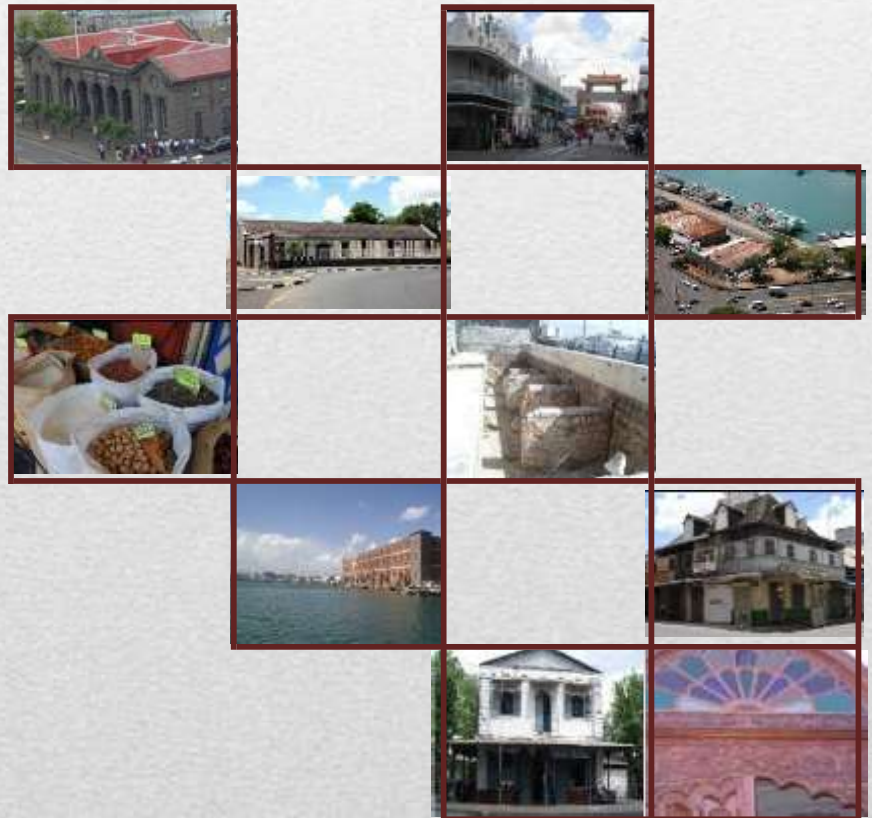


# ANNUAL REPORT JULY 2021- JUNE 2022



## Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund

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## 1. ACRONYMS

<b>AGTF</b>	Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund
<b>AG WHS</b>	Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Site
<b>AG WHP</b>	Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property
<b>BRIC</b>	Beekrumsing Ramlallah Interpretation Centre
<b>BZ</b>	Buffer Zone
<b>CM</b>	Conservation Manual
<b>DP</b>	Development Plan
<b>STAC</b>	Scientific Technical and Advisory Committee
<b>VMP</b>	Visitor Management Plan

## **2. INTRODUCTION AND ESTABLISHMENT OF THE FUND**

### **(i) VISION AND MISSION**

The mandate and the actions of the Trust Fund are guided by the following framework:

In 2001, the Mauritian Government set up a dedicated institution, the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund (AGTF), to document, manage and promote the Aapravasi Ghat as a national and international site. The AGTF is a parastatal body that operates under the aegis of the Ministry of Arts and Cultural Heritage.

The Trust Fund was mandated to:

- Establish, administer, manage, promote and maintain the Aapravasi Ghat as a national, regional and international heritage site;
- Preserve, restore and manage the Aapravasi Ghat and the sites specified in schedule 2 of the Act;
- Set up a museum at Aapravasi Ghat and create public awareness of the history of indentured labour;
- Promote social and cultural aspects of the sites specified in schedules 1 and 2 of the Act;
- Encourage and support projects and publications related to the Indentured Labour;
- Establish links with appropriate national, regional and international organizations in line with the objects of the Act;
- Identify and acquire sites, buildings and structures associated with indentured labour; and
- Encourage and support interdisciplinary scientific research related to indentured labour and to the sites specified in schedules 1 and 2.

The Trust's guiding principles include:

- Support of activities related to indentured Labour immigration;
- Support projects that benefit all Mauritians and in which Mauritians from all walks of life can participate. This includes the conceptualization, planning and execution of projects;
- To restore the links with past and our origins that have been broken as a result of rapid modernization and to restore pride into our indentured Heritage;
- To carry out projects in a democratic spirit, in a historically accurate way and in full respect of the multi-cultural society in which we live;

The Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund, a corporate body which operates under the aegis of the Ministry of Arts and Cultural Heritage. it was established following enactment of the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund Act in 2001 and became operational as from 2002.

## (ii) AAPRAVASI GHAT WORLD HERITAGE SITE



The Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund AGTF is a body corporate under the aegis of the Ministry of Arts and Culture. It was created in 2001 by the Government of the Republic of Mauritius through Act of Parliament to manage and promote the Aapravasi Ghat Site.

The site was declared National Monument under the National Monuments Act in 1987(GN31/87) and subsequently proclaimed National Heritage in 2003 under the National Heritage Act 2003.

The Aapravasi Ghat Site was inscribed on the World Heritage List under criteria (VI) in 2006 (Decision 30 COM 8 B.33). The concept of World Heritage was developed by UNESCO to define cultural and natural heritage that are irreplaceable, unique and authentic, not only for the nation to which they belong, but also for humanity as a whole. It is considered that the loss of this heritage through deterioration or disappearance would generate an impoverishment of the heritage of all the peoples of the world. As such, their significance is of Outstanding Universal Value<sup>1</sup> (OUV).

The Aapravasi Ghat was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 2006. The World Heritage Status is defined by the *Convention concerning the protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage* (1972) of UNESCO and by the *operational Guidelines for the implementation of the World Heritage Convention* (2008).

The inscription of the Aapravasi Ghat recognizes the Outstanding Universal Value of the Site as a symbol of the Great Experiment initiated in 1834 by the British Colonial Government to evaluate the viability of *indenture* as a system to recruit “free” labour after the abolition of slavery in the British Colonies in 1833.

*“The first site chosen by the British Government in 1834 for the great experiment in the use of indentured rather than slave Labor, is strongly associated with memories of almost half a million indentured labourers moving from India to Mauritius to work on sugarcane plantations or to be transshipped to other parts of the World.”*

## (ii) BUFFER ZONE

A Buffer Zone<sup>2</sup> (BZ) was delimited for Aapravasi Ghat (AG) World Heritage Site (WHS) to allow the full expression of the outstanding significance of the World Heritage Site as per UNESCO *Convention concerning the protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage*. In its Convention, UNESCO explains that the Buffer Zone is important as it represents the context in which the World Heritage Site has evolved through time. As such, it is a fundamental element supporting its cultural significance at national and international level. This is the reason why appropriate measures are enforced in the Buffer Zone to protect, preserve, enhance and promote the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the World Heritage Site. The ultimate objective is to create a suitable environment supporting the retention of the heritage in the BZ, and also, its sustainable development.

When the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 2006, the Buffer Zone had no legal protection. The Buffer Zone was proclaimed a legal entity in June 2011 with the legal protection provided by:

- The Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund Act (amended 2006 and 2011) defining the boundaries of the Buffer Zones;
- The Local Government Act 2003 (amended 2011) making provision for the creation of a system to monitor development in the Buffer Zones; and
- The Planning Policy Guidance 6 - Urban heritage area: Buffer Zone of Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property (PPG 6) provides with a set of planning guidance in the Buffer Zone to orientate development towards the valorisation and revitalization of the area which holds attributes associated to the outstanding universal value of the property.

The actions of the Trust Fund are therefore guided by this legal framework and also by key documents required by UNESCO.

The framework for the management, preservation and promotion of the World Heritage Property is described in the Management Plan. The **Management Plan** is the overarching document presenting the overall strategy for the conservation, management and the promotion of the World Heritage Property and its surroundings.

To address further specific issues that may affect the World Heritage Property, the Management Plan is complemented by supporting documents addressing:

- visitor management;
- risk management;
- management mechanisms for the Buffer Zone;
- urban planning for the conservation of heritage and its revitalisation in the Buffer Zone;
- actions for the implementation of the vision for development;
- measures for conservation management and enhancement.

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<sup>2</sup> The concept of buffer zone is explained in the annex.



### **3. PROFILE OF THE AGTF**

#### **i. CORPORATE GOVERNANCE**



The Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund is a statutory body set up under the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund Act No 31 of 2001 operating under aegis of Ministry of Arts and Cultural Heritage. The Fund ensures that proper standards of Corporate Governance are maintained. The report had been prepared as far as practicable in accordance with the code of Corporate Governance.

#### **ii. DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The Fund's Directors are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Accounting Standards issued by Financial Reporting Council in compliance with the requirements of prevailing statutes.

#### **iii. DIRECTOR APPOINTMENT PROCEDURES AND DUTIES**

As per AGTF Act of 2001, the Board shall appoint a Director and determine his terms and conditions of appointment with the approval of the Minister. The Director will be responsible for the execution of the policy of the Board and control and manage the day to day business of the fund. Moreover, the director during his exercise of his function shall act in accordance with directions receive from the Board. With approval of the Board he may delegate his powers to a member of staff. The Director's contract has been renewed for one year until February 2023 by the AGTF Board.

#### **iv. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The fundamental statutory responsibilities of the Board of Directors are to lay down the overall policies regulating the various business/ activities of the Fund; it oversees the Fund's strategic direction and its organizational structure. The Board discharges the above responsibilities either or through Board Committees for more in-depth analysis and review of various issues while retaining its responsibility for all policy matters. The Board, as the local part of the Corporate Governance System, was ultimately accountable and responsible for the performance and affairs of the fund. Its main responsibility was to determine the Fund's strategies, policies and values for implementation of the objects of the Fund as define in the Act.

#### **v. ROLE AND FUNCTION OF CHAIRMAN**

The Chairman of each Committee periodically places reports of its proceedings before the Board for approval/information, as may be relevant. The Board promotes openness, integrity and accountability to

improve corporate behavior, strengthens control systems over business and reviews management performance on a regular basis. In addition, the Board is committed to ensure as far as reasonably possible, and in accordance with legislation in force, the safety and health of its staff. To fulfill their responsibilities, Board members have unhindered access to accurate, relevant and timely information. The chairman of the AGTF was a non- executive and the core role and function of chairman are:

- to preside over meetings of the Board and to ensure its smooth functioning in the interest of good governance;
- to encourage and ensure active participation of members in discussion and Board Matters;
- to ensure all relevant information and facts are placed before the Board to enable members to reach decisions;
- execution of documents in accordance with section of the Act;
- signing of cheques of the Fund.

**vi. INTERNAL CONTROL**

Directors' responsibility includes designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

The Board was primarily responsible for the effectiveness and efficiency of the system of internal control while the design, implementation and monitoring of the devolves on management.

Such systems should ensure that all transactions are authorized and recorded and that any material irregularities are detected and rectified within a reasonable time frame.

.....  
Chairman

.....  
Board Member

## **vii. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE FUND AND ITS OBJECTIVES**

### **❖ THE OBJECTIVES OF THE FUND**

The main objectives of the Fund are to establish and promote Aapravasi Ghat as a national, regional and international site, set up a museum at Aapravasi Ghat, create public awareness in the history of the site and depict the arrival, settlement and evolution of indenture in Mauritius. It also has to identify and acquire sites, buildings and structures linked with the history of the arrival of immigrants and promote the social and cultural aspects of Aapravasi Ghat.

### **❖ ADMINISTRATION**

The Fund is administered by a Board comprising of a Chairperson, a Vice Chairperson and 13 members all appointed by the Minister of Arts and Cultural Heritage under whose aegis the Fund operates.

### **❖ SOURCES OF INCOME**

The main source of income of the Fund is derived from the Government. Hence the Fund has to depend entirely on government grant which are used for different projects and administrative purposes.

### **❖ THE MAIN DIVISIONS**

For the execution of the policy of the AGTF Board and for the control and management of its day to day business, the Fund has the following main divisions:

- (a). The Administrative Section;
- (b). The Technical and Research Section;
- (c). The AGTF Documentation Centre, and
- (d). The Beekrumsingh Ramlallah Interpretation Centre.

### **❖ TOP MANAGEMENT**

In accordance with section No 21 of the AGTF ACT 2001 and subsequently amended in 2011.

- the Director shall be responsible for the execution of the policy of the Board for the control and management of the day to day business of the Fund.
- every member of the staff shall be render the administrative control of the Director

### **❖ ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION**

Director shall be responsible for the execution of the policy of the Board and for the control and management of the day to day business of the fund.

The Administrative Secretary is directly responsible for the general administration including the Personnel Division and acts inter-alia as Secretary to the Board.

The Administrative Section is staffed by incumbents in the grades of Administrative Secretary (1), Accounting Technician (1), Program Coordinator (1), Management Support Officer (4), Accounts Clerk (1), Confidential Secretary (1) and Office Attendant/Driver (3) in the absence of Director, the Administrative Secretary was acting as Officer-In- Charge since January 2015 till January 2021. In February 2021 the Director was recruited on a contractual basis for AGTF. Mrs Gyaram Indira Devi- Program Coordinator gone on pre-retirement as from February 2021 and one staff was acting as Program Coordinator.

#### ❖ **TECHNICAL AND RESEARCH SECTION**

This unit is responsible for the implementation of projects and activities defined by the Management Plan of the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property as well as the projects defined in the strategic plan to meet the objects of the Fund.

The Technical and Research Section is composed of 33 members in the posts of Head Technical Unit (1), World Heritage Site Manager (1), Heritage Interpretation Manager (1), Researcher (1), Research Assistant (5), Field Guide (1), Heritage Guide/Public Outreach Officer (3), Site Conservation Worker (7), Security Guard (7), Gateman (1) and General Worker (3). The unit is managed by the Head Technical Unit (1). One Heritage Guide/Public Outreach Officer retired on marriage ground and one Heritage Guide applied for one year leave without pay. Same was approved by the AGTF Board.

#### ❖ **RISK MANAGEMENT POLICY**

Risk Management Policy has been disclosed in the Financial Statement. The risk management was to direct the responsibility of the Board. Risk assessment and the quality of risk management process was the responsibility of the management.

#### ❖ **HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY**

With the coming into force of the Occupational Health and safety Act 2005, this organization recognizes the fundamental importance of Health and safety of its staff members and other persons who may be directly affected by its activities. This organization complies with all relevant Health and Safety legislation. Protective clothing and equipment are supplied to staff working on different sites. Firefighting equipment, first aid boxes are fixed in places to ensure rapid and easy use.

With the propagation of the virus known as Covid-19 infection, we have been adhering to the measures taken whenever there is a suspected case of the Covid-19 infection. The procedures are being followed for cleaning and disinfecting premises. The new normal policies namely: checking of temperature on arrival of staff at office, hand sanitizer and social distancing are being observed.

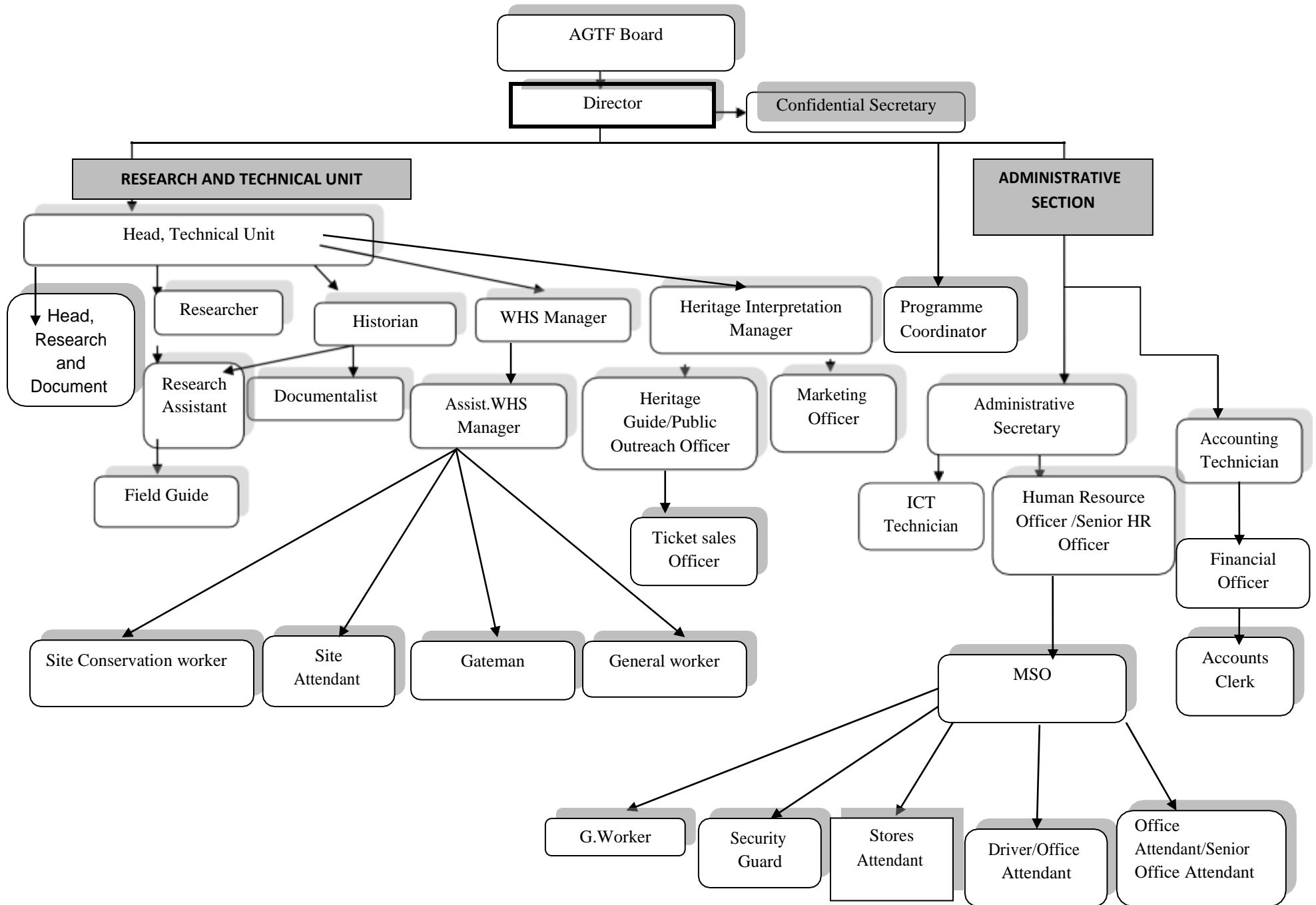
❖ **REGISTERED OFFICE**

14th & 15th Floor, Hennessy Court Building  
Pope Hennessy Street,  
Port Louis

❖ **AUDITORS**

Director of Audit  
National Audit Office  
14<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Paille en Queue Court  
Port Louis

❖ ORGANISATIONAL CHART



#### **4. COMPOSITION OF THE AAPRAVASI GHAT TRUST FUND BOARD**

The Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund is responsible for the day-to-day management of the World Heritage Property. The Board of the Trust Fund is composed of 16 members as follows including the Chairperson and a Vice-Chairperson:

- One representative of the Prime Minister’s Office;
- One representative of the Ministry of Finance and Economic, Planning and Development
- One representative of the Ministry of Arts and Cultural Heritage;
- One representative of the Ministry of Education and Human Resources, Tertiary Education and Scientific Research
- One representative of the Ministry of Tourism
- One representative of the High Commission of India;
- One representative of the Mahatma Gandhi Institute;
- One representative of the National Heritage Fund;
- 7 Members from the local community.

SN	Names	Details
1	Mr D Y D Dhuny Mr R Kanhye	Chairman Chairman nominated as from 20.01.2021
2	Mrs S Gokhool Mr M Jhummun	Vice -Chairperson Vice Chairperson as from nominated as from 20.01.2021
3	Mrs A S Jaunhangeer Mrs U Sohar	Representative from Ministry of Arts and Cultural Heritage
4	Mrs K F Boodhoo	Representative from Prime Minister's Office
5	Mr D Mathoora	Representative from the Ministry of Finance Economic, Planning and Development
6	Mr N N Seedoyal	Representative from Ministry of Tourism
7	Mr S Dowlutrao Mr Ramjuttan	Representative from National Heritage Fund
8	Mrs U D Kowlessur Dr G. Bissessur	Representative from Mahatma Gandhi Institute
9	Mrs L D Rupear	Representative from Ministry of Education and Human Resources
10	Mr A Kapoor Mr S Pahuja	Representative from High Commissioner of India Representative from High Commissioner of India nominated as from 26.02.2021
11	Mrs S Ramlallah	Member
12	Mr D Beejan	Member nominated as from 20.01.2021
13	Mrs J B Mahadoo Mrs K Dookeeram	Member Member nominated as from 20.01.2021
14	Ms D Boodhooa Mr Teckman Ennergeet	Member Member nominated as from 20.01.2021
15	Dr Anwar Janoo	Member

#### 4.1. REMUNERATION OF CHAIRMAN AND BOARD MEMBERS

The Chairman, members of the board and other committees were remunerated in accordance with the provisions made in the Pay Research Bureau Report- the Chairman is paid a monthly fee amounting to Rs 28,500.00, and Board member fee of Rs 890.00/sitting.

#### 4.2. BOARD AND SUB-COMMITTEES

The Board had set up various committees appointed under its powers conferred by the AGTF Act with specific delegated responsibilities

4.2.1. A Finance committee- To make recommendations to the Board in respect of any financial matters in particular all capital expenditure and recurrent expenses

4.2.2. A staff committee which: -

- (i) Recommended to the Board on all staff matters, in particular relating to recruitment, promotion, training etc
- (ii) Advised the Board on matters relating to employment policy and strategies and human resource development etc including discrepancies matters.

#### 4.3. PROFILE OF BOARD MEMBERS

- (1) Mr Rishiraj Kanhye was nominated as Chairman of AGTF as from 20 January 2021 at the AGTF and he was working as an Education Officer in the previous year's.
- (2) Mr Mukesh Jhummun was nominated as Vice Chairman as from 20 January 2021 at the AGTF and he was working as an Education Officer in a Private Secondary School.
- (3) Mr Jatin Dindoyal is the Principal Information Officer at the Prime Minister's Office and is the representative of the said Ministry on AGTF Board
- (4) Mrs A S Jauhangeer is the Principal Culture Officer at the Ministry of Arts and Cultural Heritage and is the representative of the said Ministry on AGTF Board.
- (5) Mr Mr Nirvaan Nareshlall Seedoyal is the Assistant Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Tourism and representative of the said Ministry on AGTF Board.
- (6) Mr D Mathoora is working as Senior Analyst at the ministry of Finance, Economic, Planning and Development and represents the said ministry on the Board.
- (7) Mr Bissessur is working as Senior Lecturer/Head at Mahatma Gandhi Institute in the department of, Bhojpuri, Folklore & Oral Traditions.
- (8) Mrs L D Rupear is the Assistant Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Education and Human Resources, Tertiary Education and Scientific Research and is the representative of the said Ministry on AGTF Board.



- (9) Mr. Shivajee Dowlutrao is the Officer in Charge of the National Heritage Fund and represents the fund on AGTF Board.
- (10) Mrs Sunita Pahuja is the Second Secretary and represents the High Commission of India in the AGTF Board.
- (11) Mrs Sadhna Ramlallah is a nominated member.
- (12) Mr Devanund BeejanBeejan was a nominated member in the AGTF Board as from 20 January 2021. It is to be noted that the passed away in month of April 2022
- (13) Mrs Krishnawtee Dookeeram is a nominated member in the AGTF Board as from 20 January 2021
- (14) Mr Teckman Ennergeet is a nominated member in the AGTF Board as from 20 January 2021.
- (15) Dr. Anwar Janoo is a nominated member and was a Senior Lecturer at the University of Mauritius
- (16) Mrs Jayshree Cooshna is a nominated member

**4.4. CONSTITUTION OF SUB-COMMITTEES IN 1 JULY 2021 TO 30 JUNE 2022**

(A)	<b>Finance Committee</b>	
SN	Names	Details
1.	Mr D Mathoora	Representative from Ministry of Finance, Economic, Planning and Development (Chairperson)
2.	Mr J Dindoyal	Representative from Prime Minister's Office
3.	Mrs A S Jaunhangeer	Representative from Ministry of Arts and Cultural Heritage
4.	Mr N Seedoyal	Representative from Tourism
5.	Mr M Jhummun	Member

(B)	<b>Staff Committee</b>	
SN	Names	Details
1.	Mrs A S Jaunhangeer	Representative from Ministry of Arts and Cultural Heritage (Chairperson)
2.	Mr J Dindoyal	Representative from Prime Minister's Office
3.	Mr D Mathoora	Representative from Ministry of Finance, Economic, Planning and Development
4.	Mr S Dowlutrao	Representative from National Heritage Fund
5.	Mrs K Dookeeram	Member

(C)	<b>Editorial Committee</b>	
SN	Names	Details
1.	Dr A Janoo	Chairperson
2.	Mr J Dindoyal	Representative from Prime Minister's Office
3.	Dr G Bissessur	Representative from Mahatma Gandhi Institute
4.	Mr Jhummun	Member
5.	Mrs K Dookeeram	Member
6.	Mrs S Ramlallah	Member

(D)	<b>Technical Committee</b>	
SN	Names	Details
1.	Dr A Janoo	Chairperson
2.	Mrs A S Jauhangeer	Representative from Ministry of Arts and Cultural Heritage
3.	Mr S Dowlutrao	Representative from National Heritage Fund
4.	Dr G Bissessur	Representative from Mahatma Gandhi Institute

(E)	<b>Hindi Committee</b>	
SN	Names	Details
1.	Dr G Bissessur/Dr A Chintamani	Representative from Mahatma Gandhi Institute ( Chairperson)
2.	Mrs Sunita Pahuja	Representative from Indian High Commission
3.	Mr D Beejan	Member
4.	Dr A Janoo	Member
5.	Mr M Jhummun	Member

(F)	<b>Buffer Zone STAC Committee</b>	
SN	Names	Details
1.	Dr A Janoo	Member (Chairperson)
2.	Mrs A Sahebally	Representative from M Ministry of Arts and Cultural Heritage
3.	Mr N N Seedoyal	Representative from Ministry of Tourism
4.	Mr S Dowlutrao	Representative from National Heritage Fund
5.	Mr M Jhummun	Member

<b>(G) Events Committee</b>		
<b>SN</b>	<b>Names</b>	<b>Details</b>
1.	Dr G Bissessur	Representative from Mahatma Gandhi Institute
2.	Dr A Janoo	Member
3.	Mr M Jhummun	Member
4.	Mr T Enneergeet	Member
5.	Mrs K Dookeeram	Member

<b>(H) BRIC Shop Committee</b>		
<b>SN</b>	<b>Names</b>	<b>Details</b>
1.	Mrs T Cooshna	Chairperson
2.	Mr N N Seedoyal	Representative from Ministry of Tourism
3.	Mr D Mathoora	Representative from Ministry of Finance, Economic, Planning and Development
4.	Mrs S Pahuja	Representative from High Commission of India
5.	Mr M Jhummun	Member

**4.5. ATTENDANCE RECORDS & REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS OF MEMBERS**

In total, 10 Board Meetings, 3 Finance Committee meetings and 4 Staff Committee meetings were held during the year 1 July 2021 - 30 June 2022.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Board</b>	<b>Finance</b>	<b>Staff</b>
Mr R.Kanhye	10		
Mr B.Jhummun	10	3	
Mr N.Seedoyal	8	3	
Mr D.Mathoora	7	3	3
Mr J.Dindoyal	5	2	4
Mr S.Mohesh	1		
Mr A.Janoo	10		1
Mrs A.S Jauhangeer	7		3
Mrs J.Cooshna	6		
Mr T.Ennergeet	5	1	
Mr Dev Beejan	7		2
Mrs Sunita Pahuja	5		

Mrs K.Dookeeram	6		3
Mr S.Dowlutrao	6		4
Mrs S.Ramlallah	8		
Dr G.Bissessur	6		
Mrs F.Chamroo	1	1	
Mrs L.D Rupear	3		
Mr Jayen Ramasamy	2		
Mrs K.Ramasamy			3
Mrs Ramyead			1

**4.6. NUMBER OF MEETINGS**

**4.6.1. HOLDINGS OF MEETINGS**

For the period under review, the main Board meeting of AGTF held 10 meetings and the holding of sub-committees were as follows:

Finance Committee	3 times
STAC Buffer Zone Committee	1 time
Editing Committee	4 times
Yaj Committee	2 times
Bric Hindi Committee	2 times
Bric Shop Committee	1 time

**4.7. REMUNERATION OF DIRECTORS OF BOARD**

The Chairperson is entitled to a monthly allowance of Rs 28,500.

All other Board members receive an allowance of Rs 890 as per Board meeting and an allowance of Rs 815 per sub-committee.

The Chairperson of the following sub-committees receives an allowance of Rs 1,195 per sitting:

- Staff Committee;
- Finance Committee;
- Sub-Committee.

