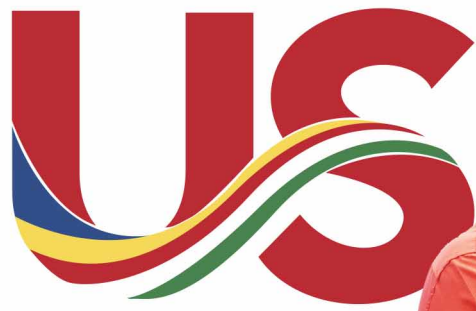




2025
VOT

Countdown to Election 2025

DAYS **0** **4** **1**



Foreign guards, hidden agenda

Why is Seychelles outsourcing its security?

Recently, a select group of Seychellois security personnel was sent to Rwanda for training, following in the footsteps of a first cohort. This development is unusual, given the proximity to the elections. In addition, there is speculation about the possibility that the government may recruit Rwandan security officers to work in Seychelles' prison system and as part of the presidential security detail. Why Rwanda? Why now? Is this about security or control?

3



Seychelles stadium snub

The Confederation of African Football (CAF) has released its latest list of Category 2-approved stadiums for continental competitions, and Seychelles does not appear on it. Despite the recent renovation of our national stadium, highlighted by both the Sports Minister and the President as a significant achievement, the (blue-tracked) facility has not met the standards required for hosting preliminary stage matches of the Men's U17, U20, and U23 Africa Cup of Nations, as well as the Champions League and Confederation Cup.

The renovation was described as a milestone in the country's sports development. Public statements expressed hope for a facility that would elevate Seychelles onto the continental stage. However, the CAF list presents a different situation. Our absence puts us alongside nations with either no functioning stadiums or facilities marked as

3

A public rebuke of presidential disrespect

He resents the fact that certain citizens have higher incomes than he does. But is it correct that these people earn more than the president?

During the August 13, 2025, live press conference, President Wavel Ramkalawan made an inappropriate remark about the earnings of a private technician working with the state house events. The press conference, broadcast live on SBC, Facebook and YouTube, was notable for its lack of decorum.

Instead of addressing Seychelles' pressing issues, rising living costs, public sector morale, and national security, the president, who arguably should not have held this press conference so close to the election, chose to expose a private individual's earnings, suggesting the technician earned ex-

3

Left behind The state turns its back on Seychellois veterans

SEE FULL ARTICLE ON PAGE 6



Ramkalawan's war on fingers



SEE FULL ARTICLE ON PAGE 4

The clown v/s the candidate

Seychelles deserves a Doctor, not Wavel the Disaster

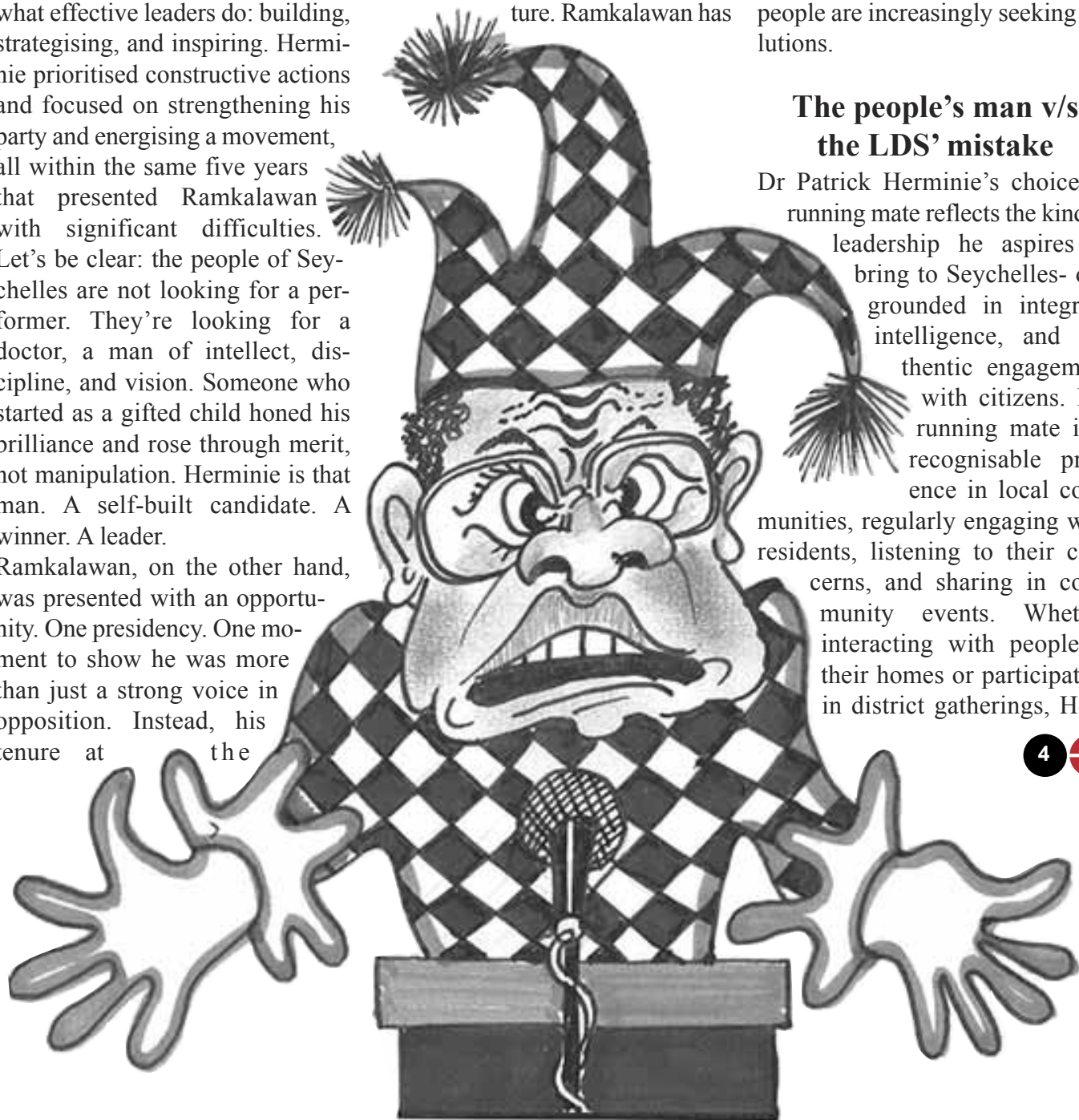
There was a time when Wavel Ramkalawan sought to be taken seriously. He raised his hands, spoke of integrity, and promised a new era. What the Seychellois people experienced instead was a period marked by unexpected challenges, and he was at the centre of difficult leadership moments. While Ramkalawan spent his mandate navigating press conferences with half-truths and attributing challenges to others, Dr Patrick Herminie was quietly doing what effective leaders do: building, strategising, and inspiring. Herminie prioritised constructive actions and focused on strengthening his party and energising a movement, all within the same five years that presented Ramkalawan with significant difficulties. Let's be clear: the people of Seychelles are not looking for a performer. They're looking for a doctor, a man of intellect, discipline, and vision. Someone who started as a gifted child honed his brilliance and rose through merit, not manipulation. Herminie is that man. A self-built candidate. A winner. A leader. Ramkalawan, on the other hand, was presented with an opportunity. One presidency. One moment to show he was more than just a strong voice in opposition. Instead, his tenure at the

