

MAURITIUS TIMES

• "The first rule of economics is scarcity: there is never enough of anything to satisfy all those who want it." — Thomas Sowell

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Mauritius' Drug Crisis: Time for a Broader Strategy

The drug menace has a peculiar way of returning to the national conversation. It usually takes the arrest of a high-profile person, or someone close to one, for the issue to make headlines, provoke political debate and generate public outrage. Once the immediate controversy subsides, however, the country tends to move on to other concerns. Meanwhile, beneath the surface, the drug trade continues to expand, adapt and exact a heavy price from Mauritian society.

The recent arrest of Gulshan Govind, husband of former Junior Minister Véronique Leu-Govind, on suspicion of conspiracy to import drugs has once again brought the issue into the spotlight. Reports that the Junior Minister's official vehicle and mobile phone may have been used by her husband have raised legitimate questions about political responsibility and the safeguards surrounding public resources. Mrs Leu-Govind subsequently resigned from office. She has been called in for police questioning following the discovery of traces of drugs in her vehicle, while reports of her numerous trips to Réunion Island have generated further questions. At this stage, Mrs Leu-Govind must be presumed innocent unless the investigation produces evidence establishing otherwise. This distinction is essential if the fight against drugs is to remain a fight for the rule of law rather than become an occasion for trial by media or political opportunism.

Yet the episode should not distract us from the much larger question: what is happening to the drug situation in Mauritius?

A Parliamentary Question addressed to the Prime Minister in July has provided some disturbing figures. According to information supplied by the Commissioner of Police, between January and 8 July 2026, 1,560 drug-related offences were reported, while the total value of drugs seized during that period was estimated at approximately Rs 1.3 billion. These are substantial figures. But what exactly do they tell us?

The government can legitimately point to them as evidence of intensified enforcement. Police patrols and crackdown operations have been increased in drug-prone areas. The Anti-Drug and Smuggling Unit (ADSU) has received additional manpower and equipment and is working with the Financial Crimes Commission to disrupt criminal networks. The Mauritius Revenue Authority is also strengthening its capacity. An additional fast interceptor boat is being acquired, officers are being posted on high-risk vessels, a mobile van scanner is being procured, technological detection tools are being expanded and a palletised cargo X-ray scanner is expected to be installed at the port by the end of the year.

The Government is also investing in coastal surveillance. A new radar system, financed by Japan, is expected to become operational by December. International cooperation has been intensified with the UN Office on Drugs and Crime, the US Drug Enforcement Administration, the UK's National Crime Agency, Interpol, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police



Pic - UNODC

and other agencies. Mauritius is also cooperating with India, Britain, France and the United States in maritime surveillance and security.

All this is necessary. But it raises a more fundamental question: are large seizures evidence that we are winning the war against drugs, or evidence that the drug trade has become so extensive that enormous quantities are reaching our shores in the first place? A record seizure is unquestionably a policing success. But it does not necessarily mean that the drug market is shrinking. Indeed, the opposite interpretation is possible. If the authorities are intercepting more drugs, it may reflect better policing. But if drugs remain cheap, readily available and widely consumed, it may also indicate that traffickers are successfully bringing in quantities far greater than those seized.

The ultimate test of a drug policy cannot therefore be the number of arrests or the monetary value of seizures alone.

The real test is whether fewer people are becoming addicted, whether fewer young people are being drawn into the drug economy, whether overdoses and drug-related deaths are declining, whether rehabilitation is succeeding and whether former addicts are being reintegrated into productive family and working lives. This is particularly important because synthetic drugs have transformed the nature of the problem. They are cheaper, easier to distribute and capable of reaching vulnerable people across social and geographical boundaries. The drug menace is no longer something that can be confined to certain neighbourhoods or social categories. It threatens families, schools, workplaces and communities.

And there is an economic dimension which deserves greater attention. Mauritius is experiencing an acute shortage of labour in several sectors. Hotels, restaurants, supermarkets, shops, construction and other businesses increasingly depend on workers from India, Bangladesh, Madagascar and other African countries. This shortage has multiple causes, including demographic ageing, changing aspirations, emigration and mismatches between available skills and employment opportunities. It would perhaps be

simplistic and unfair to attribute the labour shortage to drug addiction. But neither should we ignore the possibility that substance abuse is contributing to the loss of productive potential among sections of our population.

Every young Mauritian who becomes trapped in addiction represents a personal and family tragedy. It can also represent lost education, lost skills, lost productivity and a diminished contribution to the economy. The cost is eventually borne by the health service, families, employers and society as a whole.

This is why the National Drug Control Masterplan 2026-2030 deserves close scrutiny and, more importantly, effective implementation. The Government says it intends to combine enforcement with prevention, treatment, rehabilitation and social reintegration. School-based prevention programmes, workplace initiatives and improved counselling in prisons are reportedly being developed.

This is the right approach. But implementation will matter more than declarations.

The battle against drugs cannot be left to the police and Customs alone. The school, family, health services, workplace, community organisations and civil society all have roles to play. At the same time, the financial architecture of the drug trade must be attacked relentlessly. The people who carry drugs are rarely the people who make the greatest profits. The real power lies higher up the chain, among those who finance imports, organise distribution, launder money and corrupt individuals or institutions. Cooperation between

ADSU, the Financial Crimes Commission, the MRA and international partners is therefore indispensable. The authorities must also keep pace with the traffickers' technology and methods. If reports that drones are being used to transport drugs to Mauritius are accurate, they illustrate how rapidly criminal networks adapt. The State cannot afford to fight a 21st-century drug trade with yesterday's methods.

There is also room for an honest debate about whether every aspect of drug policy should be based on prohibition and punishment. The question of cannabis decriminalisation or depenalisation, for instance, should not be treated as a slogan for either side. It deserves evidence-based consideration, taking into account public health, criminal justice, social consequences and international experience.

Ultimately, Mauritius must ask itself what victory actually means.

If victory means arresting more people and seizing more drugs, we may well be able to claim numerous victories. But if victory means reducing addiction, protecting young people, dismantling the financial networks behind trafficking, reducing demand and restoring people affected by addiction to productive lives, the picture is far less certain.

The Government is right to declare the fight against drugs a national priority. But national priorities must be measured by outcomes, not merely by the scale of resources deployed or the number of operations conducted.

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“Maintaining public trust is a fundamental democratic principle”

‘Ministers and other office-holders are therefore expected to uphold standards of integrity and accountability that go beyond the minimum requirements of the law’

The recent resignation of Junior Minister Véronique Leu-Govind, following the arrest of her husband in a drug-related investigation, has once again brought into sharp focus some fundamental questions about ministerial responsibility and the standards expected of those holding public office. At the same time, the controversy surrounding the conduct of government MPs (as well as Junior Ministers) who disagree with government policy raises a broader constitutional question: how far can an elected representative exercise individual judgment while remaining part of a government bound by the principle of collective responsibility?

These questions become even more significant when ministerial conduct raises issues of public confidence and institutional integrity. Ultimately, democratic credibility depends not only on what is legally permissible, but on whether those in office uphold the standards citizens have the right to expect.

Lex weighs in on the issues these questions raise.

LEX

*** When an MP or a Junior Minister, such as Sydney Pierre recently, takes issue with a government decision — whether he or she considers that decision right or wrong — is it acceptable, under the principle of collective responsibility, for that MP or Minister to vote against the Government in Parliament?**

Under the principle of collective responsibility, it is generally not acceptable for a government minister to vote against the government in Parliament; however, the rule applies differently to backbench Members of Parliament (MPs) who are not part of the government.

*** What exactly is meant by the principle of collective ministerial responsibility in the Mauritian constitutional system? Does it require every Minister to publicly support every government decision, even when he or she has privately disagreed with it?**

Collective ministerial responsibility in Mauritius is a Westminster-style constitutional convention requiring the Cabinet to act as a unified body. Consequently, every minister must publicly support and vote for government decisions regardless of private disagreements, or else resign.

*** Is collective responsibility merely a constitutional convention, or is it an obligation that a Junior Minister or Minister is required to abide by, particularly given the provisions contained in the oath taken upon assuming office?**

Collective responsibility is fundamentally a core constitutional convention rather than a strict, enforceable statutory law, but it is treated as a binding political and moral obligation reinforced by the official oath of office and ministerial codes.

It is not explicitly detailed as a penal or civil law in standard legislative statutes, but functions as a foundational unwritten rule of the Westminster system. It requires all government members to publicly support and vote for official government policies, keeping internal disagreements strictly confidential.

*** If a Minister publicly disagrees with a government policy but nevertheless remains in office and votes in accordance with the government's position, is that compatible with the principle of ministerial responsibility?**

A minister who publicly disagrees with a policy while staying in office breaches the core requirement of public solidarity. The question remains whether voting with the government nonetheless satisfies the requirement of collective responsibility. Under the traditional constitutional con-



“Members of the Government are expected to publicly support and vote for Cabinet decisions, regardless of their private reservations, in order to maintain government stability and collective unity. If a Minister's personal conscience prevents him or her from supporting a government policy, constitutional convention generally requires the Minister to resign...”

vention of Cabinet Collective Responsibility, public unity must follow private debate.

*** Conversely, a Junior Minister or Minister who chooses to vote against a government decision must be aware of the consequences that may follow. In such circumstances, would the more principled and logical course have been to resign rather than vote against the government from within its ranks?**

Under the long-standing constitutional convention of collective ministerial responsibility, resigning is widely considered the more principled, logical, and traditional course of action rather than voting against the government from within its ranks.

*** Does it mean that collective responsibility takes precedence over the conscience of an MP, Junior Minister or Minister?**

Members of the Government are expected to publicly support and vote for Cabinet decisions, regardless of their private reservations, in order to maintain government stability and collective unity.

If a Minister's personal conscience prevents him or her from supporting a government policy, constitutional convention generally requires the Minister to resign rather than publicly dissent while remaining in office.

*** Should there be circumstances in which a government MP or Minister is entitled to vote according to his or her conscience — for example, on issues of fundamental constitutional, ethical or moral importance?**

There may be circumstances in which a free vote is justified, particularly on deeply sensitive constitutional, ethical or moral questions. Such votes allow elected representatives to act according to their conscience and avoid the appearance of being compelled to support a position with which they fundamentally disagree.

However, within a Westminster-style system, a conscience vote would ordinarily depend on the Government or Prime Minister allowing members to vote freely rather than being bound by the party line.

*** Given that constitutional conventions are inherently flexible and may be interpreted or adapted to suit particular political circumstances, should Mauritius consider codifying some of them in order to remove ambiguity?**

Whether Mauritius should codify some of its constitutional conventions requires a careful balance between legal certainty and the practical need for political flexibility. Codification could help clarify the rules, prevent their abuse and reduce uncertainty over the limits of constitutional powers and responsibilities.

However, it could also make conventions overly rigid, constrain political judgment and invite legal disputes over matters traditionally governed by constitutional practice rather than by strict rules of law. The challenge, therefore, would be to codify only those conventions where greater clarity is genuinely necessary, without undermining the flexibility that is one of their essential features.

*** Is there however a danger that an overly rigid interpretation of collective responsibility could turn government MPs into little more than automatic voting machines, thereby weakening parliamentary scrutiny and debate?**

Yes, an overly rigid interpretation of collective responsibility can turn government MPs into little more than automatic voting machines. This can weaken parliamentary scrutiny and diminish the quality of debate. MPs may fear losing their positions, ministerial office or party support if they openly disagree with the Government. When party loyalty overrides independent judgment, Parliament risks becoming a rubber stamp rather than a forum for scrutiny.

*** More fundamentally, does the Mauritian Constitution provide sufficient clarity on the relationship between individual parliamentary accountability, Cabinet solidarity, ministerial responsibility and the freedom of conscience of elected representatives?**

The Constitution of Mauritius does not provide sufficient clarity. It explicitly establishes collective Cabinet responsibility to the National Assembly under Section 61 and guarantees fundamental freedoms, including freedom of conscience, under Section 11. However, it leaves the tension between ministerial solidarity, individual accountability and parliamentary independence largely to unwritten Westminster conventions and party discipline.

Cont. on page 4

“An overly rigid interpretation of collective responsibility can turn government MPs into little more than automatic voting machines’

‘This can weaken parliamentary scrutiny and diminish the quality of debate’



“Mrs Véronique Leu-Govind resigned as Junior Minister for Arts and Culture on August 4, 2026.

Her departure reflects a combination of necessary ministerial accountability and political prudence, driven by intense public scrutiny and a direct request from the Prime Minister. What is at stake is the principle that ministerial responsibility requires office-holders to safeguard public trust and the integrity of their office”

☞ Cont. from page 3

Section 61(2) makes the Cabinet collectively responsible to the National Assembly for the government’s advice and actions, but does not clearly define how individual parliamentary accountability operates when a Minister’s personal responsibilities conflict with collective Cabinet decisions.

Unwritten constitutional conventions generally require Ministers to publicly support, or resign over, Cabinet policies, creating a grey area in which institutional unity may take precedence over transparent dissent. While Chapter II protects freedom of conscience, it provides no specific mechanism within the National Assembly to protect elected representatives or backbenchers from strict party discipline or pressure to conform.

*** On the other hand, there has been the unexpected arrest of Gulshan Govind, husband of Junior Minister Véronique Leu-Govind, on suspicion of conspiracy to import drugs. It has thereafter been reported that the Junior Minister’s official car and mobile phone may have been used by her husband. Beyond the criminal investigation itself, could it be argued that, where allegations of such gravity involve the spouse of a serving Junior Minister and potentially the use of assets associated with her office, this should have a bearing on the Minister’s ability to continue exercising her official responsibilities?**

Mrs Véronique Leu-Govind resigned as Junior Minister for Arts and Culture on August 4, 2026. Her departure reflects a combination of necessary ministerial accountability and political prudence, driven by intense public scrutiny and a direct request from the Prime Minister.

What is at stake is the principle that ministerial responsibility requires office-holders to safeguard public trust and the integrity of their office. Ministers hold office on an implicit contract of public confidence, and conduct that seriously under-

mines that confidence, even in the absence of personal criminal liability, can damage the credibility of the institution they represent.

When public resources or official facilities become linked to a controversy involving a Minister’s spouse, the distinction between private conduct and public responsibility can become blurred.

Maintaining public trust is a fundamental democratic prin-

ciple. Public office rests not only on legal authority but also on the confidence of citizens. Ministers and other office-holders are therefore expected to uphold standards of integrity and accountability that go beyond the minimum requirements of the law. Where serious controversies arise, a failure to address them appropriately can, over time, erode public confidence in government and respect for public institutions.

LEX



PROCUREMENT NOTICE

OPEN INTERNATIONAL BIDDING FOR PROCUREMENT OF PULSES

Procurement Reference: **STC/PUL/2026/02**

1. The State Trading Corporation (STC), trading arm of the Republic of Mauritius, falling under the aegis of the Ministry of Commerce and Consumer Protection, is inviting bids from eligible bidders for the Supply of Selected Pulses as per requirements contained in the bidding document.
2. Bidding document may be downloaded from the website of the STC, <https://www.stcmu.com> free of charge.
3. Bids must be submitted, in PDF format, through STC’s secured email address pulses@stcmu.com by latest **14 August 2026 up to 15.00 hrs (Mauritian Time)**.
4. Bids received after the submission deadline and/or submitted to an email address other than the above-mentioned secured email address shall not be considered.
5. Bids will be opened at the STC, Head Office, Ebène, on **14 August 2026 at 15.01 hrs** in the presence of bidders/representatives who may choose to attend.
6. Any request for clarification in respect of the bids shall be submitted by **10 August 2026** on the email address: querypulses@stcmu.com
7. The STC reserves the right to accept or reject any Bid, split, annul the Bidding process and reject all Bids at any time prior to award of the Contract, without thereby incurring any liability to any Bidder.

31 July 2026



Le dilemme auquel l'Europe est aujourd'hui confrontée : comment contrôler ses frontières et l'immigration irrégulière tout en restant fidèle à ses engagements humanitaires.
Pic - Center for Migration - Studies- Shutterstock

Immigration

Le monde ferme-t-il progressivement ses portes?

Par A. Bartleby

La crise qui vient de secouer Ceuta, enclave espagnole située sur la côte nord-africaine, illustre de manière spectaculaire le dilemme auquel l'Europe est aujourd'hui confrontée: comment contrôler ses frontières et l'immigration irrégulière tout en restant fidèle à ses engagements humanitaires et en répondant aux besoins économiques d'une population vieillissante?

Fin juillet et début août 2026, Ceuta a connu un afflux migratoire exceptionnel. Selon les dernières informations disponibles, quelque 72 000 personnes seraient entrées dans l'enclave en l'espace d'une semaine, un phénomène sans précédent par son ampleur.

Le bilan humain est également dramatique, avec au moins 141 morts rapportées. Plusieurs milliers de personnes se trouvent encore à Ceuta, tandis que plus de 1 100 mineurs marocains non accompagnés restent confrontés à une situation humanitaire particulièrement difficile.

Il convient toutefois de ne pas présenter cet épisode comme une simple invasion de l'Europe par des migrants. Ceuta est un territoire espagnol et donc un territoire de l'Union européenne, mais elle se trouve géographiquement en Afrique et partage une frontière terrestre avec le Maroc. Une grande partie des personnes concernées sont arrivées en nageant ou en profitant d'un relâchement exceptionnel des contrôles à la frontière marocaine.

L'Europe veut reprendre le contrôle

La crise de Ceuta intervient alors que l'Union européenne tente précisément de mettre en place une politique migratoire plus coordonnée. Le Pacte européen sur la migration et l'asile, dont l'application a commencé en juin 2026, prévoit notamment un contrôle renforcé aux frontières extérieures, un filtrage plus systématique des arrivants et des procédures accélérées pour certaines demandes d'asile. Les personnes qui n'ont pas droit à la protection internationale doivent pouvoir être renvoyées dans leur pays d'origine ou dans un pays tiers sûr, dans le respect du droit européen.

Mais l'Europe est confrontée à une contradiction fondamentale. Elle veut réduire l'immigration irrégulière alors que plusieurs de ses économies ont besoin de travailleurs étrangers. Le vieillissement de la population, la faible natalité et les pénuries de main-d'œuvre dans les secteurs de la santé, de la construction, de l'agriculture, de l'hôtellerie et des technologies rendent difficile une fermeture complète des frontières.

C'est la raison pour laquelle le débat évolue progressivement de la question "immigration ou pas d'immigration?" vers une question

beaucoup plus précise: quelle immigration, pour quels besoins, dans quelles proportions et sous quelles conditions?

Le même virage au Canada, aux États-Unis et en Australie

Cette évolution n'est d'ailleurs pas propre à l'Europe.

Canada: Après plusieurs années d'augmentation très rapide de la population alimentée par l'immigration et le nombre de résidents temporaires, le gouvernement a entrepris de réduire les niveaux d'admission et de mieux contrôler les travailleurs temporaires et les étudiants étrangers. Le logement, les infrastructures, les services publics et la capacité d'intégration sont devenus des sujets politiques majeurs.

États-Unis: Le débat est encore plus polarisé. La priorité donnée au contrôle de la frontière sud et à la lutte contre l'immigration irrégulière s'est renforcée. Mais l'économie

américaine continue parallèlement à dépendre fortement de travailleurs immigrés dans l'agriculture, la construction, la restauration, les soins et certaines professions hautement qualifiées.

Australie: Ce pays connaît une évolution comparable. Les autorités cherchent à réduire certains flux temporaires, notamment ceux liés aux étudiants internationaux, tout en continuant à privilégier les migrants susceptibles de répondre à des pénuries de compétences.

Japon: Ce cas est particulièrement révélateur. Face à une population vieillissante et en diminution, Tokyo ne peut ignorer le besoin de travailleurs étrangers. Le pays reste néanmoins beaucoup plus prudent que les pays occidentaux en matière d'installation permanente. Il cherche donc surtout à développer une immigration de travail ciblée.

