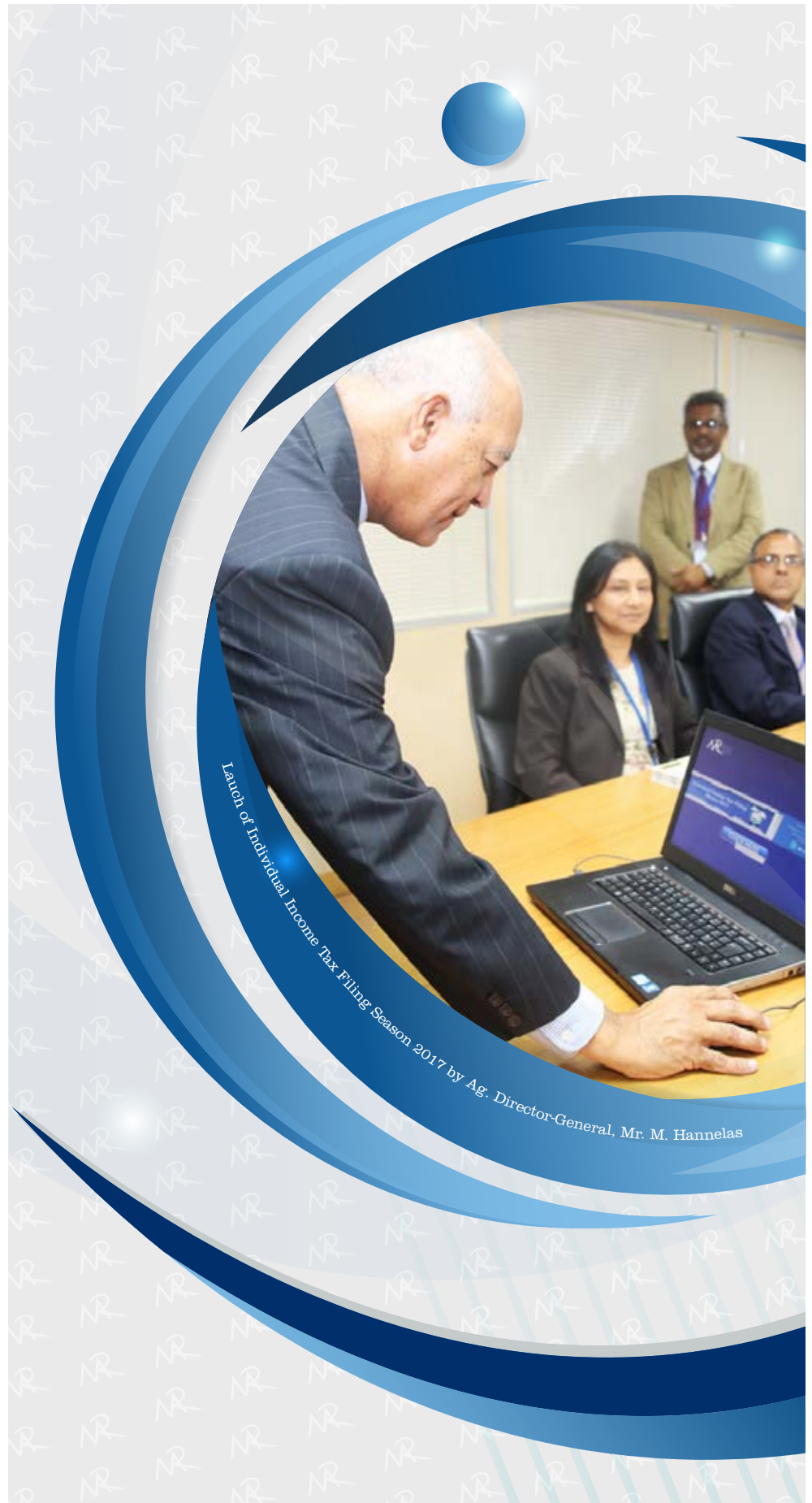


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Launch of e-Filing Season 2017



The Income Tax Filing Season 2017 was launched by the Ag. Director-General, Mr. M. Hannelas, on Thursday 24th August 2017 at the Head Office of the Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA). The event was attended by Mr. D. Ramdin, Director, Operational Services Department (OSD), Mrs N. Bunwaree, Director, Finance and Administration Department (FAD), Mr. S. Sonah, Director, Information System Department (ISD), Mr. A. Teeluckdharry, Assistant Director, Taxpayer Education and Communication Department (TECD), Mr. R. Oree, Ag. Assistant Director, Research Planning and Policy (RPP) and Mr. M. Oozeer, Section Head OSD, in the presence of journalists from the local media.




