

## MIRA conducts a CPD program for tax agents

MIRA licensed tax agents have completed the first Continuing Professional Development (CPD) program for the year. Under the Tax Agent Regulation, licensed tax agents are supposed to complete the CPD programs run by MIRA in order to maintain their license. 26 individuals participated in the program which was run from 29 to 30 March. In addition to tax agents, some MIRA approved auditors also participated in the CPD class.

The CPD program covers new tax laws and regulations, landmark judgments and other information important to individuals who are fulfilling the role of tax agents. There will be at least 4 CPD programs held annually.



## Revenue for February: 905.7 million Rufiyaa

MIRA has collected 905.7 million Rufiyaa as revenue for February 2015. This is 84.7% more than the amount collected in January 2014. The reasons for the increase in revenue include increase in collection of Tourism Sector GST by 32.7% (primarily due to TGST rate change to 12% in November 2014), increase in collection of General Sector GST by 18.9%, 232% higher collection of BPT compared to January 2014 and collection of lease period extension fee which was not collected in January 2014. The reason for the 232% increase in collection of BPT was the collection of

BPT Second Interim Payment in February as the deadline was moved to 1st February because 31st January fell on a weekend.

The amount collected in February includes \$41.1 million received in US dollars.

The collection for February 2015 is 17.6% less than the forecasted amount for this month. The reasons for this includes the decrease in tourism related revenues by 17% as tourist arrivals did not meet expectations, and the collection

of GST in March as the deadline was moved to 1 March because 28 February fell on a weekend.

GST contributed the most revenue in February 2015, with 41.8% (Rufiyaa 378.82 Million) of the total revenue. It is followed by Lease Period Extension Fee at 21% (Rufiyaa 190.17 Million) and BPT at 20.8% (Rufiyaa 188.28 Million). Additionally, Tourism Land Rent and Airport service charge accounted for 3.8% (Rufiyaa 34.42 Million) and 3.7% (Rufiyaa 33.88 Million) of the collected revenue, respectively.

**Did you know ?**

You can file returns online, if you are registered for MIRAconnect



# MIRA POST

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### Important Deadlines

- April 12** Payment of Trade Fee for April 2015
- April 12** Submission of Royalty Statement and Sales Report for March 2015 by duty free shops
- April 15** Submission of Withholding tax return and payment of withholding tax for March 2015
- April 15** Payment of duty free royalty for March 2015
- April 28** Submission of GST return and payment of GST for March 2015 and first quarter of 2015
- April 30** Submission of BPT return and payment for 2014, for those whose accounting period ends within 1 January 2014 to 31 October 2014

\* If the deadline falls on a public holiday, then the last submission deadline would be the next working day

## MIRA opens a collection centre in Fuvahmulah

MIRA has opened a collection centre in Fuvahmulah. The office in Fuvahmulah was opened to provide services of MIRA to taxpayers and residents of nearby atolls and is part of MIRA's efforts to provide services to the public and taxpayers in the most convenient and easily reachable way. The office in Fuvahmulah will provide all the services MIRA's main office in Male' provides, which

include taxpayer registration, accepting BPT and GST returns, collecting taxes and all other fees. Additionally, staff at the collection centre will be facilitating and attending taxpayer queries.

In addition to Fuvahmulah, MIRA is planning to open a branch in Faafu Atoll. MIRA already has a branch operating at Kulhudhuffushi.

## Company annual fee can be paid along with a fine

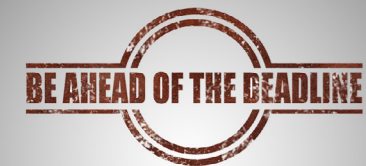
Private and Public companies that have not yet paid the Company annual fee can pay the fee along with a fine of MVR 1,000 if the fee is paid within the month of April. And fee paid any time after the end of April would be collected with a fine of MVR 2,500.

## Enforcement policies has been published in the Gazette

The Enforcement Policy of MIRA has been published in the Government Gazette on 19 February 2015. The Policy has been formulated under the Tax Administration Act and the Tax Administration Regulation with the objective of setting a just and fair procedure in dealing with all taxpayers in enforcing the dues to the State. The Enforcement Policy now in effect incorporates all the existing separate policies that has previously been gazetted. These include the Policy on Accessing Information of

Bank Accounts of Taxpayers and Freezing their Bank Accounts, Policy on Suspending Government Services to Persons with Dues to the State, Policy on Dealing with Persons that issue Dishonored Cheques to MIRA, Policy on Skip Tracing Persons with Dues to the State and Policy on Disclosure of Non-compliant GST Registered Persons.

In addition, the Policy also outlines the policies set in granting installment arrangements and recovering dues from Third Parties.



**DID YOU KNOW?**

You cannot claim input tax if you do not have a proper Tax Invoice from your supplier

## GST deadline approaching

Taxpayers registered for GST are required to submit the GST return of the first quarter of 2015 and for the month of March on or before 28 April 2015. The payment must also be made on or before the aforementioned date.

Hence, persons required to submit GST return on a quarterly basis must prepare their GST return for January, February and March and submit GST return and make payment before the deadline.

Those persons registered for the tourism GST must prepare their GST return (MIRA 206, version 14.1) and make payment in USD.

As for those taxpayers who are registered for the general GST must prepare their GST return (MIRA 205, version 14.1) and make payment in MVR. Instruction on completing the GST return is available under the guides tab from our website [www.mira.gov.mv](http://www.mira.gov.mv).

## Maintaining business records is important to avoid being penalized

As the owner or manager of a business, you need to take critical business decisions based on the right information and at the right time, to develop and succeed in your business. But this is rarely possible if you do not have the proper records at your disposal.

These records will help you analyze your business's profitability, maintain positive relationships with clients and vendors, and find new ways to develop and improve your business. It is also required from all taxpayers to keep the business documents and records for a minimum period of five years under Law

Number 5/2011. Under Tax Ruling TR-2013/B26 Taxpayers who do not keep records diligently will be penalized from 1 April 2015 onwards. So from the legal perspective it is also a must.

These records serve as a basis for reference in audits conducted by MIRA and is required to validate input tax claimed by GST registered taxpayers.

The minimal prerequisite of record keeping includes: Sales records, Records of Goods issued on credit, Goods taken for owners personal use, damaged or lost item records, sales

and purchase invoices, Details of Salaries and wages paid, Electricity and other utility expense records, Rent and other Payables Records, Records of Capital Goods expenditures, Other documents used to calculate tax amounts. While your review of this checklist may have uncovered some glaring deficiencies, it's never too late to correct problems related to poor record keeping. It may take a bit of time and effort to analyze the company checkbook, take inventory, review bank statements and, in general, catch up on your paperwork.

## MIRA, in collaboration with HDC, cleaned the beach of Hulhumale' on 28 March 2015



MIRA has held a cleaning event under the name "Heyvalla Saafukurama" on 28 March 2015 in collaboration with Housing Development Corporation (HDC). The purpose of the event was to clean allocated areas of Hulhumale' beach and barbeque area and to raise awareness on keeping the environment clean.

Staff from MIRA and HDC participated in the event which commenced at 4:00

pm and continued until 6:00 pm. In addition to this, the cleaning event was opened to public from which a significant amount of support was received.

HDC provided a lot of support and assistance in order to make this event a success. Also, a private company named CycliQ Enterprises Private Limited helped by donating a large number of "green" bags used for cleaning.

