

MRA e-Newsletter

Mauritius Revenue Authority | September 2020

In this issue... Mr. Sudhamo Lal, Director-General MRA, remits a copy of the MRA Integrated Annual Report 2018/19 to Dr. the Hon Renganaden Padayachy, Minister of Finance, Economic Planning and Development



Visit of Dr. the Honourable Renganaden Padayachy at the MRA

Dr. the Honourable Renganaden Padayachy, Minister of Finance, Economic Planning and Development, paid a visit to the Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA) at its head office, Ehram Court, Port Louis, on Friday 18 September 2020. The Honourable Minister visited the customer area which includes the cash office, the post room, the e-Filing Self-Service Corner and the customer service counters.





A presentation was made by Mr. Sudhamo Lal, Director-General of the MRA, in the presence of the MRA Management Team.





A token was presented to Dr. the Honourable Renganaden Padayachy by Mr. Sudhamo Lal to mark his visit at the MRA.





In his keynote address, the Honourable Minister congratulated the MRA for having implemented the Self-Employed Assistance Scheme (SEAS) and the Government Wage Assistance Scheme (GWAS) in a highly effective manner during the lockdown.







The promptness with which the MRA reacted helped in the government's attempt to save employment and bring financial assistance to workers in the informal sector.

Dr Padayachy presented a token to the Director-General, for his exemplary leadership skills demonstrated during the sanitary curfew.

The event concluded with the Award of Certificates to MRA Teams which went the extra-mile to ensure business continuity during the sanitary curfew.



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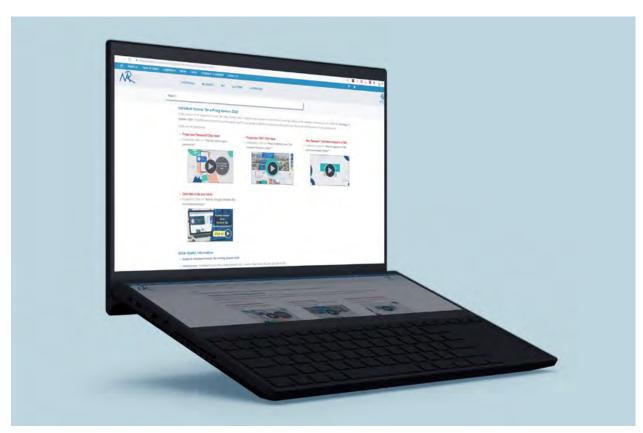
Individual Income Tax e-Filing Season 2020



The e-filing season 2020 for the submission of individual income tax return for the year of assessment 2020-21 started on 01 September 2020. The e-filing platform can be accessed either through the MRA website **www.mra.mu** or through the mobile application; **MRAeasy**.

Individual taxpayers can submit their income tax returns to the MRA using their respective Tax Account Number (TAN) and Password. Facilities have been provided on the website through which taxpayers may retrieve their Tax Account Number (TAN) and Password.

To further ease the process of e-filing, the MRA has produced short explanatory videos with effective information on how to file individual income tax returns and on how to retrieve Password and TAN which are available on the website of the MRA.



The last date to submit individual income tax returns and, to effect any payment due, is Thursday 15 October, 2020.



Taxpayer Satisfaction Survey

Taxpayers are encouraged to participate in the Taxpayer Satisfaction Survey (TSS), whereby they can provide valuable information on MRA services while filing their returns. They stand the chance to win one of the following prizes:

1st Prize: Rs. 25,000 2nd Prize: Rs. 15,000 3rd Prize: Rs. 10,000.

The draw for the Taxpayer Satisfaction Survey will be held on Friday 30 October, 2020 and the results will be published on the MRA website and in the local press.

e-FITA

This year, the e-FITA, a virtual Free Income Tax Assistance scheme will replace the traditional FITA. The communication campaign has already started, providing taxpayers with information on how to avail themselves of this facility.

The e-FITA involves WhatsApp functionalities where advance booking for a specific time slot can be made. The reservation for the e-FITA started on 22 September 2020 and will be available up to Wednesday 14 October 2020.

Education sessions on e-filing

In the context of the Individual Income Tax e-Filing Season 2020, the Taxpayer Education and Communication Department (TECD) started a series of educational sessions at the premises of ministries and parastatal bodies to sensitize individual taxpayers on their obligations to file their income tax returns and to effect any arising payment.



For the month of September, the TECD has conducted some 30 sessions.

Briefing on changes in Finance Act

Business Mauritius, Roger's Capital/ENL Group and Harrel Mallac Co.Ltd

Three sensitization sessions were conducted at Business Mauritius on Monday 14, Tuesday 15 and Thursday 17 September 2020. The aim of the sessions was to sensitize the staff of businesses affiliated with Business Mauritius on the amendments brought to the Income Tax Act, the VAT Act and the MRA Act by the Finance (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2020. In the same vein, MRA resource persons also attended to requests for such briefing sessions from Rogers Capital/ENL Group and Harel Mallac Co.Ltd on 25 and 29 September 2020 respectively.





