



**REPORT OF THE
DIRECTOR OF AUDIT**

**on the Financial Statements
of the Rajiv Gandhi Science Centre Trust Fund
for the year ended 30 June 2019**

NATIONAL AUDIT OFFICE

ANNUAL REPORT

2018-19



2018



2019



2019



2019

STATEMENT FROM CHAIRPERSON

**Dr. Jayantee Naugah, FRSB,
Cbiol (UK), PDSM**
Chairperson



The Financial year 2018-2019 is marked by many significant achievements of the Rajiv Gandhi Science Centre thanks to the unflinching support of the Board, which was reconstituted in July 2018. It has the vision to establish the Centre as a robust one in the field of Science promotion through the expansion of its activities. Moreover, the Board is convinced that such growth can only be achieved by adopting good Corporate Governance practices at the Centre to ensure that the different administrative and technical projects are optimally managed. In this respect, an Internal Audit control took place to assess the strengths and weaknesses, and its report enabled the Centre to take remedial actions.

One of the major decisions of the Board during that period has been to address the acute problem of shortage of staff facing the Centre since its inception, and it embarked on an aggressive recruitment plan. As a result, as at 30 June 2019, the resulting staff number increased by almost 35%.

Being the only science centre in Mauritius, the Rajiv Gandhi Science Centre is excelling in its mission of popularizing science among school students and the public in general and is now definitely the hub of Science and Technology promotion in Mauritius. A new strategic plan was recently formulated to drastically review the Centre's organizational structure and significant key performance indicators in the next ten years. With the six major areas explored in the strategic plan, the Centre is moving towards a dynamic role by focusing on Research and E-promotion of Science. There has been a phenomenal increase in activities thanks to improvements in human resources and infrastructural facilities.

The staff has benefitted from capacity building programmes locally and overseas. Eminent international scientists have contributed to the empowerment of the staff and the educators at pre-primary, primary and secondary levels. RGSC won several outstanding awards, namely the NPQC Gold Award, and the RGSC staff and Director deserve to be congratulated for their brilliant performance locally and internationally. It was indeed a dream come true, and RGSC's visibility has reached sky-high through those achievements.

As Chairperson, I thank the staff of the RGSC, the Board members, the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology and Tertiary Education, Mauritius Commercial Bank Ltd, and the various stakeholders for their unreserved support in helping the RGSC in its efforts to become a Centre of Excellence.

Dr. Jayantee Naugah, FRSB, Cbiol (UK), PDSM
Chairperson, Rajiv Gandhi Science Centre Trust Fund

STATEMENT FROM DIRECTOR

Dr. Aman Kumar Maulloo
Director



The Financial Year under consideration has been a milestone that will stay as a landmark in the history of the Centre on all fronts.

By the end of 2018, the first internal control exercise took place, which highlighted many weaknesses, mainly in the administrative operations of the institution. Most of the problems identified were due to the extreme shortage of key personnel impacting on segregation of duties and procedures. This turned out to be an opportunity to redress the situation. Remedial actions were taken on all fronts, and by mid-2019, most of the problems were resolved. For example, since its inception, human capital has increased by over 30%, and many critical posts have been filled. Procedures were implemented in line with Good Governance Principles and the Financial Management Manual. Resources were also optimised.

Collaborations at the international level have been highly productive for the Science Centre. Ground-breaking projects were introduced in the promotion of science. These included the pioneering partnership with Australia on the Young Mauritians' Plan for the planet project, with key partners such as MCB Ltd, Australian High Commission and Curtin Mauritius. This resulted in the first-time publication of the SDG strategic plan for Mauritius by students and the first International Youth Conference, on SDG: "It's our future earth 2.0" during which we welcomed students from Australia.

Partnering with the US Embassy on the project "Inspiring Scientist" to promote Women Scientists as role models for young girls was a trendy venture. At the regional level, RGSC, as the Ambassador for Africa Code Week, led the project successfully in Mauritius and Rodrigues. RGSC also hosted the 2nd Africa Space Generation Workshop with the participation of over 100 Mauritian and international delegates.

Other innovative programmes included the travelling exhibition on Periodic Table to commemorate the International Year on Periodic Table and the National Youth Conference on Science and Technology during the National Science Week 2018.

All the state-of-the-art programmes developed and managed by the competent teams from all departments at RGSC have led to the Science Centre being rewarded at the National Productivity and Quality Convention (NPQC) with one Silver Award, two consecutive Gold Awards (2018 & 2019), and the Grand Winner in the category Government, Parastatal Bodies and Registered associations in 2019.

All these achievements have been possible with the full support of the parent Ministry, the RGSC Board, under the dynamic leadership of Dr Jayantee Naugah, local and international partners, and of course, all the staff of RGSC for their dedication, creativity and team spirit. Thank you everybody for the contribution of RGSC to science promotion in the Republic of Mauritius.

Dr. Aman Kumar Maulloo
Director, Rajiv Gandhi Science Centre

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1

CORPORATE OBJECTIVE STATEMENT

Vision

To be a Centre of excellence in the communication and promotion of Science and Technology.

Mission

To serve as a Centre for informal education and popularisation of Science and Technology among the population through various media.

Objectives

- Create awareness for Science and Technology.
- Encourage creativity and innovation particularly among young people.
- Supplement education in Science and Technology at all levels.
- Enhance public understanding of Science and Technology.

Core Values

Professionalism - We ensure high standard in our work and services

Best Practices - We value quality and innovation

Teamwork - We encourage team spirit and support to achieve excellence

Timeliness - We are very committed to meet timely targets and always respect deadlines

Commitments

We provide high quality, fun, innovative and contemporary programmes, supported by accurate, easily understood information to entertain and stimulate your interest in Science and Technology. We ensure that you feel welcomed and valued and are treated equally, with courtesy and respect.



2 CORPORATE
GOVERNANCE
REPORT

3.1 The Board

As per the Rajiv Gandhi Science Trust Fund Act 6 of 1994, there shall be a Board of Trustees which shall be in charge of the Fund. The Board has been newly reconstituted in July 2018 and has a vision to establish the Centre as a robust one in the field of Science through expansion of its activities. The Board is convinced that such growth can only be achieved by the adoption of good Corporate Governance practices at the Centre which will benefit all its stakeholders. To ensure that the different administrative and technical projects are optimally managed, the Board has created subcommittees to assist the Board in its functions.

One of the major decisions of the Board during that period has been to address the acute problem of shortage of staff facing the Centre since its inception. The Board embarked on an aggressive recruitment plan for the Centre and as at 30 June 2019, the resulting staff amount increased by about 35%.

3.2 Composition of the Board

The newly reconstituted Board composition for a two-year period is shown in table 1:

Table 1: Composition of RGCTF board

Name		Designation	Composition of the Board of RGCTF Act
1	Dr. (Mrs) J. Naugah	Consultant on Education (Open University)	Chairperson
2	Mr. M. Varaden	Deputy Permanent Secretary	Representative of Ministry of Education & Human Resources, Tertiary Education & Scientific Research
	Replaced by Mr S. Ragen as from May 2019	Senior Chief Executive	
	Ms. D. Jugroop (Alt)	Assistant Permanent Secretary	
3	Mrs. C. Jhowry	Deputy Permanent Secretary	Representative of Ministry of Agro-Industry & Food Security
	Mrs D. Takoory (Alt)	Assistant Permanent Secretary	
4	Mrs T.A. Mudhoo	Deputy Permanent Secretary	Representative of Ministry of Industry, Commerce & Consumer Protection
	Mrs. V. Appadoo (Alt)	Assistant Permanent Secretary	
5	Mr. R. Nursing	Deputy Permanent Secretary	Representative of Ministry of Health & Quality of Life
	Ms. N. Soreefan (Alt)	Assistant Permanent Secretary	

Name		Designation	Composition of the Board of RGCTF Act
6	Mr. B.M. Heetun	Deputy Director	Representative of Mauritius Meteorological Services
7	Mrs. S.B. Mamode Hosmun	Analyst/Senior Analyst	Representative Ministry of Finance & Economic Development
	Replaced by Mrs P. Ramjutton-Ramsurrun as from February 2019	Analyst/Senior Analyst	
8	Mrs. M. Ramsurn Bhowon	Assistant Permanent Secretary	Representative of Ministry of Energy & Public Utilities
9	Mrs. D. Sauba	Director (Planning & Budget)	Representative of Ministry of Education & Human Resources, Tertiary Education & Scientific Research
10	Ms. M.J.S. Valere	Deputy Permanent Secretary	Representative of Ministry of Ocean Economy, Marine Resources, Fisheries, Shipping & Outer Island
	Replaced by Mrs. H. Ramnath in April 2019	Deputy Permanent Secretary	
	Mr. R. Humath (Alt)	Assistant Permanent Secretary	
11	Mr. S. Maudarbocus	Ag. Deputy Director - Corporate	Representative of MITD
12	Mr. A.K. Shukla	First Secretary	Representative of the High Commission of India
13	Mr. L. Teeluck	Educator, St Esprit College	Appointed Member
14	Mr. A.R. Muhomud	Retired Rector of Secondary School	Appointed Member
15	Mr. R. Hawabhay	Chief Technical Officer, ICT	Appointed Member
16	Mr. H.J. Dhoonooah	Educator, Royal College Curepipe	Appointed Member
17	Dr A.K. Maulloo	Director	RGSC
18	Mrs. P. Mootoosamy	Administrative Officer	Secretary

The Board met on nine occasions during that period.

3.3 Subcommittees of the Board

Two Subcommittees were constituted during that period as follows: The Finance Committee and the Staff Committee.

3.3.1 Finance Committee

The Finance Committee considers and makes recommendations to the Board on matters relating to financial dealings of the Centre. This includes:

- examining various plans of the Centre namely budgetary and procurement
- ensuring compliance to financial procedures and follow up on financial report preparation
- recommendation to the Board for procurement of goods, services, consultancy and works for contracts above Rs 100,000.

During the period, the Finance Committee met on six occasions.

The composition of the Finance Committee is in table 2:

Table 2: Composition of the Finance Committee

Name		Composition
1	Ms. S.B. Mamode Hosmun	Analyst/Senior Analyst as Representative of Ministry of Finance & Economic Development as Chairperson
	Replaced by Mrs. P. Ramjuttan-Ramsurrun (as from February 2019)	Analyst/Senior Analyst
2	Mrs. D. Sauba	Director (Planning & Budgeting) Representative of Ministry of Education & Human Resources, Tertiary Education & Scientific Research
3	Mr. S. Maudarbocus	Representative of MITD as Member
4	Mr. R. Hawabhay	Chief Technical Officer (ICT) Representative of Ministry of Technology, Communication & Innovation as Member
5	Ms. N. Soreefan	Assistant Permanent Secretary Representative of Ministry of Health & Quality of life as Member
6	Mr. M. Ramrekha	Co-opted Member, Ministry of Education & Human Resources, Tertiary Education and Scientific Research
7	Dr. A.K. Maulloo	Director, Rajiv Gandhi Science Centre Trust Fund

3.3.2 Staff Committee

The Staff Committee considers and makes recommendations to the Board on strategic matters relating to human resources of the Centre. This includes recommending to the Board all appointments, confirmations, and promotions.

During the period under review, the Staff Sub-Committee met on six occasions. Nine Interview Panels were constituted and nine staff were recruited as at June 2019.

The composition of the Staff Committee is in table 3:

Table 3: Composition of Staff committee

Name		Composition
1	Mr. M. Varaden	Deputy Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Education & Human Resources, Tertiary Education & Scientific Research as Chairperson
	Replaced by Mr. S. Ragen as from May 2019	Senior Chief Executive
2	Mrs. C. Jhowry	Representative of Ministry of Agro-Industry & Food Security as Member
	Mrs. D. Takoory (Alt)	
3	Mrs. M. Ramsurn Bhowon	Representative of Ministry of Energy & Public Utilities as Member
4	Mrs. S. Valere	Representative of Ministry of Ocean Economy, Marine Resources, Fisheries, Shipping & Outer Island as Member
	Replaced by Mrs H. Ramnath in April 2019	
	Mr. R. Humath (Alt)	
5	Mr. A.R. Muhomud	Member of RGCTF Board as Member
6	Mr. L. Teeluck	Member of RGCTF Board as Member
7	Mr. P. Sadien	Co-opted Members, Ministry of Education & Human Resources, Tertiary Education and Scientific Research
	Mr. P. Ramkhelawon	
8	Dr. A.K. Maulloo	Director, Rajiv Gandhi Science Centre Trust Fund

3.4 Statement of Attendance

Table 4: Statement of Attendance for Board members

Name		Board Meeting	Finance Committee	Staff Committee
Chairperson				
1	Dr. (Mrs.) J. Naugah	9/9	-	-
Representative of Ministry of Education & Human Resources, Tertiary Education & Scientific Research				
2	Mr. M. Varaden	4/9	-	4/6
3	Mr. S. Ragen	2/9	-	1/6
4	Ms. D. Jugroop	2/9	-	1/6
5	Mrs. D. Sauba	7/9	2/6	-
Representative of Ministry of Agro-Industry & Food Security				
6	Mrs. C. Jhowry	5/9	-	4/6
7	Mrs. D. Takoory	2/9	-	2/6
Representative of Ministry of Industry, Commerce & Consumer Protection				
8	Mrs. T. A. Mudhoo	0/9	-	-
9	Mrs. V. Appadoo	6/9	-	-
Representative of Ministry of Health & Quality of Life				
10	Mr. R. Nursing	0/9	-	-
11	Ms. N. Soreefan (Alt)	5/9	1/6	-
Representative of Mauritius Meteorological Services				
12	Mr. B.M. Heetun	7/9	-	-
Representative of Ministry of Finance & Economic Development				
13	Mrs. S.B. Mamode Hosmun	3/9	3/6	-
14	Mrs. P. Ramjutton-Ramsurrun	5/9	3/6	-
Representative of Ministry of Energy & Public Utilities				
15	Mrs. M. Ramsurn Bhowon	7/9	-	3/6

Name		Board Meeting	Finance Committee	Staff Committee
Representative of Ministry of Ocean Economy, Marine Resources, Fisheries, Shipping & Outer Island				
16	Ms. M.J.S. Valere	0/9	-	0/6
17	Mrs. H. Ramnath	2/9	-	1/6
18	Mr. R. Humath (Alt)	3/9	-	1/6
Representative of Mauritius Institute of Training and Development				
19	Mr. S. Maudarbocus	7/9	4/6	-
Representative of Indian High Commission				
20	Mr. A.K. Shukla	6/9	-	-
Appointed Members				
21	Mr. L. Teeluck	6/9	-	1/6
22	Mr. A.R. Muhomud	6/9	-	6/6
23	Mr. R. Hawabhay	9/9	4/6	-
24	Mr. H.J. Dhoonooah	5/9	-	-
Co-opted Members				
25	Mr. M. Ramrekha	-	5/6	-
26	Mr. P. Sadien	-	-	1/6
27	Mr. P. Ramkhelawon	-	-	4/6
In Attendance				
28	Dr A.K. Maulloo, Director	8/9	6/6	6/6
29	Mr. D. Balgobin, Officer-in-Charge	1/9	-	-
30	Mrs. P. Mootoosamy, Secretary	9/9	6/6	6/6



3 STAFF

3.5 Staff list

Table 5: Senior management staff of RGSC

	Name	Designation	Profile
1	Dr. Aman Kumar Maulloo	Director	BSc (Hons) Mathematics MSc Operational Research PhD Operational Research
2	Mr. Dayachand Balgobin	Manager/ Curator (Mechanical Engineering)	BEng Mechanical Engineering MEng Mechanical Engineering
3	Mr. Sookdeo Rungoo	Manager/ Curator (Education)	BSc (Hons) Physics MSc Physics
4	Mr. Prakash Jhugaroo	Manager Graphics & Exhibition	BFA (Applied Arts) Master of Business Administration
5	Mr. Hemraj Ramsurrun	Manager/ Curator (Electrical/ Electronic/ IT)	BEng (Hons) Electrical & Electronic Engineering MSc Information & Communication Technology

Table 6: Staff of RGSC

	Name of Officer	Designation
1	Dr. Maulloo Aman Kumar	Director
2	Mr. Balgobin Dayachand	Manager/Curator (Mechanical Engineering)
3	Mr. Rungoo Sookdeo	Manager/Curator (Education)
4	Mr. Jhugaroo Prakash	Manager (Graphics and Exhibition)
5	Mr. Ramsurrun Hemraj	Manager/Curator (Electrical/Electronics/IT)
6	Mrs. Kamudu Applasawmy Bhamini	Resource Officer/ Senior Resource Officer
7	Mr. Li Kim Khiook Ian	Resource Officer/ Senior Resource Officer
8	Mr. Ravi Nunkoo	Resource Officer/ Senior Resource Officer
9	Mr. Mootoo Uvarajen	IT Officer
10	Mrs. Mootoosamy Poomala	Administrative Officer

Name of Officer		Designation
11	Mr. Luximon Mervin	Maintenance & Development Officer
12	Mrs. Manaar Amiirah	Maintenance & Development Officer
13	Mrs. Ghoorahoo Raginee	Financial Officer
14	Mrs. Sunnasee Anuradha	Confidential Secretary
15	Mrs. Sellamootoo Danesha	Assistant Procurement & Supplies Officer
16	Ms. Ollite Nushaybah Bibi	Assistant Resource Officer
17	Ms. Nastali Natasha	Assistant Resource Officer
18	Mrs. Soomarchun Anousha Preeya	Clerk/Word Processing Operator
19	Mrs. Lallmahamood Bibi Shabnaaz	Clerk/Word Processing Operator
20	Mr. Rosunally Yasin	Exhibition Assistant
21	Mr. Ramful Vedanand	Driver/Handy Worker
22	Mr. Boodhun Kenchand	Driver/Handy Worker
23	Mr. Nurai Vikash	Tradesman/Senior Tradesman
24	Mr. Busiah Laviswarao	Tradesman/Senior Tradesman
25	Mrs. Ramsurrun Divya	Receptionist/Telephone Operator
26	Mr. Chutooree Vishall	Electrician
27	Mr. Sookeeah Nundev	Painter
28	Mr. David Elise Didier	Welder
29	Mr. Auckloo Dharamduth	Fitter
30	Mr. Jeetoo Govind Singh	Carpenter
31	Mr. Ramsaran Gineshwar	Handy Worker
32	Mr. Mohung Rayazouddin	Office Attendant
33	Mr. Ramsohok Satianand	Gardener
34	Mr. Bissoonee Preetam	Gardener
35	Mr. Gooroochurn Samduth	Gardener



HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

Human Resource Development

The Centre has invested both in on-the-job training during that period by transfer of skills and knowledge from existing staff to new recruits as well as external training of staff both locally and overseas.

