "the MRA seeks to empower a new generation of responsible citizens to lead the Republic's socio-economic development."*



**Mr. Amick Teeluckdharry, Assistant Director,
Taxpayer Education and Communication Dept.**

Understanding the Mauritian Tax System

Dr. Rakesh Thecka, Team Leader, Taxpayer Education and Communication Department, delivered a comprehensive presentation combining live explanations and video projections.



*Dr. Rakesh Thecka, Team Leader,
Taxpayer Education and Communication Dept.*

The session covered:

- The mandate and activities of the Taxpayer Education and Communication Department
- The fundamentals of Income Tax and its evolution in Mauritius
- An overview of Value Added Tax and the importance of requesting receipts
- Other forms of taxation and their contribution to Government revenue
- Trends in tax collection from 2006 to 2025
- How tax revenues support national development and public services

Students also gained insight into the role of Customs in border protection through an informative video presentation.



One of the highlights of the educational tour was the live demonstration by the Customs K9 Unit, which showcased how specially trained dogs detect prohibited goods, drugs, and 'undeclared' currency.

The demonstration provided students with an engaging and practical illustration of the advanced techniques used in modern customs enforcement.



Engaging with future taxpayers

The programme included a Question and Answer Session, during which students engaged directly with MRA officers on taxation, compliance and Customs enforcement.

Student representatives shared their reflections, expressing appreciation for the opportunity to better understand the importance of taxation and the work carried out by the Mauritius Revenue Authority.

From Awareness to Responsibility

Mr. J. C. Crouche, MRA Board Member, delivered the closing remarks, encouraging students to become responsible and compliant citizens.

Participants viewed highlights of the Tax Club 2025 Debate Contest while completing feedback forms.

The tour concluded with a guided visit of the Integrated Customs Clearance Centre, allowing students to observe operational areas and gain further insight into Customs processes.

Building a culture of tax awareness

The Educational Tour forms part of the Mauritius Revenue Authority's broader efforts to promote tax education and civic awareness among the youth.

Through direct engagement and practical exposure, the initiative contributes to shaping informed citizens who understand the role of taxation in national development.



Mr. J. C. Crouche, MRA Board Member



Save the Dates: 2026 Educational Tour Series

Students and teachers are invited to mark their calendars for the upcoming series of Educational Tours. Hosted at the **Integrated Customs Clearance Centre (ICCC)** in Mauritius and **Mon Plaisir in Rodrigues**, these sessions are designed to provide localised insights across Mauritius and Rodrigues.

Mauritius Sessions (Venue: ICCC)

Friday, 06 March 2026

Friday, 13 March 2026

Friday, 15 May 2026

Rodrigues Session

Mon Plaisir Cultural Centre

Tuesday, 28 April 2026



APPOINTMENT

MR. RAJENDRA GUPTA RAMNARAIN APPOINTED DIRECTOR OF CUSTOMS



Mr. Rajendra Gupta Ramnarain has been appointed Director of Customs at the Mauritius Revenue Authority in February 2026, marking a significant milestone in a distinguished career spanning over four decades.

A career defined by progression

Having joined the Customs and Excise Department in 1982 as a Customs and Excise Officer Grade II, Mr. Ramnarain steadily rose through the ranks, demonstrating commitment, professionalism and leadership.

He was promoted to Senior Customs and Excise Officer in 1998, a position he held until 2006, before advancing to Team Leader from 2006 to 2010 and subsequently serving as Section Head from 2010 to 2026.

Extensive operational experience

Throughout his career, Mr. Ramnarain has acquired extensive operational expertise across all levels of Customs administration.

His appointment reflects both his depth of experience and his strong institutional knowledge.

Contribution to the Organisation

In addition to his operational responsibilities, Mr. Ramnarain contributes to capacity building within the Mauritius Revenue Authority by sharing his expertise on Customs related matters.

He is also a Master of Ceremonies at official MRA events, reflecting strong communication skills and professional presence.

Academic background

Mr. Ramnarain holds a Master of Business Administration and a Bachelor of Science with Honours in Business Studies with a specialisation in Human Resource Management from the University of Mauritius.

A new phase of leadership

His appointment marks a new phase of experienced leadership within Customs, reinforcing continuity, professionalism and operational strength.

MRA IN THE MEDIA

RADIO/ TV PROGRAMMES



Mauritius

3 Radio interventions

20 "One minute radio Programmes" broadcast on Kool FM and MBC Radio.

2 TV Interventions

Rodrigues

20 "One minute radio Programmes" on Rodrigues FM



Informing the public and business community

This month, the Mauritius Revenue Authority's media presence was marked by a steady flow of important updates aimed at keeping both the public and the business community informed.

Traveller guidance at SSR International Airport

A major focus was placed on SSR International Airport, where travellers were reminded that all commercial goods must be declared at the Red Channel. As from 10 February 2026, a freight rate of USD 3 per kilogram is factored into duty valuations for such items.

