

MAURITIUS TIMES

"We need leaders not in love with money but in love with justice. Not in love with publicity but in love with humanity". -- Martin Luther King

Interview : Jean Claude de l'Estrac

“ Quel est le chef qui mènera une alliance PTr-MMM-PMSD aux prochaines élections? ”

Il n'est pas trop tôt pour y répondre ”

*** 'Les mois qui viennent seront extrêmement douloureux pour de très nombreux Mauriciens**

📖 Voir Pages 7-8

La taxe de 15% sur Netflix au centre d'une polémique



“ Les pays soucieux de préserver leur identité culturelle voient dans les services en ligne envahissants la présence de l'impérialisme culturel américain (production Hollywood ou Netflix). Ce sentiment est très fort dans la province francophone du Québec, au Canada, qui veut protéger sa culture distincte contre l'omniprésence des médias anglophones. Le Québec est l'un des premiers gouvernements sous-nationaux au Canada à avoir imposé une taxe de vente de 9,9% sur les services en ligne en provenance des Etats-Unis. Il y a donc dans ces pays une rationalité économique et culturelle derrière la taxe sur les services en ligne...”

Par Aditya Narayan 📖 Voir Page 4

From Covid-19 angst to hope



The lives and safety of people are more important than buttressing the finances of the hotel industry in the present state of the Covid-19 pandemic in the world

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Preserving Our Language Diversity

The point really is about creating an awareness of the language issue in Mauritius and a will to set things right or let one's linguistic legacy slip into irrelevance

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A Code of Ethics for Politicians

At a time when the country is rocked by the allegations of corruption in the procurement of medical supplies in the context of the Covid-19 epidemic situation, and the contested attempts at refutation that are being made in Parliament, one may think that in such a charged and confusing atmosphere it is futile to even raise the issue of a code of ethics for politicians. On the contrary, it is moments of crisis like these – for this is undoubtedly a major crisis of confidence that the country is going through – that quite often act as a shock to trigger a much-needed change.

It is true that – again because of the heat of the moment – most people are more focused on the televised transmission of the sparring in Parliament than paying attention to the larger context in which the exchanges are taking place. Nevertheless, this should not detract us as citizens who feel concern for the battering that the country is receiving to cogitate over how we may get out of the quagmire – not only for the sake of the country's image but also for our very survival as a nation, the kind of place we wish our future generations to live in.

That is why we consider this to be the appropriate time to come forward with the suggestion of a code of ethics/code of conduct for politicians, one which spells out both the shared values and principles and as well defines the prescriptive rules that must be abided by, and are enforceable so as not to end up in the 'dustbin of history'. And thus discredit the efforts that would have gone into their elaboration.

While it is a fact that many such codes have not been met with the full compliance which they set out to establish, still there is a strong case to be made for them. And by no less than politicians themselves, given the level to which the political class – in many parts of the world in fact – has sunk, the utter disgust for politicians, the lack of trust in their electoral pledges and the questioning of their political legitimacy once elections are over and their behaviours – or misbehaviours rather – are exposed to the public domain and scrutiny.

Among the countries that have a formal code of conduct, there are: the Fiji Islands, Germany, Grenada, Israel, Japan, Philippines, the United Kingdom and the United States of America, India 'while Chile and Poland are drafting a bill to enact a code of conduct'. This was stated in a paper titled '*Legislative Ethics and Codes of Conduct*', by Rick Stapenhurst of World Bank Institute and Riccardo Pelizzo of

Singapore Management University.

The paper, published in 2004, indicates that 'a legislative code of conduct is a formal document which regulates the behaviour of legislators by establishing what is to be considered to be an acceptable behaviour and what is not. In other words, it is intended to promote a political culture which places considerable emphasis on the propriety, correctness, transparency, honesty of parliamentarians' behaviour'.

A more recent paper appeared in *The Conversation* of April 1, 2019, '*Many professions have codes of ethics - so why not politics?*', whose author was Sidney Bloch, Emeritus Professor in Psychiatry, University of Melbourne. Some of the highlights of this paper deserve our consideration. Thus, it alludes to 'our politicians who have recently behaved unethically', so that, 'given this dismal record, unethical conduct will likely feature again in the months ahead, and in myriad forms. It's no wonder Australians are disillusioned with the standard of politics'. Noting that 'past attempts to 'clean house' have sadly failed', 'one would imagine the threat of an enforced, humiliating resignation; the possible end of a parliamentary career; and heartbreaking effects on the offender's family would deter politicians from behaving improperly', it laments that 'yet unethical conduct continues'.

And so it poses the query – 'it is rare today to encounter a professional body that has not established a set of ethical principles to guide their members. So why should politicians, who have the most pivotal jobs in the nation, not follow suit?'

It then sets out to suggest how politicians themselves could go about elaborating such a document – which would mean ownership and therefore make enforcement more probable. It concludes with, 'given so many politicians have breached moral principles over the years, at times placing our fragile democracy at risk, we need to act vigorously and without delay. Australians deserve politicians of integrity who they can trust and respect unreservedly'.

Why Australians only – the citizens of all democracies are equally deserving of such politicians. We are sure that these two papers cited can serve as a good entry point for focus group discussions on such a critically needed code in our country, and that politicians who genuinely practise what they preach will not hesitate to come together and work to give the country such a code to make themselves and the country too proud.

The Conversation

Lockdown, relax, repeat

The World Health Organisation reported more than 250,000 new Covid-19 cases on Sunday – the world's largest daily increase during the pandemic. The surge has forced governments in many places across the world to order new lockdowns.

This includes Melbourne, which is back in a six-week lockdown after a second wave of new cases exceeded the city's first peak in late March.

But Melbourne's not the only city to suffer a second wave of the pandemic. Cities including Beijing and Leicester had lifted Covid-19 restrictions, only to re-enforce them when new outbreaks occurred.

So how have other cities gone about their second lockdown, and have the measures been effective in tackling the Covid-19 resurgence? Let's take a look at a few examples.

Lockdowns return

Though there's no strict definition of a lockdown, it describes the controls imposed by governments to restrict the movement of people in their communities. It's often achieved through a combination of police presence and applying public health regulations. It can be implemented partially, progressively or fully. The latter is called "hard lockdown" when the freedom of entry to, and exit from, either an entire building or geographic area is prohibited or limited.

The Segrià region in Catalonia, Spain re-entered an indefinite partial lockdown on July 4 following a significant spike in cases and Covid-19 hospitalisations.

The city of Leicester in the United Kingdom has gone into a second lockdown after it accounted for 10% of all positive Covid-19 cases in the country at the end of June. The city has been in lockdown for the past two weeks and despite this, the latest data show an increase in the numbers of cases. A second wave in Beijing was tackled by increasing degrees of lockdowns. The strictest measures were limited to a few high-risk neighbourhoods, accompanied by a ring of looser lockdown measures around them.

Alongside this was extensive and widespread testing, with a peak capacity of 300,000 tests per day. This approach proved successful – the city reported zero new Covid-19 cases on July 7.

While there are increasing examples of a return to some lockdown measures, there are no examples demonstrating the success of a second lockdown – other than in Beijing – because it's too early to tell.

Clear public health messaging is key

When entering a second lockdown, it's useful to consider the lessons learnt from the first. Initial lockdowns in both Italy and India provide cautionary tales on what happens when public messaging and enforcement is flawed.

Italian media published information about internal movement restrictions a day before the Italian prime minister officially announced it and signed the decree. At the time, only northern Italy was heavily affected by Covid-19.

After the news spread, workers and students, many of whom carried the virus, rushed



No 'exit' to full lockdown until there's a vaccine.
Photo - news.sky.com

back home across the country, flooding the train stations. Even though the goal was to reduce the spread of the virus, the effects were the opposite. Soon after, it was discovered that new Covid-19 cases in southern Italy were families from students who came home from the north.

Similar panic among migrant workers occurred in India when the prime minister gave the public only a few hours notice before the start of the lockdown.

Lockdown, relax, lockdown, relax

After a lockdown, the majority of the population remains at risk of infection without a vaccine. So as restrictions ease, cases are likely to increase again, leading to a pattern of lockdowns, relaxation and renewed lockdowns. So why can't governments just aim to eliminate the virus? An elimination strategy requires strict, intensive lockdowns and closing external and internal borders to eradicate local transmission and prevent the virus being imported. Elimination strategies have worked in only a few countries and regions, such as New Zealand which imposed an early and strict lockdown.

The effectiveness of lockdowns can be diminished by increasing population fatigue in response to reimposed restrictions.

Lockdowns also have many serious repercussions, including a severe impact on mental health and the economy. French Prime Minister Jean Castex has ruled out another total lockdown arguing that its economic and human consequences are disastrous.

Locking down a given country can cost up to 3% of GDP per month, according to UBS Global Wealth Management.

Lockdowns can work if we use masks

It's clear that lockdowns cannot be maintained indefinitely. That's why the rapid development of a vaccine to achieve herd immunity, without extensive infection, is critical – along with the development of drugs to relieve the symptoms of Covid-19.

So how long should Melbourne's lockdown last? The Grattan Institute has argued it should continue until there are no more active Covid-19 cases in the community to eliminate the virus – and after that, should remain in place for another two weeks.

We argue that the duration of the lockdown could be halved if paired with mandatory universal use of face masks. Wearing masks lowers the risk of spreading and contracting the disease.

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Mrinal Roy

From Covid-19 angst to hope

The lives and safety of people are more important than buttressing the finances of the hotel industry in the present state of the Covid-19 pandemic in the world

Sound judgement and rigour are determinant factors in the management of the Covid-19 pandemic. Any error of judgement can be costly. After initially easing lockdown restrictions, a wide range of countries across the world have been forced to re-impose lockdowns in states, cities and regions following recent spikes in the number of Covid-19 infection in their countries. The new lockdowns span the various continents and include countries such as Argentina, Columbia, Chile, Brazil, the United States, Portugal, Spain, the West Bank and Israel, Iran, Saudi Arabia, Morocco, South Africa, Madagascar, Azerbaijan, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan and India as well as cities like Leicester in the UK, Melbourne in Australia, Manila in the Philippines or Beijing and Hong-Kong in China. Melbourne is now the first city of Australia where the wearing of masks is compulsory.

The World Health Organization (WHO) reported almost 250,000 new Covid-19 cases in 24 hours during the week-end, the world's largest daily increase since the pandemic began. The upshot is that Covid-19 is very much present and infecting more and more people in the world. Any lack of vigilance or rigour in abiding by social distancing and hygiene norms or the wearing of masks as witnessed in places of large gatherings of people such as beaches and pubs can spread infection as evidenced in the spikes in new cases of Covid-19 in countries across the world. In such a grim world context, no country can be lax about the essential hygienic and precautionary measures required to contain and stem the spread of the virus. It also means that the world is still a far cry from a return to any semblance of normality.

Questions and object lessons

The discovery that a patient whose Covid-19 test was negative, prior to boarding a private jet from Madagascar to come to Mauritius for treatment in a private clinic, was tested and found on arrival to be Covid-19 positive begs



No country can be lax about the essential hygienic and precautionary measures required to contain and stem the spread of the virus. Photo - devpolicy.org

so many burning questions. How many persons travelling by private jets have been allowed into the country despite the fact that government had closed our borders as from 18 March 2020? Is the state of Covid-19 infection in the country from which people travelling by private jet is coming from assessed before permission is granted by the government to allow the jet to fly to Mauritius? Who checks the health condition and Covid-19 test results of the passengers and the plane crew of the private jet at the airport of embarkation? Have all the incoming passengers been rigorously put in quarantine?

This case is also a warning of the risks that Mauritius can be inadvertently exposed to and provides so many object lessons if we want to keep the country Covid-19 free and the people safe from the risk of Covid-19 infection.

We know from the experience acquired from the cases of repatriated Mauritians that depending on the state of the infection, passengers can be tested Covid-19 negative at the time of embarkation and yet be tested positive on arrival in the country or during the quarantine period. Quarantine is therefore essential for incoming passengers as the testing protocol of three PCR tests carried out on day zero, day 7 and day 14 during the quarantine period

ensures that all cases of infection among incoming passengers are detected and isolated for treatment, thus preventing the risk of infection in the community.

As the patient had already been in contact with 14 employees of the private clinic, they have all been tested for Covid-19 and all the test results were negative. In accordance with standard Covid-19 protocol they have all been put in quarantine. It is presumed that where necessary contact tracing and Covid-19 testing will be effected to eliminate any risk of infection in the community.

Getting our priorities right

If one undetected carrier of the Covid-19 can have such a wide and costly ripple effect, can we seriously envisage opening our borders to tourists in the present state of the Covid-19 pandemic in the world and in particular in the countries which are our main sources of tourists? The simple answer is that it would be reckless and irresponsible to do so. The country cannot take the risk of undetected carriers of the virus entering the country to trigger a new wave of coronavirus infection in the country. No amount of precaution can prevent such latent risks when every month tens of thousands of tourists would have to be screened, monitored and managed during their stay in the country.

Our priority must above all be the health and safety of the people and in particular all frontline workers including the hotel staff and all those working in the hospitality business and the travel industry who are in direct contact with tourists and are at risk of being infected by undetected carriers of the virus among the tourists. The lives and safety of people are more important than buttressing the finances of the hotel industry in the present state of the Covid-19 pandemic in the world. This is a difficult decision but there cannot be any compromises on the ethos and ideals the country was founded on and the people's existential concerns.

The bottom line is that we should take every precaution necessary to prevent a resurgence of Covid-19 in the country and the trauma, dire human hardships and enormous costs of a new lockdown.

Rays of hope

Scientific research has brought new rays of hope to the world this week. After Remdesivir which is now an approved treatment for Covid-19 which is bringing relief to patients in many countries in the world, two groundbreaking developments have brought fresh hope to the Covid-19 embattled world. In an article published in the medical journal *Lancet*, research scientists at Oxford University announced that their experimental coronavirus vaccine, being developed with UK based biopharmaceutical company AstraZeneca, has shown in trials involving 1077 people that it is safe and triggers a protective immune response in hundreds of people who were given the vaccine shot. Trials

showed that the injection of the vaccine prompted the production of antibodies and T-cells that can fight coronavirus.

The study also showed that 90% of people developed neutralising antibodies after one dose. Only ten people were given two doses and all of them produced neutralising antibodies. T-cells are a type of white blood cells which are able to spot which of the body's cells have been infected and destroy them. There is still much work to be done. The next stage of trials



In this screen grab from video issued by Britain's Oxford University, a volunteer is injected with either an experimental Covid-19 vaccine or a comparison shot as part of the first human trials in the UK to test a potential vaccine, led by Oxford University in England on April 25, 2020. Photo - University of Oxford via AP

will involve 10,000 people in the UK, 30,000 people in the US as well 2000 in South Africa and 5000 in Brazil.

Although the intent is to prove through required testing, validation protocol and approval procedures that the coronavirus vaccine is effective before the end of the year, it will certainly not be widely available. In the best scenario, the coronavirus vaccine could at the earliest be available for widespread vaccination next year.

