

## TAX EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS

### **MRA engaged 12,000 students over five years**

The Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA) organized an educational tour at the Integrated Customs Clearance Centre (ICCC) in Plaine Magnien on March 7, 2025, welcoming approximately 200 students from Loreto College, Rose-Hill, St. Joseph College and West Coast International Secondary School.



Building on past successes in 2023 and 2024, this third edition of the educational tour 2025 highlights the importance of tax education in empowering future generations, as today's youth will be tomorrow's taxpayers. The educational tour featured an informative presentation on the importance of taxation and Customs in Mauritius, along with a live demonstration by the Customs K9 Unit, showcasing how specially trained dogs identify prohibited items, drugs, and currency.



Mr. M. Sudhamo Lal, Director-General of the Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA) and Chief Guest at the event, highlighted the significant impact of MRA's sniffer dogs in uncovering 73 illicit cases valued at more than Rs 2.5 Billion in 2024.

Mr. Lal announced the introduction of Tax Clubs in schools to promote early awareness of tax responsibilities, in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and Human Resource. Over the past five years, MRA has engaged about 12,000 students through tax sensitization programs in approximately 50 colleges annually, he pointed out.

For his part, Mr. Amick Teeluckdharry, Assistant Director at the Tax Education and Communication Department (TECD), emphasized the importance of tax education for youth, encouraging them to view taxation not as a burden, but as a contribution to building a fairer and more prosperous Mauritius. *"As the youth of Mauritius, you are not passive observers; you are active stakeholders in shaping the future. The knowledge you gain today will help you become responsible taxpayers, ethical professionals, and even advocates for transparency and fairness in taxation, values that underpin our actions as professionals,"* he said.

In his presentation, Dr. Rakesh Thecka, Team Leader at TECD, explained the various taxes administered by MRA and their role in funding the Consolidated Fund, crucial to the country's financial stability. He also highlighted MRA's key contributions to economic growth and national development.

Additionally, student representatives Ms. Kiara Hau, Ms. Grace Lebrasse, and Mr. Bhishek Shibdeen had the opportunity to take the stage and share their perspectives. They commended MRA for organizing this educational tour that helped them understand the role of MRA and how taxes are vital to the economy. This engagement not only enhanced their knowledge but also encouraged a sense of responsibility toward civic duties.

