72th Year -- No. 3989 Friday, November 13, 2026 www.mauritiustimes.com facebook.com/mauritius.times 28 Pages - ePaper

MAURITIUS TIMES

• *"Effective leadership is not about making speeches or being liked; leadership is defined by results not attributes." — Peter Drucker*

Qs & As

Who Gets to Become Senior Counsel?

The Recommendation Panel Under Scrutiny: Merit, Sponsorship and Fairness



Lex P3



P7

Interview: Jyoti Jeetun, Minister of Financial Services and Economic Planning

"History will judge us not by the difficulties we inherited,

but by what we did with the mandate we were given"

• **'Economic policies are judged at the kitchen table, at the pump station and**

when people pay electricity bills -- not through macroeconomic indicators'

Editorial



P2

Beyond the 60–0 Mandate:

The Duty to Deliver

Eclairages

Tempête chez Nvidia

La démission de Jensen Huang plonge la tech mondiale dans l'incertitude



A. Bartlebly P 5

International Relations



Vijay Makhan P6

Chagos: A Diplomatic Opening, But No Room for Complacency

London Letter

New Scramble for Africa

The 19th-century scramble was over who controlled Africa; the 21st is over whether Africa can control the value of what it produces

Shyam Bhatia P 10

Beyond the 60–0 Mandate: The Duty to Deliver



Two years into its mandate following a sweeping 60–0 victory, the Alliance du Changement finds itself at a critical crossroads. The initial euphoria of political transition has given way to the hard, unyielding realities of governance, prompting the press, political observers, trade unionists, and social workers to question a track record (*bilan*) that still feels underwhelming to households struggling to make ends meet. Yet, as Minister of Financial Services and Economic Planning Dr Jyoti Jeetun's candid interview in this week's issue makes clear, the real obstacles slowing delivery run far deeper than political leadership alone. Citizens do not judge economic policies through abstract macroeconomic indicators; they judge them at the kitchen table, at the pump station, and when paying electricity bills. Addressing the widening gap between electoral promise and everyday delivery requires confronting Mauritius's deepest structural demons head-on.

The Reality Check: Navigating the Cost of Living

The central critique facing the government is the persistent pinch felt by households. Global supply chain disruptions, geopolitical tensions, and imported inflation have compounded domestic pressures. Breaking with the usual defensive political rhetoric, Dr Jeetun offers a dose of candour: a minister cannot tell a Mauritian household it is better off when its daily experience tells it otherwise.

This acknowledgment of public hardship is vital for restoring political trust. The government inherited an economy on a cliff edge — characterised by elevated public debt, a substantial fiscal deficit, shrinking fiscal space, and decades of underinvestment in productive capacities. Cushioning the vulnerable through targeted subsidies is necessary firefighting, but it cannot substitute for long-term structural repair. The fundamental challenge lies in shifting from an economy dependent on government transfers and consumption-driven borrowing toward one sustained by productivity, decent work, and genuine enterprise.

The Elephant in the Room

While the inherited legacy explains where the administration started, it can no longer excuse how slowly it moves. Entering year three, the public is rightly impatient. Administrative inertia, excessive bureaucracy, and poor institutional coordination cannot indefinitely be blamed on past regimes.

The most striking revelation emerging from inside the Jyoti Jeetun interview is its frank diagnosis of Mauritius's outdated institutional architecture:

"We gained independence from Britain in 1968. Yet, 58 years later, much of the administrative architecture inherited from that era remains today. We are living in the digital and AI age, but too many parts of our public administration still operate with paper files and layers upon layers of bureaucracy."

When emails are printed, filed, and physically passed between desks, decision-making grinds to a crawl. Mauritius boasts a dedicated and talented public service, but it remains trapped in a process-driven rather than results-driven framework. Unlocking this potential requires a radical culture shift — empowering officers to make decisions within clear parameters while holding them rigorously accountable for outcomes. Government spends billions of rupees annually; the taxpayers' ultimate metric must be the tangible value delivered in return.

Coalition Dynamics and Policy Clarity

Governing through a diverse coalition comprising the Labour Party, the MMM, and Rezistans ek Alternativ inevitably introduces friction. Differing ideological traditions on economic philosophy, social policy, and institutional reform are bound to clash — most visibly during debates over means-testing in recent budgets.

However, coalition politics need not mean paralysis. Healthy democratic debate within Cabinet — where dissent is heard rather than suppressed — contrasts sharply with authoritarian management styles of the past. For local and foreign investors, ideological uniformity is neither expected nor necessary; what matters is predictability, policy consistency, and absolute respect for institutional commitments. Provided the coalition maintains its shared national purpose, diversity of thought remains a democratic asset rather than a liability.

Bridging Today's Crises with Vision 2050

Sceptics often dismiss long-term strategies like Vision 2050 as academic exercises disconnected from immediate suffering — encapsulated by the common citizen's plea: "I will not be here in 2050, solve my problems of today."

Yet pitting the present against the future is a false dichotomy. The country does not have to choose between putting food on the table today and securing water, energy, and climate resilience for tomorrow. The past neglect of long-term planning is precisely why contemporary Mauritians face acute structural vulnerabilities. By anchoring Vision 2050 in actionable frameworks like the National Development Plan 2035, a dedicated National Delivery and Transformation Unit, and the National Economic and Social Transformation Council, the government aims to institutionalise execution and prevent strategic documents from gathering dust on shelves.

Diversification and the International Gateway

Economic resilience demands moving beyond traditional pillars — tourism, textiles, and financial services — while simultaneously strengthening them. While newer sectors like fintech, artificial intelligence, renewable energy, the ocean economy, and life sciences show green shoots, they have not yet reached the scale required to anchor the economy.

Externally, the financial services sector faces a shifting global tax landscape and renegotiated treaties, such as the revised India–Mauritius Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement. Even so, Mauritius retains its standing as a trusted international financial centre. By focusing on substance, high-value-added services, and leveraging the Mauritius-Africa-India corridor — particularly as Africa surges as the world's fastest-growing demographic and economic frontier — the island can cement its role as a premier strategic connector for global capital.

Retaining Talent and Rebuilding Trust

Perhaps the most pressing challenge of all concerns the nation's youth. The outflow of young professionals seeking futures abroad — alongside the troubling number of young people neither in employment, education, nor training — is more than a traditional brain drain; it is a referendum on whether meritocracy, career progression, and dignity are attainable at home.

Outward migration is natural for an island nation, but return migration must be incentivised by building an economy capable of rewarding ambition. Crucially, this requires political integrity. Young people are increasingly impatient with rhetoric; they demand authenticity and proof that public office is a vehicle for service rather than privilege.

Ultimately, the *bilan* of the Alliance du Changement at the two-year mark is one of transition — from stabilisation to transformation. Having been handed an extraordinary 60–0 electoral mandate, this government possesses not merely the parliamentary authority to act, but a solemn moral and democratic duty to deliver on its promises. Citizens did not sweep the Alliance into office to preside over an endless post-mortem of past failures; they voted for a break with political complacency and administrative paralysis.

History will not judge this administration by the heavy burdens it inherited, but by the courage and competence with which it dismantled the bureaucratic machinery of the past, accelerated project execution, and tethered national policy to the kitchen-table realities of ordinary Mauritians. Deliver, and it will lay the foundations for a resilient and cohesive nation; falter, and it will squander a generational opportunity for genuine renewal.

Mauritius Times
Founder/Editor: Beekrumsing Ramlallah
Aug 1954-Sept 2000
Editor: M. Ramlallah
This epaper has been produced with the assistance of
K.Ramlallah, Sultana Kurmally & Kersley Ramsamy
28 Jawaharlal Street (formerly Wellington Street),
Port Louis - Tel: 5-29 29301 / Tel/Fax: 212 1313
mtimes@intnet.mu; www.mauritiustimes.com;
facebook.com/mauritius.times

Who Gets to Become Senior Counsel?

The Recommendation Panel Under Scrutiny: Merit, Sponsorship and Fairness

The Senior Counsel and Senior Attorney Act 2025 was meant to turn the page on a controversial appointment process by replacing individual discretion with a more transparent, collective and merit-based system. Yet, barely a year later, a fresh controversy has emerged. The Recommendation Panel's introduction of a mandatory sponsorship requirement for applicants has triggered strong objections within the legal profession, raising questions about equal access, procedural fairness and the limits of the Panel's authority. Has a reform designed to open up the process inadvertently created a new barrier to entry? We examine the legal, institutional and political implications of this controversy.



"The 2025 Act was intended to replace an opaque and largely unilateral selection process with a more transparent, objective and merit-based system. Yet, with reportedly only 25 practising Senior Attorneys available to act as sponsors, and strict limits on the number of candidates each can endorse, the requirement risks creating a bottleneck that restricts equal access to the selection process…"

LEX

*** The Senior Counsel and Senior Attorney Act 2025 was hastily passed in October 2025 to resolve a judicial review crisis over controversial appointments made in August 2025. However, one year later, a new crisis has emerged — shifting from who was appointed to who is allowed to apply, with applicants now required as a first step to secure formal sponsorship from existing Senior Counsels (SC) or Senior Attorneys (SA). What is your take on that?**

The introduction of an obligatory sponsorship mechanism by the newly formed Recommendation Panel has effectively replaced an opaque appointment process. While the Senior Counsel and Senior Attorney Act 2025 was designed to codify meritocracy, remove political arbitrariness, and satisfy the bar, the current crisis highlights how procedural reforms can inadvertently create new hurdles and complications.

*** Given that both the Bar Council and the Law Society are represented on the Recommendation Panel, how did a rule provoking such widespread backlash across the profession get adopted in the first place. Did it truly have the Panel's consensus?**

Views within the legal profession and across the panel were far from unanimous. Although statutory representation guarantees the Bar Council and Law Society a seat at the table, a simple majority voting system allows decisions to be pushed through over the objections of the practicing bar's representatives.

*** Is there a loophole in the law that allowed the Recommendation Panel to introduce the controversial sponsorship requirement?**

The Recommendation Panel did not exploit a hidden "loophole" *per se*; rather, it relied on a broad discretionary provision in the Senior Counsel and Senior Attorney Act 2025 — specifically Section 4(10) — alongside the statute's silence on a formal application procedure. Although the legislation set out the overarching framework, the 15-year minimum seniority requirement, and the composition of the seven-member panel, it left the panel with the structural autonomy to regulate its own internal proceedings.

The resulting mandatory sponsorship (*parrainage*) rules — requiring endorsements from two Senior Counsel (SC) and two Senior Attorneys (SA), capped at three candidates per sponsor — have drawn strong pushback from the Mauritius Bar Association (MBA) due to the scarcity of available senior barristers and attorneys.

*** Me Jacques Tsang Mang Kin, Me Ammanah Ragavoodoo, and Me Avinash Renga Sunassee challenged the controversial August 2025 appointments via judicial review and only withdrew their case in October 2025 on the understanding that the new Act would guarantee fairness and transparency. Does the new sponsorship rule — which Parliament never intended — betray the spirit of the October 2025 legislative compromise and risk exposing the process to a fresh round of judicial reviews?**

The Bar Council and members of the legal profession argue that the restrictive sponsorship requirements, particularly in view of the limited pool of eligible sponsors (including the relatively small number of Senior Attorneys) and the cap of three candidates per sponsor, risk creating a closed and exclusive system. They contend that this could not have been Parliament's intention when it enacted the legislation.

The central concern is that rules intended to regulate the appointment process may, in practice, restrict access to it, creating a system in which opportunities depend largely on the availability and willingness of a limited number of sponsors.

***The core legal issue concerns the limits of the Panel's procedural autonomy: can a statutory body established to ensure transparency and merit-based selection lawfully introduce mandatory sponsorship as a preliminary barrier when this requirement is not expressly provided for in the Senior Counsel and Senior Attorney Act 2025?**

Section 3 of the Act sets out the eligibility requirements, including 15 years' standing on the Roll. The Panel's decision to make sponsorship compulsory could therefore be challenged as introducing an additional eligibility condition beyond those laid down by Parliament. A statutory body's procedural autonomy cannot, in principle, extend to altering substantive eligibility criteria established by legislation.

The 2025 Act was intended to replace an opaque and largely unilateral selection process with a more transparent, objective and merit-based system. Yet, with reportedly only 25 practising Senior Attorneys available to act as sponsors, and strict limits on the number of candidates each can endorse, the requirement risks creating a bottleneck that restricts equal access to the selection process.

More fundamentally, it introduces a pre-selection filter before the Recommendation Panel even considers an application. In effect, an initial screening power shifts from the statutory Panel to individual Senior Counsels and Senior Attorneys. Faced with a limit on the number of candidates they can sponsor, these senior practitioners must choose whom to endorse. Consequently, otherwise qualified candidates could be excluded, not because they lack merit or fail to meet the statutory requirements, but simply because they cannot secure a sponsor or because a potential sponsor has already reached the endorsement limit.

It seems to me that this arrangement risks undermining the very principles of equal opportunity, transparency and merit-based selection that the legislation was intended to uphold.

*** When introducing and defending the Senior Counsel and Senior Attorney Bill in Parliament in October 2025, Me Gavin Glover emphasized that the reform was specifically designed to replace the sole discretionary power of the Chief Justice under the old legal framework with a collegial system grounded in merit, integrity, clarity, and transparency. That sounds fair, so the question that arises is: what could have been the reasons for introducing the sponsorship requirement into the appointment process?**

The sponsorship (*parrainage*) requirement was not expressly provided for in the Senior Counsel and Senior Attorney Act 2025. It was introduced instead by the newly established Recommendation Panel through the official application forms and guidelines issued in November 2026.

"Whenever new eligibility criteria and procedural requirements are introduced into an appointment process, tensions can arise between administrative necessity and political considerations. Whether these new procedures represent a genuine effort to improve transparency and governance or are influenced by other calculations will ultimately depend on their rationale…"

The requirement appears intended to serve as a preliminary screening mechanism. With the transition from a largely opaque appointment process to an open, merit-based application system, the Panel may have anticipated a substantial number of applications from practitioners meeting the minimum requirement of 15 years' standing on the Roll.

☞ Cont. on page 4

Who Gets to Become Senior Counsel?

☞ Cont. from page 3

Sponsorship could therefore be seen as an attempt to assess candidates' professional standing and reputation among their peers, while preserving the prestige associated with the honorary distinction of silk.

However, this approach has generated controversy within the Mauritius Bar Association, particularly over whether sponsorship is an appropriate means of assessing merit and whether it risks restricting access to the selection process.

While preliminary screening mechanisms may be justified on administrative grounds, they must be balanced against the principles of procedural fairness and equal opportunity. Excluding highly qualified candidates through structural barriers risks creating an injustice. Practitioners who meet the statutory eligibility requirements and have more than 15 years of professional experience could nevertheless encounter an invisible ceiling if their progression depends on securing sponsorship and personal connections rather than being assessed on objective merit.



"Affected practitioners, or potentially the MBA, could challenge the sponsorship requirements on the grounds that the restrictive quotas on the number of candidates each Senior Counsel or Senior Attorney may sponsor unfairly limit access to the selection process for otherwise eligible candidates. They could also seek urgent interim relief to prevent the November 30 deadline from expiring while the legal challenge is being considered..."

*** With the application deadline set for November 30, 2026, the burden now falls on the Recommendation Panel to decide whether to amend their internal procedures in response to the Bar's proposals. This issue will hopefully be resolved. What options are available to the Bar and the Executive if the Recommendation Panel refuses to reconsider its position before the deadline?**

If the Recommendation Panel, chaired by Chief Justice Rehana Mungly-Gulbul, refuses to amend its internal procedures concerning the restrictive sponsorship requirements before the November 30, 2026, deadline, the Mauritius Bar Association (MBA) and the Executive branch have several legal and strategic options available.

Although the Senior Counsel and Senior Attorney Act 2025 grants the Recommendation Panel autonomy to regulate its own procedures, this does not necessarily place its decisions beyond judicial scrutiny. The Bar could therefore consider seeking judicial review (*recours en révision judiciaire*) before the Supreme Court. Affected practitioners, or potentially the MBA, could challenge the sponsorship requirements on the grounds that the restrictive quotas on the number of candidates each Senior Counsel or Senior Attorney may sponsor unfairly limit access to the selection process for otherwise eligible candidates. They could also seek urgent interim relief to prevent the November 30 deadline from expiring while the legal challenge is being considered.

Ultimately, the Bar Council could formally advise its members, particularly existing Senior Counsels and Senior Attorneys, to consider collectively withholding sponsorship or encourage eligible practitioners not to apply under the contested rules, thereby challenging the legitimacy of the current exercise.

***Critics argue that the Recommendation Panel, despite being chaired by the Chief Justice, is acting in an administrative capacity and cannot use its procedural autonomy to introduce or restrict eligibility criteria that fall within Parliament's legislative authority. What is your view on this argument?**

The controversy surrounding the Panel's reliance on procedural autonomy to determine eligibility raises a fundamental constitutional question. It brings into focus the tension between the practical need for administrative screening and the principle of parliamentary sovereignty, under which only Parliament has the authority to establish statutory eligibility requirements.

***At the end of the day, there is a nagging feeling that this controversy may involve more than just eligibility criteria and procedural rules. Following the political tensions surrounding the August 2025 appointments, could politics still be playing an unseen role in the introduction of these new barriers?**

Whenever new eligibility criteria and procedural requirements are introduced into an appointment process, tensions can arise between administrative necessity and political considerations. Whether these new procedures represent a genuine effort to improve transparency and governance or are influenced by other calculations will ultimately depend on their rationale, how they are applied and whether they are seen to serve the interests of fairness and merit.

LEX

NOTICE FOR BUILDING & LAND USE PERMIT APPLICATION

NOTICE FOR PERMISSION FOR LAND USE

Take notice that O-FORMULATION LTD will apply to the District Council of Pamplemousses for a Building and Land Use Permit for extension at ground floor and addition of a first floor to be used as Dormitory at Off Terre Rouge-Triolet-Grand Baie A4 Road, Triolet.

Any person feeling aggrieved by the proposal may lodge an objection in writing to the above-named Council within 15 days as from the date of this publication.

Date: 13 November 2026

URA
UTILITY REGULATORY AUTHORITY

UTILITY REGULATORY AUTHORITY, MAURITIUS

NOTICE OF VACANCIES

The Utility Regulatory Authority (URA) is an independent statutory body established under the Utility Regulatory Authority Act to regulate utility services within its statutory remit. Its objects include ensuring the sustainability and viability of utility services; protecting the interests of existing and future customers; promoting efficiency in operations and capital investments; and promoting competition to prevent unfair and anti-competitive practices in the utility services industry.

Applications from suitably qualified and experienced candidates are being invited for the below posts.

1. Deputy Director Finance and Administration
2. Deputy Director Economics
3. Deputy Director Technical
4. Human Resource Officer
5. IT Officer

Responsibilities, Qualifications and Conditions

Detailed vacancy notices, including the qualifications, duties, responsibilities, conditions of appointment and application requirements for each post, are available on the URA website: www.uramauritius.mu/career/

Mode of Application

Interested candidates should submit their applications in accordance with the requirements specified in the respective vacancy notices.

Applications should be addressed to The Secretary to the Board, Utility Regulatory Authority, Level 8, Tower A, One Exchange Square, Wall Street, Ebene 72201, Mauritius, or submitted electronically to the respective email addresses indicated in the detailed vacancy notices and should reach the Utility Regulatory Authority by **noon on 11 December 2026 (Mauritius Time)**.

Note

- Persons not holding appropriate qualifications should not apply.
- Applications received after the closing date will not be accepted.
- Incomplete applications and non- submission of the required documents may entail elimination from the selection exercise.
- URA reserves the right
  - to call for interview only the best qualified candidates
  - not to make any appointment as a result of this advertisement.

12 November 2026

Tempête chez Nvidia

La démission de Jensen Huang plonge la tech mondiale dans l'incertitude

Par A. Bartleby

Le géant des semi-conducteurs Nvidia traverse une crise sans précédent. Son cofondateur et PDG emblématique, Jensen Huang, a démissionné après la révélation de deux liaisons extraconjugales, l'une avec une cadre supérieure de l'entreprise, Kimberly Powell, et l'autre avec Alice Huang, une femme soupçonnée d'espionnage au profit de la Chine. L'affaire dépasse largement le cadre de la vie privée et suscite de sérieuses préoccupations au sein de l'establishment américain quant à ses implications pour la sécurité nationale des États-Unis. Jensen Huang, dont la fortune est estimée à 145 milliards de dollars, s'est d'ailleurs déclaré prêt à témoigner devant le Congrès américain pour s'expliquer.

À l'ouverture des marchés américains, l'annonce du départ de celui que l'on surnommait la «Taylor Swift de la tech» a provoqué une onde de choc. L'action de Nvidia a chuté, clôturant en baisse de plus de 4 % et effaçant plus de 500 milliards de dollars de capitalisation boursière. Pour tenter de stabiliser le navire, la directrice financière Colette Kress a été nommée à la tête de l'entreprise par intérim.

Au cœur du scandale se trouve le rôle stratégique de Nvidia dans la course mondiale à l'intelligence artificielle (IA). Fondée il y a plus de trente ans, l'entreprise détient aujourd'hui plus de 80 % du marché des processeurs graphiques (GPU) de haute performance, indispensables à l'entraînement des modèles d'IA. En raison des tensions géopolitiques entre Washington et Pékin, les États-Unis restreignent depuis 2022 l'exportation des puces les plus avancées de Nvidia, telles que les modèles B200 et B300, vers la Chine.



Le conseil d'administration limoge avec effet immédiat le fondateur de Nvidia après des révélations impliquant une femme d'affaires soupçonnée de liens avec les services de renseignement chinois et un haut dirigeant de l'entreprise. P - Reuters

Or, le lobbying intensif mené par Jensen Huang pour assouplir ces restrictions est désormais scruté sous un jour nouveau. Alice Huang, qui ferait l'objet d'une enquête américaine depuis plusieurs années, est une ancienne employée de Megaspeed, une entreprise basée à Singapour soupçonnée d'avoir acheté des puces Nvidia pour les réexporter illégalement vers la Chine. Selon des données commerciales, plus de trois milliards de dollars de composants auraient ainsi transité de Singapour vers la Chine en une seule année, un phénomène similaire étant observé depuis la Malaisie. Pékin a fermement rejeté les accusations d'espionnage, les qualifiant de campagne de diffamation.