Innovative pathways

According to the WHO, 140 vaccines are in pre-clinical trials, 19 vaccines are in small scale or expanded safety trials whereas 4 vaccines are in wider testing and effectiveness assessment stage.

Mrinal Roy

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Services en ligne

La taxe de 15% sur Netflix au centre d'une polémique

Aditya Narayan

Le Gouvernement a introduit une nouvelle mesure fiscale afin d'imposer une taxe de 15% sur les abonnements aux services en ligne (Netflix, Amazon Prime, Google Drive, PlayStation Network, les services Cloud, la télévision en streaming, etc.) qui sont fournis par des sociétés étrangères. Cette proposition a soulevé une levée de boucliers chez les partis d'opposition et parmi les internautes qui y voient une charge supplémentaire sur les consommateurs en ces temps d'austérité économique.

n'a pas d'établissement stable (*permanent establishment*) à Maurice et qui est résident à l'étranger. La nouvelle mesure exige que le fournisseur étranger prélève une taxe de 15% sur les services en ligne fournis à une personne à Maurice. Par exemple, si un abonnement à Netflix coûte Rs 500 par mois, la taxe mensuelle sera de Rs 75.

Après l'adoption du projet de loi, des règlements devront être promulgués pour amener le fournisseur étranger à s'inscrire auprès de la *Mauritius Revenue Authority* (MRA) comme vendeur afin qu'il puisse collecter la taxe de 15% sur le prix de l'abonnement payé par carte de crédit et remettre les taxes collectées à la MRA. Au

minimum, on s'attend à ce que le fournisseur donne à la MRA une liste d'abonnés, le prix payé par abonné et le montant total des taxes récoltées. Dans sa base de données, le fournisseur sauvegardera sans doute les informations du consommateur telles que le numéro de la carte de crédit, le nom du client et l'adresse IP de l'appareil sur lequel le service en ligne est téléchargé. Est-ce que la MRA demandera accès à ces informations pour les besoins de vérification? C'est une question pertinente à poser compte tenu de la confidentialité des renseignements personnels.

Le Gouvernement cherche désespérément de nouveaux revenus pour remplir ses caisses. Bien qu'il ait présenté un budget soi-disant équilibré pour 2020-21 (grâce à la contribution de Rs 60 milliards de la Banque centrale comptabilisée comme revenu au lieu d'un prêt), il veut toujours élargir l'assiette fiscale

afin de récolter plus de revenus. Au début, il voulait récolter Rs 3,5 milliards de revenu supplémentaire d'une augmentation de la taxe de solidarité de 5% à 25% sur le revenu annuel du particulier excédant Rs 3 millions, avec un taux d'imposition marginale de 40%.

Face à la révolte des contribuables aisés, le Gouvernement a reculé pour limiter le taux d'imposition marginale de 40% à 10% du revenu net du contribuable, ce qui représente dès lors un manque à gagner de Rs 2 milliards au moins. Il s'est donc rabattu sur la TVA sur les services en ligne pour récupérer une partie du manque à gagner. Combien la nouvelle taxe rapportera-t-elle? C'est difficile de le dire en l'absence de données. On le saura à la fin de l'exercice 2020-21 après que les fournisseurs étrangers auront déposé leurs premières déclarations de taxe auprès de la MRA.

S'il est vrai que la nouvelle taxe frappe les nantis aussi bien que les moins lotis, il n'en demeure pas moins que c'est un coup dur pour les ménages à faible revenu qui veulent se brancher aux plateformes numériques de

divertissement (films, shows divers, musique, jeux vidéo, etc.). La MBC, de par la médiocrité de ses programmes, ne leur offre ni un divertissement de qualité ni des informations fiables bien qu'ils lui paient une redevance obligatoire de Rs 150 par mois.

C'est injuste de faire payer cette redevance aux ménages qui ne regardent pas la télévision locale. Ils auraient préféré économiser cette somme pour payer en partie l'abonnement à un bouquet satellitaire ou à un service en ligne. La colère des consommateurs est donc compréhensible. Par contre, ce qui est intrigant, c'est l'attitude des partis d'opposition. Ils avaient une position de principe contre la hausse proposée de la taxe de solidarité au nom de la fiscalité légère. On n'est pas sûr si leur opposition à la nouvelle taxe de 15% en est une de principe ou si c'est une position tactique compte tenu du fait que le Gouvernement ne fait pas preuve de transparence financière.

Assiette fiscale de la TVA

Etant donné les gaspillages de fonds relevés chaque année par le Bureau de l'Audit, couplés aux derniers scandales dans l'allocation des contrats d'approvisionnement en médicaments pour Rs 1,5 milliards, les contribuables ont bien des raisons de s'indigner de toute nouvelle taxe. Cependant, dans le long terme, une discipline financière et fiscale s'impose pour tirer le pays du marasme économique. A cet égard, si l'on veut éviter que le Gouvernement ne dilapide les fonds de la Banque centrale d'année en année pour financer ses largesses, il faudra bien accroître l'assiette fiscale, qu'elle soit directe (revenu imposable) ou indirecte (TVA), pour résorber le déficit budgétaire. Sinon il faudra soit comprimer les dépenses publiques, soit emprunter davantage pour les financer.

Abstraction faite du contexte inopportun dans lequel elle est introduite (austérité et redevance obligatoire à la MBC), la TVA sur les services en ligne n'est pas une anomalie en théorie. Dans certains pays développés, elle a été introduite afin de mettre sur un pied d'égalité les fournisseurs étrangers, qui sont pour la plupart américains, et les fournisseurs locaux de chaînes de radio-télévision et de services numériques. Pendant longtemps, les fournisseurs américains furent exemptés de la taxe de vente sur les services en ligne fournis aux citoyens de ces pays sous le prétexte qu'ils n'y avaient pas d'établissement stable. Cela leur permettait de faire une concurrence malsaine aux fournisseurs locaux, dont l'offre de services était frappée de taxe, et de voler une partie de leur clientèle.

Les fournisseurs locaux, eux, ont investi dans l'infrastructure de production et de transmission, et dans l'emploi d'un personnel qualifié et bien rémunéré. Les pays soucieux de préserver leur identité culturelle voient dans les services en ligne envahissants la présence de l'impérialisme culturel américain (production Hollywood ou Netflix). Ce sentiment est très fort dans la province francophone du Québec, au Canada, qui veut protéger sa culture distincte contre l'omniprésence des médias anglophones. Le Québec est l'un des premiers gouvernements sous-nationaux au Canada à avoir imposé une taxe de vente de 9,9% sur les services en ligne en provenance des Etats-Unis. Il y a donc dans ces pays une rationalité économique et culturelle derrière la taxe sur les services en ligne.

Digital Services Tax

Plus fondamentalement, cette rationalité fait partie d'une approche plus globale à la fiscalité qui devrait s'appliquer aux sociétés de technologie "FAANG" (Facebook, Amazon, Apple, Netflix, Google) qui vendent des services et des logiciels en ligne sur des marchés extérieurs sans y avoir un établissement stable.

* Suite en page 12



“Les pays soucieux de préserver leur identité culturelle voient dans les services en ligne envahissants la présence de l'impérialisme culturel américain (production Hollywood ou Netflix). Ce sentiment est très fort dans la province francophone du Québec, au Canada, qui veut protéger sa culture distincte contre l'omniprésence des médias anglophones. Le Québec est l'un des premiers gouvernements sous-nationaux au Canada à avoir imposé une taxe de vente de 9,9% sur les services en ligne en provenance des Etats-Unis. Il y a donc dans ces pays une rationalité économique et culturelle derrière la taxe sur les services en ligne...”

Pour mieux comprendre les implications financières et économiques de la nouvelle mesure, il convient de l'analyser dans le contexte de la politique fiscale du Gouvernement, des règles régissant les activités transfrontalières des sociétés internationales et des obligations des fournisseurs étrangers envers les Etats souverains.

Contexte fiscal

D'abord, voyons la politique fiscale.

La nouvelle mesure est formulée à l'article 70 du projet de loi des finances [*The Finance (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill (No. VII of 2020)*] présenté par le ministre des Finances à l'Assemblée nationale, le 3 juillet 2020. En effet, la disposition 70 (e) du projet de loi modifie la loi sur la Taxe sur la valeur ajoutée (TVA) pour y ajouter une nouvelle section intitulée "Imposition de la TVA sur les services électroniques ou numériques".

Cette nouvelle section définit le "service électronique ou numérique" comme tout service fourni par un fournisseur étranger sur Internet ou une plateforme électronique. Le fournisseur étranger est défini comme celui qui

Coronavirus: Madagascar hospitals 'overwhelmed'

Hospitals in Madagascar have warned they are overwhelmed after a spike in coronavirus cases in a country where the president has been promoting a herbal drink to treat the virus.

A record 614 new cases have been confirmed in the last day, bringing the total to 8,162 and 69 deaths.

Hospitals in the capital, Antananarivo, have warned that they are starting to run out of beds.

"We are now only accepting severe cases," Andohotapenaka Hospital director Nasolotsiry Raveloson is quoted as telling AFP news agency.



Hospitals in Antananarivo have warned they are running out of beds. Photo - bbc.com

Directors at two other hospitals also told the news agency that they were overwhelmed.

On Monday the minister for health wrote an open letter to aid agencies asking for equipment like testing kits, respirators and protective equipment for health workers.

But BBC Africa correspondent Catherine Byaruhanga says there has been push back from the government's spokesperson who said it was not the minister's place to make such a request.

Earlier this month President Andry Rajoelina re-imposed a lockdown on the central region until 26 July, allowing only one person per household to go out for food and medicine.

President Rajoelina has received worldwide attention for promoting the Covid-Organics, which is produced from the artemisia plant - the source of an ingredient used in a malaria treatment - and other Malagasy plants.

But the World Health Organization (WHO) warned against people using untested remedies like this, saying that Africans deserve access to medicines that have gone through proper trials even if they are derived from traditional treatments.

India a key pillar of Donald Trump's Foreign Policy: Mike Pompeo

Describing India as one of the few trusted like-minded countries, US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said on Wednesday that New Delhi is an important partner and a key pillar of President Donald Trump's foreign policy.

In his virtual keynote address to the annual "India Ideas Summit" of the US India Business Council (USIBC), Mr Pompeo said he was happy to report that India is a "rising" US defense and security partner in the Indo-Pacific and globally.

The United States, he said, "desires a new age of ambition" in its relationship with India.

Asserting that the US has never been more supportive of India's security, he said New Delhi too, is an important partner and a key pillar of President Trump's foreign policy.

Mr Pompeo said the US has invited Prime Minister Narendra Modi to the next G7 meeting to be hosted by President Trump. "We will advance the economic prosperity network. It is the group of countries and organisations that we consider natural partners with we share values like democracy,



Mike Pompeo said on Wednesday that New Delhi is an important partner of President Donald Trump's foreign policy Photo - images.newindianexpress.com

transparency and rule of law," Mr Pompeo said.

The Group of Seven (G-7) is an international intergovernmental economic organisation consisting of seven major developed countries: Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom and the United States, which are some of the largest IMF-advanced economies in the world.

Mr Pompeo also said that he was happy

to report that India is a rising US defense and security partner, in the Indo-Pacific and globally.

"We've revived the so-called quad that comprised the US, India, Japan and Australia. India is also part of a group of like-minded nations that I've convened regularly to advance shared interests," he said.

Navies from the US, India, Australia, Japan and France have been deepening their mutual cooperation in the Indo-Pacific region in view of China's growing attempt to expand military influence in the resource-rich region.

On Monday, a US Navy carrier strike group led by nuclear-powered aircraft carrier USS Nimitz carried out a military drill with a fleet of Indian warships off the coast of Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

The USS Nimitz is the world's largest warship and the exercise between the two navies assumed significance as it took place in the midst of tensions between India and China in eastern Ladakh as well as in China's military assertiveness in South China Sea.

Singapore election: Does the political shake-up change anything?

Singapore may be one of the world's wealthiest and "smartest" countries, but there's one thing it has never had, until now - an official opposition party. After a recent surprising election, change is in the air, writes the BBC's Sharanjit Leyl.

The election on 10 July - one of a handful globally during the pandemic - saw the ruling People's Action Party (PAP) return to power yet again, but to the surprise of many, with a reduced majority. The biggest opposition group, the Workers' Party, had its best result to date, winning 10 seats.

While campaigning, the Workers Party leader Pritam Singh had in fact assured voters his party didn't even have ambitions to govern - they just wanted to be able to provide a check and balance to the PAP.

But in response to the WP's unexpected success, Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong gave Mr Singh the title of Official Leader of the Opposition - the first time any opposition leader in Singapore has been considered relevant enough to hold the post. It means Mr Singh is entitled to state funding for staff and resources, making his party a genuine opposition.

In a statement to the BBC, Mr



Singapore Opposition Leader Pritam Singh. Photo - media.malaymail.com

Singh points out that the party's numbers in parliament are still small and "far short of the one third required to break the ruling party's parliamentary supermajority". But it marks a major shift in politics and could be a step towards breaking the PAP's complete dominance of Singaporean politics.

A one party state?

Singaporeans have never experienced a time where the PAP was not in charge - they have won every election since Singapore was granted self rule by the British in 1959.

The party was co-founded by Lee Kuan Yew, considered by many to be the architect of Singapore's rapid economic success.

So aligned is the party with "LKY" that his death shortly before elections in 2015 saw a surge of support for the PAP. His son, Lee Hsien Loong, is the current prime minister.

While credited with spearheading Singapore's success, the PAP has also been accused of implementing draconian policies such as strictly regulating public assembly and the media.

A "fake news" law implemented last year - which allows government ministers to order amendments to online posts it deems false and harmful to the public interest - has heightened concerns of yet more limits to freedom of expression and increasing self-censorship.

During the recent elections, a number of media organisations and sites carrying comments from an opposition candidate fell victim to the law.

And while Singaporean politics mirrors the first-past-the-post Westminster model, there are key differences that make it harder for opposition parties.

MPs contest for constituencies that vary in size and the larger ones are not represented by an individual MP, but by a team of up to five MPs - called Group Representative Constituencies (GRCs).

The system was introduced in 1988 as a way to include more representation from Singapore's Malay, Indian and other minority groups in the predominantly Chinese city - so parties could "risk" running one or two minority candidates.

But until recently, opposition parties have not had the resources to recruit enough skilled and experienced people to genuinely contest these larger constituencies. When the Workers' Party won the Aljunied GRC in 2011, it was considered a shock win and a breakthrough for opposition voices. This year, they have picked up another large GRC constituency.

And, in what has been ranked the world's most expensive city, it's costly to even stand in an election. Candidates must deposit S\$13,500 (\$9,700: £7,700) to contest and need to win more than one-eighth of total votes to get it back.

UK unveils new special visa for Hong Kong's BNO holders

Hong Kong's British National (Overseas) passport holders and their immediate dependents will have the right to apply for a special UK visa from January, Home Secretary Priti Patel said.

The offer comes after China imposed a sweeping new security law in Hong Kong.

