

MAURITIUS TIMES

"If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader." -- John Quincy Adams

Naufrage du vraquier Wakashio

Une enquête internationale s'impose pour situer les responsabilités

Il ne suffit pas de se proclamer Etat-océan. Encore faut-il avoir les moyens de prévenir ou de mitiger une catastrophe écologique en mer

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MV Wakashio Oil Spill

A lot of questions have been raised by the opposition, NGOs and civil society following the grounding of MV Wakashio off Pointe d'Esny on July 25 and leading to Mauritius' worst oil disaster. The view has been expressed that much of the damage that has been caused by the ongoing oil spillage could have been averted if priority had been given to pumping the oil from the ship rather than trying to save the vessel. Questions have been raised about our deficiency in terms of equipment and local expertise to deal with such a disaster especially for an island washed by the seas of the Indian Ocean and with a foreign exchange- and job-generating tourism industry, which is itself dependent on the quality of our environment. It has also been rightly argued that Mauritius can surely afford to do that if our priorities were properly set (rather than invest in white elephants and prestige projects) and proactive measures in terms of equipment and expertise taken to protect our environment and allow the authorities to deal with such accidents.

What has been mostly criticised appears to be the wait-and-see approach perceived to have been taken by the Government since the grounding of MV Wakashio late July until the oil spill disaster struck. Environment minister Kavi Ramano only recently stated that there were no indications that it would come to that (*"nou pas ti ena indication qui pou arrive ça stage-là"*). This would suggest that the worst case scenario had not been envisaged, contrary to what is usually prescribed in contingency plans whether in relation to oil spills or otherwise. What makes matters worse is that the Mauritian authorities are indeed equipped with an Oil Spill Contingency Plan made available to the government in 1990 by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) developed in conjunction with the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) – a plan authored by M. Murday and E.R. Gundlach, and which covered the 'legal, mobilisation, and operational aspects'.

In fact oil spill contingency plans are mandated by law in several countries; oil-producing countries and others where environmental and economic resources are threatened by oil pollution have had such plans drawn up since more than two decades now. We are not aware if the

UNEP-IMO Contingency Plan for Mauritius has been updated in light of the increase in vessel traffic in this part of the Indian Ocean and of advances in technology which will allow for better and speedier response. M. Murday and E.R. Gundlach do emphasize in their introductory note the need for provision to be made for 'the acquisition of equipment, training of spill response personnel, and review and updating of the plan'.

We shall not indulge in the political squabbles sparked off since the oil spillage had become visible; what is of concern to us is the extent of damage to the surrounding seas and coastlines and to our tourism industry if the worst were to happen. Something is clearly amiss at the institutional and political levels in terms of preparedness and the decision-making process for such disasters for a country which has the ambition of becoming a petroleum hub and which commands an Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) that extends over an area of about 2.3 million Km². Although we have been unable to develop a local fishing industry to date - all tuna fishing vessels operating in the Mauritius EEZ are foreign-flagged vessels, the exercise of our rights over the EEZ and Continental Shelf means that the country will have access to potentially vast natural and mineral resources in years to come.

We have for some time now been talking about developing an Ocean economy. The catastrophe which has befallen us clearly indicates that we have no idea of our priorities and where we are going. The resources which form part of the economy include our reefs, our sea life, coastal areas and sea waters. Clearly, these have to be protected if we really mean business. We are failing to do so and now our ignorance and lack of purpose is laid bare for all to see.

A ray of hope in all this. For the first time since we have become a nation, while the authorities were completely lost in their actions and rhetoric and were at pains to find their bearings, the population, young and old, irrespective of political colour or social status, joined hands and took the initiative of handling the mess created by the spillage. Kudos to them.

This augurs well for our nation.

The Conversation

Could a pill make people more moral?

Covid-19 is a collective risk. It threatens everyone, and we all must cooperate to lower the chance that the coronavirus harms any one individual. Among other things, that means keeping safe social distances and wearing masks. But many people choose not to do these things, making spread of infection more likely.

When someone chooses not to follow public health guidelines around the coronavirus, they're defecting from the public good. It's the moral equivalent of the tragedy of the commons: If everyone shares the same pasture for their individual flocks, some people are going to graze their animals longer, or let them eat more than their fair share, ruining the commons in the process. Selfish and self-defeating behaviour undermines the pursuit of something from which everyone can benefit.

Democratically enacted enforceable rules - mandating things like mask wearing and social distancing - might work, if defectors could be coerced into adhering to them.

Public goods games show scale of the problem

Evidence from experimental economics shows that defections are common to situations in which people face collective risks. Economists use public goods games to measure how people behave in various scenarios to lower collective risks such as from climate change or a pandemic and to prevent the loss of public and private goods.

