

Republic of Mauritius

ANNUAL REPORT On Performance For Financial Year 2023-2024

PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (RODRIGUES, OUTER ISLANDS AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY DIVISION)

ABOUT THIS REPORT

- The Annual Report 2023-2024 on Performance of the Rodrigues, Outer Islands and Territorial Integrity Division of the Prime Minister's Office has been prepared in accordance with the statutory requirements of section 4B of the Finance and Audit Act.
- This Report provides information pertaining to this Office, its financial performance and achievements, the targets set out relative to the approved estimates as well as the strategic direction for the next three years.

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ABOUT THE OFFICE

MESSAGE FROM THE PERMANENT SECRETARY

This Annual Report 2023-2024 bears testimony to the unrelentless effort made by the whole team at the Prime Minister's Office (Rodrigues, Outer Islands and Territorial Integrity Division) in the achievement of the objectives in our strategy for a better service to the citizens of Mauritius *interalia* in the following departments:

- National Drug Secretariat
- Probation and After Care
- Continental Shelf, Maritime Zone Administration and Exploration
- Forensic Science Laboratory
- Mauritius Prison Service
- Outer Islands Development Corporation
- National Environment Cleaning Authority
- Chagossian Welfare Fund
- Agalega Island Council

We remain committed to our vision and mission and will ensure that targets are met with the available resources. Teamwork is our strength and we have gone to great strides to achieve excellence and professionalism in the organisation of activities related to our sector.

We are dedicated to excel in our performance with the new responsibilities and challenges awaiting us in the coming year.

Mrs B. Rajahbalee-Cader Permanent Secretary

05 November 2024

OUR VISION

A secure, peaceful and integrated Republic of Mauritius with maritime zones and territorial integrity

OUR MISSION

To provide efficient, effective and quality services for the safety and well-being of all the citizens of the Republic of Mauritius through:

- the reinforcement of national security and territorial integrity
- an evidence-based criminal justice system
- the management and rehabilitation of offenders
- the administration of maritime zones
- the sustainable development of Rodrigues and the Outer Islands
- a clean and embellished environment to ensure sustainability
- the implementation of safe city cameras for a safer environment for its citizens

CORE VALUES

INTEGRITY	 Guided by the highest standards of professional ethics. 	
QUALITY	 Strongly committed to providing the highest quality services to our customers. 	
TIMELINESS	 Responsive and strive to meet set targets. 	
TEAMWORK	 Teamwork is inherent in our culture. 	
TRANSPARENCY	 Transparent in our activities with a view to enhancing discipline, responsibility and accountability. 	
CONFIDENTIALITY	 All personal information and documents are treated in strict confidentiality. 	
EQUITY	 Honest, friendly and courteous and guided by the principle of fairness and social justice. 	
TRUST	 Strongly committed in building trust within our organisation and among our stakeholders. 	

KEY LEGISLATIONS

The following key legislations provide the legal framework for the activities of the Rodrigues, Outer Islands and Territorial Integrity Division:

Rodrigues Regional Assembly Act	Reform Institutions Act	Transfer of Prisoners Act
Maritime Zones Act	Outer Islands Development Corporation Act	Agalega Island Council Act 2004
DNA Identification Act	Chagossian Welfare Fund Act	Children's Act
Community Service Order Act	Dangerous Drugs Act	Probation of Offenders Act
	National Environment Cleaning Authority Act	

ROLES AND FUNCTIONS

- Adopt a zero-tolerance policy in the relentless fight against drug trafficking.
- Rehabilitate offenders for their re-integration in society.
- Effective resolution of criminal cases through scientific evidence using state-of-theart technology.
- Support the Rodrigues Regional Assembly to consolidate and accelerate the socioeconomic development of Rodrigues.
- Establish the institutional and legal framework for the early exploration and the sustainable exploitation of the natural resources in the maritime zones of the Republic of Mauritius, as well as in the Mauritius/Seychelles Extended Continental Shelf in the Mascarene Plateau Region.
- Ensure territorial integrity through regional, international and institutional cooperation and collaboration.
- Facilitate the socio-economic development of the Outer Islands.
- Enhance national security and public safety with the assistance of Safe City systems
- Support the National Environment Cleaning Authority in its objective to clean and embellish the country.

OVERVIEW OF ORGANISATIONS/FUND/ACCOUNT

• Rodrigues Regional Assembly

The Rodrigues Regional Assembly was set up under the Rodrigues Regional Assembly Act and is empowered to make regulations pertaining to issues for which it has jurisdiction. The exercise of its functions is regarded as being conducted on behalf of the Republic of Mauritius.

It is the responsibility of the Rodrigues Regional Assembly to formulate and/or implement policies in respect of areas falling under its purview.

The Commissioner responsible for finance, prepares and presents to the Regional Assembly annual draft budgetary estimates for the coming financial year. Once approved, these are considered by the Cabinet of Ministers before being incorporated in the National Appropriation Bill. The budgetary provision for the Rodrigues Regional Assembly features as a one-line all-comprehensive item in the National Budget.

The functions of the Regional Assembly are carried out by the Executive Council which comprises the Chief Commissioner, the Deputy Chief Commissioner and five Commissioners. The Commissioners have the responsibility of exercising general direction and control over the Departments falling under the purview of their respective Commission in line with the set policy.

As the Supervising Officer, the Island Chief Executive is vested with the responsibility for the efficient administration of all the functions of the Executive Council and the staff of the Rodrigues Regional Assembly operates under his administrative control.

• Outer Islands Development Corporation

The Outer Islands Development Corporation (OIDC), established under the OIDC Act, is responsible for the management and development of the Outer Islands, namely Agalega and Saint Brandon.

Since 1983, the OIDC has taken appropriate measures to promote the socioeconomic development of Agalega. It also provides decent accommodation, water, electricity and services such as health, education and travelling facilities to the employees and the residents of Agalega, including the personnel of Ministries/Departments on tour of service. It ensures a timely and adequate delivery of food supplies and other provisions to the inhabitants.

The administration of the affairs of the Corporation is vested in the Outer Islands Development Board which is composed of:

- > a Chairperson;
- > a representative of the Prime Minister's Office;

- > a representative of the Ministry responsible for the subject of finance;
- > a representative of the Ministry responsible for the subject of fisheries;
- > a representative of the Ministry responsible for the subject of Outer Islands;
- a representative of the Ministry responsible for the subject of public infrastructure;
- > the Director of the Meteorological Services or his representative;
- the Director of Civil Aviation or his representative;
- > a person with experience in fishing activities;
- > a person with experience of work conditions on the Outer Islands; and
- > a person with experience of the Outer Islands.

The General Manager is responsible for the execution of the policy of the Board and for the control and management of the day-to-day business of the Corporation. The management and operations of OIDC are carried out at two different locations; namely in Mauritius where the Head Office is situated and in Agalega where mostly all the operational activities take place.

• Department for Continental Shelf, Maritime Zones Administration and Exploration

The mission of the Department for Continental Shelf, Maritime Zones Administration & Exploration (CSMZAE) is primarily to ensure the effective management of maritime zones and to delineate and establish maritime zones in accordance with the Maritime Zones Act and international laws and conventions.

The CSMZAE is also responsible for the formulation of policies in ocean affairs and for the establishment of legal and regulatory frameworks governing the sustainable management of the non-living resources in the maritime zones of Mauritius including hydrocarbon and mineral exploration and development.

The role of CSMZAE will be instrumental in the transformation of our economic development with the opening of a new ocean frontier.

The main objectives of the Department are, inter alia, to:

- ensure orderly, safe, rational management of non-living ocean resources including the seabed area and the underlying sub-soil;
- ascertain sovereign rights for the purpose of exploring and exploiting our nonliving ocean resources;
- carry out the delimitation of our maritime boundary as provided for, under international conventions;
- develop regulatory and operational framework to enable exploration and exploitation activities in our maritime zones;
- > oversee related upstream activities in the maritime zones of Mauritius;

- rationalise and harmonise all ocean-resources related matters;
- regulate Marine Scientific Research;
- contribute to energy security and maritime safety and surveillance;
- prepare the submissions for Extended Continental Shelf and a Marine Spatial Plan for the Republic of Mauritius; and
- contribute to the safeguard of our territorial integrity in carrying out Maritime Boundary Delimitation and ensuring through the establishment of appropriate legal frameworks, our sovereignty over Mauritius' vast maritime zones.

• Forensic Science Laboratory

Set up in the 1950s, the Forensic Science Laboratory is the sole provider of forensic and advisory services to law enforcement agencies in Mauritius and is fast becoming an increasingly prominent forensic service provider in the region.

The Forensic Science Laboratory is accredited by the Mauritius Accreditation Service (MAURITAS) and meets all requirements of ISO/IEC 17025:2017, thus demonstrating technical competence and operation of a laboratory Quality Management System (QMS). Experts from the Forensic Science Laboratory depone in all courts of law.

The Forensic Science Laboratory provides forensic examination and analysis in the following areas:

- Crime Scene Investigation
- Evidence Recovery and examination of biological materials
- > DNA profiling
- Paternity Dispute
- Drugs and Toxicological analysis
- Ballistics/Physical Examination
- Fire and explosion investigation
- Document examination
- Accident investigation

• Mauritius Prison Service

The Mauritius Prison Service (MPS) plays key role in protecting society by keeping detainees in safe and humane custody and their rehabilitation for their reintegration in society.

The Mauritius Prison Service in mainland comprises 10 prisons and the Correctional Youth Centre (CYC). The CYC comprises two buildings, one for boys and one for girls. Pursuant to the Reform Institutions Act 1988, the Commissioner of Prisons is vested with the administration of the institutions and the control and supervision of detainees. The Mauritius Prison Service is manned by 1289 officers.

The prison population, as at 30 June 2024, was 2414 Mauritian detainees and 247 foreign detainees. Moreover, nine inmates (eight boys and one girl) were committed to the CYC.

• Probation and Aftercare Service

The Probation and Aftercare Service, as a social agency, is headed by the Commissioner. It provides timely and quality services to Courts, the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, the Attorney General's Office and to other agencies such as the National Adoption Council, the Commission on the Prerogative of Mercy, the International Social Service amongst others through its 10 District Probation Offices. Its main objectives are to:

- > assist Courts in the sentencing of offenders;
- assist competent authorities in informed decision-making;
- rehabilitate offenders in community;
- reduce crimes and enhance public protection;
- > assist families in conflict and safeguard the welfare of children; and
- > educate people on social problems through preventive work.

These objectives are achieved by:

- conducting social enquiries pertaining to civil and criminal matters referred by the courts and other institutions;
- supervising and rehabilitating offenders in the community through Probation Orders and Community Service Orders;
- providing residential treatment to minors granted probation orders with a residence requirement or placed by the Children's Court;
- providing counselling service to families and children involved in situations of conflict;
- providing throughcare service to residents of Probation Institutions;
- delivering preventive talks in schools, colleges and social welfare/community centres; and
- dispensing Pro-Social Skills Programmes for probationers in regional probation offices or the three Attendance Centres.

The Probation and Aftercare Service is also responsible for the supervision and management of the two Probation Institutions, initially meant for young offenders. These institutions currently accommodate children with serious behavioral concerns under Preventive Intervention Order (PIO). Residents are subjected to a softer regime than that imposed previously on inmates of the Rehabilitation Youth Centre and they are allowed to continue their studies in the normal stream. Both institutions are managed by a Committee appointed by the Minister and receive an annual grant from Government to cover all expenses.

• Rehabilitation Youth Centre

The Rehabilitation Youth Centre (RYC) has been established under the Reform Institutions Act.

The RYC is under the supervision of the Commissioner of Prisons and the Superintendent is responsible for the day-to-day administration of the Centre.

The RYC caters for the detention and training of youngsters aged 14 and below 18, who have been subject to Committal Order from a Court.

The RYC consists of separate sections for boys and girls offenders accommodated in two buildings on the same premise at Barkly, Beau Bassin. Each building can accommodate 44 inmates.

The rehabilitation of inmates is well oriented through education, vocational training, sports activities and life skills programme as well as continuous follow-up by psychologist for a well-balanced life.

