



POLICE

Magazine

2020



**Winner of Silver Award
Public Service Excellence Award 2020**

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POLICE MAGAZINE 2020

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Message from the Editor

I have the honour and privilege to present to our readers this 67th edition of the Police magazine.

As you are aware, this year due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the Mauritius Police Force has rescheduled and postponed many events including sports meetings and for the Editorial Team it has been daunting challenge to prepare this present edition due to limited number of articles as opposed to previous years.

Despite all the difficulties, members of the Police Magazine Committee have worked tirelessly in the conceptualization of this magazine and I pay tribute to them for their hard work and determination to ensure its timely publication.

Our readers will observe as they flip over the pages of this magazine, a wide range of articles that exalt the merits of diversity besides portraying the praiseworthy achievements of the Mauritius Police Force amid the Covid-19 pandemic. They will also notice that we have included articles from Non-Governmental Organisations and our well-wishers who have expressed their burning desire to make their voices heard on this platform.

I sincerely hope that after going through this wonderful piece of work, our readers will provide us with feedback so that we can improve our next publication.

I would like to seize this opportunity to express my gratitude to all members of the Mauritius Police Force, support staff and their families for their sacrifice, sense of patriotism and duty, and determination during the confinement period and for their continuous efforts in keeping our country safe from Covid-19 pandemic.

I would also like to place on record the invaluable contribution of the publisher and sponsors who have spared no efforts for the successful publication of this magazine.

I wish all members of the Mauritius Police Force, support staff, Officers on deputation to the Government of Mauritius and their families, a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year 2021.

God bless you all.

L. Hoolash

L. Hoolash, PDSM
Deputy Commissioner of Police
Chairman Police Magazine Committee 2020

30th November 2020



Prime Minister Republic of Mauritius



MESSAGE

I am delighted to have the opportunity to express, through this issue of the Police magazine, my gratitude to all officers of the Mauritius Police Force for the tremendous efforts put in throughout this challenging year 2020.

I want to thank each and every one of you for your commitment, dedication and professionalism to contain the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic in our country. Your contribution was a critical success factor for developing a preventive strategy.

The Mauritius Police Force showed a high degree of professionalism amidst these trying times to enforce our strict coronavirus confinement rules, ensuring the safety and wellbeing of Mauritians. The heroic actions of officers on the frontline, demonstrating patriotism, did not go unnoticed.

I also wish to highlight the vital role played by our Mauritius Police Force to prevent and control crime, thus protecting our citizens and visitors. Furthermore, I am convinced that, with the collaboration of our valiant officers, we shall weed out the drug scourge from our country.

There is no doubt that the law and order situation has a direct impact on the socio-economic development of our country. For this reason, Government is determined to spare no effort to continue funding capacity-building programmes for the Mauritius Police Force, and enhancing its operational effectiveness. We will also provide resources needed to improve the quality and adequacy of Police staff.

The acquisition of state-of-the-art equipment, the coming up of the Mauritius Disciplines Forces Academy, the building of new Police stations and posts, the recruitment of additional Police officers and the proposed introduction of a new promotion scheme for Police Constables/Police Corporals are vivid examples of Government's commitment to improve Police effectiveness and the quality of service provided to the community.

I am confident that all these measures will better prepare the Mauritius Police Force to face the ever expanding challenges facing them. These measures will also bolster the morale of our Police officers and increase public confidence in our Police Force.

Let me seize this opportunity to convey to the Commissioner of Police, all members of the Mauritius Police Force, officers on deputation to the Government of Mauritius, the support staff as well as their families, my best wishes for a prosperous and successful New Year 2021.

Long live the Mauritius Police Force!

Pravind Kumar Jugnauth
Prime Minister

29 December 2020



Commissioner of Police



MESSAGE

In keeping with our tradition and our loyalty to our dear readers, we are proud to present the 67th Edition of our Police Magazine. I am particularly grateful to our contributors and more so, to the police officers who have contributed by way of a diverse range of articles and essays on policing issues and on other subjects of topical relevance, anecdotes and on sharing their own personal experiences. The Police magazine is indeed an ideal forum for our officers to display their literary talents and artistic flair. It was a difficult task for the editing team to select the best articles among a long list of contributors and it is very encouraging to see that their numbers have been increasing exponentially over the years.

Since my assumption of office, I have been striving hard to give a new impetus to our policing work and in the process to drive a series of changes against all odds to enhance our service delivery. This has been underpinned by a philosophy of commitment and dedication to duty, service before self and a spirit of comradeship and team spirit. It is further guided by my engagement to promote our physical fitness and basic policing skills, sense of discipline which forms the very backbone of an efficient police force and love and respect for the uniform.

As a disciplined force, our values are anchored in our history, tradition and ethos but at the same time we have to keep pace with modernity.

Our force will have to be driven by technology. The Crime Occurrence Tracking System [COTS] which was very much underutilised has since the last couple of months seen a real surge in its utilisation. Our processes and procedures are essentially paper based and we have to adopt an IT culture at all levels and which should cut across all units and adjuncts of the force. This will for sure have a real impact on our efficiency.

As enunciated in my maiden message, my primary objectives are to reduce crime and road fatalities, combat drug trafficking, afford more protection to the vulnerable, modernise and professionalize the Force, ensure optimum and judicious use of resources, promote more accountability and transparency at all levels and improve the working conditions of our officers.

Crime prevention measures shall stand high on our agenda to fight crime. To this end, I will ensure that our front liners are provided with the necessary support and guidance, so that they can further strengthen the existing Police and public relationship which is essential to fight crime and create safer neighbourhoods.

Let us pledge to selflessly serve our country without fear, favour, affection and ill will. We can only speak high enough of our integrity, commitment and achievements when our actions are in line with the Code of Discipline and Code of Ethics. We would earn public trust only when we set or lead by good examples and act as role models.

Last but not the least, I wish all our readers a pleasant reading and I also take this opportunity to wish them a Happy New Year 2021.

Khemraj Servansing, PMSM
Commissioner of Police

29 December 2020



LEADERSHIP IN CRISIS MANAGEMENT



Maritime incidents involving ships at sea are usually dealt with by the Director of Shipping under the Merchant Shipping Act 2007. In case of spills at sea, then the Director of Environment under the Environment Protection Act 2002 (EPA 2002) comes into play. Part V of the (EPA 2002) provides for contingency plans to cater for spill and environmental emergencies with the involvement of the Police, Special Mobile Force and the National Coast Guard as key first responders. The national competent authority responsible for oil pollution preparedness and response is the Department of Environment (DOE). The DOE is also the focal point for receipt and transmission of oil pollution reports.

With the prevailing COVID 19 pandemic, the MV Wakashio entered our national waters (Exclusive Economic Zone) on 23 July 2020, two days prior to its grounding on Sunday night of 25 July 2020 off the lagoon of Pointe D'Esny. Upon the advice of the Commissioner of Police, the National Emergency Operations Command (NEOC) and National Oil Spill Contingency Plan (NOSCP) were activated. Since day one of the incident, focus was rather on salvaging operation of the MV Wakashio and was under the direct responsibility of the Director of Shipping.

This was followed by the convergence of international experts, salvors and logistics from the SMIT salvage company to Mauritius from all around the world. Special quarantine conditions were exceptionally granted to experts from UN, IMO, Reunion Island, France, Japan, UK, ITOPE, cleaning contractors (PolyEco & LeFloch Depollution) whose services and guidance were of critical importance. However, due to the dynamics of the sea, the vessel started to crack on the 05th August triggering a TIER III oil spill at sea as from the 06th August 2020. Unfortunately, a national environmental emergency had to be declared on the 07th August 2020 by the Prime Minister under section 34 (I) of the EPA 2002.

It was noted that the Director of Shipping and Director of Environment had different reporting lines through two different Ministries and Ministers. In view of having a unified approach and engagement across the different legal mandates to manage the Wakashio oil spill emergency/crisis, the National Crisis Committee (NCC) under the lead of the Minister responsible for disaster management and Commissioner of Police was introduced to report to the National Crisis Management Committee (NCMC) under the lead of the Hon Prime Minister also met on nearly 10 occasions to validate sensitive decisions having national, regional and international bearings.



The NCC met on 28 occasions during which the unprecedented and complex oil spill situation was, so far, successfully handled under the lead of the Commissioner of Police. The work of the NCC was also commended by the President of the Republic of Mauritius.

The NCC stands guided by the principle of incident command system coupled with multi-agencied crisis management approach to deal with the Wakashio event. NCC decision-making process and situation monitoring are based upon the daily modelling of oil spill movements, sea and weather conditions, status of the wreck, booms and resources deployment plan, clean-up, collection and disposal of wastes, monitoring and impacts on environmental matters, COVID-19 protocol, public health issues, views and advice of a plethora of international experts among others.

The unprecedented Wakashio event has no doubt tested our collaborative and operational effectiveness and solidified partnership not only at local but regional and international level.

by Mr. A.Sookhareea, SP
National Disaster Risk Reduction and
Management Centre (NDRRMC)





MANAGING **COVID-19** PANDEMIC

The Mauritius Police Force (MPF) was faced with an unprecedented challenge following the outbreak of the coronavirus (Covid-19) in the country. Besides responding to emergencies and contemporary policing demands, the Police were required to assist other local agencies, particularly the staff of the

YOU STOP THE SPREAD

health sector in protecting the population from contamination and preventing the proliferation of Covid-19 disease across the island. In its

quest to rise up to this daunting challenge, the whole Force was mobilised on 19.03.2020.

Police Officers from all adjuncts of the Force hit the road to honour the oath of allegiance which they pledged in order to faithfully execute their duties without fear or favour, affection or ill will. The Special Mobile Force, Special Support Unit, National Coast Guard and other Branches and Units of the Force worked hand in hand in a spirit of collegiality to support their counterparts at the front line in the effective enforcement of the Curfew Order issued on 23.03.2020. 'Stay at home' and 'Work from home' were leitmotifs for the effective management of the crisis.

To ensure compliance with the Curfew Order, Divisional Police re-organized their patrol schemes and embraced the concept of 'more feet on the beats'. This new strategy has enabled our Officers at front line to raise public awareness on precautionary and sanitary measures which they need to observe in order to prevent the disease

from gaining momentum. In addition to foot and mobile patrols, targeted operations and road blocks were also carried out at strategic locations around the island with a view to deterring people from wandering in public places. In the same vein, access to public beaches was restricted. Police vigilance was increased at Airport and Port in a bid to preserving order and decorum. Security was also beefed up at Quarantine Centres for ensuring infected persons remain in isolation.

While most of us were confined and looking after our own safety, some malefactors took advantage of the precarious situation prevailing in the country to break into hyper markets and supermarkets, temporarily closed down on ground of public safety and security. Consequently, additional Police Officers were deployed for ensuring security over these premises and for preventing cases of looting. The Police were also present on the ground for providing assistance to the Enforcement Officers of the Consumer Protection Unit in severing traders involved in malpractices, such as, stockpiling of essential goods and price gouging.

These wide-ranging duties had inevitably placed a strain on police resources but our front liners did not relinquish their efforts in the fight against the invisible enemy which has sparked fear and causing toll of death worldwide.

Police Officers controlled access at Quarantine Centres to prevent unauthorized entry. Officers from National Coast Guard were deployed on foot patrol along coastal areas to ensure safety and security.





Besides their enforcement role, the Police also went an extra mile for ensuring the well-being of the needy and vulnerable persons. They assisted staff of the Postal Services in effecting door-to-door payment of pensions to elderly persons and other beneficiaries. They supported Officers of the Ministry of Social Integration in distributing foodstuffs to eligible households. In an endeavour to ward off the perceived shortage of cooking gas and prevent panic buying, they provided assistance to employees of gas refineries in the distribution domestic gas cylinders to various sale outlets island wide. In a wave of solidarity, they also contributed benevolently for procuring foods and beverages for the needy and destitute persons.

During lockdown, while the vast majority of the population remained indoors, some mala fide persons took advantage of this situation to steal vegetables from plantations around the island. Such loots were organized in the wee hours and it was difficult for the planters to check and guard their vegetation at all times. The Police did not let the actions of a few heartless thieves tarnish the hard work of so many planters. Once again, they put their best foot forward and through regular policing, sensitization campaigns and surveillance of cultivated areas, many of the culprits were caught red handed and brought to justice.

The Police also assisted personnel of the Minister of Social Integration, Social Security and National Solidarity and Minister of Health and Wellness in the conduct of the seasonal flu vaccination campaign. They accompanied the nursing and supporting staff in some 183 regions of the island for the vaccination of senior citizens, people with disabilities and minors suffering from severe handicap. Their contribution was instrumental in ensuring the smooth unfolding of the campaign. The vulnerable persons were vaccinated at their place of residence, in charitable institutions and in private retirement homes without exposing themselves to any risk of contamination. This was yet another feather in the cap of the Police.

Last but not the least, the MPF provided all Police Officers deploy at the frontline policing with Personal Protective Equipment comprising face masks, gloves, face shields, hand soaps, hand sanitisers, hand lotions and coveralls in order to enable them to perform their duties with confidence and diligence. Senior Officers visited them by day and by night whilst they were carrying out road blocks and vehicle check operations and issued with energizer drinks, fruits and biscuits and also boost up their morale since they were dealing with an unprecedented situation and challenges which they have never faced before where their own safety and security were at stake.

Mauritius has gained the upper hand in the fight against Covid-19 pandemic. As the main law enforcement agency in the country, the Police have played a pivotal role in the battle against coronavirus. They were at all fonts during the lockdown for enforcing the new health and social regulations, while ensuring our society continues to function in a civil manner. Likewise, they left no stone unturned in attending to all public requests to their satisfaction.

The spirit of sacrifice, sense of patriotism and relentless efforts, and determination demonstrated by the front-liners of the MPF, who have been at the service of the nation, day and night, amid the Covid-19 have etched the mind of the entire Mauritian society. In fact, the Covid-19 crisis has brought policing back to the forefront of the public view and has reminded us of the interconnectedness of societies. It has further strengthened the bond between the Police and the Public and has led to fruitful partnerships among various stakeholders.

The war against Covid-19 is not yet over. We have to remain vigilant, maintain all sanitary measures and continue to work as a tight-knit team with one common goal - '**Salus Populi Suprema Lex Esto**' (The Health/Well-being of the People is the Supreme Law), in order to make Mauritius a Covid-free country.

by Insp Codabaccus
Police Magazine Committee

8 ONLINE TIPS in the time of COVID-19

- 1 Remember that when online, you are never alone. It is public space.
- 2 What you 'chose' or 'found' on the web are not purely your decisions. It's the algorithms at work.
- 3 Turn on your doubt gene.
- 4 Racism does not fall under free speech or freedom of expression.
- 5 Not everything that looks and sounds like news, are in fact, such.
- 6 Opt for the original, and go straight to the source.
- 7 Don't forget: The internet is forever.
- 8 Create and consume a healthy digital diet.



Source: www.reportingasean.net/



LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT

The Modern Era of Transportation

HISTORY REVISITED

The history of rail transport in Mauritius began in the 1860s. The Mauritian rail network which was quickly built soon provided service to most of the island. It was a key factor in the social-economic development of Mauritius during its period of operation. However, due to persistent unprofitability from 1948 to 1953, it had to close down. The last passenger train made its journey between Port-Louis and Curepipe on 31 March 1956. However, carrying of sugarcane, heavy goods and general merchandise continued till 1964. The railway network was then dismantled and sold to other countries.



by Mr. G. Veerasami ASP
Northern Div

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Which was believed to be the end of the rail system, was redeveloped as the Mauritius Light Rail Transit System in year 2019. Named the Metro Express, this government project supported by the Indian Government, nullified the pessimism of certain persons when the first LRVs started running.



LAUNCH OF THE METRO EXPRESS LTD

The Metro Express Ltd (MEL) was incorporated on 26th October 2016 as an exclusive company of the government of Mauritius. Thus the implantation of an innovative transportation system started. It is worthy pointing out that foundation works for the laying of the twelve kilometres of rail tracks and seven



stations from Rose Hill to Port Louis started in year 2017 by the Larsen & Toubro. Subsequently the first Light Rail Vehicle (LRV) arrived on 5th July 2019. After assiduous works on the rail track, the LRVs became operational on 25th September 2019 where trial runs started. The official opening was carried by the Hon Prime Minister Pravind Kumar JUGNAUTH on the 3rd October 2019 through a soft-launch where a Light Rail Vehicle was run from the depot at Richelieu to Rose Hill. This was followed by a 'free passenger service scheme' for commuters which ended on the 9th January 2020. The commercial service of the Metro Express started on the 10th January 2020.

NEW MASS-COMMUTING SYSTEM

Light Rail system is an urban rapid transit mode, powered by electricity, typically serving city centres and inner suburban areas, which is prevalent in other countries. Able to carry more passengers than buses, light rail services can either share road space with other forms of transport or operate on dedicated tracks – or a combination of the two. Its carrying capacity enables the light rail to fill the gap between bus services, taxis and private owned vehicles making it a valuable part of the public transport. Light rail services can provide an alternative to bus travel on busy road corridors and increase public transport choice for journeys between suburban areas. Light rail should be regarded as complementary to other modes of transport rather than opposition to them.

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TRANSIT POLICING – THE CHALLENGE

Policing of the rail system differ from country to country and requires a different approach. Whilst some countries have specific police units to control the transport system including the Light-Rails like the British Transport Police; others have incorporated transport policing as part of the ongoing policing business. The main objectives of rail-policing are to cater for the safety and security of commuters and security of vital installations.

In Mauritius, the ERS Transport Squad has been entrusted the policing of the Light Rail system which consist, inter alia, duties at LRV Stations and level-crossings, security of vital installations and on board LRVs as well as at the Operational Control Centre. The Police work in conjunction with the Stewards and Ticket Inspectors of the Metro Express Ltd to enforce the Light Rail Act 2019 and relevant regulations.

So far Police responses are mostly geared towards cases of sick people either at LRV Stations or on board. In such cases the established protocols are observed whereby first-aid are given to the sick person by Police and Stewards pending the arrival of SAMU personnel and removal to hospital for treatment. Very few cases of fare evasion have been reported and dealt with by the Ticket Inspectors. Generally common offences listed



on board trains include anti-social behaviour, criminal damage/vandalism/graffiti and staff assaults. In some countries offences may range from criminal disruption of service, hate crime, violent crime, sexual offences and terrorism.

Since the commencement of operation of LRVs, the Police have been present at strategic places to the satisfaction of the public and operator. There is a feeling of security along the rail-corridor and police presence is re-assuring. As the operator plans to introduce private security officers to relieve the Police at some specific places, undoubtedly the role of the Police will change into a more response-type service.

Policing cannot be an isolated activity as it entails constant interaction with individuals, communities, and various institutions. In many cases, collaboration with civil society is essential for preventing and reducing crime and violence. Community policing has gained popularity as a policing strategy which focuses on decentralizing policing responsibility in order to enable local commanders and front-line officers to work in conjunction with the citizens on developing and implementing policing strategies. Policing continues to evolve in response to new knowledge, technology, demographic change, diversifying societal demands and urbanization. In a nut-shell, policing of the Light Rail System will include providing a visible presence, being more integrated in the community, providing more information to the public, offering support to victims, acting as role models and participating in local crime prevention partnerships.





THE POLICE: FROM A HUMAN RIGHTS PERSPECTIVE

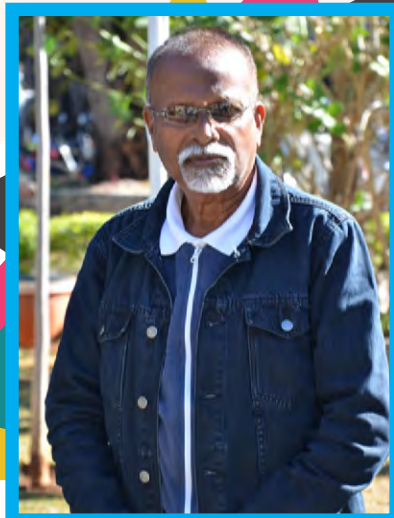
I often start with the premise that there was a beginning. We have received nothing out of the blue or by some sort of magic. 'Police' is a household buzz as they have an undisputed place and role in society. While some are scared, others are reassured as to the mission of police in the social landscape.

HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

My little knowledge of human anthropology sends me back, in a conjectural approach, to the times of collective leadership for the survival of the fittest. Tribes needed a very strong leadership to protect them against other tribes for food, for fire, for survival. Tribes selected among themselves a cohort of 'security agents' to protect their crops, their domesticated animals, their own lives against human predators and 'other animals'.

Much later in 27 B.C., the first Roman Emperor created the 'urban cohorts' recruited from the Praetorian Guards (Augustus's arm) to ensure peace in the city. In parallel Augustus created a cohort of vigils charged with fighting crimes and fire. We can deduce that society, however ancient, looks for protection and attributes a specific role to those people (men in general) who would provide protection to the larger number.

Police from a Greek word 'polis' meaning 'city' sends us to the idea of settling disputes, conflict solving, crime control and prevention. Interesting to note that in the present Protection of Elderly Act 2005, Police are a member à part entière of the Elderly Watch instituted in each of our districts. It is assumed that a mediation team which includes the police would be more appropriate and effective in settling domestic and family matters before they find their way in a court of justice.



**by Mr. Vijay Naraidoo,
Director of DIS-MOI
(Droits Humains Ocean Indien)**

FRONT LINING

I have no qualm with regards to the omnipresence of police in our structures and superstructures. They are in the frontline as a matter of fact: on the roads controlling pedestrians and traffic; the latter is not always in their good mood which begs a considerable amount of psychology and education, in the buses deterring an unruly student or adult gone out of his or her wits. They are seen at funerals and weddings or pilgrimage so often we take this role for granted and so normal. Or at the gate of schools or a stadium meaning that the very presence of the police is a warning to the trouble maker. At this point, I vouch for the readiness of the police to brave the threat of the COVID-19 distributing food packs to the needy and picking up the gas bottle of an old fellow citizen.

HOMOGENEITY

Recruitment of police agents for training to be posted in different sectors, ground, coast and sea, mobile force and others is made from fellow citizens who have clearly defined qualifications. But their background are manifestly different though at the end of the training one would expect the same modus, the same approach to apprehend an issue, address the aggrieved citizen or the accused (presumed innocent until proven guilty) with the same human and humane approach in terms of vocabulary and tonality. Considering that each individual is different, there have been departures from established rules which are not unique to police but occurs, without me making any judgment, in other public departments where we are made to see the black dots in pristine water. This said, police are called upon to oppose sophistication by sophistication incarnated by the best brains among smugglers or ... thieves.

EDUCATION

I opine that the police as an institution be explained to the child right from an early age. Parents could better teach their toddlers to respect instead of fearing them. The Crime Prevention Unit of the Mauritius Police Force has been doing a marvelous work, while the police involvement in the Neighborhood Watch could also be the subject of Social Studies in formal and informal training. In parallel citizen awareness could be made on their rights and responsibilities developing a shared understanding of the role of law enforcement officers and of those who wish a flawless society. If this is utopian in proposal, it is a challenge in essence.

CONCLUSION

In the final analysis the rights of each and every citizen, in all sectors of work, require unflinching respect and protection. All the protocols will never be enough when the will is not there. In a country where the protection of the human rights of each individual is to be a culture, education is a sine qua non.



1960 **60** 2020
YEARS

AN OCCASION TO CELEBRATE

On 30th June 2020, the Special Mobile Force pompously celebrated its 60th years of service in safeguarding the internal security and defense of the Republic of Mauritius. Prior to the independence, under the British rule, the island was torn with conflicts, social unrests and public disorders whereby local forces were unable to contain. Policing of the colony was like sitting on a powder keg. At times reinforcement were even solicited from stand-by forces from the Gulf of Eden. The creation of a strong paramilitary force was inevitable, a primary prerequisite to ensure peace, security and safety of the island.

Ever since, with its strategic implantation in the center of the island, though discreet, the SMF has paved its way and marked history more as a deterrent force than a frontline intervention force.

This paramilitary force has been present on all fronts through, guarding strategic places, its presence on parades and defile on auspicious occasions, marking presence in outer islands and at the disposal as support services to other adjuncts of the force whenever and wherever needed. For greater efficacy and effectiveness, with the evolution of time, several specialized units have been created, with well trained specialists to attend to the exigencies of modern times.

It was a glorious moment, in a festive mood that the celebration unfolded. The traditional parade in all its decorum was manifestly the pivoting item of the celebration. The SMF can be considered as the school of the brave. Many have gone through, many have left their foot prints, but all have marched on the road to glory.

Celebrating its 60th anniversary is in some way the reminiscence of long years of loyal service with commitment and devotion. The organization may have reached the age of maturity; it has a story to tell to the young generation, but still a long way to go with remarkable resilience to meet the challenges of the post modern time.

By PC 11528 RAMBOJUN
Disaster Response Unit





INAUGURATION OF GRANDE MONTAGNE POLICE STATION

In the late 1970's, with a population of about 23, 443, Rodrigues' five existing police stations namely; Port Mathurin, Petit Gabriel, La Ferme, Riviere Coco and last but not least, Grande Montagne were policed by some 50 Officers. These stations were made of concrete and corrugated iron sheets.

The Autonomy in 2002, with the increasing number of tourist visiting the island, economic activities grew to such an extent that required an increasing demand for police service in the island. Subsequently, the strength of Rodrigues' police grew substantially and now it has around 550 officers including officers of the NCG and the SMF.

