

Speech of Honourable Deepak Balgobin

**Minister of Information Technology,
Communication and Innovation**

Exit Meeting National Informatics Centre of India

**Conference Room, Ministry of Information Technology,
Communication and Innovation, Level 7, SICOM Tower, Ebene**

25th February 2022

- **Her Excellency, Mrs. Nandini Singla, High Commissioner of India**
- **Ms Sandrine Valere, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry**
- **Our dear Friends from the National Informatics Centre**
- **Officers of my Ministry and other Ministries and Departments present today**
- **Ladies and Gentlemen**

Good afternoon everyone.

It has been indeed a great pleasure for us to have the assistance of the whole professional team of the National Informatics Centre, in Mauritius as well as from abroad through video conferencing over the last few days. I am told that your contributions and ideas have been quite impactful for projects and initiatives of both my Ministry and other Ministries and Departments as well.

This Digital Government Applications Blueprint will set the base to move forward important projects such as email accounts for Government officials and the migration of our GOC Data Centre to a new Tier IV infrastructure.

These projects had inherent challenges arising due to costing and scale of the projects. I understand that e-Government projects across the selected Ministries and Departments have also been touched upon. I have been informed that the NIC applications for the education sector, transport and few other sectors have echoed well with the responsible Ministries and Departments, especially the public sector recruitment application for our Public Service Commission.

Having identified challenges and the proposed way forward, it will now be easier to push our digitalisation programme to the next level. Also, not to be forgotten, the wide range of ready-made tools that the National Informatics Centre have made available to us, whether at the level of development of solutions or collaboration between offices, like Service Plus and e-office.

We are conscious that the development of this Blueprint will take some time, but the first steps have already been taken. The Government of Mauritius is very grateful to you and your colleagues abroad for all your efforts.

In the same line, we are currently discussing the possibility of the signature of a Memorandum of Understanding with the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology of India. This will help to further strengthen our collaborations and set up an appropriate framework to facilitate the implementation of projects.

Allow me to extend my heartfelt thanks to the High Commissioner of India, Her Excellency Mrs Singla and her Office in Mauritius as well as the Government of India for their continued support in our cooperation programme.

And finally, I wish to thank officers of my Ministry and other Ministries and Departments, who have worked together with the Indian side since Monday.

Thank you everyone.

Without further ado, I would like to leave the floor to the National Informatics Centre to present the report to us.