Beijing has previously warned the UK not to meddle in domestic issues.

Foreign ministry spokesman Zhao Lijian said in May that all British National (Overseas) - or BNO - passport holders "are Chinese nationals" and the move would "violate international law".

However, Ms Patel said on Wednesday that the offer meant the UK was "keeping our promise" to Hong Kong residents "to uphold their freedoms".

What are the conditions to get the special visa?

BNO holders already have the right to visit the UK visa-free for six months.

However, this will now allow them to apply for two periods of 30 months' leave or five years' leave to remain in



The offer was made after China imposed a sweeping new security law on Hong Kong. Photo - www.ft.com

the UK, and then eventually become full British citizens.

BNO holders are able to bring immediate dependents, including a spouse who does not have the passport, along with children under the age of 18.

No one born after 1997 is entitled to a BNO passport, and it does not pass down through the generations.

However, holders' children who were born in 1997 or later and are older than 18 will be able to apply if they are part of a family unit.

Applicants do not have to have a job before arriving in the UK, and there is no minimum salary attached to the visa. However, the passport holders must be able to support themselves financially and will not qualify for benefits.

They will need to have a tuberculosis (TB) test certificate and no serious convictions, though those convicted only of offences related to the recent demonstrations in Hong Kong will still qualify. They also need to show a commitment to learn English.

Why is the UK offering the special visa?

Hong Kong is a former British colony, which was handed back to China in 1997.

But before Hong Kong was returned, the UK and China made an agreement to introduce "one country, two systems", which meant, among other things, rights such as freedom of assembly, free speech and freedom of the press would be protected.

The agreement signed in 1984 was set to last until 2047.

But the UK says this agreement - known as the Joint Declaration - is under threat because the territory passed a new law in June that gives China sweeping new controls over the people of Hong Kong.

Coronavirus: How South Africa and Rwanda are coping without tourists



How South Africa and Rwanda are coping. Photo - bbc.com

With its game parks, beaches and historic sites, Africa attracts a huge number of foreign tourists but numbers are sharply down because of the coronavirus outbreak, writes Larry Madowo of BBC.

A few countries on the continent are starting to allow international flights again.

But this raises a dilemma: open up too fast and foreign tourists could bring a new outbreak of Covid-19; remain closed for too long and more livelihoods will be lost and there might be little left to salvage.

"To say the impact of the crisis has been devastating is an understatement," said Naledi Khabo, CEO of Africa Tourism Association. "I don't think tourism will ever look like it did before."

Africa received 71.2 million tourists in 2019 and the sector employed nearly 25 million people, according to the UN's World Tourism Organization.

Travel and tourism contribute 9% to the continent's economy but global movement restrictions and virus-induced travel anxiety have kept most people in Europe and North America at home as the summer holiday season begins. African countries have already lost nearly \$55bn (£43bn) in revenues so far, according to the African Union.

Targeting the diaspora

Many South Africans were spooked after a widely shared news story at the beginning of the pandemic falsely claimed that Cape Town's high numbers of coronavirus infections were caused by foreign tourists.

But Enver Duminy, CEO of Cape Town Tourism, said the first cases of Covid-19 were more likely imported by South Africans who had travelled abroad.

The agency has been researching how badly "the Mother City" has been affected as much visited attractions like Table Mountain remain largely empty.

"About 83% of businesses indicated that they would not survive longer than six months under the current lockdown conditions with 56% of businesses not having a recovery plan in place," Mr Duminy said in a statement to the BBC.

Few in the African tourism business want to predict the future because the virus is so volatile. But they know it will be different.

"Covid-19 has shone a light on issues that have previously existed - digitization; the need to shift traditional marketing efforts to target new diverse audiences especially the diaspora market; making intra-Africa travel easier via visas, air connectivity; and regional collaboration between destinations," Ms Khabo said.

Namibia, Kenya and Rwanda are among nations adapting to a work-from-home era with virtual tours to appeal to a younger population. "Rwanda will continue to position itself as a high value, low volume eco-tourism destination which we believe corresponds to the current trends that we are seeing today as tourists book their trips.

"Secluded outdoor spaces are the new normal and Rwanda has plenty of that," Ms Akamanzi said.

Tourists at hotels, resorts and other properties on the continent may see less human contact as the experience evolves in an age of social distancing.

"What's going to change fundamentally is the behaviour pattern of the tourists. This is going to be about safety and confidence and trust. And the less interaction they have with people, the safer they will feel," noted Mr Ntshona.

Compiled by D.Ramlallah



Matrimonial

Proposals invited from professional and cultured girl for Hindu boy, 30 years 5'7", wheatish fair, UK-educated with BSc, MSc, MRICs qualifications.

Please contact: proposal0255@gmail.com

Jean Claude de l'Estrac

“Quel est le chef qui mènera une alliance PTr-MMM-PMSD aux prochaines élections?”

Il n'est pas trop tôt pour y répondre”

La Commission Justice et Vérité existe officiellement depuis mars 2009, suite à la Truth and Justice Act, No. 28. De 2008. Aujourd'hui, les rapports de la Commission sont disponibles en ligne. Certains chercheurs, mauriciens et étrangers, ont rédigé des articles scientifiques sur et autour de la Commission mauricienne. Toutefois, la question de la pertinence des revendications et de l'implémentation des recommandations de diverses Commission Justice et Vérité à travers le monde demeure d'actualité. La possession ou dépossession des terres, et l'accès à une propriété reviennent souvent dans les débats. Sommes-nous dans une impasse?

Jean Claude de l'Estrac nous en dit plus.

Mauritius Times : Le Conseil des ministres a pris la décision, le 10 juillet dernier, d'amender la 'Courts Act' en vue de la mise sur pied prochaine d'une 'Land Division' au sein de la Cour suprême. Cela fait suite au combat de Clency Harmon, l'une des victimes de dépossession de terres qui avait déposé devant la Commission Justice et Vérité, dont le rapport a été publié neuf ans de cela. On a mis du temps, mais il faut espérer que justice sera désormais rendue à tous ceux qui sont des victimes de dépossession de terres, n'est-ce pas?

Jean Claude de l'Estrac : J'en doute! Près de dix ans après la publication des rapports de la Commission Justice et Vérité, aucune des recommandations qu'ils contiennent n'a été exécutée. Pour ma part, je situe le travail de la Commission comme une invitation à agir bien au-delà de la seule question de la dépossession des terres extrêmement difficile à établir au demeurant, comme la Commission, elle-même, le reconnaît.

En revanche, l'analyse faite des séquelles de l'esclavage, aujourd'hui encore, notamment par rapport à l'accès aux terres aurait mérité une bien plus grande attention des gouvernants.

Cela fait plus de 150 ans qu'une partie de la population est dans l'obligation de squatter. Et pourtant des terres sont encore disponibles même si une partie de celles négociées par l'ancien Premier ministre auprès de l'industrie sucrière a été distribuée.

Le Gouvernement devrait en priorité construire sur ces terres des logements très sociaux pour les plus vulnérables de notre société, et ce, uniquement pour la loca-

tion. Ceux de nos concitoyens qui vivent d'emplois précaires ne peuvent pas accéder aux programmes de vente-location qui exigent des garanties qu'ils ne peuvent offrir.

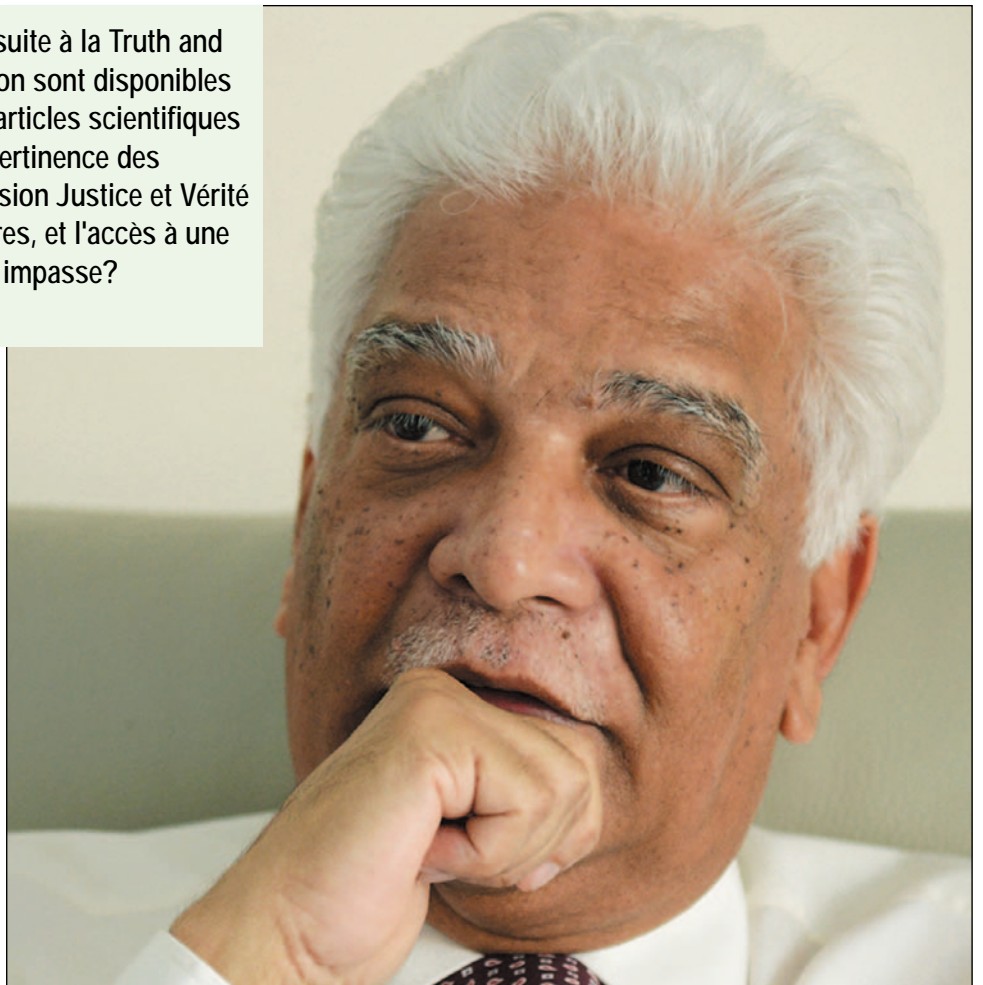
*** Par ailleurs, l'une des principales recommandations de la Commission Justice et Vérité a trait à la question de l'accès aux terres. Or, il semble que cette question tout comme celle par rapport à la mise en place d'une 'Land Bank' préconisée par tous les gouvernements qui se sont succédé depuis l'indépendance du pays demeure assez problématique. Pourquoi est-ce un sujet délicat à Maurice?**

Je crois que la principale difficulté, mise en exergue par les rapporteurs de la Commission Justice et Vérité, réside dans l'absence de preuves écrites et documentées des plaignants. Même quand les réclamations paraissent totalement fondées - ce n'est pas toujours le cas - il s'avère que les preuves en droit sont quasiment impossibles à établir.

Elles le sont d'autant plus que les plaignants ont rarement les ressources financières nécessaires pour mobiliser avocats, arpenteurs, historiens susceptibles de démêler l'écheveau d'une histoire vieille de près de deux siècles. C'est la raison pour laquelle ils ont fait appel à l'Etat.

*** Vos recherches dans le cadre de la publication de votre prochain livre sur toute l'histoire des terres à Maurice depuis la colonisation du pays par les Français - les concessions, les acquisitions ou même les dépossessions - ont été sans doute riches en enseignements. Que nous apprennent-ils sur le présent?**

Elles sont très révélatrices de la configuration de nos



“Les mois qui viennent seront extrêmement douloureux pour de très nombreux Mauriciens. Nous nous sommes peu préparés à y faire face. Le discours lénifiant de nos dirigeants tend à anesthésier les citoyens, le réveil risque d'être brutal une fois la perfusion stoppée...”

“Même s'il est vrai que les gros propriétaires terriens actuels ne sont presque jamais les descendants des colons bénéficiaires des concessions pendant la colonisation française, le rappel de ces privilèges d'un autre temps, est naturellement propre à susciter des passions, ce que des politiques savent faire avec cynisme. Ce faisant, ils escamotent aussi le fait que, par le biais des morcellements et de leur rude labeur, les descendants des travailleurs engagés indiens sont rapidement devenus eux-mêmes propriétaires...”

rapports sociaux actuels. On voit bien que nous avons hérité d'une pyramide sociale essentiellement fondée sur l'accès aux terres.

Au cours de notre histoire de peuplement, deux catégories de la population, pendant la colonisation française comme pendant celle des Anglais, ont bénéficié, à divers degrés, à un accès aux terres, refusé à une autre catégorie. Les colons français ont été incités à s'installer à l'Isle de France inhabitée par l'octroi de larges concessions de terre à cultiver.

Les “engagés” indiens ont été incités à s'installer durablement dans la colonie britannique grâce à un accès facilité aux terres, notamment, dans un premier temps, par le système de métayage.

Les autres, les descendants des esclaves affranchis, ont été ostracisés par une Constitution datant de l'époque française interdisant la possession de terres aux Noirs. Les descendants de ces Noirs le sont encore.

☞ Suite en page 8

• Suite de la page 7

* Cette histoire d'accès aux terres n'est pas encore terminée, elle soulèvera probablement autant de passions comme par le passé, comme celles soulevées dans le sillage du deal Illovo ou lors des difficiles négociations de l'ancien Premier ministre travailliste Navin Ramgoolam avec les établissements sucriers pour 2000 arpents de terres pour des projets so-ciaux en contrepartie des fonds de l'Union européenne accordés dans le cadre de la restructuration du secteur sucre. Qu'en pensez-vous?

Même s'il est vrai que les gros propriétaires terriens actuels ne sont presque jamais les descendants des colons bénéficiaires des concessions pendant la colonisation française, le rappel de ces privilèges d'un autre temps, est naturellement propre à susciter des passions, ce que des politiques savent faire avec cynisme.

Ce faisant, ils escamotent aussi le fait que, par le biais des morcellements et de leur rude labeur, les descendants des travailleurs engagés indiens sont rapidement devenus eux-mêmes propriétaires de près de la moitié des terres cultivables du pays!

Une Commission d'enquête royale en 1909 avait établi que les immigrants indiens possédaient déjà 47,888 arpents de terre, soit 45,9% des terres cultivables. Vous le voyez, les mythes ont la vie longue et les politiciens la mémoire sélective.

* En ce qui concerne le deal Illovo, ce fut une " missed opportunity " selon un courant de pensée, car au lieu d'une véritable démocratisation des terres, il y a eu plutôt une concentration des richesses entre les mains de quelques grands propriétaires terriens. Les spéculateurs étaient nombreux et certaines portions de ces terres ont été vendues à plus de Rs 4 millions par arpent alors que le prix avant la conversion s'élevait à Rs 230,000 seulement par arpent. Votre opinion?

Oui, on peut voir les choses ainsi. Mais on peut également avoir une lecture positive de cette transaction commerciale.