Eventually, the infrastructure followed suit with the renovation works on existing buildings and the creation of new policing spaces to ensure a quality environment for the delivery of an up to standard quality service to the community. The exercise started with the construction of the New Divisional Headquarters at Port Mathurin in 1994 which also housed Port Mathurin Police Station followed by construction of Riviere Coco Police station in year 2001, La Ferme Police Station in year 2007 and finally the construction of the sixth Police Station in 2012, namely, Plaine Corail Police. Thereafter, the old Petit Gabriel Police Station was rebuilt and inaugurated in November 2017.

Grande Montagne is the latest Police Station of Rodrigues Police Division to be allotted with a brand new Police building. With the advent of new Policing Strategies, contemporary developments were required to meet the demands and expectations of the local community that Police proudly serve.

Grande Montagne Police Station has the most widespread Policing area of the Division with approximately 31 square km and having diversified landscapes transitioning from beautiful beaches, valleys to dense forests and steep inaccessible cascades. The Station area has a population of approximately 8000 inhabitants spread across some 29 villages including Pointe Cotton, Gravieres, Rivière Banane and Brule.

The former building was in a derelict state that necessitated urgent repair and renovation. On the 18th of December 2019, the new building was inaugurated during a ceremony graced by Hon Mr. Pravind Kumar JUGNAUTH, Prime Minister of the Republic of Mauritius, in the presence of the Chief Commissioner of Rodrigues, Mr. Louis Serge CLAIR and Mr. K. JUGROO, PMSM, DCP (Administration).

In the endeavour to providing a better service to the local population, the new Police building has been most welcomed by the local community as well as officers posted to Grande Montagne Police Station. It really redefines the landscape of policing by creating a conducive working environment that induces commitment and determination in the delivery of police service to the community.



SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY DURING COVID-19 LOCKDOWN:

COMMUNITY POLICING IN ACTION



by C. Bhojoo, PMSM
Deputy Commissioner of Police



Very few may have realized that, from a Community Policing Model perspective, the Mauritius Police gave a visibly demonstrative glimpse of its philosophy of full service policing during the COVID-19 imposed lockdown on the country during the March/April/May 2020 period.

As one of the main front runners during this never known before Pandemic, the Police came to don its mantle of social player in the pursuit of its noble mission to provide safety, security, peace and well being to its citizens

Images of masked Police Officers courteously controlling endless queues of impatient customers mainly in front of supermarkets will long remain engraved in the minds of many, as a showcase of closeness between police and people in that period of hardship.

More commendable indeed was the assistance provided by Police station personnel to assist the Ministry of Social Security in the door to door payment of old-age and disability government pensions. It was service par excellence to witness our senior citizens receiving their monthly dues at their doorsteps from the hands of devoted police officers and the Ministry staff. And that without any hassle of having to queue in a scorching sun or cold weather, with zero security risk. Police won the hearts of many for this praiseworthy action.

There was more on the service front: Police Officers, offering free foodstuffs from their own pockets to the less fortunate and needy or still Police vehicles ferrying gas cylinders, a rare commodity at one time, from sale outlets to the houses of mainly the old, the living lonely with no means to undertake such task.

Needless to point out that we were all living in the fear of contracting the Covid virus. Yet, dedicated and brave Police Officers went beyond their normal scope of duties to deliver the community support and social side of Policing.

In unison with health and some other essential front runners, the police showed its mettle in a period of uncertainty, hardship and distress. It mirrored the image of a caring organization, capable of addressing the particular concerns and needs of the people in a stressful context.

Interestingly the bond, trust, attitude and understanding between police and the citizen emerged as a new contract between two interdependent parties. With less reported crime, traffic incidents and other policing tasks during the curfew, the Police found itself with additional resources to be at the service of the community in a very social and humanitarian manner. One of the main pillars- Community Policing – of modern Policing in a democratic society saw a sudden rebirth through unexpected circumstances. The community became a part of policing not apart from it!!

As a reminder, Community Policing as an effective tool in the hands of Police was first heard in the 80's though as far back as in the 60's the concept was developed.



In the Mauritius Police, in the mid 90's, the then Commissioner of Police introduced the full concept of Community Policing as an integral part of Police work. Expectedly this new partnership created a positive impact in the community hardly seen before.

Then, a few years later, it was rekindled by a Reform Team headed by a British Consultant. Again it became a fruitful platform allowing Police and the community to address a number of policing issues. Unfortunately, with time, Community Policing gradually faded. Reborn again in year 2012, Community Policing found its rightful place amongst the six strategic pillars of another important Police Reform Programme. The Community Policing strand of the Reform Plan was efficiently and expertly implemented, much to the satisfaction of the community which rediscovered the erstwhile platform to air its grievances.

Welcomingly, the Covid-19 situation has reminded Police of Community Policing as a useful underutilized tool in the hands of Law Enforcement. It has re opened the window of opportunities for a renewed partnership and collaboration with the citizen to address growing community grievances collaboratively. We have all happily seen the flame of Community Policing glowing again in the midst of a new challenge.

Although Community Policing is equated to problem solving, fruitful partnering, fighting crime together, addressing Community needs and concerns, yet regrettably, it is yet to gain a stronger anchor in the MPF Policing framework.

Understandably, in our local context, policing priorities have been elsewhere simply because the tool of Community Policing do not tend to yield results and outcomes in the immediate which would strengthen the belief of its utility and usefulness.

Optimistically, the mere fact that it is already integrated in our police range of duties is already a major step forward.

In the hope of greater strategic support, stronger conviction and allocation of the appropriate resources, a leap worth the name is visible on the horizon. Assuredly, in Community Policing lies numerous viable solutions to many of our increasing and sophisticated crime and other societal issues.

The future of Community Policing is in our own hands!



Our Journey at the Police Prosecutions Office



**“Tell me and I forget,
Teach me and I may remember,
Involve me and I learn”**
- Benjamin Franklin

We, legal interns, joined the Police Prosecutions Office (hereinafter referred to as PPO) in 2019 and indeed, we have been really fortunate for having contributed to the Mauritius Police Force for more than a year. At the PPO, we have been exposed to the practical side of prosecution (criminal jurisdiction of the Intermediate Court) and we can affirm that this practical exposure has benefitted us not only in understanding but also in seeing beyond our passive theoretical bubble.

It is not an easy task to be a Police Prosecutor. Having a legal knowledge does not suffice. For a diligent Police Prosecutor, independence, impartiality, fairness, competence, inter alia are the “*maître-mots*”. Prosecutors have the inherent duty to ascertain that the right person is prosecuted for the right offence and to bring offenders to justice wherever possible. They are therefore the epitome of justice in as much as they are mindful of fair-trial rights of accused. As far as possible, they try their best to enlighten the Court. They always act in the interests of justice and not solely for the purpose of securing a conviction. This is why not everybody can be players of such caliber!

Our internship has fruitfully helped us in our personal and professional growth as we have been bestowed with the possibility of regularly attending court cases together with Police Prosecutors and assisting the staff of the PPO in vetting Draft PF 100 and drafting of information. We have personally witnessed the team spirit that prevails within the Force, especially at the PPO during the farewell ceremonies of Ex ASP Mr. Buckhory and CPL 2935 Surjoo who retired in 2019 and 2020 respectively.

Undeniably, being a Police Officer is a noble job. We seize this opportunity to salute the Police Officers and other members of the Mauritius Police Force for their arduous and commendable work that has been largely evidenced during the COVID-19 outbreak.

**by Miss Emambocus Hadiyah Khoyrutty
& Mr. Bhooshansingh Purmah (Akshay)
Legal Interns at PPO**

POLICE PATRIARCHS GLORY TO THEE

Retirement is usually the best thing that happens to an individual at the end of a long and fruitful career. Looking back a veteran is filled with a sense of satisfaction at his/her legacy, which the new blood seeks to emulate and improve. The nostalgia, though unbearable is a bitter sweet experience.

The decorations and achievements through years of toil, preserve the dignity, respect and self-satisfaction prior to the concessionary milestone of retirement. Many have been working in a harmonious environment, sharing comradeship among subordinates and tending a helping hand to others in need, despite their age catching up. Their families have witnessed the sacrifices they have made to improve their livelihoods – better education for children, comfortable homes, and, not the least, being good spouses that raised their stature in the eyes of their beloved ones.

Sure-enough, some have sacrificed their careers to spare time for the welfare of their families - inculcated moral values, strengthened family ties, coupled with duties and responsibilities. Being from a disciplined corps their behavior has been exemplary despite being exempted from professional anxieties.

Retiring from the Mauritius Police Force is not an end to a professional career, however. Many have sought out other motivating factors to keep themselves alive and healthy – a new job or a business venture for those who still have the energy and capacity to do so. Some join associations and socio-cultural groups to chase boredom or loneliness, and eventually becoming active members within the community.

Others may feel that they have worked enough and prefer to enjoy their retirement peacefully within their respective family precincts but will always reminiscence on the beautiful moments spent with the members of the Mauritius Police Force.

There are often times when the wise words of old-hands are still echoing amongst those with whom they have worked shoulder to shoulder, acting as safeguards for the younger generations, saving them from falling into precipices with unprecedented effects on their lives. How much their efforts have been awarded, can only be gauged through the collective memory of the members of the MPF.

The veterans have valued their family life and have always reminded their subordinates of this fact. Due to their enormous experience in tackling life whether on personal grounds or professionally, the patriarchs usually proved to us of how hard, life was during their days and how much patience is needed to conceive a successful career. They have contributed enormously sacrificing their health and time for our convenience and that of the community.

They have been sources of prudent advice, which are critical to our judgments whilst discharging our duties. Even today, more than ever, we refer to the good job done by retired personnel, whatever the rank they may have been during their time with the Mauritius Police Force. Through their concurrent actions – innovations, initiative-taken or simply being exemplary team leaders/players – have earned them a place in the minds of many, and to ever be a part of the hall-of-fame in Mauritian Police history.

So many amongst us might consider these statements quite uncanny or delusive, but one thing they do need to ponder upon – what were the main factors leading to our decision to become a member of the MPF?

The decorum and discipline they showed during parades especially on the National Day celebrations made us shiver with patriotism and fervor, when we were just a part of the ebullient audience, watching admirably the disciplined corps consisting of those veterans, smart in their uniforms. Proudly being the evidence of the force they exhibited, they marched past the honorific dais and inspired prospective Police Officers when they, sequentially, dugged in their drill shoes within the public view.

Unfortunately, nowadays, they have become just memories in the Mauritius Police Force and the memories of their contributions for so many years even though being of different ranks is, gradually, fading. Every single Police Officer has a purpose in the MPF and through his/her benevolent actions should always be remembered and honoured.

As the famous saying goes “Once a Police Officer Always a Police Officer” will always be a reminder of our allegiance to our duties whether we are still a member of the Mauritius Police Force or retired. This countenance conveys a strong message as to our purpose in the Mauritius Police Force and enhances our respect as one day or another we will surely be required to step down.

Tribute goes to those Police Officers who in mid, blossoming or ripening career lost their lives either due to illness or whilst in the line of duty leaving a world of despair to their respective families and a blank space which cannot be filled. Our sincere condolences shall always be with the families.

Retirement befalls on all Police Officers who have given his/her lifetime to the Force. We feel blessed being the beneficiaries of their experience, having lived their sacrifices and shared their cheerful nature. Our appreciation and a heartfelt prayer for their wellness and health shall always remain in our hearts.

**by PC 2497 Lacchman
Crime Intelligence Unit
Southern Div**

PROTECT THYSELF

We Police Officers,

As law enforcement officers, our fundamental duty is to serve the community, to safeguard lives and property, to protect the innocent against deception, the weak against oppression or intimidation, the peaceful against violence or disorder and to respect the constitutional rights of all liberty, equality and justice.

We police officers are the forerunners in ensuring that law and order prevails in our country. In order to excel in policing, one should adopt a proper “Hygiène de vie” due to the constant difficulties we are facing nowadays. The sad part is, a small percentage of officers do not keep themselves physically fit in body and mind.



By PC 9392 RAMSAMY
VIPSU

Being a police officer who provides basic social services, maintaining order and controlling crime is not an easy mission, and sometimes stressful. Throughout my 18-year career in the Mauritius Police Force, I managed stress by incorporating exercise and eating right into my daily regimen. However, my mindset somewhat changed as from 2017 when I was posted to the Special Mobile Force; I had the opportunity to attend a lecture on Benefits of Meditation and Mindfulness from personnel of Art of Living.

This is where I was initiated to meditation and learned the primary guidelines that I want to share with my counterparts through this article to adopt a proper “Hygiène de vie”.

1. Meditation and Mindfulness

The main goal of meditation is to help your mind slow down and let go of distraction which helps stress to fade away. Meditation has multiple benefits such as stress reduction, increased happiness

and elevated mood, improved brain power and concentration, physical health improvement, self-awareness and self-acceptance. Since I started meditating years ago, I have experienced an increase in my mental focus; also have less stress and an overall sense of well-being. More so, meditation has many scientifically proven benefits to mental health, physical and well-being.

Each and every police officer should be aware that the reason behind meditation is to achieve a state of calmness in order to be more effective personally and professionally.

2. Importance of Physical Fitness

«If you choose law enforcement as profession, you lose the right to be unfit»

- Chief Kristen Ziman, Aurora Illinois Police, US.

Exercise not only
changes your body.
It changes your mind,
your attitude and
your mood.



Physical activity is not something new to Police Officers of our country. Irrespective of all branches and units in the Force, we all went through a physical training and assessment in our respective training school during our formation. However, the flow of today's life and prior to making things happen in our daily routine, we lose the interest of keeping fit due to one common excuse – “we don't have enough time”. One thing is sure for you, if you don't have time to keep yourself physically fit, you will surely have time to visit a doctor.

Physical activity promotes good health and everyone should stay active throughout all stages of their life regardless of their body type or BMI. Understanding the benefits of physical fitness and knowing how active you should be, can help you maintain good health and improve your overall quality of life.

3. Intakes

«You are what you eat» - Ludwig Feuerbach, German philosopher

It is nearly impossible for a human being to achieve health and fitness goals without a proper nutritional programme. The human body will not function properly if you do not have a well-balanced diet. It will be easier for you to follow a proper diet when you understand how the body converts food into fuel.

Adjust your food intake so that you consume more lean protein, less carbohydrates and more fresh vegetables and fruits. Avoid consuming alcohol in excess, and start cutting down on caffeine, sweets and tobacco, because these substances can hinder your body's

ability to perform at its best. Adopting an art of living as such will surely upgrade your quality of life, health and well-being.

Your body and mind is the only place you live permanently during a lifetime. So, PROTECT THYSELF!



You don't have to

EAT LESS

You just have to

EAT RIGHT





“Mens Sana in Corpore Sano”

'A SOUND MIND IN A SOUND BODY'



Metropolitan Division (North) set the stage for inculcating a culture of physical and sport activities in line with the Force Motto – “Mens Sana in corpore Sano” -a sound mind in a sound body with the super-ordinate goal for a fit and healthy police. It is a fact that a smart Police Officer will be projecting the desired image of the Mauritius Police Force as a professional and dedicated service provider, besides sending the right message to law breakers that the Police mean business. The Police will live up to public expectations only if they are in a permanent state of readiness, both mentally and physically, to meeting any situational exigencies.

Realising that the majority of staff were leading a sedentary lifestyle, it was vital at the outset to bring a change in their mindset. The only way out was to raise awareness of each and every Police Officer, irrespective of rank of their actual physical state through the measurement of Body Mass Index. Such exercise per se was successful inasmuch as it triggered a wake-up call that it was high time for them to adopt an active and healthy lifestyle.

Such positive turning point was fully exploited to reinforce the change of mindset, achieved by lectures on the benefits of physical exercises, importance of good diet, illnesses related to overweight and obesity coupled with introduction to basic aerobic training.

Subsequently, personnel were embarked on endurance training and motivated to indulge in physical activities together with their family members in addition to outdoor training organised at stations and units levels.

The next phase constituted of a six-a-side football tournament meant firstly to boost the morale of personnel, enhancing team spirit and camaraderie and secondly to reaffirming ties with the community by taking on board a local team in the competition.

Force resources were not sidelined but instead co-opted to form part of Divisional teams in recognition to their contribution in attaining Divisional Objectives.

Finals were played on Saturday 03.10.2020 at the synthetic football pitch of Sir Gaëtan Duval Municipal Recreational Park, Desperoux Street, Roche Bois, preceded by a defile comprising of Special Mobile Force Bag Pipe team, members of the local community including players of Bolton City Football Club as well as community representatives of different station areas.

The finals unfolded in an electric atmosphere and the big winner was nobody else than the sporting spirit and the cementing of the bond between the police and the community in line with the Divisional Motto of “Working for and with the community”.



**by Mr M.Madhow
Assistant Commissioner of Police
Metropolitan Division (North)**



INTERNATIONAL POLICE ASSOCIATION (Mauritius Section) **STRONGER AT LI**

The year 2020 started with the same long-standing tradition and customs of new year celebrations and it was often labelled as a year which will be full of fine wine (2020 = Vin Vin) but very few would have predicted a quarantine year (Quarantaine i.e. 20 + 20 = 40). Like it or not, the COVID-19 pandemic has taught us significant lessons. In short, we have realised that we are all vulnerable but then we can always live in the simplest way possible till the time we have the five basic needs namely shelter, food, water, oxygen and sleep. Well, in the present conjuncture, some may also add a sixth one i.e. good health.

During the COVID-19 crisis, most people have confined themselves with their near and dear one. Unfortunately, the situation was not alike for front-liners especially medical practitioner law enforcement officials amongst others who have put their primary duties and responsibilities before their self. These officers have indeed placed their safety, welfare and comfort last on the priority list so that the citizen may rest and breathe peacefully within their comfort zones. No doubt, they have respectfully earned the title of modern-day superheroes by enduring the risk of the virus contamination which was not different from a world war. In the present scenario, the enemy was an unseen one and this has rendered the condition much more complex than combat.



In the same breath, IPA sections around the world had to re-adapt their mission objectives in meeting their respective action plans and scheduled deadlines both at the professional and cultural level. We have witnessed many cancellations of events and postponement of activities which would involve travel across borders. The annulment of the grand event for commemorating the 70th anniversary was certainly a sad moment. But as it is rightly said, it is better to be safe than sorry. The decision taken by the International Executive Bureau (IEB) was a heart-breaking but right one. However, with the optimum exploitation of information technology and current software, a lot of IPA activities were conducted online - for example the online world congress and numerous professional conferences. Besides, every section took the initiatives in conducting various events to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the IPA.

The Mauritius section, despite its heavy deployment of the IPA members in dealing with the COVID-19 situation coupled with the unfortunate Wakashio shipwreck, managed to keep the flag of the IPA flowing with flying colours in maintaining several activities. In an endeavour to meet our professional obligation as well as fulfilling our IPA mission, we came out burnt out and tired but, in the end, we had our chest filled with pride and honour for our modest contribution to the community at large. The following pictures depict some of the main events conducted by IPA Mauritius to mark the 70th (LXX) IPA anniversary and 51st (LI) anniversary of our section. This includes deeds ranging from social to cultural programs conducted under the respective commission.



Brave is the IPA family for finding a new normal in upholding its motto of 'Servo per Amikeco' worldwide. Moreover, as law enforcement officers, we remain one of the nation's beacons of hope, safety and risk-takers, come what may...

Happy LI Celebrations!

by Mr. Outam Kumar Guiness, ASP
President
IPA Mauritius



MEASURES TO DETER MERCHANT SHIPPING TO NAVIGATE CLOSE TO MAURITIAN COAST



Mauritius lies at the crossroads with Asia, Africa and Australia in the Indian Ocean. Owing to the strategic geographical location numerous merchant vessels make passages close to our coast which is surrounded by lagoon having rich biodiversity. Pollution caused due to marine accidents pose a severe threat to the flora and fauna. Thus, it is imperative, that steps are taken in order to ensure that the marine vessels navigate at safe distances from our coast in order to minimize the possibility of an oil spill.

Shipping Traffic in Southern Indian Ocean Region

It would not be legally permissible to prevent any vessel from undertaking innocent passage close to the Mauritian waters under Article 17 of United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). It is therefore necessary to explore and adopt other means available to the coastal state so as to deter merchant vessels not intending to enter Port Louis, Mauritius to maintain safe distances from the coast. Some of these instruments which are available to a coastal state are enumerated in the subsequent paragraphs.

As an immediate measure an advisory navigational warning may be promulgated as a form of a Merchant Shipping Notice. This can be given wide publicity through various channels used by the mariners. This could contain recommendations to keep well clear of areas which are bound by a set of coordinates stating their environmental/ecological importance or unfavourable metrological conditions. Additionally, we can also look at promulgation of Area to be Avoided (ATBA) which is a mechanism provided by IMO to define limits around the island where there is possibility that unacceptable damage to the environment could result from a casualty.

Particularly Sea Sensitive Area (PSSA) is another legal instrument made available by IMO and is defined as an area that needs special protection for ecological, socio-economic, or scientific attributes where such attributes may be vulnerable to damage by international shipping activities. Thus, considering these factors some areas of mainland Mauritius as well as outer islands could definitely qualify as PSSA.

There are 17 PSSAs currently defined by coastal nations around the world including the Great Barrier Reef, (Australia), Sabana-Camagüey Archipelago (Cuba), Malpelo Island (Colombia), and the sea around Florida Keys (USA) etc.

Considering that innocent passage cannot be legally prevented within the territorial limits of a coastal state but may jeopardise safety due to inadvertent collusion or grounding which may result in pollution, it is opined that the measures proposed above would deter the international shipping to pass close to our coast.

by Staff of NCG Headquarters



INTERNATIONAL COURSE ON COUNTER TERRORISM

16th August 2019 - I was all set up to leave Mauritius, on my way to the Arab Republic of Egypt, on a mission to attend a 10 weeks international course on counter terrorism.

At this very initial stage, I believed that the course I was looking forward to would be similar to what I had accomplished at the South African Police Academy, 2018. Mainly, an initiation into the legal, and practical aspect (scene of Bomb Explosion) of terrorism, Intelligence and Counter-Intelligence, Investigation of terrorists Incidents, Investigative interviewing and Mock Court Simulation.

The following day, on landing at Cairo, by a stroke of coincidence, I came across a fellow co-worker from the GIPM, who set out for a parachute course.

During our one day stay in the hotel, He came to highlight the rigorous physical training aspect of the commando course.

Sometimes, the idea of acquiring proficiency in anything novel and extreme may incite a feeling of nervousness. As in my case too, I believed that I was not up to the level of going through a physically arduous course due to my age. But I persuaded myself on not backing off from what I had set out to achieve.

18th August 2019 - Brought me to the Rangers Forces School, where I had a clear insight on the basis of the International Counter Terrorism Course, which is, hostage rescue and the obliteration of terrorists.

I became a part of Batch 51, which consisted of Military Personnels alongside only 4 Police Officers, including me. Batch 51 was made up of 35 State members from Saudi Arabia, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, China, Brazzaville, Côte D'Ivoire, Djibouti, Gabon, Gambia, Guinea, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, Uganda-DR Congo, alongside 30 Egyptians.

Heads were shaved, uniform gears were provided. And thus the transformation began. Like the preceding of every Special Forces training, I was required to undergo medical tests and mental fitness tests, which was inclusive of a 15 Metre jump into a pool and crawling on asphalt. While I found myself passing through the initial stages of the course, those who were not up to the level had the option of moving to the Egyptian Police Academy.

Physical training, started at 6:00 am and ended at 5:30 pm, involving helicopter rappelling, diving, shooting and self-defence training. Constant focus was on upgrading physical fitness and thus, I was required to indulge in daily workout sessions, which consisted of running, push ups, pull ups, and so on. To make sure that each one of the aspiring Commandos was keeping up the progress, a physical test was carried out every fortnight. My everyday routine was inclusive of only two meals per day, not a fancy diet. Out in the

desert of a temperature of 40, under the scorching Egyptian sun, I had to manage the 0.5 L of water administered to me, for a day. I was left sweltering after getting rolled down the blistering desert, while having the sand thrust all over my body, as part of the Commando training. I was also initiated into several types of assault techniques such as assault in buildings, airplanes and motor vehicles. I benefited from an advanced shooting training exercise at unit 777, also known as Task Force 777.

Just two weeks into the commando course, I found myself smashing through, where in the first instance, I thought I was not fit enough. Though I always wanted to achieve something similar, prior to this, I never had the opportunity. I never pictured myself climbing on airplane wings in order to grasp the tactics of eliminating hijackers and rescuing hostages. The course was beneficial for my personal growth as I learned to acknowledge, analyze and face hindrances in order to overcome the harshness in the making of a commando. Batch mates with bullet scars were examples of persistence and courage in the journey.

In the end, surpassing my own capacity rendered me overwhelmed with joy as after a successful final test, I was awarded with a certificate of Achievement from the Rangers Forces Command - Rangers Forces School, along with a certificate of appreciation from the

Chief Armed Force Training Authority of Egypt.

My heart goes out to one of my young mates of Batch 51, who attained martyrdom while conducting a special Operation on 03 June 2020, in the course of which, 12 Terrorists were exterminated at Rafah, Palestine.



PS 2700 Dassaye
Terrorism Investigation Cell/
Cybercrime unit - CCID



THE DAY IT ALL HAPPENED

FROM COAST GUARD TRAINING SCHOOL (CGTS) TO QUARANTINE CENTRE

Honestly speaking, the idea of conversion of the Coast Guard Training School (CGTS) at Le Chaland into a Quarantine Centre would seem unrealistic some days before the outbreak of COVID-19 in this pristine island. However, it all started with intimation by National Coast Guard (NCG) Headquarters that officials from Ministry of Health and Wellness are likely to visit school for some survey. On 18th March 2020 the team arrived asking questions about administrative arrangements, basic amenities, boarding and lodging facilities at school. It was followed by several site visits by officers from different ministries, high ranked NCG and Police Officers. The imminence of training school being transformed and playing a new role was much evident.



by Insp Rose
Coast Guard
Training School

CGTS is an ever-busy establishment, engaged in imparting training to NCG officers and regular police officers. Simultaneously, some courses are dispensed for the Prison Department, the Tourism Authority and the Mauritius Revenue Authority. The CGTS complex also houses a galley for Police Catering Unit which provides messing for NCG Officers, personnel of the Special mobile Force based at the SSR International Airports and also for detainees of Passport and Immigration Office detention Centre at Le Chaland. In the eventuality of becoming a Quarantine Centre, the administration of routine works without compromising the health and safety of stakeholders was a new challenge.

