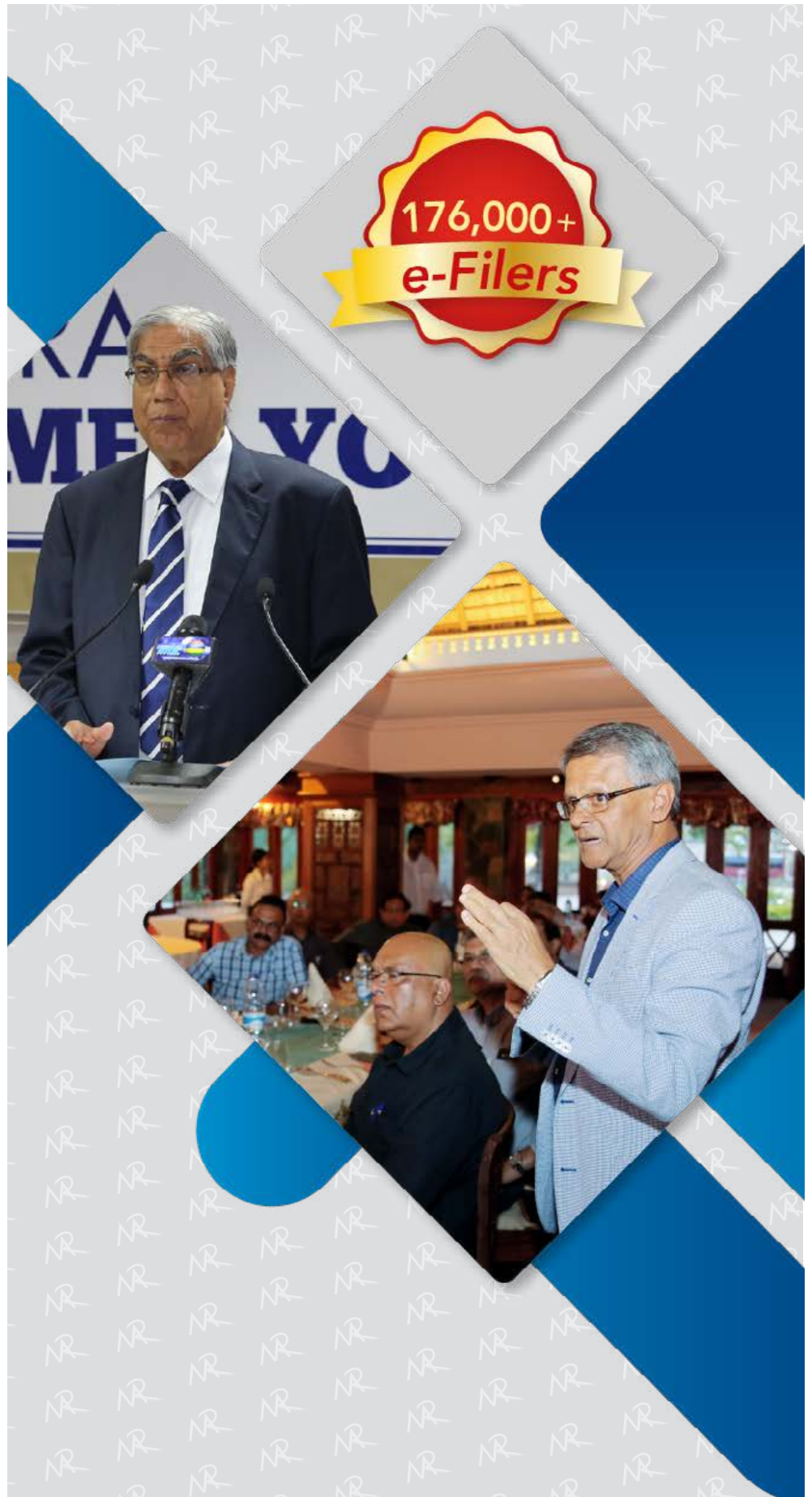


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More than 176,000 taxpayers filed their Individual Income Tax Returns online

By Monday 15 October, 2018, **176,533 taxpayers** filed their individual income tax returns through the Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA) Taxpayer Portal and MRAeasy mobile app. This figure represents nearly 100% compliance rate achieved during the Income Tax e-Filing Season 2018-Individual, which was launched on Friday 24 August 2018.



The trend to submit individual income tax returns online has continually gained momentum over the years and, this year, taxpayers were able to file their returns through the MRAeasy mobile application as well.

Furthermore, to encourage taxpayers to file their returns online, additional facilities such as Retrieve TANs and Passwords were made available on MRA's website during the Income Tax e-Filing Season 2018.

The MRA is thankful to taxpayers who submitted their income tax returns on time.