4.1 List of staff who participated in local workshops, seminars and committees

Table 7: Participation of staff in committees, workshops and seminars in Mauritius

Date	Organisation	Workshop	Officer
8-Jun-18	University of Mauritius	World Oceans Day	Mr. A. Poorun
11 to 12-Sept-18	Ministry of Labour, Industrial Relations, Employment and Training	Seminar on Occupational Safety and Health	Mr. S. Rungoo
3-Sep-18	Mauritius Research Council	Awareness Session on the Pole of Innovation Grant Scheme	Mr. D. Balgobin
01 to 02-Oct-18	National Computer Board	Open Licensing	Mr. U. Mootoo
16-Nov-18	IDC Analyse The Future	IDC IT Security Summit 2018	Mr. H. Ramsurrun
8 and 9-Nov 2018	African Network on Corporate Governance of State-Owned Enterprises	Financial Services	Dr. A.K. Maulloo, Director
28-Jan-19	Mauritius Research Council	Global Innovation Index for Mauritius	Mrs. B. Kamudu Applasawmy
28 to 31-Jan-19	Australian High Commission	Wednesday's Education, Research and Technology Roundtable: Visit of First Assistant Secretary, Middle East and African Division	Mr. S. Rungoo
19-Feb-19	National Computer Board	Geospatial Data For Infrastructure	Mr. H. Ramsurrun
19-Feb-19	Mauritius Research Council	Participation of Girls and Women in STEM in Mauritius	Mrs. B. Kamudu Applasawmy

Date	Organisation	Workshop	Officer
19 to 20-Mar-19	Ministry of Labour, Industrial Relations, Employment and Training	Seminar on Occupational Safety and Health	Mrs. P. Mootosamy
8-Apr-19	Organisation for Women in Science for the Developing World/ Australian High Commission	Youth, Science Education, Leadership and Career Perspectives	Mrs. B. Kamudu Applasawmy
4-Apr-19, 10-May-19	Mauritius Institute of Training and Development	Garden Maintenance	Mr. S. Gooroochurn and Mr. P. Bissoonee
9-May-19	Mauritius Renewable Energy Agency	Co-Financed Project on the Establishment of a National Grid Code and Development of Standards, Funding and Incentive Strategy for Renewable Energy	Mr. H. Ramsurrun
9-May-2019	IST-Africa Conference	NCB	Dr. A.K. Maulloo, Director
27-May-19	Tertiary Education Commission	National Research Week in Higher Education	Mr. R. Nunkoo
24-Jun-19	University of Mauritius	Food Loss and Waster Reduction & Recovery	Mr. I. Li Kim Khiook

4.2 Overseas mission

As part of the training and staff development programme, our staff have also been invited to attend seminars, workshops and training programmes overseas. Overseas missions have contributed to strengthen ties with international partners and to spin-off collaborative ventures for the Rajiv Gandhi Science Centre.

1. Training programme: Hidden No More: Advancing Women in STEAM Fields

Offered by: International Visitor Leadership Programme (IVLP), US Department of States, USA

Period: 27 Oct - 16 Nov 2018

Participant: Mrs Bhamini Kamudu Applasawmy, Resource Officer/Senior Resource Officer (Education Department)

Mrs B. Kamudu was invited through the RGSC by the US Embassy to form part of the IVLP offered by the US Department of States. The programme aimed at empowering women scientists to develop leadership capacities and help them identify and address the

challenges they face in science fields. Mrs Kamudu joined participants from 50 countries and followed courses on leadership and management. She also had working sessions in a number of science centres and museums in the USA including National Geographic, Smithsonian museum, National Academic of Sciences, Greensboro Science Centre, the museum of Science and Industry in Chicago, Fox studios, International Civil Rights Center & Museum and the California Science Centre. She had the opportunity to participate in outreach programmes with school and university students and learnt how the hands-on and minds-on approach are integrated in science centre programmes including maker spaces and design thinking. She also participated in round table discussions with scientists at renowned institutions such as NASA, Applied Physics Laboratory, Fermilab and California Institute of Technology.

Outcome (i) Creation of the "Inspiring Scientists" programme at RGSC, an initiative that portrays role models in science to young girls. (ii) Network with scientists from the USA and 50 countries. (iii) Fostered collaboration with the Embassy of the United States.

2. Training programme: Climate Change and Environment

Offered by: Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) programme of the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India

Period: 12 - 26 Nov 2018

Participant: Mr. Sookdeo Rungoo, Curator/Manager (Education Department)

The training programme was conducted at the Divecha Centre for Climate Change, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore. The training focused on the science of climate and environment. The participants were taught how the climate system works; what factors cause climate to change across different time scales and how those factors interact; how climate has changed in the past; how scientists use models, observations and theory to make predictions about future climate; and the possible consequences of climate change for our planet. The course explored the evidence for changes in ocean temperature, sea level and hydrological cycle due to global warming. Participants learned how climate change today is different from the past climate cycles and how satellites and other technologies are revealing the global signals of a changing climate. Finally, the course looked at the connection between human activity and the current warming trend and considered some of the potential social, economic and environmental consequences of climate change.

Outcome: Mr Rungoo has a key role in content development for exhibitions and science education programmes. The training empowered him to keep abreast with latest development in climate change issues and helped develop networks with Indian scientists.

3. **Conference:** Innovation Africa 2018 Summit: Utilisation of ICT for Education, Curriculum Reform and Developing Skills for Industry

Offered by: AfricanBrains and Government of Zimbabwe

Period: 28-30 Nov-2018

Participant: Dr. A. K. Maulloo, Director

Innovation Africa 2018 is firmly established as the continent's number one high level ministerial forum where industry partners enjoy pre-scheduled meetings and committed engagement with ministers and senior government officials from over 40 countries. It is Africa's "must go to" event for education, innovation and ICT. Leading industry partners agree that Innovation Africa is the most productive and enjoyable experience of all events, which emphasises the quality of the audience and high-level status of decision-making participants.

Innovation Africa 2018 event included an African Leaders Day on the 28 November 2018 followed by two days Official Ministerial Meeting on 29-30 November 2018. Dr Maulloo, Director of RGSC attended the summit as representative from Mauritius together with the director of MIE and the secretary of PSEA.

A variety of exhibitions were on display, along with corporate presentations and ministerial panel sessions. Dr Maulloo participated in several one-to-one meetings with private and public companies and institutions in the IT sector from several countries.

Outcome: The team from Mauritius returned with increased networking with partners offering ICT tools in Education. It is recommended that the Ministry explore the feasibility of the implementation of the innovative educational tools in the Mauritian Education System. RGSC might consider implementing projects to supplement school education through innovative ICT tools.

4. **Conference:** SCIENCE FORUM SOUTH AFRICA 2018 entitled: *Igniting Conversations about Science*

Offered by: National Research Foundation (NRF), Department of Science & Technology (DST), Republic of South Africa and the Mauritian participant was sponsored by Centre for Science and Technology of the Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries (NAM S&T)

Period: 12-14 Dec-2018

Participant: Dr. A. K. Maulloo, Director

The organisation of the "Science Forum South Africa" is an initiative of Ministry of Science and Technology with the support of DST NRF, Academy of Science of South Africa (ASSAF) & African Academy of Sciences (AAS). The three-day programme has brought together scientists, government officials, industry leaders, students and representatives from broader civil society, from the African continent and elsewhere. The key objectives of the Forum

were to create a platform for debates on the role of STI in society, promote international partnerships and networks among various stakeholders. Dr Maulloo participated in a number of parallel sessions on gender issues, 4th industrial revolution, STEM, Science Diplomacy, the Digital Economy, SKA, and SDGs.

Outcome: Dr Maulloo had interactions with the Director NAM S&T and discussions focused on possibility that Mauritius hosts a NAM event on a shared cost basis. Recommendations have been sent to the parent Ministry.

5. **Workshop: International Workshop on 'Policy Making in Popularisation of Science Technology and Innovation (STI)', IRAN**

Organised by: Centre for Science and Technology of the Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries (NAM S&T), hosted by National Research Institute for Science Policy (NRISP), Iran

Period: 17-19 June 2019

Participant: Mr. D. Balgobin, Curator/Manager (Mechanical engineering department)

One of the major challenges facing developing countries is to make science and technology an essential part of the culture of the people. A number of historical, cultural, political, social and economic situations have resulted in the need to develop policies and strategies that favour the popularisation of Science and Technology in the developing countries. At present, access to science, technology and the related knowledge is synonymous with development, well-being and quality of life. Keeping the above in view, the NAM S&T Centre, New Delhi, jointly with the Science Popularisation Department of the NRISP, Tehran, Iran organized a three-day workshop which aimed at identifying opportunities for funding and collaborative research among member countries, as an influential group in STI policy and to build networks among countries.

Mr Balgobin presented a paper entitled "Rajiv Gandhi Science Centre – Building Scientific Temper in Mauritius".

Outcome: The participant acquired an in-depth knowledge of various research areas falling under the purview of the Iranian host (ie NRISP) and learnt about practices from participating countries. There have been proposals that Mauritius hosts a future NAM S&T event from the organisers.



5

GENERAL REVIEW

5.0 General Review

The Rajiv Gandhi Science Centre (RGSC), a parastatal body operating under the aegis of the Ministry of Education and Human Resources, Tertiary education and Scientific Research, has the mandate to popularise science in Mauritius. Since it opened its doors in 2004, RGSC has touched more than 400 000 visitors through its science exhibition and science promotion activities.

The centre, situated at Bell Village, houses six science exhibition galleries and a science park which are open to public visit every day. The exhibitions cover areas of science such as Astronomy, Climate Change and Environment, Resources of Mauritius, Frontiers of Technology, Fun Science and Science of Sports. The core business of the centre remains its science exhibitions consisting of interactive hands-on exhibits aimed at engaging the visitors with Science and Technology (S&T) in a fun manner and science education programmes targeted at various groups.

Since its inception, the centre has been supplementing school science education through various programmes targeting both students and educators such as science project-based competitions, science demonstrations, and professional development workshops and science lectures. In this line, RGSC has become a centre-point with respect to the popularization of Astronomy in Mauritius.

The major events for the financial year 2018/2019 marked the United Nation's '**International Year of Periodic Table of Chemical Elements**' celebrated worldwide to commemorate Dmitri Mendeleev's discovery of the periodic table of chemical elements. RGSC joined the global celebrations and developed a travelling exhibition entitled '**The Periodic Table of Chemical Elements unveiled**'. This exhibition travels to schools and public places and concurrently activities such as talks, seminars on chemistry and related topics are implemented. During the financial year, RGSC completed phase 1 of the '**Young Mauricians' Plan for the Planet**' Project inspired and guided by Australian National University and Questacon – Australia. The programme enables students to address the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals using Management tools. After a first successful implementation of Africa Code Week (Mauritius) in 2017, RGSC reiterated its effort in organizing this digital literacy programme for the second consecutive time and extended the programme to Rodrigues.

RGSC participated in the National Productivity and Quality Convention (NPQC) organized by the National Productivity and Competitiveness Council during 2018 and 2019. The project '*Strategic actions to boost target audience at RGSC*' won the **Gold Award** at the NPQC 2018. Two teams participated in the NPQC in June 2019. The project '*Reduction of inefficiency in the organisation of science promotion activities at RGSC*' was the **Grand Winner** of the contest and was invited to present their project at the International Convention on Quality Circle in Tokyo organized by Japan Union of Scientists and Engineers. The project '**Africa Code Week**' won the **Silver Award** at NPQC 2019.

RGSC aims to widen its reach and will exploit new avenues in the future for enhanced visitor experiences.

5.1 PILLAR 1: THE CENTRE (INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES)

The Rajiv Gandhi Science Centre has a 4000m² building on 5.3 acres of land. The building houses 5 permanent exhibition galleries namely Origin of Mauritius, Climate Change, Resources of Mauritius, Frontiers of Technology and Fun Science as well as one temporary exhibition gallery: Science of Sports. The compound comprises of a science park and an endemic garden. These form part of the core attractions of the science centre which are opened for public visit and where the visitor can interact with the exhibits and learn about science and technology.

In addition, the centre has other facilities such as an auditorium, a cafeteria, an activity hall, a multipurpose room and a 16-seater capacity conference room, which are used to support the activities of RGSC. They are also all available for renting as a means of revenue generation.

Pillar 1 is concerned with infrastructure services, exhibit and exhibition development and maintenance and Human Resources. This influences operational efficiency impacting on the quality of service delivery to our customers.

5.1.1 Enhance the building and infrastructure facilities at the centre

RGSC has set up new office spaces in the administration block to cater for staff of Administration, Procurement and Graphics/Exhibition departments and a store for Administration Department. As part of our building maintenance programme, important electrical repairs were conducted at the level of lighting and power distribution. However, in this same year, following major electrical issues encountered, the RGSC has embarked on a capital project to upgrade the main feeder cables of our electrical network upon the recommendation of ESD. The expected project cost is Rs 2.2 M. To this end, the services of Ekium Amio Ltd were hired as consultant on this project to advise the RGSC on measures to be taken, prepare technical specifications, monitor works of contractor and testing/commissioning.

RGSC is committed to upkeep the safety of visitors. A complete upgrading of the firefighting alarm system of the centre was undertaken with a view to ensure safety of staff and visitors. Various essential maintenance works were also undertaken for the upkeep of all basic facilities of the centre. Furthermore, maintenance work on exhibits is part of the routine to ensure that the majority of our exhibits are in good operating condition. The recruitment of gardeners has contributed to the embellishment of the compounds and maintenance of the endemic garden which is an attraction to the Centre.

5.1.2 Develop or acquire new exhibits on emerging areas of Science and Technology

Development of Exhibition: The Periodic Table Unveiled

Exhibition development forms part of the core activities of RGSC. During this financial year, RGSC developed and inaugurated a new travelling exhibition entitled “**The Periodic Table of Chemical Elements - Unveiled**”. The year 2019 marks the 150th anniversary since Dmitri Mendeleev discovered the Periodic System and has been proclaimed the “**International Year of the Periodic Table of Chemical Elements**” (IYPT2019) by the United Nations.



Elements in the Human Body

Elements in the Human

You must be made of
COPPER
 and
Tellurium
 Because you are so

Cu Te

Re Al

Ge Ni U S



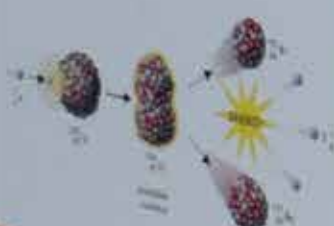
Lise Meitner
 (18 May 1878 - 27 Oct 1948)

Major Field
 Nuclear Physics

- Major Achievements**
- Co-discovered Protactinium (Pa) in 1913
 - Had a major contribution in the discovery of nuclear fission
 - Gave the name "Nuclear Fission" and explained it, along with Otto "Oskar" Hahn
 - Nuclear fission is used in nuclear reactors to produce electricity. It is also used in atomic bombs
 - Nuclear energy is the world's second largest source of low-carbon power and also generates about 1% of the world's electricity
 - The element Mithradates has named in her honor
- Protactinium**
-



Reaction in the Uranium - 235 fission process



Mt
Mithradates 107

Pa
Protactinium 231.036

87
F
 Francium

The Periodic Table exhibition

The Periodic Table Unveiled

This exhibition, fully developed by the Rajiv Gandhi Science Centre, is built to incite curiosity about the periodic table and bring the elements to life using a series of interactive exhibits.



The Periodic Table is one of the most significant achievements in science, capturing the essence of chemistry, physics and biology. It is a unique tool, enabling scientists to predict the appearance and properties of matter on the Earth and in the rest of the Universe.

The exhibition completely curated by RGSC staff, provides an opportunity for visitors to reflect upon many aspects of the periodic table, including its history, the contributions of famous chemists in research, global trends, and perspectives on science for sustainable development, and the social and economic impacts of this field. The interactive travelling exhibition is built to incite curiosity and to change people's concept of a periodic table, bringing the elements to life.

The following departments were involved in the development and setting of the exhibition:

- The Education Department conceptualized the exhibition conducting research work and provided contents for the exhibition.
- The Graphics Department designed and printed all the exhibition panels. They also developed software and games that were displayed in the LCD TVs and touch screens.
- The Mechanical Department set up display structures with stands and fabricated new structures.
- The Electrical/IT/Electronics Department provided all support for lighting, wiring and installation of electronics exhibits.

The exhibition was launched on 07 March 2019 at RGSC to travel to secondary schools across the island.