As minutes were passing by, we started to picture the school as something else but an educational institution. That day was a restless one and appeared infinite for school staff that was persistently working towards metamorphosis of school into a restricted zone. The CGTS personnel, all ranks including civilian workers were actually deployed in preparing accommodation for some one hundred (100) passengers who had already landed from Dubai and were expected shortly at Le Chaland. The barracks with a capacity of one hundred and sixty beds were requisitioned by the health department. Our staff had the duty of providing all the basics hospitality services for those to be placed in quarantine.

So many questions mandating immediate answers were raised, and we were running out of time. So many issues were still pending but we had no other options than to accommodate these people at all cost. In the meantime, live videos were circulating on social media, showing a hostile crowd at the Airport complaining about their situation thereat. It was just a part of the beginning of something with no past precedence. We had to expect the worst, in terms of risks of contamination and management of an agitated crowd. The installation of metal barriers, police yellow tapes and placement of police sentries at strategic points definitely created a feeling of tension all around. The staff was morally prepared not to leave the place of work on that very day and the mobilisation orders came just shortly after.

In a short while, personnel of the Ministry of Health and Wellness with two heavy laden lorries arrived at the school premises with their medical equipment, all ready to convert the barracks into a hospital ward. Doctors and nurses wearing protective facemasks invaded the CGTS compound, now officially Quarantine Centre. It was declared a restricted area under the Public Health Act by way of a Government Communique.

At dusk, two sixty-seater buses were slowly negotiating the curbs leading to the CGTS. On board were people of both sex and of all ages wearing their protective masks peeping out to know where they shall be sheltered for at least the next fourteen days. The CGTS had never known something similar before. Soon another dark blue Police lorry could also be seen on the parade ground with luggage being disembarked. The atmosphere was quite tense. The fear of contamination was evident, in all Police Officers on duty. As Law Enforcement Officers, we took the oath of allegiance to serve our country without fear, so the time was now to brave the adversity. We had to take maximum precautions to avoid contamination. On that day I heard someone saying, "I can give my life for my country, but I'll not waste it in vain". The fear of getting other members of our family contaminated was deeply felt. Every person, even our colleagues, telephone sets, doors handles, police vehicles and more or less everything posed a potential threat by an invisible enemy.

Quite naturally, persons in quarantine had some predicaments which required the intervention of the NCG staff and situation often degenerated into hot arguments. We dealt situations with a high sense of responsibility and diplomacy to curb down the tension which deemed uncontrollable by the medical staff. We managed to run the quarantine centre in the most professional manner in following days. For COVID positive cases, patients were transferred to Souillac Hospital by school staff for further administration of the health and medical issues.

The period of COVID-19 at CGTS remains engraved in the memory of everyone involved thereat. Many thanks to God for keeping our staff and their family safe and uncontaminated.

Now months after, we are still maintaining the sanitary precautions to avoid contamination and remain safe. It was a great experience donning a new responsibility and living an alien life.

RETIREMENT

List of Officers who have retired from the Force from January to November 2020:

SN	RANK	DEPT No.	NAME	DATE
1	CPL	1135	FAZALKHAN Kamruddin Ibrahim	07/01/2020
2	DCP		JANGI Heman	11/01/2020
3	SI		ROHAN Karl Daniel	15/01/2020
4	ASP		NASHIBJawarlall	19/01/2020
5	SI		ELLAPEN Poonooswamy	29/01/2020
6	CPL	3480	MOHAMED Ibne Saoud	02/02/2020
7	CPL	1520	MYKOO Mahenduth	02/02/2020
8	CPL	2890	PARIANEN Seeven	06/02/2020
9	PC	1677	NEVEU Sylvio Ange	07/02/2020
10	SP		RAMSAY Jean Claude	12/02/2020
11	PC	1342	GOORVADOO Sheeraja Gowpala Acharya	13/02/2020
12	CPL	269	BAHADOOR Ajitsing	16/02/2020
13	CPL	1475	CERVEAUX Georgie Brighton	17/02/2020
14	CPL	2894	CHUNDUNSING Coormarsing	18/02/2020
15	CPL	2825	DOMUN Imran	18/02/2020
16	CPL	2959	MEENOWA Herallall	18/02/2020
17	PS	5373	GHOORAH Nitin Kumar	20/02/2020
18	CPL	3453	RAMSAHYE Dharmacharyah	20/02/2020
19	PC	8030	IBRAHIM Jameel Ahmad	22/02/2020
20	PS	2336	VEERASAMY Vassoo	23/02/2020
21	PS	394	BAGRATEE Khemraj Singh	28/02/2020
22	PS	3369	PUDARUTH Satchidanand Dave	28/02/2020
23	PS	2810	PIERRE LOUIS Jean Robert	28/02/2020
24	PS	3626	MODESTE Joseph Patrick	28/02/2020
25	CPL	3730	SOOKUN Gyandeo	29/02/2020
26	CPL	2554	EMAMBOKUS Ahmed Ackbarally	01/03/2020
27	PS	7246	BOODENY Chabilall	01/03/2020
28	PC	364	BHOJEDHUR Umduth Rye	01/03/2020
29	PC	6313	PERMAL Sagaven Mardaymootoo	01/03/2020
30	CPL	4360	PANCHOO Leckram	02/03/2020
31	CPL	5349	BONOMAULLY Dharmendra	02/03/2020
32	CPL	3965	SOHODEB Devendre	02/03/2020
33	PC	7210	APPA Heman Raw	02/03/2020
34	SI		APPOU Jean Claudio Marcel	03/03/2020
35	INSP		GRENADE Joseph Gerard	04/03/2020
36	SI		RAMMA Balkrishna	07/03/2020
37	CPL	2955	KOOMKHOWA Wooduth	10/03/2020
38	DCP		REEKOYE Devanand	10/03/2020
39	CPL	3966	SOREETOOLLAH Mamode Salim	11/03/2020
40	CPL	3238	NARAYEN Dhununjay	12/03/2020

41	CPL	3877	PAUL Marie Joseph Alain	14/03/2020
42	INSP		DEEWOO Panday	16/03/2020
43	PS	5002	RAMPADARUTH Ghoorunsingh	16/03/2020
44	ACP		DAWOONARAIN Bhardwaj	16/03/2020
45	SI		JEWAN Shaikh Yousouf	20/03/2020
46	WPC	495	SCHICK Gina Angelique Anastasia	20/03/2020
47	CPL	3149	THAVER Krishna Hurry Sinnaya	22/03/2020
48	ACP		CALLY Yeshwantdev	22/03/2020
49	PC	184	BAHADOOR Vijay	23/03/2020
50	CPL	857	BHOJRAZ Mooneedeho	26/03/2020
51	CPL	2835	HUSSENBOKUS Mohamed Sadek	26/03/2020
52	CPL	2683	SEECHIM Pierre Mario Khersley	28/03/2020
53	CPL	3699	NUNDUN Poorunjaye	01/04/2020
54	SI		JUGOOSOORENDRA	01/04/2020
55	CPL	3249	CHUNGBROYEN Darmalingum	01/04/2020
56	CPL	5655	SUREFA Khrishnanund	01/04/2020
57	CPL	426	CHINNATAMBI Seeneevassen	01/04/2020
58	CPL	5005	RAMSURNSING Duryodhunsingh	01/04/2020
59	CPL	4152	TRANQUILLE Louis Sino	01/04/2020
60	CPL	3728	SHEGOBIN Devanand	04/04/2020
61	CPL	2602	SALAMUT Imran Aly	08/04/2020
62	CPL	3543	MAUDHOO Baby Badrinath	13/04/2020
63	CPL	1328	MOOTHOSAMY Sandragassen	18/04/2020
64	CPL	2934	SOOBHEN Gungadarun	20/04/2020
65	CPL	1951	CHOYTAH Kissoon	22/04/2020
66	SP		MONVOISIN Marie Jean Daniel	23/04/2020
67	SI		DOOKAYKA Dilip	29/04/2020
68	CPL	3760	KALLOO Manganlall	01/05/2020
69	ASP		DAYAL Nemraj	03/05/2020
70	INSP		HURBOSEEA Krisnaduth	04/05/2020
71	PC	3311	GROOMUPADIACHY Lutchdomanen	09/05/2020
72	PC	7369	OSCAR Daniel David	11/05/2020
73	CPL	3451	RAMKISSOON Sindhooraz	13/05/2020
74	PS	6122	LUTCHMANEN Loganaden	22/05/2020
75	PS	1688	LAFINEHarter	27/05/2020
76	PS	2916	MINIENSinsamy	27/05/2020
77	PS	5389	JOYRAM Ajeetraz	01/06/2020
78	CPL	609	APPLASAMY Louis Philippe	01/06/2020
79	CPL	1284	JOYNABOODIN Noorjahan	01/06/2020
80	CPL	3896	GALLEEGADOO Gopalsamy	01/06/2020
81	CPL	4388	WONG SAO TIEN Jean Patrick	01/06/2020
82	CPL	5156	MAHADOO Harris Lov	01/06/2020
83	CPL	5016	SEEWOO Beemul	01/06/2020
84	CPL	3700	OLIVETTE Georges Eddy	05/06/2020
85	CPL	3705	PHOOLCHAND Balachand	05/06/2020
86	CPL	87	BHATOO Azad Hussein	05/06/2020
87	CPL	3505	LEE CHOO Jean Alain	06/06/2020
88	CPL	3888	DAWOOJEE Swaley	09/06/2020
89	CPL	1273	POONYTH Satiapal	10/06/2020
90	CPL	858	DASEMAHOMED Mahmad Sharif	10/06/2020
91	CPL	2844	KHADAROO Aboo Twaleb	10/06/2020
92	CPL	4175	HOSSEN Ahmad Iqbal	12/06/2020

RETIREMENT [CONTD.]

93	PS	7151	VUNKA JUNGUM Dass	18/06/2020
94	CPL	5431	SUHABUTH Mohamed Fazalaudeen	19/06/2020
95	CPL	65	ALLET Pierre Lindsay Rene	27/06/2020
96	WPC	18	SAPERMAL Marie Danielle Patricia	01/07/2020
97	CPL	5967	RAMDALLY Jean Noel	01/07/2020
98	CPL	590	BEEDASSY Keepanand	01/07/2020
99	WSI		LETENDRIE Anne Marie Jacqueline	06/07/2020
100	CPL	5574	MOGUNCHAND Soodesh	09/07/2020
101	PC	6279	GOOROHOO Amreetpal	10/07/2020
102	CPL	3154	LADOUCE Louis Pierre Richemond	13/07/2020
103	CPL	4118	BISSOO Brizlall	14/07/2020
104	SP		RUGBUR Vishwamitra	15/07/2020
105	CPL	3273	SHIBLOLL Dewrajsing	16/07/2020
106	PS	2946	HURREE Bodhun	16/07/2020
107	CPL	4587	INDER Cathib	16/07/2020
108	WPC	143	MARIE Rachelle born BRASSE	16/07/2020
109	CPL	3630	LUXIMON Jayram	20/07/2020
110	CPL	1350	GOPAUL Patrick Desire Gerard	21/07/2020
111	WSI		ABDULLA Nazerine Bibi	26/07/2020
112	SI		GOPAUL Sookhsagar	29/07/2020
113	CPL	2935	SURJOO Raveendranath Raj Kumar	29/07/2020
114	CPL	2332	CORALIE Jean Claude	30/07/2020
115	PS	502	BHOLLA Gajarah	01/08/2020
116	CPL	5561	KAROO Leckhraj	01/08/2020
117	SI		RAMASAWMY Ramachandra	03/08/2020
118	CPL	2905	JAYNAUTH Tahal	04/08/2020
119	INSP		BOTHARRYGADOO Arangen	10/08/2020
120	CI		PATHER Seeneevasaghum Kandasamy	28/08/2020
121	SI		JANKEE Harrydwar	01/09/2020
122	PS	3721	SAINTAS Armand Noel Desire	01/09/2020
123	PC	6545	RAMKIRIT Jai Prakash	01/09/2020
124	CPL	3957	ZEADALLY Nourulameen Mumtaz	03/09/2020
125	CI		PAULINE Louis Claudy	05/09/2020
126	CPL	3873	GOOLAM HOSSEN Henry Sydney	07/09/2020
127	WPC	71	GONDARRY Pratima	15/09/2020
128	INSP		RAMJEET Tarkessur	20/09/2020
129	PC	4739	SEETHAPAH Ramachandra	22/09/2020
130	PC	1707	ACHADOO Ram	26/09/2020
131	ASP		DALMOND Sunilduth	01/10/2020
132	PC	2172	MUNUSAMI Parmeshiven	01/10/2020
133	PC	6950	BHEECARRY Premnaresh	01/10/2020
134	CPL	1582	CHIN MING LEUNG Keung Kim	03/10/2020
135	CPL	511	DEENMAHOMED Abdool Reshad	10/10/2020
136	PC	6359	BEECHOO Jeetandre	14/10/2020

137	CPL	2771	RAJCOOMAR Baldeo	22/10/2020
138	CPL	3162	OODUNT Laldeve	24/10/2020
139	CPL	644	BHEEKUN Mohammad Aslam	26/10/2020
140	ASP		CHAYTOO Bhinay	01/11/2020
141	PS	217	BHOLAH Feroz Khan	01/11/2020
142	CPL	3591	JEAN-LOUIS Maurice Stellia	01/11/2020
143	PC	6683	YEAROO Ackbar Nasser Khan	01/11/2020
144	PC	6872	DEWKURRUN Deepchand	01/11/2020
145	CPL	1038	DORASAMY Louis Jean Clifford Mervin	04/11/2020
146	CPL	3354	TOTARAM Sookragsing	06/11/2020
147	CPL	2971	RAMBEERICH Bhisum	10/11/2020
148	PC	3831	JAFFUR Shawkutally	10/11/2020
149	PC	7844	GOBIND Aumdudd	10/11/2020
150	WSI		DOORGAH Kumlawtee	11/11/2020
151	PC	8617	GHOORBIN Sunil	17/11/2020
152	PS	1004	JUGDOYAL Indranath	18/11/2020
153	PS	956	GOOMANY Pradeep Coomar	19/11/2020
154	CPL	77	BOOJHAWON Baboo Rattanlall	19/11/2020
155	CPL	3615	LUCHMUN Gorah Bhye	20/11/2020
156	CPL	4582	GUNGARUM Lyndsay Clency	21/11/2020

CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR
SUCCESSFUL CAREER!

THANK YOU FOR ALL THE YEARS
OF TIRELESS SERVICE AND
DEDICATION TO THE NATION.

MAY YOU CONTINUE TO FIND
SUCCESS IN RETIREMENT!

The Art of Writing Only Rewarded



The art of writing is an overwhelming passion that relates to beautiful thing being beautifully said by the author. It is really an art, where many strive, but only few succeed. It involves the mastery of the language, the observation of grammatical rules, the punctuations, rightful choice of words and the style; that is the way we present things to the reader. In short, it is all about talents, a gift like blessing showering from above.

We write not only for our personal satisfaction, but for the understanding of the reader, his appreciation, his satisfaction. It is after all a communication exercise, where the author transmits his feelings, his emotions and state of mind to the reader. It is a quintessential sharing between the author and the audience. The effectiveness of an author is also gauged by his lucidity, the ease and simplicity with which he conveys his message to the reader.

For the first time in the history of the Police Magazine, there was an event for the authors of the three best articles and two best caricatures who were timely and justly rewarded with cash prizes. The board of the Police Magazine selected the winners and first prize for the articles went to ASP Veerasami from Northern Division for his article "Are you a smart driver". The second prize went to Inspector Rose from the National Coast Guard for his article "Vendras-tu ton ame pour quelques sous?" and in the third place figured WSI Letendrie from Black River Prosecutor's Office for her article "La maison ou j'ai grandi". There was also a special prize of the jury rewarding Miss Jaunky, daughter of CI Jaunky for her article "Le Regard D'Autrui". Regarding caricatures, PC 347 Deelahoo of Southern Division won the first prize for caricature on "Safe City Camera" and the second prize went to PC 3406 Jaune of SSU for caricature "Metro and late Police Officer".

Another innovative measure that punctuated the 2019 edition of the police magazine is the token gift allotted to all authors of articles and caricatures selected and published in the magazine. They were all compensated for their effort, courage and their spirit of participation.

Rewarding the best authors, best caricature makers and also the authors of selected articles published in the magazine was a source of encouragement for members of the force to rush to their pen, to distinguish themselves, shine and walk the extra mile on the road of celebrity. It was a real boost not only in terms of motivation to participants, but also in terms of quality of submissions.

A big thanks to all who responded positively to the appeal of the magazine committee.

**by Insp B. Ramma
Police Magazine Committee**





Omerta is a code of silence, almost a code of honour for those who are in the know. Whenever one mentions the word 'Omerta', anyone would think of the mafia. It is not supposed to relate to the Police where the word 'confidentiality' would seem more appropriate: confidentiality about operations or about investigations. But police administrations worldwide have had and still are facing the 'Omerta' culture from within.

It is recognized around the world that the police has always been a closely-knit community and one of the values that is seen as being most important is that of loyalty. But loyalty here, meant loyalty to other police personnel rather than to the community. A police officer was not supposed to report a colleague. Police would rather do their best to 'cover' a wrongdoing of a colleague. In any case, hazing was part of that secret ritual to turn the 'civilian' into a 'worthy' police officer.

Those who do not abide to that culture would be seen as a traitor and was often alienated. Sometimes, they may even be victimized, not only by the immediate colleagues but also by some superiors. As a result of such sub-culture, it became easier for many to just close their eyes, stay silent or to ignore issues. Maybe it is from such situation that the saying '*pot de terre contre pot de fer*' emerged.

The code of Ethics of the Mauritius Police Force expressly focuses on that issue of loyalty: An officer should support colleagues in the performance of their lawful duties and actively oppose and draw attention to any malpractice. The question remains though: Would there be any protection for the whistleblower? Would it not be timely for the Police to adopt an internal whistle blowing structure?

During the last 50 years, the world has changed and new paradigms and cultures emerged. The concepts of good governance, ethics and integrity became prevalent. Codes of ethics were drafted to identify values to give more in-depth meaning to the conduct of police as already defined in the Police Act and the 'Standing Orders'.

Technology made it more difficult to hide wrongdoings. Police officers are now observed and their every single action is being watched by the community. Mobile phones and social media came in as additional layers. Recently, the police handling of George Floyd and Jacob Blake in the US became viral and has been watched around the world.

In addition to the community watching and recording the actions of the police, there is also the 'selfie' culture. Some police officers sometimes naïvely post pictures or videos on social media without realizing that they may be shooting themselves.

It takes time to change a culture and it needs commitment from all quarters. And there is always resistance to change. Some will swear only by the old-time traditions and procedures. The millennium kid turned police officer has his/her own style and benchmarks. But the police have from within the recipe to merge both cultures and make the best out of it. It is a disciplinary body where rank and file matters. The spirit of integrity, ethics and governance already are ingrained in the police but some values, over time, have been perverted by some rogue officers.

And that's why; it is more than ever important to constantly inculcate the real meaning of the values of the police to all its members. Just like in Animal Farm, the initial Constitution of the Animals was changed to fit the illicit purposes of a few, likewise, some in the police have perverted the meaning of loyalty. The loyalty of the police is first and last to the community. Loyalty to deviant members of the force is not loyalty. It is a betrayal of the promise of the police to perform his/her duties according to the Police Act of 1974.

The Police Officers Ethics Guide published by Transparency Mauritius in pocket format has a purpose. It is to be kept near the heart of every officer to constantly remind them of their values, their duties and to show them the way in moments of doubt.

There may be criticism against the police or some police officers. Black sheep are present in every community. They affect the morale of their colleagues, create a dark atmosphere of suspicion and sap the efficiency of the service. Loyalty in its noble sense is important. When you are facing a hostile mob or an armed habitual criminal, an officer should be able to rely on his/her colleague blindly.

Whatever our rank, position or status, we all face ethical dilemmas. It happens every day. It is important to take the right decision as every single move the police makes is scrutinized and weighed.

These are some questions one should be asking before taking a decision or engaging in an action:

- Is my decision/action moral and legal?
- Do I have all information?
- Who are my stakeholders and how will my action affect them?
- What will be the consequences of my decision/action?
- Is my action in line with values of the Mauritius Police Force?
- What will my family, my friends or society think?

The fundamentals of those questions rest on your personal ethics and integrity as you apply them upon the values of the police.

Integrity is about honesty, moral principles, responsibility, accountability, fairness and trustworthiness. Ethics is about what is morally right to do.

The Police is one of the most important institutions in any democracy and deservedly so. It is up to those men and women who make it to, live up to that challenge. The equations are simple. You are the change factor. Break the ranks of the Omerta and embrace Integrity.

**by Mr Rajen Bablee,
Executive Director
Transparency Mauritius**



THE GATEWAY TOWARDS CAREER DEVELOPMENT



The Paul Octave Wiéhé Auditorium, Réduit was crammed on the early morning of 28th November 2020 with Police Officers who were awarded their Certificate in Leadership and Management and the Certificate in Police Duties, respectively. 381 Police Officers from the rank of Constable to Inspector were bestowed with the highly appreciated certificate from the hand of Dr L. J. C. Autrey, C.S.K, Chancellor of University of Mauritius (UoM) in presence of Mr K. Servansing, PMSM, Commissioner of Police, academics and the close of recipients.



During this landmark event, Mr K. Servansing, PMSM, Commissioner of Police delivered a strong and passionate speech congratulating all awardees for laudable achievements and commended the hardship to reconcile work and family responsibilities with studies. He elaborated on the noble but daunting nature of police work fully recognised by the population during the advent of Covid-19 pandemic. Thus, he stressed on the need to develop the human resources capability in order to keep abreast the ever-changing policing environment to enable them to execute their duties according to established standards and expectations.

Training, capacity building and development from the highest and reputed institution of Mauritius are important for Police Officers with a view to tackle policing issues from different angle and perspective, at same time bolstering their effectiveness to address managerial, tactical and operational needs. It is worth mentioning that the partnership between the MPF and UoM has made a headway since the first batch of Police Officers enrolled on the BSc in Police Studies as far back as 1999. To date, as many as 7500 Police Officers have had the opportunity to acquire academic knowledge in different fields of study dispensed by the UoM.

The Commissioner of Police urged awardees to put into practice what they have acquired during their capacity building and endeavour to enhance the knowledge and skills to new heights in improving service delivery.

In his closing address, the Chancellor of UoM expressed his deep appreciation for the laudable speech delivered by the Commissioner of Police.

by Insp Noonaram
Police Magazine Committee

LGBT+

BDM Approaches & Challenges at Schools

PS 892 Auheeburn, S.
Brigade pour la
Protections des Mineurs (Western)



BDM as a Role Model to encourage inclusive, positive and supportive environment accessible to all students.

In many communities, being gender nonconforming or to be known as transgender is seen as a matter of disgrace. Because transgender youth are so hidden, it would be easy to believe that these students are extremely rare and extremely difficult to estimate the prevalence of transgender students in schools. Gender diverse children are at higher risk of physical, emotional, and sexual abuse. According to researches, only about a third are accounted for being abused as a child, which impacts negatively on their adulthood.

The Brigade Pour La Protection des Mineurs (BDM) staff do sporadic intervention at schools to stop homophobia language thus sending a message to students and personnel that this type of discrimination and bias are not tolerated. By demonstrating that anti-gay verbal harassment is unacceptable, we send a strong message to the student body and create an atmosphere of tolerance and acceptance for all students. This creative approach touches students who are violating school and societal rules and brings to responsibility all school personnel who can help to creating a more positive climate in their schools not only for LGBTQ - Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Questioning Youth students but for the entire school population as well.

For some children, the beginning of a new school year is marked with anticipation and excitement to see friends and tackle a new year of learning. But if you're a student who is (or is perceived to be) gay or gender nonconforming, that excitement turns to fear and anxiety because of the bullying you will endure day in and day out during the academic year. In the past years or so, media attention rose following the suicides of youth who were perceived to be gay or transgender. It is difficult to determine why someone chooses to attempt suicide but many of the youth who died were bullied and harassed in their schools.

The psychological, social, and emotional needs of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning youth often go unmet in schools. These students may be "out and proud" or they may be silent and invisible; either way and providing effective services to them creates unique challenges for professional school counselors.

Studies on sexual minority LGBTQ youths have shown that they are a population in schools at risk for developing academic problems, as well as social psychopathology and maladaptive behaviors. Many are stoic, barely showing their emotions but are not different because these youths also face many of the same biological, cognitive, and developmental conflicts as their heterosexual counterparts.

Globally, homosexuality is traditionally viewed as an adult issue and schools have mirrored the beliefs of society, thereby neglecting the concerns and needs of LGBTQ in their curriculum. There is no simple or absolute answer to state at what age should LGBTQ youths come out and the risks are different for youths in different circumstances. Some young people live in families where support for their sexual orientation is clear and stable; these youths may encounter less risk, even at a young age; but on the contrary, those who live in less supportive families may face more risks leading to experience bias, discrimination, or even violence at schools, social groups, workplaces and faith communities.

