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MRA 12<sup>th</sup> Anniversary:  
More than 8,800 pints of blood remitted  
to the Blood Bank in 12 years

## 12<sup>th</sup> Anniversary: 1,368 pints of blood collected

The Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA) celebrated its 12<sup>th</sup> anniversary by hosting the annual Blood Donation at the MRA Head Office, the Custom House, the SSR Airport and PATS on Friday 6 July, 2018. A record of 1,368 pints was collected at the above locations, thereby firmly establishing the MRA Blood Donation as a yearly rendez-vous. The Blood Donation is yet another event where staffs of all grades and Departments come together to contribute to its success.

The Chief Guest of the Opening Ceremony was Dr. The Honourable Mohammad Anwar Husnood, Minister of Health and Quality of Life. Dr. Husnood thanked the MRA for associating its anniversary to the noble act of donating one's blood. He also urged the youth to donate their blood regularly as blood is always in demand in hospitals for surgeries, deliveries, dialysis purposes, inter alia. The Director-General of the MRA, Mr. Sudhamo Lal, underlined the effort put in by the MRA Organising Team, the Ministry of Health and Quality of Life, the Blood Bank and other stakeholders in hosting the blood donation at four locations simultaneously. Mr. Lal was thankful to Dr. Husnood for gracing the Launch Ceremony as Chief Guest.



Nearly 1,600 volunteers turned up to the MRA Head Office, the Custom House, the SSR Airport and PATS to donate their blood, and a total of 1,368 pints were collected. Blood donors were offered MRA bags, and green plants, which were sponsored by the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, the Ministry of Agro Industry and Food Security and the Ministry of Local Government and Outer Islands.





The number of pints collected per location is listed in the table below:

Site	Volunteers	Accepted	Rejected
Ehram Court	599	489	110
Custom House	441	390	51
Airport	277	240	37
PATS	282	249	33
<b>Total</b>	<b>1599</b>	<b>1368</b>	<b>231</b>

The MRA is thankful to everyone associated with the Blood Donation and it reiterates its commitment to contribute to the economic and social development of Mauritius.

*Thank  
you!*



# VLDS: RECEIPT NUMBER crIN0014228 WINS RS. 50,000

The receipt number crIN0014228 was drawn on Tuesday 31 July, 2018, by the Director-General of the Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA), Mr. Sudhamo Lal, as the winner of the first prize of the VAT Lucky Draw Scheme (VLDS). The draw was held in the presence of representatives of the Gambling Regulatory Authority (GRA), members of the MRA Management Team and members of the public.



The VLDS aims at encouraging taxpayers to claim a receipt for every purchase they make and the draw is effected on a quarterly basis. Twenty winners are drawn during each draw and they win prizes ranging from Rs. 50,000 to Rs. 5,000.

In his speech, the Director-General of the MRA underscored the importance of third party information collected from each VLDS entry and the synergy created by the various MRA Departments in making the VLDS a reality.

The holders of the other winning receipts should call at the MRA Head Office with their original receipts and National Identity Card to claim their respective prizes.

SN	Prizes	Invoice Number	Date	VAT Amount
1.	<b>Rs 50000</b>	crIN0014228	05-05-2018	911
2.	<b>Rs 25000</b>	148558	19-05-2018	692
3.	<b>Rs 15000</b>	286004	28-04-2018	501
4.	<b>Rs 10000</b>	0205093000000	01-04-2018	212
5.	<b>Rs 10000</b>	20394@12/05/18-115EB	24-05-2018	376
6.	<b>Rs 10000</b>	8207	19-06-2018	1531
7.	<b>Rs 10000</b>	284498	18-04-2018	241
8.	<b>Rs 10000</b>	01/07507/TPV:01	14-04-2018	456
9.	<b>Rs 10000</b>	ISP14747	05-06-2018	1978
10.	<b>Rs 10000</b>	52334	12-05-2018	2567
11.	<b>Rs 5000</b>	RN037311	16-05-2018	829
12.	<b>Rs 5000</b>	5000174989755	24-04-2018	559
13.	<b>Rs 5000</b>	RSI-BMX-PRCSH01860	02-04-2018	4695
14.	<b>Rs 5000</b>	60177	03-04-2018	3258
15.	<b>Rs 5000</b>	13580	05-05-2018	1000
16.	<b>Rs 5000</b>	190	11-05-2018	361
17.	<b>Rs 5000</b>	30591	25-05-2018	160
18.	<b>Rs 5000</b>	146529	31-05-2018	81
19.	<b>Rs 5000</b>	12705	26-05-2018	388
20.	<b>Rs 5000</b>	6324	25-04-2018	235

