

MAURITIUS TIMES

"If you really want to do something, you'll find a way. If you don't, you'll find an excuse." -- Jim Rohn

Combat contre la fraude et la corruption



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India and Mauritius

The inauguration of the new Supreme Court building the Prime Ministers Pravind Jugnauth and Narendra Modi during a virtual event yesterday is yet another milestone in the long list of cooperation between our two countries. The relations between India and Mauritius date back to 1730, when the first Indians came from Pondicherry to work in the island. It was the recruitment of Indians to work in the sugarcane industry as part of the 'Great Experiment' which saw the first batch of Indentured Labour arriving on November 2nd 1834 that subsequently resulted in the bulk of the island being populated by the descendants of these hard workers.

It was but natural therefore that our two countries developed close, strong and cordial ties based on shared culture and values. These were further enriched by the inputs from the colonizing powers, France and England, and from the diaspora of African and Chinese origin, with whose countries similar strong ties evolved along with newer links with countries such as Russia and others in Europe, as well as the Middle Eastern ones.

It would be no exaggeration to say that other than the two colonial powers, it is India which has emerged as the biggest development partner of Mauritius. The new Supreme Court building is one of the key projects of the special economic package of \$353 million, the other infrastructure projects that were part of the package being the Metro Express project, an ENT Hospital, a social housing project with nearly 1000 units and other healthcare projects in the pipeline. All these are a continuation of the longstanding support and collaboration between our two countries in so many other fields under the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation programme, among others.

As if this was too good to be true, other competing interests both in India in the neighbouring countries and their business partners undermined the DTA agreement that had served the two countries for so many years, such that at one time the largest FDI flows into India were from Mauritius. The result is that the DTA agreement practically does not hold anymore.

Much as this setback cast a gloom over the economic situation of the island, this is fortunately not the end of the story, for the evolving geopolitical landscape of the Indian Ocean (IO) has created new challenges - and opportunities -- for the countries in the and bordering the IO. There are good reasons which support the assessment that is now made of the IO as the region of the future: average age of people in the region's countries is under 30, compared to 38 in the US and 46 in Japan; countries bordering the IO are home to 2.5 billion people, which is one-third of the world's population; some 80% of the world's maritime oil trade flows through three narrow passages of water in the IO, and the economies of many countries in the region are expanding rapidly as investors seek new opportunities. India is one the fastest growing economies in the

world, and is considered as the one with the most potential.

Politically, the IO is becoming a pivotal zone of strategic competition between the major players in the world today. It was already facing the thrust of Chinese ambitions to upend itself as a maritime power, with a military base in Djibouti, access to the Gwadar port in Pakistan and also via agreements with Sri Lanka. China is investing hundreds of billions of dollars in infrastructure projects across the region as part of its One Belt One Road initiative. However, the forays of China in the South China seas that have rattled several neighboring countries which have claims on the islands that China has occupied militarily. Now the traditional powers - US, UK, France - have been joined by Australia and Japan to jointly face what they perceive as the threat from China in the Indian Ocean, where cooperation with India is inevitable as it is also a major player in this region's geopolitics. This goes on to explain part of India's development and security cooperation with smaller Indian Ocean island states.

Darshana M. Baruah (a nonresident scholar with the South Asia Program at the Carnegie Endowment for International, focusing on maritime security in Asia and the role of the Indian Navy in a new security architecture) has spelt out this dimension in an article originally published in South Asian Voices in January 2020: 'Islands in the Indian Ocean are located near key transit routes providing access and influence over important chokepoints and waterways, and thus, their key geographies have the potential to impact geopolitical competition. Developments in 2019 indicate that traditional powers are increasingly taking this under consideration and have made a determined effort to highlight the strategic value of these islands, be it those generally discussed such as Sri Lanka, Maldives, and Mauritius or the little-known Vanilla islands and other territories in the Western Indian Ocean. Recognizing their own significance, the island nations have been vocal in highlighting their priorities and challenges, pushing back against traditional players and actors in the region to carve out their national and strategic interests.'

She adds further, 'For the Indian Ocean's traditional powers, it is important to understand that island nations emphasizing their maritime identity underlines their willingness to break out of subregional spheres of influence and invite new actors to balance existing power dynamics in the region. Thus, historical and diaspora ties may no longer be enough to engage with island nations and traditional powers would have to take more cognizance of the interests and concerns of these islands and be creative and equitable in these partnerships.'

This is the new setting in which we as a country will have to view and weigh our relationship with India - and the other major players in the IO, but the longstanding cultural and other ties between our two countries will surely continue to be as strong.

The Conversation

We urgently need new tools to measure economic recovery after coronavirus

Economies across the world are on course to face the worst fall in GDP figures since 2008. In the UK, GDP fell by 10.4% in the first three months of 2020, and a whopping 20.4% in the month of April, the largest fall since records began in 1997. The Bank of England predicts that GDP will fall by 14% this year, probably more. The IMF has revised downward its forecast for global economic growth from -3% to -4.9% this year.

This is scary. But these GDP figures also hide the deep inequalities that our economic system produces. It confuses the growth of markets and prices with prosperity and value. It is assumed that if we make, consume and sell more things, our welfare and life quality improves. Is this true?

Governments all over the world still mostly rely on the use of GDP for economic planning and to set monetary and fiscal policy. Companies, meanwhile, use it to make investment decisions: choosing who to hire, what to build, borrowing ability, interest rates. Whatever the economy's recovery looks like - U, a V, W or Nike swoosh - GDP is the main metric that will be tracked, reported and acted on, with enormous implication for our lives.

GDP was itself borne in times of crisis, just after the First World War. Even its inventor, the progressive economist Stephen Kuznets, understood its severe limitations. When tasked with finding a way of measuring total national income, he said: "The welfare of a nation can ... scarcely be inferred from a measurement of national income". Since then, the case against GDP has been made over and over again, particularly after the 2007 financial crash, which demonstrated that macroeconomic data and models failed to reflect the reality of the economy. So why do we still use it?

An unhelpful gauge

Recessions cannot be fully captured by GDP - it understates costs on health, the environment, society, community, and trust. This tells us that economic welfare is probably much worse than it is: the models that we use systematically underestimate decreases in wealth and hide widening income disparities that fuel political resentment.

Millions of pounds has gone into research to upgrade these economic models through multiple projects, but they still seem to be failing us.

A recent poll published on behalf of Positive Money showed that 80% of people in the UK believe that health and wellbeing should be prioritised over economic growth. Just 12% opted for economic growth over health and wellbeing. Government targets should reflect this. Some are pushing to get rid of GDP altogether. What is certain is that the compounded crises we face today in health, climate and racial inequality require economic reconfiguration.

GDP is insufficient, distortive, and



requires replacement. It ignores social value and the worst tendencies our economic system has produced: inequality and the climate emergency. Because GDP ignores the depreciation of physical and environmental capital goods, we will continue running down our human and natural assets, even if GDP begins to rise.

And what about the pandemic? GDP may not have created coronavirus, but it has certainly determined our capacity to respond to it - just consider how many resources have been misdirected over the years through policies of austerity that used GDP-based metrics to justify reducing government spending.

The alternatives

So how do we measure economic recovery in a way that reflects what matters to us? There are several alternatives. The difficulty is in balancing useful but reductive simplicity versus the complicated reality of what makes a "good life". Left, liberal and right leaning organisations have all waded in with alternatives.

The main alternative approach that has emerged is to move away from a single metric to a bunch of indicators on a dashboard, such as housing, health, and the environment. This would reflect the multidimensionality of prosperity and quality of life. Examples of this include the OECD Better Life Index, UN Human Development Index and its environmentally-inclusive version, the Sustainable Development Index.

A subset of this approach are those that measure prosperity at more local levels, such as the Thriving Places Index. Another approach is to directly ask people about what matters to them. The results include the Happy Planet Index and my own department's Prosperity Index. These focus on people's wellbeing and quality of life as they see it.

Another suggestion is to use other single metrics to GDP, like the Genuine Progress Indicator. This includes financial estimates of unpaid household labour, environmental damage and income inequality.

The next step is to embed these metrics into policy, as targets. In 2019, New Zealand did so, launching its "wellbeing budgets", which include 43 indicators across 12 wellbeing areas such as housing, environment, and social connection. More countries and cities may follow their lead in their pandemic recovery, with Amsterdam leading the way.

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Dr R Neerunjun Gopee

Time to transcend the discrimination discourse

The effort of the journey can be transformative, provided one has first shed one's innate prejudices

Even as the world is caught in the grips of an unprecedented epidemic caused by the Covid-19 virus, all of a sudden it was hit by another tremor which originated in the US following the brutal killing of a Black man, George Floyd, by the police in Minneapolis. That incident led to the BLM or Black Lives Matter movement which was a spontaneous and justified protest against that and other killings of Blacks by the police that had occurred earlier. Soon street protests took place across the US followed by a global spread to some other countries in support of the US BLM. It is noteworthy that significant numbers of Whites too joined these protests, and currently in Portland, capital of the state of Oregon, it is mainly Whites who are sustaining a protest that is running into its seventh week.

It is common knowledge that the term racism essentially refers to the discrimination by Whites against coloured people. In modern times this was exacerbated by the phenomenon of slavery, whereby slaves from Africa were transported to the US and other colonies, including Mauritius, and by the system of apartheid in South Africa. In the US there were segregation laws targeting the Blacks who were the descendants of African slaves. Despite the sacrifice of people like the iconic Martin Luther King, several prominent Americans including President Barack Obama have acknowledged the persistence of what has been termed institutionalized racism in the US,

“Despite the sacrifice of people like the iconic Martin Luther King, several prominent Americans including President Barack Obama have acknowledged the persistence of what has been termed institutionalized racism in the US, which pitches Whites against Blacks. Yet science has firmly established that biologically there is no such thing as race – which is more of a cultural construct. More recently the term White Supremacy has gained currency, and a paper titled ‘What is White Supremacy’ by Elizabeth ‘Betita’ Martinez surveys the phenomenon, which also extends to Latinos like her...”



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Photo - imagez.tnz.com

which pitches Whites against Blacks. Yet science has firmly established that biologically there is no such thing as race – which is more of a cultural construct. More recently the term White Supremacy has gained currency, and a paper titled ‘What is White Supremacy’ by Elizabeth ‘Betita’ Martinez surveys the phenomenon, which also extends to Latinos like her.

There is a counterpart: the feeling of ‘reverse discrimination’, whereby Whites feel discriminated against, for example, for places in universities – and one applicant even took the matter to court some years ago. This is different from the problem of class which affects the Whites in America, explored in the book ‘White Trash: The 400-Year Untold History of Class in America’ by Nancy Isenberg. *White trash* is a slur used in American English to refer to poor white people, especially in the rural southern United States. The book is described as a ‘groundbreaking bestselling history of the class system in America’ which ‘takes on our comforting myths about equality, uncovering the crucial legacy of the ever-present, always embarrassing -- if occasionally entertaining -- poor white trash’.

Following the formal abolition of slavery in the 1830s Indian indentured labour was imported to the colonies, and they too toiled under the same conditions as the African

slaves, in what historian Hugh Tinker called *A new system of slavery* – which is also the title of his book on the subject. As the wave of decolonization swept across the world after the Second World War, each colony followed its own trajectory towards independence, which in many cases involved violence to varying degrees. Mauritius was not spared either, with communalism rearing its ugly head. For those of us of the 1940s and 1950s generations who lived through those times and were witnesses or victims, this is the last thing that we would wish that our children and grandchildren ever have to face or undergo again.

As has been increasingly realized, all forms of discrimination and exploitation – slavery and racism, communalism, sexism, paedophilia in or out of the church, sexual harassment à la Harvey Weinstein in Hollywood, the glass ceiling for women -- boil down to who is in command, that means wealth and power, especially political power. We don’t need to go into some of the sordid details of the pre-independence struggle for power in Mauritius, but suffice it to say that the political leaders realized we would swim or sink together – and we had better swim, especially in

light of the pessimistic Titmuss-Meade report that foresaw the country as a basket case in the making. The alliances and coalitions that resulted were platforms that included all communities and political persuasions and ideologies, and faced the uphill task of establishing the institutions and infrastructures that would make of the country a vibrant democracy. And we rose to be cited as a model democracy in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Every single Mauritian, indiscriminately, has equal rights to everything that makes up the welfare state model that we decided to follow, the main, fundamental ones being universal health care free at the point of delivery, the social security system that includes universal pensions and other benefits, free education to tertiary level, the system of law and justice. If there are any flaws in the system, this has got to do more with the bureaucratise that is not unique to the country, and to undercurrents of mistrust that may exist.

However, despite this democratic set-up which *all citizens* have consistently renewed in regularly held elections, certain groups periodically raise the issue of discrimination and transpose the problems of other countries or societies to the Mauritian situation which has a different developmental and cultural context altogether. Thus, disingenuous confluences are made such as trying to find similarities with the BLM, or by citing the caste system in India, or again by referring to the Dalits there. Or ranting against PM Modi and the Hindu community in general by another conflation: Hindu political leaders with the Hindu community. All communities have the same aspirations and hopes: healthy living conditions, a peaceful social atmosphere in which children will get educated and grow, decent and affordable housing, and equitable opportunities for meeting these goals.

The absurdity of trying to compare a country of 1.3 billion to a puny little island is indeed laughable, to say the least. To posit that there is institutionalized discrimination in Mauritius is to disavow the struggles led by social leaders and reformers, trade unionists and political leaders who drew inspiration from the western model of democracy that practically the whole world has tried to follow despite its imperfections – or it being the least bad of the systems of government as Winston Churchill is quoted as having said.

* Cont. on page 11



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Combat contre la fraude et la corruption

L'heure de vérité sonne pour nos institutions

Aditya Narayan

A l'approche de la date butoir du 1er octobre, quand l'Union européenne (UE) décidera si elle placera Maurice sur la liste noire des juridictions à hauts risques en matière de blanchiment d'argent et de financement du terrorisme, le Gouvernement se démène pour remédier à certaines lacunes dans nos lois et corriger certaines pratiques de gestion dans les institutions de régulation et de surveillance. Est-ce qu'il y a une réelle volonté politique de combattre la fraude, la corruption et le blanchiment d'argent ?

A voir les démarches dans plusieurs domaines (institutionnel, légal et diplomatique), il y a une certaine frénésie dans l'action pour présenter le dossier mauricien avant le rendez-vous crucial. Après le laisser-faire des deux dernières décennies, on donne l'impression qu'il y a une approche régulatoire à l'emporte-pièce pour répondre à tout ce qui est reproché à la juridiction mauricienne.

Or, il ne s'agit pas simplement de mettre un peu d'ordre là où tout va à la dérive. Il faut assumer le combat avec toute la force de la loi et de l'autorité, en mettant à profit toutes les compétences multi-disciplinaires disponibles aux fins d'investigation et toutes les ressources requises pour traquer, poursuivre et condamner les crimes à col blanc dans les secteurs financier (banques et offshore) et non-financier (immobilier, opérateurs de paris, casinos et jeux de hasard, bijouterie, etc.).

Carences stratégiques

Techniquement, il reste au pays cinq critères d'efficacité à satisfaire sur une liste de 58 critères dressée par la Groupe d'Action Financière (GAFI-FATF) de l'OCDE pour évaluer l'efficacité de notre dispositif de combat contre le blanchiment d'argent.

Est-ce que les nouvelles mesures légales qui ont été prises dans le cadre de l'Anti-Money Laundering and Combatting the Financing of Terrorism (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill 2020 (AML-CFT) convaincront l'UE de notre volonté de remédier aux carences stratégiques du dispositif contre le blanchiment d'argent ? Dans sa prise de décision, l'UE s'en tiendra-t-elle seulement à la loi AML-CFT ou s'intéressera-t-elle aussi à ce qui se passe dans le secteur financier en général en termes de mouvements de capitaux et de gouvernance ?