The mainstream culture considers homosexual individuals to have an underlying moral failure for having a faulty sexual orientation. The impact of homo-prejudice is so great that LGBTQ youths are "at risk" of suicide, chemical abuse, dropping out of school, verbal and physical abuse, homelessness, prostitution, HIV infection and psychosocial developmental delays.

As youth begin to identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender, they may experience one of three initial responses: 1) a sense of bewilderment or shame, 2) minimization of the impact of awareness of sexual orientation, or 3) denial. The wider social condemnation of homosexuality contributes to identity confusion in LGBTQ youth and often influences them to keep their orientation secret. They often respond by disengaging, an action that strains the natural developmental phase of separation-individuation that is characteristic of early adolescence. This coming out process is a complex phenomenon that begins with initial consciousness of sexual orientation and moves through to the next phase of exploration of same sex attraction. This is an additional factor that strains the sexual minority youth's psychological resources to a greater degree than his/her heterosexual peers. This transition from a presumed heterosexual identity to an LGBTQ identity is often a solitary journey. LGBTQ individuals are the only cultural minority to typically grow up in families and communities that are outside of their cultural group.

LGBTQ youth who have been verbally or physically harassed may naturally attempt to protect themselves by avoiding situations where they have been victimized. Feeling unsafe in school has a direct negative impact on their ability to learn. Many gay youths spend every day in survival mode just trying to complete the school day without being injured. Whether it is due to academic problems, developmental difficulties, emotional distress, fear of violence, or substance abuse, LGBTQ youth frequently come to the attention of Brigade pour La Protection des Mineurs staffs specially during sensitisation at schools. However, being police officers, we are usurping the role of school counselors who are not entirely at fault, as few graduate programs provide any significant formal training to help neophyte counselors understand sexual minorities.

Despite these challenges, many transgender youths are resilient, and there are several factors that may help them guard against the worst outcomes. Resilience in children and youth appears to depend on personal characteristics like being outgoing, resourceful, and having a positive self-concept. Families rated high in acceptance who discuss their child's gender identity or sexual orientation openly, integrate their child's LGBT friends into family activities, express appreciation for their child's clothing choices even if the clothing was gender nonconforming are reported to have better self-esteem, better health, lower levels of depression, lower rates of substance abuse, lower rates of suicide attempts, and lower rates of risky sexual behaviour.

At the BDM, we are committed to equality and safety for all students and strive to turn their school environment into a safe place. Through our approach as police officers and providing evidence-based information about transgender issues, it is very likely that word of mouth will spread the news that there is an ally and a safe place for LGBTQ youth which will serve as a protective factor against negative psychosocial outcomes for these youths.

PROMOTIONS

LIST OF OFFICERS WHO HAVE BEEN PROMOTED TO A HIGHER GRADE FROM DECEMBER 2019 TO DECEMBER 2020

SN	Rank	Dept No.	Name	Promoted as	Date
1	DCP		SERVANSING Khemraj, PMSM	CP	04.06.20
2	ACP		JANGI Heman, PMSM	DCP	09.01.20
3	ACP		REEKOYE Devanand	DCP	06.03.20
4	ACP		DIP Anil Kumarsing, PMSM	DCP	03.06.20
5	ACP		RAMSURRUN Chandansingh	DCP	30.10.20
6	Temp DASP		JAUNKY Youdish Kumar	DASP	13.12.19
7	PC	2477	THOMAS Christ Patrice Dylan	Temp INSP	06.11.20
8	PC	4195	SAIDMEERASAH Zaheer	Temp INSP	06.11.20
9	PC	3056	JAYEKURRUN Kunhal Kumar	Temp INSP	06.11.20
10	PC	3717	MOHUN Doushan	Temp INSP	06.11.20



ARE WE WITNESSING THE END OF HANDWRITING?

Handwriting is not a sudden invention. It has evolved over years and differed over geographical region. It is an expression of a certain language by the medium of letters or other marks. It is believed to have been spread mostly by merchants and traders travelling between different regions. It allows societies to convey information and to share knowledge. In early years, it was customary to engrave on stones or metal so as to secure the permanency of the record.

It is also believed that handwriting displays the character of the author or even his intelligence or his mood and at times his profession as well. Still this is debatable. One will still remember that great authors, writers, statesman had their quills on their tables which symbolised their status.

The introduction of pens and pencils and other medium of writing helped a lot in the development and style of hand writing. One of the most appreciated and liked is the cursive handwriting which is often confused with italics writing.

Signatures and handwritings are unique to the author as being his property or trademarks and identity. Imitating them is the theft and

violation of one's property and identity.

Year 1716 saw the invention of the printing machine of Gutenberg. Several persons had access to writing materials thus authors found it necessary to protect their works (Intellectual Property Rights). England with Shakespeare enacted the 'Statute of Anne' to protect the works of authors.

Now with the dazzling speed new technology has invaded our daily life and Smart phones and computers have accelerated the slow death of our so cherished hand writing acquired through years of efforts and practice, specially our love letters and autographs. Penmanship was mandatory in gone school days. Some believe that it is just new technology and a step forward in hand writing.

Eminent psychologists have established that those who write learn easily. If you use pen and paper in class you have nothing than to listen to the teacher thus ensures brain development.

Hand writing has many glorious days ahead as those who write in fact love writing. Everything can be wrapped by technology but a hand written signature will still has its importance such as signature of conventions, decrees, treaties, royal assent, on certificates, testimonials etc.

by PS 4063 Jugroop

The ever-changing challenge of

CYBER Crime UNIT

Dealing with Cybercrime is taking an exponential growth on Police time as officers' cyber-skills come under increasing pressure. Between year 2004 and year 2019, 5271 Cybercrime cases were reported, with victims losing more than million rupees and the number of incidents is on the rise. To put Cybercrime in perspective, just imagine that every new concepts and advancement in Information Technology becomes a potential loophole. Saying this, you are now aware what the challenge is like. If we take into consideration aspects which are needed to combat such types of Cybercrimes, we need sophisticated IT tools, legal support and constant training to keep pace.

Criminals are targeting social media users, online account holders in a bid to make money and steal personal details. This leaves victims out of pocket and at risk of identity theft. Online crime ranges from relatively small-scale incidents right up to high planned attacks.

Some of the means where predators have use their fraudulent wiles to defraud or harass their victims and that have been reported at the Cybercrime Unit are Lottery Frauds, Credit Card Fraud, Online Harassment, and Sextortion.

At the top level of severity, these serious cases are being handled by the Cybercrime Unit, often in collaboration with the National Computer Board (NCB), the Computer Emergency Response Team of Mauritius (CERT-MU) and the Interpol. Cybercrime is wide-ranging and includes fraud, indecent images and cyber-enabled cases where a computer or other device have been used by criminals. As the number of Cybercrimes continues to rise inexorably, so too does the Police skills needed to deal with them. The MPF is taking the risk seriously. They are investing in a National Cyber Security Strategy designed to counter it with the collaboration of Interpol. A Virtual Academy is available to Police Officers to enhance their knowledge and professional development irrespective of rank.

The courses include an introduction to cybersecurity and cybersecurity essentials, which digs a little deeper into the types of Cybercrime offences which officers are likely to encounter. Some topics available on capacity building and training platform online are: Darknet Course, Cybercrime Fighting, Internet e-learning, Securing Digital Evidences, Retrieval of e-mail Information. Every Police Officer now has a web-based learning platform with the aim of enhancing both the hard and soft skills. This is a great start and lays down a solid foundation to build upon. By increasing their skillset in this area, Police Officers are better equipped to help and advise the public on how to use digital technologies safely and be aware of the common ways that they can fall victim to fraud or other malicious activity.

More emphasis is being put on sensitization of the general public to deal against these cyberthreats. TV shows and awareness campaign programs are being regularly organized with the collaboration of the Mauritius Broadcasting Corporation (MBC) and other radio broadcasting media. Talks by officers at the Cybercrime Unit are being delivered in Schools, Colleges, Universities and Banks. The main challenges are to combat common incoming fraud such as Social Engineering.

When talking about online safety and security, 'social engineering' means the act of manipulating or tricking people into certain actions including divulging personal or financial information, a kind of confidence trick. Social engineering exploits human nature and often plays on victims' willingness to be helpful, or please others. This is the main factor in many types of fraud. These televised programs are being specifically broadcasted to raise awareness among the citizens against:

- Online Dating Scams – (Romance Fraud)
- Fraudulent emails encouraging you to follow a link or open an attachment – (Phishing)
- Fraudulent phone call asking you to confirm details – (Vishing)
- Being advised to hand over payments cards etc to a courier – (Courier Fraud)
- Fraudulent phone call requesting remote access (Microsoft Scam)
- Portable devices left lying around or given to you which contains Malware – (Baiting)
- Fake social network profiles trying to be your friend

There has been a significant improvement during the past few months and the sensitization is bearing fruit. Almost every day we are receiving calls, especially from woman whereby they were about to fall prey to these online criminals. They have expressed their gratitude for the great job done by Cybercrime Unit. Thus, encouraging us to carry on with the same enthusiast. It is important to act now in order to slow its progress. Cases such as Ransomware, Romance Fraud, Postal Fraud, Vishing, Microsoft Scam amongst others need more dexterity, technical competence and tools to solve. Cybercriminals are always looking for new type of frauds and thus it is of utmost importance that officers at the Cybercrime are constantly well trained and updated with the development of the IT sector. Cybercrime is only going to get worse over time unless preventive measures are taken to stop it.

Cybercrime is becoming harder to stop as new technologies emerges. Forensic IT tools and license fees cost a lot for forensic software. Deep enhanced training are required to work with these tools and appropriate academic qualifications are needed to be eligible to give opinion in a Court of Law.

'Rome wasn't built in a day, but they were laying bricks every hour' - John Heywood, Famous English Playwright - similarly, the Cybercrime Unit is evolving and adapting in-order to fight against wind and tide to deliver quality service.

**By Cadet Officer G. Krishnan Nair
Cybercrime Unit, CCID**



Condolences Message to WPC 625 RAGHOO



**Woman Police Constable
625 RAGHOO (Dimple)**

**Your sudden death has touched our
lives and hearts...**

**It's hard to bid farewell to such
a daring and heroic Officer, so
respected, so valued, by us all.**

**We will cherish your memories
forever**

**No words could ease what we truly
feel today**

**REST IN PEACE
Our Friend, Sister and Colleague**

**From all your colleagues of
the
Anti Drug and Smuggling Unit**

In Loving Memory

This article is dedicated to our real Hero, WPC 625 Raghoo. Heroes are not born with special power, they are ordinary people like us who do extraordinary things when the situation demands. Excellence was not a skill for WPC Raghoo but an attitude.

The dedication, fearlessness, bravery, compassion, power to stand against injustice, to fight against the darkness of the society, earmarked the personality of officer Raghoo as a true patriot. These qualities of hers caught the attention of us, Judicial officers, who have worked with her. Her ability to communicate clearly earned the trust of everyone and with time this has built a strong and trustworthy bonding with her surroundings. She could fix absolutely anything and always took time to offer help to family, friends and neighbours. A pillar of strength to everyone she met. We desperately need good Police officers now more than ever. The lights have dimmed on all our lives now that she is no longer here but it's no surprise that even when she is gone, she will still keep us all going, knowing that she would tell us to carry on and stay strong. She has made the ultimate sacrifice, with her life, unfortunately she paid the largest price by no fault of her own, by being where she was, doing what she loved and doing it really well. With pride and integrity, she did serve and protect.

Now that she has left us we pray to God to enroll her in the Heavenly Force where she will be proud to guard the throne of God as she has been to guard the city of men. May her dear Soul rest in the abode of Lord Shivah.

**by K. Mohundin
Close relative**

On the 10th December 2007, among the 120 Trainee Women Police Constables there stood the Tomboy of the batch, T/WPC 625 Raghoo. She could be easily earmarked by the discipline she shoved on the very first day she embraced the membership of the Mauritius Police Force; the pixie style she adopted with her sunglasses did not go unnoticed.

As the batch set foot at the Police Training School Beau Bassin, I noted the sparkling excitement in her eyes and her demeanours exhibited passion, dedication and enthusiasm to the office of a Police Officer. Her devotion to training marked us all; trainers and her batchmates. She was always ready to help her fellow mates whether academically or during physical training. She became a driving force in herself and a motivator for others who needed support. Her fearless actions contributed in chiseling her professional character and ensured that punch to be good in whatever she undertook. Whilst mentoring her batch, I knew T/WPC Raghoo aka Dimple RAGHOO would be an important asset to the Mauritius Police Force with a great career ahead.

Her commitment to duty, wherever she was posted to, provided professional outcome., Members of the MPF could not resist her comradeship in most joyful and amical way due to the aura and charisma she displayed. This essence of easy-going did not even spare members of the community as she was acquainted to everyone; a soft-heart to her beloved ones and a daredevil to malefactors.

Being one of her former closed mentors privileges me to pay respect to this young soul which departed too soon and in an atrocious manner by a cowardice act. Tears snail down my cheeks as I have no words to describe my grief for her lost. I bequeath lots of courage to her sisters who are suffering with the loss of another one of their owns within a span of less than a year. I will always remember that feverish smile of this dear one with the tomboy style. Peace to her soul!!!

by WCI Appadoo

TRIBUTE TO OUR HERO : WPC 625 RAGHOO

Our dear Law Enforcement officer, WPC 625 Dimple Raghoo. You walked among us never looking for glory or praise. You only wished to work, serve and save. You were selfless and fair. You were the protector of our freedom and you did what was right. We appreciate you for your dedication, belief in selflessness, in honor and for the virtue to stand against injustice.

*They say there is a reason,
They say that time will heal,
But neither time nor reason,
Will change the way we feel,
For no-one knows the heartache that lies behind,
We want to tell you something so there is no doubt,
You are so wonderful to think of,
But so hard to be without.*

We hope that you know how much you mean to us. You walked the talk and proved that not all women are created equal. Now that you are in the abode of God which we know you will always come to pass, step forward officer as you have borne your burdens well, walk on the beat of the Heaven's streets as you have done enough time in hell.

We pray for your Soul and ask The Almighty to reward you with the highest ascension of light.

by PS 8755 Mohundin



THE OUTREACH PROGRAMME

An open Invitation to
Victims of Domestic Violence to Report their Perpetrators

It all started during the confinement and curfew period, when victims of domestic violence were dumbled, stilled, freezed and chilled in their silence, limited in their movement and action to report their perpetrators. In the face of this desperate and chaotic situation germinated a mindful collaboration between the Mauritius Police Force and the UNDP, upon the urge that something has to be done for the victims muted in their silence.

Only one out of four cases of domestic violence is reported, whereas other three cases either go unreported or is reported very late as a last resort, with of-course a lot of collateral damages. The emergence of the outreach program came as a panacea, an open door invitation for victims to report. It was a golden opportunity to give back voices to victims, encouraging them to denounce their perpetrators.

The programme was officially launched in Eastern Division on 3rd of October 2020, and is to be replicated in all Police Divisions of the republic. It is a tailor made piece of art, focused on denunciation of perpetrators. The programme constituted of a slam, entitle “Kalver enn Viktim” with a simultaneous slide show depicting the different situations of Calvary of a victim, a sketch “Ena enn lot sime” a beautifully piece of embroidery, sketching and outlining the drawbacks of late reporting and the advantages of early reporting, and finally a poem “Sekre enn fami here” all beautifully said and performed by personnel of the Police Family Protection Unit. Herewith an overview of the slam experience, a powerful campaign tool to encourage victims of domestic violence to denounce their perpetrators.

by **WPS Lepois & WPS 484 Appalsamy**
Police Family & Protection Unit

Slam – Kalver enn viktim

*Violans dan lakaz
Amenn tirbilans dan menaz
Li arive sirtu apre mariaz
Parfwa li kumans par enn kalot
Li akumulier enn lor lot
Li ale mem ziska lamor*

*Koinse dan so silans
Li dormi li leve dan maltretans
A fors li cachiet amba lataab
Li finn fini par kruwar ki li kupab
Ki li enn inkapab*

*Pena narien mistik dan violans domestik,
Ena zis bann senn dramatik.
Ena zis pu fer ou kroir ce ou faut.
Ou komance par gagne kalott
kan guet ou dan la glas ou kroir ou enn lot.*

*Lalkol finn fer li tom dan demans
La drog fini engourdi so ban sans
Se ki li fer suvan pena sans
Sel rekur li ena ce violans.*

*A fors li viv lor presyon
Lin fini par gagne depresyon
De depresyon en depresyon
Li finn perdi tou oriantasyon*

*Slam Continue
on next page*

*Ou nepli kroir dan ou prop zimaz,
Ou finn vinn vie avan ou laz.
Pli ou rest trankil,
pu li, tu vinn pli fasil.*

*so febless ogmant so detress
So mefians ogmant so sufians
So konfisyon ogmant so indesisyon
Li noye dan enn tourbillon d'emosyon*

*La surs la fontain so lizie fini sec
So leker kuma enn pied sec en plein deser
Li envi krier so douler
Me Nanie pa sorti.*

*Li kontrol so la vi, li kontrol so muveman.
kòt vire, kòt turne, li truv li noye dan so turman.
krie, dir non, dir assez, larg to la voix.
Personn pa finn ne pu gagn bate.*

*Denonce, solusyon la truv dan twa.
Si to pa fer nanie, nanie pa pu arive.
Fer enn bon choix, rekonstruir twa. Fer tann to la voix.
Viv to la vie, krie, denonce pu enn meilleur lendemain*

*Pran kont, to mem magicien to la vie,
To kapav sanz li kan to envi
Pena nanye pli precie ki to lavi
Ouver to leker pu enn lavenir meyer.*

THE END

by Insp Mootooveeren, L. J.
Police Family Protection Unit

Winner Silver Award Public Service Excellence 2020



The Mauritius Police Force has been awarded Silver Award for the Public Service Excellence Award 2020. The theme of this years competition was 'Managing COVID-19 Pandemic'.

The team headed by Mr. J.C. Frichot, SP comprising Mr. K. Booneeady, ASP, Insp Codabaccus, Insp Rajapundit, and Miss A. Doyal, Police Psychologist represented the Mauritius Police Force during the competition.

Retour aux sources:

Les années 1880 - 1900

Souvent on oublie ces moments noirs ! Pénibles ! Les balbutiements d'une organisation chargée de faire respecter la loi du pays depuis son origine.

Comme Rome ne fut construit en un jour, on ne pouvait s'attendre à une Police sans faille aux premiers jours. La troupe de l'époque apaisait plutôt l'envie de justice et tentait de structurer cet environnement difficile.

Je vous parle bien de « letan lontan ».

Les années 1880 - 1900

Déjà une Police plus que centenaire !

Suivant l'ère des bâtisseurs français, cette police s'emploie sous celle de la petite Colonie Anglaise considérée comme l'étoile et la clé de la mer des Indes. Elle gardait cependant les mêmes attributions de 1767 : « protéger les dirigeants en place et gérer le bien-être de la population ».

J'aimerais bien faire un retour aux sources pour connaître les raisons d'avancer en ce fin 19^e-ième siècle pour cette police.

A cette époque, il y avait des contingents de pas moins de 500 gablous*, dont la majorité originaire du sol et un bon nombre d'expatriés venant

de plus de trente pays notamment des Européens, Africains, Indiens aussi bien que des Russes ! L'armada anglaise pouvait mettre le grappin et accueillir ses

représentants de l'ordre. Sa force était issue des hommes de la mer et des soldats du "Garrison" qui voulaient changer de destin. C'était effectivement un refuge pour ces hommes de courage en quête de bonheur à travers cette police. Pour y intégrer, leur vie antérieure n'était pas vraiment prise en compte. C'était impossible de retracer leurs passés ou encore avoir accès à un certificat de caractère. La seule obligation pour ces marins était d'avoir une attestation de décharge avec mention « Très bien » du capitaine des vaisseaux. Toutefois, une excellente forme physique était requise. Il fallait surtout que les hommes soient bien bâtis et qu'ils aient des mensurations de trente-trois pouces au niveau de la poitrine. Ils percevaient un salaire dérisoire et travaillaient dans des conditions surhumaines. Les policiers marchaient de longues heures lors des patrouilles de dix miles à Port Louis et plus de quatorze miles dans les zones ruraux. De plus, les agissements des marins ivres rendaient leur besogne herculéenne. Chaque policier contrôlait les personnes de leur

communauté. Toutefois, il n'y avait pas vraiment d'ordre. Chacun faisait comme bon lui semblait et le « roster » n'était pas souvent respecté. Ainsi, durant une année de braise, pas moins de 47 membres avaient été conduits devant la magistrature pour divers délits. De surcroît, en cette fin de siècle, les maladies tropicales comme la malaria faisait rage et un tiers de la population était infecté.

L'Ordonnance de Police de 1893 apporta alors un renouveau à cette police en instaurant une structure. Ainsi, une école de police fut ouverte aux Quartiers Généraux. On pouvait y suivre des cours d'anglais et de français. Par ailleurs, pour remédier aux soucis de discipline, des « Drill and Police duties courses » formels ont été enclenchés.

Pour intégrer alors la force policière, il fallait passer par un examen médical et le postulant devait obligatoirement être célibataire. A ce qu'on sait, le salaire d'une deuxième classe européenne était de Rs 40 mensuellement et en cas d'hospitalisation, une somme de 50 sous était déduite par jour.

Les changements apportés avaient révolutionné cette police d'antan. Elle était proche de la population et parvenait à répondre aux besoins de l'époque. D'ailleurs, la police avait grandement contribué à gérer les dégâts causés par les plus grandes catastrophes, surtout suite au terrible cyclone de 1892 et l'incendie de 1893. L'île était alors dévastée et Port Louis méconnaissable. Ainsi, ces braves hommes vêtus de bleu trouvèrent la force et les moyens nécessaires pour reconstruire le pays. La police et son peuple surmontèrent ce moment pénible de notre histoire !

Ce petit détour dans le passé nous démontre clairement le chemin parcouru par notre police mauricienne en 253 ans d'existence. Elle mérite d'être saluée !

Longue vie au Mauritius Police Force !

Annexes :

***gablous** : terme employé à l'époque pour faire référence aux policiers

Sources :

- Historical notes on Mauritius Police Force
- Police Magazine 1973
- Photos archives
- Vintage Mauritius

par Cpl 3381 Mamedy
Librairie de la Police



Reducing Criminal Activities by Awareness

The Police Crime Prevention Unit (CPU) since its creation in 1989 is promoting preventive action against crime and creating a sense of “Crime Prevention” awareness within the community. It also initiates proactive measures to curb down crime trend and keep it as far as practicable at a manageable level. Due to the dedication of all staff, the Unit was ISO certified in 2014.

Besides its core duties, the CPU faced two challenges this year - the numerous cases of theft in plantation during early Covid-19, and intensification of awareness campaigns on Combating of Trafficking in Persons in view of the World Day against Trafficking in Persons.

As enumerated in this article, this unit reacted to both the challenges positively and at the end, the citizens were the beneficiaries.



Crime Prevention during Covid-19 Crisis

As the Covid-19 pandemic sweeps across the globe and first hit Mauritius, the Crime Prevention Unit needed to react to immediate challenges and to the impact of the pandemic as it changes the nature of criminal activity. At that point in time, it was important not to lose sight of doing the right thing and at the same time, remaining true to the vision of the unit, by being empathetic to the population, making quick decisions and adjust those decisions, if necessary, frequently and transparently on the basis of new information in order to adapt quickly.

The National Confinement followed by the Curfew Order in Mauritius made many people stay home to stay safe. This situation gave a new opening to criminals for a change in the mode of their operations to exploit the current situation on Covid-19 by targeting vulnerable groups like planters, vegetable sellers etc....

This rare state of affairs urged our Unit to embark on a vast sensitization campaign and victim support & advice programme. The aim was to creating awareness among the public at large, land owners, planters and vegetables sellers on target hardening issues, preventive issues and fostering a sense of personal responsibility.



Role of Crime Prevention Unit in Combating Trafficking in Persons

Trafficking in persons is a serious crime and a grave violation of human rights. Every year, thousands of men, women and children fall into the hands of traffickers, in their own countries and abroad. Almost every country in the world is affected by trafficking, whether as a country of origin, transit or destination for victims.

Within the framework of the programme of action against trafficking, targeted awareness-raising campaigns were conducted by personnel of the Crime Prevention Unit during year 2020 with the most vulnerable groups, in schools, in different forums as well as directed patrol and field counselling to reach different categories to raise awareness about trafficking.

Moreover, to mark World Day against Trafficking in Persons annually commemorated on 30 July, the Crime Prevention Unit with the participation of Passport and Immigration Office, Police Family Protection Unit and Brigade Pour La Protection des Mineurs organized awareness campaigns at Trianon and Bagatelle Shopping Mall to meet a larger number of people. The purpose of this campaign was to create awareness and sensitize people on human trafficking and how to prevent them from being trafficked as well as to reflect on the opportunity that each of us have to decrease vulnerabilities to trafficking.

The campaign reached more than 53,000 people through exhibitions, sensitization talks, forums, messages, leaflets, handbills, posters and banners against human trafficking. Through this drive, we acknowledge that there has been greater understanding of the trafficking phenomenon and the different aspects of human trafficking.

Intensive awareness campaigns on safety and security aspects during period of crisis contribute extensively to keep a population safe. The CPU has and will continue to leave no stone unturned to make citizens in our island and visitors safe and secure.

By WPS Coopan & Staff
Crime Prevention Unit

À

L'A3BORDAGE !

- octobre 2019 -

Je suis jeune.

J'ai des idées plein la tête.

