

# India reiterates support for Mauritius on Chagos islands ahead of PM Modi's visit

Vikram Misri said Prime Minister Modi will be the chief guest at the national day celebrations of Mauritius during his stay.

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KALLOL BHATTACHERJEE



File photo of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. File | Photo Credit: PTI

**“India supported Mauritius’ claims for the Chagos archipelago as that is part of the long tradition of decolonisation that is part of India’s foreign policy,” said Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri ahead of Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s visit to Mauritius between March**

11-12, 2025. Briefing the media in New Delhi, Mr. Misri said, "Prime Minister Modi will be the chief guest at the national day celebrations of Mauritius during his stay."

"India supported Mauritius on its claims on Chagos island as it was in keeping with the tradition of decolonisation," said Mr. Misri recollecting India's support to Mauritius as the U.K. and Mauritius were in a protracted negotiation over the Chagos islands. The United Kingdom and Mauritius reached a political agreement to retain the strategically important military base on Diego Garcia with the U.K.-U.S. while restoring the sovereignty of Mauritius over the Chagos archipelago. On October 3, 2024, the U.K. announced that a treaty was being worked out to firm up the agreement.

The agreement received renewed focus because of comments from U.S. President Trump whose early comments suggested the US would not support the U.K. in settling the case. Latest reports however indicate that the U.S. will support the UK in going ahead with the deal. U.K.'s Foreign Secretary Lammy has reiterated that UK would not go ahead with the deal if Trump vetoed the UK-Mauritius agreement.

Mr. Misri described Mauritius as a close maritime partner of India and announced that contingents from the Indian Air Force, and a ship from the Indian Navy will participate in the national day celebrations in Mauritius. Mr. Modi had visited Mauritius in 2015 last. Mr. Misri announced a number of agreements are expected to be signed during PM Modi's visit.

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