



Prime Minister  
Republic of Mauritius

### Message

*Dear Students,*

*Independence Day remains undoubtedly one of the most notable chapters of our relatively young Mauritian history. This is something we should remind ourselves of as we make our way towards the celebration of the golden jubilee anniversary of Independence next year while also commemorating 25 years as a Republic this year.*

*This means that when we chose to take our destiny into our own hands some forty-nine years back, we also took the commitment to become responsible for conducting our affairs by ourselves, to make our own history and be accountable for it.*

*Today, we are in a position to step forward confidently, knowing that we have it in us to successfully chart our way.*

*And we know that it will take us hard work, dedication and, most importantly, the ability to adapt to the rapid changes that characterise our world to sustain us on this way forward.*

*My young friends,*

*Education has a high importance in this process of growth and development. This is globally recognized today—Education has become the most significant driver of all transformation and innovation and my Government deems it essential that all our youth, without any exception, access the best that may be offered.*

*This explains the ambitious but timely and doable reform agenda my Government has embarked upon—an agenda that covers all the sub-sectors of education, starting right from the pre-primary through to the post-secondary.*

*If the policy of Nine Years of Continuous Basic Education ascertains that all our children and adolescents acquire the solid foundations for future and lifelong learning, the transformations in Upper Secondary, in Higher Education and in the world of technical and vocational education and training will ensure the acquisition of skills-sets and tool-sets that will stand you, our youth, in good stead as you embark on the path of future employability.*

*However, this vision we have for you has also the larger aim of enabling you to hold your own against the best in the world and confidently assume your responsibility as global citizens and contribute to the sustainable development of our world.*

*This is our responsibility towards you—a responsibility that I, as Prime Minister, pledge to honour. However, while this becomes my obligation, yours, dear students, is to understand that there are engagements that you have to subscribe to, as well.*

*If education is to shape your destiny, then you should realise that the best way of securing your future is by creating it.*

*This implies self-discipline.  
This implies self-motivation.*

*And this also implies having the critical faculty of judiciously weighing the consequences of our actions before undertaking them.*

*Herein lies genuine empowerment.*

*Remember that each step taken in the right direction will take you closer to success. Nowhere is this truer than in the field of education. The further you go on that journey, the further you will go in life.*

*But do remember as well that your success in education will not only determine your personal future but also how far you can and will contribute towards taking our country with its rich diversity to new heights.*

*You therefore, my young friends, have an obligation towards yourselves, just like we have one towards you.*




*Dear Students,*

*The power to choose, to respond and to change will make you strong and resilient. But there is not just you as single individuals. If we want to walk 'la main dans la main', we should also be in a position to extend our hand to those of our compatriots who are in need.*

*On this important day in the history of our country, my message today to you is hence to keep in view that, alongside fulfilling your individual dreams, one cardinal aspect of being educated is to develop a social conscience.*

*May this occasion accordingly serve all of you, the youth of the Republic, to reflect on how best we can collectively fulfil the destiny of our nation.*

*Long live the Republic of Mauritius !*



*Pravind Kumar Jugnauth  
Prime Minister*

*09 March 2017*



*Lame dan lame*