By end of June 2024, three girls were committed to the Centre.

• National Drug Secretariat

The National Drug Secretariat (NDS), which falls under the aegis of this Office, was set up on 08 March 2019 as an apex body to:

- plan, coordinate, oversee, monitor and evaluate all drug control related policies, programmes and interventions to achieve greater coherence, results and impact;
- provide advice on the strategic vision and overall policy direction on all drug control related matters, ensures the coordination, monitoring and evaluation of programmes involving a large spectrum of key actors at national, regional and international levels. It also advocates and mobilizes the resources needed to achieve the goals and objectives set;
- look into the legal, institutional and administrative issues and to expedite the implementation of the recommendations contained in the Report of the Commission of Inquiry and to coordinate and monitor the response to the drug issue among the stakeholders involved in demand and supply reduction strategies; and
- implement the following 4 pillars of the National Drug Control Master Plan 2019-2023:
 - (i) Coordination mechanism, legislation, implementation framework, Monitoring and Evaluation and Strategic Information;
 - (ii) Drug Supply Reduction;
 - (iii) Drug Demand Reduction, namely drug use prevention, drug use disorders treatment, rehabilitation and social reintegration; and
 - (iv) Harm Reduction.

> Coordinating Committees of the National Drug Secretariat

As a coordinating body to ensure implementation of the National Drug Control Master Plan, the NDS has set up the following four sub-committees comprising of all stakeholders ranging from Ministries, Departments and Institutions as well as civil society organisations, namely:

- (i) Drug Prevention Committee;
- (ii) Harm Reduction Committee;
- (iii) Supply Reduction Committee; and
- (iv) Demand and Rehabilitation Committee.

The main objectives of the NDS are to:

- ensure the overall coordination of all drug control activities in Mauritius for greater collaboration and synergy among partners, with a view to achieve greater results and impact;
- (ii) advise the Government on the adoption of evidence-based drug policies, strategies and programmes;
- (iii) engage in advocacy to raise evidence-based public or population-specific awareness on the harmful consequences of drug use;
- (iv) promote collaboration between law enforcement agencies and financial regulatory bodies in order to share intelligence and achieve greater efficiencies in combatting drug trafficking and financial crimes;
- (v) promote regional and international cooperation to decrease drug trafficking in the region with bodies such as the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, the Southern Africa Development Community and the Indian Ocean Commission;
- (vi) ensure that demand reduction activities, namely the prevention of drug use, the treatment of drug use disorders and the rehabilitation of people who used drugs including those in prisons, are evidence-based and carried out in line with international standards and best practices;
- (vii) ensure that harm reduction activities aiming at reducing blood-borne infections and improving the quality of life of people who use drugs, and people who are in prisons are evidence-based and carried out in line with international standards and best practices; and
- (viii) develop the Implementation Framework and Monitoring Mechanism of the National Drug Control Master Plan and manage the National Drug Observatory in collaboration with Government, NGOs and other stakeholders.

> The Anti-Drug and Smuggling Unit

The Anti-Drug and Smuggling Unit (ADSU) was created in 1986 in the wake of the recommendations of the first Commission of Inquiry on Drugs (The Rault Commission) and it is the main branch of the Mauritius Police Force.

The aim of the Unit is to curb the drug scourge and keep it at bay so that the future generations live in a better environment. It operates on a partnership basis in extending cooperation and working closely with all concerned by this phenomenon. It depends a lot on contributions and support from the public at large.

The ADSU is responsible for combating illicit drugs in all its forms in mainland Mauritius and the outer islands. The main drugs of concern are cannabis, heroin and synthetic drugs. Of these, only cannabis is homegrown.

The ADSU operates within the parameters of the Dangerous Drugs Act and other related legislations. It also works closely with the Independent Commission Against Corruption, Mauritius Revenue Authority Customs, the Financial Intelligence Unit and the Integrity Reporting Services Agency in the investigation of Money Laundering Offences.

Over the years and particularly since 2017, the operational capacity of the ADSU has been significantly increased by Government with a view to stepping up the fight against the drug scourge.

ADSU has been gradually shifting its focus on drug dealers and drug networks by way of enhancement of its intelligence gathering capacity and intensification of crackdown operations.

• Chagossian Welfare Fund

The Chagossian Welfare Fund was established under the Chagossian Welfare Fund Act 21 of 1999.

> Objectives of the Chagossian Welfare Fund

The Chagossian Welfare Fund has as main objective the enhancement of the social and economic welfare of members of the Chagossian Community in the Republic of Mauritius.

The Fund also aims, inter alia, in:

- advancing and promoting the welfare of the members of Chagossian Community and their descendants in Mauritius;
- developing programmes and projects for the total integration of the members of Chagossian Community and their descendants into the Republic of Mauritius; and
- maintaining and managing the Chagossian Community Centres in Mauritius together with other community facilities vested in it for the benefit of members of

the Chagossian Community and their descendants.

Since its inception, the Chagossian Welfare Fund has been administered by a Board which manages the affairs and assets of the Fund. The Chagossian Welfare Fund Board comprises the following:

- A Chairperson appointed by the Prime Minister;
- A Representative of the Prime Minister's Office;

- A Representative of the Ministry responsible for the subject of finance;
- A Representative of the Ministry responsible for the subject of family welfare;
- A Representative of the Ministry responsible for the subject of social security;
- A Representative of the Ministry responsible for the subject of education;
- A Representative of the Ministry responsible for the subject of health;
- A Representative of the Ministry responsible for the subject of youth; and
- 7 Representatives of the Chagossian community, 2 of whom shall be children of members of the Chagossian community.

The Chagossian members are nominated following a formal election conducted by the Electoral Commissioner's Office. All members hold office for a period of two years. The 7 representatives of the Chagossian Community were last elected in March 2023 for a period of two years.

The Board meets at least once every month.

The Chagossian Welfare Fund operates a Head Office at Baie du Tombeau and two Community Centres as follows:

- Marie Charlesia Alexis Chagossian Community Centre at Baie du Tombeau
- Marie Lisette Talate Chagossian Community Centre at Pointe-Aux-Sables

The operation of the Chagossian Welfare Fund is funded by the Government of Mauritius through the Rodrigues, Outer Islands and Territorial Integrity Division of the Prime Minister's Office.

Through the Fund, Government ensures the social development and integration of the Chagossian Community and their descendants within the Republic of Mauritius. These are achieved by organising the following activities:

- Residential Camp for Senior Citizens
- Prayers held in memory of deceased Chagossians
- Graduation Ceremony in respect of young graduates
- Distribution of food items to Senior Citizens
- Scholarships to eligible students
- Visit to Chagossians in Homes every 3 months and provision of fruits and clothes
- Funeral grants of Rs10,000 to families of deceased Chagossians and Rs 3000 to families of Chagossian descendants
- Provision of transport facilities to Chagossians to attend Hospitals
- Assistance to needy Chagossians for repair of their houses
- Wreath Laying Ceremony on 3rd November at Quay C, Mauritius Ports Authority
- Birthday celebrations for elders of the Chagossian Community

- Gifts to Chagossian residents in Home on the occasion of Christmas and New Year
- Gifts to children on the occasion of Christmas

Facilities are also extended to Chagossians living in Agalega and Rodrigues.

• Agalega Island Council

The Agalega Island Council was established under the Agalega Island Council Act 2004 which was proclaimed on 19 April 2004.

The objectives of the Council are to:

- (i) advise the Minister on matters pertaining to development projects in Agalega;
- (ii) assist in the implementation of such projects as the Minister may refer to it;
- (iii) organise activities that may foster co-operation and social harmony among the inhabitants of Agalega; and
- (iv) consider grievances from the inhabitants of Agalega and assist in taking corrective measures as appropriate.

The Agalega Island Council comprises the following:

- (i) A Chairperson, appointed by the Prime Minister;
- (ii) Three residents of Agalega;
- (iii) A representative of the Outer Islands Development Corporation;
- (iv) A representative of the private sector;
- (v) A relative of the Agalegans living in Mauritius.
- (vi) A Secretary.

Members from (ii) to (v) above are appointed by the Minister to whom the responsibility for the island of Agalega is assigned. The Secretary is a Public Officer who is designated by the Minister.

All members of the Council hold office for a period of one year and are eligible for re-appointment.

The Council holds its meetings at least once a month.

• National Environment Cleaning Authority

The National Environment Cleaning Authority (NECA) came into operation in July 2022 after the promulgation of The National Environment Cleaning Authority Act 2022.

The Authority is responsible for:

- the development of a National Cleaning and Embellishment Strategy with an Action Plan to embellish Mauritius and keep Mauritius clean, in consultation with relevant Ministries and other stakeholders;
- > undertaking, as and when required, cleaning and embellishment works;
- identifying and prioritising, in collaboration with relevant Ministries and other stakeholders, the sites to be kept clean and embellished; and
- coordinating, monitoring and supervising the implementation of cleaning and embellishment programmes.

The National Environment Cleaning Authority Board comprises the following:

- (i) A Chairperson, appointed by the Prime Minister;
- (ii) A representative of the Prime Minister's Office;
- (iii) A representative of the Ministry responsible for the subject of environment;
- (iv) A representative of the Ministry responsible for the subject of finance;
- (v) A representative of the Ministry responsible for the subject of local government;
- (vi) A representative of the Ministry responsible for the subject of national infrastructure;
- (vii) A representative of the Ministry responsible for the subject of solid waste management;
- (viii) A representative of the Ministry responsible for the subject of tourism;
- (ix) A representative of the Commissioner of Police, not below the rank of Superintendent;
- (x) A representative of the private sector;
- (xi) A representative of Mauri-Facilities Management Co. Ltd; and
- (xii) Two persons having wide experience in the field of landscaping or urban regeneration.

BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

(i) Rodrigues Subsidy Account

The Rodrigues Subsidy Account is established under the Finance and Audit (Rodrigues Subsidy Account) Regulations which came into effect on 01 July 2018.

Objects of Rodrigues Subsidy Account

The objects of the Rodrigues Subsidy Account are to subsidise:

- all the costs involved in transporting, storing and distributing petroleum products (Mogas, Gas Oil, Dual Purpose Kerosene) for domestic use and Liquefied Petroleum Gas of 5, 6, 12 kgs, ration rice and flour supplied by the State Trading Corporation, so that the retail prices in Rodrigues are kept at par with their respective retail prices prevailing in Mauritius; and
- such costs for the supply of bagged cement to Rodrigues as may be decided by the Government.

Rodrigues Subsidy Account Management Committee

The Account is administered and managed by a Committee consisting of:

- the Accounting Officer responsible for Rodrigues or his representative, who shall be the Chairperson;
- > a representative of the Ministry responsible for the subject of Rodrigues;
- > a representative of the Ministry responsible for the subject of finance;
- > a representative of the Ministry responsible for the subject of commerce; and
- > a representative for the Ministry responsible for the subject of shipping.

Sources of Funding

The Rodrigues Subsidy Account is financed by proceeds from the levies incorporated in the price structure of Petroleum Products and Liquefied Petroleum Gas which are credited in the Rodrigues Subsidy Account created for that purpose, by the Accountant General.

(ii) Central Probation Committee

The Central Probation Committee is appointed under Regulation 3 of the Probation of Offenders Regulations by the Minister responsible for the Reform Institutions.

The Committee supervises the work of Probation Officers and performs other duties in connection with the Probation of Offenders Act. Pertinent issues concerning the Probation and Aftercare Service are raised, discussed and advice is sought. The Committee meets on a yearly basis.

(iii) District Probation Committees

District Probation Committees are appointed in accordance with Regulation 5 of the Probation of Offenders Regulations.

There are 10 District Probation Committees: 2 for Plaine Wilhems and 1 for each of the other 8 districts. The Committees are chaired by the respective Presiding Magistrate of the District Court and the Probation Officer of the respective Probation Office acts as Secretary.

The functions of the Committee are as follows: -

- (a) to receive and consider the written or oral report of the Probation Officer and any other communication found necessary;
- (b) to discuss with the Probation Officer the progress of each case under his supervision from time to time and extend such help and advice in carrying out his duties; and
- (c) to exercise a general supervision over the making and keeping of the Probation records.

