

# Earth Day 2014

## ***GREEN CITIES***

**Report on Activities (21 – 24 April 2014)**



**INFORMATION AND EDUCATION DIVISION**

**Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development**

**25<sup>th</sup> April 2014**

Recognizing that Mother Earth reflects the interdependence that exists among human beings, other living things and the planet we all inhabit, the United Nations General Assembly declared the 22<sup>nd</sup> of April as the international Mother **Earth Day**. Earth Day is a call from Mother Earth to each inhabitant of the blue planet, for concrete and concerted actions.

This event was first celebrated in the United States of America in 1970 by Senator Gaylord Nelson to promote ecology and respect for life on the planet.

Every year on April 22, over a billion people in 190 countries take action for Earth Day. It reminds us to reinforce our go green attitude towards planet Earth. From all corners of the world, people plant trees and clean up their communities to preserve the environment.

This year's theme is "**Green cities**". As the world's population migrates to cities, and as the bleak reality of climate change becomes increasingly clear, the need to create sustainable communities is more important than ever. With smart investments in sustainable technology, forward-thinking public policy, and an educated and active public, we can transform our cities and forge a sustainable future. Nothing is more powerful than the collective action of a billion people.

# Introduction

To mark the Earth Day 2014, and in line with the ongoing campaign on ‘Tree Planting for Clean Air’, activities were held between 21<sup>st</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> April.

The main celebration of Earth Day was held at **Rabindranath Tagore Secondary School, Ilot, Pamplemousses on the 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2014**. The event comprised:-

- (i) Launching of a campaign “**Un enfant, UnePlante**” and distribution of trees/ plants;
- (ii) Organisation of a ‘**Training of Trainers Programme**’ on the importance of trees and forests for officers of Community Centres, Social Welfare Centres, Women Centres, Village Councils and Municipal Councils;
- (iii) Launching of poster and pamphlet on tree planting;
- (iv) Launching of rainwater harvesting system; and
- (v) Handing over of compost bins and waste segregation bins.

The other activities in the context of the Earth Day were as follows:-

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
<b>21 April 2014</b>	Planting of 500 “Flamboyant” trees on Signal Mountain
<b>22 April 2014</b>	Planting and distribution of trees at SSR Disability Services Centre
<b>24 April 2014</b>	Tree planting with the sugar cane industry

## **Objectives:-**

- (i) To raise awareness of the public at large on importance of trees and plants.
- (ii) To encourage people, in particular children to grow trees for a cleaner, greener and more beautiful Mauritius.

***Earth Day 2014***  
***Green Cities***  
***Tree Planting at Signal Mountain***



***The Ministry of Environment and  
Sustainable Development***

***Signal Mountain***

***Monday 21<sup>st</sup> APRIL 2014 at 17.00 hours***

## **Planting of 500 “Flamboyant” trees on Signal Mountain**

**Date:** 21 April 2014 at 17 00 hours

**Venue:** Signal Mountain, Port Louis

- The event was marked by the esteemed presence of
  - ❖ Hon. Devanand VIRAHSAWMY, GOSK, FCCA, Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development;
  - ❖ Dr the Hon. Ahmed Rashid Beebeejaun, GCSK, FRCP, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Renewable Energy and Public Utilities; and
  - ❖ Hon. Abdullah HafeezHossen, Parliamentary Private Secretary.

### **Collaboration**

NGO Indian Ocean Centre for Education in Human Values.

- Some 100 people were present for the event including students of surrounding localities.
- The ceremony comprised:-
  - Symbolic planting of flamboyant trees; and
  - Songs on Mother Earth by students of the NGO Indian Ocean Centre for Education in Human Values.



