Civil Service College, Mauritius

Talk on “How can the Civil Service be a Facilitator of innovation for Mauritius?”

by
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Lunch Room, National Assembly

Wednesday 24th February 2016

Dr Amit Kapoor
All Senior Staff of the Public Service
Directors and Senior Staff of Para Statals
Mr. P. Jhugroo, SCE of the Ministry of Civil Service and Administrative Reforms
Chairman and Director of the CSCM
Members of the Press
Ladies and Gentlemen

Good Morning to you all
It is indeed a pleasure to have Dr Kapoor among us today to deliver a talk on how the Civil Service can be a facilitator of innovation for Mauritius to our top management officers at a time when we are transforming the public sector to achieve Government’s vision.

This is in line with the 2015-2016 Budget which set the foundation for Mauritius to propel itself towards its next phase of development that will be driven by innovation.

Similarly in the Economic Vision 2030 spelt out by the Prime Minister he identified 4 key focus areas that he said he will personally drive and monitor to ensure our economic well-being, in addition to a series of measures this Government has taken to redress the economy since they assumed office and one of them is Sustainable development and innovation.

In the same light, upon taking office in December 2014, this Government has taken the initiative of adding the portfolio of Innovation to the Ministry of Technology and Communication which already existed.

And an important component of this government’s innovation strategy is to transform Mauritius into a SMART island, an evolution
of the Cyber Island he envisioned in 2001, which would make Mauritius the home and model for innovation in this part of the world.

So as you can realize, innovation undermines the development of the new economic vision of this government to help Mauritius become a High Income Economy. And who are the best Human Capital to facilitate this Innovation culture?

This is why the Prime Minister had this to say to the Officers of the public sector in his economic Vision 2030:-

- **I expect you to be active drivers in the nation building process.**
- **I want a new mindset that focuses on national targets rather than on routine administrative jobs only.**
- **I want civil servants to act like passionate facilitators** for achievements to happen.
- **I want the public service to be efficient and creative**

Hence, the setting up of the Civil Service College, to accompany and facilitate that innovation culture amongst all the Civil Servants.
However, for this to happen, we need the collaboration and participation of one and all. And here, I appeal to All Senior Officers to provide necessary assistance to help the CSCM indulge successfully into its activities of providing the necessary relevant training and assistance to you all and to your departments and staff.

I would like to remind you all that the CSCM is the college of all Public Officers. It is yours. So make the most out of it.

All training in the public sector must henceforth be handled by the CSCM, except for domain specific training (for example, physical training for the Police that cannot be handled by the CSCM) in order to have coherence in the quality of training and avoid any unnecessary duplication.

I understand that many ministries and Para Statals have already submitted their training requirements to the CSCM which is processing these requests to ensure that the training starts at its earliest.

I make an appeal to all Ministries/Para Statals/Departments who have not done so yet to do due diligence and forward their training requirements promptly to the CSCM.
I am not going to be very long as there is an important talk on “How can the Civil Service be a Facilitator of Innovation for Mauritius?”. I thank the CSCM for having organized this talk together with my Ministry and thank Dr Amit Kapoor for having accepted to share his valued experience with us. I believe that this is a topical subject. Because if we do not innovate we will evaporate. “Never before in history has innovation offered promise of so much to so many in so short a time”, said Bill Gates

With these words, Ladies and Gentlemen, I wish you all an enriching interaction with our keynote speaker.