



Prime Minister
Republic of Mauritius

MESSAGE

Dear Students,

As we celebrate the 58th anniversary of our Independence and the 34th anniversary of our Republic Day, we should reflect on our national journey and renew our commitment to the values enshrined in this year's theme, "In Peace, Justice and Liberty".

These principles form the very foundation of our democracy and must remain the compass guiding every generation of Mauritians.

On 12th March 1968, after years of trials and tribulations, the Mauritian flag was raised for the very first time at the Champ de Mars. A small island nation declared to the world that it would chart its own destiny. This was an act of immense courage by men and women who refused to accept that their future should be written by anyone other than themselves.

Freedom is the greatest gift that could be bestowed upon any citizen. But we should always bear in mind that this freedom would be devoid of meaning without a deep sense of responsibility.

Dear Students,

On this solemn occasion, I wish to address you, not only as students, but more importantly, as the future leaders and custodians of our country. You are perhaps the most fortunate generation since independence. When I think of the immense power which emerging technologies put at your fingertips, the future awaiting you is truly exceptional.

Since independence, by dint of hard work and perseverance, we have proved many prophets of doom wrong. However, today, our country is facing the onslaught of an unprecedented global turmoil.

The systems that have served us for more than half a century are showing their limits. We find ourselves at a strategic inflection point in our history.

It is precisely for this reason that Government has embarked upon a new model of economic and social development centred on innovation, research and human ingenuity.

To succeed in this new era, we must cultivate the right mindset – one that embraces curiosity, adaptability and continuous learning.

I firmly believe that Artificial Intelligence (AI) will be the structural pillar of our economy. The setting up of a Digital Special Economic Zone at Côte d'Or will have a catalytic effect on future development. It could potentially help us in becoming an intelligent State that considerably enhances the operational efficiency of its institutions and its economic activities for the benefit of all citizens.

Dear Students,

As the future skilled workforce of our nation, every skill you develop, every problem you help solve and every responsible choice you make today, will shape the destiny of the Mauritius we aspire to build together.

You should all feel concerned by the daunting challenges facing our country: climate change, environmental sustainability, food security, renewable energy, and many others.

The scourge of drug proliferation with its devastating consequences remains one of the major preoccupations of Government. While decisive measures are being taken to combat this problem, lasting change will require the vigilance, discipline and responsibility of every citizen.

Dear Students,

We should all take pride in the rich tapestry of our multicultural society, which continues to shine as a beacon of unity in diversity.

A nation's greatness is not measured solely by its economic achievements, but also by the character of its people. Parents, educators and society as a whole, all play a vital role in nurturing the values that will shape the modern Mauritius we envision.

Dear Students,

*We have a great future to build !
You have a great future to shape !*

58 years ago, our forebears dared to believe that this nation could stand on its own feet. Today, I ask you to dare to believe that you can lead. You embody the values our nation calls for: Integrity, honesty and excellence !

The foundation has been laid.

*The direction is clear.
Now, it is your turn to rise and build !*

I wish you plenty of success in your studies.

Long live Mauritius !



*Dr the Hon Navinchandra Ramgoolam, GCSK, FRCP
Prime Minister*

11 March 2026



**In Peace, Justice
and Liberty**

**58 years of Independence
and 34 years as a Republic**