



**EIGHTH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES**

**(HANSARD)**

**(UNREVISED)**

**FIRST SESSION**

**Friday 06 December 2024**

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**THE CABINET**

**(Formed by Dr. the Hon. Navinchandra Ramgoolam)**

Dr. the Hon. Navinchandra Ramgoolam, GCSK, FRCP	Prime Minister,  Minister of Defence, Home Affairs and External Communications,  Minister of Finance,  Minister for Rodrigues and Outer Islands
Hon. Paul Raymond Bérenger, GCSK.	Deputy Prime Minister
Hon. Shakeel Ahmed Yousuf Abdul Razack Mohamed	Minister of Housing and Lands,
Hon. Rajesh Anand Bhagwan	Minister of Environment, Solid Waste Management and Climate Change
Dr. the Hon. Arvin Boolell, GOSK.	Minister of Agro-Industry, Food Security, Blue Economy and Fisheries
Hon. Govindranath Gunness	Minister of National Infrastructure
Hon. Anil Kumar Bachoo, GOSK	Minister of Health and Wellness
Hon. Christian Harold Richard Duval	Minister of Tourism
Hon. Ashok Kumar Subron	Minister of Social Integration, Social Security and National Solidarity
Hon. Gavin Patrick Cyril Glover, SC	Attorney-General
Dr. the Hon. Mrs Jyoti Jeetun	Minister of Financial Services and Economic Planning
Hon. Patrick Gervais Assirvaden	Minister of Energy and Public Utilities

Hon. Dhananjay Ramful	Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade
Hon. Darmarajen Nagalingum	Minister of Youth and Sports
Hon. Muhammad Reza Cassam Uteem	Minister of Labour and Industrial Relations
Hon. Mahomed Osman Cassam Mahomed	Minister of Land Transport
Hon. Mrs Marie Arianne Navarre-Marie	Minister of Gender Equality and Family Welfare
Hon. John Michaël Tzoun Sao Yeung Sik Yuen	Minister of Commerce and Consumer Protection
Dr. the Hon. Kaviraj Sharma Sukon	Minister of Tertiary Education, Science and Research
Hon. Sayed Muhammad Aadil Ameer Meea	Minister of Industry, SMEs and Cooperatives
Dr. the Hon. Mahend Gungapersad, PDSM	Minister of Education and Human Resource
Dr. the Hon. Avinash Ramtohil	Minister of Information Technology, Communication and Innovation
Hon. Lutchmanah Pentiah	Minister of Public Service and Administrative Reforms
Hon. Ranjiv Wochit, OSK	Minister of Local Government
Hon. Mahendra Gondeea, OSK	Minister of Arts and Culture

**PRINCIPAL OFFICERS AND OFFICIALS**

Madam Speaker	Hon. Mrs Shirin Aumeeruddy-Cziffra
Deputy Speaker	Hon. Vedasingam Vasudevachariar Baloomoody
Deputy Chairperson of Committees	Hon. Mohamed Ehsan Juman
Acting Clerk of the National Assembly	Gopall, Mr Navin
Clerk Assistant	Seetul, Ms Darshinee
Clerk Assistant	Naika-Cahanee, Mrs Prishnee
Clerk Assistant	Tayelamay, Mr Niteshen
Adviser, Hansard	Allet, Mrs Marie-Hélène Caroline
Assistant Hansard Editor	Hurdoss, Miss Doushika
Parliamentary Librarian and Information Officer	Jeewoonarain, Ms Prittydevi
Acting Serjeant-at-Arms	Seegobin, Mr Somduth

**MAURITIUS**

**Eighth National Assembly**

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**FIRST SESSION**

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**Debate No. 02 of 2024**

**Sitting of Friday 06 December 2024**

The Assembly met in the Assembly House, Port Louis, at 3.00 p.m.

**The National Anthem was played**

*(Madam Speaker in the Chair)*

**ADMINISTRATION OF OATH TO MEMBER**

Hon. Gavin Patrick Cyril Glover, SC made and subscribed before the Assembly, the Oath of Allegiance prescribed in the Third Schedule of the Constitution and signed the Roll of Membership.

**PAPERS LAID**

**The Prime Minister:** Madam Speaker, the Papers have been laid on the Table.

**A. Prime Minister's Office**

**Ministry of Defence, Home Affairs and External Communications**

**Ministry of Finance**

**Ministry for Rodrigues and Outer Islands**

The Annual Report of the Rodrigues Regional Assembly for the year ended 30 June 2024.

**B. Ministry of National Infrastructure**

The Annual Report and Report of the Director of Audit on the Financial Statements of the Construction Industry Development Board for the year ended 30 June 2023.

**C. Attorney-General**

The Report on the Activities of the Law Reform Commission for the period 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024. (In Original)

**D. Ministry of Financial Services and Economic Planning**

The Annual Report of the Ombudsperson for Financial Services for the year ended 30 June 2024.

**E. Ministry of Commerce and Consumer Protection**

The Annual Report and Report of the Director of Audit on the Financial Statements of the State Trading Corporation for the year ended 30 June 2023.

**F. Ministry of Industry, SMEs and Cooperatives**

(a) The Annual Report and Report of the Director of Audit on the Financial Statements of the Fashion and Design Institute for the period 01 July 2022 to 29 September 2022.

(b) The Annual Report and Report of the Director of Audit on the Financial Statements of the Academy of Design and Innovation for the period 30 September 2022 to 30 June 2023.