*Audience*



*Students of the NGO Indian Ocean Centre for Education in Human Values*



*Welcome Address by Mr. P. Jhugroo, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development*



*Address by Hon. Abdullah Hafeez Hossen, Parliamentary Private Secretary*



*Address by Hon. Devanand Virahsawmy, GOSK, FCCA, Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development*



*Address by Dr the Hon. Ahmed Rashid Beebeejaun, GCSK, FRCP, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Renewable Energy and Public Utilities*





*Song on Environment by Students of the NGO Indian Ocean Centre for Education in Human Values*



*Symbolic distribution of Eco bags, T-Shirts and Resource materials to students of the NGO Indian Ocean Centre for Education in Human Values*



*Tree planting by Dr the Hon. Ahmed Rashid Beebeejaun, GCSK, FRCP, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Renewable Energy and Public Utilities*



*Tree planting by Hon. Devanand Virahsawmy, GOSK, FCCA, Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development*



*Tree planting by Hon. Abdullah Hafeez Hossen, Parliamentary Private Secretary*



*Tree planting by Students of the NGO Indian Ocean Centre for Education in Human Values*



*Students of the NGO Indian Ocean Centre for Education in Human Values*

*Earth Day 2014*

*Green Cities*

*Tree Planting at SSR Disability Centre*



*The Ministry of Environment and  
Sustainable Development*

SSR Disability Services Centre  
Marke Lane, 8<sup>th</sup> Mile, Triolet  
Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> APRIL 2014 at 13.00 Hours

## **Planting and distribution of trees at SSR Disability Services Centre**

**Date:** 22 April 2014 at 13 00 hours

**Venue:** SSR Disability Services Centre, Triolet

- The event was marked by the esteemed presence of Hon Satyaprakash RITOO, Minister of Youth and Sports (who replaced the Hon. Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development).
- The ceremony comprised:-
  - Symbolic handing over of cloth bags and educational materials;
  - Tree planting ceremony and distribution of trees; and
  - Cultural items by students.



*Audience*





*Welcome address by Mr. VedJhaumal, Manager SSR Disability Centre*



*Address by Mrs. Bharatee Awotar, President SSR Disability Centre*



*Poem by ShivduthBhoyrub (Student of SSR Disability Centre)*



*Dance item by Students of SSR Disability Centre*



*Address by Hon. Devanand RJTIOO, Ministry of Youth and Sports*



*Gifts given by student of SSR Disability Centre to Hon. Devanand RJTIOO, Ministry of Youth and Sports*



*Symbolic handing over of cloth bags, educational materials and plants*



*Tree planting by Hon. Devanand RITTOO, Ministry of Youth and Sports*



*Distribution of cloth bags and plants to children and parents*

*Earth Day 2014*

*Green Cities*

*Tree Planting for Clean Air*



*The Ministry of Environment and  
Sustainable Development*

*in collaboration with the*

*Ministry of Agro Industry and Food Security*

*Ministry of Education and Human Resources*

*and the*

*Rabindranath Tagore Secondary School*

**Rabindranath Tagore Secondary School  
Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2014 at 11.00 Hours**

## Main Event

**Date:**23 April 2014 at 11 00 hours

**Venue:**Rabindranath Tagore Secondary School, Ilot, Pamplemousses

Function was hosted by the *Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development* in collaboration with the *Ministry of Agro Industry and Food Security, Ministry of Education and Human Resources* and the *Rabindranath Tagore Secondary School*.

- The event was marked by the esteemed presence of
  - ❖ Hon. Devanand VIRAHSAWMY, GOSK, FCCA, Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development;
  - ❖ Hon. DrVasant Kumar BUNWAREE, Minister of Education & Human Resources;
  - ❖ Hon SatyaVeyash FAUGOO, Minister of Agro-Industry and Food Security and Attorney General; and
  - ❖ Hon Satyaprakash RITOO, Minister of Youth and Sports
- Some 2500 people were present for the event including students of surrounding localities.
- The ceremony comprised:-
  - Launching of a campaign “Un enfant, UnePlante” and distribution of plants, cloth bags, poster and pamphlet;
  - Launching of a ‘Training of Trainers Programme’ on the importance of trees and forests for officers of Community Centres, Social Welfare Centres, Women Centres, Village Councils and Municipal Councils;
  - Launching of poster and pamphlet on tree planting;
  - Launching of rainwater harvesting system; and
  - Handing over of compost bins and waste segregation bins by President School Environment Club , RTSS.





