

REPORT

I. GENERAL

Legislation

1. In accordance with Article 6 of the Agreement signed between the Government of Mauritius and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on the 7th July, 1982, the Government of Mauritius set up the Ilois Trust Fund established by an Act of Parliament (the Ilois Trust Fund Act 1982 - No 6 of 1982) on the 27th July, 1982.

2. The objects of the Fund which are spelt out in section 4 of the Act and Article 7(1) of the Agreement mainly consist of ensuring that payment of capital Rs 75,880,000 (the equivalent of £4 m) and any income arising from its investment thereof, shall be disbursed expeditiously and solely in promoting the social and economic welfare of the Ilois and the Ilois community in Mauritius.

Administration

3. Powers of administration and management of the Ilois Trust Fund are vested into a Board of Trustees, which is composed of representatives of the Government of Mauritius and of the Ilois in equal numbers and an Independent Chairman.

The Fund is managed by a Board of Trustees which consists of-

- (a) an Independent Chairman appointed by the Prime Minister;
- (b) a representative of the Prime Minister's Office;
- (c) a representative of the Ministry of Finance;
- (d) a representative of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Natural Resources;
- (e) a representative of the Ministry for Employment and of Social Security and National Solidarity;
- (f) a representative of the Ministry of Housing, Lands and the Environment;
- (g) 5 representatives of the Ilois, appointed by the Prime Minister in such manner as may be prescribed.

4. The members of the Board hold office for a period of one year but shall be eligible for re-appointment. The first members

Mrs C. Letade
 Mrs C. Alexis
 Mrs I. Talatte
 Mr O. Bancoult
 Mr C. Slatous

8. Mr Y. Abdullatif was unanimously appointed as Secretary/Treasurer of the Board of Trustees at the 1st Meeting of the Board and continued to serve the Board in this capacity till November, 1983.

9. The Secretary was helped in his task by an Administrative Officer, a Clerk and a Typist/Stenographer. Other officers were also detailed on and off to give help. In December, 1983, an office was provided by the Ministry to accommodate the Secretariat of the Board. The services of an Assistant Finance Officer and a Clerical Officer were made available for the drawing up and preparation of accounts.

10. The Board worked under the aegis of the Ministry for Employment and of Social Security and National Solidarity.

MEETINGS OF THE BOARD

11. No specific day and time have been assigned for the Board's meetings, but, in practice, it meets regularly every month, while extraordinary meetings are convened as and when is considered necessary. Six members of the Board constitute a quorum.

12. Meetings of the Board were formerly held at the Ministry for Employment and of Social Security and National Solidarity, but now, they take place at one of the Committee Rooms of the Legislative Assembly.

II FINANCE

1. The sources of income of the Fund

(i) The sum of 2 4 m, which when converted to Egyptian

ruppes, represented 75,000,000, paid to the

Govt of Mauritania by the Govt of Mauritania

124

RA - > RA

5. Lots who were owners of houses were paid a sum of

~~Post Office Savings Bank in December, 1982. A sum of~~

ledger for compensation were introduced.

3. In December, 1933, cash books for current accounts were maintained; an index register for Illinois and individual accounts

interest per annum.

38 months (to the end January, 1986) at the rate of 14%

of Rs 4,742,500 which has been placed in fixed deposit for

ord, 45h and 6th November respectively, except for the sum

The five commercial banks are earning interest from the

either on call or on temporary deposits (maximum 30 days) in

This sum has been placed in varying amounts at 12% per annum

has been invested in five commercial banks is Rs 75,999,536.98.

For the period 29.10 to 2.11.82, so that the total sum which

Rs 75,380,000) has earned interest to the tune of Rs 119,536.98

The £ 4 million received from Great Britain (or

Investments and Earnings

(iii) Interest derived from the Fund's own Investment.

the Indian High Commission.

donation was made on the 27th January, 1983 at

Following her last visit to Nautilus. The

Gandhi to the Ilois community in Mauritius

Rs 1,100,134.94) donated by H.E. Mrs Indira

(ii) 1 million Indian Rupees (equivalent to

1. The transfer of £ 4 million from the British Government to the Ilois Trust Fund was awaiting in the first instance the withdrawal of the Vincatassin Court case. At its very first meeting, the Board started negotiations with the two Governments and Mr. Vincatassin to the effect that he should instruct his solicitors to cease all proceedings entailed against the British Government and on the 22nd September, 1982, the case was duly withdrawn. In return, the Government of Mauritius paid to Mr. Vincatassin a sum of Rs 15,000 on an ex-gratia basis, representing the reimbursement of expenses incurred by him in connection with the case he lodged against the British Government.

Letter to Mrs. I. Gandhi, Prime Minister of India

2. Following her last visit to Mauritius, during which the India Prime Minister announced that the Indian Government would donate 1 million Indian Rupees to the Ilois Trust Fund, the members of the Board handed on the 26th October, 1982, a letter to the Indian High Commissioner for transmission to the Indian Prime Minister expressing therein, their appreciation and heartfelt thanks for her kind gesture. Land voted by the Government of Mauritius in the

Ilois Trust Fund

3. As soon as the Board of Trustees was established, the members felt that housing was the most pressing problem that must be tackled for the proper re-settlement of the Ilois. In accordance with the Agreement of the 7th July, 1982, the Government of Mauritius has undertaken to vest in the Board of Trustees land to the value of £ 1 million for the social and economic welfare of the Ilois community in Mauritius.

4. Following the Sylva report, the Ministry of Housing, Lands and the Environment identified Crown Land at Rais du Tonbrouc and submitted to the audit of 45M80 and 22A respectively.

5. In this connection with a view to formulate the resettlement project, the Board of Trustees in collaboration with the Ministry for Employment and of Social Security and National Solidarity and the Ministry of Housing, Lands & the Environment carried out a survey -

(1) the # of families who would wish to be

R4 - > R4

(2) Preference for either of the two sites (i.e. the number of families wishing to settle in Bate du Tombeau and those opting for Pointe aux Sables). The survey also generated information about eligible beneficiaries who already possess a plot of land and who would wish to build a house on their plot. The Board envisages to consider the advisability of offering them appropriate technical assistance in addition to financial support.

IDENTITY CARDS

7. In order to facilitate the work of the Fund and for proper identification of the Ilois, the system of identity cards were introduced in July/August, 1983 and cards were accordingly issued to the Ilois. The number of such cards is 1374.

RENUNCIATION FORMS

8. As mentioned at Article 4 of the Agreement, each member of the Ilois community was asked to sign a renunciation form and 1332 renunciation forms have been duly signed.

IV MISCELLANEOUS

Court Case

1. In April 1983, Mr L. Pernal lodged in the Supreme Court a claim of Rs 100,000 from the Ilois Trust Fund as compensation.

Objectives 1984

2. Despite the limited fund available on the 31st December, 1983, the Ilois Trust Fund has set forth certain objectives (housing projects at Bate du Tombeau and Pte aux Sables, etc) for the year 1984.

22nd August, 1984.
Board of Trustees of
the Ilois Trust Fund.