(iv) Probation Home and Probation Hostel

Section 2 of the Probation of Offenders Act defines institution in relation to a minor as:

- (a) the Probation Hostel for Boys;
- (b) the Probation Home for Girls;
- (c) any other institution run by the Mauritius Probation and Aftercare Service.

On the 1st of January 2022, the Probation Hostel and Home (Amendment) Regulations 2021 came into effect and provide for only one Management Committee for the Probation Hostel for Boys and the Probation Home for Girls. The Management Committee was reconstituted in June 2024.

Name	Designation
Mrs. Nudhar Banu BUNDHOO	Advisor, Prime Minister's Office (Chairperson)
Mrs. Doreen CHAN-KOOP-MAN- FRANCIS	Woman Chief Police Inspector, Brigade pour la Protection de la Famille, Mauritius Police Force
Mr. Jessen Seringhen COOPOOMOOTOO	Assistant Permanent Secretary, Prime Minister's Office (Rodrigues, Outer Islands & Territorial Integrity)
Ms. Niroshni RAMSOONDAR	Ag. Deputy Solicitor-General, Attorney- General's Office
Mrs. Kate AH-NIEN-KOTADOO	Coordinator, Child Development Unit, Ministry of Gender Equality & Family Welfare
Mr. Louis Daniel ANACOOA	Programme Officer, Mauritius Sports Council, Ministry of Youth Empowerment, Sports and Recreation
Mr. Noorani FAREED	Assistant Commissioner, Probation and Aftercare Service
Mr. Bilaal Ahmad SOOKIA	Clinical Psychologist, Ministry of Health and Wellness
Dr. Vedhiyen MOONSAMY	Assistant Director, Health & Wellness Directorate, Ministry of Education, Tertiary Education, Science and Technology
Mr. Chuveeraj NAIK	Member of Human Rights Commission
Mr. Ajay SOWDAGUR	Secretary-General, National Social Inclusion Foundation
Mr. Nunda RAMASAWMY	Principal Probation Officer, Probation and Aftercare Service

The composition of the Management Committee is as follows:

The Probation Hostel for Boys and the Probation Home for Girls are semi-open institutions and provide residential rehabilitation treatment for juvenile offenders on probation with a residence requirement [Section 4(5) of the Probation Offenders Act 1947 (Amended in 2009)] and children with serious behavioural concerns (Sections 41 and 42 of the Children's Act 2020). These juveniles are sent there, upon order of the Court, because the conditions prevailing in their homes are not favourable and conducive for their rehabilitation in the open.

The residents continue their normal schooling/vocational training/ apprenticeship in an institution near to the Home/Hostel. Furthermore, they also participate in indoor games, educational outings, pro-social skills training programme conducted by the Probation and After Care Service and in activities organised by the Ministry of Youth Empowerment, Sports and Recreation.

(v) RYC Board of Visitors

As per section 53(3)(a) of the Reform Institutions Act, a Board assigned to a Rehabilitation Youth Centre shall be composed of not less than eight members.

The functions of the Board of Visitors are to: -

- > enquire into the condition of detention of the detainee;
- hear any complaint which may be made by a detainee and, where the detainee so requests, hear the complaint privately; and
- > inquire into and report to the Minister on:
 - any abuse within an institution;
 - o any repair which may be urgently required in an institution; and
 - o any matter which it may consider expedient.

The composition of the RYC Board of Visitors is as follows:

Name	Designation	
Mrs Leelawtee RAMSAHA	Chairperson	
Mr Louis Daniel ANACOOA	Senior Youth Officer	
Dr Michael POMPEIA	Head of Strategy and Communication at SME Mauritius Ltd	
Mrs Devranee GUMBEER	Probation Officer	
Mrs Nudhar BUNDHOO	Adviser, Prime Minister's Office	
Ms Mary Doris Sylvia RAJIAH	Woman Assistant Superintendent of Police	
Mrs Marie Ariette NADAN	M.S.K Family Support Officer, National Women's Council	
Dr (Miss) Tamanna RAMEN	Medical Health Officer/ Senior Medical Health Officer	
Dr Ahmad Abdullah GOPEE	Consultant-in-Charge, Psychiatrist at Brown Sequard Hospital	
Dr Harris NEELIAH	Manager, Research and Development at Human Resource Development Council	

The Board usually meets once every month. As at June 2023 till date, 11 meetings were held.

(vi) Training Committee

The Training Committee is chaired by a Deputy Permanent Secretary and comprises of representatives of the Department for Continental Shelf, Maritime Zones Administration & Exploration, Probation and Aftercare Service, Rehabilitation Youth Centre and the Forensic Science Laboratory as well as heads of the Human Resources, Financial Operations, Procurement and Supply and a representative of the Civil Service College.

(vii) Audit Committee

The Audit Committee is chaired by a Deputy Permanent Secretary and also comprises two officers in the grade of Assistant Permanent Secretary as members.

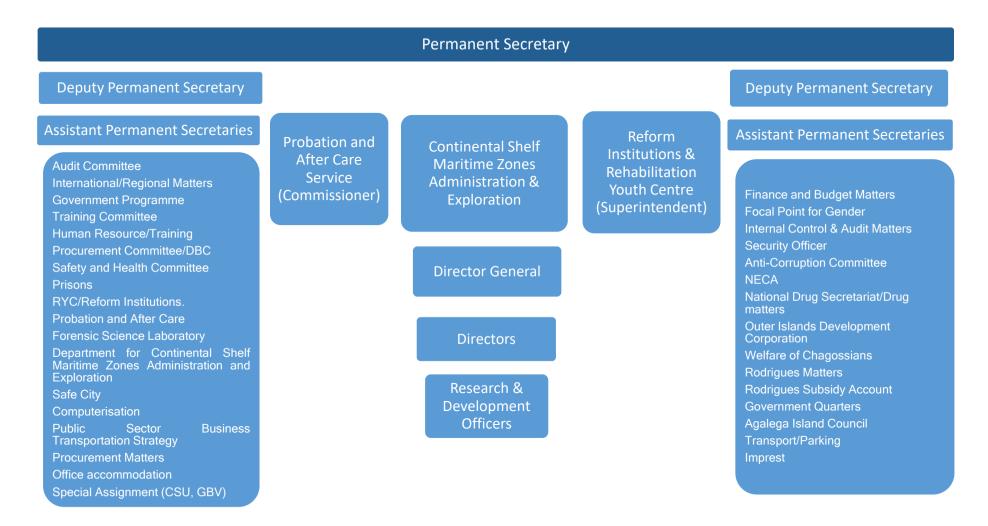
The Audit Committee examined the recommendations made by the Internal Audit Unit in its Reports for the Financial Year under review as well as the recommendations made by the Director of Audit in his Management letters and the Public Accounts Committee. Some of the recommendations have been implemented and others are still in the process of being implemented.

During the period under review, the Audit Committee met six times.

(viii) Anti-Corruption Committee

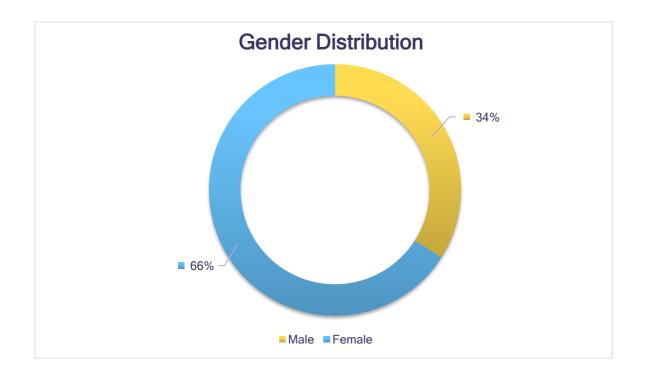
In accordance with the Public Sector Anti-Corruption Framework, the Anti-Corruption Committee was set up under the Chair of a Deputy Permanent Secretary and comprising all Heads of Sections/Departments as members.

ABOUT OUR PEOPLE



Gender Distribution

S.N	Department	Male	Female	TOTAL
1	Rodrigues, Outer Islands and Territorial Integrity	19	48	67
2	Continental Shelf, Maritime Zones Administration and Exploration	8	14	22
3	Reform Institutions and Rehabilitation	49	87	136
4	Forensic Science Laboratory	25	47	72
TOTAL		101	196	297



Gender Distribution of the Prime Minister's Office

(Rodrigues, Outer Islands and Territorial Integrity Division)

FUNDED POSTS

Vote Item: 2-6 Rodrigues, Outer Islands and Territorial Integrity

S.N	GRADE	FUNDED
1	Permanent Secretary	1
2	Deputy Permanent Secretary	2
3	Assistant Permanent Secretary	3
4	Public Relations and Welfare Officer	1
5	Manager, Financial Operations	1
6	Assistant Manager, Financial Operations	1
7	Principal Financial Operations Officer	1
8	Financial Officer/Senior Financial Officer	1
9	Assistant Financial Operations Officer	3
10	Manager (Procurement and Supply)	1
11	Assistant Manager (Procurement and Supply)	1
12	Procurement and Supply Officer/Senior Procurement and Supply Officer	2
13	Assistant Procurement and Supply Officer	1
14	Assistant Manager, Internal Control	1
15	Manager, Human Resources	1
16	Assistant Manager, Human Resources	1
17	Human Resource Executive	2
18	Office Management Executive	2
19	Office Management Assistant	6
20	Management Support Officer	17
21	Confidential Secretary	5
22	Word Processing Operator	4
23	Clerk (Personal)	1
24	Driver	9
25	Head Office Auxiliary	1
26	Office Auxiliary/Senior Office Auxiliary	7
27	Resident Caretaker (Personal)	1
28	Stores Attendant	1
29	Handy Worker (Special Class) (New)	-
30	General Worker	1
	TOTAL	79

Vote Item: 2-7 Reform Institutions and Rehabilitation FY July 2023 – June 2024

S.N	GRADE	FUNDED
	Probation and Aftercare Service	
1	Commissioner Probation and After Care	1
2	Deputy Commissioner Probation and After Care	1
3	Assistant Commissioner Probation and After Care	5
4	Principal Probation Officer	15
5	Senior Probation Officer	21
6	Probation Officer	38
7	Psychologist (Clinical and Social)	4
8	Assistant Permanent Secretary	1
9	Office Management Executive	1
10	Office Management Assistant	3
11	Management Support Officer	12
12	Confidential Secretary	1
13	Word Processing Operator	3
14	Office Auxiliary/Senior Office Auxiliary	7
15	General Worker	10
	Rehabilitation Youth Centre	I
16	Superintendent, Rehabilitation Youth Centre	1
17	Assistant Superintendent, Rehabilitation Youth Centre	1
18	Woman Assistant Superintendent, Rehabilitation Youth Centre	-
19	Welfare Officer, Rehabilitation Youth Centre (Male)	-
20	Welfare Officer Rehabilitation Youth Centre (Female)	-
21	Psychologist (Clinical and Social)	1
22	Chief Officer, Rehabilitation Youth Centre	2
23	Principal Officer, Rehabilitation Youth Centre	5
24	Senior Officer, Rehabilitation Youth Centre	8
25	Officer, Rehabilitation Youth Centre	11
26	Trainee Officer, Rehabilitation Youth Centre	-
27	Chief Woman Officer, Rehabilitation Youth Centre	1
28	Principal Woman Officer, Rehabilitation Youth Centre	2
29	Senior Woman Officer, Rehabilitation Youth Centre	4
30	Woman Officer, Rehabilitation Youth Centre	10
31	Trainee Woman Officer, Rehabilitation Youth Centre	-
32	Handy Worker (Special Class) (New) formerly Handy Worker	-
	TOTAL	169

Vote Item: 2-8 Continental Shelf, Maritime Zones Administration and Exploration

S.N	GRADE	FUNDED
1	Director-General	1
2	Director	4
3	Research Development Officer/Senior Research Development Officer	10
4	Management Support Officer	2
5	Confidential Secretary	3
6	Word Processing Operator	1
7	Office Auxiliary/Senior Office Auxiliary	2
	TOTAL	23

Vote Item: 2-9 Forensic Science Laboratory

S.N	GRADE	FUNDED
1	Director, Forensic Science Laboratory	1
2	Deputy Director, Forensic Science Laboratory	1
3	Chief Forensic Scientist	3
4	Forensic Scientist/Senior Forensic Scientist	24
5	Chief Forensic Technologist	3
6	Principal Forensic Technologist	7
7	Forensic Technologist/Senior Forensic Technologist.	15
8	Forensic Support Officer	6
9	Principal Procurement and Supply Officer	1
10	Assistant Manager, Procurement and Supply	2
11	Human Resource Executive	1
12	Office Management Executive	1
13	Management Support Officer	3
14	Confidential Secretary	1
15	Receptionist/Telephone Operator	1
16	Senior Forensic Laboratory Auxiliary	1
17	Forensic Laboratory Auxiliary	8
18	Driver	1
19	Office Auxiliary/Senior Office Auxiliary	2
20	Handy Worker	1
TOTAL		

Summary on the Number of Funded Posts as at 30 June 2024

S.N	VOTE ITEM	TOTAL
1	2-6 Rodrigues, Outer Islands and Territorial Integrity	79
2	2-7 Reform Institutions and Rehabilitation	169
3	2-8 Continental Shelf, Maritime Zones Administration and Exploration	23
4	2-9 Forensic Science Laboratory	80
TOTAL		351



ACHIEVEMENTS

& CHALLENGES

MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS DURING FINANCIAL YEAR 2023-2024

• Delivery of e-Services

E-Procurement System

For the financial year **<u>2023-2024</u>**, the Procurement Section catered for the following sections:

- Continental Shelf, Maritimes Zones Administration and Exploration;
- Probation Office;
- Rehabilitation Youth Centre;
- Rodrigues Division; and
- National Drug Secretariat.

