14-point Program to Oppose M.S.M. – English and Kreol Versions

This is the program upon which LALIT proposes that we attack the MSM–ML–ex-MMM Government.

Introduction

Mauritius was already in a deep economic crisis before the additional crisis caused by the Covid-19 pandemic. Mauritius was also in a deep political crisis prior to the Covid-19 crisis. And Mauritius had been facing all kinds of social crises long before the sanitary crisis began. So, we need a political program that addresses the crises during the pandemic, as well as all the different crises that predate the pandemic. We need a program, yes. And only a political program can guide us in facing crises of such scope. Neither NGOs, nor trade-unions, nor the civil society can get us out of this deep crisis. It is only through our own mobilisation — mobilisation of the oppressed, and of everyone who wants a socialist society — on the basis of a political program, which will succeed.

Here is what LALIT is putting on this political agenda:

On Land and Sea

1 The Jugnauth Government must stop using the Mauritius Investment Corporation (MIC) money for projects that do not concern key production, starting with investing this capital in food production on a large scale. This means that every transfer of money, as well as the signing of every contract, must also be made public. Every secret contract that concerns expenses from public funds must be made downright illegal. This way we can ensure that, first of all, this capital coming from public funds, that is from Bank of Mauritius reserves, will be used to replace much of the sugar cane plantation on sugar estates with agro-food crops on a large scale, and to replace old sugar mills with factories to preserve-transform food crops — to ensure food sovereignty as well as get foreign currency into the country from food exports. Then, we must develop a large-scale sustainable fishing industry and prevent other ships from pillaging our exclusive economic zones of the ocean. This way we can propose food production, such as cooking oil — through planting and processing sunflower or peanuts, for example — and like flour made from breadfruit, corn, cassava, the production of all kinds of preserved food products — based around produce from land and sea, including what is transformed, such as vinnday (spicy pickle) fish and aubergine, potato curry, tomato rugay — and frozen and freeze-dried vegetables. The development of such a new industry in the production of what is essential will, for a start, create stable jobs — in the fields, in greenhouses, in factories to preserve and transform these food crops, on industrial fishing vessels, in storage, in distribution, in transportation, in export, in marketing, in scientific research, in development of new products, in looking for regional and niche markets. This is the path to achieve food sovereignty. Everyone knows that the price of foodstuffs is increasing and that it will keep on increasing. And when there are disruptions in the supply chains, when freight is increasingly costly and marine cargo traffic can be disrupted, we will have at least basic food production to sustain the whole of the
Mauritian people. This is also a way to get a reliable export product, and thus foreign exchange, as other countries will always need food products. Then, it can act as a foundation from which other sectors of the economy can be generated, and added on.

2 The MSM government must stop giving sugar estates permits to sell off agricultural land to foreign millionaires. In addition to destroying agricultural land, this is a new form of colonisation that must be made downright illegal. It is a form of selling off our means of survival in exchange for only a temporary small amount of money, that is, digging a graveyard for a viable economy in the future. Mauritius will inherit a deadly socio-political problem, as well. So, the government must immediately stop selling off agricultural land this way, for speculative-investment, luxury villas, and golf courses.

3 The Jugnauth government must immediately retract its dumb offer, its criminal offer, to lease part of Mauritian land, Diego Garcia, to the USA for a 100-year (or for even a single year!), and must immediately call for the immediate closure of this military base, for an ecological clean-up, and for the transformation of this land of the Mauritian Republic into what Chagossians, together with the Mauritian people, need and want. The Government must organize for a ship, or for a flotilla even, to sail off and plant the Republic’s flag on the Chagos Archipelago, as it has promised to do. The Jugnauth Government must also forthwith publish the agreement it signed with the Indian Government on the seaport and airstrip on Agalega, and reassure people living in Agalega and all the Mauritian people that all these developments will be exclusively for civil purposes, not military. The Mauritian Republic must be closed to all warships, that is, no warship will be allowed in Port Louis, Port Mathurin, Agalega, Diego Garcia, Tromelin, St. Brandon.

