

L'Union  
fait  
La Force



# Mauritian Overseas Gazette

Email : mauritianoverseasgazette@outlook.com  
Website : <http://www.mauritianoverseasgazette.com>



Vol 2024 Issue No 45

An organ for the Mauritian Diaspora

Editor: Peter Chellen (Former Editor of Mauritius News 1983 - 2015)

Views expressed by contributors are their own

## Could the Moustache Man be responsible for an upturn of the General Election Results?



An electoral petition has been filed in the Supreme Court of Mauritius on Monday 2 December by Abhi Manuyu Trilochun, a member of Linion Reform, a voter in the Constituency No 15 of Vacoas/Phoenix contesting the election of the three candidates of the l'Alliance du Changement namely Kushal Lobine, Patrick Assirvaden and Fawzi Allymun on the grounds that the revelations and diffusion via the internet of the Missie Moustass leaks during electoral campaign had an undue influence on the electorate and constituted an electoral malpractice.

Abhi Manuyu Trilochun is being represented in court by Me Kailash Trilochun who was himself a candidate in the Constituency No 11 of Grand Port/Rose Belle under the banner of the Linion Reform. The leaders of Linion Reform have made it known that the court action of the voter is not done on the instructions of the party but is an action of his own. The party is reported to be announcing their stand at a press conference on Friday, 6 December. The petition itself will be heard by the Supreme Court on Monday, 9 December 2024.

Numerous personalities are being targeted by the petitioner to appear in court in connection with this case including the new Prime Minister, Dr Navinchandra Ramgoolam, the deputy PM Paul Bérenger, the Electoral Commissioner Irfan Raman among others. Former Mauritius Telecoms CEO Sherry Singh who predicted before the election that a Tsunami would hit Mauritius has also been named in the petition as a respondent.

If this petition goes through, there will be *du pain sur la planche* for numerous hommes en noir.

Africa News reporting on the electoral petition in Mauritius said that this petition may be considered as a test case. If it is successful, the general election held on November 10 in the 21 constituencies of the country could be turned upside down and may, on appeal, be declared null and void.

*Suresh Coonjee Beeharry*

**Evolution** The pictures below are seen on the wall at the entrance of the Odysseo- oceanarium in Port Louis at Les Salines. The Ocean adventure wants to remind us that humanity finds its origin from the ocean

If we human beings owe our existence to the process of evolution from fish to monkeys and to humans, the question to be asked is when did that process of evolution stop? Why don't fish still take to solid ground to become monkeys? And why do monkeys no longer become human beings? Why and when did evolution stop?

**Remember where you first read this question about the theory of evolution.**



# Government in action

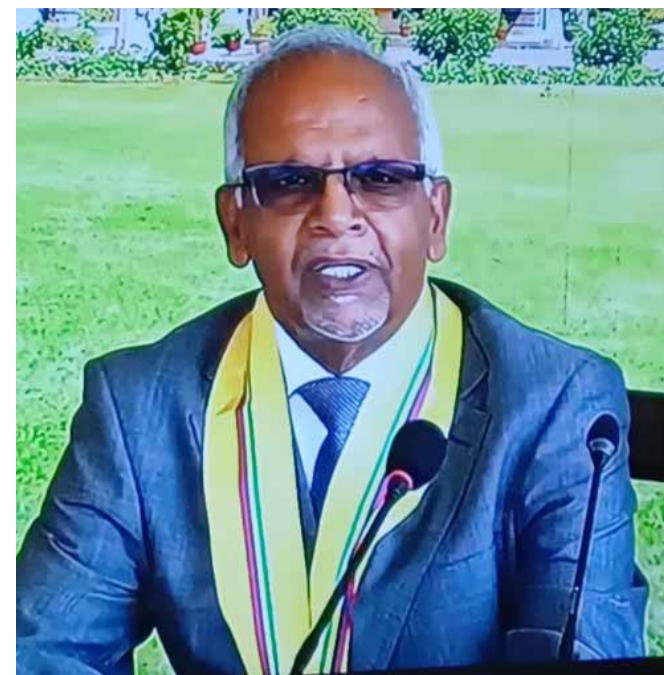
## Un Président du Peuple (The People's President)

### The new tenant of Château Le Réduit



Installed in great pomp as the new President of the Republic of Mauritius on Saturday, 7 December 2024, H.E. Dharam Gokhool is now occupying Le Chateau du Réduit as his official residence, and this for the next five years, .i.e. at least during the mandate of the present government.