## 5. SENIOR MANAGEMENT PROFILE

- |                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| 1. Mr H. Ramgoolam  | Director<br>BSC Management- MBA   |
| 2. Mr V. Ramoutar   | Administrative Secretary<br>Master Degree in Public Sector Management   |
| 3. Ms C. Forest     | Head Technical Unit<br>PHD in Museology and Anthropology                |
| 4. Mr L.Andiapen    | World Heritage Site Manager-<br>Master Degree in Heritage Management    |
| 5. Mrs D.Chuckowree | Accounting Technician<br>Graduate in Public Sector Financial Management |

## 6. HUMAN RESOURCES

### 6.1. STAFFING AT AGTF

#### 6.1.1. RECRUITMENT POLICY AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICE AND EMPLOYMENT.

1. Since the creation of the fund in the year 2001, the organization had been gradually resourced with various staff to be fully operational. Recruitment of all staff was made in accordance with the AGTF Act and established principles and guidelines as applicable in the public sector. All recruitments were made through the recommendations of the staff committee meeting and approved by the AGTF Board.

**6.2. STAFFING POSITION**

Staffing positions on establishment or contractual are as follows:

**6.2.1. Members of Administrative Unit**

<b>Post</b>	<b>No. in Post</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
Director	1	Appointed as from 10 February 2021
Administrative Secretary	1	
Accounting Technician	1	
Confidential Secretary	1	
Ag Program Coordinator	1	
Accounts Clerk	1	
Management Support Officer	4	
Office Attendant	1	
Office Attendant/Driver	2	
Security Guards	7	
<b><u>Members of Technical Unit</u></b>		
Head Technical Unit	1	
World Heritage Site Manager	1	
Heritage Interpretation Manager	1	
Historian	1	
Researcher	1	
Research Assistant	5	
Heritage Guide/Public Outreach Officer	2	
Field Guide	1	
Site Conservation Worker	7	
Gateman	1	
General Worker	5	

**6.3. WORKSHOPS / LECTURES / TRAINING / CONFERENCES ATTENDED BY STAFF FOR THE PERIOD: JULY 2021 – JUNE 2022**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Institution</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Attended by</b>
<b>17 July ,31 July , 14 August 2021</b>	UOM/NET	OMEKA training	Mr Peerthum Mrs Bahadoor
<b>29 July 2021</b>	China	Online ICH training	Kiran
<b>01 to 09 November 2021</b>	Online training-ICCROM	Impact assessment	Mr Ramcharitar
<b>25 November 2021</b>	ICAC	Online training	Mr Ramoutar
<b>21 December 2021</b>	ICAC	Online training on Risk Assesement for parastatal Bodies State Council	Mr Ramoutar
<b>23-28 May 2022</b>	AWHF	Strengthening capacities of World Heriatge Professionals in Africa	Mr Andiapen
<b>23-28 May 2022</b>	AWHF	Young Leaders Award- South Africa	Mrs Poteah

**6.4. MISSION OVERSEAS**

Nil

**6.5. OFFICERS ON LEAVE**

**6.5.1. Leave without pay**

- Mr VMugon-26 September 2021 to 26 September 2022
- Ms Madvee Jane mMottea 29 July 2021-29 July 2022

**6.5.2. Injury Leave**

- Mrs S R Jhungoor- 3/3/22-5/3/22

**6.6. PROMOTION**

- Mrs Kiran Chuttoo Jankee: from Research Assistant to Researcher**
- Mrs Vijaya Beejadhur Poteah- From Heritage Guide/Public Outreach Officer to Programme Coordinator**

**6.7. RETIREMENT**

- Mr Ravind Basoodelsing

## 7. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

### FUNDS ALLOCATED FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2021-2022

For financial year 2021-2022 government has allocated.

#### ❖ RECURRENT GRANT

The government grant for recurrent expenditure was MUR 34,263,064 Million for the financial year 2021/2022 and the said amount was disbursed to the AGTF during the year.

#### ❖ CAPITAL GRANT

The AGTF has not received any capital Grant for this period.

## 8. THE RESEARCH AND TECHNICAL UNIT

The Research Unit and Technical Unit was created in 2003 and comprise of about 27 Staff.

## 9. VISITS AT WORLD HERITAGE SITE

The visit at the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Site includes a visit of the Beekrumsing Ramlallah Interpretation Centre (45 mins) and a visit of the World Heritage Site (20 mins). Due to Covid 19, most of the visits were conducted with the existing protocol as per Ministry of Health and Quality of Life (MOHC).





The Interpretation Centre is a permanent exhibition area that retraces the experience of indentured labourers and the key role of Mauritius in the history of indenture.

The Centre opened on 3 November 2014. It was inaugurated on 2nd November 2014 in the context of the 180th Anniversary of the arrival of indentured labourers in Mauritius.

The Centre was named after Beekrumsing Ramlallah (1915-2000), Journalist and Member of Parliament, in homage to his commitment to recognize the Aapravasi Ghat as a landmark in the history of the nation.

### **9.1. ACTIVITIES**

Guided visits of the World Heritage Site (20 mins);

Guided cultural trails (45 mins – on booking on 217 7770);

Educational activities for children aged between 3 to 14 years old (45 mins – on booking on 217 7770)

Educational documentation can be downloaded from our website from the Page “Resources”: <http://www.aapravasighat.org/English/Education/Pages/default.aspx>

An Educational kit for teachers is available on demand and can be downloaded from our website: it includes information on the history of the World Heritage Site and proposes educational documentation for teachers in order to conduct activities with students in class.

A Quiz on the World Heritage Site and on the history of the Aapravasi Ghat Immigration Depot is also available. The students can fill in this quiz during their visit at the Interpretation Centre. Other quizzes for children are also available for download on our website (“Resources”) for further activities in class with primary and secondary students.

### **(I). PRACTICAL INFORMATION**

Opening Hours

Monday - Friday: 9.00 – 16.00

Saturday: 9.00 – 12.00

Closed on Sundays and Public Holidays

**AAPRAVASI GHAT**  
**WORLD HERITAGE SITE**  
**01 JULY 2021- 30 JUNE 2022**



## 9.2. IMPACT OF COVID 19 PANDEMIC ON VISITATION AT THE AAPRAVASI GHAT WORLD HERITAGE SITE

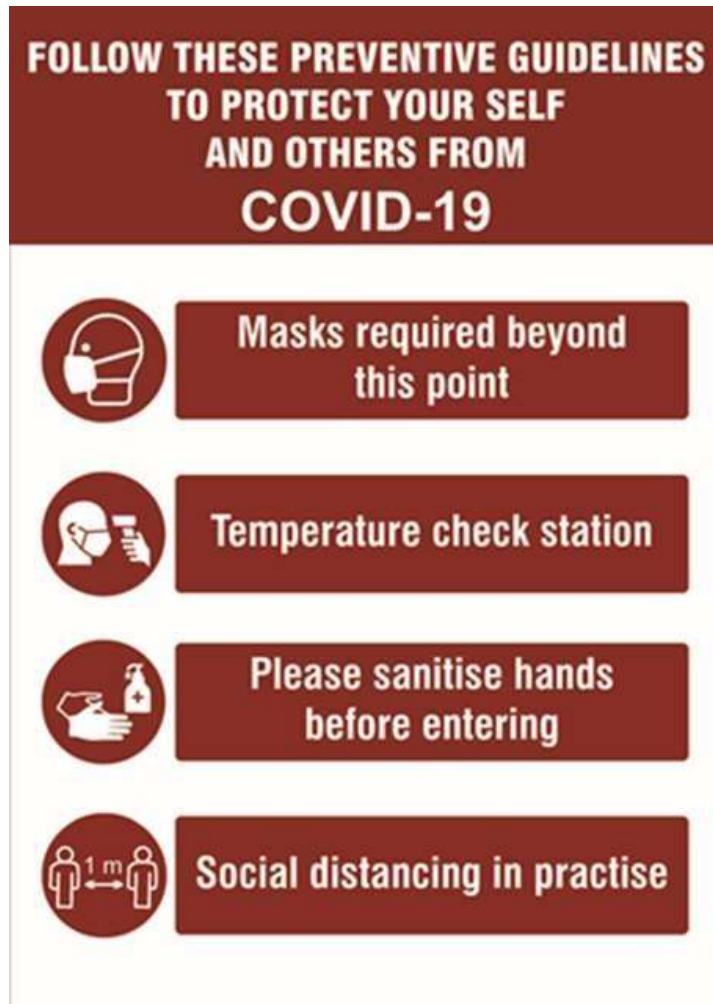


Figure 1 signage pruning measures for limiting the propagation of covid 19

routes and extra cleaning, protocols are among some of the changes that were introduced. Together with these sanitary measures, the Covid 19 led to a significant decrease in the number of visitors with the closure of the national frontiers.

These figures decreased further as the second wave of the epidemic affected Mauritius again in

2020 and 2021 have been exceptional one for the world at large. The Covid-19 pandemic has brought a number of unprecedented measures leading to think of new ways to promote and take care of our heritage. At the height of the crisis, it was reported that 90% of countries with World Heritage properties had closed or partially closed them and respondents to this survey still reported an average figure of 71% closure of sites in February 2021. Visitors to World Heritage sites dropped by 66% in 2020.

In Mauritius, the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Site opened its doors after almost 3 months of closure on 15 June 2020 introducing specific measures to responding to the Covid –19 preventions. Screening of temperature at the entrance, wearing masks, presence of sanitizer and signage reminding visitors constantly of the practice of social distancing, prescribed

March 2021 and the Aapravasi Ghat was closed to the public again.

Since its opening on 3rd November 2014, a total number of approximately 473 541 visitors visited the Centre as at 31st Aug 2022.

With the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, the tourism industry worldwide was affected, including Mauritius who witnessed a closure of its international borders as well as periods of national lockdown. A remarkable decrease is thus noted in the total number of visitors in 2020.

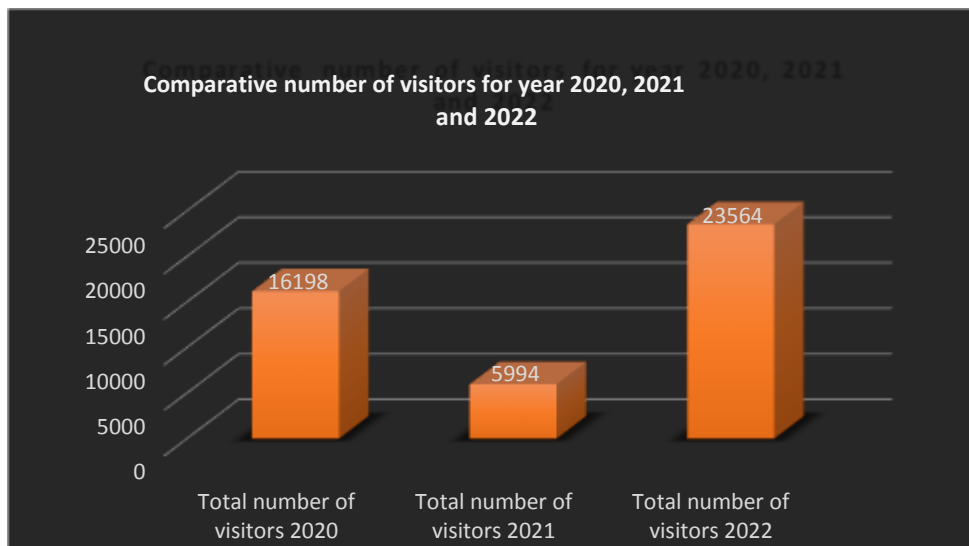
The year 2021 did not prove to be better for the tourism industry as well. With the imposition of strict sanitary restrictions, reluctance was still present in Mauritians to visit places of interest, including museums. A second lockdown in March 2021 further worsened the situation, with a decrease in total number of visitors reaching only 5994 throughout the year 2021.

Year 2022 saw new rays of hope for the tourism industry through the increasing number of residents being vaccinated against COVID-19 and the gradual lifting off of sanitary restrictions. The opening of international borders brought a fresh air to the Mauritian tourist industry through increasing influx of tourists. From January 2022 till Aug 2022, we have already received 23 564 visitors in BRIC and AGWHS.

From 3rd January to 31st Aug 2022, a total of around 23 564 visitors came to AG WHS including 48.5% Mauritians and 51% tourists.



**Chart 1: Number of visitors per month as from Jun 2021 to Aug 2022**



**Chart 2: Comparative number of visitors in 2020, 2021 and 2022 till Aug**

### 9.3. STUDENTS AND ASSOCIATIONS

The peak season for Mauritian visitors is normally the period between April and July when students normally perform outings with schools. During this period, the percentage of Mauritian visitors usually represents more than 60% of the total number annually received. Mauritian students have always formed part of a large segment of nearly 25% of the total number of visitors annually. However, Covid-19 pandemic had forced educational institutions to close their doors in 2020 and online classes were held mostly. With no educational tours being organized, the number of students visiting BRIC and AGWHS had significantly decreased to 2622 in 2020, compared to 10907 in 2019. A further decline was noted in 2021 with only 706 Mauritian students as visitors.

With the opening of academic institutions in 2022, organization of visits to BRIC has resumed and the number of students has also increased compared to the two previous years reaching 6515 from January till August 2022.

The secondary students opting for Travel & Tourism subject at the Higher School Certificate level select the museum of Aapravasi Ghat as a place of interest related to the historical and cultural heritage to conduct their event which counts a total of 17% as core subject and 33% for those opting same as elective. Training is provided to those students and then they came on a reserved date to conduct their event with their targeted audience. Many students choose Aapravasi Ghat for their event.

The students represent around 28% of the total number of visitors for 2022.

From Jun 2021 to Aug 2022, 146 schools visited the Interpretation Centre and 126 schools in 2022 and they are categorized as follows:

- Total of Pre-primary - 2 schools representing 70 children;
- Total number of Primary - 105 schools representing 5513 students;
- Total number of Secondary - 26 schools representing 782 students;
- Total number of Tertiary - 10 institutions representing 112 students;

- Total number of special needs associations/schools - 2 representing 65 children.
- Regarding Associations, the World Heritage Site received a total of 15 associations including mainly:
- Total number of 15 Senior Citizens Associations (SCA) representing a total of 741 visitors;
- Associations represent 3.5% of the total number of visitors for the year 2022.

Over the years we have been receiving different categories of visitors and recently over the last one year, we had the opportunity to welcome more diversified groups of people visiting BRIC each with a specific purpose.

Tour operators from Emotions, Mautourco, Silver Wings and MTPA bring many foreign visitors to visit AG. They are also provided with a training so that they can share basic information to tourists visiting BRIC and AGWHS.

Over the last one year, 75 scholars and researchers have visited BRIC.

People from International press have also shown interest in our Heritage site, for example 4 visitors from BBC Africa came at BRIC for promoting our museum and site through a clip which was broadcast internationally. In addition, we also had 10 other journalists who visited us.

10 people from the Mauritius Film Development Corporation (MFDC) have been to BRIC for the purpose of shooting, while 14 other individuals came for making small clips.

Around 200 people from the International German shooting of the 'Club Las Piranhas' by Top Tamarin Film I Ltd/ Spv of Two Oceans Production Company (Mauritius) Limited were in BRIC in Apr 2022 for two days.

The BRIC and AGWHS have also received the visit of many dignitaries:

DATE	NAME OF EMINENT PERSONALITY	COMMENTS
16 Jul 21	Honourable Avinash Teeluck, Ministry of Arts & Cultural Heritage	"15 years since the inscription of Aapravasi Ghat as a World Heritage Site. I believe the time has come to pay tribute to the other Jahaji bhai, who continued the journey to other shores, leaving their kin on the soil of Mauritius going to South Africa, Fiji, etc. These countries also have their own equivalent of Aapravasi Ghat. We must work with India and other countries to find the branches of this banyan tree. The roots are in India, but our history also resides in the branches, where the brothers and sisters of our ancestors were carried away as part of the Great Experiment"
02 Sep 21	Ms. Charlotte Pierre, British High Commissioner	"A special place ensuring Mauritius and Mauritians remember their history. Thank you for an informative and inspirational afternoon"
16-Mar-22	Ashad Jan - Pakistan High Commissioner	"It is indeed an honour to visit Aapravasi Ghat today. I had a wonderful guided tour that walked me through the history of Mauritius. Greatly preserved history and AG being secured by the UNESCO. The labourers who came from undivided shores were truly the ones who built Mauritius from uninhabited island to a great nation."
06-May-22	Hon H.S Kamboni – National Assemble of Zambia	"Very rich in history."
27-May-22	Shinichi Kitaoka, President of the Japan International Cooperation Agency	"This was really a great learning place. Thank You!"
31-May-22	Dr Zouberr Joomaye - Senior advisor to Prime Minister	"Really impressive historical collection, a fruit of intensive research and nice to keep alive the history of most of the Mauritians. Thanks to the Chairperson and Director of the Aapravasi Trust Fund."
27-Jun-22	Lim Ming Yan – Singapore Business Federation and Workforce Singapore	"Fascinating to learn about the system and the background to the origin of the Mauritius culture and history. Much respect for the grit, determination and perseverance of the Mauritius people."



15-Jul-22	Dr. Armooodum Parsuramen GOSK	"The visit of Aapravasi Ghat museum takes me back to my ancestors who landed here on 05 August 1884. I can feel the vibrations of their steps and sufferings endured to make me what I am today. I commend the Management of Aapravasi Ghat for the excellent display and tour of their journey".
03-Aug-22	Prof. Anunaya Chaubay - Anant National University Ahmedabad, INDIA	"An inspiring and humbling story of human endurance, courage and of innovation leading to triumph over adversity."
05-Aug-22	Prof. George Abungu- Kenya	"It is great to come back to AGTF and to meet the Chairman and Director. The site looks in very good order. I am very pleased."
05-Aug-22	Ambassadoe Paolo Guguli - Embassy of Italy Pretoria, South Africa	"Très beau site, réalisé avec l'aide d'une mission archéologique italienne."
23-Aug-22	Pujya Rajan, India	"I am so happy to see this Aapravasi Ghat & I feel so blessed."
24-Aug-22	Sheetal Choudhary - Indian Oil Corporation Ltd, Jaipur, India	"You have preserved my history for which I am extremely grateful."
24-Aug-22	Hon. Gladys Naeda - Parliament of Kenya	"A wonderful legacy to the nation."
24-Aug-22	Mr. Steve Banda - Parliament of Kenya & Vice-President of the Executive Committee of the Commonwealth	"A wonderful experience."

#### 9.4. OPEN DAYS

The International Day for Monuments and Sites are celebrated each year on 18th April where open days are held with various activities proposed by AG to encourage local communities to ponder on the importance of cultural heritage to their lives and to promote awareness as well. This year, the Open days were held on Sat 07 May (280 Mauritian + 63 Tourist = 343 visitors) and Sun 08 May 2022 (1020 Mauritian + 670 Tourist) = 1690 visitors, where AG received a total of 2033 visitors with many visitors participating in the pedagogical activities as well despite the presence of Covid-19 prevailing in the Mauritian society.



Parents as well participating in Colouring with her kids



Story Telling “Rajah a l’Aapravasi Ghat”



Kid interested in traditional “Jhanta”



Kids enjoying their activities along with their fathers

### 9.5. FOREIGN VISITORS

With no international passenger flights coming to Mauritius in 2020 and 2021, the number of foreigners in the island had greatly decreased, resulting in the least number of foreign visitors in BRIC in the history of AGTF. Worldwide vaccination campaigns against Covid 19 were successful and as from 2022, nearly all countries had opened their borders to international travel including Mauritius who has been welcoming tourists from all over the world.

The peak periods of the pandemic had urged people to stay indoors. After abolition of the sanitary restrictions, people from all over the world want to enjoy their freedom of travel and exploration. It has been positively noted that the number of foreign visitors in BRIC and AGWHS has been consistently increasing since the beginning of 2022, and visitors are coming from all parts of the world as illustrated in the chart below.



**Chart 3: % Mauritian visitors and tourist per month for Jun 2021 to Aug 2022**

Before 2021, the number of Mauritians visiting BRIC was much more than the number of tourists. This was due to the large proportion of Mauritian students who was coming to Aapravasi Ghat during educational tours. However, with the lockdown and closure of institutions, no student groups attended BRIC and the AGWHS. Hence, as depicted below, the percentage of Mauritians and tourists from June 2021 till August 2022, is almost the same with around 50 % distribution and the total number of tourists being slightly higher.

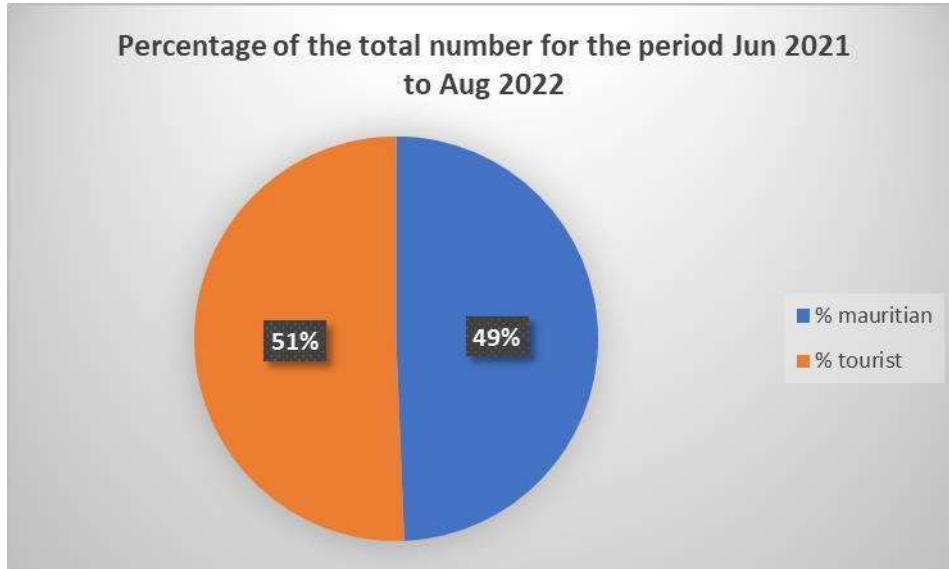


Figure 4: Percentage of the total number of visitors for the period January to December 2017

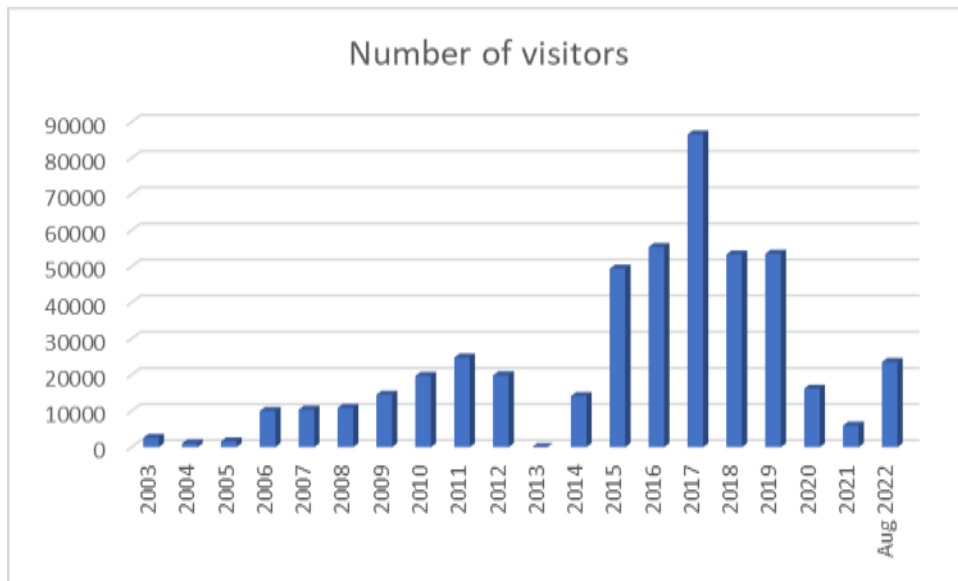
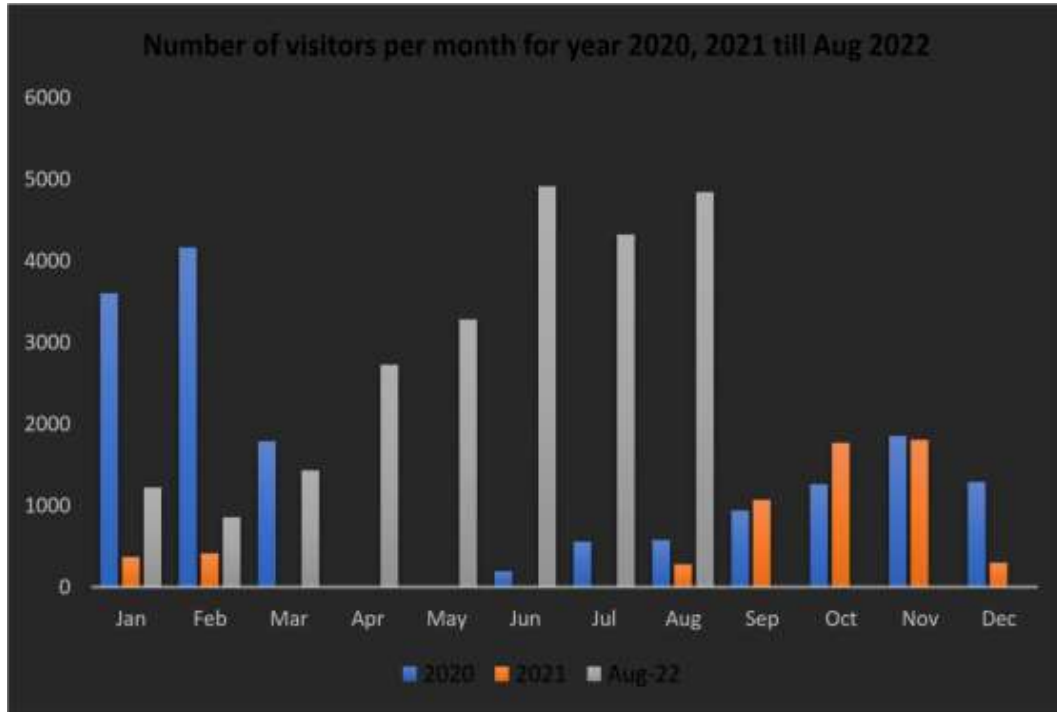


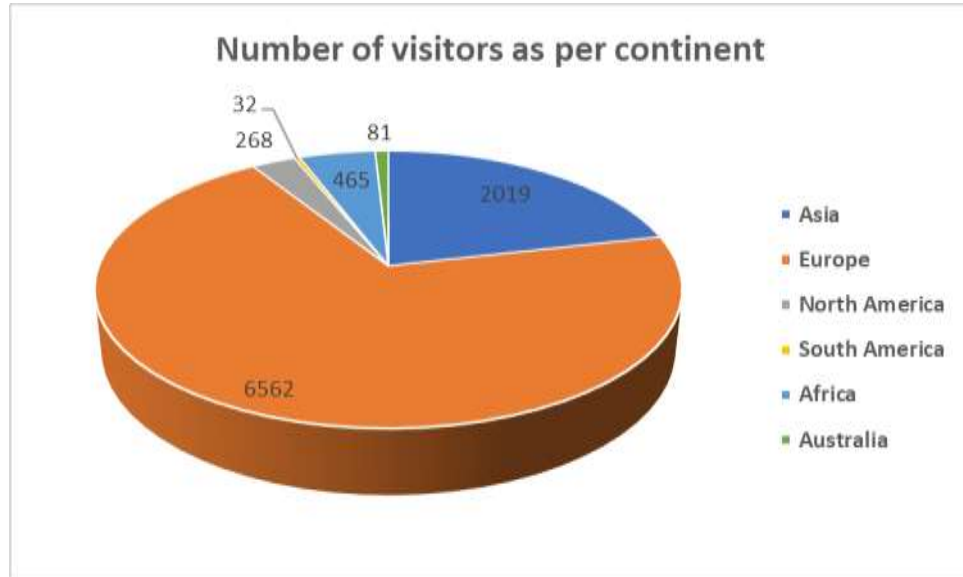
Chart 5: Total Number of visitors per year from 2003 to 2017

From the bar chart above, it is clearly visible that the total number of visitors per year has been consistently rising. From 2018 till 2020, with the outbreak of COVID 19 worldwide, there has been an unprecedented decrease. In 2022, as sanitary restrictions have phased out and international travel encouraged, there is already a higher number of visitors till August only, compared to the previous year.



**Chart 6: Number of visitors per month for year 2020, 2021 to Aug 2022**

From the chart above, it can be inferred that 2020 and 2021 have been almost similar in terms of number of visitors, with both periods of lockdown being in the same month mostly.



**Figure 1: Number of visitors as per continent**

The pie chart above shows that most of the tourists visiting AG come from Europe. After Europe, Asia is the second continent from where most of our foreign visitors come from.