Tantôt impulsif, tantôt attentif, j'apprends !

Je ne suis pas navigateur mais je viens pourtant de découvrir un nouveau monde.

Comme en plein océan, je suis entouré de bleu.

Ici, j'en vois deux nuances : du bleu ciel et du bleu minuit.

Je me retrouve soudain sous ces mêmes couleurs. Ça y est, je porte l'uniforme !

Tout est différent dans cet habit si particulier.

Je dirais même qu'il nous livre la vie d'adulte en pleine face.

Eh oui, tout ce que je fais désormais, je dois l'assumer.

Car des paires d'yeux me fusillent de tout part.

Très vite, il me faut trouver le cap malgré ma petite notion du métier.

Pour y arriver, je scrute les faits et gestes des plus doués.

Là où je suis c'est l'Atlantique et ce sont eux les marins.

Mais bon, comme moi, ils ont tous connu ces fameux premiers jours en mer.

- décembre 2019 -

Le temps passe et j'assemble petit à petit mon radeau...

pour survivre évidemment !

Il y a tant à connaître ici !

« Dan lapolis, zame to pou fini aprann »,
me confie un des marins aux cheveux grisonnants.

Franchement, je trouve cette anecdote fascinante.

Elle est à la fois restrictive pour certains et
porteuse d'espoir pour d'autres.

Quant à moi, le jeunot, je ne fais qu'en grappiller.

- juin 2020 -

Ça fait maintenant plusieurs mois que j'ai pris le large.
Mes doutes d'hier commencent brusquement à avoir du sens.

Détrompez-vous, je suis toujours novice.

J'ai simplement pris quelques repères à bord.

Il est si difficile de se situer ou de faire un réel constat ici.

La police, c'est exactement comme l'océan !

Il faut se mouiller au risque de finir comme le Titanic !

- juillet 2020 -

Nous y sommes !

Voilà un an que je suis officiellement « Misie-la »

Qu'est-ce que ça fait ?

Je ne saurais vous dire.

Il y a comme une tempête d'émotions en moi.

Ce qui m'importe toutefois, c'est de préserver mon idéal.

Cela paraît tout à fait banale, n'est-ce pas ?

Mettons tout ça au clair !

En réalité, beaucoup de nos marins ont un beau jour embarqué,
comme moi, avec les meilleures intentions.

Hélas, ils n'ont pu résister au courant de cet eau.

Certains ont même été submergés.

Dans ce petit bain de cruauté et de lumière.

Dans la violence du temps qui piétine nos rêves.

Et j'en passe.

Que Dieu veille sur moi !

*Cadet Officer S. Lidialam
Police Press & Public Relations' Office*

Trou D'eau Douce:

Transite inédite pour l'Île aux Cerfs



Envie d'un séjour au calme à l'autre bout du monde ? Sortez un guide de l'Île Maurice, il vous proposera de découvrir le charmant village de Trou D'eau Douce. Carrefour majeur sur la côte-est, ce village pittoresque s'est transformé depuis quelques années en une jolie station balnéaire. Balayé par les alizés, Trou D'eau Douce, village de pêcheurs, est synonyme de lagon bleu turquoise, de belles plages immaculées et de coutumes colorées mauriciennes ! Ce cadre idyllique, parfait pour se ressourcer et passer des moments agréables au soleil, propose de belles criques de sable.

Le village tire son nom du fait qu'il représente un endroit où l'eau potable est en contact avec l'eau salée. Ainsi, un magnifique spectacle, visuel aussi bien que sonore, a lieu sous les yeux de la NCG de Trou D'eau Douce au quotidien.

Trou D'eau Douce c'est cette gigantesque cathédrale baroque, qui est utilisée comme transit par les villageois et les touristes lorsque ces derniers veulent se rendre à l'Île aux Cerfs, par voie maritime. Qui plus est, avis aux aficionados de sensations fortes, vous y serez servis ! Il y a des promenades en mer grâce aux bateaux rapides et d'autres activités aquatiques qui vous feront avoir des poussées d'adrénaline. Tout cela, bien-évidemment, sous la surveillance de la Garde-côte nationale de Trou D'Eau Douce.

L'objectif premier de la Garde Côte nationale est de rendre l'Île Maurice encore plus sûre qu'elle ne l'est déjà pour les Mauriciens et les touristes aussi. Il ne faut pas oublier que le tourisme est un facteur sine qua non pour l'économie de Maurice. De facto, la 'National Coast Guard' (NCG) de Trou D'eau Douce ne déroge pas à ses habitudes de chien de garde afin de lutter contre toute infraction. Nous pouvons dire que les garde-côtes de Trou D'eau Douce aident au bon développement de l'économie mauricienne.

La NCG de Trou D'eau Douce se base à la rue Débarcadère. L'effectif est de vingt-huit officiers et ces derniers ont la lourde responsabilité d'appliquer les lois relatives à la protection de la zone maritime dans nos eaux territoriales. La NCG de Trou D'eau Douce joue ainsi un rôle prépondérant en ce qu'il s'agit de la sécurité dans la région.

Avec l'aide de la Tourism Authority, les officiers de la NCG surveillent les activités des plaisanciers sur une base frénétique pour une réduction d'accidents en mer tout en assurant la sécurité des touristes. Les plaisanciers sont soumis à moult vérifications de routine, durant lesquelles les officiers vérifient s'ils ont leurs permis, s'ils respectent la limite de vitesse, si les passagers portent des gilets de sauvetages approuvés SOLAS (Safety Of Life At Sea) et si les plaisanciers ne dépassent pas le nombre de passagers que son bateau puisse transporter. Ceux qui refusent de se plier aux règlements sont susceptibles de payer une amende ou d'être poursuivis en cour.

La NCG adopte surtout des stratégies de prévention dans un premier temps. Par la suite, s'il y a lieu, le personnel procède à des interventions rapides et s'en suit une investigation.

Avec l'augmentation exponentielle des bateaux rapides dans la région de Trou D'eau Douce et de l'Île aux Cerfs, la situation est devenue tumultueuse pour la National Coast Guard, mais cela n'impacte en rien notre volonté sans faille afin de mener à bien notre mission. Dans la même foulée, nous mettons sur pied plusieurs opérations afin de diminuer le taux de pêches illégales dans la région de Trou D'eau Douce et nous sommes heureux de constater que tout cela porte ses fruits.

Pour conclure je vous laisse avec cette citation d'Alexandre Dumas Père : «Un pays sans police est un grand navire sans boussole et sans gouvernail. »

MERCI AUX FRONTLINERS



"A CORRUPTION FREE COUNTRY BEGINS WITH ME"



by DCI Tengnah
CCID-ICAC

Corruption is perversion of integrity with unlawful remuneration. It is something that has no boundaries. It is a clandestine infamously secretive activity which, may go undetected. It erodes trust and deprives a person of the opportunity to have a meaningful livelihoods. It brings damage to family morale and reputation. It can also negatively impact the enjoyment of the whole family. Corruption being an old age phenomenon has now penetrated into every sphere of activity around the world. Corruption is no longer a mega-crime reserved for the bourgeois elite but it has trickled down to even the poorest levels of society. It hurts the poor disproportionately.

It can be compared to a deadly virus, one capable of endangering the stability and security of societies, undermining the values of democracy, morality, and threatening peace.

There is a need to bring up measures to curb down the crime to strengthen the morals of our society. So, it is important to harmonize the efforts of all enforcement agencies beginning with me to achieve enhanced corruption prevention and good governance to sustain socio economic development. Everybody must reject, resist and report corrupt practices. Effects of corruption can lead to:

- Poor service delivery at different levels.
- Bring inequality in society
- Erodes standard and procedures
- Undermines good governance and rule of law
- Bring public discontent
- Jeopardizing social and economic development
- Increase crime rates such as money laundering, financing of terrorism activities, enrichment of drug peddlers.
- Increases gap between the rich and the poor
- Distorts morality in our society
- Frustrates the more vulnerable one

It's high time to have an active participation from all people to fight against this evil, malevolent and wicked act, since we all citizens have a duty to adhere to rule of law and help every person from being deprived of enjoyment of his life.



BREAK THE CORRUPTION CHAIN

Corruption breeds corruption.

Corruption breeds injustice, crime, animosity and hatred.

In fact corruption is a poison of life.

If you associate yourself with corruption.

You will never see redemption.

Corruption normally comes with sweet scent, lucrative promise and fatal attraction.

This will prevent you from resisting to temptation.

Say 'NO' to Corruption.

Without corruption you will live a long, happy and peaceful life.

May God fill our heart with integrity, honesty, reliability and trustworthiness.





COMBATING MONEY LAUNDERING AND TERRORIST FINANCING

Mauritius is considered a major international finance centre in the Indian Ocean region. Anchored on a reliable regulatory framework, yet its financial sector faces numerous challenges and threats. Subsequently, the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) identified Mauritius as a jurisdiction having strategic Anti-Money Laundering/Counter Financing Terrorism (AML/CFT) deficiencies and placed the country on its grey list of 'Jurisdictions under increased monitoring'. On this basis, the European Union (EU) also concluded that Mauritius should be considered as a country having strategic deficiencies in its AML/CFT regime and added Mauritius to its 'black list'.

In a bid to enhance the capacity of Police Officers to effectively conduct Parallel Money Laundering investigations into predicate offences, the Police Training School (PTS) in collaboration with Central Criminal Investigation Department (CCID), Office of the Director of Public Prosecution (ODPP), Independent Commission against Corruption (ICAC), Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU) and Financial Service Commission (FSC) organised a five-day roll-on workshop in three batches from 17 August to 04 September 2020, for targeted Police Officers comprising of Deciding Officers (ASP & above), Enquiring Officers (CI/ INSP/ PS) and Prosecutors (CI/ INSP/ PS) at the Philippe Ohsan Concert Auditorium, Vacoas.



Mauritius Police Force | Police Magazine 2020

Opening Ceremony

On this occasion, Mr. Satyajit Boolell, SC and Director of Public Prosecutions, was invited for the opening address. He stressed on the challenges facing law enforcement officers to investigate financial crimes, due to the confidentiality clause in financial transactions.

To overcome the hurdle, he suggested the areas of cooperation between law enforcement agencies for a coordinated and multi-agency approach to combat money laundering and terrorist financing. He also urged investigators to adopt innovative and quality parallel investigation into 'predicate offences' to successfully corner money laundering offenders. He concluded that by confiscating the huge cash flows and depriving criminals from the illegal proceeds, no illegal activity will sustain.



Qualitative Exposure

During the five training days, knowledgeable and competent resource persons from the office of the DPP, ICAC, FIU and FSC made presentations and addressed issues raised by the participants. Hence, the audience were exposed to the AML/CFT legislations in place in Mauritius, regional and international obligations of local authorities to combat money laundering and terrorist financing and the legal implications and challenges operative in investigating financial crimes. Case scenarios were also discussed with emphasis on evidence gathering through judge's order and mutual legal assistance.

Way forward

As highlighted by FATF, law enforcement agencies locally should display ability to conduct parallel investigation into complex financial crimes.

This workshop, the first of its kind, has certainly paved the ground for future cooperation among all the actors involved in the fight against ML/TF and fills the gap pointed out the inter-governmental body.

**by Insp Noonaram
Police Training School**



Mauritius Police Force | Police Magazine 2020



A VISIT TO AN INDIAN AFRICAN VILLAGE

It was in the month of November 2019, during a lengthily planned holiday in South India with family, we decided to take a domestic flight and flew to the city of Ahmedad in the North Western Indian State of Gujarat at the invitation of our long time Indian friends.

Gujarat is considered to be among the most booming states in India with a population of about 70 millions of inhabitants and it is about 95 times bigger than Mauritius in size. The main spoken language is Gujarati but Hindi is widely spoken and understood.



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Some of the most prominent and influential Gujarati personalities are Mahatma Gandhi who is considered as the father of the Indian nation, Muhammad Ali Jinnah who became the first Prime Minister of Pakistan after the partition of British India in the year 1947 was also from Gujarat and so is the present Prime Minister of India Mr. Narendra Modi.

On Sunday the 24th of November in the early morning we left the old city of Junagadh where we were staying and our Indian friends took us by car to a remote village called Jambur found near the Gir Forest National Park. The park is said to be the only one in whole Asia where lions still live in the wild.

Jambur is one amongst some Indian villages where the descendants of the African Indian origin people known as "Siddi" have settled. They are 100% Indian citizens and they are Gujarati and hindi speakers. They have no connection at all to Africa except their physical appearances and their folk dance known as "dhamaal" which looks very similar to the various African traditional dances. The siddi community in this part of India is predominantly of Muslim faith but however, there are also other Siddi communities living in the southern Indian state of Karnataka and even in the neighbouring Pakistan.

According to history, their forefathers originated from East Africa and they started coming to India as early as 628 AD as indentured servants, soldiers, cavalry guards, merchants, sailors etc. There is no exact figure of the Siddi population in India but it is estimated to be around 70 000 individuals.

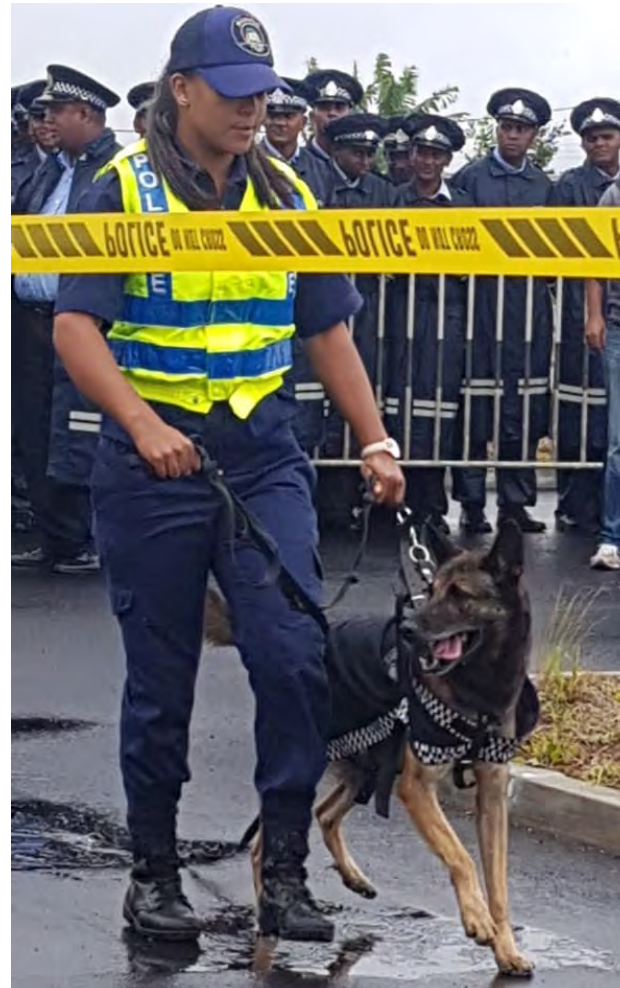
We had the privilege to be the first Mauritians to set foot in their village and were greeted by a heartfelt welcome by the the village representatives where we had some interactions on different issues and about their way of life. After a guided visit of the village which had a population of about five thousand of inhabitants, a ceremony was given in our honour where they performed the dhamaal and then followed by a traditional lunch. It was such an amazing moment for us which will definitely stay engraved in our hearts and minds during our lifetime.

Despite this particular community living in isolation, they are very friendly and welcome foreigners so that their history and cultures may be made known to other part of the world.

After all, it was a very wonderful adventure I had with my family during the trip.

by **DPS 7118 Plaiche**
DCIU Southern Division

POLICE DOG UNIT



Training

The training program is divided into four stages: Obedience and Familiarization, Tracking, Attack, and Search. Each handler trains his own dog under the direction of the instructor.

Dog handlers are issued with equipment such as boots, gloves, coats, coveralls and other wearing apparel needed for training. They receive a kennel, an ordinary lead, a chain-choke collar, a harness and tracking line, a comb, a brush, and a feeding bowl. All these equipment are supplied by the Mauritius Police Force.



Obedience and familiarization

The obedience and familiarization phases are inculcated to dogs, with particular emphasis on kindness and firmness, and on correcting the dog immediately when it acts contrary to command. When a dog has difficulty with a command, it is returned to one previously mastered and praised for obedience to it. The most important command the dog learns is “No”. A sharp pull on the chain-choke collar accompanied by a firm “No!” is sufficient, and soon the dog learns to respond to the spoken command alone.

Tracking

The next phase of training is tracking, a technique used when following and apprehending a suspect fleeing the scene of a crime. The dog first becomes accustomed to a harness, and to a 20-foot tracking line which allows greater freedom of movement than an ordinary lead. In tracking, the dog follows the scent left by crushed grass and insects where the man walks, and/or the scent of perspiration left by his shoes. In this training phase, the firmness of the tracking surface raises an issue, for on a hard surface a dog must rely solely on the scent of perspiration from the shoes of the suspect it is tracking. If there is rain or strong wind, this scent is destroyed and tracking becomes impossible.

Attack

After training in tracking, the dog learns the attack phase that is to take action upon encountering the suspect. If the man stops at the sight of the dog, as most men do, the dog learns to hold him at bay and bark until the handler arrives. If the man runs, however, the dog will attack. The two most important things the dog learns in attack training are where to grab and when to let loose. The dog is taught to grab the right arm or the arm in which a weapon is held, and clamp it between its jaws until the handler arrives. For practice in these techniques, the officers run from each other's dogs after first donning a heavily-padded attack suit, with extra padding on the right arm to protect against injury should the dog clamp too hard or in the wrong place.

Search

In the fourth phase, the dogs learn to search buildings, wooded areas, factories, and other settings it may encounter on duty. In this phase, the dog learns to search a building room by room and floor by floor, to overcome obstacles by training with hurdles, high jumps, window jumps, crawl boxes, and stairs, and to drag objects. Recently they have been trained to search rubble for victims of disasters.

Way forward

Police dogs, in spite of all of the past and present technological advances, still remain a cost-effective investigative tool. Police dogs, if properly trained in the proper environment will remain a viable alternative resource to the law enforcement community.

by **PC 2761 Nundoo**
Police Dog Unit

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NATIONAL DAY

Celebrations 2020



The National Day celebrations for year 2020 was celebrated at the State House, due to bad weather conditions, in the presence of the President of the Republic, His Excellency Mr. Prithvirajsing ROOPUN, G.C.S.K. and the Hon. Pravind Kumar JUGNAUTH, Prime Minister. This 12th March 2020 was not with the habitual pompous and exuberant ceremony in the usual enchanting atmosphere of Champs de Mars. It was rather a discrete parade with the participation of the different adjuncts of the Force marching to celebrate and honor the National Flag. Whatever be the constraints, unforeseen contingencies and restrictions, Glory to thee Mauritius, a day to remember, to mark, celebrate and honour. As one people, as one nation we stand against all adversities. Again glory to thee.



20 YEARS OF POLICE IT UNIT *The Evolution*

Creation

In the year 2000, with the advent of Information Technology and to keep pace with the new trend, Mauritius Police Force set up an IT Unit to oversee all IT development within the service. The unit was responsible for formulating an IT strategy for the Police Department covering the whole spectrum of Information technology, Information Management, Computerisation of the Force and as well as training of Officers. It had also to cater for electronic and computer related crimes (cybercrimes). Initially the unit was based at the Police Headquarters, it was overseen by DCP 'A' and had as officer in charge PS 4958 Gangalamsamy.

Growth of IT Unit

As Information Technology became widespread in our society, the need for action to effectively combat cybercrime became sine qua non. In year 2001 the Unit was transferred to a new office at the AMC Building, Ste Georges Street, Port Louis with additional personnel and equipment. Mauritius adopted several criminal legislations to combat cybercrime and the unit aligned its technical aspect of investigation and collection of evidence in line with established norms and standards.

Launching of Cybercell

In 2005 the "Cybercell", a fully operational Digital Forensics Laboratory, equipped with Digital Forensic Tools was setup. Officers received training locally and internationally on Digital Forensics Examination for the effective and efficient running of the lab.

IT Systems in the Force

With time several IT Systems such as the Criminal Attribute Database (CADB), the Firearms System, the Traffic Management System, the Administration System and the colossal Crime Occurrence Tracking System (COTS) have been put in place and the Police IT Unit is providing different types of support for these systems.



Staff of IT Unit 2020

Introduction of the Crime Occurrence Tracking System (COTS)

COTS is an integrated IT application introduced in 2011 for recording and managing processes in the force, it was mainly developed to capture all details concerning declarations from the time of report until its disposal.

Public Sector ICT Excellence Award

In 2011 Police IT Unit participated in the Public Sector ICT Excellence Award, an honour presented to an outstanding organisation that has successfully utilised ICT to run the operation of its organisation effectively and improve efficiency, and was awarded 1st Runner up.

Staff IT Unit

The Unit consists of a pool of qualified personnel, most of the staff having at least a diploma with adequate knowledge and many years of experience in the field of IT.

New Location of IT Unit

In September 2014, IT Unit shifted to a new building in Line Barracks Compound. The new IT Building is secured with authorised access control procedures in place.

MS ISO 9001:2015 Certified

The Police IT Unit is ISO 9001:2015 certified since May 2019 and in its bid to maintain its level of service to its customers, the Police IT Unit is striving to improve on-time delivery, increase pass-first-time levels in digital examinations and repair of equipment whilst also reduce user complaints.



by 8437 PC Aukhez
Police IT Unit

CHANGING MINDSET

Physical Fitness = Key to Police Efficiency

Changing sound mind in a sound body, health is wealth, spirit, body and soul fitness and alignment, all sine qua none for human balance and happy living. No tree would stand on earth without its root firmly attached to the soil. Likewise, no police officer could function without displaying a minimum physical fitness. The vulnerable nature and the high level of risks of police job is a well-known to everybody. A police officer on his feet patrolling his beat is of great reassurance to the community. Sport activities, exercise and physical fitness are the same side of the same coin to fuel, energize and boost the efficiency and effectiveness of the police officer in his performance.

For sure physical fitness counts, it weighs heavy on the balance and high on the scale in relation with Police job. An indolent body is a nest for diseases like diabetes, hypertension and cholesterol, all leaving pre-disposition to cardiac diseases.

When the Commissioner of Police took office, he laid great emphasis on the need for officers to undergo endurance training and maintain their fitness throughout. Clear cut directives were given to all quarters to firstly carry a Training Needs Analysis, and thereafter design relevant training programme to make Police fitness a reality in the Force. A Police Officer from each Division, Branch and Unit was selected to follow a Train-the-Trainers Course on physical fitness training by the Police Training School and were finally designed as Physical Training Instructors (PTI) for their respective Division or Branch.



The implementation of this measure must be taken with care and ensure its continuity in time. It must remain on the priority list and be considered as the life blood of the organisation. The main difficulty is how to marry police load of work with physical exercise. Divisional Commanders and Branch Officers are to ensure that all eligible officers are duly enrolled on the programme according to their needs.

Such programmes are being closely supervised by specialists and professionals in the field with specific tailor-made sessions for each category. Everybody's need is not the same. There must also be a close monitoring and evaluation of the programme to measure and monitor progress and performance of officers.



At the end of the day, globally the training must produce results, in terms of increasing life expectancy of officers, a fall in related diseases due to indolence and idleness, and the number of Police Officers competing in sport activities at national level.

Healthy Police Officers only will project the organization shining brightly in a promising future.

by PC 9270 Imrit
PTI WD / Neighbourhood Officer
Albion Police Station



Contributing towards a better Quality of Life to our Citizens



by Insp Amasay
Police de L'Environnement

Man's life on this planet has been marked by continual conflict between high level of development and associated risks of pollution. Climate change is a vivid example of the daunting challenges which humanity is facing. It poses an existential threat to all.

Reconciling development and environment protection encompasses the need to increase people's awareness on a safe and sound management of wastes. There is a need to shift from a linear approach (use and throw) to a circular economy, whereby resource recovery and recycling are optimized. In Mauritius, despite considerable efforts being put in by relevant authorities to mitigate pollution through the island, pollution still remains a major threat.

Formed in December 2000, Police De L'Environnement based in Port Louis restored the need for a special unit to deal with environmental protection. Its mission is to protect and preserve the environment by enforcing environmental laws. In 2002, under the Environment Protection Act (EPA), police officers posted under this unit were vested, in addition to any other powers under other enactments, the powers of an authorized officer to assist the Ministry of Environment to enforce environmental laws as per sect. 9 of the EPA.

The major activities of this unit are mainly oriented into investigations towards various forms of pollution which include, amongst others; (a) air pollution regarding emission of heavy black smoke from vehicles (b) noise pollution from vehicles with modified silencers, loud music in bungalows, night clubs and restaurants (c) water pollution, land and plastic pollution referring to illegal dumping and littering.

ISSUES OF CONCERN



Litter and illegal dumping or depositing of waste on land and in water pollute the environment and can harm human health. Unfortunately, it has been observed that many areas of our island are still in a deplorable state due to indiscriminate dumping and littering. The main cause for this situation is the irresponsible behavior of some people or their unwillingness to adopt good environmental practices.



Vehicles exhausting emissions is one of the major sources of air pollution in Mauritius. The problem has been aggravated with the rapid increase in the number of diesel driven vehicles. The emission by diesel engines of large amounts of noisome black smoke is indefensible and is a great nuisance. The health risks of air pollution are extremely serious. Poor air quality increases respiratory ailments like asthma and bronchitis and heightens the risk of life-threatening conditions like cancer.