State House frequently featured heightened emotions and public exchanges. It became a period that prompted questions about his leadership style. Meanwhile, Herminie didn't just inspire his supporters. He attracted some of Ramkalawan's as well. Activists, voters, even former allies—gradually, some chose to support him, not because of external pressures, but because they noticed the contrast. They saw competence. They saw wisdom. They saw a potential future. Ramkalawan has

not matched Herminie's approach. Not intellectually. Not strategically. Not morally. The difference is clear, significant enough to merit careful consideration. Seychelles deserves better. The people seek a leader who can thoroughly understand the nation's challenges and identify real solutions, not one who focuses on presentation and public attention. They want a doctor, not a disappointment- a statesman, not a celebrity. Ramkalawan may continue his current approach, but the people are increasingly seeking solutions.

The people's man v/s the LDS' mistake

Dr Patrick Herminie's choice of running mate reflects the kind of leadership he aspires to bring to Seychelles- one grounded in integrity, intelligence, and authentic engagement with citizens. His running mate is a recognisable presence in local communities, regularly engaging with residents, listening to their concerns, and sharing in community events. Whether interacting with people at their homes or participating in district gatherings, Hon-



Building tomorrow, today!

Five years is a long time in the life of a human being. During this time, we have waited patiently, quietly, and with hope. We've endured broken promises, rising costs, shrinking opportunities, and a government more interested in self-enrichment than public service. But now, the wait is over. The movement led by United Seychelles stands for real change, to build a better future.

This is our moment. But it will not happen on its own. We must gather, rally, and boldly confront the future. Refusal to act risks wasting more years under LDS leadership- those who climbed to power by stepping on the hard work of others for their ambitions.

We cannot afford to wait any longer.

Many of us have more years behind us than ahead of us. We deserve happiness, progress, and compassionate leadership- policies that uplift everyone, not just the privileged.

We urge our youth to actively join United Seychelles, work alongside us to build the future, and prioritise well-being. Get involved by spreading the message, attending meetings and rallies, and encouraging others to do the same. This is survival, not selfishness. Reject those who seek to divide and derail us. Put Seychellois people first.

Even our diaspora, those living abroad, long to return to a Seychelles that is thriving, united, and dignified. Don't they want to visit their families in a country that offers opportunity, safety, and pride? Don't they want to see their homeland rise again?

United Seychelles is the path to real change. Its policies turn promises into prosperity for all Seychellois. This is not politics. This is us watching television programmes and seeing other nations prosper. This is us wanting our children to have a bright future. This is us wanting to walk tall and proud when we meet tourists on our beautiful beaches, and when we visit their country. For the past five years, politicians have been walking tall with a millionaire wallet, treating the rest of us as rejects. But we are not rejects; we are a proud nation, dignified, competent, and living in a paradise. It is our sweat and toil in those wallets. Therefore, we need to reclaim control from those who look down on us. They were supposed to be at the service of the people, not our masters. Their time is up, but it is up to us to throw them out of those offices they use to patronise us, belittle us.

Leave the past behind. Reject the empty promises and failures. Choose progress that delivers. Choose the leadership and unity that United Seychelles offers. Choose change for tomorrow, today.

Choose United Seychelles. Please stand with us and take action today: become a member, volunteer your time, or share our vision with your family and friends. Together, we can shape a better tomorrow.

Foreign guards, hidden agenda

Why is Seychelles outsourcing its security?

The people deserve answers. This is not merely an issue of diplomacy. It is a matter of sovereignty and trust. With just a few weeks left in office, is President Ramkalawan operating in secrecy, making decisions that could have long-term security implications? The hush-hush nature of these arrangements, especially involving foreign personnel in sensitive roles, raises serious concerns. Why is a president on his way out, making moves that should be left to the incoming administration? Ramkalawan should not be granted an extra month of unchecked authority. The people deserve clarity: Who will be in charge? Who will be the Commander-in-Chief? The President-Elect, chosen by the people, or the loser, clinging to power through last-minute deals.

A public rebuke of presidential disrespect

cessively from State House. This overstepped professional boundaries and amounted to public shaming. The president’s comments were more than tone-deaf; they deflected from important matters. By comparing others’ pay to his own and going as far as claiming the head of the Seychelles Defence Forces and the Commissioner of Police earn more than he does, Ramkalawan cast himself as underpaid and self-sacrificing. He omitted mention of his annual gratuity of almost SCR 300 000 and the generous pension exceeding SCR 2 million awaiting him after what many deem a failed mandate. He also conveniently forgot to mention the many millions he has

wasted on futile overseas travels, which are paid for by taxpayers, as well as other expenses that taxpayers have covered for his benefits. This selective transparency is not only misleading, but also manipulative. A president should lead with dignity, humility, and respect. Publicly discussing someone’s salary, especially to suggest excess, violates trust. It warns civil servants and contractors that their privacy and worth are at risk of public scrutiny from the nation’s highest office, not forgetting the rumours that they violate the privacy of businessmen and citizens at will. Seychellois citizens deserve a leader who speaks truth to power, not one who uses power to belittle others. They deserve transparency about all benefits and entitlements, not selective comparisons meant to evoke sympathy. Most of all, they need a president who understands leadership is about service, not self-promotion. President Ramkalawan’s remarks embarrassed his office and cabinet members, who sat throughout his press conference, listening to him with disappointed faces.