As stated opposite, H.E. has intimated that he will be a President of the People. However, it is doubtful whether, as all his predecessors, he will see much of the people. Apart from the official garden parties for a selected few, what contact will he have with the nation? To be able to know the people he will have to visit such localities as Roche Bois, Cassis, Tranquebar, Cité La Cure, Camp Yoloff, etc etc, grounds where no President or Vice President has ever trodden in their official capacity. It is now known that Vice President Robert Hungley is from the locality of Plaisance, a suburb of Rose Hill. He might wish to honour his old neighbourhood by a few official visits to the area and others..



In above picture the new President of the Republic is seen when talking to the press in the garden of Le Réduit following his investiture a moment ago. His opening remark was that he would be a President of the People. (More on the left)

## Dharam Gokhool A President for All Seasons

Dharam Gokhool joined the MMM in 1980 which was under the leadership of Paul Bérenger. The party also included, then, Anerood Jugnauth. In 1982, he stood as an MMM candidate for the General Election in the Constituency No 7 of Piton-Rivière du Rampart. The MMM went to the polls in alliance with the Parti Socialiste Mauricien (PSM) of Harish Boodhoo and formed the government after scooping all the seats of the National Assembly (60-0). It was the first political tsunami when the Labour Party and the Parti Mauricien were wiped out of government. Dharam Gokhool came in second position next to Anerood Jugnauth. It was a hard blow to Labour leader Sir Seewoosagar Ramgoolam who had done so much for the country as PM.

When Anerood Jugnauth left the MMM in June 1983 to create his own Mouvement Socialiste Militant (MSM), Dharam Gokhool remained with the MMM. He failed to secure a seat in the Assembly at the August 1983 General Election when the MSM allied itself with Labour against the MMM.

Yet, still as a MMM candidate four years later, i.e. 1987, he was returned to the National Assembly as a member for the Constituency No 15 of La Caverne-Phoenix. The MMM sat in Opposition to the MSM/Labour administration.

From central government, Dharam Gokhool made a spell in local government. Still under the MMM banner, he was elected Mayor of Vacoas/Phoenix in 1990. However, in 1991, As a result of the local politics of *kiss and kick*, and *kick and kiss*, MMM and MSM became political bedfellows and Labour went with the PMSD of Gaetan Duval. Again, as MMM candidate, Dharam Gokhool was elected in Constituency No 16 of Vacoas/Floréal and got himself a junior portfolio as Parliamentary Private Secretary (PPS) in 1993.

At the 1995 General Election, when the MMM changed partners and went again with Labour to create the second political tsunami removing once more the MSM+PMSD from Parliament, Dharam Gokhool kept away from the fray. He went to his first love of teaching at the University of Mauritius. So, he was not part of the second tsunami.

He Ghokool had had a good run with the MMM. What a *parcours* so far, but when he decided to change environment again and come back into the political arena in 2005, Mr Gokhool tried the Labour camp this time. He stood for election and was elected under the Labour Party banner in the constituency No 9 of Flacq/Bon Accueil. What a risk-taker! He received his first ministerial portfolio as Minister of Education. In 2008, he moved to the Ministry of Industry.

After a career spanning over 30 years, Hon Dharam Gokhool bid farewell to politics and returned to his first love of coaching at the University of Mauritius where he progressed from lecturer to Officer-in-Charge and Dean of the Faculty of Law. He was bestowed with more academic distinctions including L'Ordre des Palmes Académiques from the French Government.

According to PM Navin Ramgoolam, Dharam Gokhool occupied at one time the office of Secretary-General of the Mauritius Labour Party, which was a very high position and which involved heavy responsibilities, the PM said.

Following the investiture ceremony of the President of the Republic of Mauritius, H.E. Dharam Gokhool was conferred upon the decoration of The Grand Commander of the Order of the Star and Key of the Indian Ocean, the highest distinction of Mauritius.

**P.C.**

# Robert Hungley of the MMM appointed Vice-President of Mauritius

As was widely expected, 67 years old Robert Hungley, a MMM member, was sworn in on Saturday last as Vice-President of Mauritius.

"*Un vrai militant*", said MMM leader Paul Bérenger when Robert Hungley was installed in office at the same ceremony for the investiture of the President himself.

A true militant, he is indeed. He has been a member of the MMM since 1975 soon after he left college.

He made his debut in local government politics as a municipal councillor of Beau Bassin-Rose Hill. He served as Mayor for two years from 2004. He did not make it to the National Assembly when he stood for election in 2010 and 2019. In 2024, he was not a candidate leaving the opportunity to others to stand in his stead.

