

Bilateral Cooperation

The Prime Minister meets Saudi delegation to discuss cooperation in fight against corruption

The commitment of the Republic of Mauritius and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to strengthen cooperation in combating corruption and financial crimes was reaffirmed during a meeting between the Prime Minister, Dr Navinchandra Ramgoolam, and a Saudi delegation, this afternoon, at the New Treasury Building in Port Louis.

The delegation comprised the President of the Saudi Arabia's Oversight and Anti-Corruption Authority (NAZAHA), Mr Mazin bin Ibrahim Al-Kahmous; the Deputy for International Collaboration at NAZAHA, Dr Nasser Abaalkhail; the Ambassador of Mauritius to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Mr Riad Parvez Hullemuth; and the Ambassador of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to Mauritius, Mr Fayez Meshel Altemyat.

In a statement, Dr Abaalkhail highlighted the importance of international collaboration in addressing corruption, which he described as a transnational crime. He recalled that a Memorandum of Understanding had been signed earlier today between the NAZAHA and the Financial Crimes Commission (FCC), aimed at strengthening cooperation between the two institutions. He explained that the agreement would facilitate the exchange of intelligence, sharing of expertise, prevention of corruption, and efforts to recover stolen assets.

Dr Abaalkhail further stated that, with the support of both countries, the partnership would continue to be strengthened through bilateral cooperation as well as international platforms, including the global network under the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, where Mauritius is represented through the FCC.

The discussions also covered areas such as tracing illicit financial flows, investigating crimes involving cryptocurrencies, and addressing cybercrimes linked to cor-



ruption. Dr Abaalkhail stressed that the exchange of knowledge and expertise would contribute to reinforcing the capacity of both institutions in tackling these challenges.

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Minister of Tourism, Mr Christian Harold Richard Duval, received at his office a delegation from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia



The delegation comprised the Founder of Taiba Flocks Travel, Mr Ahmed Salah Balala, the General Manager of Comfort Season Alkhorbar, Mr Adel Alyousef Ibrahim, the General Manager of RICHE Experience Taif, Mr Aljuaid Ahmed Fahad; the Ambassador of Mauritius to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Mr Riad Parvez Hullemuth, as well

as Saudi travel agents, marketing professionals and digital content creators.

In a statement, Minister Duval explained that the delegation was on a Familiarisation (FAM) Trip to Mauritius from 16 to 22 July 2026. The visit aimed to provide the delegation with first-hand experience of the country's diverse tourism products, enabling them to more effectively promote Mauritius as a premier luxury holiday destination in the Saudi Arabian market.

The Minister underlined the Government's objective of attracting a larger share of visitors from the Gulf countries as part of its strategy to diversify source markets. He highlighted the importance of increasing tourist arrivals from Saudi Arabia, particularly during the low season from April to August, in order to help sustain visitor numbers throughout the year.

Minister Duval recalled that Mauritius welcomed a record of 1,436,250 tourists in 2025, generating revenue of Rs 103 billion. He stressed that expanding into the

Saudi Arabian market would further support the country's positive growth trajectory and contribute to the achievement of its long-term tourism objectives.

For his part, Ambassador Hullemuth stated that the FAM Trip was designed to strengthen the delegation's knowledge of Mauritius as a tourism destination and encourage the promotion and sale of Mauritian holiday packages in Saudi Arabia. He noted that the delegates had been impressed by the island's natural beauty, warm hospitality, cultural diversity, as well as the peace and harmony that characterise the country. He expressed confidence that the visit would further position Mauritius as a preferred luxury and family destination for travellers from the Gulf Cooperation Council countries.

As for Mr Balala, he thanked the Minister, highlighting that the Trip had enabled the delegates to experience the unique attractions of Mauritius and gain a deeper appreciation of its tourism potential. He observed that Mauritius offers far more than a honeymoon destination, with a diverse range of experiences catering to families as well as travellers seeking luxury and relaxation. He reaffirmed the Saudi travel trade stakeholders' commitment to working closely with the Mauritian authorities to further promote Mauritius in the Saudi Arabian market.

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The Destruction of Iran A little girl sitting by the memorial of her young brother murdered in the recent slaughter of 150 school children during the July destruction of a school by the Americans.

Such a picture bleeds one's heart while the MAGA creatures in the US are gorging themselves on their steaks and roast beef.



BBC Tv picture

Air Mauritius



CAREER OPPORTUNITY

Trainee Technical Assistant – Structures (Ref: TTAS/26/015)

Air Mauritius Ltd, the national carrier of Mauritius, is seeking to recruit a dynamic and highly motivated candidates to fill in the position of Trainee Technical Assistant - Structures. If you feel you have the right profile, it is an opportunity now to start a challenging career and become part of a dedicated and professional team.