The evidence from these experiments is no cause for optimism. Usually everyone loses because people won't cooperate. This research suggests it's not surprising people aren't wearing masks or social distancing - lots of people defect from groups when facing a collective risk. By the same token, I'd expect that, as a group, we will fail at addressing the collective risk of Covid-19, because groups usually fail. For more than 150,000 Americans so far, this has meant losing everything there is to lose.

But don't abandon all hope. In some of these experiments, the groups win and successfully prevent the losses associated with the collective risk. What makes winning more likely? Things like keeping a running tally of what others are contributing, observing others' behaviours, communication and coordination before and during play, and democratic implementa-



tion of an enforceable rule requiring contributions.

For those of us in the United States, these conditions are out of reach when it comes to Covid-19. You can't know what others are contributing to the fight against the coronavirus, especially if you socially distance yourself. It's impossible to keep a running tally of what the other 328 million people in the U.S. are doing. And communication and coordination are not feasible outside of your own small group.

Even if these factors were achievable, they still require the very cooperative behaviour that's in short supply. The scale of the pandemic is simply too great for any of this to be possible.

Moral enhancement is the use of substances to make you more moral. The psychoactive substances act on your ability to reason about what the right thing to do is, or your ability to be empathetic or altruistic or cooperative.

For example, oxytocin, the chemical that, among other things, can induce labour or increase the bond between mother and child, may cause a person to be more empathetic and altruistic, more giving and generous. The same goes for psilocybin, the active component of "magic mushrooms." These substances have been shown to lower aggressive behaviour in those with antisocial personality disorder and to improve the ability of sociopaths to recognize emotion in others.

These substances interact directly with the psychological underpinnings of moral behaviour; others that make you more rational could also help. Then, perhaps, the people who choose to go maskless or flout social distancing guidelines would better understand that everyone, including them, is better off when they contribute, and rationalize that the best thing to do is cooperate.

Parker Crutchfield,
Western Michigan University

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This paper has been produced with the assistance of

Doojesh Ramlallah, Sultana Kurmally and Kersley Ramsamy

Pearl House 4th Floor Room 406 - Sir Virgil Naz Street, Port Louis -- Tel: 5-29 29301 Tel/Fax: 212 1313



mtimes@intnet.mu



www.mauritiustimes.com



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Dr R Neerunjun Gopee

The MV Wakashio shipwreck: Machine or human failure?

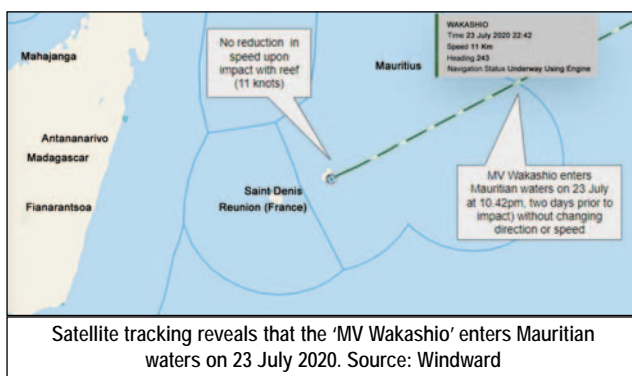
We have to be better prepared in order not to have to face another maritime disaster of this magnitude. As it is, the cost of the present one is going to be enormous, and not only financially but on the whole ecosystem



This photo provided by the French Defense Ministry shows oil leaking from the MV Wakashio, a bulk carrier ship that recently ran aground off the southeast coast of Mauritius, Sunday Aug.9, 2020.

Photo - Gwendoline Defente/EMA via AP

When I first read about the shipwreck of MV Wakashio on the coral reef off Mahebourg coast, the first question that came to my mind as a layman was – how come such a huge vessel is travelling so close to the coast of Mauritius? Aren't they supposed to keep a safe distance away, if there is such a provision in international maritime regulations? I don't know the answer, but I am relieved to find that there is some serious thinking that this shipwreck has given rise to, in the form of an article in Forbes that was forwarded to me. It is written by Nishan Degnarain, a young professional whom I met several years ago when he took part in the final stages of the preparation of our Health Sector Strategy, and also in the pre-Budgetary discussions at the Ministry of Finance (2011 as far as I recollect).



The article under reference is titled 'How Satellites Traced The Fateful Journey Of The Ship That Led To Mauritius' Worst Oil Spill Disaster* (Forbes - Aug 9, 2020 -) with Nishan Degnarain as Contributor who covers 'innovation within the green/blue industrial revolution'.