Seychelles stadium snub

Political lies vs CAF reality

CONFEDERATION AFRICAINE DE FOOTBALL				
List of CAF approved stadiums/ Liste de stades approuvés par la CAF				
CATEGORY 2				
Men's u17/u20/u23 Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON) – Qualifiers Men's Champions League – Preliminary Stage Men's Confederation Cup – Preliminary Stage				
Country/ Pays	Stadium/ Stade	City/ Ville	Pitch Type	Floodlights
Algeria	Stade du 5 Juillet 1962	Alger	Natural	Yes
	Complexe Olympique d'Oran	Oran	Natural	Yes
	Stade Chahid Hamlaoui	Constantine	Natural	Yes
	Nelson Mandela Stadium	Alger	Natural	Yes
	Stade du 19 mai 1956	Annaba	Natural	Yes
Rwanda	Amahoro Stadium	Kigali	Natural	Yes
	Kigali Pele Stadium	Kigali	Natural	Yes
Sao Tome				
Senegal	Stade Abdoulaye Wade De Diamniadio	Diamniadio	Natural	Yes
	Stade Lat-Dior	Thies	Natural	
Seychelles				
Sierra Leone				
Somalia				

“Temporary” or “Not Approved.” These include Djibouti, Eritrea, Guinea, Lesotho, São Tomé, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Sudan, Chad, Burundi, and Eswatini; countries whose football infrastructure faces ongoing challenges. This exclusion has real consequences. Seychelles currently cannot host youth or club continental qualifiers, which limits local players’ opportunities for exposure and fans’ ability to enjoy regional football on home soil. It may also mean fewer opportunities for sports tourism, economic activity, and expressions of national pride. The situation raises important questions. Were CAF standards fully considered during the ren-

ovation process? Was the project aligned with both technical requirements and the desire for public visibility? Perhaps aspects such as floodlights, pitch quality, or other infrastructure elements were difficult to balance within the scope of renovation and broader ambitions. If Seychelles is committed to football development, more than speeches and ceremonies may be needed. A clear roadmap to meet CAF criteria, independent audits of stadium infrastructure, and collaboration with CAF and regional experts could help address these challenges. Until then, our stadium stands as a project with potential, recognised in politics, but not yet meeting continental requirements.

FUNNY CORNER

Ramkalawan's war on fingers

In a bold move that will surely be studied in future textbooks on authoritarian fragility, Ramkalawan has reportedly taken a stand against the most dangerous threat to his presidency yet. This time, it is a youth's middle finger.

The youth's crime was not theft, violence, or corruption. Instead, it was the audacity to raise a single rebellious digit in the president's direction. For this, she was swiftly arrested. The gesture, which most likely lasted less than two seconds, has been classified by the government as a "national insult of the highest order."

Perhaps next: arrests for sarcastic memes and disapproving eyebrows, as the war on hand-based dissent escalates.

The president, prized for public decorum and an uncanny ability to take offence at the speed of light, reportedly felt "personally wounded" by the gesture. Unsurprisingly, he may soon review all hand-based expressions in public, from waving to high-fiving, in his campaign for absolute civility.

Building on this spirit, the government will launch "Hands Off Ramkalawan," a satirical campaign urging citizens to not only keep their fingers in their pockets but also to silence their opinions. Posters will appear across Mahé, featuring the president's face and the slogan: "Respect is a closed fist," a pointed jab at the limits on expression.

Meanwhile, the arrested youth has become an overnight symbol of resistance. Supporters have begun flashing the middle finger in solidarity. This has prompted the police to issue warnings about "finger-related gatherings." Tomorrow, we might hear about one protester reportedly detained for using a foam hand with only the middle finger extended. Authorities have described this act as "inflatable sedition."

Critics argue that the president's reaction reveals a troubling insecurity. "If a young woman's hand gesture can undo your leadership," said one commentator, "perhaps the problem isn't the finger; it's the ego."

As the legal drama unfolds, the nation watches with bated breath: Will the president triumph over teenage and youth irreverence, or will Seychelles make history as the country that bans the use of fingers altogether?

One thing is clear in Ramkalawan's 'Sesel pour tou son zanfán': satire reveals that freedom of expression remains constitutional, just as long as it's expressed with mittens.

Editor's Note:

We empathise with the 21-year-old who was arrested and detained. This satire was written to highlight just how absurd and fragile the leadership of our beautiful country has become. Sometimes, ridicule is the only language power understands.



Seychelles deserves a Doctor, not Wavel the Disaster

ourable Sebastien Pillay's approach emphasises building relationships over formal campaigning. Through these connections, he is cultivating trust and credibility.

In contrast, some perceive Ramkalawan's running mate as motivated by personal ambition. Whispers of distrust surround him, and his reputation of dishonesty precedes him. While Herminie's team is described as united and authentic, Ramkalawan's

ticket appears shaped by differing motivations. It is stitched together by ambition, not alignment. The contrast between the two teams' approaches is noticeable. One team is building bridges, the other is burning them. When voters make their decision, they will recall which team stood with them and demonstrated a stronger, genuine connection with the community.



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The watchdog must stay awake

Dear Madam,

In any democracy, the Electoral Commission is not just a facilitator, it is a guardian of fairness and impartiality. Its role is to ensure that every candidate, every party, and every citizen is treated equally under the rules of the electoral process. But in Seychelles today, that balance is under threat.

The process has officially begun, with political parties and independent candidates having paid their fees. The race is underway. Yet, while opposition voices are still organising, the incumbent president is granted uninterrupted airtime on national media, a blatant advantage that undermines the very principles of fair competition.

Where was the Commission's voice?