## Courtesy Call: INCB Officials to DG, MRA



Two officials of the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) paid a courtesy call on the Director- General of the Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA), Mr. Sudhamo Lal, on Wednesday 25 July, 2018 at the MRA Head Office. Mr. B. Leroy, Member of the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) and Rapporteur, and Mr. M. Dessart of the INCB Secretariat undertook a mission in Mauritius from Monday 23 to Thursday 26 July, 2018 to:

- Review the implementation of drug control conventions
- Examine drug policy developments, and
- Assess emerging challenges related to drug control.

During the meeting with the Director-General of the MRA, the officials of the INCB made observations on the current situation of drug control in Mauritius and identified upcoming challenges for the MRA Customs Department in terms of border protection.

## Launch of the Common Reporting Standard platform

The Director-General of the Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA), Mr. Sudhamo Lal, launched the Common Reporting Standard (CRS) platform on Thursday 19 July, 2018, during the Opening Ceremony of a workshop on CRS at the Custom House in the presence of stakeholders, MRA Management Team and members of the press.

The CRS is a globally agreed standard that requires financial institutions to automatically disclose financial account information of non-residents to their respective tax authorities. The Automatic Exchange of Information, commonly referred to as the AEOI, aims at enhancing the sharing of information between tax authorities.

In his address, the Director-General of the MRA underlined that the launch of the CRS platform is a milestone in protecting Mauritius as a reputable international financial centre and that Mauritius has a zero-tolerance policy on illicit funds.

Mr. M. Hannelas, Director, Large Taxpayer Department, outlined how the MRA implemented the CRS and highlighted the contribution of MRA Departments in developing the platform. A workshop followed the Opening Ceremony, whereby MRA resource persons made explanatory presentations on the CRS to the representatives of actors operating in the finance sector.





# MRA bags Best WCO ESA Member Award

In recognition of its support to the East and Southern Africa region and to the World Customs Organisation East and Southern Africa Regional Office for Capacity Building (WCOESAROCB), the Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA) was presented with the Best Member of the Year 2017-18 Award during the 23<sup>rd</sup> Governing Council of the WCO ESA in Rwanda. Mr. V. Ramburun, Director, Customs, received the award at the hands of Mr. K. Mikuriya, Secretary General of the WCO, in the presence of WCO ESA officials.



The MRA is a member of the WCO ESA which comprises 24 Member States. The Director, Customs, represented the MRA at the 28<sup>th</sup> Regional Steering Group and the 23<sup>rd</sup> Governing Council of the WCO ESA, which were held in Rwanda in April/May 2018.

## Regional Collaboration: MRA hosts COPES Workshop

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Customs Operational Practices for Enforcement and Seizures (COPES) seminar kick-started on Tuesday 24 July, 2018, at the Westin Hotel, Balaclava. The COPES seminar is organised jointly by the World Customs Organisation (WCO) and the Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA) and it brings together twenty-five participants from seventeen countries of the East and Southern Africa region. WCO Resource Persons trained the participants, including five from MRA Customs, on evidence gathering, seizures and prosecution with regards to border protection.