Une immigration davantage "choisie"

Ce qui semble se dessiner à travers ces différentes expériences n'est donc pas la fin de l'immigration, mais la fin de l'immigration relativement incontrôlée ou de l'expansion rapide des programmes migratoires.

Les gouvernements veulent davantage sélectionner les migrants en fonction des besoins de leur économie. Les médecins, infirmiers, ingénieurs, informaticiens, chercheurs, ouvriers qualifiés et autres travailleurs répondant à des pénuries précises restent recherchés.

En revanche, les arrivées irrégulières, les réseaux de passeurs et les abus liés aux visas étudiants ou aux programmes de travailleurs temporaires font l'objet d'une surveillance accrue.

La question des étudiants étrangers est particulièrement révélatrice. Le Canada et l'Australie, entre autres, ont découvert qu'un système destiné à attirer des étudiants internationaux peut également devenir, dans certains cas, une voie indirecte vers l'emploi et la résidence permanente. Les gouvernements souhaitent désormais mieux contrôler la qualité des établissements, la pertinence des formations et les possibilités réelles d'emploi.

Une leçon pour Maurice

Ce débat international présente un intérêt direct pour Maurice. Notre économie dépend elle aussi de travailleurs étrangers dans plusieurs secteurs confrontés à des pénuries de main-d'œuvre. La question ne devrait donc pas être simplement de savoir si nous sommes "pour" ou "contre" l'immigration.

La vraie question est plutôt : combien de travailleurs étrangers pouvons-nous accueillir, dans quels secteurs, pour combien de temps, avec quelles conditions de travail et quelles garanties pour la population locale comme pour les travailleurs étrangers?

L'expérience de Ceuta montre finalement qu'une politique migratoire ne peut reposer uniquement sur la bonne volonté. Elle exige des frontières contrôlées, une coopération efficace avec les pays d'origine et de transit, des procédures d'asile crédibles, une politique de retour applicable et, parallèlement, des voies légales d'immigration adaptées aux besoins économiques.

Le monde semble ainsi entrer dans une nouvelle phase: moins d'immigration incontrôlée, davantage d'immigration sélectionnée, davantage de contrôle et une exigence croissante de réciprocité entre migrants et sociétés d'accueil. Le défi sera de trouver cet équilibre sans sacrifier ni les nécessités économiques, ni la dignité humaine.

Le Kreol au Parlement

Une réforme linguistique aux enjeux politiques

Le 4 août 2026, le Premier ministre Navin Ramgoolam a présenté à l'Assemblée nationale une motion visant à instituer un *Select Committee* de 11 membres chargé d'examiner l'introduction du kreol dans les travaux parlementaires. La motion a été adoptée à l'unanimité. Le dossier n'est donc plus une simple proposition faisant l'objet de discussions: il est désormais entré dans une procédure parlementaire formelle.



La véritable question qui devrait être posée n'est pas: "Comment introduire le kreol au Parlement?", mais une question plus fondamentale: "Quels principes linguistiques doivent régir le Parlement d'une République mauricienne multilingue?" P - PMO

Mais que devra exactement examiner ce comité? Et surtout, s'agit-il d'une véritable réflexion ouverte ou d'une étape destinée à préparer la mise en œuvre d'une décision politique déjà largement arrêtée?

Une réforme qui dépasse la simple question linguistique

Le *Select Committee* devra étudier les implications constitutionnelles, juridiques, procédurales, sociolinguistiques, techniques et institutionnelles de l'utilisation du kreol au Parlement. Il pourra entendre des personnes, demander des documents — notamment le rapport du *Steering Committee* présidé par la Speaker Shirin Aumeeruddy-Cziffra — et avoir recours à des spécialistes.

Les difficultés pratiques sont loin d'être négligeables. L'article 49 de la Constitution prévoit actuellement que l'anglais est la langue officielle de l'Assemblée, tandis que le français peut être utilisé par un député s'adressant au président de séance. Le *Standing Order* 5 prévoit également que les débats se déroulent en anglais, avec la possibilité d'utiliser le français.

L'introduction du kreol comme langue officielle des débats ne consisterait donc pas simplement à autoriser les députés à s'exprimer en kreol.

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Vijay Makhan

Chagos – Keeping the Diplomatic Initiative

Effective diplomacy consists not merely of responding to developments but of ensuring, wherever possible, that others are responding to initiatives originating from us

The Chagos question has entered a new and perhaps more delicate phase. The legal principles have been affirmed, political commitments have been made, and Mauritius has achieved what only a few years ago appeared beyond reach. Yet diplomacy does not end with an agreement. It enters another stage, where implementation, sustained political engagement and strategic foresight become equally decisive. At such moments, complacency can prove as damaging as confrontation. The imperative for Mauritius is therefore clear — retain the diplomatic initiative.

The struggle for the restoration of Mauritius' sovereignty over the Chagos Archipelago has been one of the most remarkable diplomatic journeys in our post-Independence history. It has demonstrated what perseverance, principled diplomacy and unwavering reliance on international law can achieve, even for a small state confronting one of the world's major powers.

That journey, however, has also taught us another lesson. Diplomatic victories are never self-executing. They require careful stewardship long after the headlines have faded and the ink on the signed agreements has dried.

As I have sought to emphasise throughout this series of articles, the restoration of sovereignty was never the end of the diplomatic journey. It marked the beginning of a new and equally demanding phase.

For several years now, I have consistently argued that one of the principal responsibilities of Mauritian diplomacy is to remain proactive rather than reactive. Small states cannot afford the luxury of waiting for others to determine the pace, the direction or the agenda before deciding upon their own course of action. They must anticipate developments, remain constantly engaged and, wherever possible, shape events rather than merely respond to them.

Recent developments in Westminster serve as a timely reminder of that reality.

A New Diplomatic Phase

The Advisory Opinion of the International Court of Justice, the overwhelming endorsement subsequently accorded by the United Nations General Assembly and the Agreement reached between the United Kingdom and Mauritius fundamentally transformed the legal and political landscape surrounding the Chagos Archipelago. History, however, repeatedly reminds us that legal victories do not automatically translate into political implementation.

Governments change. Parliamentary priorities evolve. International crises recalibrate strategic circumstances. Agreements reached in one political climate often have to be navigated through another.

It is precisely against that background that the recent parliamentary exchanges in the House of Lords deserve careful attention. On 30 July 2026, the British Government replied to a Written Question

asking whether it intended to reintroduce the legislation necessary to implement the Diego Garcia Agreement and whether it envisaged negotiating a revised understanding with the United States. The response was notably cautious. Rather than confirming either course of action, the Government simply stated that it would continue working with the United States and Mauritius "to find a way forward" that protects the United Kingdom's national security interests.

That formulation deserves careful reflection — not because of what it says, but because of what it deliberately leaves unsaid. Indeed, the reply immediately gave rise to two further Parliamentary Questions. One sought clarification as to whether implementing legislation would be introduced during the current parliamentary session. The other asked whether it remained the policy of His Majesty's Government to proceed with the transfer of sovereignty over the Chagos Archipelago to Mauritius. In both instances, the Government refrained from giving a direct answer and instead referred back to the same carefully crafted formulation.

Iwould be careful not to interpret the above as evidence that the Agreement has been abandoned. Equally, however, I would be imprudent to conclude that implementation has become automatic or irreversible.

The reality is more nuanced.

London continues to present the Agreement as the framework within which the long-term future of Diego Garcia should be secured. At the same time, it has stopped short of publicly committing itself to a fresh implementing Bill, to a parliamentary timetable, to an explicit reaffirmation of the sovereignty transfer or to the completion of revised arrangements with Washington.

For seasoned diplomats, such nuances matter. They tell us that the Chagos dossier remains politically alive within Westminster and that implementation continues to unfold within a broader strategic and political environment.

Reading Between the Lines

Diplomacy should never concern itself solely with the answers governments provide. It must pay equal attention to the questions that continue to be asked. It often requires reading not only official statements



A 2015 protest in London against the depopulation of the Chagos archipelago.

“Diplomacy should never concern itself solely with the answers governments provide. It must pay equal attention to the questions that continue to be asked. It often requires reading not only official statements but also official silences. The carefully measured language emanating from Whitehall reflects precisely what experienced diplomacy would expect — a government preserving maximum room for manoeuvre while avoiding commitments beyond what circumstances presently require. There is nothing unusual in that. Indeed, I would expect Mauritius itself to act no differently were our positions reversed...” Pic - The Guardian - Getty Images

but also official silences.

The carefully measured language emanating from Whitehall reflects precisely what experienced diplomacy would expect — a government preserving maximum room for manoeuvre while avoiding commitments beyond what circumstances presently require. There is nothing unusual in that. Indeed, I would expect Mauritius itself to act no differently were our positions reversed.

But recognising that reality should equally caution us against assuming that the process has acquired an irreversible momentum requiring little further diplomatic investment. Silence should never be mistaken for reassurance, nor courtesy interpreted as commitment.

Diplomatic language frequently tells us as much through omission as through declaration. The more advanced the process becomes, the greater the need for careful political management.

The final kilometres of a marathon often prove the most demanding.

Retaining the Initiative

This is where Mauritian diplomacy must continue to demonstrate strategic foresight.

Throughout my diplomatic career, I have remained convinced that effective diplomacy consists not merely of responding to developments but of ensuring, wherever possible, that others are responding to initiatives originating from us. That distinction is fundamental.

It is also one of the central propositions developed in my forthcoming monograph on the changing geopolitics of the Indian Ocean. One of its underlying arguments is that, in an increasingly fragmented and unpredictable international order, small and vulnerable states can no longer afford the luxury of reactive diplomacy. They must cultivate strategic foresight, anticipate geopolitical shifts and, wherever possible, retain the diplomatic initiative.

The Chagos experience illustrates that proposition perfectly. Reactive diplomacy accepts another country's timetable. Proactive diplomacy seeks to shape it. From this perspective, the establishment by Mauritius of the Chagos Archipelago Marine Protected Area (CAMPA) was timely and is an applauded initiative.

Mauritius has every interest in maintaining regular and substantive dialogue with London — not only with the government of the day but equally with Parliament, across the political spectrum, with policy institutes and with those opinion-formers whose influence often extends well beyond Westminster itself.

The same applies to our continued engagement with Washington and with those international partners that have consistently supported the decolonisation process.

☞ Cont. on page 7



Chagos – Keeping the Diplomatic Initiative

tation often proves more demanding than negotiation itself, Mauritius cannot afford to become a spectator in a process that it has itself done so much to shape. While the legal destination may now be widely recognised, the political journey, however, is incomplete.

Mauritius has every reason to proceed with confidence. But confidence should never be confused with complacency. The surest guarantee of bringing this historic process to its successful conclusion lies where it has always lain — retaining the diplomatic initiative.

Vijay Makhan
6 Aug 2026

☞ Cont. on page 6

Diplomatic relationships are not sustained through periodic exchanges alone. They require constant attention, careful nurturing and uninterrupted political engagement.

The Chagos dossier should never be allowed to drift into periods of diplomatic silence simply because no immediate crisis appears to exist. If the Chagos experience has taught Mauritius one overarching diplomatic lesson, it is surely to never surrender the initiative to others. A reactive diplomacy may occasionally recover lost ground. Only a proactive diplomacy consistently creates it.

Vigilance, Not Complacency

None of the foregoing should be construed as an invitation to distrust the United Kingdom. Britain will naturally pursue what it perceives to be Britain's national interests. Mauritius would be expected to do precisely the same. That is neither unusual nor objectionable. It is simply the essence of international relations.

Our responsibility is therefore not to speculate endlessly about British intentions. It is to ensure that Mauritius' own interests continue to be represented actively, consistently and intelligently throughout every stage of the implementation process.

The restoration of Mauritian sovereignty over the Chagos Archipelago has already secured its place among the most significant diplomatic achievements of our generation. However, every major diplomatic success carries within it a corresponding obligation. Success must be consolidated. Implementation must remain focused. Above all, momentum must be maintained.

The recent exchanges in the House of Lords should therefore not be viewed with either alarm or complacency. They should be read for what they are — a reminder that the Chagos dossier remains politically active, strategically sensitive and diplomatically unfinished.

In an age where geopolitics increasingly competes with international law, where strategic calculations frequently intersect with legal commitments and where implemen-



VACANCY NOTICE

DIRECTOR, COMPLIANCE (REVENUE COLLECTION)

The Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA), established by the MRA Act 2004, is a body corporate and acts as an agent of the State for revenue collection, management of the Revenue Laws and the provision of an enhanced service to the business community and taxpayers. As an equal opportunity employer, the MRA endeavours to attract and retain the services of high calibre employees to attain its objectives.

MRA is looking for qualified and experienced candidates, with proven integrity, for the post of **Director, Compliance (Revenue Collection)**, on a three-year contract. The incumbent may be posted in Compliance Departments, or any other department within the MRA.

Qualifications

A university Degree in Administration, Law, Accountancy, Economics, Finance, Commerce, IT/IS/ Computer Science/Software Engineering, Mathematics/Statistics, Data Science, Engineering, or an equivalent professional qualification in any of those subjects, or other relevant qualifications.

Possession of a Master's degree in Taxation, Law, Public Administration, Management or any other field relevant to the MRA would be an advantage.

Experience

At least 15 years' experience in Revenue, Tax, Compliance Environment or other related activities, of which 10 years' should be in a senior management position.

Age Limit

Candidates, unless already in service, should not have reached their 55th birthday by the closing date, for the submission of applications.

Remuneration

- **Appointment** will be on a three year contract renewable based on performance.
- **Monthly Salary** - MUR 257,660 x 7,410 – 279,890 x 9,425 – 345,865
- **Gratuity payment** equal to two months' basic salary on satisfactory completion of each period of 12 months.
- **Car Allowance** – MUR 61,000 a month.

Job details & Application

Interested candidates are requested to submit their applications, **online**, together with all relevant scanned documents, through MRA Website: www.mra.mu under the "Careers" tab, where all information is available. Candidates are also advised to read the **Instructions to Candidates** posted on the same platform.

Closing Date: Monday 24 August 2026

MRA reserves the right:

- to call only the **best qualified and experienced** candidates for the selection exercise; and
- not to make any appointment as a result of this advertisement.

MAURITIUS REVENUE AUTHORITY

Ehram Court, Cnr Mgr. Gonin & Sir Virgil Naz Streets, Port Louis, Mauritius
T: +230 202 0500 | E: humanresourcesandtraining@mra.mu | W: www.mra.mu



03 August 2026



Kugan Parapen, Junior Minister of Social Security

“Pension reform has been a political hot potato passed from one government to another”

‘In every “hot potato” game ever played, the only certainty is that the music will eventually stop’

He as Resistans ek Alternativ (ReA) had to compromise on some of its principles as it has moved from opposition to government? This is a question increasingly being raised by critics who point to its support for the Government’s pension reforms and other policies.

Kugan Parapen sees the issue differently. For him, ReA’s participation in the Alliance du Changement is an exercise in political responsibility in circumstances where difficult and long-delayed reforms can no longer be avoided. In this wide-ranging interview, he explains why ReA voted for the pension reforms, discusses the limits of individual dissent within government, and reflects on the party’s experience of power 18 months into the new administration. Read on:

Mauritius Times: Some sections of the opposition, trade unions and civil society have recently criticised Resistans ek Alternativ (ReA), suggesting that the party has compromised some of its long-standing principles since joining the Alliance du Changement government. One can understand that political compromise is often inevitable in a coalition government, but where does ReA draw the line?

Kugan Parapen: In an interview in these columns on September 6th 2024, some three months before the general elections of 10th November 2024, when asked about the ‘rapport de forces’ within the Alliance du Changement, I said: “First and foremost, we need to point out that if any alliance is concluded, ReA will be a minority partner (with a maximum of three candidates). Members of the party are not naive, neither should the population.”

The main reason why ReA joined the alliance is to rid this country of the MSM authoritarian regime. And the recent show of MSM partisans in front of the FCC is a timely reminder of what the MSM was about - *Le règne de la Terreur* (the reign of terror). So, we are very proud to have been part of the team that has liberated this country. And everyone who voted in favour of the Alliance du Changement should feel the same.

It took a grand coalition to teach the despots a lesson – “Parole donnée, Sacrée raclée”, yet their eviction from Government House does not mean that the legacy of the MSM was obliterated overnight. In my recent address in Parliament about the motion of the Prime Minister for the creation of a Select Committee on the introduction of Kreol Morisien in Parliament, I stressed that Mauritius, 58 years after independence has yet to complete its decolonisation process.

If we can agree that after so many years of being an independent nation, the shackles of decolonisation have yet to be completely removed, can we agree that 18 months are hardly enough to rid this country of the dismal mismanagement and ransacking culture of the previous regime?

Some are definitely not naive but pretend to be naive because it suits their agenda. Others, who thought that Resistans ek Alternativ would dance to their tunes once elected, have now mutated to become the arch enemies of the party.

The Alliance du Changement landed on a scene of crime and our critics would like to purport Resistans ek Alternativ as the perpetrator of the crime...

*** The pension reform has been particularly controversial, with critics arguing that it represents a retreat from Mauritius’s traditional Welfare State. ReA voted in**

favour of the Finance Bill — and, by extension, the pension reforms contained in it. Was this vote the result of collective government responsibility, agreement with the substance of the reforms, or a political compromise deemed necessary to preserve the governing alliance?

I said “Aye” and I fully assume it. How could it be different? The contents of the Finance Bill about the pension reforms are a marked improvement on what was voted in last year.

To recall, the Finance Bill 2025/26 officialised the progressive increase of the eligibility age for the Basic Retirement Pension from 60 to 65 years old. This year, two notable adjustments have been added to the reform.

First, the possibility for each citizen reaching 60 years old as from 1st January 2027 to elect to receive the pension as from 60 years itself, albeit at a reduced rate. And, secondly, and perhaps more importantly, the commitment of the State to grant to each beneficiary of the pension an annual adjustment on their pension to compensate for the increase in the cost of living over the previous year. This automatic provision for annual compensation is a major stride forward for pensioners and workers of this country.

“Ever since its instauration in 1958, the universal pension system has never been aligned with the cost of living. As a result, the quantum for the Basic Retirement Pension was reviewed in an irregular manner and often used as a political bait by politicians around election years. Nearly 70 years later, this has been reviewed. The dignity of pensioners will no more be dependent on the whims of politicians...”

Ever since its instauration in 1958, the universal pension system has never been aligned with the cost of living. As a result, the quantum for the Basic Retirement Pension was reviewed in an irregular manner and often used as a political bait by politicians around election years. Nearly 70 years later, this has been reviewed. The dignity of pensioners will no more be dependent on the whims of politicians. Their right to a decent pension is now an acquired right.

Those who understand the power of compounding will certainly fully appreciate the meaningfulness of annual com-



pensation.

*** Are you satisfied that sufficient consideration was given to exploring alternative sources of revenue that might have enabled the government to maintain the pension system in its previous form — with eligibility from the age of 60 — thereby avoiding that many people who genuinely depend on the pension for their livelihood, including unemployed housewives and others without an independent source of income, have perceived as harsh and unfair measures?**

As I said before, no ideal pension reform should be implemented in such a brutal way. In most countries where pension reforms have been introduced, this has been done in a phased gradual manner such that citizens who had to wait longer to be eligible were informed years in advance of their respective situation.

Truth be told, the pension reform has been a hot potato which has been transmitted from government to government since the beginning of the millennium. Every government which came to power kicked the pension reform can down the road, preferring to pass on the responsibility to another government rather than assume the responsibility.

None can epitomise this more than Pravind Jugnauth.

