PRESS RELEASE

The Executive Council met at 10.00 hours this Friday 18 March 2011 under the chairmanship of the Chief Commissioner, Mr. G. JABEEMISSAR, G.O.S.K. and has, among its deliberations:

DECIDED:

(i) to approve that the agreement of the Rodrigues Regional Assembly be transmitted through the Ministry of Fisheries and Rodrigues to the Central Government for the introduction of necessary measures to equate the retail prices of rice and flour in Rodrigues to that prevailing in the main land, Mauritius. The implementation of this measure will imply the payment of the inter island freight charges incurred by the State Trading Corporation for shipment of these two commodities to Rodrigues.

(ii) to approve that the Commission for Housing will proceed on a pilot basis around Rodrigues with the construction of 25 housing units for the low to medium income families under the “Build and Rent” Scheme which will be managed by the Rodrigues Housing and Property Development Company Ltd (RHPDC) in Rodrigues during this present financial year. The conditions attached to the allocation of these housing units by the RHPDC Ltd. are:

(a) The applicant should not be the owner of a housing unit;

(b) priority will be given to married couples without houses and to single headed household families and that the total earnings of the family should be between Rs 5,000 and Rs 10,000 monthly; and

(c) Households earning below Rs 5,000 would be considered on a case to case basis.
DECIDED:

(iii) to approve that the Commission for Public Infrastructure will issue a Works Order to Colas (Maurice) Ltée for the following works:

(a) Construction of Children Garden at Cascade Jean Louis;
(b) Construction of Basket-Ball pitch at G.L.F.Mangues;
(c) Construction of Children Garden at Mt. du Sable;
(d) Construction of Green Space at Camp Pintade;
(e) Construction of Children Garden at Reposoir;
(f) Levelling of Football Ground at Reposoir;
(g) Improvement of curve along Caverne Patate, Petite Butte road and Upgrading works at Petite Butte preprimary school yard; and
(h) Improvement of external works at the Community Centre at Bay Topaze.

The overall objectives of the different projects is to provide new infrastructures in villages in the western part of the island while creating new recreational spaces as well as construction of new sports facilities.

(iv) that in view of the rapid depletion of flat stones at Ile Caliniers, Anse Nicolas authorization for extraction for decorative purposes will only be granted for important government projects and same will be carried out under strict supervision of the Forestry Officers. It is to be noted that over exploitation of flat stones by private individuals have been carried out in a disorderly manner which has consequently created large cavities on the site thus causing great environmental degradation and eyesore.

(v) to approve that the Commission for Community Development will allocate a one-off grant of Rs10,000 each to some 99 Village Committees in Rodrigues grouped under the umbrella of the Rodrigues Council of Social Services (RCSS) and recognized by the Commission under Regulations 8 of the Rodrigues Regional Assembly (Community Development) Regulations 2010. The objective of the grant is to empower the Village Committees financially in view of enabling them meeting the running costs and maintenance of their respective centres.
TAKEN NOTE

(i) that Messrs COLLET Jean David and SAMOISY Paul Michel Vincent have been awarded scholarships under the Rodrigues Regional Assembly Medical Scholarship Scheme to attend a five years' course at the SSR Medical College in Mauritius leading to the MBBS in the field of medicine. The scholarship covers expenditure for subsistence, tuition fees, air travel and contingencies up to a maximum of about Rs 262,500 per annum.

(ii) of the mission report of the recent mission of a delegation headed by the Deputy Chief Commissioner, Mrs. Marie Therese CLAIRT-BRAULT in Italy from 17-20 February 2011 where they attended the Borsa International Tourism Exchange (BIT) 2011 which is one of the leading Tourism fair in Milan.

(iii) that the Commission for Public Infrastructure has awarded the contract for the Construction of Track Roads and Minor Civil Works in Rodrigues for year 2011 is being awarded to Colas (Maurice) Ltée. The scope of this contract consists mainly of the construction of track roads and minor civil works around the island and works will be carried out through the issue of Works Order to the Contractor.