The major concern is of course how to prevent such a disaster in future, as the author points out, as 'Questions are being asked about how this happened, could it have been prevented, and more importantly what steps should now be taken to prevent a similar tragedy from occurring anywhere else in the world'. No country is entirely safe from such a catastrophe, the like of which has happened with some uncanny regularity in the world's oceans. Satellite data have revealed 'how crowded global shipping lanes have become, making them impossible to manage through human eyes alone' with vessel traffic having increased four-fold in the past twenty years.

In fact, according to the author, new and more sophis-

ticated satellite technology developed in the past decade, literally a technological revolution in small cube and nano satellites, not only allows the ongoing tracking of vessel movement across the world's oceans but 'can also be used forensically - effectively to go back in time to track the activities on the ocean'.

And so, 'one leading company in this field, Israeli-based satellite analytics company, Windward', through its data analytics platform has 'been able to trace the movement of the MV Wakashio over the past week of its travels, including the critical last 2 days prior to impact', the author remarks that 'this shows how the potential of earth observation satellites can bring radical transparency and accountability to activities on the ocean'.

Tracking the 'history, trajectory and speed of MV Wakashio' shows that the vessel 'entering the national waters (Exclusive Economic Zone) of Mauritius two days prior to its grounding on 23 July just before 11 pm'. And here come the critical questions about 'why the vessel's GPS tracking did not indicate that it was heading toward an impact with land, or why local authorities did not intervene with sufficient warning, given the clear trajectory toward the island', and why lessons from a previous vessel grounding in 2016 the Benita off Le Bouchon) were not learnt, and early intervention and thus another accident averted. Another puzzling question that will need an

“During the month of July, over 2000 vessels passed close by the Mauritian coast in one of the most concentrated shipping lanes in the world connecting Asia, Africa, Europe and Latin America (the historic trade route prior to the opening of the Suez Canal). Comparing these mainstream shipping lane traffic with the trajectory of the MV Wakashio would have revealed it had been on a collision course with Mauritius for several days and was much further North than other vessels using this shipping lane...”

answer is why did the vessel not slow down prior to the impact, although it was 'travelling at 11 knots, which is standard for bulk carrier ships at sea'.

Further, relating to how crowded shipping lanes have become, 'during the month of July, over 2000 vessels passed close by the Mauritian coast in one of the most concentrated shipping lanes in the world connecting Asia, Africa, Europe and Latin America (the historic trade route prior to the opening of the Suez Canal). Comparing these mainstream shipping lane traffic with the trajectory of the MV Wakashio would have revealed *it had been on a collision course with Mauritius for several days and was much further North than other vessels using this shipping lane*'. (italics added)

The author makes a case of 'The need for an Ocean Mission Control', because 'with many poorer island and coastal nations not having sophisticated oil and gas industries, there are often insufficient resources to handle even moderate spills', a fact which has been officially acknowledged, since we clearly do not have the adequate resources nor the expertise to handle such a disaster. But troubling questions remain about the delay in response.

There is no alternative to harnessing the latest technology available, which can send 'early warning indicators to Port Authorities for any suspicious activity ahead of time, reducing any delays or human errors in assessing millions of data points'.

Wrapping up, the author states that 'the disaster in Mauritius shows there is a need for the following:

- **Reform of vessel registration** to identify the risky operators on the ocean and ensure fair and transparent accountability of the shipping industry.
- **Governments must embrace new technologies**, such as Satellites and Machine Learning to more effectively safeguard their ocean territories and natural ecosystems.
- **Creation of a global 'Ocean Mission Control'** to support local authorities around the world, particularly in poorer countries who would otherwise lack critical scale to access such resources. The governance of such a resource will need to be more akin to an agile, purpose-driven Silicon Valley startup than traditional international structures.
- **Accelerate the transition to electrification of the global shipping fleet.** This would have meant no polluting heavy bunker fuel even if a vessel ran aground. Government R&D programs have been significantly under-investing in the technologies needed to transform global shipping and create a new multi-trillion dollar new sector, despite publicly pledging the need to meet Climate objectives'.

To what extent as a small island state Mauritius can take part in this process is a matter for the authorities to decide, but clearly we have to be better prepared in order not to have to face another maritime disaster of this magnitude. As it is, the cost of the present one is going to be enormous, and not only financially but on the whole ecosystem. This will add to the impact of Covid-19 on our economy, and citizens have every reason to be worried – as indeed they are already.