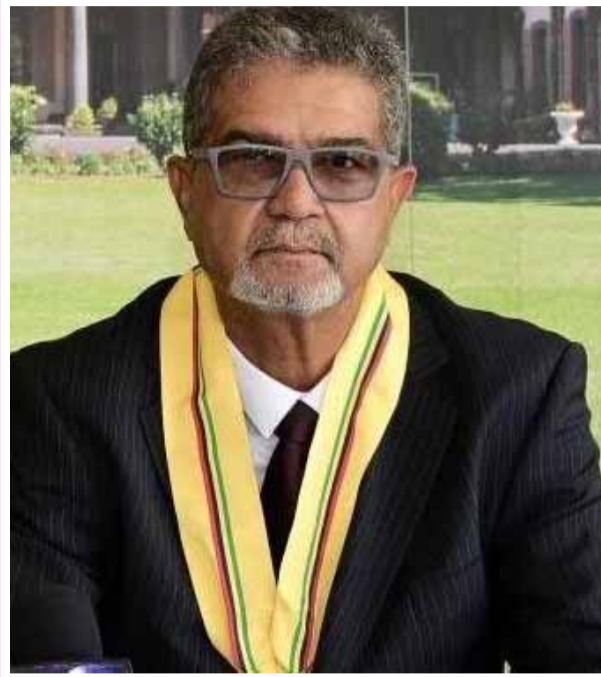
Robert Hungley has now been rewarded with the office of Vice-President for his lasting loyalty to the Party. He is reported to have said that he will do his best to be up to the demands of this responsibility. He will work to deserve the salary he will be paid and not just be a figurehead in his capacity as Vice-President.

Having made a career in the shipping business he has a considerable knowledge in the import and export business which enabled him to operate as a consultant.

The new Vice-President is from the deprived area of Stanley, a locality off the town of Rose Hill. He intends to be present to attend to the needs and grievances of the locals. He attended a vigil held in Stanley in memory of seven-year old Elodie Kathalea Gaspard sexually assaulted and murdered by her own uncle at Cassis on Friday, 29 November.

Robert Hungley wishes to give a new meaning to the role of the Vice-President. But will he have the budget for that. The Vice-President always looks like a poor relative in relation to the President.

On the occasion of his investiture as Vice-President of Mauritius, Robert Hungley has been made The Grand Commander of the Order of the Star and Key of the Indian Ocean (GCOSK).



## H.E. P. Roopun's last official function

### *He passed it over*



## Guests at Le Réduit



Claude Canabady, of the *Forces Vives of Flic-en-Flac* is seen in above pictures, with other members of the group at the investiture ceremony at Le Réduit on Saturday, 8 December 2024.

In top picture, Claude (left) stands next to President Dharam Ghokool, In the picture below, Vice-President Robert Hungley is in the centre with his GCOSK medal round his neck

## Consumers' Eye Association

### Memo to the Prime Minister

### The Hon. Dr Navinchandra Ramgoolam, Prime Minister

I would like to congratulate you and your entire team on this remarkable well-deserved victory. I also wish you and all the elected, fair winds.

For us as an association, the welfare of consumers remains a top priority but it does not consist of purchasing supplies and other items but to many other things including the quality of public services received in various offices, hospitals and public transport. We wish to work together with all ministries. So I wish ministers, PPPs will always be available to meet our and consumer expectations. Far too often in the past, this has been a fighter's journey to have a date or even just a verbal exchange.

We also want to participate actively in all committees where consumer satisfaction is paramount. This will help the general public feel more protected and have more confidence in institutions.

Like a Government and we, an association of consumers, are working in the same direction for the welfare of all indistinctly. Wish for an efficient and successful collaboration.

I thank you in advance and I wish wholeheartedly for a good understanding with all the elected indistinctly for a better Ile Mauritius.

*Claude Canabady*  
Secrétaire General  
Consumers' Eye Association

Don't forget to write to us either by post or email to let us have your ideas and expectations of the quality of service you would expect from economical companies (details on our website)

The Consumers' Eye Association (CEA) is a new consumer association and fully at your disposal to help you with all your consumer issues. You can visit our website at consumers' eye association or write to us at consumers.eye.association@gmail.com Please note our new email address. We also have a Facebook page You can also contact us on 59743962. Come and join us to better defend your consumer rights because don't forget that it's the union that makes strength.

*Mylene writes from Japan*

## The Long Road For Peace From Japan to Sweden



Nihon Hidankyo, a large grassroots group of A- and H- Bomb survivors who won the Nobel Peace Prize, attended the award ceremony in Oslo, Norway, on December 10 this year.

Thanks to their successful crowdfunding campaign, a delegation of 30 people, led by one of the co-chairs, 92-year-old Tanaka, was able to take part in the ceremony.