Photovoltaic Plant at RGSC

The Centre has embarked on the setting-up of a 3KW Photovoltaic Plant in its science park which will also serve as a working exhibit on photovoltaics. The estimated cost of this project is Rs 600,000 and is expected to be operational in December 2019.

Setting up of exhibition – World Hindi conference 2018

The 11th World Hindi conference was organised by the Government of India in collaboration with the Government of Mauritius in Mauritius in August 2018. This event was held at the Vivekanand International Convention Centre, Pailles. Apart from the parallel sessions, an exhibition with both local and international participants was set up. RGSC was allocated the responsibility to coordinate and facilitate the setting of the exhibition for the local participants. Moreover, RGSC provided its expertise in terms of exhibition and graphic design services for setting up the booth for the Ministry of Education and Human Resources, Tertiary Education and Scientific Research.

5.1.3 Decentralisation of RGSC Activities: Satellite Centre at Reduit

The Centre has been in the process of finalizing the vesting of 7 arpents of land at Reduit, for the construction of the upcoming Satellite Centre. Despite the constant monitoring from the National Council of Science Museums (India), the High Commissioner of India in Mauritius and the Ministry of External Affairs, no major developments have been noted during this period.

5.1.4 Increase operational efficiency through optimization of resources

RGSC wins three National Awards in the field of Productivity and Quality

RGSC is a lead organisation in science promotion in Mauritius. To establish itself as a productive and reference organisation in the country, RGSC has participated in the National Productivity and Quality Convention (NPQC) organised by the National Productivity and Competitiveness Council (NPCC) during 2018 and 2019. The prestigious convention recognises the outstanding productivity and quality improvement initiatives of organisations from public and private organisations. Teams share their best operational practices, processes, systems and initiatives for creating and managing productivity and quality improvement at their workplace. RGSC participated and was rewarded for value creation in projects at the NPQC during 2018 and 2019.



1. Project: Strategic Actions to Boost Target Audience at the Rajiv Gandhi Science Centre

Award: Gold Award in the category Government, Parastatal Bodies and Registered associations at the NPQC 2018

Team and project leads: Dr Aman Kumar Maulloo (Director), Mr Prakash Jhugaroo (Manager Graphics and Exhibition) and Mrs Bhamini Kamudu Applasawmy, (Resource Officer/Senior Resource Officer).



Project details:

Since 2005 to 2014, a continuous decline in visitor figure has been noted, impacting on the overall productivity of the centre. Staff were overloaded and it was difficult to attract new visitors.

The root causes of the problem identified were as follows: (i) The exhibition galleries of the RGSC were conceived, designed and fabricated in the year 2000 (ii) resource constraints – the limited funds and human resources impact on the quality of the exhibition galleries.

The management reviewed its processes and operations and devised strategies to tap new market segments. A process was initiated despite the limited funding and staff resources. Solutions were put in place for improved and sustained efficiency. These solutions include: the introduction of new innovative activities to bring in more visitors, extending the reach of existing activities, Continuous Professional Development of Staff and strengthening ties with existing collaborators and local and international networks. Finally, after several months of hard work, with the support of all the staff of the RGSC and the successful implementation of the various strategies, the Centre managed to boost the visitors' figure from 8527 in 2015 to 27291 in 2016.

2. Project: Reducing Inefficiency in the Organisation of Activities

Award: Grand Winner in the category Government, Parastatal Bodies and Registered associations at the NPQC 2019

Award: Gold Award in the category Government, Parastatal Bodies and Registered associations at the NPQC 2019

Team and Project leads: Mr Prakash Jhugaroo (Manager Graphics & Exhibition), Mrs Bhamini Kamudu Applasawmy, (Resource Officer/Senior Resource Officer) and Mr Sookdeo Rungoo (Manager/Curator Education)

Project details:

This project was about eliminating MUDA and increasing efficiency in science education programmes through the **Young Mauritians' Plan for the Planet (YMPP) during 2018**. YMPP is an innovative extracurricular programme empowering secondary school students to use strategic planning methods to develop action plans to achieve the 17 Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations in Mauritius.

Despite investment in efforts and resources, a high percentage of students who registered for our flagship programmes like the 'Science Quest' and the 'Model Glider Contest', left the programmes midway due to an elimination process during programme implementation, i.e., there was a high percentage of dropouts. The team demonstrated how they had used strategic management, productivity and quality tools to bring efficiency in organisation of activities through the YMPP project.

RGSC embraced the best practices from Qwestacon and Australia National University, Australia to implement the YMPP. The project germinated following the training of Mrs Kamudu at these Australian organisations. YMPP is innovative in terms of product (holistic learning) and process implementation through Planning, Doing, Checking and Acting (PDCA). Continuous feedback, face-to-face workshops, mentoring and follow up mechanism helped us reach zero dropouts, exceeding a target of less than 10%. The spin-off was a change in the mindset, documentation of the process, PDCA in other intervention areas, and possible ISO certification.

The exercise concurred with implementation of the Strategic Plan 2017-2030 and the Nine Year Continuous Basic Education reform of the parent Ministry which focuses on inclusiveness, holistic education and formative evaluation.

GRAND WINNER at NPQC 2019

After winning a Gold Award, the team competed with the other four Gold Awardees and defended their project in front of a panel of International Jurors from Ethiopia, Singapore



and Japan. The team excelled and was declared the **Grand Winner** in their category. They have been invited by NPCC to present their project at the **International Convention for Control Quality Circles (ICQCC 2019)**, Tokyo, Japan.

3. Project: A Strategic Approach to the Promotion of Technology

Award: Silver Award in the category Government, Parastatal Bodies and Registered associations at the NPQC 2019

Team and Project leads: Mr. H. Ramsurrun (Manager/Curation Electronics/Electrical/IT) and Mr. U. Mootoo (IT officer)

Since the last two decades, with the proliferation of digital technologies in our society, the importance of digital literacy is being highly acclaimed as we have now landed into a cultural change. Unfortunately, RGSC has put minimal effort to promote digital literacy, which is in line with its objectives of promoting technology. In light of this situation, a strategic approach based on a public-private partnership was adopted by the Centre to address this issue. The solution was to organize and conduct the Africa Code Week in Mauritius in 2018 as a mass digital literacy initiative, which was highly successful targeting around 19,000 Mauritians.

Internal Control

With its vision to expand the activities of the Centre, the Board decided to review and strengthen the procedures or practices within the Centre, to ensure that it was prepared to achieve the targets set in the strategy whilst using its resources economically. In August 2018, the Board took the decision to have a first internal control review of the Centre since its creation.

In September 2018, an Internal Audit Control Team from the Ministry of Education & Human Resources, Tertiary Education & Scientific Research was deputed to the Centre to carry out an internal audit exercise.

A first report was submitted in February 2019 and carried over 100 recommendations covering the scope under review, that is, administration and finance.

The report was tabled in May 2019 to the Board and recommended a remedial plan to address the issues and recommendations in the report. One of the major weaknesses

identified in the report, and which the Board addressed immediately, is the acute shortage of Staff faced by the Centre in the past.

Vacancies filled

During this period the Centre increased its staff by 35% through recruitment with the filling of the following posts:

1. Resource Officer/Senior Resource Officer
2. IT Officer
3. Maintenance Development Officer Graphics
4. Maintenance Development Officer Multimedia
5. Assistant Procurement and Supply Officer
6. Assistant Resource Officer
7. Exhibition Assistant
8. Receptionist/Telephone Operator
9. Carpenter

The Internal Audit Control team specifically reviewed the internal works systems, accuracy of financial records, processes and procedures, payroll and human resources, *i.e.*, those activities contribute indirectly to the functioning of the Centre. The main findings showed that the shortage of staff created an imbalance in the proper functioning of the administrative systems at the Centre.

During the year 2018, segregation of duties was made possible with the appointment of key middle level staff like the Finance Officer, IT officer, Administrative Officer (Secretary to the Board and Committees), a dedicated Assistant Procurement and Supply Officer and Maintenance Development Officers for technical expertise. These appointments coupled with a strengthening in the skill-based workers enabled the introduction of proper working systems with staff allocated to specific processes. This impacted in a reduction in allowances and overtime costs as well as creating clearer line of reporting in line with good corporate governance. The improvement of work systems started in the Administrative Section with the introduction of a centralized registry system to access and keep files. A proper archiving system was also set up with the acquisition of a proper bulk filing system.

Vacancies in other departments have been filled. Currently, there is an increase in multimedia production for programmes and exhibition, consideration to revamp the website and an embellished and well-maintained yard.

6.1 PILLAR 2: VISITOR MANAGEMENT

6.1.1 Visitors at the Centre

Thousands of visitors participate in the various activities of RGSC and visit the exhibitions. RGSC is committed to provide a pleasant environment to its customers, to innovate its activities to encourage repeat visitors and extend its market reach.

During the financial year, a total of 15 057 visitors visited RGSC, comprising of students, educators, trainers, adults and focus groups such as women groups, etc. A large number of visitors were reached during special events at the Centre. For example, visitors during the National Science Week and the Kiddy Science Fair events represent 38% of the audience reached through the activities of RGSC (Figure 1).

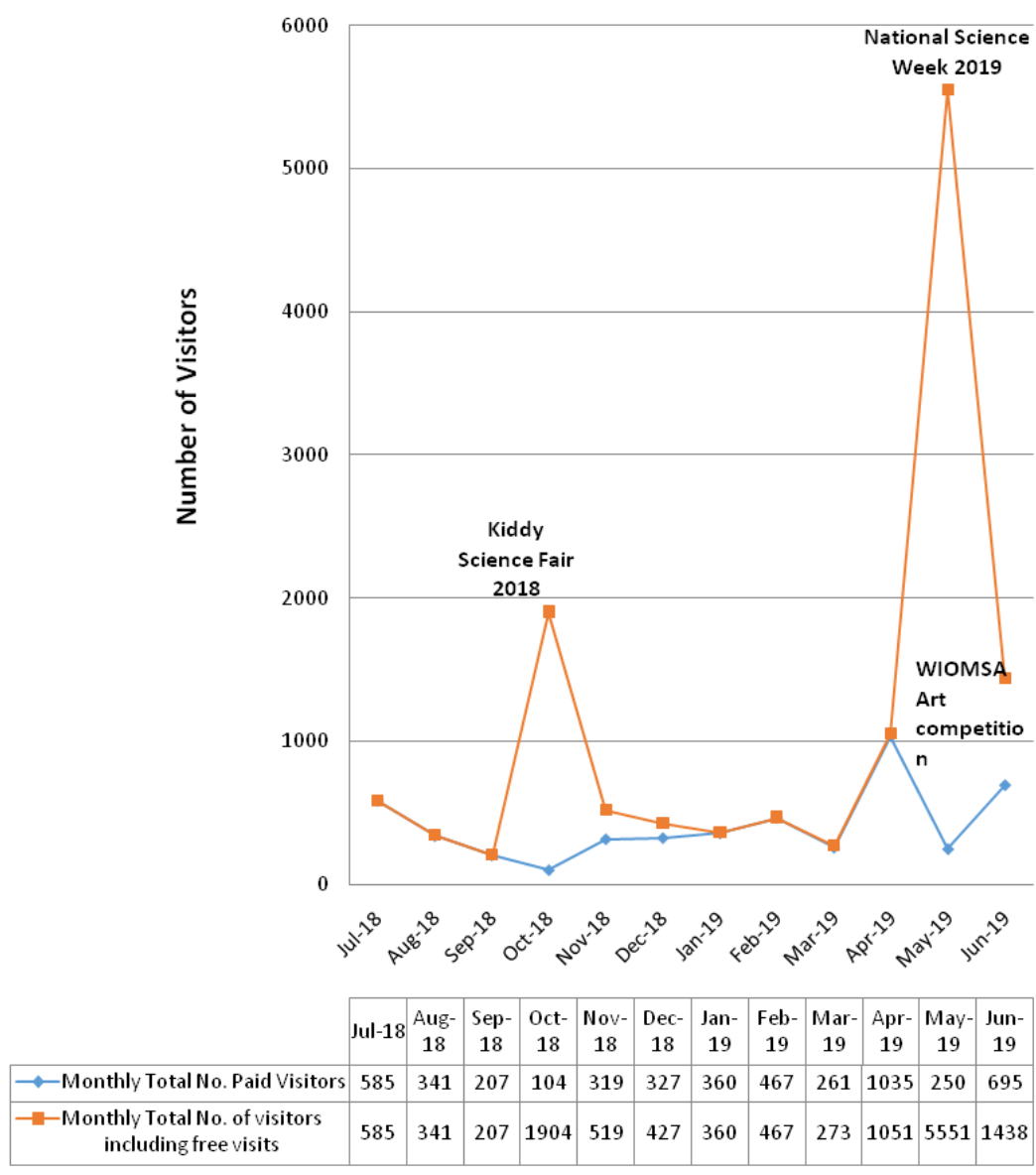


Figure 1: Visitors at RGSC during the financial year 2018-2019

Strategic Objective 1: Enhance the visitor experiences by providing a value for money service

RGSC has now put in place a feedback mechanism for all its activities, gathering information from its participants aiming towards continuous improvement.

6.1.2 Provide innovative programmes and special events at the Centre

World Science Day and International Science Centre and Science Museum Day

RGSC celebrated the World Science Day and the International Science Centre and Science Museums Day on 10th November 2018. The Centre opened its doors to the public free of charge and conducted the following activities: science shows, guided tours to galleries, film shows and science quiz. About 200 visitors were present at the Centre.

Early Childhood Awareness Programme – Kiddy Science Fair 2018

The Kiddy Science Fair, a joint-initiative of the RGSC and the Early Childhood Care and Education Authority (ECCEA), was held from 02-05 October 2018. The event takes the format of a science exhibition made for and by educators and pupils of pre-primary schools. It has as objectives enabling pre-primary schools to work on science topics and providing them with a platform to showcase and display their work to parents and the public.

Number of projects displayed: Over 125 projects

Number of participating schools: Over 75 pre-primary schools

The event attracted around 2100 visitors and can be split up as follows:

1. 02 October 2018 - Opening ceremony around 200 visitors
2. 03-05 October 2018 - Around 1900 visitors (pupils: 63%, parents: 27%, educators, 9%)



His Excellency Paramasivum Pillay Vyapoory, G.O.S.K
Acting President of the Republic of Mauritius visiting the Kiddy Science Fair



Kiddy Science Fair

A Science Exhibition which aims at promoting teaching and learning of science at an early age



Workshops for Scout Group Leaders

The RGSC was approached by the Mauritius Scouts Association to run science workshops for their scout club leaders as part of a “Train the Trainers” programme. The aim of this Workshop is to prepare and empower the trainers with basic pedagogy for assessing and performing hands-on activities that their section Cubs (7-11 years old) must partake to earn their “Science Activity Badge”. The workshop was held on Saturday 10 November 2018 with an attendance of around 30 Scout Cub Leaders. The workshop was conceptualised to use items that were low-cost or no-cost materials. Five workstations were set up with the following themes:

1. Electricity and Magnetism
2. Air Density
3. Properties of Light
4. Astronomy
5. Water

Each Cub Leader trained during this workshop supervises a group of around 20 Cubs. As such, the training of 30 Cub Leaders will benefit about 600 scouts.

Science Talks/Seminars/Workshops

[Seminar: Medical Breakthroughs: Is research with animals still necessary?](#)

To mark the International Day for Women and Girls in Science on 11th February 2019, RGSC in collaboration with Bioculture Mauritius organised a seminar targeting students of secondary schools. The resource person was Dr Cindy Buckmaster, Director of the research animal care programme at Baylor College of Medicine, and her presentation was entitled: Medical Breakthroughs: Is Research with Animals Still Necessary?

[RGSC hosts the 2nd Africa Space Generation Workshop](#)

Introduction

RGSC hosted the Second African Space Generation Workshop on 17 and 18 December 2018. The Space Generation Workshops (SGW) are large events organized by the Space Generation Advisory Council (United Nations) related to space science, bringing together students and young professionals to discuss current and upcoming space sector opportunities and challenges with a regional perspective.

The workshop gathered around 100 delegates from Mauritius and abroad, from diverse fields (engineering, business, science, arts, medicine and law). Exchanges focused on critical space sector opportunities and challenges, global policy initiatives, and space law.

Public Event: Meet the Astronomers

In the context of the African Space Generation workshop, RGSC in collaboration with the Space Advisory Council organized a public event on Saturday 15 December 2018. The programme consisted of two hands-on science workshops run by staff of **Inter-University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics and Society for Space Education, Research and Development (SSERD)** together with the education department of RGSC. About 100 students aged 7 to 15 years participated in the workshop. In parallel, 2 lectures targeting about 300 participants from the public were organized. The speakers were Mrs. Allyson Reneau, USA and Mr Remco Timmermans, International Space University, Netherlands.



National Science Week (06-11 May 2019)

The RGSC in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and Human Resources, Tertiary Education and Scientific Research, organised the National Science Week 2019 from 06-11 May 2019. The launching ceremony of the National Science Week 2019 was held at RGSC on Wednesday 08 May 2019 at 10.00 hrs. On this occasion, the publication of students' essays produced during the first National Youth Conference on Science, Technology and Innovation (NYCSTI) in Mauritius held in 2018 was launched. The best essays and best presentations of NYCSTI 2018 were also awarded.



National Science Week

An important aspect of the National Science Week is to showcase the practical importance of Science and Technology in various sectors of the Mauritian economy.