NOISE POLLUTION

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), it is the most dangerous environmental threats to mental health and quality of life. In Mauritius, noise pollution is being enforced through two regulations, namely:

- (I) Environment Protection (standard for noise) Reg. 1997 which is enforced by the health engineering unit with the assistance of Environment Police officers and,
- (II) Environment Protection (control of noise) Reg. 2008. This piece of legislation stipulates that 'no person shall make or cause to be made any noise which constitutes a nuisance'. Enforced by police officers, the contravention is established when the nuisance is cranked up to the level of nuisance as perceived by the ears of the officer.



A major type of noise, rather nuisance, is the irritating sound of vehicles whose silencer system has been removed or a modification made in its exhaust pipe to create thumping noise or loud blasts, a popular hobby of young bikers these days. Apart from showing off a male macho feeling and adventurism, the riders are causing enormous harm with irreversible effect for frail ears of vulnerable persons. The riders are daily tracked by our team around the island. The Police de L'Environnement is relentlessly enforcing the law in this regard because we know their game - "Le jeu du chat et de la souris nous pousse à bout de souffles mais nous restons fermes et intransigeantes" ... will always be the reply of our officers.



Sound becomes unwanted when it interferes with normal activities, disrupts or diminishes our quality of life. According to the WHO, loud bass is just additional nuisance, which on exposure, induces noise-induced hearing loss, tinnitus, hypertension, vasoconstriction and other cardiovascular adverse effects. Amplified to create an explosion of bass, music has become a dreadful encounter.

Through our experience at the Police de L'Environnement, we can bring forth that from one angle, tolerance for noise is frequently independent of decibel levels, and from another angle, louder engines or music has become an expression of power.

Bringing the Concept of Environmental Stewardship

We are actively involved in imparting environmental education to change the mind-sets of our fellow citizens to become environmental stewards. Regular sensitization programs for different target groups including children, youth, women, senior citizens, private sectors, NGOs and the public in general are carried out by the unit.

"Every person in Mauritius shall use his best endeavours to preserve and enhance the quality of life by caring responsibly for the natural environment of Mauritius".







MARITIME AIR SQUADRON

The Angel and Devil of Mauritius



'WHEN THE GOING GETS TOUGH, THE TOUGH GETS GOING'

A simple yet powerful phrase symbolising the very spirit of the Maritime Air Squadron (MAS). The squadron is a relatively young but specialised unit of the National Coast Guard and the only fixed wing air wing arm of the Mauritius Police Force. It has won numerous accolades and appreciation, both nationally and internationally, in a very short span of time, putting Mauritius on the regional map. The squadron was also in the midst of action upon the onset of COVID-19 in Mauritius.

The dreadful COVID-19 pandemic triggered significant emotional and economic damage to the people of this paradise country. This not only led to the tragic loss of our near and dear ones but also burdened the National Carrier, Air Mauritius Limited, after it had to cease all air operation. The lockdown immediately cut off our brothers and sisters from Rodrigues, who now faced an uncertain future. It was at this juncture that the Maritime Air Squadron proved its worth yet again, by becoming the only air link between the Mascarene Islands.

The Squadron gauged the situation carefully and worked around significant challenges to meet the additional responsibility of inter-connecting the Mascarenes, apart from its primary responsibility of maintaining vigil over the Mauritian waters. Since the curfew order and suspension of air traffic, the squadron flew an overwhelming 200 hours, inclusive of first-time missions such as Curfew Patrol, Special Charter flights, Specialised Air Cargo Carrier etc. As a matter of statistics, the squadron ferried approximately 40 critical patients/ passengers and transported roughly 3.6 tonnes of cargo for the ministry of Health & Wellness, CEB, AML/ ARL which included medical equipment, personal protective equipment, protective gear, blood samples, bills etc to and from Mauritius. Figures don't

say much alone, but convey a lot when it is considered that Dornier 228 of the Maritime Air Squadron/ National Coast Guard is half the size and one-third the take-off weight of the ATR72 aircraft (operated by Air Mauritius) and it takes approximately four Dornier sorties to ferry the load and passengers which the ATR can do in one go.

During these testing times, the squadron personnel improvised to meet the challenges thereby achieving the unthinkable. A few missions deserve special mention, notably for their urgency and criticality. The sortie undertaken by the squadron on 16 April 2020 to Reunion Island will go down in the chronicles of not only MAS but also of NCG and the MPF. The squadron Dornier aircraft air lifted temperature-sensitive test reagents, Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR), from Reunion to Mauritius without breaking the cold chain which started from Amsterdam, Netherlands. In order to accomplish this feat, the crew modified the environmental system of the aircraft so as to provide an optimal cabin temperature to preserve the live enzymes contained within the test reagents.

Another feather in the cap of this versatile unit was the airlift of a two days old baby from Rodrigues to Mauritius. The baby required an urgent transportation to a neo-natal ICU as the baby boy was not able to swallow after his first feeding during the first day of his life. The crew this time improvised by flying at a non-standard altitude of 6000 feet, departing from the standard SOP of 10000 feet above mean sea level. This decision was primarily undertaken so as to ensure maximum possible oxygen supply for the baby in lieu of higher fuel consumption, slower speed, increased flight duration and modified in flight complex requirements. ON another operation, the squadron also ferried a seven-month-old baby having a suspected skull fracture. The list of critical patients and lives saved is endless and we once received a beautiful quote from a 50-year-old cancer affected lady saying that we are the 'Invincible Angels'. If the



above was not enough, the squadron Dornier aircraft was even utilised as a Special Charter flight to Reunion wherein a wheel chair bound patient was ferried for administration of crucial life-saving medicines, not found in Mauritius. The squadron undertook the mission with alacrity, thereby assisting in saving one more life.

If COVID-19 displayed the angelic nature of the squadron, it also brought out the devil in it. The borders of Mauritius being closed, neither aircraft nor ships were authorised to land or call port. The squadron was tasked to undertake Curfew Patrol, i.e. maintain an eagle's eye along the coast of Mauritius keeping a sharp lookout for any potential breach of curfew order. The squadron's Dornier aircraft, the MPF's eyes over the sea, kept a constant vigil over the vast Mauritian EEZ and in particular the coastal waters, for hours every day, interrogating boats/ ships and reporting numerous contraventions/ illegal activities on a daily basis. More so, the Dornier was launched several times, including at midnight, to track movements of passenger ships attempting to illegally disembark their Mauritian employees at Port Louis

without approval. On each occasion the aircraft tracked down the cruise liner, monitored her movement, established communication and informed her to change course away from the Mauritian waters, as there was no authorisation for the ship to call port. An extremely difficult task at hand, considering that it was a national threat during this ongoing pandemic.

All in all, the Maritime Air Squadron, a specialised wing of the National Coast Guard, upheld its intent and commitment to pursue national interests at all times. It is the nation's silent guardian, a watchful protector, epitomising its code –Vigilant Et Protegere.

by Inspector Lisette
Maritime Air Squadron, NCG

PERPETRATORS OF SEXUAL ABUSE



An overview of sexual addiction

He is the tragic villain and the pivotal character in the tragedy. He is passionately overwhelmed by his compulsive behavior. This is his very addiction, his tragic flaw. He preys on innocent victims, the speechless, the silenced, and the easily manipulated ones. He is not proud of his acts, he has remorse and deeply regrets of his tacit doings. He is like the character “L’Avare” in Moliere’s masterpiece. At the beginning and at the end he remains the unchanged, pitiful, awful and desperate villain. His identity and DNA unveil him as nobody else than the perpetrator of sexual abuse on children. Fighting his addiction is an eternal fight against himself, where he remains the permanent loser. The question that we put today is whether to condemn and lock him for life or is there a golden gate opened for his redemption and reinsertion?

Perpetrators of sexual abuse on children often use a technique that is called grooming to attract and entice their victim into their net. It is the preparatory act of attracting another person through isolation and dependency, enforcing trust rendering them more vulnerable to be an easy prey for abuse. They use baits like money or cakes to lure their victims.

Most of the time, such abuses take place within the four walls of silence, further hidden by a wall of lies in absolute secrecy. Victims rarely come forward to denounce their perpetrators and if ever they do so, it is after a long time of desperation and hopelessness where all options and possibilities of change has gone in fumo. Statistics shows that 90% of cases are committed by close relatives. 49% committed on victim less than 6 years, 42% where victim is between 7 – 11 years and 24% where victim is between 12 – 17 years. It is also proven that the younger the child, the more likely their abuser is a member of the family.

Methodology

The aim of this paper is to address the issue of sexual abuse on children. They are innocent, fragile, immature and naïve; still they are being sexually abused shouldering their physical and psychological distress with dismay in an unbearable silence and confusion. The figures keep on skyrocketing; still many go unreported because of family reputation, involvement of close relatives or the shame of what society will say. It is high time to go beyond the taboos, encourage the voiceless to talk, unveil their grievances and suffering in broad day light and bring perpetrators under the cuffs of justice.

The intention is to reinforce and provide a deeper understanding of the perpetrator’s mind, thoughts, emotions and behaviour and provide an alternative route to treat and resolve his deviancy. We shall also shed light on the underlying difficulty that perpetrators encounter in the acceptance to come forward for treatment because many believe that they are doomed for life and that nothing can be done about it. They prefer to smother in their compulsiveness and secrecy.

Perpetrators and sexual addiction

Sexual addiction is a compulsive need to perform a sexual act to achieve a kind of fix pleasure. It is an urge, a drive, and a crave for sex as one gets from drug or alcohol addiction. Sexual addicts are ready to alter their life and activities in order to perform sexual acts several times a day. They are unable to control their behaviour despite negative consequences.

What is peculiar about sexual addicts is that they have developed the skill of hiding and keeping their behaviour secret from their spouse and other family members. They are haunted by chronic obsessive sexual thoughts and often have compulsive relation with multiple partners. They are always lying to cover their behaviour. They are very irritable especially when it is question of controlling their behaviour. What is worst and pitiable is that they frequently have unsafe sex, indulge in excessive masturbation, have long periods of promiscuity and above all, they have feelings of remorse and guilt after sex.

For them, it is a way to cope with their emotional stress, their sadness, their loneliness, their feeling of intense guilt that pursues them and suffers from their low self-esteem. They are people that may lash out if they are losing their victims either through a divorce or a break-up. Fanatically they need to maintain power and domination over their victim.

Sexual addiction is also explained as being part of psychiatric conditions characterized by impulsive and uncontrolled behaviour. Sexual addiction often has a dual connotation of co-occurring disorders that fuel the hypersexual behaviour. Others argue that childhood history of unresolved trauma and past emotional pain may contribute to sex addiction in later life. After all, it remains a mental health issue as it relates to mental diseases like depression, anxiety, compulsive behaviors and other forms of addictions.

Sexual addicts and their brain chemistry

The anomalous behaviour of sexual addicts is the neurological differences in their brains reward center. There is a chemical release of dopamine and oxytocin, the pleasure hormones that generate feelings of elation, happiness and contentment. There is also the production of androgen; the sex hormone. When the body produces too much, it increases the risk of sexual addiction.

There is the need for more sex to have the same pleasure. In addictive disorders, the brain’s reward pathways become means of reinforcing harmful behaviours. This euphoric rush of chemical release will encourage the individual to pursue and continue with the same sexual rush even if it is risky or destructive.

Dealing with perpetrators of sexual abuse

The just perspective in dealing with perpetrators of sexual abuse may be a limited scope for a proper line of approach and analysis of the issue. The perpetrator will remain a perpetrator even after going through the criminal justice system. He may even turn out to be a hardened version of himself. He may even claim that the criminal justice system has not been able to do justice to his person, to rehabilitate him. Though being a deviant behaviour sexual addiction can be treated and cured. There are different avenues that can be exploited here.

Lessons from history have taught that people from the LGBT community and other marginalized groups have been censored for displaying “too much sex”. Sexually addicted women with nymphomania have been cured from this condition by removing their clitoris. Men with naturally high sex drive have been chemically castrated. The humane side of it is that sexual addiction can be treated and cured. There is a wide string of possibilities opened to this end.

First there is the Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) treatment which works by helping the patient to shift the focus on their thoughts, emotions and behaviours. Here patients are provided with a variety of tools and techniques to reduce their impulsive behaviour. Cognitive Behavioural Technique is also used to avoid relapse by teaching the patient how to avoid possible situations and triggers that could increase sexual urges. Here patients learn how to regulate these urges and develop relationship that is normal and healthy. In group therapy patients learn how to relieve shame and isolation by knowing that they are not alone, they are surrounded by their siblings and everybody is here for a cure.

Again rehabilitation of sexual addiction can come from counselling. It consists of exploring and correcting underlying causes that led to sexual addiction through individual or group therapy. There is also room for medication to treat obsessive compulsive behaviour by acting on neurotransmitters. There are also anti-depressants that deal with triggers.

Despite neuroscientists harnessing and finessing the treatment platform by putting in place a plethora of solutions and possibilities to help those suffering from sexual addiction, there is big taboo and reluctance on the part of patients to admit they badly need professional help and come forward for treatment. Rehabilitation has a lot to offer in this criminological discourse. Allowing compulsive drives to sleep in them for life make them potential predators likely to offend and re-offend. The volcano, just by pretending to sleep may erupt in an uncontrollable outburst at any moment. Cure must not be an option, but rather a choice to set things right.

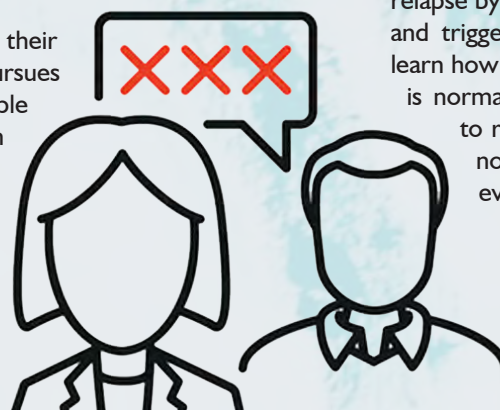
Conclusion

The big dilemma facing societies in the criminological discourse is whether to consider sexual addiction as a deviancy to be punished or pathology to be cured. These are two different pathways, diametrically opposed to each other that need to be enlightened. So far we have just allowed ourselves to be horrified by the evil deeds of perpetrators, and wish the highest penalty to reprimand and deter his behaviour.

Is imprisonment the only response to this deviancy or is there another alternative, a humane approach to a pathological issue. On a humanitarian playing field, can we measure the dangerousness of the sexual addict; remove him temporarily from society, the time of his treatment and rehabilitation. At the end of the day, the perpetrator suffers from his deviancy; he feels discomfort and remorse for his act. He longs for a change and badly needs attention and a tendering helping hand in his direction. Is the criminal justice system and society ready to give a him a second chance through a therapeutic attitude, for after all, his redemption isn’t it all that we wish?



by Inspector Mootooveeren
Police Family Protection Unit





By Shivani Padmini Poinosawmy
Clinical & Sports Dietitian
Daughter of ASP P. K Poinosawmy

BEAT STRESS WITH SMART NUTRITION

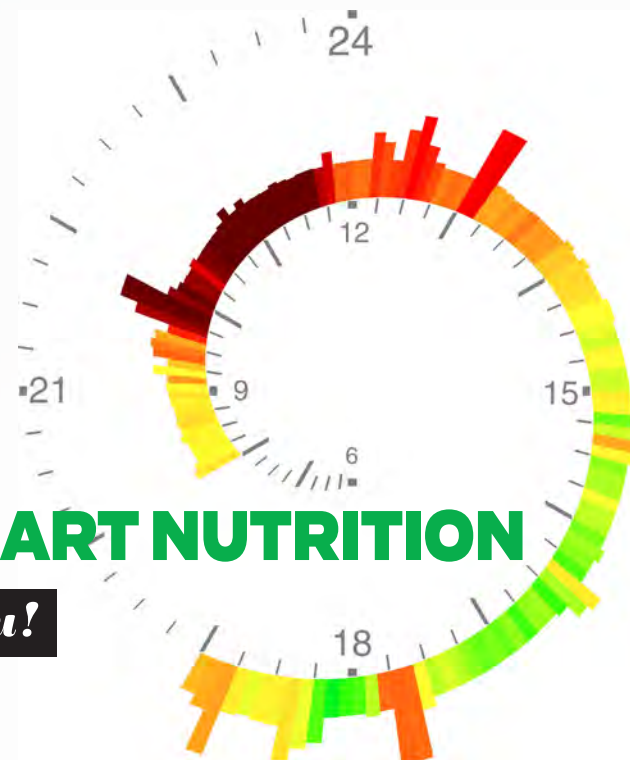
A Happier, Less-Stressed You!

Stress is anything but harmless. Police work is inherently stressful because of the constant exposure to confrontation and violence and the day-to-day involvement in a variety of traumatic incidents. While short-term stress can lead to headaches, stomach cramps, weight gain, chronic stress impacts every part of your body, from your digestive and reproductive systems to your immune system. Left unaddressed, stress can even increase your risk for diseases of lifestyle such as obesity, diabetes, heart disease, depression and anxiety. That's right! Stress is not just making you grumpier; it may also be making you fatter and sicker.

How Diet Can Affect Stress Levels, for Better or Worse

Diet choices can make or break your stress levels. Those cookies and potato chips aren't doing you any favors. These refined carbs spike blood sugar and then cause it to crash, increasing stress and anxiety. But choosing healthy foods, including healthy fats such as avocados, eggs and nuts, has the opposite effect, creating a favorable hormone signaling in the brain, which supports satiety, mood regulation, sleep and energy balance. When you are stressed, your body pumps out hormones that rev your appetite and send your cravings for unhealthy comfort foods leading to obesity.

Preparing healthy food may be the last thing you want to do when you are pressed for time but rest assured that your time and effort will pay off in a big way and that you will likely notice the benefits when your stress levels are at their highest: more energy, a calmer mind, a boosted immune system, and maybe even a slimmer waistline.



Foods to eat when stressed

✓ Herbal Tea



For conquering stress, it is important as how food makes you feel. Take a calming, warm cup of herbal tea; there is a soothing effect of sipping a warm drink, regardless of the flavor. However, certain herbs have been shown to have a relaxing effect, chamomile may reduce anxiety by helping rewire the body's stress response, and increasing production of the feel-good hormones. Try opting for herbal teas with no sugar added for a healthier calorie free drink instead of coffee or tea.

✓ Dark chocolate



Usually, dessert isn't a good choice when you're stressed, but dark chocolate may be an exception. Chocolate feels like a real treat to simply savour a piece of it, and that feeling alone can help reduce stress. Dark chocolate, which is also rich in antioxidants, can also lower levels of stress hormones in the body. Just be sure to avoid excess calories in your diet by not overindulging in chocolate. Keep serving size in mind with dark chocolate, as the calories can add up quickly. Stick to 25g serving or less of at least 60 percent cacao dark chocolate daily.

✓ Wholegrain carbohydrates



The right carbs can act as stress busters! Carbohydrates can increase levels of serotonin, a chemical in the body that helps boost mood and reduce stress. More serotonin means more concentration and a more productive workday. Refined carbs such as chips, cookies, and crackers are tied to inflammation, stress, and depression; these carbs may also raise blood pressure straining your heart health. Complex carbs, on the other hand, can do wonders for your stress levels because they digest more slowly and keep blood sugar levels more even. Sources of complex carbs include sweet potatoes and whole grains such as brown bread, quinoa, brown rice and the good old oats.

✓ Bananas



For a quick boost, skip coffee and reach for a banana instead. The yellow, potassium-rich fruit contains the mood-boosting chemical along with magnesium and its deficiency may increase depression and anxiety symptoms. Bananas are furthermore a rich source of certain B vitamins which helps the nervous system run correctly, and can decrease stress and fatigue. The potassium bananas can also help lower high blood pressure.

✓ Fatty Fish



Stress can tax the heart, but eating fatty fish can help strengthen your ticker and boost your mood, to boot. Heart-healthy omega-3 fatty acids in whole fish like tuna, halibut, salmon, and sardines may help ease depression.

✓ Water



Fill your cup with water and sip away! The importance of hydration during stressful times is well-documented. Even mild dehydration can increase cortisol levels, which contributes to increased stress. While drinking enough water will not make your stressors vanish, taking this step will help set your body up to handle stress when it does occur. The average woman needs about 2.7 L of water per day, while the average man needs about 3.7 L. About 80% of that hydration should come from beverages, whereas the remaining 20 percent can come from food.

✓ Milk



Turns out, calcium in milk might not only strengthen your skeleton, it could also brighten your mood. Milk and other dairy with calcium and added vitamin D can help muscles relax and stabilize mood; these nutrients may even ease symptoms of premenstrual syndrome, which we ladies know can definitely crank up the stress!

✓ Nuts



Nuts are a boon to your health in more ways than one. First, they're satisfying, meaning they can help ward off unhealthy cravings. Second, they could help lower blood pressure. B vitamins have been shown to help lower stress levels. Just remember to reach for only a small handful, as nuts are calorie dense and can lead to weight gain if you eat too many.

✓ Vitamin C-Rich Fruits



Vitamin C will not only boost your immune system, the nutrient can also keep stress at bay. This vitamin can curb levels of stress hormones while strengthening the immune system. Vitamin C normalizes blood pressure and levels of stress hormone quickly. Eating citrus fruits, including oranges, grapefruit and strawberries, are a good start.

✓ Avocados



Avocados are packed with healthy monounsaturated fats, vitamin C, vitamin B6, potassium, and fiber, making for a perfect stress-fighting snack. The fruit's potassium may also help lower blood pressure. Not to mention, the healthy fat and fiber in avocados can contribute to satiety, discouraging you from unhealthy snacking when you are stressed.

☑ Leafy Greens



You might think desk salads are boring, but for lowering stress, they may be one of the best choices you can make at lunchtime. Leafy-green vegetables, such as spinach, as well as other raw fruits and veggies, are stress-busting powerhouses. As a rich source of magnesium, leafy greens can help regulate cortisol and blood pressure levels. Plus, green leafy veggies contain folate, which plays a key role in the production of the feel-good chemical dopamine.

Foods to limit or avoid when stressed

Of course, not all foods are good for stress levels. In fact, some foods (or too much of them) may actually make matters worse. Knowing what to put on your plate is just as important as knowing what to skip for lower stress levels.

☒ Caffeine



Your cup of coffee could support or sabotage your stress levels. It comes down to volume and timing. There's nothing wrong with a couple of cups of a caffeinated beverage earlier in the day, but skip it after noon, as it can interfere with sleep. Beverages such as caffeinated coffee or tea can help improve mental focus when taken in small amounts, but drinking too much caffeine can make you feel anxious, edgy, and more stressed than you actually are.

☒ Alcohol



Be mindful of your alcohol intake, as it could similarly help or hurt your stress levels. If you have any tendency to overdo it, alcohol is a bad idea. When stress is an ongoing issue one can turn to alcohol to calm their nerves, it can actually contribute to a feeling of depression and make stress more difficult to manage in the long term. It is better to abstain from alcohol if you're feeling depressed or think you lean on it too much.

☒ Refined Sugar



Avoid calming stress with sugar. Refined sugar, which is the kind in cookies, cakes, and candy, causes blood sugar to rise and then quickly drop, often described as a "crash". This is the opposite of what you need when your stress levels are high and your energy levels are low.

Additional tips:

☑ **Eat regular meals – do not wait until you are too hungry, this causes you to overeat or make bad choices. Avoid going more than 4 hours without having something to eat.**

☑ **Be sure to have healthy snacks such as oat biscuits, fruits or nuts on hand so you are not tempted by junk food.**

☑ **Eat mindfully; stop watching TV or scrolling through your phone when your plate is in front of you.**

☑ **Get enough sleep, poor sleep can make us more stressed, and it also increases one's appetite for high-fat, high-sugar foods and physically less active. Shoot for 7 to 8 hours of sleep per night.**

☑ **De-Stress with exercise. Moderate intensity exercise boosts oxygen circulation and spurs your body to make feel-good chemicals called endorphins. Aim for 30 minutes of moderate intensity exercise such as running, rope skipping, cycling, three to four times a week.**

Unfortunately stress has a negative impact on police officers and their families; there will always be times of high stress. Have a plan in place to deal with that stress and limit its effects on your life as much as possible. Think about the foods you want to focus on and those you want to avoid when stress levels are high. A little planning in advance can go a long way in helping combat stress and not further contribute to it.



Le 29 août 2020 : une date mémorable aussi bien pour les membres du public que pour la force policière Mauricienne. Ce jour-là, des milliers de Mauriciens sont descendus dans les rues de la capitale pour une marche pacifique; un moment historique comme l'ont indiqué plusieurs observateurs, car elle s'est avérée être encore plus impressionnante que le rassemblement de 1982, qui avait mobilisé une grosse foule de manifestants.

Lors de tels rassemblements, cela va sans dire que les risques de dérapages sont grands. C'est pour ces raisons qu'après avoir donné son feu vert, le Commissaire de Police a mobilisé ses hommes - le but étant de les préparer à agir en anticipation et en réaction le jour fatidique pour assurer un niveau de sécurité maximale à l'ensemble du public ; son premier gros challenge après avoir pris les commandes de la force policière. Ainsi, un véritable travail de fourmi s'en est suivi pour que ce rassemblement se déroule dans le bon ordre : des réunions entre le Commissaire de Police, lui-même, et Commissaire adjoint de Police responsable de la Division Métropolitaine Sud et ses subordonnés comprenant les officiers du Traffic Branch, entre autres.

C'est donc bien préparés que les policiers ont su faire face à cette foule monstre le Jour-J. Pour le bon déroulement de cette marche, plusieurs routes latérales avaient dû être fermées au public. Avec suffisamment d'effectif et de ressources déployés le jour de l'événement - notamment des éléments de la Special Support Unit (SSU), de la Police Dog et de la Special Mobile Force (SMF) mobilisée au New Government House et aux Casernes centrales -, les manifestants ont été canalisés en toute sécurité tout le long du trajet ; de la Place de la Cathédrale, où ils s'étaient réunis à partir de 13h, jusqu'à la rue John Kennedy, où les organisateurs se sont adressés à la foule.

