

**THE MAURITIUS CIVIL SERVICE MUTUAL AID ASSOCIATION LTD.**

**125<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS-Thursday November 15, 2018,  
Hilton Mauritius Resort & Spa**

*Speech of Mr Premode Neerunjun Chairperson*

Hon Prime Minister

Hon Minister for Civil Service & Administrative Reform

The Governor of the Bank of Mauritius

Heads of Banking Institutions

All Protocol Observed

Distinguished Guests

Ladies & Gentlemen

First and foremost, let me convey my warmest Welcome and Greetings to you all.

I also wish to convey my heartfelt thanks and gratitude to the Hon Prime Minister for accepting to grace the 125th Anniversary celebration as Chief Guest and also to all distinguished personalities and guests to mark this precious event by their presence.

With 125 years of longevity, an organization has a history with ups and downs, and with stories to be told by men and women having been associated with it over the years.

The MCSMAA was founded in those trying times BY CIVIL SERVANTS AND FOR CIVIL SERVANTS. Here we would like to pay tribute to those few civil servants, who stood up against unscrupulous money lenders. It is worth noting that the year 1893 was a rich year for those fighting for the downtrodden. In fact, that year coincided with the start of the civil rights campaign by Mahatma Gandhi in South Africa.

It was from those early years that the Mutual Aid family continued to grow and adapt along with the evolution of the civil service and the economy. Today after a century and a quarter the membership has grown to encompass staff from the parastatal bodies, local authorities and other government bodies.

### **Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen**

The name MUTUAL AID and the benefits bestowed on the members soon became part and parcel of the public sector culture. In fact, I recall as soon as I joined the Service I was advised to become a member of the Mutual Aid in order to benefit from loans for future projects like buying a piece of land, constructing a house and getting married.

Many of you present here might surely confirm having obtained the same advice.

The products and services offered have continued to diversify over the years to meet the changing requirements of members.

What is most interesting is that the philosophy of Mutual Aid goes beyond the concept of mutuality- Mutual Aid continues to extend financial support to our retired members in times of sickness or unforeseen expenses. The spouses of deceased members also benefit from such support for the upbringing and education of their children.

The Association has also been inculcating savings culture among its members. Young employees have been encouraged to save part of their earnings early in their working life so as to prepare for a comfortable retirement.

### **Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen**

As part of its Corporate social responsibility, the Mutual Aid Association awards scholarships every year to needy students pursuing tertiary and vocational education. Assistance is also extended to patients requiring treatment abroad as well as NGOs running social programmes in Mauritius and Rodrigues, among others.

Like any strong organization, to sustain all the new products and services, the Mutual Aid has worked towards consolidating its financial base.

Here we are pleased to mention that the Association has been ranked 7<sup>th</sup> in the top 10 companies in the ranking by profit in the 2018 Edition of the Top 100 companies of Mauritius.

As we all know, people form organizations and the fate of organizations depends largely upon who happen to be those People- their loyalty, dedication and commitment tell the whole story.

On this occasion marking the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, We can proudly say today that the Association could not have reached so far, without the hard work, cooperation, dedication, commitment and the TRUST of one and all over its long existence.

On this special day, I seize the opportunity to extend my thanks to all former and present

- members of the Association;
- staff of the Association;
- former Chairmen and all Board Directors of the Association;
- our stakeholders; and
- the public.

I also wish to thank the Prime Minister for having given us Board Directors the opportunity to serve such a prestigious organization.

Before I end, I kindly solicit your good wishes, support and blessings for a glorious future of the Association and to continue serving at its best the members and the population at large.

With these words, I thank you for your attention.

Long live Mauritius and Long live the Mutual Aid Association.