In line with Government's Plan towards a full-fledged digital society acquiring increased use of ICT in public administration, this Ministry embarked on the e-Procurement System since 14 February 2019.

The e-Procurement system, a web-based application hosted by the Government Online Centre enables public bodies and suppliers to electronically conduct public procurement proceedings and enhancing the principles of competition, integrity, transparency and accountability while at the same time keeping the benefits of efficiency, effectiveness, reduction in delays and costs.

109 bids were launched under the e-Procurement system as at **30 June 2024**.

Electronic Inventory Management System (e-IMS)

The Electronic Inventory Management System is a web-based integrated system hosted at the Government Online Centre and can be accessed through the Government Intranet System.

The e-IMS is meant to replace the current paper-based manual system of recording warehouse operations. All movements of stock, i.e. receipts and issues, warehousing operations and stock management is performed electronically by using the barcode technology.

The objectives of the e-IMS are to:

- (i) raise the level of efficiency in managing inventory.
- (ii) enable online processing of inventory management transactions
- (iii) enable real time capture of transa247ctions data using bar code technology
- (iv) pave the way forward towards the envisioned Integrated Payment System.

The e-IMS has been implemented since 03 July 2018.

For the financial year 2023-2024:

- (i) <u>297</u> Goods Form 1 were issued; and
- (ii) <u>700</u> Goods Form 5 have been processed

• Rodrigues

For the period 01 July 2023 to 30 June 2024, funds amounting to Rs 78,289,004.50 were disbursed under the Special Rodrigues Holiday Package and Rs 28,406,603.50 under the Subsidy on Airfare from Rodrigues.

• Rodrigues – Government Quarters

- Seven new students were accommodated at the Government Quarters M2 at Floreal.
- Since March 2023, the Government Quarters No 15 Britannia Park at Vacoas was put at the disposal of the Rodrigues Regional Assembly for the accommodation of its Officials proceeding on mission to Mauritius.

• Mauritius Prison Service

> Rehabilitation

The Mauritius Prison Service pursued with the implementation of a series of rehabilitation programmes such as life skills, vocational training and faith-based activities to enable detainees to reintegrate in society after their release with the objectives to reducing re-offending, equipping them with marketable skills for their employability and engaging them in constructive work thus contributing towards security in prisons.

Additionally, during the period under review, the Ministry of Industrial Development, SMES and Cooperatives has trained detainees in entrepreneur skills so that on release they may create their own business. The rug mat project was introduced at the Garment Making of Women Prison with the collaboration of CIEL Group in a view to enhance the rehabilitation programme for both remand and convicted detainees thereat. The final products were sold in the market such as Open Day at the State House Réduit, Civil Service Kermesse and recently at the Grande La Foire Municipality of Quatre-Bornes.

Rugmat Project at Women Prison



> Prison Security

The Mauritius Prisons Service is equipped with CCTV surveillance cameras in all its prisons. Prison security has been reinforced with the acquisition of two additional full body security cameras, one for the Grand River North West Remand Prison and another for Eastern High Security Prison. Five parcel scanners have been procured and installed at Women Prison - Beau Bassin, Central Prison - Beau Bassin, Eastern High Security Prison - Melrose, GRNW Remand Prison and New Wing Prison – Beau Bassin in this financial year.

Vegetable production

The Mauritius Prison Service is also continuing to strive towards selfsufficiency in vegetable production to meet prison demand. In this regard: -

 Around 25 tons of potatoes were harvested in three Prisons at the Petit Verger Prison, Richelieu Open Prison and New Wing Prison. Two Hydroponic Green House has been set up at the Richelieu Open Prison for the cultivation of tomatoes for prison use and about 600 kg of tomatoes have been harvested for prison consumption.

Potato Harvest



 In April 2024, the Prison Department has set-up a compost plant at the Eastern High Security Prison with the objective of promoting healthier vegetable production and exploring the possibility of increasing vegetable production in prisons.

o Aquaculture Project at Richelieu Open Prison

The Prison Department is diversifying its food production with the implementation of fish production project whereby eight fish ponds had been setup at the Richelieu Open Prison again for prison consumption. It is planned to extend this project to other prisons.





o Setting Up of a Nursery Shed by Forena at Open Prison Women

On 9th May 2024, a big Nursery Shed was inaugurated at the Open Prison for Women with a view to nurture tree plants including breadfruits and jackfruits for their planting in different parts in Mauritius to combat global warming and contribute towards food security.



> Awards

The Mauritius Prison Service participated in the National Productivity and Quality Excellence Award 2024 (NPQEA) organized by the National Productivity & Competitiveness Council (NPCC). It won the Gold Award and was also the Grand Winner in the category of public organisations.

The Mauritius Prison Service participated in the Civil Service Kermesse in December 2023 and won the first prize.

Outer Islands Development Corporation

> New Airstrip and New Jetty



The two main infrastructural development projects, namely the construction of a new airstrip and a new jetty, which had been entirely financed and implemented by the Government of India, were inaugurated in February 2024 and are now operational.

The new airstrip of 3 km long and 60 m wide is an all-weather concrete one. Its associated infrastructure comprises an air traffic control tower, a passenger terminal building, a hangar and an open aircraft shelter amongst others. As for the new jetty, it has a berthing face of 255 m in length and its associated infrastructure provides services such as fresh water, electricity and fire-fighting services.

These infrastructural developments have improved and modernised sea and air connectivity at Agalega. These facilities would also broaden the scope of economic activities in Agalega and enhance the standard of living of the Agalegans.

In addition, the new jetty and new airstrip cater for the maritime security needs of Mauritius in the areas of surveillance and monitoring of its vast EEZ, counterpiracy, counter-terrorism, human trafficking, poaching and illegal fishing, emergency response, marine pollution response, amongst others.

Six small-scale development Projects

Six small-scale, people-centred projects were implemented under an Indian grant of about MUR 90M and were also inaugurated in February 2024. The construction of the following community-based projects would significantly improve the socio-economic lives of the Agalegans:

- A library equipped with computers and IT infrastructure at Village Vingt Cinq in the North Island;
- b) A larger shop at Village Vingt Cinq in the North Island;
- c) A community-cum-multi-purpose hall at Village Vingt Cinq in the North Island;
- d) A Fish Landing Station at Village La Fourche in the North Island;
- e) An office-cum-administrative quarters at Village Sainte Rita in the South Island; and
- f) Two kiosks at boat-alighting points in both the North and South Islands.

Acquisition of Buildings for Staff Accommodation in Agalega

In December 2023, five buildings and its associated services/facilities were acquired from AFCONS Infrastructure Ltd to the tune of Rs 64.5M approximately. These buildings are being used as offices and accommodation for officers going on a tour of duty or for visiting officials. The associated facilities consisting of a desalination plant, a sewage treatment plant and four generator sets, are servicing the buildings acquired.

Master Plan for the development of Agalega

This Office is in the process of elaborating a Master Plan for Agalega, in consultation with the relevant Ministries and Departments and also taking into consideration the needs of the Agalegans. The Master Plan would serve as a roadmap for decision-making, while integrating the social, economic and environmental factors specific to Agalega.

In this context, a site visit was organised in June 2024, whereby the representatives of relevant Ministries and Departments conducted their surveys/assessments. Their findings and recommendations would form the basis of the Master Plan.



A Monitoring Committee has also been set up at the level of the Prime Minister's Office to look into the logistics for the operationalization of the new airstrip and the new jetty. It will also prioritise and monitor the projects for the implementation of the Master Plan, taking into account the immediate needs and concerns of the Agalegans.

Donation of a Coconut Oil Extraction Machine

In February 2024, the Consultant, RITES Ltd, had donated a coconut oil extraction machine, thus modernising and mechanising the oil extraction operations in Agalega. This would lead to an increased production of coconut oil, which remains the main source of revenue from Agalega.

Continental Shelf, Maritime Zones Administration and Exploration (CSMZAE)

Joint Management Area

- Presentation of outcomes and upcoming opportunities of the Monaco Explorations expedition of the JMA at the Monaco Ocean Week 2024 at the Monaco Oceanographic Museum.
- Publication of a comprehensive report on the first results of the Monaco Explorations Indian Ocean Expedition in the issue of Science Magazine of July-September 2023.

Extended Continental Shelf

The United Nations Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf continued its examination of the partial submission made by Mauritius in respect of the region of Rodrigues Island – August 2023 – March 2024.

> Marine Spatial Planning

Holding of a one-day National Technical Workshop on Marine Spatial Planning on 21st May 2024.

Mauritius Ocean Observatory E-platform (E- platform)

- The Department was mandated in November 2023 to host the National Oceanographic Data Centre (NODC) of the Republic of Mauritius under the International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange (IODE) programme of IOC-UNESCO.
- One officer of the technical cadre participated in the drafting of the United Nations General-Assembly mandated publication on Marine Geospatial Information Management in New York, USA from 13 to 17 November 2023.
- The E-platform was upgraded and is now accessible online at <u>https://oceanobservatory.govmu.org</u> 02 May 2024.

Maritime Zones Act

In light of the 28 April 2023 judgement of the Special Chamber of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS), establishing a binding delimitation line for the Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZ) between the Republic of Mauritius and the Republic of Maldives, the following regulations were gazetted under the Maritime Zones Act 2005:

- Maritime Zones (Baselines and Closing Lines) Regulations 2024
- Maritime Zones (EEZ Outer Limit Lines) Regulations 2024

The Maritime Zones Maps of the Republic of Mauritius were updated.

> Mauritius Underwater Cultural Heritage (UCH) project

- The cataloguing of artefacts recovered in 2023 on the *Victoire* shipwreck at Pointe aux Canonniers was carried out from 08 to 18 August 2023.
- A reconnaissance study to locate *La Méduse* shipwreck at Pointe aux Canonniers 24 to 25 August 2023.
- Renewal of Memorandum of Understanding between CSMZAE and Stanford University for collaboration in the field of (i) Marine Spatial Planning research & legal framework; and (ii) Underwater Cultural Heritage – 8 March 2024.

> Marine Protected Area (MPA) in the region of Chagos Archipelago

Holding of an international workshop on Chagos Archipelago Marine Protected Area from 27 to 29 February 2024 in collaboration with the Zoological Society of London (ZSL).

> Marine Scientific Research

Participated in Marine Scientific Research:

- Organised by BGR Federal Institute for Geosciences and Natural Resources from 05 to 28 September 2023.
- Organised by Zoological Society of London from 14 October to 08 November 2023 (Chagos Expedition).