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<https://lnkd.in/dWjNKmhy>

APPLICATION PROCEDURE:

It is compulsory to send your application addressed to the Senior Human Resources Business Partner, by registered post together with the following documents:-

1. Motivation letter
2. Resume/CV
3. Company's prescribed form (<https://lnkd.in/dU55-C96>)
4. A photocopy of National Identity Card
5. Copy of educational certificates with letters of equivalence from National Equivalent Committee (where applicable)

Postal address

Talent Acquisition Section
Air Mauritius Ltd
16th Floor, Air Mauritius Centre
President John Kennedy Street
Port-Louis
Mauritius

**Deadline for submission: Monday 03 August 2026 at 16h00
local Mauritius time (equivalent to 12h00 UTC)**



The Victoria Urban Terminal in Port Louis commemorates this week its four years of existence in the Caudan area.

A passer-by (in red) joined in to dance to the sega music.

UK Local Colour

A JOURNEY THROUGH TWO COUNTIES: DEVON AND CORNWALL

From Mylene



If the weather forecasts were to be believed, the last few weeks the whole of England was sweltering in a heatwave, with people seemingly dropping like flies. I can confirm that all that heat must have bypassed Birkenhead.

Sitting on the Wirral Peninsula and surrounded by water on three sides, Birkenhead enjoys cooler summers. While London reached 29.6 C, the mercury here struggled to climb beyond 19 C, a good example of the difference between inland and coastal climates.

In search of warmer weather, I headed south to Exeter, the historic cathedral city in Devon, about 258 miles away.



Devon - Exeter, The City Wall. Original Roman Workmanship

DEVON EXETER UNIVERSITY

During the summer vacation, from June to September, the University of Exeter opens some of its student accom-

modation for losing my bearings from time to time.

The university is also in the middle of a major expansion programme, with new buildings, refurbishments

that investment could support local businesses, create jobs, and improve teaching and student support. Or perhaps modernization is simply essential to attract students and remain financially secure.

DEVON Exeter Cathedral

Exeter Cathedral is the city's best-known landmark. Built between 1114 and 1400, it began life as a Norman church before developing into the Gothic cathedral we see today. Its greatest claim to fame is the world's longest uninterrupted medieval stone vaulted ceiling, stretching 96 metres (315 feet). The west front is decorated with statues of kings, saints and apostles.

DEVON The City Wall

The oldest parts of Exeter's city wall were built by the Romans around AD 200. It was strengthened by King Athelstan



Devon - Exeter Cathedral

around AD 900 and rebuilt during the Middle Ages. A commemorative plaque marking the wall was installed during Queen Elizabeth II's Silver Jubilee in 1977.

CORNWALL Tintagel Castle and King Arthur

The castle is in the

small village of Tintagel on Cornwall's rugged north coast, about 85 miles from Exeter. The drive took about two hours.

The castle was built in the 13th century by Richard, Earl of Cornwall, but the site itself is much older.



Cornwall - Coastal view from Tintagel Castle



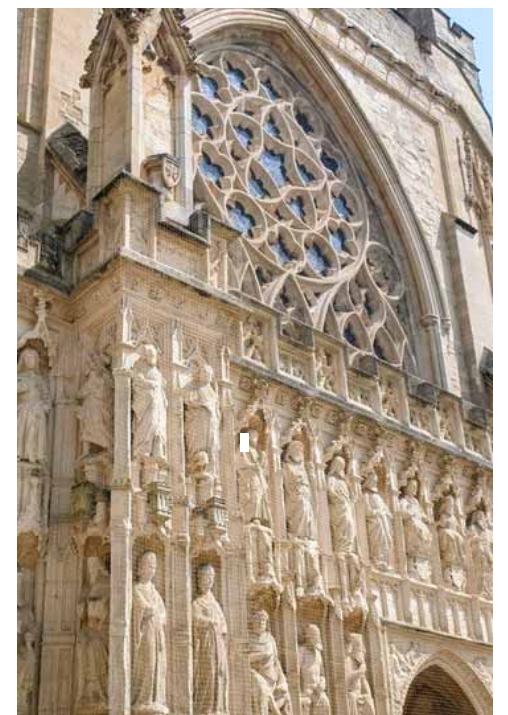
Cornwall - Top of Tintagel Castle

Tintagel is famous for its connection with the legend of King Arthur. According to the 12th century writer Geoffrey of Monmouth in his book, "History of the Kings of Britain," Arthur was conceived at Tintagel.