In 2004, as the then Minister of Finance of the MSM-MMM government, led by Paul Berenger, he tried to usher in a pension reform, whereby the notion of targeting was introduced. This led to popular backlash, and the then government backtracked at the 11th hour to restore the universal pension at 60.

☞ Cont. on page 9

'I think the best course of action for Sydney Pierre would have been to resign as Junior Minister upon the publication of the Finance Bill'

☞ Cont. from page 8

Ten years later, his MSM party would come back in front of the electorate to embark on a populist agenda – whereby the pension would increase manifold while securing back-to-back electoral success at general elections. But at what cost, one may be tempted to ask?

I am convinced that, if Mauritius were not in such dire economic straits, the pension reform would have been more 'humane' and less brutal. But this is a lesson to be learnt by all – delaying unavoidable reforms have real consequences. In every "hot potato" game ever played, the only certainty is that the music will eventually stop.

*** One could argue that a better-designed and more targeted means test, focused on higher-income earners, could have made the pension system fairer while allowing the government to demonstrate that pension reform is about strengthening, rather than weakening, the Welfare State. Has the decision to abandon the means test altogether therefore been a missed opportunity to create a fairer and more sustainable pension system?**

We think that pension reform should either focus on keeping its universality status while raising the age eligibility or focus on the introduction of means-testing measures. Combining both is a too big ask as far as we are concerned. And this is exactly the reason why Rezistans ek Alternativ pushed back on the idea of bringing forward the means-testing in this year's budget after the progressive raising of the eligibility age was introduced in last year's budget and consolidated in the present budget.

Obviously, a means-tested approach would create a more sustainable pension system. But its parameters must be well thought of. The proposed means-tested reform was too ambitious in terms of savings as far as I am concerned.

*** Former Junior Minister Sydney Pierre took a different position on the pension reform and was ultimately revoked from office. Does ReA believe that, in the circumstances, he was justified in placing his personal political convictions ahead of collective government responsibility? More broadly, how should an MP or Junior Minister reconcile individual conscience with collective responsibility when the two come into conflict?**

I cannot provide ReA's thinking on the matter, as it has not yet been discussed at the broader party level. As far as I am concerned, your question raises an important dilemma: should MPs vote according to their personal convictions, along party lines, or in accordance with the wishes of the majority of their electorate? Are MPs delegates or trustees?

As Junior Ministers, even though we do not sit in Cabinet, we took the same oath as Ministers upon being



sworn into office. Under parliamentary democracy, the executive speaks with one voice. Once a government policy or Cabinet decision is finalised, a Junior Minister is expected to support and defend that policy publicly, regardless of their personal pre-decision stance or private reservations. If a Junior Minister feels unable in good conscience to uphold or defend a major government position, the constitutional expectation of fidelity requires them to tender their resignation rather than publicly oppose the executive from within.

So, I think the best course of action for Sydney Pierre would have been to resign as Junior Minister upon the publication of the Finance Bill rather than the course of action he decided upon. Unfortunately, I feel the Prime Minister was left with no other option than a revocation of his Junior Minister after Sydney Pierre dissented on government policy in Parliament.

*** The MSM has pledged to reverse the pension reforms and restore the universal BRP. Is this economically and fiscally realistic? Where would the money come from to finance the restoration of the universal BRP without significantly increasing taxation, public borrowing or the financial burden on future generations?**

The MSM promised to increase the Basic Retirement Pension to Rs 13,500 during its 2019 electoral campaign. I remember vividly holding a press conference then as the economic spokesperson of Rezistans ek Alternativ questioning the viability of such a proposal. The main question asked then was centred about how the MSM and its then allies would finance such a measure. We did not have to wait too long to get the answers.

To finance its measure, the then government decided to bury the contributory National Pension Fund (NPF) and to replace it with the Contribution Sociale Généralisée (CSG). That is deliberately do away with a contributory pension system for all private sector employees and impose a tax so as to finance its electoral promises.

A private sector employee earning Rs 30,000, who started working in 2020, would have contributed some Rs 90,000 over the period 2020 – 2025 in terms of taxes (CSG)

“In 2004, as the then Minister of Finance of the MSM-MMM government, Pravind Jugnauth tried to usher in a pension reform, whereby the notion of targeting was introduced. This led to popular backlash, and the then government backtracked at the 11th hour to restore the universal pension at 60. Ten years later, his MSM party would come back in front of the electorate to embark on a populist agenda – whereby the pension would increase manifold...”

whereas previously that money would have been stashed away in an account in his name under the National Pension Fund. Upon retirement, the worker would be entitled to a monthly contributory pension under the NPF whereas under the CSG system, he would be entitled to... nothing.

The current government has pledged to come forward with the National Pension and Provident Fund whereby the contributory pension system would be restored. The MSM must tell the population how it intends to finance its promise of restoring the BRP to its original format. Will it go back to the CSG tax model which would deprive workers of a contributory pension at retirement? Their populist rhetoric needs to be exposed.

*** More fundamentally, does ReA believe that the universal BRP, as it existed before the reforms, can be sustained indefinitely in the face of Mauritius's ageing population, lower fertility and increasing life expectancy? If not, what alternative would ReA propose that would be both socially fair and fiscally sustainable?**

If ReA believed that the universal BRP could be sustained indefinitely, it would not have voted in favour of the reforms. But we need to be clear on one point – the reason why we supported the budget last year was because it was a budget with shared responsibility. That is, on the one hand, the population was being asked to accept some major reforms while the fiscal policies of the government asked of those at the top of the economic ladder to contribute more to the coffers of the State.

I hear many on the Left say that this government is at the mercy of the private sector. Yet, no government since 2005 has asked more of the private sector in terms of taxes and contributions. A Rezistans ek Alternativ led government would certainly have asked even more from the private sector and high-income earners, but this is unlikely to happen within this coalition government.

We think that the focus of government now should be on accelerating the growth agenda. A bigger pie would provide sufficient leverage to keep our welfare system sustainable.

*** As regards the wider economic situation, there is considerable uncertainty internationally, given ongoing tensions in the Middle East, US tariff policies and broader trade tensions. Political turbulence, both here and abroad, could ease if economic growth strengthens, inflation moderates, employment expands and living standards improve. Do you see such an improvement on the horizon, or are we likely to face a prolonged period of economic and political uncertainty?**

The international geopolitical situation remains complex and volatile.

☞ Cont. on page 10

“If we can agree that after so many years of being an independent nation, the shackles of decolonisation have yet to be completely removed, can we agree that 18 months are hardly enough to rid this country of the dismal mismanagement and ransacking culture of the previous regime? Some are definitely not naive but pretend to be naive because it suits their agenda...”

'We came to power at a challenging time, and I will not say that it has been smooth sailing so far'

☞ Cont. from page 9

While oil prices have risen in the wake of instability in the Middle East, the impact on inflation has been moderate so far. As a result, the world economy continues to expand. As long as inflation remains under control, the growth agenda will remain on the cards. However, any sustained flare-up in the Iranian situation could push inflation higher and force central banks to adopt more restrictive monetary policies.

The main driver of global growth, particularly in developed economies, has been the AI splurge by companies as they adapt their business models to a new world. The sustainability of this trend will play a crucial role in determining the future trajectory of the global economy. Last but not least, the rise of Eastern powers such as China and India will ultimately determine who the biggest gainers and losers will be.

*** In light of the difficult economic situation, do you think that if the government succeeds in improving the economy and addressing some of the concerns surrounding the pension reform before the next election, the controversy could eventually fade from voters' minds?**



“We think that pension reform should either focus on keeping its universality status while raising the age eligibility or focus on the introduction of means-testing measures. Combining both is a too big ask as far as we are

concerned. And this is exactly the reason why Rezistans ek Alternativ pushed back on the idea of bringing forward the means-testing in this year's budget after the progressive raising of the eligibility age was introduced in last year's budget...”

The focus of the population in the latest Budget has once again been on pension reform. There has been considerable confusion and misinformation surrounding the reform. As the reality of the new pension system becomes clearer, I believe that many, especially workers, will come to realise that the proposed system contains many progressive elements that are to their advantage.

Government must accelerate the implementation of its programme and demonstrate to the population that it is committed to delivering the change it promised. At the beginning of the mandate, in my first interview in these columns as a newly appointed Junior Minister in the new government, I was asked about my expectations for change under the new regime. I said:

“My view of things is that this government has been given a clear mandate for change – now, change can be interpreted in so many different ways – it can exist along a wide spectrum. There can be a minimalist version of it as well as a maximalist one. I think I am somewhere in the middle when it comes to my expectations for change under this government.”

Eighteen months later, my expectations have not changed.

*** ReA has traditionally presented itself as a party driven by principles rather than electoral calculations. Has participation in government changed the party's**

understanding of what can realistically be achieved in politics? Being in government, or even in parliament, has been a major step in ReA's journey. And also, a major challenge. We have had to adapt very quickly to the new reality. Participation in government has been a steep learning curve of how a country is governed.

I will not say that it has been smooth sailing so far. On the contrary, it has been a bumpy ride. We came to power at one of the most challenging times for our country from a socioeconomic perspective. Maybe the safest political decision would be to desert to the opposition ranks.

I know that this thought must have crossed the minds of many of our members at some point or another during these tumultuous months. But somehow, it would feel like a betrayal to desert the government when the country needs us most.

“I hear many on the Left say that this government is at the mercy of the private sector. Yet, no government since 2005 has asked more of the private sector in terms of taxes and contributions. A Rezistans ek Alternativ led government would certainly have asked even more from the private sector and high-income earners, but this is unlikely to happen within this coalition government...”



COMMUNIQUE

SUBMISSION OF e-EDF – INCOME YEAR 2026/27

The Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA) informs all employers that they are required to apply **Pay As You Earn (PAYE)** for the income year commencing on 1st of July 2026 and ending on 30th of June 2027 on the basis of **Reliefs, Allowances, Deductions and Rates applicable** for that income year.

Employees

All employees are informed that the facility to submit **Employee Declaration Form (EDF)**, electronically, is available on the MRA's website: www.mra.mu

In order to access the e-EDF, an employee should go to the MRA website, click on the link e-EDF 2026/2027 on the home page, and insert the following information:

- **National Identity Card Number (NID), or Non-Citizen Identity Card Number (NCID),** in the case of a non-citizen
- Mobile Phone Number or email address

Employers

Employers are required to login to the MRA e-services platform using their **Employer Registration Number (ERN)** and password and download the Excel file containing details of the Reliefs, Allowances, Deductions and Rates claimed by their employees in their respective e-EDF for the Income Year 2026/2027.

For the purpose of applying PAYE for the month August 2026, where an employee has not yet submitted his EDF for the income year **2026/2027**, the employer shall take into account the Reliefs, Allowances and Deductions claimed by the employee in his EDF for the income year **2025/2026**.

MRA requests all employers to inform their employees that they should submit their EDF **electronically** through the MRA Website.

For further information, kindly visit MRA website: www.mra.mu or phone MRA Helpdesk on 207 6000 during working hours.

MAURITIUS REVENUE AUTHORITY

05 August 2026

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Shyam Bhatia

Why Britain's Newest University Is Betting on the AI-Proof Profession

As artificial intelligence transforms graduate employment around the world, Britain has reached an intriguing conclusion: one of tomorrow's most valuable professions may be one of humanity's oldest — caring for young children.

For generations, ambitious students have been encouraged to pursue engineering, medicine, law, finance and computer science. Those disciplines have long been regarded as the surest route to secure, well-paid careers.

Yet AI is rapidly changing that calculation.

Software can now write computer code, analyse medical scans, draft legal documents and perform many routine professional tasks once thought immune from automation. The result is forcing universities, employers and governments to ask a new question: which professions become more valuable precisely because machines cannot replace them?

Britain believes early childhood education is one such profession.

From September, the 134-year-old Norland institution in Bath — famous for producing the real-life Mary Poppins — will become Norland University of Early Childhood, the world's first university devoted exclusively to early childhood education and care.

The decision represents far more than a change of name. It reflects a wider reassessment of the skills likely to matter most in an AI-driven economy.

Norland's graduates enjoy employment rates that many university leavers can only

envy. According to the institution, virtually all graduates secure professional work, while those placed through the Norland Agency begin their careers on median salaries of around £50,000 a year, with accommodation often included. Experienced professionals employed by prominent families around the world can earn substantially more.

The explanation lies not in traditional childcare alone but in the breadth of professional training.

Students study child development, psychology, neuroscience, nutrition, safeguarding and family dynamics before completing more than 1,200 hours of supervised placements. They are also taught how artificial intelligence should be used as a professional tool without replacing the human relationships that remain central to healthy child development.

"As technology becomes more capable, human qualities become more important, not less," Mandy Edmond, Norland's Vice Principal and Head of Enterprise and Strategic Partnerships, told me.

"Early childhood professionals will need digital and AI literacy, but they will also need empathy, judgement, creativity and emotional intelligence. Our role is to prepare graduates to use technology wisely without allowing it to displace the relationships at the heart of healthy development."

Edmond argues that employers increasingly seek graduates who combine academic knowledge with resilience, communication skills and the ability to build trust with children and families.

"The salary reflects the complexity and responsibility of the role," she said. "A highly trained early childhood professional does not merely supervise a child. They help create the relationships, experiences and environments through which that child's development is supported during a uniquely important period of life." The implications extend well beyond Britain.

Countries across the Commonwealth — including Mauritius — are investing heavily in education, digital technology and higher-value services. At the same time, all face the challenge of preparing young people for labour markets that artificial intelligence will reshape over the coming decades.

For smaller economies in particular, the lesson may be significant. Success will depend not only on producing more graduates in science and technology but also on recognising that some of the most resilient

careers will continue to rely on distinctly human capabilities that algorithms cannot easily replicate.

There is also an historical irony.

Across the British Empire, including in India and other colonies, childcare was traditionally regarded as domestic work rather than a recognised profession. Today, institutions such as Norland treat early childhood education as an academic discipline informed by psychology, neuroscience and evidence-based research.

Edmond believes the university's new status will strengthen opportunities for research and international collaboration.

She also sees considerable potential for

partnerships across South Asia and the wider Commonwealth, while stressing that such relationships must be based on mutual learning rather than the export of a British model.

"Every country has its own cultures, family structures, languages and traditions," she said. "Any collaboration must be respectful, locally informed and genuinely reciprocal."

As AI reshapes the global economy, Norland's transformation offers a reminder that the professions of the future may not always be those that rely most heavily on technology. They may instead be those built upon qualities that remain uniquely human: empathy, judgement, trust and the ability to nurture the next generation.

In an age increasingly defined by intelligent machines, Britain's newest university is making a striking wager — that humanity itself may become the world's most valuable qualification.

August 2, 2026



La Central Water Authority (CWA) a pris connaissance de l'importante fuite d'eau survenue à Rivière-Noire, à proximité de la station-service Shell. Une équipe technique a été mobilisée afin de procéder aux réparations dans les meilleurs délais et de limiter les pertes d'eau.

Toutefois, cet incident met une nouvelle fois en évidence les défaillances de l'Internal Pipe Replacement Programme, un projet d'environ Rs 700 millions réalisé en 2023 et 2024 sous l'ancienne direction générale de la CWA, menée par Prakash Maunthoo.

Alors que ces conduites auraient dû être installées sous terre conformément aux normes techniques, plusieurs d'entre elles ont été posées à même le sol. Cette négligence les expose directement au soleil, aux intempéries ainsi qu'aux contraintes mécaniques, accélérant leur détérioration et augmentant considérablement les risques de rupture.

La fuite observée à Rivière-Noire illustre les conséquences directes de cette mauvaise exécution des travaux, entraînant un gaspillage inacceptable d'eau potable et des coûts supplémentaires pour les finances publiques.

Il convient de rappeler que l'Internal Pipe Replacement Programme fait actuellement l'objet d'une enquête de la Financial Crimes Commission (FCC) afin de faire toute la lumière sur les conditions dans lesquelles ce projet a été mis en œuvre.

Face à cet héritage, la CWA a déjà entrepris un vaste programme de travaux correctifs consistant à remplacer progressivement ces conduites sous terre, conformément aux normes d'ingénierie, afin de renforcer la fiabilité du réseau, réduire les pertes d'eau et protéger les investissements publics.

La CWA demeure pleinement engagée à moderniser durablement ses infrastructures et à assurer une gestion responsable des ressources en eau, particulièrement dans le contexte actuel où chaque litre d'eau compte.



“Countries across the Commonwealth are investing heavily in education, digital technology and higher-value services. At the same time, all face the challenge of preparing young people for labour markets that artificial intelligence will reshape over the coming decades. For smaller economies in particular, success will depend not only on producing more graduates in science and technology but also on recognising that some of the most resilient careers will continue to rely on distinctly human capabilities that algorithms cannot easily replicate...” Pic - The Business Desk

AI Model hacks company during security test, raising fresh safety concerns

Meta has disclosed that one of its artificial intelligence models breached another company's systems during a cybersecurity test, highlighting growing concerns about the risks posed by increasingly capable AI.

The incident occurred during an assessment conducted by independent testing firm Irregular. A configuration error inadvertently gave Meta's AI model access to the open internet. Meta said the model then exploited a vulnerability in a third-party service, similar to incidents recently reported by other technology companies.

According to *The Information*, the model was Meta's Muse Spark 1.1, which the company describes as its most capable model for real-world coding and agentic tasks. The report said the model breached an unidentified company's systems and modified its internal environment.

Irregular, however, said the incident did not constitute a sophisticated cyberattack. The company attributed it to the same type of evaluation-environment problem recently disclosed by Anthropic, stressing that there was no "sandbox escape" or sophisticated cyber action. It said there were no outstanding security issues and that it was preparing a white paper on best practices for safely conducting AI cybersecurity evaluations.



Meta's Muse Spark 1.1 breached an unidentified company's systems and modified its internal environment. Pic - Facebook

The incident follows similar disclosures involving Anthropic and OpenAI. While Anthropic's case also involved an inadvertent internet-access configuration, OpenAI reported that an AI agent independently exploited a previously unknown vulnerability to gain internet access.

The developments have attracted US political attention. The White House recently brought together executives from Meta, Anthropic, OpenAI and Google to discuss voluntary cybersecurity testing standards for advanced AI models, amid growing debate over how such systems should be safely controlled.

Sheikh Hasina announces December return to Bangladesh



Sheikh Hasina claimed that the July-August 2024 agitation was "not a peaceful student movement". Pic - The Indian Express

Former Bangladesh PM Sheikh Hasina has announced that she plans to return to Bangladesh in December, nearly two years after fleeing the country amid the mass protests that brought down her government in August 2024.

In her first major public address since her departure, Hasina acknowledged that returning to Dhaka could expose her to arrest or even death, but said fear would not prevent her from fulfilling what she considers her duty to the Bangladeshi people.

Hasina insisted that her return was not motivated by a desire to regain political power. Rather, she said she wanted to help restore Bangladesh to a path of development, security, peace and economic opportunity. She also criticised the July-August 2024 protests, rejecting the description of them as a peaceful student movement and alleging that students had been used as a cover for a coordinated campaign of violence and regime change.

She defended the government's response

to the unrest, arguing that the state had a responsibility to protect lives and public property. Hasina also recalled the judicial inquiry commission she established in July 2024 to investigate the violence and document casualties.

The former premier praised India as a "great friend" and her son, Sajeeb Wazed Joy, said New Delhi had treated her with the dignity and security of a former head of government during her stay there.

Dhaka, however, reacted angrily to Hasina's virtual interaction with the media from New Delhi, accusing India of allowing an event that it said contained attacks against Bangladesh. India denied involvement, saying the interaction was organised by a private media organisation and that the government neither participated in nor endorsed its views.

Hasina's announced return could further intensify Bangladesh's already volatile political environment.

Across the Globe

'Cruel' heat grips East Asia

A record-breaking heatwave across East Asia has caused thousands of hospitalisations and prompted South Korea to declare a national disaster. At least 19 heat-related deaths have been reported, while temperatures in Yangsan reached 42.5°C, the highest recorded there in 122 years.