CSMZAE also participated in a Joint hydrographic co-operation survey onboard Indian Naval Ship 'Darshak' from 28 January to 5 February 2024.

List of Training Courses or Workshops

(CAPACITY BUILDING) ATTENDED BY EMPLOYEES

- One officer of the technical cadre attended a hands-on training on acoustic Doppler current profiler (ADCP) processing and seismic interpretation at the University of Hamburg, Germany from 12 June 2023 to 30 July 2023.
- Two officers of the technical cadre participated in International Maritime Organisation Level 1 training in oil spill response and preparedness in July 2023 and April 2024.
- Two officers of the technical cadre attended the Nippon Foundation/GEBCO training program alumni conference from 31 July 2023 to 3 August 2023 in Tokyo, Japan.
- One officer of the technical cadre attended the Operations and Processes Management Training Programme for Support Staff by CSCM in August 2023.
- Five officers of the technical cadre attended an ADMIN Training for the Mauritius Ocean Observatory E-Platform on 5 September 2023.
- Six officers of the technical cadre attended a User Training for the Mauritius Ocean Observatory E-Platform on 12 October 2023.
- Three officers of the technical cadre participated in International Training Programme on Marine Spatial Planning in November 2023 in Zanzibar.
- Two officers of the technical cadre participated in a training on Marine Spatial Planning Tools and Information Management in November 2023 in Kenya.
- Officers of the technical cadre attended an online Training on "Automatic Identification System (AIS) Maps for Maritime Domain Awareness" organized by Mauritius Research and Innovation Council (MRIC) in collaboration with the Surrey Space Centre (SSC) - 18 January 2024.
- Seven officers of the technical cadre attended a training workshop regarding the upgrade of the Mauritius Ocean Observatory E- Platform to GeoNode (version 4.2.2) on 19 March 2024.
- One officer of the technical cadre attended the online OTGA Ocean Data Management 2024 training by UNESCO/IOC Project Office for IODE - 28 May 2024.
- Six officers of the technical cadre attended Training Programme on Strategic Management & Leadership organised by the CSCM in June 2024.
- Officers of the technical cadre attended an online course on Protection of Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction in the IOR organized by IORA on 4 June 2024.
- One officer of the technical cadre attended a Marine and Maritime Safety and Coastal Monitoring Services Immersive Training organized by Institut Halieutique et des Sciences Marines in collaboration with Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association (WIOMSA) and Africa Marine and Coastal Operations for Southern Africa (MarCOSIO) project in Antananarivo, Madagascar in June 2024.
- Seven officers attended the First Aid at Work Training in June 2024 organised by the Civil Service College and delivered by the St John Ambulance.

National Environment Cleaning Authority (NECA)





- > Cleaning and embellishment of some 300 sites around the island.
- Cleaning of the Grand Bassin site, including bricks and staircases, parking spaces and access roads and mowing of green spaces.
- Cleaning of a total length of 72.9 kms of Motorways M1 & M2 from SSR International Airport to Grand Bay roundabout.
- Cleaning and embellishment activities of 48 regions around the island identified by the 12 Local Authorities. The activities stretched over a period of one week or more in each region, and also aimed at sensitising the population at keeping their regions, by extension the country, always clean and tidy.
- Collaboration with the Mauritius Society for Animal Welfare for mass sterilisation campaigns of dogs, in line with its cleaning and embellishment programme around the island.

- Conduct of a National Sensitisation Programme in schools, aiming at raising awareness among the younger generation on the impact of climate change and the importance of a green and clean environment.
- Acquisition of 6 vaccum sweeper trucks for an amount of Rs 94,014,480 for a cost effective cleaning of roads, with expected delivery on or before January 2025.

• Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL)

- FSL managed a total of 8,068 cases in July 2023 June 2024, including 4,807 drug cases, 1116 drug driving cases, 1,217 Biology cases, 783 Toxicology cases.
- FSL has contributed to major cases over the course of the year, in particular significant drug seizures.
- FSL has worked closely with Mauritius Police Force and the Customs Anti Narcotic Division of Mauritius Revenue Authority over the year to prioritise where FSL can have most impact and deliver results effectively, with active engagement in the investigation over the life of the case.
- > FSL has also supported investigations by visiting crime scenes.
- One of the key services was to provide analysis in cases of Drug Driving further to the amendment of The Road Traffic Act, whereby impaired driving is an offence. FSL Drug unit started reporting in drug driving cases since July 2022.
- Following tender procedures, the contract for the construction works for the new FSL Laboratory was awarded to URC Construction Private Limited on 01 June 2023. The construction works have contractually started on 29 November 2023. As at 30 June 2024, Ground Floor has been completed and works were ongoing for the First Floor.
- > The new forensic laboratory is an imperative for a robust criminal justice system.
- The National Drug Control Master Plan 2019 2023 addresses issues of drug abuse and drug trafficking and aims at harm reduction for society and public health as well as reducing drug-related crimes. The FSL is an important stakeholder in this endeavour and the Toxicology Unit has been regularly submitting statistics to the National Drug Secretariat. These statistics pertain to drugs detected in postmortem specimens and are used for trend analysis and policy making.
- Revamping of the Mauritian National Identity Card (MNIC Project).

• Probation and Aftercare Service

Major Achievements (July 2023 - June 2024)

(i) Social Enquiry

- Probation Officers are required to carry out social enquiries and submit reports to various agencies in order to assist them in taking the most appropriate action with regard to specific problems. Some of these agencies are the Supreme Court, the Intermediate and District Courts, Children's Court, Office of Solicitor General, Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, the National Adoption Council, the Commission on the Prerogative of Mercy, Police Department, the Prime Minister's Office and the International Social Service.
- During the period July 2023 June 2024, 2702 enquiries were conducted by the Probation and Aftercare Service.

(ii) Supervision and Aftercare

- The Service supervises several categories of offenders: probationers, persons subjected to community service orders, boys and girls on aftercare, parolees, bailees, juveniles under preventive supervision and DPP & DVA follow-up cases.
- Following the enactment of the Children's Act 2020, the Service is also supervising cases of children with serious behavioural concerns (Parenting Support Intervention and Preventive Intervention Order), child suspect under 14, etc.
- During the period July 2023 June 2024, a total number of 755 persons were under supervision:

Probationers	108
Community Service Workers	457
Aftercare cases (RYC)	2
Parolees	1
Throughcare cases (Probation Institutions)	11
Bailees	1
Preventive supervision	2
DPP follow-up cases	4
Children with serious behavioural concerns (PSI)	104
Child suspect under fourteen	58
PIO – Child within household	7
Child subject to diversion program	Nil

(iii) Institutional Care

- The Probation and Aftercare Service has under its responsibility two semi-open institutions, namely the Probation Hostel for Boys and Probation Home for Girls. They provide residential rehabilitative treatment for convicted minors, children with serious behavioural concerns placed thereat by the Children's Court through a Preventive Intervention Order. In exceptional cases, children under the age of 14 suspected of having committed an offence may also be temporarily placed thereat. Some residents may reside there until the age of majority. Both institutions provide a congenial environment for children whose home surroundings are not sufficiently conducive for their proper character formation and development and therefore necessitate removal and placement in a more favourable milieu.
- Five boys and six girls were rehabilitated in the institutions during the period July 2023 - June 2024. They were also followed by regional Probation Officers under the throughcare system.

(iv) Counselling

- Probation Officers are called upon to carry out counselling work in connection with problems often related to a wide variety of family issues. These may include cases of alimony, child custody, premarital difficulties, drug addiction, unruly children as well as neighbour disputes. Probation Officers may even refer some specific cases to the Magistrate sitting in Chambers for further counselling and dispute resolution.
- > The Service attended to 1136 cases during the period July 2023 June 2024.

(v) Pro Social Skills Programme/Attendance Centre

- Since July 2011, probationers have to follow a pro-social skills programme at the Attendance Centre as a requirement of their probation order. The Attendance Centre is run by the Probation Service at Beau-Bassin and, in July 2012, it was decentralised with two additional centres at Pamplemousses and Curepipe.
- Following the Covid-19 pandemic and the limited number of cases referred by Courts, all the modules, including the one on Constructive Leisure Activities, were being dispensed at the regional probation offices by probation staff instead of attendance centres.
- 33 probationers have completed the programme during the period July 2023 June 2024.

(vi) Preventive Work

- The officers of the Probation and Aftercare Service deliver talks on juvenile delinquency, criminality and other social problems in colleges and social welfare centres.
- The officers of the Service delivered nine preventive talks during the period July 2023 – June 2024.

PROBATION AND AFTERCARE SERVICE

TRAINING - PERIOD JULY 2023 TO JUNE 2024

DATE	PARTICULARS	NO. OF PARTICIPANTS	REMARKS
12.07.23	Training Programme: "Gender	2 Principal Probation Officers (PPOs)	Conducted by M/Gender
02.08.23	Mainstreaming"	2 (PPOs)	Equality and Family Welfare
03.08.23	Training Programme: "Safety and Health in Practice"	1 (OA/SOA)	M/Public Service, Administrative and Institutional Reforms (MPSAIR)
08.08 & 10.08.23	Managing Safely for line Managers	1 (PPO)	MPSAIR
14.08, 16.08 & 18.08.23	Operations and Processes Management Training for Support Staff (Level 2)	1 (MSO)	Civil Service College of Mauritius (CSCM)
21.08.23		22 (Officers of the Probation Cadre)	
22.08.23	Training on Fire Safety Awareness	19 (Officers of the Probation Cadre)	Conducted by Mauritius Fire and Rescue Services
23.08.23		17 (Officers of the Probation Cadre)	
17.10 & 19.10.23	Managing Safely for line	1 (PPO)	MPSAIR
14.11 & 16.11.23	Managers	1 (PPO)	MPSAIR
14.12.23	Talk on Universal Declaration of Human Rights	22 (Officers of the Probation Cadre)	Conducted by National Human Rights Commission
14.03, 18.03 & 20.03.24	Leadershin & Management	1 (PPO)	CSCM
19.03, 22.03 & 26.03.24			CSCM
29.03, 02.04 & 04.04.24	Grade	1 (PPO)	CSCM
02.04 & 04.04.24	Public Services Training	1 (GW)	CSCM
15.04 & 19.04.24 Programme for Workmen Grou		1 (GW)	CSCM

DATE	PARTICULARS	NO. OF PARTICIPANTS	REMARKS
04.04 & 08.04.24	Tender Preparation and Evaluation	1 (PPO)	CSCM
15.04, 17.04 & 19.04.24	Leadership & Management Training Programme for Frontline/Supervisory/ Technical Grade	1 (PPO)	CSCM
16.04, 18.04, 22.04, 25.04.24	Strategic Management & Leadership Training Programme for Middle Management	1 Assistant Commissioner of Probation and Aftercare (ACPA)	CSCM
22.04, 24.04 & 26.04.24	Leadership & Management Training Programme for Frontline/ Supervisory/ Technical Grade	1 (PPO)	CSCM
23.04 & 26.04.24	Public Services Training Programme for Workmen Group	1 (GW)	CSCM
23.04, 25.04, 29.04 & 02.05.24	Strategic Management & Leadership Training Programme for Middle Management	1 (ACPA)	CSCM
29.04, 02.05 & 06.05.24	Leadership & Management Training Programme for Frontline /Supervisory/Technical Grade	1 (PPO)	CSCM
02.05.24	Training on Children with Behavioural Concerns	27 (Officers of the Probation Cadre)	Conducted by Pedostop
06.05, 10.05 & 14.05.24	Leadership & Management Training Programme for Frontline /Supervisory/Technical Grade	1 (PPO)	CSCM
07.05 & 10.05.24	Training Course on Bid Preparation and Evaluation	1 (PPO)	CSCM
07.05, 09.05, 13.05 & 15.05.24	Strategic Management & Leadership Training Programme for Middle Management	1 (ACPA)	CSCM
09.05.24	Training on Children with Behavioural Concerns	26 (Officers of the Probation Cadre)	Conducted by Pedostop
14.05.24 & 16.05.24	Quality Management & the Public Sector	1 (ACPA)	CSCM

DATE	PARTICULARS	NO. OF PARTICIPANTS	REMARKS
24.05, 27.05 & 31.05.24	Leadership & Management Training Programme for Frontline /Supervisory/Technical Grade	1 (PPO)	CSCM
30.05.24	Training Programme: "Safety and Health in the Workplace"	1 (MSO)	CSCM
05.06, 07.06 & 10.06.24	Leadership & Management Training Programme for Frontline / Supervisory / Technical Grade	1 (PPO)	CSCM
13.06.24	Training on Children with	30 (Officers of the Probation Cadre)	Conducted by Dedector
20.06.24	Behavioural Concerns	30 (Officers of the Probation Cadre)	Conducted by Pedostop

National Drug Secretariat

> INTERNATIONAL DAY AGAINST DRUG ABUSE AND ILLICIT TRAFFICKING

The International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking is marked on the 26th June every year to strengthen action and cooperation in achieving a world free event of drug abuse. The theme for this vear's was 'The evidence is clear: INVEST IN PREVENTION'. To mark this event, on 26 June 2024, a carnival on the theme 'Drug prevention saves lives – Prevansion ladrog sov lavi' was organised in collaboration with the Ministry of Education, Tertiary Education, Science and Technology.