Naufrage du vraquier Wakashio

Une enquête internationale s'impose pour situer les responsabilités

Il ne suffit pas de se proclamer Etat-océan. Encore faut-il avoir les moyens de prévenir ou de mitiger une catastrophe écologique en mer

Aditya Narayan

En l'espace de quelques mois, le pays a connu trois crises: une crise sanitaire avec la pandémie Covid-19, une crise économique avec la cessation temporaire d'activités économiques pour cause de confinement obligatoire, et maintenant une crise écologique avec le naufrage du MV Wakashio, vraquier japonais, sur un récif près de la côte sud-est du pays le 25 juillet. Certes aucune crise majeure n'est prévisible ni facile à gérer, mais s'il y a un fil conducteur entre ces trois crises, c'est l'impréparation systémique du pays aux chocs exogènes et la faiblesse de la stratégie de gestion en vue de mitiger les dégâts.

En effet, le pays fait face à une double catastrophe écologique et politique. Une catastrophe écologique dans la mesure où les hydrocarbures (300 tonnes de diesel et 3 800 tonnes de fioul) qui s'échappent des soutes du vraquier représentent un danger mortel pour la faune et la flore marines dans la région côtière du sud-est. Une catastrophe politique parce que les autorités concernées (ministère de l'Environnement, ministère des Affaires intérieures et ministère de la Pêche) ont pris 13 jours pour réagir face au désastre écologique qui enflait depuis le 25 juillet, lorsque le capitaine du navire avait envoyé ses premiers signaux de détresse.

Lenteur officielle

On n'arrive pas à comprendre cette lenteur officielle alors que les habitants de la région côtière voyaient la marée noire s'étendre un peu plus chaque jour. Est-ce un cas de négligence criminelle de la part des autorités concernées? Il faudra sans doute une enquête indépendante pour situer les responsabilités et établir si l'amateurisme et l'in-

compétence de certains services gouvernementaux ont exacerbé une situation déjà difficile.

Durant les premiers jours suivant le naufrage, le gouvernement s'est contenté de dire sans gêne que la situation était sous contrôle et que les photos de la marée noire étaient truquées. Les principaux ministres ont attendu 13 jours avant de se rendre sur les lieux pour constater les dégâts. Le président français Emmanuel Macron, lui, s'est rendu au Liban deux jours après l'explosion d'un entrepôt dans le port de Beyrouth pour exprimer sa solidarité avec le peuple libanais. Aussitôt sollicité, il a réagi promptement pour nous envoyer de l'aide à partir de la Réunion. Nos ministres concernés, eux, étaient plus occupés à fouetter d'autres chats tels que la campagne visant à faire élire leur poulain à la tête d'une fédération culturelle et la tentative de saborder une motion de censure contre le maire d'une ville. C'est dire que certains responsables n'ont pas le sens des priorités, sinon qu'ils ont de mauvaises priorités. Ils s'occupent des affaires politiciennes

“Le pays voulait être un « Petroleum Hub » dans l'océan Indien avec la capacité de stocker et de transborder des produits pétroliers pour l'usage des pays riverains et d'Afrique de l'Est. Evidemment elle n'a pas les compétences techniques pour envisager une telle ambition. Le pays ne peut même pas surveiller sa zone économique exclusive de 200 milles marins pour y déceler les mouvements de navires faute de bateaux de patrouille et de radars modernes. Un bateau de remorquage de la *Marine Authority* est en panne dans le port depuis quelque temps. Le gouvernement dépense des milliards de roupies sur des projets d'éléphant blanc (Rs 5 milliards pour le stade de Côte d'Or) et des caméras de surveillance (Rs 19 milliards) à travers l'île qui ne rapportent aucun rendement économique...”



“Quand un navire s'échoue sur un récif avec une grosse cargaison d'huiles lourdes dans ses cales, c'est déjà un gros problème pour l'environnement marin. On n'attend pas que la coque du navire se fissure avant de prendre conscience du risque de fuites d'huiles lourdes. On avait déjà eu un incident pareil avec le naufrage du navire MV Benita en 2016. Quelles leçons les autorités en ont-elles tirées? Le gouvernement a-t-il remis à jour son plan de contingence, s'il y en avait un, afin de parer à tout naufrage éventuel d'un autre navire dans nos parages?”

Photo - gcaptain.com

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Le gouvernement a-t-il remis à jour son plan de contingence, s'il y en avait un, afin de parer à tout naufrage éventuel d'un autre navire dans nos parages? Gouverner, c'est prévoir, dit-on.