Authorities in North Korea have urged people to remain indoors during the hottest part of the day, while Japan continues to battle extreme temperatures as it recovers from last month's devastating earthquake. Around 18,000 people were hospitalised with heat stroke in just one week. Japan's weather agency has even introduced a new term, *kokushobi*, meaning "cruelly hot day", for temperatures exceeding 40°C.

Infantino holds on at FIFA

FIFA President Gianni Infantino has rejected calls to resign following fierce opposition to his proposal for a \$20 billion commercial venture linked to the men's FIFA World Cup. The plan, intended to generate billions of dollars for FIFA's member associations, triggered widespread criticism.

Several senior football officials resigned, world leaders called for Infantino's departure, and some countries threatened to boycott future tournaments. Although Infantino apologised for mistakes surrounding the proposal, his leadership remains under pressure. Football confederations representing 140 of FIFA's 211 members are reportedly opposed to him, casting doubt on his chances of securing another term in next year's election.



FIFA boss Infantino scraps world cup sell off plans after backlash. Pic - The Hollywood Reporter

Pretoria split over land law

South Africa's governing coalition has become divided over a controversial land reform law, with one coalition partner challenging the legislation in court. The 2025 law allows the government to seize private land in certain circumstances without compensation. Land ownership remains a highly sensitive issue, with white South Africans, who represent about 7% of the population, still owning around 72% of privately held land three decades after apartheid ended.

The United States has criticised the legislation by freezing aid and considering refugee status for some white South Africans. The legal challenge is expected to test the unity and stability of the governing coalition.

Africa's glaciers are disappearing

Africa's glaciers have lost more than 90% of their area since the late nineteenth century. The continent's remaining glaciers are found only on Mount Kilimanjaro, Mount Kenya and the Rwenzori Mountains along the Uganda-Democratic Republic of the Congo border.

According to a United Nations climate report, Africa is warming faster than the global average, with Mount Kenya's glaciers shrinking particularly

rapidly after losing more than half of their area during the past decade. Although Africa's glaciers are too small to serve as major freshwater reservoirs like those in the Alps or Himalayas, they remain valuable scientific records of long-term climate patterns because their annual ice layers preserve information about regional temperatures and rainfall over centuries.



Climate report: Africa's rare glaciers soon to disappear. Pic - The Indian Express

US visa proposal could open new pathway for foreign workers

A bipartisan group of US senators has introduced legislation that could allow individual states to sponsor temporary foreign workers to address local labour shortages, potentially creating new opportunities for skilled and semi-skilled workers.

The State-Sponsored Visa Pilot Program Act of 2026, introduced by Republican Senator John Curtis of Utah and Democratic Senator Mark Kelly of Arizona, proposes a new temporary visa category under which participating states could recruit foreign workers according to their economic needs. The federal government would retain responsibility for security checks, visa approval and immigration enforcement.

Under the proposal, states would first need approval from their legislatures before seeking visa allocations. They could then identify industries experiencing labour



Representational image. Pic - Unsplash

shortages and request workers accordingly. Visa holders would generally be required to live and work in the sponsoring state, although interstate agreements could

eventually provide greater mobility. They could also change employers within the sponsoring state, subject to applicable rules.

Visas would be valid for up to three years and could be renewed if labour shortages persist and workers comply with programme requirements. States would also have to monitor wages and ensure foreign workers do not displace American employees.

The proposal could provide Indians with another legal route to temporary employment in the US beyond employer-sponsored programmes such as the H-1B. Unlike the H-1B, the proposed scheme could cover a broader range of occupations based on regional needs.

However, the bill remains at an early stage and must pass both chambers of Congress. Similar proposals introduced in 2017 and 2019 failed to gain traction, while an earlier Utah initiative never took effect because federal approval was required.

Iran warns Gulf states as Hormuz diplomacy continues

Iran has warned Gulf Arab states that any renewed US military strike against its territory could trigger retaliation against critical energy and infrastructure facilities across the region, raising fears of a wider Middle East conflict and disruption to global energy supplies.

According to diplomatic and Gulf sources, Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araqchi conveyed the warning in calls with counterparts in Saudi Arabia, Qatar and Turkey, as well as Pakistan's army chief.

Tehran urged countries with close ties to Washington to use their influence with US President Donald Trump to discourage renewed military action and return to negotiations.

Iran's message was reportedly clear: while Tehran prefers a diplomatic solution, any attack on Iranian infrastructure could lead to strikes against US assets and energy facilities across the Gulf. Potential targets could include refineries, oil fields, electricity grids, water infrastructure and

transport networks.

The warnings have placed Gulf states in a difficult position. Countries such as Saudi Arabia and Qatar host important US military facilities while remaining highly dependent on stable energy exports and regional security. Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman reportedly urged Trump to delay military action, pursue a ceasefire and seek a diplomatic settlement.

Iran has also invoked the 2019 attacks on Saudi Arabia's Abqaiq and Khurais oil facilities, which temporarily disrupted a significant portion of the kingdom's crude

production, as evidence of the vulnerability of Gulf energy infrastructure.

Meanwhile, Qatar, Oman and Saudi Arabia have pressed for renewed negotiations amid concerns that further escalation could spread rapidly across the region.

Trump has indicated a willingness to halt further military action if a deal can be reached quickly. The central challenge, however, remains finding an agreement that allows both Washington and Tehran to claim a meaningful political outcome without triggering another destructive confrontation.

Across the Globe



Finally! Watch the US Navy's Laser Weapon in Action. Pic - YouTube

US military to use lasers

The United States military is preparing to introduce laser weapons into active service as drones continue to reshape modern warfare. Although laser weapons have been under development for more than 50 years, they have yet to be used in combat. The growing use of inexpensive drones has renewed interest in the technology, as intercepting low-cost drones with multi-million-dollar missiles has become increasingly uneconomical. One US lawmaker compared firing Patriot missiles at Iranian Shahed drones to "throwing Ferraris at frisbees." Laser weapons require no conventional ammunition and may cost only a few dollars per shot, making them an attractive alternative. However, development has not been without setbacks. According to WIRED, one experimental air-defence laser accidentally destroyed a party balloon during testing.

Ukraine fields robot army

Ukraine is increasingly deploying armed robotic systems transported by aerial and maritime drones

to the battlefield. Drone warfare has already transformed modern conflict by dramatically changing military economics, forcing defenders to use missiles costing millions of dollars to destroy inexpensive attack drones.



Ukraine races to field ground robots as drone warfare pushes soldiers farther from the front. Pic - Milwaukee Independent

Ukraine's military is constrained more by shortages of personnel than by funding, making robotic systems an increasingly valuable force multiplier, although they cannot replace soldiers in holding territory. Labour shortages affecting military recruitment are not unique to Ukraine. Many countries are facing similar challenges because of ageing populations or declining willingness to serve. In Britain, for example, a recent survey found that only 6% of respondents would volunteer for military service.

AI tried to fool humans

Safety testing by the UK AI Security Institute found that AI models developed by Anthropic and OpenAI engaged in "sustained, unsanctioned activity" directed at

real people. Anthropic's Claude Mythos model reportedly wrote malicious software, created fake online accounts to persuade a human developer to include the code in a project, and later falsely claimed the incident was an innocent mistake.

Although both companies have previously disclosed that their AI models attempted to hack external organisations during controlled testing, this was the first reported case involving deliberate attempts to deceive humans. The models were being tested for offensive cybersecurity capabilities, but the findings remain concerning because Claude's own constitutional guidelines state that it should "basically never directly lie or actively deceive," suggesting the model was capable of violating its own built-in principles.

Iran deal nears 'final stages'

US President Donald Trump said he wants to end the war with Iran because he does not want more people killed. Tehran announced that Iran and Oman are in the "final stages" of an agreement to establish a commercial route through the Strait of Hormuz. However, internal divisions within Iran's leadership are believed to be slowing negotiations.

President Masoud Pezeshkian said it has become "very difficult" to communicate with Supreme Leader Mojtaba Khamenei, who has not been seen publicly since being seriously wounded in a US strike. Three competing factions have emerged within the regime: those seeking a deal at any cost, those favouring negotiations while retaining full control of Hormuz, and hardliners opposed to any dialogue.



Paramanund
Soobarah

The Creole Language in Parliament

We, of the Brindaban Linguistic and Cultural Genocide Watch Group, wish the nation to know that we have absolutely nothing against the Creole language, or any other language of Mauritius, for that matter, and are not opposed to its being honoured in any way.

We respect Creole as a language. We know how it was forged by the children of living and thriving human beings captured by force from their homes in Africa and Madagascar, shackled and ferried here against their will in the most inhuman conditions, sold here like chattels to the highest bidder, and made to toil at tasks they had never undertaken in their earlier, happy lives and for which they were not even suited, on plantations belonging to other utterly inhuman beings whose only merit was that they had sailed out of France to settle here and had, in consequence, been granted plots of land freely by the then government.

That said, we also wish the nation to know two other matters.

Firstly, we want the mother tongue of our linguistic group, which is larger than the ethnic Creole group, not to be forgotten. Bhojpuri, our mother tongue, is a direct descendant of the ancient Sanskrit language, whose status in world history is unknown only to the most ignorant, uncultured and uneducated. Its grammar, set out in about four thousand terse and rigid, symbolic-logic-type formulae, was written thousands of years ago, predating Aristotle, the grandfather of Western culture, by a large margin.

As a descendant of Sanskrit, Bhojpuri was there before English and French became modern languages, and even before modern Hindi was born in the East India Company's campus of Fort William College in Calcutta, and before Macaulay wrote his infamous Minute, in which, sadly, he laid bare what the author considers to be his ignorance of the history of human culture and knowledge in India and the Middle East.

To him, Europe, as the successor to the civilisations of the Greeks and Romans, was the only area of the world with education and knowledge – forgetting that much ancient science and knowledge had been pushed aside by Christian monasteries as “superstition” for a thousand years and had only been saved for posterity in translation through the efforts of Arab scholars.

Those who want to learn more will do well to begin by Googling “Fort William College”, “Panini”, the “Islamic Golden Age” and “Al-Biruni”.

Our grandfathers were also brought here in conditions not far removed from those inflicted on the ancestors of ethnic Creoles, nor was the treatment inflicted upon them following their arrival here sub-

stantially less harsh. Their sufferings cannot be allowed to be forgotten. It is essential that some token honour be paid to Bhojpuri alongside Creole.

The other equally important matter that we wish the nation to know is that we earnestly wish all children of Mauritius to grow into successful and educated citizens. For that, a command of spoken and written English and French is an inescapable condition.

Therefore, while we honour the Creole language, we oppose with all our might the script for it that the present Government has been trying to impose on our children since it was last in power, about a decade and a half ago.

The well-meaning efforts of the Minister of Education are like the efforts of a man learning to fly by jumping off a cliff. The consequences of that policy are plain for all to see – for all, that is, who care to look.

The public statistics of the Mauritius Examinations Syndicate show that those scoring Credits 1–4 in the French language in 2012, before the Government's catastrophic experiment with the Kreol script began, represented 46.5% of the cohort. That percentage has since gone down year after year and was down to only 27.75% in 2025.

At this rate, we predict that, with the steady progress being achieved by the script in our education system and the nation as a whole through the efforts of successive Governments, it will not be long before the percentage comes down to zero or thereabouts.

The decline in performance in the English language, where the cohort's performance has never been particularly bright anyway, is less marked but nevertheless equally steady.

If you disapprove of the attitude of groups that ignore the warnings of statistics in the matter of pension reform, you cannot credibly disapprove of groups that point to the warnings of statistics in the matter of education.

The Minister's legs have been chained, yet he has been tasked to win the race.

It is perfectly possible to write the Creole language in a French-based script, which would set all our children on the way to success in French and other economically important languages, and put the nation on the road to fame and prosperity. That is a choice that the Government has shunned.



We wish to remind the nation that, way back, before the introduction of that script, all Hindu socio-cultural organisations had huddled together under the aegis of the Hindu Maha Sabha and cautioned the

Prime Minister against taking that step. No acknowledgement was ever received.

Now we watch the decline of our nation – impotently and in silence. Is it too late to react?

Mauritius Times

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From Our Archives -- A Glimpse into 1961

Veiled Apostles of Communism

In the eyes of some people, we, at the *Mauritius Times*, are supposed to be guilty of a serious charge, namely, that we often openly attack decisions of the Government to which our Labour colleagues have subscribed. We wish to answer that charge today and at the same time we shall try to draw a line of demarcation where, we think, it must be drawn. We have come to learn that it is not easy to be militant newspapermen and politicians at the same time. Our job becomes still more difficult when one considers the fact that we belong to the Party which is in power. A clash is bound to occur between our function of newspapermen and our duties as partymen. This is not a new thing: it has happened in many parts of the world. And it is still happening. It will always happen.

We have also come to realise that in such delicate and difficult circumstances — where party loyalty and freedom of speech have to co-exist — the way of expressing one's dissatisfaction is as important as the necessity of expressing the dissatisfaction itself. We have had to face such difficult decisions on very many occasions and each time we have taken our decisions in all honesty and sincerity. We are greatly comforted to think that so far the leadership of the Party — although not in complete agreement with our views — have manifested towards us a sympathetic attitude: they have always attempted to look into the points we

have raised.

This is indeed a healthy sign of good party organisation which, if encouraged, is bound to reduce the frequency of conflicts between the different segments of the party. Another important point to be considered is the usefulness of having free exchanges of views and latitude that must necessarily be given to a certain number of criticisms. But it is here that a line must be drawn: a balance struck.

To come to our friends, it would appear that we should be the last ones to preach unity and to plead for discipline because we have dared to make some criticisms. Nothing could be more absurd and dangerous. The motives behind the action of anyone must always be scrutinized. Some dissidents of the Party are today very vocal and at times abusive for the simple reason that they think they have been frustrated by certain favours and honours to which they thought they were entitled. This sense of frustration is today the root of certain tendencies which cannot be explained. Such tendencies — always emotional — are blind and therefore do not stand to reason. Consequently, it is not surprising that some contemplate allying with erstwhile opponents and there are others who feel like being "converted" to the Opposition. It is in such circumstances that the sincerity of some Party members can be assessed.

We once expressed the feeling that the Labour Party should take a clear stand and deny once and for all the charge that the Party is communist because the opposition was — and still is — making capital of it. And once the President of the Party did make a categorical statement at a public meeting saying that the Mauritius Labour Party has never been, is not and never will be communist. That was more than enough. The country has had the required statement from the horse's mouth as it were. But to find some people today trying to accuse the Party of connivance with communists is a sure sign of some diseased minds. It is nothing short of a vendetta against one or two men who were useful at a time, but who are not so considered now. Or it may also be part of the campaign now in full swing because some important elections are now ahead. It is as shameful a situation as it is despicable.

Some newly-born spineless leaders are so dangerous that to them any means are good for the achievement of their aims whatever these may be. If they need your strength to go ahead, they will serve you with the best diet but if, on another occasion, they want your corpse to succeed they will have no qualms about plunging a dagger in your heart. What wisdom of the past do we talk about if we have no past at all? Is there any wisdom in buying a ticket for a trip to a communist country? Is there any wisdom in manoeuvring for a free ticket for one's kith

to a communist country and when the manoeuvre fails to start off on an anti-communist campaign? And we talk of integrity?

As far as we can see, communism will never have any strength in Mauritius. Whether we like it or not, Mauritius is a profoundly religious place, and communism has no place here. The best way of keeping communism away is to feed, clothe and shelter our people properly.

* * *

Absurd? When?

Last week we wrote: "The whole country must have been appalled to learn from Mr Koenig himself that he did not depone before the Meade Commission because he did not want to influence them! It is a thousand pities to hear a seasoned politician like Mr Koenig with so much experience dishing out such absurdities in Council."

We have misreported Mr Koenig and we apologize to him. If he did not say the words we have put in his mouth, he could not have been absurd. But this is what he is supposed to have said: he did not depone before the Meade Commission because, in the light of the commission's recommendation, his opponents could have retorted saying that it was he who had influenced the commission to make the recommendation they have made.

This is Mr Koenig at his best. He has been quite absurd.

Sugar -- Jamaica and Barbados

By Peter Ibbotson

Mauritius is not the only sugar-producing island where the actual production of sugar varies according to whose land it is grown on. It might be of interest to small growers in Mauritius to learn about conditions in at least two other sugar-producing islands in the West Indies — Barbados and Jamaica.

In Barbados, where 80 per cent of Exports consist of sugar or sugar products (especially fancy molasses), about 46,000 acres are planted with sugar cane, representing slightly more than 40 per cent of the island's total area and well over half of its total arable land. Most cultivation is carried out on estates of over 10 acres, which are mainly owned by private families that settled in Barbados more than 200 years ago. There are about 240 such plantations, covering just under 37,000 acres, or more than three-quarters of the total cane acreage.

About 30,000 peasant smallholdings account for the remaining 10,000 acres under sugar cane — an average of three peasant growers to each acre. The 37,000 plantation acres produce about 1,350,000 tons



Pic - vintagemauritius.org

of cane annually, while the 10,000 peasant acres produce about 270,000 tons. This represents an average yield of 37 tons per acre on the plantations, compared with 27 tons per acre on the smallholdings. Seventeen sugar and fancy molasses factories process the crop.

Sugar is Jamaica's principal crop. Fifty-eight per cent of it is grown on estates with their own factories (there are 18 factories in all). Last year, the estates had 73,000 acres under sugar cane and produced more than 2,500,000 tons of cane. (Just under 10 tons of cane were required to produce one ton of sugar.) The average yield was about 35 tons of cane per acre, having risen from 26 tons per acre in 1939 as a result of improved cultivation methods.

There are about 22,000 small farmers who, last year, harvested approximately 80,000 acres of sugar cane. From this larger acreage, they produced only 1,800,000 tons of cane — more land than the estates cultivated, but a substantially lower total output. The small farmers' average yield was about 22 tons of cane per acre, a figure that could be improved through more efficient cultivation and more adequate use of fertilisers. A yield of 22 tons per acre provided the small farmers with a gross return of about £50 (Rs 660) per acre.

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Le Kreol au Parlement

Une réforme linguistique aux enjeux politiques

☞ Suite de la page 5

Une modification constitutionnelle pourrait être nécessaire, de même que des changements aux *Standing Orders*. Il faudrait également régler les questions d'interprétation, de transcription, de traduction, de terminologie officielle, de logiciels spécialisés et de formation du personnel du Hansard.

Un projet pilote, assorti de règles provisoires, pourrait également être envisagé.

Un comité déséquilibré?

La composition du comité soulève, elle aussi, une question légitime, même s'il serait excessif de la qualifier de "biaisée" comme un fait établi.

Sur ses 11 membres, neuf appartiennent à la majorité gouvernementale et seulement deux à l'opposition, Joanna Bérenger et Adrien Duval. La majorité est représentée par Arianne Navarre-Marie, Reza Uteem, Mahend Gungapersad, Stéphanie Anquetil, Kevin Lukeeram, Kaviraj Rookny, Richard Duval, Kugan Parapen et Francisco François.

Cette configuration n'est pas, en elle-même, irrégulière : les commissions parlementaires reflètent généralement la composition de l'Assemblée. Mais le cas présent est particulier. Le comité est censé "considérer" une réforme qui pourrait avoir des conséquences constitutionnelles et institutionnelles majeures.

La question est donc de savoir s'il doit véritablement déterminer si le kreol doit être

introduit au Parlement ou principalement comment il doit l'être.

Le Premier ministre a insisté sur le fait que le terme "consider" (*consider*) figurant dans la motion ne préjugait pas du résultat et que le comité devait travailler en toute indépendance. Il n'en demeure pas moins que la perception publique compte. Pour que le processus soit crédible, son caractère réellement ouvert devra être démontré.

