

**Speech of Hon. Deepak Balgobin,
Minister of Information Technology,
Communication and Innovation**

**25th Anniversary of Island Communications Ltd
Road Safety Award Ceremony
Launching of Intelligent Speed Limiter Solution**

**La Canelle, Domaine Les Pailles
7th December 2022 - 18hrs**

- **Honourable Alan Ganoo, Minister of Land Transport and Light Rail and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade,**
- **Mr Uways Kureeman, Acting General Manager, Island Communications Ltd,**
- **Mr Kamal Ramsingh, CEO, SpeedFOX,**
- **Mr Matthias de Larminat, CEO, Vivo Energy,**
- **Mr Alain Jeannot, Chairman, National Road Safety Council,**
- **Captains of the Transport and the Energy sectors,**
- **Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Good Evening to you.

It gives me indeed great pleasure to grace the 25th Anniversary of Island Communications Ltd.

It is remarkable to see how in 25 years such a company has contributed to the technology landscape of the country with a rippling effect on the economy as a whole.

Most importantly, we are gathered here tonight to mainly speak about Road Safety and I wish to thank LCL for the organisation of this event and for your remarkable efforts in the promotion of Road Safety.

According to the Mauritius Police Force statistics, 99 persons have lost their life due to road traffic accidents for the period January to date.

Overspeeding must have its share of fault.

I have full hopes through actions like yours and strong dialogue and awareness among the people from the Ministry of Land Transport and Light Rail citizens will be more responsible and extra careful.

Especially during this festive season.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Intelligent Speed Limiter of Island Communications, to my point of view, is indeed a very brilliant and innovative system. This is the kind of solution we are longing to see to build a smart island like ours.

The interesting aspect of this technology is that vehicles' speeds are being monitored and controlled without human intervention, while at the same time improving driver behaviour, reduce accidents and most importantly avoiding citizen's disbursement for fines unnecessarily.

Believe me, this initiative will revolutionize driving culture on our roads, and will bring positive results where other measures have had limited results.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am informed that the Intelligent Speed Limiter uses an ingenious technique to monitor and regulate the speed of the vehicle to which it is affixed. The system makes use of the TomTom mapping on which all speed control areas and their respective speed limits are plotted.

The Intelligent Speed Limiter acts as an interface between the TomTom mapping and the vehicle dashboard which is connected to the braking system. Once the speed limiter senses a speed control area, the respective speed is transmitted to the dashboard for the braking system to limit the speed as required.

Isn't that brilliant?

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like to congratulate Island Communications for another great initiative that serves a good purpose in improving driver behavior on the road.

The **Annual Road Safety Competition** organized is open for light vehicles, heavy vehicles and corporate.

The objective of this competition is to promote road safety measures and awareness among the drivers' community.

Tonight, three winners will be rewarded for their efforts.

I wish them congratulations for encouraging and inspiring other drivers.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

My Ministry is putting a lot of efforts in digital transformation to take Mauritius to the next level of its development curve.

Since 2015, we have put in place the necessary enablers that act as the catalysers of this transformation.

Connectivity being at the heart of a sound digital ecosystem, much has been and is being done to enhance our telecommunications network both at local and international level.

5G networks are currently being deployed across the island and a fourth submarine cable is planned to be launched in 2023.

A number of digital platforms have been developed by my Ministry to act as the springboard for digital services to shoot up.

- The MoKloud digital safe for the safekeeping of official documents like the Birth Certificate or the Marriage Certificate of citizens in digital format for real-time verification and online sharing purposes,
- The MauPass digital identity system which can be integrated as a single window authentication service into online applications,
- The MoRendezVous platform for online bookings and to avoid long queues at specific Government services, like the Mauritius National Identity Card offices or the Passport and Immigration Office,
- My Ministry has also set up the MauSign Certification Authority for the issue of digital certificates for individuals and corporates.

Now for all services to operate in a secure manner, the necessary legislations have been implemented, the latest one being the Cybersecurity

and Cybercrime Act 2021. The overall objective is to foster an efficient and secure public service delivery.

As a Ministry, we expect Government agencies and the business community at large to avail of all this digital infrastructure to pursue on the digitalisation agenda so as to ease the lives of our citizens and businesses, and make of Mauritius a great place to live in.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

To conclude, I would recall that Government has laid down the required infrastructure and other facilities for Island Communications and other operators to set up their business operations in Mauritius.

We wish to see more operators like Island Communications coming in and shaping the ICT landscape of the island, and flourishing our digital economy.

And I wish to end with this saying:

“Leave sooner, drive slower, live longer.”

Thank you for your kind attention.