Récemment, des informations ont été publiées dans la presse étrangère sur des sociétés de portefeuille (*holding company*) qui ont été incorporées dans notre secteur offshore pour faire des affaires louches à travers des filiales basées en Europe. Par exemple, la compagnie Ayanda Capital Ltd, basée à Londres mais appartenant à une compagnie de portefeuille incorporée à Maurice, a eu un contrat de £252.5 millions pour approvisionner le gouvernement anglais en équipements médicaux sans appel d'offres. L'organisation *Good Law Project* demande une révision judiciaire de ce contrat alloué sous une procédure d'achat d'urgence. "This is not just about value for money, important as that is. Transparent, competitive tendering is a crucial defence against cronyism and corruption", avait commenté George Monbiot dans *The Guardian* du 15 juillet 2020.



“ Air Mauritius, sous administration volontaire depuis le 21 avril, a fait un crash financier qui était prévisible en raison de lourdes pertes liées à l'achat d'avions. Les ex-directeurs, responsables du désastre, sont partis avec des "golden handshakes" alors que beaucoup d'employés sont licenciés ou forcés à la retraite sans garantie de pension (le fonds de pension étant déficitaire). Les administrateurs nommés n'ont pas de recette magique pour redresser la compagnie. Le réunion des créanciers du 7 décembre pourrait sonner le glas de la compagnie... ”

Mise en garde du FMI

Dans son bulletin 'Corruption and Covid-19' paru le 28 juillet 2020, le Fonds monétaire international (FMI) met en garde contre les pratiques de corruption dans le contexte des mesures prises par les gouvernements. Le FMI déclare :

"First, governments around the world are playing a bigger role in the economy to combat the pandemic and provide economic lifelines to people and firms. This expanded role is crucial but it also increases opportunities for corruption. To help ensure the money and measures are helping the people who need it most, governments need timely and transparent reporting, ex-post audits and accountability procedures, and close cooperation with civil society and the private sector."

Avec raison, le FMI met l'accent sur l'exigence de transparence, les audits ex-post et le devoir de rendre compte de l'argent dépensé. Chez nous, des contrats

“ Il ne suffit pas de remplacer les membres des conseils d'administration des sociétés du SBM Group par d'autres; encore faut-il poursuivre tous ceux qui ont pêché par négligence ou complicité pour manquement au devoir professionnel. Les actionnaires auraient pu intenter un procès en Cour sous l'article 160 de la loi sur les compagnies pour les tenir responsables. Ils ne l'ont pas fait.

Au contraire, les ex-membres des conseils d'administration ont été mutés dans d'autres institutions de l'Etat. C'est un jeu de chaises musicales pour les nominés de l'Etat... ”

d'approvisionnement en médicaments et équipements médicaux pour Rs 1,5 milliards ont été alloués sans appel d'offres à des entités locales et étrangères. Il y a une présomption de favoritisme.

L'ICAC, qui s'est saisie de l'affaire, sera-t-elle à la hauteur de ses responsabilités cette fois-ci pour dissiper les zones d'ombre ? Au lieu de questionner les actes des décideurs, les autorités persécutent les lanceurs d'alerte dans les départements de l'Etat qui ébruient les scandales. On invoque l'*Official Secrets Act* pour les traquer alors qu'il fallait une loi (*Public Service Act*) pour protéger

le droit des fonctionnaires de lancer des alertes sur les irrégularités. Pourtant, l'article 44 de la *Prevention of Corruption Act 2002* oblige un officiel d'un organisme public de rapporter tout cas de corruption qu'il voit à l'ICAC.

Le pays est constamment sous l'oeil inquisiteur des organisations internationales qui font la notation des pays selon les normes de bonne gouvernance. Selon l'indice de corruption de Transparency International, en 2019, Maurice était classée 56e sur 198 pays avec une note de 52 sur 100, ce qui la place au milieu du classement entre les pays propres (90-100) et les pays corrompus (1-20).

Ce classement de Maurice précède toutes les affaires impliquant des pratiques alléguées de fraude ou de corruption (Saint-Louis Gate, contrats Covid-19 attribués sans appel d'offres) ou des pratiques de mauvaise gestion (SBM, Air Mauritius, STC) qui ont toutes un rapport avec des parties prenantes étrangères (fournisseurs, clients-emprunteurs). Pour sa part, Amnesty International surveille les dérives anti-démocratiques dans le sillage de la Covid-19. L'*International Consortium of Investigative Journalists* (ICIJ) surveille les développements dans le secteur offshore avec les récents Mauritius Leaks et les affaires Ayanda Capital et Wirecard (firme allemande accusée de fraude commise à partir d'un fonds à Maurice).

Nouvelle astuce

Le Gouvernement a découvert une nouvelle astuce pour esquiver les questions embarrassantes au Parlement : référer une affaire à l'ICAC pour la mettre en veilleuse jusqu'à ce que le public l'oublie, tellement les scandales se suivent et se ressemblent. On attend avec impatience la conclusion de tant d'enquêtes entamées.

* Suite en page 12



Mrinal Roy

The Spectre of an Orwellian 1984

Governments have not been elected to hide things from the people. They must govern in a transparent manner

'Goebbels was in favour of free speech for views he liked. So was Stalin. If you're really in favour of free speech, then you're in favour of freedom of speech for precisely the views you despise. Otherwise, you're not in favour of free speech.'

-- Noam Chomsky

Despite the government rhetoric and tom-tomming about the high democratic standards in the country, the stark reality is that intolerance towards criticisms and opposing views is 'steadily narrowing the boundaries of what can be said without the threat of reprisal'. In 'A letter on Justice and Open Debate' published earlier this month in the US *Harper's Magazine* hundreds of academics, authors, columnists, etc., have raised their voices and denounced the growing and decried restrictions on freedom of opinion and free speech, which are fundamental and sacrosanct rights of people in a democratic society.

The debate in the United States obviously encompasses a broader range of issues such as the widespread protests 'for racial and social justice, demands for police reform and wider calls for greater equality and inclusion across the US society'. Political dogmatism and inability of those in power to accept opposing views and constructive criticisms are 'weakening our norms of open debate'. The signatories of the letter, who include Noam Chomsky, Salman Rushdie, Martin Amis or J.K. Rowling, etc., argue that 'the free exchange of information and ideas, the lifeblood of a liberal society, is daily becoming more constricted'. More disquieting still, those in power, in a kneejerk reaction 'of panicked damage control, are delivering hasty and disproportionate punishments instead of considered reforms... The restriction of debate, whether by a repressive government or an intolerant society makes everyone less capable of democratic participation.'

Mounting outcry

This debate is particularly relevant to Mauritius. MPs and governments, who are elected by the people, have to be accountable and answerable to the people. Governments have not been elected to hide things from the people. They must govern in a transparent manner. Once in power they cannot stonewall legitimate questions on their governance of the country. There is therefore a mounting public outcry about the appalling state of governance in the country especially when so many things have gone awry.

This is *inter alia* epitomized by the protracted delay in getting to the bottom of the alleged case of corruption and

bribery in the Rs 4.3 billion CEB St Louis power plant contract despite public confirmation of wrongdoings by 'members of the Mauritian administration and others' by the funding agency the African Development Bank and the contractor Burmeister & Wain Scandinavian Contractor.

The public indignation also relates to the unending array of botched and costly decisions taken by cohorts of political appointees of every ilk nominated to fat cat jobs at public expense at the head or on the board of government institutions and state-owned companies. The upshot is that yet again unsecured loans of purportedly



"History has stopped.
Nothing exists except an
endless present in which
the Party is always right."

-George Orwell, 1984

Orwell's 1984. Photo - writersdigest.com

over a billion Rupees were approved by the State Commercial Bank and prime state lands valued at billions of Rupees allegedly risked being allocated to promoters without the due process of an open tender.

The government and the people have also woken up to the financial pitfalls and throes of ordering Rs1.5 billion of medical supplies and equipment during the Covid-19 lockdown through emergency procurement procedures from untested suppliers without taking basic commercial precautions to ascertain that the quality of equipment such as ventilators ordered are checked and attested by independent quality surveyors and form part of the set of documents verified by the bank before effecting payment.

Spin doctoring

Instead of responding to mounting criticisms of its governance in a transparent and accountable manner, the government has resorted to spin doctoring to sweep legitimate interrogations under the carpet. The national TV has since years been converted into a partisan propaganda machine at public expense to conjure a narra-

tive which daily extols government performance. Obscure associations and notorious sycophants, who unabashedly support the government's narrative, obtain lengthy TV coverage during prime time whereas scant coverage is given to press conferences of the leader of the opposition or elected leaders of opposition parties.

Instead of being a forum of constructive debate in the best traditions of a parliamentary democracy, the deliberations of the National Assembly are systematically marred by frequent expulsions of MPs of the opposition in the teeth of established norms of fair parliamentary practice. This seriously undermines and limits their role as MPs and their contribution in the debate leading to the enactment of laws and government policy decisions.

The government is above all answerable to the people. No shenanigan or stratagem to dodge embarrassing parliamentary questions can save the government from the scrutiny and scathing verdict of public opinion. As is too often the case, the failures of previous governments cannot be put forward as an alibi for present incompetence. The role of the Speaker in the best parliamentary democracies of the world is not that of a sanctimonious discipline master but to oil the parliamentary machinery through his diplomacy, judgment and standing as a fair arbiter of parliamentary debate and certainly not to clog it.

Arbitrary censorship

Stricter laws are being passed to constrict the freedom of opinion especially on social media. The obvious intent is to intimidate, deter and censor. The changes brought to laws governing the use of social media in the country have led government ministers to register complaints against social media users and triggered police raids to arrest those incriminated. Are the legal standards for defamation and libel being lowered to unreasonable levels? A random comment on social media cannot be the subject of indictment. There cannot be double standards as in Orwell's *1984* where some animals with bloated egos are more equal than others. President Emmanuel Macron, Prime Minister Boris Johnson and President Donald Trump are daily being made fun of on social media. Are they zeroing on and suing those who dare do so? Surely, Presidents, PMs, Ministers and governments have much more important matters to deal with.

“MPs and governments, who are elected by the people, have to be accountable and answerable to the people. Governments have not been elected to hide things from the people. They must govern in a transparent manner. Once in power they cannot stonewall legitimate questions on their governance of the country. There is therefore a mounting public outcry about the appalling state of governance in the country especially when so many things have gone awry...”

Social media is just a platform of communication. It cannot become a judge of what is objectionable or not. Whatever criteria are used by a media platform to remove posts is bound to be extremely subjective and governed by benchmarks arbitrarily chosen by the platform. There is a serious debate on this key issue in the US. An independent journalist recently argued that as Twitter has a liberal bias, it had overwhelmingly sanctioned and removed conservative posts. All this limits freedom of speech. The way forward is not harsher laws to muzzle critics but education on a more responsible use of social media platforms. The digital world and social media have broadened the democratic space. We cannot let a few bad apples provide a lever to restrict its use.

* Cont. on page 11

UK not doing enough to stop coronavirus second wave, warns BMA chief



Fear of a second wave in UK - Photo - acgro.in/wp-content

The UK government is not doing everything it should to stop a second wave of coronavirus from hitting the country, the British Medical Association's top doctor has warned. The intervention comes as Boris Johnson pointed the finger at Europe and said "swift" action was being taken to prevent localised outbreaks identified on the continent spreading

back to the UK.

However, epidemiologists told *The Independent* that the government's own policy failures would likely play a part in an "inevitable" increased infection rate in the UK, which still has a higher death rate than most of its neighbours. Dr Chaand Nagpaul, chair of the BMA's council, told MPs on Wednesday that

confused messaging from the government and lack of a "systemic approach" on policies like mask wearing and social distancing were behind a weekly rise in infections.

Amazon CEO Jeff Bezos has conceded he cannot guarantee that his company has not used the data of third-party sellers for its own benefit - an admission that will trigger further controversy over the e-commerce giant's business practices, reports *The Independent*.

In his first ever testimony before the US Congress, Mr Bezos was quizzed about a recent report that claimed Amazon had used such data to make its own, competing products. The investigation by *The Wall Street Journal* found some executives at Amazon had access to seller data that was then used to track best-selling items. Mr Bezos, along with Apple's boss Tim Cook, Facebook's Mark Zuckerberg and Google's Sundar Pichai, were questioned by members of the House Judiciary subcommittee on antitrust concerns.

Pelosi warns maskless lawmakers may be thrown out

The US House of Representatives has ordered all members and staff to wear masks as the nation's death toll from coronavirus passed 150,000.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi warned anyone who breaks the new rule face being removed from the chamber.

She took the decision after Louie Gohmert, a Texas Republican often seen around the Capitol without a face covering, tested positive on Wednesday. He had been due to travel that day with US President Donald Trump.

Mrs Pelosi, a California Democrat, said on the House floor on Wednesday evening that members would be allowed to remove their masks when addressing the chamber.

"The chair expects all members and staff to adhere to this requirement as a sign of respect for the health, safety, and wellbeing of others present in the chamber and surrounding areas," she said.

Mrs Pelosi said she would view "failure to wear a mask as a serious breach of decorum", warning the House Sergeant at Arms could kick out anyone who did not wear a mask.

According to GovTrack.us, 10 members of Congress - three Democrats and seven Republicans - have confirmed they tested positive, or were diagnosed with coronavirus.

EXENTIAL INVESTMENTS INC. (In Liquidation)

(the "Company")

Insolvency Act, 2003

Notice is hereby given that on 27 July 2020, the Company was placed into Liquidation pursuant to an Order of the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court in the High Court of Justice in the British Virgin Islands, and that Russell Crumpler of KPMG (BVI) Limited, P.O. Box 4467, 3rd Floor, Banco Popular Building, Road Town, Tortola, VG-1110, British Virgin Islands and David Standish of KPMG LLP, 15 Canada Square, London E14 5GL were appointed Joint Liquidators of the Company.

Notice is further hereby given that, in accordance with s179 of the Insolvency Act 2003, a meeting of the creditors of the Company will be held on 17 August 2020 at the offices of KPMG (BVI) Limited, 3rd Floor, Banco Popular Building, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands at 9am BVI time for the purpose of holding the Company's first meeting of creditors. Creditors attending the meeting should notify the Liquidator of their intention to do so by 12pm BVI time on 14 August 2020.

Creditors of the Company are to prove their debts or claims on or before 17 August 2020 and to establish any title they may have, or be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved, or excluded from the benefit of objecting to the distribution.

Sgd. Russell Crumpler
Joint Liquidator

Dated: 29 July 2020

Date of Liquidation: 27 July 2020

The address of the Liquidators is:
PO Box 4467
Road Town
British Virgin Islands

Contact for enquiries:

Email: exentialbvi@kpmg.co.uk

Telephone: +44 (0)2030783034

'No conditions for our cooperation': PM Modi

PM Modi and Pravind Jugnauth inaugurate new Supreme Court of Mauritius

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Mauritian PM Pravind Jugnauth yesterday jointly inaugurated the new Supreme Court building of Mauritius at Port Louis.

Addressing the virtual event, the Prime Minister said that "History has taught us that in the name of development partnerships, nations were forced into dependence partnerships." It gave rise to colonial and imperial rule. It also gave rise to global power blocks, PM Modi said.

The Prime Minister's remarks come amid increasing reports of China's "global debt-diplomacy". "For India, the most fundamental principle in development cooperation is respecting our partners," he said.

"This sharing of development lessons is our only motivation. That is why our development cooperation does not come with any conditions," PM Modi asserted.

The new Supreme Court building in Port Louis is a symbol of India-Mauritius cooperation and shared values, the Prime Minister said in his address.

The Supreme Court building is one of five projects implemented under a \$353-million special economic package extended by India in 2016. The structure is the first India-assisted infrastructure project in the capital of Mauritius.

In a comment Hindustan Times said that New Delhi has taken several steps in recent days to revive economic activity amid the Covid-19 crisis and to shore up relations with key neighbours amid the border standoff with China.



