



SPEECH

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

**EVENT: Saral Sanskrit, Certificate Award Ceremony, (Shri Sanatan
Dharma Bhraman Maha Sabha)**

VENUE: Swastika, Forest Side, Curepipe

DATE: 14 March 2026

TIME: 13:00 HOURS

Protocol

Honourable Ministers

His Excellency Shri Anurag Srivastava ji, High Commissioner of India

Honourable Members of the National Assembly

Respected President, Sri Sanaran Dharmiya ji,

Members of the Brahman Samaj,

Distinguished guests,

Dear Parents, and my dear young Sanskrit scholars.

Introduction

Namo Namaha,

Thank you for inviting me to today's Saral Sanskrit Certificate Award Ceremony as Chief Guest.

It is truly a privilege to be present today as we felicitate our bright students who have dedicated themselves to the study of Sanskrit, an ancestral language and an integral part of our Sanskrit Virasat.

Sanskrit

An ancient language not only that dates back to 3,500 years but which is also eternally relevant. Sanskrit has been referred to as '**The language of Gods**' and is the language of sacred texts like the **Vedas, the Upanishads,** and epics like the **Ramayana and Mahabharat.**

Although it is a classical language, it is considered very useful for modern day computer algorithms used in AI.

Those who have access to learn Sanskrit, a vast ocean of knowledge in its original form. When you understand a scripture in its own language, you are not dependent on the translations.

You are free to interpret, reflect, and apply its timeless wisdom to your own life according to your level of understanding.

That is why Sanskrit is called:

Nityam nutanam sanaatanam

Eternal yet ever new.

Congratulations

I congratulate the samaj for the amazing work they are doing for the promotion and preservation of the Sanskrit language brought by our ancestors.

Mauritius is a land shaped by courage, faith, and Sanskaar.

Our ancestors arrived here with little possessions, but they carried Ramayan in their hands, Gita in their memory, and Dharma in their conduct.

They may have lost many material things when leaving India behind, but they did not lose their Dharma. They preserved it through prayer, through practice, and through **Sanskrit shlokas** remembered by heart.

The Brahman Samaj has played an important role in preserving this sacred knowledge. For that, the nation is ever grateful and thankful.

Reflections

Today, as we felicitate these young scholars, we must also reflect on the deepening spirit tradition of learning Sanskrit. The spirit of sharing, so that this divine language continues to flourish across society and beyond geographical boundaries.

When more children learn Sanskrit, our cultural foundation becomes stronger. When knowledge is shared, Dharma becomes stronger.

A sanskrit subhaashitam explains it beautifully-

व्ययेकृ तेवर्धत एव नित्यं
विद्याधनंसर्वधनप्रधानम्॥

*“vyaye kṛte vardhata eva nityam
vidyaa dhanam sarva dhana pradhaanam ||”*

If Shared (spent) it always multiplies. The wealth of knowledge is the greatest among all wealth.

There is no other dharma in the world that has survived over a thousand years of invasions and colonization the way Sanatan Dharma has.

Sanatan Dharma survived not because it was rigid, but because it was reflective. It survived because it knew how **to reform** without losing its soul.

Every few decades, our society has reflected, corrected, and reformed. Rituals and mentalities that slowly creep in under the name of “dharma” are questioned and, when necessary, removed.

And this responsibility - the responsibility to purify, to refine, to uplift lies with the intellectuals of society.

Way Forward

Today, even as we call ourselves a developed society, our duty as Sanatan believers is clear.

We must bring reform where reform is needed. Thoughtful reforms recognized and celebrate humanity as one family. **Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam**

We must have the courage to gently remove what divide us and what weakens us.

I have in mind the rigid and divisive system of caste that has crept into society over time. It does not reflect the highest vision of Sanatan Dharma. It divides rather than uplifts.

Our scriptures remind us that true greatness is defined by guna and karma, not by birth. This is also a scientific truth.

Do you know that 99.9% of our DNA sequence of human beings is identical?

There is a Shlok in Nagar Khand of Skanda Puraana:

“Janmanaa jaayate shudrah, samskaaraad bhaved dvijah.”

By birth, we are all ordinary (Shudra). By refinement, we become spiritually elevated

(Brahmin / twice born).

Birth does not define greatness. Sanskaar does.

Discipline does. Character does.

Dharma- the values that we incarnate and Karma- the duty that we perform.

Redaas, the guru of Meera bai, Kabir das, Namdev, were notable dalit saints, who are celebrated.

Vishwamitra was a kshatriya by birth and went on to become Bramha-Rishi.

Arundhati, Gargi, Lopamudra stood along greatest of the vedic scholars.

Let us work together with wisdom to rise above confusions and narrow divisions and in the spirit of Sanskrit language, sharpen our intellect and critical thinking.

Sanatan dharma has never limited greatness by birth, caste or gender. It has always honoured and nurtured knowledge and character.

Sanskrit, the language of our shared mantras and universal philosophy, can become a powerful catalyst in this journey. When its knowledge is opened to all, it unites hearts, restores dignity, and brings us back to the deeper truth of Dharma, that we are one family.

Is this not the real purpose of Sanskrit?

Vishnu Puraan says-

“सा विद्या या विमुक्तये”

Saa Vidyaa Yaa Vimuktaye,

True knowledge is that which liberates.

Concluding Remarks

Sanskrit is not a wall; it is a bridge.

And every child born in Mauritius regardless of background, deserves the opportunity to learn it.

Our ancestors crossed oceans, but they did not allow Dharma to shrink. Today, we are educated, stable, and respected as a society. Now the responsibility is ours to ensure that Dharma remains inclusive, compassionate, and progressive.

Reform does not mean rejecting tradition. Reform means returning to the essence of tradition. The essence of Sanatan Dharma is upliftment.

“aatmano mokshaartham jagat hitaaya cha.”

For one’s own liberation and for the welfare of the world.

Let us move forward with humility. Not to divide, but to expand.

It is time to revive the true spirit of sanatan dharma in Mauritius. Giving a child a chance to learn sanskrit is giving them access to their highest potential.

A Shlok from Hitopadesh says-

“Vidyaa dadaati vinayam.”

Knowledge imparts humility.

Not to claim superiority, but to deepen understanding.

Not to preserve language as privilege, but to share it as heritage.

In a multicultural nation like Mauritius, that will be true tribute to our ancestors. That will be true Dharma.

Let's move forward: **“As one people, as one Nation.”**

Namo namaha.