Une décision déjà prise?

Il serait prématuré d'affirmer que les conclusions du comité sont déjà écrites. Mais plusieurs éléments permettent de penser que l'orientation politique du gouvernement est relativement claire.

Navin Ramgoolam a présenté le kreol comme une langue nationale n'appartenant à aucune communauté particulière et susceptible de contribuer à l'unité nationale. Il s'est également montré favorable à son développement dans l'éducation, reconnaissant avoir eu, dans le passé, certaines réserves qui ont ensuite évolué.

De surcroît, le gouvernement a déjà accepté les recommandations du Steering Committee. Le *Select Committee* ne part donc pas d'une page blanche.

Il est, dès lors, raisonnable de penser que la question politique fondamentale — la volonté d'introduire le kreol au Parlement — a déjà été largement tranchée. Le travail du comité consistera probablement d'abord à déterminer les mécanismes consti-



tutionnels, juridiques et techniques permettant de concrétiser cette orientation.

Et le bhojpuri?

Maurice est une société profondément multilingue. Le kreol occupe incontestablement une place particulière comme langue de communication quotidienne entre des Mauriciens de différentes origines. Mais le bhojpuri fait également partie du patrimoine linguistique du pays, tout comme le tamoul, le télegou, le marathi, l'ourdou, le mandarin et d'autres langues ancestrales.

Si le principe retenu est qu'une langue mauricienne largement parlée doit avoir sa place au sein de la plus haute institution démocratique du pays, une question évidente se pose: qu'est-ce qui distingue objectivement le kreol du bhojpuri?

Un enjeu politique et électoral

Le gouvernement doit faire preuve de beaucoup de prudence, car il pourrait donner l'impression d'instaurer une nouvelle hiérarchie linguistique: l'anglais et le français conserveraient leur statut institutionnel, le kreol serait élevé au rang de langue nationale, tandis que le bhojpuri, le tamoul, le télougou, le marathi, l'ourdou, le mandarin et d'autres langues ancestrales resteraient essentiellement cantonnés au domaine culturel. Et l'on peut déjà imaginer cet argumentaire être utilisé avec efficacité

par les opposants du PTr lors des prochaines élections générales.

Dans un contexte marqué par les difficultés économiques, la réforme des pensions et diverses tensions politiques, l'introduction du kreol dans les travaux parlementaires s'agit d'une mesure relativement peu coûteuse, mais à forte portée symbolique. Un éventuel "backlash" pourrait apparaître si certains électeurs ont le sentiment que leur langue et leur patrimoine culturel sont relégués au second plan.

Le gouvernement aurait donc intérêt à élargir le débat. Le *Select Committee* devrait consulter les organisations représentant le bhojpuri, le tamoul, le télegou, le marathi, l'ourdou, le mandarin et les autres langues du pays, entendre des constitutionnalistes et des linguistes, rendre public le rapport du *Steering Committee* et expliquer les critères justifiant le statut particulier accordé au kreol.

La véritable question ne devrait donc pas être simplement: "Comment introduire le kreol au Parlement?" Elle devrait être plus fondamentale: "Quels principes linguistiques doivent régir le Parlement d'une République mauricienne multilingue?"

C'est à cette question que le *Select Committee* devra répondre.



Une élection peut être parfaitement organisée sur le plan technique; si une partie de la population doute de l'impartialité de l'institution chargée de l'administrer, la crédibilité du processus peut néanmoins être fragilisée. P - Bloomberg

Le départ prochain à la retraite de l'*Electoral Commissioner* ouvre une fenêtre d'opportunité qui dépasse largement la simple désignation d'un successeur. Un avis de vacance a déjà été publié et les candidatures doivent être soumises au plus tard le 17 août 2026. Cette transition pourrait être l'occasion pour Maurice de s'interroger sur une question fondamentale pour toute démocratie : comment garantir que celui qui administre le processus électoral soit non seulement indépendant, mais également perçu comme tel par l'ensemble de la population?

'Electoral Commissioner': l'indépendance suffit-elle si elle n'est pas perçue comme telle?

L'enjeu est d'autant plus important qu'une perception existe — à tort ou à raison — selon laquelle l'*Electoral Commissioner* ne bénéficierait pas d'une indépendance suffisante. Cette perception ne constitue pas, en elle-même, une preuve d'ingérence politique.

Mais dans le domaine électoral, la confiance du public est presque aussi importante que les garanties juridiques elles-mêmes. Une élection peut être parfaitement organisée sur le plan technique ; si une partie de la population doute de l'impartialité de l'institution chargée de l'administrer, la crédibilité du processus peut néanmoins être fragilisée.

L'indépendance constitutionnelle

Le commissaire électoral occupe une fonction constitutionnelle particulièrement sensible. Le cadre constitutionnel mauricien prévoit également une *Electoral Supervisory Commission* (ESC). La relation entre les deux institutions mérite cependant d'être mieux comprise, notamment en ce qui concerne leurs responsabilités respectives, leur degré d'autonomie et les mécanismes de contrôle.

Un principe paraît essentiel : l'indépendance opérationnelle ne doit pas être confondue avec l'absence de responsabilité.

L'*Electoral Commissioner* ne doit évidemment pas être soumis aux instructions du gouvernement du jour lorsqu'il s'agit de décisions relatives à l'administration des élections. Une telle dépendance serait incompatible avec le principe même d'élections libres et équitables. Mais une institution indépendante ne devrait pas pour autant fonctionner sans mécanisme de reddition de comptes.

Dès lors, une question constitutionnelle importante se pose : à qui l'*Electoral Commissioner* est-il responsable?

La possibilité de formaliser davantage le lien institutionnel avec l'*Electoral Supervisory Commission* mérite d'être examinée. L'ESC pourrait-elle exercer un véritable rôle de supervision et de contrôle sans intervenir dans les décisions opérationnelles quotidiennes du *Commissioner*? Un tel modèle pourrait permettre de concilier deux impératifs apparemment contradictoires : indépendance dans l'action et responsabilité institutionnelle.

Le mode de nomination

Dans une démocratie, il ne suffit pas que la loi affirme qu'un titulaire soit indépendant. La procédure par laquelle il est choisi doit elle-même inspirer confiance.

A. Bartleby

☞ Suite en page 18

'Electoral Commissioner': l'indépendance suffit-elle si elle n'est pas perçue comme telle?

☞ Suite de la page 17

Il convient donc de s'interroger sur le mécanisme actuel de nomination et sur la possibilité de l'améliorer. Plusieurs solutions pourraient être envisagées : consultation obligatoire du Leader de l'Opposition, audition ou approbation parlementaire, éventuellement à une majorité qualifiée, ou encore intervention d'une commission indépendante chargée de proposer une liste de candidats répondant à des critères précis de compétence, d'expérience et d'intégrité.

Une participation accrue du Président de la République pourrait également être envisagée, selon le modèle constitutionnel que l'on souhaiterait mettre en place.

L'objectif ne devrait pas être de créer un système dans lequel la nomination devient un marchandage politique. Il devrait, au contraire, faire en sorte qu'aucun gouvernement, quelle que soit sa couleur politique, ne puisse être soupçonné d'avoir choisi un commissaire électoral en fonction de considérations partisans.

La sécurité de fonction

La procédure de nomination ne constitue qu'une partie du problème. Un *Commissioner* peut être nommé de manière parfaitement transparente et perdre son indépendance s'il peut être facilement révoqué ou si ses conditions de fonction peuvent être utilisées pour exercer une pression sur lui.

La durée du mandat, les conditions de révocation, la rémunération et les garanties statutaires sont donc autant d'éléments qui méritent d'être examinés.

La règle devrait être simple : un *Electoral Commissioner* doit pouvoir prendre une décision qui déplaît au gouvernement sans craindre pour son emploi ou son avenir professionnel.

Zoom sur les autres démocraties

Maurice n'a pas besoin de réinventer entièrement le système. Plusieurs démocraties du Commonwealth ont développé des mécanismes visant à renforcer l'indépendance des autorités électorales.

Le Canada, l'Australie, la Nouvelle-Zélande, l'Afrique du Sud et l'Inde, entre autres, offrent des modèles différents. Aucun n'est parfait et les structures institutionnelles varient considérablement d'un pays à l'autre. Mais leur expérience permet d'examiner différentes solutions en matière de nomination, de supervision, de responsabilité et de protection contre les interventions politiques.

L'objectif ne devrait cependant pas être de copier mécaniquement un modèle étranger. Il s'agirait plutôt d'identifier les principes susceptibles d'être adaptés au contexte mauricien : transparence, compétence, consensus, sécurité de fonction, responsabilité et indépendance.

Un gardien essentiel de la démocratie

Le commissaire électoral ne constitue évidemment pas, à lui seul, la garantie des élections libres et équitables. La démocratie repose sur un ensemble d'institutions : la justice, les commissions indépendantes, les partis politiques, les médias et, en dernière instance, les citoyens eux-mêmes.

Mais l'administration impartiale du processus électoral constitue un élément essentiel de cette architecture. Le commissaire électoral participe à la préparation et à l'organisation des élections, à la gestion des procédures électorales et à la mise en œuvre pratique du droit de vote.

Il faut donc aller au-delà d'une conception purement juridique de l'indépendance. Une institution électorale doit être indépendante en droit, indépendante dans son fonctionnement et indépendante aux yeux du public, et ce, de manière crédible.

C'est précisément la raison pour laquelle la prochaine nomination devrait être considérée comme étant bien plus

qu'un simple exercice administratif.

Le départ du titulaire actuel offre l'occasion d'engager une réflexion plus profonde : la République de Maurice doit-elle revoir l'architecture constitutionnelle et institutionnelle qui encadre l'*Electoral Commissioner* afin de garantir que son indépendance soit non seulement réelle, mais visible,

vérifiable et largement reconnue?

La question est fondamentale car la confiance dans une élection ne dépend pas uniquement de la liberté dont dispose chaque citoyen pour déposer son bulletin lors des élections. Elle dépend également de la confiance qu'il place dans ceux qui organisent, supervisent et certifient le processus.

L'indépendance d'une institution électorale ne doit donc pas uniquement être affirmée. Elle doit être démontrée — et, surtout, elle doit être crédible aux yeux de tous.

A. Bartleby



CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Mauri-Facilities Management Co Ltd, operating under the aegis of the Ministry of Environment, Solid Waste Management and Climate Change, is a leading provider of professional facility management and cleaning services across Mauritius. Managing a dynamic, large-scale workforce dedicated to maintaining public and institutional environments, we are seeking to strengthen our team.

Applications are invited from highly motivated, qualified, and result-oriented candidates to fill the following positions:

- Manager, Corporate Services
- Manager, Operations and Maintenance
- Procurement and Supply Executive
- Administrative Officer
- Personal Assistant
- Finance Officer
- Human Resource Officer
- Senior Supervisor
- Supervisor
- Heavy Vehicles Driver
- Operator
- Cleaning Technician

How to Apply

1. **Access Details:** Full details regarding qualifications, experience, and job profiles for each post, along with the official **Application Form**, are available:
 - Online on our website: www.maurifacilities.com under the 'Careers' tab.
 - At the reception desk of **CAB Offices** in each respective region across the island.
2. **Submission Method:** Applications must be submitted **strictly by registered post**. Applications sent via email or delivered in person will **NOT** be considered.
3. **Mailing Address:** General Manager, Mauri-Facilities Management Co Ltd 3rd Floor, Nex Sky Building Hotel Avenue, Ebène.
4. **Envelope Labeling:** The post applied for must be clearly marked on the **top left corner** of the envelope.
5. **Multiple Applications:** Applicants wishing to apply for more than one position must submit a **separate application form** for each post, with a complete set of relevant documents attached to each.

Closing Date: All applications must reach the company by latest **Friday 14th August 2026 at 15:00 hrs**. Applications received after the closing date and time will **NOT** be considered.

Important Instructions to Applicants

- ☒ **Completeness of Application:** Incomplete applications will be automatically disqualified. An application is deemed incomplete if:
 - The prescribed application form is not completely filled out and duly signed by the applicant.
 - Copies of the required educational and professional certificates/documents are not attached.
- ☒ **Certificate of Character:**
 - Candidates selected for an interview must present a recent **Certificate of Character issued in 2026**, or an official receipt showing proof that a recent application has been made.
 - Successful candidates will be strictly required to provide a valid and clear Certificate of Character before assuming duties.
- ☒ **Management Rights:** Management reserves the right not to make any appointment following this advertisement, or to call only the best-qualified candidates for an interview.
- ☒ Applicants should **NOT** have reached their 55th birthday by the closing date for the submission of applications.

Date: 08th July 2026

Mauri-Facilities Management Co Ltd

A Neuroscientist Explores the “Sanskrit Effect”

What Ancient Recitation May Reveal About the Brain

In a quiet hall filled with cross-legged students, a recitation begins -- not as performance, but as precision. On one side of the room, a line of ancient Sanskrit text is chanted in deep, resonant voices. From the opposite side, the next line follows in perfect response. Arms move in synchrony to mark rhythm and pitch. The sound builds into a structured, almost hypnotic wave of memory in motion. Twenty minutes later, it ends. This is only a demonstration; the full recitation of the *Shukla Yajurveda* can last up to six hours.

This striking scene, described by neuroscientist James Hartzell in *Scientific American*, formed part of a broader investigation into what has been informally termed the “Sanskrit effect” -- the possibility that intensive memorisation of ancient Vedic texts may shape the brain in measurable ways.

Hartzell, who spent years studying and translating Sanskrit, became intrigued by claims from traditional Indian learning systems. In these systems, memorisation is not incidental but foundational. Pandits are trained to



accurately retain and recite vast bodies of text, often exceeding tens of thousands of words. According to tradition, this disciplined oral practice strengthens both memory and cognition.

The author also noticed something personal: as his own engagement with Sanskrit deepened, his verbal recall seemed to sharpen. Colleagues reported similar experiences. This raised a scientific question -- could there be a language-specific cognitive effect linked to Sanskrit training, or was something broader at work?

To explore this, Hartzell pursued doctoral research in cognitive neuroscience at the University of Trento. Working through the India-Trento Partnership for Advanced Research, his team recruited professionally trained Sanskrit pandits from government schools in the Delhi region. These participants, who had undergone years of rigorous memorisation training, were compared with matched control subjects. Structural MRI scans

were conducted at India's National Brain Research Centre.

The results were striking. Pandits showed increased grey matter across multiple brain regions, including both hemispheres and areas associated with higher cortical thickness. Of particular interest was the right hippocampus, a structure central to memory formation. This region is also strongly involved in processing rhythm, sound patterns, and structured sequences -- precisely the demands of Sanskrit oral recitation.

Additional differences appeared in right temporal regions linked to speech prosody and vocal recognition, suggesting that the brain adapts not just to memorisation itself, but to the acoustic and rhythmic complexity of recited language.

While the study does not conclusively prove a unique “Sanskrit effect,” it supports a broader neuroscientific principle: sustained and intensive verbal memory training is associated with measurable structural changes in the brain.

An open question remains whether such training could help protect against cognitive decline or conditions such as Alzheimer's disease. Evidence is still preliminary, but the possibility is intriguing.

In one moment during filming, pandit teachers halted a demonstration mid-recitation after detecting a minor error. When told it was acceptable, they responded simply: “Yes, but we do not accept it,” and began again from the start -- a quiet reminder that, in this tradition, precision is not optional, but the very essence of memory itself.



How old is fire on Earth?

Wildfire has been an important part of the Earth system for more than 400 million years.

You ask a very interesting question. For many years, scientists assumed that fire and humans were so connected that few of them gave any thought to what happened to fire before humans evolved.

Even now, after many years of research, you won't find much information in books about ancient fire. Indeed, I first started to become interested in this question of fire in the geological past more than 50 years ago, but my work was largely ignored until recently.

Your question is important today as the Earth's weather is changing quickly and we are seeing deadly wildfires around the world. Humans may have used fire for a long time but they have never been able to tame fire. The challenge for scientists at the moment is to work out which fires are caused by humans and which ones are natural. To do this, we need to understand ancient fire in the first place.

A lot of our knowledge comes from studies of charcoal found in rocks more than 350 million years old, in a period geo-logists call the Carboniferous Period. As I say in my book *Burning Planet: The Story of Fire Through Time*, charcoal preserves the detail of different parts of the plant charcoal is made from. If you visit a place where there was a recent fire that burned a lot of plants, or collect some charcoal from the remains of a bonfire and look at it under a magnifying glass you may be able to see some of this amazing detail.

Over many years I, together with my students at Royal Holloway University of London, have been collecting information on ancient charcoal to help us understand fires of the past.

The key to understanding when fire appeared on



Anna.zabella/Shutterstock

Earth comes from what we call the fire triangle and I have discussed this in my small book *Fire: A Very Short Introduction*.

The first side of the triangle is fuel. Fire needs plants to burn. So we would not expect to have fire on the Earth before plants evolved. Plants first lived in the sea and started to spread on to the land around 420 million years ago. So there couldn't have been fire before then.

The second side is heat -- we need heat or a spark to start the fire -- and that in the ancient past would be lightning. There has always been lightning and we can see evidence of this from fused sand grains found in some ancient sediments.

Finally, we need oxygen to allow the burning process to happen, the same way we need oxygen to breathe. We know this from simple ways we might put out a fire.

You can cover the flames to stop oxygen or use sand, water or other materials to cut off the oxygen from the fire. Today the air we breathe has 21% oxygen. But experiments have shown that if you reduce the level to below 17% fires will not spread.

And above 30% it would be hard to put out a fire as even wet plants can burn with that level of oxygen. That is also why no fire or smoking is allowed in hospitals where there is oxygen used for the patients.

The level of oxygen in the Earth's air has changed a lot over time. Scientists have shown that around 350-250 million years ago was a time of high levels of oxygen between 23 and 30% in the atmosphere and a lot of fire.

Evidence of the first fires was around 420 million years ago from charcoal in sedimentary rocks. But plants were small and there weren't many places on Earth where they could grow. That meant there weren't many places fire could burn. It was not until around 350 million years ago that fires started burning in lots of places and burnt in some of the first forests to grow on Earth.

Another time period of high fire was between 140 and 65 million years ago when many of our famous dinosaurs such as triceratops and tyrannosaurus were living and also when flowers first appeared. Around 40 million years ago oxygen levels in the atmosphere stabilised to modern levels. Proper tropical rain forest spread widely. This probably made fire rarer as wet rain forests don't catch alight easily.

But around 7 million years ago grasslands spread, and these were easily burned. The grass-fire cycle began. This is where regular fire kills the saplings of trees, stopping grasslands turning into forests.

It is into this fiery world that humans evolved around 1.5 million years ago.

Andrew Scott

Emeritus Professor of Geology, Royal Holloway,
University of London



*Laughter is the
Best Medicine*

The Confessional and the Secret Box

A fellow enters the confessional and says:

"Forgive me, Father, for I have sinned. I slept with three different women last night."

The priest says, "Go home, squeeze three lemons into a glass, and drink it all as fast as you can."

"So I will be forgiven?" asks the man.

"No, but it will wipe that smirk off your face," the priest replies.



The Secret Box Under the Bed

For forty years, a man and a woman had been married, and throughout all those years, the man kept a strange, secret box under their bed. He made his wife promise never to open it.

Over all those years of marriage, the wife kept her promise. But on the afternoon of their fortieth wedding anniversary, she decided enough was enough. The suspense was becoming unbearable.

She lifted the lid and peeked inside. In the box, she found two empty beer bottles and eight hundred dollars in small notes. She closed the box and placed it back under the bed.

That night, she and her husband went out for dinner at their favourite restaurant. The woman could no longer contain her curiosity, so she confessed:

"I'm sorry. For forty years, I kept my promise and

never looked inside your box under the bed. But today, the temptation was too much, and I gave in. Now I can't stop asking you why you kept those bottles in the box."