4 The government needs an Emergency Program to make use of the land of Mauritius, Rodrigues, Agalega, and Chagos to build housing, including an option to rent a house-for-life to cater for a place to live for every adult with his/her family. It must be based on a model like the CHA, that existed until 1993, with its Tribunal and all, where any aggrieved party can file a corruption complaint. Housing for all including this kind of rental possibility will solve many conflicts within the family in general, and will help to save women from patriarchal violence by giving women what they need the most: a house for her and her children.

5 The Government must ban industrial pollution in general, especially agricultural pollution by the sugar estates, as well as marine pollution, that together are ruining the sea and the land. The forest area must be increased.

6 The Government must organize for bicycle-lanes and walking tracks everywhere in the country, and especially from each metro station.

On Democracy

7 Jugnauth must organize a national debate — with forums in every Village Council and every town Ward — on Constitutional changes to allow electors to revoke a member of parliament (the right of recall) on the basis of a formal petition that is accepted by the Electoral Commissioner (there is such a system in the UK already and in California right now). At the same time, we must argue over a change that will allow the members of parliament to elect the Prime Minister
(not be appointed by the President, as is the case now). And, Parliament then ratifies the Prime Minister’s proposal for his Cabinet, and this thus ensures that Parliament, the MPs (who we elect), has the power to recall any Minister in this Cabinet. This will increase democracy. This will give more power to the people. It will broaden and strengthen the National Assembly (the Legislature) relative to the executive. The Cabinet must be smaller, more accountable. There must be Permanent Select Committees that hold their meeting in public, and which are transmitted on public television, where all important nominations are subject to ratification, and where all policies can be challenged, a bit like the Senate Hearings in the USA, and Parliamentary Committees in Britain. With a bigger Parliament (we propose 4 MPs for each of the 21 existing constituencies, as well as the addition of two new constituencies with one MP each for Agalega and one-in-waiting for Chagos, plus 20 by proportional representation (a kind of non-communal best loser) this expansion thus making the elimination of the Best-Loser system possible. The Kreol Language must enter Parliament next to the English Language. MSM must replace the Speaker Phokeer before the National Assembly resumes. The Speaker must fulfill his or her role of guaranteeing the supremacy of the National Assembly over the executive.

8 There must be a system where Village Councils have an autonomous budget and more powers. It must be elected for 3 years, and Village Councillors should be able to be revoked through electoral petitions. Each town must have its Ward Councils with an autonomous budget and certain powers (a bit like Village Councils) to take care of each ward.

9 The MSM government must organize an International Demand for Reparations from ex-coloniser countries for the harm caused by slavery. LALIT already has precise proposals on this.

10 There must be a *Freedom of Information Act* that allows anyone to access every information about themselves, and everything that concerns them that the State possesses. This way, journalists will also have access to information. *Non-Disclosure Agreements* must be made illegal, starting with those used to cover criminal or immoral acts.

11 MBC must become independent — its board and top-management must answer to the National Assembly, without any ties to the Prime Minister’s Office. The MBC must have a system to give fair coverage, in reality, to different political currents as its constituting law already specifies. It must have a system where, for international news, MBC does not just parrot the analysis of USA or of France, but actually explains the position of the Mauritian State, for example at the UN, or on Israel’s continued colonization of Palestine.

12 The MSM government must make MIE prepare the Kreol Medium (alongside English, i.e. dual-medium) for textbooks as well as for exams for science subject and mathematics — for Grade 1 and 2 in 2022, for Grade 3 and 4 in 2023, for Grade 5 and 6 in 2024, and for every class up to HSC as from 2025.

13 The Jugnauth Government must introduce a set of protocols for each profession so as to eradicate violence by officers of the state, such as the police and prison guards, that is, how Lawyers must act to expose brutality, how Magistrates must act to expose brutality, how hospital
doctors must act to expose brutality, and how every policeman must act to expose their colleagues in the force, who make use of violence.