*Audience*



*National Anthem Song*



*Welcome address by Rector of the RISS*



*Address by Hon. Satya Veyash FAUGOO, Minister of Agro-Industry and Food Security and Attorney General*



*Address by Hon. Dr Vasant Kumar BUNWARÉE, Minister of Education and Human Resources*



*Address by Hon. Devanand Virahsawmy, GOSK, FCCA, Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development*



*Shield handed over to:*

*Hon. Devanand RITTOO, Ministry of Youth and Sports*

*Hon. Satya Veyashi FAUGOO, Minister of Agro-Industry and Food Security and Attorney General*

*Hon. Dr Vasant Kumar BUNWARREE, Minister of Education and Human Resources*



*Hon. Dr Vasant Kumar BUNWARREE, Minister of Education and Human Resources handing over tablets to teachers of RISS*



*Pledge by students of the TRSS*



*Launching of pamphlet on Tree planting by Hon. Devanand Virahsawmy, GOSK, FCCA, Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development*





*Launching of poster on Tree planting by Hon. Devanand Virahsawmy, GOSK, FCCA, Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development*



*Symbolic handing over of pamphlet and poster on Tree Planting by Hon. Devanand Virahsawmy, GOSK, FCCA, Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development*



*Symbolic handing over of compost bins by Hon. Devanand Virahsawmy, GOSK, FCCA, Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development*



*Symbolic handing over of Waste Segregation bins by Hon. Devanand Virahsawmy, GOSK, FCCA, Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development*



*Symbolic handing over of tree/plant by Hon. Devanand Virahsawmy, GOSK, FCCA, Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development*



*Symbolic handing over of tree/plant by Hon. Devanand Virahsawmy, GOSK, FCCA, Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development*



*Symbolic handing over of tree/plant by Hon. Satya Veyash FAUGOO, Minister of Agro-Industry and Food Security and Attorney General*



*Symbolic handing over of tree/plant by Hon. Devanand RITTOO, Ministry of Youth and Sports*



*Cultural Items by students of the TRSS (Musical)*



*Cultural Items by students of the TRSS (Dance)*

***Earth Day 2014***  
***Tree Planting with the Sugarcane Industry***



***The Ministry of Environment and  
Sustainable Development***

**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2014 at 15.00 Hours**

**Omicane Milling Operations Limited,**

**La Baraque, L'Escalier**

## Tree planting with the sugarcane industry

**Date:**24 April 2014 at 15 00 hours

**Venue:**Omnicane Milling Operations Limited, La Baraque, L'Escalier

- Function was hosted by the *Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development* in collaboration with Omnicane Milling Operations Limited.
  
- The event was marked by the esteemed presence of
  - ❖ Hon. Devanand VIRAHSAWMY, GOSK, FCCA, Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development;
  - ❖ Hon. Tassarajen PILLAY CHEDUMBRUM, Minister of Information and Communication Technology;
  - ❖ Dr the Hon.AbyTwalib KASENALLY, GOSK,FRCS, Minister of Housing and Lands; and
  - ❖ Hon Maneswar PEETUMBER, Deputy Speaker
  
- Some 300 people were present for the event.
  
- The ceremony comprised:-
  - Symbolic Handing over of plants and cloth bags ; and
  - Planting of trees.





*Audience*



*Audience*



*Welcome Address by Mrs Sabine Auffray Moonien, Omnicane Group*



*Address by Mr Jacques M. d'Unienville, Chief Executive Officer, Omnicane Group*



*Address by Hon. Maneswar PEETUMBER, Deputy Speaker*



*Address by Hon. Tassarajen PILLAY CHEDUMBRUM, Minister of Information and Communication Technology*



*Address by Dr the Hon Abu Twalib KASENALLY, GOSK, FRCS, Minister of Housing and Lands*



*Address by Hon. Devanand VIRAHSAWMIY, GOSK, FCCA, Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development*