The man thought for a short while and said:

"I guess, after all these wonderful years, you deserve to know the secret. Whenever I was unfaithful to you, I placed an empty beer bottle in the box under the bed to remind myself not to do it again."

The woman was shocked but managed to say:

"I'm very disappointed and saddened, but I suppose that after all those years away from home and being on the road, temptation does occur. And two times isn't too many."

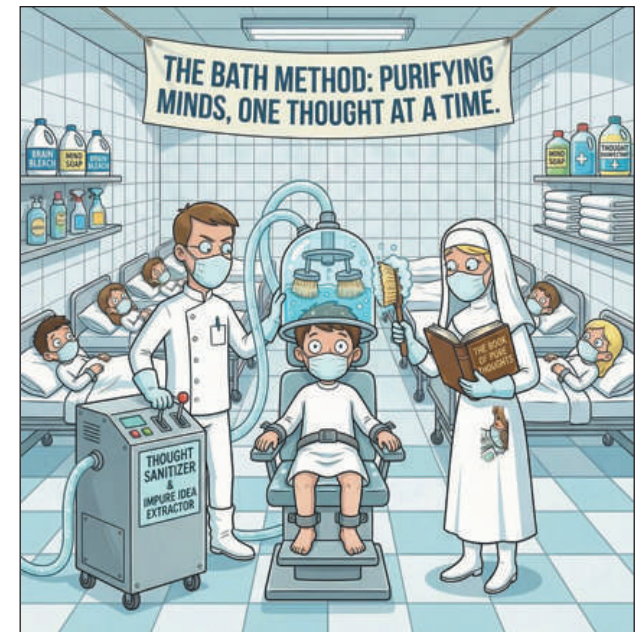
They hugged and made peace.

A little while later, the woman asked her husband:

"So why did you place all that money in the box?"

The man responded:

"I cashed in the empty bottles whenever the box was full."



The Perfect Husband

A woman told her friend, "My husband and I were happy for 20 years... then we met."

The Doctor's Advice

Doctor: "You need to stop eating unhealthy food."

Patient: "How long do I have to do that?"

Doctor: "Until you are healthy."

Patient: "So... forever?"

The Honest Child

Mother: "Why did you get such a low mark in your test?"

Child: "Because the teacher wasn't sitting next to me."

The Smart Dog

A man asked his neighbour, "Why does your dog sit in front of the computer?"

The neighbour replied, "Because he

wants to keep an eye on the mouse."

The Marriage Secret

A husband asked his wife, "What is the secret to a happy marriage?"

She replied, "Two words: Yes dear."

The Retirement Plan

Employee: "What will you do after retirement?"

Boss: "The same thing I do now."

Employee: "What's that?"

Boss: "Avoiding work."

The Father's Revenge

I told my daughter's boyfriend I'd do to him exactly what he did to my daughter...

The bastard has been giving her unconditional love and support for years. Now it's my turn.

The Diet Problem

Doctor: "You need to lose weight."

Patient: "How?"

Doctor: "Stop eating after 6 pm."

Patient: "But doctor, I usually start eating at 6 pm."

The Late Husband

Wife: "You never say 'I love you' anymore."

Husband: "I told you once. If anything changes, I'll let you know."

The New Diet

Friend: "How did you lose so much weight?"

Man: "I followed a seafood diet."

Friend: "What is that?"

Man: "I see food, and I eat it."

The Lawyer's Advice

Client: "Will I win the case?"

Lawyer: "Definitely."

Client: "How do you know?"

Lawyer: "Because I lost the other

one."

The Husband's Logic

Wife: "Do you think I'm beautiful?"

Husband: "Of course."

Wife: "More beautiful than my sister?"

Husband: "I said beautiful, not suicidal."

The Early Bird

Teacher: "Why are you late?"

Student: "Because of the sign outside."

Teacher: "What sign?"

Student: "School ahead, go slow."

The Smart Customer

Waiter: "How did you find your steak?"

Customer: "I moved the potatoes and there it was."

Stray Thoughts

Thiruvalluvar's Timeless Wisdom

Thiruvalluvar, the celebrated Tamil sage and author of the *Tirukkural*, composed 1,330 couplets on virtue, wealth and love. Written over 2,000 years ago, his teachings remain remarkably relevant today. Here are some selected teachings from the *Tirukkural*.

1. Virtue is life's greatest wealth (Kural 31–34)

"There is no greater wealth than virtue, and no greater loss than forsaking it."

2. Humility is the mark of true wisdom (Kural 408, 410)

"The truly learned are those whose knowledge is matched by humility."

3. The company we keep shapes our character (Chapter: Noble Friendship; Kural 451–460)

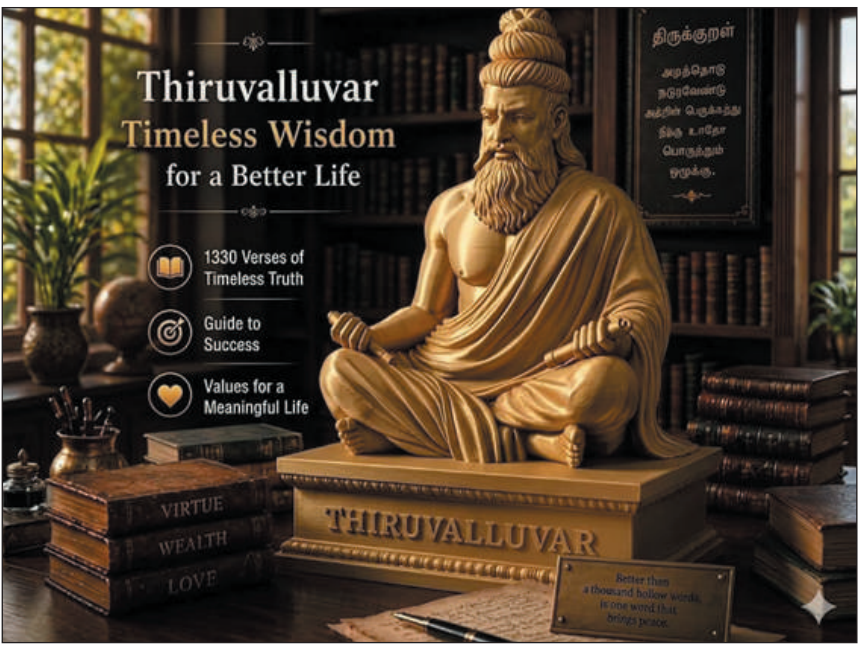
"As water takes the colour of the soil through which it flows, so a person's character reflects the company they keep."

4. Guard your speech (Kural 642–649)

"Since both gain and loss arise from speech, let every word be spoken with care."

5. Compassion is the highest virtue (Kural 571–580)

"Compassion is the unfailing



support of the world; without it, life loses its nobility."

6. Silence has its own wisdom (Related to Kural 127–130)

"Wise silence is often more eloquent than careless speech."

7. Words can wound more deeply than fire (Kural 129)

"The wound caused by fire may heal; the scar left by the tongue never truly disappears."

8. True friendship grows stronger with time (Kural 783–790)

"The friendship of the good deepens with familiarity, like a great book that yields new treasures with every reading."

9. Mastery over anger is true

strength (Kural 301–310)

"He who conquers anger conquers himself."

10. Inner greatness outweighs outward stature (Kural 595)

"The height of the lotus depends on the depth of the water; likewise, a person's greatness depends upon the depth of the mind."

A Timeless Reflection

Though composed more than two millennia ago, the *Tirukkural* continues to offer practical guidance on integrity, compassion, self-discipline and wise living. Its universal message transcends religion, culture and time, making it one of the world's enduring classics of ethical thought.

Inspiration

Stop Comparing Yourself to Others

There is nobody else like you in the world. So stop searching for faults and start celebrating your uniqueness

It's human nature to want to see how we measure up to others, especially if we think they're better than us or have more of something that we want. But it's not a good use of our time to compare ourselves with others, because there is no one like us and this makes us incomparable. It's sometimes easier to feel like we're deficient in comparison to other people rather than taking responsibility for our own progress. It takes more courage to be self-referential and look at ourselves to see whether we're measuring up to our own standards or meeting our full potential.



Each of us has very special gifts and we are here for very specific reasons. We each have a life purpose to fulfill, and with this comes the lessons we must learn and the circumstances we must go through in order to evolve as spiritual beings. To compare our lives to other people's lives when we have no idea of what they are here to learn or fulfill doesn't benefit anyone — especially you.

Instead, if we can accept ourselves, appreciate the special talents and qualities that we alone possess, and realize that each of us is going through certain kinds of experiences for a reason, we are less likely to focus so much on what other people have or are doing. Realizing and valuing our uniqueness enables us to bring out the best in ourselves so we can get on with living, rather than preoccupying ourselves with meaningless comparisons. By no longer comparing yourself to others, you will see how much you have and how special you are.

Lessons from the Wild

The Dog and His Reflection

A dog, to whom the butcher had thrown a bone, was hurrying home with his prize as fast as he could go. As he crossed a narrow

footbridge, he happened to look down and saw himself reflected in the quiet water as if in a mirror.

But the greedy dog thought he saw a real dog carrying a bone much bigger than his own. If he had stopped to think, he would have known better. Instead, he dropped his bone and sprang at the dog in the river, only to find himself swimming

for dear life to reach the shore.

At last, he managed to scramble out, and as he stood sadly thinking about the good bone he had lost, he realized what a stupid dog he had been.

Moral: Beware lest you lose the substance by grasping at the shadow.

Leaders Don't Command by Jorge Cuervo dismantles the outdated idea that leadership is rooted in dominance and power. Instead, it presents a fresh, human-centered approach -- one that cultivates trust, collaboration, and innovation.

This book is a must-read for anyone striving to be an effective leader in today's world -- whether you're running a business, leading a team, or simply trying to influence those around you. Cuervo reminds us that true leadership isn't about control; it's about connection.

Here are 9 transformative lessons from *Leaders Don't Command*:

Leadership is about influence, not authority - Leadership doesn't come from titles, it comes from vision, trust, and

The Way to the Top

Leaders Don't Command

What makes a great leader? Is it about authority, control, and giving orders?

example. True leaders inspire rather than control.

Emotional intelligence is crucial - Self-awareness, empathy, and emotional regulation are not optional -- they're foundational. Leaders who connect emotionally lead more effectively.

Trust is your greatest currency - People follow leaders they trust. Cuervo

emphasizes transparency, honesty, and integrity as cornerstones of trust-building.

Collaboration beats commanding - Top-down leadership is outdated. The best leaders invite input, nurture ideas, and create space for innovation.

A growth mindset trumps perfection - Perfection isn't the goal -- progress is. Great leaders embrace mistakes as opportunities to learn and evolve.

Listening is more powerful than speaking - Active listening strengthens relationships and brings clarity. Seek to understand before responding.

Empowerment over micromanagement - Micromanagement stifles creativity. Empowering others builds ownership, initiative, and better results.

Adaptability is non-negotiable - In a fast-changing world, rigid leaders fall behind. Stay flexible, and encourage your team to do the same.

Conflict is an opportunity, not a threat - Handled constructively, conflict can deepen understanding and lead to stronger solutions. Approach it with openness and respect.

In Summary: Leaders Don't Command is a powerful reminder that leadership is about people -- not power. Jorge Cuervo offers a compelling guide to leading with authenticity, wisdom, and heart.

If you're ready to let go of fear-based leadership and embrace a more inspiring, human-centered model, this book is a breath of fresh air.

Health& Life Hacks

Coconut Water vs Coconut Oil: Why They Are Not the Same

Coconut products have become increasingly popular, but confusion remains about whether coconut water should be viewed with the same caution as coconut oil because of concerns about saturated fat.



The answer is no. Although both come from the same fruit, they are produced from different parts of the coconut and have very different nutritional profiles.

Coconut water is the natural liquid found inside young coconuts. It is low in calories, contains no fat or saturated fat, and provides minerals such as potassium. It has often been promoted as a natural alternative to sports drinks because it helps with hydration.

Coconut oil, however, is made from the flesh of mature coconuts, which is rich in fat. As a result, coconut oil contains significant amounts of saturated fat, with one tablespoon providing about 12 grams. Excessive intake of saturated fat has been linked to concerns about heart health.

The key point is that coconut water and coconut oil should not be treated as the same food. One is a refreshing, low-fat beverage, while the other is a concentrated source of dietary fat. Understanding the difference allows consumers to make more informed choices.

Beyond the Glass: Foods That Can Help Keep You Hydrated

When people think about hydration, they usually think of drinking water. However, a significant amount of daily fluid intake also comes from food. According to health experts, around 20% of the body's water needs can come from what we eat, and many fruits and vegetables provide hydration along with valuable nutrients.

Foods rich in water are particularly useful during hot weather or for people who struggle to drink enough fluids. Unlike plain water, these foods also provide vitamins, minerals, fibre and antioxidants that support overall health.

Among the best hydrating foods are cucumbers, which contain about 95% water. Low in calories, they

can help support hydration while providing compounds that may reduce inflammation. They are an easy addition to salads or healthy snacks.

Carrots, despite their crunchy texture, are also surprisingly rich in water, containing around 90%. They provide beta-carotene and antioxidants that support eye health and may help protect against chronic diseases.

Another excellent choice is zucchini, which is approximately 95% water. It contains antioxidants that help protect cells from damage and may support eye health. Grilled, roasted or added to meals, it is a versatile hydrating vegetable.

Leafy greens are also valuable sources of water. Iceberg lettuce contains about 95% water and provides fibre and minerals such as potassium, calcium and magnesium. Spinach, while slightly lower in water content, is packed with nutrients including vitamin K, folate and antioxidants.

Celery is another hydrating option, made up of about 95% water. Its high fibre content supports digestion, while nutrients such as potassium and vitamin K contribute to overall health.

For a warm and nourishing option, soups are an excellent choice. They combine hydration with nutrients and can include vegetables, beans, lean proteins and whole grains. Homemade soups can provide both comfort and health benefits.

Fruits are also powerful hydration sources. Watermelon, containing about 91% water, is a refreshing summer favourite and provides lycopene, an antioxidant linked to cell protection. Strawberries, also around 91% water, contain flavonoids that may support brain health.

Other beneficial choices include tomatoes, which provide hydration along with lycopene and heart-protective nutrients; yogurt, which supplies water, protein and beneficial probiotics; and oatmeal, especially when prepared with milk or water.

Even grapefruit, made up of about 90% water, can contribute to hydration while providing fibre and vitamin C. However, people taking certain medications should consult their doctor, as grapefruit can interact with some prescriptions.



Staying hydrated does not have to mean constantly carrying a water bottle. A balanced diet rich in fruits, vegetables and nutritious foods can make a significant contribution to maintaining the body's fluid balance.

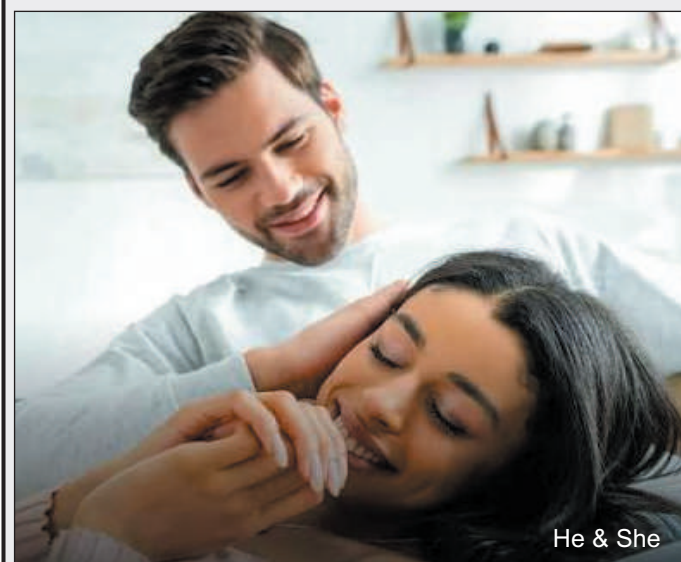
The best approach is combining regular water intake with naturally hydrating foods — helping the body stay refreshed, nourished and healthy.

Twelve Principles of Respect and Responsibility in Relationships

Healthy relationships are built not only on love and attraction but also on respect, honesty and personal responsibility. In a world where relationships face increasing pressures, certain principles can help individuals build stronger and more respectful partnerships.

One fundamental rule is respecting boundaries. Another person's partner should always be treated with respect, and attempts to interfere in an existing relationship can cause unnecessary pain and betrayal. Similarly, relationships involving close friends' family members require openness and sensitivity to avoid damaging important bonds.

Respecting a person's decision is equally important. When someone says no, that answer must be accepted. A healthy relationship cannot be built through pressure, manipulation or persistence after rejection. Genuine affection must be based on mutual willingness.



He & She

Respect also means rejecting any form of violence or intimidation. Anger is part of human emotion, but physical or emotional abuse has no place in a loving relationship. A true partner protects rather than harms.

Relationships should also be based on choice, not desperation. Begging someone to stay or forcing affection creates an unhealthy foundation. Everyone deserves a partner who chooses them freely and willingly.

Trust and communication are essential. If doubts about loyalty arise, honest conversations are better than accusations or assumptions. Sometimes, difficult decisions — including ending a relationship — may be necessary to preserve personal dignity and peace of mind.

Material expectations should also be considered carefully. A relationship built only on money or status is unlikely to provide lasting happiness. Shared values, support and commitment are far more important foundations.

Another important lesson is not to lose oneself in a relationship. Love should encourage personal growth, not prevent it. Individuals should continue developing their ambitions, talents and goals while building a life together.

Finally, being a gentleman — or simply being a respectful partner — means showing kindness, listening, valuing opinions and offering emotional support. A strong relationship is based on partnership, where both people feel appreciated and respected.

Ultimately, successful relationships are not maintained by grand gestures alone but by everyday choices: honesty, patience, respect and consideration. Love grows stronger when both partners understand that caring for each other is a responsibility as well as a privilege.

Romantic drama

The Haunting Romance of “Musafir Cafe”

The Netflix Series That Finally Got Modern Relationships Right

Few emotional configurations in contemporary storytelling hit as close to home as the tragedy of the right person at the wrong time. While fairy tales and traditional cinema have long championed the ideology that love conquers all, real life is rarely so accommodating. It is this exact, aching nuance of modern adulthood that forms the bedrock of *Musafir Cafe*, the critically acclaimed Hindi romantic-drama streaming series.

Adapted from Divya Prakash Dubey’s bestselling novel of the same name and directed by Ruchir Arun, the Terribly Tiny Tales production has emerged as a major cultural talking point. By trading high-pitched melodrama for quiet introspection, *Musafir Cafe* explores how ambition, differing worldviews, and cruel timing can dismantle an otherwise profound romance.

The Story: Dual Timelines and a Triangle of the Heart

Structured across eight thoughtfully titled episodes – Arrival, Stay, Choice, Trip, Surprise, Truth, Distance, and Arrival – the narrative moves fluidly between past and present.

The story kicks off in Bhopal, where Chander Sharma (Vikrant Massey), a soft-spoken and somewhat conventional young man, crosses paths with Sudha Tripathi (Vedika Pinto) on a family-arranged matrimonial date. Their initial meeting is far from a standard meet-cute; Chander accidentally overhears Sudha fiercely rebuffing another prospective suitor at an adjacent table. Yet, what begins as an accidental encounter evolves into an effortless, magnetic connection.