Les autorités singapouriennes ont toutefois apporté des précisions importantes sur le parcours d'Alice Huang. Bien que Singapour affirme n'avoir jamais enquêté sur elle pour espionnage, elle a été visée en 2025 par une investigation concernant des déclarations potentiellement fausses liées à l'achat de serveurs informatiques impliquant Megaspeed. Après avoir confisqué son passeport en juin 2025, la justice singapourienne a conclu en février dernier à un manque de preuves sur les fausses déclarations, mais a établi qu'elle avait sciemment fourni des informations inexactes pour minimiser son rôle au sein de Megaspeed. Elle a reçu un avertissement sévère, a été bannie du territoire et a quitté le pays le 26 février. De son côté, Megaspeed assure prendre très au sérieux les lois américaines sur le contrôle des exportations.

Aux États-Unis, les répercussions juridiques et financières s'annoncent lourdes. Nvidia ferait désormais l'objet d'une enquête pénale, tandis que des soupçons pèsent sur des pressions exercées par un cadre de l'entreprise pour freiner les investigations sur ses liens avec Megaspeed. Si Washington impose à Nvidia de garantir qu'aucune de ses puces n'atteindra la Chine, la chaîne d'approvisionnement du groupe risque d'être paralysée.

Une telle crise menace l'ensemble de l'écosystème de l'IA, caractérisé par un financement circulaire où Nvidia investit massivement chez ses propres clients et fournisseurs. Alors que les investisseurs s'interrogent déjà sur la rentabilité réelle des milliards injectés dans l'IA — à l'image du report de l'entrée en bourse d'OpenAI ou des craintes de notations financières dégradées pour Anthropic —, la perte de son dirigeant visionnaire place Nvidia face au plus grand défi de son histoire.

Affaire Misley Mandarin

La Cour d'appel du BIOT rétablit les arrêtés d'expulsion et conforte le cadre du traité Maurice–Royaume-Uni

Le 12 novembre 2026, la Cour d'appel du "Territoire britannique de l'océan Indien" (BIOT) a rendu un arrêt unanime très attendu dans l'affaire opposant Louis Misley Mandarin et trois autres Chagossiens au Commissaire du BIOT. En donnant entièrement gain de cause aux autorités britanniques, les cinq juges d'appel ont annulé le jugement rendu le 31 mars dernier par le juge en chef James Lewis KC et rétabli la validité des avis de renvoi (*removal orders*) visant Louis Misley Mandarin, son père Louis Michel Mandarin, Louis Antoine Lemettre et Guy Shane Adrien Castel. Ces quatre hommes avaient débarqué sans autorisation sur l'île du Coin, dans l'atoll de Peros Banhos, le 16 février 2026.

Au cœur de cette décision figure un recadrage juridique strict quant aux compétences des tribunaux locaux et à la hiérarchie des normes britanniques. La Cour d'appel a estimé que la Cour suprême du BIOT avait commis une erreur de droit en déclarant illégal l'article 9 de l'ordonnance constitutionnelle du BIOT de 2004 (*BIOT Constitution Order 2004*), texte qui abolit tout droit de résidence (*right of abode*) sur l'archipel. S'agissant d'un décret en Conseil (*Order in Council*) pris par la Couronne à Londres, sa validité ne peut être contestée que devant les tribunaux d'Angleterre et du Pays de Galles, et non devant les juridictions locales du territoire.

Les juges d'appel ont également rappelé que la juridiction de première instance était liée par l'arrêt Bancoult (n° 2) rendu en 2008 par la Chambre des lords britannique, qui avait déjà confirmé la légalité de cet article 9 et de l'interdiction d'immigration.

☞ Suite en page 18



Après la victoire des autorités britanniques, Misley Mandarin et ses compagnons, soutenus par des opposants à la rétrocession comme le Great British PAC, peuvent solliciter le Conseil privé ou saisir à nouveau la justice anglaise. P - Daily Mail



Vijay Makhan

Chagos: A Diplomatic Opening, But No Room for Complacency

The latest exchanges with London open a route to a structured Mauritius-UK-US process on Diego Garcia. The Greenland agreement offers a procedural cue; the task now is to turn the year-end commitment into measurable progress.



"What Mauritius can take from the Greenland process is the value of a structured channel in which security questions are addressed by all the parties concerned, rather than exchanged through public statements or treated as grounds for indefinite delay. Any tripartite mechanism must begin from the agreement already reached. Its purpose would be to settle the practical questions that have impeded ratification and to provide a credible route towards implementation — not to renegotiate the sovereignty of Mauritius or dilute the treaty under another name…"

The meeting between Prime Minister Navin Ramgoolam and his British counterpart, Andy Burnham, on the margins of the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Antigua has reopened a political channel that had been allowed to narrow. The two leaders agreed to work on a shared plan to make further progress on Chagos by the end of the year. The official UK Government readout stated that Burnham had underlined his commitment to working with Mauritius and the United States on a way forward that would secure Diego Garcia's operation and protect the national security of all three countries.

That is welcome. The UK Government readout says the leaders agreed to work on a shared plan to make further progress by the end of the year; the Mauritian account records Ramgoolam's request for a clear roadmap with an initial milestone in December. This sets a concrete next step, although neither statement promises ratification or a final settlement by December. Mauritius must ensure that the shared plan identifies measurable steps and does not become another period of waiting.

Burnham's subsequent remarks to *The Economist* are significant. He referred to the recent United States-Denmark-Greenland agreement as a possible source of ideas for resolving the impasse over Diego Garcia. That reference appears to recognise the practical case for bringing the relevant parties together. It does not mean that Burnham has formally accepted former Deputy Prime Minister Paul Bérenger's proposal for a high-level Mauritius-UK-US meeting. But his language creates a clear opening for Port Louis to put that proposal on the table.

Mauritius should put the proposal on the table without delay. A meeting at political level, followed by a tripartite working group, would let the three governments address security concerns directly, identify the assurances and practical arrangements required for the base, and set milestones towards implementing the agreement signed on 22 May 2025. The December milestone should specify what can be agreed, who is responsible, and what follows next.

The Greenland experience offers a procedural cue, not a comparison between the two cases. Greenland is an autonomous territory within the Kingdom of Denmark, and its security agreement with the United States preserves Danish sovereignty and recognises Greenlanders' right to self-determination. Chagos has a different history and legal foundation. Mauritius's sovereignty over the archipelago, including Diego Garcia, has been recognised in the agreement signed with the United Kingdom. That sovereignty is not a subject for reopening.

What Mauritius can take from the Greenland process is the value of a structured channel in which security questions are addressed by all the parties concerned, rather than exchanged through public statements or treated as grounds for indefinite delay. Any tripartite mechanism must begin from the agreement already reached. Its purpose would be to settle the practical questions that have impeded ratification and to provide a credible route towards implementation — not to renegotiate the sove-reignty of Mauritius or dilute the treaty under another name.

This distinction matters. Mauritius has never denied the strategic importance of Diego Garcia or the security interests of the United States and the United Kingdom. But security must be addressed within a framework that respects the agreed transfer of sovereignty. A process without terms of reference, deadlines and political ownership could simply prolong the present uncertainty. Mauritius should be ready to negotiate constructively, while making clear that patience cannot be mistaken for consent to drift.

There is also a separate Commonwealth dimension to the Prime Minister's participation in Antigua. During the leaders' retreat, Ramgoolam firmly objected to the proposal that the Maldives host the next Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM). His objection was grounded in the Maldives' position on Chagos and its claims concerning the archipelago. A Commonwealth summit is not simply a venue allocated by rotation. It is an occasion on which member states affirm the principles of the Commonwealth Charter, including respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity.

This is not a personal or bilateral quarrel. A country that contests Mauritius's sovereignty should expect its position to be challenged when it seeks the visible responsibility of hosting Commonwealth leaders. Mauritius is right to state its opposition plainly and insist that the Commonwealth's principles apply consistently to every member.

The Antigua meeting has thus produced both an opening and a test. The opening is a commitment by London to work with Port Louis and Washington on a shared plan before the end of the year. The test is whether that commitment can be translated into a structured process with a defined destination. Mauritius should seize the moment and propose the high-level tripartite meeting, using the Greenland arrangement as a practical cue while remaining entirely clear about the difference between the two cases.

The country has pursued its claim through law and diplomacy with persistence. It should now carry that same purpose into the next phase — that is, engage London and Washington at the highest level, secure an agreed timetable, and defend its position wherever it is challenged. A diplomatic opening is valuable. It becomes meaningful only when it leads to action.

9 November 2026

BIOT Court of Appeal underscores full Mauritian sovereignty over Chagos

The British Indian Ocean Territory (BIOT) Court of Appeal handed down its judgment in the Misley Mandarin case yesterday. Crucially, the ruling opens by affirming that the 2025 Treaty recognises Mauritius's sovereignty over the Chagos Archipelago in its entirety, including Diego Garcia. The Court further notes that the implementing legislation has completed its passage through both Houses of the UK Parliament and now awaits Royal Assent. It is strictly within this settled legal framework that current discussions must proceed — focused on implementing the agreement, not reopening the question of sovereignty.



Jyoti Jeetun, Minister of Financial Services and Economic Planning

"History will judge us not by the difficulties we inherited, but by what we did with the mandate we were given"



Two years after the Alliance du Changement came to power with a sweeping electoral mandate, the government faces growing expectations to deliver on its promises. In this interview, Dr Jyoti Jeetun, Minister of Financial Services and Economic Planning, reflects on the challenges of economic recovery, the cost of living, public sector reform and the need to accelerate implementation. She also discusses Vision 2050, economic diversification, the future of financial services and the opportunities and challenges facing the next generation of Mauritians. Read on:

Mauritius Times: Two years ago, the Alliance du Changement swept to power on a 60–0 mandate promising to clean up public finances and bring tangible relief to Mauritian households. Looking at purchasing power, inflation, and the state of the economy today, how do you answer citizens who ask whether they are genuinely better off than in November 2024?

Jyoti Jeetun: There is one thing I would never do as a Minister: tell a Mauritian household that it is better off when its daily experience tells it otherwise. Economic policies are judged at the kitchen table, at the pump station and when people pay electricity bills — not through macroeconomic indicators.

The reality is that many households continue to face significant pressures. Food, transport, electricity, essentials, all take a substantial share of family budgets. Global events, including geopolitical tensions in the Middle East and disruptions to international supply chains have pushed up the cost of food and transport. Almost every country in the world is facing similar challenges. We must be honest about that.

We have tried to cushion the impact through subsidies and targeted support measures, particularly for vulnerable households, but I understand why many people still feel the cost of living remains too high.

We must also put things into perspective. We inherited an economy on cliff edge with serious structural vulnerabilities: elevated public debt, a substantial fiscal deficit, declining fiscal space and years of inadequate investment in the productive capacity of our economy. These problems did not emerge overnight, and they cannot be corrected overnight without consequences for households and businesses.

Our responsibility is therefore twofold: to provide relief where it is needed, while restoring the foundations of sustainable economic growth. We cannot continue borrowing to finance consumption and pass the bill to future generations. Equally, fiscal consolidation cannot be at the expense of abandoning social responsibility.

I believe the real test of this Government is not whether we can make the most generous promises, but whether we can create an economy that generates better-paying jobs, higher productivity, greater investment and more opportunities for our young people.

Ultimately, I want Mauritius to move beyond an economy where families depend increasingly on government transfers to make ends meet, towards one where people can improve their living standards through decent work, enterprise and economic opportunity.

That is the more difficult path. But it is the path that will deliver lasting prosperity rather than temporary relief.

*** For the past two years, the government has rightly pointed to the heavy economic and institutional legacy left by the previous administration. Now that it' entering year three, how much longer can these inherited challenges explain the delays in delivering on its promises?**

It is a legitimate question, and one that every government must be prepared to answer. The legacy explains where we started; but it cannot indefinitely determine how fast we move forward. We cannot spend five years simply talking about what we inherited. Citizens are not interested in excuses. They want results. And rightly so.

Over the past two years, our priority has been to stabilise the situation and put the country back on a sustainable path. Government took a number of difficult decisions because we believed it was better to address structural problems directly rather than postpone them for future generations. Rebuilding public finances, restoring confidence in institutions and correcting years of accumulated weaknesses takes time.

But I fully recognise that citizens did not vote for us to conduct an endless post-mortem on the previous administration. They voted for change, and they are entitled to demand that change. I would make three remarks.

First, certain problems require structural reforms. These cannot be quick fixes. We must get the fundamentals right, particularly when public resources are constrained, and every rupee spent must deliver value.

Second, there are areas where delays are less defensible. Administrative inertia, excessive bureaucracy, poor coordination between institutions and slow execution of projects cannot always be attributed to the past. These are challenges for which the present Government must take responsibility. We need a stronger culture of execution, accountability and urgency within the public service.

Third, we must distinguish between announcing policies and delivering outcomes. A policy is not a success because it appears in a Budget speech or a press release. It is successful when it makes a measurable difference to people's lives. Having said that, there are positive outcomes in several sectors, financial services being one of them.

As we enter the third year, I believe the emphasis must increasingly shift from explaining what we inherited to demonstrating what we are changing. We need clearer priorities, measurable milestones and greater accountability for implementation.

I would put it this way: the first responsibility of this Government was to understand and stabilise the situation we inherited. Its responsibility now is to accelerate transformation.

We cannot promise that every problem will be solved immediately. But we must be able to demonstrate, with evidence, that the country is moving in the right direction. Ultimately, history will judge us not by the difficulties we inherited, but by what we did with the mandate we were given.

*** Early in its mandate, the government indeed blamed administrative delays and institutional obstacles inherited from the previous administration for the slow implementation of its programme. Two years on, have these problems been resolved, or do bureaucracy and slow decision-making continue to delay key projects?**

We are making good progress, but I am the last person to pretend that delivery is adequate.

People are understandably critical because they are not yet seeing the change they voted for. We, in Government – Ministers and MPs – are bearing the brunt of that frustration. And rightly so: ultimately, we are accountable for delivering.

Changing policies is often easier than changing systems. Many of the frustrations experienced by citizens, businesses and investors are not caused by a lack of ideas. They are caused by procedures, administrative bottlenecks and institutional practices that have accumulated over decades.

And this, in my view, is the elephant in the room.

We gained independence from Britain in 1968. Yet, 58 years later, much of the administrative architecture inherited from that era remains today. We are living in the digital and AI age, but too many parts of our public administration still operate with paper files and layers upon layers of bureaucracy. Emails are printed, put into files and sent from one desk to another, sometimes taking weeks or even months for a decision that should take days.

Mauritius has a capable public service, with many dedicated and competent officers.

☞ Cont. on page 8

> **We are living in the digital and AI age, but too many parts of our public administration still operate with paper files and layers upon layers of bureaucracy. Emails are printed, put into files and sent from one desk to another, sometimes taking weeks or even months for a decision that should take days. Mauritius has a capable public service, with many dedicated and competent officers. The problem is not a lack of talent…**

‘Economic policies are judged at the kitchen table, at the pump station and when people pay electricity bills — not through macroeconomic indicators’

☞ Cont. from page 7

The problem is not a lack of talent; it is a system that does not always allow that talent to deliver. Too often, we are process-driven rather than results-driven. Responsibilities are fragmented, decisions delayed, and project implementation hampered by inadequate planning, coordination and monitoring.

Unless we confront this fundamental problem, we will be having the same conversation year after year.

We need a change in mindset, leadership and accountability. We must empower officers to take decisions within clear parameters, while holding them accountable for results.

Ultimately, Government spends billions of rupees every year. The real question is: what value are citizens getting in return? How effectively are we solving their problems?

My assessment is straightforward: we need to invest in a public sector that is fit for purpose, not just for today but for tomorrow. The system served us in the past, but it is now well past its shelf life. We need to fundamentally rethink how government works.

*** The Alliance du Changement brings together parties with different political traditions and priorities, from the Labour Party and the MMM to Rezistans ek Alternativ. Have these differences made it more difficult for the government to move ahead with reforms or given mixed signals to local and foreign investors?**

The Labour Party, the MMM and Rezistans ek Alternativ each have their own histories, traditions and ideologies. There were differences on economic philosophy, social policy, labour issues, environmental protection and institutional reform. These differences were known from the outset.

There is an important distinction between having different opinions and being unable to take decisions. Healthy debate, challenge and scrutiny are part of democratic governance. Personally, I value the richness in the debate that the diversity of political traditions brings to the table when we are deliberating Government business. It brings different perspectives; we do not always agree on everything but there is debate.

I have spent a lifetime in corporate boardrooms in Mauritius and abroad. I must admit that the Prime Minister, as Chair in Cabinet, allows people to voice their opinions, to disagree compared to some people who would shut you down and humiliate you.

I cannot claim that coalition dynamics does not complicate decision making. We all experienced that with the means testing in the last budget. And when disagreements become public, they inevitably raise questions about cohesion and continuity.

For investors, whether local or foreign, what matters is not that every member of government thinks alike. What matters is predictability: clarity about economic policy, consistency in decision-making, respect for institutions and confidence that commitments will be honoured.

> **“I have been very passionate about Vision 2050. I do not see it as another government document that will sit on a shelf. I see it as a national conversation about the Mauritius we want to become: what kind of economy we want, what opportunities we want to create for our children, and what quality of life we want for future generations…”**

I believe we need to distinguish between political consensus and policy clarity. We may not always agree on every issue, but we must be clear about the country’s economic direction and the framework within which businesses and investors operate.

While there may be no absence of disagreement, the coalition is holding together by a shared sense of responsibility to the people and a common national purpose.

Obviously, a few decided that leaving government and sitting in opposition was a much easier option. Criticise everything, engage in shameless populism while wearing the cloak of progressives, enjoy the privileges and perks of positions in the Opposition, no accountability or *devoir de résultats.*

*** On a different note, you have championed Vision 2050 as a national roadmap that should involve all sections of society. But while this vision looks to the future, people are more concerned about their immediate problems, such as the rising cost of living, law and order, personal security, housing and job opportunities. Do you believe the government is doing enough to address these pressing concerns while pursuing the longer-term goals of Vision 2050?**

I often hear people say: “Vision 2050 sounds good. But I will not be here in 2050, solve my problems of today.”

My answer is simple. We do not have to choose between addressing today’s challenges and preparing for tomorrow’s opportunities. Planning for Vision 2050 does not mean postponing the problems of today. When families are worried about the cost of living, access to housing, water supply, jobs or public safety, those concerns must be addressed immediately. Government is not asking citizens to wait twenty-five years for solutions. Their concerns are immediate, legitimate and deserve immediate attention. And this is being done.

That is precisely why Vision 2050 is being accompanied by practical actions through the National Development Plan and a number of shorter-term initiatives. We have presented a 10-Point Implementation Plan that will be delivered by 2029. These include measures to support vulnerable households, improve water security, create employment opportunities and accelerate the energy transition.

One area that concerns me deeply is young people who are neither in employment, education nor training. We cannot afford to waste the potential of an entire generation.

At the same time, we cannot ignore the longer-term challenges facing Mauritius. Climate change, ageing and shrinking population, technological disruption and global competition are not problems that will disappear if we choose not to plan for them. In fact, many of the challenges being faced today are the result of lack of planning for a very long time.

The purpose of Vision 2050 is to provide a roadmap so that today’s decisions support tomorrow’s prosperity.

For me, the connection is very clear. Better jobs, better infrastructure, energy security, water security and higher productivity are not goals for 2050 alone. They are goals that improve people’s lives today while building a stronger Mauritius for the future.

So, this is not a choice between the present and the future. We have a responsibility to deliver on both.

I have been very passionate about Vision 2050.

I do not see it as another government document that will sit on a shelf. I see it as a national conversation about the Mauritius we want to become: what kind of economy we want, what opportunities we want to create for our children, and what quality of life we want for future generations.



> **“Ultimately, Government spends billions of rupees every year. The real question is: what value are citizens getting in return? How effectively are we solving their problems? My assessment is straightforward: we need to invest in a public sector that is fit for purpose, not just for today but for tomorrow. The system served us in the past, but it is now well past its shelf life…”**

And importantly, it belongs to the nation, not to any political party or government. It involves every citizen, young people, the private sector, academia, civil society.

We cannot build the Mauritius of 2050 by ignoring the Mauritians of 2026. Equally, we cannot keep solving today’s problems with yesterday’s economic model.

My conviction is that we must do both: respond to the immediate anxieties of our people while undertaking the structural transformation that will make future generations more prosperous, secure and confident. And in fact, this is what this Government is doing every day.

*** But how do you intend to ensure that Vision 2050 does not end up gathering dust like previous long-term development plans, but is translated into concrete action?**

The real test of any vision is not how well it is written. It is whether it gets implemented.

I am very conscious that Mauritius has produced ambitious plans in the past that did not always achieve their full potential. We do not want Vision 2050 to become another document sitting on a shelf.

That is why implementation has been built into the framework from the start.

First, Vision 2050 is being translated into concrete actions through the National Development Plan 2035, which identifies priorities, policies and measurable targets. We are already working with ministries to ensure that future budgets align with these objectives.

Second, we are establishing a National Delivery and Transformation Unit whose mission will be simple: monitor progress, identify bottlenecks and ensure that implementation remains on track.

Third, we are creating a National Economic and Social Transformation Council bringing together government, business, civil society, academia and young people. We want broad national ownership of the process.

☞ Cont. on page 9

‘One area that concerns me deeply is young people who are neither in employment,

education nor training. We cannot afford to waste the potential of an entire generation’

☞ Cont. from page 8

Because this is not the government’s vision alone. It is a national vision. It is the people’s vision.

Mauritius has often succeeded when the country has pulled together around a shared objective. Vision 2050 provides that common direction.

The challenge now is sustaining momentum. We need annual monitoring, clear accountability and a relentless focus on delivery.

If we achieve that, Vision 2050 will not be remembered as a document. It will be remembered as the roadmap that helped Mauritius navigate one of the most important periods of transformation in its history.

*** Critics argue that Mauritius remains too dependent on traditional sectors such as tourism, textiles and international financial services, while newer sectors like fintech, AI, renewable energy and the ocean economy have yet to reach their full potential. What concrete progress has been made over the past two years in diversifying the economy and creating new sources of growth?**

The reality is that the growth model that served Mauritius so well in the past cannot be the growth model that sustains us indefinitely in the future.

Tourism and financial services remain critically important. They will continue to play a major role in our economy. But future growth will increasingly come from innovation, technology, sustainability and knowledge-intensive sectors.

In financial services, we are already working in that direction and seeing results. Two weeks ago, I had the opportunity to speak at the FT Africa Summit alongside Heads of States and business leaders. I met with Fintech and Technology players and clearly there is a huge momentum.

Over the past two years, much of our work has focused on laying the foundations for that transition.

