

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

**Unveiling of New Ground-Breaking Offers
by Mauritius Telecom**

**Monday, 18th September 2023 at 18.00hrs
Royal Green Resort, Réduit Triangle, Moka**

- **Board Members of Mauritius Telecom,**
- **Mr Kapil Reesaul, CEO of Mauritius Telecom,**
- **Mr Ramesh Bheekhoo, Acting Permanent Secretary of my Minister,**
- **CEOs and Directors,**
- **Representatives of Public and Private sectors,**
- **Members of the Press,**
- **Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Good Evening.

I am honoured as Minister of Information Technology, Communication and Innovation to be here alongside all of you who have played a pivotal role in the advancement of connectivity in our beautiful Republic of Mauritius.

Today, we gather to celebrate a remarkable achievement in the realm of Telecommunications and Connectivity.

Mauritius Telecom, which is deeply rooted in our nation's history and its modernization, has consistently exemplified excellence in its pursuit to bring cutting-edge communication technologies to the public at an attractive price as bolstering our economic progress.

In its constant quest to offer better services and modern technologies-based products to its customers, Mauritius Telecom is coming up with another broadband portfolio to enhance the lives of our citizens.

I am pleased to announce that WITH these new offers, Mauritius now ranks 51st on Mobile global Performance and 109th for fixed broadband in the Speedtest Global Index by OOKLA

The new doubling of internet speed announced by the CEO of Mauritius Telecom, our country will definitely gain in its global broadband speed index and aspires to be among the Top 100 worldwide (Between 70 – 90) and with these new offers, Mauritius rank's in the Speedtest Global Index will substantially improve and the average speed will be comparable to the regions of Europe and Northern America.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

From the early days of dial-up Internet services through Telecom Plus in 1996, to the upcoming launch of its third submarine cable T3, this year, Mauritius Telecom has been at the forefront of innovation. It has set the benchmark for connectivity not just in our region but also internationally.

It has not only connected our beautiful island to the world but has also played an essential role in nurturing the growth of the ICT industry, a major pillar of our economy.

Mauritius Telecom's unwavering commitment to providing the best possible services to its customers is not just commendable, but it aligns perfectly with my Ministry's vision for a modern, affordable and inclusive connectivity in the Republic of Mauritius.

As the Minister of Information Technology, Communication, and Innovation, I have always emphasized the crucial role that connectivity plays in fostering socio-economic development.

It is the foundation of our digital transformation programme, and it is the driving force behind our journey towards becoming a knowledge-based economy.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Mauritius Telecom's journey reflects our aspirations for a digitally empowered nation.

From the introduction of ADSL in 2001 to the complete deployment of (Fibre-to-the-home - FTTH) in 2017, MT has consistently adapted to the dynamic needs of our people.

Its dedication to providing the best experience and price to its customers is evident through its diverse range of offerings, from 10Mbps fiber offers to the blazing fast 100Mbps and 1Gbps services.

This is a commitment that ensures that our citizens have access to the best and fastest Internet, no matter where they are on our island.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

As we move forward, let us not forget that connectivity is not just about technology; it's about empowering our citizens, spurring innovation, creating jobs and catalyzing economic growth.

It's also about bridging the digital divide and ensuring that every citizen, regardless of their location or background, has equal access to the opportunities that the digital world offers.

The massive investment in diverse submarine cables, like the T3 and maintaining international routes like SAFE and LION/LION2, reflects the resilience and determination that Mauritius Telecom embodies.

In the event of cable breakdowns, the robust infrastructure ensures minimal disruptions, safeguarding our businesses and citizens.

Let us also not forget the vital role that Mauritius Telecom has played in the transformation of Rodrigues Island through the MARS submarine cable, connecting Rodrigues to Mauritius and the world through high-speed Internet.

I would also like to commend Mauritius Telecom for being a pioneer in deploying 5G technology and reaching the remarkable milestone of one million my.t mobile customers in 2022.

Again, its recognition as the Fastest Mobile Network in Mauritius by OOKLA is proof to its commitment to providing quality services.

Furthermore, the launch of its various mobile apps and the fintech venture, my.t money, showcase the adaptability and innovation that is synonymous with Mauritius Telecom.

The Telecom App, launched in August 2023, is undoubtedly transforming the way residential customers engage with Mauritius Telecom, bringing new levels of convenience and accessibility.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Today's launch of the revamped broadband portfolio is a testament to the vision and dedication of Mauritius Telecom.

It is a landmark that will propel our nation into the upper ranks of global connectivity.

I personally consider that this achievement is not an endpoint; it is a huge step towards a brighter and more connected future for all Mauritians.

Congratulation to Mauritius Telecom, for your unflinching commitment to our nation's connectivity, and of course we thank our fellow citizens, for their trust and support.

Together, we will continue to forge ahead in our journey towards a digitally inclusive and prosperous Republic of Mauritius.

Thank you for your attention.