Aims and Objectives

The aims and objectives of the National Science Week are to:

- a. Communicate science and technology in the community
- b. Promote public understanding of science issues
- c. Reveal the practical importance of Science and Technology in various sectors of the Mauritian economy
- d. Encourage the youth to embark into science-oriented careers
- e. Encourage hands-on teaching and learning of STEM
- f. Prepare Mauritius to face future scientific and technological challenges

An important component of the National Science Week 2019 was a **Science and Technology Exhibition**. Various stakeholders (about 15) displayed to the public their work in relation to Science and Technology. The exhibition as well as the galleries of RGSC remained open to the public from Tuesday 07 May to Friday 10 May 2019 from 9.30hrs to 14.00hrs. In parallel, a series of thematic seminars/workshops/conference on Science and Technology were scheduled during the whole week (Monday 06 May 2019- Friday 10 May 2019).

The following exhibitors were present for the Science and Technology Exhibition:

Table 8: List of exhibitors for National Science Week

Exhibitors for National Science Week 2019
Bioculture (Mauritius) Ltd
CBBR Centre for Biomedical and Biomaterials Research
Fire Services Department (Head Office)
Food and Agricultural Research and Extension Institute
Mauritius Oceanography Institute
Meteorological Services
Ministry of Agro Industry and Food Security (Entomology Division)
National Computer Board
Pascal Computers
Quantilab Ltd
Reef Conservation
The Aeronautical Society of Mauritius
The Traffic Branch of the Mauritius Police Force
Fellowship First-Aiders
Career Guidance

Workshops and parallel activities during the National Science Week

Table 9: Details of workshops and parallel activities

Monday 06 May 2019: YMPP Workshop - Addressing Challenges in Project Management	
The workshop aimed at helping teams to develop their projects through work sessions with mentors and online exchanges with Australian students.	<p>Resource Persons: RGSC staff and Mentors of YMPP</p> <p>Target groups: 100 participants of YMPP programme</p>
Tuesday 07 May 2019: Inspiring Scientists Programme	
<p>'Inspiring Scientists' aims at portraying the work of scientists and promoting them as role models for young girls. This may ultimately inspire them to develop an interest for science and build confidence to embrace STEM careers.</p> <p>The programme is supported by the US Embassy and the Organisation for Women in Science in the Developing World (OWSD).</p>	<p>Resource Persons</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. US Embassy 2. Dr. Devika Saddul, Research Scientist/Senior Scientist (FAREI/OWSD) 3. Dr. Swaleha Hudaa Neetoo, Lecturer Microbiology (UoM) 4. Ms. Itisha Chummun, PhD Scholar (CBBR, UoM) 5. Mrs B. Kamudu Applasawmy, Resource Officer/Senior Resource Officer (RGSC) <p>Target audience: 180 girls from 6 secondary schools</p>
Wednesday 08 May 2019: Seminar - Chemistry and Society	
The seminar focused on the vital role of chemistry in various sectors was presented by scientists and entrepreneurs.	<p>Talks:</p> <p>Chemistry Education: Status, Challenges and Opportunities by Dr. F. Narod, Ass. Professor (MIE)</p> <p>Application of Chemistry in Agriculture by Mr. Gunshiam Umrit, Officer in Charge, Agricultural department, MSIRI</p> <p>Research Opportunities in Chemistry in Mauritius by Prof. A. Bhaw-Luximon (UoM)</p> <p>Chemistry and Entrepreneurship by Mr. Sunildutt Parmessur (Chemlog Ltd)</p> <p>Target audience: 150 students (grade 12, 13)</p>

**Thursday 09 May 2019:
National Youth Conference on Science, Technology and Innovation (NYSCTI) 2019**

<p>The Youth Conference gives the opportunity to young people to voice out their views on how STI can play a strategic role in addressing issues of national importance and in finding sustainable solutions to our problems for a brighter future.</p>	<p>Presentations from students on the theme “Information, Communication and Digital Technologies for a brighter future of Mauritius”.</p> <p>Target audience: 25 teams and 50 participants 200 students of grade 12 and 13</p>
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**Saturday 11 May 2019:
Science Shows for the Public**

<p>Science Shows</p>	<p>1. Liquid Nitrogen show (Mr S. Rungoo, RGSC) 2. Chemistry in Action (Mrs B. Kamudu Applasawmy, RGSC)</p> <p>Audience: 400 family participants</p>
<p>Magic Show</p>	<p>Audience: 200 family participants</p>

**Wednesday 07 to Friday 10 May 2019:
Talks by stakeholders for visitors**

Mr Nada Padayatchy	Operations and Sustainability Manager Bioculture (Mauritius) Ltd
Research Students	Centre for Biomedical and Biomaterials Research
Dr Dayawatee Goburdhun	Associate Professor (Food Science and Technology), University of Mauritius
Ms Laetitia Tang Sip Shiong	Sales Coordinator, QuantiLAB
Captain Richard Twomey	Founder of AeSM, Aeronautical Society of Mauritius
Mr Ragoonaden	President Association pour le Developpement Durable
Mr Krisna Bucha	Senior Meteorologist, Mauritius Meteorological Services
Mr Cartic Patrice	Career Counsellor, Career Guidance Services
Mrs Dipshi Aubeeluck	First Aider, Fellowship First Aiders

National Science Week 2018 in Rodrigues

RGSC organised a National Science Week in Rodrigues from 18 to 21 July 2018. The theme chosen was "Creative Science". The objectives were to empower educators of Rodrigues to teach science creatively, and encourage creativity using a scientific approach among students and educators and to promote astronomy in Rodrigues. Table 10 details the activities in Rodrigues

Table 10: Activities during National Science Week in Rodrigues

Date	Activity	Summary	Target Audience	Number of people reached
18 July 2018	Dessine moi la science- an on-the-spot drawing contest	Students draw and paint on the spot on scientific themes	Secondary schools	80
	Science Shows	RGSC Staffs perform and demonstrate science concepts in a fun and interesting manner using cheap and everyday life items	Primary and Secondary schools	80
19 July 2018	Science Slam Contest	Students deliver a slam on a scientific topic Themes: - "Couma la technoloji et lespace concerne mwa?" - La science du son	Primary and Secondary schools	40
19 July 2018	Exhibition on Astronomy: A glimpse of our universe	A Panel-based Astronomy Exhibition	Public	400
19 July 2018	Sky Observation Programme	The public was invited to observe the moon and other sky objects through the telescopes of RGSC. This was accompanied by presentations on astronomy	Public	400
20 July 2018	Workshop for Pre-primary and Primary educators	Scientists from RGSC conducted a one-day workshop to empower teachers to teach science at early years	Pre-Primary and lower Primary teachers	60
21 July 2018	Prize Giving Ceremony	To reward outstanding participants of the drawing and slam contest	Primary and Secondary schools , Public	150

National Science Week in Rodrigues

Theme: Creative Science



7.1 PILLAR 3: SUPPLEMENTING THE EDUCATION SYSTEM

As per its objectives, RGSC plays a crucial role in supplementing the school education system by offering a range of programmes to the school population. This pillar forms part of the core business of RGSC and during the period 2018/2019, a series of activities/events, such as project-based competitions, workshops and lectures, have been offered to students and educators to enhance the teaching and learning of science in schools. RGSC has also reinvented its activities to contribute actively in the Nine-Year Continuous Education Continuous Basic Education project of the Government. Activities and programmes under this pillar are run at RGSC, Bell Village or in schools and other venues.

7.1.1 Ignite the scientific Temper among the student population

Science Quest 2019

Science Quest is a project-based science competitions targeted at secondary school students. The aim of the competition, organised for the 6th consecutive year, is to raise awareness among students and encourage them to apply Science and Technology to make our life better. This year also, the Mauritius Commercial Bank reiterated its sponsorship for the Prizes and the prize giving ceremony.

Objectives of the Science Quest:

- Encourage students to use Science and Technology and the scientific methods in a constructive and innovative manner.
- Enable students to devise strategies to deal with a specific problem while working in a team.
- Give students an opportunity to develop their research, communication and problem-solving skills.
- Develop creativity and innovation among young people

The process

About 500 students from 61 secondary schools around the island submitted their project proposals. The students could form teams of 4 students and register into 3 categories namely **Category 1 (Grade 7, 8 and 9)**, **Category 2 (Grade 10 and 11)** and **Category 3 (Grade 12 and 13)**. Following a selection process, a total of 84 teams from 54 schools were selected for the finals.

Finalists displayed and defended their projects/prototypes to the jury and other invited schools. They were evaluated based on a project report which documents how they developed their science projects, their project display and an oral interview during the exhibition.

The exhibition was held at Octave Wiehe Auditorium, Reduit from 29 to 31 May 2019 and about 1500 visitors mainly of secondary school students were received. The process of the organisation of Science Quest 2019 is in figure 2. List of winning teams is presented in table 11.

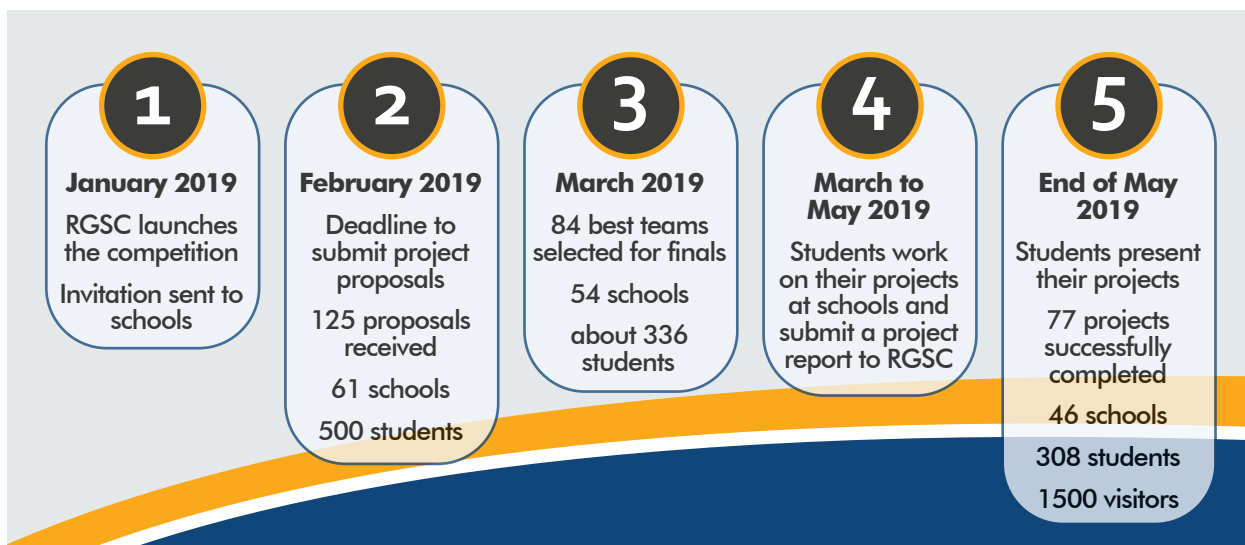


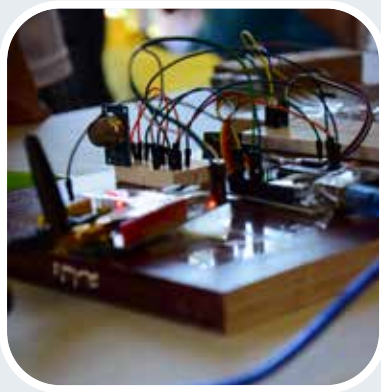
Figure 2: Process of organisation of Science Quest 2019

Table 11: Winning Teams of Science Quest 2019

Winning Teams of Science Quest 2019			
	Category 1: Grade 7, 8 and 9	Category 2: Grade 10 and 11	Category 3: Grade 12 and 13
Gold Prize Students: Cash Prize of Rs 20000 + shield Supervising Teacher: Cash Prize of Rs 4000	Loreto College Bambous Virieux Project Title: Monitoring Water-Level Using Mobile Phones	Royal College Curepipe Project Title: Piezo Stair: A Power Harvesting Staircase	Lycée des Mascareignes Project Title: Les Automates Cellulaires
Silver Prize Students: Cash Prize of Rs 15 000 + shield Supervising Teacher: Cash Prize of Rs 3000	Imperial College Project Title: Home Biogas-Turning Food Waste To Renewable Energy	Forest-Side SSS (Girls) Project Title : Soaking Road- The Ultimate Solution To Flooding Road In Mauritius	Droopnath Ramphul State College Project Title: Hydro-Dynamo
Bronze Prize Students: Cash Prize of Rs 10 000 + shield Supervising Teacher: Cash Prize of Rs 2000	Collège Pierre Poivre Project Title: Juice Out Your Batteries	Modern College Project Title: A Smart Parking System For An Optimum Use Of Space And Save Time	Loreto College Curepipe Project Title: Solar-Powered Irrigation
Merit Prize Students: Cash Prize of Rs 4000 Supervising Teacher: Rs 1000	Renascence College Project Title : Growing Leafy Greens Using The Floating Raft Deep Water Culture	Labourdonnais College Project Title : Multi-Purposes Of Moringa Leaves And Its Benefits (The Magical Tree)	John Kennedy College Project Title: Rechargeable Composter
Merit Prize Students: Cash Prize of Rs 4000 Supervising Teacher: Rs 1000	Doha Secondary School Project Title: The Solar Fan Cap	Loreto College Bambous Virieux Project Title: A Smart Kitchen Using the Arduino Circuit	B. Ramlallah SSS Project Title: An Innovative Water Purification System

Science Quest 2019

The Science Quest is a project-based science competition that requires students to use Science and Technology in a systematic and innovative manner to address a problem that they face at school, at home or in the community.



Model Glider Competition 2019

The Model Glider Competition 2019 is another project-based competition where participants have to use science process skills to explore ideas, design concepts and techniques in aviation. Students, in teams of four, have to construct a model aeroplane which they fly using hand-launch. The competition has been organized for the third consecutive year with the collaboration of the Aeronautical Society of Mauritius (AeSM).

Objectives:

1. Enable students to develop, construct and fly their own model gliders.
2. Encourage students to explore ideas and come up with solutions by working in teams.
3. Develop creativity and innovation among young people.
4. Give students the opportunity to participate in fun activities related to Science and Technology.

The process

Following the launching of the competition in January 2019, more than 600 students from 51 secondary schools participated in the competition. All participating students and their supervising teachers were invited for a workshop during which they were introduced to some concepts on aeronautics and given tips on the design and construction of model aeroplanes. The workshop was led by Captain Richard Twomey and Mr. Cyril Belcourt, from the AeSM.

Teams were then invited to construct their aeroplane models which were evaluated during the preliminaries held at RGSC. A total of 40 teams made it to the finals which was held at Maryse Justin Stadium, Reduit on 10 June 2019. The process of the organisation of The Model Glider Contest 2019 is in Figure 3. List of winning teams is presented in table 12.

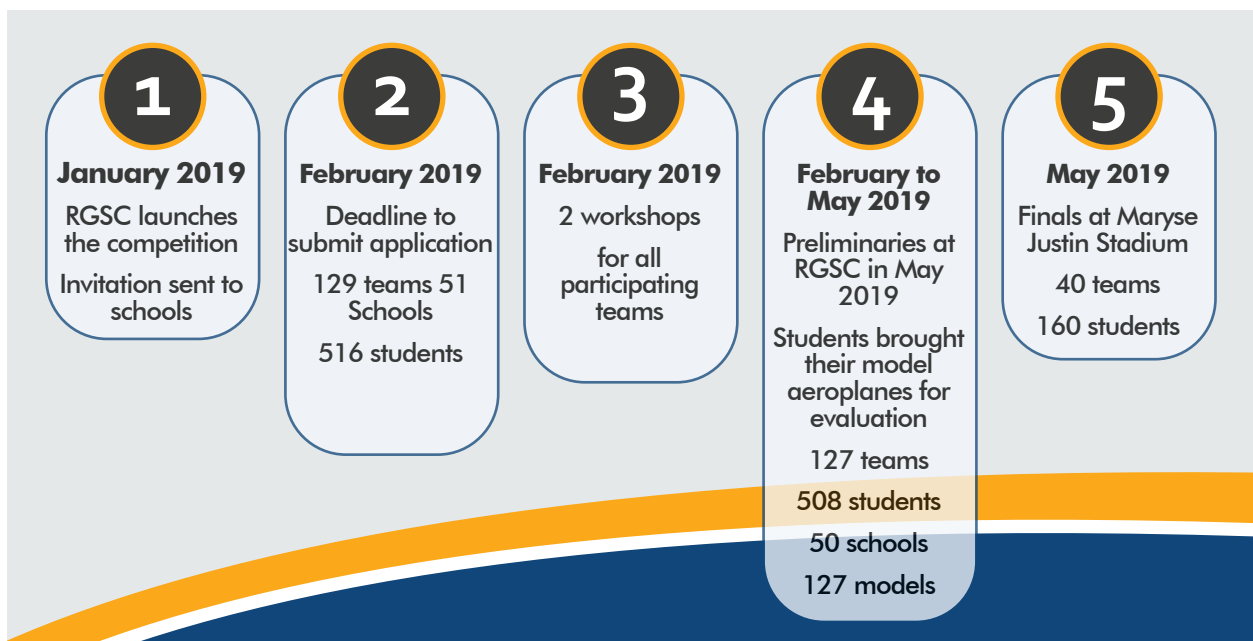


Figure 3: Process of organisation of Model Glider Contest



Model Glider Competition

Building and flying gliders helped the participant learn and understand the importance of weight and balance in aeroplanes



Table 12: Winning teams of Model Glider Contest

All prizes were sponsored by University of Southampton	Category 1	Category 2
	Grade 10	Grade 12
First Prize Rs 8000 + Shield	Sookdeo Bissoondoyal State College	Sookdeo Bissoondoyal State College
Second Prize Rs 8000 + Shield	Phoenix SSS	Sookdeo Bissoondoyal State College

National Youth Conference on Science, Technology and Innovation (NYCSTI) 2019

A first of its kind in Mauritius, the NYCSTI aims at bringing together students to raise awareness on how science, technology and innovation (STI) can play a strategic role in addressing issues of national importance and finding sustainable solutions to problems for a brighter future of our nation. After a resounding success of its first edition in May 2018, the RGSC reiterated its effort in regrouping our young minds to discuss on the theme “**Information, Communication and Digital Technologies for a brighter future of Mauritius**”. Students discussed on the importance, applications and implications of state-of-the-art ICT and digital technologies like Robotics, Internet of Things, Artificial Intelligence, Virtual and Augmented Reality, Blockchain, etc, to our Mauritian society.