MASS MEDIA CAMPAIGN

With a view to raising awareness among the general population with regards to the ill-effects of drugs and the scourge of drug abuse, an Agreement was signed on 27 December 2023 between this Office and the Mauritius Broadcasting Corporation.

The mass sensitization campaign on prevention of drug use was conducted through TV advertising and radio talks on various drug-related subjects. It included short video clips and prevention messages by local artists and sportspersons as well as programmes of 15 to 50 minutes duration broadcast on the main TV channels in creole and Bhojpuri. The campaign was held between November 2023 and June 2024.

6th and 7th Meeting of the High-Level Drugs and HIV Council

The 6th and 7th Meeting of the High-Level Drugs and HIV Council was held under the Chairpersonship of the Prime Minister on 26 October 2023 and 04 June 2024 respectively. The meetings also comprised the following Ministers:

• Hon. Mrs Leela Devi DOOKUN-LUCHOOMUN, GCSK - Vice-Prime Minister, Minister of Education, Tertiary Education, Science and Technology

- Hon. Mrs Fazila JEEWA-DAUREEAWOO, GCSK Minister of Social Integration, Social Security and National Solidarity
- Hon Maneesh GOBIN Attorney General, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade
- Hon. Jean Christophe Stéphan TOUSSAINT Minister of Youth Empowerment, Sports and Recreation
- Dr the Hon. Kailesh Kumar Singh JAGUTPAL Minister of Health and Wellness
- Hon. Mrs Kalpana Devi KOONJOO-SHAH Minister of Gender Equality and Family Welfare



Evaluation of the National Drug Control Master Plan (NDCMP) (2019 – 2023)

An independent evaluation of the NDCMP (2019 – 2023) was conducted in November 2023 and the findings would be used as a basis to formulate an improved and evidence-based as well as an effective strategic response to the drug threat in Mauritius.

This exercise was conducted in close collaboration with the UN Resident Coordinator's office which provided technical support through the services of Professor M. C. Van Hout who conducted the evaluation and submitted a comprehensive report in January 2024.

This evaluation initiative was commended by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and was showcased as an international good practice during a side event of the 67th Session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs held in March 2024 in Vienna, Austria.

First Ministerial Conference on drug trafficking and Substance Abuse in Mauritius

A first Ministerial Conference on Drug Trafficking and Substance Abuse in the Western Indian Ocean was organized, in collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration & International Trade and the Indian Ocean Commission, on the 25th April 2024.

The Conference was attended by 180 participants from 24 countries including Mauritius and 12 international organisations including European Union, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, Southern African Development Community and India Foundation. Ten Ministers were present and came from Bangladesh, Comoros, Mozambique, Saudi Arabia, Seychelles (3), Sri Lanka (2) and United Arab Emirates.

The Mauritian delegation comprised six Ministers and around 52 senior Officials and representatives of Ministries, Departments and NGOs.

The participants agreed to a Declaration for enhancing regional and international cooperation against drug trafficking and drug use in the Western Indian Ocean. They had also unanimously agreed for:

- 1) the implementation of a Strategic Framework for cooperation against drugs trafficking and substance abuse in the Western Indian Ocean under the guidance of the UNODC;
- 2) establishment of a Regional Drug Observatory for countries of the western Indian Ocean region; and
- 3) the establishment of a network of leading national drug response agencies through a Regional Drug Secretariat.



National Prevention Forum

A National Consultative Forum was organized by the National Drug Secretariat in September 2023, bringing onboard stakeholders of the various institutions, NGOs, civil society, faith-based organisations amongst others with the objective to reflect on how to counter the drug threat and to propose measures for keeping young well as adults awav from illicit substances. people as The proposals/recommendations were presented in the High-Level Drugs and HIV Council in October 2023 and would also be included in the forthcoming NDCMP.

US-LED Global Coalition

Government joined the US-LED Global Coalition to address synthetic drugs which was launched in July 2023. The Coalition is an international effort to combat the threats posed by synthetic drugs. It focuses on three key areas: the illegal production and trafficking of drugs, identifying new drug threats and usage trends and encouraging suitable health interventions.

National Campaign Against Drugs – "Unis Contre La Drogue"

A national campaign against drugs namely "*Unis Contre La Drogue*" was launched in August 2023 with the objective to mobilise and create awareness among the population on the dangers and risks of drug use and to promote the prevention of drug abuse.



A first community event with the participation of some 100 youth was organised to reflect and discuss on drug-related thematic questions. Similar activities were replicated in other locations around the island targeting the youth and other members of the society.

The Campaign also comprised an island-wide communication strategy including billboards, social media, radios, TV and newspapers amongst others.

• Anti-Drug and Smuggling Unit

Weight and estimated value of drugs secured during financial year 2023/2024

Drug Secured	Amount (Approx.)	Estimated Value (Rs)
Buprenorphine	37 pills	88,800.00
Cannabis	565 Kg 667.66 gms	678,801,192.00
Cocaine	6 Kg 713.75 gms	100,706,250.00
Hashish	18 Kg 461.56 gms	92,307,800.00
Heroin	14 Kg 954.86 gms	224,322,900.00
Sedatives/Tranquilizers	11978 pills	1,197,800.00
Synthetic Cannabinoids	9 kg 306.09 gms	46,530,450.00
Synthetic Cannabinoids – (Pure Form)	5 kg 541.72 gms	83,125,800.00
Synthetic Cannabinoids – (Liquid Form)	3011 ml	45,165,000.00
Synthetic Cannabinoids – A4 paper imbedded in drug solution	6 A4 size paper + 3493 Paper strips	853,300.00
Methamphetamine	1 kg 352.34 gms	20,285,100.00
Ecstasy	14 pills	33,600.00
Khat	73.76 gms	88,512.00
Xylazine + Synthetic Cathinone	10.03 gms	150,450.00
Dimethryptamine	902 gms	2,706,000.00
MDMA	8.26 gms	123,900.00
Amphetamine	50 gms	750,000.00

Sensitization and Awareness Campaigns by ADSU Education Cell

265 sensitization and awareness programmes were carried out with 24,782 different stakeholders including educational institutions, youth and the general public during the financial year 2023-2024.

Agalega Island Council

The following activities were held during the Financial Year 2023-2024:

- Two Home Gym, two Bikes and one Treadmill were procured and forwarded to Agalega;
- (ii) A leisure day was organised at Le Morne Cultural Landscape for the Elderly Agalegans in Mauritius; and
- (iii) 96 printed cups were purchased and distributed among Elderly Agalegans in Agalega and Mauritius.

Chagossian Welfare Fund

The following activities were carried out by the Chagossian Welfare Fund for the Financial year 2023/2024:

- (i) Visits to Homes and distribution of foodstuffs and clothes were held in August 2023 to 70 Bedriddens of the Chagossian Community.
- (ii) An Educational Tour for Chagossian youngsters was organised at Le Morne Beach and Le Morne Heritage Village Museum on 02 September 2023.
- (iii) The CWF acquired 289 blood pressure monitor for an amount of Rs 287,555 which were gifted as follows:
 - to native Chagossian families on 07 October 2023;
 - to native Chagossians living in homes and to bedriddens on 12 October 2023;
 - to Chagossians living in Agalega in December 2023; and
 - to Chagossians living in Rodrigues in May 2024.
- (iv) A Wreath Laying Ceremony was organised on 03 November 2023 to commemorate the deportation of the Chagossian community.
- (v) A recreational day was held on 05 November 2023 for the elderly at Mont Choisy Beach.
- (vi) A visit to Agalega was held in December 2023 during which provisions, clothes and other items were distributed to Chagossian families.
- (vii) A distribution of groceries to 260 Senior Citizens of the Chagossian Community was carried out on 02 December 2023.

- (viii) An award of scholarship ceremony was held on 16 December 2023 to honour
 11 Chagossian students of Mauritius and Agalega. A total of Rs 88,000 was disbursed in terms of scholarship.
- (ix) A Soiree Sega Tambour Chagos, in collaboration with the National Heritage Fund, was held on 23 December 2023.
- (x) A Scholarship Ceremony was held on Saturday 20 January 2024 at Marie Charlesia Alexis CCC for 21 Chagossian students. An amount of Rs 184,000 was disbursed in terms of scholarship fees.
- (xi) A total of Rs 79,000 was paid as Funeral Grants to 10 families of deceased Chagossians from July 2023 to June 2024.
- (xii) ICT courses were dispensed to 60 students and adults of the Chagossian community by The Mauritius Digital Promotion Agency for a sum of Rs 45,000.
- (xiii) A visit to Rodrigues was held in May 2024 during which provisions and other items were distributed to Chagossian families.
- (xiv) An Educational Tour at Odysseo was organized on 29 June 2024 for 257 students.

Boards and Committees

Rodrigues Subsidy Account Management Committee

Sittings of the Rodrigues Subsidy Account Management Committee

For the period 01 July 2023 to 30 June 2024, the Committee held 12 sittings.

Total amount disbursed for the payment of Subsidy

For the period 01 July 2023 to 30 June 2024, subsidies amounting to Rs172.1 M under the Rodrigues Subsidy Account were provided to maintain the prices of petroleum products, rice, flour and cement in Rodrigues at par with those prevailing in Mauritius.

Audit Report for the Financial Statements 2022

The Director of Audit has submitted a clear certificate for the Financial Statements of the Rodrigues Subsidy Account for the year ended 30 June 2023. A copy of the audited Financial Statements of the Rodrigues Subsidy Account is at **Appendix**.

