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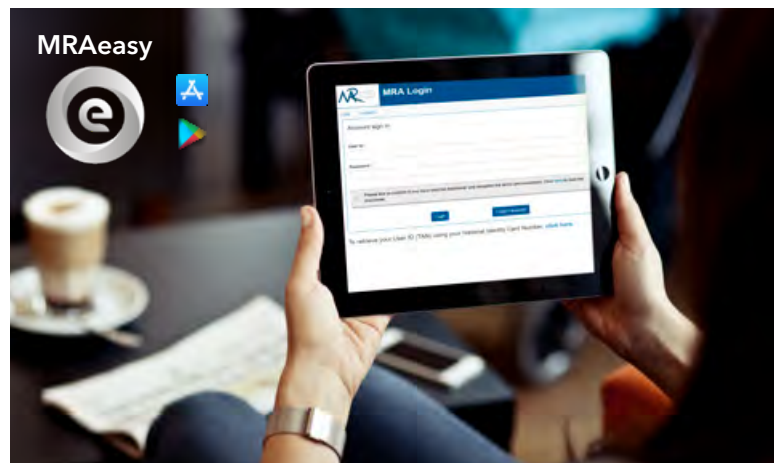


Launching of e-filing 2019/2020

The income tax e-filing season for individual for the income year ending 30 June 2019 was officially launched on 27 August 2019 by the Director-General of the MRA, Mr. Sudhamo Lal at the seat of MRA Head Office at Eham Court, Port Louis. Taxpayers only need their User ID and Password to file their return electronically through the Taxpayer Portal.

Furthermore, the Taxpayer Portal provides several benefits to taxpayers including access to the pre-filled income tax return, viewing of returns for previous years, receiving a copy of the submitted return by e-mail and viewing the payment history.

Taxpayers can also avail themselves of these facilities through the mobile application MRAeasy which can be downloaded from App store and Google Play Store.

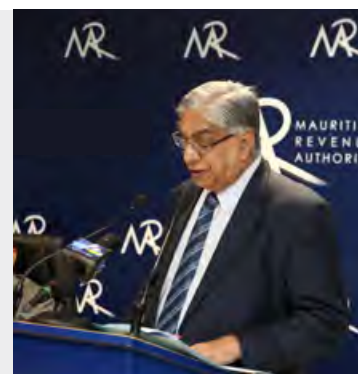


As it was the case in 2018, taxpayers can participate in the Taxpayer Satisfaction Survey (TSS) after filing their returns and will be automatically qualified for a draw which will be effected at the end of October 2019. Three cash prizes of Rs 25,000, Rs 15,000 and Rs 10,000 respectively will be awarded to the first three winners. The aim of this survey is to allow taxpayers to voice their opinions in terms of services offered and thereby helping MRA make the necessary improvements.

Inauguration of the e-Filing Self-Service Corner

Alongside the Individual Income Tax e-Filing Season 2019, the e-Filing Self-Service Corner was inaugurated on Tuesday 27 August, 2019 at the Head Office of the MRA. Despite the near-universal rate of electronic submission of individual income tax returns achieved last year, the MRA is further improving the services offered to taxpayers.

The e-Filing Self-Service Corner is one such measure and it aims at refining the services offered at the MRA Head Office.



In addition to the assistance offered by officers to taxpayers to file their various returns, the MRA also empowers the latter to do the filing exercise by themselves in the future. Taxpayers calling at the MRA Head Office can simply avail themselves of the e-Filing Self-Service Corner to file their returns with their Tax Account Numbers (TAN) and Passwords.

MRA adopts a proximity strategy

Changes brought by Finance Act 2019 explained

The Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA) organised a series of educational sessions at the request of large organisations. The organisations include the Mauritius Branch of International Fiscal Association (IFA), Business Mauritius, Mauritius Institute of Professional Accountants (MIPA) and Rogers Capital. Senior Officials of the MRA conducted the sessions which comprised changes brought by the Finance (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2019 in Corporate Income Tax, Individual Income Tax and VAT.

The sessions were highly interactive and participants benefited from the expertise of MRA resource persons.



WCO RILO NCP Meeting for ESA Region

The 16th Administrative Meeting of the National Contact Point for the World Customs Organisation Regional Intelligence Liaison Office (WCO RILO) for the East and Southern Africa (ESA) region was held at the seat of the Custom House, Mer Rouge from 14 to 16 August 2019.

The meeting was officially launched on 14 August 2019 by the Acting Director-General, Mr. M. Hannelas in the presence of MRA stakeholders, MRA senior officers, participants and members of the press.

Representatives from different countries as well as WCO, Interpol, RILO ESA, UNEP, EAC and SACU attended the meeting.



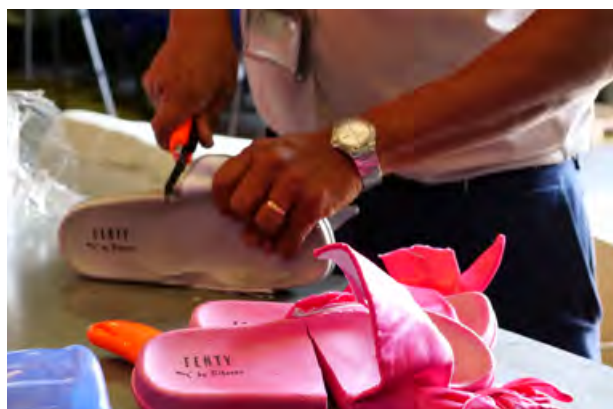
RILO ESA and the National Contact Points ensure information and intelligence exchange, respond to requests for intelligence or operational support, and facilitate mutual administrative assistance thus promoting and maintaining regional cooperation which is very essential for effective enforcement action to combat contraband and other crimes.

The World Customs Organisation Regional Intelligence Liaison Office was established with the intent of creating a Global Intelligence Network and it aims at enhancing the effectiveness of global information and intelligence exchange as well as cooperation between all Customs Administrations tasked with combating transnational crimes.



Destruction of IPR infringed goods

On 08 August 2019, the Customs Department of the MRA destroyed seized Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) infringed goods at the Lux Shed, Mer Rouge. The destruction was done in the presence of representatives of the US Embassy, Right holders and representatives of local media. The destroyed goods comprised cosmetics, garments and electronics among others.



On an annual basis, MRA Customs conducts four destruction of IPR infringed goods. The destroyed goods are disposed at the Mare Chicose landfill and electronic items are disposed of at approved e-ware recyclers.

Educational sessions in Secondary Schools

During the month of August, nine educational sessions were organised by Taxpayer Education & Communication Department (TECD) in secondary schools.



The aim of the campaign is to apprise students and future taxpayers about the importance of paying taxes and thereby inculcating a tax culture in the long run.

Malagasy delegates at the MRA

A team of 34 freshly promoted Customs Officers from the Malagasy Customs Administration was on a five day study tour at the Mauritius Customs as from 20 August 2019.

The purpose of the study tour was to learn from the Mauritian counterpart in terms of customs administration which mainly included the Customs Management System, Risk Management System, Port & Airport control mechanisms, scanning & examining, anti-narcotics and anti-money laundering processes.



The sharing was efficiently done through visits and working sessions.



CSR activity at Centre Lois Lagesse – School for the Blind

In line with the Corporate Social Responsibility, MRA Senior Management regularly contributes towards the upliftment of the needy.

On 23 August 2019, a cheque of Rs. 25,000 was remitted to the Lois Lagesse Trust Fund at Beau Bassin, by the Acting Director-General, Mr. M. Hannelas.