Silence in the face of imbalance is complicity. When one candidate is allowed to dominate the public space while others are restricted to social media, the playing field is no longer level. It becomes a stage for manipulation, not democracy.

I urge the Commission to hold the incumbent candidate accountable. If it does not, it fails the people.

Seychelles deserves an election that reflects the will of the people, one safeguarded by vigilance, not overshadowed by privilege.

Thank you for publishing my letter.

A concerned citizen

Jeanne & Marcel

Dear Jeanne,
Thank you for your heartfelt letter. Your words carry the weight of truth, and I share your sorrow over the state of our nation.

As we approach the polls on 27 September, President Ramkalawan's determination to remain in power only highlights his failures as a leader. Instead of seeking accountability, he drags the LDS into more profound disrepute, transforming a hopeful movement into little more than a hollow reflection of his own reluctance to let go.

His latest move- visiting the Vatican- reveals this desperation: not a gesture of faith, but a calculated act to distract from his record. He hopes the optics will erase his failures, but his role as an Anglican priest was to serve others, not himself. By pursuing power over his calling, he now seeks legitimacy in Rome, hoping it will restore public support.

But such gestures cannot hide the truth about his leadership. The Vatican's courtesy cannot absolve his presidency. No performance can erase the legacy of a leader who betrayed his calling and now faces the prospect of leaving office in disgrace.

Let him visit the Vatican. Let him kneel and reflect. But he should also face the impact of his actions- the families struggling, the children in need, the nation challenged. Let the people decide with clear minds.

Isn't it pathetic to hear a man who has become wealthy in power lament over individuals he claims get more money than him? I'm sure, if he were to get another mandate, he would relook at those salaries and, at the same time, give himself another raise, as he did last year, hiding behind the Constitutional Appointees. The things he says. If he thought the journalists were laughing with him, he was sadly mistaken.

Did you see how he was pointing to excuses to avoid a presidential debate with his opponents? He fears Dr Herminie because he knows he will face a much weightier opponent intellectually, and he also fears what Volcere might say to his face publicly. Ramkalawan, ever the master of hide-and-seek, seems to think the presidency is a cosy henhouse, perfect for dodging debates and clucking away from real confrontation.

Jeanne, encourage others to question, to discuss, and to vote with conscience. The truth must continue to shine, and accountability must follow. The time for change is near. Yours in resolve,
Marcel

The cost of incompetence

Leadership is tested in crisis. This period posed significant challenges for Ramkalawan.

When the world emerged from the COVID-19 pandemic, every nation faced a choice: rebuild with urgency, vision, and care, or stumble through recovery with confusion and neglect. Seychelles needed bold economic leadership. Instead, it got Ramkalawan, clueless and useless. He inherited a nation that was COVID-free, but he was unable to deal with the pandemic, and somehow the virus got here and spread in the communities. It took some bad decisions and a long while for the people to regain their freedom to move and feel safe, but the country was rich in potential. Tourism was ready to rebound, as international flights resumed and bookings increased. Businesses were prepared to reopen. The people were resilient. But instead of harnessing that energy, his incompetence at the helm failed everybody. There was no clear economic roadmap. No aggressive support for small businesses after a three-month closure. With no investment in innovation or diversification, everything collapsed. Instead, his administration relied on foreign aid, including the IMF bailout, grants, and donations that did not materialise for four years, as well as vague promises.

The cost of living soared, as well as the utility services. Salaries and wages stagnated. And the gap between the wealthy and the working class widened. Gradually, the middle class was pushed further down the poverty bracket, and as we publish this article, extreme poverty stands above 60%. A strong economy is essential for social sectors to thrive. During this period, many struggled to do so. The healthcare system started to collapse. Schools struggled. Housing projects in districts have been stalled for years, with the administration relying on a few incomplete projects of its predecessor. The number of unemployed youth increased. The communities were left behind. The government's response? Silence, spin, and excuses. The challenges were attributed to the pandemic, international markets, conflicts and other factors. However, the moment still called for decisive action. The opportunity for impactful leadership was present, and expectations were high. And now, with elections approaching, he wants another chance. Another term to do what he couldn't in five years, like starting an affordable housing project, or providing quality healthcare and educa-



Wavel inherited a nation that was COVID-free, but he was unable to deal with the pandemic, and somehow the virus got here and spread in the communities

tion. But Seychellois are not naïve. They know that leadership is not about speeches, it's about results. And the results are precise: Ramkalawan's incompetence cost Seychelles its momentum, its confidence, and its progress. This election means more than replacing a leader. It is about restoring direction. It asks who understands that economic strength underpins national well-being. Without jobs, there is no dignity. Without growth, there is no opportunity.

Without planning, there is no future. Ramkalawan had the opportunity to lead. Seychelles offered time, trust, and authority. In return, there were only excuses, lies and confusion. Now, the people are ready to make different choices. To choose competence over chaos. Vision over vanity. Action over apathy. The cost of incompetence has been too high. It's time to stop paying for failure and start investing in a future that works.

Desperation in broad daylight

The election process has officially begun. Political parties and independent candidates have paid their fees to the Electoral Commission. The race is on, but before the starting gun

has even fired, the playing field is already tilted. This week, the incumbent president received two and a half hours of live airtime. an uninterrupted press conference

broadcast nationwide. There was no rebuttal. No balance. No equal opportunity for opposition voices. The result: one man, one microphone, and a desperate attempt to rewrite his legacy. This approach challenges the spirit of a fair democracy. Wavel Ramkalawan appears aware that circumstances have changed. He knows that public opinion has shifted. Rather than addressing this openly, he has turned to state platforms to amplify his perspective. His repeated presence and familiar messaging have become focal points for public discontent. Such actions do not reflect the conduct expected from a national leader. These choices suggest a reluctance to compete on even terms and a willingness to use official resources to maintain influence. This is disappointing. It is disappointing when a leader does not compete fairly. It is concerning when a president relies on advantages while

speaking about equality. After four years, it seems unwise to believe that additional airtime can influence public memory. But it won't. The people remember the broken promises, the economic collapse, the arrogance, the insults, and the neglect. No press conference, no matter how long, can drown out that truth. This election is not about who speaks the longest. What truly matters is who listens. Who serves. Who respects the process, the people, and the principles of democracy. Ramkalawan's recent choices have offered insight into his approach. At this crucial moment, the people of Seychelles are prepared to express their views through the democratic process. Let him talk. Let him spin. Let him scramble. The nation has moved on.