(iv) that in the context of the Republic Football cup 2011, the Rodrigues Feminin Football Team has been invited by the “Commission Nationale Du Sports Feminin (CNSF)” for a football match with their Mauritian counterpart on the 3rd April 2011 at 15.00 hours at Germain Commarmond Stadium, Bambous in Mauritius.

(v) that the Commission for Youth and Sports is making necessary arrangement for a delegation of 87 officials and athletes from Rodrigues to proceed to Mauritius to participate in the Jeux de l’Espoir 2011 to be held from the 13th to 14th April 2011 in Mauritius. Rodrigues will be represented in the following sports discipline: Football, Volleyball (boys and girls), Judo (boys and girls), Boxing, Wrestling (boys and girls) and Athletics (boys and Girls).

(vi) of the report submitted by the Consultant appointed by the Ministry of Youth and Sports and the Commission for Youth and Sports on the survey to evaluate the prevailing conditions on the existing synthetic athletics track of Camp du Roi Stadium. The Consultant has recommended that the repairs and upgrade of the whole track to meet international norms be carried out by technician specialised in the field of sports surfacing.
(vii) that the Commission for Youth and Sports will hold the Sports Award Ceremony 2011 on Saturday 26 March 2011 at the Mont Venus Hotel at 19:00 hours. The Honourable D. RITTOO, Minister of Youth and Sports will be the guest of honour of the Award ceremony. The Sports Award Committee award Sportsmen/sportswomen in the following categories will:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AWARD</th>
<th>CASH PRIZE (Rs)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Sportsman of the year 2010</td>
<td>20,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Sportswomen of the year 2010</td>
<td>20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Young Promising Sportsman of the year 2010</td>
<td>15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Young Promising Sportswoman of the year 2010</td>
<td>15,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Team of the year 2010</td>
<td>10,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. Coach of the year 2010</td>
<td>10,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>7. Sports animator of the year 2010</td>
<td>5,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>8. Ecole de Sport of the year 2010</td>
<td>5,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>9. Best Performing Regional Sports Committee 2010</td>
<td>10,000</td>
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<td>10. Sports official of the year 2010</td>
<td>10,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>11. Special Award</td>
<td>5,000</td>
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(viii) that five (5) Officers of the Health Services are following a training Programme in connection with the Diabetic Retinal Screening from 7 to 26 March, 2011 in Mauritius. The intensive training course is being run by Mr. Frederic MUNIER, Engineer from Haag-Streit, France following the donation of a Retinal Camera Model CR 2 with all accessories as per Devis 2 with Eye Cap Digital Software to Rodrigues by the Ministry of Health and Quality of Life. The aim of the training is to expose the participants to the Camera Make Canon Model CR – 1 and help them acquire skills in the installation of the equipment Make Model CR – 2 so as to enable the screening of diabetic patients in Rodrigues to detect any Retinopathy and Maculopathy.
TAKEN NOTE

(ix) that registration of applicants for the payment of examination fees for the SC/HSC 2011 will be carried out from 9 to 25 March, 2011. Following The Central Government’s decision to assist needy parents for the payment of examination fees for their children of SC and HSC, the Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity and Reforms Institutions has issued guidelines regarding the eligibility criteria for eligible cases as follows:-

A. Full Payment of Exam Fees

The following categories of applicants are entitled to full payment of SC/HSC exam fees –

(a) Beneficiaries of social Aid/UHR and beneficiaries of a basic pension who would have qualified for Social Aid in the absence of the basic pension.

(b) Applicants whose aggregate household monthly income does not exceed Rs 14,500.

B. Refund of 50% of Exam Fees

Applicants whose aggregate household monthly income is in the range of Rs 14,501 to Rs 20,000 are eligible for 50% subsidy irrespective of the number of children sitting for an exam (SC/HSC)

Central Administration
Chief Commissioner’s Office
Port Mathurin
Rodrigues

Date: 18 March 2011