On Monday, India handed over 10 railway locomotives to Bangladesh. Over the weekend, India announced a \$400-million currency swap facility under the Saarc framework for Sri Lanka. Another \$400 million was provided through an extended currency swap arrangement to the Maldives and India will soon "announce another substantial financial assistance package" to help post-Covid-19 economic recovery.

In October 2019, Modi and Jugnauth inaugurated the first phase of the Metro Express project and a new 100-bed ENT hospital in Mauritius, also built under the special economic package. Construction of 12 km of the metro line was completed till last September, and work on a 14-km line in the second phase is underway.

Former ambassador Rajiv Bhatia, distinguished fellow for foreign policy studies at Gateway House, said the standoff with China had clearly triggered a policy reappraisal by South Block.

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Iter: World's largest nuclear fusion project begins assembly

The world's biggest nuclear fusion project has entered its five-year assembly phase. After this is finished, the facility will be able to start generating the super-hot "plasma" required for fusion power.

The £18.2bn (20bn; \$23.5bn) facility has been under construction in Saint-Paul-lez-Durance, southern France.

Advocates say fusion could be a source of clean, unlimited power that would help tackle the climate crisis.

Iter is a collaboration between China, the European Union, India, Japan, South Korea, Russia and the US. All members share in the cost of construction.

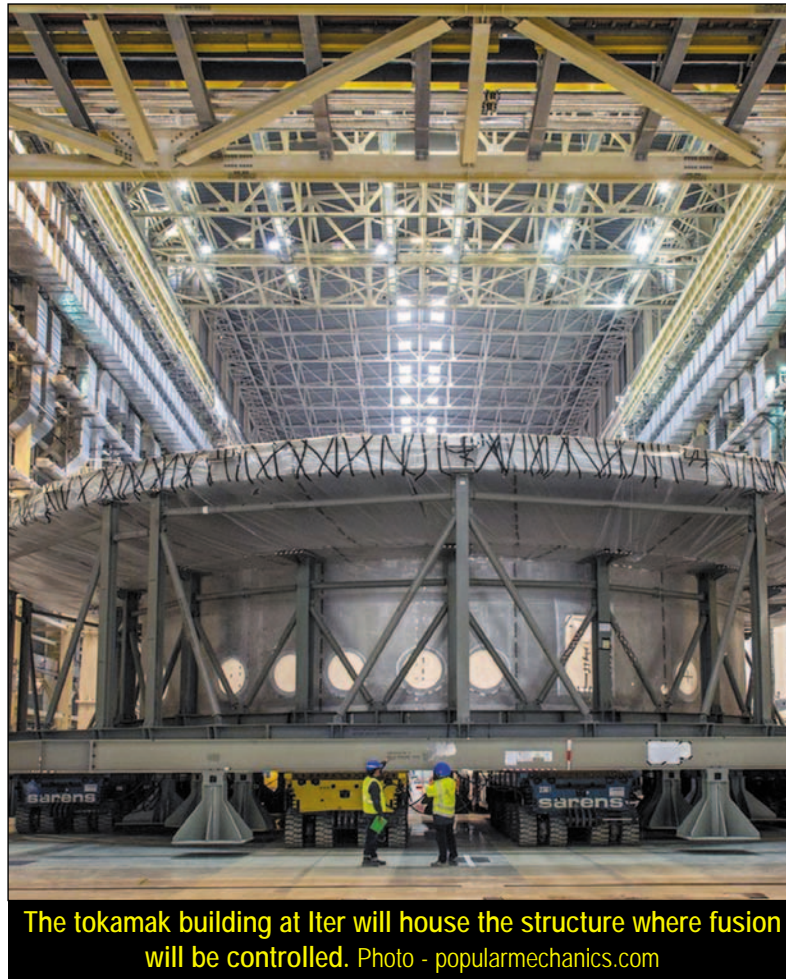
Current nuclear energy relies on fission, where a heavy chemical element is split to produce lighter ones.

Nuclear fusion, on the other hand, works by combining two light elements to make a heavier one. This releases vast amounts of energy with very little radioactivity.

Iter will confine hot plasma within a structure called a tokamak in order to control fusion reactions.

The project will aim to help demonstrate whether fusion can be commercially viable. France's President Emmanuel Macron said the effort would unite countries around a common good.

The facility could see plasma generated in the machine - a notional start to operations - shortly after the assembly phase ends in 2025.



The tokamak building at Iter will house the structure where fusion will be controlled. Photo - popularmechnics.com

President Macron said: "Iter is clearly an act of confidence in the future. The greatest advances in history have always proceeded from daring bets, from journeys fraught with difficulty."

"At the start it always seems that the obstacles will be greater than the will to create and progress. Iter belongs to this spirit of discovery, of ambition, with the idea that, thanks to science, tomorrow may indeed be better than yesterday."

Prof Ian Chapman, chief executive of the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority (UKAEA), told BBC News: "It's a hugely exciting phase of the project to be in. Most of us came to fusion to change the world - to make a massive difference to how we provide clean energy to future generations. We all know that we need Iter to succeed."

"We hope to see first plasma in five years. That will only be a short plasma - lasting a few milliseconds - demonstrating all the magnets work. Then there will have to be a further stage of assembly of some of the other components... Nevertheless it's ticking off milestones on that path to demonstrating fusion at the commercial scale."

But fusion power has its sceptics. Making it commercially viable has been difficult because scientists have struggled to get enough energy out of the reactions.

Advocates believe Iter can overcome the technical hurdles and that, given the planetary challenges being faced, fusion is worth the expense and effort.

US to withdraw 12,000 troops from Germany in 'strategic' move



Germany currently hosts by far the largest number of US forces in Europe. Photo - Daily Mail

The US is set to withdraw almost 12,000 troops from Germany in what it described as a "strategic" repositioning of its forces in Europe.

About 6,400 troops will be sent home, with the rest moved to other Nato countries such as Italy and Belgium, reports BBC.

President Donald Trump said the move was a response to Germany failing to meet Nato targets on defence spending. But it has attracted widespread oppo-

sition in Congress from those who believe it will embolden Russia.

Senior German officials have also expressed concern.

"We don't want to be the suckers anymore," Mr Trump told reporters at the White House on Wednesday shortly after the move was announced. "We're reducing the force because they're not paying their bills; it's very simple."

Mr Trump has long complained that European members of Nato should spend more on their own

defence. He has said that Nato members should no longer be relying so heavily on the US to shoulder the costs of maintaining the alliance.

The argument between the allies focuses around the target agreed by all alliance members that defence spending should reach 2% of GDP (gross domestic product, the total value of goods produced and services provided in a country) by 2024. Germany, along with many other countries, has yet to meet this target.

Defence Secretary Mark Esper struck a different tone when announcing the decision, suggesting it was part of a broader plan to reposition US forces in the region.

He said it was "a major strategic and positive shift" that would "unquestionably achieve the core principles of enhancing US and Nato deterrence of Russia".

The decision was criticised by German officials, with the chairman of the country's foreign affairs committee suggesting it would "weaken the Nato alliance".

And the head of the German state of Bavaria, Markus Soeder, said he regretted the decision. "This puts a burden on the German-American relationship," he told reporters.

There was also bipartisan criticism in Washington. "This is a self-inflicted wound... against American interests," Democratic Senator Jack Reed said.

The US military presence in Germany is a legacy of the post-World War Two Allied occupation of the country. Germany currently hosts by far the largest number of US forces in Europe, followed by Italy, the UK and Spain.

Interview : Me Antoine Domingue



“Y a-t-il de la place pour le délit d'opinion à Maurice ?”

Nous avons l'habitude de la transparence, de la règle de droit, des mouvements de contestation et des manifestations pour exprimer notre mécontentement ou pour faire entendre nos doléances.

Aussi, nous sommes surpris par des agissements anti-démocratiques de la part de nouveaux venus dans l'arène politique, notamment quand ceux-ci portent atteinte à la liberté d'expression, droit humain fondamental énoncé à l'article 19 de la Déclaration universelle des droits de l'homme. Me Antoine Domingue nous livre ses impressions...

Mauritius Times : Tout l'arsenal qui se met en place en termes de législation ou d'amendement aux lois existantes, et d'arrestations d'internautes servirait à neutraliser toute velléité de contestation du Gouvernement au cas où l'économie et, subséquentement, le social connaissent une nette détérioration. Est-ce cela, selon-vous, l'agenda du Gouvernement ?

Me Antoine Domingue : C'est peut-être le cas. C'est à la Police, et en particulier à la Cyber Crime Unit, de nous le dire, car tout le monde a été choqué par l'arrestation d'une demoiselle qui a exprimé son opinion au sujet de Tania Diolle : elle a dit qu'elle considérait cette dernière comme une opportuniste. On reproche donc à Fariha Ruhomally, une habitante de Quatre-Bornes, d'avoir publié sur les réseaux sociaux une vidéo de la PPS, suivie de commentaires qui n'auraient pas plu à cette dernière. Elle avait expliqué qu'elle avait utilisé une vidéo qui ne lui appartenait pas. Et, suite à cela, Tania Diolle a considéré qu'elle était "annoyed" et a rapporté le cas à la Cyber Crime Unit. Ce dernier a alors décidé d'arrêter l'internaute. Par la suite, Fariha Ruhomally a été déférée devant la Cour qui a exigé une caution de Rs7,000 pour sa libération.

La question que je me pose est la suivante: y a-t-il de la place pour le délit d'opinion à Maurice ? Si j'ai une opinion au sujet de quelqu'un que je considère comme un(e) opportuniste pour les raisons que je donne, est-ce que j'ai le droit d'avoir cette opinion-là? Ai-je le droit d'avoir une telle opinion à Maurice, un Etat démocratique tel que défini par notre Constitution et où la liberté de pensée et d'expression demeure un droit constitutionnel ?

“ Dans l'affaire MedPoint, on avait aussi poursuivi deux fonctionnaires - Monsieur Yodhun Bissessur. L'ICAC pensait qu'elle avait une affaire en or. Le problème qui se pose dans de tels cas où des politiciens sont impliqués, c'est qu'en règle générale, en fin de compte, tout finit par tomber sur le dos des fonctionnaires qui deviennent les dindons de la farce... ”

“ En ce qui concerne l'affaire St Louis, il n'y a pas encore eu de preuves de corruption ou de collusion. Là également, le Premier ministre a pris des actions : il a révoqué les conseils d'administration ; le ministre a refusé de partir, et il l'a révoqué. Il faut attendre que la justice se prononce... Par contre, qu'il y ait corruption ou non, tout gaspillage des fonds publics mérite la révocation...”

Si la réponse est oui, donc le texte de l'article 46 de l'ICT Act, surtout les amendements votés pour la dernière fois en 2018, devraient être rendus caducs par l'article 2 de la Constitution qui proclame que:

“This Constitution is the supreme law of Mauritius, and if any other law is inconsistent with this Constitution, that other law shall, to the extent of the inconsistency, be void.”

La Cour suprême devrait être saisie de la question et elle devrait se prononcer là-dessus de façon urgente. Et, de la même façon, s'il y a recours devant le Conseil privé, elle aura à se prononcer sur cette

question.

C'est cela le point de départ, ce n'est pas une question de proportionnalité ou de savoir "where the red line should be drawn", mais plutôt de savoir quel est le régime constitutionnel qui prévaut à Maurice.

Pour y parvenir, il faut passer par deux tests. Premièrement, il faut déterminer si le texte de loi voté par la législature est "inconsistent with the Constitution", ce qui rendrait cette loi caduque. Deuxièmement, il faut aussi décider si c'est "reasonably justifiable in a democratic society".

Ce sont des droits fondamentaux qui sont garantis dans la Constitution avec des exceptions expresses telles que prévues dans cette même Constitution. Des exceptions qui sont "hedged" avec une limitation qui devrait être raisonnable dans une société démocratique. Par exemple, les limites qui sont posées à la liberté d'expression doivent être raisonnables dans une société démocratique. Donc, tout texte de loi doit pouvoir résister à l'examen de la Constitution et survivre au "constitutional scrutiny".

En ce qui concerne les dispositions de la loi par rapport aux délits de "causing annoyance" (Section 46 h (ii) - "any person who uses, in any manner other than that specified in paragraph (ga), an information and communication service, including telecommunication service, - (ii) which is likely to cause or causes annoyance, humiliation, inconvenience, distress or anxiety to that person"), ou celui tombant sous la section 46 (na) "knowingly provides information which is false or fabricated" -- ce sont ces sections qui sont invoquées par la Cyber Crime Unit à chaque fois que des gens au pouvoir vont soumettre une plainte à la police.

C'est le même scénario qui se répète à chaque fois: le suspect est rapidement coffré par la police - même si les policiers vont essayer de se dédouaner en invoquant des "ordres venant d'en haut".

Avec uniquement deux policiers au départ, la Cyber Crime Unit dispose

aujourd'hui de 34 officiers, et c'est devenu au fil des années une police politique parallèle. Du moins, "that's my opinion." Je pense que le nouveau Commissaire de Police - il a fait œuvre utile récemment avec une remise en ordre de l'ADSU et le transfert d'au moins une cinquantaine d'officiers - devrait s'atteler à dissoudre ou à revoir le fonctionnement de la Cyber Crime Unit.

Il est inacceptable dans l'Ile Maurice de 2020, avec la Constitution qui est la nôtre, et la position qu'occupe le Commissaire de Police et la protection constitutionnelle dont il dispose, qu'il puisse tolérer qu'on puisse avoir cette perception défavorable concernant une unité de la police qui travaille sous ses ordres.

Les citoyens doivent rester très vigilants parce que les arrestations qu'on a vues récemment suivant une plainte à la police par des gens au pouvoir, visent à créer un climat de terreur dans la population. Notre Constitution ne prévoit pas de censure préalable - "prior restraint" -, mais si, à chaque fois, on s'amuse à arrêter un internaute, comme on l'a fait dans les cas concernant la secrétaire de l'ancienne Présidente de la République, ou l'ancien ambassadeur de Maurice à Madagascar, Ravin Lochun, il y a là de bonnes raisons de s'inquiéter.

*** Suivant cette logique, pensez-vous donc que plusieurs lois ou amendements apportés aux lois existantes dans le cadre de la pandémie Covid-19 seraient anti-constitutionnelles ?**

Cela pourrait très bien l'être, mais il faudrait qu'une personne - qui est d'avis qu'un de ses droits fondamentaux a été lésé - loge une plainte dans un délai de trois mois.

On peut avoir recours à la section 17 et demander ce qu'on appelle "Application for Constitutional Relief", mais il y a des conditions de forme et de fond qu'il faut respecter.

“De par la loi, une politicienne est ‘required to be thick-skinned’.

Si Tania Diolle n'est pas ‘thick-skinned’, que fait-elle en politique ?”



● Suite de la page 8

*** Il ne suffit que d'une simple majorité pour que des modifications soient apportées aux lois existantes avec des conséquences dans la durée. Cela a été le cas avec la Covid-19 Act et, récemment, avec la Finance Act. Comment contrer cela ?**

Le Parlement peut légiférer dans les limites de ce que prescrit la Constitution. L'Assemblée nationale peut changer tout le 'Statute Book' s'il le souhaite, cela sur la base d'une majorité relative.

Sauf pour les amendements constitutionnels, qui requièrent une majorité qualifiée d'un tiers ou trois-quarts, l'Assemblée nationale peut - par une majorité relative - amender ou même révoquer tous les textes de lois.

N'oubliez pas que notre Constitution prévoit une clause de sauvegarde, ce qui n'existe pas dans les Constitutions de beaucoup de pays: une loi ou un amendement peut être renvoyé par le Président de la République au Parlement pour être considéré de nouveau. C'est arrivé une fois.

Par ailleurs, il faut se rappeler qu'il y a eu une majorité issue des urnes aux dernières élections générales. C'est vrai aussi qu'il y a des contestations devant la Cour mais, en attendant, il faut que le pays soit gouverné.