Left behind

The state turns its back on Seychellois veterans

The LDS-led government has decided not to grant official recognition to an association formed by former Seychellois soldiers. This decision has prompted concern among veterans seeking support after their years of service.

At a meeting held on Saturday, 9 August 2025, members of the Seychelles Armed Forces Ex-serviceman Association (SAFEA) were informed of the government's decision to reject their request for recognition under the Seychelles Defence Forces Act. The meeting, attended by nearly 200 members at the STC Hall, was presided over by Chairman Ex-Colonel Joe Ragain and Ex-Private Secretary Angelin Labiche.

According to the association's leadership, they received a formal letter dated July 1, 2025, from Major General Michael Rosette, head of the Seychelles Defence Forces (SDF), stating that their April 2025 application for recognition had been denied. The letter explained that, as a non-governmental organisation (NGO), SAFEA should seek support from civil society rather than the government.

SAFEA disagrees with this reasoning.



Its members state that former soldiers, who have served in the armed forces, should receive formal recognition and support from the state, as is standard in several countries. They believe Seychelles should consider this approach.

Recognition under the Defence Forces Act is considered vital for SAFEA to fulfil its mission. It would allow the association to advocate for access to military service records, medical care at the SDF

clinic, land for administrative purposes, and potential budgetary assistance. Without this status, many former servicemen face significant challenges, particularly those who have not yet reached pension age.

Some former soldiers have taken up casual labour at the fishing port, a few, out of desperation, collect discarded PET bottles to earn a living. SAFEA describes this situation as challenging and

maintains that the government has a responsibility to support those who have served in the armed forces.

Despite the setback, SAFEA has vowed to continue its efforts. The association, which currently has 500 registered members, maintains that the government's decision is not final and intends to pursue alternative channels to advocate for its cause.

The myth of clean hands

In a recent rally, Wavel Ramkalawan raised his hands and declared them clean. It was a theatrical gesture, intended to convey innocence, integrity, and moral superiority. Yet, the people of Seychelles are no longer swayed by gestures. They scrutinise actions. They pay attention to words. Performance no longer fools them.

A leader with clean hands strives to avoid insulting opponents. Someone with a clear conscience encourages respectful engagement, both online and in public, even when facing criticism. An

individual who is confident in their actions is more open to accountability.

There is a sense of strain and urgency in Ramkalawan's recent campaign. It appears, at times, more focused on distinction than on dialogue. Some supporters, perhaps influenced by the prevailing tone, have engaged in personal attacks and online criticism. This approach does not convey confidence. Amidst this, Ramkalawan maintains a stance of remaining above the fray.

But he is not.

He can raise his hands and claim purity,

but with leadership comes responsibility. Decisions, tone, and tactics ultimately reflect on him. When the moment arrives for accountability, it will be his to face.

He may wish to recall that some who advise him today once doubted or criticised him. Their motivations can be complex, and their support may not always align with the greater good of Seychelles.

This could be the challenge of his presidency: a leader who has the potential to embrace humility but is challenged by

concerns over power, accountability, and public sentiment.

But accountability is coming. And no amount of spin, no amount of airtime, no amount of raised hands will stop it.

The Seychellois people deserve leadership that respects, protects, and unites them. Gestures alone cannot substitute for actions that bring the nation together. Let him raise his hands. The people will raise their voices.

And soon, they will raise their vote.

Lenzistis dan militer

Anba gouvèrnman US, tou solda ti kapab pran zot pansyon letan zot ti'n ariv 50 an.

Sa i an rekonesans pour sa kantite travay fizik ki zot bezwen fer.

Zot fatig pli bokou ki lezot dimoun.

Sa i vre.

Alor, zot devret kapab pran zot retret pli boner posib.

Anba gouvèrnman LDS ki ti sipoze pe vin fer pli byen, keksoz pa koumsa.

Bann solda zot kapab pran retret selman letan zot in ariv 60 an.

LDS pa oule tir larzan pour pey personn.

Sa nou tou nou konnen.

Zot a pey zis zot lekor.

Menm si zot konn travay solda, zot pa enterese.

Zot oule zis balans zot liv.

Dan milye lannwit voler parmi zotmenm i pase e debalans sa liv.

Koumsa ki Sesel i marse anba LDS.

Bann solda ki kite dan larme avan ki zot ganny 60 an, zot vreman pas matir.

Zot ganny zis sa pti larzan letan zot kite.

Me ant letan zot kite avek letan zot in ariv laz retret, zot pa tous nanryen.



La zot bezwen rape partou kote ziska laz pansyon.

En kantite zot i fini lo bato ton.

I annan ki bezwen rod lanplwa ek bann lazans sekirite.

Osi, bann zofisye lapolis zot ganny en servis feneray nasyonal letan zot mor.

Me pa bann zofisye ki dan larme.

Pli move ankor bann ki ti dan larme dan lepok avan 2020.

Sa i en lenzistis.

I montre lapreferans.

Dan travay toulede group dimoun i annan gro risk.