Plan de contingence

En 2004, la Banque Mondiale avait parrainé un '*National Oil Spill Contingency Plan*' sous les auspices de la Commission de l'océan Indien pour les pays riverains. Ce plan a-t-il été remis à jour pour l'adapter aux risques d'un déversement massif d'huiles lourdes dans les lagons? Il paraît que les services du gouvernement (Garde-côtes, Environnement, Pêches) n'ont pas été formés ni équipés pour faire face à une catastrophe écologique. Ils ont attendu une réaction de l'armateur japonais alors qu'il fallait alerter les pays riverains, la France en particulier, dès le début et solliciter l'aide internationale. Le pays, comme l'a avoué le Premier ministre, n'a pas l'expertise nécessaire pour récupérer toute la quantité d'hydrocarbures à bord du navire ou empêcher les fuites d'huiles lourdes. C'est précisément pour cette raison qu'il fallait agir vite et s'assurer de toute l'aide possible

des pays voisins.

Les citoyens de Maurice, eux, n'ont pas tergiversé. Ils ont fait preuve d'ingéniosité avec l'aide des ONG pour fabriquer et relâcher des cordons flottants et des boudins géants dans les lagons afin d'empêcher la marée noire d'atteindre les plages. Il faut saluer cette démarche du groupe *Rezistans ek Alternativ*, des militants écologistes, des pêcheurs et d'autres volontaires anonymes. Ils ont déployé des efforts pour collecter des matières servant à la fabrication de ces barrages absorbants (matériel d'emballage, pailles de canne, cheveux, bagasse), lesquels ont été relâchés sur des centaines de mètres de longueur dans les eaux noires.

Initiative citoyenne

C'est une initiative salubre et admirable de la société civile qui a réuni les citoyens, toutes communautés confondues, dans une démarche de patriotisme. Les Mauriciens ont prouvé qu'ils peuvent se dépasser et se rassembler autour d'une cause commune malgré les tentatives de division politique ou ethnique et les actes d'intimidation des autorités. Ils ont montré une prise de conscience aigüe de l'importance de l'écologie dans un pays qui a seulement la mer et ses plages comme ressources naturelles. Ils savent que les écosystèmes naturels sont au centre du développement durable dans ce pays où l'on abat les arbres et bétonne partout au nom d'une fausse modernité.

Au lieu d'encourager l'initiative citoyenne, le gouvernement a choisi de promulguer des règlements pour rendre certains endroits dans le sud inaccessibles aux citoyens. De quoi a-t-il peur? Que les citoyens prennent leur destinée en main face à l'immobilisme des autorités et sans dépendre des politiciens qui ont créé une culture de l'assistanat dans ce pays. Un pays bouge en avant lorsque les citoyens passent à l'action et non pas quand le gouvernement leur ordonne de faire quoi que ce soit.

* Suite en page 10

UK daily coronavirus cases tops 1000 for first time in over a month

Britain's daily number of new coronavirus cases has topped 1,000 for the first time in more than a month. The government reported 1,062 more people had tested positive for Covid-19 in the 24-hour period leading up to Sunday morning, the largest daily increase since late June, reports The Independent. It was also more than 300 higher than the number of new infections reported on Saturday, which stood at 758. In total, there have been an estimated 310,825 confirmed coronavirus infections in the UK to date.

* * *

Fragmented mental health services and a failure to learn from mistakes is increasing the risk of homicides being committed by people with serious mental health issues, an NHS report has warned. There were 111 murders committed by people receiving mental health services in the year to 19 March and a new report by NHS England warns the lack of joined-up services, poor communication and poor access to crisis care for seriously ill people were all factors in the killings. It comes as research shows the proportion of homicides committed by mental health patients, while extremely rare, is rising as a share of overall killings.

* * *

In Belarus, at least one protester is thought to have been killed and more than 100 others have been arrested in clashes between police and demonstrators in the wake of the country's latest presidential election, which officials claim was won in a landslide by autocratic leader Alexander Lukashenko.

Protests have sprung up in Minsk ever since a state-run TV exit poll suggested the president had secured re-election and extended his 26-year rule. Official results announced on Monday claimed Mr Lukashenko won 80 per cent of the vote, while the main opposition candidate, Svetlana Tikhonouskaya, only secured 9.9 per cent.

China, Russia and Iran are among countries seeking to influence the US presidential election this year, a top US intelligence chief has warned.

A statement issued by the director of US counterintelligence said foreign states were using "covert and overt influence measures" to sway the vote.

It said China did not want President Donald Trump's re-election while Russia wanted to hurt Democrat Joe Biden.

Intelligence chiefs accuse Russia of interfering in the 2016 election, reports BBC News. They say Russia wanted to help boost Mr Trump's campaign, including by spreading disinformation online. Russia has denied the allegations.

