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MRA celebrates the 50th Independence Anniversary of Mauritius

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The Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA) celebrated the 50th Independence Anniversary of Mauritius on Friday 09th March 2018 at the Custom House, Mer Rouge. MRA staff from Custom House, Ehram Court, Belfort Tower, PATS and SSR Airport participated with great pomp in this Golden Jubilee, in the presence of the Director-General of the MRA, Mr. Sudhamo Lal, and members of the MRA Management Team.

The event began at 09h30 with the arrival of the Director General who was welcomed in fanfare by a parade of Customs Officers.





In a message dedicated to MRA staff and read by the Director General, the Prime Minister Honourable Pravind Kumar Jugnauth, thanked the MRA staff for the good work being done and appealed to them to leave no stone unturned in their effort to optimise revenue collection and protect our borders. He availed himself of the opportunity to wish the whole MRA family a Happy Independence Day.

In his address the Director-General underlined that taxes and border protection have played an important role in the development of Mauritius ever since the colonial period. He praised the contribution of customs officers, tax collectors and administrators for their dedication and commitment at work, year in year out, and shared his joy to see the MRA participating in this national élan at its premises as a privileged witness of this historical moment.

The National Anthem was played by the MRA Orchestra to accompany the flag hoisting ceremony. They equally played the MRA Anthem and performed some patriotic songs.



A 'stele' marking the 50th milestone was unveiled by Mr. Sudhamo Lal in the yard of the Custom House.



An anniversary cake was at rendezvous, and Red, Blue, Yellow and Green balloons were released in a bright blue sky by MRA staff.

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Click [here](#) for a video report on the celebration of the 50th Independence Anniversary of Mauritius by the MRA

Drugs worth Rs. 119 million seized in March

The Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA) and the Anti-Drug and Smuggling Unit (ADSU) jointly made six drug seizures in March. Heroin and synthetic drugs, worth Rs. 54 million and Rs. 65 million respectively, were seized at the SSR International Airport and Port Louis Harbour.

The biggest seizure of heroin, to the amount of around Rs. 34 million, was made on Wednesday 28 March, 2018. It was strapped to the body of a seaman of a cargo ship. The Narcotics Sniffer Dog 'Otto' reacted positively to the drugs.

2.5 kg of synthetic drugs seized in the same month constitute the biggest seizure of synthetic drugs made in March. The drugs were concealed in containers of protein supplements and were destined to an employee of a local bank.



2.28 Kg of heroin worth Rs. 34 million seized on a seaman landing from a cargo vessel



Seizure of 2.55 Kg of synthetic drugs worth Rs. 38 Million

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



Double Taxation Agreement between Mauritius and Senegal

Two Senegalese officials were at the Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA) in the context of negotiations of a Double Tax Agreement (DTA) between Mauritius and Senegal, from 26 February to 02 March 2018. The Mauritian Delegation was headed by Mr. M. Hannelas, Director, Large Taxpayer Department (LTD). Negotiations between both countries are still underway. The DTA aims, inter alia, at bettering the economic ties between Mauritius and Senegal.



Taxpayers' Education: MRA collaborates with its stakeholders

As per its strategic objective of Promoting Taxpayers' Education, Communication and Facilitation, the Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA) participated in three sensitization sessions at the premises of its stakeholders in March. The sessions were organised following requests received from the Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Consumer Protection (Industry Division), the Institute for Judicial and Legal Services (IJLS) of Mauritius and La Sentinelle Group, respectively.

On Wednesday 21 March 2018, Mr. D. Seetloo and Mr. F. Oozeerally, Section Heads, Large Taxpayer Department (LTD), presented on the Corporate Tax Incentives and the Capital Tax Allowance & Investment Tax Credit at the Industry Division of the Ministry of Industry.



On the same day, a presentation was made by Mrs. C. Gunnoo, Director, Medium and Small Taxpayer Department (MSTD), at the seat of the IJLS for its members.

Two sessions on Corporate Tax were organised at La Sentinelle Group on Thursday 22 and Friday 23 March 2018. The MRA resource persons were Mr. D. Seetloo, Mr. F. Oozeerally, Mr. J. Kelly, Section Heads, Operational Services Department (OSD), and Mr. N. Tacouri, Section Head, MSTD.

