

India and Mauritius are not just partners but a family, says PM Modi

Free and secure Indian Ocean is our shared priority, says Modi, speaking alongside Mauritius PM Navinchandra Ramgoolam; MoUs inked for cooperation in technology, development projects

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MAYANK KUMAR



Prime Minister Narendra Modi with his Mauritius counterpart Navinchandra Ramgoolam during a bilateral meeting, in Varanasi, on September 11, 2025 | Photo Credit: PMO

India and Mauritius are not just partners but a family, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said in Varanasi on Thursday, at the signing of agreements framed to deepen ties between the two countries.

Following bilateral discussions with his counterpart from Mauritius, Navinchandra Ramgoolam, Mr. Modi said that a stable, prosperous, free, open and secure Indian Ocean was a joint priority of both countries.

“Centuries ago, our culture and traditions travelled from India to Mauritius, and became a part of everyday life there. Just like the eternal flow of Maa Ganga in Kashi, the continuous stream of Indian culture has enriched Mauritius. And today, when we are welcoming friends from Mauritius in Kashi, it is not just a formality but a spiritual union. That is why I proudly say that India and Mauritius are not just partners but a family,” said Mr. Modi.

The Prime Minister said Mauritius is an integral part of India’s “Neighbourhood First” policy.

At a press conference, Mr. Modi said, “Today, we have announced a special economic package designed to support Mauritius’s needs and priorities. This will strengthen infrastructure, create new employment opportunities, and further enhance healthcare facilities. The first Jan Aushadhi Kendra outside India has now been established in Mauritius.”

AYUSH centre

India also announced that it would extend cooperation in establishing an AYUSH Centre of Excellence, a 500-bed Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam National Hospital, as well as a veterinary school and animal hospital in Mauritius. The two countries also signed Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) to enhance cooperation in science and technology, oceanographic research, power sector and implementation of Phase II of small development projects.

In a proposed hydrography project, the countries will work together on joint surveys, navigation charts, and hydrographic data of the exclusive economic zones of Mauritius.

“Very soon, we will also launch the training modules of Mission Karmayogi [capacity building for government officials] in Mauritius. The Indian Institute of Technology, Madras, and the Indian Institute of Plantation Management have entered into agreements with the University of Mauritius. These agreements will elevate our partnership in

research, education, and innovation to new heights,” added Mr. Modi, lauding the unique “civilisational ties” between the two countries.

Earlier, Mr. Modi landed at Lal Bahadur Shastri International Airport in Varanasi where he was received by Uttar Pradesh Governor Anandiben Patel and Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath. Mr. Modi’s convoy was welcomed at six major locations, including Kachahari and Ambedkar Chauraha.

Mr. Ramgoolam, who arrived in Varanasi on Wednesday, witnessed the Ganga Aarti from a cruise in the evening. On Friday morning, he is scheduled to offer prayers at Shri Kashi Vishwanath Dham before leaving for Ayodhya.

(With PTI inputs)

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