Mauritius re-elected Vice-Chair of ATAF

Mauritius was elected Vice-Chair of the African Tax Administration Forum (ATAF) during the 5th ATAF General Assembly and Conference held in Botswana. Mr. I. Beesoon, Director, Fiscal Investigations Department (FID), Mr. V. Ramnundun, Director, Human Resource and Training Department (HRTD) and Mrs P. Jhoollun, Team Leader, Large Taxpayer Department (LTD) of the Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA) represented Mauritius during the 5th ATAF General Assembly and Conference, which was held from Monday 22 to Friday 26 October, 2018.

Mauritius was first elected as Vice-Chair of ATAF was in October, 2016 during the 4th ATAF General Assembly held in South Africa.



The ATAF is an international organisation which aims at promoting and facilitating mutual cooperation among African Tax Administrations and at improving the efficiency of their tax legislation and administration. Recognised by the African Union as the leading body on tax matters in Africa, the ATAF has a membership of more than thirty countries. The newly-elected governing council of ATAF is as follows:

Chair: Nigeria | Vice-Chair: Mauritius

Members: Angola, Burundi, Kingdom of eSwatini, Morocco, Rwanda, South Africa, Togo and Uganda.

MRA draws 23 lucky winners

The Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA) conducted the third quarter draw of the **VAT Lucky Draw Scheme (VLDS)** and the **Taxpayer Satisfaction Survey (TSS)** draw on Wednesday 31 October 2018, at the MRA Head Office in the presence of the Director-General of the MRA, Mr. Sudhamo Lal, the MRA Management Team, representatives of the Gambling Regulatory Authority (GRA), members of the press and the public.

In his address, the Director-General of the MRA underscored the valuable contribution of taxpayers in helping the latter become a 'world class' revenue authority, be it through VLDS entries or by evaluating MRA services through the TSS. The feedback of the stakeholders, he added, helps the MRA to identify drawbacks and to take corrective measures to address same. Mr. Sudhamo Lal concluded that the VLDS has served its purpose and that it will continue up to 31 December 2018. In the meantime, the MRA will be working on a new scheme to further sensitize consumers on the importance of claiming a receipt for every purchase made, and to detect cases of non-compliance as regard to VAT.



The holder of the receipt number '029443' wins the first prize of Rs. 50,000 of the VLDS and Mr. Lee Kwai Hong bags the first prize of the TSS of Rs. 25,000. The list of winners of the **VLDS** and the **TSS** may be viewed on MRA's [website](#).

Training of Trainers Programme

The 2nd workshop of the Training of Trainers Programme was organised by the World Customs Organisation (WCO), in collaboration with the Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA), from Monday 01 to Friday 05 October, 2018. The training was held at the WCO Regional Training Centre at the MRA Custom House at Mer Rouge and it brought together thirteen delegates from the East Southern Africa (ESA) region, namely Burundi, Comoros, Madagascar, Mauritius and Rwanda. The training for French-speaking trainers was delivered by WCO resource persons and it focused on Harmonised System (HS) and Customs Valuation.



In his Opening Remarks, Mr. V. Ramburun, Director, Customs, underlined the close working relationship that exists between the WCO and the MRA and he furthered that the Training of Trainers will help to develop a pool of French-speaking trainers in the ESA region.

Training on Counterfeit Currency

The Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA) and the United States Embassy in Mauritius jointly organised a Workshop on Counterfeit Currency at the MRA Custom House. The training started on Wednesday 03 October, 2018 and it lasted two days.



Facilitated by Mr. Gunn of the US Embassy, the workshop was tailored for officers who are engaged in border protection.



Study Tour of Rwanda Revenue Authority

The Director-General of the Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA), Mr. Sudhamo Lal, welcomed four officials from the Rwanda Revenue Authority (RRA) at the MRA Head Office for a study tour on developing and maintaining a reliable taxpayer register. The RRA delegates were at the MRA from Monday 08 to Friday 12 October, 2018 and they had working sessions with various MRA Departments to understand how the MRA manages its taxpayer register.



MRA-WCO-JICA Partnership

The Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA) collaborated with the World Customs Organisation (WCO) and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) in the implementation of Trade Facilitation and Border Control Projects with revenue administrations in the East Africa region in October.

In this context, officials from the Rwanda Revenue Authority (RRA) and the Uganda Revenue Authority (URA), as well as experts from the WCO and JICA, were welcomed at the MRA to conduct a benchmarking study with regards to risk management and post clearance audit from Monday 22 to Thursday 25 October 2018.

