

# Investor Education: SEM Young Investor Awards 2015

---

## Introduction:

*The Stock Exchange of Mauritius (SEM) held the Awards Ceremony for the 23rd edition of the SEM Young Investor Award Competition (SEMYIA) 2015 at the Octave Wiehé Auditorium, Réduit, on 02 September 2015. This Investor Education initiative is now a well-established annual national event, with this year's competition attracting 188 teams of five students each from 109 colleges across the country, representing 940 students. Loreto College Curepipe, Team A won the first prize of Rs 150,000 and the Challenge Trophy offered by the Stock Exchange of Mauritius. The second and third prizes of Rs 75,000 and Rs 35,000 went to Mahatma Gandhi Secondary School Solferino, Team B and Queen Elizabeth College, Team B respectively. The Mauritius Commercial Bank, the National Mutual Fund and Aon Hewitt Ltd sponsored the three cash prizes respectively. Loreto College Curepipe, Team A won the challenge trophy for the Best Report, sponsored by the CFA Society Mauritius.*

Initiated in 1993, the SEM Young Investor Award Competition stood this year at its 23rd edition. Throughout the years, this annual event generated a growing interest from high school lower 6 students across the country, and the number of participants and schools considerably increased over the last 22 years. This Investor Education initiative is now a well-established annual national event.

This year, a keen interest by students was also noted since the very beginning of the competition, through their frequent interactions with the Stock Exchange, stockbrokers and asset managers to obtain information and stock market advice, as well as through the active management of their portfolios.

Broadly speaking, the aims of the competition are to inculcate an investment culture among college students by giving them a hands-on exposure to a key component of the financial services sector, namely the securities industry; to give participants an opportunity to understand the operational aspects of the Exchange; and trigger the interests of college students in the financial sector activities, so that they hopefully pursue higher studies and professional careers in this growing sector of the Mauritian economy.



SEMYIA Awards Ceremony 2015 at the Octave Wiehé Auditorium

The competition started on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015 and ended on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2015, spreading over a period of 3 months. This year's competition has attracted 188 teams of five students each from a record number of 109 colleges across the country, representing 940 students. A technical briefing was initially held at Octavié, on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2015 for all participating students to explain them the steps of competition, key aspects of portfolio management and stock market technicalities they need to master, as well as investment plan and report writing. This technical briefing was followed by a briefing given by Anglo Mauritius Stockbrokers Ltd for all participating team leaders.

Each team was required to invest an investment fund of Rs 150,000 of token money in a portfolio consisting of the shares of 5 companies listed on the Official Market of the Stock Exchange of Mauritius. Each team was allowed to make up to ten investment swaps at any time during the period of the competition. Portfolios were updated on a daily basis. On the 30<sup>th</sup> of June, each portfolio was valued and the rate of return on each portfolio was calculated against the value of the initial portfolio. Besides, each team was required to present a Report (in 2 parts: an Investment Plan and an Investment Report) at the end of the competition. The Report carried 30% of the marks, the remaining 70% having been allotted to the profits realised on the portfolio.

During the 3-month period of this year's competition, starting from 1st April 2015 to 30th June 2015, the all-share index SEMDEX increased by 3.07 points and the Total Return Index SEMTRI increased by 51.67 points, implying a positive price return of 0.16% and a positive total return of 0.80% respectively. In this regard, despite the high volatility prevailing during this time period, it is particularly noteworthy that a commendable number of teams were able to outperform the main stock market indices during that period. In fact, as many as 100 teams outperformed the all-share index SEMDEX and 88 teams have outperformed the Total Return Index SEMTRI over the 3-month period. The best team portfolio-wise, realised an attractive overall portfolio performance of 11.52% over the 3-month period.