We are strengthening our fintech ecosystem, developing new digital skills and creating conditions for innovation-led growth. Artificial intelligence is becoming an increasingly important area of focus because we recognise its transformative potential across every sector of the economy.

We are also accelerating the transition towards renewable energy. The ocean economy presents another major opportunity. Mauritius is uniquely positioned to develop activities ranging from marine biotechnology and aquaculture to maritime services and ocean-based renewable energy. Life Sciences and Pharma is another sector where there are some green shoots already.

Now, I do not want to pretend that a transformation has already happened. It has not. Traditional sectors still account for the bulk of our economic activity. The newer sectors are growing but have not yet reached the scale required to become major pillars of the economy.

*** Internationally, changing global tax rules, treaty obligations and geopolitical uncertainties continue to test small international financial centres. Following the entry into force of the revised India–Mauritius Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement and your recent presentation at the FT Africa Summit in London, how resilient is our financial services sector? More importantly, how quickly are we translating the ambition of making Mauritius a gateway between India, Africa and international investors into actual investments and capital flows?**

> **“As a nation whose history is deeply linked to migration, outward movement is not new. In many cases, it brings benefits through international experience, skills and networks. The real challenge is what happens next. Can we create a country attractive enough that our young people want to stay? And for those who leave, can we create reasons for them to return?”**



Mauritius remains a respected international financial centre and the very fact that a Minister from the country gets a seat on high profile international table speaks for itself.

India has been and remains a very important market for our financial services sector. The changes to the India-Mauritius tax arrangements were significant but this Government has negotiated with India and mitigated the fallout.

The global tax landscape is evolving, competition is intense and we cannot afford complacency. We are adapting by focusing more strongly on substance, value-added services and regional opportunities.

I firmly believe that Africa represents a huge window of opportunity for Mauritius. The continent is the fastest growing region in the world, with a demographic dividend and rich in resources. As an African nation, we are uniquely placed to be the strategic connector between global capital and African opportunities. I met many investors and DFIs in London, some of whom are coming to Mauritius for the US Africa Business Summit in December and who are very keen to invest in Africa using Mauritius as a hub.

The Mauritius-Africa-India corridor is also a strategic advantage. As India deepens its engagement with Africa, Mauritius can serve as a trusted platform connecting investors, businesses and capital flows.

*** At home, Mauritius faces several pressing challenges, including water shortages, an ageing population, growing social pressures and recent unrest. How can the government maintain fiscal discipline while ensuring that urgent social needs and essential infrastructure investments are addressed? How do you strike the right balance while preserving social cohesion?**

I reject the idea that fiscal responsibility and social justice are incompatible.

In fact, I would argue the opposite. Without sound public finances, social programmes eventually become unsustainable.

One of the reasons we have worked so hard to restore fiscal discipline is precisely because we want to preserve our ability to invest in health, education, pensions and social support in the years ahead.

At the same time, we have to be realistic about the challenges we face.

Our population is ageing. Demand for healthcare is increasing. Climate change requires major investments. We need to strengthen food, water and energy security. Debt servicing continues to absorb resources that could otherwise be used elsewhere.

These realities place genuine constraints on public finances.

Of course, I would like to do more. Every minister would. But government cannot spend money it does not have.

The answer is therefore not simply to spend more. It is to spend better. We must ensure that every rupee delivers the greatest possible benefit for citizens.

Maintaining social cohesion is especially important in a period of rapid change. People must feel that growth is inclusive and that opportunities are broadly shared.

That means prioritising targeted support for vulnerable households, investing in essential infrastructure and creating opportunities for social mobility, while maintaining overall fiscal discipline.

The objective is not simply to balance the books. It is to build a society that is both economically resilient and socially cohesive.

*** We do not have precise figures on how many young people and professionals are leaving Mauritius in search of better opportunities abroad. But emigration goes beyond the usual discussion of brain drain and raises a more fundamental question: do young Mauritians feel they have a future and room to progress in their own country, whether in their professional careers, in business or even in politics? How do you respond to this perception?**

I have always maintained that Mauritius being a small island, it is a good thing that our young boys and girls experience the world out there. It brings a wider perspective and personal development that they may not get here. We have seen more Mauritians exploring opportunities abroad. Part of that also reflects the reality of a globalised world where there is competition to attract talent.

On the other hand, young people want to know whether they can build rewarding careers, start successful businesses, buy a home, raise a family and progress on the basis of merit. If they do not see those opportunities, they start looking elsewhere.

As a nation whose history is deeply linked to migration, outward movement is not new. In many cases, it brings benefits through international experience, skills and networks.

The real challenge is what happens next.

Can we create a country attractive enough that our young people want to stay? And for those who leave, can we create reasons for them to return?

That means building a more dynamic economy, supporting entrepreneurship, creating higher-value jobs and ensuring that talented people see pathways for advancement.

There is also another dimension: trust in leadership. Young people are increasingly impatient with political rhetoric. They want authenticity, integrity, accountability and results. They want to see that public office is about service, not privilege.

I would say to our young people: Do not give up on Mauritius. But equally, do not accept a Mauritius that does not give you the opportunity to fulfil your potential.

Our responsibility as leaders is to build a country worthy of their ambitions, where staying is a choice, not a compromise.



Shyam Bhatia

New Scramble for Africa

The 19th-century scramble was over who controlled Africa; the 21st is over whether Africa can control the value of what it produces

More than 140 years after European powers gathered in Berlin to divide Africa among themselves, the continent is once again attracting the attention of the world's great powers.

The flags have changed and so have the methods of competition. There are no European armies marching inland to claim territories in the name of their monarchs. Instead, the instruments of influence are mining concessions, infrastructure projects, military agreements, port facilities and strategic investments.

But the underlying attraction remains remarkably familiar. Africa possesses the minerals, natural resources, geographical advantages and emerging markets that the rest of the world increasingly needs.

This time, however, the contestants are considerably more numerous. China has spent two decades establishing its position through infrastructure, mining and trade. The United States is attempting to secure alternative supplies of critical minerals and reduce its dependence on Chinese-controlled supply chains. Russia has expanded its military and security relationships, particularly in the Sahel. Europe is anxious not to lose influence, while Turkey and the Gulf states have become increasingly important investors in ports, agriculture, energy and logistics.



"Africa possesses the minerals, natural resources, geographical advantages and emerging markets that the rest of the world increasingly needs. This time, however, the contestants are considerably more numerous. China has spent two decades establishing its position through infrastructure, mining and trade. The United States is attempting to secure alternative supplies of critical minerals and reduce its dependence on Chinese-controlled supply chains. Russia has expanded its military and security relationships, particularly in the Sahel. Europe is anxious not to lose influence…"

According to UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD), Africa attracted approximately $70 billion in foreign direct investment in 2025. Although this was below the exceptional $94 billion recorded in 2024, it represented the continent's third-highest annual total since 1990.

Will this produce lasting prosperity for African populations or simply create another generation of foreign beneficiaries from African resources?

Three developments illustrate the changing dynamics particularly well.

Beyond Raw Exports

The Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) is at the centre of the global competition for minerals essential to modern industry.

It is the world's leading producer of cobalt, a key component in many rechargeable batteries, and an important producer of copper, tantalum and other minerals. The US Geological Survey estimates that the DRC accounted for approximately 73 per cent of global mined cobalt production in 2025. China, meanwhile, remains the world's leading producer of refined cobalt.

This gives Beijing an extraordinarily powerful position in a supply chain that Washington increasingly regards as strategically important.

The United States has consequently been trying to establish a stronger commercial presence in the Congolese mining sector. In December 2025, Washington and Kinshasa signed a strategic minerals partnership intended to encourage American investment in mining, infrastructure and alternative supply chains.

But the Congolese government is not simply celebrating the arrival of another powerful investor. It wants tangible economic benefits.

At the Mining Indaba conference in Cape Town in February 2026, the DRC's Mines Minister, Louis Watum Kabamba, made his country's position abundantly clear.

"For those who think we are going to sell everything for nothing to America, I must be very clear: we have sold nothing. And we will sell nothing for nothing," he told the international news media.

He was equally dismissive of the suggestion that Congo should become a pawn in the American-Chinese rivalry.

"The rivalry between China and the United States - we are not interested in it. We must play our own game as the DRC," he said.

He added: "We have our own problems. We must feed people. We must invest in human capital for our youth."

His words encapsulate the dilemma facing the continent: foreign powers want access to minerals, while African governments want those minerals to generate development at home.

The Congolese government is also demanding that American promises translate into actual projects.

On November 6, Economy Minister Daniel Mukoko Samba said: "Our requirement is to move from signed agreements to real investments."

He added that the success of the partnership should be measured by completed projects, rather than diplomatic announcements.

The DRC wants investment to support local mineral processing, electricity supplies, employment and stability in its conflict-ridden east.

Unless more processing, manufacturing, skills and technology remain in the producing countries, the continent risks continuing to export raw materials while importing expensive finished products.

Tracks to Diversification

A second important development is taking place in Angola, where the Lobito Corridor is emerging as one of the most strategically significant infrastructure projects in central Africa.

The railway connects the Atlantic port of Lobito with the Angolan interior, reaching the border with the Democratic Republic of Congo. Plans envisage extending the transport network towards Zambia, providing mineral-producing countries with an alternative route to international markets.

The United States has made the project a priority. In December 2025, its International Development Finance Corporation and the Development Bank of Southern Africa provided $753 million in financing to rehabilitate the approximately 1,300-kilometre Angolan railway.

The strategic significance is obvious. Washington wants more reliable access to African copper and cobalt and a transport network that offers an alternative to infrastructure dominated by Chinese interests.

But Angola has its own ambitions.

Transport Minister Ricardo Viegas d'Abreu explained the government's thinking in October 2025. "We are no longer talking about an infrastructure corridor, we are talking about an economic development corridor," he said.

He envisaged opportunities extending beyond mineral transportation into agribusiness, industry, services, tourism and education. The objective, he explained, was to promote "employment, exports and economic diversification".

That is an important distinction. Angola does not want to be merely a transit country through which minerals pass on their way to international markets. It wants the railway to stimulate economic activity along its route.

The real test will be whether the corridor creates manufacturing, processing facilities, supporting businesses and employment in Angola and neighbouring countries.

The Geography Game

If central Africa illustrates the competition for minerals, the Horn of Africa demonstrates the importance of geography.

The region overlooks the Gulf of Aden, the Red Sea and the maritime approaches to the Suez Canal. It sits beside some of the world's most important shipping routes.

Ports in this part of Africa are therefore more than commercial facilities. They can provide access to international trade, naval operations, military logistics and political influence.

The United Arab Emirates has established a particularly important presence.

Dubai-based DP World secured a 30-year concession in 2016 to develop and operate the port of Berbera in Somaliland, with an investment programme valued at up to $442 million.

Somaliland declared independence from Somalia in 1991 but has not enjoyed widespread international recognition. Its strategic location nevertheless makes it attractive to foreign investors and regional powers.

The port is particularly important because it offers an alternative route for landlocked Ethiopia and potentially other countries in the region.

But the politics are complicated.

In January 2026, Somalia's federal government announced that it was cancelling its agreements with the UAE, including arrangements concerning the ports of Berbera, Bosaso and Kismayo, as well as defence and security cooperation. Mogadishu accused Abu Dhabi of undermining Somali sovereignty.

Somaliland's Minister of the Presidency, Khadar Hussein Abdi, responded angrily. "The UAE is a trusted friend of Somaliland. They invested in Berbera when others doubted us. We are a nation of principles, and we stand by our friends," he said.

He added: "Somalia's daydreaming changes nothing."

The dispute illustrates how foreign investment can become entangled in unresolved questions of sovereignty, national unity and regional autonomy.

Turkey, meanwhile, has developed a substantial relationship with Mogadishu.

☞ Cont. on page 11

New Scramble for Africa

☞ Cont. from page 10

A ten-year defence and economic cooperation agreement signed in February 2024 provides for Turkey to build, train and equip the Somali navy, strengthening its presence in the Indian Ocean and surrounding maritime region.

Turkey's involvement is not confined to military training. It has also invested in infrastructure and developed an increasingly important commercial relationship with Somalia.

In February 2026, Somali Minister of Ports and Maritime Transport Abdulkadir Mohamed Nur spoke to Anadolu about the importance of maritime links with Turkey.

"The security of global trade is directly linked to the security of Somalia's coasts," he said.

"Africa needs investment. It needs roads, railways, ports, electricity, technology and employment. There is no reason why it should reject foreign capital or choose one international partner at the expense of another. But investment must be judged by what it leaves behind. The real test of the new scramble will not be the number of foreign companies operating African mines… It will be whether African countries acquire the industrial capacity to process their own resources, educate their populations, create employment and retain a greater share of the wealth generated by their economies…"

He described Somalia as a natural bridge between Africa, the Arabian Peninsula, South Asia and the Indian Ocean.

His remarks underline the extent to which African governments are becoming conscious of the strategic value of their geographical position.

There is an important historical distinction between the present competition and the colonial scramble of the nineteenth century.

Sovereignty Is Not Enough

At the Berlin Conference of 1884–85, European powers negotiated the future of Africa without meaningful African participation. Today, African governments possess internationally recognised sovereignty and a seat at the United Nations.

They have choices that their predecessors did not.

They can negotiate with China, the United States, Europe, Russia, Turkey and the Gulf states, comparing offers and seeking better conditions. They can insist on local employment, technology transfer, infrastructure investment and domestic processing of their natural resources.

But sovereignty on paper does not necessarily translate into economic power.

Countries burdened by debt, political instability, corruption and weak institutions may find themselves negotiating from a position of considerable disadvantage. Mineral concessions can be exchanged for immediate financial relief, while the longer-term costs are borne by future generations.

There is also the danger of becoming entangled in conflicts between competing powers. The Horn of Africa provides a particularly vivid illustration of how commercial interests, military partnerships and regional rivalries can become intertwined.

Africa needs investment. It needs roads, railways, ports, electricity, technology and employment. There is no reason why it should reject foreign capital or choose one international partner at the expense of another.



But investment must be judged by what it leaves behind.

The real test of the new scramble will not be the number of foreign companies operating African mines, the number of ports controlled by international operators or the number of diplomatic agreements signed in African capitals. It will be whether African countries acquire the industrial capacity to process their own resources, educate their populations, create employment and retain a greater share of the wealth generated by their economies.

The nineteenth-century scramble was about who would control Africa. The twenty-first-century contest offers an opportunity to ask a rather different question: can Africa finally control the value of what it produces?

The continent should not have to choose between competing empires. It should be able to negotiate with all of them and belong to none.

Shyam Bhatia
London, November 9, 2026

Wastewater Management Authority

VACANCY

The WMA is looking for dynamic, motivated and result-oriented candidates for the post of **GENERAL WORKER (ROSTER DAY & NIGHT)**.

QUALIFICATIONS

(i) Candidates should possess the Certificate of Primary Education; and
(ii) have a good health and a sound physique.

SALARY

Rs 18700 x 200 - 18900 x 225 - 20925 x 250 - 22175 x 270 - 22445 x 300 - 26945 x 320 - 28865 x 350 - 30965 x 400 – 31365

For the year 2026, the discounted initial salary would be Rs 18,488

AGE LIMIT

Candidates, unless in the Public Sector or Parastatal Organisation, should **not** have reached 48 years.

MODE OF APPLICATION

- Application forms and detailed list of duties are available at the Human Resource Section of the WMA and can be downloaded from our website: http://www.wmamauritius.mu.
- Qualified candidates should submit the application form duly filled in and signed together with written evidence of knowledge/experience claimed to:
  The General Manager, Wastewater Management Authority, Jerningham Street, Curepipe.

CLOSING DATE OF APPLICATION

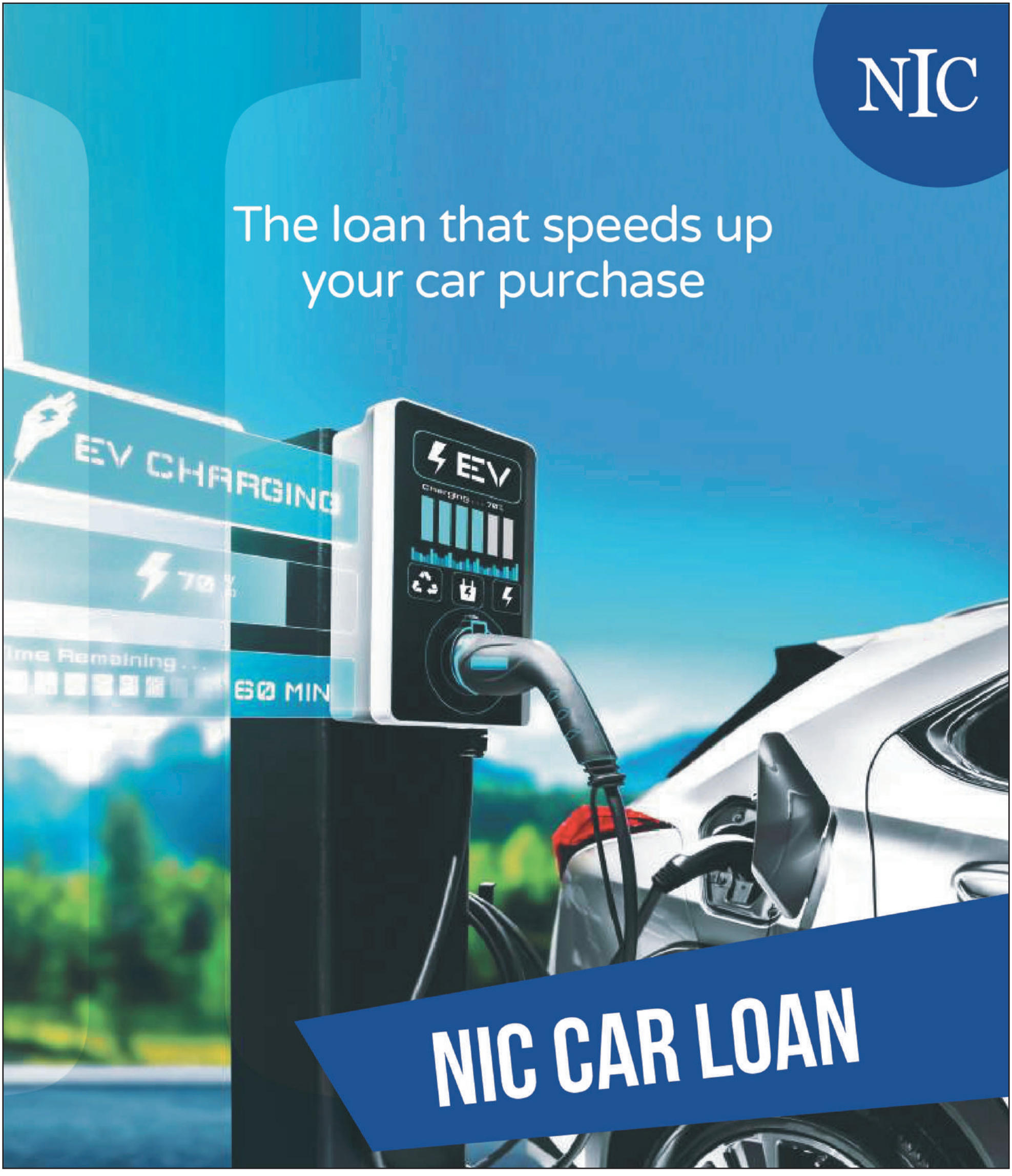
The closing date for submission of application is not later than **Thursday 19 November 2026 at 15.30 hrs.**

NOTE

1. Only the best qualified candidates will be considered.
2. The WMA reserves the right not to make any appointment as a result of this advertisement.
3. The post applied for should be clearly marked on the left hand corner of the envelope.
4. Late/incomplete application not made on the prescribed form will not be considered.

Wastewater Management Authority
Jerningham Street, Curepipe
Tel : 206 3000 / 206 3056

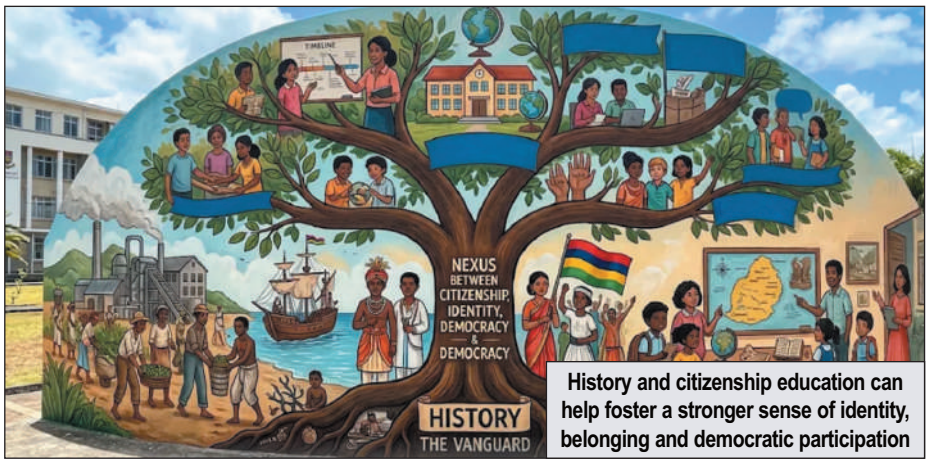
05 November 2026


NIC
The loan that speeds up
your car purchase
EV CHARGING
EV
60 MIN
NIC CAR LOAN

Citizenship Education through History Teaching in Mauritius

By Sheetal Sheena Sookrajowa, University of Mauritius, Marie Sophie Caroline Lafleur-Yallappa & Ellen Vea Rosnes, VID Specialized University, Norway

Mauritius recognises an urgent need to revitalise citizenship education. As everywhere, the quality of a democracy is closely linked to its citizens' participation in democratic processes, which in turn shapes its democratic outcomes. Recent examples of conflicts, migration crisis, protests and democratic backsliding around the world demonstrate that in diverse, unequal and fast-changing societies, the nexus between citizenship, identity, belonging, and democracy is under strain. Hence, in today's globalised world, major concerns about learning how to 'live together' have also become increasingly pressing.[1]



History and citizenship education can help foster a stronger sense of identity, belonging and democratic participation

Basically, citizenship encompasses important concepts such as 'patriotic loyalty to a state… human rights, tolerance and respect for diversity… inter-dependence, development and sustainability.'[2] According to Elizabeth Matto *et al.* 'a thriving and peaceful democracy requires an informed and engaged citizenry, but such citizenship must be learned.'[3]

In an article about the Transloyalties in Citizenship Education (TranCit) project, published in the *European Research* magazine, we argue that 'if you don't feel included as a citizen then there is a risk that you will distance yourself and feel that there is no room for you in society, that you don't fit in… history is an important subject in this respect, as it can help shape how people see their nation and themselves.'