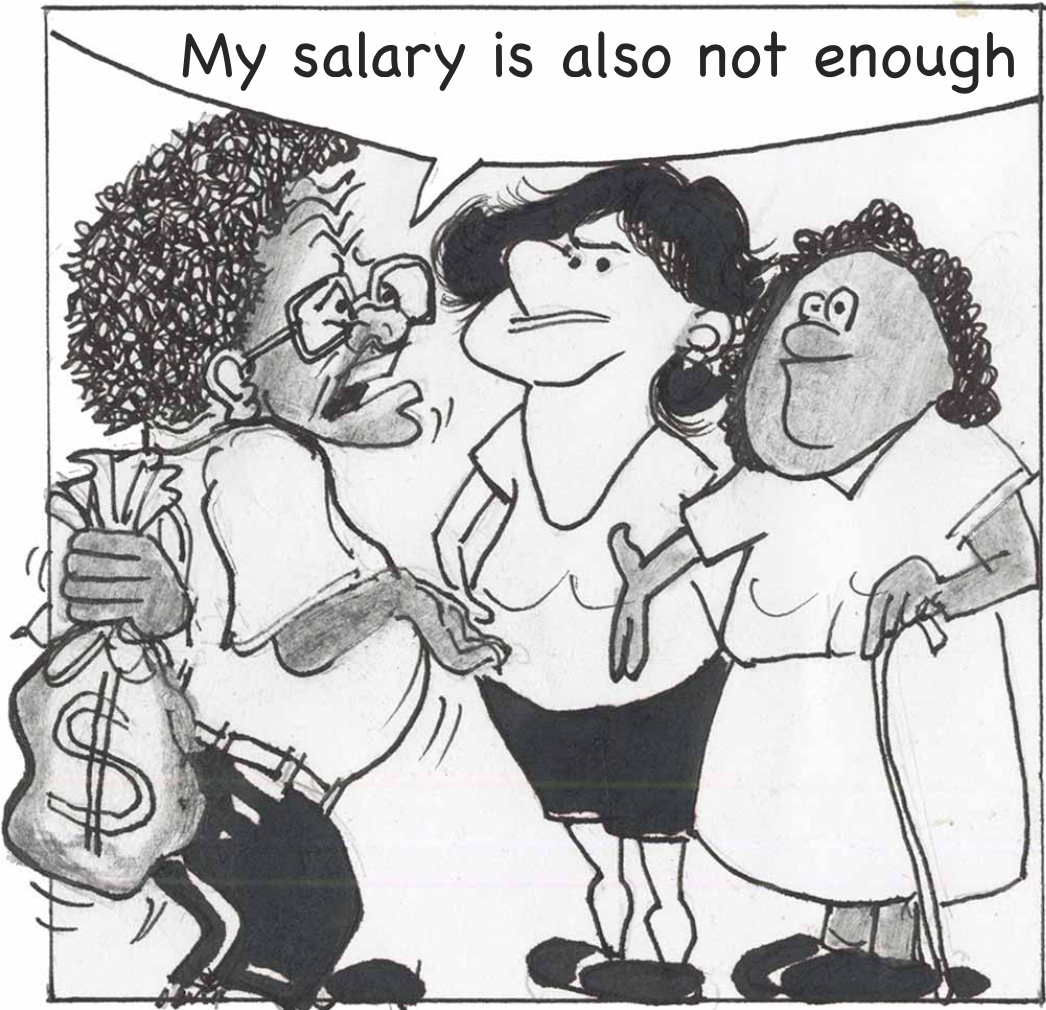
Alor zot bezwen ganny trete parey dan benefis osi.

Four years of greed

When Ramkalawan took office, he promised to serve the people. However, over the past four years, there has been growing concern that his focus shifted toward personal advancement. While many Seychellois families faced difficulties, he appeared to invest his time in building relationships with influential figures abroad, leading some to question whether the nation's best interests were always prioritised.

Many observers believe that this approach did not demonstrate the leadership expected but instead reflected missed opportunities for public service. Reports of foreign trips and meetings with influential individuals have led to perceptions that the presidency was used as a platform for personal advancement. During this period, national priorities appeared less prominent, with ongoing economic and public service challenges contributing to public disappointment and concern.

The Opposition has noted that his focus seemed to centre on gaining influence in international circles rather than strengthening local businesses, empowering youth, or protecting Seychelles' natural heritage. Even when he stood on a plat-



form to speak on behalf of Seychelles on issues such as climate change, his focus was only on financial gain. This led foreign journalists to wonder whether he was 'extorting' from foreign institutions. For most Seychellois, his actions felt disconnected from the daily realities faced by communities across the nation.

As elections approach, some believe he has returned to familiar political strategies, such as addressing criticism assertively and presenting alternative interpretations of past decisions. However, the public's awareness has grown, and many are more vigilant in assessing leadership and its outcomes.

For Ramkalawan, the stakes in this election are both personal and political. He faces increased scrutiny as public sentiment shifts and citizens' expectations for accountability rise.

This election is a significant opportunity for Seychellois to reflect on national priorities and leadership. Voters can consider the direction of the country and the qualities they wish to see in those leading it.

For those providing support to the current administration, it may be valuable to reflect on whether their backing aligns with the nation's broader interests or primarily supports individual leadership.

The choice facing voters is significant. Ramkalawan's leadership over the past four years has prompted essential questions about priorities. Now, citizens have the opportunity to express their vision for Seychelles through their vote.

The great pretender is cornered and crumbling

With 41 days remaining until the elections, the political landscape in Seychelles has undergone significant evolution since 2020. The tide shifted fast. The people have spoken, not with chants or slogans, but with silence, with absence, with quiet defiance. Ramkalawan, once hailed as a reformer, is now revealed to be the great pretender, standing surrounded by fewer than a thousand loyalists. And even among them, loyalty is thin. His cabinet members, candidates, and a handful of relatives and friends continue to attend his events. However, many may do so out of obligation rather than firm conviction. Others may participate due to the perceived benefits of association. Quietly, some also attend opposition gatherings, listening, engaging, asking questions. They may sense that perceptions are changing. This is not typically the behaviour of a confident leader. It could suggest a leader under pressure, facing challenges with ideas, trust, and time. Ramkalawan's campaign today is characterised more by heated exchanges and



insults than by substantive debate. The repeated promises and staged photo opportunities may reflect increasing pressure. It may appear he is not leading a

movement, but instead managing a difficult period. And the people of Seychelles appear less convinced.

They remember the promises made in 2020. Promises of economic reform, of transparency, of unity. They remember the speeches, the slogans, the hope. But more importantly, they remember what followed: four years of stagnation, neglect, and betrayal.

They recall the rising cost of living, the deteriorating social services, and the limited opportunities for youth. They remember the silence when it mattered most. Yet in that remembering, they find resolve. Now, they are choosing to remember, and to act, believing a better path is possible.