After the conference, the participants developed their ideas into an essay/article of 1500 words. Like NYCSTI 2018, the essays submitted were compiled in a publication that was distributed to all secondary schools in Mauritius, acknowledging the students and supervising teachers contribution to the publication. All participants, including supervising teachers, received a certificate of participation. 25 teams (around 50 students and 20 supervising teachers) from various secondary schools benefitted in this endeavour.

NYCTI 2019



Winners of NYCSTI 2018

Table 13: Winners of NYCSTI 2018 - Award for presentation skills

Award	Title	Participants	Supervising Teacher	School
Winner	An Efficient Method of Mariculture of Corals to Restore the Mauritian Coral Reefs.	Kami Sadien	Ms. G. Bojnauth	Le Bocage Int. School
1st Runner-Up	Mauritius Vision 2068.	Lee You Voon Alison Jessica	Ms. V. Dabydoyal	Loreto College Quatre Bornes
2nd Runner-Up	Science, Technology and Innovation for the Next 50 Years of Mauritius	Shakun Asil and Lee Slew Pascal Kim Lioung	Ms. A Jaunbocus-Nunkoo	Royal College Port Louis

Table 14: Winners of NYCSTI 2018 - Awards for essay writing

Award	Title	Participants	Supervising Teacher	School
Winner	An Efficient Method of Mariculture of Corals to Restore the Mauritian Coral Reefs.	Kami Sadien	Ms. Gayethree Bojnauth	Le Bocage Int. School
1st Runner-Up	Production of Biodiesel from Readily Available Microalgae in the Lagoon Of Mauritius.	Peerbakus Tanweer, Soyfoo M. Wasseem	Mr. Punjoo Nooruddeen	Doha College Souillac
2nd Runner-Up	How Porous Concrete Can Mitigate Flooding and Resolve Other Issues in Mauritius.	Beeharry B. Oonayzah Ah Poa Fee-Kim	Dr Anand Pultoo	F. Boyer D. L. Giroday S. S. S.

Young Mauritians' Plans for the Planet - National Conference YMPP

After the launching of the Young Mauritians' Plan for the Planet (YMPP) in February 2018, the project reached completion in **August 2018**, culminating in the Youth Conference on Sustainable Development. 10 secondary schools with 113 students proposed action plans on how to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals in Mauritius using strategic planning principles. Inspired and guided from the Young Persons' Plan for the Planet Project from the Australian National University and Questacon, Australia, YMPP received considerable attention and collaboration. Throughout the project, students received

training and participated in workshops held at RGSC. Students benefited from mentoring from professionals from RGSC, University of Technology, Curtin Mauritius, SMEDA and National Productivity and Competitiveness Council.

The National Youth Conference on Sustainable Development, during which participants presented their action plans, was sponsored by the Mauritius Commercial Bank. Students also followed workshops led by Mr Ian Chambers from Australia National University and staff of RGSC during the conference.

Publication

MCB also sponsored the publication of 700 copies of the students' work into a book detailing action plans for the SDGs in Mauritius. These copies were distributed to all participants, supervising teachers, mentors and secondary schools in Mauritius. The publication was also handed over to the President of the Republic of Mauritius as the vision of the youth for a sustainable Mauritius.

The ten participating schools were: Dr James Burty David SSS, College du Saint Esprit, Swami Sivananda SSS, Simadree Virahsawmy SSS, Phoenix SSS, Sir Leckraz Teelock SSS, Royal College Curepipe, Hamilton College and Soondur Munrakhun College.



**Presentation of Young Mauritians' Plan for the Planet book to
H.E. Mr Paramasivum Pillay Vyapoory, G.O.S.K
Acting President Republic of Mauritius at the State House**

Young Mauritians' Plan for the Planet 2018



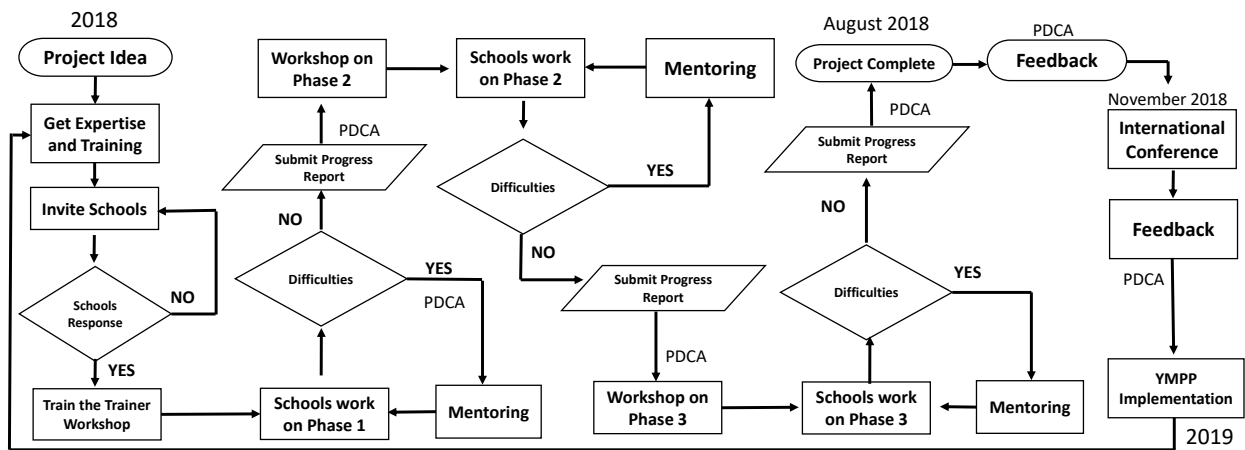


Figure 4: Implementation process for YMPP

Its our Future Earth 2.0 International Youth Conference

Following the success of the YMPP, RGSC was approached by Australian partners to host the International Youth Conference entitled ‘Its our Future Earth 2.0 Conference, as part of the Young Persons’ Plan for the Planet project. The 3-Day conference held in December 2018, was jointly organised by the RGSC, Curtin Mauritius, Australian High Commission and Mauritius Commercial Bank. A delegation of 56 Australian delegates comprising of Australian students from eight secondary schools, teachers, keynote speakers and 2 staff from Singapore Science Centre were present for the conference. They worked with 60 Mauritian participants of YMPP on the sustainable development goals. As part of the conference, students visited Ile Aux Aigrettes Nature Reserve, Reef Conservation Mauritius and the MCB Building at Ebene which exemplify sustainable development practices. Her Excellency, Ms Jenny Dee, High Commissioner of Australia, also hosted the delegates for an event where they interacted with local scientists engaged in SDG work. The Acting President of the Republic, His Excellency Mr. Paramasivum Pillay Vyapoory was the chief guest for the event.



Participants of the 3 - Day Conference with Acting President of the Republic, H.E. Mr. Paramasivum Pillay Vyapoory, G.O.S.K and H. E. Ms Jenny Dee, High Commissioner of Australia

Its our Future Earth 2.0 International Youth Conference



Young Mauritians' Plan for the Planet 2019

During 2019, 28 teams from 26 secondary schools have registered for the Young Mauritians' Plan for the Planet 2019 programme reaching out to 112 students and 56 educators. YMPP is fully supported by the Ministry of Education and Human Resources, Tertiary Education and Scientific Research and the Australian High Commission in Mauritius.

As from 2019 onwards, participants built on the work initiated by the 2018 participants, using the publication as guidelines and reference. They needed to implement concrete real life projects of social, economic and environmental importance, in their schools/locality. RGSC adapted Curtin University's Balance for the Planet toolkit on how to develop ideas into projects for training students. Participating schools then **entered a competition to implement projects related to the SDGs and made a video on how they mounted the project.**

Furthermore, each team benefitted from the guidance of mentors to help them throughout the project. Mentors were experts in the field of management and science from the University of Mauritius, University of Technology, Université des Mascareignes, Mauritius Institute of Education, Curtin Mauritius and Rajiv Gandhi Science Centre.

All participants and supervising teachers have benefitted from four training sessions to guide them as they progressed in the project as follows:

- February 2019** – Training by RGSC – Kick starting YMPP – How to use Management tools to address the SDGs and introduction to Video Making
- April 2019** – Training by Curtin Mauritius – Project Management and Video Production
- May 2019** – Workshop at RGSC during the National Science Week - Progress Reports, Troubleshooting problems and addressing challenges
- April to July 2019** – Mentoring, Progress Monitoring, Project Implementation, Video Making
- July 2019** – Teams presented their projects in the form of videos to the Jury Panel

Young Mauritians' Plans for the Planet 2019



Winning Teams of Young Mauritians' Plan for the Planet 2019:

Table 15: Winning Teams of YMPP 2019

All prizes were sponsored by MCB	School	Project Title
Gold Award: Rs 20,000	Sookdeo Bissoondoyal State College	<p>Mauritius, a hub for good living and not drugs</p> <p>Students from this school conducted massive sensitization campaign against drug abuse addressing SDG 3: Good health and well being. They delivered presentations in secondary and primary schools, in shopping malls and on TV. They also involved the community by organizing a sensitization march in the village of Rose-Bell</p>
Silver Prize: Rs 15,000	Dunputh Lallah SSS	<p>Colouring students' life</p> <p>Students collaborated with a neighbouring Special Education Needs School addressing SDG 10: Reduced inequalities. Students of Dunputh Lallah SSS and those of the SEN school celebrated Music Days and Sports Days together, promoting exchanges and partnerships. The secondary school is supporting the SEN school in setting up science corners in their schools.</p>

WIOMSA ART Competition

In the context of the 11th Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association Scientific Symposium (the largest open scientific conference in the region on marine and coastal issues) held from Monday 1st to Saturday 6th of July 2019 at the University of Mauritius, the Local Organising Committee reached out to the RGSC to co-organise an Art Competition with the following theme: **"People, Coasts and Oceans: Opportunities for a Changing future"**. This competition targets the students of Primary and Secondary Schools classified in 3 categories: Grade 4 to 6, Grade 7 to 9 and Grade 10 to 13. A total of 1200 students submitted paintings that were judged by a panel of artists and scientists, not only on their aesthetics but also on their ability to portray the scientific theme accurately.

The timeline is as follows:

- 15 March 2019 – Launching of the Art Competition
- 31 May 2019 – Submission of Paintings
- 13 June 2019 – Prize giving ceremony hosted by the RGSC
- 10 June to 06 July 2019 – Exhibition of the artworks at the RGSC

IYPT Exhibition in schools

The exhibition 'The Periodic Table of Chemical Elements Unveiled' travelled to Hindu Girls' College and Droopnath Ramphul State Secondary School reaching out to 1800 students from March to June 2019. A number of venues have been identified for 2019 and 2020.



Student visitors interacting with exhibits

Junior Mobile Science

In line with its mission to supplement science education among the students, the RGSC conducts "Junior Mobile Science" in primary schools. Junior Mobile Science is a series of activities during which our staff discuss about science with the pupils and at the same time, **perform simple science demonstrations** using easily available materials. A set of mobile interactive exhibits, from RGSC, were also set up in the classrooms. The programme targets mainly pupils of **Grades 4, 5 and/or 6**.



Science show at Ramnarain Roy Government School

RGSC conducted a Junior Mobile Science event at Ramnarain Roy Government School on 14 June 2019. A series of science shows were carried out at the school reaching about 400 students and teachers.

7.1.2 Facilitate the teaching and learning of science in Schools

In line with the nine-year schooling project of the Ministry of Education and Human Resources, Tertiary Education and Scientific Research, the RGSC is called to play a more important role than ever before, in supplementing the school curricula and making science attractive to everyone. As part of its activities, RGSC conducts activities for schools in the form of outreach events in schools and Continuous Professional Development of Educators.

Educators' Workshop by Dr Sue Dale Tunncliffe
(13-17 May 2019)

The RGSC has invited Lady (Dr) Sue Dale Tunncliffe, from University College London, UK from 13-17 May 2019 to conduct a series of workshops to empower pre-primary and lower primary school teachers. The aim of the workshops is to provide a hands-on and inquiry-based approach to the teaching of science to the lower primary levels so as to empower the teachers to teach science with more confidence.

Lady (Dr) Sue Dale Tunnicliffe,
from University College London, UK



Programme

The programme of activities was launched by His Excellency Mr. Paramasivum Pillay Vyapoor, G.O.S.K, Acting President of the Republic of Mauritius. The activities conducted during the visit of Lady Tunnicliffe were as follows:

Table 16: Continuous Professional Development activities led by Dr Sue Dale Tunnicliffe

Date	Activity	Number of people reached
13 May 19	Official launching of activities, and keynote lecture by Lady Tunnicliffe targeting pre-primary and primary educators and school inspectors	175
13 May 19	Workshop for lower primary teachers (Zone 1 and 2)	55
14 May 19	One-day workshop for lower primary teachers (Zone3 and 4)	35
15 May 19	One-day workshop for pre-primary school teachers (Zone1)	50
16 May 19	One-day workshop for pre-primary school teachers (Zone2)	30
17 May 19	Visit to Cottage Government School (Pre-primary and lower Primary) Visit to Le Nid Pre-primary and Primary School	200 students

Inspiring Scientists

The RGSC supported by the US Embassy and the Organisation for Women in Science in the Developing World (OWSD) launched a new programme 'Inspiring Scientists'. Research in Mauritius and in other countries has showed that girls demonstrate a low self-esteem and self-confidence to take up science subjects and ultimately science careers. Furthermore, many women fail to remain in STEM (Science, Technology Engineering and Mathematics) related jobs as they progress in their careers. 'Inspiring Scientists' aims at portraying the work of scientists and promoting them as role models especially for young girls. This may ultimately inspire them to develop an interest for science and build confidence to embrace STEM careers.

Programme Implementation

The programme comprises of a film screening in collaboration with the US Embassy followed by interaction and discussion with a panel of scientists.

The first edition reached about 100 students at Queen Elizabeth College and the second edition reached about 180 students who attended the programme at RGSC during the National Science Week.

Inspiring Scientists

The Rajiv Gandhi Science Centre supported by the US Embassy and the Organisation for Women in Science in the Developing World (OWSD) launched a new programme 'Inspiring Scientists'.



8.1 PILLAR 4: OUTREACH

8.1.1 Bringing Science to the doorsteps of the population – Sky Observation

The Sky Observation Programme is a regular feature of RGSC as an Astronomy promotion activity. Sky Observation programmes are held at RGSC or in public venues to reach out to a diverse audience of families and community organisations. During sky observations, staff of RGSC deliver presentations and explain about sky objects. The public is also invited to view sky objects through telescopes.

Sky Observations during the financial year		
Date	Venue	Number of visitors
24-Aug-18	Mare la Chaux SWC	300
22-Oct-18	Gris Gris SWC	350
15-Feb-19	Rivière du Poste SWC	300
17-May-19	Pamplemousses SWC	400

World Water Day

In the context of World Water Day 2019, the RGSC collaborated with Central Water Authority to set its exhibition on water on 19 March 2019 at Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee Tower, Ebene. The objective of the World Water Day is to focus attention on the importance of fresh water and advocating for the sustainable management of freshwater resources. The theme for the year 2019 was “Leaving No One Behind”. RGSC displayed 6 panels and 4 tabletop exhibits during the exhibition. Around 300 visitors visited the exhibition.

Infotech 2018 (30 Aug-02 Sep)

The RGSC participated in the Infotech 2018 held at Swami Vivekananda International Convention Centre during the period of 30 August 2018 to 02 September 2018. A team of RGSC officers were present to promote and popularize coding amidst the general public as part of the Africa Code Week 2018 Initiative. Visitors of our stand were initiated at coding. Around 500 visitors, particularly students and youngsters, were interested and benefitted from our quick coding training.

8.1.2 Increased Networking with Stakeholders and Social Partners

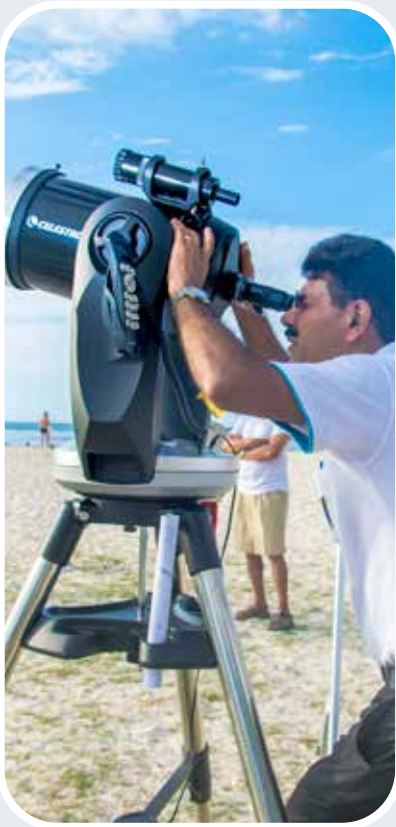
Africa Code Week (21-31 August 2018)

The Africa Code Week Mauritius is driven by the RGSC, with the support of the Ministry of Education & Human Resources, Tertiary Education & Scientific Research, Ceridian Mauritius Ltd, the Mauritius Institute of Education (MIE) and the National Computer Board (NCB). Mr. Arthur Carindal (Head of Member Services, AFRINIC) and Hemraj Ramsurrun (Manager/Curator, RGSC), the two Ambassadors in Mauritius, have been coordinating and managing the activities of the organizing committee and have ensured the smooth running of the Africa Code Week Mauritius 2018 event in general.