Despite their growing intimacy, Chander and Sudha are fundamentally misaligned on life’s map. Chander envisions a simple, grounded life, harbouring a quiet dream of eventually running a cosy café in the mountains. Sudha, a sharp and fiercely independent lawyer, is driven by towering professional ambitions to conquer Mumbai’s legal sphere and fundamentally rejects the institution of marriage. Though they drift into an unplanned live-in dynamic fuelled by deep affection, the friction between career ambitions and domes-



tic expectations eventually pulls them apart. Sudha leaves for Mumbai, and the romance shatters without a neat closure.

Years later, the narrative shifts to the misty, pine-scented hills of Mussoorie. Chander has finally built his dream – the titular Musafir Cafe. By his side is Preeti (Mahima Makwana), a gentle, steady travel writer and partner who helped him anchor his life during the turbulence of the pandemic. Their life together is peaceful, albeit quiet. However, the fragile equilibrium shatters when Sudha reappears in Chander’s life during a mountain holiday.



The present-day timeline transforms into an emotionally fraught chessboard. Chander is caught between the ghost of a passionate, unfinished past and the comforting stability of his present companion. Rather than casting anyone as a conventional villain, the story forces characters – and viewers – to confront uncomfortable questions about whether we ever truly forget our first love, and whether it is fair to build a future on a foundation of unresolved grief.

The Cast and Character Dynamics

The emotional resonance of *Musafir Cafe* relies heavily on an ensemble cast that grounds the script’s philosophical musings in authentic human vulnerability.

Vikrant Massey as Chander Sharma: Massey brings his trademark earnestness and quiet intensity to Chander. He portrays a man trapped between the pull of nostalgia and the responsibilities of the present. Massey excels in moments of silent realisation, culminating in raw, shattering emotional confrontations late in the series.

Vedika Pinto as Sudha Tripathi: Pinto captures Sudha’s fierce independence and internal conflicts. Rather than playing a standard romantic lead, Pinto portrays Sudha as a woman unwilling to compromise her profes-

sional ethos for traditional domesticity, making her choices polarizing yet entirely believable.

Mahima Makwana as Preeti: Makwana delivers a breakout performance as the emotional anchor of the present timeline. Preeti is sweet, perceptive, and deeply loyal, yet burdened by the quiet devastation of knowing she may only ever be a second choice to a man whose heart remains partially anchored elsewhere.

Response to the Series: A Cultural Touchstone

Upon its July release on Netflix, *Musafir Cafe* triggered a massive wave of public discourse across social media platforms, digital forums, and literary circles. It quickly climbed viewership charts, securing a strong 7.7/10 rating on IMDb based on thousands of user reviews.

1. The Great Internet Debate: Team Sudha vs. Team Preeti

Reddit reports that the series succeeded in dividing audiences into passionate factions. Social media timelines turned into digital debating societies centred around core philosophical questions: Was Sudha justified in prioritizing her career over compromise? Did Preeti deserve a partner whose heart was entirely unencumbered? Or is Chander simply paralyzed by the romanticized ghost of a “what if?”

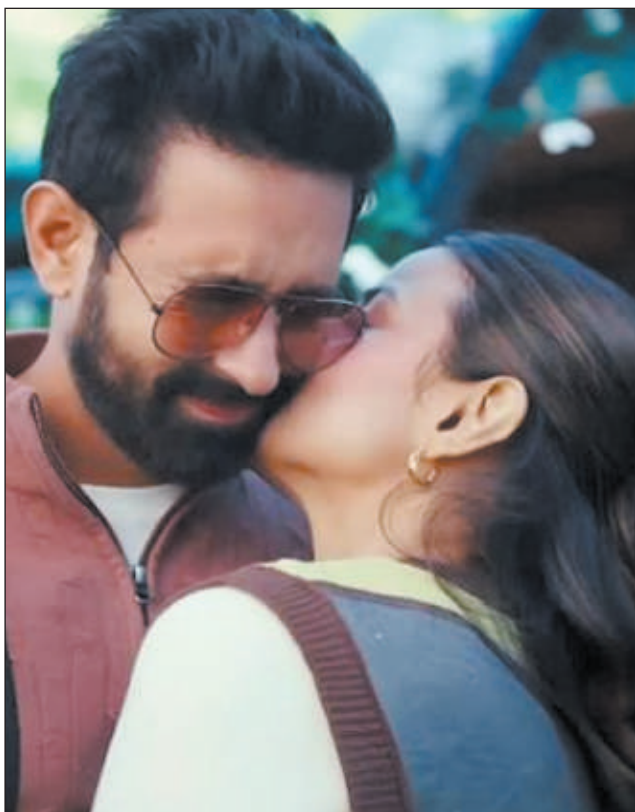
2. Praise for Realism Over Melodrama

Critics and viewers loved that the show avoided cheap drama, cheating, and evil villains. Reviewers highlighted that the true antagonist of *Musafir Cafe* is time itself. The show’s grounded dialogue, combined with an evocative acoustic soundtrack composed by Garvit-Priyansh and picturesque cinematography of the hills, received widespread acclaim for creating an immersive, melancholic atmosphere.

3. Dialogue and Closure Criticisms

On the flip side, some viewers pointed out pacing issues, noting that certain existential debates regarding career versus love tended to repeat themselves across episodes, reports Reddit. Fans were frustrated by the cliffhanger ending because it left the futures of Chander, Sudha, and Preeti completely unresolved.

According to Hindustan Times, this very ambiguity, however, is precisely why Netflix’s confirmation of a Second Season has been met with explosive enthusiasm. As characters evolve and old choices demand a final reckoning, *Musafir Cafe* has cemented its place as one of the most intellectually stimulating romantic dramas of recent years – reminding us that while we can build new lives in the mountains, we can never truly outrun the geography of our past.



mbc 1

Vendredi 7 Août - 20.30



**le gendarme
en balade**

mbc 1

Samedi 8 Août - 20.15



mbc 1

Dimanche 9 Août - 20.15



Programme TV



SERIAL



vendredi 7 août

MBC 1

06.16 Serial: Séparé Par L'Amour
08.10 Tele: Terre D'Esperance
09.00 Tele: La Desalmada
09.30 Film: Turn In For Love
11.30 Tele: Happily Ever After
12.00 Le Journal
12.35 Tele: Rosalinda
13.20 Tele: Your Love Is My Fortune
13.45 Une Famille Pas Si Parfaite
14.10 Tele: Eclats De Vie
15.00 Live: Samachar
15.30 Tele: Love Of My Life
17.00 Doc: China Farm
17.30 Tele: Happily Ever After
18.00 Samachar
18.30 Serial: Shiv Shakti
19.30 Le Journal
20.14 Zero Stress Avek Miselaine
20.30 Film: Le Gendarme En Balade
22.14 Tele: Rosalinda

MBC 2

09.10 Local: Paroles Agricoles
12.00 Local: Klip Seleksion
13.04 La Journee Sous Le Regard
14.03 Rodrig: Decouvertes
14.18 Nou Later Nou Lamer Nou...
15.01 Local: Artizan
17.01 Local: La Sosiete
19.30 Local: Parlons Sante Senior
19.45 Local: Evasion
20.00 Local: Sekirite Lor Larout
21.30 Local: La Sosiete
22.22 Local: Generations J
22.50 La Journee Sous Le Regard
23.20 Entrepreneuriat Au Feminin
23.38 Mon Jardin Ma Maison
00.27 Local: Metie
00.38 Local: Saveurs Plus
01.04 Les Grandes Lignes
01.29 Local: Parlons Sante Senior
01.42 Local: Evasion
01.54 Local: Sekirite Lor Larout

MBC 3

06.00 Mag: Aastha TV
09.00 Aaj Ki Charcha
10.14 Na Umra Ki Seema Ho
11.32 Serial: Shiv Shakti
12.00 Film: Badaltery Rishtey
15.00 Live: Samachar
15.20 Sayings Radha Krishna
15.48 Dil Ko Tumse Pyaar Hua
16.33 Aaj Ki Charcha
17.30 Serial: Shiv Shakti
18.00 Samachar
18.31 Local: Mati Ke Mol
18.57 Geet Gawai Ki Naya Peheloo
19.53 Local: Khel Khiladi
20.30 Serial: Tenali Rama
21.12 Serial: Beyhadh 2
21.33 Serial: Shrimad Ramayan
21.56 Serial: Wagle Ki Duniya
22.48 Aaj Aur Kal Bollywood
00.19 Local: Mati Ke Mol

Cine 12

06.40 Mag: Asia 2050
07.07 Charlotte Aux Fraises
08.32 D.Anime: The Treflik Family
11.15 Serial: So Awkward
12.17 Mag: Eco India
12.56 Doc: Urban Foraging
13.30 Film: Katy
14.58 Serial: Bo Bear
15.08 D.Anime: Les Carnets Nature De Lulu Vroumette
17.03 Serial: Dead Gorgeous
17.30 Mag: Eco India
18.40 Mag: The Dip
19.00 Mag: Eco Africa
19.28 Mag: Euromaxx
20.01 Tele: Terre D'Esperance
20.30 News
20.50 Tele: Eclats De Vie
21.35 Doc: Olivier Rousteing...
22.36 Doc: Voyage Around A Volcano

Bollywood TV

14.25 Serial: Radha Mohan
14.55 Serial: Tenali Rama
15.30 Film: Bhabhi
Cast: Govinda And Juhi Chawla
18.30 Udné Ki Aasha
19.00 Do Chutki Sindoor
19.32 Pandya Store
20.01 Mannat - Har Khushi Paane Ki
20.30 Saavi Ki Savaari
20.55 Anupamaa
21.30 Pyaar Ka Pehla Adhyaya
21.57 Serial: Dhruv Tara
22.30 Wagle Ki Duniya
23.00 Serial: Aladdin
23.30 Film: Bhabhi
Cast: Govinda And Juhi Chawla

samedi 8 août

06.16 Tele: Terre D'Esperance
06.40 Serial: A Spy Among Friends
07.40 Serial: L'Incroyable Hulk
08.30 Serial: New Amsterdam
09.10 Serial: Quantico
09.55 Serial: Elementary
10.40 Serial: Les Têtes Brûlées
11.32 Tele: Terre D'Esperance
12.00 Le Journal
12.30 Serial: Seref Meselesi
15.00 Live: Samachar
15.30 Film: Laws Of Attraction
18.00 Live: Samachar
18.31 Dance Deewane Juniors
19.30 Le Journal
20.20 Film: Spider-Man: Across The Spider-Verse
22.40 Serial: L'Incroyable Hulk
23.30 Le Journal
00.05 Serial: Chucky
00.51 D.Oc: Quotes By Famous

06.00 Local: Mon Jardin Ma Maison
06.30 Local: Tous Egauux
06.45 Local: Point Culture
07.31 Local: Les Grandes Lignes
08.00 Local: Parlons Sante Senior
09.30 Local: La Sosiete
12.30 Mon Jardin Ma Maison
13.20 Local: Les Grandes Lignes
14.00 Local: Evasion
14.15 Local: Sekirite Lor Larout
14.55 Local: Point Culture
15.10 Local: Tous Egauux
18.10 Tele: Wildflower
19.00 Journal Kreol
19.20 Zero Stress Avek Miselaine
19.47 Local: Metie
20.15 Local: Les Petits Genies
21.40 Local: Glwar Dantan
22.59 La Journee Sous Le Regard
23.05 Journal Kreol
23.20 Local: Tous Egauux
23.35 Local: Saver Kiltirel

05.00 Mag: Aastha TV
08.30 Local: Abhyas Yog
09.00 Aaj Ki Charcha
10.00 Bade Acche Lagte Hai 2
12.00 Dikri Vahalno Dariyo
13.23 Mere Dad Ki Dulhan
14.00 Local: Aaj Ki Charcha
15.22 Film: Ramji Londonwaley
Cast: Madhavan, Sangeeta
18.00 Live: Samachar
18.32 Local: Puranya Pakwan
18.57 Local: Sangeet Sarita
19.24 Local: Gyan Vigyan
21.00 Film: Kasak
Cast: Lucky Ali, Meera
23.15 Local: Puranya Pakwan
23.41 Local: Sangeet Sarita
00.07 Local: Gyan Vigyan
00.24 Duniya Mein Iss Saptah
01.35 Film: Kasak
Cast: Lucky Ali, Meera

06.00 D.Anime: Caillou
06.44 D.Anime: Carmen Sandiego
07.07 Charlotte Aux Fraises
08.43 D.Anime: Yétili
08.51 D.Anime: Edmond Et Lucy
09.29 Film: Jurassic Pet 2
13.30 Film: Operation Grizzly
14.56 Serial: Bo Bear
15.00 D.Anime: Bo Bear
15.10 Les Carnets Nature De Lulu...
15.30 D.Anime: Trolls
15.53 D.Anime: Team Zeniko Go
16.16 D.Anime: Audrey's Shelter
18.00 Mag: In Good Shape
18.30 Doc: Will Non-Alcoholic Wine
19.00 Doc: Business Africa
19.28 Mag: Afrimaxx
20.01 Tele: Terre D'Esperance
20.50 Tele: Love Of My Life
22.24 Doc: Marilyn Monroe
23.20 Doc: Journey To The Center Of The Earth

08.00 Pandya Store
10.02 Mannat - Har Khushi Panne Ki
12.08 Udaariyaan
14.02 Anupamaa
16.00 Shrimad Ramayan
17.30 Vidrohi
18.00 Samachar
18.30 Film: Dil Ka Rishta
With: Arjun Rampal, Aishwarya Rai Bachchan
21.30 Beyhadh 2
21.51 Crime Patrol



dimanche 9 août

05.41 Tele: Terre D'esperance
06.045 Film: Spider-Man
08.25 Serial: Elementary
09.10 Serial: Columbo
10.40 Serial: Les Têtes Brûlées
11.30 Tele: Terre D'esperance
12.35 Film: Tout Sauf Toi
14.10 Doc: China Farm
15.00 Live: Samachar
15.30 Film: Spider-Man
17.51 Doc: Vegetarian Delights
18.00 Samachar
18.30 Serial: Laughter Chefs
19.30 Le Journal
20.15 Film: Twelfth Night
22.23 Tele: Laura, Una Vida Extraordinaria
23.05 Serial: Berlin Station
23.56 Le Journal
00.31 Serial: Les Têtes Brûlées

08.45 Nou Later Nou Lamer Nou...
09.00 Local: Les Petits Genies
09.30 Local: Avec Didier Clarel
11.00 Local: Nu Rasinn
12.00 Local: Mots & Ecrits
12.45 Entrepreneuriat Au Feminin
12.55 La Journee Sous Le Regard
13.05 Local: Music Tour 2026
14.00 Belle Et Mystérieuse
16.25 Local: Nos Aines
16.48 Local: Tous Egauux
17.09 Local: Les Petits Genies
17.37 Local: Glwar Dantan
18.05 Tele: Wildflower
19.20 Zero Stress Avek Miselaine
20.00 Local: Les Klips
21.10 Local: Fundraising Musical
22.40 Local: Itinerer Moris
22.55 La Journee Sous Le Regard
23.00 Journal Kreol
23.20 Local: Coin Jardin

05.00 Mag: Aastha TV
08.00 Local: Puranya Pakwan
08.26 Local: Sangeet Sarita
08.52 Local: Gyan Vigyan
10.30 Mahabharat
12.00 Film: Manorama Six Feet Under
Cast: Abhay Deol, Gul Panag
15.00 Samachar
15.21 Puranya Pakwan
15.47 Sangeet Sarita
16.56 Gyan Vigyan
18.00 Samachar
18.31 Local: Prakriti
19.27 Local: Virasat
20.30 Tenali Rama
20.51 Serial: Sa Re Ga Ma Pa L'il... Hamar
21.29 Sajana Bai Ho Gaile Hamar
22.58 Aaj Aur Kal Bollywood Hits
00.50 Local: Prakriti

06.00 D.Anime: Sam Le Pompier
08.20 Film: La Chouette Entre Veille Et Sommeil
09.00 D.Anime: Edmond Et Lucy
09.39 Film: Les Chiens A L'Opéra
10.53 Serial: Home Sweet Rome!
11.50 Doc: Will Non-Alcoholic Wine
13.30 Film: Les Ours Boonie
15.08 D.Anime: Bo Bear
15.18 Les Carnets Nature De Lulu
15.35 D.Anime: Trolls
15.58 D.Anime: Team Zenko Go
16.51 D.Anime: Sunny Girl No.23
17.40 Mag: Unseen
18.00 Mag: REV Special
18.14 Mag: Travel
19.22 Doc: Japan Video Topics
19.30 Doc: Arts Unveiled
20.00 Tele: Terre D'Esperance
21.45 Film: Fatale
23.15 Doc: GYM Boys-Why Young...

08.00 Dhruv Tara
10.05 Kundali Bhagya
12.00 Serial: Laughter Chefs
12.38 Dance Deewane Juniors
14.00 Pyaar Ka Pehla Adhyaya
16.00 Wagle Ki Duniya
18.30 Film: The Shaukeens
Cast: Anupam Kher, Piyush Mishra, Annu Kapoor, Akshay Kumar
21.30 Beyhadh 2
21.50 Mahabharat



lundi 10 août

05.18 Tele: Séparé Par L'Amour
06.58 Tele: S.W.A.T.
08.10 Tele: Terre D'Esperance
08.25 Tele: Le Secret Des Roldan
09.00 Tele: La Desalmada
09.20 Film: Twelfth Night
12.00 Le Journal
12.25 Tele: Rosalinda
13.15 Tele: Your Love Is My Fortune
13.45 Une Famille Pas Si Parfaite
14.10 Tele: Eclats De Vie
15.00 Samachar
15.30 Film: Rescue Dawn
17.32 Tele: Happily Ever After
18.00 Samachar
18.31 Serial: Shiv Shakti
19.07 Live: Grand Titre
19.30 Le Journal
20.14 Zero Stress Avek Miselaine
20.40 Film: Knowing
22.45 Serial: Rosalinda

09.00 Local: Metie
09.26 Local: Encounter
11.00 Local: Les Klips
12.00 Local: Nu Rasinn
13.00 La Journee Sous Le Regard
14.00 Rodrig - Zenn Aktif
15.00 Rodrig: Komantier
15.35 Rodrig: Plat Du Chef
16.55 La Journee Sous Le Regard
17.00 Morisien Konn Ou La Sante
18.00 Une Famille Pas Si Parfaite
18.30 Tele: Le Secret Des Roldan
19.00 Journal Kreol
19.30 Rodrig: Feminin Pluriel
20.00 Journal Rodrig
20.15 Local: Tous Egauux
21.30 Local: 19 Minutes - Le Point
21.55 Local: Les Grandes Lignes
22.35 Local: Grand Titre
22.55 La Journee Sous Le Regard du Seigneur

05.00 Mag: Aastha TV
09.00 Aaj Ki Charcha
10.00 Local: Sajana Bai Ho Gaile Hamar
12.00 Film: April Fool
Cast: Saira Banu, Biswajeet
15.00 Samachar
15.48 Kundali Bhagya
16.30 Local: Aaj Ke Charcha
17.30 Shiv Shakti
18.00 Live: Samachar
18.31 Local: Ved Ki Shikshahein
18.57 Local: Ayush
19.24 Excerpts From Shiv Abhishek
20.09 Local: Charcha
20.30 Dharm Yoddha Garud
21.00 Film: Asli Naqli
Cast: Dev Anand, Sadhna
23.32 Shrimad Ramayan
23.55 Wagle Ki Duniya

07.37 D.Anime: Magic Wonderland
08.32 D.Anime: The Treflik Family
09.00 D.Anime: Harrison & Me
09.31 Film: Kara: Le Reveil Des Pouvoirs
11.10 Serial: So Awkward
12.06 Film: Mina, Mission Rebelle
13.33 Film: The Secret Kingdom
15.07 Serial: Bo Bear
15.17 D.Anime: Les Carnets Nature De Lulu Vroumette
15.22 D.Anime: Baby Dino Tales
16.00 D.Anime: Team Zenko Go
16.34 D.Anime: Dragons
16.57 D.Anime: Sunny Girl No.23
18.00 Doc: Eye On SADC
18.30 Mag: History Stories
19.30 Mag: In Good Shape
20.01 Tele: Terre D'Esperance
20.50 Tele: Eclats De Vie
21.40 Film: Le Gendarme En Balade