9.6. SHOP IN BEEKRUMSING RAMLALLAH INTERPRETATION CENTRE

PUBLICATIONS	PRICE (Rs)	PUBLICATIONS	PRICE (Rs)
From Captivity to Freedom: “A history of the Liberated Africans Associated with the Aapravasi Ghat during 19 <sup>th</sup> Century”	35	The Struggle of descendants of Indentured Labourers in Early Modern Mauritius (1921-1945)	250
Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Site	900	Gokoola: “Family, Temple & Village”	250
Angaje Vol 1: “Early years ”	300	Angaje Vol 2: “The Impact of Indenture”	300
Angaje Vol 3 : “Post -Indenture Mauritius”	300	Rajah à l’Aapravasi Ghat (2009)	250
Health and Diseases and Indian Immigrants in 19th century Mauritius by Raj Boodhoo	450	Indenture : A brief History of Indenture in Mauritius and in the World (2007)”	50
Antoinette: “An invitation to discover the indenture heritage of Mauritius”	65	Sohar: “Mauritian Heritage, Vol 1, Birth songs from Mauritius and India”	250
Bras D’eau: The History of a sugar estate in Mauritius	400	Beekrumsing Ramlallah: “A Man of Principles”	100
Forbach: The History of Forbach Sugar Estate”	100	They came to Mauritian Shores	700
Commemorative Cover: “Commemoration of the 180 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Arrival of Indentured Labourers in Mauritius”	200	Vagrant Depot of Grand River, its Surroundings and Vagrancy in British Mauritius (2004)	250
Coupeuses D’Azur : “Hommage aux coupeuses de cannes”	250	Flat Island “A History of Quarantine in Mauritius”	400
Voices from the Aapravasi Ghat “Indentured imaginaries by Khal Torabully”	250	Forbidden Freedom: The experience of the Vagrants of the Vagrant Depot of Grand River North West and of the Other Vagrants in British Mauritius – 1879-1905”	35
AG Pin	150		

## 10. MANAGEMENT OF SITES UNDER THE PURVIEW OF THE AGTF

### 10.1. MAINTENANCE OF THE AAPRAVASI GHAT WORLD HERITAGE SITE


- Maintenance of the Trusses and beams inside the Hospital Block;
- Maintenance and repair of wooden shingles on roof of the Hospital Block as per maintenance plan
- Removal of algae from stone walls along the AGWHS;
- Removal of deposited carbon monoxide residue on walls of Privies Area
- Trimming of trees Bois Noir in front of Hospital Block
- Partial Repair of gutter at the back of the Hospital Block
- Repair of wooden pathway in front of BRIC;
- Site preparation for the annual commemoration function for the arrival of Indentured Labourers in Mauritius.



### 10.2. MAINTENANCE OF THE OLD LABOURERS' QUARTERS AT TRIANON


- Regular maintenance work to remove algae growth from walls inside the barracks
- Regular maintenance of the 2 acres of land including cutting of wild vegetation and application of herbicides;
- Reworked maintenance schedule for the Old Labourers' Quarters;
- Clearing of land identified for AGTF head office.
- Consolidation of metal entrance gate;
- securing of funds for the installation of panels at Trianon;
- Securing of funds for recruitment of a landscape architect for development of basic visitor facilities and provision for a mobile toilet container;
- On-going research development of Trianon Sugar Estate post indenture period.




**10.3. LIST OF BUILDING AND LAND USE PERMIT (BLUP) ASSESSED BY THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE AT THE CITY COUNCIL OF PORT LOUIS – JULY 202 TO JUNE 2021**

	Application & Location	Building ID & Grade	Nature of Application	Technical Committee held on	Recommendation of Technical Committee
1.	<p>Societe Va Siong Kwong Sow (Chinese Chamber of Commerce) Corner Royal and Corderie Street</p> 	<p>29/NE Grade 1</p>	<p>Renovation and addition</p>	<p>31 July 2020</p> <p>05 February 2021</p> <p>26 February 2021</p>	<p>Application was kept in abeyance.</p>
2.	<p>Late Bai Rehmatbai Waqf represented by Mr. Carrim Abdulla Currimjee Duke of Edinburgh Street</p>	<p>20/25/2/19/N1 Grade 1</p>	<p>Extension (Inner courtyard)  - <i>Proponent deviated from approved plans</i></p>	<p>05 February 2021</p>	<p>Application was recommended positively with conditions.</p>

	Application & Location	Building ID &Grade	Nature of Application	Technical Committee held on	Recommendation of Technical Committee
					
3.	<p>Société Marina Walk rep. by Ms Kinoo Salima Beegum 1, Dr Joseph Rivère Street</p> 	<p>24/S  Grade 3</p>	<p>Construction</p>	<p>26 February 2021</p>	<p>Application was kept in abeyance.</p>

	Application & Location	Building ID & Grade	Nature of Application	Technical Committee held on	Recommendation of Technical Committee
4.	<p>Late Rehmatbai WAQF rep. by Mr Carrim Abdulla Currimjee</p> <p>4/6, Sir William Newton &amp; Duke of Edinburgh Street</p> 	<p>20/25/2/19/N1</p> <p>Grade 1</p>	Fixing of Signage	26 February 2021	Application was kept in abeyance.
5.	Central Market	<p>16/W1/E4</p> <p>Grade 1</p>	Upgrading of fish and meat market	<p>31 July 2020</p> <p>05 February 2021</p>	Application was kept in abeyance considering that the proposed project is listed under the Action Area Plan (AAP) and an overarching HIA/VIA would be required to evaluate

	Application & Location	Building ID & Grade	Nature of Application	Technical Committee held on	Recommendation of Technical Committee
•	Quay & Farquhar Streets  			26 February 2021	same.

## **10.4. OBJECTIVE OF THE RESEARCH-BUFFER ZONE**

### **10.4.1. NEW RESEARCH ON THE FOOD PRODUCTION IN MAURITIUS BY MS RUNGHEN**

The aim of this project is to understand the contribution of indentured labourers, especially old labourers in this sector and the importance of the port in the subsistence of the colony during indentured period.

The research questions that the project seeks to answer are:

- What are the sources of food supply for 19th century Mauritius?
- Where does the food come from?
- How does the local food production contribute to this supply?

The research is being done primarily by collecting data from Blue Books about the importation of food items and volume and types of food that were produced. Additional sources identified for further research include: Annual Governor's Reports, District Commissioners Reports, The Protector of Immigrants Reports, Census Reports.

Contribution to publications based on reading for the project: Rezah M. Badal, Hemanaden Runghen, Maurina S. Runghen, Shameelah A. H. Mamode, Sivanee Munnaroo, In press. *Underwater Cultural Heritage in Mauritius – A glimpse into its Management Perspective*, in: *Across the Shore: Integrating Perspectives on Heritage, When the Land Meets the Sea*. Springer Science + Business Media.

### **10.4.2. ONGOING MAPPING OF INDENTURED POPULATION BY MS RUNGHEN**

The project was initiated in the context of the Indentured Labour Route and in collaboration with the Centre for Research on Slavery and Indenture of the University of Mauritius.

It aims at compiling the number of individuals who were employed as indenture labour and ex apprentices in Mauritius over the 19th century. The figures will be classified into categories according to gender, type of work, origin and place of residence in Mauritius (sugar estate and/or villages) to facilitate further analysis.

A Geodatabase is being prepared for this project by following online tutorials and lectures.

In addition, volunteers have started input using data already collected by the AGTF during various research projects. This data will be used to test the Geodatabase.

The project was presented during the ISC meeting held in January 2021

**10.4.3. ORAL HISTORY UNIT BY MS JANKEE AND MS RUNGHEN**

Research on the Oral history and intangible cultural heritage related to indenture

The objective of this project is to document the various facets of the indenture experience from the perspective of their descendants. Between 2005 and 2018, about 1,000 interviews and recordings were carried out under the various projects, namely:

Indenture to VRS (2005 to 2009);

an inventory of Intangible Cultural Heritage (2010), memories of the area around the Aapravasi Ghat (2011);

documentation of festivals and celebrations of indentured descendants (2016-2018); and

Geet Gawai documentation for monitoring following Listing on UNESCO's ICH Representative List (2017- 2018).

During the period July 2019 to June 2020, the team has focused on the following aspects in line with the mandate of the AGTF:

- i. Facilitating access to oral history and intangible cultural heritage related to indenture for the public, especially for researchers
  - a. To this end, the recordings done for the project "Indenture to VRS" (2005 to 2009) were catalogued. A simplified version of the catalogue will soon be available on the AGTF website.
- ii. The information gathered from the project "memories of the area around the Aapravasi Ghat" (2011) were reviewed and discussed in internal working sessions to review the objectives of the project. The new phase focused on the attributes of the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property to aid in better understanding the dynamics between the WHP and its context.
- iii. Focus is also laid on the transcription of interviews done to facilitate access to more researchers. Transcriptions
- iv. In addition, the transcriptions done in the past by interns or Field Guides are being reviewed to ensure a uniformity in methodology and in writing. The review process has revealed the following pitfalls when transcriptions are done without proper training or supervision:
- v. Transcribers tend to neglect transcribing questions. Since the interviews did not follow a set questionnaires but rather followed the flow of the conversation according to an outline of research questions, this might be an issue for interpretation in the future. Furthermore, since the content of the interviews are expected to be used by external researchers as well, this might be an issue when attempts are made to analyse the responses.
- vi. Transcribers tend to summarise answers. This might be an issue as the small details are

- lost in such processes. For example, if in answer to a question “did you go to school?” a respondent says “no, I did not go to school because it was too far”, and the transcriber just notes “no”; we lose the small detail: distance from school was a factor in education.
- vii. Spelling of words tend to differ according to the transcriber’s own pronunciation. For instance, the use of “ghai” instead of “gaye” for the Bhojpuri word for cow. This might lead to issues in interpretation. The task is even more difficult as there is no set dictionary for Mauritian Bhojpuri.
  - viii. Summaries in English with keywords
  - ix. While Mrs Jankee is reviewing the transcriptions, she is also preparing a summary of the interview and time references to facilitate connection between keywords and the interview. This information will facilitate the access to the interview by researchers and the retrieval of information in the long run. An average of 5 transcriptions are being verified and summarised per year.
- x. Promotion of the Oral History and Intangible Cultural Heritage related to indenture through events
  - xi. The team also organises the performance of Geet Gawai tradition bearers to welcome VIP visitors at the AG WHP.
  - xii. The team collaborated with the MGI team for the preparation of cultural items that reflect the indentured labourers heritage in the context of the 2nd November 2020 commemoration ceremony.
  - xiii. Promotion of the Oral History and Intangible Cultural Heritage related to indenture through reports, papers and presentations
  - xiv. Presentation on Phagwa during International Conference in March 2021
  - xv. An article on the importance of Phagwa was submitted for the 2021 AGTF Magazine
  - xvi. Promotion of the Oral History and Intangible Cultural Heritage related to indenture through video clips and other forms that can be easily disseminated across platforms
  - xvii. A clip showing the importance of bhel fruit was disseminated on AG HWP Facebook page in the context of the IDMS April 2020.
  - xviii. Worked in collaboration with the MBC to produce clips on and to promote indenture history and legacy through regular radio programs.
  - xix. New Oral History projects initiated during the period include:
  - xx. Oral History to document the attributes of the AG WHP

**Objectives of the research:**

1. Documentation of buildings such as Merchant Navy Club that no longer exist;
2. Document existing buildings and spaces such as Immigration square, Central Market, Jumma Mosque, Central Post Office, Citadel, China Town, La Corderie and other streets, Granary, Govt House etc
3. Document old Port Louis by asking people information on how Port Louis was before; this would help in localizing buildings no longer in existence and in documenting historic buildings.

**Aspects that were covered during the interviews**

1. Techniques of construction, sourcing materials, vernacular names for materials and techniques, changes made to buildings
2. Immigration square: How was it before? Symbolism and perception of people.
3. Communication and transport;
4. Train functioning in the Buffer Zone
5. Continuity and evolution in space use in Buffer Zone
6. Socio-economic activities in Buffer Zone
7. Craftsmanship
8. Games and traditional games in Buffer Zone
9. Port Activities
10. Calendar of activities
11. Symbolism in Buffer Zone
12. Major places, perception of the building by people, beliefs etc

Interviews were conducted during FY 2020-2021 for this project. In addition, .... Interviews done in the past to document the Buffer Zone of the Aapravasi Ghat and ... interviews done in the past while documenting the ICH related to indentured labour and their descendants were reviewed to extract information for the present project.

Assistance in the promotion of the intangible heritage related to indenture



- Mrs Kiran Chuttoo-Jankee also assisted in the preparation of popular and other events for the promotion of the intangible heritage related to indenture as follows:
  - a. Geet Gawai Utsav 2020 on 02nd December 2020 by the Bhojpuri Speaking Union
  - b. Contributed in a local movie- Geet Gawai- A Cultural Heritage by Varun Nunkoo, a project financed by National Arts Fund.
  - c. Two 30mins programs in Bhojpuri for program Ab aur Tab on Aapravasi Ghat and BRIC
  - d. Radio programs on Heritage in Bhojpuri Sharing of Oral History information and techniques
  
- The documentation of Mauritian History through the use of Oral History has gained impetus over the past years. Given our experience in the field, the AGTF and its staff, namely Mrs Kiran Chuttoo-Jankee were requested to share their experience for the following:
  - a. a project carried out by the Prof. Basdeo Bissoondoyal Trust Fund and the Mauritius Film Development Corporation under the aegis of the Ministry of Arts and Cultural Heritage for the production of a 26 mins documentary on Professor Basdeo Bissoondoyal.
  - b. a storytelling project carried out by CELPAC and MACH to disseminate Mauritian stories for the younger audience
  - c. dissemination of the Bhojpuri Speaking Union 2020 Short Film Competition “Evolution of Gandhi’s Life” – Parcours Mahatma Gandhi
  - d. Presented paper on ‘Phagwa’ festival in First International Conference on Phagwa organised by Trinidad and Tobago Heritage Centre in March 2021.

#### **10.5. PUBLICATIONS:**

- Writing a Chapter - ‘The Indian Ocean and the history of Indenture: the making of “new” nationals and nations’ for the book “Cultural Heritage Management in Africa” for Routledge publications
- Participating in British Academy Workshop for writing a Peer reviewed article on Creative and Cultural industries in Mauritius related to indenture in line with the theme of African Union declared for this year - “Arts, Culture and Heritage: Levers for Building the Africa We Want”.

## 11. RESEARCH AND ACHIEVEMENTS

1. During the months of June and July 2020, the documentation unit had to be set up and it took almost four weeks to put some order by reassembling the furniture, placing the books, cleaning the office, installing its modern amenities, and decorating the place at my own expense. New furniture was received later on during the year from the Mauritius National Archives.
2. A total of 61 visitors were received between June 2020 and July 2021 who came to consult the documentation unit records, seek information on their genealogy, on indentured labour, and Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Site. They included members of the Mauritian public, students, researchers, and scholars.
3. A 589-page 4<sup>th</sup> research report on the indentured labour in Mauritius entitled **“Exploring the Anatomy & Contours of Indentured Labour & Beyond”** which is a compilation of several long and analytical reports was submitted to Corinne Forest and AGTF during the first week of July 2021. Furthermore, they represent research covering a period of 3 to 5 years as fulfillment of my research agenda, annual PMS for 2019-2020/2020-2021, and research plan requirements which was prepared by Dr. Richard Allen in 2016 and 2017 together with the Research Unit. This massive report covers the Social and Economic Mobility, Land Purchases/Ownership, the Life-Experiences, Settlement/Spatial Distribution, Demography of Indian & Non-Indian Immigrants in Mauritius and Other Parts of the Former Plantation World During the Age of Indenture between 1826 and 1946 and even after. In addition, each chapter addresses the following topics in great details:
  - (i) More than 32,000 notarial acts from 8 notarial collections from 1843 to 1870 were examined and they concern the purchase, selling and leasing of land and numerous other activities by early Indian immigrants and their descendants in all 9 districts. It included a detailed analysis, quantification, contextualization, and

discussion of the relevance of these records. It also included details on more than 4899 Indians and Indo-Mauritians who purchased land during this era and became small landowners and around 1500 others who sold. It shows that during this period, they spent hundreds of thousands of pounds sterling and had access to capital and savings. It shows the rise of a small Indian and Indo-Mauritian landowning class in Port Louis and the rural regions between the 1840s and the early 1870s even before the urban and rural phases of the Grand Morcellement Movement.

The report has a 'List of Indian Immigrants who reached Mauritian shores between 1826 and 1852 and Indo-Mauritians who were born between 1836 and 1852 who were Proprietors and featured in the Notarial Records between 1843 and 1870' covering 144 pages. It contains detailed bio-data such the immigrant name (or Indo-Mauritian name), age, sex, date of arrival/date of birth, caste or religion, district where settled, occupation during or after their indenture contracts, status or if the immigrant or Indo-Mauritian is a proprietor, if married, if he/she signed the de Plevitz Petition, and on dozens among them who bought more than 10 arpents of land. Therefore, there are 9 items of information for each immigrant and Indo-Mauritian, so this list consists of between 41,000 to 44,000 bits of bio-data for these individuals who purchased land and were landowners between the early 1840s and early 1870s. They also include details on around 2036 individuals who signed the De Plevitz Petition in 1871 and who they were, but this is still an on-going research for the 5<sup>th</sup> research report.

- (ii) This report also covers the early period of indentured labour in Mauritius mainly between 1826 and 1843 and immediately after until the mid and late 1840s. It shows how the early indentured labour system emerged or its genesis as a reaction to the shortage of labour, the reforming and abolition of slavery, the apprenticeship system, and the sugar revolution. It highlights that at first it was a

private initiative, controlled and financed, by Mauritian and British planters and merchants under the supervision of the local colonial police. In addition, even between January 1826 and August 1834, before the arrival of the Atlas on 2<sup>nd</sup> November 1834, around 2250 Indian, Chinese, and Malagasy indentured workers were brought to work as contact workers to Mauritian shores.

It places a lot of emphasis on the Mauritian initiative in the importation of indentured workers which by 1843 became British-state controlled and state-sponsored. A lot of stress is also placed on the life-stories of Indian immigrants who lived and worked in Mauritius long and productive lives for 30 to 50 years with some even returning to India after 25 to 50 years. The experiences of several immigrants some who were also arrested as vagrants on several occasions and other who achieved some measure of social and economic mobility are covered. The early recruitment and the establishment of this system between India and Mauritius during the 1830s and early 1840s is also discussed.

- (iii) This report also covers in great detail the history of indentured labour and the social history of the indentured labourers in Mauritius, Reunion Island, Natal in South Africa, Queensland in Australia, Fiji in the Pacific Ocean, British Guyana and Trinidad in the Caribbean Sea between 1826 and 1946. It shows the arrival, settlement, labour, working and living conditions, and treatment of the indentured workers. It also highlights the issue of exploitation, resistance of the indentured and ex-indentured workers, vagrancy, immigrant agency, social and economic mobility of the indentured workers, the rise of landowning class, the late and post-indenture eras in each of those countries and territories. Each section contains several photographs and lithographs which saw the indentured labour system and the experiences of the indentured workers in different parts of the world. It also includes a bibliography which highlights hundreds of key archival, other primary,

and secondary sources on indentured labour, the experiences of the indentured workers, cognate and unfree labour systems, and the heritage sites and depots in each country. A general and very detailed bibliography for Mauritius is also included.

It also undertakes a quantitative analysis of the number of indentured and contract workers showing that more than 5.2 million men, women, and children were taken to work in around 69 countries, former colonies and territories with more than 3 million workers being taken to around 24 countries, colonies, and territories in the greater Indian Ocean World. Therefore, this large region of the world received around more than two thirds of the indentured and contract labourers between the 1820s and the 1940s. This report also discusses the heterogeneity of the indentured and contract worker global population showing that Indians, Chinese, Indentured/Liberated Africans, Malagasies, Rodriguans, Comorians, and other Africans, Pacific Islanders, Europeans such as the Portuguese and Norwegians, Japanese, Koreans, Vietnamese, Middle Eastern people, and other Asians were involved. Between the late 1800s and early 1900s, the local-born workforce who indentured themselves is also discussed.

- (iv) This report also includes the geographic and special distribution of more than half of the indentured immigration population or more than 235,000 Indian and non-Indian men, women, and children between the 1830s and the 1910s. This is illustrated through several charts, observations, and quantitative analyses, and an examination of the social, demographic, and economic context of each era of indenture such as the 1830s, 1840s, 1860s, 1870s, 1880s, and early 1900s and covers more than between 100 to 130 sugar estates in the 8 rural district and also the indentured workers in Port Louis town and district.

It also provides some information on 4899 Old Indian immigrants who achieved some measure of social and economic mobility, 16489 Indian contract workers who were highly mobile as workers, and a larger group of 134,741 Indian immigrants who reached Mauritian shores between 1826 and 1852. The early Indian pioneers of the indentured system in the island. For this exercise the MGI immigrant database was extensively consulted and used.

4. Between April and June 2021, a total of more than 70 scholars, writers, and institutions were contacted with requests for articles for the AGTF Magazine 2021 with 30 answering positively and 22 submitting articles.
5. Drafted 2 articles for the AGTF Magazine 2021 namely an interview with Mr. Ramgoolam and an interview with Dr Farzana Gounder. I also wrote an article for the Director in honor of SAJ and helped Christelle write the editorial for Chairman which was approved by the Chairman. I also wrote and submitted the draft messages for the PM and our Minister. Items for speeches were also sent to the Office of the President, Lord Mayor, and the Indian High Commissioner.
6. I was tasked as Chairman of the Indian Ocean Committee to organize the first webinar of the IOC back in December 2020. I presented the first report of the IOC in late January at the ILRP meeting. Between February and June 2021, more than 80 scholars and organisations local and overseas were contacted with an invitation which contained the title and main themes of the conference to submit abstracts and only 40 scholars and academics showed an interest and finally only 27 submitted including myself and BB of AGTF. The 1<sup>st</sup> report was also circulated. The programme and selection of abstracts were carried with the help of Corinne and BB. All the abstracts were gathered as well as the bio-data of the participants and a new file for the IOC was opened in June and July 2021. The duty sheet

was also drafted. Due to my father's ailing condition and my recent health issues, Mrs. Maurina Soodin and her team took over the organizing of the webinar which I joined later on. The webinar was held at the MFDC between 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> August 2021 which was a success and the next webinar will be held next yr.

7. I prepared answers for Director for his Port Louis Digest interview and large parts of the interviews I used for his interview with Vannakkam South Africa edited by Selvan Naidoo, member of the ILRP which was published in June 2021.
8. I undertook the training of 2 UOM students who majored in history for a period of 6 weeks in November and December 2021. They were shown how to analyze documents, provided with readings on indentured labour, provided with specific tasks, and how to write research papers etc. They were provided with a letter of recommendation and their reports were filled out by me as their trainer and certified by Dr. V. Teelock of UOM.
9. I worked on a storyline and editing of a 6-minute film with Babita and Mr. Khedun of ICV Mauritius on a young girl's search for roots and ancestors. This was shown on 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2020 at the 186<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the arrival of indentured workers at the SVICC.
10. I completed the PMS of Babita Bahadoor and Christelle M. Foh and my own which was approved by Corinne Forest in June 2020 and working on the one for the past year.
11. I completed on the Chagos documentary in June 2021 after more than year which was shown at the Trianon MCine in July 2021 where SAJ was the guest of honor and was launched by the MFDC. AGTF permission was obtained for this.
12. I worked on a documentary on Geet Gawai and its relevance in Mauritius and among the

youth in July 2020 which will be released in December 2021. AGTF permission was obtained for this.

13. I worked on text on together with the AGTF research team on indentured labour in the world including Mauritius, La Reunion, Natal in South Africa, Queensland in Australia, Fiji, Guyana, and Trinidad which was launched as an e-exhibit on 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2021.
14. Worked on a long and short version of messages from the scholars of indentured labour in Mauritius between August 2020 and January 2021 and it was a joint project between the MFDC and AGTF. Individual videos for each scholar were also produced. This was showed at Migrants International Day which was commemorated at AG site in December 2020.
15. I also gave a 10-minute talk with a detailed powerpoint on the achievements of AGTF between 2004 and 2020 at the special programme organized in mid-December 2020 in the context of International Migrants' Day.
16. Worked on a 6-minute documentary Remembering the inscription of the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Site (2006-2021) with was an AGTF and MFDC production.
17. Worked on 7-minute documentary on indentured labour in the world covering La Reunion, Fiji, South Africa, Guyana, and Trinidad.
18. Prepared a detailed file on the Atlas and its immigrants for the Indian High Commission during at meeting there in July 2020.
19. Submitted a chapter on the genesis of indentured labour in the e-book version of Coolitude Vol 2 in April 2020. AGTF was informed during confinement.



20. Submitted 2 academic articles, one dealing with the Ram Leela and Ramayana tradition in Mauritius and the other one dealing with indentured labour archives at the MGI, MNA, and NL of the Republic of Mauritius. They were published in La Reunion and edited by Dr. Michele Marimoutou and Jessica Play in December 2020 and I received a copy of this in February 2021.
21. My Membership of the Grande Chaloupe Indentured Labour Scientific Committee of La Reunion was renewed and the next conference will be organized shortly in November 2021 as a webinar as the last one was held in 2018.
22. Member of the DIASCOM study group and organized an on-line mini-webinar in November 2020 and May 2021 for a larger indentured labour and migration conference for November 2021. Member of DIASCOM since 2015 and with Khal Torabully managing the Atelier 5 on migration and indenture.
23. Member of the British Academy Journal Writing Programme and was requested by Dr. Clare Anderson of Leicester University to join the programme and doing mentoring in June and July 2021.
24. Member of the Advisory Committee of the forthcoming Fiji Conference in indentured labour, migration, diaspora, and unfree labour to be held as a webinar in Fiji in October 2021. Member since February 2021.
25. Made a presentation on indentured labour at the Allee Brilliant Community Centre where AGTF, MGI, MACH, and the local municipality took part in a cultural programme in the context of the arrival of the indentured workers in September 2020. An exhibit was also

organized where AGTF also contributed.

26. Made a presentation on the Indo-Christians at the St. Thomas Church in Rose-Hill for a function organized by IMCA or the Indo-Mauritian Catholic Association in September 2020 which saw the participation of the CRSI of UOM, Nelson Mandela Centre for African Culture, the Catholic Church, PMO, and MACH in the context of the unveiling of a plaque to commemorate the founding of the Church. An exhibit was also organized where AGTF also contributed.
27. Research work at the Carnegie Library in February 2021 when permission for research and to digitalise the archival records, books, pictures, and lithographs related to indentured labour and the indentured workers in Mauritius was obtained. From the Curepipe Municipal Council. This research will be reactivated during the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of September 2021.
28. In October 2020, a paper was presented on the History of the Muslim Indentured Labourers in Mauritius which will be published at the end of August 2021 in a major ICC publication entitled Mauritius and the Muslims where pictures from the Mauritius National Archives, National Library, Carnegie Library, and MGI Archives were provided with their permission. This book and souvenir photo album will be launched at the seat of the ICC at the end of October 2021 in the context of 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2021.
29. Published articles on indentured labour in *Le Mauricien* on indentured labour and Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Site in July 2020, November 2021, and July 2021.
30. In June 2021, at the behest of Corinne Forest, a presentation was made of the AG site and the importance of indentured immigration and the diaspora studies at the Africa Border

Day seminar which was organized and hosted by the PMO.

31. In May 2021, an evaluation of 8 short films on history and heritage of Mauritius and provided a short report and then changes were made. Afterward, in July 2021, provided a favorable review for 3 of them which had some serious shortcomings which were rectified between May and July 2021 and shown on MBC TV as part of the MFDC, MBC, and NHF's joint projects on short films on Mauritian history and heritage.
32. Member of the Colour of Labour Study Group of the University of Lisbon headed by Professor Cristiana Bastos since 2020 and with whom AGTF has cooperated with her projects since 2018.
33. Submitted a journal article in May 2021 co-authored with Kiran Jankee Chuttoo on the history and heritage of indentured labour and the intangible cultural heritage in Mauritius for the Dr. George Abhungu edited book on Cultural Heritage in East Africa and the Indian Ocean to be published by early 2022 by Routledge Press which will be revised, edited, and peer reviewed before being sent to the press.

## II. RESEARCH AND ACHIEVEMENTS

### 1. Research

#### **Commercial Activities in the Port area**

In light of the future developments occurring on the Port area and in order to better understand the commercial activities undertaken during colonial times, a research project was formulated. Archival research was also undertaken at the National Archives. Information concerning commercial transactions during the year 1825 to 1841 was gathered.

#### **Inventory of Heritage Site**

Research was carried forward for the inventory of heritage sites associated with the history and memory of indentured labourers in Mauritius. The research was carried out for the Indentured Labour Route Project. Further documentation and information was included in

the report.

### **Commemoration of the 187th anniversary of the arrival of indentured labourers in Mauritius E-exhibition**

In light of the commemoration of the 186th anniversary of indentured labourers in Mauritius, an e-exhibition on Indenture in the world was prepared. The storyline and text was prepared with information provided by the Research Unit. The E-exhibition highlighted the system of indenture in different regions of the world. The e-exhibition was launched by the Prime Minister, Honourable Pravind Kumar Jugnauth on the annual commemoration held on 2nd November 2020 at Swami Vivekananda Center.

Acted as coordinator for the preparation of the e-exhibition and its launching.

### **Panels for fencing**

A series of photographic panels, depicting the activities on the core zone and Buffer Zone of the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Site were prepared. Texts, pictures, captions and sources were provided.

### **Magazine 2020**

The AGTF Magazine 2020 was launched on the 2nd November 2021. The 2020 magazine was published mainly in e-format and featured the 14th Anniversary of the inscription of the Aapravasi Ghat on the World Heritage List. The magazine contained 33 articles highlighting the projects of the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund and research on indenture.