On peut tout aussi bien arguer que le Deal Illovo a été une formidable occasion de démocratisation des terres. En quoi ? Au-delà des strictes considérations sucrières, l'opération a permis aux Mauriciens de récupérer 20,000 arpents de terre qui étaient passés sous contrôle des Sud-Africains.

Elle a aussi permis à l'Etat de rentrer dans le capital à hauteur de 46%. Elle a également permis au Sugar Investment Trust de devenir propriétaire de 7,000 arpents destinés à des morcellements agricoles et résidentiels.

'Les mois qui viennent seront extrêmement douloureux pour de très nombreux Mauriciens

Le discours lénifiant de nos dirigeants tend à anesthésier les citoyens, le réveil risque d'être brutal une fois la perfusion stoppée'

L'Etat lui-même est devenu propriétaire, gratuitement dans la région très prisée de Réduit, de Plaisance et de Ebène devenu aujourd'hui la Cybercity. C'est ce qu'on appelle un *win-win situation*. Et c'est comme la création d'une *Land Bank*.

* Le Gouvernement mauricien est-il donc impliqué ?

Bien entendu ! Nous savons que le consortium a recherché l'aval du Premier ministre d'alors, sir Anerood Jugnauth. Il a argué que c'était là une occasion exceptionnelle de démocratisation des terres. La contrepartie, c'est l'exemption des droits de mutation et de taxes sur ces transactions foncières. Voilà, le Illovo Deal : combien parmi ceux qui ergotent en connaissent les tenants et les aboutissants?

Maintenant, il faudrait peut-être cesser d'être obsédé par la possession de terres comme mode d'acquisition de richesse. Regardons autour de nous dans le monde : les plus grandes réussites viennent du monde de la science, de la technologie et de la communication. Parfois, il n'a fallu que d'un garage!

* La pandémie de coronavirus et les mesures de confinement ont des impacts forts sur le secteur de l'agro-alimentation d'où un nouvel engouement pour l'autosuffisance alimentaire. Faut-il pour cela un meilleur accès aux terres, une refonte de notre politique d'urbanisation, des IRS/RES en vue d'une meilleure utilisation de nos terres? Or, il semble qu'il n'existe pas de volonté politique pour prendre des actions concrètes à cet égard. Pourquoi est-ce ainsi, selon vous?

Je ne sais s'il s'agit de manque de volonté politique ou d'une incompétence crasse! Les terres existent, elles ont été inventoriées dix fois, les gouvernements ont souvent sollicité de l'industrie sucrière des terres qui ont été dilapidées par la suite; l'expertise technique dans les organismes du ministère de l'Agriculture est de qualité; la carte des sols existe. Il faudrait - pour ainsi dire -- juste trouver un ministre qui sache lire...

* Après sa gestion relativement réussie de la menace posée par la Covid-19, le Gouvernement se voit acculé, semaine après semaine, à la suite de différentes allégations de corruption formulées par l'opposition, que



“ Je ne sais s'il s'agit de manque de volonté politique ou d'une incompétence crasse! Les terres existent, elles ont été inventoriées dix fois, les gouvernements ont souvent sollicité de l'industrie sucrière des terres qui ont été dilapidées par la suite ; l'expertise technique dans les organismes du ministère de l'Agriculture est de qualité; la carte des sols existe. Il faudrait - pour ainsi dire -- juste trouver un ministre qui sache lire...”

ce soit celle concernant l'allocation d'un contrat à hauteur de Rs 4,3 milliards à la firme danoise BWSC par rapport à la centrale de St-Louis, ou encore l'achat des médicaments et des équipements par le Gouvernement pendant la période de confinement. On se posait la question, quelques semaines de cela, si la fraude et la corruption constitueront le talon d'Achille de l'actuel Gouvernement... Qu'en pensez-vous ?

Difficile de le savoir à ce stade. S'agit-il vraiment de corruption? N'est-ce pas plutôt un effet pervers du copinage et du clientélisme que pratique à outrance ce Gouvernement ?

Mais tout cela fait désordre et l'image du Gouvernement a de nouveau pris un très mauvais coup. Il a fort à faire pour redorer son blason.

Et ce n'est pas l'ICAC qui sera sa planche de salut et moins encore la MBC-TV. Voilà deux boucliers devenus deux boulets.

* Sur le plan économique, le pire de la crise économique mondiale est encore à venir selon la plupart des experts. Il y a donc des jours difficiles devant nous, cela tant que les signes de reprise ne seront pas présents. Avec moins d'argent disponible dans les caisses de

l'Etat à des fins d'assistance directe aux chômeurs et autres dans les mois à venir, les choses risquent de se compliquer sur le plan social. Qu'en pensez-vous ?

Vous avez malheureusement raison.

Les mois qui viennent seront extrêmement douloureux pour de très nombreux Mauriciens. Nous nous sommes peu préparés à y faire face. Le discours lénifiant de nos dirigeants tend à anesthésier les citoyens, le réveil risque d'être brutal une fois la perfusion stoppée.

* On a vu un début de rapprochement des différentes forces de l'opposition ces derniers temps. Il semble que le courant passe bien au niveau parlementaire, mais également entre les dirigeants du PTr, du MMM et du PMSD. Beaucoup de partisans de ces partis sont enthousiastes à l'idée d'une plateforme commune et d'une meilleure coordination de leurs partis pour donner la réplique au Gouvernement. Est-ce plus compliqué qu'ils ne le pensent?

Il n'y a qu'une seule question qui vaille; la réponse que l'opposition donnera à cette question déterminera la suite : Quel est le chef qui mènera cette alliance aux prochaines élections? Il n'est pas trop tôt pour y répondre.

“ Il faudrait peut-être cesser d'être obsédé par la possession de terres comme mode d'acquisition de richesse. Regardons autour de nous dans le monde : les plus grandes réussites viennent du monde de la science, de la technologie et de la communication. Parfois, il n'a fallu que d'un garage!”

Why some anti-corruption campaigns make people more likely to pay a bribe

Some anti-corruption messages can encourage apathy and acceptance rather than inspire activism



Donors and civil society groups spend tens of millions of dollars every year trying to combat corruption. They do it because corruption has been shown to increase poverty and inequality while undermining trust in the government. Reducing corruption is essential to improve public services and strengthen the social contract between citizens and the state.

But what if anti-corruption efforts actually make the situation worse?

Our research in Lagos, Nigeria, found that anti-corruption messages often have an unintended effect. Instead of building public resolve to reject corrupt acts, the messages we tested either had no effect or actually made people more likely to offer a bribe.

The reason may be that the messages reinforce popular perceptions that corruption is pervasive and insurmountable. In doing so, they encourage apathy and acceptance rather than inspire activism.

Fighting corruption

Efforts to combat corruption in "developing countries" initially focused on law enforcement by political leaders and bureaucrats. But these strategies met with limited success and so efforts switched to raising public awareness of the dangers of corruption.

This change of approach made sense. One reason that leaders don't deliver on reforms is that they benefit from the way things are. Encouraging citizens to reject corrupt leaders would give those in power an incentive to act.

The last 20 years therefore saw a vast

array of campaigns, from newspaper and radio advertisements to Twitter messages. Short films, theatre productions and signs that proclaim that government institutions are "corruption free zones" were also included.

These messages are seen by large numbers of people, but until recently there had been remarkably little systematic research on whether they actually work.

Researching corruption

To test the impact of anti-corruption messages we developed five short narratives like those promoted by civil society organisations and international donors. One message focused on explaining that corruption is widespread and damaging. Others emphasised the local impact of graft and the way it wasted citizens' taxes.

To test the effect of more positive messages, one narrative talked about recent successes that political leaders had in curbing corruption. Another detailed the role that religious leaders played in promoting clean government.

We read the messages to 2,400 randomly selected people in Lagos. While corruption has often been identified as a major challenge in Nigeria, the Lagos State government has made some progress towards reducing government waste, ensuring all citizens pay taxes and delivering better services. It was therefore plausible that both positive and negative messages about corruption would resonate with Lagosians. The state is also ethnically diverse, with considerable poverty and inequality, and so reflects the kind of context in which anti-corruption messaging is often deployed.

Each person we interviewed was given one of the narratives. A control group was not given any anti-corruption information. This was to enable us to compare the impact of different messages. We then asked everyone a number of questions about their attitudes towards corruption.

In an advance on previous studies, we also invited 1200 people to play a game in which they had an opportunity to win real money. In the game, players could take away more money if they were willing to pay a small bribe to the "banker" who determined the pay-outs. The game tested players' commitment to rejecting corruption in a more demanding way than simply asking them if they believed corruption was wrong.

We were then able to evaluate whether anti-corruption messages were effective by looking at whether those who received them were more likely to demand clean government and less willing to pay a bribe.

More harm than good

In line with prior research, our findings suggest that anti-corruption campaigns may be doing more harm than good. None of the narratives we used had a positive effect overall. Many of them actually made Lagosians more likely to pay a bribe.

Put another way, the good news is that public relations campaigns can change citizens' minds. But the bad news is that they often do so in unintended and counterproductive ways.

The reason for this seems to be that anti-corruption messages encourage citizens to think more about corruption, emphasising the extent of the problem. This contributes to "corruption fatigue": the

belief that the problem is simply too big for any one person to make a difference generates despondency. It makes individuals more likely to go with the flow than to stand against it.

This interpretation is supported by another finding that the negative effect of anti-corruption messaging was far more powerful among individuals who believed that corruption was pervasive. This reveals that the problematic consequences of anti-corruption messages are not universal. Among less pessimistic people, messages did not have a negative effect. And one message had the desired effect of reducing the probability of paying a bribe. This was the narrative that emphasised the relationship between corruption and citizens' tax payments.

Our study therefore suggests that if we can target anti-corruption messages more effectively at specific audiences, we may be able to enhance their positive effects while minimising the risks.

What next?

Other studies have come to similar conclusions in Indonesia, Costa Rica and to some extent Papua New Guinea.

We therefore need to take the lessons of these studies seriously. Anti-corruption campaigns that send untargeted messages should be halted until we work out how to target them more effectively. The most logical response is to embrace new ways of working.

This might mean identifying messages that persuade citizens that corruption is falling and so "nudge" them to believe it is a problem that can be overcome.

Where that's not possible, it is also worth considering a more radical break with the past. As others working within the Anti-Corruption Evidence Consortium have argued, the most promising approach may be to abandon traditional anti-corruption messaging in favour of working more indirectly. This would involve building public demand for greater political accountability and transparency without always talking directly about corruption.

Such an approach would be less high profile, but is far more likely to be effective.

Nic Cheeseman

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• *Genius is the power of carrying the feelings of childhood into the powers of manhood. - Samuel Taylor Coleridge*

100 Years Ago: First War of Independence

By K. Sharma

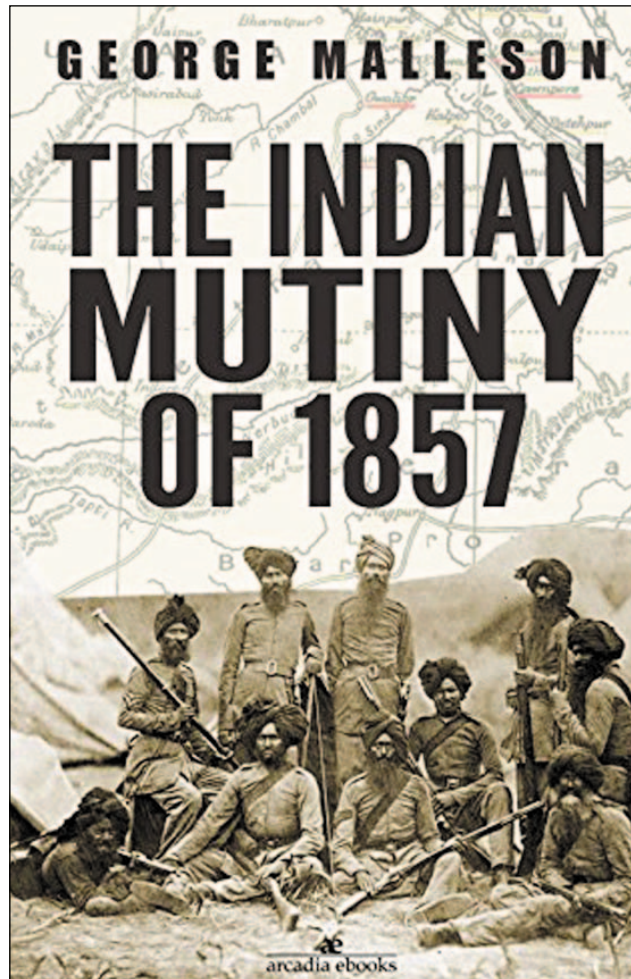
Free India is celebrating this year (1957) the centenary of what has usually been called the "Indian Mutiny" of 1857. The event was not merely a mutiny or an exclusively army affair, but was in reality an outburst of the deep popular discontent felt all over the country over the establishment of a foreign government. Nationalist opinion accordingly has been of the view for decades that the happenings of the year really constituted the first few shots fired in the fight for freedom by India -- a fight that ended only in 1947 when the country became free again. Herein lies the significance of the centenary now being observed.

But before the full import of the celebrations is realised, it would be useful to note the great political change that took place in the wake of the so called "Mutiny". The East India Company ceased to exist as a political power and the administration of India was taken over by the Crown of Britain. This step clearly indicated the grave dissatisfaction in Britain over the way in which India had been ruled by the Company, a way which had led to the "Mutiny". It also showed a new spirit in administering the affairs of a dependent people; imbued with sympathy, tolerance and a desire to promote their welfare and happiness. This was the true significance of Queen Victoria's Proclamation of 1858.

To dwell on the details of the "Mutiny" would be merely to dramatize them, but they may be recapitulated in the barest outline. Cartridges had been issued to the Indian Army, the ends of which had to be bitten before firing. They had been greased with the fat of the pig or of the cow animals, one of which was detested by the Muslims and the Hindus and the other venerated by the Hindus. This fact greatly outraged the religious feelings of the Sepoys of both the communities. In March 1857, a British adjutant was cut down in open parade by a Brahmin (Hindu) Sepoy, in Barrackpore near Calcutta. The culprit was duly punished. And next month discontent and incendiary fires were seen as far away as Ambala.

In May the Sepoys at Meerut boldly revolted, opened the jails, burnt the houses of the officers and killed all the British that came in sight. The 10th of May is generally reckoned as the day on which the "Mutiny" began. Delhi was occupied, and there, the old displaced Mughal emperor was proclaimed the sovereign. Agra was also in revolt. Apart from the Delhi area, the main trouble centres were Lucknow, Kanpur and Bundelkhand in Central India. Everywhere the rebellious sepoy had the upper hand at the outset, while, on the other hand, British troops and officers defended gallantly. Gradually the Government regained control and put down the insurrection. Such was its immediate task, and that done, it turned to the pacification of the country. The work was primarily political in its nature and was crowned by the Queen's Proclamation of 1858 which assured everyone of equality before the law, and freedom of faith.