This election is not about who can shout the loudest. It's about who can listen, who can lead, who can restore what has been lost. Ramkalawan may still have a stage, but he no longer has an audience. The people have moved on. They are looking for leadership rooted in integrity, not ego. In service, not self-interest.

The illusion is fading. The truth is becoming clearer. With 41 days to go, Seychelles appears ready to shape its future.

The mask is off

It took Ramkalawan seven attempts to win. Seven campaigns. Seven sets of promises. Seven chances to prepare. Yet, he failed in his first week. Less than two months in, Seychelles was near bankruptcy. The economy was collapsing, and the government had no plan, only a plea for help. Ramkalawan asked workers to "hope" for their salaries. Not bonuses. Not relief. Just the right to be paid. It was a moment that revealed everything. While Seychellois families struggled, Ramkalawan was flying. He embarked on a marathon of travel, visiting the Middle East, attending Formula One races in Dubai, shaking hands with billionaires, and securing photo opportunities. He wasn't solving problems, he was fleeing them. Now, as the election nears, he relies again on insult, manipulation, and deceit.

He attacks opponents and critics with venom, spins failures into triumphs, and divides communities to distract from incompetence. He weaponises negativity, hoping confusion breeds loyalty. But this time, people see through it.

The mask is off.

Seychellois are no longer swayed. They remember broken promises, the silence, and the arrogance of a man who, after winning, chose indulgence over responsibility.

Ramkalawan's leadership has been an act- one that began in desperation and ends in disgrace. His campaign is built on fear, not vision. Division, not unity. Tactics, not truth.

The people of Seychelles are not pawns. They are citizens- workers, parents, youth, and elders- who deserve better than a leader who insults and travels while the nation suffers.

This election is not just a rejection of failure; it is a choice for a new direction.

It's about reclaiming dignity and choosing leaders who listen, serve, and stay grounded.

Ramkalawan had seven chances. He won one chance, but after four years of manipulation and neglect, he wants

another term.

But people are ready. Ready to reject deceit. Ready to restore truth. Ready to choose a leader who puts Seychelles, not himself, first. The people want none other than Dr Patrick Herminie.



First-class president, third-class citizens

Under his leadership, the average Seychellois grappled with unprecedented, skyrocketing living costs and economic uncertainty. Still, the recent salary amendment for Constitutional Appointees has granted the President an annual package of SCR 1,157,550, plus SCR 289,388 in gratuity, and a post-term pay-out of SCR 2,673,220, which some have viewed as insensitive to the pressing challenges faced by the citizens he was elected to serve.

Compare this to the reality of public sector employees, who keep the country running. Their average salary hovers around SCR 10,000, and the minimum monthly salary is less than SCR 7,000. These are teachers, nurses, civil servants, and countless others who face the same inflation, the same rising food and fuel prices, and yet receive none of the luxury or recognition afforded to the highest office. They may receive additional incentives, but these are also offset by the costs of food and electricity, as well as the Income Tax that deducts a significant amount from each salary.

The President’s choices regarding travel, accommodations, and expenditure have drawn public attention. While citizens tightened their belts, he travelled in premium cabins, often not in his official capacity, expenses funded by taxpayers. Over the past four years, some have per-

CONSTITUTIONAL APPOINTEES SALARY					
PRESIDENT & VICE PRESIDENT SALARY AMENDED					
	ANNUAL SALARY SR	ANNUAL PENSION SR	GRATUITY 25% SR	END OF TERM GRATUITY 50% SR	ESTIMATES FOR 2025 SR
President	1,157,550		289,388	2,673,220	4,120,158
Vice President	995,830		248,958	2,308,233	3,553,021
MINISTER SALARY AMENDED					
Designated Minister and Minister for Fisheries	782,556	-	195,639	1,809,926	2,788,121
Ministry of Health	748,029	-	187,007	1,735,611	2,670,648
Ministry of Education	748,029	-	187,007	1,735,611	2,670,648
Ministry of Finance, National Planning and Trade	748,029	-	187,007	1,735,611	2,670,648
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Tourism	748,029	-	187,007	1,735,611	2,670,648
Ministry of Agriculture, Climate Change and Environment	748,029	-	187,007	1,735,611	2,670,648
Ministry of Internal Affairs	748,029	-	187,007	1,735,611	2,670,648
Ministry of Lands and Housing	748,029	-	187,007	1,735,611	2,670,648
Ministry of Youth, Sports and Family	748,029	-	187,007	1,735,611	2,670,648
Ministry of Employment and Social Affairs	748,029	-	187,007	1,735,611	2,670,648
Ministry of Transport	748,029	-	187,007	1,735,611	2,670,648
Ministry of Investment, Entrepreneurship and Industry	748,029	-	187,007	1,735,611	2,670,648
Ministry of Local Government and Community Affairs	748,029	-	187,007	1,735,611	2,670,648

ceived his public demeanour as detached from the day-to-day concerns of citizens. He planned it out well; he travelled twice and sometimes thrice a month, and possibly more, as he did not inform the public, for four years. In the final year, he travelled less, but in the minds of voters, they know it is political deception.

Wednesday evening, the President said that some individuals earn more than he does. This perspective, from a leader with a diploma in theology rather than economics, public administration, medicine, or law, may prompt questions among some about merit, entitlement, and leadership. Is the presidency about service or status? About impact or income?

Seychellois deserve a leader who walks with them. Such a leader implements a leadership style that is hands-on, engaged and visible among those they lead. They are present and approachable, serving as role models who empower others and solve problems in real-time. It’s a shared journey.

Ramkalawan will never be remembered as a servant of the people; he did not heed their calls.

A call to the wealthy

To the few wealthy individuals still backing Ramkalawan, this is your moment to decide whether you will continue supporting a leader who is dismantling the very foundation that enabled your success.

Ramkalawan’s policies or leadership did not create your wealth. You thrived because of systems grounded in equal opportunity, social justice, and a strong middle class- systems that supported all Seychellois through investment in education, healthcare, and local enterprises. Ramkalawan did not build that foundation; he is dismantling the systems that enabled Seychelles’ prosperity for all

people.

Under his watch, the rich-poor gap has widened, and the middle class is shrinking. Social services are failing, workers are struggling, youth are disillusioned, while some elites benefit due to their proximity to power.