Alors que d'un côté, l'expertise des limiers du Traffic Unit sud et du Traffic Branch a été mise à contribution afin de contrôler la fluidité de la circulation, les drones de la police ont également joué un rôle très important pour un meilleur contrôle de l'opération; leur but étant de permettre aux officiers sur le terrain de pouvoir ajuster en temps réel les déplacements de la foule. C'est finalement sans aucun incident que la marche a pris fin aux alentours de 16h30, grâce aux mesures proactives de la force policière. Le droit de rassemblement est garanti dans notre État démocratique et la police a joué un rôle essentiel dans le maintien de l'ordre public et ce fut une expérience très enrichissante pour la police mauricienne. C'était une leçon apprise dans le domaine du maintien de l'ordre public car pendant de nombreuses années, on n'a pas rencontré une si grande foule de manifestants. Ces derniers ont ainsi pu préserver le droit de rassemblement qui est garanti par la Constitution, en toute sécurité.

Un grand bravo à la police pour avoir fait face à un défi aussi inédit.

**Par PS Mardaymootoo
Division Métropolitaine Sud**

The fear of speaking in public



According to the National Institute of Mental Health, 73% of people have a fear of speaking in public. This is known as 'Glossophobia'. Derived from ancient Greek, glosso means tongue and phobos means fear. As such, speaking in public ranks among the 'Top 3' fears in humans. Why is that so? When we speak our mind, we fear being judged, rejected or humiliated. It is deep rooted in human evolution - our instinct as social animals drove our ancestors to belong to a tribe where they felt safe, accepted and appreciated. Being rejected from the tribe would lead to certain death, as one would be alone, abandoned and exposed to large predators and harsh elements.

The good news is that we are not born with glossophobia - it is a learned fear, which we can overcome. In fact, we are born with only two fears: (1) the fear of falling (basophobia) (2) the fear of noise (phonophobia). These two fears serve our purpose of survival as these help babies stay safe. Over time, most of us overcome, unlearn and outgrow these two fears. However, unfortunately, we then acquire and learn new ones such as fear of spiders, heights, death, public speaking etc.

My personal story

Growing up, I was more at ease with computers and books than with people. I used to struggle to express my ideas or speak up clearly be it in family gatherings or at school. I would shy away, only expressing myself to my close friends and loved ones. Over time through workshops and courses, I learnt practical tips and techniques on how to do presentations and how to train people. However, deep down, I still disliked speaking in public. I would feel nervous and tense up when going 'on stage'.

I only realised the importance of public speaking when I assumed a leadership position as a human resources manager in my career. I would often feel awkward, with not much to say or not knowing what to say in front of employees. I knew that the best leaders are those who engage and influence people positively through powerful stories. To become a better leader, I decided to focus on my communication and public speaking skills.

I followed a few public speaking courses and communication workshops. These were mildly effective, as I did not get much opportunity to practice nor grow through feedback. It was only when I joined Toastmasters that I made significant progress and became a better speaker. More importantly, I found a unique tribe of like-minded people where I could express myself openly, share my ideas without judgement and get valuable feedback.

The value of joining a Toastmasters Club

Toastmasters is a non-profit educational organization that operates clubs worldwide for the purpose of promoting communication, public speaking and leadership.

Toastmasters provided me with a safe, accepting and enabling environment along with valuable 'stage time' to (1) Find my voice (2) Craft my message (3) Grow through feedback. Consider these three elements as what I see are the benefits of joining a Toastmasters club:

1. Find your voice – As human beings, we have three emotional needs: to be seen, to be heard and to be loved. In order to be heard, we need to find our voice to express ourselves fully. This means deep down, overcoming the limiting beliefs of feeling inadequate. How? By believing that we have a voice that matters. I believe we can find our true voice – that of clear conviction - by internalising that we are 'enough' and that we are all 'works in progress'. Toastmasters allows you to connect with a group of people who are on the same journey of discovering their voice and on the same quest of learning to develop a voice that matters as you learn to speak up and speak out openly on a range of topics.

2. Craft your message – While finding your voice is liberating, being able voice out with impact is fulfilling. This means learning and mastering the subtle art of 'rhetoric' (the ancient Greek art of discourse and public speaking). It is about crafting a clear, concise and compelling message which can influence people positively. For me, this is both an art and a science – (a) Science in terms of the techniques to structure your message with a powerful introduction, insightful body and compelling conclusion (b) Art in terms of connecting with emotions, stories and metaphors. Toastmasters gives you access to a wealth of resources and techniques to create an impactful message. In addition, you are like in a laboratory where you can to test the impact of your message and gain valuable feedback on same.

3. Grow through feedback – As John Dewey famously said: "we do not learn from experience, we learn from reflecting on experience." Feedback about the experience enriches the learning. At Toastmasters, we grow as speakers both by giving and getting feedback. Giving feedback is a powerful exercise in communication: crafting a clear concise and compelling message which will help a person to grow. This requires us to observe with intent, listen for content and structure in order to spot strengths and development areas. Getting feedback from seasoned and well-intentioned people is invaluable as it helps us uncover possible blind spots. The key is to be open to receive feedback while taking action to improve on it. This helps us to sharpen the saw, one step at a time, towards becoming a distinguished speaker.

Moreover, there are many more benefits of being part of Toastmasters such as access to world class resources online, regular training on varied subjects from communication to leadership and regular fun meet ups with your tribe! In essence, it helps you grow to become a better leader.

As a leader, public speaking gives you the opportunity to win the hearts and minds of people. It helps you connect, drive change and move people to take action.

Interested? Get started and get in touch with a toastmasters club!

by **Manish Bundhun**
Chief Human Resources Executive
Rogers Group

Je ne saurais où commencer. C'est la première fois qu'on me demande d'écrire un article pour qu'il soit publié dans un magazine. Il faut dire que je ne suis pas très à l'aise à l'écriture, mais cela me comble de joie de pouvoir partager mon expérience et mon choix de carrière dans la force policière.



Depuis mon plus jeune âge, j'ai vu défilé, entrer et sortir de chez moi l'uniforme bleu fièrement porté par mon papa. J'adorais le voir dans cette tenue, bien qu'à cette époque je ne comprenais pas vraiment le rôle du policier. Il était pour moi un homme comme les autres qui partait travailler au quotidien. À l'école, dès que mes amis apprenaient que mon papa était policier, ils me regardaient différemment. Certains me respectaient alors que d'autres étaient plus dans la critique. Pour moi, c'était tout à fait anodin. Ce n'est qu'en grandissant que j'ai su l'ampleur des responsabilités qui reposaient sur les épaules de mon paternel. En marchant à ses côtés dans la rue, je voyais l'estime que les gens lui portaient. Il y avait même des inconnus qui lui approchaient en disant : « Bonzour boss, ki manier? Pa travay zordi? ». Bref, c'est en grande partie tout ceci qui m'a poussé à avoir la même carrière que lui.

L'idée que je rejoigne la force policière ne plaisait pas mon papa dans un premier temps car, selon lui, la vie d'un policier n'est pas toujours rose. Toutefois, j'ai insisté et il m'a amplement soutenu dans mes démarches. Honnêtement, l'homme que je suis aujourd'hui, je le dois grandement à ce Monsieur.

C'était donc avec le cœur lourd que je regardais partir mes parents le jour où ils m'ont déposé au Coast Guard Training School à Le Chaland pour ma formation de base en matière de « Police Duties ». Cette nouvelle aventure ne s'avérait pas si simple et les semaines là-bas semblaient interminables. Le plus dur de tout cela était de ne pas pouvoir rentrer chez soi durant les trois premières semaines. Certes, cette expérience a forgé mon caractère et mon mental. J'avais même pris l'initiative de pas appelé ma famille ou d'utiliser les réseaux sociaux pour me couper de mon ancien train de vie.

À Le Chaland, j'ai compris qu'avoir un physique d'athlète ne suffit point pour être un bon policier. Il faut en effet avoir une grande connaissance et respecter une discipline de vie. De plus, j'ai surtout appris à vivre et travailler en équipe.

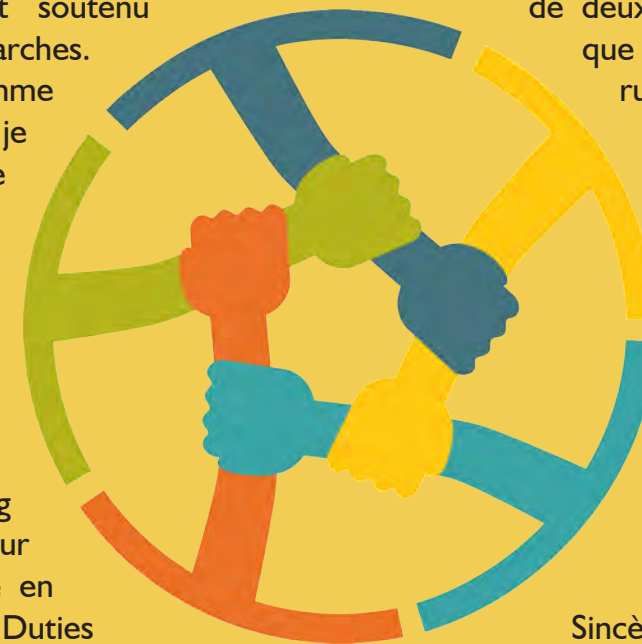
Quelques mois après notre « Passing Out », nous avons été affectés au sein de différentes postes de police de la région sud du pays. Il faut dire qu'on prenait goût à cette nouvelle vie après une longue période passée à l'école, où nous nous sentions coupés du monde. Certes, le plus beau dans tout cela, c'était le fait de pouvoir finalement porter fièrement l'uniforme bleu comme mon papa.

Cette période sur le terrain n'a toutefois pas duré longtemps car nous avons ensuite reçu l'ordre de regagner le Coast Guard Training School pour une formation additionnelle de deux mois et demi. J'avoue que celle-ci était bien plus rugueuse que la première. Beaucoup de mes camarades ont choisi alors de poursuivre leur carrière au sein d'autres unités et par conséquent, j'ai dû traverser cette étape sans eux. Mais bon, je l'ai fait et depuis, j'arbore mon uniforme blanc de garde-côtes.

Sincèrement, j'ai quitté Le Chaland comme étant quelqu'un de beaucoup plus mûr. Je tiens ainsi remercier toutes les personnes qui m'ont aidé dans cette aventure et surtout un grand merci à mon papa. Sans lui, je ne serais pas là où j'en suis !



par PC 3711 Etienet Albion NCG



INTERPOL

INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL POLICE ORGANISATION (ICPO-INTERPOL)

HISTORY

The concept of INTERPOL was first visualized in 1914 during the First International Criminal Police Congress held in Monaco. The meeting brought together police officers and judicial representatives from 24 countries to discuss arrest procedures, identification techniques, centralised international criminal records, extradition proceedings, ways and strategies to enable cooperation across borders in criminal matters. During that period, members of the Congress wondered if police could cooperate internationally, the world would be a safer and better place. Unfortunately, due to the First World War, the process for the setting up of Interpol remained an embryo until the end of the war.

In 1923, Interpol, known as International Criminal Police Commission (ICPC) was officially created, on the initiative of Dr Johannes Schober, president of the Vienna Police, with its headquarters in Vienna, Austria. Wanted persons Notices was first published in INTERPOL's International Public Safety Journal. Special Units were set up to handle drugs, fingerprints, counterfeit money and forged passports. Those units are still the core ones of Interpol till date.

VISION AND MISSION

INTERPOL's vision is that of a world where each and every law enforcement professional will be able to share, and access vital police information whenever and wherever needed, ensuring the safety of the world's citizen.

Its mission is to facilitate the widest mutual assistance between all criminal law enforcement authorities, ensuring that police services can communicate securely with each other around the world and to enable global access to data and information. Furthermore, it is to foster continuous improvement in the capacity of police to prevent crime and the development of knowledge and skill necessary for effective international policing.

AIMS

Interpol's aims are:

- (1) to ensure and promote the widest possible mutual assistance between all criminal police authorities within the limits of the laws existing in the different countries and in the spirit of the "Universal Declaration of Human Rights";
- (2) To establish and develop all institutions likely to contribute effectively to the prevention and suppression of ordinary law crimes.

FUNCTIONING

During the Interpol Annual General Assembly held in 1926 in Berlin, it was proposed that each member country establish a central point of contact within its police structure: the forerunner of the National Central Bureau (NCB), to facilitate international cooperation. The resolution for the NCB establishment was adopted in 1927 and each Interpol Member countries set up an Interpol office in their respective police organisation, known as the ICPO-INTERPOL National Central Bureaus (NCB).

The Organisation launched the international police radio network in the year 1935 with a view to communicate with member countries. Due to the Second World War, all the activities of Interpol ceased to function. Nonetheless, after the Second World War, Interpol was re-organised and re-started its activities in its new Headquarters in Paris, France. Later on, in the year 1989, the Interpol General Secretariat was re-located from Paris to Lyon.

Interpol created the Interpol Red Notice to alert member countries about wanted people and to track down international fugitives. Gradually, other colour-coded Interpol Notices, with specific purposes, consisting of the Blue, Yellow, Green, Black, Purple, Orange and the Interpol-UN Security Council Special Notice came into existence. Interpol has its Global Secure Police Communication System- the I-24/7, to share Criminal Information among its member countries and this can be accessed by authorized users.

Following the adoption of a modernized constitution, the International Criminal Police Commission became the International Criminal Police Organisation-Interpol (ICPO-INTERPOL). One important specificity of the constitution is Article 3, which prohibits any intervention or activities of a political, military, religious or racial character.

Mauritius became member of the Organisation on 13 October 1969 at the request of the Government of Mauritius. Interpol NCB Port Louis was set up and is presently based at the Central Criminal Investigation Department (CCID), Line Barracks, Port Louis. Staffed by specialised officers, the bureau is headed by the Deputy Commissioner of Police – Crime under the direct command of the Commissioner of Police.



In 2015, Interpol set up the Interpol Global Complex for Innovation (IGCI) in Singapore which is equipped with a cutting-edge research and development facility for the identification of crimes and criminals, innovative training, operational support and partnerships. The IGCI is among the new initiatives of Interpol to combat the 21st century crimes such as cybercrimes and other emerging global threats more effectively.

The United Nations (UN) recognizes the Interpol as an Intergovernmental organisation. Interpol has its representative Office at the United Nations Headquarters in New York. In 2005, following an agreement between Interpol and the United Nations, the Interpol-United Nations Special Notice was created and this Notice is issued against individuals subject to UN sanctions for their involvement in terrorist activities.

INTERPOL's current activities are based around the following four core functions:

- Secure Global Police Communication Services
- Operational Databases
- Operational Support Services
- Police Training and Development

Today, Interpol is considered as the world's largest International Criminal Police Organisation, after the United Nations, with 194 member countries worldwide.

by Cpl Puryag
INTERPOL, CCID

Road Safety

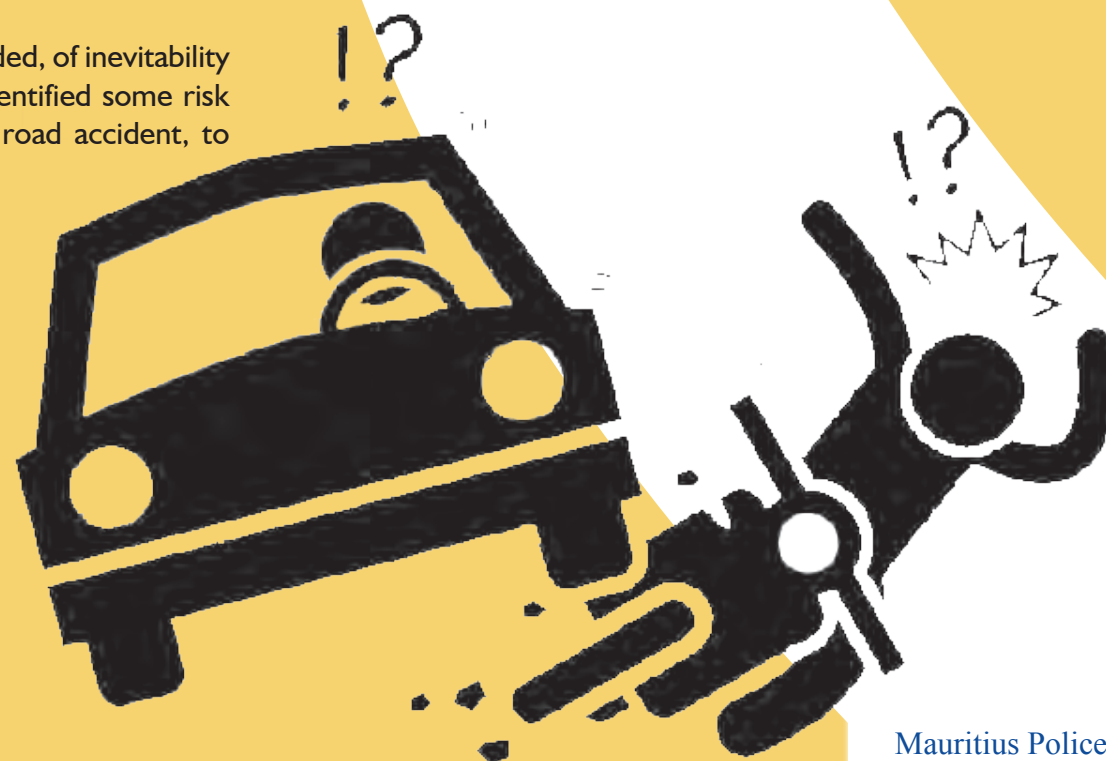
"A Way of LIFE"

Every year, according to statistics, 1.3 million people are known to die in road accidents worldwide. Millions of others sustain injuries, with some suffering permanent disabilities. No country is spared in road crashes, which strikes the young particularly. Enormous human potential is being destroyed, with also serious social and economic consequences. Road safety is thus a major issue throughout the world.

In Mauritius, from start of January 2020, the number of cases of road accidents has been on the rise. Many pedestrians and drivers are losing their lives, and since the beginning of this year, 103 men and 14 women have died in 105 fatal road accidents. The average of persons killed on our road for the past two years is 140 which correspond to a fatality rate of 3 fatalities per 10,000 vehicles or about 13 fatalities per 100,000 inhabitants.

Recent statistics show that riders of motorcycles are more at risk with a higher number of victims. The question we ask at the Road Safety Unit (RSU) is why are there so many accidents involving two-wheelers despite the fact that preventive measures have been taken by the authorities. What are the causes of these accidents? How to reduce them?

The term "accident", which is widely used, can give the impression, probably unintended, of inevitability and unpredictability – an event that cannot be managed. In this article, we have identified some risk factors and measures for two-wheelers and the term "crash" is used instead of road accident, to denote something that is an event, or series of events.



Factors causing road crash

1. Behaviour of road users

The main factors affecting the behaviour of the road users are: Driving under the influence of alcohol and drugs, speeding, fatigue, ignorance or non compliance to road traffic regulations, lack of visibility at night, Poor road user eyesight and distraction.

2. Risk factors influencing crash severity for two-wheelers vehicle

The risk factors influencing crash severity are: Inappropriate or excessive speed, Crash helmets not worn, Roadside objects, no crash protective, insufficient vehicle crash protection for occupants and for those hit by vehicles, and presence of alcohol and other drugs.

3. Inadequate visibility

To see and be seen is a fundamental prerequisite for the safety of all road users. Motorized two-wheelers have poor visibility during night time as well as during the day. To assist in being seen by other road users, the use of fluorescent vests/ and or reflective protective gear and headlights on are recommended.



4. Risk factors related to the road user

Road user-related risk factors concern the behaviour of riders as well as other road users with whom they interact in the traffic environment. There are some behaviours specific to motorised two-wheeler users that put them at increased risk of fatal crashes or injuries, for example non-use of helmets, alcohol (drink and driving), speed, rider's age and level of experience, braking error, drug use, other risk-taking behaviour and lack of conspicuity.

5. Risk factors related to the road environment

Operating two-wheelers in mixed traffic (i.e. with no segregation) significantly increases the likelihood of two-wheelers collisions. Traffic conflict is the most common causative factor in two-wheeler crashes. The three conditions that influence both the likelihood and severity of motorcycle crashes are: 1. Design of road infrastructure, 2. Road surface conditions, and 3. Roadside hazards.

6. Risk factors related to the vehicle

The stability of two-wheelers depends on travel speed and on there being sufficient friction between the tyres and the road. Certain types of two-wheelers can become unstable when the available friction limit has been exceeded (such as on wet roads) or when acceleration or braking forces are too high. The inherent lack of crash protection to two-wheelers riders and passengers puts them at a higher risk for traffic-related injuries and deaths.

Some additional measures that can be taken to reduce the two-wheelers crash:

(a) Road safety culture: All road users including the two wheelers should adopt a road safety culture which starts with giving priority to Respect and Care whilst on the road. He/she should start by respecting his/her own life and that of others with whom he/she shares the road. Indiscipline and non compliance to road traffic regulations should be heavily sanctioned.

(b) Sensitization Campaign: Increasing awareness among riders of a two-wheeler to compulsorily wear high visibility clothing at day and at night. An increasing sensitization programs in schools and media to discourage the use of two wheelers as a means of transport.

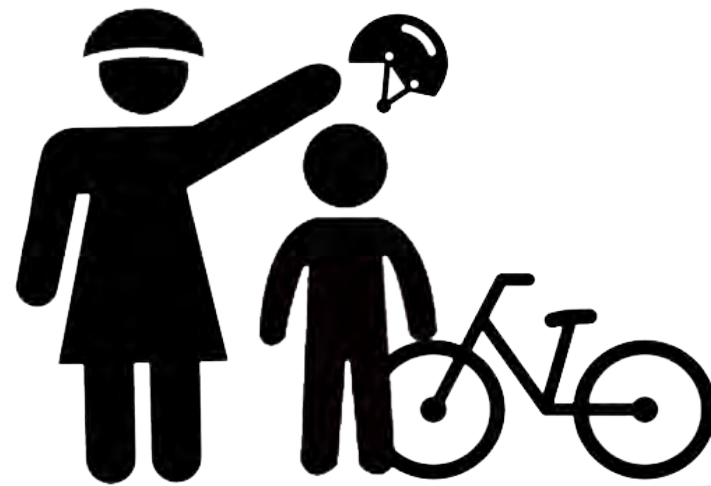
(c) Crackdown Operation on two wheelers targeting alcotest, dangerous driving, illegal Rally and failing to fasten securely the crash helmet among others.

(d) Defensive Driving Course: All riders of two-wheelers should mandatorily follow a defensive driving course before issuing a permanent driving license.

(e) Psychology of driving: Riders to be trained on the psychology of driving. Our past experiences and upbringing not only shape our worldview, perceptions, biases, and emotional tendencies, but ultimately, our driving habits as well.

(f) Segregation lanes for the two-wheelers on the motorways.

(g) Education: to create road safety awareness and encourage good habits at an early development stage for primary and secondary school students. The curriculum to include pedestrian safety, cyclist safety, motorcyclist safety, causes of traffic crashes, use of traffic lights, and safety in public transport. Ministry of Education to work in partnership with traffic police in promoting road safety education at schools as well as controlling traffic during school events.



CONCLUSION

Road safety is a matter concern in Mauritius. The local branch of Road Safety Unit of the Mauritius Police Force together with Traffic Management and Road Safety Unit are doing their utmost to uphold safety of road users. To further increase the road safety standards, there must be a change in the mind-set of all road users so that they understand the social responsibility toward safety and begin to act responsibly on our roads. To this end, a higher level of safety awareness is paramount for a safer Mauritius.

References: Road Safety Unit Statistics/WHO report on traffic crashes.

Insp Dawonauth, G
Road Safety Unit



L'amitié sur le lieu de travail améliore la qualité de la vie



par Cpl 3809 Takoordyal
Police Headquarters

Aujourd'hui le monde du travail est devenu un lieu féroce qui exige des alliés sincères. Un employé demeure sous pression constante et il finit souvent sa journée étant épuisé physiquement et mentalement. Ainsi, une vraie amitié est certainement nécessaire dans la vie quotidienne car elle offre du bonheur dans cet environnement cruel.

Bien que l'émotivité et le travail ne fait pas bon ménage au niveau professionnel, notre subconscient essaiera tant bien que mal d'établir des liens émotionnels à notre insu. Une amitié peut naître par simple sympathie, estime mutuelle ou encore par l'intermédiaire d'une communication fructueuse entre collègues. Après tout, la majeure partie de notre vie, nous la passons sur notre lieu de travail.

Dans un tel contexte, certains psychologues du travail expliquent que des personnes prennent même plaisir à aller travailler en raison des relations affectives qu'elles ont tissées au bureau. Celles-ci représentent une source d'épanouissement personnel et de prospérité malgré le dur labeur.



Mauritius Police Band

BA Hons Music



It all started early 2017. The Mauritius Police Force and the University of Mauritius collaborated in a national and educational project 'BA Hons' in Music Courses' to be run at the Philippe Oh San Auditorium of the Police Band at Vacoas. At the same time, it gave an opportunity for the Police Band to be the backbone of the implementation of the first cohort for the tertiary music course in Mauritius. Some officers from the Police Band did not miss the opportunity of winning such a course to enhance their capacity building.