It would be useful to look into the cause of the revolution and to study what lessons British administrators learnt from their experience. The Indian Army before 1858 consisted mostly of Indians, trained, equipped and officered after the British model. The proportion of Indians to Britons was nearly five to one. Indian regiments besides consisted of men from all parts of the country, and of all castes or communities a bond of unity devel-



ping amongst them thereby. The army reorganisation that took place in the early sixties of the last century, carefully avoided risks of another uprising by increasing the proportion of British troops to Indian ones by more than doubling the numbers of the former, so as eventually to provide for two British soldiers for every five Indian soldiers.

In addition, the class-company system was introduced according to which regiments were based on community, province or caste so that, if necessary, one Indian regiment may be pitted against another. Thirdly was enunciated the "martial races theory" which held that certain peoples of the country did not constitute good soldiers while others made excellent fighting material. This in actual fact meant the exclusion from the army of sections of the country which were markedly nationalistic and patriotic.

Of the civil side, the British government adopted certain measures intended to redress old wrongs and to pacify the country. The fact shows that the British historians of the "Mutiny" have vigorously sought to deny the 1857 incidents were more than merely an army affair.

To recapitulate at random a few of the causes which created unrest in the pre-'Mutiny' days are: the large number of lapses and *escheats of territory* in favour of the British government had led a good many of the remaining ruling chiefs to feel very insecure in their own areas and powers, lest for any known or unknown reason they should themselves be displaced by an all-absorbing and ever-grasping alien government. The proclamation of 1858 gave them the assurance that no further expansion of British held territory at the expense of Indian rulers was indented so that the latter may not have any fears of dispossession.

Secondly, the strict and rigid enforcement of law and order had produced the fear that the basic structures of the Hindu caste system were deliberately being undermined by the new power and that the Hindu religion itself was in danger. On this point also the Proclamation stated categorically that there would be an absolute freedom of faith in the country. On the basis of such solemn promises India regained a large deal of normalcy.

The British administrators of 1860 and immediately thereafter sought to rule the country in the spirit of the Proclamation. They were, as a rule, honest, sympathetic and hard-working. But human nature being what it ever has been, conditions worsened as time marched on.

Britain was not all altruistic and selfless in her behaviour towards India. Often she was just unjust so as to promote her own interests and to injure those of India. Her sons, too, working at this end, became self-centered and pompous, many of them losing contact with the people and developing a superiority complex on the ground of race and colour. In the meantime a change was coming over the people also.

Towards the beginning of the present century, world events aroused in them the desire to self-rule. Study of English institutions and English Literature also worked up their mind. But the self-satisfied British administration did not understand the new spirit. In fact, it could not even recognize the change that was taking place. On the contrary, the authorities chose to dub it as "sedition" and began to punish the nationalists. This was the inner meaning of India's fight for freedom which went on bitterly till 1947.

A new generation of Indians is now growing up to whom British rule is scarcely a memory, if at all, and it would be wrong to recall with bitterness and ill-will the tragic events connected with the beginnings of India's fight for Independence. Even without her doing so, there is enough disharmony and ill-feelings among the nations of the world today. But to those who took part in the struggle and to those who have experience of it, to refrain altogether from all show and joy and happiness over their eventual victory is not easy. It is thus in a spirit of jubilation, and not of animosity towards Britain, that India is celebrating the Centenary of 1857 during the current year.

Indians are today proud of their victory. They are looking back on history from a new angle and in particular they feel that the earliest heroes of 1857 were all patriots and martyrs not dacoits and desperadoes as represented by some historians. The drama of history cannot afford to overlook the supreme greatness of the Indians that flitted across the stage in those eventful days. Maharani Lakshmibai of Jhansi was one of them. A young woman of twenty with exceptional powers of organization who led her troops on the battlefield with drawn sword in hands and died in action. She is a figure that thrills the patriotism and imagination of everyone in the world. A grateful country is now erecting a statute in her honour.

In thinking of the British period of the history, India has much to forget but not her memories and glories of sons and daughters who kept alive the torch of national freedom even in the midst of utter gloom and despair.

New Delhi - India 6 April 1957

The ten factors linked to increased risk of Alzheimer's disease

Stress, depression, and high blood pressure were just some of the risk factors the study's researchers identified



on its own. The bottom line is that reduced blood supply to the brain is linked with Alzheimer's.

4. Orthostatic hypotension

The study also highlighted orthostatic hypotension as a risk factor. This is when someone experiences low blood pressure when standing after sitting or lying down.

Because the body is unable to maintain sufficient blood supply to the brain during posture changes, this can have a long-term debilitating influence on brain activity, as a result of lack of oxygen to the brain, which increases risk of dementia.

5. Diabetes

The study found diabetes was associated with higher incidence of Alzheimer's. As diabetes makes our body unable to properly regulate insulin, this changes both the way our brain cells communicate and our memory function - both of which

are disrupted in Alzheimer's disease.

Insulin is essential, as it regulates the metabolism of carbohydrates, fats and protein by helping blood glucose absorb into the liver, fat and muscles. Alzheimer's disease appears to disrupt the brain's ability to react to insulin.

6. BMI

A higher body mass index (BMI) in under 65s is linked to increased risk of dementia. The study suggests a body mass index between 18.5 and 24.9 for those under 65 - a healthy weight, in other words - may lower dementia risk. However, being underweight in middle age and later life can increase dementia risk.

Being overweight and underweight both carry increased risk. Seksan.TH/ Shutterstock

It's thought that a mixture of genetics, cardiovascular diseases and inflammation all contribute to this association between BMI and dementia.

7. Head trauma

Past head trauma is a risk factor - and there is clear evidence that head trauma, such as a concussion, can contribute to the development of dementia. This link was first observed in 1928.

However, it's uncertain whether single or repetitive head trauma is the contributing factor. It's clear that brain damage from head trauma is similar to that of dementia. This makes people more susceptible to further damage later from dementia.

8. Hyperhomocysteinaemia

High levels of the chemical homocysteine are a risk factor. Homocysteine is a naturally occurring

amino acid involved in the production of our body's defence mechanisms, including antioxidants that prevent cellular damage.

Elevated blood levels of homocysteine in people with dementia was first reported in 1998. Studies have since shown that reducing levels of homocysteine may protect against dementia.

Animal studies suggest elevated levels of homocysteine damage brain cells by interfering with their energy production. Consuming more folate and vitamin B12 can lower homocysteine levels - and may reduce dementia risk.

9. Depression

Those living with Alzheimer's also often suffer from depression, though it's uncertain if depression causes Alzheimer's or is just a symptom of the disease. However, a wealth of evidence supports that depression is indeed a risk factor, as this latest study has found. Research has even indicated a link between the number of depressive episodes - especially ten years prior to dementia onset - and higher risk.

Depression increases levels of harmful chemicals in our brain. An imbalance in these chemicals can lead to loss of brain cells. This, coupled with the loss of brain cells in dementia, increases likelihood of Alzheimer's.

10. Stress

Lastly, stress was identified as a risk factor. Long term stress targets our body's immune cells, which are important in keeping dementia at bay. In particular, the hormone cortisol is shown to contribute to stress and can impact on memory. Aiming to reduce stress and cortisol levels can therefore reduce the chances of developing dementia.

This study offers a complex picture of how we can combat the onset of Alzheimer's - as well as ten areas that scientists need to concentrate on researching in the future. Though the findings may seem bleak, there is some promise in that many of these risk factors can be managed or modified through lifestyle changes, including diet and exercise.

Mark Dallas

Associate Professor in Cellular Neuroscience,
University of Reading

Although there's still no cure, researchers are continuing to develop a better understanding of what increases a person's risk of developing Alzheimer's disease. A recent study that looked at 396 studies has even been able to identify ten risk factors that are shown to increase the likelihood of developing the disease.

Here are the factors researchers identified - and why they're associated with a higher risk.

1. Education level

A lower education level is associated with an increased risk of Alzheimer's disease. Previous evidence shows the longer you spend in education, the lower your risk of developing dementia. Research looking at the brains of people from different educational backgrounds also showed that people who were more educated had heavier brains. As you lose one third of your brain weight because of dementia, a heavier brain may make you more resilient.

2. Cognitive activity

Evidence shows that keeping our brains active can also fight against dementia. Activities such as word puzzles stimulate your brain and can strengthen connectivity between brain cells. This connectivity is broken down in dementia.

This latest study shows that we need to continue keeping our brains active, even in older age. Other studies agree that challenging our brains does indeed reduce our chances of developing dementia.

3. Hypertension in mid-life

Healthy hearts have long been linked to a healthy brain. Here, the current study indicates that high blood pressure (hypertension) in middle age increases Alzheimer's risk.

Higher incidence of heart disease in those suffering from high blood pressure impacts on the blood and nutrient supply to the brain. Interestingly, this association still exists even for those who have high blood pressure



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Services en ligne

La taxe de 15% sur Netflix au centre d'une polémique

* Suite de la page 4

Elles tirent des revenus substantiels de ces pays avec les abonnements aux services en ligne, mais elles ne paient pas d'impôt sur le revenu à leur gouvernement. L'OCDE étudie ce dossier depuis quelque temps et envisage l'introduction d'un impôt sur les revenus tirés de la vente des services numériques (*Digital Services Tax* – DST) par les fournisseurs en ligne.

Le raisonnement derrière la DST est simple et valable : même si les FAANG n'ont pas d'établissement stable dans tous les pays de l'Organisation de coopération et de développement économiques (OCDE), elles y font des ventes qui leur assurent des revenus qui auraient été impossibles si elles y étaient présentes physiquement. Le concept d'établissement stable, comme défini dans la Convention fiscale de l'OCDE et utilisé pour les besoins de la fiscalité transfrontalière, est dépassé car il se limite à un lieu d'affaires fixe, ce qui exclut une présence virtuelle. La numérisation de la société a introduit des lieux d'affaires virtuels qui sont en dehors du champ d'application de la fiscalité nationale en raison de



leur existence extraterritoriale.

Les Etats-Unis offrent de la résistance à une éventuelle DST. En attendant que l'OCDE trouve une formule d'impôt acceptable, la France, l'Italie, l'Espagne, le Royaume Uni et l'Autriche, entre autres, ont introduit une DST variant de 2% à 5% depuis janvier 2020. La France a suspendu sa DST de 3% jusqu'à décembre 2020 dans l'attente d'une décision de l'OCDE, et ce, après que les Etats-Unis ont menacé d'imposer des tarifs douaniers de 25% sur certains produits français exportés au marché américain à compter du 6 janvier 2021.

En attendant la mise en oeuvre de la DST par l'OCDE, la TVA sur les services en ligne permet aux pays qui l'ont introduite de quantifier la valeur commerciale des abonnements aux services en ligne et les revenus engrangés par les fournisseurs étrangers. Ces revenus seraient éventuellement impossibles à l'avantage des pays qui fournissent des marchés à ces derniers.

Aditya Narayan

Programme des Courses -- 6e Journée - Samedi 25 juillet 2020

1 THE MIRABEAU - CANCER SUPPORT CUP

Distance: 1400 m Valeur [0-20] Time -- 12h15

1 MIDDLE PATH	RG	7-4-3/3-6	61.5	D.David	3	450
2 ITALIAN WAY	VA	10-8-4-7/8	60.5	S.Bussunt	7	1600
3 MAJESTIC MOON	SPN	7-1-9/8-8	60.5	Y.Emamdee	6	1300
4 STREET BYTE	CD	8-9-7-5/7	60.5	S.Rama	1	600
5 RED INDY	RG	7-8-7-4/9	60	B.Bhaugeerothee	4	1000
6 MIDNIGHT MESSENGER	SPN	7-6-4/10-7	59.5	R.Hoolash	10	1400
7 NORTHERN REBEL	JMH	R-7-3-6/7	59.5	R.Joorawon	8	800
8 HE'S GOT GEARS	VA	2-2-1-3/5	59(-3)	A.Roy	2	300
9 KIMBERLEY	SN	8-5-4/9-3	59	G.D.Aucharuz	5	1200
10 APPLE JACK	CR	5-4-7-8/8	57.5	B.Sooiful	9	1400

2 THE WILFRID JACKSON CUP

Distance: 1650 m Valeur [0-25] Time -- 12h50

1 JET PATH	VA	4-5-4/10-8	61.5(-3)	A.Roy	7	700
2 TIGER'S BOND	PM	5-10-7-8/8	61	R.K.Chumun	2	2000
3 SILVER SONG	CD	5-2-6-1/3	60	S.Rama	5	400
4 ARTAX	AS	4-10-6-5/6	59.5	B.Sooiful	9	1000
5 SEVENTH EXPRESS	G	0-0-0-0-9	59	R.Joorawon	3	400
6 THE BARRISTER	SN	6-9-6-5/5	59	G.D.Aucharuz	4	1000
7 TYRANDEUS	SN	6-4-9-8/7	59	D.Bheekary	1	1200
8 DESERT THIEF	RG	4-6-4-6/3	56	D.David	6	370
9 BIOMETRIC	SPN	7-6-10-3/9	55	R.Hoolash	8	2000

3 THE DEMDYKE MEMORIAL CUP

Distance: 1500 m Valeur Benchmark 36 Time - 13h25

1 DECLARATOR	RG	3-5-2-5/10	61	D.David	5	700
2 THE BRASS BELL	GR	1-5-5-3-8/	61	N.Juglall	10	800
3 WELL CONNECTED	VA	1-8-4-4-2	61	S.Bussunt	8	420
4 ASPARA	SPN	2-2-7-7-1/	60	R.Hoolash	1	1100
5 IT DOESN'T MATTER *	GR	3-2-1-6/5	59.5	V.A.Bundhoo	9	1200
6 SKY HIGH FLYER	G	5-2-4-5/3	59.5	R.Joorawon	4	550
7 SEATTLE KID	CD	0-0-3-2/4	59	S.Rama	3	400
8 TILL DAWN	AS	1-2-3-3/3	59	B.Sooiful	7	600
9 DONNAN	SN	0-0-0-2/6	57	D.Bheekary	6	2000
10 HEAD OF THE PACK	SPN	11-8-6-6/9	56.5	R.K.Chumun	2	3000

4 THE J. PHILIPPE LAGESSE CUP

Distance: 1450 m Benchmark 41 Time -- 14h00

1 VARSIDE	SH	6-4-1-1/2	61	S.Rama	9	1100
2 GIMMETHERAIN	SJ	nouveau	60.5	B.Bhaugeerothee	5	650
3 BIG VOICE JACK	SN	nouveau	60	G.D.Aucharuz	1	550
4 DIVINE CONNECTION	JMH	0-5-2-3-5/	60	S.Bussunt	7	2200
5 MARAUDING	G	0-0-1-1/1	60	R.Joorawon	8	225
6 POTAWATOMI	AS	9-5-7-6/10	60	R.K.Chumun	4	4000
7 IRON WOLF	GR	6-3-1-9/3	59.5	N.Juglall	10	400
8 RACING FOR FUN	SN	4-4-8-5-8/	59.5	D.Bheekary	3	1200
9 DYNAMITE JACK	RG	nouveau	58	D.David	6	900
10 INTERNET KID	VA	0-0-0-7/11	57	R.Boutanive	2	3000