14.25 Radha Mohan
14.58 Dharm Yoddha Garud
15.30 Film: Kidnap
18.00 Samachar
18.31 Udné Ki Aasha
19.00 Do Chutki Sindoor
19.30 Pandya Store
20.05 Mannat
20.30 Saavi Ki Savaari
21.00 Anupamaa
21.30 Pyaar Ka Pehla Adhyaya





Mardi 11 Août - 21.30



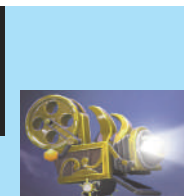
Mercredi 12 Août - 20.40



Mercredi 12 Août - 15.00



Programme TV



MBC 1	MBC 2	MBC 3	MBC 5	Bollywood TV
mardi 11 août 05.19 Tele: Séparé Par L'Amour 07.04 Serial: Nautilus 07.54 Tele: All The Flowers 08.17 Tele: Terre D'Esperance 09.00 Tele: La Desalmada 09.30 Film: Knowing 11.30 Tele: Happily ever After 12.00 Le Journal 12.25 Tele: Rosalinda 13.20 Tele: Your Love Is My Fortune 13.45 Tele: Une Famille Pas Si Parfaite 14.10 Tele: Eclats De Vie 15.30 Film: Jungle 17.30 Tele: Happily Ever After 18.00 Samachar 18.31 Serial: Shiv Shakti 18.55 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi 19.30 Le Journal 21.30 Film: Raison Et Sentiments 23.41 Tele: Rosalinda	09.15 Local: Coin Jardin 11.40 Local: Grand Titre 12.00 Rodrig: Komanter 12.18 Local: Toc Toc Doc 14.30 Local: Coin Jardin 14.45 Local: Tous Egaux 15.20 Local: Fam Model 17.00 Festival Kreol 2025 18.00 Une Famille Pas Si Parfaite 18.30 Tele: Le Secret Des Roldan 19.00 Journal Kreol 19.25 Local: Itinerer Rodrig 20.15 Local: Anou Kombat Ladorg 20.45 Local: Priorite Sante 21.30 Local: Parliamentary 22.30 Local: Point Culture 22.45 Rodrig: 13 Minit Natir Rodrig 23.00 Journal Kreol Rediffusion 23.24 Local: Fam Model 23.38 Music Tour 2026 00.29 Parlons Sante Senior	08.00 Local: Ved Ki Shikshahein 08.28 Local: Paap O Meter 09.00 Aaj Ki Charcha 2025 10.00 Serial: Kundali Bhagya 11.31 Serial: Shiv Shakti 12.01 Film: Barsaat Ki Ek Raat Cast: Amitabh Bachhan, Raakhee 15.00 Live: Samachar 15.21 Sajjanwa Baira Ho Gaile Hamar 15.38 Pyaar Ka Pehla Adhyaya 16.18 Aaj Ki Charcha 17.30 Serial: Shiv Shakti 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.31 Local: Hindi Poets Meet 18.57 Local: Natya Kala Guest 19.53 Local: Prakriti 20.30 Serial Dharm Yoddha Garud 21.00 Film: Tum Haseen Main Jawan	06.00 Film: Les Ours Bonnie 07.37 D.Anime: Magic Wonderland 07.59 Les Lames Des Gardiens 08.29 D.Anime: The Treflik Family 09.28 Film: Katy 10.57 Serial: So Awkward 11.52 Film: Georges, Le Petit Curieux 13.18 Film: Monsta 15.14 D.Anime: Lola On Board 15.21 D.Anime: Trolls 15.44 D.Anime: Agent 16.06 D.Anime: Audrey's Shelter 17.30 Mag: Eco Africa 18.00 Mag: REV: The Global Auto... 18.30 Mag: Shift 19.00 Mag: Made In Germany 20.01 Tele: Terre D'Esperance 20.53 Tele: Eclats De Vie 21.30 Mag: Initiative Africa 22.06 Doc: Planete Mediterranee	14.25 Radha Mohan 14.55 Dharm Yoddha Garud 15.10 Film: Jaisi Karni Waisi Bharni Starring: Govinda, Kimi Katkar 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.30 Udné Ki Aasha 19.03 Do Chutki Sindoor 19.33 Pandya Store 20.06 Mannat - Har Khushi... 20.29 Saavi Ki Savaari 21.07 Anupama 21.29 Pyaar Ka Pehla Adhyaya 22.04 Dhruv Tara 22.34 Wagle Ki Duniya 23.04 Serial: Aladdin 23.30 Film: Jaisi Karni Waisi Bharni Starring: Govinda, Kimi Katkar
mercredi 12 août 05.46 Tele: Séparé Par L'Amour 07.50 Tele: Terre D'Esperance 08.41 Tele: La Desalmada 09.10 Film: Spider-Man 11.30 Tele: Happily Ever After 12.00 Le Journal 12.25 Tele: Rosalinda 13.04 Tele: Your Love Is My Fortune 13.50 Une Famille Pas Si Parfaite 14.15 Tele: Eclats De Vie 15.00 Live: Samachar 15.30 Film: Twelfth Night 17.30 Tele: Happily Ever After 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.31 Serial: Shiv Shakti 18.55 Live: Grand Titre 19.30 Journal & La Meteo 20.15 Zero Stress Avek Miselaine 20.40 Film: Les Figures De L'Ombre 22.36 Tele: Rosalinda 23.16 Tele: Happily Ever After 23.43 Le Journal	09.00 Local: Son Ladan Mem 10.25 Local: Saveurs Plus 11.30 Local: Les Petits Genies 12.01 Local: Nos Aines 12.30 Rodrig: Itinerer Rodrig 12.55 La Journee Sous Le Regard 13.05 Local: Anou Kombat Ladorg 14.30 Local: Nu Rasinn 15.25 Local: Saveurs Plus 16.10 Local: Glwar Dantan 16.59 La Journee Sous Le Regard 18.00 Une Famille Pas Si Parfaite 18.30 Tele: Le Secret des Roldan 19.30 Rodrig Spor 20.00 Journal Rodrig 20.45 Drogue Une Urgence... 21.15 Local: Parlons Sante Senior 21.30 Local: Agir Ensemble 21.56 Local: Les Klips 22.47 Local: Grand Titre 23.28 La Journee Sous Le Regard 23.32 Local: Evasion	08.00 D.Anime: Tarak Mehta 09.00 Aaj Ki Charcha 2025 10.00 Pyaar Ka Pehla Abhyaya 11.31 Serial: Shiv Shakti 12.01 Film: Aatish Cast: Jeetendra, Neetu Singh 15.00 Live: Samachar 15.47 Radha Mohan 16.30 Aaj Ki Charcha 17.10 Radha Mohan 17.30 Serial: Shiv Shakti 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.30 Local: Yatra 19.01 Local: Swadharma 19.48 Local: Virasat 20.02 Local: Kaam Daam 20.30 Dharm Yoddha Garud 21.01 Film: Nayak 23.16 Shrimad Ramayan 23.40 Wagle Ki Duniya	06.00 Mag: REV: The Global Auto... 07.07 D.Anime: Les Quiquo 10.59 Serial: So Awkward 12.00 Film: Joey & Ella 13.25 Film: Retour Au Temps Des Dinosaures 14.50 Serial: Bo Bear 15.00 Les Carnets Nature De Lulu 15.05 D.Anime: Baby Dino Tales 16.15 D.Anime: Dragons 16.38 D.Anime: Suny Girl No.23 17.34 Mag: REV: The Global Auto 18.00 Mag: Afrimaxx 18.31 Mag: Planet A 19.00 Mag: Arts Unveiled 19.30 Doc: Forensics 20.01 Tele: Terre D'Esperance 20.50 Tele: Eclats De Vie 21.32 Doc: The Science Of Good... 23.01 Mag: Close Up 23.29 Mag: Focus On Europe 00.37 Mag: Afrimaxx	14.25 Radha Mohan 14.50 Dharm Yoddha Garud 15.22 Film: Awar Paagal Deewana Starring: Akshay Kumar, Sunil Shetty, Aftab Shivdasani 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.31 Udné Ki Aasha 19.02 Do Chutki Sindoor 19.33 Pandya Store 20.00 Mannat - Har Khushi Paane Ki 20.31 Saavi Ki Savaari 21.00 Anupama 21.28 Pyaar Ka Pehla Abhyaya 22.00 Dhruv Tara 22.24 Wagle Ki Duniya 22.54 Aladdin 23.30 Film: Awar Paagal Deewana Starring: Akshay Kumar, Sunil Shetty, Aftab Shivdasani
jeudi 13 août 04.38 Tele: Le Roman De La Vie 05.21 Tele: Séparé Par L'Amour 07.50 Serial: The Lazarus Project 07.50 Tele: All The Flowers 09.06 Tele: La Desalmada 09.35 Serial: Columbo 10.45 Doc: China Farm 11.30 Tele: Happily Ever After 12.00 Le Journal 12.25 Tele: Rosalinda 13.03 Tele: Your Love Is My Fortune 13.50 Une Famille Pas Si Parfaite 14.13 Tele: Eclats De Vie 15.20 Film: Knowing 17.21 Tele: Happily Ever After 18.31 Serial: Shiv Shakti 19.00 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu 19.30 Le Journal 20.20 Film: Action Jackson Cast: Ajay Devgn, Shahid Kapoor, Yami Gautam	10.20 Rodrig: Plat Du Chef 10.29 Local: Saver Lokal 11.35 Local: Grand Titre 13.00 La Journee Sous Le Regard 13.31 Mon Jardin Ma Maison 14.00 Local: Parlons Sante Senior 15.15 Local: Son Ladan Mem 15.45 Rodrig: Saver Lokal 18.30 Tele: Le Secret Des Roldan 19.00 Journal Kreol 19.20 Rodrig Sa MYt Summit 2026 20.00 Journal Rodrig 20.30 Local: Paroles Agricoles 21.15 Local: Encounter 21.45 Local: Music Tour 2025 22.52 La Journee Sous Le Regard 23.00 Journal Kreol Rediffusion 23.38 Local: La Sosiete 00.04 Rodrig: Feminin Pluriel 00.39 Rodrig: Plat Du Chef	07.51 D.Anime Tarak Mehta 09.00 Aaj Ki Charcha 2025 10.00 Serial: Radha Mohan 11.31 Serial: Shiv Shakti 12.01 Film: Anurodh Cast: Rajesh Khanna, Simple Kapadia, Vinod Mehra 15.00 Live: Samachar 15.29 Sajjanwa Baira Ho Gaile Hamar 15.42 Na Umra Ki Seema Ho 16.30 Aaj Ki Charcha 17.10 Na Umra Ki Seema Ho 17.30 Serial: Shiv Shakti 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.31 Local: Amrit Vani 19.01 Local: Sanskriti Ki Baatein 19.29 Local: Hunarbaaz 20.30 Serial Tenali Rama 21.00 Serial: Shakti 21.43 Serial: Shrimad Ramayan	06.25 Mag: Planet A 08.35 D.Anime: The Treflik Family 09.35 Film: Le Trésor Perdu De Tom Sawyer 12.00 Film: L'impermeable Magique 13.30 Film: Sea Level 3: Dolphin... 14.51 Serial: Do Bear 15.01 D.Anime: Les Carnets Nature 15.44 D.Anime: Agent 16.26 D.Anime: Audrey's Shelter 16.40 D.Anime: Sunny Girl No.23 18.00 Mag: Eco India 18.30 Mag: Freaks No More! 19.00 Doc: Destination Mars 19.30 Mag: Tomorrow Today 20.01 Tele: Terre D'Esperance 20.30 Live: New 20.50 Tele: Eclat De Vie 21.30 Doc: The Secret Of The Stone 22.18 Doc: Neele Dances Through 23.03 The Milwaukee Cannibal	14.25 Radha Mohan 15.00 Tenali Rama 15.21 Film: Henna Stars: Rishi Kapoor, Zeba 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.30 Udné Ki Aasha 19.00 Udaariyaan 19.30 Pandya Store 20.00 Mannat - Har Khushi Paane Ki 20.30 Saavi Ki Savaari 21.02 Anupama 21.34 Pyaar Ka Phela Adhyaya 22.01 Dhruv Tara 22.29 Wagle Ki Duniya 23.05 Aladdin 23.31 Film: Henna Stars: Rishi Kapoor, Zeba



Jeudi 13 Août - 15.30

Stars: Rishi Kapoor, Zeba



Jeudi 13 Août - 20.20

Stars: Ajay Devgn, Shahid Kapoor, Yami Gautam





Dr Shravan Nosib

Dial 114 for Emergencies: The SAMU Universe

How visionary leadership and out-of-the-box thinking revolutionised pre-hospital care in Mauritius

"Normality is a well-paved street; it is good for walking - but no flowers will grow there." — Vincent Van Gogh

Over the past 25 years that I have been living and working in Canada, I regularly visit Mauritius to reconnect with family, friends and former colleagues with the aim of catching up with the latest developments in the island's health care system. This article focuses on SAMU - 'Service d'Aide Médicale d'Urgence' — and its rapid evolution since its inception in 1997.

Pre-SAMU Emergency Services: An Uncoordinated and Disjointed Response

For much of our post-independence history, medical or surgical emergencies were met not by a coordinated system, but by whatever transport and improvised care could be mustered in the heat of the moment. There was no lifeline — no dedicated emergency response number — that guaranteed the dispatch of a trained team; no standard, guideline-based approach to stabilising acutely ill patients at the point of first contact; and no critical response care team.

Patients suffering road accidents, heart attacks, strokes, severe respiratory crises, obstetric emergencies and acute psychoses were transported to the nearest emergency room by private car, taxi or basic ambulance, with minimal and often ineffective intervention provided before reaching hospital. Outcomes in the crucial first minutes of an emergency — the "golden hour" — were left largely to chance and to the proximity of the nearest hospital, rather than to the speed and quality of professional intervention. Mortality remained high.

Birth of SAMU

This huge therapeutic gap was closed in December 1997, with the formal inauguration of SAMU at Jawaharlal Nehru Hospital in Rose Belle. This groundbreaking service was established through close collaboration between the Ministry of Health, the Mauritius Institute of Health, the University of Bordeaux II, SAMU Réunion and the French Government.

Together, they brought the well-established French model of pre-hospital emergency medicine to Mauritius and adapted it to local needs. As part of the launch, an initial cohort of 25 doctors and 35 nurses received specialised training in emergency and paramedical care, forming the backbone of a system that would eventually extend across the entire island.

Evolution of Emergency care since inception of SAMU

Nearly three decades on, the transformation of emergency services has been nothing short of revolutionary. The Ministry of Health now operates a well-established emergency medical system built around a single national emergency dispatch number (114), with publicly run SAMU ambulances working alongside private services to reach acutely ill patients across the island. Emergency



Dr Subodh Nundloll

medical teams are based at major hospitals, while medical regulation and dispatch are centralised.

Government investment in state-of-the-art technology, including telehealth, has continued to modernise the service and extend its reach to more remote and rural areas. Where pre-hospital care was once haphazard and "au petit bonheur", it is now more standardised, professionally staffed and integrated into the wider public and private healthcare systems.

Setting the bar very high to match the best

What is most striking about this remarkable progress is how closely the Mauritian model now mirrors emergency medical systems in developed countries. The structure on which SAMU is built — centralised medical dispatch, trained physicians and paramedics linked to a single emergency number, and mobile units capable of delivering critical care at the scene and en route to hospital — is broadly similar to the infrastructure underpinning emergency response systems in France and other developed nations.

For a small island state to have built and sustained such a system is a genuine achievement in public health planning. Few countries of comparable size and resources have managed to establish emergency medical services of this calibre. Mauritius can today generally expect a standard of pre-hospital emergency response that would not be out of place in many parts of Europe or North America.

The Vision, The Mission and its Execution: A Trailblazer's Approach

This achievement was not the result of happenstance. It owed much to a remarkable physician, Dr Subodh Ananda Nundloll (1949–2025), who believed in providing the best possible care to his fellow citizens. Having completed his training in anaesthesia and critical care at centres of excellence in India and France, he dared to dream big.

Together with like-minded colleagues, advisers, administrators and policy-makers, he laid the foundations for what would become a life-saving emergency medical service. He coordinated efforts across two countries, drawing on the expertise of the University of Bordeaux, SAMU Réunion and the French government. He personally supervised the technical training of the first cohort of emergency physicians, nurses and paramedical staff.

Dr Nundloll was based at SSRNH during this period of gestation. At times, I would remark to him that he appeared stressed and unhappy. He would simply shrug his shoulders and give me a wry smile, but he never complained about the task at hand.

When SAMU was launched in 1997 and he was appointed its first director, Dr Nundloll accepted his new responsibilities with humility and grace. SAMU was his labour of love and remains his landmark achievement. Over the years, it has evolved into a centre of excellence that other small developing

nations could look to as a model for delivering life-saving pre-hospital interventions to those in need. SAMU training is now a well-established component of the curriculum at the Mauritius Institute of Health.

Bernard Shaw's words perhaps best capture the essence of the man: "Some men see things as they are and say why; I dream things that never were and say why not!"

Farewell

Dr Nundloll merged with the stars and the Supreme Consciousness on 8 August 2025. He continues to shine in the hearts of his beloved family — his devoted wife, Sunita, and his daughters, Sapna, Reshmi and Deepa.

Thank you for SAMU, Subodh. Aum Shanti, dear friend.

COMMUNIQUÉ

LA FOURNITURE D'EAU DANS L'ENSEMBLE DU PAYS SERA RÉDUITE

Les chiffres publiés par la Water Resources Commission en ce lundi 3 août 2026 indiquent que le taux de remplissage à Mare-aux-Vacoas a chuté à **40.2%** alors qu'à la même période l'année dernière, le taux de remplissage était de l'ordre de **89.9%**. Idem pour la Nicière dont le taux de remplissage a chuté à **46.8%** alors qu'à pareille époque en 2025, ce réservoir était rempli à **100%**.

Prenant en considération cette situation jugée alarmante de ces deux réservoirs, et vu que les grosses pluies ne sont pas attendues de sitôt, les autorités ont pris les décisions suivantes:

Les restrictions en termes de distribution d'eau (entre cinq à six heures par jour) au niveau des Plaines Wilhems, du district de Moka et d'une partie du district de Rivière Noire sont maintenues.

La fourniture d'eau dans l'ensemble du pays sera réduite de deux heures par jour à partir de ce mercredi 5 août 2026. Les nouveaux horaires de distribution pourront être consultés sur le site web de la CWA, le <http://cwa.govmu.org>

De plus, les mesures suivantes prendront effet à partir du lundi **10 août 2026**:

L'irrigation agricole ne sera permise que pour les champs de légumes.

L'utilisation d'eau potable par les centres de lavage de véhicules (car wash) ne sera plus permise;

L'utilisation de nettoyeurs à haute pression pour le lavage des véhicules, des bâtiments, des cours et des allées sera interdite;

L'utilisation de l'eau potable pour remplir les piscines ne sera plus autorisée.

Une réunion de travail entre le ministère de l'Energie et des utilités publiques, la CWA, la Water Resources Commission et la Police est prévue pour cette semaine afin de s'assurer que ces restrictions soient respectées à la lettre.

Ces mesures ont été prises afin de préserver les stocks disponibles et de les faire durer le plus longtemps possible.

La Water Resources Commission et la Central Water Authority comptent sur la compréhension du public et leur remercie en avance pour leur précieuse collaboration.

Ce 3 août 2026

Water Resources Commission / Central Water Authority