*Symbolic handing over of plants and cloth bags by Hon. Devanand VIRAHSAWMY, GOSK, FCCA, Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development*

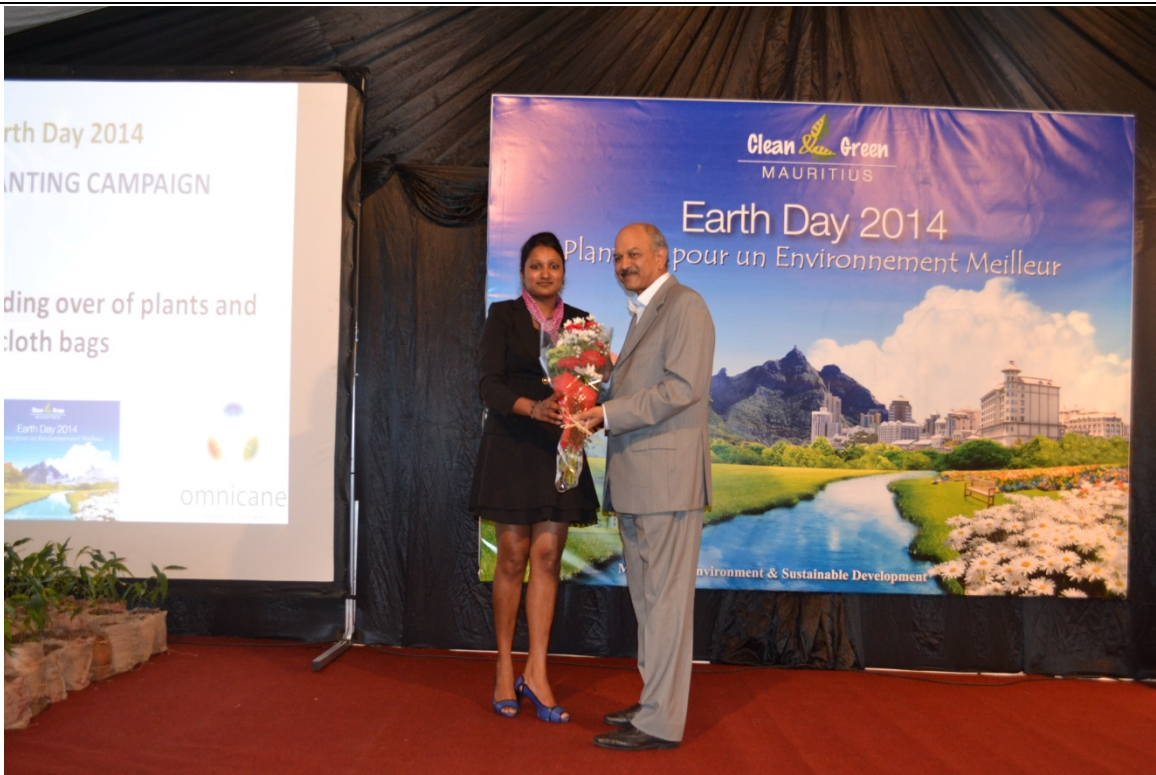


*Symbolic handing over of plants and cloth bags by Dr the Hon Abu Twalib KASENALLY, GOSK, FRCS, Minister of Housing and Lands*



*Symbolic handing over of plants and cloth bags by Hon Maneswar PEETUMBER, Deputy Speaker*





*Handing over gift to Hon. Devanand VIRAHSAWMI, GOSK, FCCA, Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development*



*Tree planting by Hon. Maneswar PEETUMBER, Deputy Speaker*



*Tree planting by Hon. Devanand VIRAHSAWMI, GOSK, FCCA, Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development*



*Tree planting by Hon. Devanand VIRAHSAWMI, GOSK, FCCA, Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development*



*Tree planting by Dr the Hon Abu Twalib KASENALLY, GOSK, FRCS, Minister of Housing and Lands*



*Tree planting by Mr Jacques M. d'Unienville, Chief Executive Officer, Omnicane Group*