The *Hibakusha* are survivors of the U.S. atomic bombings in 1945. They came together to form Nihon Hidankyo. They bear witness to the fact that in addition to the physical pain, scars, and loss they experienced as survivors, they also had to endure extreme discrimination and hardship.

They were shunned by society, they could not find work, they lost ownership of their land, and were bullied.

Many *Hibakusha* chose not to marry or have children, and many others lived in isolation throughout their lives. After they died, there was no one to mourn for them, leading one small group in Tokyo to build a communal grave where dozens are buried together.

The Group Nihon Hidankyo wishes for a world without nuclear weapons during their lifetime



**90-year-old Reiko Yamada**

Picture courtesy:  
The Asahi Shimbun (Asia & Japan Watch)

With an estimated 114,000 Hibakusha still alive as of October 2024, and considering their average age of 85 years, their voices and experiences have become a powerful reminder of the negative consequences of the use of nuclear weapons.

The efforts of the group Nihon Hidankyo in lobbying for improved support for the victims of the 1945 bombings and advocating for the abolition of nuclear weapons worldwide are crucial steps towards promoting peace, justice, and solidarity.

Their dedication to making sure that future generations are spared from the terrible impact of nuclear warfare is a powerful reminder of how important that issue is. By speaking out, they help more people learn about and understand the serious effects nuclear weapons can have on citizens.

92-year-old Terumi Tanaka said it is "sad and frustrating that so many people who stood next to me, people who led the movement," were not there to share the honour of the Nobel Peace Prize.

Reiko Yamada, a 90-year-old who was 11 years old when the United States dropped the first atomic bomb on August 6, 1945, killing around 140,000 people, said that the Nobel Peace Prize has validated the survivors' work.

"I hope to pass on our dream to those who can inherit this and continue," 90-year-Reiko Yamada said.

## Festival Internacional Kreol 2024 in Mauritius



The 2024 edition of the "Festival Internacional Kreol" aiming to showcase the authenticity of the kreol culture through local music, arts, language, handicraft and cuisine while demonstrating the richness of Mauritian culture, will be held from 12 to 22 December 2024.

The Minister of Tourism, Mr Christian Harold Richard Duval, made this an-

nouncement during a press conference held at the Intercontinental Slavery Museum in Port Louis. The Junior Minister of Tourism, Mr Jean Sydney Pierre, was also present.

Minister Duval indicated that the Festival is an initiative of the Ministry of Tourism in collaboration with the Mauritius Tourism Promotion Authority adding that a new dimension has been given to enable more Mauritians and foreigners to participate actively and explore our rich culture. "Tourists and foreign operators will be encouraged to form part of the festival which valorises the contribution of our local artists", he stressed.

He stated that the official launch of the Festival Internacional Kreol will be held in presence of the Prime Minister, Dr Navinchandra Ramgoolam at Le Morne. Hereafter, a series of activities will be organised across the country for more and more people to join in the celebrations, he said.

This festival, he affirmed, will be an incredible opportunity for local artists to display their talents, artworks and know-how thereby increasing their visibility on both local and international front.

As for Junior Minister Pierre, he underlined that the Festival will help promote Mauritius as an attractive tourist destination having a rich culture. To this end, international press members from around 13 countries namely Seychelles, Reunion Island, Germany, India and England, will be in Mauritius for this occasion.

This will enhance the visibility of Mauritius on the international front and attract more tourists to visit the country, he added. Festival Internacional Kreol 2024

The Festival under the theme "Kreolite Bote Nou Morisianism" will comprise a series of activities. They include:

(i) 'Lansman Festival Internacional Kreol ek Sware Tipik' at Le Morne Village Public Beach on 12 December 2024;

(ii) 'Sega Jazz ek Sesion Sirandann' at Four à Chaux, Trou D'eau Douce on 13 December 2024;

(iii) 'Gran Konser' at Les Salines, Port Louis on 14 December 2024;



**Junior Minister of Tourism Jean Sydney Pierre**

(iv) 'Festival Kiliner ek Plato Dekouver bann Artis Lokal' at Royal Road, Grand Bay on 15 December 2024;

(v) 'Spektak Limour' at Residence Anoshka (Curepipe), Residence La Chaux (Mahebourg), Residence La Cure (Sainte Croix) Grande Rivière Noire and Sainte Catherine (L'Agrement, St Pierre) from 16 to 20 December 2024; and

(vi) 'Regat, Festival Kiliner ek Artizanal ek Konser Mizikal' at Mahebourg Waterfront on 22 December 2024.

(Source GIS)