The announcement comes amid claims by Mr Trump about the dangers of mail-in or postal ballots. He has suggested that the vote be delayed to prevent "the most inaccurate and fraudulent election in history", prompting a backlash even among members of his own party.

It also follows complaints by Democratic lawmakers that US intelligence agencies are not releasing information to the public about foreign interference in this year's vote.

What does the statement say?

US election 2020: China, Russia and Iran 'trying to influence' vote

William Evanina, head of the National Counterintelligence and Security Center (NCSC), released the statement on Friday.

Foreign countries are trying to sway voter preferences, change US policies, "increase discord" in the country "and undermine the American people's confidence in our democratic process", Mr Evanina said.

The counterintelligence chief however added that it would be "difficult for our adversaries to interfere with or manipulate voting results at scale."

Many countries "have a preference for who wins the election", he said, but the counterintelligence director said they were "primarily concerned" about China, Russia and Iran:

- China "prefers that President Trump - whom Beijing sees as unpredictable - does not win re-election", the statement says, and has been "expanding its influence efforts" ahead of the vote
- Russia is seeking to "denigrate" Mr Biden's candidacy and other



Roger Stone reacts to Trump's decision to grant him clemency.

Photo - <https://ichef.bbci.co.uk/>

members of a perceived "anti-Russia 'establishment'". Mr Evanina added that some other actors linked to Russia "are also seeking to boost President Trump's candidacy on social media and Russian television"

- Iran is trying to "undermine US democratic institutions", Mr Trump, and "divide the country" ahead of the vote by spreading disinformation and "anti-US content" online. Their efforts are driven partially by a belief a second term for the president "would result in a continuation of US pressure

on Iran in an effort to foment regime change"

At Friday's press conference, Mr Trump said Russia "could be" meddling in this year's election, but dismissed the idea the country might be trying to help him win a second term. "I think the last person Russia wants to see in office is Donald Trump," he said, saying that "nobody's been tougher on Russia than I have, ever."

He also said China would "love" if he lost the election, alleging that "they would own our country" if Joe Biden won.

Beirut explosion: World leaders hold aid summit

International leaders held talks on Sunday to raise aid for Beirut, five days after the massive explosion which devastated the Lebanese capital.

Officials estimate the blast at the warehouse, which stored 2,000 tonnes of ammonium nitrate, caused up to \$15 billion (£11.5bn) in damage.

The explosion left at least 158 people dead, 5,000 injured and 300,000 homeless, reports BBC News.

On Saturday several thousand people took to the streets, with police firing tear gas at stone-throwing protesters and some demonstrators storming government ministries.

In a televised address, Lebanese PM Hassan Diab said he would ask for early elections as a way out of the crisis. The issue will be discussed in cabinet on Monday.

Lebanon was already mired in a deep economic crisis and struggling to tackle the coronavirus pandemic before the explosion tore through Beirut.

An anti-government protest movement erupted last October, fuelled by the financial situation and a collapsing currency.

Information Minister Manal Abdel Samad



Inaccurate reports in Beirut gave one family false hope that their relative was still alive. Photo - bbc.com

announced her resignation on Sunday. She cited the failure of the government to carry out reforms and the "Beirut catastrophe" as her reasons for leaving her post.

A number of countries have already pledged millions of dollars worth of aid and sent ships, health workers and materiel to assist Beirut.

But UN agencies have called for more help and warned about the massive challenge ahead. Many homes are without water or electricity, there are growing worries about

food shortages, and cases of Covid-19 are spiking in the country - an additional challenge for hospitals which are already overwhelmed.

What happened at the protests?

The aid conference came amid ongoing fury about the government's failure to stop the blast.

Between 5,000 and 10,000 people gathered for demonstrations on Saturday, to show that rage and also to remember those victims of the explosion.

As the protests got under way, mock gallows were erected in Martyrs' Square to indicate the demonstrators' view of the country's political leaders.

Skirmishes began early on, with police responding to rocks and sticks thrown by protesters with rubber bullets and tear gas.

Police confirmed to Reuters news agency that live ammunition had been fired in central Beirut, though it is not clear by whom.

The local Red Cross said it treated 117 injured people at the scene. Another 55 were taken to hospital.

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British defence chiefs are considering a request from the Home Office for help to deal with migrants attempting to cross the English Channel

British defence chiefs are considering a request from the Home Office for help to deal with migrants attempting to cross the English Channel.

The government is looking at using boats to "prevent people from leaving", Schools Ministers Nick Gibb said.

It comes as more migrants were brought ashore on Saturday.

Meanwhile, the home secretary has appointed a former National Crime Agency executive to a new role leading the UK's response to the crossings.

