Today 23rd June is the United Nations Public Service Day and the Africa Public Service Day. On this special occasion, I extend my best wishes to all public officers.

The ability of a society to maintain safety and essential public services, protect human rights, maintain an efficient framework for market activities and to hold free and fair elections draws on the skills and sense of purpose of public officers working as a team. Without an effective public service, democracy and prosperity are virtually unattainable.

In Mauritius, Public officers at all levels of the hierarchy are doing a marvelous job, both in the forefront as well as discretely behind the curtains. Through the work it does, the Public Service provides for infrastructure, housing, education, health services, law and order, poverty alleviation and creates the right environment for our people to earn a good living, raise a family and lead a fulfilling life.

As we celebrate this day, let’s first acknowledge the critical role the public service plays in the advancement of our democratic processes and the socio-economic development of our country.

Dear colleagues, we are today living in an era of increasingly complex challenges, from climate change to food insecurity and the financial and economic crisis. We therefore
need a public service manned by officers who are creative and talented than ever and ready to face yet unknown challenges. Also Government performance is closely linked both to the capacity of the public service to respond to the needs of the Public and its ability to do so, such that it meets the highest levels of efficiency. Government therefore strongly believes that its policy of putting the citizen at the centre of development should benefit from a public service delivery worthy of the 21st century.

On this day I therefore invite you all to reflect on the way forward so that Mauritius is always endowed with a civil service that is proactive, modern, effective and efficient.

I take this opportunity today to thank each and every person employed in and connected with the public service for their contribution to the prosperity of the nation.

Hon. Sutyadeo Moutia
Minister of Civil Service and Administrative Reforms