Et pour gouverner, il faut qu'on puisse légiférer. On ne peut pas gouverner par les règlements. Nos lois prévoient l'adoption d'un budget. Si on trouve qu'il n'y a pas

“ Il faut que les faits concernant l'achat de produits pharmaceutiques soient examinés... De plus, il faut aussi savoir si ces dossiers ont été ‘properly managed’. Si ce n'est qu'une question de gaspillage des fonds publics, ce n'est donc pas une affaire de corruption...”

“ Les épisodes de Gooljaury et de Soornack, combinés avec des atteintes aux libertés fondamentales, ont produit une majorité de trois-quarts. Et le même cocktail aujourd'hui mènerait au même résultat la prochaine fois. Ce qui est sûr, c'est que cela viendra dans quatre ans...”

assez d'argent dans les caisses et qu'il faut puiser dans les réserves de la Banque de Maurice, on est obligé de le faire.

Remarquez que nous ne sommes pas le seul pays à avoir fait cela: le même problème a surgi aux Etats-Unis, et le président de la Réserve fédérale a déclaré qu'en raison de la Covid-19 “we have had to cross several red lines”.

Personnellement, je n'ai rien à dire contre un gouvernement qui gouverne. Gouverner, c'est faire des choix. Bonnes ou mauvaises, mais il faut prendre des décisions. Certaines décisions requièrent des projets de loi qui sont approuvés par l'Assemblée nationale. La question est de savoir si un texte de loi va à l'encontre de la Constitution.

*** Diriez-vous toutefois que la situation présente dans le pays soit inquiétante ?**

Personnellement, je suis très inquiet. Il y a un mauvais signal qui a été envoyé pendant le confinement concernant le cas de Mlle Seenauth. Par la suite, on a été très surpris par l'attitude des autorités à l'encontre de M. Ravin Lochun. Pire, il y eu ensuite le dernier cas en date - l'arrestation de Mlle Ruhomally, qui s'est fait arrêter pour la deuxième fois.

C'est la raison pour laquelle je me pose la question, à savoir, s'il y a de la place dans notre démocratie pour le délit d'opinion. Au cas où il s'agit d'un délit d'opinion, il faut se poser deux questions: est-ce c'est “consistent” avec la Constitution, et est-ce “reasonably justifiable in a democratic society” ?

Ce sont là les questions qu'on devrait se poser. Si vous avez une opinion, est-ce que vous avez le droit d'exprimer cette opinion dans une démocratie? Est-ce que cela peut causer ou a causé “annoyance” à autrui ?

Donc, la question qui se pose, c'est de savoir si le citoyen a le droit de dire sur les ondes des radios, ou à la télévision, ou dans les médias sociaux, etc., que Tania Diolle est une “opportuniste”? Si je peux dire une telle chose sur une caisse de

savon sous une boutique, qu'est-ce qui m'empêche de dire la même chose dans les médias sociaux même si cela peut contrarier ou agacer ?

De par la loi, une politicienne est “required to be thick-skinned”. Si Tania Diolle n'est pas “thick-skinned”, que fait-elle en politique? Chaque fois qu'on va la critiquer, va-t-elle courir à la Central CID? Cela signifie alors qu'elle deviendra incriticable ? On n'est plus dans une démocratie. Il semblerait qu'elle ait perdu ses repères complètement, et peut-être que le jour viendra où elle en paiera le prix politique au prix fort...

C'est ce genre d'agissements qui a produit cette majorité de trois-quarts en 2014 malgré le fait qu'il y avait deux grands partis politiques qui se croyaient invincibles : le MMM et le PTr. Ils se sont fait avoir et ils ont été rejetés par l'électorat. Voilà ce qui va se produire si l'actuel gouvernement persiste dans cette voie.

Dans une société telle que la nôtre, les politiciens doivent s'attendre à être critiqués. Ils ne sont pas au-dessus des critiques. Même le Président de la République, qui est “immune from process” n'est pas “immune from legitimate criticism”. Cela a été proclamé par un ancien chef juge dans un jugement de la Cour suprême.

En ce qui concerne la section 46 du ICT Act, la faute revient à ceux qui ont légiféré les amendements au texte de loi en 2018. Et malgré le fait qu'ils aient légiféré ce genre de texte en 2018, la population leur a donné une majorité grâce au système de 'First Past The Post', surtout que les partis de l'opposition se trouvaient en rangs dispersés. Aujourd'hui ces mêmes partis de l'opposition se rendent compte qu'ils ont eu tort, et ils cherchent maintenant à se rassembler.

Je ne suis pas là pour dire pour qui voter, je ne fais qu'énoncer les principes par lesquels nous sommes régis et que quiconque transgresse ces principes en paiera le prix politique.

N'oubliez pas que dans quatre ans, il y aura une nouvelle échéance électorale. Les gens vont se faire un devoir de sanctionner tous ceux qui ont fait arrêter des personnes pour un délit d'opinion. Vous croyez que cela ne va pas peser dans la joute électorale ? Moi, je suis sûr que cela va avoir un effet. Soit vous êtes un démocrate, soit vous ne l'êtes pas.

*** Ne pensez-vous pas que la campagne menée par l'opposition sur la question de fraude et corruption aura plus d'effet sur l'électorat ?**

Cela peut avoir un effet, comme nous l'a démontré les épisodes de Gooljaury et de Soornack dans le passé. Ces derniers, combinés avec des atteintes aux libertés fondamentales, ont produit une majorité de trois-quarts. Et le même cocktail aujourd'hui mènerait au même résultat la prochaine fois. Ce qui est sûr, c'est que cela viendra dans quatre ans.

On va essayer de faire la même chose qu'avec la 'Workers Rights Act', mais cela ne marchera pas parce que les gens se sont rendus compte qu'on leur a donné de la douceur avant les élections et, aujourd'hui, c'est le revers de la médaille.

Tout ce qui a été donné d'une main dans la 'Workers Rights Act', on est en train de tout reprendre. Les gens comprennent que ce Gouvernement-là n'est pas pro-travailleur. Ils le sont dans une certaine mesure, par exemple, ils ont bien fait d'accorder une assistance sous le 'Wage Assistance Scheme'. Mais, sous d'autres aspects, ils ne sont pas suffisamment pro-travailleurs.

*** À en juger par les gros titres des journaux concernant l'achat de produits pharmaceutiques avant et pendant la période de confinement, ainsi que l'affaire Saint-Louis, il semble que le virus du favoritisme et de la corruption ait infiltré notre politique. Que pensez-vous de la question de la gouvernance à Maurice aujourd'hui ?**

Il faut que les faits concernant l'achat de produits pharmaceutiques soient examinés et les faits établis pour qu'on puisse en tirer les conclusions.

De plus, il faut aussi savoir si ces dossiers ont été “properly managed”. Si ce n'est qu'une question de gaspillage des fonds publics, par exemple par rapport à l'achat des médicaments et d'équipements, ce n'est donc pas une affaire de corruption. N'oubliez pas que le Gouvernement était obligé de prendre des actions dans le cadre de la Covid-19.

* Suite en page 10



COMMUNIQUE

RETURN OF EMPLOYEES (ROE) & ANNUAL TAX DEDUCTION AT SOURCE (TDS) RETURN

The Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA) wishes to inform Employers and TDS Payers that the Return of Employees (ROE) and Annual TDS Return for the income year ended 30 June 2020 should be submitted **electronically** on or before **17 August 2020**.

The facilities for the submission of the returns are available on the MRA website: www.mra.mu. Employers/TDS Payers who have been submitting their monthly PAYE/TDS returns using the facilities available on the MRA website should submit their ROE/Annual TDS return through the same channel. Other Employers/TDS Payers should use the facility provided by the Mauritius Network Services Ltd (MNS).

Employers should include in their ROE the details of **ALL** their employees whether PAYE has been withheld or not.

Employers and TDS Payers are required:

- to give to each employee/Payee, on or before **17 August 2020**, a Statement of Emoluments and Tax Deduction / Statement of income received. The templates of the statements are available on MRA website;
- to insert in the ROE, in case of Mauritian citizens, the National Identity Card (NIC) number of the employee or, in case of non-Mauritian citizens, the Non-Citizen ID (NCID) issued by the immigration officer.

TDS Payers are required to insert in the Annual TDS return, the Business Registration Number (BRN) of all Payees. In exceptional cases where the Payee is:

- an individual and is not legally required to have a BRN, the NIC number, in case of Mauritian citizens or the NCID issued by the immigration officer, in case of non-Mauritian citizens should be inserted; or
- not an individual and is not legally required to have a BRN, the Tax Account Number (TAN) should be inserted.

For further information, kindly visit MRA website: www.mra.mu, or phone MRA helpdesk on **207 6000** during working hours.

MAURITIUS REVENUE AUTHORITY

29 July 2020

Ehram Court, Cnr Mgr. Gonin & Sir Virgil Naz Streets, Port Louis, Mauritius
T: +230 207 6000 | F: +230 207 6048 | M: headoffice@mra.mu | W: www.mra.mu



'Il faut que les faits concernant l'achat de produits pharmaceutiques soient examinés...

Si ce n'est qu'une question de gaspillage des fonds publics, ce n'est donc pas une affaire de corruption'

* Suite de la page 9

En ce qui concerne l'affaire St Louis, il n'y a pas encore eu de preuves de corruption ou de collusion. Là également, le Premier ministre a pris des actions : il a révoqué les conseils d'administration ; le ministre a refusé de partir, et il l'a révoqué. Il faut attendre que la justice se prononce...

Par contre, qu'il y ait corruption ou non, tout gaspillage des fonds publics mérite la révocation. C'est ce que j'aurais fait si j'avais été Premier ministre parce qu'on ne peut pas tolérer le gaspillage ou même la mauvaise gestion des fonds public.

*** L'ICAC se voit confronté à un dilemme du fait que l'Office of Integrity de la Banque africaine de développement ait trouvé des irrégularités impliquant l'administration mauricienne " and others ", et la compagnie danoise Burmeister & Wain Scandinavian Contractor a fait partir cinq cadres impliqués dans le contrat CEB-BWSC. Il paraît qu'il y a là suffisamment d'ingrédients qui pointent vers un acte de corruption, non ?**

C'est possible, mais il faut que la justice se prononce. Le fait demeure que toutes les personnes citées dans ce rapport clament leur innocence. Ils font valoir à bon droit qu'il n'y a pas eu de condamnation ni de sentence, comme cela avait été le cas dans l'affaire Medpoint.

* Qu'est ce que cette enquête de l'ICAC va donner selon vous ?

L'enquête donnera ce qu'elle donnera. L'enquête doit être soumise avec les conclusions et les recommandations de l'ICAC au DPP qui décidera de ce qu'il convient de faire : poursuite ou classé sans suite. Même en cas de poursuite, les procédures judiciaires prendront des années et l'issue sera incertaine.

N'oubliez pas que dans l'affaire MedPoint, on avait aussi poursuivi deux fonctionnaires - Monsieur Yodhun Bissessur, ancien *Chief Valuer*, et un de ses adjoints, Monsieur Anerood Jeebodhun. L'ICAC pensait qu'elle avait une affaire en or.

J'avais représenté Monsieur Anerood Jeebodhun qui a été acquitté par la Cour intermédiaire que ce soit en droit et sur les faits. Le problème qui se pose dans de tels cas où des politiciens sont impliqués, c'est qu'en règle générale, en fin de compte, tout finit par tomber sur le dos des fonctionnaires qui deviennent les dindons de la farce.

Time to transcend the discrimination discourse

* Cont. from page 3

It is not by playing the blame game that we are going to solve any perceived discrimination, and definitely not by irrelevantly harping on the connotations which are not based on a solid and internalized understanding of the complexities of the societies and cultures alluded to. Specifically as regards India and the caste system, the understanding is even more superficial, based on academic analyses which may appear very profound but which are intended more for highlighting the negative aspects of the country and its culture than the ongoing struggles at all levels – as is the case in all countries as a matter of fact – to better the conditions of the people. It's doing what American journalist Katherine Mayo did in the 1930s: when her book 'Mother India' was published, the comment of Mahatma Gandhi was that it was more like a drain inspector's report than a serious and empathetic account of the country. If you set out to smell the sewers rather than appreciate the finer aspects of a millennial civilisation – well, there are sewers in all countries isn't it?

What we really need is therefore to transcend the discourse of discrimination and victimhood, and to try and build cultural bridges instead of fostering divisions, after enjoying the *faratas* of a generous and unsuspecting *Nani*, touching her feet

and saying *Namaste*. Too much of analysis leads to a very narrowed down view of things, whereas what the world needs is a holistic, synthetic perspective that can bring peoples together.

This is what led Mathieu Ricard to go in search of the wisdom of fullness in the East, ending up as the ambassador of the Dalai Lama. In a conversation with his father, published as a book, the latter asked what made him change so radically while a rich career awaited him. He had completed his doctorate in fundamental biology under Nobel laureate Jacob Monod in Paris, and had gone visiting big centres in the US. He replied that he came to realise that the science that he was pursuing led to the 'atomization of knowledge', and that he preferred to have a more integrated perspective on the world and humanity.

And so, instead of conflating, he is now busy synthesizing by correlating the



'All forms of discrimination and exploitation - slavery and racism, communalism, sexism, paedophilia in or out of the church, sexual harassment à la Harvey Weinstein in Hollywood, the glass ceiling for women -- boil down to who is in command, that means wealth and power'. Photo - fintechbusiness.com

revealing insights of neuroscience with his Buddhahood, a spiritual adventure which is more likely to bring peace and harmony to the world than any rhetoric of limited intellectualism. That's the kind of *transcendence* that will lead us to a brighter future. Unfortunately, it is only the select few that are capable of reaching such sublime heights. But even the effort of the journey can be transformative, provided one has first shed one's innate prejudices.

RN Gopee

The Spectre of an Orwellian 1984

* Cont. from page 5

Narrow outlook

A partisan control over national TV and the National Assembly as well as restrictive laws to narrow the space of free speech and opinion conjures the spectre of an Orwellian 1984. This is certainly not the vision of Mauritius nor the ideals our parents fought for and won independence on.

It is becoming more and more evident to one and all that the fundamental problem with the country is its political class and their endless power driven political calculations. The problem is systemic. The political class cannot therefore be part of the solution. The status quo at the head of the main opposition parties despite the ignominious debacle suffered at the last two general elections basically comforts the reign of the ruling government. Mauritius cannot remain trapped in an Orwellian nightmare. The onus is therefore squarely on the people to break this stifling stranglehold and its narrow outlook to reignite the seminal battle of the people for a better socio-economic order, freedom of opinion, significantly improved prospects for the country and the inclusive prosperity of the multitude.