Acted as the coordinator for the publication and as the secretary to the Editorial Committee.

### **Open days**

Open days were organized as from the 7 November 2020, following the commemoration of the 187th anniversary of the arrival of indentured labourers in Mauritius. Guided visit of the World Heritage Site and the Beekrumsing Ramlallah Interpretation Center was proposed.

Assistance provided for guided visits.

## **2. 14th anniversary of the inscription of the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Site**

The 14th year of the inscription of the Aapravasi Ghat on Unesco's World Heritage List was celebrated on 16th July 2020 at the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Site. A simple event in the presence of the Minister of Arts and Cultural Heritage, the Honorable Avinash Teeluck, the High Commissioner of India, Mr Tanmaya Lal and the Mayor of the City Council of Port

Louis, His Lordship Mahfooz Moussa Cadersaib was organised to mark this event.

The event was marked by several highlights. A padlet was launched by the Honorable Avinash Teeluck. The padlet is an online virtual application and was created in view of sharing and communicating with the public, and giving them virtual access to the World Heritage Site, the Beekrumsing Ramallah Interpretation Centre and other resources related to indenture. A symbolic flag raising of the AGTF's flag also took place to highlight the achievements of the Trust Fund throughout the years. And lastly, Site Conservation workers, who often remain in the background during events, took the front stage to share their working experiences in the field conservation of heritage.

Assistance was provided to organize the event.

### **3. Indentured Labour Route Project**

Second Meeting of the International Scientific Committee

The second meeting of the International Scientific Committee was held on 25 January 2021. The meeting was held to report on project 2019-2020 and to work towards the action plan for 2021-2022. As part of the meeting, a webinar was also organized. Assistance was provided to organize the meeting and live translation was provided to French speakers.

The first result of the research on the inventory of heritage sites associated with the history and memory of indentured labourers was presented.

### **4. International Day for Monuments and Sites**

Due to lockdown, the International Day for Monuments and Sites was held online in partnership with the National Heritage Fund. An online conference pertaining to the different aspects of heritage in Mauritius was organised on Wednesday 21st April and the Nelson Mandela Center and the Le Morne Trust Fund.

The conference also emphasized the participation of students from the Sir Gaëtan Duval Ecole Hotelière, who presented a project on virtual museum. This conference attempted to highlight the complex and diverse heritage in Mauritius and provided new creative vision for the future generation. In parallel, short clips were created to promote the Mauritian heritage.

Three small clips were created to promote the event online.

### **5. International Migrants Day**

To mark the International Migrants Day, the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund organized an official ceremony on Friday 18 December 2020 at the Beekrumsing Ramlallah Interpretation Centre

at the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Site. The event paid tribute to the indentured migrants who came to work in Mauritius.

Assistance was provided to organize the meeting.

## 7. First Inter-ministerial committee meeting for the Indentured Labour Route project – 16<sup>th</sup> July 2021

Research / Tasks / Participation	Objectives	Output
(1) Assist in the organization of the first	1. Under the impetus of Hon. Avinash Teeluck, Minister of	The Inter-ministerial committee meeting was an
<b>1. Ongoing research on the History and Heritage of the Bras d'Eau sugar estate</b>		
Research / Tasks / Participation	Objectives	Output
(1) Multidisciplinary approach: Use of oral history to understand the socio-economic life of descendants of indentured labourers during the post-indenture era	(i) To study the importance of this site to the community, therefore one of the objectives of this research is to conduct interview with elders of nearby villages which are acquainted with the history and heritage of the site or had a direct link with the site in the past as there has never been a community without heritage and there exists no heritage without the community.	Part of this research was published in the AGTF Magazine of 2020.  2 <sup>nd</sup> part of this ongoing Research was presented during the ILRP IOC webinar held between 9 and 11 August 2021 which will be published.
(2) Conduct demographic research	(i) To understand the labour types during the transition from slavery to indenture with regards to sugar production and economic development the area of Bras d'Eau.  (ii) Understand demographic patterns among the indentured and non-indentured immigrants and socio-economic mobility of labourers during and after the indenture period.	1 <sup>st</sup> part of this research was already published in 2019
(3) A comparative analysis of other sugar estates in Mauritius and in the Indian Ocean	(i) Aims at understanding the functioning and development of the sugar industry annually during the indenture period and new technologies being adopted during that time.	
		and saw the participation of  and Cultural Heritage, Hon. A. Teelock, Vice President of the Scientific Committee, Sankhan, President of the Scientific Committee, Representative Jharan, Minister of State for and of Parliamentary Affairs, Marie Levens, Minister of e and Culture, Suriname, Mme Causse – Tissié, ance ive of the Australian High auritius Archivist from Trinidad and
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rita Jansen Rood, Director General of the National Archives of Suriname</li> <li>• Johan Van Langen, National Archives, Netherlands,</li> <li>• Dr. Ashutosh Kumar, ISC Member, India,</li> <li>• Dr Richard Allen, Historian of slavery and Indenture from USA,</li> <li>• Mookhesswur Choonee, former Minister of</li> </ul>

MACH in the context of the 2<sup>nd</sup>

## 8. 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Inscription of the Aapravasi Ghat on the World Heritage List by UNESCO

Research / Tasks / Participation	Objectives	Output
Prepared a short video presentation on the History of the Aapravasi Ghat entitled "From Immigration Depot to World Heritage Site" as per my previous research which was published in the AGTF Coffee-Table Book in 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To disseminate information on the evolution and conversion of the immigration depot to a world heritage site</li><li>• To help people understand and appreciate the history and heritage of indenture in Mauritius</li></ul>	This video presentation was successfully posted on the AGTF FB Page and YouTube Channel and had a satisfying amount of viewers



## **12. INDENTURED LABOUR ROUTE PROJECT MEETINGS**

### **12.1. INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

In 2021, the International Scientific Committee (ISC) met twice on 25 – 27 January and 15 March to update the Action Plan (2021-2023), elect a new Bureau and appoint members to constitute an ISC that is representative geographically.

During these meetings, the ISC stressed the need for further political support to make the ILRP a reality with the implementation of the Action Plan in various countries. Its implementation would be encouraged with the establishment of national committees and also, with a stronger commitment from decision makers.

### **12.2. FIRST ILRP INTER-MINISTERIAL MEETING**

The first inter-ministerial meeting was organized in the context of the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the inscription of the Aapravasi Ghat on UNESCO's World Heritage List under the impetus of Hon. Avinash Teeluck, Minister of Arts and Cultural Heritage, Mauritius. The objective of this meeting was to support the ILRP and encourage the participation of other countries in one main project, the International Database on Indentured Labour Migration

This inter-ministerial meeting raised awareness among policy makers to empower the scholars and academics with necessary tools to allow the ILRP to grow and achieve its mission as an international project for the preservation and promotion of indentured labour.

The program of the first inter-ministerial meeting was as follows:

- Opening session by Hon. Avinash Teeluck, Minister of Arts and Cultural Heritage, Mauritius
- Message of Professor Hubert Gijzen, Director of UNESCO Regional Office for Eastern Africa, Nairobi
- Message of Hon Pravind Kumar Jugnauth, Prime Minister, Minister of Defence, Home Affairs and External Communications, Minister for Rodrigues, Outer Islands and Territorial Integrity, Mauritius
- Video on a Retrospective on the inscription of the Aapravasi Ghat on the World Heritage List
- Presentation of the Indentured Labour Route Project (ILRP) by Dr. Vijayalakshmi Teelock, GOSK, Vice- President, International Scientific Committee
- Presentation of the International Indentured Labour Database by Dr. Maurits Hassankhan, President of International Scientific Committee
- The presentations were followed by a discussion on the ILRP and the International Database on Indentured Labour Migration to share how the Ministers propose to implement the project in their countries.
- Official launching of start of the International Indentured Labour Migration Database Project by Hon. Avinash Teeluck, Minister of Arts and Cultural Heritage, Mauritius
- Cultural perspective on the legacy of indentured diaspora in various countries
- Online Group Photo
- Launching of ILRP website
- Closing up by Hon. Avinash Teeluck, Minister of Arts and Cultural Heritage, Mauritius
- Vote of thanks

### 13. DISSEMINATING THE WORK OF THE ILRP

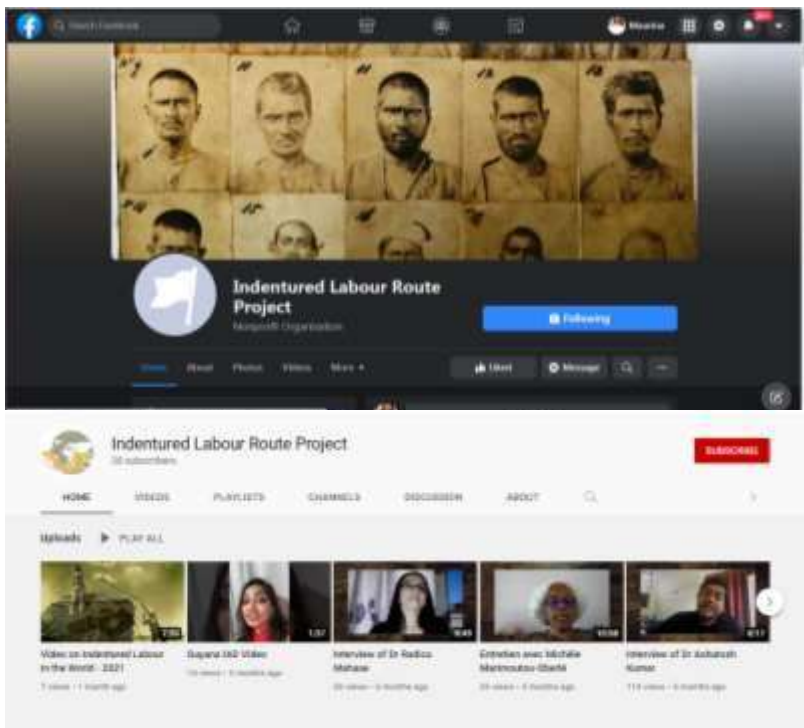
#### 13.1. ILRP WEBSITE

A new website was created and hosted by the Government Online Centre to disseminate information about the work, projects and activities of the ILRP and its members.



#### 13.2. ILRP SOCIAL MEDIA

Facebook and Youtube accounts were also created to facilitate dissemination of information and projects.

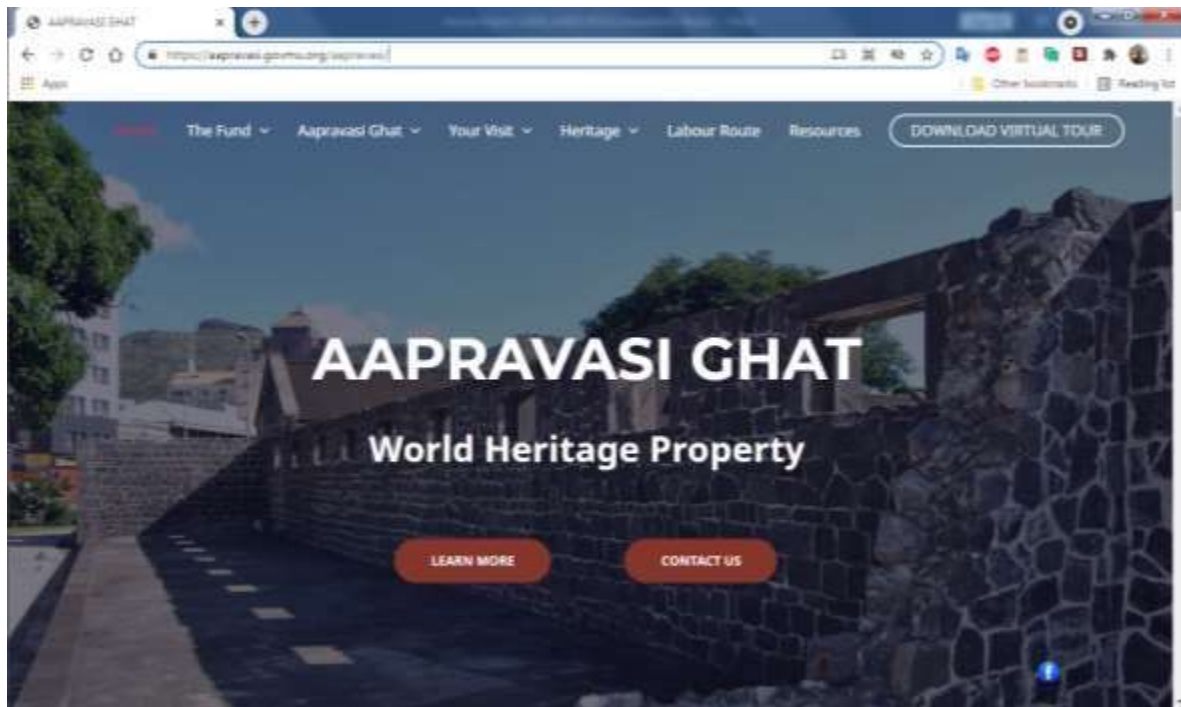


### 14. DISSEMINATING THE WORK OF THE AGTF

#### 14.1. AGTF WEBSITE

The Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund website was migrated to a new address

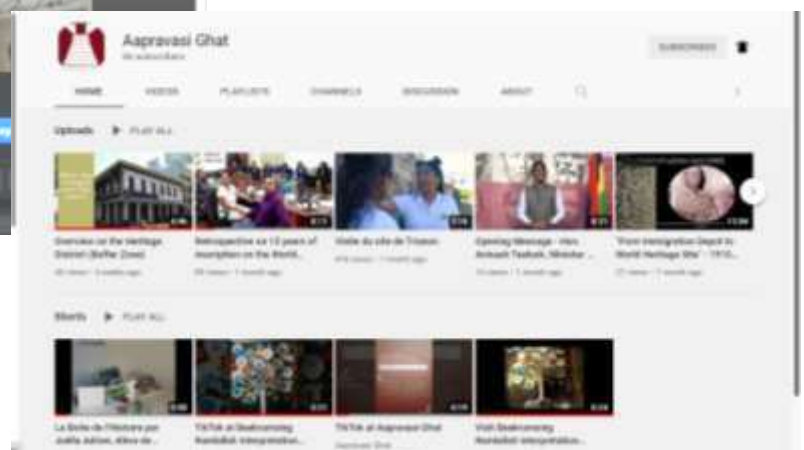
<https://aapravasi.govmu.org>. The new website is hosted by the Government Online Centre and is more secure and responsive to various platforms.



#### 14.2. AGTF SOCIAL MEDIA

The Facebook and Youtube pages of the AGTF were also regularly updated so as to maintain the interest of the various followers.

15.



## ANNUAL REPORT (2021-2022)



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# Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund

## Research Unit Section

Compiled and Submitted by

Satyendra Peerthum,

Historian, AGTF

**BY SATYENDRA PEERTHUM, HISTORIAN, AGTF**

**(July 2021-June 2022): Recent & On-Going Projects,  
Research, Publications, Webinars, and Conferences:**

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**Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund, Research Unit:**

**Satyendra Peerthum, Historian (AGTF/ILRP)**

1. **July 2021 to May 2022:** Each week a weekly report was submitted about all the work done at AGTF as historian and a total of more than 110 visitors were received at the documentation unit during that period. A total of more than 40 requests for information was also attended to from AGTF staff and others.
2. **July 2021-May 2022:** In the context of 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the inscription of the AGWHS and the ILRP Interministerial Committee, along with the MFDC, I worked on 2 short documentary projects of 7 minute each on remembering the inscription of the Aapravasi Ghat on the

UNESCO World Heritage List and the social history of indentured labour in Mauritius and other parts of the plantation world. They were shown at the IOC webinar during the following month and also put on-line during the following weeks.

Sent to the participants letters of thanks, helped with the report for the ioc webinar, collected more than 15 papers and submitted a compilation of all these papers by May 2022 which will be published shortly and keep in touch and invited some of the participants for the 2<sup>nd</sup> ioc webinar.

3. **July 2021 to August 2022:** I contributed a total of 3 articles for the AGTF magazine 2021 which will be published during the coming months and has been finalized. They were related to indentured labour and historians of indentured labour.

Took part in the training webinar of OMEKA and attended the 3 sessions which proved to be useful and a short report was submitted this took place between July and August 2022.

4. **July 2021 to November 2021:** I contributed 2 articles for the Vanakkam South Africa magazine which is published on-line and is aimed at the South African Indian community and other overseas Indian communities. The articles were on indentured labour and published during the months of July and November 2021 and there is another article scheduled to be published in April 2022.

5. **August 2021:** The Indentured Labour Route Project's Indian Ocean Regional Committee Webinar was held on 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 9<sup>th</sup> August 2021 which I helped to organize along with other AGTF officers. A total of 26 papers by academics from 12 countries were presented dealing with the theme of Indentured Labour in the Indian Ocean World and beyond. As Coordinator of the IOC, I presented the objectives and program of the IOC and separately a research paper on indentured labour in the Indian Ocean and the World and the number of indentured and contract workers between 1826 and 1946. A report was submitted, letters of thanks, and request for the submission of papers were sent to the participants. A total of 12 papers have been received.

6. **July 2021 to September 2021/On-Going:** At the behest of Dr. Assad Bhuglah and Dr. Joomaye of the PMO, I wrote a Foreword for the book on Dr. Hassenjee Joomaye, the

grandfather of Dr. Joomaye, founder of the Islamic College and a rich Muslim philanthropist. After two working sessions with Dr. Joomaye and Assad, the foreword was completed and also provided several pics. This book is being written by Bhuglah and will be launched soon by the PM.

7. **October 2021:** I presented a paper on the returning indentured immigrants and the amount of money, remittances, and jewelry they took with them between 1860s and the 1920s was presented on-line at the Fiji on-line International Conference on Indentured Labour, Unfree Labour, and the Girmityas. I was on the advisory committee and helped to encourage scholars and researchers especially those from Mauritius to take part in the Conference. Dr Farzana Gounder and Ganesh Chand of Fiji are the coordinators.
8. **October 2021:** I also became a member of the Global Girit Institute and an editor and contributor to its journal The Indenture Papers and in its first edition I published a research paper on the history of vagrancy, the Vagrant Depot, and the experiences of the vagrants in colonial Mauritius which was published on-line. Dr Farzana Gounder and Ganesh Chand of Fiji are the coordinators.
9. **November 2021:** On 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2021, there was a recording during a period of 2 hours for a documentary on history and culture in Mauritius for ARTE TV from France where I provided several interventions for a total of 5 minutes. The tournage was done at Antoinette and focuses on the history of the site and experiences of the Indian indentured workers there during the 1800s and 1900s. The documentary will air on 27<sup>th</sup> May 2022 and also includes an interview with Dr. Vijaya Teelock.

Worked on speeches for Minister, PM, and Chairman and published an article on 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2022 in the local press and worked on storyline for the life at Depot.

Contributed 3 articles for the AGTF Magazine 2022 and participated in the editing and attended the editing committee meetings and worked on the messages of the PM, Minister, and chairman's editorial and the message of the Director etc.

10. **November 2021:** The DIASCOM Group Study based at the University of Nantes held a 2-day Webinar and its 5<sup>th</sup> workshop in mid-November 2021 on indentured labour, migration,

identity, and the diaspora. I presented two papers one on the social and economic mobility of the former Indian indentured workers and on the returning immigrants and the savings they took back with them to India.

11. **November 2021/April 2022 and On-Going:** I provided two articles for an Oral History Book Project in India which is being edited by Dr. Amita David and Dr. Tiwari. My two articles deal with the life-stories of Bihar indentured workers in Mauritius between the 1830s and the 1890s and the experiences of women and girl Indian immigrants in British Mauritius between the late 1820s until the early 1900s. These 2 articles will be edited and published by the end of the year.
12. **December 2021:** I took as part as a resource person in a one-day webinar by ICAC on Corruption and Crime in Mauritius along with Ibrahim Khooduruth of UOM and other academics. I spoke for 15 minutes on the case-studies of crime and corruption in colonial Mauritius from the Dutch Period starting in 1639 until the rise of Modern Mauritius during the 1930s and 1940s. The presentation was well-received and a booklet project might be happening during the coming months.
13. **December 2021 to April 2022:** I helped Dr. Neha Singh of Manipall University draft her call for papers for the Manipall University Conference on Girmitya, Indenture, and the Diaspora which will take place between 27<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> April 2022. I will be speaking at the Plenary Session for which I have already submitted my paper and present a 2<sup>nd</sup> paper on the life stories of Indian immigrants who achieved some measure of social and economic mobility in British Mauritius between the 1840s and the 1890s. The Director agreed to present a paper in the plenary session and I will help him prepare his presentation. I also help her circulate the CFP and get the support of the ILRP, AGTF, and GGI and also the Minister to intervene.
14. **August 2021 to January 2022:** I undertook the role of Acting Secretary of the ILRP and kept in touch with the President, Vice-President, other members of the International Scientific Committee of the ILRP and of the Secretariat and Bureau. A copy of the reports of the Interministerial Committee and the IOC Webinar was sent to the ISC members. In December 2022, I was organizing the next meeting of the Secretariat and Bureau and key documents were circulated to ISC members and AGTF staff involved with the ILRP. The Secretariat and Bureau meetings were held in January 2022 and the ILRP meeting in February 2022 and I was

appointed as a member of the ISC for Mauritius.

15. **July 2021 to January 2022 and On-Going:** Kiran and I submitted an article for a book on cultural heritage in Africa being edited by Dr. George Abhungu. Our article deals with cultural heritage, indenture and oral history in Mauritius since colonial times to the present and within an Indian Ocean context. This article was revised and will be edited again and published by Routledge Press during the course of this year.
16. **January to February 2022:** I was requested by Minister Teeluck and Varun Nunkoo, Free Lance Film Producer, to help with a 7-minute and 3-minute documentary on the history of the Mauritian Republic and Independence. I worked on the storyline and the script and provided historical information and numerous pictures. Several meetings were held and the film was completed during the course of mid-March 2022 and to be released at a later date.
17. **January 2022 and on-going:** Research at the Carnegie Library and since November 2021 more than 12,000 pics have been taken and the digitalization and recording from 70 old and rare books and volumes from the d'Epinay and other collections related to indentured labour, slavery, and colonial life in Mauritius between the 1700s to the mid-1900s. These pictures have already been used in the projects and publications of AGTF and MACH.
18. **July 2021 to March 2022/On-Going:** During a period of 7 months, I took part as editor and contributor for the book 'The Muslim Presence in Mauritius' which is being published by the ICC. It is a 200 page A3 pictorial with more than 400 pics and the conference papers of the 2019 seminar at the ICC. I formed part of a committee which included Dr. Assad Bhuglah, Moomtaz Emrith, Badullah Taheer of the ICC. I contributed pics, texts, and ideas and this work will be launched by the PM shortly. I also wrote the Chairman's message for the publication which he approved several months ago. The contribution of AGTF was acknowledged and a short report signed by all the editors will be submitted soon.
19. **March/April 2022 and On-Going:** I am taking as historian in the SAJ exhibition which aims at setting up a temporary exhibit in the Chateau Mon Plaisir in tandem with the renovation works on the SAJ Samadhi at the SSR Botanical Gardens. During more than 2 weeks I collected historical info from several books and newspapers and more than 300 pics. I worked on a storyline and exhibit panels and pics which were approved by the committee consisting of



the heads of the National Library, National Arts Gallery, National Archives Department, the Mauritius Museums Council, and a rep from the MACH. This project is on-going and might extend until end of May and early June 2022.

20. **March/April 2022 and On-Going:** The DIASCOM Group Study based at the University of Nantes held a 2-day Webinar and 6<sup>th</sup> workshop in mid-March 2022 on indentured labour, migration, identity, and the diaspora. I presented two papers one on the social history of the women and children Indian immigrants in colonial Mauritius during the Age of Indenture and the issue of creolization and another one on the social, economic, labour, and demographic impact of the Indo-Mauritians on British Mauritius between the 1870s and the 1920s. A word document for the 2 papers were submitted.
  
21. **Feb/March/April 2022 and On-Going:** I was in contact with the Zamani Group of the University of Cape Town and was able to get them to come to Mauritius for 10 days in June 2022 to do 3D heritage mapping and survey of 3 indenture sites. This consists a project value of more than Rs1.3 million and with professionals and a heritage project the first of its kind in Mauritius. This project will take place in June 2022 and the post-survey data and reports will be generated for weeks after and last until the end of the year.
  
22. **August 2021 to March/April 2022 and On-Going:** I took part with Vicky Ramdhun, Producer, and along with the MFDC and the support of the MACH, in a 52-minute documentary on maroonage and slavery in Mauritius during the 1790s and early 1800s. I helped with the storyline, script, and provided a total of 4 minutes of interview for the documentary which will be released later on this year.
  
23. **April/June 2022 and On-Going:** I submitted 2 short chapters along with pics for the Chagos Booklet for children in Grades 7,8,9 to be launched by PM and was a book project of the Minister and MACH.
  
24. **March to May 2022:** I submitted an updated list of the books, maps, dvds/cds, and items on file at the AGTF Documentation Unit which consists of more than 1000 books, 200 dvds and cds, 150 maps, 2 terabytes of info with more than 100,000 pics and docs etc. It was the first update in more than 3 years etc.

25. **June 2022:** I submitted my 5th research report which was a 200-page detailed Study of the Genesis and Establishment of the Indentured Labour System in Mauritius, its Labour, Socio-Economic, & Demographic Impact, the Life-Stories and the Human Agency of the Early Indentured Labourers in Mauritian Colonial Society Between 1826/1848/1887 with A Detailed Discussion of Comparative Global Contexts of Indentured/Contract Labour in Modern World History (1826-1946)'
26. **May-July 2022:** Provided information, pics, lithographs, and archival docs for the Parc a Boulets Report as required by AGTF, MACH, and UNESCO which contributed to the research report of A. Nemchand and C. Miao Foh.
27. **June to Mid-August 2022:** Acting Head of the Technical Unit for almost two and a half months and looked after various dossiers and reported directly to the Director of AGTF.
28. **June to Mid-August 2022:** Prepared the call for paper, program, collected all the papers and sent invitation for the participants for the 2<sup>nd</sup> IOC webinar, and kept in touch with the participants with the assistance of Babita Bahadoor, Secretary of the IOC. I prepared 2 papers which were presented at the webinar.
29. **May 2022 and on-going:** Research and writing of the 570-page book manuscript with 270 pictures, lithographs, charts, tables, and maps with 21 chapters and extensive bibliographt with annexes on the book project 'In Search of our Ancestors' A historical and pictorial presentation on the Tamil Indian Diaspora in Mauritius and the World between 1728 to present times, co-authored with Professor Parsuramen of the Global Rainbow Foundation and to be launched in India in October 2022.
30. **May 2022 and on-going:** Working on the 6<sup>th</sup> research report which will cover the social history of the south Indian indentured workers in Mauritius between 1826 and 1930 which will be completed by December 2022 and submitted.
31. **May 2022 and on-going:** Working with CMF on the AGTF magazine 2022 on articles, messages, and contacting contributors etc and VIP messages from PM and Minister etc.