Sky Observation

The visitors are shown the various constellations and are also given the opportunity to view the moon and planets visible at the moment.



Master Trainers' Workshop & "Train the Trainer" Programme for Educators

A Master Trainers' Workshop was conducted at the Mauritius Institute of Education on 18 July 2018. 49 participants from all the four partners of ACW Mauritius attended this workshop so as to ultimately develop a pool of Master Trainers for Mauritius. These Master Trainers were then nominated to conduct the scheduled "Train the Trainer" (TTT) Programme. The workshop was devised and conducted by Mr. K. Goodoory of the MIE, Mr. A. Toolseea of the NCB and Ms. A. Thielamay of Ceridian Ltd.

The TTT Programme was organized to empower our local trainers with the necessary skills, tools and materials they need for them to teach coding to students, colleagues, private sector volunteers, government officers, civil servants, members of civic groups, sports club and the general public, friends and relatives in communities. Details of the TTT sessions are in table 17 below:

Table 17: Details of the "Train the Trainer" sessions during Africa Code Week

Date	Venue	Number of Participants	Remarks
23-27 July 18	S. Bissoondoyal State Secondary School	158	Secondary Educators
	G.M.D. Atchia State College		
	Ceridian Learning Centre		
08-09 August 18	Mauritius Institute of Education	358	Primary Educators
20-21 September 18			
28 September 18	ICT Centre of Excellence, Rodrigues	35	Primary and Secondary Educators

Total Count for TTT Programmes, including Master Trainer's Workshop: 600

Live Event

The Live Event for Africa Code Week Mauritius 2018 was scheduled for 27 August – 02 September 2018. All primary and secondary educators attending the TTT sessions conducted their coding classes at their respective schools during this period. For the general public, coding classes were organized and conducted by a team of the RGSC and the NCB at the Infotech 2018 event. Moreover, coding classes for the general public were also conducted at Ceridian Learning Centre. As regards to Rodrigues, coding classes were conducted at 4 primary schools during the period of 25-28 September 2018. The Cyber Caravan of the NCB conducted several training sessions for the general public in various villages of the Island. As a percentage of our population, we have targeted 1.15%. On average, one trainer has targeted 24 trainees.

Africa Code Week Mauritius 2018



Table 18: Results of ACW Mauritius 2018

	Male	Female	Total
Count for 50 Primary Schools (Mauritius)	2338	2439	4807
Count for 4 Primary Schools (Rodrigues)	401	369	770
Count for 49 Secondary Schools	3387	3370	6757
Count for General Public (tertiary level students, women associations, civic groups, etc)	1037	1023	2060
Total Count	7163	7201	14394

Let's talk about Women in STEM at US embassy

Mrs. Bhamini Kamudu Appalsawmy, Resource Officer/Senior Resource Officer, RGSC delivered a public talk '**Let's talk about Women in STEM**' upon invitation from the US Embassy in their Let's Talk Event. Mrs. Kamudu followed a course on '**Women in leadership**' in the USA following her invitation and nomination by the US Embassy to participate in the International Visitor Leadership Programme.

9.1 PILLAR 5: E-PROMOTION OF SCIENCE

Proposal for New RGSC Website

A team comprising officers from Electronic/Electrical/IT, Graphics/Exhibition and Education departments has been constituted to work on this project. The support of the Government Online Centre has been sought in this project.

10.1 PILLAR 6: RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

The seeds for the Research and Development component of RGSC's strategic plan have been sowed. Staff have been presenting research work in local and international conferences, thereby portraying RGSC as an institution of reference in research in science communication in Mauritius.

10.1.1 Scientific Papers produced by staff:

1. **Paper Title:** "Rajiv Gandhi Science Centre - Building a Scientific Temper in Mauritius"

Author: D. Balgobin (Manager/Curator Mechanical Department, RGSC)

Paper presented at: International Workshop on Policy Making in Popularisation of Science Technology and Innovation (STI) 2019 organised by National Research Institute for Science Policy (NRISP), Iran and Centre for Science and Technology of the Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries (NAM S&T)

Abstract:

This paper will firstly provide an overview of the role of the Rajiv Gandhi Science Centre (RGSC) along with its achievements since its opening in 2004. An outline of the various flagship activities and programmes that have gained immense popularity among school students will be made. After 14 years of successful operation, the centre is currently expanding its horizons by implementing another unit (Satellite Centre) with updated infrastructure comprising a Planetarium and modern exhibition galleries. The new satellite centre will have a state-of-the-art facility – a 125-seater Planetarium for the first time in Mauritius. Along with the new satellite Centre, the Rajiv Gandhi Science Centre is also presently working on revamping most of its permanent galleries of the existing building.

The Rajiv Gandhi Science Centre (RGSC) being the only institution in Mauritius set up with the collaboration of the National Council of Science Museums (NCSM), India for the popularization of science among school students and public in general is now definitely the hub of Science and Technology promotion in Mauritius. The second part of the paper will provide an overview of the new strategic plan recently formulated with a view to drastically review the Centre's organizational structure and major key performance indicators in the next 10 years. With the six major areas explored in the strategic plan, the Centre is moving towards a dynamic role by focusing on Research and E-promotion of Science.



6

STATISTICAL REVIEW

11 STATISTICS

The chart (Figure 5) shows the audience reached through each pillar amounting to a total of 39 172 people, including the paid visits to our galleries. Each pillar has its own special programmes such as National Science Week (Pillar 2), Science Quest (Pillar 3) and Sky Observation Programme (Pillar 3).

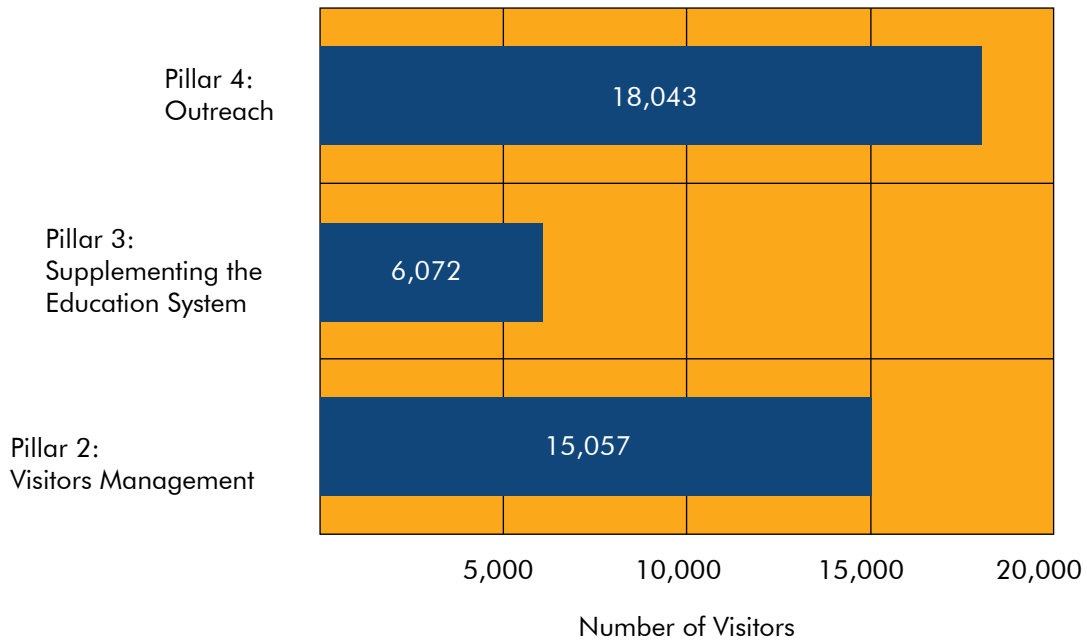


Figure 5: Audience reached through each pillar

All the activities of RGSC target specific groups such as primary students, teachers and public, etc. An analysis of the audience reached through each category is shown in the Pie Chart (Figure 6). It can be seen that the public and secondary students represent the majority with 38% and 30%, respectively.

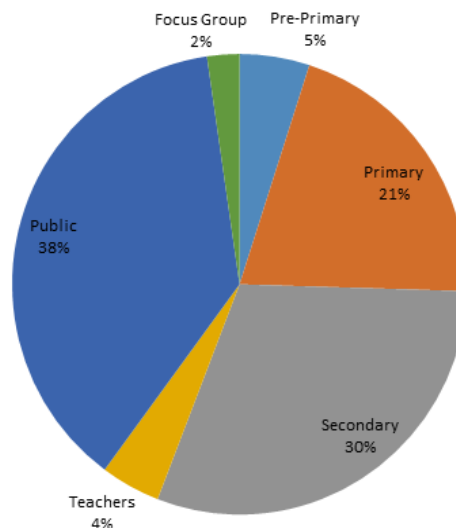


Figure 6: Audience reached per category of visitors

A further analysis of the pillars is provided below (Figure 7). With Pillar 2 focusing on the activities at the Centre, the National Science Week has touched the largest number of public. While Pillar 3 targets exclusively the students, the majority touched are secondary students. RGSC conducts many outreach activities reaching a diverse audience (Pillar 4), with the Africa Code Week, an outreach event, touching the largest audience.

Categories of participants reached through activities falling under each pillar of the strategic plan

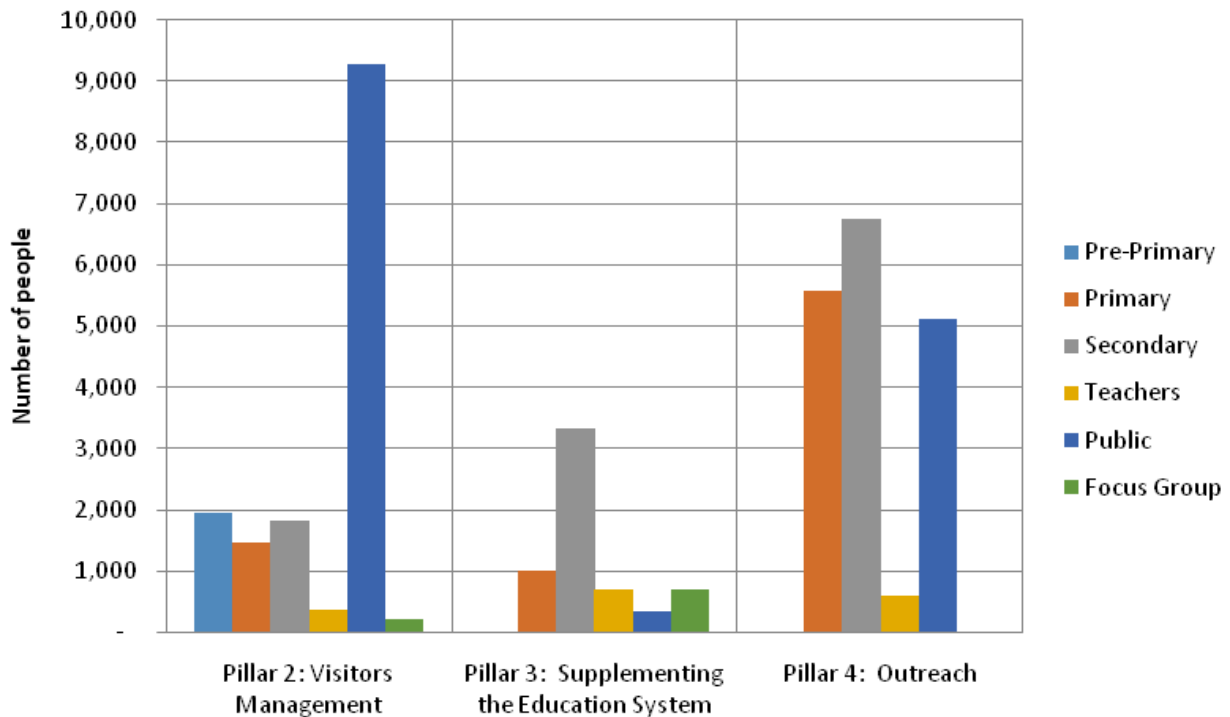


Figure 7: Categories of participants reached through activities falling under each pillar of the strategic plan



7

FINANCE SECTION

**RAJIV GANDHI SCIENCE CENTRE TRUST FUND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
30 JUNE 2019**

RAJIV GANDHI SCIENCE CENTRE TRUST FUND

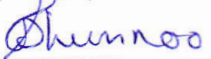
Contents	Page
Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2019	83
Statement of Financial Performance for the year ended 30 June 2019	84
Statement of Changes in Net Assets/Equity for the year ended 30 June 2019	85
Cash Flow Statement for the year ended 30 June 2019	86
Statement showing reasons for variances between Original and Revised Budget and comparison of Budget and Actual Amounts for the year ended 30 June 2019	87
Notes to the Financial Statements	88-102

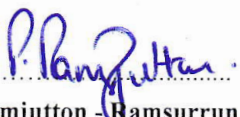
RAJIV GANDHI SCIENCE CENTRE TRUST FUND
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT 30 JUNE 2019

		30-Jun 2019 <u>Amended</u> Rs	30-Jun 2018 <u>Restated</u> Rs
<u>Note</u>			
ASSETS			
<i>CURRENT ASSETS</i>			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	5	9,594,936	10,174,006
Receivables and Prepayments	6	103,553	49,859
Car Loan - Short Term	7	320,544	320,544
Inventories	8	670,263	872,490
		10,689,296	11,416,899
<i>NON CURRENT ASSETS</i>			
Car Loan - Long Term	7	819,648	607,752
Property, Plant & Equipment	9	107,305,444	109,506,806
Intangible Assets	10	63,480	64,745
Pension Asset	11	1,996,371	3,645,501
		110,184,943	113,824,804
TOTAL ASSETS		120,874,239	125,241,703
LIABILITIES			
<i>CURRENT LIABILITIES</i>			
Payables	12	423,493	17,859
Car Loan- Short Term	13	320,544	320,544
Employee Benefits - Short Term	14	197,130	183,824
		941,167	522,227
<i>NON CURRENT LIABILITIES</i>			
Car Loan- Long Term	13	837,500	625,604
Employee Benefits - Long Term	14	8,453,553	7,006,223
		9,291,053	7,631,827
TOTAL LIABILITIES		10,232,220	8,154,054
NET ASSETS		110,642,019	117,087,649
EQUITY			
General Fund		110,642,019	117,087,649
TOTAL EQUITY		110,642,019	117,087,649

The notes on pages 88 to 102 form an integral part of these Financial Statements.

Approved by the Board of The Rajiv Gandhi Science Centre Trust Fund Board on 21 June 2023


 Mrs Ellora Dhunoo
 CHAIRPERSON


 Mrs Pooja Ramjutton - Ramsurrun
 Board Member



RAJIV GANDHI SCIENCE CENTRE TRUST
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

	<u>Note</u>	30-Jun 2019	30-Jun 2018
		Amended Rs	Restated Rs
REVENUE			
Revenue from Exchange Transactions	15.1	833,692	819,966
Revenue from Non Exchange Transactions	15.2	25,480,364	25,511,808
TOTAL REVENUE		26,314,056	26,331,774
EXPENSES			
Staff Costs	16	17,491,576	13,192,654
Supplies and Consumables	17	4,947,192	4,394,041
Other Operating Expense	18	3,135,250	3,291,719
Depreciation and amortisation expense	19	4,957,597	5,013,765
TOTAL EXPENSES		30,531,615	25,892,179
(DEFICIT)/SURPLUS		(4,217,559)	439,595

The notes on pages 88 to 102 form an integral part of these Financial Statements.

RAJIV GANDHI SCIENCE CENTRE TRUST FUND
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS/EQUITY
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

	General Fund
	<u>Rs</u>
Opening Balance as 1 July 2017	119,511,071
Changes in Accounting Policy:	
IPSAS 39 Implementation	<u>(3,533,517)</u>
Adjusted Opening Balance as at 1 July 2017	115,977,554
Surplus for the year	439,595
Prior Year Adjustments	101,882
Remeasurement Gain	<u>568,678</u>
Closing Balance as at 30 June 2018	<u><u>117,087,649</u></u>
Balance as at 1 July 2018	117,087,649
Loss for the year	(4,217,559)
Remeasurement Loss	(2,228,059)
Prior Year Adjustments	<u>(12)</u>
Balance as at 30 June 2019	<u><u>110,642,019</u></u>

The notes on pages 88 to 102 form an integral part of these Financial Statements.

RAJIV GANDHI SCIENCE CENTRE TRUST FUND
CASH FLOW STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

	<u>30-Jun</u> <u>2019</u> <u>Amended</u> Rs	<u>30-Jun</u> <u>2018</u> <u>Restated</u> Rs
CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
(Deficit)/Surplus for the year	(4,217,559)	1,009,574
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation and amortisation expense	4,957,597	5,043,334
Increase/(Decrease) in provision for Employee Benefits	1,649,130	(1,671,260)
Remeasurement of Actuarial (Loss) / Gain	(2,228,059)	568,678
Prior Year Adjustments	(12)	21,862
Operating Profit before working capital changes	161,097	4,972,188
Changes in Working Capital:		
(Increase)/Decrease in Receivables	(265,590)	394,994
Decrease/(Increase) in Inventories	202,227	(422,291)
Increase/ (Decrease) in Payables	2,078,167	(281,117)
NET CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	<u>2,175,901</u>	<u>4,663,774</u>
CASH FLOW FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Purchase of Non Current Assets	(2,754,971)	(6,355,205)
NET CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES	<u>(2,754,971)</u>	<u>(6,355,205)</u>
CASH FLOW FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Proceeds from Car loan	338,924	320,544
Repayment of car loan	(338,924)	(320,544)
NET CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
NET DECREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENT	(579,070)	(1,691,431)
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT BEGINNING OF PERIOD	10,174,006	11,865,437
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT END OF PERIOD	<u><u>9,594,936</u></u>	<u><u>10,174,006</u></u>

Notes to the Cash Flow Statement

1. Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and Cash equivalents consist of cash on hand, balances with banks, investments in money market instruments. Cash and cash equivalents included in the Cash Flow Statement comprising the following statement of Financial Position amounts.

