

**MGI/RTI Secondary Schools Olympiad on Thursday 06 June 2024 at Cote
D'Or National Sports Complex**

Mr Indradut Ram, Chairman (MGI & RTI Council)

Mr Rajcoomar Rampertab, Director-General MGI/RTI

Dr (Mrs) V Koonjal, Director (MGI)

Dr (Mrs) Ramful, Director (Schooling) MGI & RTI

Mr Permall, General Manager DSL - Mauritius Telecom

Mr Mungur, Chief Executive Officer SBM

Teaching and non-teaching staff of MGI Secondary Schools

Staff of Schooling Directorate

**Distinguished guests, parents, athletes and students from the MGI
secondary Schools**

Ladies and Gentlemen

All protocols observed

Good morning. I am very happy to see everyone blooming in the spirit of the sports day.

Dear students, just take a moment to appreciate the significance of this Olympiad organised by the management of MGI/RTI Secondary Schools. It is an opportunity to enhance your athletic skills, but more than that, it cultivates the spirit of sportsmanship in young minds and give you an opportunity to showcase your capabilities beyond academics.

The primary focus in many cases is academics, which certainly is an important aspect in building a student's career and life, but many fail to recognize the importance of sports.

Extracurricular activities and sports teach students many important life lessons. They teach discipline, focus, dedication, hard work, commitment, teamwork

I have always believed that extra-curricular activities should be an indispensable part of every student's life, especially during their early academic years. As it is said that a sound mind lies in a sound body, management of MGI/RTI want all students to be good at both studies and sports.

The institution is always bringing innovation and novel ideas to the education sector to create a culture of excellence that promotes the intellectual, creative, physical, and social growth of students.

I want to shift my attention to those students who do not come to the forefront and remain confined to merely studies. A humble request to all the teachers, please help these students identify their hidden talent and help them in shaping their talent to the best of their capacity.

Ladies and gentlemen

The Mauritian Government is fully aware that the development and promotion of sport, whether at the community or professional level, is essential for a more resilient Mauritian population.

This very place where we are meeting today, that is the Côte d'Or Sports Complex, bears testimony to Government's effort in the promotion of sports and physical activities.

The health of the population is a priority and Government is investing in the setting up of sports infrastructure around the island to ensure that the population remains healthy.

Let me seize this opportunity to request all of you, though they are present with us, to give a loud applause for Noemi Alphonse and Anais Angeline who won a gold medal and a silver medal respectively at the 2024 World Para Athletics Championships

Dear students

I can see that you are all eager to resume the sports events.

I shall therefore conclude by expressing my sincere appreciation to all those who have been involved in the organisation of this Olympiad.

Best of luck to all the athletes and I leave you with that saying of Nelson Mandela
“Sport has the power to change the world. It has the power to inspire. It has the power to unite people in a way that little else does. It speaks to youth in a language they understand”

Thank you for your attention