5 THE AMEDEE POUPARD CUP

Distance: 990 m Valeur Benchmark 46 Time -- 14h35

1 DOLLAR TRACTOR	CD	1-2-5-3/9	60.5	S.Rama	5	800
2 RAHEEB	RM	2-6-4-1-8/	60.5	R.Hoolash	7	650
3 TRIP TO THE SKY	SJ	0-0-5-7/8	60.5	V.A.Bundhoo	6	1600
4 IN YOUR DREAMS	GR	6-1-4-8-4/	59.5	K.Kalychurun	4	2000
5 MONTEGO BAY	VA	nouveau	59.5	N.Juglall	10	900
6 ROB ROY	SJ	8-3-1-R/9	59.5	S.Bussunt	9	2000
7 BADAWEE	RG	2-5-1-1-9/	59	B.Bhaugeerothee	1	300
8 CAPTAINOF THESEA	SN	7-10-6/7-1	58.5	D.David	2	400
9 MR CRUMFORD	JHM	9-6-10-3/7	58	D.Bheekary	3	700
10 MARULA		nouveau	55	R.Joorawon	8	1400

6 LA COUPE DE L'AMBASSADE DE FRANCE

Distance: 1650 m Valeur Benchmark 56 -- 15h10

1 STREAM AHEAD	CD	0-0-0-0-3	60.5	S.Rama	6	820
2 LICKERIO	AS	3-5-1/9-4	60	B.Sooiful	2	1000
3 TOWER OF WISDOM	GR	2-9-1-2/1	60	N.Juglall	1	210
4 FOOLS GOLD	RM	0-0-0-0-6	59.5	R.Joorawon	3	400
5 RED MARS	SJ	3-6-2/2-1	59	B.Bhaugeerothee	4	310
6 ONE DIRECTION	JMH	10-2-7/8-4	53.5	K.Kalychurun	5	3300



7 THE RAOUL HALBWACHS CUP

Distance: 1400 m Valeur [30+] 3yrs Old -- 15h50

1 JOHN HANCOCK	G	nouveau	61	N.Juglall	3	200
2 PRINCE OF PERSIA	G	nouveau	59	R.Joorawon	1	250
3 LIGHTEARTED	SH	nouveau	57	S.Rama	2	330

8 THE NORBERT POUPARD CUP

Distance: 1400 m Valeur Benchmark 31 - Time -- 16h25

1 SENTIDO	VA	9-R-9-9/8	60	R.Boutanive	2	2000
2 FLYING GEORGE	CR	0-0-10-9-7/	59.5	V.A.Bundhoo	7	2000
3 GORDONSTOUN	SN	6-R-1-9/9	59.5	D.Bheekary	6	1200
4 RUBY SPIRIT	AS	nouveau	59.5	S.Bussunt	4	500
5 ANZA-BORREGO	SPN	1-4-3-1/R	59	Y.Emamdee	1	380
6 MARK TAPLEY	VA	0-8-9-9-8/	59(-3)	A.Roy	10	2000
7 SENOR'S GUEST	GR	5-2-2-1/6	58.5	N.Juglall	3	480
8 SILVER HERITAGE	RM	3-1-2-6/5	58.5	S.Rama	9	800
9 ROMANUS	G	1-3-1-7/2	58	R.Joorawon	5	380
10 FLOWERSCAPE	RG	nouveau	57.5	D.David	8	700

9 THE BAISER DE PAIX PLATE

Distance: 1450 m Valeur [0-26] - Time -- 17hr00

1 DOUBLE WINNER	CR	0-0-0-0-8	61	S.Bussunt	5	2000
2 ENGAGE AND BEWARE	SJ	0-0-7-5/R	61	B.Bhaugeerothee	2	550
3 MR MOGAMBO	AS	0-0-0-5-2	61	G.D.Aucharuz	1	300
4 NAPOLI	SN	8-1-5/9-9	61	D.Bheekary	3	2000
5 VAR EXPRESS	G	0-0-0-0-4	61	R.Joorawon	7	500
6 DOUBLE GAMES	VA	0-0-0-0-6	58.5(-3)	A.Roy	9	800
7 NEW ABBEY	SH	0-0-0-0-6	58.5	K.Kalychurun	6	1600
8 STRAIGHT	CD	0-0-0-8/2	58.5	S.Rama	8	350
9 BEAR HUG	JHM	6-8-6-2/8	55.5	R.Hoolash	4	2000

SELECTIONS

1. RED INDY, MIDDLE PATH, HE'S GOT GEARS
2. DESERT THIEF, SILVER SONG, SEVENTH EXPRESS
3. TILL DAWN, WELL CONNECTED, IT DOESN'T MATTER

4. MARAUDING, DYNAMITE JACK, DIVINE CONNECTION
5. MARULA, CAPTAINOF THESEA, MONTEGO BAY
6. RED MARS, TOWER OF WISDOM, STREAM AHEAD

7. LIGHTEARTED, JOHN HANCOCK, PRINCE OF PERSIA
8. SENOR'S GUEST, RUBY SPIRIT, FLOWERSCAPE
9. VAR EXPRESS, MR MOGAMBO, NAPOLI

In a light vein

Go talk to your friend



Moral: A "space" is an essential part of English grammar.

Smart answer by a female passenger on a flight...

A guy asked a beautiful lady sitting next to him...

'Nice perfume... which one is it? I want to give it to my wife.'

Lady: 'Don't give her... some idiot will find an excuse to talk to her!'

A letter from a teacher to a parent: 'Dear Parent, Kamal doesn't smell nice in class. Please try to bathe him.'

Parent's answer: 'Dear Teacher, Kamal is not a rose, don't smell him. Teach him...'

Mother to Son: Who is Sultan Aziz?

Son: Don't know.

Mother: Devote some time to pay attention to studies also.

Son to Mother: Do you know Auntie Yasmeen?

Mother: Don't know.

Son: Sometimes pay attention to Daddy also.

A cute excuse.

Teacher: Why are you late?

Student: Mom & dad were fighting.

Teacher: So what makes you late if they were fighting?

Student: One of my shoes was in mom's hand, and the other in dad's...

Wife: I hate that beggar.

Husband: Why?

Wife: Rascal, yesterday I gave him food. Today he gave me a book on 'How to Cook'!

Husband came home drunk.

To avoid wife's scolding, he took a laptop & started working.

Wife: Did you drink?

Husband: No!

Wife: Idiot! Then why are you typing on a suitcase?

Ever since Pedro was a child, he had a fear of someone under his bed at night. So he went to a psychiatrist and told him, "I've got problems. Every time I go to bed I think there's somebody under it. I'm scared. I think I'm going crazy."

"Just put yourself in my hands for one year," said the psychiatrist. "Come talk to me three times a week and we should be able to get rid of those fears."

"How much do you charge?"

'\$200 per visit,' replied the doctor.

'I'll sleep on it and, if needed, I will come back to you,' Pedro said.

Six months later he met the psychiatrist on the street.

'Why didn't you come to see me about those fears you were having?' he asked.

'Well, \$200 a visit three times a week for a year is an awful lot of money! A friend of mine cured me for the price of one dinner and a bottle of single malt. I was so happy to have saved all that money that I went and bought myself a new SUV.'

'Is that so?' With a bit of an attitude he said, 'And how, may I ask, did the friend cure you?'

'He told me to cut off the legs of the bed. There is nobody under the bed now!'

Moral: To hell with those psychiatrists. Go talk to your friend. There is always a way to solve a difficult problem.

A female employee got an expensive pen as a gift from her boss. She sent him a 'Thank you note' by email.

Boss's wife read the email and filed for divorce. The email said: 'Your penis wonderful and I enjoyed using it last night. It has extra ordinary smooth flow and a firm stroke. I loved its perfect size and grip. Felt like I was in heaven when using it. Thanks a lot.'

Life's Lesson

The Cow and The Tiger

Once upon a time, a cow went out to graze in the jungle. Suddenly, she noticed a tiger racing towards her. She turned and fled, fearing that at any moment the tiger would sink his claws into her. The cow desperately looked for some place to escape and at last saw a shallow pond. Barely evading the tiger's reach, she jumped into the pond, and in the heat of the chase, the tiger blindly leaped after her.

To the surprise of them both, the pond was extremely shallow yet filled with deep recesses of mud. After toppling over each other, the cow and the tiger found themselves a short distance apart, stuck in the mud up to their necks. Both had their heads above water but were unable to free themselves no matter how much they writhed.

The tiger repeatedly snarled at the cow and roared, "I am going to enjoy the sound of crunching your bones between my teeth!"

He thrashed about in a fury but soon became fretful as he found no prospect of escape.

The cow thoughtfully laughed as the tiger struggled to free himself and asked him, "Do you have a master?"

The tiger disdainfully replied, "I am the king of the jungle. Why do you ask me if I have a master? I myself am the master!"

The cow said, "You may be the king of the jungle, but here all your power has failed to save your life."

"And what about you?" retorted the tiger. "You are going to die here in this mud too!"

The cow smiled mildly and said, "No, I am not."

"If even I, the king of the jungle, cannot free myself from this mud," snapped the tiger, "Then how can you, an ordinary cow?"

The cow gently replied, "I cannot free myself from this mud, but my master can. When the sun sets and he finds me absent at home, he will come looking for me. Once he finds me, he will raise me up and escort me back home."

The tiger fell silent and coldly glared at the cow.

Soon enough, the sun set, and the cow's master arrived. He immediately recognised the plight she was in and lifted her to safety. As they walked home, the cow and the master both felt renewed gratitude for one another and pitied the tiger they both would have been happy to save if only the tiger had allowed them.

Purport: The cow represents a surrendered soul, the tiger represents a proud person, and the master represents Almighty God who is known as the loving protector of the cows and the world. The mud represents the material world, and the chase represents the struggle for existence therein.

Surrendered souls rely upon the Lord rather than themselves for all the necessities of life. No matter how many troubles appear to be created by the proud persons of the world who reject the guardianship of the Lord out of the false ego of considering themselves capable of fending for themselves, the surrendered souls know that everything is really in the hands of the Lord, the all-loving. They are fully confident in His protection, though they know sometimes they just need to wait a little while until sundown.



Eating healthy and wise over 50

Vitamin essentials as we age



By John Donovan

How Vitamins Can Help

Older adults have different needs when it comes to vitamins and minerals. For example, the right amount of calcium can help fend off osteoporosis in women. Vitamin D, which helps your body take in and use calcium, also helps prevent bone loss and broken bones in older adults.

It's sometimes hard to know exactly what you need. But if you have a balanced diet, you're probably doing OK. If you're still concerned, Robin Foroutan, a nutritionist from New York, suggests you ask your doctor if supplements might help.

Before you head to the store, though, it's important to know the term "supplements" includes not only vitamins and minerals, but also herbs and other botanicals, amino acids, enzymes, and other things. Some are so-called specialty products like probiotics or fish oils.

Before you take anything, talk with your doctor and read labels.

What Might I Need?

You can find these in foods or on the supplement aisle:

Calcium. "There really should be no reason that people should be calcium deficient," says Angel Planells, a dietitian from Seattle. Known for the role it plays in making your bones stronger, calcium is found in dairy products like milk and yogurt. Women -- especially those who are likely to have osteoporosis -- may think about taking calcium supplements. But talk to your doctor first.

Vitamin D. This nutrient, made by the body from sunshine, helps you take in calcium and phosphorus, so it's key for healthy bones and teeth. Older adults don't make it as well, so supplements can help make you less likely to have bone loss and broken bones.

Vitamin B12. This is important for keeping blood cells and nerve cells healthy. Aging affects how well you take in and use B12 from foods, so if you're over 50, it's probably best to get your B12 from supplements and B12-fortified foods like cereals, as well as foods that are rich in it, like meat, low-fat dairy, and fish.

Folate. This helps prevent anemia. Spinach, beans, peas, oranges, fortified cereals, and enriched breads can have it.

B6. This helps your metabolism and immune system. You can get it in fortified cereals and soy products, as well as organ meats and whole grains.

Your body also needs these:

Vitamin C. Oranges, right? (And red and green bell peppers, along with other vegetables and fruits.) It may help protect you from cataracts, help wound healing, and possibly lower your odds of having certain kinds of cancer.

Magnesium. Among other things, it helps keep your blood pressure and blood sugar levels steady. It's also good for your bones. You can get it from nuts, spinach, and dairy products, and it's used to fortify some breakfast cereals. Experts aren't sure how



well it works as a supplement.

And here are some popular items you can find in the supplements aisle that you might talk with your doctor about:

Probiotics. Gut health is also very important for your immune system. Some studies show that probiotics -- living organisms like those found in yogurt -- help prevent some types of diarrhea and ease symptoms of irritable bowel syndrome.

Coenzyme Q10. Also called coQ10, this is made naturally in your body and found in most body tissues. It may help your immune system work better.

Melatonin. A hormone released mostly at night, it's believed to help you fall asleep. The science on it is promising.

Fish oil. The American Heart Association recommends at least two servings a week of salmon and other types of fish with omega-3 fatty acids. In supplement form, though, no studies have shown that it protects against heart disease. Omega-3s also may help with symptoms of rheumatoid arthritis.

WebMD Feature

NOTICE FOR PERMISSION FOR LAND USE

Take notice that I **RAJENDRA KOOMAR WOODUN** will apply to the Municipal Council of Vacoas/Phoenix for a Building and Land Use Permit for proposed development & placement of a Container at Carreau Laliene Vacoas, to be used as store - motor vehicles and tyres.

Any person feeling aggrieved by the proposal may lodge an objection in writing to abovenamed Council within 15 days as from the date of this publication.

22 July 2020

SOCIETE R. CHUNDUNSING & FILS RADHAYSING LTD



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The best way to get the vitamins, minerals, and other nutrients you need isn't with a shopping spree at your local drugstore. It's from food.

A good, balanced eating plan -- filled with fruits and vegetables, low-fat dairy, lots of fluids, healthier oils, good proteins, and whole grains -- should do the trick.

Still, many older adults have a hard time sticking to a healthy diet. There could be many reasons, like:

- Lack of appetite
- Trouble chewing
- Fixed budgets
- Trouble finding healthy foods

Add in that your body doesn't work quite as well as it used to, and climbing Mount Nutrition can be tough.

Supplements might be an option. As part of a plan you and your doctor make, they can do just what their name says -- fill in the gaps in your diet.

But they aren't always the answer. Take vitamin A -- important for healthy eyes, skin, and immune system.

"Vitamin A is somewhat of a controversial vitamin because you can get toxic from it," says Ronni Chernoff, PhD, associate director of the Arkansas Geriatric Education Collaborative.

Too much of it can cause nausea, headaches, dizziness, and other symptoms. She adds that older people are more likely to have those when they take too much because their bodies don't deal with the vitamin as well.