Mrinal Roy

Programme des Courses

7e Journée - Samedi 1er août 2020

1 THE LALDHEER PLATE - CANCER SUPPORT CUP

Distance: 1500 m Valeur [0-25] - Time - 12h15

1 MINNESOTA DREAM	GR	0-0-0-0-5	601	N.Juglall	1	240
2 VOLATILE ENERGY	SN	10-2-3/1-6	61	D.Bheekary	9	750
3 FAIRBANKS	VA	5-7-5/6-3	57.5	A.Roy	4	1100
4 SEVENTH SILVER	RG	7-5-10/1-4	60.5	D.David	3	650
5 SKIP THE RED	RM	6-7-7-6/4	60.5	R.Joorawon	5	520
6 STARSKY	CD	1-5-10-2/6	60.5	S.Rama	2	1100
7 STAR OF ZEUS	PM	6-3-5/R-2	60	C.Segeon	8	650
8 STREETBOUNCER	VA	6-5-4/6-4	59	R.Boutanive	7	3000
9 NAIZAK	PM	9-10-9-9/5	54.5	R.K.Chumun	6	5000

2 THE HOLDALL CUP

Distance: 1400 m Valeur Benchmark 36 - Time - 12h50

1 HADARAT	PM	1-9-9-R/8	60	C.Segeon	1	1300
2 CAPTAIN GONE WILD	RG	1-4-2-5-2/	59.5	D.David	3	320
3 CAMP DAVID	GR	nouveau	59	N.Juglall	4	550
4 HEART OF DARKNESS	SN	7-8-1-5/6	59	D.Bheekary	6	1500
5 STOCKBRIDGE	SPN	0-0-0-R-6	59	Y.Emamdee	2	600
6 THE RIGHT STUFF	CD	8-6-2-4/3	59	S.Rama	7	290
7 SHADOWING	AS	0-0-0-0-5	58.5	S.Bussunt	8	2000
8 CAPTAIN FALCON	G	8-1-4-8/7	58	R.Joorawon	5	3000

3 THE VICTOR DUVIVIER CUP

Distance: 1400 m Valeur Benchmark 41 - Time - 13h25

1 BLOW IN THE BOX	PM	2-1-5-4-5/	60	C.Segeon	6	1300
2 THE JAZZ SINGER	SH	0-1-1-1/8	60	S.Rama	3	290
3 CANDY APPLE	GR	0-0-0-1-3	59.5	N.Juglall	7	420
4 PROMISSORY	VA	1-6-5/4-4	56	A.Roy	1	700
5 ALSSAKHRA	G	2-1-6-9/9	58	R.Boutanive	2	3000
6 CHOIR OF ANGELS	JMH	1-R-3-1/2	58	R.Joorawon	5	310
7 SUPREME ORATOR	CR	8-8-7/2-8	58	B.Sooiful	4	1200

4 THE RENE LINCOLN CUP

Distance: 1450 m Valeur Benchmark 46 - Time - 14h00

1 ALL ABOUT THE BASS	SH	0-5-1-2/2	60	S.Rama	3	400
2 STEAK AND ALE	GR	nouveau	60	N.Juglall	4	1200
3 UNBELIEVABLE LAD	AS	7-7-8/4-5	60	S.Bussunt	5	3300
4 VIKING TRAIL	SJ	2-2-1-9/3	60	Y.Emamdee	6	750
5 KAMADEVA	RG	0-1-2/1-1	59	D.David	2	160
6 LUMBER JACKAROO	PM	0-0-0-0-3	58.5	C.Segeon	1	950

5 THE PACIFIC OCEAN CUP

Distance: 990 m Valeur Benchmark 51 - Time - 14h35

1 TRIPOD	PM	0-0-0-3-1	61	C.Segeon	3	240
2 ARLINGTONS REVENGE	SJ	0-0-0-6-9/	59	V.A.Bundhoo	4	5000
3 WAVEBREAKER	SN	6-1-10/10-7	59	D.Bheekary	8	4000
4 CAPTAIN SWAROVSKI	P	4-3-5-9/9	58.5	R.Joorawon	1	3000
5 CAPTAIN OF THE SEA	RG	10-6/7-1-1	58.5	D.David	7	280
6 EDGE OF THE SUN	AS	2-2-7-2/2	57	S.Bussunt	6	620
7 MAXAMORE	GR	4-1-3-8/6	57	N.Juglall	2	700
8 ROB ROY	VA	3-1-R/9-6	56	B.Sooiful	5	1600

6 THE LADY FARQUHAR CUP

Distance: 1500 m Valeur Benchmark 61 - Time - 15h10

1 ELUSIVE PATH	VA	7-7/6-8/8	58	A.Roy	7	4000
2 THE SULTANS BAZAAR	PM	0-0-0-0-8	60.5	C.Segeon	5	1200
3 RAP ATTACK	SH	6-3-4-1-1/	59	K.Kalychurun	3	1000
4 TSITSIKAMMA DANCE	JMH	3-3-3-7/6	59	R.Joorawon	4	430
5 AFDEEK	RM	7-1-2-3/4	57.5	S.Rama	2	290
6 AWARE	AS	2/4-3-5/7	56	R.K.Chumun	1	3000
7 PATROL OFFICER	GR	3-1-1-1/1	54.5	N.Juglall	6	250

7 THE GUNNESS GUJADHUR CUP

Distance: 1450 m Valeur [50+] - Time - 15h50

1 AFRICA RISING	G	0-0-0-0-5	60	R.Joorawon	1	520
2 WALL TAG	VA	6-2-1/2-2	60	B.Sooiful	4	300
3 BARITONE	PM	2-5-5-8/2	59.5	C.Segeon	2	500
4 OUR EMPEROR	SJ	5-4-4-8-9/	56	Y.Emamdee	5	3500
5 TRIPLE FATE LINE	SH	nouveau	58	S.Rama	3	1300
6 TRIPPI'S EXPRESS	RG	0-0-0-0-1	58	D.David	6	270
7 ERNIE	JMH	8-4-5-7/6	58	K.Kalychurun	7	3300

8 THE CHEQUERS CUP

Distance: 1500 m Valeur Benchmark 31 - Time -- 16h25

1 ROCK ON GEORDIES	RG	4-6-3-6/8	60	D.David	7	850
2 CARLTON HEIGHTS	AS	9-4-1/8-5	59	S.Bussunt	10	550
3 COPENHAGEN	VA	0-0-0-0-5	59	R.Joorawon	1	350
4 EPIC SWORD	SN	7-8-7-5-8/	59	D.Bheekary	5	4000
5 JALS TIGER	GR	3-4-2/7-9	59	N.Teetha	8	820
6 KAYDENS PRIDE	RM	0-0-0-0-4	59	S.Rama	9	270
7 KEMAL KAVUR	G	1-10-9-9/9	58.5	R.Boutanive	3	3000
8 TEMP THE TIGER	SPN	0-0-0-8-7	58.5	Y.Emamdee	11	4000
9 KING'S STORY	JMH	0-0-6-10/9	58	J.Allyhosain	2	3000
10 TANJIRO	CD	5-6-10-8/10	57.5	V.A.Bundhoo	6	3500
11 MINALOUSHE VENTURE	AS	4-1-4-8/10	59	-----	4	

9 THE FAUGABALLAH PLATE

Distance: 990 m Valeur [0-25] - Time -- 17hr00

1 BIRTHDAY BOY	VA	0-0-0-0-4	61.5	R.Joorawon	1	280
2 HEAD OF THE PACK	SPN	8-6-6/9-9	61	R.Boutanive	4	5000
3 POINCIANA	SJ	0-0-0-0-R	61	Y.Emamdee	6	350
4 CAPTAIN MOSS	P	4-5-7/7-8	59.5	S.Bussunt	7	2500
5 SECRET IDEA	CD	7-7-7/6-5	59.5	S.Rama	2	820
6 DOUBLE GRATITUDE	RM	nouveau	59	N.Teetha	5	1100
7 VERY VARY	SN	3-2-5-1/2	59	D.Bheekary	3	330

SELECTIONS

1. STAR OF ZEUS, FAIRBANKS, STREETBOUNCER
2. THE RIGHT STUFF, CAPTAIN GONE WILD, CAMP DAVID
3. THE JAZZ SINGER, CANDY APPLE, CHOIR OF ANGELS

4. KAMADEVA, ALL ABOUT THE BASS, VIKING TRAIL
5. TRIPOD, EDGE OF THE SUN, CAPTAIN SWAROVSKI
6. AFDEEK, TSITSIKAMMA DANCE, RAP ATTACK

7. TRIPPI'S EXPRESS, WALL TAG, AFRICA RISING
8. KAYDENS PRIDE, ROCK ON GEORDIES, CARLTON HEIGHTS
9. BIRTHDAY BOY, POINCIANA, VERY VARY

Combat contre la fraude et la corruption

L'heure de vérité sonne pour nos institutions

* Suite de la page 4

La réputation du pays en matière de répression de la corruption dépend de l'efficacité de l'ICAC. Or, depuis deux ans, on n'entend rien de la Task Force mise sur pied sous l'égide de l'ICAC pour appliquer le rapport de la commission d'enquête Lam Shang Leen sur le trafic de drogue. Les avocats dont les noms y sont mentionnés contestent le rapport en Cour.

Il existe aussi une perception que les ordres professionnels d'avocats, des comptables et des notaires font souvent montre de corporatisme. Il est essentiel qu'ils rappellent à l'ordre les brebis galeuses de la profession qui cautionnent des actes soupçonnables, des montages financiers douteux ou des transactions foncières louches.

Il n'y a pas que les mouvements de capitaux dans le secteur offshore, dont des fonds d'origine douteuse investis dans des sociétés-coquilles, qui interpellent les autorités étrangères. En termes d'encadrement légal et financier, il y a aussi toutes ces institutions financières (SBM, MCB, AfrAsia), institutions de régulation (FSC, BOM) et institutions de surveillance/contrôle (ICAC, Integrity Reporting Agency) qui attirent l'attention par leur rôle respectif et la façon dont elles s'acquittent de leur tâche.

Les banques SBM, MCB, AfrAsia sont

toutes impliquées dans des prêts accordés à la compagnie NMC Healthcare de l'homme d'affaires indien B.R. Shetty, déclarée insolvable aux Emirats arabes unis. Apparemment, la BOM a recommandé des changements dans les comités de crédit ou conseils d'administration associés à cette transaction.

Test de volonté

Un premier test de la volonté de nettoyer les écuries d'Augias dans les institutions financières aura lieu aujourd'hui lors de l'assemblée générale annuelle de la SBM, dont les directeurs seront appelés à s'expliquer devant les actionnaires sur les scandales qui ont éclaboussé ce fleuron bancaire de l'Etat. Les profits de la SBM ont baissé de Rs 2,6 milliards en 2017 à Rs 15 millions en 2019 alors que les provisions pour les créances douteuses (prêts non remboursés) sont de Rs 3 milliards en 2019. Le prêt sans garantie de Rs 1,7 milliards accordé à NMC Healthcare y est pour beaucoup.

Il ne suffit pas de remplacer les membres



“ Il n'y a pas que les mouvements de capitaux dans le secteur offshore, dont des fonds d'origine douteuse investis dans des sociétés-coquilles, qui interpellent les autorités étrangères. En termes d'encadrement légal et financier, il y a aussi toutes ces institutions financières (SBM, MCB, AfrAsia), institutions de régulation (FSC, BOM) et institutions de surveillance/contrôle (ICAC, Integrity Reporting Agency) qui attirent l'attention... ”

des conseils d'administration des sociétés du SBM Group par d'autres; encore faut-il poursuivre tous ceux qui ont pêché par négligence ou complicité pour manquement au devoir professionnel. Les actionnaires auraient pu intenter un procès en Cour sous l'article 160 de la loi sur les compagnies pour les tenir responsables. Ils ne l'ont pas fait.

Au contraire, les ex-membres des conseils d'administration ont été mutés dans d'autres institutions de l'Etat ou des filiales du SBM Group. C'est un jeu de chaises

musicales pour les nominés de l'Etat. Si la SBM ne se ressaisit pas pour changer de fond en comble ses pratiques de crédit et d'évaluation des risques, elle est vouée à l'échec comme Air Mauritius.

Air Mauritius, sous administration volontaire depuis le 21 avril, a fait un crash financier qui était prévisible en raison de lourdes pertes liées à l'achat d'avions. Les ex-directeurs, responsables du désastre, sont partis avec des "golden handshakes" alors que beaucoup d'employés sont licenciés ou forcés à la retraite sans garantie de pension (le fonds de pension étant déficitaire). Les administrateurs nommés n'ont pas de recette magique pour redresser la compagnie. Le réunion des créanciers du 7 décembre pourrait sonner le glas de la compagnie à moins que l'Etat n'y injecte Rs 10 milliards.

Sur le plan réglementaire, la FSC n'est pas aussi efficace que possible avec ses vérifications au petit bonheur qui laissent des sociétés obscures s'installer dans le secteur offshore. Les compagnies de gestion ne sont pas plus efficaces pour déceler les fonds d'origine douteuse qui y atterissent. En matière d'enrichissement illicite, l'investigation n'est pas efficace non plus. La seule fois qu'on a entendu parler de l'Integrity Reporting Agency, c'est lorsqu'elle a blanchi un tailleur dans une affaire de fonds accumulés de Rs 10 millions.

L'heure de vérité sonne pour nos institutions engagées dans le combat contre la fraude, la corruption et le blanchiment d'argent.

Aditya Narayan

1

THE RADLET - CANCER SUPPORT CUP

Distance: 1600 m Valeur [0-20] - Time - 12h15

1 REDWOOD VALLEY	RM	5-3-2-2/7	61	J.Allyhosain	1
2 SIR CAPERS	PM	11-3-7/3-6	61	C.Segeon	10
3 SLIGHTLY SCOTTISH	AS	10-7-10/6-8	61	S.Bussunt	8
4 DAREDEVIL AVIATOR	JMH	10-8-10/10-4	60.5	D.Bheekary	6
5 COME ON SONNY	SPN	10-A-9-6/8	59	Y.Emamdee	5
6 KALI'S CHAMP	CR	9-2-1/5-9	59	B.Sooful	2
7 PHOENIX RISING	RG	3-4-7/6-2	58	D.David	4
8 VALERIN	CD	5-6-2-1/3	58	S.Rama	3
9 DOYLES	G	3-10-7-2/2	57	R.Joorawon	9
10 BLUNDERBUSS	CR	4-3-7-5/4	54.5	V.A.Bundhoo	7

2

THE ZILLAH CUP

Distance: 1850 m Valeur [0-25] - Time - 12h50

1 MIDNIGHT ORACLE	CD	R-3-8/2-4	60.5	S.Rama	6
2 NETFLIX	VA	2-3-5-6/5	56.5	R.Joorawon	3
3 BYPASS	SPN	8-5-8/9-10	56	R.Boutanive	7
4 DESERT THIEF	RG	6-4-6/3-3	56	D.David	2
5 BEAR HUG	JMH	8-6-2/8-6	55.5	Y.Emamdee	5
6 BIOMETRIC	SPN	6-10-3/9-5	55	B.Sooful	1
7 SPUN OUT	SH	5-2-5-6/6	53.5	K.Kalychurun	4

3

THE J. HENRY YTHIER CUP

Distance: 1850 m Valeur Benchmark 31 - Time - 13h25

1 EIGHT CITIES	VA	7-5-8/5-5	57	A.Roy	4
2 POWER TOWER	RG	2-4-2-4/10	60	D.David	7
3 ALL ABOARD	SH	2-1-7-1/4	59.5	J.Allyhosain	5
4 DEER PARK	G	0-0-0-4-1	59.5	R.Joorawon	6
5 MANETHEREN	SN	5-4-4/4-4	59.5	D.Bheekary	3
6 GLITTERROCK	AS	9-3-2-7/4	59	S.Bussunt	1
7 JULLIDAR	PM	6-6-8/2-3	59	C.Segeon	2

4

THE ROBERT DE SENNEVILLE CUP

Distance: 1365 m Valeur Benchmark 36 - Time - 14h00

1 GREAT STOHHANEN	AS	0-0-9-6-R	60	S.Bussunt	3
2 KEIKO	SJ	nouveau	59.5	V.A.Bundhoo	1
3 ARCTIC FLYER	SPN	2-7-1-3/4	59	Y.Emamdee	6
4 WATCH ME DAD	GR	1-3-5-2/1	59	N.Juglall	5
5 KU DU TU	VA	8-5-7/7-7	55.5	A.Roy	2
6 ROMAN DANCER	G	1-4-3-5/6	58.5	R.Joorawon	4
7 ZODIAC JACK	JMH	R-3-5-4-3/	58.5	J.Allyhosain	7
8 DARK FORCE	RM	1-8-1/2-3	58	D.Bheekary	8

5

THE DHANKUWAR GUJADHUR CUP

Distance: 1650 m Valeur Benchmark 41 - Time - 14h35

1 DRIVEN FORCE	GR	0-0-0-6-2	60	N.Juglall	3
2 THE GREY CRUSADER	RG	1-4-3/3-6	60	D.David	1
3 CHARLESTON HERO	VA	4-2-2/4-4	56	A.Roy	5
4 CONSUL OF WAR	CD	4-5-8-3/3	58.5	S.Rama	4
5 WHY WOULDN'T YEW	RM	6-4-6/1-1	57	R.Joorawon	6
6 WORDBUSTER	VA	9-7-1/R-4	57	B.Sooful	2

