

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

**Celebration of Earth Day
“Planet Vs Plastic”
Launching of Mobile App – MoNatir**

**Monday, 22nd April at MGI Auditorium, Moka at
10am**

- **My colleague, Honourable Kavydass Ramano, Minister of Environment, Solid Waste Management and Climate Change,**
- **The Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Environment, Solid Waste Management and Climate Change,**
- **Headmasters, Rectors and Academic Heads,**
- **Teachers,**
- **Dear Students,**
- **Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Good Morning to you all.

I am deeply honoured to be with you today to celebrate Earth Day - a day that reminds us of the importance of preserving and protecting our precious planet.

I am particularly pleased to be here to celebrate the achievements of our young students who have taken part in various competitions organized by the Ministry of Environment, Solid Waste Management and Climate Change.

I wish to express my heartfelt gratitude to the Ministry of Environment for organizing this Prize Giving Ceremony, which celebrates the creativity and dedication of our young minds in advocating for environmental sustainability.

I would also like to extend my warmest congratulations to all the winners and participants for their outstanding efforts and achievements.

Your creativity, passion, and commitment to environmental conservation are truly inspiring.

You are the future leaders of our country, and your commitment to protecting our planet is a testament to the bright future that awaits us ahead.

Today, I am also honoured to witness the launch of the MoNatir mobile application, a groundbreaking initiative that will provide vital and dynamic environmental information to the public.

This innovative application will enable us to make informed decisions about our environment and take action to protect it.

The MoNatir mobile application is indeed a practical tool that will provide us with real-time information on:

- air quality,
- weather conditions,
- solid waste management,
- and environmental news.

I am informed that this mobile app will display the list of waste management sites, including civic amenities centres, transfer stations, and landfills, as well as the list of recyclers in Mauritius, on a map with their respective locations.

This will enable us to make informed decisions about waste management and recycling, thereby contributing to a cleaner and healthier environment.

I wish to congratulate my colleague, Honourable Ramano for this laudable initiative that will harness the transformative power of technology for the greater good.

I commend the Ministry of Environment for its vision and leadership in spearheading this initiative and reaffirm my Ministry's commitment to supporting its continued success.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

As we celebrate this achievement, we must continue to work together to reduce our carbon footprint, promote sustainable development, and protect our natural resources.

My Ministry is committed to supporting the Ministry of Environment in its efforts to promote environmental conservation.

We will continue to leverage technology to develop innovative solutions that address environmental challenges and promote sustainable development.

Allow me to congratulate once again all the winners and participants for their outstanding achievements and creativity.

Let us embrace Earth Day not just as a symbolic gesture but as a call to action.

A call to protect and preserve the precious ecosystems that sustain life on our planet.

Together, let us pledge to work tirelessly towards a more sustainable and resilient future, where every individual plays a role in safeguarding our environment for generations to come.

I thank you for your attention.