"If you take a vitamin that is designed to be a once-a-day supplement, that's OK," Chernoff says. "But you don't want to take five of them a day."

After talking with your doctor, if you decide you need a multivitamin, get a complete supplement, one that provides 100% of the recommended amounts of vitamins and minerals. Take extra care when you:

- Take more than one supplement
- Use a supplement in place of medication
- Take them along with over-the-counter or prescription drugs

"You want to make sure your left hand knows what your right hand is doing," says Joan Salge Blake, EdD, clinical associate professor of nutrition at Boston University.

Hungama 2: Priyadarshan reveals the reason why Meezaan, Shilpa Shetty and Paresh Rawal will resume shoot in September

Meezaan, Paresh Rawal and Shilpa Shetty starrer Hungama 2 marks the directorial comeback of Priyadarshan after 7 long years. The filmmaker is known for delivering hits like Hera Pheri, Hungama, Hulchul, Malamaal Weekly and others.

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, we saw the shooting of many films got cancelled the entertainment industry got standstill. Now as the unlock phase has begun across the country, we saw producers of TV serials have started the shooting of fresh episodes. On the other hand, the filmmakers are still waiting for the normalcy to return so that they can resume their project. And among these films, we have Meezaan, Shilpa Shetty, Paresh Rawal and Pranitha Subhash starrer *Hungama 2*, where the director is forced to resume the shoot of his comic caper by September as the film also stars four child artistes aged between 8 to 11 in pivotal roles.

In the period of four months of lockdown, the height of these kids have increased and director Priyadarshan is quite scared that the physical change of these kids will hamper the continuity of the film and that's why the filmmaker has decided to resume the shoot by September. Talking to Bollywood Hungama, Priyadarshan said, "At this age, children grow up rapidly; there are changes in facial structure and height. While the physical changes that have happened in the past four months will not make a huge difference on screen, it will be difficult [to retain continuity] if we have to wait for some more months. Fortunately, only a song has to be shot with them." He further



said, "Thankfully, we had completed filming the baby's portions in Ooty in March. The four children will be required only for four days on the set."

Producer of the film assured that the shooting will be done following all safety precautions as he said, "The songs and sequences require us to film on the streets of Kullu and Manali. Considering an outdoor schedule is not possible during the monsoon, we are likely to resume work from September 15."

Christopher Nolan's Tenet starring Robert Pattinson and Dimple Kapadia delayed indefinitely due to rising cases of COVID-19

Christopher Nolan's Tenet stars John David Washington, Robert Pattinson, Elizabeth Debicki, Dimple Kapadia, Michael Caine and Kenneth Branagh to name a few

Christopher Nolan's next, *Tenet* is one of the most anticipated films of 2020. The spy thriller was supposed to have an August 2020 release but given the spike in the cases of COVID-19, the makers have decided to shift the release. However, no new date has been announced. Warner Bros. Studios on Monday said in a statement that given the pandemic situation they are reevaluating the release date. "Unfortunately, the pandemic continues to proliferate, causing us to reevaluate our release dates," the Warner Bros Pictures Group chairman Toby Emmerich said in a statement. "We will share a new 2020 release date imminently for *Tenet*," he went on to add.

Tenet would have been one of the biggest releases in the theatres post the lockdown and March releases. Now, as the situation grows graver, it is likely that the shoots and the release of films will be delayed. This is not the first time that the release of *Tenet* has been delayed. Christopher Nolan's spy thriller was earlier scheduled to release on 17 July. It was then pushed to 31st July and ultimately in August.

Given the pandemic, everything had been shut down. A lockdown was imposed in almost



every country that shut shops for theatres and other social meet-n-greet facilities across the globe. It has affected their business terribly. Thousands of employees have been relieved of their duties since the lockdown. Nationwide chains of AMC Entertainment, Cinemark and Cineworld's Regal Cinemas were scheduled to resume screening movies and back in business from 31st July. However, given the spike in the cases, that looks a little doubtful.

YOUR STARS

Sagittarius: Nov 22 - Dec 21

Your new fighting attitude will enable you to surpass yourself and to succeed where so many others have failed before. You should give up your too rich diet, a sure cause of cardiovascular diseases. On the sentimental side, you'll want to satisfy your essential need for independence.

Lucky Numbers: 1, 9, 16, 24, 31, 32

Capricorn: Dec 22 - Jan 19

Heartwise there'll be many joyful events: meetings, love at first sight, etc. Your relations with your family will be very tense, but there'll be a possibility of quick reconciliation. Beware of absent-mindedness, which could entail annoying consequences during this week.

Lucky Numbers: 3, 9, 12, 16, 20, 33

Aquarius: Jan 20 - Feb 18

Avoid mixing your professional and private life: don't let your emotional troubles prevent you from working correctly. Many positive influxes for the improvement of your relations with your partner; prove your affection to him/her.

Lucky Numbers: 12, 16, 20, 25, 28, 30

Pisces: Feb 19 - Mar 20

This week will be very propitious to impulsiveness: control yourself. You'll have a difficult time bridling your imagination; try to be a little more realistic, to keep your feet more on the ground, otherwise you'll become the object of criticisms which will deeply hurt you.

Lucky Numbers: 20, 23, 26, 32, 39, 40

Aries: Mar 21 - Apr 19

Risk of sentimental instability: your relationships will prove complicated or stormy. Also take into account the necessity of re-establishing order in your finances and ensuring your material future. Be very careful in your gestures, because there'll be an imminent risk of accident or fall.

Lucky Numbers: 1, 9, 12, 17, 36, 38

Taurus: Apr 20 - May 20

Increased luck in gambling, excellent initiatives in various financial transactions. You'll manage to settle a litigious matter definitely. Your activities will be intensive and take up all your time; an overflowing energy will stimulate you.

Lucky Numbers: 2, 9, 14, 18, 20, 30

Gemini: May 21 - June 20

You'll strongly assert yourself in your love life; if you're still single, you'll bravely take off to conquer hearts. It'll be the moment to work in double quick time: you'll have the opportunity of making considerable progress.

Lucky Numbers: 3, 14, 18, 21, 33, 36

Cancer: June 21 - July 22

In your work, be vigilant and don't underestimate your competitors' or challengers' capacities. Concerning food, you'll not be ready to be more reasonable; however, problems are ahead if you don't practice moderation.

Lucky Numbers: 5, 8, 11, 13, 14, 20

Leo: July 23 - Aug 22

On the financial front, you could have difficult moments; but you'll manage to get out of this situation anyway. The freedom that you value above all will force you to make not very easy choices. You're an incurable romantic; so this time it will be up to you to make ardent declarations.

Lucky Numbers: 3, 15, 17, 22, 33, 36

Virgo: Aug 23 - Sept 22

Your life as a couple will be very pleasant if you pay attention to your remarks. You'll show much sympathy and kindness to people around you. It'll be stronger than you: you won't be able to resist the pleasure of buying everything that you like.

Lucky Numbers: 7, 8, 14, 24, 26, 31

Libra: Sept 23 - Oct 22

Your relations with the man/woman of your life will be chaotic because of your fluctuating mood. To recover a good physical and emotional balance, you'll have to lead a calm and regular life. You'll also need security and stability in your family life.

Lucky Numbers: 3, 7, 21, 25, 28, 31

Scorpion: 23 Oct - 21 Nov

An encounter taking place in a completely unexpected way may turn out to be interesting for single people. Beware of imprudent initiatives on the material plane; you will lack patience and discernment in this domain.

Lucky Numbers: 11, 18, 20, 30, 35, 39

Dr Rohit Sippy of 'Kahaan Hum Kahan Tum' is very old school when it comes to love: Karan V Grover



reactions and expressions and luckily get all the compliments. So everything about Rohit Sippy belongs to Sandeep.

You have had a successful career. What are the factors that you look into when you choose a role?

Firstly the team (the makers) that is making the project and their vision matters the most. Secondly, my role in terms of drama and fun should be good. At the end of the day, family should enjoy watching my work.

You look at your best in body. What's the secret behind this?

Sleep well and watch what you eat (smiles).

Are you in any way similar to Rohit Sippy?

I share his discomfort around dogs and his dislike for stupidity and tardiness.

We feel you are a very under-rated actor. What do you have to say about it.

You are very kind (folded hands). I cannot control how others rate me - under or over I don't understand. I am just happy I get to do the work I enjoy, and more importantly others enjoy watching.

What according to you is the strength in the acting acumen that you have?

Imagination I guess would be my strength. There's nothing better than just sitting in a string of imaginary thoughts.

You are effortless in your acting, whatever role it may be. How will you explain this?

Practice makes you effortless in whatever you choose to do. Practice and expose yourself to all forms of story telling. I would highly recommend it.

How is Dipika Kakar as a co-actor?

Wonderfully positive and involved. She not only adds grace to her part but also is so concerned with what others are doing. Her considerate approach and thoughtfulness shows in her being every day.

Have you had any regrets in your acting career?

Nope. Not yet.

Karan V Grover, do you think any kind of role has still eluded you?

Every role is eluding when you begin. Then you start wrapping your mind around it. Plus with the help of the right team our job becomes easier and doable.

But I once played a drug addict Rockstar and that did almost push me towards a smoking addiction, but I managed to not get hooked on. PS. - I don't smoke.

Do you have a dream role that you long to play?

A superhero like Superman / Batman.

You have worked on the web platform too. How different are TV and web for an actor.

Well the difference is only in the time you get to shoot. Web has lesser episodes over a longer period of time, like we may shoot 10 episodes over 30-40 days where in TV you would shoot almost 25 episodes in that much time.

As an actor all other parameters remain the same. Involvement, commitment and dedication, passion or preparation and work ethics don't change as per mediums.

Karan has had a long acting career in which he has portrayed characters that have been challenging. His suave look and effortless display has left everyone spellbound. He has made every role that he has played his own with flawless energy and zeal.

Karan V Grover who debuted in *Saarrthi* has been part of shows *Woh Rehne Wali Mehlon Ki*, *Hum Aapke Hain In Laws*, *Punar Vivah - Ek Nayi Umeed*, *Bahu Hamari Rajni Kant*. Now he is seen playing the role of a renowned doctor Rohit Sippy who has his own uncanny ways of being sarcastic and nosy about things that he dislikes in the Star Plus show *Kahaan Hum Kahaan Tum*.

In an exclusive interview with IWMBuzz.com, Karan V Grover gets talking about his role in the Sandeep Sikkand show *Kahaan Hum Kahaan Tum*, on his long career and the roles that he will like to play.

Welcome back to the world of TV. What prompted you to take this role of Dr Rohit Sippy in *Kahaan Hum Kahaan Tum*?

The fun and intense combination of Rohit Sippy was reason enough for me to take it up. How logically he tries to decode things and how sometimes he is proven wrong by Sonakshi's (Dipika Kakar) romanticism is quite interesting. Also he has extreme sides to himself especially towards his family.

***Kahan Hum Kahan Tum* - what do you have to say about the concept?**

I think it is a concept with never ending potential. It is not only unseen and new but also fun and dramatic at the same time.

How would you term Rohit Sippy as a character?

He is not a simple, only positive, all heroic character. He is specific and also difficult to be with. He has his shades of good and definitely a lot of shades of disappointment and arrogance. He has a superiority complex which makes him look down upon a lot of things. He looks at things from a logical progressive perspective but when it comes to love he is very old school.

We love him for his wacky nature and his unpredictable light-hearted reactions to situations. How easy or tough is it to bring this out, that too in a doctor's character.

To be honest Sandeep Sikkand has been so clear and specific with regards to how he wants Rohit Sippy to approach situations that I sometimes just copy his

TV SERIAL

Kulfi Kumar Bajewala

Friday 24 July: Kulfi and the other children dress up as Gods while Mahinder is concerned about Sikander. Meanwhile, Loveleen learns of a possible way to escape prison.

Monday 27 July: Sikander panics at the restaurant after losing all his money. Later, he creates Lord Ganesha's idol while Loveleen has a tough time in prison.

Tuesday 28 July: Kulfi wholeheartedly prays to Lord Ganesha asking Him to solve Sikander's financial woes. Later, Sikander learns a shocking truth when he meets his new boss.

Wednesday 29 July: Kulfi is shocked to spot Amyra with some unusual people while Loveleen and her friends create a bomb in jail. Later, Kulfi catches Amyra doing the unthinkable.

Thursday 30 July: Amyra is petrified as Kulfi gets cornered by a gang of thugs. Elsewhere, Sikander is shattered while the police suspect Loveleen's intentions.

Yeh Un Dinon Ki Baat Hai

Friday 24 July: Naina angrily arrives with her bags packed and asks her father to pack bags as well. She decides to return Ahmedabad along with her father. And in that time, Sameer arrives and tries convincing Naina to not to leave him alone.

Monday 27 July: Naina happens to see the marriage certificate of Aditya and Tanvi. Sameer tells her the truth about it. Naina is disappointed and explains Sameer that he should have told her before.

Tuesday 28 July: Aruna calls up Naina and tells her that she wants to watch the first episode of their TV serial with her. She also tells her to bring Sameer. Hearing this Naina gets tense because she has already promised her neighbors that she will watch the first episode with them.

Wednesday 29 July: All the society members, Aruna, Sameer and Naina are gathered in the common room where they plan to watch their first episode on the TV together.

Thursday 30 July: After Tanvi's mother gets hold of the court marriage letter, she goes to the house, slaps Tanvi and creates a ruckus out of the topic.

Kahan Hum Kahan Tum

Friday 24 July: Ajit spots a delusional Sonakshi outside his house. Later, Rohit is puzzled by his family's odd behaviour while Ajit puts him in an awkward situation.

Monday 27 July: Suman is shocked to see Veena at her doorstep while Rohit puts forth a shocking request to Sonakshi. Later, Raima's vitals show improvement.

Tuesday 28 July: Raima's sister decides to take her to Chandigarh. Later, Rohit struggles to find a chance to speak to Sonakshi amidst the Teejri celebrations.

Wednesday 29 July: While trying to convince Sonakshi to attend a party, Rohit gets stuck in the ladies washroom. Later, Suman is irked at the growing closeness of the Rastogi girls with the Sippy boys.

Thursday 30 July: Rohit helps Sonakshi to get ready for the Teejri function while Veena asks them to perform the ritual. Later, the Sippys are in for a big shock.