List of Training Courses or Workshops

(CAPACITY BUILDING) ATTENDED BY EMPLOYEES Period July 2023 to June 2024

SN	Date	Training Course	No of participants	Conducted by
1	26 & 28 September 2023	Training on Effective Performance Appraisal	1 (Assistant Permanent Secretary)	Civil Service College Mauritius
2	23 & 25 August 2023	Training on Improving Public Sector Governance through Audit Committee	3 (2 Assistant Permanent Secretary, 1 Office Management Assistant)	Civil Service College Mauritius
3	11- 15 & 18 September 2023 9-13 & 16 October 2023 10,18,19,21,22 & 25 March 2024 2-5,8 & 12 April 2024 6-10 & 13 May 2024 3-7 & 10 June 2024	First Aid	2 (Management Support Officer) 2 (Research & Development Officer/ Senior Research & Development Officer) 2 (Probation Officer) 2 (Director & Research Development Officer) 3(Director Research & Development Officer/Senior Director Research & Development Officer)	Civil Service College Mauritius
4	12 October 2023	Training in the Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfer (HACT) Framework	1(Manager, Financial Operations, Manager, Procurement and Supply)	UNDP Mauritius
5	31 May 2024	Quality Management in the Public Sector	2 (Assistant Commissioner, Probation and Aftercare)	Civil Service College Mauritius
6	07 & 09 November 2023	Pedostop Colloquium	2 (Assistant Commissioner,Probation and Aftercare) (Assistant SP,Rehabilitation Youth Centre)	Pedostop
7	21 November 2023	Training in Fundamentals of International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS)	2 (Assistant Financial Operations Officer)	Civil Service College Mauritius

SN	Date	Training Course	No of participants	Conducted by
8	27 July, 01 August, 11 September 2023 12,16,17,19,21,23 April 2024 28 &30 May 2024	Safety and Health at the Workplace	11 (Management Support Officer)	Civil Service College Mauritius
9	20,22,26 & 28 February 01 March 2024	Foundation Course for Newly Recruited Management Support Officers	3 (Management Support Officer)	Civil Service College Mauritius
10	8,10 August 2023 12,14 September 2023 17,19 October 2023 14,16 November 2023	Managing Safety for Line Managers	4 (Principal Probation Officer)	MPSAIR
11	21 & 23 November 2023 19 & 23 March 2024	Training in Microsoft Excel	2 (Word Processing Operator)	Civil Service College Mauritius
12	28 & 30 November 2023 04 & 08 April 2024	Tender Preparation and Evaluation	2 (Principal Probation Officer) 1 (Assistant Financial Operations Officer)	Civil Service College Mauritius
13	21,23 & 25 August 2023	Operation and Processes Management for Support Staff	1 (Word Processing Operator)	Civil Service College Mauritius
14	07,09,13 & 15 May 2024 16,18,12 & 24 January 2024	Strategic Management and Leadership Training Programme for Middle Management	7 (Assistant Permanent Secretary, Assitant Commissioner Probation and Aftercare, Manager, Human Resources, Director CSMZAE, Office Mangement Executive)	Civil Service College Mauritius
15	26 & 28 March 2024 02 & 04 April 2023	Public Service Training Programme for Workmen's Group	3 (Office Auxiliary/Senior Office Auxiliary, General Worker)	Civil Service College Mauritius



FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

As per the Budget Estimates, the Prime Minister's Office (Rodrigues, Outer Islands and Territorial Integrity Division) has 5 Votes under its control as follows:

- Vote 2-6 Rodrigues, Outer Islands and Territorial Integrity
- Vote 2-7 Reform Institutions and Rehabilitation
- Vote 2-8 Continental Shelf, Maritime Zones Administration and Exploration
- Vote 2-9 Forensic Science Laboratory
- Vote 2-10 Prison Service

As such, appropriation of funds by the National Assembly is made through the Votes.

ANALYSIS OF MAJOR CHANGES

Expenditure

Under the Vote 2-6 Rodrigues, Outer Islands and Territorial Integrity, 99.6% of the expenditure has been incurred under "Other General Government Units" which comprises of Recurrent and Capital Grant to the Rodrigues Regional Assembly (RRA) which are as follows:

(a) Recurrent Grant	Rs 4,318,618,978
(b) Capital Grant	Rs 813,279,060

STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE

Revenue

Revenue Collection in respect of Votes 2-6,2-7,2-8 and 2-9 is nil.

Expenditures

Expenditures in respect of Vote 2-6,2-7,2-8 and 2-9 for the Financial Year 2023-2024 are as follows:

Statement of Expenditure - V	/ote 2-6,2-7,2-8 and 2	2-9
Head/Sub Head of Expenditure	2023/2024 Estimates-Rs	2023/2024 Actual-Rs
Vote 2-6 Rodrigues, Outer Islands and Territorial Integrity	5,521,000,000	5,670,297,834
Compensation of Employees	43,300,000	40,304,450
Goods and Services	45,300,000	47,558,890
Subsidies	110,000,000	106,695,608
Grants	5,322,400,000	5,475,738,886
Acquisition of Non-Financial Assets	-	-
Vote 2-7 Reform Institutions and Rehabilitation	105,000,000	93,044,840
Compensation of Employees	83,000,000	77,623,562
Goods and Services	13,100,000	10,422.880
Other Expenses	6,000,000	4,500,000
Acquisition of Non-Financial Assets	2,900,000	498,398
Vote 2-8 Continental Shelf Maritime Zones Administration and Exploration	31,500,000	29,102,330
Compensation of Employees	16,500,000	15,874,769
Goods and Services	11,000,000	9,596,712
Acquisition of Non-Financial Assets	4,000,000	3,630,849
Vote 2-9 Forensic Science Laboratory	485,000,000	271,766,077
Compensation of Employees	46,700,000	43,986,820
Goods and Services	73,200,000	65,850,718
Acquisition of Non-Financial Assets	100,000	27,510
Total Expenditures for Votes 2-6,2-7,2-8 and 2-9	365,000,000	161,901,029
	6,142,500,000	6,064,211,081



WAY FORWARD

MAJOR CHALLENGES

- Shortage of human resources, to deal with new challenges.
- Rise in the scourge of synthetic drugs.
- Increase in number of detainees who are drug addicts.
- The need to adapt rehabilitation programmes to cater for an increasing number of young offenders and children with serious behavioural concerns.
- Reduce recidivism by improving rehabilitation programmes.

FSL – Challenges

<u>Biology</u>

- Environmental laboratory conditions not conducive to optimum laboratory testing.
- Lack of IT equipment
- No exposure to international symposiums/conferences.
- Lack of communication
- Technical staff involved in Liaison service and quality works

<u>Chemistry</u>

- Shortage of staff
 - Forensic Scientists (To report on cases assigned)
 - Technical staffs (Lab work is much delayed as most often technical staffs are called upon at the Liaison premises to perform Liaison duties as there is shortage of Forensic Support Officer)
- Unfavourable Working condition due to Environmental condition (Leaking of rainwater through ceiling)

Continental Shelf and Maritime Zones Administration and Exploration

- Acquisition of state-of-the-art technology to survey the vast extent of the maritime zones and for maritime security.
- Climate change impacts and adaptation in ascertaining sustainable exploration and exploitation of marine non-living resources.

STRATEGIC DIRECTION

• Continental Shelf and Maritime Zones Administration and Exploration

- Establishing the institutional and legal framework for a judicious exploration and sustainable exploitation of our natural non-living resources in the maritime zones of the Republic of Mauritius and in the Mauritius/Seychelles Extended Continental Shelf.
- Promoting and conducting multi-disciplinary marine scientific exploration of the seabed and sub-soil including the Continental Shelf for the well-being of our people.
- Delimitating and mapping our Maritime Zones to safeguard our territorial integrity and sovereignty.

• Forensic Science Laboratory

- To be recognized as a reliable forensic laboratory in providing an impartial, high quality and timely forensic service in support of the justice system.
- To promote the use of Science and Innovative Technologies in crime investigation.
- To provide a seamless service to relevant stakeholders, taking into account the product, customer, geographical and technological dimensions.
- To expand the regional and international footprint of the FSL, with regard to providing state-of-the-art services to neighbouring islands and beyond.

• Probation and Aftercare Service

- Use of community-based sentencing and programmes, restorative justice especially with children, multi-agency approach in the rehabilitation of offenders and sensitization campaigns to reduce crime in the community.
- Migrating from a criminal justice system to a biopsychosocial justice system, with a view to better channeling and rehabilitating offenders, to achieve an improved output and outcome for society.
- Use of a whole-of-society approach, with no stakeholder left behind, with a view to being more efficient, effective and sustainable in integrating the rehabilitated offender to the community.
- Focus on the criminogenic needs of the delinquents, so as to identify the root causes behind the attitude and behavior of the latter and consequently, mounting an appropriate and customized programme to resolve the issues at source.

• Rehabilitation Youth Centre

To inculcate values and reintegrate these children back in society within the timeframe ordered by Court and providing them with the rehabilitation program that would change them into law abiding citizens through education, vocational training in the utter most respect of each child's religion, race and culture.

• National Drug Secretariat

- Strengthening the technical capacity of the National Drug Secretariat.
- Ensuring that the forthcoming Master Plan Against Drugs is comprehensive, holistic, all-inclusive and with a human rights-based approach.

• Mauritius Prison Service

Reduce recidivism and rehabilitate detainees for re-integration in society

- Implement best correctional practice and comprehensive rehabilitation programmes;
- > Enhance opportunities for vocational and education training; and
- Adapt rehabilitation programmes to cater for an increasing number of young offenders.

Reduce cost of maintaining detainees in custody.

- Increase vegetable production so as to achieve self-sufficiency;
- Involve detainees in constructive activities of high rehabilitative value and which meet the demand of the labour market in order to re-integrate the society as lawabiding citizens; and
- Offsetting rising cost of imprisonment by reducing utility cost through eco-friendly solutions and revamping of water network.

Rodrigues

Support the Rodrigues Regional Assembly to consolidate and accelerate the socio-economic development of Rodrigues.

• Outer Islands Development Corporation

Improving sea and air connectivity to Agalega with the construction of a new jetty and a new airstrip with a view to promoting the sustainable development of the island and enhancing the standard of living of the Agalegans.

National Environment Cleaning Authority

- Sustaining the mass sensitisation campaign in the financial year 2024/2025 with the renewal of the Agreement with the MBC.
- Modernising and mechanising the cleaning of roads.

APPENDIX

PORT OF THE RECTOR OF AUDIT

On the Financial entements of the Rodrigues S idy Account for the year ended 3 une 2023

NATIONAL AUDIT OFFICE.



NATIONAL AUDIT OFFICE

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF AUDIT TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE RODRIGUES SUBSIDY ACCOUNT

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinion

I have audited the financial statements of Rodrigues Subsidy Account, which comprise the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2023 and the statement of financial performance, statement of changes in net assets/equity, statement of cash flows and statement of budgets and actual amounts for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In my opinion, the accompanying financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Rodrigues Subsidy Account as at 30 June 2023, and of its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSASs).

Basis for Opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with International Standards of Supreme Audit Institutions (ISSAIs). My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the 'Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements' section of my report. I am independent of the Rodrigues Subsidy Account in accordance with the INTOSAI Code of Ethics together with the ethical requirements that are relevant to my audit of the financial statements in Mauritius, and I have fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Key Audit Matters

Key Audit Matters are those matters that, in my professional judgment, were of most significance in my audit of the financial statements of the current period. These matters were addressed in the context of my audit of the financial statements as a whole, and in forming my opinion thereon, and I do not provide a separate opinion on these matters.

I have determined that there are no key audit matters to communicate in my report.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with IPSASs, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Rodrigues Subsidy Account's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management intends to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Rodrigues Subsidy Account's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

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My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISSAIs, will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISSAIs, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Rodrigues Subsidy Account's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Rodrigues Subsidy Account's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if

such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Rodrigues Subsidy Account to cease to continue as a going concern.

• Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

I also provide those charged with governance with a statement that I have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on my independence, and where applicable, related safeguards.

From the matters communicated with those charged with governance, I determine those matters that were of most significance in the audit of the financial statements of the current period and are therefore the key audit matters. I describe these matters in my auditor's report unless law or regulation precludes public disclosure about the matter or, when, in extremely rare circumstances, I determine that a matter should not be communicated in my report because the adverse consequences of doing so would reasonably be expected to outweigh the public interest benefits of such communication.

Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

Management's Responsibilities for Compliance

In addition to the responsibility for the preparation and presentation of the financial statements described above, management is also responsible for ensuring that the operations of the Rodrigues Subsidy Account are conducted in accordance with the provisions of laws and regulations, including compliance with the provisions of laws and regulations that determine the reported amounts and disclosures in an entity's financial statements.

Auditor's Responsibilities

In addition to the responsibility to express an opinion on the financial statements described above, I am also responsible to report to the Committee whether:

- (a) I have obtained all the information and explanations which to the best of my knowledge and belief were necessary for the purpose of the audit;
- (b) the activities, financial transactions and information reflected in the financial statements are, in all material respects, in compliance with the laws and authorities which govern them; and
- (c) satisfactory management measures have been taken to ensure that resources are procured economically and utilised efficiently and effectively.

I performed procedures, including the assessment of the risks of material non-compliance, to obtain audit evidence to discharge the above responsibilities.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Opinion on Compliance

Finance and Audit Act and Finance and Audit (Rodrigues Subsidy Account) Regulations 2018

I have obtained all information and explanations which to the best of my knowledge and belief were necessary for the purpose of my audit.