Mr. Hannelas introduced the Income Tax Filing Season 2017 and underscored that the electronic filing of individual income return is now an established means of submitting returns to the MRA. He referred to last year when 99% of the Individual Filing of Returns was made online. Mr. D. Ramdin elaborated on the features of the Taxpayer Portal and emphasised on a new mode of payment, namely the Direct Debit. He added that the MRA will keep on improving the services it offers to taxpayers to facilitate operations.

Participate in the online

Taxpayer Satisfaction Survey

and stand the chance of winning one of the following prizes:

 1st PRIZE Rs 25, 000	 2nd PRIZE Rs 15, 000	 3rd PRIZE Rs 10, 000
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The Taxpayer Satisfaction Survey (TSS) was also launched on the same occasion and Mr. R. Oree highlighted that taxpayers will be able to give their feedback through the TSS after the successful submission of their returns online. The TSS, he underlined, will help the MRA assess the quality of its services and improve same. The event ended with an interactive question and answer session between MRA Directors and journalists present. The Directors answered to frequently asked questions brought forward by the reporters.

Individual taxpayers are reminded that they should submit their returns at latest on 2nd October 2017. Payment, if any, can be effected through Direct Debit, Internet Banking, ATM, SMS (Orange Money), MCB Juice or by credit card on MRA e-Services.

In its policy to go towards taxpayers who need assistance to file their returns, eighteen Free Income Tax Assistance (FITA) centres will also be operational in Mauritius on 23rd and 24th September 2017. One FITA centre will be operational in Rodrigues from 28th September to 2nd October 2017, from 08h30 to 16h00.

Click [here](#) for a video report on the Launching of Individual Income Tax Filing Season 2017

Regional Collaboration: MRA welcomes YLTP Delegates

On Thursday 31st August 2017, the Ag. Director-General of the Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA), Mr. D. Ramdin, welcomed a Malagasy Delegation comprising twenty-seven young participants to the Youth Leadership Training Program (YLTP) at the MRA Head Office.



The programme is sponsored by the Friedrich Ebert Foundation and the participants were accompanied by Mr. Jean Aimé Raveloson, Deputy Representative of the Foundation. Following a brief introduction by Mr. D. Ramdin on the MRA, Mrs. S. Moorooogen, Director, Internal Audit Division, and Mrs. Y. Rangasamy, Section Head, Large Taxpayer Department, made a presentation on Good Governance at the MRA and on International Taxation, respectively.

A question and answer session followed between the YLTP participants and the MRA Directors, during which Mr. S. Narrainen, Director, Internal Affairs Division, replied to additional queries from the participants. At the close of the event, the representative of the Foundation was thankful to the MRA for accepting to host the meetings, year in year out, with the YLTP delegates.



Finance Act: Workshops on New Fiscal Measures for MRA Stakeholders

The Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA) conducted a series of meetings with its various stakeholders on the changes brought in by the Finance Act 2017. The aim was to sensitize MRA stakeholders on the implications of the fiscal changes to promote compliance.

To that end, three briefing sessions were held for MRA staff on Friday 04th, Thursday 17th and Thursday 24th August 2017 at the MRA Head Office. The MRA Resource Persons for the first session were Mr. M. Hannelas, Ag. Director-General, Mrs. C. Gunnoo, Director, Medium and Small Taxpayer Department (MSTD), Mr. D. Ramdin, Director, Operational Services Department (OSD) and Mrs. V. Ramdin, Director, Objection, Appeal, Dispute and Resolutions Department (OADRD).



During the second session, Mr. M. Oozeer, Section Head, OSD, Mr. D. Seetloo, Section Head, Large Taxpayer Department (LTD) and Mr. N. Tacouri, Section Head, MSTD presented on the changes brought by the Finance Act 2017. Mr. J. Kelly, Section Head OSD, Mr. D. Seetloo, Section Head LTD and Mr. N. Tacouri, Section Head, MSTD, briefed the audience during the third session.