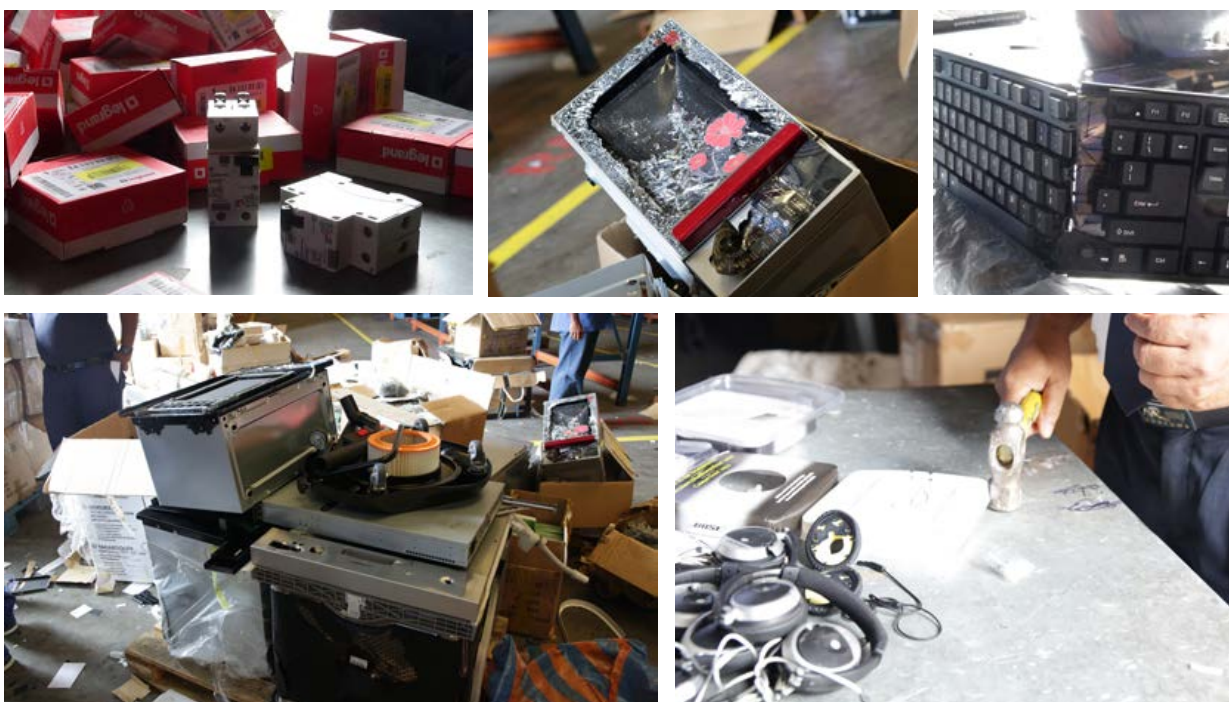


Mr. Kosaka, Manager of the WCO/JICA Joint Project, observed that the MRA was selected for the benchmarking study on the basis of its effective data analysis mechanism and he thanked the MRA for the fruitful exercise.

Destruction IPR Infringed Goods

The Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA) supervised the 'Cut and Crush' exercise of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) Infringed Goods on Tuesday 30 October, 2018 at the Lux Shed, Mer Rouge in the presence rights holders.

The infringed goods (electronic commodities) were intercepted by the MRA Customs Department and same were detained following applications made by the respective rights holders. The residuals were thereafter disposed-off.



Taxpayer Education

As per its strategic objective of promoting taxpayer education, the Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA) hosted four sensitisation sessions on tax issues with its stakeholders. Of the four sessions, three were organised under the MRA SME Partnering Programme, as per requests from small and medium entrepreneurs as follows:

Thursday 18 October 2018 - Shop Owners Association

Tuesday 23 October 2018 - Mauritian Entrepreneurs

Thursday 25 October 2018 - Manufacturing Jewellers Association

The MRA resource persons were Mrs. C. Gunnoo, Director, Medium and Small Taxpayer Department (MSTD), Mr. M. Oozeer, Section Head, Operational Services Department (OSD), Mr. F. Oozeerally, Section Head, Large Taxpayer Department (LTD) and Mr. N. Tacouri, Section Head, MSTD.



Another session was organised at Business Mauritius on Wednesday 31 October, 2018 and the MRA resource persons were Mr. M. Hannelas and Mr. D. Seetloo, Director and Section Head respectively at LTD.



At the close of the sessions, the stakeholders expressed their satisfaction at the hosting of such programmes for the benefit of entrepreneurs and businesses.

FMSC Pool Tournament

Five Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA) staff participated in the Fédération Mauricienne des Sports Corporatifs (FMSC) Pool Tournament on Sunday 14 October, 2018 at the Break Masters Pool House, Quatre Bornes.

The MRA Team successfully completed the first round of the tournament and lost the second round.