CINE 12

Vendredi 24 juillet - 21.15

The Karate Kid 2

Avec: Pat Morita, Ralph Macchio, Pat E. Johnson


CINE 12

Samedi 25 juillet - 21.15

Manchester By The Sea

Avec: Casey Affleck, Michelle Williams, Kyle Chandler


mhc 1

Dimanche 26 juillet - 21.10



vendredi 24 juillet	MBC 1	MBC 2	MBC 3	Cine 12	Bollywood TV
	07.10 Local: Passerelles 09.45 Local: Arsiv 266 10.20 Local: Portrait D'artiste 10.35 Local: Saver KilTirel 12.00 Le Journal 12.25 Doc: Autour Des Valeurs 12.35 Mag: Eye On SADC 14.00 Local: Rodrig Prog 14.41 D.Anime: Le Quiz De Zack 14.45 D.Anime: Vitaminix 14.47 D.Anime: Chuck's Choice 16.11 D.Anime: Roger 16.41 D.Anime: Delilah Et Julius 17.05 D.Aimes: Mega Man 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.30 Serial: Siya Ke Ram 19.30 Journal & La Meteo 20.00 Prod: Goute A Tout 20.35 Prod: Komiko 22.20 Serial: The Blacklist 23.00 Le Journal	10.00 Serial: Tumhaari Natsaha 11.17 Serial: Tum Mere Paas Raho 12.04 Film: Nastik Starring: Amitabh Bachchan, Hema Malini, Pran 14.37 DDI Magazine 15.00 Mag: Strictly Street 15.25 Serial: Honaar Soon Mee 15.50 Serial: Mooga Manasulu 16.20 Serial: Apoorva Raagangal 17.11 Mehendi Tohra Naam Ke 17.03 Serial: Ki Jaana Mein Kaun 17.30 Serial: Gangaa 18.00 Serial: Dr. Quin 18.30 Local: Yaadein 19.00 DDI Magazine 20.15 Serial: Tawaan 20.44 Local: Anjuman 21.10 Local: Noor-E-Iman 22.10 DDI Live	06.00 Mag: Eco India 06.44 Mag: Shift 07.00 Mag: Border Crossing 07.29 Mag: Tomorrow Today 07.55 Doc: Comme Un Poisson... 09.00 Doc: 360 GEO 09.54 Doc: No-Holds-Barred 11.33 Mag: Urban Gardens 11.44 Mag: Shift 12.02 Mag: Border Crossing 12.27 Doc: A Question Of Science 12.56 Doc: Comme Un Poisson... 15.01 Doc: No-Holds-Barred 15.27 Doc: The Death Train To... 16.38 Mag: Urban Gardens 17.12 Mag: Border Crossing 17.42 Doc: A Question Of Science 18.42 Mag: Urban Gardens 18.30 Live: News 18.47 Mag: Arts And Culture 19.00 Student Support Prog...	01.31 Film: Exit Speed 03.02 Serial: Chicago Med 05.12 Tele: Totalement Diva 06.14 Tele: Esmeraldas 06.49 Film: The Walk 09.45 Tele: Au Nom De L'Amour 10.10 Tele: Mariana Et Scarlett 10.35 Serial: Chicago Med 11.22 Tele: Dulce Amor 12.00 Serial: Island Doctor 13.33 Tele: Totalement Diva 14.45 Film: The Walk 16.40 Serial: NCIS 17.24 Tele: Esmeraldas 18.07 Tele: Au Nom De L'Amour 19.10 Tele: Dulce Amor 20.05 Tele: Le Prix Du Désir 20.30 Serial: Emerald City 21.15 Film: The Karate Kid 2 23.17 Tele: Totalement Diva	08.00 Film: Toonpur Ka Superhero 12.05 / 19.54 - Kahan Hum Kahan Tuam 12.16 / 20.11 - Kullfi Kumarr Bajewala 12.55 / 20.32 Radha Krishna 13.18 / 21.09 - Bin Kuch Kahe 13.40 / 21.24 - Zindagi Ki Mehek 14.02 / 21.46 - Bade Acche Lagte Hai 14.24 / 21.59 - Chhanchhan 14.45 / 22.25 - Bitti Business... 15.40 Film: Tell Me O Kkhudda Starring: Esha Deol, Arjan Bajwa, Sudhanshu Pandey 17.30 Yeh Hai Mohabbatein 18.00 Live: Samacher 18.30 Kumkum Bhagya 18.51 Piya Albela 19.14 Mere Angne Mein
	06.00 D.Anime: Robot Trains 07.25 D.Anime: Kid-E-Cats 08.45 D.Anime: The Garfield Show 12.00 Le Journal 12.25 Local: People 12.35 Mag: Garden Party 14.15 Local: Itinerer Moris 14.30 D.Anime: Nos Voisins Les... 14.41 D.Anime: Le Quiz De Zack 14.45 D.Anime: Vitaminix 14.47 D.Anime: Chuck's Choice 14.59 D.Anime: MIA 16.10 D.Anime: Roger 16.45 D.Anime: Delilah Et Julius 17.30 Serial: You And Me 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.35 Entertain: Nach Baliye 19.30 Journal & La Meteo 20.00 Prod: Lottotech 21.05 Film: The Hit List 22.40 Mag: Hollywood On Set	10.00 Bade Acchelagte Hai 12.00 Serial: Mooga Manasulu 12.30 Serial: Brundavanam 13.00 Annakodiyum Ainthus Pengalum 13.30 Serial: Anu Pallavi 14.00 Serial: Nanda Saukhya Bhare 15.00 Mag: Strictly Street 15.30 Film: Ramji Londonwale Starring: R. Madhavan 18.00 Mag: DDI Magazine 19.00 Zournal Kreol 20.05 Serial: Vikram Betaal Ki Rahasya Gatha 20.28 Serial: Bitti Business Wali 21.00 Film: Paltan Starring Jackie Shroff, Arjun Rampal, Sonu Sood 23.42 DDI Live	06.00 Doc: Bauhas World 06.42 Mag: Urban Gardens 06.47 Mag: Arts And Culture 07.27 Doc: A Question Of Science 08.50 Doc: World Stamps 08.57 Doc: Les Dessins De Christ... 10.31 Doc: Ringing in The Future 11.59 Mag: Urban Gardens 12.50 Mag: Euromaxx 15.03 Doc: The Volcano That... 15.55 Open Univ: Student Support 18.30 Live: News (English) 18.45 Mag: Shift 19.00 Doc: Olivia's Garden 19.30 Mag: Mixeur, Les Goût... 19.56 Doc: Japan 2020 20.57 Doc: World Stamps 20.58 Doc: 360 GEO 21.50 Doc: After Ice What Will... 22.35 Doc: The Secret Of Home... 23.25 Doc: Horizon	01.12 Film: The Karate Kid 2 02.50 Serial: Chicago Fire 03.29 Serial: Island Doctor 04.58 Tele: Destiny 06.06 Serial: Emerald City 06.30 Film: The Walk 08.30 Serial: Mike Hammer 09.18 Serial: Brooklyn Nine Nine 09.59 Serial: Counterpart 10.52 Film: Flower Shop Mystery 12.18 Serial: Chicago Fire 13.03 Tele: L'esclave Blanche 13.48 Tele: Premiere Dame 15.05 Serial: Chicago Med 17.00 Serial: The Magicians 17.09 Serial: Emerald City 17.51 Film: Victor Et Le Manoir Aux Secrets 20.05 Tele: Le Prix Du Désir 20.30 Series: Emerald City 21.15 Film: Manchester By The Sea 23.26 Tele: Eva Luna	04.05 Kahan Hum Kahan Tum 04.26 Kullfi Kumarr Bajewala 04.43 Radha Krishna 05.05 Zindagi Ki Mehek 05.27 Bade Acche Lagte Hai 05.47 Chhanchhan 06.14 Bitti Business 06.29 Kumkum Bhagya 06.50 Piya Albela 07.12 Mere Angne Mein 08.00 Zindagi Ki Mehek 09.56 Yeh Un Dinon Ki Baat Hai 14.02 Bin Kuch Kahe 16.00 Pavitra Rishta 18.30 Film: Doli Saja Ke Rakhna Starring Akshaye Khanna, Jyothika 21.16 Serial: Siya Ke Ram 22.05 Serial: Naagin Season 2 22.43 Serial: Zindagi Ki Mehek

samedi 25 juillet

dimanche 26 juillet

BTV

Samedi 25 juillet - 18.30

Stars: Akshaye Khanna, Jyothika

mhc 2

Samedi 25 juillet - 21.00

Stars: Jackie Shroff, Arjun Rampal, Sonu Sood





Nita Chicooree-Mercier

Preserving Our Language Diversity

The point really is about creating an awareness of the language issue in Mauritius and a will to set things right or let one's linguistic legacy slip into irrelevance

Early morning conversations in Bhojpuri just like MBC radio programmes in Hindi are natural features of the linguistic landscape of many people in Mauritius. Folks converse naturally in their mother tongue after they greet one another with 'Namaste' in the streets and shops. Female scavengers clad in orange outfit sweeping the streets and occasionally, pausing for a short chat with other women passing by: 'Kaise hawan, kahan jatawa', followed by inquiries about relatives, are bits and pieces of conversations you hear as you step out of your yard and greet the cleaning agents. Hardware store owners and vendors easily switch from Creole to Bhojpuri in addressing customers of Indian origin. Now with quite a number of Bangladeshi workers in shops and construction businesses, Hindi is being frequently used.

Unless you take things for granted, you can't help being amazed at the ease of our compatriots in handling several languages and adapting to circumstances and people without feeling inhibited or whatever. Bhojpuri is spoken by several ethnic groups among Indo-Mauritians. Marathis and Gujaratis, who live among Bhojpuri-speaking folks, assimilate the language over the years. Strangely, a few Tamilians seem reluctant to converse in *Calcuttea* even when they understand it. Speakers of Bhojpuri in the villages hail mainly from Hindu and Muslim groups, a cultural feature reminiscent of a common Bihari origin.

It is heartening to hear Muslim hardware store owners greeting people with *Salaam Alaikum* or *Namaste* right in the centre of a tourist resort of Grand Bay, and carry on in Bhojpuri with regular customers from the neighbourhood. Modern infrastructure in high-end architectural designs, glitzy shops and expensive brands nearby have literally metamorphosed the once small fishing village, but it has kept a sense of authenticity in the use of language and the way folks relate to one another. Similarly, a lively atmosphere of conversations in Bhojpuri marks early morning hustle and bustle in shops owned by Hindus in the coastal region and nearby villages. The three or four vegetable vendors squatting on the pavement across the supermarket at Triolet speak to one another in Bhojpuri.

'Leghe, Didi', is a straightforward marketing strategy of the woman in her mid-forties trying to get you to buy potatoes, chilies, tomatoes, onions and all. Hard times prompt two or three younger vendors in their twenties to sell their stuff along with others. They, too, are fluent in Bhojpuri and switch to Creole when necessary. An over 80-year-old man used to sit on a stool and sell flip-flops and such like items. He enjoys speaking Hindi and English as well, treasures that everyday communication tends to relegate to the background.

Aslam, his octogenarian companion, used



Preserving Our Language Diversity. Photo - images.indianexpress.com

“Languages are living entities which form part of the identity of people hailing from the same ethno-cultural background. They give a sense of civilisational continuity to different groups of people. It is common belief that loss of language is equated to loss of soul. The daily use of one's language is different from only understanding it and giving it the backseat. A few politicians in the former governmental team addressed audiences in Bhojpuri in villages despite the communication gap with media reporters. It was a laudable initiative. Adaptation to languages cannot be a one-way effort towards Creole and European languages...”

to squat or sit on a small bench next to him sometimes. He was a well-known carpenter in the village, and had one of those faces, with bright eyes and a friendly smile, which old age does not devastate and is easily recognized by village dwellers. Both elderly men have plenty of anecdotes to tell anyone who cares to stop and chat. Aslam passed away last year, the old man tells you when you inquire about the absence of his companion. Better spend a few hours on the pavement and sell stuff than stay at home, he added, and kept on as a street vendor until recently. He is getting tired now, the vendor in his fifties says.

Another woman in her sixties dressed in white with a white *horni* over her head is addressed to as *Kala*; she sells mostly fruits and vegetables from her garden. By 5 p.m., she often gets rid of her tasty bananas for two rupees each. Like the others, she converses in Bhojpuri, but is very quiet, has a melancholic look about her and rarely smiles. Like fellow vendors, she replies in Bhojpuri or Creole, depending on how you address her. On Fridays, sometimes her husband, as quiet as her, joins her to sell biryani. *Didi, Beti, Chachi, Kala, Bhai* are common polite forms in daily interactions. *Kya bechatawa, niman legim ha, kitna ha, bola na, konchi le ba* and so on are common phrases you hear and make it a point to use because it is part and parcel of your cultural legacy.

While Bhojpuri is common practice on market days, it is discreetly used in supermarkets. Otherwise, roadside conversations between people from various professional and social backgrounds are also carried out in Bhojpuri. Undeniably, quite a number of Hindu and Muslim households in Triolet, Fond du Sac, Pointe aux Piments, Calebasses, Piton, Montagne Longue and surely in other places too have remained 100% Bhojpuriphone. Relatives from the US or England on holidays here naturally resort to their mother tongue.

However, for more than two decades now, daily interactions among the younger generation and a big chunk of the Indo-Mauritian population is mainly in Creole. A 7-year-old boy in Grand-Bay whose first language is Bhojpuri, which he picked up from his *Nani*, was regularly mocked at when he spoke Bhojpuri with his Hindu school pals at school until he refrained from using the language. An example which speaks volumes about prevailing attitudes towards Indian languages in general. Let alone the use of *Namaste* when greeting citizens of Indian origin.

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The point really is about creating an awareness of the language issue in Mauritius and a will to set things right or let one's linguistic legacy slip into irrelevance. An awareness-raising campaign on the importance of keeping languages alive and a right language policy in public services, administration and social interactions must be given a new drive. From being multilinguals to a gradual sinking into monolingualism is far from being a bright prospect for society at large. It is a key issue that should draw the attention of not only cultural and religious associations but all citizens who express concern over the declining practice of Indian languages.

Rays of hope

* Cont. from page 3

The various research scientists working in research laboratories across the world are using a wide range of innovative pathways to find an efficient vaccine as early as possible as well as potent treatments to help Covid-19 patients recover.

In the absence of a proven coronavirus vaccine, the effective treatment of Covid-19 patients remains a priority. A University of Southampton related company Synairgen which had previously developed an inhaled form of interferon beta-1a as a therapy for patients with asthma and chronic obstructive airways disease announced this week that a small clinical trial of inhaled interferon beta-1a has shown that this treatment may be effective in patients in hospital with Covid-19. Interferon beta-1a is a substance that the body produces naturally as part of its immune response to viral infections.

Controlled clinical trials involved 101 patients across nine hospital sites in the UK. Data showed that inhaled treatment of interferon beta-1a significantly reduced the risk of developing severe disease during the treatment period by 79%. Patients treated with interferon beta-1a were also more than twice as likely to recover. The controlled trials will have to be validated through a much larger number and range of patients before seeking approval as an accepted treatment for Covid-19.

Putting people first

The world and the caucus of nations cannot risk taking rash decisions which would fuel the spread of the virus and hike the death toll rather than rigorously contain it in the present dire state of the Covid-19 pandemic in the world. Major developments in scientific research provide potent hopes that efficient treatments and vaccines are on track and could be available sooner than expected. As expected, the hugely lucrative business that such discoveries and therapies represent is already breeding cupidity when the world's common purpose should be to unite as one to above all ensure that protecting people from Covid-19, saving lives and stemming Covid-19 across the world rather than the pursuit of Mammon is the priority of the moment of mankind.

Mrinal Roy