6

THE J. SERGE HENRY CUP

Distance: 1600 m Valeur Benchmark 51 - Time - 15h10

1 IDITAROD TRAIL	GR	2-3-5-1/1	60	N.Juglall	4
2 PROTEA PARADISE	RG	0-0-0-0-7	60	D.David	7
3 SIR BERNADINI	PM	3-6-6-6/8	60	C.Segeon	1
4 SPRING MAN	RM	1-7-1/5-7	60	S.Rama	2
5 MOONRISE SENSATION	SH	4-3-1-6/5	59.5	J.Allyhosain	5
6 CRAZY VISION	AS	2-7-5-7-8/	58	S.Bussunt	6
7 YANKEEDOODLEDANDY	G	3-5-4-5/6	57.5	R.Joorawon	3

7

THE WINTER STAKES CUP

Distance: 1850 m Valeur [60+] G.3 - Time - 15h50

1 OPERA ROYAL	SH	1-1-3-1/5	61	J.Allyhosain	2
2 MADE TO CONQUER	G	0-0-0-0-7	59.5	C.Segeon	4
3 ALSHIBAA	RM	2-2-1-3/3	56.5	D.David	6
4 PERPLEXING	G	1-1-2-1/3	56.5	R.Joorawon	1
5 MORNING CATCH	SPN	0-0-0-9-5	55	Y.Emamdee	5
6 TEN GUN SALUTE	SPN	5-4-9/N-6	54	B.Sooful	3

8

THE ARMED GUARD CUP

Distance: 1850 m Valeur Benchmark 36 - Time -- 16h25

1 BLACK INDY	PM	10-3-3/8-1	60	C.Segeon	7
2 CYBER SPECIAL	GR	3-4-6/7-3	60	N.Juglall	5
3 ONE DIRECTION	JMH	2-7/8-4-5	60	S.Rama	8
4 OVERDOSE	AS	2-1-1/10-5	60	S.Bussunt	1
5 SIBERIAN HUSKY	CR	8-8-2/7-7	59.5	B.Sooful	3
6 WEST COAST WARRIOR	RG	2-9-4/10-5	59.5	D.David	9
7 BARAK LAVAN	SN	4-7-4/4-5	58.5	D.Bheekary	6
8 CONFESSIONAL	G	0-0-0-0-2	58.5	R.Joorawon	2
9 MOSCHINO	VA	5-4-3/5-1	58	J.Allyhosain	4

9

THE ZINOVIEFF PLATE

Distance: 1400 m Valeur [0-26] - Time -- 17hr00

1 AMANDLA	JMH	0-0-0-0-3	60	S.Bussunt	3
2 EMAAR	CD	6-2-7-10/2	60	S.Rama	4
3 JET STORM	SPN	nouveau	60	Y.Emamdee	7
4 NEWSMAN	RG	5-8-6/3-6	60	D.David	2
5 THE RIDDLER	SH	0-0-0-0-9	60	J.Allyhosain	6
6 KING OF TARA	VA	0-0-0-0-2	59.5	R.Joorawon	5
7 ICEBREAKER	RM	5-5-3-5/3	58.5	N.Tehea	1

SELECTIONS

1. REDWOOD VALLEY, VALERIN, DOYLES

2. NETFLIX, DESERT THIEF, MIDNIGHT ORACLE

3. MANETHEREN, GLITTERROCK, EIGHT CITIES

4. WATCH ME DAD, ZODIAC JACK, DARK FORCE

5. CONSUL OF WAR, WHY WOULDN'T YEW, DRIVEN FORCE

6. IDITAROD TRAIL, MOONRISE SENSATION, SPRING MAN

7. ALSHIBAA, PERPLEXING, OPERA ROYAL

8. CONFESSIONAL, CYBER SPECIAL, LBLACK INDY

9. CEBREAKER, KING OF TARA, EMAAR

In a light vein**Who says retirees are not naughty !**

One Whatsapp Retirees group decided to meet over lunch. All 15 of them met and had good food, drinks and dessert. Then the bill arrived.

All 15 of them rushed to grab the bill for payment. There was a scene with everyone fighting to take the bill.

The hotel manager saw this and appreciated the love and good intention of each to pay the bill.

Finally one among the 15 said: "The bill has to be paid, but everyone wants to pay it. No one wants the other to pay. So we shall organize a race. All must take a round of the hotel's premises and whoever comes first to the counter, shall pay the bill."

The manager said he can blow the whistle and all can run around the hotel. Whoever comes first shall pay the bill.

Today is the third day and no one has reached the counter yet!

Stock markets & Red Indians' Chief

It was autumn, and the Red Indians asked their new Chief if the winter was going to be cold or mild.

To be on the safe side, he replied to his tribe that the winter was indeed going to be cold and that members of the village should collect wood to be prepared. But also, being a practical leader, he went to the phone booth, called the National Weather Service and asked if the coming winter was going to be cold.

'It looks like this winter is going to be quite cold,' the weather man responded.

So, the Chief went back to his people and told them to collect even more wood.

A week later, he called again. 'Is it going to be a very cold winter?'

'Yes,' the man at National Weather Service replied, 'It's definitely going to be a very cold winter.'

The Chief again went back to his people and ordered them to collect every scrap of wood they could find.

Two weeks later, he called the National Weather Service again.

'Are you absolutely sure that the winter is going to be very cold?'

'Absolutely,' the man replied. 'It's going to be one of the coldest winters ever.'

'How can you be so sure?' the Chief asked.

The weatherman replied, 'The Red Indians are collecting wood like crazy.'

This is how stock markets work...

Hot and cold sex

After his examination, the doctor said to an old man: 'You appear to be in good health. Do you have any question?'

'In fact, I do,' said the old man. 'After I have sex with the wife, I am usually cold and chilly; and then, after I have sex with her the second time, I am usually hot and sweaty.'

The doctor could not find any explanation for this.

After examining his elderly wife, the doctor said: 'Your husband had an unusual concern. He claims that he is usually cold and chilly after having sex with you the first time; and hot and sweaty after the second time. Do you know why?'

'Oh, that crazy old bastard,' she replied. 'That's because the first time is usually in December, and the second time is in May.'

Thoughts to live by**Five lessons about the way we treat people**

-- Kate Swaffer

First Important Lesson - Cleaning lady

During my second month of college, our professor gave us a pop quiz. I was a conscientious student and had breezed through the questions until I read the last one: "What is the first name of the woman who cleans the school?"

Surely this was some kind of joke. I had seen the cleaning woman several times. She was tall, dark-haired and in her 50s, but how would I know her name? I handed in my paper, leaving the last question blank. Just before class ended, one student asked if the last question would count toward our quiz grade. "Absolutely," said the professor, "In your careers, you will meet many people. All are significant. They deserve your attention and care, even if all you do is smile and say hello."

I've never forgotten that lesson. I also learned her name was Dorothy.

Second Important Lesson - Pickup in the rain...

One night, at 11:30 pm, an older African American woman was standing on the side of an Alabama highway trying to endure a lashing rain storm. Her car had broken down and she desperately needed a ride. Soaking wet, she decided to flag down the next car. A young white man stopped to help her, generally unheard of in those conflict-filled 1960s, and he took her to safety, helped her get assistance and put her into a taxicab.

She seemed to be in a big hurry, but wrote down his address and thanked him. Seven days went by and a knock came on the man's door. To his surprise, a giant console colour TV was delivered to his home.

A special note was attached. It read: "Thank you so much for assisting me on the highway the other night. The rain drenched not only my clothes, but also my spirits. Then you came along. Because of you, I was able to make it to my dying husband's bedside just before he passed away... God bless you for helping me and unselfishly serving others. Sincerely, Mrs Nat King Cole."

Third Important Lesson - Always remember those who serve...

In the days when an ice cream sundae cost much less, a 10-year-old boy entered a hotel coffee shop and sat at a table. A waitress put a glass of water in front of him.

"How much is an ice cream sundae?" he asked.

"Fifty cents," replied the waitress.

The little boy pulled his hand out of his pocket and studied the coins in it. "Well, how much is a plain dish of ice cream?" he inquired.

By now more people were waiting for a table and the waitress was growing impatient. "Thirty-five cents," she brusquely replied.

The little boy again counted his coins. "I'll have the plain ice cream," he said.

The waitress brought the ice cream, put the bill on the table and walked away. The boy finished the ice cream, paid the cashier and left. When the waitress came back, she began to cry as she wiped down the table. There, placed neatly beside the empty dish, were two nickels and five pennies. You see, he couldn't have the sundae, because he had to have enough left to leave her a tip.

Fourth Important Lesson - The obstacle in our path...

In ancient times, a King had a boulder placed on a roadway. Then he hid himself and watched to see if anyone would remove the huge rock.

Some of the King's wealthiest merchants and courtiers came by and simply walked around it. Many loudly blamed the King for not keeping the roads clear, but none did anything about getting the stone out of the way.

Then a peasant came along carrying a load of vegetables. Upon approaching the boulder, the peasant laid down his burden and tried to move the stone to the side of the road. After much pushing and straining, he finally succeeded. After the peasant picked up his load of vegetables, he noticed a purse lying in the road where the boulder had been. The purse contained many gold coins and a note from the King indicating that the gold was for the person who removed the boulder from the roadway. The peasant learned what many of us never understand! Every obstacle presents an opportunity to improve our condition.

Fifth Important Lesson - Giving when it counts...

Many years ago, when I worked as a volunteer at a hospital, I got to know a little girl named Liz who was suffering from a rare and serious disease. Her only chance of recovery appeared to be a blood transfusion from her 5-year-old brother, who had miraculously survived the same disease and had developed the antibodies needed to combat the illness. The doctor explained the situation to her little brother, and asked the little boy if he would be willing to give his blood to his sister.

I saw him hesitate for only a moment before taking a deep breath and saying, "Yes, I'll do it if it will save her." As the transfusion progressed, he lay in bed next to his sister and smiled, as we all did, seeing the colour returning to her cheeks. Then his face grew pale and his smile faded. He looked up at the doctor and asked with a trembling voice, "Will I start to die right away?"

Being young, the little boy had misunderstood the doctor; he thought he was going to have to give his sister all of his blood in order to save her.

So remember...

Live with no regrets, treat people the way you want to be treated, work like you don't need the money, love like you've never been hurt, and dance like you do when nobody's watching.

"Everybody thinks of changing humanity and nobody thinks of changing himself."

-- Leo Tolstoy

Health Tips

14 things you can do to help prevent cancer

Every puff of tobacco is packed with 250 harmful chemicals. Nearly 70 of them cause cancer. And it's more than just lung cancer. Cigarettes are linked to 12 other kinds, including stomach, bladder, kidney, mouth, and throat. The sooner you stop, the better. Ask your doctor for advice on quit-smoking methods.

Eat more broccoli: Fruits and veggies pack an anti-cancer punch because they're high in nutrients and fiber, and low in fat. Try broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, kale, watercress, or other cruciferous vegetables. They protect against DNA damage that can turn cells cancerous. Or eat colorful berries. Studies show they have cancer-fighting chemicals that ward off damage to cells.

Trim a few pounds: Extra weight around your middle could add up to a greater chance of having cancer, especially of the breast, colon, uterus, pancreas, esophagus, and gallbladder. Researchers say one reason may be that fat cells release substances that encourage cancer cells to grow.

Go easy on alcohol: Tip back too many martinis each day, and your odds of cancer go up. Alcohol is linked to cancers of the mouth, breast, liver, esophagus, and others. The more you drink, the higher your risk. If you drink, do it in moderation. Women should stick to one drink a day, men up to two.

Cut back on red meat: Think twice before you throw some on the grill. Studies show that processed meats, like hot dogs, bacon, and sausage, have chemicals called nitrites and nitrates that may be linked to cancer. And research suggests too much red meat like steak and burgers could be a long-term risk for colorectal cancer. Choose safer alternatives for your backyard cookout, like

chicken breast or fish.

Get off the couch: Do you spend too much time lounging around? Cancer prevention is one more reason to get moving. Exercise fights obesity and lowers levels of hormones like estrogen and insulin, which have been linked to cancer. Aim for 30 minutes of aerobic exercise -- the kind that gets your heart pumping -- on most days of the week.

Put on sunscreen: Baking in the sun might give you a healthy-looking glow, but under the surface, UV rays cause skin damage that could lead to cancer. Because you can burn in just 15 minutes, rub on sunscreen before you go outside. Pick a broad-spectrum product with an SPF of 30 or higher. Reapply whenever you sweat or swim. And when you're out in the sun, wear a wide-brimmed hat and wraparound sunglasses.

Practise safer sex: Sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) aren't your only worry during unprotected sex. Some of these infections also increase your odds of having cancer. About 70% of cervical cancers start with human papillomavirus (HPV) types 16 and 18. Some types of hepatitis can cause liver cancer. To stay safe, use a latex condom every time you have sex.

Get vaccinated: When it comes to vaccines, think beyond your annual flu shot. Some can protect against cancer, too. Certain HPV vaccines prevent cancers of the cervix, vulva, vagina, and anus. The time to get vaccinated is between ages 9 and 26. The hepatitis B vaccine wards off the virus that causes liver cancer. It's part of the childhood vaccination schedule.

Avoid toxic chemicals: Chemicals called carcinogens damage DNA in your cells and raise your chance of having cancer if you touch, eat, or breathe them in. Asbestos, radon, and benzene are a few that some people come into contact with at work or home. Chemicals in weedkillers, plastics, and some home products may also be risky. You can't avoid every chemical, but know which ones are in products you use and switch to safer options if you can.

Know your family history: You inherited more than your mother's eyes or your father's grin. They may also have shared their chances for having diseases like cancer. Some genes



that parents pass down to their kids have flaws. They don't repair damaged DNA the way they should, which lets cells turn into cancer. Learn about your family's medical history and ask your doctor if a genetic test is a good idea for you.

Stay up to date with screenings: Screening tests catch cancer early -- sometimes even before it starts. A colonoscopy often finds polyps in the colon and rectum before they turn into cancer. The Pap test locates pre-cancerous and cancerous cells in a woman's cervix. Mammograms and low-dose computed tomography (LDCT) look for early breast and lung cancers. Ask your doctor when to start getting these tests, and how often you need them.

Take meds if you need them: Some drugs lower your odds of getting certain cancers. Tamoxifen (Nolvadex, Soltamox) and raloxifene (Evista) can reduce breast cancer risk but may have serious side effects. Aspirin may protect against colorectal and prostate cancers. Be wary, though, of supplements that promise to keep you cancer-free. Many haven't been proven, and some have side effects.

Be cautious about hormone therapy: It can ease menopause symptoms like hot flashes and fatigue, and protect your bones. But hormone therapy may raise your chances of breast cancer and make cancer harder to detect. Ask your doctor about your risks before you try this treatment.

WebMD



NOTICE FOR PERMISSION FOR LAND USE

Take notice that I, **Mrs Hemsia Bisnauthsing**, will apply to the District Council of Flacq for a Building and Land Use Permit for a proposed General Retailer's shop/Victualler shop at Pont Bon Dieu Road, Brisée Verdère.

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

31 July 2020

NOTICE FOR PERMISSION FOR LAND USE

Take notice that I, **Mr Reshad Jameer**, will apply to the District Council of Flacq for a Building and Land Use Permit for a proposed Commercial Building (semi basement/Grand Floor (General Retailer's shop Foodstuff and Non-Foodstuff) at Royal Road, Brisée Verdère.

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

31 July 2020

NOTICE FOR PERMISSION FOR LAND USE

Take notice that I, **Mr Keshaw Sharma Ganga**, will apply to the District Council of Flacq for a Building and Land Use Permit for a proposed General Retailer's shop - Foodstuff & Non Foodstuff - and Victualler shop at Royal Road, Bramsthan.