That is the game now. And it’s dangerous.

While you benefit from privilege and access, the country pays the price. The system that made your success possible is eroding, now rewarding loyalty to Ramkalawan rather than investing in national progress.

This cannot last. It is not patriotic.

You owe your success to a nation that once believed in fairness. You owe your gratitude to the generations who built the roads, taught the children, staffed the hospitals, and kept the economy moving. You owe your loyalty, not to a man who uses you, but to a country that raised you.

Ramkalawan is not supporting your success. He is exploiting your position while isolating you from the rest of Seychelles, and when his system fails, it will impact everyone, including you.

This election is your chance to choose differently: vote for candidates who uphold fairness, invest in your com-

munities, and prioritise national unity over personal gain. Use your influence to support policies and leaders who serve every Seychellois, not just the privileged few.

Seychelles needs unity. It needs restoration. It needs leadership that serves all, not just the few.

So ask yourself: will you back a man, or a nation? Will you use your voice and resources to protect only your privilege, or will you step up to preserve your legacy by publicly supporting true unity and equity for all Seychellois?

The people are watching. History is watching. Your choice matters now.

United Seychelles leads the charge for change

While Wavel Ramkalawan tries to maintain a firm grip on leadership through political strategy and media influence, a new energy is rising across Seychelles, quietly, steadily, and with conviction. The opposition movement, led by United Seychelles, is gaining momentum. Not through spectacle, but through substance. Not through noise, but through connection.

Across districts, conversations are unfolding. Citizens are gathering in homes, halls, and online spaces to discuss the future of their country. Meetings are being held. Ideas are being shared. And voices that were once silenced are now speaking with clarity and courage. Take, for instance, Ralph Volcère, who has been holding meetings in the districts, challenges the status quo, and reminds the nation that democracy belongs to the people, not the privileged few. His efforts, alongside those of other independent candidates and opposition activists, are breathing life into a movement that is no longer fragmented but unified. We reiterate that, with each passing week, this is not just a political shift. It is a national awakening. The rising tide of United Seychelles is spreading across the country, powerful, determined, and rooted in the will of the people. Last weekend in Anse Boileau, an event organised by United Seychelles for candidate Jean Toussaint drew a significantly large crowd. Residents came out in substantial numbers, not for enter-



tainment, but for engagement- a chance to stand behind a candidate who represents their hopes and aspirations. The same happened in Mont Fleuri, where a musical show in support of candidate Rodney Bonne drew residents out in the pouring rain to show their commitment. It wasn't just a show, it was a statement. A declaration that no weather, no obstacle, no intimidation can dampen the spirit of a people who have decided they want change. Citizens are using every tool available, social media platforms, community networks, and grassroots mobilisation, to

counteract the dominance of state-controlled narratives. They are refusing to be drowned out by the president's endless airtime and staged press conferences. They are reclaiming the conversation. This unity is not built on blind loyalty. It is built on shared frustration, shared hope, and a shared belief that Seychelles deserves better. It is built on the memory of what was lost over the past five years, economic stability, social justice, dignity in leadership, and the determination to restore it. Ramkalawan may have a significant in-

fluence on the national media. However, the opposition, particularly United Seychelles, enjoys public support. And when the people unite, no amount of manipulation can hold back the tide. This election is not just about removing a failed president; it is also about shaping the future. It is about rebuilding a nation. It is about choosing leaders who listen, who serve, and who respect the voice of every Seychellois. Let Ramkalawan speak. Let him spin. Let him cling. United Seychelles is rising. And the people are rising with it.

Dokter ki pou sov loner Seselwa

Ramka in plonz Seselwa dan delo bwi.
I'n fer 2 move keksoz.
IN VANN SA KI POUR NOU
IN PRAN TOU SA KI POUR NOU
Dan sa delo bwi, i annan zis en sel zonn ki kapab tir Seselwa.
Sa se Dokter Patrick Herminie.

IN VANN TOU SA KI POUR NOU
Atraver son vorasite larzan ek pouvwar, Ramka in plas Seselwa dan pos bilyonner dan Mwayen Oriyan.
I'n vann serten nou zil lo en gran 'lease'.
E i oule vann plis ankor.
Me lekel ki pe benefisye ek sa bann lavant?

Lekel ki ganny tou?
Larzan e faver.
Tandis ki nou Seselwa nou kontinyen perdi.
Nou perdi nou patrimwann ek nou dignite. Nou standar lavi in desann.
Sa latas aprezan pour tir nou pei dan grif sa bann bilyonner i repoz lo Dokter Herminie.
I pa pou tro fasil, me i sel zonn ki pou kapab fer li.
Se apre ki Seselwa i met li opouvwar le 27 Septanm 2025.
IN PRAN TOU SA KI POUR NOU
Byen koze i fer byen konpran.
Ramka in promet Seselwa bokou.
Sa i son lalinny politik.

Letan LDS ti vin opouvwar an 2020, i ti sipoze anmenn lasoup dal.
I ti annan Seselwa ki ti krwar li.
Pa tou.
Me bann ki ti krwar li, zot ti tronpe.
Okontrer, plan Ramka sete pour rebran tou sa ki gouvvernman avan ti'n donn Seselwa.
Kare later.
Bon lakaz.
Bon semen.
Biznes.
Larzan.
Stabilite dan nou lavi personnel.
Devlopman dan nou pei.
Lazwa dan nou kominote.
Posibilite pou vwayaz partou dan lem-

onn.
E bokou plis keksoz ankor.

Ozordi Seselwa in realiz en keksoz.
Depi 2020, sa bann keksoz pe kit nou.
Zour apre zour, pe par pe.
Avek letan, tou pou'n fini ale.
Seselwa ozordi, nou bezwen Dokter Herminie en kantite.
Nou bezwen li pour rebran tou sa ki pour nou ki'n ganny vole.
Tou sa ki ti deza dan nou lanmen.
Tou nou bann aki sosyal.
Tou nou bann aki materyel.
Tou nou bann aki ki ti fer nou LONER ek DIGNITE.

US ON THE MOVE



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