**By MAURINA SOODIN RUNGHEN, RESEARCHER**

Workshops / Lectures / Training / Conferences attended

<b>Title of Workshops / Lectures / Training / Conferences</b>	<b>Organisers</b>	<b>Dates</b>
Zoom public meeting on the History Professor Brij Lal: His Life and Legacies	Indo-Caribbean Cultural Centre, Ameena Gafoor Institute & 1860 Heritage Centre in South Africa	16 January 2022
Discovering Samples Archives Online Poster Session and Roundtable Webinar	ICCROM	29-30 November 2021
Recent historical research on Southwest Indian Ocean Slave trade and discussion on problems and Issues to be confronted	CRSI	23 August 2021
Indian Ocean Committee Webinar under the Indentured Labour Route Project	AGTF, ILRP	09-11 August 2021
Seminar on Intangible Cultural Heritage Safeguarding and Development, Online	Ministry of Culture and Tourism of the People's Republic of China	19-30 July 2021
Inter-Ministerial meeting under the Indentured Labour Route Project	AGTF, ILRP	16 July 2021

**EVENTS SUPERVISED AS ACTING HEAD OF TECHNICAL UNIT**

19-21 April 2022 – 3 day Shooting of the ‘Club Las Piranyas’ by Top Tamarin Film I Ltd/SPV of Two Oceans Production Company (Mauritius) Limited at the Beekrumsing Ramlallah Interpretation Centre

12-13 March 2022 – Independence Day at Phoenix Mall

11 March 2022 - Flag raising at the AG WHP

09-11 August 2021 – Indian Ocean Committee Webinar under the Indentured Labour Route Project

16 July 2021 - Inter-Ministerial Meeting under the Indentured Labour Route Project

**AGTF Projects done in collaboration with other AGTF staff**

- Updating of catalogue of ICH and Oral History resources
- Processing of ICH and Oral History resources
- Introduction of Hindi text in the Beekrumsing Ramlallah Interpretation Centre

## AGTF Projects

Project name and objectives (max 150 words)	Output / deliverable / result for the period July 2021 – June 2022
<p><b>Antoinette Phooliyar site, where the first indentured labourers were employed</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Wreath Laying Ceremony</b> To organise a wreath laying ceremony on 1st November 2022 at Antoinette Phooliyar</li> <li>- <b>Temporary Indenture Village</b> To set up a replica village with related activities for 2-3 weeks</li> <li>- <b>Permanent Heritage Village at Antoinette Phooliyar</b> To set up a permanent exhibition including replica village at Antoinette</li> </ul>	<p>Meetings and Site Visits were held with the National Heritage Fund and representatives of the area, of the local community, and of the land owner, Terra Group to discuss collaboration and the projects.</p> <p>The activity is planned for March or April 2023.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Oral History research is being undertaken to assist in planning of exhibits and activities.</li> <li>- Archaeological research is being planned for the site.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Research Ex- Ravensworth Sugar Estate</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To identify the current owner of ruins and contact details thereof.</li> <li>- To document the history of the sugar estate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Research at Registrar General’s Search Room to identify the current owner of ruins and extract information regarding sugar estate delimitation and history</li> <li>- Research at National Archives to document changes in site delimitation and the history of the site</li> <li>- Detailed description of the estate in 1881 was found, including description of all buildings on the site and the financial implications of running the estate</li> </ul>
<p><b>Mapping of indentured population in Mauritius</b></p> <p>To carry out a ‘scientific visualisation’ by representing the indentured population in Mauritius during the 19th century graphically so that the numbers can be explored and understood, through a series of graphs and maps, both static and interactive, to show evolution over time and space.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Data from census reports is being compiled.</li> <li>- Historical maps of Mauritius showing the location of sugar estates are being georeferenced and digitized.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Live Enactment “Aapravasi Ghat Mein Ego Girmitya Ke Yatra” - The Journey of a Girmitya at the Aapravasi Ghat</b></p> <p>This enactment was based on historical facts and family histories studied at the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund. It aimed at proposing visitors with the opportunity to experience an immersive visit of the 19<sup>th</sup> century Immigration Depot and understanding its</p>	<p>Presented during the Heritage Week 08-12 November 2021 at the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property in the context of the 187th Anniversary of the Arrival of Indentured Labourers in Mauritius</p>

Project name and objectives (max 150 words)	Output / deliverable / result for the period July 2021 – June 2022
<p>importance in the history of Mauritius and indentured labourers through their life experiences.</p> <p>The enactment was also an opportunity for history to be presented in a creative manner. A team of performers, drama specialists, history and oral history researchers came together with one objective, to collaborate and author a script about history, which is otherwise considered as a boring subject. Each member of this team emerged from this experience with a better understanding of the other fields involved.</p> <p>The enactment was also a new way of presenting the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property. Instead of visiting a static site, the visitors/audience experienced the personal stories and concerns of those who lived on the site.</p>	

### Projects done in collaboration with other institution/s

Project name and description (max 150 words)	Collaborating institution	Output / deliverable July 2021 – June 2022
<p><b>International Indentured Labour Database under ILRP</b></p> <p>To prepare and disseminate IILD</p>	<p><b>Central Informatics Bureau &amp; Indentured Labour Route Project</b></p>	<p>The collaboration of CIB was secured to prepare Terms of Reference for the consultants who will be hired to design a database that could be used by any country or any archive holding archives related to the indentured labourers.</p>
<p><b>Indentured Labour Route Project Website</b></p> <p>Design and dissemination of the website</p>	<p><b>National Computer Board &amp; Indentured Labour Route Project</b></p>	<p>The website was launched by Hon Avinash Teeluck, Minister of Arts and Cultural Heritage during the Inter-Ministerial Meeting held on 16 July 2022</p>

### Contributions to / authored publications

M. Soodin Runghen, K. Chuttoo Jankee. (2021, 29 November 2021). *The Oral History Collection of the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund, Mauritius - A legacy of indentured labourers in Mauritius* presented at the Discovering Samples Archives Online Poster Session and Roundtable Webinar

**By KIRAN C JANKEE**

**(i). 35 Virasat Programs by Aapravasi Ghat and MBC, Presented and produced by Kiran C Jankee**

***Indenture***

1. Emergence on villages
2. Kalimaye Pooja
3. Bhojpuri Folk songs
4. Shringaar- Jewellery
5. Ritual- Sirni
6. Godna- Tatoo
7. Bank of Mauritius Museum
8. Gow Mata
9. Carts
10. Chulha- Reso
11. Camps- Part 1
12. Camps- Part 2
13. Janta
14. Phooliyar
15. Okhli Moussar
16. Harparawri
17. Bhojpuri Bhasha
18. Sanskar
19. Geet Gawai
20. Khissa- Story telling
21. Rasoi Utensils

22. Haldi

***In the context of Museums day:***

23. International Museums Day

24. Natural History Museum

25. Fort Frederick Hendrick

26. Mahebourg National History Museum

***In the context of International Day for monuments and sites***

27. Bras d'eau National Park- Part 1

28. Bras d'eau National Park- Part 2

29. Citadel

***Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage site and its surroundings***

30. Old Port Louis

31. Central Market

32. Buffer Zone of AGWHS

33. Aapravasi Ghat's Inscription Anniversary on World Heritage List

34. Enactment/ Drama on Aapravasi Ghat

***Historical places in Mauritius***

35. Pointe des Lascars

**(ii) TV Program- Goshthi – Guided visit in Hindi to students on baitka- Katha Yatra- Ek**

**Virasat organized by Indian High Commission**

1. The Indian Ocean and the history of Indenture: The making of “new” nationals and
2. nations

3. Satyendra Peerthum & Kiran Chuttoo Jankee

**(iii) A chapter for a book by Routeledge -The Indian Ocean and the history of Indenture: The making of “new” nationals and nations by Kiran Chuttoo Jankee &Satyendra Peerthum**

**(iv)MBC Radio programs, round tables for MBC TV on Heritage, International women’s Day, Inscription of Aapravasi Ghat Anniversary, Arrival of Indentured labourers**

**(v) Storytelling and Geetgawai Workshop at AGWHS in Bhojpuri in Mid-November, 2021, included participation of Lois Lagesse Artists too.**

**(vi)Presentation of a paper on Living and dynamic heritage of Indenture in an International Conference organised by the Mahatma Gandhi Institute- Contemporary Indian Diaspora: A global perspective in Mid-August, 2022**

**(vii) Presentation of a paper on the Documentation of living and dynamic heritage of Indenture in ILRP OIC Webinar in the beginning of August.**




**(viii) Coordination of Translation of BRIC Texts in Hindi by World Hindi Secretariat, MGI, Indian High Commission, Sanskrit, Hindi and Bhojpuri speaking union.**



**BY NATASHA KHEDDOO-RAMCHARITAR, AGTF**  
**Apravasi Ghat World Heritage Property Buffer Zone**

List of Building and Land Use Permit (BLUP) assessed by the Technical Committee at the City Council of Port Louis – July 2021 to June 2022

	Application & Location	Building ID & Grade	Nature of Application	Technical Committee held on	Recommendation of Technical Committee
1.	<p><b>Pinewood Villa Co Ltd</b> 5, Louis Pasteur Street</p> 	22/S1  No grade	Conversion of an existing Store into two (2) commercial units.	03 December 2021	Application was kept in abeyance.
2.	<p><b>Mr Moonesawmy Goinsamy</b> 4, Corderie Street</p> 	16/E2  No grade	Demolition of an existing building and construction of a building at ground and first floor.	03 December 2021  03 June 2022	Application was kept in abeyance.  Application was kept in abeyance.
	Application & Location	Building ID & Grade	Nature of Application	Technical Committee held on	Recommendation of Technical Committee
3.	<p><b>Mr Mahmoode Hassam Bahemia</b> 26, Royal Street</p>	39/W1  Grade 1	Division of a plot of land.	18 March 2022	Approved with conditions.

					
4.	<p><b>Societe Kestrel</b> 28, Royal Street (Outline Planning Permission)</p> 	39/W2 Vacant land	Construction of a commercial/residential building comprising of basement, ground, first, second and third floors.	18 March 2022	Application was kept in abeyance.
				03 June 2022	Approved with conditions.
	<b>Application &amp; Location</b>	<b>Building ID &amp; Grade</b>	<b>Nature of Application</b>	<b>Technical Committee held on</b>	<b>Recommendation of Technical Committee</b>
5.	<p><b>Four Seasons Resort Ltd</b> 4, Dr Sun Yat Sen Street</p> 	25/N1 No grade	Change in use of an existing building from 2 <sup>nd</sup> to 7 <sup>th</sup> floors to be used as tourist residence.	18 March 2022	Application was kept in abeyance.
				03 June 2022	Application was kept in abeyance.



## ACHIEVEMENTS JULY 2021 – AUGUST 2022

Babita D. Bahadoor, Research Assistant

### 1. First Inter-ministerial committee meeting for the Indentured Labour Route Project – 16<sup>th</sup> July 2021

Research / Tasks / Participation	Objectives	Output / updates
<p>(1) Assist in the organization of the first Inter-ministerial committee Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> July 2021 online in the context of the 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Inscription of the Aapravasi Ghat on UNESCO's World Heritage List;</p> <p>(2) Update the List of Invitees, for e.g., List of observers, scholars and representatives of archival repositories;</p> <p>(3) Send invitation letters to academics, scholars, embassies, museums, libraries, archives, NGOs and other institutions related to the history and heritage of indenture migration via the ILRP Secretariat mail;</p> <p>(3) Monitor attendance of registered participants via Zoom;</p> <p>(4) Compiled the list of attendance which was submitted to HTU.</p>	<p>1. Under the impetus of Hon. Avinash Teeluck, Minister of Arts and Cultural Heritage, Mauritius, an Inter-ministerial committee meeting was organized for the first time to support the ILRP and encourage the participation of other countries in one main project, the International Database on Indentured Labour Migration. The Agenda of the meeting was as follows:</p> <p>A. To present and discuss on the Indentured Labour Route Project (ILRP);</p> <p>B. Presentation of and discussion on the International Indentured Labour Database (IILD);</p> <p>C. Official launching of start of the International Indentured Labour Database Project (ILRP)</p>	<p>The Inter-ministerial committee meeting was an international success and saw the participation of the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Ministry of Arts and Cultural Heritage, Hon. A. Teeluck;</li><li>▪ Dr. Vijayalakshmi Teelock, Vice-President of the International Scientific Committee;</li><li>▪ Dr. Maurits Hassankhan, President of the International Scientific Committee;</li><li>▪ A Representative of UNESCO;</li><li>▪ • Shri V. Muraleedharan, Minister of State for External affairs and of Parliamentary Affairs, India;</li><li>▪ Her Excellency Marie Levens, Minister of Education, Science and Culture, Suriname;</li><li>▪ Her Excellency Mme Causse – Tissié, Ambassador of France;</li><li>▪ The representative of the Australian High Commission in Mauritius;</li><li>▪ Mrs. Avril Belfon Archivist from Trinidad and Tobago</li></ul>

- Rita Tjien Foooh, Director General of the National Archives of Suriname
- Johan Van Langen, National Archives, Netherlands,
- Dr. Ashutosh Kumar, ISC Member, India,
- Dr Richard Allen, Historian of slavery and Indenture from USA,
- Mookhesswur Choonee, former Minister of Arts and Culture, Mauritius

## 2. 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Inscription of the Aapravasi Ghat on the World Heritage

Research / Tasks / Participation	Objectives	Output / updates
<p>Prepared a short video presentation on the History of the Aapravasi Ghat entitled <b><i>“From Immigration Depot to World Heritage Site”</i></b> as per my previous research which was published in the AGTF Coffee-Table Book in 2014</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To disseminate information on the evolution and conversion of the immigration depot to a world heritage site;</li> <li>▪ To help people understand and appreciate the history and heritage of indenture in Mauritius</li> </ul>	<p>This video presentation was successfully posted on the AGTF FB Page and YouTube Channel and had a satisfying number of viewers.</p>

## 3. ILRP Indian Ocean Committee Webinar:

### ***“Exploring the Contours of Indentured / Contract Labour Systems, and Unfree Labour in the Greater Indian Ocean World and Beyond: Shared History, Shared Heritage, and New Perspectives”***

Research / Tasks / Participation	Objectives	Output / updates
<p>In the context of the 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Inscription of the Aapravasi Ghat on the World Heritage List by UNESCO, the ILRP Indian Ocean Committee in collaboration with the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund under the aegis of the Ministry of Arts and Cultural Heritage organized a 3-half day</p>	<p>The main objectives of the Webinar went in line with the objectives of the ILRP as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Linking up local scholars, academics, researchers, writers, social scientists, heritage experts and managers, and historians who specialized in indentured labour in the greater</li> </ol>	<p>The 3-half day webinar was a success which saw the participation of 26 participants from different parts of the world who presented their research the history and heritage of indenture as per the different themes of the webinar;</p>

ILRP Indian Ocean Committee (IOC) Webinar on Monday 09, Tuesday 10 and Wednesday, 11 August 2021 between 13:00 and 16:00hrs (Mauritius Local Time). Consequently, I assisted in the organization of the ILRP IOC Webinar by undertaking the following tasks:

- (1) Act as Secretary upon request of the IOC Coordinator;
- (2) Worked on the IOC Webinar checklist;
- (3) Discuss themes for the programme of webinar with HTU and SP in May 2021;
- (4) Drafted Invitation letters to participants, members of the ISC and other invitees;
- (5) Create IOC email to send invitations, zoom links, table indicating the Time Zones to, and attend queries of all participants, academics and institutions related to the history and heritage of indenture regarding the Webinar;
- (6) Set up the online webinar via Zoom with registration options;
- (7) Prepare the Time Zone calendar and forwarded same to all participants;
- (8) Updated Programme of the Webinar;
- (9) Gather abstracts, webinar papers, Biodata (update Titles, affiliations & positions of each participant) and PPT presentations of all participants and provide same to chairpersons of different sessions;
- (10) Sent Reminders to all participants requesting for their PPT presentations;
- (11) Monitor Zoom during the webinar and answer queries of participants online;
- (12) Helped IT Technician of the MFDC with the sharing of participants presentations

Indian Ocean region and also from other parts of the world;

2. Sharing resources and research among historians, social scientists, researchers, scholars, writers, heritage experts and managers, and academics of the greater Indian Ocean region;
3. Filling one of the glaring gaps in recent indentured labour research and historiography in the Indian Ocean region by encouraging multi-disciplinary research in indentured labour, cognate labour systems and also unfree labour;
4. Encouraging and supporting research projects and publications on indentured labour in the region, and
5. Allowing for joint projects, shared research information, and also to support the work of the International Scientific Committee and Secretariat of the ILRP and of AGTF.

Each and every participant shared the same research interest and suggested that research on indenture migration continue.

- according to the Programme of the webinar;
- (13) Forwarded the Rapporteurs' Report to all chairpersons of webinar sessions and to Dr. Maurits Hassankhan, President of the ILRP for his closing remarks;
  - (14) Drafted the IOC Report which was submitted to all participants;
  - (15) Liaise with officers from MACH regarding the IOC webinar;
  - (16) Draft the Speech of the Minister of Arts and Cultural Heritage for the Opening Ceremony.

#### **Research and Presentation**

- Conduct research on the history and heritage of Bras d'Eau sugar estates through interviews with locals/elders of the village;
- Participate in the ILRP Indian Ocean Committee Webinar.

Presented my ongoing research on *"Memory & Heritage Indenture sites as remembered by descendants of indentured labourers: the case of Bras d'Eau and Trianon Sugar Estates"*

- The aim of this research is to combine both historical and anthropological methods in order to have a broader and analytical view of the social, economic, and cultural aspects during the post-indenture period until present at 2 indenture sites in Mauritius.

- My presentation placed emphasis on the religious and economic importance of some former indenture sites such as Bras d'Eau and Trianon, to the locals, most of whom are descendants of indentured labourers, and showed the socioeconomic mobility of indentured labourers and their descendants through land use;
- An article based on my presentation will be submitted for publication.

## **4. OMEKA Training**

### **(Open-source web publishing platforms for sharing digital collections and creating media-rich online exhibits)**

<b>Research / Tasks / Participation</b>	<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Output / updates</b>
<p>The Centre for Research on Slavery and Indenture (CRSI), UoM organized 3 training sessions of 1 hour each on Omeka which is an Open-source web publishing platforms for sharing digital collections and creating media-rich online exhibits.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Omeka Training aims at helping institutions to upload and organize resources online and create their own digital collections such archival sources, books, photo collections as well as exhibits;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ There were participants from Mozambique, Europe and Mauritius;</li> <li>▪ As I am working on a photographic inventory for the ILRP Photographic database, attending the Omeka training was indeed of great</li> </ul>

The training was held online via Zoom and was hosted by Robin Fay, Omeka Outreach & Training Specialist from USA.

The training sessions were delivered on the following dates:

- First Session: Introductory Webinar on Omeka – 17 July 2021;
- Second Session – 31 July 2021, and
- Third session – 14 August 2021

- Consequently, the Omeka Training offers the possibilities of our institution in having its own digital library which will help in managing historical data in a more efficient, reliable and digital way since they act as a reservoir for the storage of important research data, information and findings;

importance as it provided another way of managing, organizing and storing materials such as archival sources or visuals in an efficient way online. This digital library has also the option for any institution to create and manage its own website or/and online exhibits whereby people worldwide can have access to specific types of collection which we allow to share;

- A report on the Training was submitted to the AGTF.

## 5. AGTF Magazine 2021

Research / Tasks / Participation	Objectives	Output / updates
<p>Undertook research on the legislative system of indenture in Mauritius and elsewhere by going through all ordinances and Government Notices related to the indenture system in Mauritius.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To be considered for publication in the AGTF Magazine 2021 as part of the AGTF Mandate to conduct research, present and publish on all components pertaining to the history and heritage of indenture in Mauritius and the world;</li> <li>▪ Consequently, this research analyses the laws surrounding the indenture system and terms and conditions laid in the contract of an indentured labourer;</li> <li>▪ It also examined the Adolph de Plevitz's Petition supporting the working class.</li> </ul>	<p>Submitted an article entitled, "<b><i>Migration and Indenture System under the sway of legislation</i></b>" which will be hopefully published in 2022.</p>

## 6. "Jeu de Société": Regards from Mauritius

Research / Tasks / Participation	Objectives	Output / updates
<p><b><i>Regards from Mauritius</i></b>: a social game consisting</p>	<p>This 'jeu de société', game played via a Map and 2</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Participate in a video of 3 mins at the former</li> </ul>

of 36 places classified in 9 regions of Mauritius:

1. East;
2. North-East;
3. South-East;
4. Centre;
5. North;
6. South-West;
7. North-West;
8. South, and
9. West

With regards to this game, I was asked to provide as much historical facts on Bras d'Eau village and estate.

dices will help players to:

- Visit and discover places/villages/towns in Mauritius;
- To know the origins and name of places in Mauritius via a video presentation;
- To collect the highest number of pictures/visuals of each region, and
- To give as much information on the origin, history and heritage of Bras d'Eau

sugar estate of Bras d'Eau by providing historical info on the site;

- Help participants of the game to know more about the origin, name place, history and heritage of Bras d'Eau;
- As per the mandate of the AGTF, participating in this clip helped disseminate information on the history and heritage of former sugar estate of Bras d'Eau, a site related to the history of slavery and indenture in Mauritius which will further promote and help in the protection of this site.

## 7. 02 NOVEMBER EVENT – 2021

### 7.1. Speech of PM

Research / Tasks / Participation	Objectives	Output / updates
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Drafted the speech of PM in both English and Creole languages (same were submitted to AGTF &amp; MACH)</li> </ul>	<p>In the context of the 187<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Indentured Labourers in Mauritius, it was proposed that an officer from the AGTF prepare a speech for the PM on the history of the AGWHS and about the pandemic.</p>	<p>The text was sent to MACH for vetting and some components of the draft speech were used to be included in the final version.</p>

### 7.2. Enactment: "Aapravasi Ghat ki Kalpana"

Research / Tasks / Participation	Objectives	Output / updates
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Go through the storyline and script of</li> </ul>	<p>In the context of the 187<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of</p>	<p>Provide my views and comments on the historical</p>



enactment written by the Arts officers based on historical facts from sources like the Blue Books;

- Act as Contact person.

Indentured Labourers in Mauritius, the AGTF in collaboration with MACH proposed to have a live enactment by local artists on life at the immigration depot during the indenture period on 2<sup>nd</sup> November and during the Heritage week that would follow.

facts so that there is no distortion of facts though the characters and names were all fictional.

### 7.3. Heritage Week: Workshop on Storytelling

#### Research / Tasks / Participation

In the context of the 187<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Arrival of Indentured Labourers in Mauritius, the Aapravasi Ghat in collaboration with the Ministry of Arts and Cultural Heritage organized a Heritage week between 08 and 12 November 2021 and consisting of activities pertaining to the History and Heritage of Indenture in Mauritius and elsewhere.

As such, I assisted in the organization of one of the activities, which was the workshop on Storytelling entitled, “*L’histoire des travailleurs engagés : hier, aujourd’hui et demain*”.

- I acted as the Responsible person/liason officer between the Resource Person, the AGTF and participants;
- Assist to the needs of Resource person such as Venue, sound system, refreshments, etc.
- Drew a list of potential institutions which could provide us with targeted audience / participants;
- Contact several institutions to request

#### Objectives

The workshop on Storytelling entitled, “*L’histoire des travailleurs engagés : hier, aujourd’hui et demain*”, was a 6-hour pedagogical face-to-face workshop divided into 2 sessions of 3hrs each which took place on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> and Friday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2021 respectively in the Pedagogical Area of the Beekrusing Ramlallah Interpretation Centre (BRIC), Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Site.

- To set up a platform with the primary objective to form prospective educators in the method of storytelling taking the indentured system as base;
- To set up a network for impending collaboration in view of future collaborative publication or other form of expression recounting the life of the character Rajah;
- Promote awareness of the Indentured system and the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Site through the art of storytelling;
- This workshop also placed focus on the techniques of writing and teaching stories related to the history and heritage of indenture to children at both primary and secondary

#### Output / updates

The workshop was a fruitful one where students got to learn the techniques of storytelling and know more about the history and heritage of the AGWHS and indenture system in Mauritius through the story of Rajah at the Aapravasi Ghat;

The recording of the first session was sent by Blackbox Production Ltd via Google Drive to be shared via AGTF website and social media.

Following new sanitary restrictions imposed by the PMO, on Thursday evening 11 November 2021, the AGTF decided to cancel most activities related to the last day of the Heritage Week. As per the communiqué, no cultural activities were permitted until further notice.

- participation of their students;
  - Had meeting and site visit with resource person at the AGWHS;
  - Liaise with MACH by providing Contact Details of Resource Persons and Participants for the 2<sup>nd</sup> November event, Heritage Week and seminar;
  - Get in touch with the Blackbox production for the recording of the 2 sessions;
  - Contact participants regarding the workshop;
  - Send Calendar of activities for the Heritage week to institutions and participants as well as the Time-table of the workshop on storytelling.
- schools.
  - It mostly targeted students who wished to embark on a teaching career.

#### 7.4. Mini-seminar of 1-Hour on the *Legacy of Indenture in the Indian Ocean* followed by a VIP Dinner

Research / Tasks / Participation	Objectives	Output / updates
<p>I was responsible for the following 3 items:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Assist in the organization of a mini-seminar on the legacy of indenture in the Indian Ocean;</li> <li>(2) Prepare a presentation and article on how to trace your roots which I would present, and</li> <li>(3) Produce a documentary/a video of 5 mins on the life story of a descendant of indentured labourer (aged 80 years old) who was born and stayed at Trianon sugar estate when the mill was still operational as part of my presentation.</li> </ol> <p><b>Tasks:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Drafted the programme of the seminar and sent to MACH;</li> </ol>	<p>In the context of the 187<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Arrival of the Indentured Labourers in Mauritius on 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2021, the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund in collaboration with the Ministry of Arts and Cultural Heritage proposed to organize a mini-seminar of one-hour on <b><i>“The Legacy of Indenture in Mauritius”</i></b> on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2021 between 16.30 and 18.00hrs at (venue TBC). This mini-seminar seeks to promote, preserve and protect the heritage of indenture in Mauritius.</p> <p><b>Main objectives of the seminar were:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To highlight the legacy the indentured labourers have bestowed to their descendants in Mauritius;</li> <li>▪ To explore the tangible and intangible heritage</li> </ul>	<p>A video was produced in that context depicting the life story of a descendant who used to stay at that Trianon sugar estate.</p> <p>This video would help students, researchers, the public to better appreciate the history and heritage all the Trianon sugar estate as it was in the past.</p> <p>I prepared my article on ‘Tracing you Roots’.</p> <p>Unfortunately, due to the increase number of Covid cases in Mauritius, the Government put in place a sanitary protocols whereby the activities for the Heritage Week and the mini webinar were cancelled.</p> <p>Prepared an article and presentation on ‘Tracing</p>

2. Prepared a list of potential descendants of indentured labourers who used to stay on sugar estates who could present their lifestories;
3. Prepared a list of names of scholars who could participate at the webinar;
4. Collect abstracts and biodata of potential participants;
5. Prepare a list of participants who would require transport;
6. Prepare the list of invitees;
7. Interviewed a descendant of an immigrant who was born at Trianon sugar estate and whose parents worked as labourers at there in view of making a documentary of his life at Trianon;
8. Several site visits were made at Trianon with the interviewee to locate the places where the latter and his parents used to stay, work and perform prayers and other activities;
9. Prepare the interviewee psychologically so that he could face a camera;
10. Guided the interviewee and grandson during the shooting process;
11. Collect family pictures of the interviewee;
12. In collaboration with the MFDC, video / documentary was made to depict the life of the descendant of indentured labourer at Trianon sugar estate;
13. Assist MFDC cameramen and graphic designer in the preparation of the short documentary;
14. Review titles, names, captions, graphics

aspects of indenture in Mauritius;

- To gain a better understanding and appreciation of shared history and shared heritage of indenture in Mauritius;
- To provide the opportunity and a forum for the youth who are descendants of indentured labourers to disseminate their research on indenture in Mauritius.
- Scholars who have widely written on the indenture would present on the heritage of indenture in the Indian Ocean;
- Descendants of indentured labourers would be invited to speak about their life story on estate camps;
- Present a short documentary on the lifestory of a descendant of indentured labourer on a sugar estate.

your roots

- and sequence of the video;  
15. Assist in creation a family tree of the interviewee.

### 7.5. MBC Program: “*Rakont Nou*” (Nov 2021)

Research / Tasks / Participation	Objectives	Output / updates
I was invited by a journalist of the MBC to participate in a short program of 5 minutes namely ‘Rakont Nou’ to talk about the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Site	The main objective was to talk a bit about the history of the AGWHS.	I was informed that this program would be broadcasted in November 2021 coinciding with the commemoration of the Arrival of Indentured Labourers in Mauritius.

## 8. RESEARCH

### 8.1. Ongoing research on the history and heritage of Bras d’Eau sugar estate

Research / Tasks / Participation	Objectives	Output / updates
1. Multidisciplinary approach: use of oral history to understand the socio-economic life of descendants of indentured labourers during the post-indenture era	To study the importance of this site to the community, therefore one of the objectives of this research is to conduct interview with elders of nearby villages which are acquainted with the history and heritage of the site or had a direct link with the site in the past as there has never been a community without heritage and there exists no heritage without the community.	Part of this research was published in the AGTF Magazine of 2020.
2. Conduct demographic research.	(i) To understand the labour types during the transition from slavery to indenture with regards to sugar production and economic development at Bras d’Eau; (ii) Understand demographic patterns among the indentured and non-indentured immigrants and	2 <sup>nd</sup> part of this ongoing Research was presented during the ILRP IOC webinar held between 9 and 11 August 2021 which will be published.  Already submitted my article

- socio-economic mobility of labourers during and after the indenture period.
3. A comparative analysis of other sugar estates in Mauritius and in the Indian Ocean
- (i) Aims at understanding the functioning and development of the sugar industry annually during the indenture period and new technologies being adopted during that time.
- 1st part of this research was already published in 2019

## 8.2. The Development of the Trianon Sugar estate during the post-indenture period (Ongoing)

Research / Tasks / Participation	Objectives	Output / updates
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Conduct interviews and collect as much information as possible from former employees, elders and/ or descendants of indentured labourers who used to work and live at Trianon sugar estate or who are related to the site in order to better appreciate the history and evolution of the Trianon sugar estate from the indenture to contemporary period.</li> <li>2. The oral history project would consist of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Gather a list of potential interviewees related to the estate;</li> <li>▪ Conduct site visits and 1 interview per month and submit report accordingly (depends on the extent of the pandemic);</li> <li>▪ A report on survey conducted will be provided;</li> <li>▪ Compile all data for analysis</li> </ul> </li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Understand the development of the former Trianon sugar estate during the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> through collective memory and cultural identity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ First and second interview was conducted in Feb 2021 with a first Interviewee aged 83 residing at Belle Rose, Quatre Bornes;</li> <li>▪ In the context of the 187<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Arrival of Indentured Labourers, a documentary was produced on the life story of Immigrant Cunniappen.</li> </ul>

### 8.3. ORAL History book project in India (edited by Dr. Amita David and Dr. Tiwari)

Research / Tasks / Participation	Objectives	Output / updates
Conduct research on history and heritage of indenture sites like the former Bras d'Eau and Trianon sugar estates	Depict the life stories of descendants of indentured labourers at the former indenture sites and understand their connections with the site until present in terms of socio-economic, cultural and religious aspects.	An article has already been drafted and will be submitted after a final review by end of March 2022.

