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# 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter VLDS Draw

The 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Draw of the VAT Lucky Draw Scheme 2018 was held on Monday 30 April 2018, at the Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA) Head Office at Port Louis. **The invoice number 1970469 won the first prize of Rs. 50,000.**



In his address, the Acting Director-General of the MRA, Mr. M. Hannelas, stressed on the importance of optimising VAT collections, as the latter accounts for more than 40% of aggregate revenue collected.

He also added that the MRA is currently rethinking the VLDS concept and that it will soon be re-engineered to render it more appealing and effective.

The VAT Lucky Draw was launched in 2014 and members of the public can participate by registering details of their VAT invoices through the MRA website, SMS or the MRA VAT App. Twenty prizes for a total of Rs. 210,000 are awarded to winners in each quarter.

Members of the public, MRA Directors and the Acting Director-General were called upon to draw the lucky winners in the presence of the representative of the Gambling Regulatory Authority (GRA), Mr. Murugan, MRA Management Team and reporters.



Winners are kindly requested to call at the MRA Head Office with the original receipt and National Identity Card to claim their prizes before Monday 04 June 2018 (*Full list of winning receipts follows*).

SN	Prizes	Invoice Number	Date	VAT Amount
1.	Rs 50000	1970469	12-02-2018	739
2.	Rs 25000	275827	04-03-2018	299
3.	Rs 15000	CH04526742GE	14-01-2018	161
4.	Rs 10000	8297	21-02-2018	148
5.	Rs 10000	00243404	07-02-2018	431
6.	Rs 10000	SINLIN48445	20-03-2018	3321
7.	Rs 10000	258953	04-03-2018	377
8.	Rs 10000	MGTR-30440-7-1	07-01-2018	141
9.	Rs 10000	C11102784	06-01-2018	207
10.	Rs 10000	100020408	02-02-2018	409
11.	Rs 5000	801C-043178	18-02-2018	260
12.	Rs 5000	0000044510	30-01-2018	78
13.	Rs 5000	259840	03-03-2018	478
14.	Rs 5000	180105	05-01-2018	867
15.	Rs 5000	27934	04-02-2018	300
16.	Rs 5000	91574	04-03-2018	3261
17.	Rs 5000	3025	01-02-2018	129
18.	Rs 5000	3342193	05-02-2018	99
19.	Rs 5000	1969969	08-02-2018	2814
20.	Rs 5000	20196	28-01-2018	171

Click [here](#) for a video report on the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Draw of the VAT Lucky Draw Scheme 2018



# Coxswain: NCG enhances Navigation skills of Customs Officers

The Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA) and the National Coast Guard (NCG) awarded certificates to participants to the Coxswain Training Course on Monday 16 April 2018 at the Custom House, Mer Rouge. The training course was organised jointly by the MRA and the NCG from Monday 08 January to Friday 02 March 2018.



Twenty-one Customs Officers- including one lady Officer- were selected to undergo the training. The resource persons were accredited Trainers of the NCG. The training exercise comprised two-week's in-house preparation and two-week's hands-on activities. Certificates were awarded to all the Officers who completed the course successfully. Certificates of Appreciation were also awarded to the NCG Trainers.



In his address, the Acting Director, Customs, Mr. J. Audit, underlined the necessity of close collaboration among law enforcing agencies in combating illicit trade and drug trafficking.



Captain Manu, Commandant of the NCG, reiterated that the NCG would give its unwavering support to build capacity at the MRA Customs Department in relation to navigation.

# Courtesy visits to the Director-General

The Director-General of the Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA), Mr. Sudhamo Lal, received two courtesy visits during April 2018. The first courtesy call was paid by a Consultant from the World Bank, Mr. Grace, on Monday 02 April 2018 at the MRA Head Office.

Mr. Grace was in Mauritius in the context of a Risk Management Technical Mission from Monday 02 to Wednesday 04 April 2018.

During his visit, he had working sessions with several Customs sections namely the Risk Management Section (RMS), the Trade Facilitation and Customs Cooperation (TFCC), Assessment Section, Surveillance and Enforcement Section (SES), Customs Anti-Narcotics Section (CANS) and Seaport and Airport Operations. The Consultant also held meetings with key Border Inspection Agencies such as the Ministry of Health and Quality of Life and the Ministry of Agro-Industry & Food Security.

Mr. Sudhamo Lal thanked Mr. Grace for his valuable support and urged the MRA Customs Department to make the most of the visit of the World Bank official.



The second courtesy call on the Director-General was that of Mr. M. Bamba, Regional Director of Income Tax in Ivory Coast on Friday 13 April 2018 at the MRA Head Office.

He was accompanied by His Excellency Mr. O. Apajee, Honorary Consul of Ivory Coast in Mauritius. The aim of the visit was to identify avenues of fiscal cooperation between the two countries.

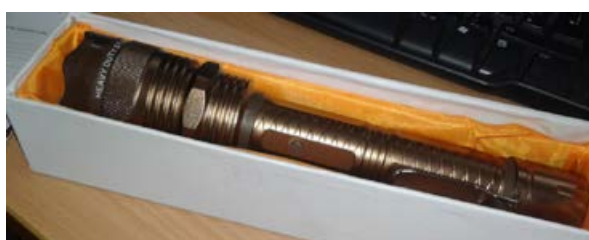




## Seizures made by MRA Customs

The Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA) Customs Department made four seizures of drugs and stun guns in April 2018. Drugs worth circa Rs. 23 million were seized on two occasions at the SSR Airport and at the premises of a courier service, respectively. Heroin and synthetic drugs were intercepted and same were handed over to the Anti-Drug and Smuggling Unit (ADSU) for further inquiry.

Forty-two stun guns were also seized at the Port and, in the absence of valid clearance from the Mauritius Police Force (MPF), the importers were informed of the offences committed. Stun guns are classified under 'Prohibited Goods' and they require a clearance from MPF under the Firearm Act at import.



## B2B Cooperation: MRA welcomes the PSC

A delegation comprising officials of the Public Service Commission (PSC) were welcomed by the Director-General of the Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA), Mr. Sudhamo Lal, on Wednesday 11 April 2018 at the MRA Head Office.



The aim of the visit was to study the MRA Online Recruitment Platform and to understand the mechanisms of the online service.

The PSC officials expressed their satisfaction and thanked the Director-General of the MRA for accepting to host the PSC at the MRA Head Office.

# Promoting Taxpayer Compliance

The Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA) organised two sensitization sessions at the request of its stakeholders to encourage voluntary compliance to revenue laws.



The first session was organised at the MRA Head Office on Wednesday 04 April 2018. Mr. Kelly, Section Head, Operational Service Department (OSD), briefed the staff of La Sentinelle on Corporate Tax.

On Wednesday 18 April 2018, Mr. M. Hannelas, Director, Large Taxpayer Department (LTD), and Mrs. Y. Rangasamy, Section Head, LTD, were present at the seat of the Institute for Judicial and Legal Studies (IJLS) for a presentation on the 'Adherence to the minimum standards of the Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS)'.



The feedback from the participants of both workshops was positive and they thanked the MRA resource persons for their presentations.