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

31 July 2020

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Shweta Tiwari's daughter Palak to star in Rosie: The Saffron Chapter

Palak Tiwari said preparing for the character of Rosie in Rosie: The Saffron Chapter is going to be tricky



Television actor Shweta Tiwari's daughter Palak Tiwari is all set to make her Bollywood debut with *Rosie: The Saffron Chapter*, bankrolled by Vivek Anand Oberoi, Girish Johar, Kussum Arora, Reshabh D Saraf, Keyur Pandya and Sanjeet S. Yermal.

Vivek Oberoi took to his social media platforms to introduce Palak Tiwari as Rosie, the film's protagonist.

He wrote, "And here's our mystery girl, glad to launch @palaktiwari in & as #Rosie! Our horror-thriller franchise is based on true events in Gurugram, directed by @mishravishal."

Talking about *Rosie: The Saffron Chapter*, Palak Tiwari said, "It was actually for me, just another mundane lockdown day, and then out of

nowhere, we get a call asking me to audition for a story that truly left me chilled to the bone, and infinitely curious. So, naturally, I was very excited to audition and understanding more of this character. I gave my audition and after a few days, Purna (Arora) ma'am gave me the great news that they have picked me. I was ecstatic. I am very excited to be working with a team as nurturing and supportive as Mandiraa Entertainment."

She added, "Preparing for the character is going to be tricky, but I definitely intend to draw inspiration from all our classic heroines that lay the foundation of Bollywood as we know it today. They are the pillars of authenticity. Sadhna ji's work in *Woh Kaun* This is definitely a close point of reference. Performances from that era in general are so immensely edifying. So, I shall surely be looking more into that."

Rosie: The Saffron Chapter revolves around the sudden disappearance of a woman named Rosie, who was an employee at a BPO company in Gurugram. The film is expected to go on floors in September.

Yaara movie review and release LIVE UPDATES: Adah Sharma, Parineeti Chopra take the Bond Of Yaara challenge

Here's what celebrities, fans and critics are saying about Yaara, starring Vidyut Jammwal, Amit Sadh, Vijay Verma, Kenny D Basumatary and Shruti Haasan

Tigmanshu Dhulia directorial *Yaara* is finally streaming on ZEE5. The film, starring Vidyut Jammwal, Amit Sadh, Vijay Verma, Kenny D Basumatary and Shruti Haasan, revolves around the friendship of four criminals – Phagun, Mitwa, Rizwan and Bahadur – who are part of the Chauki Gang, and traces their rise and fall. A remake of 2011 French movie *Gang Story*, *Yaara* is set in two periods – 1970s and the present day. As a result, we see its lead actors sporting older looks too.

In what we saw in *Yaara*'s trailer and other promotional material, the plot follows the crimes committed by four friends (Vidyut, Amit, Vijay and Kenny) and their coming-of-age. But things going awry resulting in Phagun and Mitwa parting ways, only to meet again after 20 years when Mitwa gets arrested. Phagun, despite the fallout, tries to help his former friend for old times sake.

Talking about doing a male buddy film, Vidyut Jammwal told indianexpress.com, "It is quite new. We did not have a story on friendship for a long time. The last I can remember is *Zindagi Milegi Na Dobara*, which was quite an inspirational film because it motivated my friends to travel. *Yaara* will do that to our audiences. It is a



story of four friends – Amit Sadh, Vijay Varma, Kenny Basumatary and me. All characters are relatable. Kenny is this guy who is intellectual and soft-spoken. He would always tell you 'ye mat karo' and 'wo mat karo'. Then there is Amit Sadh, who is flamboyant." He added that *Yaara* having a digital release is a relief. "More than the box office, there is a relief that the audience will be sitting at home and deciding if they liked the movie or not. For example, my film *Junglee* did not garner 1 billion at the box office, but it is the number one film on an OTT platform. It is bigger than big films you know of. For me, the relief is that people will decide the fate of the film," the actor said.

YOUR STARS

Sagittarius: Nov 22 - Dec 21

You're likely to be inconstant in your efforts, with a clear tendency to take useless risks; try to dominate your impulsiveness. Above all, don't take financial risks. Rather animated love life which, however, will not be devoid of conflicts because of your current tendency to flit about.

Lucky Numbers: 2, 3, 9, 12, 15, 20

Capricorn: Dec 22 - Jan 19

Be careful of your too great susceptibility, which is likely to provoke emptiness around you. A certain suspense will reign over your emotional exchanges; you won't know if the big black clouds will quickly go away and leave the sky to the sun; but you can hasten this happy event.

Lucky Numbers: 8, 11, 14, 16, 20, 36

Aquarius: Jan 20 - Feb 18

You'll be more open to the outside world, which will help you to have a more optimistic view of life and to obtain a better bloomed personality. React against the tendency to hide things or to shirk responsibilities concerning sentimental matters.

Lucky Numbers: 1, 8, 23, 24, 29, 33

Pisces: Feb 19 - Mar 20

You'll be looking towards the future and you'll enthusiastically follow the direction of the wind. Delightful harmony with your spouse or partner; the stars will help you clear up all misunderstandings, and your intuition will work wonders.

Lucky Numbers: 3, 5, 20, 24, 27, 39

Aries: Mar 21 - Apr 19

You'll compel yourself to develop and follow a precise financial strategy, and you'll quickly obtain good results. You'll be inclined to intolerance and intransigence; as a result, the family climate will be oppressive.

Lucky Numbers: 12, 17, 18, 20, 29, 30

Taurus: Apr 20 - May 20

On the career front, your efficiency and your sense of reality will help you to find concrete solutions to most problems. Despite your various responsibilities and occupations, do your utmost to devote more time to your dear ones.

Lucky Numbers: 4, 9, 16, 17, 20, 28

Gemini: May 21 - June 20

Risk of conflicts at home; don't poison the situation with endless discussions, for your words would end up by hurting. Very persevering, you'll try to develop your material situation, and your tenacity will bear its fruits.

Lucky Numbers: 17, 19, 25, 30, 36, 40

Cancer: June 21 - July 22

Your nervous resistance will show some weakness: it will be necessary for you to slow down and to take more rest. Whatever your sentimental situation might be, it'll be blocked and you'll only obtain scant satisfactions.

Lucky Numbers: 3, 10, 15, 20, 29, 40

Leo: July 23 - Aug 22

This week will be good and even very good for flirting, for love and, why not, for marriage too. Very worrisome financial problems. In case of a litigious affair, ask for an expert's advice instead of trying to sort it out by yourself.

Lucky Numbers: 20, 27, 33, 35, 36, 39

Virgo: Aug 23 - Sept 22

Circumstances will enable you to carry out very lucrative financial transactions. Be ready to take advantage of the unforeseen but beneficial events in your professional environment. You'll be entitled to great sentimental joys.

Lucky Numbers: 4, 13, 18, 19, 20, 29

Libra: Sept 23 - Oct 22

Risk of insomnia: try to lead a more calm and regular life. Put into practice the plans that you've laid down and try to act with as much coherence as possible; this should help you to succeed.

Lucky Numbers: 9, 14, 20, 29, 31, 33

Scorpion: 23 Oct - 21 Nov

You're very likely to have arguments with your beloved one if you continue to place him/her after your professional concerns. Be very careful not to endanger the balance of your budget; this may cause you to take some bad decisions.

Lucky Numbers: 4, 7, 15, 23, 24, 36

Jai Kanhaiya Lal Ki Review - A Tried and Tested Formula

What is right entertainment? This debate has really heated up in recent times, with web entertainment experimenting with bold themes like BDSM and alternative sexuality. Yet, there is a huge Indian market which still wants to watch good old subjects featuring a rich, spoilt brat, her loving father and a street-smart dude who tames her. Well folks, this, in a nutshell, is the concept of the new Star Bharat show, *Jai Kanhaiya Lal Ki*.

Being the remake of the popular Bengali show *Bhojo Gobindo* that aired on Star Jalsha, the show comes with a lot of expectations reports Anil Merani of IWMBUZZ television.

Newbie, Shweta Bhattacharya, is doing a good job as *Daali*, who does as she pleases. Daali has been given full freedom by her rich granddad. The scene where she plays loud music to drown out the bhajans depicts a very common generational conflict. In keeping with the good girl image, Daali is shown to be fully covered-no miniskirts or cleavage showing tops for her.

The grandfather part is well essayed by Deepankar De. He is a nice man, hence, can't crack the whip on Daali. Keeping the comic genre in mind, his anger and constant whining are always in a lighter vein, which is humorous. Many fathers and mothers will identify with his perpetual conflict. The poor man fibs through his teeth about his beloved granddaughter's sanskari ways, but falls flat on his face over and over again. 99 guys have rejected Daali so far, but she is blasé and pines for her knight in shining armour.

The story takes a clear dig at the Indian mentality of craving for an NRI husband for the daughter. Here, the family turns out to be from Bangladesh, as opposed to from the US, UK or Australia. The groom is always shown to be a patcy who wants the girl, but the parents put their foot down. There are also a lot of references to God - an intrinsic part of desi life.

The song and dance entry of male lead, Vishal Vashishtha, was fun. The use of Bollywood numbers on TV has become very common- even here, Daali is shown grooving to *Nashe Si Chadh Gai*. It would be interesting to see how Govindo enters the house as a house help and deals with Daali, who has made all the previous servants run away. The job of the writers musn't have been too challenging, as there are several films and TV shows based on the same subject for reference. The dialogues, screenplay and subplots will be the crucial differentiator in this case. It is still too early to comment on the same.



As is the case with all family dramas, here too, the canvas is filled with relatives- the good, the bad and the not so important.

Here, to be fair, we have to acknowledge that Star Bharat knows its audience well, as most of its shows are doing well. The channel doles out simple stories, well told and classily executed. TV is a reflection of social mindsets, and we have to accept that small towns, the main consumers of TV shows, are still not ready to accept women outside the family, forget embracing sexual openness. No wonder then, that most small-screen offerings, which tried to cross this so-called Laxman Rekha, have perished in the ratings war.

And last but not the least, the urban crowd that cribs about desi TV being regressive doesn't follow tube fiction anyways. So why will anybody bother about their likes and dislikes? They also enjoy the luxury of other entertainment avenues - internet, opera, stage, etc. - which general TV audiences don't have. It is for this reason that shows such as *Jai Kanhaiya Lal Ki* are a win-win proposition for both- the channel and the mainstream TV audiences.

Having said this, Producer Snehasish Chakraborty's Blues Productions has been successful when it comes to the original Bengali version of the show. One reality though about the look and feel of the show is that the Hindi version too seems to have a regional look, especially because of the regional cast that has been used in the show. We only hope this simplicity in thoughts to keep the product as close as possible to its roots does not create problems for its growth and popularity in the Hindi sector.

TV SERIAL

Yeh Un Dinon Ki Baat Hai

Friday 31 July: Aditya tries to consolidate his mother-in-law and begs for his forgiveness. But little did Aditya know, what he has to go through in order to gain back the trust of his mother-in-law.

Monday 3 Aug: Tanvi's mother finally accepts Tanvi and Aditya's marriage. Naina voiceover's the story about how dramatic love stories used to be in those days. The family gets together for a small gathering.

Tuesday 4 Aug: Naina's father is furious to know that Preeti's mother-in-law is forbidding him to meet her daughter. Naina's tries to consolidate her father and asks him to be patient so that he doesn't cause any issues in Preeti's relation with her in-laws.

Wednesday 5 Aug: Naina shares the news of her being pregnant. Everyone comes to her house and celebrates the cause. But Sameer can see that Naina is missing her sister so he deliberately decides to call her up and hands over the phone to Naina. Naina shares her thoughts with her sister and regrets the fact that she is not able to join them.

Thursday 6 Aug: Everyone is happy and celebrating the news of Naina's pregnancy. Her sister also comes and joins them on this auspicious occasion. Naina asks her sister that how could she come and learns that her sister lied at her house to be with Naina.

Kahan Hum Kahan Tum

Friday 31 July: The Sippys make Sonakshi and Rohit play a fun compatibility game. Elsewhere, Raima needs to be taken to Chandigarh for treatment.

Monday 3 Aug: On Veena's orders, Rohit visits the sets of KPK. Later, he is asked to look into Raima's case while a decked up Pari accompanies Rohan to a party.

Tuesday 4 Aug: Rohit offers to help Sonakshi in biology. On the other hand, Nishi deliberately invites Suman to the Janmashtami party.

Wednesday 5 Aug: Sonakshi accidentally bumps into a partly-clothed Rohit while Pari faces a puzzling situation. Later, the police question Sonakshi about a murdercase.

Thursday 6 Aug: Rohit stands by Sonakshi when the police take her for interrogation. Later, she is accused of an unthinkable crime while he struggles to meet her.

Surekha Sikri says decision to stop senior actors from working unfair: 'It cancels all my effort to be Atma Nirbhar'

Surekha Sikri who is popularly known as Dadisa of *Balika Vadhu* or for her famous Dadi's role in *Badhaai Ho* has some amazing work on her name. The senior actress who is 75 now is working in the industry for more than four decades and has received applause for her recently released *Ghost Stories* for Netflix. As per the government's new norms, senior citizens above 65 are not allowed to go on the set and shoot. We spoke to the actress who is still in demand for various projects, basking her what she feels about the decision.

Talking to us exclusively, Surekha Sikri said, "It's a very unfair decision. They haven't given a thought to practical thoughts. Since this lockdown has started I have not been able to work for many months. Due to which I am unable to generate any income for myself or my family. As a result of this, there is a complete stop on all my shooting. There were

offers and people wanted to shoot with me but I couldn't give my time or confirm them anything".

Surekha Sikri who faced a brain stroke while shooting her film *Badhaai Ho* in November 2018, is in good health now and she is ready to work in the pandemic outside. As the National Award Winner told us, "I want to stick with my own platform. And this rule is making it impossible for me to be Atma Nirbhar. It cancels all my effort to be Atma Nirbhar. It violets my right to work and support my family. My health is all fine and I don't mind stepping out shooting my projects".

Meanwhile, according to Mumbai Mirror, the Indian Motion Pictures Producers Association (IMPPA) has approached the High Court against state government guidelines for prohibiting individuals above 65 years of age from indulging in their work. A petition on the same was filed

which claimed that people are in a starving condition.

The report further mentioned that a petition was filed through Advocate Ashok Saraogi, earlier this week in order to seek justice. Mumbai Mirror also carried a statement from the petitioner that states, "As per the list available with the petitioner, there are thousands of people aged above 65 years who were participating in the shooting of programmes prior to the lockdown. The shootings of such films and programmes have been left in-between due to non-availability of such people."

The petition also mentioned how the industry is in a starving condition after the trade came to a standstill. "The entire trade has come to a standstill and all those concerned with the industry are in a starving condition. Some of them have also committed suicide," the petition claims.

