

CABINET DECISIONS – 18 JANUARY 2013

1. Cabinet has agreed to the official ceremony of the National Day Celebrations 2013 being held at Anjalay Stadium. The theme would be ***Enn Pei, Enn Nasion, Enn Destin***. The Programme would comprise the flag raising ceremony, flypast by Dornier and the Police Helicopter, marchpast by Disciplined Forces, parajumping by French Parachutists, and a 40-minute cultural show using the state-of-the-art light, video projections, laser, pyrotechnics and performances by local artists.

2. Cabinet has agreed to the payment of a monthly remuneration to Councillors of local authorities as follows as provided in the Local Government Act 2011 -

Category	Monthly Remuneration
	Rs
Lord Mayor/Mayor	29,000
Deputy Lord Mayor/Deputy Mayor	14,600
Chairperson, District Council	29,000
Vice-Chairperson, District Council	14,600
Member of an Executive Committee	9,000
Municipal Councillor or District Councillor	7,400
Chairperson, Village Council	7,400
Vice-Chairperson, Village Council	4,600
Village Councillor	2,000

The Minister of Local Government and Outer Islands would make regulations accordingly.

3. Cabinet has taken note of the status in the implementation of the Restructuring Plan of the National Transport Corporation, prepared in consultation with the Office of Public Sector Governance, to improve the financial situation of the Corporation. Measures proposed in the Plan include bus renewal strategy, implementation of a smartcard system, and rightsizing manpower resources. It is expected that the National Transport Corporation would provide improved services, generate profit as from 2015 and achieve a 5% return on investment.

4. Cabinet has taken note of the status in the implementation of the Mauritius Light Rapid Transit Project. The Project aims at solving traffic congestion problems and providing an efficient and quality public transport system. The first phase of the project would be implemented from Curepipe to Port Louis as an alternative mode of transport. Works are scheduled to start by October 2014.

5. Cabinet has taken note that, under Phase I of the Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme, a global EU-funded Programme being implemented in ACP countries by the UN-HABITAT, an urban sector profiling was undertaken to assess pockets of poverty and identify priority intervention in the suburbs of Port Louis, Beau Bassin and the district of Black River. The reports cover land tenure management, infrastructure and basic urban services, local economic development, amongst others. Phase II of the Programme would comprise, inter alia, slum situation analysis, review of urban and housing policy and regulatory framework, and city-wide slum upgrading and prevention strategy. In this context, a regional Training Programme would be held in February 2013 and participants from Nigeria, Gambia and Uganda, amongst others, would attend.

6. Cabinet has taken note of the activities that would be organized by the Ministry of Arts and Culture, in collaboration with Le Morne Heritage Trust Fund, the Nelson Mandela Centre for African Culture and the Kreol Speaking Union, to mark the 178th Anniversary of the Abolition of Slavery, viz., -

- (a) wreath laying ceremony, donation of laptops to the best CPE 2012 students of Le Morne and launching of the book "*Proverbe Illistre*" and an educational kit at Le Morne Public Beach;
 - (b) opening of a replica of the village of Trou Chenille on the public beach of Le Morne on the theme **Le Morne: Memwar nou Listwar** depicting origins, history, genealogy, migratory movements, culture and economic activities of the village;
 - (c) wreath laying ceremony at the "*Monument des Esclaves*", Pointe Canon, Mahebourg; and
 - (d) cultural programmes.
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7. Cabinet has taken note of the activities that would be organized by the Ministry of Arts and Culture in the context of the celebration of Spring Festival 2013 at national level, viz., -

- (a) cultural shows with the participation of the Tianjian Arts Group from the People's Republic of China and other artists from the Chinese Cultural Centre; and
- (b) a défilé from the Municipal City Council of Port Louis, through China Town, to Port Louis Waterfront.

Cabinet has further taken note that the Spring Festival Celebration Association would hold a cultural show on 23 February 2013 at the Auditorium of the Mahatma Gandhi Institute, Moka to mark the Lantern Festival.

8. Cabinet has taken note of measures taken by the Ministry of Civil Service and Administrative Reforms to improve service delivery in the Civil Service. The measures include -

- (a) implementation of MS ISO 9001:2008 certification by Ministries/Departments;
- (b) extension of the Electronic Attendance System and the Computerised Registry System; and
- (c) modernization of the service.

The reform initiatives undertaken by the Ministry of Civil Service and Administrative Reforms have, so far, been centered around the following five main themes:

- (a) Performance Management;
- (b) Human Resource Management and Development;
- (c) Promotion of Good Governance and Ethical Behaviour;
- (d) Total Quality Management; and
- (e) Customer Care and Improved Service Delivery.

9. Cabinet has taken note of the recommendations of the Ministerial Committee on Business Facilitation and has agreed to their implementation to address issues that cause bottlenecks in the grant of permits and licences. The Committee has reviewed procedures for the grant of Morcellement Permits, and Building and Land Use Permits with a view to reducing delays in the processing of applications and improving the quality of service. The Committee would also consider the processing of applications for Land Conversion Permits, Tourism Enterprise Licences, trade related permits and licences and permits for setting up of educational institutions.

10. Cabinet has taken note that the Vice-Prime Minister, Minister of Public Infrastructure, National Development Unit, Land Transport and Shipping would promulgate regulations to provide for the levying of fees, as from 1 January 2013, by the Professional Architects' Council as provided in the Professional Architects' Council Act.

11. Cabinet has taken note that the Small and Medium Enterprise Development Authority, in collaboration with the Training and Employment of Disabled Persons Board, has launched an Incubator for Physically Handicapped Persons to train them in craft production, entrepreneurship and informatics with a view to assisting them to set up small enterprises.

12. Cabinet has taken note of the outcome of the recent mission of the Minister of Arts and Culture to India where he participated in the 11th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas. The theme of the Conference was **Engaging Diaspora : The India Growth Story**. The Minister, also, participated in the Meeting of GOPIO International which had as theme **Dialogue with India**. In the margins of the meetings, the Minister had working sessions with eminent Indian personalities.