



SPEECH

**His Excellency Mr Dharambeer Gokhool G.C.S.K.,
President of the Republic of Mauritius**

EVENT: CONSULAR CORPS END OF YEAR DINNER

VENUE: RESTAURANT REVE D'R, PETIT RAFFRAY

DATE: 29 NOVEMBER 2025

TIME: 19:00 HOURS

Protocol

Honourable Mr. Ritish Ramful, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration & Trade of Mauritius;

Mr. Rikesh Ballah, President of the Consular Corps;

The Managing Committee Members and the Honorary President of the Consular Corps;

Honourary Consuls;

Distinguished Guests;

Ladies and Gentlemen.

Introduction

Good evening and thank you for the opportunity to address you on this distinguished occasion.

I am immensely pleased, together with my wife Brinda, to join you this evening, and we are thankful for the kind invitation extended to us.

Allow me to begin by expressing my sincere appreciation for the indispensable role you play in fortifying Mauritius' connections with the wider world.

This evening is not just a celebration but also an occasion to acknowledge your dedicated service, reflect upon our collective achievements, and look ahead with renewed purpose.

The Consular Corps and Its Importance

I understand that the Consular Corps of Mauritius now comprises more than 50 members representing 50 countries, under the leadership of its President Mr. Rikesh Ballah; the Managing Committee and Honorary President.

Many of you serve sizeable communities, such as Germany, Italy, and Belgium, each supporting hundreds - if not thousands- of residents and acting as a vital conduit between your respective countries and our Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Above all, your work is instrumental in strengthening Mauritius' diplomatic, economic, educational, and cultural relationships.

I have had the pleasure of meeting many of you during the breakfast reception held at State House shortly after I became President, as well as in our frequent engagements since.

These interactions have allowed me to appreciate firsthand the commitment and expertise that you bring to your role.

So, I would like to commend you all for your continued efforts and your commitment to excellence, much of which is carried out voluntarily.

Reflections and the Way Forward

Ladies and Gentlemen,

In today's complex and interconnected world, it is evident that the role of the Consular Corps is more critical than ever.

The challenges of global mobility, shifting economic landscapes, and evolving diplomatic priorities demand vigilance, adaptability, and collaboration.

It is imperative, therefore, to ensure that Mauritius not only remains connected to the world but also demonstrates its core values: democracy, openness, stability, peace, unity in diversity, and partnership.

Conclusion

As President of the Republic, I wish to reaffirm my full support for all your future endeavours.

Together, let us continue to build meaningful international relationships, safeguard the welfare of residents and visitors, and advance our nation's standing on the global stage - As One People, As One Nation.

On this optimistic note, I wish each one of you; your families, and the communities you represent, a peaceful festive season and a New Year filled with health, success, and renewed purpose.

Thank you, and I wish you an enjoyable evening ahead.