On Social Services

The Jugnauth Government must recruit more nurses, assistant nurses, those that do contact-tracing, to assure a state-of-the-art free and universal healthcare system. There must be a mobilization of every staff member to go beyond the “bureaucratic” mindset that prevails and to make the care of patients central. The same kind of transformation is necessary in the education system, where the goal of every staff member must become “to help children to enjoy learning”, and to give children a structure for rational thinking and the development of a critical and creative mind. Pensions must remain universal, and must be re-indexed every year as from 2022 based on the cost of living. All the social services that we already have are the fruit of a long struggle of the working class, and we must carry on developing them, preventing their privatisation. This means Jugnauth must retract his proposition to throw all civil service and parastatal employees into the hands of private medical insurance and the private health business instead of upgrading the hospital and dispensary system, and the public health system for preventive health around the regional Biro Saniter. There must be more social services so that each family can manage, so that these responsibilities do not simply fall on women and remain work done “invisibly”. There must be “Day Care Centres” for people with disabilities, for old people, thus the State sharing the work of the family, and also creches to take care of babies, for women who work.

Our Revi LALIT no. 145 has several articles explaining the program upon which we are attacking the MSM-ML-exMMM Government.

30 August 2021

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Program pu Lalit Kont M.S.M. an 14 Pwin

Ala program lor lekel LALIT pe propoze ki nu atak Guvernman MSM-ML-ex-MMM.

Introdiksyon


Ala ki LALIT pe met lor azanda politik:
Demand Spesifik lor Later ek Lamer


2. Guvernman Jugnauth bizin aret donn tablisman fever morsle-vann later agrikol pei ar milyarder deor. Sa li detrir later, plis li amenn enn nuvo form kolonizasyon ki bizin kareman vinn ilegal. Li enn fason bayant nu manyer sirviv pu enn ti-kas tanporer, setadir fuy enn simityer pu lekonomi fitir. Li pu fer Moris erit problem sosyo-politik mortel. Alor, aret deswit tu morselman later agrikol, pu rezon investisman, vila-de-lix, terin golf.


4. Guvernman Moris bizin enn Program Dirzans pu servi later Moris, Rodrig, Agalega, Chagos pu batir lozman, inklir lakaz lwe a-vi, pu ki sak dimunn adilt ki bizin enn plas pu reste kapav gayn enn, pu li ek so fami. Li bizin lor model inpe kuma CHA ki ti existe ziska 1993, avek so Tribinaal pu met konplint lor koripsyon. Sa pu rezud buku konfli alinteryer lafami an-zeneral, e ede pu eparyn fam depi vyolans patriarkal par donn fam seki li pli bizin: enn twa pu li ek so zanfan.

5. Guvernman bizin anpes polisyon indistriyel an zeneral, agrikol par sirtu tablisman ek osi polisyon marinn, ki ansam pe rwinn lamer ek later. Bizin ogmant superfisi lafore.

**Demand Spesifik lor Demokrasi**


8. Bizin ena enn sistem kot Konsey Vilaz ena enn bidze otonom, e buku plis puwvar. Li bizin eli pu 3 an, e Konseye Vilaz bizin revok par petisyon elektoral. Sak lavil, bizin ena Konsey Ward avek so bidze otonom e sertin puwvar (enpe kuma Konsey Vilaz) pu okip ward.

9. Guvernman Jugnauth bizin organiz enn Demand Internasyonal pu pei ex-kolonizater pey reparasyon par ditor ki sistem esklavaz finn fer dan pei. Pu sa, LALIT deza ena propozisyon presi.


11. MBC bizin vinn indepandan – so bord ek top-manajmennt bizin redevab a Lasanble Nasyonal, san okenn lyin ar Biro Premye Minis. Li bizin ena enn sistem pu donn kuvertir ekitab differan kuran politik. Li bizin ena enn sistem kot, pu nuvel internasyonal, MBC pa zis fer kuma peroke analiz USA ubyin Lafrans, me explik pozisyon Guvernman Moris.


13. Guvernman Jugnauth bizin introdir enn seri protokol pu sak profesyon pu ki eradik vyolans par ofisyte leta, kuma lapolis ek gard shum, setadir kimanyer Avoka bizin azir pu expozbritalite, kimanyer Mazistra bizin azir pu expoz britalite, kimanyer Dokter Lopital bizin azir pu expoz britalite, e kimanyer tu lapolis bizin azir pu expoz zot konfrer dan lapolis ki servi vyolans.
Demand Spesifik lor Servis Sosyal


01.09.2021