In a similar vein, as Gary Clemitshaw pertinently questions, can we have 'citizenship without history?'[4] History and citizenship are undeniably interdependent: together, they foster a sense of national identity and belonging, promote civic values, and encourage respect for human rights.[5] Even scholars as James Arthur *et al.* acknowledge that 'history teaching is at the vanguard of citizenship education; the past is the springboard from which citizens learn to think and act.'[6]

Mauritius's rich colonial and political history provides distinctive opportunities to explore citizenship education and foster a more engaged citizenry both locally and at international level. Important subjects include the history of migration, slavery, indenture, constitutional developments, the universal suffrage, the historical understanding of the electoral system and the method of voting, the discussions towards independence, the importance of independence celebration and the national flag.

Learning about Mauritius's colonial, social and political history lays the foundation for 'shared histories' and more active citizen participation in the democratic process. Such foundation will subsequently allow for deeper understanding about the current society including the discussions about the decolonisation of the Chagos islands, the political system and current attempts towards constitutional and electoral reforms.

However, history teaching must invite learners, educators, curriculum developers, and even policymakers to critically reflect on the continuities and discontinuities that influence today's society. History also predicts tomorrow's society. We have seen it recently with the British's publication of a registry of the enslaved across its former colonies. This initiative has received tremendous attention from descendants of the enslaved. The bigger question is how we can utilise this initiative to solve the questions that surround identity, belonging and citizenship.

As pointed out by historian Satyendra Peerthum in a recent interview, the enslaved had identities and histories. This initiative changes how schooling must engage with history. History teaching must go beyond its current format. Instead, history must centre on fact inquiry. Fact inquiry is understood as engaging educators and learners into solving the present's mysteries by exploring questions they deem are important. Furthermore, what this initiative tells us is that approaches towards history as a discipline are changing. Where globalisation and technologies come in, these approaches are almost instant. Mauritius is in dire need of following closely.

Hence, to ensure a thriving democracy, citizenship education through history teaching should however not be restricted to primary and early secondary levels. In fact, citizenship education through history teaching should be offered at primary, secondary and tertiary levels as an independent compulsory subject. A collaborative effort between historians, political scientists, citizenship educators, curriculum developers, policy makers, practitioners, the civil society and the educational institutions will thus help to achieve an informed and engaged citizenry in Mauritius's democracy.

References

[1]Deardoff, D. (2023, 19. May). Learning to Live Together as Key to Our Future. UNESCO. https://www.unesco.org/en/articles/learning-live-together-key-our-future.

[2]Clemitshaw, G. (2008). Citizenship without history? Knowledge, skills and values in citizenship education. *Ethics and Education*, 3(2), 135-147.

[3]Matto, E. C., Mccartney, A. R. M., Bennion, E. A., Blair, A., Sun, T., & Whitehead, D. M. (Eds.). (2021). Teaching Civic Engagement Globally. American Political Science Association.

[4]Clemitshaw, G. (2008). Citizenship without history? Knowledge, skills and values in citizenship education. *Ethics and Education*, 3(2), 135-147.

[5]Ibid.

[6]Arthur, J., Davies, I., Kerr, D., & Wrenn, A. (2003). *Citizenship through secondary history*. Routledge.

International Appointment

MSS CEO Devesh Dukhira appointed to lead International Sugar Organisation



Devesh Dukhira, the Chief Executive Officer of the Mauritius Sugar Syndicate (MSS), has been appointed as the Executive Director of the London-based International Sugar Organisation (ISO) for the 2007–2030 period. In his new role, he will oversee the organisation's global activities, guide its strategic initiatives, and coordinate cooperation among member states to address international sugar market dynamics and trade policies.

The International Sugar Organisation is an intergovernmental body established to administer the internationally negotiated 1992 International Sugar Agreement. Devoted to improving conditions on the world's sugar market through debate, analysis, special studies, transparent statistics, seminars, conferences, and workshops, the ISO currently unites 85 member countries that account for 85% of global sugar production. Its core objectives include enhancing international co-operation on world sugar matters, providing a forum for intergovernmental consultations, facilitating trade by collecting and distributing market data, and encouraging increased demand for sugar, particularly for non-traditional uses.

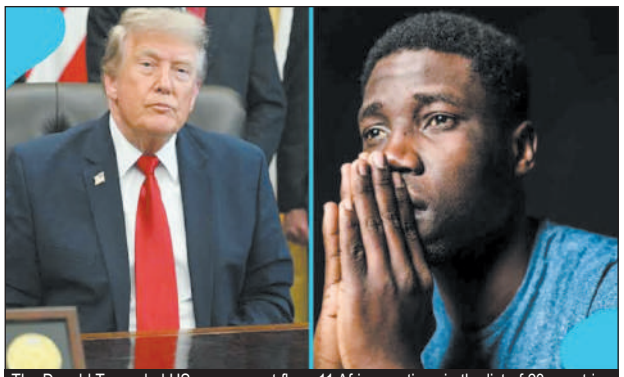
Devesh Dukhira brings over two and a half decades of experience in the global sugar industry to his new international post, including twelve years as CEO of the MSS. Under his leadership, the 107-year-old producer-driven organisation — which groups all Mauritian sugar producers, representing three mills and 7,500 planters — undertook an important structural transformation by shifting away from export-dependent, guaranteed-price raw sugar toward high-value, direct-consumption special sugars, expanding the country's footprint to over 60 export destinations.

He also championed rigorous sustainability standards, helping make Mauritius a global model by securing Fairtrade certification for small planters and Bonsucro certification for larger producers, resulting in 40% of national output achieving certification. He also played an instrumental role in securing Geographical Indication status for "Mauritius Unrefined Sugar" in 2024 and contributed decisively to bilateral trade negotiations, including the Mauritius-China and Mauritius-India Free Trade Agreements of 2021, which established preferential tariff rate quotas for local special sugars.

A seasoned negotiator with a strong record in bilateral, regional, and multilateral trade frameworks such as the EU, COMESA, SADC, and the AfCFTA, Devesh Dukhira's academic background includes an MSc in Management from Boston University's London Graduate School and a BEng (Hons) in Electrical & Electronic Engineering from the University of Bristol as an ODA Scholarship recipient, complemented by executive management training at ESSEC Business School.

Having frequently contributed to global industry platforms — including serving as a guest speaker and panelist at ISO annual international seminars in London, the Africa Sugar Conference, and Platts Sugar Conferences — Devesh Dukhira is exceptionally well-positioned to direct the ISO's mission.

U.S. places 23 countries, including nine African nations, under highest travel warning


The Donald Trump-led US government flags 11 African nations in the list of 23 countries Americans should not visit in 2026. Pic - AFP

The United States Department of State has urged its citizens not to travel to 23 countries worldwide, placing them under its strictest advisory category: Level 4: Do Not Travel.

Nine African nations are on the list — Burkina Faso, the Central African Republic, Chad, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Libya, Mali, Niger, Somalia, South Sudan, and Sudan (ten in total), alongside Uganda. The remaining countries span Europe, Asia, the Middle East, and the Caribbean, including Afghanistan, Belarus, Burma, Haiti, Iran, Iraq, Lebanon, North Korea, Russia, Syria, Ukraine, and Yemen.

Announced on Monday by the Bureau of Consular Affairs, the warning cites severe security risks, volatile local conditions, and Washington's limited ability to assist Americans in distress.

"Level 4 means DO NOT TRAVEL," the department stated bluntly. "These places are dangerous. Do not go for ANY reason."

The State Department operates a four-tier advisory system ranging from Level 1 (normal precautions) to Level 2 (increased caution), Level 3 (reconsider travel), and Level 4 (do not travel). Americans planning international trips are advised to consult the department's official website for country-specific security updates prior to departure.

Outcry in South Africa as politicians receive pay hikes amid rising joblessness

South African trade unions have condemned President Cyril Ramaphosa's approval of a 3.5% salary increase for politicians, announced on the very same day official statistics revealed that national unemployment had climbed to 33.7%.

Backdated to 1 April 2026, the adjustment covers cabinet ministers, deputy ministers, members of Parliament, premiers, and provincial legislators. Based on gazetted figures, the hike adds roughly R97,725 a year to a minister's total remuneration package — which includes pension contributions — and R46,304 to that of an ordinary MP. President Ramaphosa also approved a separate 4% increase for judges, magistrates, and traditional leaders following recommendations from the Independent Commission for the Remuneration of Public Office-Bearers.

The timing drew fierce backlash from the South African Federation of Trade Unions (Saftu), which demanded an immediate reversal of the politicians' raises.

Figures released on Tuesday by Statistics South Africa show that 8.6 million people were officially unemployed in the third quarter of 2026 — an increase of 97,000 — with millions more classified as discouraged jobseekers.

Saftu general secretary Zwelinzima Vavi called the decision "indefensible" against the backdrop of worsening household hardship. While accepting the raise for the judiciary, Vavi argued that political leaders must be judged by their service to struggling citizens rather than higher pay packages.

Kagame defends cultural standards on dress codes amid public debate

Rwandan President Paul Kagame has recently defended cultural expectations surrounding attire, asserting that societies maintain distinct standards of acceptable behaviour that should not be automatically abandoned to mirror foreign practices.

Speaking to over 10,000 young people at the BK Arena in Kigali during a "Meet The President" session, Kagame emphasized that context and local values dictate appropriate clothing, comparing public dress norms to the clear distinction between beachwear and formal settings.

The remarks address a heated national debate sparked by a viral video showing police officers forcefully handcuffing a woman wearing a miniskirt at a Rubavu bus park. Although the Rwanda National Police subsequently cleared the woman and detained the involved officers pending disciplinary review, the incident drew sharp criticism from human rights advocates condemning intimidation and arbitrary enforcement against women.

Kagame noted that societal expectations regarding modesty apply equally to men, asking whether a man appearing shirtless or in gym shorts in a formal gathering would not similarly cause confusion. He argued that communities naturally regulate behaviour through shared norms, comparing a society's rejection of unfamiliar cultural imports to a body slowly pushing out a foreign object or thorn.

Urging that cultural disagreements be resolved through peaceful dialogue rather than hostility, Kagame encouraged young Rwandans to critically examine shifting social norms. He called on citizens to evaluate whether newly adopted practices genuinely benefit the community or conflict with established local values.

Across the Globe

Nvidia mulls dismissing CEO

Nvidia's board has considered dismissing CEO Jensen Huang, marking a dizzying fall from grace for a titan whose seemingly unassailable position has been upended by the scandal surrounding his affair with an alleged Chinese spy. The semiconductor giant has reportedly hired an outside search firm to find a new CEO.

Some board members favour appointing the current CFO as an interim replacement and hiring a COO as well. Reports of a second affair with a subordinate have added to the pressure on Huang. His dismissal would bring an ignominious end to an astonishing 33-year tenure as Nvidia's leader, during which he transformed the company from a niche graphics-card maker into a firm at the centre of the AI boom.

* * *

Spy affair clouds US-China talks

Beijing dismissed the Nvidia spy scandal as part of US efforts to impose a tech "blockade" on China, casting a shadow over the prospects for a summit between the two superpowers' leaders next week. Although the US Treasury Secretary yesterday hailed what he described as growing bilateral engagement, that upbeat rhetoric has yet to translate into tangible progress in US-China relations.

Next week's talks in Shenzhen were expected to advance an ongoing AI dialogue, potentially involving the sharing of best practices on the pre-release testing of advanced models. However, the espionage allegations involving a Chinese executive and Nvidia's CEO threaten to disrupt those discussions, particularly given that the Chinese woman is now reportedly living in Beijing with the knowledge of the country's security officials, according to Bloomberg.

* * *

Political crisis engulfs Indonesia


Indonesia might be heading into a deep political crisis. Pic - Left Voice

Indonesia's vice president resigned and its currency plunged to a record low as a multi-faceted crisis gripped Southeast Asia's most populous nation. The country's president has faced mounting pressure over his poor response to wildfires, while persistent cost-of-living concerns and high youth unemployment have sent his approval ratings plummeting.

The vice president, meanwhile, became embroiled in a separate scandal involving questions about the authenticity of his high school diploma, as well as his alleged links to the wiretapping of the president. The controversy has led to the arrest of a former national police chief. Adding to these troubles, global index provider MSCI proposed removing Indonesia from its emerging-market offerings last month, triggering a selloff.

* * *

Moderna's cancer breakthrough

The CEO of vaccine maker Moderna said the firm could soon achieve the "holy grail" of preventing people at higher risk of cancer from ever developing the disease. Stéphane Bancel's comments came after the company reported successful late-stage trials for its melanoma treatment, which analysts described as a major breakthrough. Moderna hopes the treatment will receive US regulatory approval next year, a decision that could cap a remarkable turnaround for the Boston-based firm. Once known globally for its COVID-19 vaccine, the company fell on hard times as it pivoted to oncology treatments, becoming at one point the S&P 500's most-shorted stock. However, recent breakthroughs have made it the index's best-performing company this year.

* More on page 15

Iran can produce 50 ballistic missiles a month, half of its pre-war capacity



Iran likely has at least 1,700 ballistic missiles remaining. Pic - WION

Despite months of airstrikes, Iran maintains the capacity to manufacture approximately 50 ballistic missiles per month — roughly half of its pre-war output — and still holds at least 1,700 missiles in its stockpile, according to a Western intelligence assessment reported by Bloomberg.

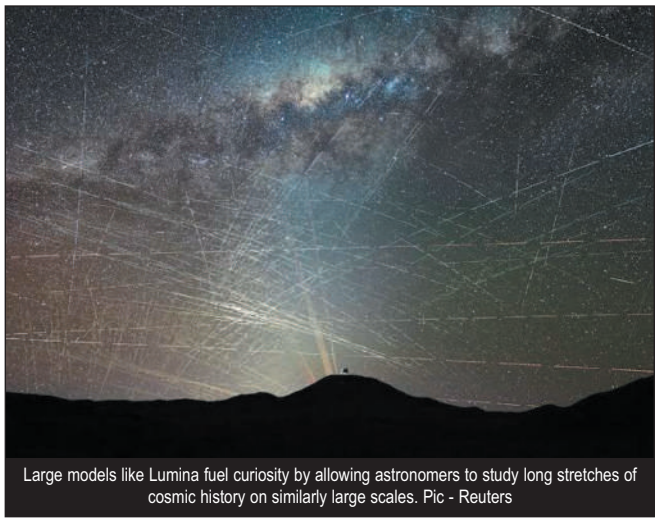
These figures contrast with public statements from Washington. US President Donald Trump has repeatedly asserted that American strikes crippled Iran's military infrastructure, declaring on Monday that "Iran militarily is effectively over." Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth echoed that assessment on Tuesday, stating that 80% of Iran's industrial base had been destroyed, according to Hindustan Times.

However, military intelligence cited by Bloomberg suggests Tehran retains substantial retaliatory capabilities, including thousands of Shahed-type attack drones, according to former CIA analyst Jim Lamson. Since the conflict began on February 28, Iran has fired at least 2,200 ballistic missiles and over 4,900 Shahed drones, Bloomberg Economics estimates, while Western officials say Russia has also supplied Tehran with unspecified strike weapons. On Tuesday, the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps released footage of a new underground "missile city," with armed forces chief of staff General Ali Abdollahi warning of future surprises.

Following a closed-door meeting with Qatari Prime Minister Sheikh Mohammed, President Trump ruled out further military action, saying the US is maintaining the "status quo" — though an economically damaging naval blockade of Iran remains active, alongside ongoing Iranian strikes on commercial shipping.

Meanwhile, diplomatic efforts hinge on Tehran's terms. Speaking to Al Jazeera, Iranian Parliament Speaker Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf said Iran has submitted seven conditions to Washington for reopening the Strait of Hormuz and resuming talks, adding, "The ball is now in the Americans' court."

'Lumina' supercomputer simulation unveils first two billion years of the universe


Large models like Lumina fuel curiosity by allowing astronomers to study long stretches of cosmic history on similarly large scales. Pic - Reuters

An international team of researchers has developed "Lumina," one of the most detailed supercomputer simulations of the early cosmos to date, offering an unprecedented look into the universe's first two billion years.

Published in the Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society, the model recreates the pivotal era of reionization — when ultraviolet radiation from the first stars and black holes stripped electrons from hydrogen atoms, allowing light to travel freely and shaping early galaxy formation, according to Hindustan Times.

Built using more than 15,000 graphics processing units on Oak Ridge National Laboratory's Frontier supercomputer over nearly three years, Lumina spans roughly 1.5 billion light-years in each direction — covering more than 100 times the volume of previous simulations of its kind. For the first time, scientists can simultaneously track changes in both hydrogen and helium alongside the movement of dark and ordinary matter across vast stretches of cosmic history.

"We have a cosmological volume where you can see this cosmic web, how galaxies are clustered. At the same time, we resolve individual galaxies," lead author Oliver Zier of the Centre for Astro-physics | Harvard & Smithsonian told CNN.

Julian Muñoz, an astronomy professor at the University of Texas at Austin who was not involved in the study, called Lumina "a really impressive technical achievement" for combining massive scale with extended cosmic duration.

By comparing Lumina's predictions against observations from telescopes like NASA's James Webb Space Telescope, astronomers hope to test existing theories — and potentially uncover clues to new, undiscovered physics.

Across the Globe

Haiti kills major gang leader

Haiti's prime minister said a drone strike killed the leader of a major gang last week, marking one of the biggest blows to organised crime in a country plagued by gang violence. "The fight to free the country from the grip of bandits continues with determination," the country's leader said. In recent months.

Haiti has stepped up its campaign against gangs with the help of thousands of troops from El Salvador, a move that has reportedly angered officials at the US State Department. While US President Donald Trump has backed El Salvador's military operations in Haiti, "there is a class of bureaucrats who don't want to see the change in the Western Hemisphere that POTUS wants," a US official told Axios.

* * *

China's marriage rate plummets

China's marriage rate fell to its lowest level in almost two decades, adding to concerns about the country's demographic crisis. Data released this week showed that 4.65 million couples married between January and September, while 2.08 million couples divorced. Beijing has rolled out a series of measures in recent years aimed at increasing marriage rates and encouraging childbearing.

However, although some regions have seen results from these policies, fertility rates across the country continue to plummet, with women having fewer children on average than even during the era of the one-child policy. The demographic shift will have major fiscal consequences for decades to come, with one prominent Chinese academic urging Beijing to "formulate forward-looking plans for immigration."

* * *


The reality of wine fraud: a serious concern for the industry. Pic - Sommelier Business

Wine fraud is becoming industrial

Wine fraud is becoming worryingly sophisticated, with organised criminal groups producing more counterfeit bottles — and more convincing ones — than ever before. Wine has been faked "for as long as it has been drunk," a historian said, but operations have become increasingly "industrial in scale and scope," The Economist reported. A French wine fraud police unit received 150 complaints in a single year, linked to more than 100 criminal groups. Despite a global decline in wine consumption, fraudsters are attracted by the financial incentives and low risks associated with the crime. As one authenticator noted: "Outside of financial crimes, how many criminal endeavours could hope to generate millions in a couple of years without risking very lengthy jail time?"

* * *

Child-rearing becomes a luxury

Conventional wisdom holds that wealthier countries have lower fertility rates, but the opposite may now be happening as the global fertility rate continues to decline.

As fertility falls in almost every region, households with higher incomes and education levels are having more children. Among Western Hemisphere countries with populations of at least 20 million, the US has the highest fertility rate, a level matched only by Peru, where fertility is falling sharply.

The same phenomenon could emerge in sub-Saharan Africa, challenging expectations that the region will offset fertility declines elsewhere.

"Once an economic necessity, children are now an economic luxury," an economist wrote in Foreign Affairs. "That portends a world in which economic inequality is accentuated by demographic inequality, with widening fissures within countries and among them."

Compiled by K. Ramlallah



SCAN ME

Entrepreneur dans l'âme ?
Avec la SBM et ses offres conçues exclusivement pour les 18 à 30 ans, tu n'es qu'à un pas du succès dans les affaires !

T: (230) 207 0111 | E: sbm@sbmgroup.mu | www.sbmbank.com

Terms & Conditions Apply. SBM Bank (Mauritius) Ltd is licensed by the Bank of Mauritius.

SBM

From Our Archives -- A Glimpse into 1961

7th Year No 350 | MAURITIUS TIMES | Friday 19 May, 1961

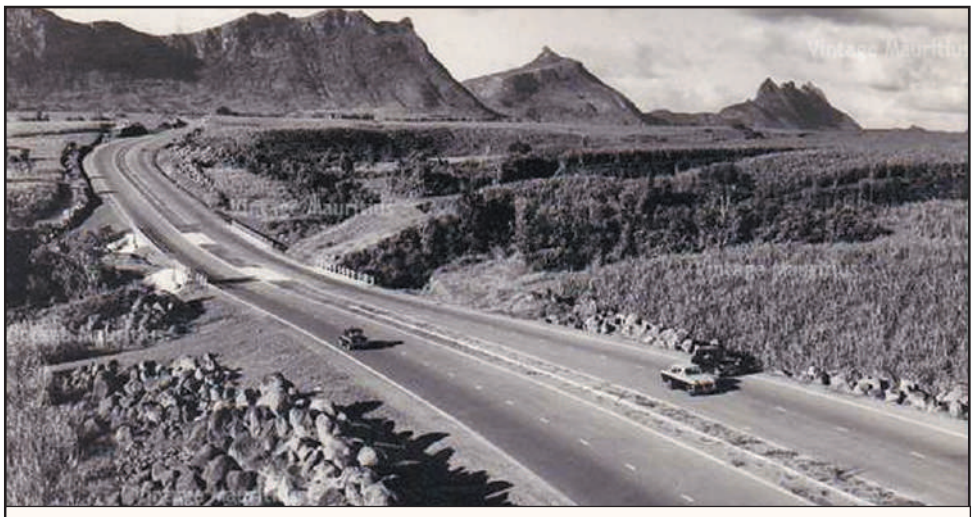
• *"I do not belong to any religious sect, nor do I subscribe to any particular creed." — Rabindranath Tagore*

Editorial

The Case for a Planning Commission

On very many occasions we and our correspondents, especially Peter Ibbotson, have pleaded for the establishment of a planning organisation, and we suggested the handy denomination of "Mauritius Planning Commission." With the publication of the new Capital Expenditure Programme and the Meade Report, and also with the Government's proclaimed determination to foster secondary industries, we feel that now, more than ever, is the time to create the Mauritius Planning Commission. The idea of having such an organisation is not a new one, nor can anyone here take the credit for having produced it: it is something used in many other countries where it has worked well. Besides, Professor Meade and his colleagues strongly recommend the setting up of a similar organisation — namely, the Industrial Development Board. By definition, however, such a board is bound to have a limited scope, and this must be avoided.