MEXA

MRA resource persons conducted a workshop with the Mauritius Export Association (MEXA) on Thursday 24 September 2020 at the Labourdonnais Hotel. The workshop was attended by actors of the manufacturing sector and the resource persons explained the budgetary measures which pertain directly to them.





Chinese Chamber of Commerce

With the implementation of the Contribution Sociale Généralisée (CSG), a briefing session on same was carried out by the Operational Services Department to members of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce, on 24 September 2020 at HUA LIEN Club, Trianon.



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DG MRA remits MRA Annual Report 2018/19 to the Minister of Finance



As per tradition, the Director-General of the Mauritius Revenue Authority, Mr. Sudhamo Lal, remitted a copy of the MRA Integrated Annual Report 2018/19 to Dr. the Honourable Renganaden Padayachy, Minister of Finance, Economic Planning and Development on Thursday 10 September 2020.

During the financial year 2018/19, the MRA collected Rs 98.4 billion of revenue which represents 12.5% more revenue collection compared to the previous year. During the meeting, the Honourable Minister recognised the important role played by the MRA in the socio-economic development of the Republic of Mauritius.

The detailed revenue collection representing the different categories of taxes are highlighted in the report together with the audited Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2019.

Contribution Sociale Généralisée (CSG)

With the changes brought by the Finance (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2020, the Contribution Sociale Généralisée (CSG), has been introduced and is applicable as from the month of September 2020. This new system of social contributions replaces the National Pensions Fund (NPF). The last month in respect of which contributions to the National Pensions Fund is applicable is August 2020 and the due date on which employers are required to submit NPF returns and pay the NPF contributions for the month of August to the MRA is 30 September 2020.

Rate of Contribution under CSG

Under the CSG, employers are required to deduct, where applicable, the employee's contribution from his wage or salary and pay that contribution together with the employer's contribution to the MRA. The rate of contribution applicable is shown in the table below:

Category of employee	Rate applicable on the basic wage or salary of the employee and to be deducted from the wage or salary of the employee	Rate applicable on the basic wage or salary of the employee and payable by the employer
An employee, other than a Public Sector employee, earning a basic wage or salary NOT exceeding Rs 50,000 in a month	1.5 per cent	3 per cent
An employee other than a Public Sector employee earning a basic wage or salary exceeding Rs 50,000 in a month	3 per cent	6 per cent
Public Sector employee earning a basic wage or salary not exceeding Rs 50,000 in a month	Not applicable	4.5 per cent
Public Sector employee earning a basic wage or salary exceeding Rs 50,000 in a month	Not applicable	9 per cent
An employee who is in the domestic service earning a basic wage or salary NOT exceeding Rs 3,000 in aggregate in a month, from one or more employers	Not applicable	3 per cent

An individual who is a self-employed is required to pay CSG of Rs 150 per month.

Due Date

The monthly return and payment of CSG with respect to a month is required to be made electronically on or before the end of the following month. Exceptionally, for the month of September 2020, the last date for submission of the return and payment of CSG to the MRA is 30 November 2020. Facilities for electronic submission of CSG return will be available on the MRA website: www.mra.mu in due course.

St Matthews Annual Mass

The MRA celebrated the St Matthew's Annual Mass on Monday 21st September 2020 at the St Louis Cathedral. This year the theme was 'With Saint Matthew, let us be united in difficulties with faith' and the officiating priest was Father Grégoire.

The St Mathews Mass is a yearly feature which the MRA family celebrates with a lot of enthusiasm.







A cheque comprising contributions by MRA staff was remitted to Coeur Immaculé de Marie orphanage.





Drug seizure

The Customs Anti-Narcotics Section (CANS) of the Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA) seized 103 grams of an orange granulated substance worth Rs. 1,545,000 on Wednesday 02 September, 2019 at the Airport Cargo Warehouse. The packet containing the suspected drugs was sent from China and it arrived on board the Air Mauritius flight MK 045 from Paris. The packet was tagged for examination by CANS officers on the basis of risk indicators and a field test for synthetic cannabinoid on the orange substance was positive.

The suspected drugs were handed over to the Anti-Drug and Smuggling Unit (ADSU) for further investigation and one person was arrested following the controlled delivery.





Members of the public may report suspected drug/ illicit activities to the MRA through the Stop Drug platform or by calling on 8958.



e-PAYMENT OF TAXES

Services redefined

Register yourself for the DIRECT DEBIT facility

HOW?

Download a

PLACH DIRECT DEBIT MANDATE form

from MRA website: www.mra.mu

Print a copy and

fill-in the required information.

Send a signed copy of the form to the head office of the MRA, **Ehram Court, Port Louis**.

For additional information, visit MRA website or phone MRA helpdesk on 207 6000.



