



Republic of Mauritius

Message on the occasion of Human Rights Day 2025 by The Honourable Dhananjay RAMFUL Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade

Human Rights Day is observed annually on 10th December to commemorate the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) by the United Nations General Assembly in 1948. This significant day is a reminder for us to reaffirm our values, reflect on the progress made and address the challenges ahead in protecting the inalienable rights of each and everyone.

The theme for the Human Rights Day 2025 which is “Human Rights, Our Everyday Essentials” aims to raise awareness, inspire hope and encourage collective action to re-engage people with human rights.

The Government of Mauritius continues to protect the fundamental rights and freedoms of the individual as provided for in our Constitution. Government has established the ‘Rent-to-Own’ housing scheme in solidarity with the most vulnerable. In collaboration with the UNDP, we recently launched the 16 Days Against Gender-Based Violence national campaign to sensitise the public on preventing all forms of violence. Conscious that challenges remain in terms of gender-based violence, domestic violence, protection of children, we are stepping up our engagement on women’s rights, children’s rights and combatting abuse.

We are also combatting all forms of discrimination, in particular against women, persons with disabilities and based on sexual orientation. Secondary school students are being encouraged to participate in capacity-building workshops designed to challenge harmful stereotypes and combat all forms of abuse against women and girls, hence promoting respect and dispelling stereotypes.

On this occasion and on the 30th Anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, the Human Rights Division of my Ministry will be organising an Awareness Session on Gender-Based Violence (GBV) for women. We will also be launching the Booklet of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (CERD) in Kreol Morisien to further strengthen the understanding of human rights. This Declaration has been translated into many languages to emphasise the universality of human rights, make it more intelligible to people of all ages and to educate our youth.

Human Rights are the ideals we rely on every day. Our journey continues with renewed purpose, resolve and empathy. I encourage you to reconnect with human rights with a view to shaping a better future together through this global movement driven by shared humanity.

Happy Human Rights Day to you all.

Hon. Dhananjay RAMFUL
Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional
Integration and International Trade
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