

HIGHLIGHTS OF CABINET MEETING – FRIDAY 16 OCTOBER 2026

1. Cabinet has taken note of the report of the Commissioner of Police on the situation since the outbreak of the riots on 12 October 2026 as follows–

- (a) 151 individuals have been arrested, including 16 minors. Cases for 12 of the individuals have been lodged, and they appeared in Court today. 3 other individuals have already been sentenced by District Courts.
- (b) 7 Police Officers have been injured;
- (c) 8 Police stations, namely Barkly, Abercrombie, Pointe aux Sable, Petite Riviere, Bambous, Camp Levieux, Black River and Bel Ombre, have been damaged;
- (d) 31 Police vehicles have been damaged;
- (e) 162 Safe City Cameras on 75 sites around the island have been damaged;
- (f) 27 traffic lights have been damaged; and
- (g) around 17,000 tons of cane have been burnt.

An assessment of the economic and financial impact of damages caused is being conducted.

Cabinet has agreed to a new Curfew Order being issued from –

- (a) 2200 hours on Friday 16 October 2026 until 0430 hours on Saturday 17 October 2026;
- (b) 2200 hours on Saturday 17 October 2026 until 0430 hours on Sunday 18 October 2026; and
- (c) 2200 hours on Sunday 18 October 2026 until 0430 hours on Monday 19 October 2026.

2. Cabinet has agreed to the introduction of the Police (Amendment) Bill into the National Assembly. The object of the Bill is to amend the Police Act so as to provide that a curfew order made by the Commissioner of Police would no longer be limited to a specific locality but would, in addition, cover the whole of Mauritius. Moreover, harsher penalties are being provided in case a person is found outdoors in possession of an offensive weapon, in any area in which a curfew order is in force and while the curfew imposed is operative.

3. Cabinet has examined the possibility of amending the Children's Act with a view to bringing down the criminal responsibility of juveniles from 14 to 12 years. Following discussions, Cabinet has decided to have wider consultations and has, therefore, agreed to a motion being made at the next sitting of the National Assembly for the setting up of a Select Committee to look into the root causes of juvenile delinquency and violence, and consider the appropriateness of such amendments together with any amendment relating to –

- (a) parental responsibility; and
- (b) the offence of inciting minors to commit offences.

4. Cabinet has agreed to the setting up of an Inter-Ministerial Committee under the chair of the Prime Minister to look into the emergency water situation comprising –

- (a) the Minister of Energy and Public Utilities;
- (b) the Minister of Housing and Lands;
- (c) the Minister of Agro-Industry, Food Security, Blue Economy and Fisheries;
- (d) the Minister of National Infrastructure;
- (e) the Minister of Health and Wellness
- (f) the Minister of Social Integration, Social Security and National Solidarity;
- (g) the Minister of Industry, SME and Cooperatives; and
- (h) the Minister of Local Government.

5. Cabinet has taken note of the revised dates for the National Assessment for Grade 4 and Grade 5 and the National Certificate of Examinations Assessment as follows –

(a) NATIONAL ASSESSMENT FOR GRADES 4 and 5

Tuesday 20 October 2026	French
	Asian Language /Arabic/Kreol Morisien/Kreol Rodrige
Wednesday 21 October 2026	English
	History & Geography
Wednesday 28 October 2026	Mathematics
	Science

(b) NATIONAL CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION ASSESSMENT

Wednesday 21 October 2026	Business and Entrepreneurship Education
	Hindi/ Urdu/ Tamil/ Telugu/ Marathi/ Modern Chinese/ Arabic/ Kreol/ Morisien
Wednesday 28 October 2026	Mathematics
Thursday 29 October 2026	Science - Chemistry, Physics & Biology

The school term for the secondary sector will be extended by 3 days and will end on Thursday 05 November 2026.

6. Cabinet has agreed to the promulgation of the National Pensions (Non-Contributory Benefits) (Amendment No. 2) Regulations 2026, which will provide for residence qualifications for beneficiaries of Basic Retirement Pension. The objective of the Regulations is to provide for residence qualifications for persons attaining 61 years as from 01 September 2026 to 31 December 2026 applying for the Basic Retirement Pension as follows –

- (a) in the case of a citizen who was born on or before 31 December 1966, and who has resided in Mauritius for at least 12 years in the aggregate since his eighteenth birthday; or
- (b) in the case of a non-citizen who was born on or before 31 December 1966, and who has resided in Mauritius for at least 15 years in the aggregate since his fortieth birthday, three of those 15 years being immediately before the claim.

