

# Road Safety Week 2026

From 8 to 13 May, Mauritius joins the international community in observing the 8th United Nations Global Road Safety Week. Coordinated by the World Health Organization, this global campaign serves as a vital reminder of our collective responsibility to prevent road accidents and protect lives.

The theme retained for this year\_ “Safe Walking and Cycling for Sustainable, Healthy Cities” \_ emphasises the importance of protecting our most vulnerable road users. Globally, pedestrians and cyclists account for over 25% of road fatalities. By ensuring their safety, we do more than just reduce numbers; we build a healthier, more equitable, and more sustainable Mauritius.

While we have seen a downward trend in annual road fatalities, from 138 in 2023 and 134 deaths in 2024 to 124 in 2025, we do recognise that every life lost is a tragedy that we must work tirelessly to prevent.

The Penalty Points System (PPS) was, therefore, reintroduced on 31 January 2026 and remains today at an early stage of implementation. A preliminary assessment by the Traffic Management and Road Safety Unit of my Ministry, comparing statistics from January 2025 to end-April 2026, reveals that in January 2026, before the reintroduction of the PPS, Mauritius recorded 19 road fatalities compared to 15 in January 2025, that is, an increase of 26.6%. However, following the reintroduction of the PPS, road safety indicators have shown signs of stabilisation. Markedly, in April 2026, the Police recorded a 25% reduction in fatalities.

We acknowledge that behavioural change in road safety takes time and depends heavily on consistent enforcement and visibility. The improvement observed in April 2026 should, therefore, be seen as a leading indicator rather than a definitive outcome. Nonetheless, the PPS appears to be functioning as an effective policy intervention, interrupting previously negative trends in road safety outcomes.

To sustain this momentum and in the context of the Road Safety Week, my Ministry is organising a Consultative Workshop on Monday, 11 May. This session will bring together key stakeholders to outline the National Road Safety Strategy (2026–2030). Our objective is clear: to align with the UN Decade of Action and achieve a 50% reduction in fatalities and serious injuries by 2030.

Throughout this week, my Ministry will, with the support of its key partners, organise the following:

- Police Enforcement: Targeted crackdown operations to ensure compliance.
- Regional Outreach: Sensitisation campaigns in Mahebourg, Bambous, and Flacq.
- Public Engagement: Road safety quizzes on Radio Maurice, Radio Plus, Top FM and Radio One.

Road safety is not merely a matter of infrastructure or law enforcement; it is a matter of culture. I, therefore, urge every citizen, whether you are behind the wheel, on a bicycle, or on foot, to practice mutual respect. Simple actions like obeying speed limits and eliminating distractions can be the difference between life and death.

**Let us unite for a safer, sustainable Mauritius!**



**Hon Osman MAHOMED**  
**Minister of Land Transport**  
*08 May 2026*