

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

**Launch of "my.t 5G" Offers by Mauritius
Telecom**

**Tuesday, 18th June 2024 at 18hrs
Intercontinental Resort Mauritius,
Balaclava**

- **The Board Directors of Mauritius Telecom,**
- **Mr Kapil Reesaul, CEO of Mauritius Telecom,**
- **Chairpersons and CEOs from the public and private sectors**
- **Management cadres and Staff from Mauritius Telecom**
- **Members of the Press,**
- **Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Good Evening to you all.

It is a great honor to join you today as we celebrate the launch of "my.t 5G" offers by Mauritius Telecom. This significant occasion marks a major advancement in our nation's digital transformation journey, and I am immensely proud to be a part of it.

The unparalleled speed and efficiency that 5G brings will fundamentally reshape the way we live, work, and communicate.

With 5G, we can expect faster download and upload speeds, reduced latency, and the capacity to connect more devices seamlessly.

This technology will revolutionize various sectors, from healthcare and education to entertainment and smart cities, driving innovation and enhancing our quality of life.

Having a solid high-speed infrastructure is the key towards a digital nation. As most of you are already aware, our mobile penetration rate is above 160% in the country.

This impressive connectivity level positions us well to leverage the full potential of 5G, ensuring that every citizen and business can benefit from this technological leap.

According to Gartner, the number of Internet of Things (IoT) devices worldwide, that is connected devices is expected to double from 15.9 billion in 2024 to 32.1 billion by 2033.

This exponential growth underscores the critical need for robust and reliable 5G networks to support these devices – make no mistake, the number of connected devices will significantly increase in Mauritius and by embracing 5G technology, our country will position itself as a leader in digital innovation and smart solutions.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Mauritius Telecom has been a major enabler in the digital transformation of our nation, and their commitment to innovation and excellence is evident in the numerous game-changing offers they have introduced over the years.

From the launch of "my.t money" to the first truly unlimited pre-pay and post-pay data packages in 2019, the company has consistently pushed the boundaries of what is possible.

Through the full deployment of fiber-optic networks (Fiber-to-the-Home) and the introduction of advanced mobile services, Mauritius Telecom has ensured that we remain competitive in the global digital landscape.

There is no better way to account for all this incredible work than to refer to the record breaking 12.7 billion rupees that Mauritius Telecom just announced.

Mauritius Telecom's best performance in over a decade!

Congratulations for this!

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Today, we are witnessing another momentous milestone in this journey.

The launch of "my.t 5G" offers marks a new era of connectivity for our island nation. With speeds much faster than 4G, 5G will revolutionize the way we download, stream, and interact online.

One can ask, what does it translate to in practical terms?

Imagine a healthcare system where doctors can perform remote surgeries with precision, thanks to real-time, high-definition video streaming and ultra-low latency.

Picture our education sector, where students in remote areas can engage in immersive virtual reality classrooms, bringing interactive and high-quality learning experiences to every corner of the island.

Consider the impact on our transportation system, where autonomous vehicles communicate seamlessly with smart traffic management systems, reducing congestion and enhancing road safety.

In agriculture, 5G-enabled drones can monitor crops in real-time, optimizing irrigation and increasing yields while conserving resources.

These are just a few examples of how 5G can:

- transform our everyday lives,
- driving innovation,
- boosting economic growth,
- and enhancing the overall quality of life for all Mauritians.

The foundations of all this is a robust 5G infrastructure.

This technology will create new opportunities for social and economic development, and this Government will spare no effort to motivate all

stakeholders to harness its power in order to drive our **digital** economy forward.

I wish to highlight here that with regard to mobile internet speed, Mauritius is currently 41st on the Speedtest Global Index by Ookla, an improvement of 8 ranks compared to previous months.

This is the best rank Mauritius has achieved so far.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

As we move forward, we must recognize that everything is turning digital.

We must adjust to this new reality and develop the required digital enablers and innovative solutions that can boost our digital economy to new heights.

Today's applications are built around Artificial Intelligence, Internet of things, Virtual Reality, Cloud Computing, which requires strong connectivity for better performance.

Government and the private sector must continue to work together to create a robust connectivity infrastructure that supports the growth of our digital economy.

On this note, I would like to commend Mauritius Telecom for its bold move in launching "my.t 5G" offers.

This is a significant step forward in our digital transformation journey, and I am confident that it will have a profound impact on our country's growth and development.

Thank you for your attention.