

HIGHLIGHTS OF CABINET MEETING – FRIDAY 13 FEBRUARY 2026

1. Cabinet has taken note that the Prime Minister will, at the invitation of the Prime Minister of the Republic of India, attend the India AI Impact Summit 2026 in New Delhi from 17 to 22 February 2026. During his visit, the Prime Minister will have a working session with Prime Minister Modi.

2. Cabinet has taken note that the debates on the Diego Garcia Military Base and British Indian Ocean Territory Bill are expected to resume in the House of Lords of the United Kingdom on Monday 23 February 2026. Government is following up closely on the issue.

3. Cabinet has taken note of the widespread damage caused by cyclone Gezani following its passage in Madagascar in the evening of 10 February 2026. Both the Prime Minister and the Deputy Prime Minister have addressed letters of sympathy to the President and the Prime Minister of the Refoundation of the Republic of Madagascar respectively to express sadness and solidarity with the Malagasy population.

Cabinet has further agreed that a donation of USD100,000 will be made to the Republic of Madagascar.

4. Cabinet has agreed to the Ministry of Land Transport conveying drafting instructions to the Attorney-General's Office for amendments to be brought to relevant legislation to provide for -

- (a) impounding of vehicles in cases of driving under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol; and
- (b) the Commissioner of Police to be empowered to make an *ex-parte* application to a Judge in Chambers for immediate suspension of driving licence in cases of driving under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol.

5. Cabinet has agreed to the setting up of a Special Economic Zone over 83 Arpents of land belonging to Landscape (Mauritius) Ltd at Côte d'Or. A Steering Committee will be set up to oversee the modalities for the implementation of the Special Economic Zone project.

The setting up of the Special Economic Zone is of strategic importance to our economic development, particularly in attracting greater and more productive foreign direct investment, generating employment opportunities, boosting exports, and enhancing economic growth. It will contribute towards our strategy for economic renewal and transition to a New Economic Model.

Given the importance of attracting high-value investment from different countries in strategic sectors in Mauritius, the Special Economic Zone will be designed to attract investment and will be geared towards promoting the economy of the future, including the digital economy and Artificial Intelligence.

6. Cabinet has agreed to the adoption of the Artificial Intelligence (AI) Strategy, AI for Mauritius, which will serve as the national guiding policy framework for the development and implementation of AI in Mauritius. The National AI Strategy sets out how Mauritius will approach and use AI development over the coming years to boost economic growth and improve efficiency across various sectors of the economy and society.

The AI Strategy is supported by a FAIR (Fair, Accountable, Inclusive and Responsible) guideline document, which is a practical document providing for responsible adoption, development and use of AI across sectors by taking into consideration the Mauritian realities while aligning with international practices. The Guidelines will evolve into AI Regulations with the maturity of the ecosystem.

7. Cabinet has taken note that the Ministry of Education and Human Resource is making necessary arrangements to pay the applicable fee for first-time students entering *for Kreol Morisien* at Advanced Subsidiary Level.

In accordance with existing arrangements applicable to all subjects at Higher School Certificate Level, Government pays the examination fees for students attempting the examinations for the first time. The same arrangement is being extended to school students sitting for *Kreol Morisien* at Advanced Subsidiary Level under the National School Certificate.

8. Cabinet has taken note that the Town Planners' Council (Code of Practice) Regulations 2026 had been promulgated to bring into operation a Code of Practice for registered Town Planners in Mauritius. The Code of Practice, inter alia, -

- (a) sets out the professional standards governing conduct and responsibilities;
- (b) requires town planners to act with honesty, integrity, competence and independence to avoid conflicts of interest, maintain confidentiality, and refrain from accepting inducements or engaging in misleading practices;
- (c) requires town planners to maintain and update their professional knowledge, work within their areas of expertise, and provide impartial advice based on reliable evidence;
- (d) establishes proper professional practice, including clear terms of engagement with clients, professional indemnity insurance, and respect for colleagues; and
- (e) promotes professional behaviour, equity, inclusion, and non-discrimination, ensuring that town planners uphold the dignity and reputation of the profession at all times.

9. Cabinet has taken note that the Mauritius Digital Promotion Agency will launch a communication campaign to increase public awareness on the use of the app “KOREK!”. Presently, citizens can access details of their driving licence and number of points accumulated under the Penalty Points System through the app “KOREK!”. In order to access the app, a citizen must register through the MauPass authentication platform.

To kickstart the communication campaign, awareness sessions targeting 3,000 citizens will be held in 75 Sugar Industry Labour Welfare Fund community centres. The awareness sessions will enable users to understand basics of smart phones utilisation, how to access services online, how to conduct online payments and security precautions against phishing and scamming.

10. Cabinet has agreed to the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation in the field of the youth between the Republic of Mauritius and the State of Qatar. The Memorandum of Understanding aims to promote cooperation and facilitate communication between youth organisations of the two countries and set the framework for a programme of cooperation in the field of youth, based on the principle of reciprocity.

Under the Memorandum of Understanding, the two countries will strengthen their mutual cooperation in the following areas –

- (a) exchange visits of youth delegations, members of the youth centres and specialists in the fields of youth;
- (b) development of national youth policies;
- (c) exchange experiences and research related to the youth sector;
- (d) participation in the meetings, conferences, lectures, seminars and academic forums on topics dealing with youth held in both countries;
- (e) exploring opportunities to set up, alternately in both countries, youth camps;
- (f) youth entrepreneurship;
- (g) training of youth in the area of management of projects; and
- (h) any other cooperative fields in youth sector agreed on between the participants.

11. Cabinet has taken note of the outcome of the recent participation of the Minister of Tourism in the Outbound Travel Market 2026, which was held in Mumbai, India. The Outbound Travel Market is the leading travel/trade exhibition held annually in the Asian region as it brings together tourist destinations, airlines, tour operators, hotel groups, and media organisations from across the world.

The Mauritian delegation comprising officials from the Ministry of Tourism, the Mauritius Tourism Promotion Authority, as well as representatives from the private tourism sector, including hoteliers and destination management companies, networked, held meetings, conducted business negotiations and promoted the Mauritian destination while putting emphasis on our unique offering such as golf, wellness, and cultural tourism, among others.

During the mission, the Minister also held discussions with leading Indian tour operators, travel agents, corporate travel managers, and destination wedding planners.

12. Cabinet has taken note of the outcome of the recent participation of the Minister of Public Service and Administrative Reforms in the World Governments Summit meeting held in Dubai under the theme “Shaping Future Governments”. The World Governments Summit is a leading global platform that convenes world leaders, policymakers, and industry pioneers to address critical challenges and shape the future of governance. The main objective of the Summit is to foster international cooperation and identify innovative solutions to meet future challenges of the public service, ultimately inspiring and empowering the next generation of governments to deliver efficient and people-centred service.

The Minister participated in discussions during Ministerial Roundtables on “Shaping Future Governments: Achievements and Challenges in the Global South”. During the Ministerial Roundtable, the Minister presented the achievements and progress that Mauritius has made in the modernisation of government operations and reinforcement of its institutional standing with international norms.

13. Cabinet has taken note of the reconstitution of the Board of the National Anti-Doping Organisation, with Dr (Mrs) Rubina Ashika Bhujoo as part-time Chairperson.

14. Cabinet has taken note of the appointment of members of the Employment Relations Tribunal, in accordance with section 85 of the Employment Relations Act 2008.