By now there is unanimity about the necessity of diversifying our economy, and there seems also to be unanimity about the way to achieve that most needed diversification. But there have been too few suggestions about the *modus operandi* of achieving what is so strongly advocated and so ardently desired. The organisation we have in mind must be in a position to investigate what secondary industries can and must be promoted, and also be able to fit such minor plans into the country's national plan. For it must be well understood that planning as such must never be done piecemeal; it must be coherent and it must be based on the priorities of the needs of the people. The success or otherwise of a plan depends upon the extent to which it is integrated and well-balanced. Without fear of contradiction, it can be said that we can derive the right inspiration from the invaluable work done by the Planning Commission of India.



In the early to mid 1960s, Mauritius began construction of its first motorway and as of today the motorway has known many enhancements, including addition of lanes and extensions to other regions. With a span starting from Plaisance (SSR) Airport to Grand Bay, the Motorway is the quickest access from north to south and vice versa. Until recently, new roads have been built for a greater coverage through the island. P - Vintagemauritius.org

A careful reading of the Meade Report clearly shows that, as was expected, the fact-finding experts have not offered — and could not have offered — cut-and-dried solutions to the problems facing Mauritius. Professor Meade and his colleagues have indicated the broad lines on which development can be initiated, and in this they readily admit that their suggestions have already been put forward by previous commissions. Therefore, Professor Meade and his colleagues urged action without delay. Very candidly, they observed: "We are opposed to any policy of waiting till the last moment." We have only to take the cue, and a start can be made by creating the organisation which will be entrusted with doing the spadework.

For the time being, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry is flooded with demands and inquiries about new industries. With the present set-up, the Ministry is obviously not equipped to initiate the necessary secondary industries. It is not known which industries are likely to prosper and how much investment will be required. Before considering which secondary industries to initiate, Professor Meade suggests the following six basic and highly important considerations: (a) availability of markets (local and foreign); (b) availability of raw materials; (c) capital; (d) management; (e) availability of skilled and trained labour; and finally (f) services such as electric power, water, etc.

Consideration of these factors and final decisions involve a colossal amount of research work inside as well as outside Mauritius. It constitutes the most difficult part of the job and will determine the future of secondary industries in Mauritius. We therefore believe and strongly advise that, without delay, the necessary steps must be taken to launch secondary industries in Mauritius. It is not enough to start off with new industries; we must ensure that they are successful ventures. It is a matter of life and death for Mauritius. Disaster must be avoided.

The Capitalist Cry

The Mauritius Chamber of Agriculture has caused to be published in the dailies a memorandum in which it protests against the Government's decision to introduce a 5% *ad valorem* tax on the export of sugar. Let it be said at the very outset that the memorandum is but a concise edition of the protracted speech which Hon Piat delivered on the same subject in the Legislative Council. In its memorandum, the Mauritius Chamber of Agriculture protests, cries, warns, and threatens. The tax has already been legalised, and one can now wait and watch: it is interesting to see which way the great Chamber will now jump. But let us analyze the memorandum.

The Chamber has never cared about the small planter. Since its inception, it has constantly strived to defend and protect the interests of the large planters and the millers. Therefore, when it tries today to speak in the name of "the planting community," we are reminded of the three English tailors who petitioned the king in the name of the British people! What the Chamber has tried to do is to gain the sympathy of all planters to resist the export tax on sugar. We have no doubt that if the Government had simultaneously reduced the company tax from 40% to 30%, the Chamber of Agriculture would have kept silent and would have forgotten the "planting community," which naturally comprises thousands of small planters. We know a bit of the history of this place, and we are not unaware of the mentality of many sugar magnates.

What are the motives behind the introduction of the export tax? Why has it been recommended by the Meade Commission? Everybody, including the "planting community," knows that Professor Meade is right when he says that Mauritius should strive hard to reduce its dependence on only one crop, which is so vulnerable. Mauritius is the only country in the world which depends on a single crop for exports. And who is responsible for this extreme dependence of the island on a single crop? What has the Mauritius Chamber of Agriculture done to help diversify the economy of Mauritius? The truth is that they never cared for anything except sugar, which is a gilt-edged investment. They have led us to this impasse, and upon the recommendation of Professor Meade, the Government is now trying to reverse the position. It is high time the "planting community" cared less for its immediate profits and devoted some thought to diversifying our economy.

Much stock has been made of the fact that the Government has not reduced the company tax from 40% to 30%. But it must be made clear to everyone that the reduction in the company tax was never intended to apply to sugar companies. Otherwise, it would have been a glaring contradiction in Professor Meade's assessment of the economics of the sugar industry. Professor Meade is satisfied that the rate of investment is adequate; he recommends, in addition, the exemption of customs dues on imported machinery for the sugar industry. In 1957 and 1959, the sugar industry imported new machinery worth Rs 37 million. There cannot, therefore, be any justification for reducing the company tax on sugar companies.

There is, however — and this is certainly what Professor Meade had in mind — ample justification for reducing the company tax on other companies that have started new lines of industry. Everything must be done to help new industries, and the Mauritius Chamber of Agriculture should understand that there is no attempt whatsoever to strike at the basis of the Mauritian economy. When have the sugar magnates not opposed taxation? When have they liked the idea of taxing their profits? It is a well-known story. If the Chamber of Agriculture wishes to reduce the cost of production, it must devote its attention to:

(a) the princely salaries paid to the overstaffed personnel on sugar estates;
(b) lessening end-of-the-year bonuses;
(c) fewer cars; and finally,
(d) less wastage on luxury.

We are fully aware of the difficulties of this country, and that is why we have wholeheartedly wished to help. But we suggest that everything must now be done to start new industries. The proper legislation must be framed, and the proper organisation must be set up. If all this is done without delay, within a few years we shall have expanded and diversified the economy, thus averting disaster. For, whether we like it or not, and for however long we may haggle about the necessity or method of controlling the birth rate, the fact is that the number of people looking for jobs is increasing. And there lies the explosive situation.

(The above editorial appeared in MT of Friday, 26th May, 1961.)

Affaire Misley Mandarin

La Cour d'appel du BIOT rétablit les arrêtés d'expulsion et conforte le cadre du traité Maurice–Royaume-Uni

☞ Suite de la page 5

Dès lors, les quatre requérants ayant pénétré sur le territoire sans permis, les arrêtés d'expulsion pris en vertu de l'article 12 de l'ordonnance sur l'immigration de 2004 ont été jugés conformes au droit et à l'équité procédurale, ouvrant ainsi la voie à leur expulsion. Par ailleurs, la Cour a rejeté l'appel incident des Chagossiens fondé sur le droit international, les crimes contre l'humanité ainsi que sur le traité bilatéral de 2025 entre le Royaume-Uni et Maurice, soulignant que ce dernier n'a pas encore été transposé dans le droit interne britannique et que les juridictions du BIOT appliquent exclusivement le droit municipal du Royaume-Uni.



P - The Sun

Sur le plan judiciaire, cette décision soulève la question des voies de recours disponibles. Contrairement à une idée répandue, la Cour d'appel du BIOT n'est pas supérieure à la Cour suprême du Royaume-Uni : elles relèvent d'ordres juridictionnels distincts mais parallèles. La Cour suprême britannique statue en dernier ressort pour les litiges internes au Royaume-Uni.

L'instance suprême pour les territoires d'outre-mer tels que le BIOT est le Comité judiciaire du Conseil privé (*Judicial Committee of the Privy Council* – JCPC), qui siège à Londres et est composé des mêmes juges que la Cour suprême britannique.

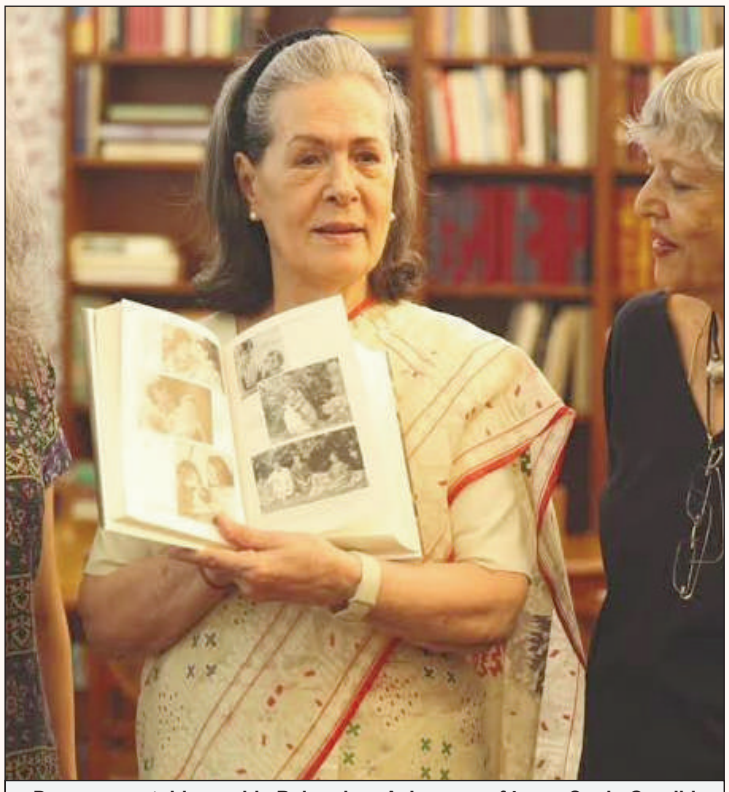
Les autorités britanniques ayant obtenu gain de cause, il appartient désormais à Misley Mandarin et à ses compagnons — soutenus au Royaume-Uni par des groupes opposés à la rétrocession comme le Great British PAC — de solliciter l'autorisation de saisir le Conseil privé à Londres ou d'engager une nouvelle procédure devant les juridictions anglaises, alors que M. Mandarin a déjà fait savoir qu'il refuse de quitter l'île du Coin de son plein gré.

Pour Maurice, cet arrêt lève un obstacle juridique et politique majeur. L'initiative de Misley Mandarin visait en effet à faire reconnaître un droit autonome de réinstallation des Chagossiens détenant la citoyenneté britannique sous l'égide de la Couronne. Si le jugement de mars 2026 avait été maintenu, les opposants britanniques au traité auraient pu s'en prévaloir pour affirmer qu'un retour s'opérait déjà sous souveraineté britannique, compliquant ainsi le processus de ratification parlementaire à Londres.

En annulant cette décision, la Cour d'appel ferme la porte à toute réinstallation unilatérale sous administration britannique. Comme l'a souligné l'Attorney General mauricien, Me Gavin Glover, cet arrêt confirme que la voie légale d'un retour aux Chagos passe nécessairement par Maurice, et non par la Grande-Bretagne. Enfin, en réaffirmant qu'elle ne statue pas sur les questions de souveraineté internationale — tranchées en faveur de Maurice par l'avis consultatif de la Cour internationale de Justice en 2019 et les résolutions de l'Assemblée générale des Nations unies —, la justice du BIOT préserve intacte la trajectoire diplomatique de mise en œuvre de l'accord entre Londres et Port-Louis.

'Belonging: A Journey of Love'

Les mémoires de Sonia Gandhi au cœur d'une vive controverse politique et éditoriale en Inde


Dans son autobiographie Belonging: A Journey of Love, Sonia Gandhi revient sur les profondes divisions familiales provoquées par la proclamation de l'état d'urgence par Indira Gandhi en 1975. P - Facebook

Publiée le 10 novembre 2026 aux éditions HarperCollins India, l'autobiographie de Sonia Gandhi, intitulée *'Belonging: A Journey of Love'*, suscite déjà d'intenses remous sur la scène politique indienne. À 79 ans, l'ancienne présidente du parti du Congrès, réputée pour sa grande discrétion, y retrace son parcours hors du commun : celui d'une jeune femme née en 1946 dans un petit village italien près de Vicence devenue la matriarche de la plus puissante dynastie politique indienne, la famille Nehru-Gandhi. Dans une tribune parue dans le quotidien *The Hindu*, Sonia Gandhi a souligné que son ouvrage n'était pas un livre politique mais un récit «personnel», destiné à dépeindre «honnêtement» les motivations, les combats et les failles humaines de ceux qu'elle a aimés.

L'ouvrage revient sur les étapes marquantes de son intégration en Inde, depuis sa rencontre avec Rajiv Gandhi à Cambridge et leur mariage à New Delhi en 1968 — alors que sa belle-mère Indira Gandhi était Première ministre — jusqu'aux tragédies qui ont frappé sa famille. Elle évoque notamment l'assassinat d'Indira Gandhi en 1984 par ses gardes du corps, puis celui de son mari Rajiv Gandhi, devenu le plus jeune Premier ministre du pays à 40 ans, tué dans un attentat-suicide en 1991.

Sonia Gandhi éclaire également sa décision historique de 2004 de renoncer au poste de Première ministre après la victoire du Congrès. Dans un extrait publié par *The Indian Express*, elle révèle que ses enfants, Rahul et Priyanka Gandhi, traumatisés par le meurtre de leur grand-mère et de leur père, associaient cette fonction à un danger mortel, et qu'elle avait ressenti leur profond soulagement quand elle leur avait annoncé son refus de ce poste.

Sur le plan historique, les révélations les plus commentées concernent l'instauration de l'état d'urgence en 1975 par Indira Gandhi. Selon les confidences de Sonia Gandhi, cette décision a provoqué de profondes fractures au sein même du foyer familial. Elle rapporte qu'Indira Gandhi éprouvait un réel malaise face à cette mesure — ce qui l'aurait finalement poussée à convoquer des élections en 1977 — mais qu'elle avait cédé lors d'un dîner familial aux pressions de son fils cadet, Sanjay Gandhi, partisan d'une ligne dure contre l'opposition.

À l'inverse, Rajiv Gandhi, alors totalement étranger à la politique, s'y était fermement opposé et en avait débattu directement avec sa mère. Sonia Gandhi estime aujourd'hui que si Sanjay Gandhi avait été davantage encadré après la proclamation de l'état d'urgence, une grande partie des dégâts politiques — liés notamment aux campagnes de stérilisation forcée et aux démolitions de bidonvilles à Delhi — aurait pu être évitée.

A. Bartleby

☞ Suite en page 19

‘Belonging: A Journey of Love’

☞ Suite de la page 18

Ces révélations revêtent une portée stratégique majeure alors que Rahul Gandhi mène actuellement une campagne d’opposition accusant le gouvernement de menacer la démocratie et la Constitution indiennes. En attribuant la responsabilité principale de l’état d’urgence à Sanjay Gandhi, le récit tend à dédouaner la direction actuelle du Congrès de ce lourd héritage historique. Cette ligne de défense place toutefois le Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) au pouvoir dans une situation délicate : bien que le parti du Premier ministre Narendra Modi dénonce régulièrement l’état d’urgence pour attaquer le Congrès, les descendants directs de Sanjay Gandhi — Maneka et Varun Gandhi — sont aujourd’hui alignés sur le BJP. Le porte-parole national du BJP, C. R. Kesavan, a vivement réagi dès la sortie du livre, affirmant que Sonia Gandhi aurait dû intituler son ouvrage «Blanchiment» (*Whitewashing*), l’accusant d’édulcorer les fautes historiques de sa famille.

Parallèlement aux joutes partisanes, le livre fait l’objet de critiques sévères en raison de la présence de plus d’une cinquantaine d’erreurs factuelles, soulevant des interrogations sur le travail de vérification éditoriale malgré l’implication d’éditeurs de premier plan.

Wanted: Live-in Housekeeper/Maid

Looking for a reliable, honest, and hardworking live-in maid to assist with general household duties (cooking, cleaning, laundry, ironing) and childcare.
Schedule: Full-time, live-in
Requirements: Trustworthy, diligent; prior experience with children preferred
Contact:
Mr Ashvin Kumar Gujadhur
La Plaine de l'Hermitage
(Note: corrected from "Le Plaine de les Hermitage")
Tel: 5250 2609

Réforme scolaire: derrière l’attente du Blueprint, l’avenir de la compétitivité mauricienne

Plus de dix-huit mois après les Assises de l’Éducation d’avril 2025, qui avaient recueilli plus de 2 600 propositions, l’école mauricienne se trouve à un carrefour décisif. Alors que le ministre de l’Éducation, le Mahend Gungapersad, a annoncé l’imminence de la publication du Blueprint — dont la version finale a été transmise aux plus hautes instances de l’État —, l’impatience grandit parmi les enseignants, les parents et les responsables d’établissements. Au-delà des inquiétudes légitimes sur le calendrier, le déficit de communication ou les modalités de transition, l’enjeu de cette feuille de route dépasse le seul cadre scolaire : il conditionne la capacité de Maurice à franchir un nouveau cap de développement économique et social à l’ère des technologies de pointe.



En publiant rapidement un Blueprint cohérent et doté de moyens adéquats, le ministère de l’Éducation peut faire de l’école un véritable moteur de souveraineté économique et de progrès social. - P - Shri Krishna University

Sur le terrain, les grandes orientations évoquées dessinent une refonte en profondeur du parcours éducatif. Le projet prévoit notamment de revoir le mode d’admission en Grade 7 à partir du *Primary School Achievement Certificate* (PSAC) au sein de collèges nationaux et régionaux, tout en faisant évoluer le réseau actuel des académies vers un ensemble de plus d’une trentaine de collèges publics et privés, mixtes ou non mixtes. La suppression envisagée du *National Certificate of Education* (NCE) sous sa forme actuelle ainsi que la révision du *Foundation Programme* suscitent toutefois de vives interrogations.

Les syndicats de l’enseignement saluent une ouverture au dialogue et des efforts budgétaires notables — l’éducation représentant le deuxième poste de dépenses publiques avec 22,9 milliards de roupies —, mais ils déplorent que près de 90 % des dossiers discutés tardent à se concrétiser. Ils réclament une publication rapide afin de lever l’incertitude pour les cohortes déjà engagées, d’endiguer la compétition effrénée favorisant le recours aux leçons particulières, et de remédier aux urgences quotidiennes: recrutement face aux départs à la retraite, modernisation des laboratoires scientifiques, sécurité, discipline et équipement technologique des écoles.

Pourtant, si l’on élève le débat au-dessus des contingences administratives, cette réforme apparaît comme une nécessité vitale pour l’avenir du pays. Pendant plusieurs décennies, le “miracle économique” mauricien a reposé sur un modèle fondé sur une main-d’œuvre abondante, bon marché et relativement peu qualifiée, notamment dans le textile et les industries manufacturières traditionnelles. Ce modèle est aujourd’hui définitivement révolu. L’intelligence artificielle, la robotique et l’automatisation bouleversent la division internationale du travail. Désormais, aucune nation ne peut plus bâtir sa prospérité sur une main d’oeuvre peu qualifiée et à bas coût, Les emplois peu qualifiés sont les premiers exposés à l’obsolescence technologique, tandis que la création de valeur se déplace massivement vers le capital humain et la maîtrise du savoir.

Dans ce contexte, seule une éducation profondément réformée peut servir de rampe de lancement pour propulser l’ensemble des secteurs économiques vers un palier supérieur de développement. Dans les services financiers et la fintech, la maîtrise de l’analyse de données et de la cybersécurité devient incontournable. Dans le tourisme et l’hôtellerie, la transition vers un modèle durable et haut de gamme exige des compétences accrues en gestion, en numérique et en communication interculturelle. De même, l’émergence d’une économie bleue, des énergies renouvelables, de l’agro-industrie intelligente ou encore des biotechnologies ne pourra s’opérer sans un vivier local d’ingénieurs, de techniciens supérieurs et de chercheurs formés dès le plus jeune âge à la démarche scientifique et à l’innovation.

Pour répondre à ces impératifs, l’école mauricienne doit opérer une mue qualitative radicale. Il ne s’agit plus de perpétuer un système fondé sur le tri précoce et le bachotage, qui classe et exclut dès l’enfance au détriment de l’égalité des chances. L’école de demain doit cultiver la pensée critique, la créativité, la résolution de problèmes complexes et l’agilité intellectuelle, tout en valorisant la diversité des talents, qu’ils soient scientifiques, techniques, artistiques ou sportifs. Elle doit également ancrer dès le préscolaire les valeurs humaines fondamentales — empathie, solidarité, éthique et sens civique — indispensables pour évoluer dans un monde hyperconnecté en perpétuelle mutation.

La réussite d’une telle ambition repose toutefois sur une mise en œuvre rigoureuse et concertée. Une réforme d’une telle ampleur ne saurait réussir sans l’adhésion pleine et entière du corps enseignant, véritable pilier du système éducatif, ni sans une période de transition claire garantissant qu’aucune génération d’élèves ne soit sacrifiée à l’improvisation. En publiant sans plus tarder un Blueprint cohérent, accompagné de moyens matériels et technologiques à la hauteur des enjeux, le ministère de l’Éducation a l’opportunité historique de faire de l’école le moteur premier de la souveraineté économique et du progrès social de l’île Maurice.

A. Bartleby

Productivity & Excellence

NPCC honours Champions of Continuous Improvement at NPQEA 2026

The National Productivity and Competitiveness Council (NPCC) celebrated Mauritius's foremost champions of operational efficiency and continuous improvement at the National Productivity and Quality Excellence Awards (NPQEA) 2026 gala ceremony. Held recently at The Ravenala Attitude Hotel, the event brought together business leaders, senior government officials, and international delegates under the theme *"Unlocking Organisational Potential: Sustaining Productivity and Quality Excellence."*

The awards served as a fitting finale to a landmark week for Mauritius's productivity agenda, immediately following the two-day Africa Kaizen Annual Conference (AKAC) 2026 — hosted in Mauritius for the first time. With delegates from Africa, Asia, and Latin America in attendance, the ceremony showcased how the island benchmarks quality across both public and private spheres.

Out of 46 project submissions — comprising 27 from small, medium, and micro enterprises (SMEs) and registered associations, three from mid-market and large private enterprises, and 16 from government departments and parastatals — three organisations emerged as Grand Winners in their respective divisions. Vi-Deco Interiors captured the Grand Prize in the SME category; the Cardiac Unit of Victoria Hospital, Candos took top honours among government departments and parastatal bodies; and Princes Tuna Mauritius Ltd claimed the Grand Prize for mid-market and large private enterprises.