	Rs	Rs
Cash and cash equivalents are made up of:		
Cash at Bank	9,583,181	10,173,330
Cash in hand	11,755	676
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	<u><u>9,594,936</u></u>	<u><u>10,174,006</u></u>

2. Non- Current Assets

Non-current assets were acquired at an aggregate cost of Rs 2,890,172. The capital expenditures were fully financed by means of capital grant from the Government.

The notes on pages 88 to 102 form an integral part of these Financial Statements.

RAJIV GANDHI SCIENCE CENTRE TRUST FUND
STATEMENT OF COMPARISON OF BUDGET AND ACTUAL AMOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual Amounts on Comparable	Difference Original and Final Budget	Notes	Difference Final Budget and Actual	Notes
	Original	Final					
	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs		Rs	
RECEIPTS:							
Recurrent Grant							
Recurrent Grant	22,500,000	23,000,000	23,000,000	(500,000)		-	
Other Income	700,000	700,000	1,225,582	-		525,582	20.2.1
Sub Total	23,200,000	23,700,000	24,225,582	(500,000)		525,582	
Capital Grant							
Capital Grant	2,800,000	2,800,000	2,088,474	-		(711,526)	
Upgrading of electrical network	2,000,000	-	-	2,000,000	20.1.1	-	
Sub Total	4,800,000	2,800,000	2,088,474	2,000,000		(711,526)	
Total Receipts	28,000,000	26,500,000	26,314,056	1,500,000		(185,944)	
PAYMENTS:							
Recurrent Expenditure							
Personal Emoluments	17,670,900	16,865,800	17,491,576	(805,100)	20.1.2	(625,776)	20.2.1
Cost of Utilities	1,242,000	1,242,000	1,197,097	-		44,903	
Fuel and Oil	78,000	78,000	112,073	-		(34,073)	
Office Expenses	456,100	316,200	99,982	(139,900)	20.1.3	216,218	
Maintenance & Repairs	300,000	300,000	860,128	-		(560,128)	20.2.2
Cleaning Services	720,000	720,000	923,925	-		(203,925)	20.2.3
Security Services	1,385,000	1,385,000	1,408,776	-		(23,776)	20.2.4
Publications & Stationery	308,000	195,000	345,211	(113,000)	20.1.4	(150,211)	20.2.5
Mission	-	-	56,403	-		(56,403)	20.2.6
Fees	792,000	780,000	657,981	(12,000)		122,019	
Other Goods & Services	348,000	318,000	553,241	(30,000)		(235,241)	20.2.7
RGSC Activities	800,000	800,000	1,867,625	-		(1,067,625)	20.2.8
Sub Total	24,100,000	23,000,000	25,574,018	(1,100,000)		(2,574,018)	
ADDITIONS TO NON CURRENT ASSETS	2,800,000	2,800,000	2,896,961	-		(96,961)	
TOTAL PAYMENTS	26,900,000	25,800,000	28,470,979	(1,100,000)		(2,670,979)	

RAJIV GANDHI SCIENCE CENTRE TRUST FUND
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

1 GENERAL INFORMATION ON REPORTING ENTITY

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

The Rajiv Gandhi Science Centre Trust Fund (RGSC) was established in 1994 by an Act of Parliament with the aim of promoting Science and Technology, supplement school education through non - formal programmes and create awareness on developments in Science and Technology among the public.

The activities started in May 2000 but the Centre at Bell Village was inaugurated by Smt Sonia Gandhi on 30 November 2004.

2 BASIS OF PREPARATION

(a) Statement of Compliance

The financial statements of the Rajiv Gandhi Science Centre Trust Fund have been prepared in accordance with the International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSASs) issued by the International Public Sector Accounting Standard Board (IPSASB).

(b) Going Concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis and the accounting policies have been applied consistently throughout the period. They have been prepared on the historical cost basis.

(c) Use of estimates and judgements

The preparation of financial statements, in conformity with IPSAS and generally accepted accounting practices requires the use of estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reporting period.

In the application of the Rajiv Gandhi Science Centre Trust Fund's accounting policies, which are described in Notes 4, management are required to make judgements, estimates, and assumptions about the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions, based on actual results may differ from these estimates. The estimates and underlying assumptions are historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the estimate affects only that period or in the period of revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods. Estimates include but are not limited to fair valuation of inventories, accounts receivables, accrued charges, contingent assets and liabilities, and degree of impairment of property, plant and equipment.

(d) Functional and Presentation of Currency

The Financial Statements are presented in Mauritian Rupees. Roundings have been done where applicable to the nearest rupee.

RAJIV GANDHI SCIENCE CENTRE TRUST FUND
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

2 BASIS OF PREPARATION (CONT.)

(e) Reporting Date

The present Financial Statements have been prepared for the Financial Year 01 July 2018 to 30 June 2019. Comparative figures relate to the Financial Year 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018.

- Following the amendments to the Financial Statements for the Financial Year 2017/18, the comparative figures have been re-stated.
- Needful adjustments have been made in relation to the transfer of assets from 'Property, Plant and Equipment' (Notes 9) and Inventory (Notes 8). The transfer affects the depreciation charge and hence the 'Deficit for the Year'.
- The net effect of the above transactions is reflected in the increase in 'Deficit for the Year' in the 'Statement of Financial Performance'.

(f) Measurement Base

The accounting principles recognised as appropriate for the measurement and reporting of the financial performance, cash flows, and financial position are on accrual basis using historical cost except for Property, Plant and Equipment which have been based on fair value.

3 IPSAS ISSUED BUT NOT YET EFFECTIVE

The Financial Statements comply in all material respects with applicable International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS).

In the current period the Rajiv Gandhi Science Centre Trust Fund has adopted all of the improvements and amendments to the standards effective at the reporting date.

IPSAS 3 (Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors) requires disclosure of new IPSAS that have been issued but are not yet effective.

(a) IPSAS 41- Financial Instruments (Effective for accounting period beginning on or after 1 January 2022)

IPSAS 41 prescribe the accounting and disclosure for financial instruments. The objective of this standard is to establish principles for the financial reporting of financial assets and financial liabilities that will present relevant and useful information to users of financial statements for their assessment of the amounts, timing and uncertainty of an entity's future cash flows.

(b) IPSAS 42- Social Benefits (Effective for accounting period beginning on or after 1 January 2022)

IPSAS 42 prescribe the accounting and disclosure for social benefits. The objective of this standard is to improve the relevance, faithful representativeness and comparability of the information that a reporting entity provides in its financial statements about social benefits as defined in this standard. The information provided should help users of the financial statements and general purpose financial reports to assess:

- (i) The nature of such social benefits provided by the entity;
- (ii) The key features of the operation of those social benefit schemes; and
- (iii) The impact of such social benefits provided on the entity's financial performance, financial position and cash flows.

4 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

4.1 Property, plant and equipment

(a) Building and Premises

The State land occupied by Rajiv Gandhi Science Centre Trust Fund along with the building and its content is vested with the Ministry of Education and Human Resources, Tertiary Education and Scientific Research.

Necessary action has been taken for the transfer.

**RAJIV GANDHI SCIENCE CENTRE TRUST FUND
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019**

4 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

4.1 Property, plant and equipment

(b) Impairment

Property, plant and equipment are stated at cost or revalued amount less accumulated depreciation and any recognised impairment losses.

At each balance sheet date, the Rajiv Gandhi Science Centre Trust Fund reviews the carrying amount of its tangible assets to determine whether there is an indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss and the carrying amount of the asset is reduced to its recoverable amount.

(c) Revaluation

The Trust revalued its assets during the period 2007 to 2011. As per accounting guidelines, the excess depreciation charged for the period 2008 to 2017 should have resulted in the offsetting of the revaluation reserve by the proportion of additional depreciation, thereby bringing the revalued cost to Net Book Value as at 30 June 2017. At the end of Financial year ended 30 June 2017, the revaluation reserve has been reversed and the value of assets has been restored to its hypothetical Net Book Value.

(d) Depreciation charges

Depreciation is charged so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets, other than land and properties under construction, over their estimated useful lives using the straight-line method as follows:-

	No. of years
Buildings	2%
Office equipment/Intangible Assets	20%
Furniture and Fittings	10%
Plant & Machinery	20%
Exhibits	20%
Motor Vehicles	20%

(e) Disposal

Depreciation is fully charged in the year of acquisition and no charge is made in the year of disposal. There was no disposal of asset during the financial year 2018/19.

(f) Subsequent Costs

The cost of replacing part of an item of property, plant and equipment is recognised in the carrying amount of the item if it is probable that the future economic benefits will flow to the Rajiv Gandhi Science Centre Trust Fund and its cost can be measured reliably. The costs of the day-to-day servicing of property, plant and equipment are recognised in the Statement of Financial Performance as incurred.

(g) Lease

There is no lease agreement and no payment for the occupation of the land and buildings by the Rajiv Gandhi Science Centre Trust Fund.

RAJIV GANDHI SCIENCE CENTRE TRUST FUND
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

4 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Cont.)

4.2 Intangible assets

Intangible assets are recognised only if:

- (a) it is probable that future economic benefits that are attributable to the assets will flow to the enterprise; and
- (b) the cost of the assets can be measured reliably.

Intangible assets are amortised using the straight-line basis over the projected life.

This is re-assessed at the end of each financial period and unused assets are written off.

4.3 Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash comprises cash in hand and cash at bank.

Cash equivalents are short term, highly liquid investments that are really convertible to cash equivalents .

4.4 Inventories

Inventories are stated at the lower of cost (determined on a first-in-first-out basis) and net realisable value. Cost includes all costs of purchase, costs of conversion and other costs incurred in bringing the inventories to the present location and condition. Net realisable value represents the estimated selling price less all estimated costs of completion and costs to be incurred in selling.

4.5 Provisions and Contingent Liabilities

A provision is recognized when the RGSC Trust has a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of a past event; when it is probable that an outflow of resources embodying economic benefits or service potential will be required to settle the obligation; and when a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation.

Provisions are reviewed at the end of each financial period to determine the current best estimate.

Other commitments which do not meet the recognition criteria for liabilities are disclosed in the Notes to the Financial Statements as contingent liabilities when their existence will be confirmed only by the occurrence or non-occurrence of one or more uncertain future events which are not wholly within the control of the RGSC Trust.

4.6 Retirement and other benefit obligations

4.6.1 Employee Entitlements

Employee entitlements to salaries, pension costs, and other benefits are recognized when they are earned.

Sick Leave Benefits

As per the conditions of service prescribed in the PRB Report and conditions of service, employees are allowed to accumulate sick leaves not taken at the end of each calendar year up to a maximum of 110 days, in a sick leave bank. The balance of bank sick leave is valued at the end of the financial year and is recognised as long term payables. Beyond this ceiling of 110 days, officers are refunded part of the annual entitlement of sick leaves not taken at the end of every calendar year and this is expensed to the Statement of Financial Performance.

Passage Benefits

A provision is made for the estimated liability for passage benefits. The passage benefits for each eligible staff is valued at year end. The annual increase in passage benefits entitlement is expensed to the Statement of Financial Performance.

Based on past experience an amount has been transferred from long term liabilities to short term liabilities to provide for any forthcoming payments of passage in the next financial year.

RAJIV GANDHI SCIENCE CENTRE TRUST FUND
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

4 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Cont.)

4.6 Retirement and other benefit obligations (Cont.)

4.6.1 Defined benefit pension plan (Cont.)

Vacation Leave benefits

In line with the PRB Report and conditions of service, a provision is made for the estimated liability for encashment of vacation leave. The amount for accumulated vacation leave for each staff is valued at year end. Short term benefit includes provision for vacation leave entitlements for officers who may proceed on early retirement. The increase/decrease in vacation leave during the year is charged to the Statement of Financial Performance.

4.6.2 Defined benefit pension plan

Provision for retirement pension benefits is made under the Statutory Bodies Pension Funds Act of 1978 as amended.

For employees who were in the public service at 31 December 2012 the scheme is a defined benefit plan and its assets are managed by SICOM Ltd. The cost of providing the benefits is actuarially determined using the projected unit credit method.

IPSAS 25 pertaining to pension benefits has been repealed and a new standard on pensions; IPSAS 39 is effective for annual financial statements covering periods beginning on or after 1 January 2018. There have been significant changes to the pension benefit disclosures and these changes being applicable as from 1 July 2018 has major impact on the accounting disclosures and reporting for the financial year 2018/2019 and the preceeding year. Accordingly, the comparative figures have been restated following the remeasurement exercise carried out in line with IPSAS 39.

The main areas of changes are as follows:

Statement of Financial Position

Currently IPSAS permit public sector entities to defer the recognition of certain actuarial gains and losses arising from defined benefit plans (the "corridor approach"). IPSAS 39 removed the "corridor approach". This means that the actuarial gains and losses should be recognized immediately in the Statement of Financial Position. The remeasurements are recognized in Net Assets/ Equity in the period in which they occur. A surplus is recognized as a net defined benefit asset and a deficit as a net

Statement of Financial Performance

As regards the Statement of Financial Performance, the two items (interest cost and expected return) will be replaced by a single item: the "Net Interest Expense/ Revenue". For this purpose, the assumption for the discount rate and the expected rate of return on plan assets will be the same.

Other changes:

- (i) More disclosures in terms of description of risk exposure, plan amendments and actuarial assumptions used.
- (ii) Sensitivity analysis, i.e. the effect of a change in each major actuarial assumption on the Defined Benefit Obligation.
- (ii) IPSAS 39 makes explicit the mortality assumptions used to determine the defined benefit obligation are the best estimate of the mortality plan members both during and after employment.

4.6.3 State plan and defined contribution plans

For employees appointed for the first time in the service from 1 January 2013 onwards, Government has set up a Public Sector Defined Contribution Plan, managed by State Insurance Company of Mauritius Ltd. The defined contribution plan is a post-employment benefit plan under which fixed contributions are paid into a fund. The Rajiv Gandhi Science Centre Trust Fund will have no legal or constructive obligation to pay further contributions if the fund does not hold sufficient assets to pay all employee benefits relating to employee service in the current and prior periods.

Contributions to the Public Sector Defined Contribution Plan, the National Pension Scheme, the Family Protection Scheme and the National Savings Fund are expensed in the same financial year.

4.6.4 Car loans

Car loans are disbursed to the Rajiv Gandhi Science Centre Trust Fund by the Ministry of Education and Human Resources, Tertiary Education and Scientific Research on applications by eligible employees as part of their conditions of service. The loans are executed by way of a registered agreement between the Rajiv Gandhi Science Centre Trust Fund and the employees. The car loans which bear an interest rate of 4% per annum are repayable monthly over a period of five or seven years. The balances of principal amounts are shown as short-term and long-term loans. Corresponding carrying amounts are shown under receivables.

**RAJIV GANDHI SCIENCE CENTRE TRUST FUND
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019**

4 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Cont.)

4.7 Revenue recognition

Revenue is recognised to the extent that it is probable that the economic benefits will flow to the Trust Fund and the revenue can be reliably measured.

The following specific criteria must also be observed for revenue recognition:

(i) Sale of services

Revenue is recognised when the risks and rewards of performance of services have passed to the buyer and upon customer acceptance, net of discounts and allowances.

(ii) Other revenues

Interest income - as it accrues unless collectability is in doubt.

(iii) Government Grants

Grants are recognized as revenue to the extent that all conditions attached to the grant are satisfied. All government grants received are therefore recognised in the Statement of Financial Performance in the year of receipt.

4.8 Expenses

Expenses are charged to the accounts on an accrual basis.

4.9 Risk Management Policies

A description of the various risks to which the Board is exposed to, is shown below together with the approach adopted by management to control and mitigate those risks. Except where stated elsewhere, the carrying amounts of the Rajiv Gandhi Science Centre Trust Fund financial assets and financial liabilities approximate their fair values.

Currency Risk

Currency risk arises only from purchase of goods and services which are denominated in foreign currencies are negotiated at prevailing exchange rates.

Operational risk

Operational risk, which is inherent in all organisations' activities, is the risk of financial loss instability arising from failures in internal controls, operational processes or the system that supports them. It is recognized that such risks can never be entirely eliminated and the costs of controls in minimizing these risks may outweigh the potential benefits.

Financial risk

Except for cash held at bank in current accounts, the Rajiv Gandhi Science Centre Trust Fund does not have any investment in term deposits nor any loan commitments. Hence, it is not exposed to interest rate risk.

The Rajiv Gandhi Science Centre Trust Fund's credit risk is primarily attributable to its receivables. Management reviews all outstanding amounts at year end to determine doubtful receivables.

The Rajiv Gandhi Science Centre Trust Fund does not have significant liquidity risk. Forecast cash requirements are closely monitored to meet liquidity requirements.

Legal Risk

Legal risk is the risk that business activities of the Trust have unintended or unexpected legal consequences. The Board identifies and manages legal risks through legal advice from the State Law Office on all its day to day dealings. There is no pending litigation as at 30 June 2019.

