

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

**e-Gov Conference 2024 organised by the
State Informatics Ltd**

**Monday, 8th April 2024
Henessy Park Hotel, Ebene at 09 00hrs**

Mr Ramesh Bheekhoo, Deputy Permanent Secretary of my Ministry,

Mr. Abhishake Jugoo, Chairman of SIL,

Board Members of the SIL,

Mr. Kemraz Mohee, CEO of SIL,

Heads of Institutions from the Public and Private Sectors,

Dear Participants,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good Morning to you all.

First and foremost, I wish to express my sincere gratitude to SIL for their unwavering dedication to advancing the digital transformation agenda of the public sector in Mauritius and the region.

Today, we find ourselves at the forefront of a digital revolution that is rapidly reshaping the landscape of ICT and public service delivery.

In an era defined by fast technological advancements and shifting citizen expectations, the imperative for Government institutions to embrace digital transformation has never been more pressing.

In fact, it is incumbent upon us all to harness the power of technology to drive innovation, enhance efficiency, and ultimately improve the quality of lives of our citizens.

At the core of SIL's mission lies GovTech which is a strategic approach to digital transformation that seeks to modernize core Government operations and drive innovation in public services.

SIL has demonstrated a deep commitment to driving innovation by focusing on the digitalisation of core Government operations in areas such as budgeting, tax and revenue management, national security, social services, and education.

Digital transformation is not just about leveraging technology for the sake of modernization.

It's also about re-thinking the way Government interacts with its citizens, delivering services that are citizen-centric, efficient, and transparent, inclusive and seamless.

In today's rapidly evolving digital landscape, the urgency for the public sector's digital transformation has never been more evident.

The challenges we face demand innovative solutions tailored to the unique needs and aspirations of the people.

Strengthening GovTech is crucial to the success of our digital transformation efforts.

SIL has been at the forefront of this endeavour, driving the adoption of GovTech solutions across Mauritius as well as mainland Africa. Its success is evident in its track record of projects that support the transformation of core Government systems.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The necessary foundations have to be laid down for GovTech solutions to work seamlessly on top for an efficient service delivery.

Today, Mauritius is connected to the Internet through 4 submarine cables, which is synonymous of a resilient connectivity, an imperative for an island nation like ours.

My Ministry has also setup the necessary ICT enablers that facilitates the deployment of the required GovTech solutions that will drive the digital economy forward.

The InfoHighway data sharing platform, the MauPass Digital Identity system, the MoKloud repository for the safekeeping of official documents in digital formats, the MauSign Certification Authority, to name a few.

But digitalisation, is not just about technology, it is also about people.

It is about building digital skills in the public sector and fostering an environment that encourages innovation and collaboration.

It is also, one of the main mandates of the Mauritius Digital Promotion Authority: to boost the growth of the ICT sector through skills development and innovation among all population groups.

It is about empowering citizens to actively participate in the governance process, providing feedback, and holding Government accountable.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

SIL's extensive experience and unwavering commitment to delivering ICT projects have earned the company an impeccable reputation in the industry.

By developing and implementing tailored GovTech solutions, SIL empowers governments to become more citizen-centric, improving operational efficiency, transparency, and service quality.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I commend SIL for its leadership in driving the digital transformation wave in Mauritius and Africa.

Together, let us continue to harness the power of GovTech to create a more inclusive, efficient, and transparent Government for all.

In the same line, I wish to seize this opportunity to invite you all to the Mauritius Emerging Tech EXPO 2024 which will be held from the 8th to the 12th of May. This event will gather all key players in the ICT sector in Mauritius from both Public and Private sectors and some international delegates as well.

It will be a celebration of technological innovation, aiming to showcase the cutting-edge solutions emerging from Mauritius and abroad at various levels. For this first edition, we will have the honour to welcome the Minister of State for Artificial Intelligence, Digital Economy, and Remote

Work Applications in the United Arab Emirates, His Excellency Omar
Sultan Al Olama.

I thank you for your attention.