Additional Gold awards went to the Association Mauricienne des Femmes Chefs d'Entreprises, Island Meat Distributions Ltd, Shreya Food Industries, Vi-Design Furniture Ltd, the Mauritius National Assembly, and the Ministry of Commerce and Consumer Protection, alongside numerous Silver and Bronze laureates across the education, healthcare, construction, and public administration sectors. Reflecting modern imperatives, Special Awards for Sustainability and Digitalisation were presented to the Academy of Design and Innovation, Neel Construction & Industries Ltd, and the Mauritius National Assembly.

Addressing the gathering, the Minister of Labour and Industrial Relations, Reza Uteem, framed productivity within the broader framework of decent work and inclusive growth. "Productivity does not happen in spite of workers — it happens through them," he stated, emphasising that safe, fair conditions and mutual trust between management and labour form the empirical foundation of sustained improvement. He commended recipients for earning "the knowledge that their commitment to excellence is real, tested and acknowledged." NPCC Chairman Arshad Duymun echoed the human-centric philosophy driving the Kaizen movement. "People are, and will always remain, the engine of productivity," Mr Duymun remarked, noting that behind every improved process is an individual who chose to care and act. He stressed that the NPQEA proves continuous improvement belongs just as much in small workshops and government corridors as on multinational factory floors.

Situating the awards within a challenging global economic landscape, NPCC Executive Director Dr Vinaye Ancharaz reminded enterprises that efficiency is vital for a small, open economy. "Every percentage point of productivity improvement translates into competitiveness. Every quality award won by a Mauritian enterprise sends a signal to the world: that this island takes excellence seriously," Dr Ancharaz said. Highlighting the NPCC's status as one of Africa's four designated Africa Kaizen Initiative (AKI) Centres of Excellence, he added that national resilience is built not through isolated efforts, but through deeply rooted cultures of continuous excellence.

Established under the NPCC Act 1999, the Council continues to champion quality as a universal standard across the Mauritian economy — ensuring that enterprises of every size, alongside public institutions, remain agile, competitive, and forward-looking.



STC
STATE TRADING CORPORATION



VACANCY NOTICE

The State Trading Corporation (STC) wishes to recruit experienced and dynamic candidates willing to take an active role in the following positions:

1. **Resource Person/Store Manager (Contract)**
2. **Secretary (on establishment)**
3. **Supplies and Sales Officer (on establishment)**
4. **Driver (on establishment)**

Relevant information on mode of application and other details regarding the vacancies are available on **STC's website** at ***https://www.stcmu.com*** or from **STC's Reception Desk, 55 Business Zone, Ebene Cybercity 72201, Ebene.**

(i) For post No. 1, salary may be negotiable and appointment will be on a one-year contractual basis, with the possibility of renewal, subject to satisfactory performance.

(ii) For posts No. 2 and 3, candidates, unless already in the public sector, should not have reached their 45th birthday by the closing date for the submission of applications. Selected candidates will be placed on permanent and pensionable basis after completion of a satisfactory probationary period of twelve months.

(iii) For post No. 4, candidates, unless already in the public sector, should not have reached their 48th birthday by the closing date for the submission of applications. Selected candidates will be placed on permanent and pensionable basis after completion of a satisfactory probationary period of twelve months.

Envelope clearly marked **"NAME OF POST APPLIED FOR"** on top left-hand corner and addressed to the General Manager should reach the STC through registered post or deposited at the STC's Reception Desk at latest **30 November 2026 by 15:00 hrs.**

Late application and application not made on the Prescribed Form (STC Form 2) will not be considered. Incomplete, inadequate or inaccurate filling of the Application Form may entail the applicant's elimination from the competition.

Candidates should submit along with their applications, copies of relevant educational qualifications, testimonials of any experience claimed and equivalence of qualification (if any), including submission of certificate of character.

The onus for the submission of the equivalence of qualification (if applicable) from the relevant authorities (Higher Education Commission or Mauritius Qualifications Authority) and to submit the application forms before the closing date rests on the applicants.

STC reserves the right:

(i) to call only the best qualified candidates for an interview; and

(ii) not to make any appointment following this advertisement nor to assign any reason whatsoever for accepting or rejecting any candidates.

Date: 10 November 2026

Scientists warn we may be missing evidence of extraterrestrial life

Scientists searching for life beyond Earth have long worried about finding false evidence of life. A new paper argues that they should be equally concerned about the opposite problem: life may be present, but we may fail to recognise its signs.

The research was led by Inge Loes ten Kate, professor of astrobiology at Utrecht University and the University of Amsterdam. Published in Nature Astronomy, the study examines the problem of “false negatives” in the search for extraterrestrial life.

A false negative occurs when life exists, or once existed, but scientists fail to detect it. This could happen because traces of organisms have disappeared, signals are too weak, existing instruments cannot detect them, or scientists are looking only for forms of life that resemble



what is already known on Earth.

Ten Kate argues that future missions should therefore be designed not merely to detect expected signs of life, but also to understand how life could remain hidden.

The researchers recommend combining laboratory experiments, computer modelling and fieldwork to determine what biological traces might survive under different planetary conditions. Artificial intelligence could also help by identifying patterns in large quantities of data that humans might overlook.

The consequences of missing life could be considerable. Scientists might abandon promising locations or fail to recognise important evidence. There is also a more troubling possibility: future exploitation of extraterrestrial resources could inadvertently destroy an unknown ecosystem before its existence is recognised.

Mars illustrates the difficulty. Certain iron-bearing minerals display unusual oxidation patterns. On Earth, comparable processes can be associated with life, but that does not mean the Martian minerals are evidence of living organisms.

The researchers' broader message is one of scientific humility. We cannot reliably search for something if we have not considered all the ways it might reveal itself.

Future missions, they argue, must therefore investigate not only where life might exist, but also how we could miss it.

Curious Kids

A microbiologist explains the odors brewing in your gut

Your farts’ aromas are tuned to your diet – and your overall health.

A healthy person farts about 14 to 20 times each day. All together, that’s enough gas to fill a super stinky party balloon.

Farts are made of gases that are produced by trillions of tiny organisms called microbes, mostly bacteria, that live in your gut. These organisms have an important job: They help chew up food that your stomach cannot break down on its own. In the process, they act like mini chemical factories that provide you with nutrients while releasing waste gases into your gut. These gases mix with air you swallow and other gases that you make during digestion. After passing through the intestines, they come out in bursts as farts.

As a microbiologist, I study communities of bacteria, called microbiomes, in various regions of the human body. The microbiome in your gut plays an important role in your health. Producing gases is a sign that bacteria in the gut microbiome are doing their job properly. Farting also relieves pressure in your belly and prevents painful bloating and cramping.

So you might wonder: Why does a normal and healthy body process cause such a bad stink?

What’s in a fart?

Farts are mostly made up of the same odorless gases found in the air we breathe.

Anywhere from 20% to 90% of a fart’s volume consists of nitrogen, which makes up more than three quarters of air. Up to 10% of a fart is oxygen, which humans need in order to breathe. Up to 30% is carbon dioxide, up to 50% is hydrogen, and up to 10% is methane. Microbes produce most of the carbon dioxide, hydrogen and methane, though some of the carbon dioxide is made when digestive juices mix with stomach acid.

But wait: These are not the gases that give farts their delightful array of aromas. What makes farts so malodorous is other gas molecules that contain the element sulfur. Pure sulfur has no smell on its own, but when combined with other elements it makes molecules that reek.

One key culprit is hydrogen sulfide, which is famous for smelling like rotten eggs. Others include methanethiol, which has a bouquet of cabbage, sewage or skunk spray, and dimethyl sulfide, which hits the nostrils with scents of cooked corn, algae or seafood.

Only tiny amounts are required: One molecule of hydrogen sulfide among 1 million other gas molecules has enough power to do the job. That’s equivalent to one kernel of corn in a truckload of about 1,250 ears, or 10 bricks out of all the bricks that make up the Empire State Building in New York City. Other sulfur-containing gasses can be sniffed out at even more minuscule amounts.

Your gut’s source of grody gases

The main thing that determines which gases and how much of them are in your farts is what food your gut microbiome gets to eat.

Some types of foods often referred to as junk food, including candy or diet foods containing artificial sweeteners or syrups, can change the way microbes digest food. High-fiber foods such as beans and grains also have this effect. These foods can cause your body to produce more farts that often are bigger and louder.

However, the loudest fart is not always the stinkiest one. It’s the ones that contain sulfur that pack a smelly punch.

Food is a key source of amino acids, nutrients that build proteins the body needs to function and grow. Two amino acids, methionine and cysteine, contain



A tiny amount of molecules containing sulfur is enough to stink up the gas bubbles that come out your bum. borchee/iStock via Getty Images

sulfur, and they are plentiful in meat, dairy, eggs, and to a lesser degree, beans and grains. Some foods – most notably, vegetables such as cabbage, broccoli, Brussels sprouts and cauliflower – contain other molecules that also have sulfur in them.

When you eat sulfur-rich foods, your gut microbes digest them to produce sulfur-containing gases. That can lead to some putrid farts, with the precise smell tuned to your diet – as well as your overall health. In fact, persistent foul-smelling gas can be a sign of illness, such as irritable bowel syndrome or food intolerance or sensitivity, which you might need to see a doctor about.

Farts in the wild

As you might know from experience, it’s impossible to hold in a fart until it goes away. It will come out somehow – sometimes at speeds up to 10 feet per second, according to back-of-the-envelope estimates, including my own. This rush of gas exiting the body makes the surrounding tissue vibrate, often causing an embarrassing noise.

Farting has been the butt of jokes for millennia. According to the Guinness book of world records, the oldest joke ever written down was a popular proverb dating back about 3,900 years that warned new husbands about their wives’ farts. The popularity of fart jokes remains strong. In the 2010 movie “Despicable Me,” for example, mad tech wizard Dr. Nefario mishears his boss’s demand for a dart gun, instead creating a fart gun, or Fart Blaster, that’s now a real-life popular toy.

But sometimes this natural body process can be a real bummer – like on an airplane. Cabin pressure in flight is often lower than normal air pressure on the ground, which can cause the gas in your gut to expand, spurring more farts. To protect the noses of travelers trapped together in the friendly skies, researchers designed seat cushions and blankets that contain sulfur-absorbing substances, such as activated charcoal. So far, no airlines have adopted these funk-reducing technologies, but you can buy them yourself.

Despite farts’ assault on the senses, your ability to detect them means your nose is doing exactly what evolution designed it to do: act as a chemical sensor for sulfur-containing gases. People can detect hydrogen sulfide and methanethiol at minuscule concentrations, even when there is less than one molecule of these compounds amid billions of other molecules.

These smells can signal the presence of rotting substances and bacterial activity that might harbor pathogens that can make you sick, or deadly environments such as swamps, stagnant caves and volcano vents that can suffocate and kill you.

So the next time you lay a fart that’s pungent enough to clear the room, don’t apologize – just say you’re conducting a live demonstration of natural chemistry that took eons of evolution to perfect.

Brenda A. Wilson
Professor of Microbiology,
University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign



A Fishy Miracle

To find out if there was any risk of getting pregnant again, an elderly hard-of-hearing woman went to see her doctor.

The doctor told her, "You're seventy-nine. Whilst one cannot rule out an act of God, if you were to have a baby, it would be a miracle."

On reaching home, her husband asked what the doctor had told her.

"I didn't quite get it, but it sounded a bit fishy," she admitted. "Something about an act of cod, and if I had a baby, it would be a mackerel."

* * *

The Fifty-Year Curse

An old man visited a wizard to find out if the curse he had been living under for the past fifty years could be removed.

The wizard told him, "Before I can find a solution, I must know the exact words that were used to put the curse on you."

"I can recall them very clearly," he replied. "The words were, 'I pronounce you man and wife.'"

* * *

The High Cost of Living

During a visit with his grandmother, a teenage boy listened while she complained about the high cost of living.

"When I was a kid, you could go out with twenty cents and return home with a dozen eggs, one or two pints of milk, a pound of bacon, and a fresh chicken."

"That's inflation for you," he commented.

"It has nothing to do with inflation," she snapped. "It's all the damn security cameras that shops have nowadays!"

* * *

Old Memories

Three elderly ladies were reminiscing in their retirement home. The first lady recalled shopping at the greengrocer's and showed with her hands the thickness of a cucumber she could once buy for a penny.

The second one nodded, adding that onions also used to be much bigger and cheaper. She then used her hands to show the size of two large onions she used to buy for a penny each.

The third lady remarked, "I can't hear a word you're saying, but I sure remember the guy you're talking about!"

* * *

Old-School Social Media

For those in my generation who do not -- and cannot -- comprehend why Facebook exists: I am currently trying to make friends offline while applying the exact same principles.

Every day, I walk down the street and



tell passersby what I've eaten, how I feel at the moment, what I did last night, and what I plan to do later (and with whom). I hand them photos of my family, my dog, me gardening, taking things apart in the garage, watering the lawn, standing in front of landmarks, driving around town, and having lunch -- basically doing what everyone does every single day.

I also listen in on their conversations, give them a literal "thumbs up," and tell them I "like" them.

And you know what? It works just like Facebook! I already have four people following me: two police officers, a private investigator, and a psychiatrist.

* * *



Two Old Friends Meet At A Bar

Two old friends met at a bar after several years apart.

One friend asked, "How's married life?"

"Wonderful," the other replied.

"Still romantic?"

"Of course."

"What's the secret?"

"We have a simple system."

"What system?"

"Whenever my wife is right, I agree with her."

"That sounds easy."

"It is."

"And what happens when you're right?"

The man took a slow sip of his drink.

"That situation hasn't occurred yet."

His friend laughed. "Seriously?"

"Seriously. We've been married for twelve years."

"So you've never been right?"

"Oh, I've been right plenty of times."

"Then what happens?"

The man smiled.

"My wife lets me know about it approximately three weeks later!"

* * *

The Golf Ball and the Broken Thumb

Two women were playing a round of golf.

One of them teed off and watched in horror as her ball flew straight towards a group of men playing on the next hole.

The ball struck one of the men, who immediately grabbed his groin, collapsed to the ground and writhed in agony.

The woman rushed over.

"I'm so sorry! I'm a physiotherapist, and I know how to relieve your pain. Please let me help you."

"No, no," the man groaned. "I'll be fine in a few minutes."

But she insisted, explaining that she knew exactly what to do.

Finally, he agreed. She gently moved his hands aside and carefully massaged the injured area.

After a few moments, she asked, "How does that feel?"

"Absolutely wonderful!" he replied. "But I'm pretty sure my thumb is still broken!"

* * *

Little Johnny and the Train

Little Johnny was wondering about something one day, so he asked his father a question.

"Dad, how come big dogs can make little dogs and big cats can make little cats, but big trains can't make little trains?"

His father thought for a moment and replied, "That's an interesting question, Johnny. Why don't you ask your mother?"

So Johnny went to his mother and repeated the question.

She considered it and said, "That's a good question, sweetheart. Perhaps Mr Jones down at the railway yard can explain it."

Off Johnny went to find Mr Jones.

"Mr Jones, why can big dogs make little dogs and big cats make little cats, but big trains can't make little trains?"

Mr Jones looked at him seriously and replied:

"Because, Johnny, Union Pacific always pulls out on time!"

* * *

The Man Who Was Upset About Nothing

A man sitting alone at a bar looked miserable.

His friend approached him and asked, "What's wrong? You look terrible!"

"My mother died in August," the man replied, "and left me $25,000."

"Oh, I'm sorry," said his friend.

"Then, in September, my father died and left me $90,000."

"Good heavens! Losing both parents in two months must have been awful."

"And last month, my aunt died and left me $15,000."

His friend shook his head sympathetically. "Three close family members gone in three months. That's heart-breaking."

The man sighed deeply.

"And this month…" he paused dramatically.

"This month, absolutely nothing!"

* * *



The Farmer, the DEA Officer and the Bull

A DEA officer stopped at our farm yesterday and said, "I need to inspect your farm for illegally grown drugs."

I replied, "Okay, but don't go into that field over there."

The DEA officer exploded with anger. "Mister, I have the authority of the federal government with me!" he shouted.

Reaching into his back pocket, he pulled out his badge and shoved it in my face.

"See this damn badge? This badge means I can go wherever I want… on ANY land! No questions asked and no answers given! Do I make myself clear? Do you understand?"

I nodded politely, apologised, and went back to my chores.

A short time later, I heard loud screams. Looking up, I saw the DEA officer running for his life, with my big, mean old bull hot on his heels! With every step, the bull gained ground, and it looked as though the officer might be gored before reaching safety.

The officer was clearly terrified. So, I threw down my tools, ran to the fence, and shouted at the top of my lungs:

"SHOW HIM YOUR BADGE! YOUR DAMN BADGE!!!"

True Life Stories

How do you want to be remembered?

More than a decade ago, a man was reading his morning newspaper. To his surprise and horror, he read his name in the obituary column. The newspapers had mistakenly reported the death of the wrong person for sure. He was shocked to read a news headline about his death. When he regained his composure, He read it to find out what people had said about him.

The obituary included sentences like, “Dynamite King Dies.” and “He was the merchant of death.” The man was the inventor of dynamite and when he read the words “merchant of death,” he asked himself a question,

“Is this how I am going to be remembered?” he asked himself. He decided that this was not the way he wanted to be remembered and he decided to change.

From that day on, he started working toward world peace. His name was Alfred Nobel and he is remembered today by the great Nobel Prize, the greatest of all the prizes.



The Nobel Prize has been honouring men and women from all corners of the globe for outstanding achievements in physics, chemistry, medicine, literature, and for work in peace since 1901. The foundations for the prize were laid in 1895 when Alfred Nobel wrote his last will, leaving much of his wealth to the establishment of the Nobel Prize.

Moral: It is never late to start over.

Inspiration

Get Back to What You Love

Life is too short to stop doing what you love, and it’s never too late to rediscover your favourite things



There are times in life when we’re committed to pursuing our passions. Every molecule in our body is focused on doing what we love. At other times, necessity and responsibility dictate that we put our dreams aside and do what needs to be done. It’s during these moments that we may choose to forget what it is we love to do. There are many other reasons we might leave our passions behind. A hobby may lose its appeal once we’ve realized it will never turn into our dream job. Someone important to us may keep telling us that our passions are childish and unsuitable -- until we finally believe them.

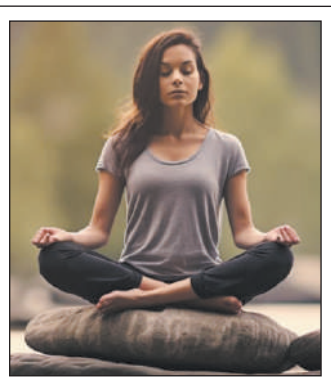
Forgetting about what you love to do can be a form of self-sabotage. If you stop pursuing your dreams, then you never have to risk failure -- but just because you’ve decided to ignore your passions doesn’t mean they no longer exist. Nothing can fill the emptiness that remains in a space vacated by a passion that you’ve tossed aside. Besides, life is too short to stop doing what you love, and it’s never too late to rediscover your favorite things. If you gave up playing an instrument, painting, drawing, spending time in nature, or any other activity or interest that you once loved to do, now may be the time to take it up again. If you don’t remember what it is you were passionate about, you may want to think about the activities or interests you used to love or the dreams you always wished you could pursue.

You don’t have to ignore your responsibilities or neglect your commitments to follow your passions. When you make an effort to incorporate your interests into your life, the fire within you ignites. You’ll feel excited, inspired, and fed by the flames that are sparked by a life in which you’re doing what you love.

DailyOm

Inspirational Wisdom

Lessons from ‘The Power of a Quiet Mind’



In a world filled with constant noise and endless distractions, true strength rarely comes from loud ambition; it begins in stillness. *The Power of a Quiet Mind* serves less like a rigid instruction manual and more like a pocket companion for clarity, offering compact, meditative lessons designed to silence inner chaos and align thoughts, emotions, and actions.

The core takeaway is simple: life feels loud only when the mind is loud. By treating focus as currency and devoting energy to a single priority each day, we reclaim control over our attention. The guide emphasizes that simplicity is power -- pruning unnecessary commitments frees up vital mental space, while practicing detachment allows us to see truths clearly without being swept away by temporary emotions.

Moreover, resilience grows when we change our perspective on adversity. Rather than resisting challenges, treating pain as a teacher shifts our mindset toward growth. Anchored by daily gratitude and deep presence in the moment, a quiet mind becomes the foundation for living intentionally. When you silence the internal noise, you naturally project clarity, strength, and purpose into everything you do.

Human Interest

The Golden Chrysanthemum: How an Unlikely Guest Taught a Family Gratitude

Our house was across the street from the entrance of a famous city hospital. We lived downstairs and rented the upstairs rooms to outpatients. As I was fixing supper one summer evening, there was a knock at the door. I opened it to see a truly awful-looking man.

“He’s hardly taller than my eight-year-old,” I thought as I stared at his stooped, shriveled body. But the most startling thing was his face -- lopsided from swelling, red and raw. Yet his voice was pleasant.

“Good evening,” he said. “I’ve come to see if you have a room for just one night. I came for treatment from the eastern shore this morning, and there’s no bus till morning.”

He explained he’d been hunting for a room since noon without success because of his appearance. “I guess it’s my face. I know it looks terrible, but my doctor says with a few more treatments...”

For a moment I hesitated, but his following words convinced me: “I could sleep in this rocking chair on the porch.” So we agreed to find him a proper bed.

When supper was ready, I invited the old man to join us. “No, thank you. I have plenty,” he replied, holding up a brown paper bag. Later, I went out to the porch to talk with him and quickly realized he had a big heart crowded into a tiny body. He fished for a living to support his daughter, her five children, and her husband, who was hopelessly crippled from a back injury.

He didn't complain; in fact, every other sentence was prefaced with thanks to God. He was grateful that his form of skin cancer was painless and that he still had the strength to work.

At bedtime, we set up a camp cot in the children’s room. In the morning, the linens were neatly folded, and the little man was back on the porch. Before leaving, he asked haltingly, “Could I please come back and stay the next time I have a treatment? I won’t put you out a bit. Your children made me feel at home. Grownups are bothered by my face, but children don’t seem to mind.”

On his next trip, he arrived at dawn carrying a big fish and a quart of massive, freshly shucked oysters. In the years he continued to stay with us, he never arrived empty-handed -- bringing fish, oysters, or garden vegetables, and sometimes sending packages by special delivery packed in fresh spinach or kale. Knowing he walked three miles to mail them with very little money made the gifts deeply precious.