**MOTIONS****PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS - MR DHARAMBEER  
GOKHOOL – ELECTION**

**The Prime Minister:** Madam Speaker, I beg to move that pursuant to section 28 of the Constitution of the Republic of Mauritius, Mr Dharambeer Gokhool be elected President of the Republic of Mauritius.

**The Deputy Prime Minister rose and seconded.**

*The motion was, on question put, agreed to.*

**Madam Speaker:** Hon. Members, I declare Mr Dharambeer Gokhool elected President of the Republic of Mauritius. On behalf of the Assembly and in my own name, I offer Mr Dharambeer Gokhool my sincere congratulations and wish him a fulfilling career.

**The Prime Minister:** Madam Speaker, allow me please to say a few words about the newly elected President of the Republic of Mauritius, Mr Dharambeer Gokhool.

Mr Dharambeer Gokhool, also known as Dharam Gokhool, was born on 25 October 1949 at Plaine des Roches in a family of nine children, his father being a labourer and his mother was a housewife.

Mr Gokhool went to the Roches Noires Government School and stood out as a brilliant student, so much so that on completion of his primary education, the Head Teacher of the school, Mr Abdool Raman Kasenally, asked his mother to come and see him and he told Mr Gokhool's mother that she should allow his son to follow higher studies as he was a brilliant student. That initiative of Mr Kasenally changed the destiny of Mr Dharam Gokhool for his mother then decided to make the necessary sacrifices to send him to Mapou Government School.

In 1975, he embarked on higher studies at Delhi University. Following his higher studies at Delhi University, in 1975 he subsequently served in different key positions at the University of Mauritius from Lecturer to Associate Professor and Dean of the Faculty.

As a seasoned academic, Mr Gokhool has also earned international recognition and in 2005, obtained the distinction of *officier dans l'Ordre des Palmes 2008 académiques du gouvernement français*.

In addition to his impressive professional track record, Mr Gokhool has also served at the political level in different positions. He was first elected to the National Assembly in 1982 under the banner of the MMM. He was then re-elected in 1987 and in 1991. He became Mayor for Vacoas-Phoenix from 1991 to 1993. He served as Parliamentary Private Secretary from 1993 to 1994. He then joined the Mauritius Labour Party and became the Administrative Secretary in 2003 and Secretary General from 2004 to 2005. He then became Minister of Education and Human Resources from 2005 to 2008 and Minister of Industry, Science and Research from 2008 to 2010.

Mr Gokhool, Madam Speaker, has always discharged his duties in his various capacities with a high sense of loyalty, responsibility, commitment, integrity, and competence. I have no doubt that Mr Gokhool will hold the standards of the Presidency with a decorum that this Office demands.

On behalf of all the members of the National Assembly, and in my own name, I wish to convey to Mr Gokhool our sincere congratulations.

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**Madam Speaker:** Thank you.

*(Applause)*

**VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS – MR JEAN YVAN  
ROBERT HUNGLEY – ELECTION**

**The Prime Minister:** Madam Speaker, I beg to move that pursuant to section 29 of the Constitution of the Republic of Mauritius, Mr Jean Yvan Robert Hungley be elected Vice-President of the Republic of Mauritius.

**The Deputy Prime Minister rose and seconded.**

*The motion was, on question put, agreed to.*

**Madam Speaker:** Hon. Members, I declare Mr Jean Yvan Robert Hungley elected Vice-President of the Republic of Mauritius. On behalf of the Assembly and in my own name, I offer Mr Jean Yvan Robert Hungley my sincere congratulations and wish him well in shouldering his new responsibilities.

**The Prime Minister:** Madam Speaker, with your permission, I shall say a few words about the newly elected Vice-President of the Republic of Mauritius, Mr Jean Yvan Robert Hungley.

Mr Hungley, who is also known as Robert Hungley, was born on 15 February 1957 in Rose-Hill. His father was working at the Mauritius Docks and his mother was a known social activist.

Mr Hungley took up freight forwarding as a profession while being also involved in political and social activities since an early age. He was elected as Municipal Councillor for Beau Bassin-Rose Hill in 1995 and 2001, and he served as Mayor from 2004 to 2005.

Madam Speaker, I am confident that Mr Hungley will discharge his new state duties as Vice-President of the Republic of Mauritius diligently.

I wish him well and congratulate him on behalf of the Members of the National Assembly, and in my own name.

Thank you.

*(Applause)*

**The Deputy Prime Minister:** With your permission, Madam Speaker.

**Madam Speaker:** Yes, Deputy Prime Minister.

**The Deputy Prime Minister:** *I join with what the hon. Prime Minister has just said concerning Mr Robert Hungley, Madam Speaker. Je n'ai aucun doute qu'après avoir été tout au long de sa vie un excellent militant, Robert Hungley sera un excellent Vice-président de la République qui fera honneur à toute l'île Maurice et, surtout, à tous les militants et militantes.*

Je vous remercie.

*(Applause)*

**Madam Speaker:** Je vous en prie.

Hon. Prime Minister, do you want to move for the adjournment?

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**The Prime Minister:** Yes, Madam Speaker, I beg to move that this Assembly do now adjourn to Tuesday 10 December 2024 at 11.30 a.m.

**The Deputy Prime Minister rose and seconded.**

*Question put and agreed to.*

**Madam Speaker:** The House stands adjourned.

*At 3.11 p.m., the Assembly was, on its rising, adjourned to Tuesday 10 December 2024 at 11.30 a.m.*