7. Cabinet has taken note of the activities being organised by the Ministry of Arts and Culture in collaboration with the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund to commemorate the 192nd Anniversary of the Arrival of Indentured Labourers in Mauritius. To pay tribute to the memory and contribution of indentured labourers, the following activities will be organised -

- (a) a 'yaj', a wreath laying ceremony and a cultural programme will be held at the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Site on 02 November 2026, depicting the cultural heritage of indentured labourers and their descendants;

- (b) a wreath laying ceremony followed by a cultural programme and exhibition on the Heritage, Art and Community, open to members of the public, will be held at the Old Labourers Quarters, Trianon, on 02 November 2026. The programme will comprise an art exhibition by the National Art Gallery, a food fair, cultural items and guided visits; and
- (c) a wreath laying ceremony will be held on 04 November 2026 at the Lotus Monument, Antoinette Phooliyar, Barlow, followed by a cultural programme. The programme will comprise a multi-faith prayer, cultural items, a prize-giving ceremony and an exhibition of the inter-school Painting and Essay-Writing Competition for Grades 4 to 6 of the Amaury, Barlow, Belle Vue Maurel and Petite Julie Government Schools.

8. Cabinet has agreed to the recruitment of Specialised Nurses, on a contractual basis, from Sri Kauvery Medical Care (India) Limited, India, for deployment in the specialised units of public hospitals to address the acute shortage of Nursing Officers.

9. Cabinet has agreed to the signing of a '*Convention No 1 D'Application Relative à la Formation Diplôme de Formation Médicale Spécialisée dans le cadre du Diplôme d'Études Spécialisées en Médecine de la République de Maurice: Imagerie Médicale 2023-2027*' between the University of Mauritius, *l'Université de Bordeaux*, *le Centre Hospitalier Universitaire (CHU) de Bordeaux*, *l'Université de la Réunion* and *le CHU de la Réunion*.

The main objectives of the Convention are to provide Mauritian medical practitioners with access to quality specialist training in Medical Imaging, to develop the competencies required for them to practise as specialist medical practitioners in the field, and to update their knowledge and professional skills through exposure to training based on the French *Diplôme d'Études Spécialisées* model. The programme combines training in Mauritius with specialised clinical exposure in France/Réunion Island and includes advanced imaging, research, ethics and other relevant competencies.

10. Cabinet has agreed to the signing of two tripartite Agreements between the Ministry of Health and Wellness, the Mauritius Telecom Foundation and –

- (a) the Rotary Club of Flacq; and
- (b) the Renal Disease Patients' Association.

The Mauritius Telecom Foundation will, under its Corporate Social Responsibility programme, finance the following two projects –

- (a) the establishment and equipping of a Regional Autism Centre at the Dr Bruno Cheong Care Centre, in collaboration with the Rotary Club of Flacq; and
- (b) the upgrading of amenities at the Souillac Dialysis Centre, following an application submitted by the Renal Disease Patients' Association for financial and material assistance.

11. Cabinet has taken note that the Mauritius Revenue Authority will host, in collaboration with the African Tax Administration Forum (ATAF), the Inaugural Digital Tax Administration Conference themed 'Propelling Tax Administration Toward a Trusted Digital Future', from 19 to 21 October 2026 in Mauritius.

The Conference is being organised in the context of ATAF's Tax Administration Technology and Innovation Hub and will bring together senior tax administration officials, technical experts and development partners to exchange experiences on advancing digital transformation through technical assistance, capacity building, digital solutions, peer learning and common standards, with a focus on strengthening trust, improving tax compliance and building resilient, future-ready tax administrations across Africa.

12. Cabinet has taken note of the outcome of the recent participation of the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade in the 25th WPC Energy Congress in Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. On 12 October 2026, the Minister signed a Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of the Republic of Mauritius and the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia on Cooperation in the Field of Energy.

The Minister had a meeting with the Minister of Environment, Water and Agriculture of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and conveyed the Government of Mauritius' appreciation for the financial and technical assistance provided by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. He also met with the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs and the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and discussed bilateral cooperation, regional security and economic relations. The Minister conveyed the appreciation of the Government of Mauritius for the support of Saudi Arabia through the Saudi Fund for Development. Both sides also discussed energy cooperation, including a proposed 250–500 MW LNG-based power facility, an 80 MW gas turbine project and potential Saudi investment in long-term energy infrastructure.