When I received these remembrances, I often thought of a neighbor who once asked, “Did you keep that awful-looking man last night? I turned him away! You can lose roomers by putting up such people!”

Maybe we did lose roomers once or twice. But oh, if only they could have known him! Our family will always be grateful; from him, we learned to accept the bad without complaint and the good with gratitude.

Recently, I visited a friend with a greenhouse. As she showed me her flowers, we came to the most beautiful one -- a golden chrysanthemum bursting with blooms, growing in an old, dented, rusty bucket.

“If this were my plant, I’d put it in the loveliest container I had!” I exclaimed.

My friend smiled. “I ran short of pots, and knowing how beautiful this one would be, I thought it wouldn’t mind starting in this old pail. It’s just for a little while till I can put it out in the garden.”

She must have wondered why I laughed so delightedly, as I imagined just such a scene in heaven: “Here’s a wonderful one,” God might have said when He welcomed the soul of the sweet old fisherman. “He won’t mind starting in this small body.”

Mildred Honoré

Essential Reads

Your Mind Is Easier to Control Than You Think

We like to believe our choices are entirely guided by logic. Whether forming an opinion or making a purchase, we assume we are in complete control of our decisions. However, psychological research shows our minds are far more vulnerable to outside manipulation than we care to admit.

In *Your Mind Is Easier to Control Than You Think*, Shedrack Krinbut draws on social psychology, digital technology, and behavioral economics to reveal how subtle influences shape our daily choices. Swedish researchers famously demonstrated this by swapping photographs chosen by participants. Amazingly, most people failed to notice the switch and confidently justified selecting faces they had actually rejected.

"Intelligence alone does not guarantee mental independence; often, it simply makes us more adept at rationalizing choices we were influenced to make."

Influencers rarely persuade us through blunt arguments; instead, they control the framing. The first price shown, how a question is posed, or the options presented set the boundaries of our logic. If initial assumptions are manipulated, even sound reasoning yields controlled outcomes. Furthermore, the "illusory truth effect" leads us to mistake repetition for accuracy. Social media algorithms, political rhetoric, and targeted advertising exploit this by turning familiar statements into accepted



truths.

Emotion also overrides reason. Urgency timers and provocative headlines provoke knee-jerk reactions, forcing impulse to replace thoughtful evaluation. Furthermore, digital platforms capture our focus by prioritizing novelty and outrage. Resisting this manipulation requires deliberate action -- managing notifications, questioning familiar claims, and pausing before acting. Genuine intellectual freedom starts with a simple willingness to examine the hidden forces shaping our minds.

Thoughts to Live by

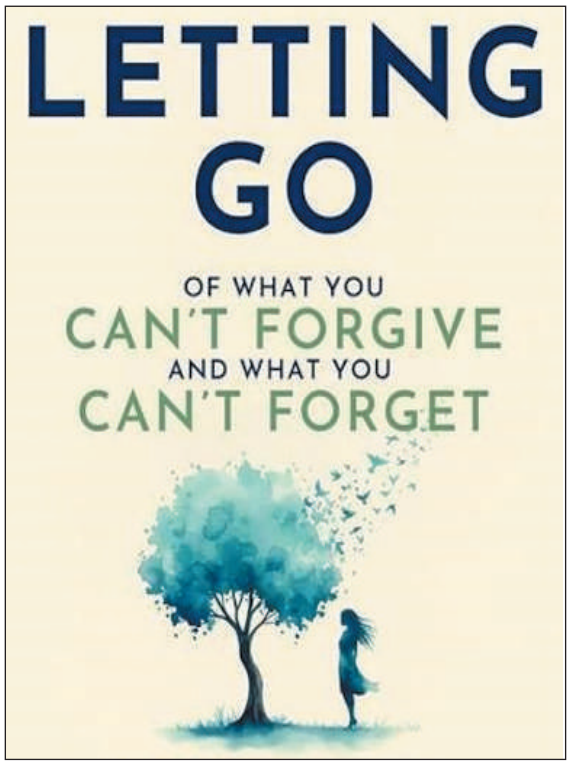
Letting Go of What You Can't Forgive and What You Can't Forget

When someone deeply hurts or betrays us, holding onto anger often feels like a demand for justice. Releasing resentment can seem like excusing the offense or declaring the harm acceptable. Yet, as Daniel Bulmez and Elizabeth Bennett demonstrate in Letting Go of What You Can't Forgive and What You Can't Forget, the heaviest burden of bitterness falls squarely on the victim.

The authors emphasize that letting go is an act of self-preservation, not approval. Releasing anger does not require restoring a broken relationship or waiting for an apology that may never come. Relying on an offender's remorse leaves one's emotional state tied to the person who caused the harm. Moving forward simply means refusing to allow past actions to dictate future well-being.

"Healing should not be measured by the complete erasure of painful memories, but by the growing ability to live purposefully despite them."

The cliché "forgive and forget" places an unrealistic expectation on those healing from trauma. Wounds leave scars, and memories linger. However, forgetting is not a prerequisite for peace. Healing allows us to remember our history without being repeatedly overwhelmed by it. By changing our relationship to the past, painful events become single chapters rather than the entire narrative.



harbouring resentment can subtly consume a person's identity, influencing future choices and relationships. Rehearsing past confrontations keeps the offender at the center of one's thoughts. Redirecting focus toward present goals and healthy connections breaks this cycle. Rebuilding life means discovering personal interests independent of past hurt. Ultimately, letting go is a gradual choice: favoring inner peace over endless emotional conflict, and choosing possibility over permanent preoccupation with past wounds.

Men's Health

What Is Male "Menopause"?

Women may not be the only ones who experience the effects of changing hormones. Some doctors are noticing that men are reporting some of the same symptoms that women experience during perimenopause and menopause.

The medical community is debating whether men really do go through a well-defined menopause as their testosterone levels decline. Doctors say that men receiving testosterone hormone therapy have reported relief from some of the symptoms associated with so-called male menopause.

What Is Male "Menopause"?



Because men do not go through a well-defined period referred to as menopause, some doctors refer to this condition as androgen (testosterone) decline in the aging male, or what some people call low testosterone. According to a WebMD article, medically reviewed by Melinda Ratini, MS, It is normal for men to experience a decline in the production of the male hormone testosterone with aging, but this can also occur with conditions such as diabetes.

Along with a decline in testosterone, some men experience symptoms that include:

• Fatigue • Weakness • Depression • Sexual problems

The relationship between these symptoms and decreased testosterone levels is still controversial.

Unlike menopause in women, when hormone production stops completely, testosterone decline in men is a slower process. The testes, unlike the ovaries, do not run out of the substance needed to make testosterone. Healthy men may be able to produce sperm well into their 80s or later.

However, as a result of disease, subtle changes in the function of the testes may occur as early as age 45 to 50 and become more pronounced after age 70 in some men.

How Is Male "Menopause" Diagnosed?

To make a diagnosis of male "menopause," the doctor will:

- Perform a physical exam • Ask about symptoms
- Order tests to rule out medical problems that may be contributing to the condition
- Order blood tests, which may include measuring testosterone levels

Can Male "Menopause" Be Treated?

If testosterone levels are low, testosterone replacement therapy may help relieve symptoms such as:

• Loss of interest in sex (decreased libido) • Depression

• Fatigue

Just as with hormone replacement therapy in women, testosterone replacement therapy has potential risks and side effects. Replacing testosterone may worsen prostate cancer and increase the risk of heart disease, for example.

If you are considering androgen replacement therapy, talk to a doctor to learn more. Your doctor may also recommend certain lifestyle or other changes to help with some symptoms of male menopause. These include:

• Diet • Exercise programs • Medications, such as antidepressants

Beyond Borders: How *Ramayana* conquered Asian box offices where cultural roots run deep



Nitesh Tiwari's cinematic adaptation of the Ramayana has achieved a historic box-office triumph, crossing the monumental ₹1,000-crore milestone (approximately 5,050 million Mauritian Rupees) in just eight days domestically. Beyond its massive success in India, the epic has shattered records across several Asian countries where the foundational narrative is deeply embedded in local history, culture, and school curricula.

In Indonesia, where the Ramayana has been celebrated for over 1,900 years through indigenous adaptations like the Kakawin Ramayana, the film collected $100,000 (roughly 4.76 million MUR) during its premiere, setting a record for an Indian release. Similarly, in Thailand—influenced by Emperor Rama I's Ramakien — the movie earned nearly $1 million (around 47.62 million MUR) in its opening week. Cambodia recorded a stellar $150,000 debut, while Malaysia contributed a robust $900,000 (about 42.86 million MUR).

The film's most striking overseas triumph unfolded in Vietnam, a market where Indian cinema traditionally struggles. Defying the typical $20,000 threshold, Ramayana surged past $350,000 (approximately 16.67 million MUR). Vietnam shares deep historical links with Hinduism via the Champa dynasty and houses a 1,300-year-old temple dedicated to sage Valmiki, with the epic taught widely in literature courses.

Meanwhile, in Nepal, where the narrative enjoys immense popularity, the first part of the series grossed NPR 12.80 crore (roughly 64.64 million MUR), outperforming blockbusters like RRR, Pathaan, and Jawan.

Produced by Namit Malhotra and starring Ranbir Kapoor, Sai Pallavi, and Yash, this first installment of the two-part epic has grossed over $38 million internationally alongside its staggering Indian earnings, cementing a global legacy that transcends borders.



Kiara Advani reflects on toxic box office setback and Sidharth Malhotra's reaction

During a joint appearance with her husband, actor Sidharth Malhotra, on the fifth episode of *Koffee with Karan* Season 9, Kiara Advani spoke candidly about the commercial failure of her film Toxic. Directed by Geetu Mohandas and starring Yash alongside Nayanthara, Huma Qureshi, Tara Sutaria, and Rukmini Vasanth, the crime thriller was produced on a reported budget of Rs 600 crore. However, it received largely negative reviews, faced trolling over perceived hypermasculinity and misogyny, and grossed only Rs 342.26 crore worldwide.

Advani admitted that the team did not anticipate the harsh reception, describing the opening weekend as "heartbreaking" and noting that she felt quite low on Day 1. Despite the film's box office underperformance, she expressed gratitude for the personal praise she received for stepping out of her comfort zone to play Nadia, calling the role a defining moment in her career.

Addressing the online backlash over her intimate scenes with Yash — and social media speculation regarding her husband's reaction — Advani revealed that Malhotra was completely unfazed. "He never even brought it up. We have never even spoken about this," she told host Karan Johar. Drawing strength from his calm demeanor, she pointed out that female actors from Aishwarya Rai onward have faced similar scrutiny for decades and saw no reason to justify her professional choices.

How a Rs 10,000 loan launched Deepika Padukone's acting career

As Deepika Padukone approaches two decades in the film industry, an archival interview from *The Ellen DeGeneres Show* highlights the early determination behind her rise to stardom. Speaking while promoting her Hollywood debut, xXx: *Return of Xander Cage*, the actor recalled realizing at age 16 that she wanted to pursue acting because being in front of the camera brought her immense joy.



Raised in a household defined by athletic excellence, Padukone noted that her father, badminton legend Prakash Padukone, chose professional sports at a time when conventional careers like medicine or law were the norm. Although following in his footsteps on the court would have made him proud, she shared that he always encouraged her to follow her own heart.

Determined to take her first step into modeling and cinema, a teenage Padukone approached her mother for financial help. She asked to borrow Rs 10,000 to fund her first portfolio shoot, promising that she would eventually repay the money and make her parents proud.

That early leap paid off. Following her 2007 Bollywood debut opposite Shah Rukh Khan in *Om Shanti Om,* Padukone became one of Hindi cinema's leading stars through hits like *Piku, Bajirao Mastani, Padmaavat, Pathaan, Jawan,* and *Kalki 2898 AD*. She is set to reunite with Khan in the upcoming film King.



Programme TV

mbc 1

Vendredi 13 Novembre - 21.00



mbc 1

Samedi 14 Novembre - 20.20



mbc 1

Dimanche 15 Novembre - 20.20



vendredi 13 novembre

MBC 1

06.16 Serial: L'Heritiere
07.00 L'homme Qui Valait Trois...
08.37 Tele: Terre D'Esperance
09.02 L'Amour N'a Pas De Recette
09.30 Film: Selma
11.35 Tele: Happily Ever After
12.00 Le Journal
12.35 Tele: Le Cercle De Feu
13.25 Tele: Lying Heart
13.45 Une Famille Pas Si Parfaite
14.10 Tele: Eclats De Vie
15.00 Live: Samachar
15.30 Film: Les Cygnes Du Destin
17.30 Tele: Happily Ever After
18.00 Samachar
18.30 Serial: Shiv Shakti
19.30 Le Journal
20.14 Zero Stress Avek Miselaine
21.00 Film: Resident Evil
22.31 Tele: Le Cercle De Feu
23.21 Tele: Happily Ever After

MBC 2

11.00 Local: Glwar Dantan
13.00 Rodrig: Feminin Pluriel
14.00 Local: Nou Later Nou Lamer
14.30 Emotion En Avant Plan
15.35 Local: Paroles Agricoles
17.01 Local: La Sosiete
18.00 Une Famille Pas Si Parfaite
19.30 Local: Parlons Sante Senior
19.45 Local: Evasion
20.15 Local: Sekirite Lor Larout
21.45 Local: La Sosiete
22.20 Le Panier De Crabes
22.54 La Journee Sous Le Regard
23.20 Entrepreneuriat Au Feminin
23.35 Mon Jardin Ma Maison
23.57 Urgence Energetique
00.17 Local: 19 Minutes - Le Point
00.36 Local: Saveurs Plus
01.01 Local: Les Grandes Lignes
01.25 Local: Parlons Sante Senior
01.38 Local: Evasion

MBC 3

05.00 Mag: Aastha TV
08.00 Serial
09.00 Aaj Ki Charcha
10.00 Na Umra Ki Seema Ho
11.32 Serial: Shiv Shakti
12.00 Film: Yehi Hai Zindagi
15.00 Live: Samachar
15.20 Sayings Radha Krishna
15.48 Dil Ko Tumse Pyaar Hua
16.30 Aaj Ki Charcha
17.30 Serial: Shiv Shakti
18.00 Samachar
18.31 Local: Mati Ke Mol
18.57 Geet Gawai Ki Naya Peheloo
20.30 Serial: Tenali Rama
21.12 Serial: Beyhadh 2
21.33 Shrimad Ramayan
21.56 Serial: Wagle Ki Duniya
22.17 Aaj Aur Kal Bollywood Hits
23.49 Local: Mati Ke Mol
00.15 Geet Gawai Ke Nawa Roop

MBC 5

06.40 Mag: Arts Unveiled Special
07.00 D.Anime: Bestioles Motel
07.45 D.Anime: Yetili
10.00 Serial: I Woke Up Vampire
11.10 Mag: Eco India
11.53 Mag: Arts Unveiled Special
12.31 Mag: Tomorrow Today
14.26 Doc: An Electric Truck Hits
15.00 D.Anime: Katuri
15.10 D.Anime: Word Party
16.54 Serial: Biff & Chip
18.00 Mag: Eye On SADC
18.43 Mag: Business Beyond
19.00 Mag: Eco Africa
19.28 Mag: Euromaxx
20.01 Tele: Terre D'Esperance
20.30 News
20.50 Tele: Eclats De Vie
21.37 Doc: Little Gourmet
21.42 Doc: Tiny And Tough
22.23 Doc: My Therapist Is Al

MBC 4

14.25 Serial: Radha Mohan
14.55 Serial: Tenali Rama
15.27 Film: Dulaara
Cast: Govinda, Karishma Kapoor
18.00 Samachar
18.30 Udne 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: Dulaara
Cast: Govinda, Karishma Kapoor

samedi 14 novembre

MBC 1

05.30 Tele: Le Roman De La Vie
06.16 Serial: Terre D'Esperance
07.25 Serial: L'Incroyable Hulk
08.15 Serial: New Amsterdam
09.02 L'Homme Qui Valait Trois...
09.50 Serial: The Lazarus Project
11.35 Tele: Terre D'Esperance
11.53 Doc: Delicious Morning
12.00 Le Journal
12.20 Doc: Little Gourmet
12.30 Tele: Asintado
14.50 Doc: Odd Neighbourgs
15.00 Live: Samachar
15.20 Doc: Natural Wonders
15.25 Film: Annie
18.00 Samachar
18.30 Dance Deewane Juniors
19.30 Le Journal
20.20 Film: Memories D'une Geisha
22.45 Serial: L'Incroyable Hulk
00.06 Serial: Berlin Station

MBC 2

06.00 Local: Mon Jardin Ma Maison
06.30 Local: Tous Egaux
06.40 Local: Point Culture
07.35 Local: Les Grandes Lignes
08.00 Local: Parlons Sante Senior
09.15 Local: La Sosiete
12.30 Mon Jardin Ma Maison
13.01 Local: Les Grandes Lignes
14.00 Local: Sekirite Lor Larout
15.05 Local: Tous Egaux
15.20 Local: J'ai Faim
15.46 Nou Later Nou Lamer Nou...
16.24 Local: Urgence Energetique
18.10 Tele: Wildflower
19.00 Zournal Kreol
19.20 Zero Stress Avek Miselaine
19.45 Local: Metie
20.15 Local: Les Petits Genies
20.45 Festival Bouze Final
21.45 Local: En Toute Intimite
22.37 Local: Mots & Ecrits
23.00 Zournal Kreol

MBC 3

05.00 Mag: Aastha TV
08.26 Local: Abhyas Yog
09.00 Aaj Ki Charcha
10.00 Bade Acche Lagte Hai 2
12.00 Mati Ke Mol
12.26 Geet Gawai Ki Naya Peheloo
13.22 Mere Dad Ki Dulhan
15.20 Film: Raja
18.00 Live: Samachar
18.32 Puranya Pakwan
18.57 Local: Sangeet Sarita
19.39 Duniya Mein Iss Saptah
19.53 Bhojpuri Geet
20.59 Film: Fareb
Cast: Suman Rangathan
22.48 Local: Puranya Pakwan
23.14 Sangeet Sarita
23.39 Local: Gyan Vigyan
23.55 Duniya Mein Iss Saptah
00.10 Bhojpuri Geet

MBC 5

06.00 D.Anime: Samsam
06.54 D.Anime: C'est Mon Metier
07.45 D.Anime: Yetili
08.27 D.Anime: Slugterra
08.56 Charlotte Aux Fraises
09.02 D.Anime: Polly Pocket
09.43 Serial: The Wonder Gang
10.30 Doc: Machu Picchu
11.59 Doc: Tiny And Tough
13.27 Doc: Siblings: Love, Hate...
15.00 D.Anime: Katuri
15.11 D.Anime: Word Party
15.23 D.Anime: Peanuts
15.52 D.Anime: Miss Bellyfoo
16.21 D.Anime: Ice Hockey Storm
18.00 Mag: In Good Shape
19.28 Mag: Afrimaxx
20.01 Tele: Terre D'Esperance
20.50 Doc: La Mediterranee Revele
21.45 Film: The Twilight Saga
Cast: Kristen Stewart, Robert Pattinson, Taylor Lautner

MBC 4

08.00 Pandya Store
10.02 Mannat - Har Khushi Panne Ki
12.08 Udaariyaan
14.02 Anupamaa
16.21 Shrimad Ramayan
17.30 Vidrohi
18.00 Samachar



18.30 Film: Swami
With: Manoj Bajpai, Juhi Chawla
21.30 Beyhadh 2

dimanche 15 novembre

MBC 1

06.16 Tele: Terre D'esperance
06.41 Film: Memoires D'une Geisha
08.59 Serial: The Lazarus Project
10.25 Serial: Columbo
11.35 Tele: Terre D'esperance
12.00 Le Journal
12.35 Film: December Horses
14.31 Doc: China Farm
15.00 Live: Samachar
15.30 Film: Afraid
17.50 Doc: Little Gourmet
18.00 Samachar
18.31 Serial: Laughter Chefs
19.30 Le Journal
20.20 Film: The Twilight Saga - Eclipse
Cast: Kristen Stewart, Robert Pattinson
22.16 Tele: Laura, Una Vida Extraordinaria
23.01 Serial: Berlin Station

MBC 2

08.00 Local: Fam Model
10.15 Live From The War Memorial
11.00 Local: Nu Rasinn
12.41 Emotion En Avant Plan
14.00 Local: En Forme
14.30 Des Histories A Reconter
15.00 Remembrance Sunday
16.40 Parlons Sante Senior
16.55 Local: Tous Egaux
17.12 Local: Les Petits Genies
17.40 Local: En Toute Intimite
18.10 Tele: Wildflower
19.20 Zero Stress Avek Miselaine
20.15 Local: Les Klips
21.15 Concert Nikita
23.00 Zournal Kreol
23.39 Local: Nos Aines
23.59 Rodrig - Zenn Aktif
00.23 Local: Toc Toc Doc
00.33 Rodrigues: Nu Lakwizin
00.59 Anou Kombat Ladrog

MBC 3

05.00 Mag: Aastha TV
06.59 Mag: Wellness Watch
08.00 Puranya Pakwan
08.26 Local: Sangeet Sarita
08.52 Local: Gyan Vigyan
09.07 Duniya Mein Iss Saptah
09.22 Bhojpuri Geet
10.30 Mahabharat
12.00 Film: Saatwan Aasman
15.00 Samachar
15.22 Local: Puranya Pakwan
15.47 Local: Sangeet Sarita
18.00 Samachar
18.30 Sayings Radha Krishna
18.31 Darshan With Prof Vishwanath Shrikhande
18.57 Local: Virasat
19.54 Local: Ek Mulakaat
20.30 Serial: Tenali Rama
21.00 Serial: Sa Re Ga Ma Pa Lil...
21.36 Senhur

MBC 5

07.00 D.Anime: Bestioles Motel
07.44 D.Anime: Yetili
08.07 D.Anime: Jurassic World
08.27 D.Anime: Slugterra
08.56 Charlotte Aux Fraises
09.03 D.Anime: Polly Pocket
09.46 Serial: The Wonder Gang
10.31 Doc: Smart Insects
15.05 D.Anime: Katuri
15.24 D.Anime: Belfort Et Lupin
15.46 D.Anime: Les Schtroumpts
16.21 D.Anime: Ice Hockey Strom
16.43 D.Anime: The Prince Of Ceylon's...
17.08 Doc: Legendary Giants
18.25 Doc: Metro World Tour
19.12 Mag: Science 2026
20.01 Tele: Terre D'Esperance
20.50 Doc: It Etait Une Fois Le Musee Du Louvre
21.46 Film: Selma