In his keynote address, Mr. V. Ramburun, Director, Customs, underscored the existing ties between the MRA Customs and the WCO, namely in terms of the setting up of the WCO Regional Training Centre. He also emphasised that it is important to continually build capacity and he encouraged the participants to make the most of the seminar. Mr. G. Thomas, WCO Resource Person, outlined the contents of the seminar in his speech and he thanked the MRA for accepting to host the COPES workshop, which ended on Thursday 26 July, 2018.



# Visit of Seychelles Revenue Commission Official

Ms. A. Holstein, Human Resource Director at the Seychelles Revenue Commission (SRC), paid a courtesy call on the Director-General of the Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA), Mr. Sudhamo Lal, on Monday 02 July, 2018 at the MRA Head Office.



Ms. Holstein was at the MRA from Monday 02 to Friday 06 July, 2018, to study the HR mechanisms in place. Presentations on Training Strategies, the Performance Management System at the MRA, the Internal Affairs and Internal Audit Divisions were made by MRA officials during the study tour.

A debriefing session was held on the last day of the study tour and the SRC delegate thanked the MRA for its valuable insights in the field of HR.

## In-house workshop to build capacity

On Friday 27 July, 2018, a workshop was organised by the Large Taxpayer Department (LTD) at Belfort Tower on taxation for its staff. Thirteen LTD staff participated in the workshop and Mr. M. Hannelas, Director LTD, made an introductory presentation while other staff members presented on taxation of trusts, examination of claims for repayment in hospitality sector, interpretation of Section 21 (c) of the VAT Act, exchange of tax rulings, etc.



The half-day workshop concluded with appreciative comments from all participants.





# FMSC: MRA wins gold, silver and bronze

The Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA) participated in the Fédération Mauricienne des Sports Corporatifs (FMSC) football, badminton and cross country competitions during the month of July. The MRA Football Team came at the third place in the FMSC Football Premier League with 14 points and bronze medals were awarded to the twenty-five players. A trophy was also presented to the MRA Football Team on the last day of the competition.

On the other hand, seven MRA staff participated in the FMSC Annual Cross Country which was held at Gros Cailloux on Sunday 08 July, 2018. Four medals and the Best Team (Men) trophy were awarded to the MRA Team, as follows:

## Men's 3kms race (born in 1982 or before)

1. Harris Khelawon (MRA)
2. Noordin Qoraishi (MRA)
3. Rishi Chundee (Medine Ltd)

## Men's 3.5 kms race (born in 1983 up to 1992)

1. Bonnelame Desire (Eclosia)
2. Kamal Mangar (MRA)
3. Sitaram Sharma (Medine Ltd)

## Ladies 2.5 kms race (born in 1982 or before)

1. Shirley Larose (Eclosia)
2. Audrey Azor (Air Mauritius)
3. Pamela G. Mootien (MRA)



Last but not least, on Saturday 21 and Sunday 22 July, 2018, the FMSC Badminton Championships were held at the National Badminton Centre at Rose Hill and the MRA players won eleven medals and seven trophies, as per below break-down:

Sn	Category	Name of Participant	Rewards
1	Veteran Ladies	Mrs Pamela Gladys Mootien	Gold Medal + Trophy
2	Double Mixte	Mrs Pamela Gladys Mootien Mr Khesaven Pachee	Gold Medals+ Trophy
3	Double Ladies	Mrs Pamela Gladys Mootien Miss Kareemah Pathel	Silver Medals + Trophy
4	Double Men Veteran 1	Mr Vijay Moothien Mr Zunib Mungroo	Bronze Medals + Trophy
5	Double Men Veteran 2	Mr Jaychand Ramneorah Mr Ramanand Sookdeb	Bronze Medals + Trophy
6	Single Veteran Men 2	Mr Jaychand Ramneorah	Bronze Medal+ Trophy
7	Single Veteran Men 2	Mr Ramanand Sookdeb	Bronze Medal+ Trophy