The story tells how Arthur's father, King Uther Pendragon, fell in love with Igraine, the wife of the Duke of Cornwall. With the help of the wizard Merlin, Uther was magically disguised as the duke and entered the castle, where Arthur was conceived.

The ruins we see today date back to the 13th century, but archaeologists have found evidence of a settlement dating back to the 5th and 6th centuries, around the time Arthur is believed to have lived. However, there is no proof that King Arthur actually existed.

Many of us know Arthur as the man who pulled the sword from the stone, proving he was destined to become king. The sword in the stone is often confused with Excalibur. In modern versions of the story they are the same



Devon - Front of Exeter Cathedral

sword, but in the older legends they are different. The sword in the stone proved Arthur's right to the throne, while Excalibur was the magical sword later given to Arthur by the Lady of the Lake.

the 14th century making it one of Tintagel's oldest buildings. It began life as a manor house and only became a post office centuries later. Today it is cared for by the National Trust and is a good



Cornwall - The Ruins of Tintagel Castle

modation to the general public on a hotel-style bed and breakfast basis. I booked a room in Holland Hall overlooking the city. The campus is enormous, and I wasn't prepared for so much walking

and conversions. Although the overall cost has not been made public, I couldn't help wondering whether some of that money might be better spent on people and the local community. Perhaps some of



Cornwall - The Old Post Office

Perched on dramatic cliffs overlooking the Atlantic Ocean, the castle is surrounded by breathtaking scenery.

CORNWALL The Old Post Office

The Old Post Office dates back to

example of a medieval stone and slate house, complete with a roof made from local Delabole slate.

**Pictures
by
Mylene**

OBITUARY



In Loving Memory Of

PREMCHANDSING (DAYA) BALLA

1942- 2026

It is with deep sorrow that we announce the passing of our beloved papa/husband

Date: Tuesday 28 July 2026

Start: 2.15 pm / End: 4.30 pm

Location: Forest Park Cemetery & Crematorium
Hainault Rd, Ilford, IG6 3HP

It is with great sadness that we have learned of the passing of Daya Balla at the age of 84 in Ilford, Essex, England.

Daya was at one time a contributor to our previous paper, the Mauritius News. He used to send articles in French.

Daya started his career as a primary school teacher in Mauritius. He subsequently went to France to follow a course in audiovisual application.

In the course of his career he was posted to the Air Mauritius Office and the Mauritius Government Tourist Office, both in London from where he eventually retired.

To his wife and son, we extend our deepest sympathy. P.C.

Nasseem Ackbarally R.I.P.

Another former regular contributor of old *Mauritius News*, Nasseem Ackbarally, passed away in Mauritius on July 21.

Nasseem was 72 and resided at Plaine des Papayes. By profession, he was a journalist anchored at *Le Mauricien* in Port Louis. He had been a contributor of *Mauritius News* from the very inception of the UK paper in 1983.

The journalist used to feed us with a monthly résumé of the important news items of the political and social events in the island.

Of a suave personality and always sincere, Nasseem was a very softly-spoken person. I can almost hear him speaking to me in his own particular voice.



The last time we met in Mauritius, a few years back, he invited me to a meal at the Singer Snack Bar in Mère Barthélemy Street, a short distant from *Le Mauricien*. He did not show a single sign of illness.

To his bereaved family, we convey our sincere condolences.

P.C.

Ranne nou diego



While demonstrators in Mauritius were claiming back the Chagos and the closing down of the American Military base of Diego Garcia, in London Reform leader Nigel Farage stated in the House of Commons before his resignation that any Chagos deal was un-British. He pledged to scrap the deal when his party would come to power.

Farage said that Mauritius is bankrupt and the Americans will not sign a treaty to salvage this country which is not trustworthy.

Israel was created by the British in 1948



Ex-British Prime Minister Lord Balfour issued the Balfour Declaration in 1917 as his country's statement of support for a Jewish national home in Palestine (The idea was to provide a home to all the jews scattered in various countries in Europe).

English actor Charles Duncce is quoted to have said that the Balfour Declaration should be unpicked. Does he men that this declaration should be undone It was on the strength of that declaration that Israel was created in 1948 by the British Government.

This was actually the seed of the conflict that is still raging in the Middle East. The jews came originally to Palestine to organise the Kibbutz, a sort of communal living. Then they claimed that it was the land promised to them by their god. They subsequently embarked on a policy of expansion, which is still going on. They want more territories and it is now a national policy of land grabbing and mass murder.