MBC 4

08.00 Dhruv Tara
10.05 Kundali Bhagya
12.00 Serial: Laughter Chefs
13.00 Dance Deewane Juniors
14.00 Pyaar Ka Pehla Adhyaya
16.00 Wagle Ki Duniya
18.30 Film: Ankahee
Cast: Aftab Shivadasani, Amisha Patel



21.30 Beyhadh 2
21.50 Mahabharat

lundi 16 novembre

MBC 1

05.22 Tele: L'Heritiere
07.05 Serial: S.W.A.T.
08.35 Tele: Terre D'Esperance
09.00 L'Amour N'a Pas De Recette
09.30 Film: Selma
11.30 Tele: Happily Ever After
12.00 Le Journal
12.25 Tele: Le Cercle De Feu
13.15 Tele: Lying Heart
13.45 Une Famille Pas Si Parfaite
14.10 Tele: Eclats De Vie
15.00 Samachar
15.30 Film: The Twilight Saga
17.28 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
20.20 Film: Fire Country
21.05 Serial: Relic Hunter

MBC 2

09.27 Local: Metie
09.40 Local: En Forme
10.00 Local: Itinerer Moris
10.35 Rodrig: Plat Du Chef
12.00 Local: Nu Rasinn
12.50 La Journee Sous Le Regard
13.00 Music Around The World
14.25 Local: En Forme
15.35 Rodrig: Plat Du Chef
16.01 Local: Les Klips
16.55 La Journee Sous Le Regard
17.00 Morisien Konn Ou La Sante
18.00 Une Famille Pas Si Parfaite
18.30 L'Amour N'a Pas De Recette
19.00 Zournal Kreol
19.30 Rodrig: Feminin Pluriel
20.00 Zournal Rodrig
20.55 Morisien Konn Ou La Sante
21.25 Local: 19 Minutes - Le Point
22.35 Local: Grand Titre
22.55 La Journee Sous Le Regard

MBC 3

05.00 Mag: Aastha TV
10.00 Serial: Senhur
12.00 Film: Diljalaa
Cast: Jackie Shroff, Farah
15.00 Samachar
15.47 Kundali Bhagya
16.30 Local: Aaj Ki Charcha
17.30 Shiv Shakti
18.00 Live: Samachar
18.31 Local: Ved Ki Shiksahein
19.25 Excerpts From Shiv Abhishek
20.05 Local: Vaad Vivaad
20.30 Dharm Yoddha Garud
21.00 Film: Hum Dono
Cast: Rajesh Khanna, Hema Malinee
23.37 Shrimad Ramayan
23.59 Wagle Ki Duniya
00.21 Local: Ved Ki Shiksahein

MBC 5

07.12 D.Anime: Bestioles Motel
07.44 D.Anime: Yetili
11.24 Mag: Travel
12.24 Mag: Arts Unveiled
13.42 Doc: Canada
14.27 Doc: Climate Ahoy
14.53 Doc: Japan Video Topics
15.06 D.Anime: Katuri
15.11 D.Anime: Word Party
15.24 D.Anime: Belfort Et Lupin
15.46 D.Anime: Les Schtroumpfs
16.21 D.Anime: Ice Hockey Storm
16.56 Serial: Biff & Chip
17.11 Doc: Wild Isles
18.00 Mag: Eco Africa
19.00 Mag: The 77 Perrcent
19.30 Mag: In Good Shape
20.01 Tele: Terre D'Esperance
20.50 Tele: Eclats De Vie
21.37 Doc: Little Gourmet
23.28 Mag: Eco Africa
00.01 Doc: A Mediterranean...

MBC 4

14.25 Radha Mohan
14.47 Dharm Yoddha Garud
15.30 Film: Alag: He Is Different
Cast: Akshay Kapoor, Diya Mirza



18.00 Samachar
18.30 Udne Ki Aasha
19.00 Do Chutki Sindoor
19.30 Pandya Store
20.00 Mannat
20.30 Saavi Ki Savaari

mbc 1

Mardi 17 Novembre - 20.25



mbc 1

Mercredi 18 Novembre - 21.00



mbc 4

Mercredi 18 Novembre - 15.30



Programme TV

mardi 17 novembre

MBC 1

07.11 Serial: The Lazarus Project
08.39 Tele: Terre D'Esperance
09.05 L'Amour N'a Pas De Recette
09.30 Film: Cellar Door
11.30 Tele: Happily ever After
12.00 Le Journal
12.25 Tele: Le Cercle De Feu
13.15 Tele: Lying Heart
13.45 Une Famille Pas Si Parfaite
14.10 Tele: Eclats De Vie
14.59 Samachar
15.30 Film: Fire Country
17.00 Doc: China Farm
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
20.14 Zero Stress Avek Miselaine
20.25 Film: Le Gendarme De Saint-Tropez

MBC 2

10.45 Local: Mangeons Veg
11.35 Local: Grand Titre
12.00 Local: Clin D'oeil
13.03 La Journee Sous Le Regard
14.10 Rodrig: Feminin Pluriel
14.50 Local: Tous Egaux
15.30 Local: Mangeons Veg
16.00 Local: Avan Tro Tar
16.35 Serial: 19 Minutes
18.00 Une Famille Pas Si Parfaite
18.30 L'Amour N'a Pas De Recette
19.00 Zournal Kreol
19.30 Local: Itinerer Rodrig
20.00 Zournal Rodrig
20.30 Local: Priorite Sante
21.30 Parliamentary Question....
22.30 Local: Point Cullture
23.00 Zournal Kreol
23.25 Local: Fam Model
23.38 Local: Festival Bouze Final
00.30 Local: Parlons Sante Senior

MBC 3

05.00 Mag: Aastha TV
08.00 D.Anime: Guru Aur Bhole
09.00 Aaj Ki Charcha
10.00 Serial: Kundali Bhagya
11.31 Serial: Shiv Shakti
12.01 Film: Saajan Bina Suhagan
Cast: Rajendra Kumar, Padmini Kohlapure
15.00 Live: Samachar
15.20 Saying Radha Krishna
15.49 Pyaar Ka Pehla Adhyaya
17.36 Serial: Shiv Shakti
18.00 Live: Samachar
18.31 Local: Radha Krishna
18.55 Local: Natya Kala
19.54 Local: Prakriti
20.30 Dharm Yoddha Garud
21.00 Film: Apna Bana Lo
Cast: Rekha, Jeetendra
23.30 Shrimad Ramayan
23.53 Wagle Ki Duniya

MBC 5

06.00 Mag: Eco Africa
06.52 Doc: Japan Video Topics
07.00 D.Anime: Bestioles Motel
08.28 D.Anime: Will, La Série
09.25 D.Anime: Agent
11.10 Mag: Eco Africa
11.36 Doc: A Mediterranean...
12.45 Mag: In Good Shape
13.45 Doc: Kash Kash
14.28 Doc: Hope Is Green
15.06 D.Anime: Katuri
15.24 D.Anime: Belfort Et Lupin
15.46 D.Anime: Les Schtroumpfs
16.21 D.Anime: Ice Hockey Storm
16.43 D.Anime: The Prince Of Ceylon's Journey
16.54 Serial: Biff & Chip
18.00 Mag: REV: The Global Auto...
18.30 Mag: Shift
19.30 Mag: Global US
20.01 Tele: Terre D'Esperance

MBC 4

14.25 Radha Mohan
14.55 Dharm Yoddha Garud
15.30 Film: Mr White Mr Black
Starring: Sunil Shetty, Arshad Warsi and Sadashiv Amrapurkar
18.00 Live: Samachar
18.30 Udne 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: Mr White Mr Black
Starring: Sunil Shetty, Arshad Warsi and Sadashiv Amrapurkar

mercredi 18 novembre

MBC 1

05.29 Tele: L'heritiere
08.30 Tele: Terre D'Esperance
08.46 Tele: Terre D'esperance
09.30 Film: Les Cygnes Du Destin
11.30 Tele: Happily Ever After
12.00 Le Journal
12.25 Tele: Le Cercle De Feu
13.15 Tele: Lying Heart
13.45 Une Famille Pas Si Parfaite
14.10 Tele: Eclats De Vie
15.00 Live: Samachar
15.30 Film: Le Gendarme De Saint-Tropez
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
21.00 Film: Annie
22.28 Tele: Le Cercle De Feu

MBC 2

09.10 Local: Priorite Sante
10.35 Local: Saveurs Plus
11.30 Local: Les Petits Genies
12.01 Local: Nos Aines
12.30 Rodrig: Itinerer Rodrig
13.02 Local: Anou Kombat Ladrog
13.25 Local: Metie
14.30 Local: Nu Rasinn
15.35 Local: Saveurs Plus
16.00 Local: Glwar Dantan
16.26 Rodrig - Zenn Aktif
16.55 La Journee Sous Le Regard
18.00 Une Famille Pas Si Parfaite
18.30 L'Amour N'a Pas De Recette
19.30 Rodrig Spor
20.00 Zournal 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
23.08 Zournal Kreol

MBC 3

05.00 Mag: Aastha TV
08.00 D.Anime: Guru Aur Bhole
09.00 Aaj Ki Charcha 2025
10.00 Pyaar Ka Pehla Abhyaya
11.31 Serial: Shiv Shakti
12.01 Film: Anaari
Cast: Raj Kapoor, Nutan
15.00 Live: Samachar
17.11 Radha Mohan
17.31 Shiv Shakti
18.00 Live: Samachar
18.30 Local: Yatra
19.01 Local: Swadharma
19.51 Local: Virasat
20.09 Serial: Kaam Daam
20.30 Dharm Yoddha Garud
21.01 Film: Bitiya Chaathi Maiya...
23.15 Shrimad Ramayan
23.28 Wagle Ki Duniya
23.42 Aaj Aur Kal Bollywood Hits
00.35 Local: Yatra

MBC 5

06.00 Mag: REV: The Global Auto...
06.51 Doc: Japan Video Topics
11.48 Mag: Shift
12.02 Mag: Made In Germany
13.24 The Courage To Reconcile
14.06 Mag: Euromaxx
15.05 D.Anime: Katuri
15.10 D.Anime: Word Party
15.45 D.Anime: Les Schtroumpfs
16.21 D.Anime: Ice Hockey Storm
16.54 Serial: Biff & Chip
17.10 When Night Falls In Vienna
18.00 Mag: Afrimaxx
18.31 Mag: Planet A
19.00 Mag: Arts Unveiled
19.30 Doc: An Electric Truck Hits
20.03 Tele: Terre D'Esperance
20.50 Tele: Eclats De Vie
21.40 Doc: Little Gourmet
22.26 Mag: Close Up
22.58 Mag: Focus On Europe

MBC 4

14.25 Radha Mohan
14.50 Dharm Yoddha Garud
15.30 Film: Mithya
Starring: Ranvir Shourney, Neha Dhupia
18.00 Live: Samachar
18.31 Udne 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 Anupamaa
21.28 Pyaar Ka Pehla Abhyaya
22.00 Dhruv Tara
22.24 Wagle Ki Duniya
22.54 Aladdin
23.30 Film: Mithya
Starring: Ranvir Shourney, Neha Dhupia

jeudi 19 novembre

MBC 1

05.26 Tele: L'Heritiere
07.02 Serial: Nelle Tue Mani
08.42 Tele: Terre D'Esperance
09.01 L'Amour N'a Pas De Recette
09.30 Serial: Columbo
11.30 Tele: Happily Ever After
12.00 Le Journal
12.25 Tele: Le Cercle De Feu
13.15 Tele: Lying Heart
13.45 Une Famille Pas Si Parfaite
14.10 Tele: Eclats De Vie
15.25 Film: Annie
17.20 Tele: Happily Ever After
18.00 Samachar
18.31 Serial: Shiv Shakti
19.00 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu
19.30 Le Journal
20.20 Film: Jigariyaa
Cast: Harshvardhan Deo, Cherry Mardia, Deepak Chaddha

MBC 2

10.43 Local: Les Klips
11.35 Local: Grand Titre
12.35 Local: En Toute Intimite
12.54 La Journee Sous Le Regard
13.10 Local: Rodrig Spor
14.35 Local: Parlons Sante Senior
14.45 Local: Agir Ensemble
18.00 Une Famille Pas Si Parfaite
18.30 L'Amour N'a Pas De Recette
19.00 Zournal Kreol
19.25 Nou Later Nou Lamer....
20.00 Zournal Rodrig
20.16 Local: Les Grandes Lignes
20.45 Local: Paroles Agricoles
21.15 Local: Encounter
21.40 Local: Music Tour 2025
22.40 Sekirite Lor Larout
23.00 Zournal Kreol
23.34 Local: La Sosiete
23.58 Rodrig: Feminin Pluriel

MBC 3

05.00 Mag: Aastha TV
08.00 D.Anime: Guru Aur Bhole
09.00 Aaj Ki Charcha 2025
10.00 Serial: Radha Mohan
11.31 Serial: Shiv Shakti
12.01 Film: Ram Avatar
15.00 Live: Samachar
15.20 Sayings Radha Krishna
15.49 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
18.42 Bhajan Sandhya
19.04 Local Prod
19.56 Local: Hunarbaaz
20.30 Tenali Rama
20.51 Serial: Shiv Shakti
21.35 Serial: Shrimad Ramayan

MBC 5

06.25 Mag: Planet A
08.05 D.Anime: Jurassic World
09.28 D.Anime: Agent
11.10 Mag: Afrimaxx
14.21 Mag: Focus On Europe
14.41 Mag: Shift
15.01 D.Anime: Katuri
15.24 D.Anime: Belfort Et Lupin
15.45 D.Anime: Les Schtroumpfs
16.21 D.Anime: Ice Hockey Storm
16.43 The Prince Of Ceylon's...
18.00 Mag: Eco India
18.43 Mag: In Good Shape Special
19.30 Mag: Tomorrow Today
20.01 Tele: Terre D'Esperance
20.30 Live: New
20.50 Tele: Eclat De Vie
21.38 Doc: Little Gourmet
21.43 Doc: Bolts From Blue
22.27 Doc: Cargo Sailboats
23.40 Doc: Paths Of Light

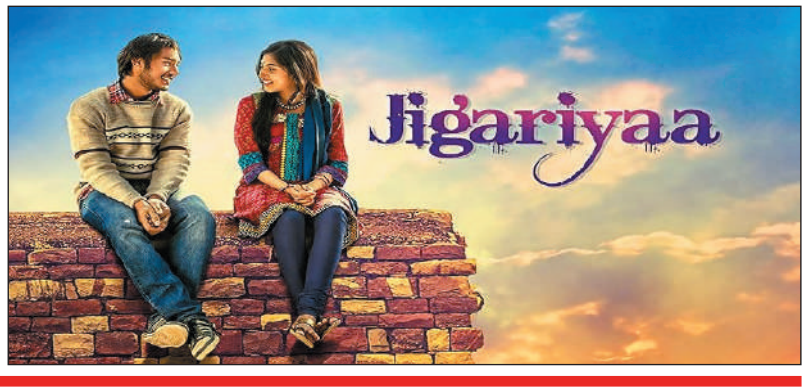
MBC 4

14.25 Radha Mohan
15.00 Tenali Rama
15.30 Film: Chalta Hai Yaar
Cast: Rahuvir Yadav, Sanjay
18.00 Live: Samachar
18.30 Udne Ki Aasha
19.00 Do Chutki Sindoor
19.30 Pandya Store
20.00 Mannat - Har Khushi Paane Ki
20.30 Saavi Ki Savaari
21.02 Anupamaa
21.34 Pyaar Ka Phela Adhyaya
22.01 Dhruv Tara
22.29 Wagle Ki Duniya
23.05 Aladdin
23.31 Film: Chalta Hai Yaar
Cast: Rahuvir Yadav, Sanjay

mbc 4 **Jeudi 19 Novembre - 15.30** Stars: Shakti Kapoor, Poonam Gulati, Himani Shivpuri, Asrani



mbc 1 **Jeudi 18 Novembre - 20.20** Stars: Harshvardhan Deo, Cherry Mardia, Deepak Chaddha



Market Governance

Competition Commission proposes sweeping reforms to modernise Mauritius's Competition Law



Mr Vipin Naugah, Executive Director of the Competition Commission

The Competition Commission of Mauritius has unveiled a comprehensive set of proposed amendments to the Competition Act 2007, aimed at closing long-standing legal loopholes and bringing the country's regulatory framework in line with international best practice.

Presented during a Law Review Validation Workshop held recently at the Ravenala Attitude Hotel, the draft reforms draw on more than 15 years of enforcement experience since the Act's substantive provisions came into operation in November 2009. Developed through multi-stage stakeholder consultations and technical assistance from international experts — supported by the European Union and the World Bank Group — the proposals seek to bolster market fairness while accounting for Mauritius's specific economic conditions.

Among the most significant changes is the overhaul of the merger control regime. Currently, merger notification in Mauritius is voluntary, allowing potentially anti-competitive transactions to escape scrutiny until after completion, when remedial action becomes far more difficult. The proposed amendments introduce mandatory prior notification and approval for qualifying mergers exceeding prescribed thresholds, backed by financial penalties for non-compliance.

The draft law also targets a critical gap regarding the abuse of dominance. Under existing legislation, the Commission may review abuses of market power and issue directives to cease such conduct, but it cannot expressly prohibit the behaviour or impose fines — meaning consumers and competitors often suffer substantial harm before intervention takes effect. Aligning Mauritius with global standards, the reforms would explicitly prohibit the abuse of a dominant position and empower the regulator to levy financial penalties on infringing enterprises, while still distinguishing legitimate commercial success from anti-competitive practices.

Further strengthening enforcement, the proposals clarify rules governing restrictive horizontal agreements between competitors and vertical agreements across supply chains, providing for their prohibition where market share and competition thresholds are breached. Provisions against cartels and bid rigging will also be tightened. Collusive conduct limiting production, technical development, or investment will fall under cartel prohibitions, while the current exemption for disclosed joint bids in public procurement will be narrowed. Bidders will need to demonstrate that collaboration generates genuine efficiencies and tangible benefits for the procuring entity.

To ensure the regime remains pragmatic and business-friendly, the amendments introduce an individual exemption mechanism. Businesses will be able to apply for prior approval for otherwise restrictive agreements if they deliver clear economic efficiencies, pass a fair share of benefits to consumers, and do not eliminate competition.

On an institutional level, the proposals provide for the establishment of a formal Board of the Competition Commission to clarify governance without compromising operational independence. They also introduce a settlement mechanism for specific investigations and deepen cooperation with domestic sector regulators and foreign competition authorities.

Addressing stakeholders at the workshop, Executive Director Vipin Naugah noted that while the 2007 Act has served Mauritius well over the past 17 years, rapid changes in the economic landscape have exposed critical enforcement gaps. "The major reforms being proposed — namely, the introduction of mandatory merger notification, the express prohibition of abuse of market power and subjecting it to financial penalties, and the strengthening of provisions against cartels and bid rigging — have been designed to be robust and effective, while remaining flexible and business-friendly," Mr Naugah stated.

UTILITY REGULATORY AUTHORITY, MAURITIUS

VACANCY: POST OF DIRECTOR / CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

The Utility Regulatory Authority (URA) is an independent body set up to regulate the utility services, namely electricity, water and wastewater. Its objects are to ensure the sustainability and viability of utility services; protect the interests of consumers; promote efficiency in both operations and investments in respect of utility services; and promote fair competition in the utility services industry.

The URA invites application for the post of Director with authority to exercise the powers of the Chief Executive Officer in leading a team of professionals in the field of Licensing and Compliance Monitoring.

QUALIFICATIONS

A degree in Engineering, Economics, Finance or Law, together with a postgraduate degree in any one of those fields or a Master in Business Administration would be acceptable to the Authority. Professional work experience at senior management level in a regulatory body and international exposure would be an advantage.

CORE COMPETENCIES

- A Strategic thinker and planner with ability to provide management oversight across the organisation to ensure its effective and efficient functioning;
- Proven track record in strong organisational and directional leadership;
- Significant insights of issues pertaining to utility regulation: budget preparation, compliance, consumer protection, competition issues, developing strategies, licensing, reliability and safety standards and tariff setting;
- A deep regulatory and/or technical expertise;
- Effective stakeholder management, excellent governance and accountability skills;
- A sound analytical and critical thinking skill for decision making;
- A good sense of observing highest standards of ethical conducts and transparency;
- Demonstrating unwavering integrity and honesty including independence for delivering objective decisions impartially;
- Sound knowledge of good governance practices; and
- At least 15 years of professional and work post qualification experience at senior management level in a relevant organisation.

PRIMARY DUTIES

- Responsible for the execution of the policy of the URA;
- Responsible for the implementation of the decisions of the Board of the URA;
- Responsible for the day to day operations and management and administration of the URA;
- Energise the whole organisation such that the Authority timely delivers on legally expected outputs;
- Developing a strategy for operationalizing the phased development of the URA;
- Setting up systems, policies, processes and procedures, in relation to prime functions of the organisation;
- Establishing partnership with regional and international utility regulatory bodies and associations;
- Ensuring compliance with the provisions of the URA Act and other relevant legislations; and
- Identifying and managing operational and corporate risks for the organisation which could have a material impact on the organisation.

MODALITIES FOR APPLICATION

Candidates applying for the post should submit: their detailed curriculum vitae; a letter of motivation; Certified true copies of all qualifications with proof of professional experiences and two letters of reference with full contact details of the referees. A recommendation letter from the most recent Employer confirming integrity, honesty and trustworthiness qualities of applicant is also desirable.

All applications should be addressed to the Secretary of the URA Board and submitted in the URA letter box at the below address in an envelope clearly labelled "Application for the post of Director/Chief Executive Officer" or sent by email to vacancydirector@uramauritius.mu at latest by **11 December 2026 at noon** which shall be the closing date for all applications.

NOTE

- Only the best candidates will be called for interview.
- The appointment will be on a two year contract.
- The Authority reserves the right not to proceed with any appointment following this advertisement and not to assign any reason whatsoever for its decision.
- Incomplete applications will be rejected.

SALARY: **Will be commensurate with qualifications and experience.**
Contact details: **The Secretary to the Board, Utility Regulatory Authority**
Address: **Level 8, Tower A, 1 Exchange Square, Wall Street Ebene, Mauritius**
Tel: **(230) 454 8070 / 454 8079** **Fax: (230) 489 2796**
Email: **vacancydirector@uramauritius.mu** **Website: www.uramauritius.mu**

12 November 2026