Six officers, namely Chief Inspector Seevraz, Band Inspector Petit, Band Corporal 7564 Figaro, Band Constable 2928 Veeramundan, Band Constable 3200 Lebon, and Band Constable 2865 Sauleck were selected among thirty-five candidates to follow a BA Hons` in Music courses. After a musical audition and aural examination, the officers were shortlisted. The modules varied from theory to music history, solfège, composition, conducting, orchestral studies, piano accompaniment, music therapy, music in the Republic of Mauritius, music education & psychology and mainly music performance through individual, ensemble and orchestral stage performances with the support of the Police Band orchestra.

Music performances and concerts have been held during these academic years. Besides local lecturers, most came from different part of the world namely Germany, France, UK, Reunion island, India, Slovakia and Ukraine. Renowned worldwide music experts, Prof., Dr., Dr., Dr., Dr. Wolfgang Mastnak, Chair of Music at the University of Munich, Germany and Mauritius, Director of Music Therapy University of Beijing, China and Prof. P. Allen, Music education pedagogical expert and Chagossian music researcher from SOAS University, U.K., have delivered music workshops to the BA music course students, with the support of the Police Band.

Today it is with great honour and joy that the six members of the Police Band have been conferred the Degree of Bachelor of Arts (with First Class Honours) from the University of Mauritius on Tuesday 17th November 2020, after three and a half years of study.

In addition to this BA Music course, officers of the Police Band are qualified musicians through different level in practical and theory of music from the Associated Board of the Royal School of Music, U.K.

Fields in which they have graduated and excelled:

C.I Seevraz - *Violin & Euphonium player and conducting*

B/Insp. Petit - *Trumpet player*

B/Cpl 7564 Figaro - *Drum set and Trombone player*

BC 3200 Lebon - *Trumpet player*

BC 2865 Sauleck - *Clarinet player*

BC 2928 Veeramundan - *Tenor sax player*

by **C/Insp Seevraz**
Police Band

SOCO

and the

Mauritian Criminal Justice System



Whilst in the earlier days, this would have been carried out by any police officer; it is now usually performed by specialists who have received training in all aspects of crime scene examination including forensic traces, latent fingerprints and evidence photography.

Police photographers and draughtsmen have also been incorporated in this unit and thus work as a team at crime scenes. As at today there are officers who have followed courses on crime scenes and fingerprints in different countries namely France, UK, India, Botswana and Benin.

All forensic evidence recovered at crime scenes may well place the victim(s) and suspect(s) thereat and make a link. Consequently, the Enquiring Officer can complete the puzzle and has the possibility of making inferences and hypothesis in order to have answers to questions asked which can finally give a decisive conclusion.

The Mauritian Criminal Justice System is an adversarial system and needs 'proof beyond reasonable doubt' to secure a conviction in criminal cases. The Prosecution also takes into consideration Human Rights issues because very often the question arises that there is police brutality and that the confessions are unlawfully obtained, making them inadmissible in Court.

Consequently, the Government Policy in bringing reforms in the Mauritius Police Force led to the establishment of 'Scene of Crime Office' SOCO, comprising of Crime Scene Examiners in April 1999.

The aim of the implementation of this new unit in the Mauritius Police Force was to investigate crime scenes professionally from a new dimension, that is, investigation based on scientific evidence in criminal cases. It was a paradigm shift from confession-led to scientific-led investigation.

Initially, twelve officers received specialized training from instructors from the internationally recognized institution, the National Training Centre for Scientific Support to Crime Investigation based at the University of Durham in the United Kingdom.

The officers had the painstaking tasks to carry out the searching of crime scenes, location and collection of evidence. With time there has been an increasing recognition of the importance of crime scene investigation and the need for collection, packaging and transport of material of potential evidential value.



Photographic services' contributions in crime scene processing are to document the crime scene with photographic and video images. The scene is captured in different segments and the video recordings are made for evidential purposes and also for case conferencing.

Plan drawing is another aspect in crime scene processing where all evidence and site of locus is located on a well-defined plan.

All these three sections working as a team at crime scenes have an objective, that is, to bring the crime scene to court and present unchallengeable evidence. The ultimate goal of a crime scene investigation is to convict the alleged perpetrator of the underlying crime.

With the knowledge and experience of the officers the qualities of work, expertise and the detection rate have considerably increased over the years. The staff is also involved in delivering lectures to recruits, in conducting workshops in crime scene processing with Station officers and Detective personnel. They also advise officers on matters pertaining to scientific issues.

Recently, the SOCO personnel have set another benchmark by giving courses in Crime Scene Processing to international police officers from Djibouti and Uganda. This step has set the pace to others and it can be said that the SOCO has reached the international level of competency and that there is scope for more.

By PS 4281 MOLLIA

In Loving Memory...



**PS 585
PORAN Iswarlall
12.02.2020**



**CPL 5866
GOOLAUP Indraj Kumar
24.02.2020**



**CPL 4663
NEPAUL Herash
19.03.2020**



**PC 7626
SOOKUN Rajiv
06.01.2020**



**PC 3862
ECROIGNARD Cheryl Gaëtan
14.01.2020**



**ASP
RAMPHUL Doorgaparsad
17.01.2020**



**CPL 3224
THELUCHINA-APPADOO Jagdishwar
02.04.2020**



**PS 178
BAICHOO Nazim
05.04.2020**



**PC 8892
DOOKARUN Krishna B. Sharma
16.04.2020**



**PC 6368 HULKORY Jayprakesh
21.01.2020**



**PS 6779
MILAZARE Annalias
22.01.2020**



**PC 6386
JEEWON Vijay Kumar
25.01.2020**



**PC 9426
SEENYEN Olivier Rouben
08.05.2020**

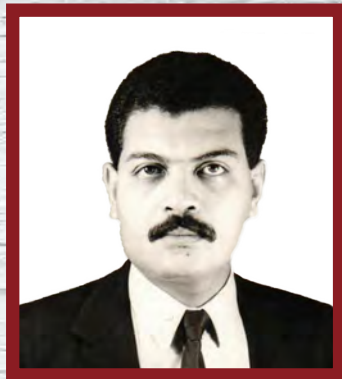


**PC 6409
POONYTH Iswarduth
27.05.2020**



**PC 8667
SAMBIAH Chandradeo
09.06.2020**

In Loving Memory... (Contd.)



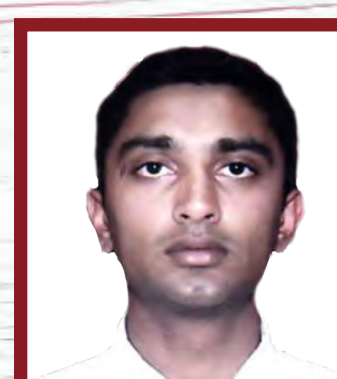
CPL 3887
COTTE Enrico Jean Claude
27.06.2020



PC 4706
SEECHURN
07.07.2020



CPL 339
CAROOPEN Sadaseeven
17.07.2020



PC 8924
HURDOYAL Jayyesswar
21.10.2020



CPL 4777
MALABAR Sylvia David Benjamin
23.10.2020



PC 2168
BEEHARRY Nandkishore
06.11.2020



CPL 4209
SOOKRAM Sunil Duth
18.08.2020



CPL 4622
PAYEN Jame David
20.08.2020



CPL 5323
SOOKEERA Rajeshwar
23.08.2020



WPC 625
RAGHOO Dimple
24.11.2020



PC 9123
SUKHRAJ Doorvasha Sharma
20.12.2020



PC 10628
NAIPAL Himel
21.12.2020



PC 6327
REEKYOYE Sanjiv
28.08.2020



CPL 1678
VENCATASAWMY Jaganaden
19.09.2020



PS 5875
KURREMBOKUS Mahmedsiddiq
10.10.2020

*Those we love don't go away,
they walked beside us everyday...*

“AN ACTIVE BODY MAKES A STRONG MIND”

A nation is defined by the tenacity of its disciplined forces. It is our responsibility as members of the para-military force, tasked to protect our island, to keep ourselves in an incontestable state of readiness in order to stand any adversity which can be to the detriment of what was once referred to as “A jewel of peace”.

At the Special Mobile Force (SMF), emphasis is laid upon continuous training of personnel in various fields; notably physical training, weapon handling, drill, military tactics and police duties. Because we firmly believe that the task ahead of us is never as great as the power behind us. It is the solid bond of all members of the SMF which is the power gearing us towards the challenges that are waiting for us every single day. Physical fitness is not only one of the most important keys to a healthy body; it is the basis of dynamic and creative intellectual activity. Field Marshal Sam Manekshaw, MC, 7th COAS Indian Army, reiterated the following during his address to newly commissioned officers at the Indian Military Academy, Dehradun “You are required to ensure the safety and security of the nation. What does that mean to you? It means that you have to fight... Fight to win, because there are no runners-up in war. If you fail, don't come back, because the nation won't accept you”.

Running is nothing more than a series of arguments between the part of one's brain that wants to stop and the part that wants to keep going. Eventually, you learn to fight against the little voice inside you that wants you to quit. It teaches the individual that he is capable of doing much more than he imagined. As we say: “What the mind can conceive, the body can achieve.” This is the cornerstone where you train your mind to fight and operate in adverse conditions. Training the mind to have fierce focus, is the most important part of any achievement. A soldier is as strong as he allows himself to be and as much as strength counts, efforts counts twice.



by Lieutenant S. R. Gangaram
Special Mobile Force

The sum of those small efforts, repeated day in and day out, brings a mental change. It's not the boot that matters but the man laced up in it. A body drenched in sweat, muscular pains and fatigue however gives the satisfaction that we are making a difference. An active body makes a strong mind.

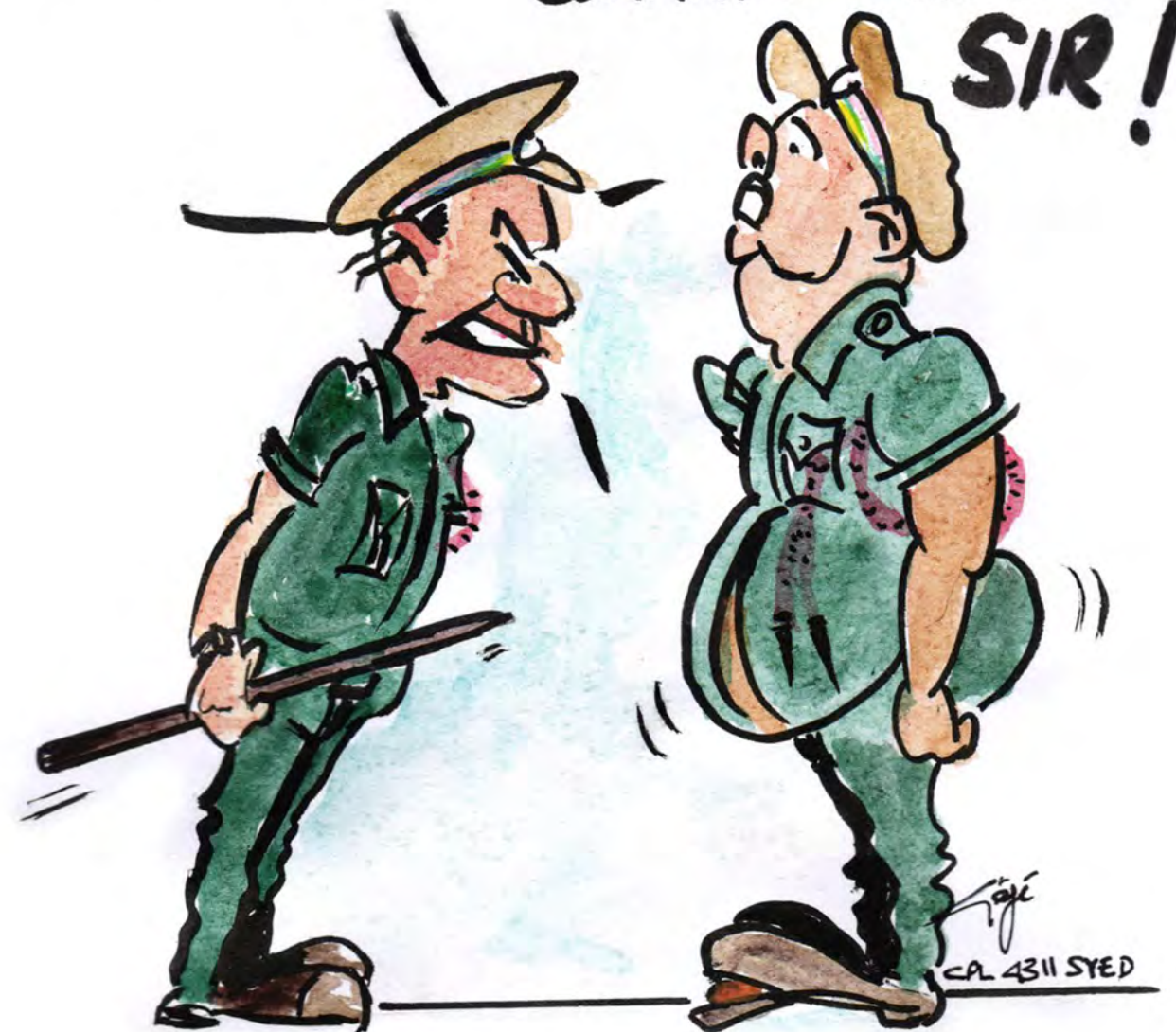
Our inner strength, our will, are like the body and the muscles. If they are used frequently and appropriately, they get stronger. If they are rarely taken out and exercised, they dissipate and grow weak. The ruggedness of training bolsters the morale and instils 'esprit-de-corps' in a soldier, by expanding his limits with every drop of his sweat.

Strength is a skill. It is a mental skill as well as a physical one. We need to practice being strong in all aspects of our lives, not just a few hours per week. All our life can be a practice, with all of it devoted to making one stronger and better. This is our responsibility towards each and every citizen of our beautiful island and our duty to protect them.



COUNSA OU VINE LOR ÈNE PARADE

STORE IHE PASSE COMMANDE SPECIAL POU MOI SIR!



THE JOURNEY OF CADET OFFICERS AT NATIONAL POLICE ACADEMY, HYDERABAD



Hours of physical training, Nights of revision and Days of exams flew by and we are now back to our homeland. We can only contemplate what a life changing experience we went through as being the 1st batch of Mauritian Police Officers to be sent on course to the SVPNPA. This Academy surprised us every day by going beyond Police training; we were frankly pushed out of the box and often came to question ourselves at an intrapersonal level.

The purpose of this training is to develop character and leadership skills and instil a sense of duty and responsibility in an Officer.

To benefit from that training, which is conducted in an environment of strict discipline, an Officer needs mental acuity and physical agility. During the 7 months of training we have mastered basic military skills such as marksmanship, riot control, as well as developing the leadership skills required from an Officer.

Good manners and etiquette are the hall mark of an educated well-bred and cultured person. We have been embedded with officer-like qualities and a code of behaviour which is beyond reproach. The transitional period to groom us from a civilian to a Police Officer was the cornerstone of our training. 'Uniforms will be worn in their entirety and in their intended fashion, and will be kept clean and pressed'. The badge and nameplate are to be displayed on the outer most garment being worn by the uniformed officer.

The SVPNPA is the premium training institution in India and encompasses the best that India has to offer in terms of Indoor Lecturers and Outdoor Coaches. This arsenal of knowledge and experience is revamped every few years and each batch of Trainees is every year dutifully hammered into Elite Police Officers. Shoulder to shoulder we were all struggling; top rankers of the All India Service Exams, Chief Inspectors from Maldives, Lieutenants from Bhutan, Inspectors from Nepal and us, Cadet Officers from Mauritius.

Being a foreign officer trainee it was a challenge to learn law subjects like Indian Penal Code, Indian Evidence Act, and Code of Criminal Procedure (India). With the specialised skills of our faculty we have been able to grasp the concepts and procedures. This has enhanced our knowledge and honed our investigation skills. The practical sessions of the investigation module have sharpened our arsenal to investigate. Application of law, collection of evidence and chain of custody are the key elements for a proper investigation.

When it comes to technology, NPA had a good setup around the campus. Trainees are given access to internet via Wi-Fi and issued personal computers which are used for studies and exam. The Academy has its own e-learning platform where the videos of every classes are uploaded and trainers can upload notes which are accessible by the officer trainees. There are also many computer labs where the trainees can practice whatever they have been taught in ICT and Digital Forensics.

The ICT module is one of the biggest modules in the whole training and it spans over phase 1 and phase 2 of the IPS training. Initially, it introduces the basics of computers and mobiles which every police officer has to know. Every class has hands-on modules which are supervised by IT and Cybersecurity experts. The officer trainee is given the opportunity to learn about Computer and Mobile forensics, using tools such as write blockers, FTK Imager, hash calculators, and many more tools. The module also will give the trainees an idea on how to access the dark web as well in phase 2.

The course also has a weekly online feedback system which promotes continuous improvement. The Computer society which is a group of IT enthusiasts from every batch, also contributes in proposing new projects every year for the modernisation of the Campus.

Crime prevention and detection are the primary duties of a Police organisation. It is of paramount importance to have the right expertise in this field. Thereon, NPA gave us an insight on Forensic Science and Medicine. Moreover, the hands-on sessions have helped us to better understand the forensic concepts.

Forensic Science envisages a systemic, planned and organized approach in a scientific manner for proving the guilt of the criminal. It covers the following topics; Crime Scene Management, Physical Evidence, Counterfeit Currency Detection, Forensic Serology, Forensic Biology, Forensic Anthropology, Forensic DNA Fingerprinting, Wild Life Forensic, Forensic Chemistry, Narcotic Drugs, Forensic Ballistics, Brain Fingerprinting, Forensic Audio/Video Examination, Forensic Fire, Forensic Toxicology, Forensic Physics and Forensic Engineering.

Forensic Medicine is the application of medical knowledge to the investigation of crime, particularly in establishing the causes of injury or death. In this module we learnt about; Legal Procedure, Preservation of Medico Legal Evidence, Autopsy, Exhumation, Identification, Time of Death, Instantaneous Physiologic Deaths, Wounds, Firearm Wounds, Bomb Explosion Wounds, Traffic Accidents, Mass Disasters, Age Estimation, Starvation Deaths, Heat Stroke, Burns, Electrical Deaths, Asphyxia Death, Rape, Sodomy, Abortion, Infant Death, and Drug Deaths by Injection.

Our training was specially difficult due to the Corona Crisis and Lock-down of the Academy. Overnight we had to adapt to a virtual learning environment, which felt very peculiar as police work is usually tactile. Nevertheless, it served as a forewarning experience as we live in the paperless era and it is due time for police to tap into the digital world. After completing Phase I of the training successfully, we have a great feeling of accomplishment and we are really looking forward for Phase II.

Meanwhile, we promise that with humility, integrity and dedication, we will apply all the knowledge and skills we have acquired to help improve the Mauritius Police Force.

**by Cadet Officer R. Zacharie,
Cadet Officer L. Gokhool,
Cadet Officer Y. Bhirugnath,
Cadet Officer M. Immambocus,
& Woman Cadet Officer M.G Louise**

Fostering relationship between the Police Force and the public for a better and safer Mauritius



A strong relationship of mutual trust between Police personnel and public is critical to maintaining public safety and effective policing. Police personnel rely on the cooperation of public to provide information about crime in neighbourhoods, and to work with the Police to devise solutions to crime and other problems. Similarly, the public willingness to trust the Police depends on whether they believe that police actions reflect community values and incorporate the principles of procedural justice and legitimacy.

Legitimacy of the Police has been questioned multiple times in Mauritius after incidents involving Police making use of brute force. Riots, demonstrations and other similar events have taken place in Mauritius because the public had the perception that the Police are using excessive force to intimidate the public. It is very crucial that the Police service and the public create a good relationship and have mutual understanding between each other. The key to building such a relationship is to first build trust between the police and our community.

It is an undeniable fact that a good communication and understanding of each other can solve multiple problems and misunderstanding. Many people do not interact with police officers outside of enforcement contexts which result in part of the community having preferences over others due to lack of communication. Getting to know each other helps both parties to break down personal barriers and overcome stereotypes, and allows officers to learn which residents of a neighbourhood are law-abiding and which ones are not, leading to a healthier community.

Furthermore, using controversial force against the public can damage relationships between police and their communities. In some cases, an egregious act of misconduct by a single officer in one area not only damages police-community relationships locally, it can gain nationwide attention and reduce trust of the police generally. This is a possible reason why in various countries, people feel like they are being marginalized and mistreated by the police, leading to a lack of trust and a bad relationship. But that's just from a public perspective.

On the other hand, from a police point of view, several times, police personnel have been mistreated by the community. Multiple cases have been reported where police were on the spot to help citizens but ended up in a violent altercation. The public must understand that the police are here to help them and not to intimidate them. Seeking help from police officers is not something we should be ashamed of. Going to a police station does not mean that someone is getting into trouble or someone did something illegal. The misconception that police is the enemy of civilians should be cleared and the first step leading to that change is to first change our mindset. In addition, collaboration programs and initiatives that will help foster the relationship between these two parties should be organised.

For example, a police academy where aspiring youth can go and learn more about how their vision of becoming a police officer can contribute to a better and prosperous community. Police parades should be organised more frequently to inspire the youth to join the force by demonstrating what the country is capable of in terms of technology advancement, weaponry, machinery and in other possible ways. This will not only boost the confidence of the youth of a community but it will also create a better bond between the officers and citizens.

By nurturing a sound and good relationship with public, this will not only reassure them that they are in safe hands, but may even change their mindsets that dislike the police and will contribute to a better, healthier and safer community in our beautiful and multi- ethnic Mauritius.

“The basic mission of Police is to PREVENT crime and disorder. The public are the police and the police are the public, and both share the same responsibility for community safety.”

Stephen Covey



VEDANTA JAITOO
(Son of, INSPECTOR B. JAITOO)

Police Helicopter Squadron...

Serving the Nation with Pride



by PC 602 Bundhun
Police Helicopter Squadron

Formed in September 1974, the Police Helicopter Squadron (PHS) is based at Plaisance International Airport and operates under the functional control of the Commissioner of Police who exercises such control through the Commanding Officer of the Squadron. Latter is responsible for the Safe and Efficient conduct of operations, Maintenance, Training and its Administration. The PHS also carries Search & Rescue, Casualty Evacuations (inland/at sea), Maritime Surveillance, Escort of VVIP/VIP convoys, Joint operations with SMF and NCG Commandos for special heliborn missions, and Missions for Parastatal bodies (NPCS/MWF), and any other mission sanctioned by the Prime Minister's Office.



They started with one Alouette III helicopter and a small cluster of pilots and technicians. Thereafter, three Chetak helicopters (MPH 01, 03 and 06) were donated by the Government of India and two more Alouette (MPH 02 and 04) by the French Government followed by the Fennec AS 555 SN. In 1991, the Government of Mauritius set up a Helicopter Pilot Training School for the aviation wing of the Police for training of Mauritian pilots.

Another quantum leap in capability occurred in November 2009 with the commissioning of the twin engine helicopter Dhruv from HAL, Bangalore, India. In 2016, two more Chetaks were gifted by the Government of India. The current fleet now consists of four Chetaks, One Fennec and One Dhruv for 116 personnel of various ranks.

PHS personnel are mostly trained in India, France and the United States through various courses and are highly skilled in their respective trades. They possess highly trained pilots, technicians and life savers who have the experience to embark on any type of mission entrusted to them.

Lifesavers/Divers are another noteworthy element of the Squadron. They must be physically fit and ready to intervene for any rescue operations, be it at sea or inland.

PHS personnel have also responded positively when called upon to perform reinforcement duties at station level. They have shown vigor, dynamism and honesty in delivering their duties, notably during the Covid 19 pandemic, whereby during Stop and Search exercises, PHS personnel helped in the seizure of substantial amount of drugs.

The changing nature of the world makes the tasks of the Police even more demanding. The Covid 19 pandemic has put the PHS in an unprecedented situation, whereby we were all combating an invisible enemy. A synchronization of tasks, ranging from the technical crew which is the backbone of any aviation department, administration staff and air crew has ensured that the PHS is always ready to answer any call from the MPF.

PHS aims are coupled with that of the MPF- to enhance public confidence, reduce crime rate and promote public safety.



JCI PARTNERING WITH CPU

Junior Chamber International (JCI) Mauritius is a non-profit organization of young active citizens aged between 18 and 40 years old, with the mission of providing development opportunities that empower young people to create positive change. We believe in the advancement of the global community and the creation of positive change by improving ourselves, our community and the world around us.

The collaboration with the Crime Prevention Unit (CPU) started in 2016 through Junior Chamber International (JCI) Curepipe, a local chapter of JCI Mauritius and was concentrated in specific parts of the island. This project was initiated based on the community needs analysis conducted within the JCI Active Citizenship Framework (ACF), a tool by JCI. However, based on the impact of the project, JCI Mauritius decided to take the initiative to a higher level and implement same at national level to touch all parts of the island for more impact.

The partnership with the CPU is very much valued as we aim to unite all sectors of society to create positive change. Since the start of this project, we have been organizing several awareness sessions jointly in different localities from different regions. Since 2016, we have conducted more than 30 working and presentation sessions, involved more than 35 stakeholders, and hundreds of volunteers and reached more than 2000 individuals.



The support and guidance of the Crime Prevention Unit has been vital for the successful delivery of the project. These sessions have had positive impact in affected localities and a significant decrease in crime rates has been noted. The community is also more informed and knows how and to whom to report suspicious cases. This is helping us to reach our objective of having a safer and more peaceful Mauritius where it gives pleasure to live and that attracts more visitors.

It is imperative for us to work with our community. We therefore invite all those who would like us to conduct awareness sessions in their locality to contact us and we shall arrange accordingly.

Help us in our mission – ‘To make Mauritius a safer place’ through crime reduction.

by Franchette Emilien
National President-JCI Mauritius