

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

Launching of First Day Cover to mark the
50th anniversary of diplomatic relations
between Mauritius and China

Thursday, 4th August 2022
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Newton Tower, Port-
Louis

- **Honourable Alan Ganoo, Minister of Land Transport and Light Rail and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade**
- **Her Excellency, Honourable Xu Jinghu, Special Representative of the Chinese Government on African Affairs,**
- **His Excellency, Ambassador Haymandoyal Dillum, Secretary for Foreign Affairs,**
- **Miss Sandrine Valere, Permanent Secretary of my Ministry**
- **Representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade,**
- **Dear guests,**
- **Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Good afternoon to you all.

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the first diplomatic relations between Mauritius and China.

This Golden anniversary is an opportunity for us to emphasize on the quality of the relations between our two countries and to enhance all aspects of it.

Our diplomatic relations are characterised by deep understanding and mutual trust as we keep with the tradition of regular high-level exchanges to strengthen and expand our “unique ties”.

As such, our bilateral relationship was nurtured by friendship and also with a long-term collaboration in various fields based on the principles of equality, trust, mutual support and mutual benefit.

Visits effected by our respective leaders in 2018 have provided a new impetus for the development of the Mauritius-China relations, charting new course for practical cooperation in various fields.

To mark this special bond between our two countries and to celebrate this golden anniversary, we are proud to unveil today a joint stamp and a First Day Cover.

This is a testimony to the high importance that the two countries attached to this historical milestone on our friendly relations.

The stamp shows Cote d'Or National Sports Complex and the Great Wall of China which outline the bilateral cooperation between our two countries.

The First Day Cover portrays the development of Mauritius-China relations picturing the modern building at Jinfei.

The insert gives a description of the diplomatic relations between the Republic of Mauritius and the People's Republic of China.

And the Special Souvenir Sheet illustrates an amalgamation of some pictorials from both countries.

The public can get this new commemorative stamp at the Mauritius Post for Rs 39 and the First Day Cover at Rs 125 as from today in all Post Offices.

Excellencies, your presence is a celebration of our warm bilateral friendship over the past five decades.

We are deeply grateful for the support of good friends such as China.

Let's celebrate our special history as we open a path for it to continue along for the next 50 years.

Thank you for your attention.