



Seychelles Ports Authority
Public Relations and Communications: Content for Publication

Event: International Day for Nurses

PRESS RELEASE

Honouring the Nurses

On the occasion of International Nurses Day that was commemorated on 12th May 2024, the Seychelles Ports Authority (SPA) salutes our nurse, Ms Nargis Orphee, who has been working with us for the past 8 years as a Health & Safety Officer.

This year, the International Council of Nurses (ICN) celebrated the International Nurses Day with the aim of reshaping perceptions of nursing and demonstrating how strategic investments in nursing can bring considerable economic and societal benefits. The day was commemorated under the theme “Our Nurses. Our Future. The economic power of care.”

Ms Orphee started working as a nurse over 25 years ago on 4th January 1999. She is a licensed senior nurse, with speciality in dialysis, which is referred to as a Nephrology Nurse. During her career in nursing, she has experienced different aspects of providing care for her patients at several levels.

“I chose to be a nurse so I could care for and heal the sick. To be able to nurse someone from being very ill till recovery stage is a great achievement for me,” she highlights and adds, “Nursing is a devotion. It must emerge from within you; to be able to care for and treat others with love, or else you will not remain for long in the job.”

During her years working at the Seychelles Hospital, Ms Orphee was rotated in various units which exposed her to an array of domains in nursing and thus widened her experiences.

With the shift hours which was very demanding, it came to a point where she had to seek for another job with more stable working hours so she could spend more time with her family and care for them. Her decision led her to move to SPA as a Health and Safety Officer on 2nd February 2016.

In her current post, Ms Orphee is responsible for advising the Authority on how to protect the health, safety, and welfare of employees in their workplace. Part of her work is to identify hazards and carry out risk assessments. The employees’ working conditions are also monitored along with the effective application of risk controls which includes helping the management to ensure that all employees follow the rules and regulations regarding safety and health.

From time to time, Ms Orphee conducts trainings and educational sessions about safe systems of work. She also liaises with other relevant agencies to reinforce on same. She advises the Authority on how to be compliant with the relevant health & safety regulations and ensures that investigations are conducted in case of safety incidents and that accidents, incidents and near-misses are reported and properly filed. She is also responsible for endorsing, procuring and issuing all Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).

Other parts of Ms Orphee's work relate directly to caring for the staff's health. This includes; providing daily monitoring of blood pressure, blood sugar (on doctors' demand), haemoglobin, and cholesterol levels. She also dresses wounds, provide treatment for burns, boils, amongst others.

As a Health and Safety Officer, her work does not limit her to care for employees on Mahe solely, but she often attends to the Praslin and La Digue's employees when the needs arise.

Ms Orphee's advice to her nursing colleagues is, "No matter how difficult and frustrating the days may get, never forget the reason you became a nurse."