## 9. Indentured Labour Route Project (ILRP) Jan – Mar 2022

Research / Tasks / Participation	Objectives	Output / updates
<p>Since Dr. Forest went on Leave, Mr. Peerthum was acting Secretary of the ILRP between September and December 2021, and I assisted Mr. Peerthum as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Provide him the updated list of ISC members and their contact details</li> <li>▪ Assisted in the organization of the Bureau and Secretariat Meetings.</li> </ul> <p>As Mr. Peerthum was sick, the Vice-President requested that I assist in the organization of the Bureau and Secretariat Meetings in January 2022. Consequently, I was responsible for,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Managing the Secretariat mail;</li> <li>▪ Attended to enquiries of ISC members via the Secretariat mails;</li> <li>▪ Sending invitations together with the Agenda, Statutes of the ISC – ILRP, Action Plan 2021-23, ILRP Expenditures for 2021, and the Reports of the second and third ISC meetings to ISC Members;</li> </ul>	<p>The main objectives of the Bureau, Secretariat and fourth ISC Meeting were as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To prepare the next Agenda of the fifth ISC meeting;</li> <li>▪ Election of new members of the Bureau;</li> <li>▪ Progress of Work: Presentation of Report of projects or activities of members of the ISC, in the field of Indentured labour and indentured diaspora studies;</li> <li>▪ Proposed updates to the Action Plan 2021 – 2024. Members are asked to propose new initiatives if they have one;</li> <li>▪ Available Budget for 2021-2022. Making a budget for 2022-2023. Problem of funding of activities. (<i>What can be funded by Mauritian Government and for what do we need external</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 7 ISC Members were nominated for the ILRP Bureau which is now composed of 12 Members. The new nominated members;</li> <li>▪ 12 ISC Members, some of whom are Coordinators of Regional Committees presented a brief report of their projects and activities being carried out in their respective countries, for instance, Suriname, Réunion Island, Fiji, Trinidad &amp; Tobago, Mauritius, Guyana and South Africa.</li> <li>▪ Members were requested to propose new updates for the Action Plan 2021-2023 which was already adopted during the third ISC Meeting. Suggestion was made to upload the Reports on Projects and Activities of ISC on the ILRP website. Proposal for the publication of a Global Heritage Book on <b><i>“the lived experiences of the Indian Indentured Labour”</i></b> was made by Dr. Farzana Gounder which will be finalized in 2023.</li> </ul>

- The Secretariat and Bureau meetings were held in January 2022 and the ILRP meeting in February 2022;
- I updated the contact details of ISC and Secretariat members upon request of the President;
- I took notes of the Bureau Meeting as Ag. Secretary and forwarded Minutes of same all Bureau Members;

In January 2022, the AGTF Director, President and Vice-President of the ILRP suggested and agreed that I take over the role of Ag. Secretary of the ILRP until further notice.

As Ag. Secretary of the ILRP, the following tasks were undertaken with regards to the organization of the Fourth Meeting of the International Scientific Committee (Please find annexed my Progress Report from 14 to 25 Feb for more details):

- Constantly kept in touch with the President, Vice-President and ISC Members with regards to the organization of the fourth ISC meeting Following meeting with the Vice-President of the ILRP on Friday 11 February 2022 between 15:00 and 16:00hrs, worked on the draft Programme of the ISC Meeting;
- Collecting and compiling Reports regarding the progress of work / activities / proposals as per request sent to ISC members and archivists as follows:
  - a. Related to the history of Indentured labour and Indentured diaspora studies from ISC Members, and

*funding. How to get external funding;*

- Discuss the **International Indenture Labour Database project**: content, procedures and action plan. (See note prepared by Maurits Hassankhan);
- Presentation of Mapping Project;
- Discuss the procedures for decision making regarding applications for funding of projects;
- **Website of the ILRP**: How to build and expand the ILRP website and its promotion.
- Discussion on the idea for setting up an **International MA program on Indentured Labour, Migration and Diaspora**, in collaboration with one or more Indian Universities. One option is IGNOU (Indira Gandhi National Open University). IGNOU offers online programmes.
- Planning for ISC meetings in 2022. Proposal to have One physical meeting of the ISC, combined with a conference, in the first week of November 2022 which might be held in Mauritius or Varanasi, India

- Archivists / Archival Repositories from Mauritius, Fiji and Trinidad presented their archival collection pertaining to the history and heritage of indentured labour and state of affairs regarding the inventory, preservation and digitalization of these records. Consequently, it was proposed to have a sub-committee for Archivists
- The International Indentured Labour Database was supported and approved by everyone;
- A Mapping project was presented in order to help researchers understand indenture migration patterns (By State / District etc.) and to enable 'online' search for ancestors based on current location in India;
- Two templates regarding application for funding and assessment for the application of funding was discussed. Members and archivists were requested to submit their proposals regarding projects and activities with regards to budget/funding;
- The need for the expansion and promotion of the ILRP website taking into consideration the content was discussed. Proposal was made to appoint an advisory/monitoring committee for the website for the period of one year that can be prolonged if needed. Consequently, Prof. Goolam Vahed and Dr. Ashutosh Kumar agreed to volunteer for content creation for the Indian Ocean region;
- Discussion on the idea for setting up an International MA program on Indentured Labour, Migration and Diaspora, in collaboration with one or more Indian

- b. In connection with the International Labour Database from Archivists and Representatives of Archival Repositories. \*

(\* As per the request of the President and Vice-President of the ISC, the list of Invitees compiled were limited to only Members of the ISC, Secretariat, Embassies (invitations were sent to only those who were present during the Inter-ministerial committee which was held in July 2021), Representatives of Archival Repositories from Mauritius and abroad who could contribute to ILRP Database).

- Acknowledge receipt of PPT presentations from ISC Members and archivists;
- Request was sent earlier to ISC Members to verify their names, titles, position and/or affiliations as included in the Background Information document. Following same, the background information was being updated as and when Members replied to the mail for any amendments or additions;
- Prepared the Time Zone Calendar for all participants;
- Set up the Zoom Meeting Link;
- Presented the ILRP Expenditures during the 4<sup>th</sup> ISC Meeting and worked on the budget of the International Indentured Labour Database (IILD)
- Prepared the Reports of the Fourth ISC meetings which was submitted to the President and Vice-President of the ILRP for vetting and approval.

Universities. Members responded positively with this initiative;

- It was suggested to have a physical meeting of the ISC followed by a conference in November this year in Varanasi, India. However, all depended on funding from either the Government of Mauritius or the Indian High Commission

#### **ILRP Budget**

An estimate regarding ILRP Projects and activities was prepared in Feb 2022 and submitted to the AGTF after the vetting and approval of the President and Vice-President of the ILRP to be considered for the Financial Year 2022-23.

#### **Information Pack for the IHC**

An information Pack containing details of ILRP projects, activities and meetings since the establishment of the ILRP is being compiled. This information pack together with the budget would be sent to Her Excellency to request further collaboration and support in terms of funding for the forthcoming ISC meeting and conference.



### ILRP Budget

- Prepare ILRP budget based on previous ISC meeting and conferences;
- The budget was calculated in terms of Mauritian rupees and USD;
- 2 Options were provided, one for ISC meeting and conference in Mauritius and the second one in Varanasi, India.

## 10. International Day for Monuments and Sites April – May 2022 OPEN DAY AT BRAS D’EAU NATIONAL PARK

Research/ Tasks / Participation	Objectives	Output / updates
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Organized a training session and site visit for interns and staff of the AGTF with regards to the Open Day which took place on Saturday 07 and Sunday 08 May 2022;</li><li>▪ Liaise with the Responsible Officer and Park Rangers of the NPCS regarding the Open Day at Bras d’Eau;</li><li>▪ I provided a training session to 2 interns of the École Hôtelière Sir Gaëtan Duval on Wednesday 20 April 2022 at Bras d’Eau National Park at different vestiges for the Open Day and the following tasks were assigned to them: 1. Conduct guided visits by providing historical information on the site; 2. Create awareness for the protection and</li></ul>	<p>The main objectives of this Open Day were as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ To promote awareness about the diversity of cultural heritage, the vulnerability of the site, and the efforts required for its protection and conservation;</li><li>▪ To disseminate information on the history and heritage of slavery and indenture at Bras d’Eau;</li><li>▪ To inform the public about the significance of the sites;</li><li>▪ To conduct guided visits at the vestiges of the former sugar estate which depict the history and heritage of indenture</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ During the 2 days, there were a total number of 140 local and international tourists of all age groups who attended the presentation and visited the site;</li><li>▪ We had a positive response from each visitor;</li><li>▪ The Interns showed keen interest in learning and disseminating information on the history and heritage of the site. They were very helpful and dedicated;</li><li>▪ The interns provided a report of tasks assigned to them;</li><li>▪ The Interns were satisfied with the Trainer and the functioning of the Open Day;</li><li>▪ The Open Day was a success taking into consideration the economic crisis and</li></ul>

preservation of the site;

3. Assist in the sales of books and distribution of brochures and AGTF magazines;

- Did a PowerPoint presentation on the History and Heritage of the former sugar estate of Bras d'Eau for about 120 visitors (local and international);
- Conduct guided visits with visitors at the vestiges of the sugar estate;
- Answered visitors' and NPC's officers' queries regarding the history and heritage of the site;
- Provide information on the history and heritage to MBC Team for their Bhojpuri program namely, 'Virasat'.
- The NPC's Officers requested for training in the Month of May 2022.

pandemic that the world is facing.

- Submit a full report regarding the Open day to the AGTF;
- Interns were provided with a Certificate of Internship and an Attestation which I prepared for them.

## 11. International Museum Day – 18 May 2022

### Workshop organized by the AGTF in BRIC, AGWHS (20 May 2022)

Research/ Tasks / Participation	Objectives	Output / updates
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Assist in the organization of the Workshop;</li><li>▪ Liaise with Museums and other institutions regarding confirmation of their participation;</li><li>▪ Attend to participants' queries regarding the presentation;</li><li>▪ Prepare a tentative programme for the workshop;</li><li>▪ Prepare Attendance sheet for the participants and guests;</li><li>▪ Prepare a PPT presentation on Museums</li></ul>	<p>The main objectives of the International Museum Day workshop were to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Raise awareness about the fact that, "Museums are an important means of cultural exchange, enrichment of cultures and development of mutual understanding, cooperation and peace among peoples";</li><li>• Share experiences and best practices adopted for the better functioning of</li></ul>	<p>The Workshop was a successful one where different private and public museums and institutions met to discuss the experiences and challenges museums face in both the local and international context. Emphasis was placed on the power of museums in educating and consolidating the community at large. Today, people feel proud to find that the history of their ancestors and intangible cultural heritage are showcased, promoted and recognized.</p>

- for the Open Day;
- Presented on the objectives for the setting up of the Beekrumsing Ramlallah Interpretation Centre, and
  - Send mail to all participants to thank them for their participation and request them the Title of their Presentation.

museums in the local context;

- Discuss the challenges at the museum, and
- Present the methods adopted for the promotion of and accessibility (multimedia, etc.) to the museum.

A Report regarding the Workshop was submitted to the AGTF.

**12. Temporary Exhibition on the Life of Sir Annerood Jugnauth (SAJ), former Prime Minister and President of the Republic of Mauritius at the Château de Mon Plaisir, SSR Botanical Garden, Pamplemousses  
Organized by the Ministry of Arts and Cultural Heritage from June to August 2022**

Research/ Tasks / Participation	Objectives	Output / updates
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Training was provided by SP to AGTF Staff and interns;</li> <li>▪ Conducted guided visits of the Exhibition in French, English and Creole languages;</li> <li>▪ Explained visitors the educational and political life and career of SAJ;</li> <li>▪ Attend to visitors' queries regarding materials showcased at the exhibition and on research undertaken there;</li> <li>▪ Suggest visitors to provide their views and comments in the Visitor's Book;</li> <li>▪ Ensure that the image and audio of the video on the life of SAJ at the exhibit was working properly.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ This exhibition was organized by the Ministry of Arts and Cultural Heritage in collaboration with the AGTF, MMC, MNA and National Library of Mauritius in commemoration of the first death Anniversary of SAJ;</li> <li>▪ The aim was to showcase the political life Sir Anerood Jugnauth, GCSK, PV, KCMG, PC, QC as the former Mauritian politician and barrister who served both as President and Prime Minister of Mauritius. He was Member of Parliament for Piton &amp; Rivière du Rempart who served for 7 mandates. He was the founder of the Militant Socialist Movement (MSM).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ We received different types of Visitors at the Exhibit, for instance, students from the primary, secondary and tertiary institutions, senior citizen groups, local and international visitors of different age groups;</li> <li>▪ Some visitors were satisfied with the exhibit while some international visitors from francophone countries could not understand the texts;</li> <li>▪ Primary students could not understand the political history of the SAJ as the texts were bulky;</li> <li>▪ Some visitors requested for a pamphlet, booklet on the exhibit and copy of the video that was playing;</li> <li>▪ Some visitors, mostly international ones, who came to visit the SSR Botanical Garden was curious about the history and architecture of the Château de Mon Plaisir. It was suggested that an information</li> </ul>

### 13. 2<sup>nd</sup> ILRP Indian Ocean Committee Webinar:

## *“Broadening Horizons: Empowering Young Scholars & Academics & New Directions of Research on Indentured Labour” – 09 & 10 August 2022*

Research/ Tasks / Participation	Objectives	Output / updates
<p>The ILRP Indian Ocean Committee (IOC) in collaboration with the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund (AGTF), Ministry of Arts &amp; Cultural Heritage, the Mauritius Film Development Corporation (MFDC), GOPIO-International, the Global Rainbow Foundation, and the Manipal University, Jaipur organized a 2-half day 2<sup>nd</sup> ILRP Indian Ocean Committee (IOC) Webinar on Tuesday 09 and Wednesday 10 August 2022 between 13:00 and 18:00hrs (Mauritius Local Time). Consequently, as Secretary of the Indian Ocean Committee, I assisted in the organization of the ILRP IOC Webinar by undertaking the following tasks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Act as Co-Convenor of the Webinar upon request of the Coordinator of the IOC;</li><li>▪ Worked on the IOC Webinar checklist;</li><li>▪ Discuss themes for the programme of webinar with Ag. HTU and SP;</li><li>▪ Drafted Invitation letters to participants, members of the ISC and other invitees;</li><li>▪ With the help of System Analyst, advise AGTF in the purchase of an AGTF licensed Zoom Account to schedule the webinar online by providing details of Zoom license;</li><li>▪ Set up the online webinar via Zoom with</li></ul>	<p>The main objectives of the Webinar went in line with the objectives of the ILRP as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. To link-up local scholars, academics, researchers, writers, social scientists, heritage experts and managers, and historians who specialized in indentured labour in the greater Indian Ocean region and also from other parts of the world;</li><li>2. To share resources and research among historians, social scientists, researchers, scholars, writers, heritage experts and managers, and academics of the greater Indian Ocean region;</li><li>3. To fill one of the glaring gaps in recent indentured labour research and historiography in the Indian Ocean region by encouraging multi-disciplinary research in indentured labour, cognate labour systems and also unfree labour;</li><li>4. To encourage and support research projects and publications on indentured labour in the region;</li><li>5. To allow for joint projects, shared research information, and also to support the work of the International Scientific Committee and Secretariat of the ILRP and of AGTF;</li><li>6. To empower young scholars and academics researching on the history and heritage of indenture in Mauritius and elsewhere, and</li></ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ The 2-half days webinar was a success which saw the participation of 31 participants from different parts of the world who presented their research on the history and heritage of indenture as per the different themes of the webinar;</li><li>▪ Each and every participant shared the same research interest and suggested that research on indenture migration continue.</li></ul>

- registration and FB livestreaming options
- Assist System Analyst in creating an option on AGTF Zoom Account for Livestreaming of the webinar on ILRP Secretariat FB page where it was targeted to reach a wider audience;
  - Send invitations, zoom links, table indicating the Time Zones to, and attend queries of all participants, academics and institutions related to the history and heritage of indenture regarding the Webinar;
  - Prepare the Time Zone calendar and forwarded same to all participants;
  - Updated Programme of the Webinar;
  - Gather abstracts, webinar papers, Biodata (update Titles, affiliations & positions of each participant) and PPT presentations of all participants and provide same to chairpersons of different sessions;
  - Sent Reminders to all participants requesting for their PPT presentations;
  - Monitor Zoom during the webinar and answer queries of participants online;
  - Liaise with each participant via WhatsApp;
  - Helped IT Technician of the MFDC with the sharing of participants' presentations according to the Programme of the webinar;
  - Liaise with Programme Coordinator regarding Catering and transport of AGTF staff;
  - Liaise with MFDC regarding logistics;
  - Attend to the needs of the both local and
- 7. To foster new directions of research on indentured labour.

international participants present at the webinar and during their stay in Mauritius such as food and transport;

- Drafting of the IOC Report in progress.

**My Participation at the 2<sup>nd</sup> ILRP IOC Webinar:**

- Conduct research on the socio-economic mobility of indentured women in Mauritius during the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century Mauritius through land purchase and transactions;
- Participate in the 2<sup>nd</sup> ILRP Indian Ocean Committee Webinar by presenting a paper on ***“From Indentureship to ownership: Propertied women during the mid-19<sup>th</sup> Century Mauritius”***

**Research undertaken for the year 2021-2022**

**Flat Island**

The AGTF prepared a conservation plan for the cultural heritage resources at Flat Island in 2017 following the preparation of a Development of Management Plan for the Conservation and Management of Offshore Islets for the Republic of Mauritius – phase II, by the National Parks & Conservation Service and the Ministry of Agro Industry & Fisheries in 2012. The AGTF proposed to prepare a conservation plan making provision for the restoration and conservation of cultural heritage on the islet in line with the mandate of the AGTF as “to carry out or support archaeological or conservational works on the Aapravasi Ghat and related sites 1” and “to undertake or support scientific research related to indentured labour and to the Aapravasi Ghat and related sites” (AGTF Act, section 6 (i)).

The AGTF joined by the NHF and the Forestry Service undertook an expedition on Flat and Gabriel Islands on the 24th March 2022. The purpose of the expedition was to:

1. Identify buildings forming part of the former quarantine station that would require emergency conservation;
2. Assess the state of conservation of the built and movable heritage on the islet;
3. Identify a location for a commemorative stele regarding the death of 284 immigrants while in quarantine at Gabriel Island in 1856.

A report was provided in April 2022 to define the action plan for the emergence conservation of the identified building named S2.



## **Parc à Boulets**

At its extended 44th session (Fuzhou, China/Online, 2021), the World Heritage Committee examined the state of conservation of the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage property. As per the Committee Decision 44 COM 7B.119 (6), the World Heritage Committee requested the State Party to provide information to the World Heritage Centre on future archival and archaeological research on the Parc à boulets.

The Parc à boulets is located on M2 Motorway tow on the eastern side of Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Site and forms part of the Buffer Zone 1 of the World Heritage Property. The Parc-à-Boulets' history is connected to the Aapravasi Ghat and based on the decision of the World Heritage Committee, an archival and archaeological study of Parc à boulets is being proposed in order 'to safeguard the potentially valuable archaeological residue in this area'.

Archival research was conducted and the first outcome of the research was provided in a report submitted in July 2022.

## **Activities and events**

### **Indian Ocean Committee (IOC) of the ILRP – First webinar**

The IOC of the ILRP held its first webinar from 9- 11 August 2021. The webinar saw the participation of around 18 participants from various countries.

### **187th Anniversary of the arrival of indentured laborer's in Mauritius**

To mark this event several activities were organized, which included a pre-event and a post-event activity. The pre-event activity was an exhibition on the Outstanding Universal Value of the AGWHS which was displayed in 5 malls of the country from the 29th October to 2nd November 2021.

The post-event activity was held from the 8th to 12 November 2021.

The week-long programme comprised of :

1. Live enactment on life of indentured labourers at the immigration depot
2. Live painting
3. Art exhibition of painting by Mauritian artists on the legacy of indenture
4. Demonstration of basket making
5. Demonstration of geet gawai
6. A workshop on storytelling
7. A workshop on slam

### **Magazine 2021**

The AGTF magazine for the year 2021 was prepared. The call for contribution was launched on 6<sup>th</sup> May 2021 to scholars, writers and researchers. The deadline for submission was scheduled at the end of July. However, due to particular circumstances, its publication was postponed to the year 2022.

### **IDMS 2022**

Open Days was held on 7th and 8th May 2022. The AGWHS was opened to visitors and the following activities were proposed:

- guided visits of the AGWHS and the Buffer Zone
- Pedagogical activities

Additional activities were organized in this context in collaboration of the National Heritage Fund, which were guided visit at Bras d'Eau and an exhibition at Super U Flacq.

## **African World Heritage Day 2022**

A workshop was organized by the National Heritage Fund in collaboration with the AGTF on the 6th May at the BRIC on the theme of Heritage and Climate change. The objective of the workshop was to discuss of the impact that climate on heritage. The participants were:

Land drainage Authority

National disaster Center

Le Morne Heritage Trust und

National Heritage Fund

Ministry of environment, solid waste management and climate change

## **16<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of inscription of the Aapravasi Ghat on World Heritage List**

A consultative Committee was held on 16 July 2022 with stakeholders of the buffer zone. The projects regarding the Buffer Zone were presented as follows:

- an overview of the development and rehabilitation projects in the Buffer Zone of the AGWHP from 2011-2021 - Mrs. Natasha Kheddo-Ramcharitar.
- the historical research on Parc à Boulets - Mrs Christelle Miao Foh.
- The master document on the Action Area Plan for Urban Heritage Area: Buffer Zone of the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property (AAP 01) was presented by Mr. Nitin Ramsahye.

## **Seminar and workshop attended**

### **Workshop Post-medieval and historical archaeology: Insights from the Indian Ocean and Iberian Peninsula**

A workshop was organised on Friday 05 August 2022 and focusses on the archaeology of more recent epochs, looking at how trade, disease, and mobility shaped populations in the last few hundred years. The workshop brings together colleagues from Mauritius, Europe and the USA, who have worked on the archaeology of Mauritius and the Mediterranean region. The speakers will cover a range of topics and methodological approaches, as well as provide updates on ongoing work from recent studies on Mauritius. The programme was as follows:

1.28pm -1.30pm: Introduction & Master of Ceremony:

Satyendra Peerthum, Acting HTU and Historian at AGTF

1.30pm-1.45pm:

Theme: Quarantine and Disease Control.

Speaker: Dr. Alessandra Cianciosi, Marie Curie Fellow, Stanford University and Amsterdam University.

Title: Flat Island Quarantine Station, 2022 season update.

1.50pm-2.05pm:

Theme: Post-medieval Trade and Exchange.

Speaker: Dr. Miguel Busto, University of Granada.

Title: The trade in imported pottery in the Iberian Peninsula during the Early Modern Period.

2.10pm-2.25pm:

Theme: Mobility in the Indian Ocean World.

Speaker: Stefania Manfio, PhD Candidate, Stanford University.

Title: Maritime archaeology in Mauritius.

2.30pm-2.45pm:

Theme: Labour Migration.

Speaker: Prof. Krish Seetah, Associate Prof. Of Anthropology.

Title: New insights from a possible site of enslaved burial, Albion.

2.45pm-3.00PM:

Theme: Urban Heritage and History

Speaker: Satyendra Peerthum, Acting Head of the Technical Unit and Historian AGTF.

Title: Port Louis: A Rare City of the Heart of the Indian Ocean

3.00 PM: Questions and Answers

3.10PM: Vote of thanks and Refreshments

**Research, documentation and Conservation at Flat Island**

The AGTF Technical team joined by the NHF and the Forestry Service undertook an expedition on Flat and Gabriel Islands on the 24th March 2022. The purpose of the expedition was to:

1. Identify buildings forming part of the former quarantine station that would require emergency conservation;
2. Assess the state of conservation of the built and movable heritage on the islet;
3. Identify a location for a commemorative stele regarding the death of 284 immigrants while in quarantine at Gabriel Island in 1856.

A report was provided in April 2022 to define the action plan for the emergence conservation of the identified building named S2.

Necessary actions are being undertaken to identify the quantity and type of materials required for the emergency conservation and potential suppliers.

**Parc à Boulets**

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history is connected to the Aapravasi Ghat and based on the decision of the World Heritage Committee, an archival and archaeological study of Parc à boulets is being proposed in order ‘to safeguard the potentially valuable archaeological residue in this area’.

Archival research was conducted and the first outcome of the research was provided in a report submitted in July 2022.

Archival documents consulted:

- Research conducted at the Mauritius National Archives. Documents consulted:
- OA series
- RA series
- Mauritius Illustrated
- Maps and Plans of Port Louis
- Blue Books
- Surveyor’s General report

Archival research ongoing and archaeological excavations are expected to start shortly depending on the clearances from relevant authorities.

#### **Article for the UNESCOs’ 50th anniversary**

In light of the 50th anniversary of the UNESCO, the organization is planning a magazine. The MACH, NHF, LMTF and AGTF joined to write an article for the magazine. Inputs for the draft article submitted. Working sessions at MACH and NHF with regards to the article.

#### **Fencing of Plot 4 B at Trianon**

The objective is to fence the area indicated as Lot 4B of an extent of 2,363m<sup>2</sup> to protect the site from intruders and delimit the land vested in AGTF. Works are expected to be completed in mid-September 2022.

### **187th Anniversary of the arrival of indentured laborer's in Mauritius**

To mark this event several activities were organized, which included a pre-event and a post-event activity. The pre-event activity was an exhibition on the Outstanding Universal Value of the AGWHS which was displayed in 5 malls of the country from the 29th October to 2nd November 2021.

The post-event activity was held from the 8th to 12 November 2021. The week-long programme comprised of:

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### **16<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of inscription of the Aapravasi Ghat on World Heritage List**

A consultative Committee was held on 16 July 2022 with stakeholders of the buffer zone.

#### **Seminar and workshop attended**

- **Workshop Post-medieval and historical archaeology: Insights from the Indian Ocean and Iberian Peninsula**
- A workshop was organised on Friday 05 August 2022 and focusses on the archaeology of more recent epochs, looking at how trade, disease, and mobility shaped populations in the last few hundred years. The workshop brings together colleagues from Mauritius, Europe and the USA, who have worked on the archaeology of Mauritius and the Mediterranean region. The speakers



will cover a range of topics and methodological approaches, as well as provide updates on ongoing work from recent studies on Mauritius. The programme was as follows:

### **Activities and events**

#### **Indian Ocean Committee (IOC) of the ILRP – First webinar**

The IOC of the ILRP held its first webinar from 9- 11 August 2021. The webinar saw the participation of around 18 participants from various countries and acted as rapporteur.

### **BY SOONANDA BHADYE, BRIC**

#### **VISITS AT THE AAPRAVASI GHAT WORLD HERITAGE SITE**

The visit at the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Site comprises of a visit of the Beekrumsing Ramlallah Interpretation Centre (45 mins) and a visit of the World Heritage Site (20 mins).

The Interpretation Centre is a permanent exhibition area that retraces the experience of indentured labourers and the key role of Mauritius in the history of indenture.

The Centre was made accessible to public on 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2014 and was inaugurated on 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2014 in the context of the 180<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the arrival of indentured labourers in Mauritius.

The Centre was named after Beekrumsing Ramlallah (1915-2000), a Journalist and Member of Parliament, in homage to his commitment to recognize the Aapravasi Ghat as a landmark in the history of the nation.

#### **PRACTICAL INFORMATION**

##### **OPENING HOURS**

Monday - Friday: 9.00 – 16.00

Saturday: 9.00 – 12.00 (On booking)

Closed on Sundays and Public Holidays

### **ACTIVITIES PROPOSED – FREE OF CHARGE (ON BOOKING);**

Guided visits of the World Heritage Site (20 mins);

Guided visit of the Beekrumsing Ramlallah Interpretation Centre (45 mins);

Guided heritage trails (45 mins);

Educational activities for children aged between 3 to 14 years old (45 mins) namely Story

Telling. Construction Techniques and Pottery Making

Educational documentation can be downloaded from our website from the Page

“Resources”: <http://www.aaprasighat.org/English/Education/Pages/default.aspx> or is accessible from the padlet; <https://padlet.com/aaprasighat/e9nf95a6e6u8h7ag>

An Educational kit for teachers is available on demand and can be downloaded from our website; it includes information on the history of the World Heritage Site and proposes educational documentation for teachers in order to conduct activities with students in class.

A Quiz on the World Heritage Site and on the history of the Aapravasi Ghat Immigration

Depot is also available. The students can fill in this quiz during their visit at the Interpretation Centre. Other quizzes for children are also available for download on our website (“Resources”) for further activities in class with primary and secondary students.

### **STATISTICS**

Since its opening on 3rd November 2014, a total number of approximately 473 541 visitors visited the Centre as at 31<sup>st</sup> Aug 2022.

With the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, the tourism industry worldwide was affected, including Mauritius who witnessed a closure of its international borders as well as periods of national lockdown. A remarkable decrease is thus noted in the total number of visitors in 2020.