More than 500 people have been intercepted crossing the English Channel in recent days, including 235 - the record for a single day - on Thursday, reports BBC News.

The Home Office said at least 151 people arrived in UK on Saturday in 15 boats. A total of 146 people arrived on Friday on 17 boats.

Two boats carrying a total of 26 migrants arrived on the Kent coast on Saturday, and it is understood there were



Photo - www.newschain.uk

also landings at Deal and Folkestone - although they have not been confirmed.

French officials said 33 migrants in two boats that got into difficulty have been returned to Calais.

Home Secretary Priti Patel has appointed Dan O'Mahoney as the UK's Clandestine Channel Threat Commander. He will work to make the Channel route "unviable" for small boat crossings.

Earlier, Ms Patel said in a tweet that ministers were working to make the "dangerous" Channel crossing route "unviable", but added that the government faces "legislative, legal and operational barriers".

On Saturday morning, the BBC filmed a rubber boat with up to 20 people on board - including a baby, the BBC was told - departing from a tourist beach in the north of France.

The "overloaded" boat struggled for almost an hour at the water's edge, according to BBC Europe reporter Gavin Lee, who said there was no sign of any surveillance from French authorities on the beach near the harbour of Gravelines.

BBC reporter Simon Jones said people living in Kent have been asking why more is not being done by the French to patrol the coastline, but French authorities have said they need more money from the UK government.

Questions have been raised about why people are not sent back to France once they arrive in the UK.

Is France helping Lebanon, or trying to reconquer it?

In Paris, French President Macron's domestic political opponents warned the centrist leader against creeping neocolonialism, and extracting political concessions from Lebanon in exchange for aid.

It was almost as if Emmanuel Macron forgot that Lebanon is no longer a French protectorate.

Visiting explosion-ravaged Beirut this week, France's leader comforted distraught crowds, promised to rebuild the city and claimed that the blast pierced France's own heart. "France will never let Lebanon go," Macron said. "The heart of the French people still beats to the pulse of Beirut."

His critics denounced the overtures as a neocolonialist foray by a European leader seeking to restore sway over a troubled Middle Eastern land - and distract from mounting problems at home. A meme circulating online dubbed him Macron Bonaparte, a 21st century Emperor Napoleon, reports Associated Press.

But Macron's defenders - including desperate Beirut residents who called him "our only hope" - praised him for visiting gutted neighborhoods where

Lebanese leaders fear to tread, and for trying to hold Lebanon's politicians accountable for the corruption and mismanagement blamed for Tuesday's deadly blast.

Macron's visit exposed France's central challenge as it prepared to host an international donors conference for Lebanon on Sunday: how to help a country in crisis, where French economic ties run deep, without interfering in its internal affairs.

"We are walking on the edge of a precipice. We have to aid, support and encourage the Lebanese people, but at the same time not give the impression that we want to establish a new protectorate, which would be completely stupid," said Jack Lang, a former French government minister who now heads the Arab World Institute in Paris. "We must find new, intelligent solutions to aid the Lebanese."

France's ties with Lebanon reach back at least to the 16th century, when the French monar-

chy negotiated with Ottoman rulers to protect Christians - and secure influence - in the region. By the time of the 1920-1946 French mandate, Lebanon already had a network of French schools and French speakers that survives to this day - along with France's cozy relationships with Lebanon's power brokers, including some accused of fueling its political and economic crisis.

A surprising online petition emerged this week asking France to temporarily restore its mandate, saying Lebanon's leaders have shown "total inability to secure and manage the country."

It's widely seen as an absurd idea - Macron himself told Beirut residents Wednesday that "it's up to you to write your history" - but 60,000 people have signed it, including members of France's 250,000 - strong Lebanese diaspora and people in Lebanon who said it's a way to express their desperation and distrust of the political class.



French President Emmanuel Macron waves as he visits Beirut, Lebanon, Thursday August 6, 2020. Photo - AP

Aside from a show of much-needed international support, many in Lebanon viewed Macron's visit as a way to secure financial assistance for a country wracked with debt.

The French leader also managed to bring the divided political class together, if briefly.

In a rare scene, the heads of Lebanon's political factions - some of them still bitter enemies from the 1975-1990 civil war -

appeared together at the Palais des Pins, the French embassy headquarters in Beirut, and filed out after meeting Macron.

But to many, the visit was seen as patronising. Some lashed out at the petition and those celebrating "France, the tender mother." One writer, Samer Frangieh, said Macron gathered the politicians as "schoolchildren," reprimanding them for failing to carry out their duties.