Based on my examination of the records of Rodrigues Subsidy Account, nothing has come to my attention that causes me to believe that:

- (a) the activities, financial transactions and information reflected in the financial statements are, in all material respects, not in compliance with the Finance and Audit Act and the Finance and Audit (Rodrigues Subsidy Account) Regulations 2018; and
- (b) satisfactory management measures have not been taken to ensure that resources are procured economically and utilised efficiently and effectively.

Dr D. PALIGADU Director of Audit

National Audit Office Level 14, Air Mauritius Centre PORT LOUIS

30 April 2024

RODRIGUES SUBSIDY ACCOUNT FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

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Rodrigues Subsidy Account June 2023

Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2023

	Note	30 June 2023 Rs	30 June 2022 Restated Rs
Assets	x		
Current Assets			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	Note 4	229,159,720	138,515,660
Trade receivables	Note 5	35,975,955	33,717,454
	-	265,135,675	172,233,114
Current Liabilities			
Trade Payables	Note 7	82,846,725	32,064,807
Provision -Cargo Handling Charges			20,000,000
Net Current Assets	-	182,288,950	120,168,307
Represented by			
Accumulated Fund	Note 8	182,288,950	120,168,307

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M. Ching (Ms) Chairperson

J.Govinden Member (Mrs)

M.Toree (Mrs) Accountant

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Statement of Financial Performance for the year ended 30 June 2023

		30 June 2023	30 June 2022
Income		Rs	
Revenue from non-exchange transactions-petroleum pro	ducts	210,190,635	198,240,525
Revenue from non-exchange transactions-Liquefied Petr	oleum Gas (LPG)	22,267,485	19,940,408
		232,458,120	218,180,933
Expenses			
Transportation charges	Note 9	93,436,224	71,549,044
Management fees and other charges		6,155,860	5,933,435
Subsidy	Note 10	23,573,213	25,645,626
Expenses icw rice and flour		27,148,150	27,640,314
Handling charges		19,739,111	23,465,699
Administrative charges	Note 11	284,919	289,529
		170,337,477	154,523,647
Surplus arising on Operations		62,120,643	63,657,286

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Statement of changes in Net Assets/Equity for the Year ended 30 June 2023

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Balance as at 30 June 2022		118,964,915
Adjustment for expenses overstated in year 2021-2022	(Note 17)	1,203,392
Restated Accumulated opening balance		120,168,307
Surplus for the Year		62,120,643
Balance as at 30 June 2023		182,288,950

Statement of changes in Net Assets/Equity for the Year ended 30 June 2022

Balance as at 30 June 2021	405,307,629
Less transfer to Consolidated fund	(350,000,000)
Surplus for the Year Balance as at 30 June 2022	63,657,286 118,964,915

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Rodrigues Subsidy Account June 2023

Statement of Cash Flows as at 30 June 2023

	30 June 2023 Rs	30 June 2022 Rs
Surplus arising on operations	62,120,643	64,860,678
less provision	(20,000,000)	2,000,000
Add increase in creditors	50,781,918	(22,217,847)
	92,902,561	44,642,831
Less increase in debtors	(2,258,501)	(5,255,909)
Net Increase in Cash and Cash Equivalents	90,644,060	39,386,922
Cash and Cash Equivalents as at 1 July 2022	138,515,660	449,128,739
Transfer to consolidated Fund	-	(350,000,000)
Cash and Cash Equivalents at end of period	229,159,720	138,515,660

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Statement of Budgets and Actual amounts for year ended 30 June 2023				
		Budgeted Amount	Actual Amount on a comparative basis	Variance between Budgeted amount and Actual Amount
		Rs M	Rs M	Rs M
Revenue				
Total Levy collections on LPG and Petroleum Products		210	230	20
Expenditure				
Rice and flour		33	24	(9)
Cement		48	29	(19)
Petroleum and LPG		95	87	(8)
Administration expenses		0.6	0.2	(0.4)
Total Expenses		176.6	140.2	(36.4)
Net		33.4	89.8	56.4

Note 1

The collections from levy on petroleum and LPG products depend on the amount of products actually imported. Actual amount collected is Rs 230M compared to budgeted amount of Rs 210M accrued fro the year.

Note 2

A 10% increase was factored in the expenses for year 2022/23 for all components. In general, the rates charged have remained unchanged except for price increases in rates charged by Velogic Haulage Services Ltd (VHS Ltd).

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Notes to Accounts:

General Information

1.The Rodrigues Subsidy Account

The Rodrigues Subsidy Account (RSA) is established under Section 3 of the Finance and Audit (Rodrigues Subsidy Account) Regulations 2018.

2. The objects of the Account shall be to subsidise:

(a) all the costs involved in transporting, storing and distributing petroleum products, ration rice and flour supplied by the State Trading Corporation so that the retail prices in Rodrigues are kept at par with their respective retail prices prevailing in Mauritius;

(b) such costs for the supply of bagged cement to Rodrigues as may be decided by the Government.

The Rodrigues Subsidy Account principal place of business is c/o Prime Minister's Office (Rodrigues, Outer Islands and Territorial Integrity Division) 6th floor, New Government Centre Port Louis and also benefits from a rent free building and free use of utilities from the Ministry.

3. Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with International Public Sector Accounting Standards(IPSAS) in compliance with the Finance and Audit (Rodrigues Subsidy Account Regulations 2021. The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

The principal accounting policies are set below:

Revenue Recognition

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable. It represents the amounts receivable on levy on petroleum products and Liquefied Petroleum Gas.

Trade receivables

Trade receivables do not carry any interest and are stated at their nominal value as reduced by appropriate allowances for estimated irrecoverable amounts.

Trade payables

Trade payables are not interest bearing and are stated at their nominal value.

These include all expenses incurred in the transportation of petroleum products, LPG products, rice and flour to Rodrigues. They also include subsidy on cement exported to Rodrigues.

4. Cash and Cash Equivalents	30 June 2023 Rs	30 June 2022
Rodrigues Subsidy Account	229,159,720	138,515,660
5. Trade receivables	30 June 2023	30 June 2022
State Trading Corporation - petroleum products	33,882,937	19,013,016
State Trading Corporation - LPG	2,093,017	14,704,438
	35,975,954	33,717,454

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Rodrigues Subsidy Account June 2023

6. Contingent asset

The RSA has claimed for a refund of Rs 5,737,002 from AEL DDS representing refund of expenses involved in the transportation of

50 kg LPG cylinders to and from Rodrigues for period 2014 to 2019. The outcome of this claim has still not been finalised.

7. Trade Payables	30 June 2023 Rs	30 June 2022 Rs
Mauritius Shipping Corporation Ltd (MSCL)	32,515,392	12,524,561
Velogic Haulage Sevices Ltd (VHS Ltd)	923,904	491,260
Rogers Shipping Ltd	537,136	319,125
AEL DDS Ltd Account	1,684,976	1,490,834
Accounting fees	35,284	17,154
State Trading Corporation	19,688,782	12,587,852
Cementis (Mauritius Ltd)	3,323,040	2,055,647
Kolos Cement Ltd	4,730,518	2,518,374
Audit fees	60,000	60,000
Cargo Handling Corporation(CHCL	19,347,693	-
	82,846,725	32,064,807

8. Net Assets/Equity	Rs
Accumulated Fund at 1 July 2022	120,168,307
Surplus for period	62,120,643
Net Assets/ Equity at 30 June 2023	182,288,950

Rs MSCL Freight and other shipping charges 87,115 Transportation of containers/tanktainers - Mauritius 3,631 Transportation of containers/tanktainers - Rodrigues 2,689 93,436 93,436 10. Subsidies on cement 30 June 2/ Rs Cementis Ltd - Subsidy on cement 7,403 Kolos Cement Ltd - Subsidy on cement 9,868 MSCL - Subsidy on freight icw cement 6,301	
MSCL Freight and other shipping charges 87,115 Transportation of containers/tanktainers - Mauritius 3,631 Transportation of containers/tanktainers - Rodrigues 2,689 93,436 93,436 10. Subsidies on cement 30 June 24 Rs 7,403 Cementis Ltd - Subsidy on cement 7,403 Kolos Cement Ltd - Subsidy on cement 9,868 MSCL - Subsidy on freight icw cement 6,301	0 June 2023 30 June 2022
Transportation of containers/tanktainers - Mauritius 3,631 Transportation of containers/tanktainers - Rodrigues 2,689 93,436 93,436 10. Subsidies on cement 30 June 24 Rs Rs Cementis Ltd - Subsidy on cement 7,403 Kolos Cement Ltd - Subsidy on cement 9,868 MSCL - Subsidy on freight icw cement 6,301	Rs Rs
Transportation of containers/tanktainers - Rodrigues 2,689 93,436 93,436 10. Subsidies on cement 30 June 2 Rs Rs Cementis Ltd - Subsidy on cement 7,403 Kolos Cement Ltd - Subsidy on cement 9,868 MSCL - Subsidy on freight icw cement 6,301	87,115,026 66,237,910
93,436 10. Subsidies on cement 30 June 2 Rs Cementis Ltd - Subsidy on cement 7,403 Kolos Cement Ltd - Subsidy on cement 9,868 MSCL - Subsidy on freight icw cement 6,301	3,631,853 3,097,384
10. Subsidies on cement 30 June 2/ Rs Cementis Ltd - Subsidy on cement 7,403 Kolos Cement Ltd - Subsidy on cement 9,868 MSCL - Subsidy on freight icw cement 6,301	2,689,345 2,213,750
Rs Cementis Ltd - Subsidy on cement 7,403 Kolos Cement Ltd - Subsidy on cement 9,868 MSCL - Subsidy on freight icw cement 6,301	93,436,224 71,549,044
Kolos Cement Ltd - Subsidy on cement 9,868 MSCL - Subsidy on freight icw cement 6,301	0 June 2023 30 June 2022 Rs Rs Rs
MSCL - Subsidy on freight icw cement6,301	7,403,425 6,182,400
	9,868,428 12,542,826
	6,301,360 6,920,400
23,573	23,573,213 25,645,626

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Rodrigues Subsidy Account June 2023

11. Administrative charges	30 June 2023 Rs	30 June 2022 Rs
Fees and allowance	222,684	227,379
Audit fees	60,000	60,000
Bank and other charges	2,235 284,919	2,150 289,529

12.Related Party Transaction

The Managing Committee members of the RSA comprise public officers who also form part of the management of the Prime Minister's Office (Rodrigues, Outer Islands and Territorial Integrity Division). These parties are considered to be related as they have the ability, directly or indirectly, to control the RSA or exercise significant influence over the financial and operating decision making or vice versa.

13. Currency risk and Interest rate risk

Currency risk - RSA is not exposed to any currency risk and it does not make any payments in foreign currency.

Interest rate risk - RSA is not exposed to any interest rate risk.

14. Credit risk

The receivables of the RSA consist of the amount of levy collected by State Trading Corporation and remitted to RSA. The remission of the levy to the RSA is done on a regular basis and as the STC is a trading arm of the Government of Mauritius, any credit risk associated to it is considered to be low.

15. Key Management Personnel

The key personnel of the RSA includes the Deputy Permanent Secretary, the Assistant Permanent Secretary from the Prime Minister's Office (Rodrigues, Outer Islands and Territorial Integrity Division) and the Accountant from the Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning and Development.

The aggregate remuneration of key management personnel for the Prime Minister's Office (Rodrigues, Outer Islands and Territorial Intergrity Division) was Rs 36,360 as per the provision of the Pay Research Bureau and Rs 92,616 for the Accountant for the financial year ended 30 June 2023. Moreover, an amount of Rs 20,000 is payable to the Accountant for the preparation of financial statements.

16. IPSAS issued not yet effective

The following IPSAS were issued but not yet effective as of June 2022:

IPSAS 41- Financial Instruments

IPSAS 42- Social Benefits IPSAS 43 - Leases Only IPSAS 41 is applicable to the Rodrigues Subsidy Account.

17.Opening accumulated fund has been restated after adjusting for oversated expenses in respect of STC in year 2021-2022. The opening creditors amount for STC has also been adjusted by Rs 1,203,392.

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