The year 2021 did not prove to be better for the tourism industry as well. With the imposition of strict sanitary restrictions, reluctance was still present in Mauritians to

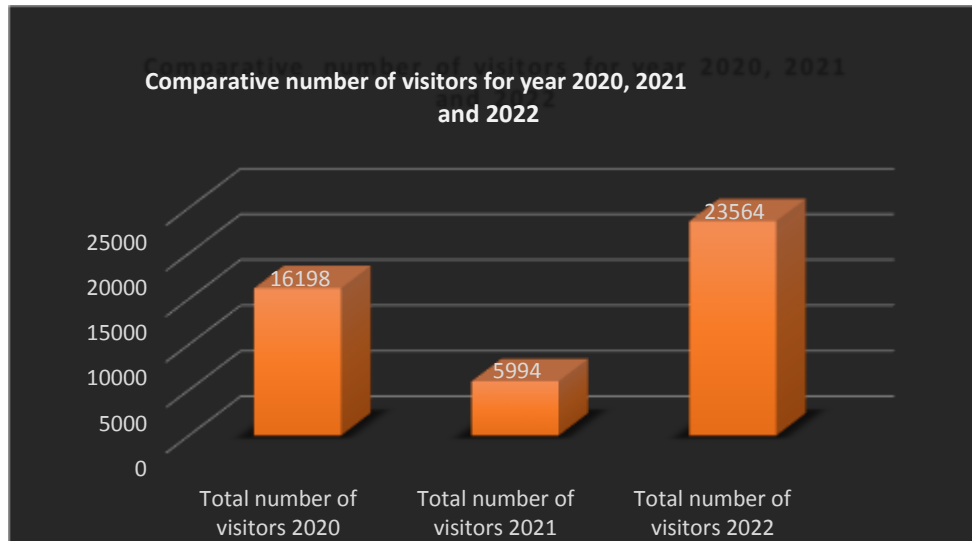
visit places of interest, including museums. A second lockdown in March 2021 further worsened the situation, with a decrease in total number of visitors reaching only 5994 throughout the year 2021.

Year 2022 saw new rays of hope for the tourism industry through the increasing number of residents being vaccinated against COVID-19 and the gradual lifting off of sanitary restrictions. The opening of international borders brought a fresh air to the Mauritian tourist industry through increasing influx of tourists. From January 2022 till Aug 2022, we have already received 23 564 visitors in BRIC and AGWHS.

From 3<sup>rd</sup> January to 31<sup>st</sup> Aug 2022, a total of around **23 564** visitors came to AG WHS including 48.5% Mauritians and 51% tourists.



**Chart 1: Number of visitors per month as from Jun 2021 to Aug 2022**



*Chart 2: Comparative number of visitors in 2020, 2021 and 2022 till Aug*

### **Students and Associations**

The peak season for Mauritian visitors is normally the period between April and July when students normally perform outings with schools. During this period, the percentage of Mauritian visitors usually represents more than 60% of the total number annually received. Mauritian students have always formed part of a large segment of nearly 25% of the total number of visitors annually. However, Covid-19 pandemic had forced educational institutions to close their doors in 2020 and online classes were held mostly. With no educational tours being organized, the number of students visiting BRIC and AGWHS had significantly decreased to 2622 in 2020, compared to 10907 in 2019. A further decline was noted in 2021 with only 706 Mauritian students as visitors.

With the opening of academic institutions in 2022, organization of visits to BRIC have resumed and the number of students has also increased compared to the two previous years reaching 6515 from January till August 2022.

The secondary students opting for Travel & Tourism subject at the Higher School Certificate level select the museum of Aapravasi Ghat as a place of interest related to the historical and cultural heritage to conduct their event which counts a total of 17% as core subject and 33% for those opting same as elective. A training is provided to those students and then they came on a reserved date to conduct their event with their targeted audience. Many students choose Aapravasi Ghat for their event.

The students represent around 28% of the total number of visitors for 2022.

From Jun 2021 to Aug 2022, 146 schools visited the Interpretation Centre and 126 schools in 2022 and they are categorised as follows:

Total of Pre-primary - 2 schools representing 70 children;

Total number of Primary - 105 schools representing 5513 students;

Total number of Secondary - 26 schools representing 782 students;

Total number of Tertiary - 10 institutions representing 112 students;

Total number of special needs associations/schools - 2 representing 65 children.

Regarding Associations, the World Heritage Site received a total of 15 associations including mainly:

Total number of 15 Senior Citizens Associations (SCA) representing a total of 741 visitors;

Associations represent 3.5% of the total number of visitors for the year 2022.

Over the years we have been receiving different categories of visitors and recently over the last one year, we had the opportunity to welcome more diversified groups of people visiting BRIC each with a specific purpose.

Tour operators from Emotions, Mautourco, Silver Wings and MTPA bring many foreign visitors to visit AG. They are also provided with a training so that they can share basic information to tourists visiting BRIC and AGWHS.

Over the last one year, 75 scholars and researchers have visited BRIC.

People from International press have also shown interest in our Heritage site, for example 4 visitors from BBC Africa came at BRIC for promoting our museum and site through a clip which was broadcast internationally. In addition, we also had 10 other journalists who visited us.

10 people from the Mauritius Film Development Corporation (MFDC) have been to

BRIC for the purpose of shooting, while 14 other individuals came for making small clips.

Around 200 people from the International German shooting of the '*Club Las Piranhas*' by Top Tamarin Film I Ltd/ Spv of Two Oceans Production Company (Mauritius) Limited were in BRIC in Apr 2022 for two days.

The BRIC and AGWHS have also received the visit of many dignitaries:

DATE	NAME OF EMINENT PERSONALITY	COMMENTS
16 Jul 21	Honourable Avinash Teeluck, Ministry of Arts & Cultural Heritage	<i>"15 years since the inscription of Aapravasi Ghat as a World Heritage Site. I believe the time has come to pay tribute to the other Jahaji bhai, who continued the journey to other shores, leaving their kin on the soil of Mauritius going to South Africa, Fiji, etc. These countries also have their own equivalent of Aapravasi Ghat. We must work with India and other countries to find the branches of this banyan tree. The roots are in India, but our history also resides in the branches, where the brothers and sisters of our ancestors were carried away as part of the Great Experiment"</i>
02 Sep 21	Ms. Charlotte Pierre, British High Commissssioner	<i>"A special place ensuring Mauritius and Mauritians remember their history. Thank you for an informative and inspirational afternoon"</i>
16-Mar-22	Ashad Jan - Pakistan High Commissioner	<i>"It is indeed an honour to visit Aapravasi Ghat today. I had a wonderful guided tour that walked me through the history of Mauritius. Greatly preserved history and AG being secured by the UNESCO. The labourers who came from undivided shores were truly the ones who built Mauritius"</i>

		<i>from uninhibited island to a great nation."</i>
06-May-22	Hon H.S Kamboni – National Assemblé of Zambia	<i>"Very rich in history."</i>
27-May-22	Shinichi Kitaoka, President of the Japan International Cooperation Agency	<i>"This was really a great learning place. Thank You!"</i>
31-May-22	Dr Zouberr Joomaye - Senior advisor to Prime Minister	<i>"Really impressive historical collection, a fruit of intensive research and nice to keep alive the history of most of the Mauritians. Thanks to the Chairperson and Director of the Aapravasi Trust Fund."</i>
27-Jun-22	Lim Ming Yan – Singapore Business Federation and Workforce Singapore	<i>'Fascinating to learn about the system and the background to the origin of the Mauritius culture and history. Much respect for the grit, determination and perseverance of the Mauritius people.'</i>



15-Jul-22	Dr. Armooodum Parsuramen GOSK	<i>"The visit of Aapravasi Ghat museum takes me back to my ancestors who landed here on 05 August 1884. I can feel the vibrations of their steps and sufferings endured to make me what I am today. I commend the Management of Aapravasi Ghat for the excellent display and tour of their journey".</i>
03-Aug-22	Prof. Anunaya Chaubay - Anant National University Ahmedabad, INDIA	<i>"An inspiring and humbling story of human endurance, courage and of innovation leading to triumph over adversity."</i>
05-Aug-22	Prof. George Abungu- Kenya	<i>"It is great to come back to AGTF and to meet the Chairman and Director. The site looks in very good order. I am very pleased."</i>
05-Aug-22	Ambassadoe Paolo Guguli - Embassy of Italy Pretoria, South Africa	<i>"Très beau site, réalisé avec l'aide d'une mission archéologique italienne."</i>
23-Aug-22	Pujya Rajan, India	<i>"I am so happy to see this Aapravasi Ghat &amp; I feel so blessed."</i>
24-Aug-22	Sheetal Choudhary - Indian Oil Corporation Ltd, Jaipur, India	<i>"You have preserved my history for which I am extremely grateful."</i>

24-Aug-22	Hon. Gladys Naeda - Parliament of Kenya	"A wonderful legacy to the nation."
24-Aug-22	Mr. Steve Banda - Parliament of Kenya & Vice-President of the Executive Committee of the Commonwealth	"A wonderful experience."

## **OPEN DAYS**

The International Day for Monuments and Sites are celebrated each year on 18<sup>th</sup> April where open days are held with various activities proposed by AG to encourage local communities to ponder on the importance of cultural heritage to their lives and to promote awareness as well. This year, the Open days were held on Sat 07 May (280 Mauritian + 63 Tourist = 343 visitors) and Sun 08 May 2022 (1020 Mauritian + 670 Tourist) = 1690 visitors, where AG received a total of 2033 visitors with many visitors participating in the pedagogical activities as well despite the presence of Covid-19 prevailing in the Mauritian society.



*Parents as well participating in Colouring with her kids*



*Story Telling “Rajah a l’Apravasi Ghat”*



Kid interested in traditional “Jhanta”  
*along with their fathers*



*Kids enjoying their activities*

### **FOREIGN VISITORS**

With no international passenger flights coming to Mauritius in 2020 and 2021, the number of foreigners in the island had greatly decreased, resulting in the least number of foreign visitors in BRIC in the history of AGTF. Worldwide vaccination campaigns against Covid 19 were successful and as from 2022, nearly all countries had opened their borders to international travel including Mauritius who has been welcoming tourists from all over the world.

The peak periods of the pandemic had urged people to stay indoors. After abolition of the sanitary restrictions, people from all over the world want to enjoy their freedom of

travel and exploration. It has been positively noted that the number of foreign visitors in BRIC and AGWHS has been consistently increasing since the beginning of 2022, and visitors are coming from all parts of the world as illustrated in the chart below.



***Chart 3: % Mauritian visitors and tourist per month for Jun 2021 to Aug 2022***

Before 2021, the number of Mauritians visiting BRIC was much more than the number of tourists. This was due to the large proportion of Mauritian students who was coming to Aapravasi Ghat during educational tours. However, with the lockdown and closure of institutions, no student groups attended BRIC and the AGWHS. Hence, as depicted below, the percentage of Mauritians and tourists from June 2021 till August 2022, is almost the same with around 50 % distribution and the total number of tourists being slightly higher.

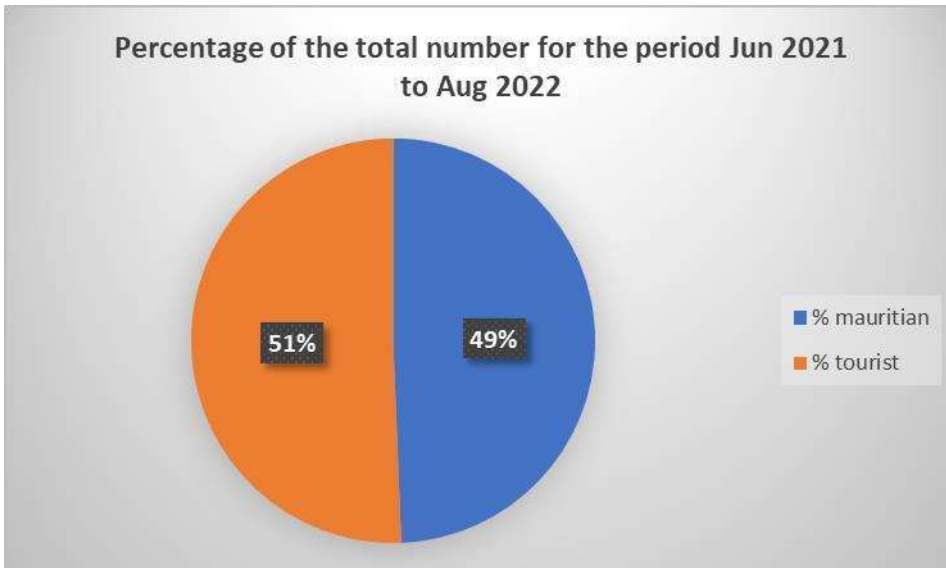


Figure 4: Percentage of the total number of visitors for the period January to December 2017

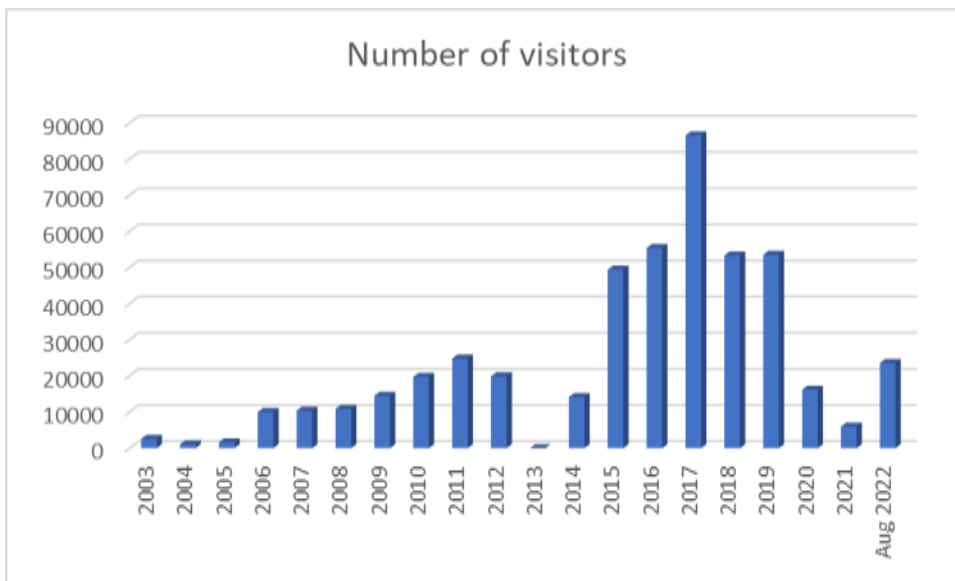


Chart 5: Total Number of visitors per year from 2003 to 2017

From the bar chart above, it is clearly visible that the total number of visitors per year has been consistently rising. From 2018 till 2020, with the outbreak of COVID 19 worldwide, there has been an unprecedented decrease. In 2022, as sanitary restrictions have phased out and international travel encouraged, there is already a higher number of visitors till August only, compared to the previous year.

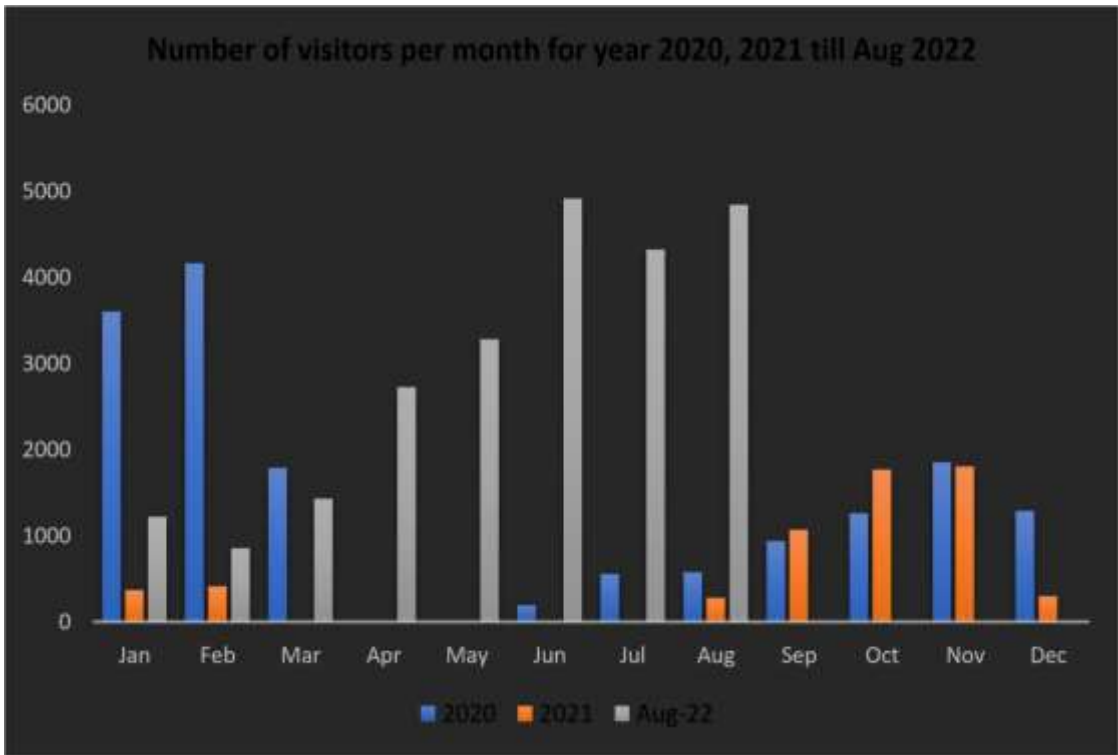


Chart 6: Number of visitors per month for year 2020, 2021 to Aug 2022

From the chart above, it can be inferred that 2020 and 2021 have been almost similar in terms of number of visitors, with both periods of lockdown being in the same month mostly.

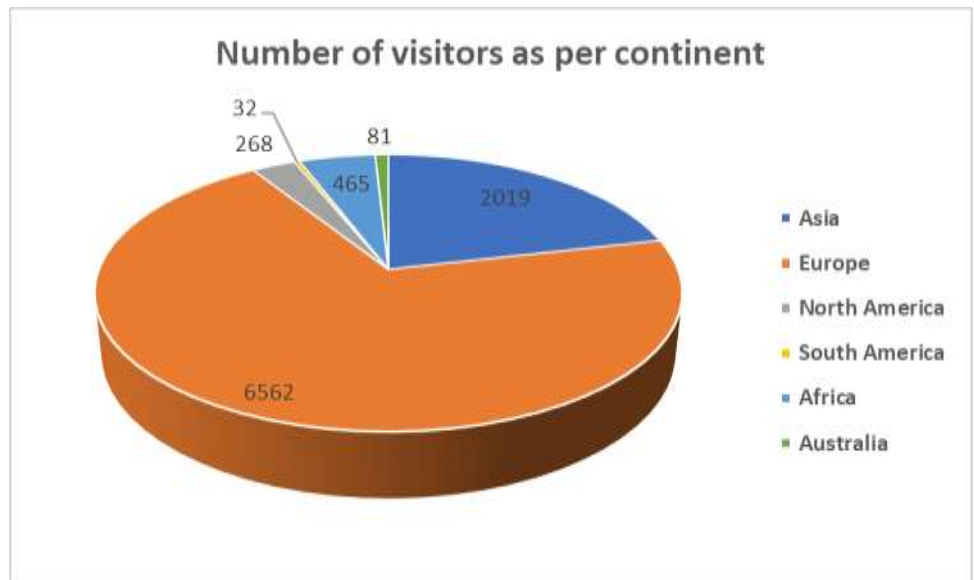


Figure 1: Number of visitors as per continent

The pie chart above shows that most of the tourists visiting AG come from Europe. After Europe, Asia is the second continent from where most of

our foreign visitors come from.

### SHOP IN BEEKRUMSING RAMLALLAH INTERPRETATION CENTRE

PUBLICATIONS	PRICE (Rs)	PUBLICATIONS	PRICE (Rs)
AG Pin	150	From Captivity to Freedom <i>"A history of the Liberated Africans Associated with the Aapravasi Ghat during 19<sup>th</sup> century"</i>	35
Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Site	900	Gokoola <i>"Family, Temple &amp; Village"</i>	250
Angaje Vol 1. <i>"Early years "</i>	300	Health and Diseases and Indian Immigrants in 19 <sup>th</sup> century Mauritius by Raj Boodhoo	450
Angaje Vol 2. <i>"The Impact of Indenture"</i>	300	Indenture <i>"A brief History of Indenture in Mauritius and in the World (2007)"</i>	50
Angaje Vol 3. <i>"Post -Indenture Mauritius"</i>	300	Rajah à l'Aapravasi Ghat (2009)	250
Antoinette <i>"An invitation to discover the indenture heritage of Mauritius"</i>	65	Sohar <i>"Mauritian Heritage, Vol 1, Birth songs from Mauritius and India"</i>	250
Bras D'eau <i>"The History of a sugar estate in Mauritius"</i>	400	The Struggle of descendants of Indentured Labourers in Early Modern Mauritius (1921-1945)	250
Beekrumsing Ramlallah <i>"A Man of Principles"</i>	100	They came to Mauritian Shores	700
Commemorative Cover <i>"Commemoration of the 180<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Arrival of Indentured Labourers in Mauritius"</i>	200	Vagrant Depot of Grand River, its Surroundings and Vagrancy in British Mauritius (2004)	250
Coupeuses D'Azur <i>"Hommage aux coupeuses de cannes"</i>	250	Voices from the Aapravasi Ghat <i>"Indentured imaginaries by Khal Torabully"</i>	250
Flat Island <i>"A History of Quarantine in Mauritius "</i>	400	Forbidden Freedom <i>"The experience of the Vagrants of the Vagrant Depot of Grand River North West and of the Other Vagrants in British Mauritius – 1879-1905"</i>	35
Forbach <i>"The History of Forbach Sugar Estate"</i>	100		

## 16. FINANCIAL STATEMENT

### AAPRAVASI GHAT TRUST FUND

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION  
AS AT 30 JUNE 2022

	Notes	2021-22 MUR	2020-21 MUR
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>Current assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	5	6,691,462	6,548,579
Trade and other receivables	6	335,894	105,477
Inventories	7	1,257,205	1,340,709
<b>Total current assets</b>		<b>8,284,561</b>	<b>7,994,765</b>
<b>Non-current assets</b>			
Property, plant and equipment	8	60,969,657	63,801,406
<b>Total non-current assets</b>		<b>60,969,657</b>	<b>63,801,406</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>69,254,218</b>	<b>71,796,171</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Trade and Other Payables	9	737,217	578,919
Short Term Employee Benefits	10	813,151	898,312
<b>Total Current liabilities</b>		<b>1,550,368</b>	<b>1,477,231</b>
<b>Non-Current liabilities</b>			
Long Term Employee Benefits	11	12,532,953	11,729,559
Retirement Benefit Obligation	12	9,410,649	6,781,306
<b>Total Non-current liabilities</b>		<b>21,943,602</b>	<b>18,510,865</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<b>23,493,970</b>	<b>19,988,096</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b>45,760,248</b>	<b>51,808,075</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>			
General Fund	13	45,760,248	51,808,075
Revaluation Reserve		-	-
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>		<b>45,760,248</b>	<b>51,808,075</b>

Approved by the Board of Directors and authorised for issue on .....

.....  
Chairman

.....  
Board Member

The notes on pages 10 to 25 form part of the Financial Statements



# AAPRAVASI GHAT TRUST FUND

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

	Notes	2021-22 MUR	2020-21 MUR
Revenue from exchange transactions	14	161,696	211,640
Revenue from non-exchange transactions			
Grants		<u>34,263,064</u>	<u>25,675,367</u>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		<u><b>34,424,760</b></u>	<u><b>25,887,007</b></u>
 <b><u>EXPENDITURE</u></b>			
Employee benefit costs	15	25,898,581	28,794,360
Administrative expenditure	16	8,488,080	7,622,650
Finance costs	17	26,531	28,766
International scientific committee - Indentured labour route project		216,149	47,948
Restoration conservation development at Trianon Heritage site		18,360	20,558
Flat island conservation project		17,000	-
Amortisation		3,797,823	7,595,647
Depreciation	18	<u>560,354</u>	<u>671,070</u>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>		<u><b>39,022,878</b></u>	<u><b>44,780,999</b></u>
 <b><u>(DEFICIT)/SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR</u></b>		<u><b>(4,598,118)</b></u>	<u><b>(18,893,992)</b></u>

## AAPRAVASI GHAT TRUST FUND

CASH FLOW STATEMENT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

	2021-22	2020-21
	MUR	MUR
<b>OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Net (deficit)/surplus	(4,598,118)	(18,893,992)
Adjustments for :		
Depreciation & Amortisation	4,358,177	8,266,717
Other non cash movement		
Retirement Benefit Obligations	591,559	476,686
Employee Benefits	718,233	7,038,370
Operating profit before working capital	<u>1,069,851</u>	<u>(3,112,219)</u>
Decrease/(increase) in inventories	83,504	17,617
Decrease/(increase) in trade & other receivables	(230,417)	(327)
(Decrease)/ increase in trade & other payables	158,298	386,478
Cash generated from operating activities	<u>1,081,236</u>	<u>(2,708,451)</u>
<b>INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Acquisition of property & equipment	(938,353)	-
Cash flows from investing activities	<u>(938,353)</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Interest Received	-	-
Government Grants	-	-
Cash flows from financing activities	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>NET (DECREASE)/ INCREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS</b>	<u><u>142,883</u></u>	<u><u>(2,708,451)</u></u>
<b>RECONCILIATION OF CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	<u>6,548,579</u>	<u>9,257,030</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	<u><u>6,691,462</u></u>	<u><u>6,548,579</u></u>

**Note:**

**Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents consist of cash in hand and balances with bank. Cash and Cash equivalents included in the cash flow statement comprise the following statement of financial position amounts:

	2021-22	2020-21
	MUR	MUR
Cash at bank	6,658,005	6,545,122
Petty cash	3,457	3,457
Credit card	30,000	-
	<u>6,691,462</u>	<u>6,548,579</u>

**AAPRAVASI GHAT TRUST FUND**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS/ EQUITY  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

	Notes	General Fund MUR	Revaluation Reserve MUR	TOTAL MUR
Balance at 1 July 2020		83,919,286	-	83,919,286
Prior year adjustment		(11,347,367)	-	(11,347,367)
Remeasurement of Retirement Benefit Obligations	2	(1,869,852)	-	(1,869,852)
Net (Deficit)/Surplus for the year		<u>(18,893,992)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(18,893,992)</u>
Balance at 30 June 2021		<u>51,808,075</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>51,808,075</u>
At 1 July 2021		51,808,075	-	51,808,075
Prior year adjustment	1	588,075	-	588,075
Remeasurement of Retirement Benefit Obligations	2	(2,037,784)	-	(2,037,784)
Net (Deficit)/Surplus for the year		<u>(4,598,118)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(4,598,118)</u>
Balance at 30 June 2022		<b><u>45,760,248</u></b>	<b><u>-</u></b>	<b><u>45,760,248</u></b>

## Note

1 **The prior year Adjustments comprise of:**

	Rs
1.1 Reversal of Revaluation reserve	200,000
1.2 Adjustment for motor vehicles-Life time extended	208,734
1.3 PPE for previous years which should have been expensed but cap	(12,168,282)
1.4 Depreciation adjustment for the PPE capitalised	412,181
	<u>(11,347,367)</u>

- 2 The deficit arising from the re-measurement of the Retirement Benefit Obligation is recognised in the Net Assets/Equity in line with IPSAS 39.