CINE 12

Vendredi 31 juillet - 21.15

The Karate Kid 2

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



CINE 12

Samedi 1 août - 21.15

Kill Kane

Star: Vinnie Jones, Nicole Faraday, Sebastian Street



mhc 1

Dimanche 2 août - 21.10



vendredi 31 juillet

MBC 1

07.05 Local: Passerelles
09.45 Local: Arsiv 261
10.15 Local: Portrait D'artiste
10.30 Local: Saver KilTirel
12.00 Le Journal
12.25 Doc: Autour Des Valeurs
12.35 Mag: Eye On SADC
14.00 Local: Rodrig Prog
14.46 D.Anime: Le Quiz De Zack
15.02 D.Anime: Vitaminix
15.15 D.Anime: Teenie Weenies
16.11 D.Anime: Boule Et Bill
16.33 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

MBC 2

10.00 Serial: Tumhaari Natsaha
11.17 Serial: Tum Mere Paas Raho
12.04 Film: Rupiyao Nach Nachave
Starring: Dharmesh Vyas, Vyas, Arvind Vekaria, Dilip Darbar, Ishawar Patel
14.00 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
19.30 DDI Magazine
20.00 Serial: Tawaan
20.44 Local: Talk On Eid Ul Adha
21.21 Local: Noor-E-Iman-Yaad
22.31 DDI Live

MBC 3

06.00 Mag: Eco India
06.44 Mag: Shift
07.00 Mag: Border Crossing
07.35 Mag: Tomorrow Today
08.01 Doc: Comme Un Poisson...
09.08 Doc: 360 GEO
10.01 Doc: Holiday In Chernobyl
11.39 Mag: Urban Gardens
11.57 Mag: Shift
12.12 Mag: Border Crossing
12.42 Doc: A Question Of Science
13.14 Doc: Comme Un Poisson...
15.14 Doc: Holiday In Chernobyl
15.40 Doc: The DC 3 Story
16.52 Mag: Urban Gardens
17.24 Mag: Border Crossing
17.45 Doc: A Question Of Science
18.00 The Solar Power Brokers
18.30 Live: News
18.47 Mag: Arts And Culture
19.00 Mag: Global 3000

Cine 12

01.34 Film: Mise A L'epreuve 2
03.12 Serial: The Good Doctor
03.53 Serial: Island Doctor
05.23 Tele: Totalement Diva
06.14 Tele: Esmeraldas
06.56 Film: Away And Back
09.45 Tele: Au Nom De L'Amour
10.35 Serial: The Good Doctor
11.22 Tele: Dulce Amor
12.00 Serial: Island Doctor
13.33 Tele: Totalement Diva
14.45 Film: Away And Back
16.44 Serial: NCIS
17.26 Tele: Esmeraldas
18.11 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

Bollywood TV

08.00 Film: Kudrat
12.05 / 19.54 -
Kahan Hum Kahan Tuam
12.16 / 20.11 -
Kullfi Kumarr Bajewala
12.46 / 20.32 Radha Krishna
13.09 / 21.09 - Bin Kuch Kahe
13.31 / 21.24 - Zindagi Ki Mehek
13.53 / 21.46 -
Bade Acche Lagte Hai
14.17 / 21.59 - Chhanchhan
14.39 / 22.25 - Bitti Business...
15.05 Film: Sauda
Starring: Sumeet Saigal,
Neelam, Vikas Bhalla
17.30 Yeh Hai Mohabbatein
18.00 Live: Samacher
18.30 Kumkum Bhagya
18.51 Piya Albela
19.14 Mere Angne Mein

samedi 1 août

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...
14.46 D.Anime: Le Quiz De Zack
15.01 D.Anime: Vitaminix
15.14 D.Anime: Teenie Weenies
15.17 D.Anime: Poko
16.13 D.Anime: Boule Et Bill
16.35 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
21.10 Film: Twister
23.00 Le Journal

10.00 Bade Acchelagte Hai
12.00 Serial: Mooga Manasulu
12.30 Serial: Brundavanam
13.00 Annakodiyum Ainthus
Pungalum
13.30 Serial: Anu Pallavi
14.00 Serial: Nanda Saukhya
Bhare
15.00 Mag: Strictly Street
15.30 Film: Ki & Ka
Starring: Amitabh Bachchan,
Kareena Kapoor Khan, Arjun
Kapoor
18.30 Mag: DDI Magazine
19.00 Zournal Kreol
20.05 Serial: Vikram Betaal Ki
Rahasya Gatha
20.28 Serial: Bitti Business Wali
21.00 Film: Ranviir, The Marshsal
Starring Rishy, Rati
Agnihotri, Ramnita Chaudhry
23.18 DDI Live

06.00 Doc: The Climate Covers...
06.42 Mag: Urban Gardens
06.47 Mag: Arts And Culture
07.27 Doc: Euromaxx
09.00 Local: Mehfil E Ghazal
09.55 The Science Of Avalanches
10.38 Doc: Light Pollution
12.05 Mag: Urban Gardens
12.59 Mag: Euromaxx
15.16 The Science Of Avalanches
15.59 Open Univ: Student Support
18.30 Live: News (English)
18.45 Mag: Shift
19.00 Mag: Word On The Street
19.30 Mag: Mixeur, Les Goût...
19.56 Doc: Japan 2019
20.06 Doc: Brains In Danger
21.04 Doc: 360 GEO
21.50 Doc: The Democracy Of The
22.35 The Shah And The Ayatollah
23.20 Doc: Horizon

00.49 Film: The Karate Kid 2
02.50 Serial: Chicago Fire
03.29 Film: Sparkle
05.21 Tele: Destiny
06.06 Serial: Emerald City
06.50 Film: Away And Back
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: Emerald City
17.45 Film: Sos Chasseurs De
Monstres
20.05 Tele: Le Prix Du Désir
20.30 Series: Emerald City
21.15 Film: Kill Kane
23.45 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: Chatur Singh Two
Star
Starring Sanjay Dutt,
Ameesha Patel, Suresh
Menon
20.20 Serial: Siya Ke Ram
21.03 Serial: Naagin
21.47 Serial: Zindagi Ki Mehek

dimanche 2 août

06.00 D.Anime: Robot Trains
08.45 D.Anime: The Garfield Show
09.24 D.Anime: Astrology
09.35 Serial: Dark Oracle
12.00 Le Journal
12.30 Local: Elle - No 107
15.00 D.Anime: Nos Voisins Les...
15.16 D.Anime: Le Quiz De Zack
15.20 D.Anime: Chuck's Choice
15.31 D.Anime: Vitaminix
16.10 D.Anime: Les Enquêtes Des...
16.26 D.Anime: Fils De Wouf
16.41 D.Anime: Boule Et Bill
17.02 D.Anime: Delilah Et Juluis
17.29 D.Anime: Mega Man
18.00 Live: Samachar
18.30 Local: Yeh Shaam Mastani
19.30 Le Journal
20.00 Prod: Mett Sa Ladan
21.10 Film: Anaconda 3

07.00 Film: Karnama
Starring: Vinod Khanna,
Kimi Katkar
09.07 DDI Magazine
10.00 Local Production
11.00 Serial: Santosshi Maa
12.00 Film: Main Aisa Hi Hoon
Ajay Devgan, Sushmita Sen,
Esha Deol, Anupam
15.00 Mag: Strictly Street
15.23 Serial: Mooga Manasulu
15.53 Eka Lagnachi Teesri Gosht
16.23 Serial: Apoorva Raagangal
17.00 Serial: Gangaa
17.30 Serial: Mahakali
19.20 DDI Magazine
20.00 Serial: Maharakshak
21.00 Serial: Naagin
21.48 Serial: CID
22.29 Serial: Piya Rangrezz

06.00 Doc: Horizon
06.49 Doc: Olivia's Garden
07.15 Mag: Mixeur, Les Goûts...
08.36 Doc: World Stamps
10.19 Doc: Desert Patrol
10.52 Local: Turf Time
11.45 En Direct Du Champ De Mars
17.20 Doc: World Stamps
17.26 Doc: Set One
17.38 Mag: Mixeur, Les Goûts...
18.00 Doc: Evgenia Won't Give Up
18.30 Live: News
19.05 Doc: Builders Of The Future
19.30 Mag: Mixeur, Les Goût Et...
21.00 Doc: 360 GEO
21.52 The Secret Of Mona Lisa
22.34 Doc: The Exploitation Of...
23.17 Doc: Evgenia Won't Give Up
23.43 Doc: Garden Party
00.09 Doc: Builders Of The Future

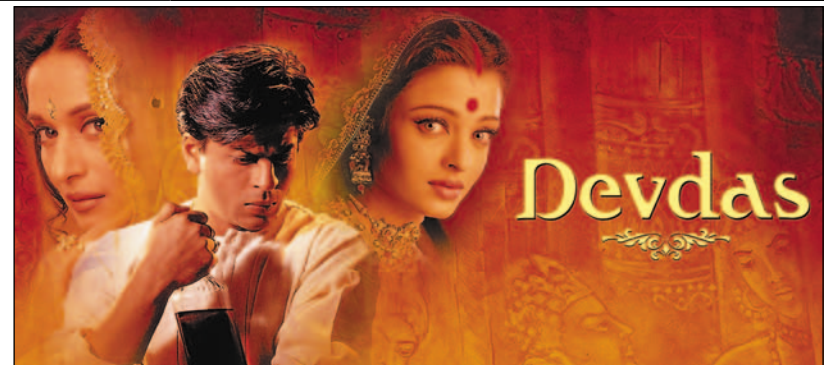
01.28 Film: Kill Kane
02.42 Serial: Hawaii 5-0
03.24 Film: Victor Et Le Manoir...
04.55 Tele: Destiny
06.07 Serial: Emerald City
06.49 Film: Brush With Danger
08.30 Serial: Mike Hammer
09.18 Serial: Brooklyn Nine Nine
09.59 Serial: Counterpart
10.52 Film: Sos Chasseurs De...
12.24 Serial: Hawaii 5-0
13.06 Tele: Amanda
14.15 Tele: Premiere Dame
15.05 Serial: Chicago Med
17.08 Serial: Emerald City
17.50 Serial: Hawaii 5-0
18.31 Serial: Mission: Impossible
20.05 Tele: Le Prix Du Désir
20.30 Serial: Incorporated
21.15 Serial: Island Doctor
22.46 Film: Brush With Danger

00.35 Yeh Hai Mohabbatein
02.22 Bin Kuch Kahe
04.14 Pavitra Rishta
05.40 Film: Chatur Singh Two
Star
08.06 Motu Patlu
08.16 Chhanchhan
10.05 Itna Karo Na Mujhe Pyaar
12.01 Piya Albela
14.00 Kahan Hum Kahan Tum
15.45 Kullfi Kumarr Bajewala
17.00 Punar Vivaah
18.00 Samachar
18.30 Film: Devdas
Starring: Shahrukh Khan,
Madhuri Dixit, Aishwariya
Rai
21.25 Entertainment: Nach Baliye
22.15 Bade Acche Lagte Hai
00.13 Piya Albela

Samedi 1 août - 18.30

Stars: Akshaye Khanna,
Jyothika

Dimanche 2 août - 18.30

Stars: Shahrukh Khan,
Madhuri Dixit, Aishwariya Rai



Nita Chicooree-Mercier

About Protest Marches

Those with hindsight must engage themselves in sensitizing youngsters so that they do not internalize the kind of stigmatization whose vestiges still linger and periodically erupt, increasing the risk of polarization in society

The recent protest march organized by some trade unions following concerns raised over workers' interests and joined in by some opposition politicians a few of whom feathered their own nests for years, but have been writhing in pain for the past five years for being deprived of such opportunities, took an ugly turn with anti-India sentiment vented in the crowd. Unless you bury your head in the sand all year round, there is nothing surprising about it.

The younger generation of Mauritians may not be in a position to grasp the full meaning of race relations and politics in the country if they are not given the full account of the power equation preceding Independence until today. All aspects of politics, economy, ethnicity and crony capitalism in the post-Independence era cannot be addressed in a single piece of writing. Anti-Independence partisans in the press and society keep the old habit of equating what is seen as Hindu-led governments with the community at large. Hence the hostility was kept alive and regularly fuelled by any seemingly controversial policy adopted by different governments. From 1968 till today, the ranks of disgruntled groups have been joined by others who harbour an array of grievances against any country which does not promote their specific interests; hence, the hostility towards a BJP-led government in India, which is echoed in Mauritius.

Notwithstanding the grand speeches on the sovereignty of Mauritius claimed on rooftops whenever India comes into the picture, the fact is that Independence, hence the sovereignty of Mauritius, was obtained without the vote of those who, alas, had succumbed to the communal propaganda that was carried over from the days of NMU in *Le Cernéen*. These aspects of our journey towards Independence deserve to be studied in Sociology and Anthropology courses of their Western mentors for the sake of historical objectivity - as also to draw lessons and avoid repeating any perpetuation of such prejudices that poison society and neutralize genuine efforts made at nation-building. The communal twist given to issues relating to any dysfunction at governmental level has been a constant feature peddled in the mainstream press since Independence. It was further aggravated in the 1990s and culminated in the 1999 riots, the end result of gatherings in forums where a mix of politics, social issues and religion is a traditional norm since the propagation of religious discourse in the Roman empire.

Social networks have opened an



'How much do the local pro-European followers know about the India against Corruption movement, triggered by Ana Hazare during Congress rule in 2012, which was a mainly grassroots mobilization to get the country out of a quagmire, re-appropriate its old spirit, uplift its economy and set it on a dynamic role on the international platform?' Photo - economist.com

unlimited space to disgruntled hate-filled groups to rant against one community, mixed with anti-India sentiment. What beats it all is when citizens hailing from the oligarchy of a former colonial power have the cheek to pontificate from high grounds on racial implications in nepotism, conflict of interests and corruption, and put it down on social groups who are supposedly devoid of morals in politics.

Social network online messages exchanged among certain individuals aim to create the illusion that such anomalies they identify with. It does not take into account the fact that the 'frugal four' in Europe, mainly Protestant countries currently refrain from subsidizing Italy, a country they suspect of being run by mafiosi interests. TIME magazine in the 1990s portrayed Italy as being an 'ungovernable' country, so much was corruption rife there. Catholic European countries like France, Italy and Spain are not lily-white in matters of good governance. To some extent tough laws and an uncompromising press in France manage to curb the propensity of politicians to have *carte blanche* in fake jobs for relatives and friends, conflict of interests, favouritism and embezzlement of public funds.

Locally, what is moral for a group of privileged people, heirs to 300 years of

free labour, to lay their hands on every single major emerging economic sector for the past decades? Allusions to low morals of other groups would have led to an uproar and physical attacks in other small islands with similarly mixed populations as ours which pledge allegiance to France, or even independent islands in the West Indies.

What is more immoral than remote-controlling the killings of other people in their own countries organized by Western

forces, the CIA and all with the complicity of white mercenaries from Mauritius in former Zaire, now Congo, to hold their grip on diamonds and gold? Prior to the war on Iraq, a straightforward honest American citizen asked the priest at church in a live report: What is moral in laying your hands on other people's resources? The priest dismissed the question, in full support of his government's war plan.

Which European leader in their history to this day can one cite as having been or is endowed with the high moral stature of a leader like Nelson Mandela in his will for reconciliation, which avoided a bloodbath? How much does the mainstream western media, mainly in the US, reveal about big bucks poured in financial campaigns and the expectations of donors in return is an open question. A fair explanation is that corruption is carried out more smartly, less openly. How much do the local pro-European followers know about the *India against Corruption* movement, triggered by Ana Hazare during Congress rule in 2012, which was a mainly grassroots mobilization to get the country out of a quagmire, re-appropriate its old spirit, uplift its economy and set it on a dynamic role on the international platform?

In the 1970s Hindu parents warned against media brainwashing of youngsters with the old colonial anti-Hindu discourse, the promotion of mainly French language and literature, and the biased treatment meted out to English-language writings. For instance, Sir Kher Jagatsingh was viciously demonized, and every movement and sips of whisky in London scrutinized to project a negative image in the press while his writings in English were blithely ignored. Things have not changed much ever since. Those with hindsight on the issue must engage themselves in sensitizing youngsters so that they do not internalize this kind of stigmatization whose vestiges still linger and periodically erupt, increasing the risk of polarization in society.

Geeta Jnana Yagna

Bhagavad Geeta Discourses by Swami Pranavananda Ji - Chapter 3 entitled 'Karma Yoga'

The discourses in Creole are open to all and will be taking place at Chinmaya Ashram, Charles Jolivet Street, Beau Bassin:

- **Saturday 1st and Sunday 2nd August: 6.30 - 8.00 pm**
- **Monday 3rd to Friday 7th August: 7.00 - 8.30 pm**

Annual Symposium

The above yearly event will be held at Chinmaya Ashram on Sunday 2nd August 2020 on the theme of **"Equanimity in the face of change"**.

Registration is free and starts at 9.00 am and the programme is expected to last till around 2.00 pm, including lunch for all participants.

Please join us with friends and families for a common reflection and discussion on the above topic.

Chinmaya Mission Mauritius