On Thursday 3rd August 2017, the Ag. Director-General of the MRA, Mr. M. Hannelas, explained the new fiscal measures to members of the Rotary Club at Curepipe. Two similar sessions were organised at Business Mauritius at Ebène on Friday 11th and Tuesday 15th August 2017, respectively, and the presenters were Mr. M. Oozeer, Section Head, OSD, Mr. D. Seetloo, Section Head, Large LTD and Mr. N. Tacouri, Section Head, MSTD. The meetings were cordial and the members of Business Mauritius were appreciative of the presentations of the MRA Resource Persons. Question and answer sessions concluded the discussions.



Following a request from Mauritius Export Association (MEXA), the MRA presented on aspects of Corporate Social Responsibility to MEXA members on Friday 4th and Friday 25th August 2017 at Gold Crest Hotel, Quatre Bornes. The briefing session was led by Mr. D. Seetloo, Section LTD, and the objective was to explain the fiscal implications of Corporate Social Responsibility to the members.



Article IV Consultation: MRA meets with IMF Delegation

Mr. M. Hannelas, Ag. Director-General of the Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA), welcomed an International Monetary Fund (IMF) Delegation at the MRA Head Office in the presence of MRA Management Team on Tuesday 8th August 2017.

The IMF mission, led by Mr. A. Sy, conducted visits at the premises of several Mauritian organisations with regards to discussions for the 2017 Article IV consultation with Mauritius. The objectives of the meeting at the MRA were to discuss:

- (i) medium term revenue projections,
- (ii) recent, ongoing and planned tax administration reform measures, and
- (iii) the impact of European Union and Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS) initiatives on tax administration.



Intellectual Property Rights: MRA Customs supervises Destruction of Infringed Goods

The Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA) supervised the destruction of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) infringed goods on Wednesday 9th and Thursday 10th August 2017 at the Customs Warehouse, Lux Shed, Mer Rouge. The goods were seized by the MRA Customs Department as per its role to prevent counterfeit products from entering Mauritius. The destruction of Rolex watches, clothes, shoes, inter alia, was made in the presence of the rights holders and members of the local media, and the goods were buried at the Mare Chicose Landfill Waste Site on Friday 11th August 2017, under the supervision of the MRA Customs Department.



IPR owners may request the MRA Customs Department to protect their copyrights and trademarks, since the latter is the primary Government agency responsible for regulating imports and exports of goods.

More information with regards to IPR is available on [MRA's Website](#).

MRA Caters for the Needy



The Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA) is committed to the economic and social development of Mauritius and, as part of its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), it organised a dinner for the homeless at the Marie, Reine de la Paix, Social Centre as from 17h00 on Sunday 6th August 2017. The dinner was organised thanks to contributions from MRA staff. The Ag. Director-General of the MRA, Mr. M. Hannelas, and staff from the Large Taxpayer Department (LTD) and Taxpayer and Education Department (TECD) were present on that occasion and they assisted in sharing the food to the needy.

In the same vein, the MRA collaborated with the Groupe Mouvement Social de Roche Bois in offering 'gâteaux Marie' to the underprivileged of the locality. MRA staff contributed to the noble cause and remitted the donation to the organisers on Monday 14th August 2017 in the presence of inhabitants of Roche Bois. The MRA was represented by Mr. A. Teeluckdharry, Assistant Director Taxpayer Education and Communication Department (TECD) and Mr. J. Pandoo, Team Leader Customs Department. The MRA symbolically participates in social responsibility activities on a regular basis, as part of its mission of contributing to the economic and social development of Mauritius.



Drugs Seized by MRA Customs Department



During the month of August, the Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA) Customs Department, in collaboration with ADSU, made three major drug seizures which included synthetic cannabinoids, Tramadol tablets and cannabis. The first seizure was made on Sunday 6th August 2017 at the Airport and the cannabis was concealed in the false compartment of the saxophone casing of a French passenger. The market value of the drug was estimated at Rs. 200,000.



The second seizure was made by the Customs Anti-Narcotics Section (CANS) on Monday 21st August 2017 at the airport and Tramadol tablets were found amongst the clothes of a 47-year-old female passenger. Tramadol is listed in Schedule III of the Dangerous Drugs Act. Last but not least, eighty-six grams of leaf matter suspected to be synthetic cannabinoids were seized at the Parcel Post Office on Wednesday 30th August 2017.

The MRA reiterates its appeal to the public to report suspected drug cases anonymously to the MRA through the **MRA Stop Drug Platform** on www.mra.mu or by calling on the **Hotline 8958**.