Address P. Gopallen Moorooogen,  
Chairman of the Stock Exchange of Mauritius

In his welcome address to participating students and the broader audience, the Chairman of the SEM, Mr. P.Gopallen Moorooogen said: *“We hope, dear students, that your participation in SEM Young Investor Award 2015, has not only facilitated your understanding of the operational aspects of our Stock Exchange, but that it has helped you better appreciate the forces and factors that determine a company's share price, introduced you to the notion of risk and volatility and facilitated your understanding of the link between the stock market and economic activity.*



*Having successfully implemented the SEM Young Investor Award for 23 years, we would now want to take our educational initiative to yet another level and embrace the national agenda of educating the population at large about the activities of the SEM and the operations of our stock market. Education and innovation will continue to drive our agenda during the coming two years.”*

In her speech, Hon. (Mrs) Leela Devi Dookhun, Minister of Education and Human Resources, Tertiary Education and Scientific Research said: *“During the 3 months that the students have been participating in the competition, they must have tracked very closely the impact of global events on share prices on our stock market, and been inculcated an investment culture. I must say that there are unprecedented efforts put in place by the Government and in the private sector to encourage young people to experience the world of business with concrete investment projects. More young people should take advantage of these efforts and of the various actions that Government is taking to empower enterprises.”*



Address of Hon. (Mrs) Leela Devi Dookhun,  
Minister of Education and Human Resources, Tertiary Education and Scientific Research

The winning team of the SEM YIA Edition 2015, namely Loreto College Team A received the Challenge Trophy offered by the SEM. The winning team also won the cash prize of Rs 150,000 offered by the MCB Group, MCB shares to the value of Rs 2500, MCB luxury bags, an individual MCB shield as well as a one-week traineeship within the MCB Group, as part of the winning prize package offered by the MCB Group, represented at the Awards Ceremony by Mr. Gilbert Gnany, Chief Strategy Officer and Director of the MCB Group.



Mr. Gilbert Gnany, Chief Strategy Officer and Director of MCB Group, with Loreto College Team A:  
Ramful Vandana, Bhoyrub Chetna, Boodhun Heshina, Luchoomun Darshinee, Jhummun Urmila





The runners-up of SEMYIA Edition 2015, namely MGSS Solferino, Team B, received a shield offered by the SEM. The runners-up also won the cash prize of Rs 75,000 offered by NMF, NMF General Fund units to the value of Rs 5000 as well as a one-day visit within the NMF Savings and Investments Department, as part of the package offered by NMF, represented, at the Awards Ceremony by Mr. Bertrand Casteres, Director of National Mutual Fund and CEO of the Mauritius Union Group.



Mr. Bertrand Casteres, Director of National Mutual Fund and CEO of the Mauritius Union Group with MGSS Solferino, Team B: Mohussur Ashlesh, Dabydoyal Leenisha, Keesoon Ramchandra, Ramnarainsing Jayesh, Bundhoo Vidya

The third prize comprising a cash-prize of of Rs 35,000 and corporate gifts has been offered by Aon Hewitt Ltd represented by Mr. Imrith Ramtohul, Senior Investment Consultant of Aon Hewitt Ltd and went to Queen Elizabeth College, Team B.



Mr. Imrith Ramtohul, Senior Investment Consultant of Aon Hewitt Ltd with Queen Elizabeth College, Team B.: Parboteeah Prishinee, Ah-Moo Alison, Brijmohun Shweta, Chutoo Shajila, Jogarah Vidoushi



Loreto College Curepipe, Team A won a shield offered by the SEM as well as the challenge trophy for the Best Report, offered by CFA Society Mauritius, represented by its Chairman, Mr. Randhir Mannick.



Mr. Randhir Mannick, Chairman of CFA Society Mauritius with Loreto College Team A:  
Ramful Vandana, Bhoyrub Chetna, Boodhun Heshina, Luchoomun Darshinee, Jhummun Urmila

The Stock Exchange of Mauritius congratulates the winners in this year's competition and all participants, as well as extends its thanks to the sponsors of this competition namely, the MCB, the NMF, Aon Hewitt, and CFA Society Mauritius, for having played an instrumental role in supporting this annual Investor Education initiative to develop an investment culture in Mauritius and the SEM is very grateful to them.



Sunil Benimadhu, Chief Executive of the Stock Exchange of Mauritius, Gilbert Gnany, Chief Strategy Officer and Director of MCB Group, Hon. (Mrs) Leela Devi Dookhun, Minister of Education and Human Resources, Tertiary Education and Scientific Research and Gopallen Moorooogen, Chairman of the Stock Exchange of Mauritius with 2015 SEMYIA winning team.