<b>AAPRAVASI GHAT TRUST FUND</b>					
<b>Statement of Budgets &amp; Actual Based Amounts</b>					
<b>For the Year ended 30 June 2022</b>					
	<b>Original Budget</b>	<b>Revised Budget</b>	<b>Actual Amounts</b>	<b>Variance</b>	<b>Reasons for Material Variances</b>
	<b>Rs</b>	<b>Rs</b>	<b>Rs</b>	<b>Rs</b>	
<b>Income</b>					
Grant from MACH	34,263,064	34,263,064	34,263,064		
Fund from Indian High Commission	-	-	61,491		
Sales of Books	-	-	100,205		
Donation					
Other Income	-	-	79,106		
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>34,263,064</b>	<b>34,263,064</b>	<b>34,503,865</b>		
<b>Expenditure</b>					
Salaries & related costs	23,975,000	25,088,064	24,855,158	232,906	Posts budgeted were not filled
Insurance - BRIC	115,000	115,000	102,372	12,628	
Utilities	950,000	950,000	903,948	46,052	
Staff Welfare	350,000	350,000	139,765	210,235	Due to Covid fund was not used for Staff welfare and Training
Motor Vehicle Running Expenses	140,000	140,000	108,617	31,383	
Office expenses	155,000	155,000	151,883	3,117	
Maintenance of Equipment,Buildings	320,000	365,000	241,684	123,316	
Site Maintenance	80,000	80,000	35,854	44,146	
Cleaning Expenses	75,000	125,000	142,324	- 17,324	
Professional charges	190,000	140,000	36,003	103,997	
Postage, printing & stationery	130,000	295,000	273,565	21,435	
Chairman & Board Members Fees	550,000	550,000	580,476	- 30,476	
Newspaper & Publications	25,000	25,000	12,575	12,425	
General Expenses	80,000	65,000	34,147	30,853	
Security	-	-	-	-	
Events	75,000	60,000	32,334	27,666	
Expenses - 2nd November	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,450,085	49,915	
Membership Fee	30,000	30,000	-	30,000	
Workshop/Seminars	50,000	50,000	-	50,000	
Publication Costs			-	-	
Financial Assistance	25,000	-	-	-	
Books & periodicals	10,000	10,000	1,350	8,650	
Rent	4,188,000	4,188,000	4,183,989	4,011	
Movers fee				-	
Insurance	10,000	60,000	46,591	13,409	
Catering	50,000	20,000	8,550	11,450	
Advertisement	25,000	50,000	48,358	1,642	
Bank Charges	35,000	35,000	24,944	10,056	
International scientific committee - Indentured labour route project	1,158,371	1,158,371	216,419	941,952	Consultation for implementation of Database is in process
Restoration conservation development at Trianon Heritage site	1,795,000	1,795,000	15,680	1,779,320	Completion of Fencing was delayed due to dispute on land boundary. Work completed in September 2022
Flat Island		280,880	17,000	263,880	Intervention was carried out on two structures and additional fund will be needed to complete restoration of one building
<b>Total Recurrent Expenditure (A)</b>	<b>36,086,371</b>	<b>37,680,315</b>	<b>33,663,671</b>	<b>4,016,644</b>	
<b>Expenditure Capitalised</b>	0	250,000	881,954		
<b>Total Expenditure Capitalised (B)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>250,000</b>	<b>881,954</b>		
<b>Total Expenditure (A + B)</b>	<b>36,086,371</b>	<b>37,930,315</b>	<b>34,545,625</b>		

## **AAPRAVASI GHAT TRUST FUND**

### **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

#### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022**

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##### **1.0 GENERAL INFORMATION**

Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund (AGTF) was established on 21st December 2001 by virtue of the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund Act 31 of 2001 and domiciled in Mauritius. The address of its registered office is 15th floor, Hennessy Court, Pope Hennessy Street, Port Louis, Mauritius. To further most effectively this object the Fund is particularly empowered to carry out the following functions:

- (a) To establish and promote Aapravasi Ghat as a National and International Memorial site.
- (b) To preserve and restore the aesthetic and architectural aspects of Aapravasi Ghat.
- (c) To set a museum at Aapravasi Ghat and create a public awareness in the history of the site and to depict the arrival, settlement and evolution of the immigrants in Mauritius.
- (d) To promote the social and cultural aspects of Aapravasi Ghat.
- (e) To encourage and support projects and publications related to indentured Labour System.
- (f) To establish links with appropriate national, regional and international Organisations in line with the objects of the Act and
- (g) To identify and acquire sites, buildings and structures linked with history of the arrival of immigrants in Mauritius.

The Fund is administered by a Board of Directors and operates under the aegis of the Ministry

## AAPRAVASI GHAT TRUST FUND

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

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#### 2.0 BASIS OF PREPARATION

##### **(a) General**

The accounting policies have been applied consistently throughout the period and have been prepared on the historical cost basis.

##### **(b) Going Concern**

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis and the accounting policies have been applied consistently throughout the year.

##### **(c) Measurement base**

In preparing the financial statements, the Fund has adopted the accounting principles as appropriate for the measurement and reporting of the financial position, financial performance and cash flows on an accrual basis.

##### **(d) Comparative information**

Comparative financial information represents last audited account and conform with current year's presentation. The comparative information covers the financial year - 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2021.

##### **(e) Cash flows statements**

The indirect method has been used as basis in the preparation of the Cash Flow Statements.

##### **(f) Functional and Presentation Currency**

The financial statements are presented in Mauritian Rupees. Roundings have been done where applicable to the nearest rupee.

##### **(g) Use of Estimate**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with IPSAS requires the use of estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reporting period and the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of financial statements.

In the application of the AGTF's accounting policies, which are described in Note 3, management are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant.

Actual results may differ from these estimates. The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised, if the estimate affects only that period or in the period of revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods. Estimates include but are not limited to fair valuation of inventories, accounts receivable, accrued charges, contingent assets and liabilities and degree of impairment of Property, Plant and Equipment and intangibles.

**AAPRAVASI GHAT TRUST FUND**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022**

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**3.0 ADOPTION OF IPSAS AND SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**3.1 Basis of Preparation**

The Financial statements of Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund for financial year 2021-22 have been prepared in accordance with historical cost convention and comply with IPSASs issued by the International Accounting Standards Board (IPSASB).

Where an IPSAS did not address a particular issue, the appropriate International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and International Accounting Standards (IASs) of the International Accounting Standard Board (IASB) have been applied.

**3.2 Changes in Accounting Policies and Disclosures**

The Accounting policies adopted are consistent with those of the previous financial year.

**3.3 Adoption of new and revised standards**

The Financial statements have been prepared in accordance with and comply with the International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS) issued by the International Public Sector Accounting In the current financial year, the Fund has adopted all the new and revised International Public Sector Accounting Standards(IPSAS) that are relevant to its operations for the current year ended 30 June 2022 namely:

**Current IPSAS**

- IPSAS 1 - Presentation of Financial Statements
- IPSAS 2 - Cash Flow Statements
- IPSAS 3 - Accounting policies, changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors
- IPSAS 9 - Revenue from Exchange Transactions
- IPSAS 12 - Inventories
- IPSAS 14 - Events after Reporting Date
- IPSAS 17 - Property, Plant and Equipment
- IPSAS 19 - Provisions, Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets
- IPSAS 20 - Related Party Disclosures
- IPSAS 23 - Revenue from Non Exchange Transactions
- IPSAS 24 - Presentation of Budget Information in Financial Statements
- IPSAS 26 - Impairment of Cash Generating Assets
- IPSAS 33 - First Time Adoption of Accrual Basis IPSAS
- IPSAS 39 - Employee benefits

**IPSAS issued but not yet effective**

IPSAS 3 (Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors) requires disclosure of new IPSAS that have been issued but are not yet effective:

- (a) IPSAS 41 - Financial Instruments  
Effective for annual periods beginning on or after 01 January 2022
- (b) IPSAS 42 - Social Benefits  
Effective for annual periods beginning on or after 01 January 2022

## AAPRAVASI GHAT TRUST FUND

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

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#### 4.0 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

The Following is a summary of the significant accounting policies adopted by Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund during the year.

#### 4.1 Revenue Recognition

4.1(a) Revenue recognition are based on exchange and non-exchange transactions.

##### Exchange Transactions

Revenue under exchange transactions are those arising from the sale of books. Revenue is recognised to the extent that the economic benefits will flow to the fund and that the revenue can be reliably measured.

##### Non-exchange transactions

Revenue arising from transfer transactions are recognised in accordance with the requirements of IPSAS 23, " Revenue from non-exchange transactions" (Taxes and Transfers).

Grants received from the Government (Transfers) for capital expenditure were treated as deferred income up to 30 June 2020. With the implementation of IPSAS 23, "Revenue from Non-Exchange Transactions (Taxes and Transfers)" as from 01 July 2020, the deferment policy has been reviewed and transfers received are now recognized as income in the period in which the transfer arrangement becomes binding.

Recurrent grants receive to finance operating expenses have been recognized in the Statement of Financial Performance of the year to which they related.

#### 4.1(b) Prior year adjustments

##### (i) Changes in Accounting Policy resulting from application of IPSAS 23.

The Vehicle - Mitsubishi 4x4 - registration number: 817JN 17 lifetime has been extended to 10 years, so the depreciation rate is now 10% instead of 20% as charged earlier.

The effect of the above adjustment following the change in accounting policy are reflected in the restatement of General Fund balance at note 13.



## **AAPRAVASI GHAT TRUST FUND**

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

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### **4.2 Defined Benefit Pension Plan**

A defined benefit plan is a pension plan that defines an amount of pension benefit that an employee will receive on retirement, usually dependent on one or more factors such as ages, years of service and compensation.

The Fund contributes to a defined benefit plan for most of its employees which is a final salary plan. The cost of providing benefits is determined using the Projected Unit Method so as to spread the regular cost over the service lives of employees in accordance with the advice of qualified actuaries who carry out a full valuation of plans every year.

In line with the IPSAS 39 - Retirement Benefit Obligations, the actuarial gains and losses arise from the defined benefit plan are recognised in the Statement of Financial Position. A surplus is recognised as a net defined benefit asset as a net defined liability in the Net Assets/Equity in the period in which they occur.

Past-service costs are recognised immediately in income unless the changes to the pension plan are conditional on the employees remaining in service for a specified period of time (vesting period). In this case, the past-service cost are amortised on a straight-line basis over the vesting period.

### **Defined Contribution Pension Plan**

The Fund contributes to a defined Contribution Pension Plan for its employees who have employed on a permanent and pensionable employment with effect from January 2013. Under this plan, the reporting entity's obligation for each period is determined by the amounts contributed for that period. No actuarial assumptions are required to measure the obligations or the expense, and there is no possibility of any actuarial gain or loss. Moreover the obligations are measured on an undiscounted basis, except where they do not fall due wholly within twelve months after the end of the period in which the employees render the related service.

The contributions made by the Fund to the Defined Contribution Pension Plan are recognised as an expense in the Statement of Financial Performance.

## AAPRAVASI GHAT TRUST FUND

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

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#### SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

#### 4.3 Employee Benefits

##### **Sick leave entitlement**

Employee entitlement to bank sick leave is recognised as and when they accrue to employees. A provision is made for the estimated liability for a bank sick leave to a maximum of 126 days. Beyond this ceiling, employees are refunded part of the annual entitlement of sick leaves not taken at the end of the every calendar year and is recognised in the Statement of Financial Performance in the period in which it is accrued.

##### **Passage Benefit Entitlement**

A provision is made for the estimated liability for passage benefit entitlement to employees. The annual passage benefit earned by employees is recognised in the Statement of Financial Performance. In view of the adverse effect that the Covid-19 Pandemic has had on the country's economy, the option which was provided to beneficiaries to allow them to cash up to 90 per cent of their accumulated passage benefit upon satisfying certain conditions, has been freezed. As from July 2020, encashment of passage benefits will be limited to travelling abroad and local tourism, meeting medical expenses and for educational purposes.

##### **Vacation leave entitlement**

A provision is made for the estimated liability for vacation leave entitlement to employees up to a maximum of 210 days. Vacation leave earned during the period by the employees not reached the maximum limit is recognised in the Statement of Financial Performance.

## AAPRAVASI GHAT TRUST FUND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

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### SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

#### 4.4 Property, Plant & Equipment

Property Plant and Equipment is stated at cost/valuation less accumulated depreciation. The Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund site at Trou Fanfaron has been restored and is now a World Heritage Site and Historical Site.

Given the nature of activity of the AGTF and the status of the building (BRIC), it was decided that the value of BRIC be amortised for a period of ten years. This will reflect the reducing value of BRIC overtime. The renovation work of BRIC was completed in year 2014, thus depreciation has been provided for year 2015 and onwards. But for the year ending 30 June 2022, the Management has decided to amortise the building at the rate of 5%.

Depreciation is calculated on the straight-line method to write off the cost of each asset to their residual values over its estimated useful lives as follows:

	Depreciation Rate %
BRIC	5
Furniture and Fittings	10
Office Equipment	20
Motor Vehicle	10
Computer Equipment	25

A full year depreciation is charged on fixed assets acquired during the year, whereas no depreciation is charged in the year of disposal.

Capital Expenditure for monetary value up to to Mur 10,000 are treated as expense and charged to the Statement of Financial Performance.

The lifetime of the van Toyota 4668 OC 04 still in use has been extended to 20 years and depreciated over the remaining useful life.

The lifetime of the Mitsubishi 4X4 - 817JN17 has been extended to 10 years.

Gains and losses on disposal of property, plant and equipment are determined by comparing the net sales proceeds with the carrying amounts of the assets and are recognized in the Statement of Financial Performance.

## AAPRAVASI GHAT TRUST FUND

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

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#### 4.5 Financial assets

The Fund classifies its financial assets as:

**(a) Trade & other receivables**

Trade and other receivables are stated at their normal value as reduced for estimated irrecoverable amounts.

**(b) Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash in hand and balances with bank.

**(c) Inventories**

Inventories are stated at the lower of cost or net realizable value. Cost is determined using a first-in-first-out (FIFO) basis. Net Realizable value is the estimated selling price in the

**(d) Trade and other payables**

Trade and other payables are stated at their nominal value.

**(e) Provisions**

Provisions are recognized when the Fund has a present legal and constructive obligation as a result of past events, it is probable that an outflow of resources will be required to settle the obligation and a reliable estimate of the amount can be made.

**(f) Revaluation reserve**

Any surplus arising from the revaluation of assets is accounted in the Revaluation Reserve.

**(g) General Fund**

It is the fund's policy to transfer any surplus or deficit for the accounting period to the General Fund.

## AAPRAVASI GHAT TRUST FUND

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

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#### 5. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	2022 MUR	2021 MUR
Cash at bank	6,658,005	6,545,122
Credit card	30,000	-
Petty cash	3,457	3,457
	<u>6,691,462</u>	<u>6,548,579</u>

#### 6 TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES

	2022 MUR	2021 MUR
Insurance prepaid - Bric	92,410	92,410
Salary - prepayment	230,994	-
Insurance prepaid - Motor Vehicle	12,490	13,067
	<u>335,894</u>	<u>105,477</u>

#### 7 INVENTORIES

	2022 MUR	2021 MUR
<b>Publications</b>		
Publications as at 01st July	1,317,040	1,334,657
Add New Publications during the year	-	-
Less Publications sold/gifted	(83,504)	(17,617)
Balance as at 30 June	<u>1,233,536</u>	<u>1,317,040</u>
<b>Spare parts</b>		
Spare parts- Woods as at 01st July	23,669	23,669
Less stock used	-	-
Balance as at 30th June	<u>23,669</u>	<u>23,669</u>
Total inventories	<u>1,257,205</u>	<u>1,340,709</u>

**AAPRAVASI GHAT TRUST FUND**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022**

**8 PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT**

	<b>Aapravasi Ghat</b>	<b>Office Equipment</b>	<b>Furniture &amp; Fittings</b>	<b>Motor Vehicle</b>	<b>Computer Equipment</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>MUR</b>	<b>MUR</b>	<b>MUR</b>	<b>MUR</b>	<b>MUR</b>	<b>MUR</b>
<b>COSTS</b>						
At 01 July 2021	112,566,508	4,912,859	683,619	1,995,375	5,226,743	125,385,104
Additions		351,114	12,650	-	574,589	938,353
Office equipment written off	-	(237,642)				(237,642)
At 30 June 2022	<b>112,566,508</b>	<b>5,026,331</b>	<b>696,269</b>	<b>1,995,375</b>	<b>5,801,332</b>	<b>126,085,815</b>
<b>ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION</b>						
At 01 July 2021	49,371,700	4,702,230	427,506	1,872,491	5,209,771	61,583,698
Office equipment written off		(237,642)				(237,642)
Prior year adjustments	-	-	-	(588,075)	-	(588,075)
Amortisation - BRIC	3,797,823					3,797,823
Charge for the year	-	187,179	60,592	158,576	154,007	560,354
At 30 June 2022	<b>53,169,523</b>	<b>4,651,767</b>	<b>488,098</b>	<b>1,442,992</b>	<b>5,363,778</b>	<b>65,116,158</b>
<b>NET BOOK VALUES</b>						
At 30 June 2022	<b>59,396,985</b>	<b>374,564</b>	<b>208,171</b>	<b>552,383</b>	<b>437,554</b>	<b>60,969,657</b>
At 30 June 2021	<b>63,194,808</b>	<b>210,629</b>	<b>256,113</b>	<b>122,884</b>	<b>16,972</b>	<b>63,801,406</b>

**Aapravasi Ghat consists of the following:**

<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount MUR</b>
Development of a collection of BRIC	687,115
Setting up of BRIC	75,956,465
Buffer Zone	479,689
Vagrant Depot	2,190,093
Trianon	1,414,959
Research Programmes	2,670,934
Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Site	28,319,358
LED Project	554,211
Flat Island	112,984
Promotion & Outreach Programme	180,700
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>112,566,508</b>

**AAPRAVASI GHAT TRUST FUND****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022****9 TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES**

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>MUR</b>	<b>MUR</b>
Fund - Capital Project	397,500	397,500
Accruals	<u>339,717</u>	<u>181,419</u>
	<u><b>737,217</b></u>	<u><b>578,919</b></u>

**10 SHORT TERM EMPLOYEE BENEFITS**

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>MUR</b>	<b>MUR</b>
Passage Benefits	528,093	608,913
Sick Leave	<u>285,058</u>	<u>289,399</u>
	<u><b>813,151</b></u>	<u><b>898,312</b></u>

**11 LONG TERM EMPLOYEE BENEFITS**

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>MUR</b>	<b>MUR</b>
Passage Benefits	529,096	381,305
Sick leaves	6,250,691	6,036,569
Vacation leave	<u>5,753,166</u>	<u>5,311,685</u>
	<u><b>12,532,953</b></u>	<u><b>11,729,559</b></u>

## AAPRAVASI GHAT TRUST FUND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

### 12 RETIREMENT BENEFIT OBLIGATION

The amount recognised in statement of financial position are as follows:

	2022 MUR	2021 MUR
Defined benefit obligation	32,811,111	28,534,055
Fair value of plan assets	(23,400,462)	(21,752,749)
<b>Liability recognised in Statement of Financial Position at year end</b>	<b>9,410,649</b>	<b>6,781,306</b>

Amounts recognised in statement of financial performance are as follows:

Current service cost	1,990,947	1,990,947
Employees contributions	(664,617)	(664,617)
Fund expenses	78,509	78,509
Net interest(expense)/income	135,164	135,164
Charge to the statement of financial performance	1,540,003	1,540,003
<b>Remeasurement:</b>		
Liability gain/(loss)	2,472,126	2,472,126
Assets gain/(loss)	(602,274)	(602,274)
Net assets/equity (NAE)	1,869,852	1,869,852
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,409,855</b>	<b>3,409,855</b>

**Movements in liability recognised in statement of financial position:**

At start of year	6,781,306	4,434,768
Amount recognized in statement of financial performance	1,805,523	1,540,003
(Contributions paid by employer)	(1,213,964)	(1,063,317)
Amount recognized in Net Assets/Equity (NAE)	2,037,784	1,869,852
At end of year	9,410,649	6,781,306

The plan is a defined benefit arrangement for the employees and it is a funded plan. The assets of the funded plan are held independently and administered by the State Insurance Company of Mauritius Ltd.



**AAPRAVASI GHAT TRUST FUND**  
**FIGURES FOR IPSAS 39 ADOPTION**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022**

**12 RETIREMENT BENEFIT OBLIGATION (CONT'D)**

	2022 MUR	2021 MUR
<b>Reconciliation of the present value of defined benefit obligation</b>		
Present Value of obligation at start of year	28,534,055	22,987,353
Current service cost	2,169,587	1,990,947
Interest cost	1,426,703	885,013
(Benefits paid)	(135,182)	198,616
Liability gain/(loss)	<u>815,948</u>	<u>2,472,126</u>
<b>Present Value of obligation at end of year</b>	<b><u>32,811,111</u></b>	<b><u>28,534,055</u></b>
<b>Reconciliation of fair value of plan assets</b>		
Fair value of plan assets at start of year	21,752,749	18,552,585
Expected return on plan assets	1,131,099	749,849
Employer contributions	1,213,964	1,063,317
Employees contributions	758,875	664,617
(Benefits paid + other outgo)	(234,389)	120,107
Asset gain/(loss)	<u>(1,221,836)</u>	<u>602,274</u>
Fair value of plan assets at end of year	<b><u>23,400,462</u></b>	<b><u>21,752,749</u></b>
<b>Distribution of plan assets at end of year</b>		
	<b>June 2022</b>	<b>June 2021</b>
Percentage of assets at end of year		
Government securities and cash	58.0%	54.8%
Loans	2.9%	2.8%
Local Equities	13.6%	11.8%
Overseas bonds and equities	25.0%	30.1%
Property	0.5%	0.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>100%</u></b>	<b><u>100%</u></b>
<b>Additional disclosure on assets issued or used by the reporting entity</b>		
	<b>June 2021</b>	<b>June 2020</b>
	%	%
Percentage of assets at end of year	-	-
Assets held in the Entity's own financial instruments	-	-
Property occupied by the entity	-	-
Other assets used by the entity	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
At end of year	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Components of the amount recognized in NAE</b>		
Year	<b>June 2022</b>	<b>June 2021</b>
Currency	<b>Mur</b>	<b>Mur</b>
Asset experience gain/(loss) during the year	(1,221,836)	602,274
Liability experience gain/(loss) during the year	<u>(815,948)</u>	<u>(2,472,126)</u>
	<b>(2,037,784)</b>	<b>(1,869,852)</b>
<b>Year</b>	<b>2021/2022</b>	
Expected employer contributions (Estimate to be reviewed by Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund)	1,165,965	
Weighted average duration of the defined benefit obligation (Calculated as a % change in PV liabilities for a 1% change in discount rate)	22Years	

## AAPRAVASI GHAT TRUST FUND

FIGURES FOR IPSAS 39 ADOPTION FOR:  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

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### 12 RETIREMENT BENEFIT OBLIGATION (CONT'D)

The plan is exposed to actuarial risks such as: investment risk, interest rate risk, longevity risk and salary risk. The risk relating to death in service benefits is re-insured.

The cost of providing the benefits is determined using the Projected Unit Method. The principal assumptions used for the purpose of the actuarial valuation were as follows:-

	Year ending 30 June 2022	Year ending 30 June 2021
Discount rate	5.00%	5.00%
Future salary increases	3.00%	3.00%
Future pension increases	2.00%	2.00%
Mortality before retirement	Nil PA (90) Tables	Nil PA (90) Tables
Mortality in retirement	rated down by 2 years	rated down by 2 years
Retirement age	65 Years	

The discount rate is determined by reference to market yields on bonds.

Significant actuarial assumptions for determination of the defined benefit obligation are discount rate, expected salary increase and mortality. The sensitivity analyses below have been determined based reasonably on possible changes of the assumptions occurring at the end of the reporting period.

- If the discount rate would be 100 basis points (one percent) higher (lower), the defined benefit obligation would decrease by Rs 6.1M (increase by Rs 8.1M) if all other assumptions were held unchanged.

- If the expected salary growth would increase (decrease) by 100 basis point, the defined benefit obligation would increase by Rs 5.1 million, (decrease by Rs 4.2 M) if all

- If life expectancy would increase (decrease) by one year, the defined benefit obligation would increase by Rs. 0.8M (decrease by Rs. 0.8M) if all assumptions were held unchanged.

In reality one might expect interrelationships between the assumptions, especially between discount rate and expected salary increases, given that both depends to a certain extent on expected inflation rates. The analysis above abstracts from these interdependence between the assumptions.

**AAPRAVASI GHAT TRUST FUND**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
<b>13 GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>MUR</b>	<b>MUR</b>
Balance at start as reported	<b>51,808,075</b>	<b>83,919,286</b>
<b>Effect of IPSAS 23 Adoption to opening balance</b>		
Deferred capital Account Transferred		
<b>Restated Balance at start</b>		
Surplus for the year before IPSAS 23 Adoption		
<b>Effect of IPSAS 23 Adoption</b>		
Release from Deferred capital Account derecognised		
<b>Restated Deficit for the year</b>	<b>(4,598,118)</b>	<b>(18,893,992)</b>
Prior year adjustments	<b>588,075</b>	<b>(11,347,367)</b>
Re-measurement of Retirement Benefit obligation	<b>(2,037,784)</b>	<b>(1,869,852)</b>
Balance at end	<b>45,760,248</b>	<b>51,808,075</b>
<b>14 REVENUE FROM EXCHANGE TRANSACTIONS</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>MUR</b>	<b>MUR</b>
Sponsorship	<b>61,491</b>	<b>-</b>
Other income	<b>-</b>	<b>190,500</b>
Sale of books & articles	<b>100,205</b>	<b>21,140</b>
	<b>161,696</b>	<b>211,640</b>

**AAPRAVASI GHAT TRUST FUND**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

	<b>2022</b>	2021
	<b>MUR</b>	MUR
<b>15 EMPLOYEE BENEFIT COSTS</b>		
Salary	<b>17,989,171</b>	16,019,269
Travelling	<b>1,408,450</b>	1,462,101
Overtime	<b>202,008</b>	134,931
Allowances	<b>981,926</b>	1,252,661
Gratuity	<b>308,085</b>	182,839
Contribution AGTF - SICOM	<b>1,497,228</b>	1,328,304
FPS AGTF	<b>300,272</b>	265,694
NSF GTF	<b>1,233,648</b>	943,705
Sick leave	<b>779,488</b>	1,258,243
Vacation leave	<b>441,481</b>	5,311,685
Passage Benefits	<b>756,824</b>	634,928
	<b>25,898,581</b>	28,794,360
<b>16 ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENDITURE</b>		
Insurance - BRIC	<b>102,372</b>	102,372
Utilities	<b>980,743</b>	834,449
Staff costs	<b>139,765</b>	136,320
Motor Vehicle Running Expenses	<b>141,409</b>	121,956
Office expenses	<b>117,213</b>	77,879
Maintenance of Equipment,Buildings,Furniture, It,Signage	<b>189,846</b>	447,106
Site Maintenance	<b>45,804</b>	27,390
Cleaning Expenses	<b>142,324</b>	75,172
Professional charges	<b>143,150</b>	233,040
Postage, printing & stationery	<b>307,421</b>	132,018
Chairman & Board Members Fees	<b>608,554</b>	526,391
Newspaper & Publications	<b>12,575</b>	4,305
General Expenses	<b>26,052</b>	22,303
Security	-	-
Events	<b>472,194</b>	361,225
Expenses - 2nd November	<b>682,064</b>	291,615
Membership Fee	<b>4,253</b>	12,342
Workshop/Seminars	-	8,798
Publication Costs	<b>83,504</b>	17,617
Books & periodicals	<b>1,350</b>	2,350
Rent	<b>4,183,989</b>	4,188,002
Insurance	<b>46,590</b>	-
Catering	<b>8,550</b>	-
Advertisement	<b>48,358</b>	-
	<b>8,488,080</b>	7,622,650
<b>17 FINANCE COSTS</b>		
Bank charges	<b>26,531</b>	28,766
<b>18 DEPRECIATION</b>		
Computer equipment	<b>154,007</b>	56,386
Office equipment	<b>187,179</b>	276,459
Furniture & fittings	<b>60,592</b>	62,034
Motor Vehicle	<b>158,576</b>	276,191
	<b>560,354</b>	671,070

## AAPRAVASI GHAT TRUST FUND

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

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#### 19 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTION

No related party transactions took place during the financial year ended 30 June 2022.

#### 20 REMUNERATION OF KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONEL

The remuneration of key mangement personel at 30 June 2022 were

	2022 MUR	2021 MUR
Director	1,876,392	519,052
Officer in Charge	-	719,769
Other Key Management Personnel	3,368,682	2,720,353
Chairman	366,000	342,000
Board members	168,885	187,485
Total	<u>5,779,959</u>	<u>4,488,659</u>

Key management personnel comprises of the Director, Officer in charge, Head of Technical unit, World Heritage Site Manager and Heritage Interpretation Manager, Chairman and Board Members.

#### 21 CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

There are no pending litigations, claims, judgements or any such matter which would affect the accounts of the AGTF as at 30 June 2022.

#### 22 Presentation of Budget Information in Financial Statements

The AGTF prepares its budget on "cash " basis and presented in the National Budget under the Ministry of Arts and Cultural Heritage. The Budget of the AGTF is financed mainly by Government Grant.

The financial statements of AGTF have been prepared on" Accrual " basis. A reconciliation between the actual amounts as presented in the Statement of Budget and actual amounts in the Statement of Financial Performance for the year ended 30 June 2022 is also prepared.

##### (i) Reconciliation of the Original and Revised Budget

The budget of the AGTF for the year 2021-22 was approved by the Board on 29 July 2021. The budget was subsequently revised based on the actual trend of revenues and expenditures and was approved by the Board on 30 March 2022.

## **AAPRAVASI GHAT TRUST FUND**

### **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022**

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## **22 Presentation of Budget Information in Financial Statements (CONT'D)**

### **(ii) Reconciliation of the Budgetary results and Financial Statements re:**

The statement shows the cash flow figures reconciled with the financial statements figures for the year ended 30 June 2022. The reconciliation principally concerns accrual accounting relating to expenses and revenues, property, plant and equipment and related depreciation and provisions deemed necessary. The most significant of these differences are as follows:

- (a)** In budget accounting, revenue and expenses are accounted for as received and incurred in the accounting period. In accrual accounting, revenue and expenses only include amounts corresponding to amounts accruing to the period after adjusting of prepayments and accruals.
- (b)** In budget accounting, capital expenditure are recorded as current year expenses. In accrual accounting this expense is capitalised and depreciated over the useful lives of the assets. Depreciation expense is recorded in the Statement of Financial Performance.
- (c)** In budget accounting, expenditure for employee benefits is accounted for on a pay as you go basis. In accrual accounting, the expense is estimated by an actuary in accordance with the methodology set out in accounting standards. Basically, the pension and post employment benefits obligation is reported in the Statement of Financial Position. A professional valuation of the Defined Benefit Pension Plan as at 30 June 2022 has been carried out by SICOM Ltd as disclosed in Note 12