Radio programme highlights: Tax Arrears Settlement Scheme (TASS)

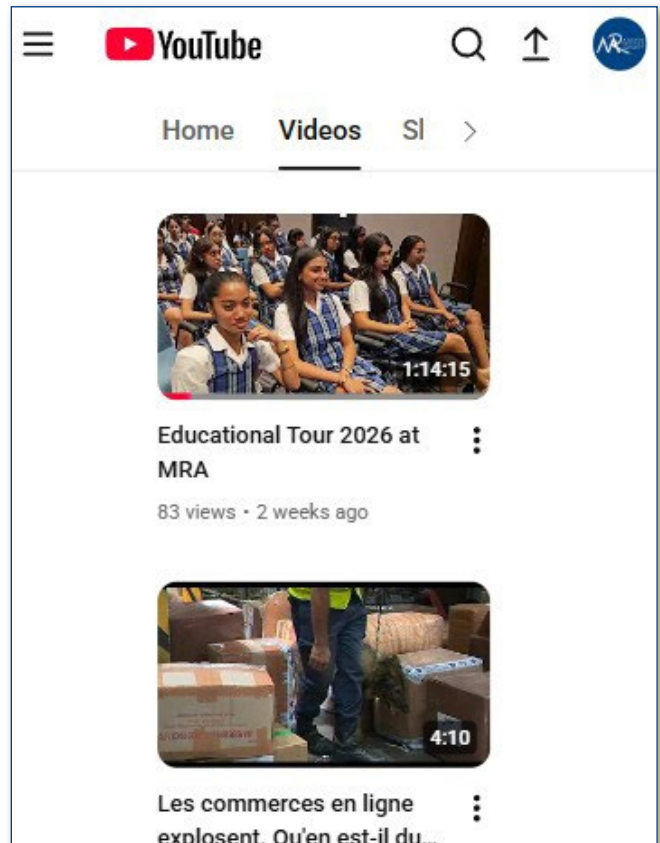
At the same time, the MRA's one-minute radio programmes provided daily insights into the Tax Arrears Settlement Scheme (TASS). These broadcasts highlighted a 75% waiver on penalties for social contribution arrears, helping taxpayers better understand the benefits of the scheme and encouraging voluntary compliance.

Tax education series on Fringe Benefits

The month's media outreach was further strengthened through a comprehensive educational series on fringe benefits. The series covered a range of topics including benefits related to company cars, housing and interest-free loans, ensuring that taxpayers remained well informed about their obligations.

A TV report on the e-Commerce boom in Mauritius was also broadcasted on MBC 1 on 13 February 2026.

This 4-minute report put forward the crucial role of Customs in protecting the country's borders from illicit goods.



STRENGTHENING BORDER PROTECTION

MRA CUSTOMS SEIZES RS 17.7M WORTH OF HEROIN AT SSR INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

In February 2026, the Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA) reinforced its crackdown on narcotics trafficking with a major heroin seizure at SSR International Airport. This significant interception by the Customs Anti-Narcotics Section (CANS) highlights the MRA's continued vigilance and its critical role in protecting the nation's borders against illicit trade.

Major Drug Interception at SSR International Airport

In a significant blow to drug trafficking, the MRA Customs Anti-Narcotics Section (CANS) intercepted a Nigerian national at SSR International Airport on 12 February 2026, leading to the seizure of Rs 17.7 million worth of heroin.

The 45-year-old suspect attempted to bypass controls through the Green Channel but was flagged by vigilant Customs officers after providing suspicious responses during a routine check.

Following a referral for medical examination, it was discovered that the passenger had internally concealed 56 drug pellets.

The total quantity seized, weighing approximately 1.18 kilograms, was subsequently handed over to the Police as investigations continue into this high-value interception.

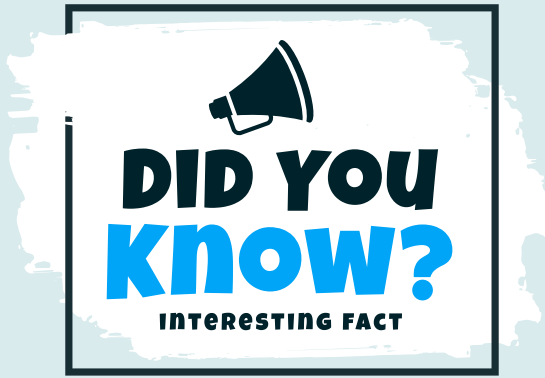


Continued Vigilance at the Border

This interception once again illustrates the vigilance of MRA Customs officers and the effectiveness of risk-based profiling at the country's main air gateway.

Through the sustained efforts of the Customs Anti-Narcotics Section, the MRA continues to play a vital role in preventing the entry of dangerous drugs and protecting Mauritian society from the harmful effects of narcotics trafficking.





COURIER SERVICES

Courier services are redefining speed, convenience, and efficiency by providing comprehensive solutions for the swift collection and delivery of shipments.

Customs authorities play an essential role in facilitating the smooth clearance of goods handled by these services, promoting cross-border trade while ensuring security and compliance with regulations.

Understanding the Customs process for clearing goods via courier services

How It Works?



Manifest Submission: Courier services submit a manifest i.e., list of goods- generally loaded on incoming flights.

Sorting: Upon arrival, goods are sorted by Customs depending on their category I., II, III, or IV. Goods are categorised to streamline processing and clearance of consignments.

Category I: Correspondences and Documents

These are items with no commercial value and are exempt from duties and taxes.

Category II: Goods "Not Merchandised for Sale"

Goods classified under category II are generally goods of low value, i.e., MUR 1000 or lesser. These goods are processed and cleared with no payment of duty and taxes (excluding merchandise for sale, tobacco in any form, wines, spirits, arms and ammunition).

Category III: Goods "Not Merchandised for Sale"

These goods have a customs value above Rs 1000 and may be subject to the payment of duty and taxes depending on the nature of the goods. They are cleared through the E-Courier facility through the submission of a simplified customs declaration on the e-courier platform.

Category IV: Goods "Merchandised for Sale"

These goods are cleared conventionally through a Bill of Entry (BoE). Undoubtedly, courier services are revolutionizing trade by simplifying and expediting the movement of goods across borders. The introduction of Simplified Declarations has enhanced customs procedures, promoting economic growth while maintaining strict regulatory compliance.



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