RAJIV GANDHI SCIENCE CENTRE TRUST FUND
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

4 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Cont.)

4.10 Taxation

No provision has been made in the financial statements for income tax and value added tax, on the basis that the Rajiv Gandhi Science Centre Trust Fund is exempted.

4.11 Foreign currency transactions

Transactions in foreign currencies are translated to Mauritian rupee at the exchange rate ruling at the date of transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the exchange rate ruling at balance sheet date.

4.12 Comparative Figures

When an accounting policy is changed with retrospective effect, comparative figures are restated in accordance with the new policy.

	30-Jun 2019 Rs	30-Jun 2018 Rs
5. <u>CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS</u>		
Cash at bank	9,583,181	10,173,330
Cash in hand	11,755	676
	9,594,936	10,174,006

The Rajiv Gandhi Science Centre Trust Fund has no undrawn borrowing facilities.

6. RECEIVABLES AND PREPAYMENTS

Receivables	103,553	32,000
Car Loan	-	17,859
	103,553	49,859

7. RECEIVABLES CAR LOAN

Movement in car loans were as follows:

Opening Balance	928,296	1,248,840
Loan released to staff	550,820	-
Loan refunded by Staff	(338,924)	(320,544)
Closing Balance	1,140,192	928,296
Less: Amount falling due within one year	(320,544)	(320,544)
Amount falling due after one year	819,648	607,752

8. INVENTORIES

Inventories	670,263	872,490
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RAJIV GANDHI SCIENCE CENTRE TRUST FUND
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

9. NON CURRENT ASSETS - PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT

	Buildings	Office Furniture & Fittings	Office Equipment & Tools	Exhibits	Motor Vehicles	Plant & Machinery	Restated Figures TOTAL
	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs
COST							
1 July 2018	137,098,013	3,793,853	13,446,275	35,979,183	4,317,611	74,211	194,709,146
Additions	804,125	489,659	937,092	412,728	-	88,368	2,731,971
At 30 June 2019	137,902,138	4,283,512	14,383,367	36,391,911	4,317,611	162,579	197,441,117
 DEPRECIATION							
1 July 2018	32,770,674	3,154,807	11,668,906	35,310,780	2,270,410	26,764	85,202,341
Charge for the period	2,758,043	196,242	917,459	437,873	591,200	32,516	4,933,332
At 30 June 2019	35,528,717	3,351,049	12,586,365	35,748,653	2,861,610	59,280	90,135,673
 NET BOOK VALUE							
At 30 June 2019	102,373,421	932,463	1,797,002	643,258	1,456,001	103,299	107,305,444
At 30 June 2018	104,327,339	639,046	1,777,369	668,403	2,047,201	47,447	109,506,806

10. NON CURRENT ASSETS - INTANGIBLE ASSETS

	Rs
COST	
1 July 2018	304,045
Additions	23,000
At 30 June 2019	327,045
 DEPRECIATION	
1 July 2018	239,300
Charge for the year	24,265
At 30 June 2019	263,565
 NET BOOK VALUE	
At 30 June 2019	63,480
At 30 June 2018	64,745

RAJIV GANDHI SCIENCE CENTRE TRUST FUND
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

11 PENSION ASSET

The Rajiv Gandhi Science Centre Trust Fund maintains a Staff Pension Scheme for its employees.

The scheme is a defined benefit plan. Every employee is required to contribute 6% of his/her salary as pension and the Trust Fund contributes 12 %. These contributions are vested in the Rajiv Gandhi Science Centre Trust Fund Staff Pension Fund which is managed by the State Insurance Company of Mauritius (SICOM) Ltd.

The actuarial variations of the scheme's assets and the present value of the defined benefit obligations as worked out by SICOM Ltd as at 30 June 2019 are reported hereunder:-

	30-Jun 2019	30-Jun 2018
Amounts recognised in statement of financial position at end of year;	Rs	Rs
Present value of unfunded obligation	19,672,398	15,064,943
(Fair value of plan assets)	<u>(21,668,769)</u>	<u>(18,710,444)</u>
Liability recognised in statement of financial Position at end of year	<u>(1,996,371)</u>	<u>(3,645,501)</u>
Amounts recognised in statement of financial performance:		
Current service cost	1,129,620	883,369
(Employee contributions)	(471,750)	(423,473)
Fund expenses	28,302	25,925
Net Interest expense/(revenue)	<u>(321,737)</u>	<u>(212,568)</u>
P & L Charge	<u>364,435</u>	<u>273,253</u>
Remeasurement		
Liability (gain)/Loss	1,908,622	(170,903)
Asset (gain)/ Loss	<u>319,437</u>	<u>(397,775)</u>
Net Assets/ Equity (NAE)	2,228,059	(568,678)
Total	<u>2,592,494</u>	<u>(295,425)</u>
Movements in liability recognised in the Statement of Financial Position:		
At start of year	(3,645,501)	(2,477,275)
Amount recognised in the Statement of Financial Performance (Contributions paid by employer)	364,435 (943,364)	273,253 (872,801)
Amount recognised in NAE	<u>2,228,059</u>	<u>(568,678)</u>
At end of year	<u>(1,996,371)</u>	<u>(3,645,501)</u>
Main actuarial assumptions at end of year:		
Discount rate	7.00%	7.00%
Future salary increases	4.50%	4.50%
Future pension increases	3.50%	3.50%
Mortality before retirement	Nil	A 6770 Ultimate Tε
Mortality in retirement	PA (90) Tables rated down by	

RAJIV GANDHI SCIENCE CENTRE TRUST FUND
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

	30-Jun	30-Jun
	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
	Rs	Rs
11 PENSION ASSET		
Defined benefit pension plan (Continued)		
<i>Reconciliation of the present value of defined benefit obligation</i>		
Present value of obligation at start of period	13,555,160	13,555,160
Current service cost	883,369	883,369
Interest cost	948,861	948,861
(Benefits paid)	(151,544)	(151,544)
Liability (gain)/loss	<u>(170,903)</u>	<u>(170,903)</u>
Present value of obligation at end of period	<u>15,064,943</u>	<u>15,064,943</u>
<i>Reconciliation of fair value of plan assets</i>		
Fair value of plan assets at start of period	16,032,435	16,032,435
Expected return on plan assets	1,161,429	1,161,429
Employer contributions	872,801	872,801
Employer contributions	423,473	423,473
(Benefits paid + other outgo)	(177,469)	(177,469)
Asset gain/(loss)	<u>397,775</u>	<u>397,775</u>
Fair value of plan assets at end of period	<u>18,710,444</u>	<u>18,710,444</u>
<i>Distribution of plan assets at end of period</i>		
Percentage of assets at end of year		
Government securities and cash	59.5%	59.5%
Loans	3.7%	3.7%
Local equities	14.6%	14.6%
Overseas bonds and equities	21.6%	21.6%
Property	<u>0.6%</u>	<u>0.6%</u>
Total	<u>100.0%</u>	<u>100.0%</u>
Additional disclosure on assets issued or used by the reporting entity		
	30-Jun-19	30-Jun-18
Percentage of assets at end of year	%	%
Assets held in the entity's own financial instrument	0	0
Property occupied by the entity	0	0
Other assets used by the entity	0	0
<i>Components of the amount recognised in NAE</i>		
Year	<u>30-Jun-19</u>	<u>30-Jun-18</u>
Currency	Rs	Rs
Asset experience gain/(loss) during the period	(319,437)	397,775
Liability experience gain/(loss) during the period	<u>(1,908,622)</u>	<u>170,903</u>
	(2,228,059)	568,678
Year	2018/2019	
Expected employer contributions	1,065,234	
Weighted average duration of the defined benefit (Calculated as a % change in PV of liabilities for a 1% change in discount rate)	23 Years	

RAJIV GANDHI SCIENCE CENTRE TRUST FUND
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

	30-Jun	30-Jun
	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
	Rs	Rs
12 <u>PAYABLES</u>		
Security Services	405,634	-
Car Loan	17,859	17,859
Total	<u>423,493</u>	<u>17,859</u>
13 <u>CAR LOAN</u>		
Movement in car loans were as follows:		
Opening Balance	946,148	1,266,692
Loan released to staff	550,820	-
Loan refunded by Staff paid to Ministry	(338,924)	(320,544)
Closing Balance	<u>1,158,044</u>	<u>946,148</u>
Less: Amount falling due within one year	(320,544)	(320,544)
Amount falling due after one year	<u>837,500</u>	<u>625,604</u>
14 <u>EMPLOYEE BENEFITS</u>		
Employee benefits represent sick leaves, vacation leaves and passage benefits accrued by staff and payable either on		
Short term:		
Sick leave benefits	197,130	183,824
Passage benefits	-	-
Total	<u>197,130</u>	<u>183,824</u>
Long term:		
Sick leave benefits	3,442,028	3,019,740
Passage benefits	1,318,889	1,124,113
Vacation leave benefits	3,692,637	2,862,370
Total	<u>8,453,553</u>	<u>7,006,223</u>
15 <u>REVENUE</u>		
15.1 REVENUE FROM EXCHANGE TRANSACTION		
Entry tickets	460,770	250,158
Refund under YEP	81,912	127,217
Rent of Auditorium and Seminar room	-	302,875
Other Income	291,010	139,716
	<u>833,692</u>	<u>819,966</u>
15.2 REVENUE FROM NON-EXCHANGE TRANSACTION		
Government of Mauritius - Recurrent	23,000,000	21,277,600
Government of Mauritius - Capital	2,088,474	2,670,190
Sponsorship	391,890	564,018
Other Income	-	1,000,000
	<u>25,480,364</u>	<u>25,511,808</u>

RAJIV GANDHI SCIENCE CENTRE TRUST FUND
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

	30-Jun 2019	30-Jun 2018
	Rs	Restated Rs
16 STAFF COSTS		
Breakdown of Staff costs:		
Basic Salary	10,681,745	8,281,441
Compensation 2017	45,250	31,226
Compensation 2018	131,400	52,974
Compensation 2019	75,600	-
Uniform Allowance	109,702	88,836
Overtime	320,845	313,595
On -Call allowance	75,640	70,080
Cellular allowance	19,342	12,000
Acting Allowance	294,351	404,362
Internet Allowance	6,000	6,000
Cash in lieu of sick leave (Accumulated) & Bank	891,904	376,967
End-of-year bonus	840,865	636,545
Refund Bus Fares	778,559	438,660
Travel Grant/Mileage Allowance	1,018,238	969,915
Passage Benefits	410,542	309,755
Vacation Leave	830,267	148,182
Meal Allowance	4,680	2,600
Medical Examination for Employees	10,200	16,800
Allowance Committee	61,215	99,445
EX-Gratia Payments	-	221,365
Consultancy Fees	-	25,000
Refund of Vaccination	-	1,140
Arrears Salary	70,896	-
Actual Social Contributions :		
Contributions to the "Civil Service FPS Fund"	16,350	16,038
Contributions to the "National Savings Fund"	152,502	109,775
Contribution to the "SICOM 2% FPS Fund"	160,912	134,410
Contribution to the "SICOM 12% Pension Fund"	364,435	369,767
Defined Contribution Pension Scheme	120,136	55,776
	17,491,576	13,192,654
17 SUPPLIES AND CONSUMABLES		
COST OF UTILITIES		
Electricity	966,803	902,652
Telephone	192,178	218,575
Water charges	38,116	50,605
FUEL AND OIL		
Fuel and Oil - Vehicles	112,073	74,499
OFFICE AND OTHER EXPENSES		
Miscellaneous Expenses and Office Sundries	25,069	26,543
Postage	66,088	74,462
Magazines/Newspapers/ News Service	8,825	8,385
MAINTENANCE		
Repairs/Maintenance - Building	291,805	190,649
Maintenance - Exhibits	73,783	85,683
Maintenance - Furniture, Fixtures & Fittings	26,596	50,290
Maintenance - Office Equipment	344,202	419,022
Maintenance - Plant & Machinery	64,068	62,726
Maintenance - Vehicles	59,674	93,882
CLEANING SERVICES		
Cleaning Services - Cleaning of Office Premises	923,925	581,605
SECURITY SERVICES		
Security services	1,408,776	1,244,354
PUBLICATIONS AND STATIONERY		
Printing and Stationery	271,725	169,879
Publicity/Advertising	73,486	140,232
Total	4,947,192	4,394,041

RAJIV GANDHI SCIENCE CENTRE TRUST FUND
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

	30-Jun 2019 Rs	30-Jun 2018 Rs
18 OTHER OPERATING EXPENSES		
18.1 Breakdown of Operating Expenses:		
Staff Training	34,525	19,000
Fees to Chairman and Members of Boards and Committees	463,191	539,129
Professional/Legal Fees	194,790	137,181
Inspection and audit fees	-	60,000
Subscription fees to Professional bodies	-	-
Stipend Trainee/Volunteer	76,114	141,617
Transport	4,200	7,716
Bank charges	16,215	19,049
Insurance & Indemnity (Buildings)	171,246	208,641
Insurance - Vehicles & Road Tax	114,624	139,973
Staff Welfare	91,379	71,640
Tools & Equipment	38,195	-
Materials	6,743	20,755
Overseas Mission	56,403	-
RGSC ACTIVITIES (Note 19.2)	1,867,625	1,927,019
Total	<u>3,135,250</u>	<u>3,291,719</u>
18.2 Breakdown of RGSC Activities:		
National Science Week	357,309	665,810
National Art Competition	92,723	-
Africa Code Week	244,661	174,062
Sky Observation	14,784	4,800
World Water Day	-	900
Independence Day	7,790	7,454
Science Quest	295,980	578,142
Lecture on 11.02.2019	13,931	-
International Periodic Table	63,596	-
Science Activities in Rodrigues	273,408	81,318
Workshop Educators	106,891	5,000
Science Fair & Kiddy Science Fair	118,483	39,950
Kinetic Sculpture Contest	-	3,750
Model Glider Competition	67,064	148,751
Workshop Young Mauritian Plan	132,905	142,078
International Day for Women	1,374	-
Science Museum Day	23,345	-
Africa Space Generation	31,000	-
Space Generation	4,820	-
Scout Science	17,561	20,764
Workshop Hands on Science	-	19,300
RGSC Anniversary	-	34,940
	<u>1,867,625</u>	<u>1,927,019</u>
19 DEPRECIATION & AMORTISATION		
Depreciation of Property, Plant & Equipment (Notes 9)	4,933,332	4,994,100
Amortisation of Intangible Assets (Notes 10)	24,265	19,665
	<u>4,957,597</u>	<u>5,013,765</u>

**RAJIV GANDHI SCIENCE CENTRE TRUST FUND
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019**

20 BUDGET

20.1 Explanations on difference between the Original Budget and Final Budget.

- 20.1.1 Estimates for upgrading of electrical network was carried forward to next financial year.
- 20.1.2 Estimates for Personal Emoluments have been revised upwards in view of recruitment exercise.
- 20.1.3 Estimates for Office Expenses were reduced following reallocation of expenses to cater for provision for recruitment of staff.
- 20.1.4 Estimates for Publication and Printing was revised downwards in view of provisions for recruitment of staff

20.2 Explanations on difference between the Final Budget and Actual Amounts

- 20.2.1 Other Income includes mainly sponsorship and revenue generated from RGSC activities.
- 20.2.2 Increase in cost of Personal Emoluments relates to recruitment of new staff.
- 20.2.3 The increase in cost for cleaning services is mainly due to new contract terms.
- 20.2.4 Payments for Security services were adjusted and retained due to non submission of documents. The payments were accrued in the accounts and released in the next financial year.
- 20.2.5 Expenditure on Publications and Printing exceeded the budget estimates as due to increase in Science Activities.
- 20.2.6 Expenditure on mission was funded partly by RGSC from Savings.
- 20.2.7 Increase in expenditure on Other Goods and services is mainly due to procurement of tools and equipment and increase in insurance premiums.
- 20.2.8 RGSC organised various major activities for the promotion of science. The increase in cost is directly attributed to the science events.

21 EVENTS AFTER THE REPORTING DATE

There was no event after the reporting date at the time of preparation of accounts and up to the submission of accounts to the Board which would have an impact on the financial statements.

22 EMPLOYEE DISCLOSURE

As at 30 June 2019, the Rajiv Gandhi Science Centre Trust Fund had 16 employees on permanent and pensionable establishment.

23 KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL

The management of the Rajiv Gandhi Science Centre Trust Fund is carried out by key personnel including the Director and Heads of Division who are responsible for managing the activities of the trust. The remuneration paid to key management personnel for the reporting period are as follows:

	30-Jun <u>2019</u>	30-Jun <u>2018</u>
Director	1,969,162	1,867,623
Heads of Division/ Section	4,889,031	4,184,432
Total	<u>6,858,193</u>	<u>6,052,055</u>

**RAJIV GANDHI SCIENCE CENTRE TRUST FUND
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019**

24 BOARD OF DIRECTORS REMUNERATION

	30-Jun 2019	30-Jun 2018
	Rs	Rs
Chairperson fees	359,100	359,100
Other Board Directors fees	69,513	144,387
Total	428,613	503,487

25 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

For the purpose of these Financial Statements, parties which are considered to be related to the RGSC are other government ministries, public bodies and departments, mostly represented on the Rajiv Gandhi Science Centre Trust Fund Board, if they have the ability, directly or indirectly to control the RGSC or exercise significant influence over the financial and operating decision making or vice versa. Related party transactions were generally carried out at commercial terms and conditions.

Eligible employees are granted duty free facilities and/or loans for the purchase of a car as prescribed in the Pay Research Bureau Report. The details, amounts granted and balances under these loans are given at notes 4.6.4 and 7. There are no other loans to key management personnel or to other categories of staff.



ANNUAL REPORT 2018-19

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