Oil Spill in our Ocean - The Human Hazards



Dr Praveen Ramdaursingh

The effects of oil spills on humans may be direct and indirect, depending on the type of contact with the oil spill

even indicated that several symptoms may persist for some years after exposure. Hence, health protection in these individuals should be a matter of concern; a health risk assessment needs to be carried out not only at the time of exposure but also for prolonged periods following exposure, to

for some individual compounds if residents are breathing the contaminated air for a long time. Of course, when the smell is obvious the health risk increases.

Another common direct effect is exposure to people who come in direct contact with oil and/or oil

ducts and the aesthetic issues that affect the residents of the affected areas in multiple ways.

Oil spill has a major negative economic impact. Fishermen, boatmen, tourism pay a heavy toll. It also has an aesthetic and recreational impact. The sceneries appear dull and gloomy, recreational areas are closed,

All these have a great effect on the psyche of the people residing in the affected regions.

Mental health is related to the extent of disruption to participants' lives, work, family, and social engagements. Those who have an oil spill-related income loss have an increased score on tension/anxiety, depression, fatigue, confusion, and total mood disturbance. They are less resilient and are more likely to use behavioural disengagement as a coping strategy.

A few tips to the worker /volunteer/helper

The first priority of the worker or helper is to protect himself.

It is important to wear the appropriate Personal Protective Equipment while helping whether one is in the water or in the coastal areas.

The basic PPEs are oil resistant boots and gloves, eye goggles, N95 respirators, level C PPE (splash suit), face mask.

Wear rubber type footwear and oil resistant gloves especially when dealing with oil and oil waste.

Beware of slips and falls and drowning hazards.

Beware of water contamination.

tion.

Ensure that you are already vaccinated against tetanus and hepatitis B.

Do not expose yourself to unknown liquids or substances. Inform the appropriate department immediately if you have such an experience.

Beware of the effects of heat exhaustion especially if you are wearing PPEs. Do get hydrated on a regular basis. Drink water and other fluids. Avoid alcohol and caffeinated drinks.

Use lip balms, sunscreen and protective eyewear to prevent sunburn.

Be careful of trench (immersion) foot if feet stay in the water for prolonged time - they become numb, swollen, itchy, painful, and red with blisters. One must change wet shoes and socks regularly to dry ones and keep legs elevated when resting.

Beware of poisonous plants - if there has been skin contact immediately rub with alcohol and seek medical help.

Wash hands and get properly sanitized after each session.

Other health hazards are dermatitis, irritation of the eyes, nose, throat and lungs.

Open wounds absorb more of the toxic materials.

Chemicals can be swallowed from the air or can land directly on the food.

It should be noted that the fishing restrictions in the areas affected by oil spill pollution are necessary since the consumption of contaminated fish could have serious health effects, especially due to the bioaccumulation of some chemicals in the fish.



Photo: 1.amazonaws.com

enable early detection of any potential exposure-related harmful effects.

Effects on the general population

The effects of oil spills on humans may be direct and indirect, depending on the type of contact with the oil spill.

The direct effect is caused by exposure to oil spills and also through breathing of the contaminated air. This emanates from the toxic gases emitted from the volatile products, and has a specific odour. Once in the air, contamination may travel over long distances, during which the vapours will become diluted. The original contamination levels at the source along with specific weather conditions may dictate the final spreading of oil contaminated air vapours. Even when odours are not smelt, a health risk may exist

products while walking in a contaminated area. An initial irritation will be obvious. Additionally, contaminants may be absorbed through the skin and enter the body

Indirect exposure to oil spills occur even to people living in places far from the actual site of the oil spill. This exposure occurs in people bathing in contaminated water even when an oil sheen may not be visible, the result of dissolved oil contaminants existing in water emanating from the tributaries, rivulets, rivers or canals.

Another means of indirect exposure is through eating contaminated food as some oil compounds bioaccumulate in living organisms and may become more concentrated along the food chain. The concentration of contaminants in the food may be higher than those in the contaminated environment.

The economic impact on health of individuals

The main oil spill effects include a variety of diseases, negative economic impact, pollution with crude oil or petroleum pro-

If we believe in caring it is imperative that we stop being masterly inactive but help in actions. With a massive ecological disaster in view, it is but natural that volunteers with a heart will come forward to help. However, it is important to realize in so doing in a field not so well-known to us there might be hazards to ourselves and also to society.

It is a fact that oil leaked in the ocean will impede the growth of plants, but also result in increase in algae formation which will create adverse effects on the growth of other aquatic plants.

Oil spill causes great damage to marine birds, sea turtles, dolphins, whales, vast number of fish, oysters, crabs, corals and other aquatic creatures. The hardest hit during most oil spills are the marine birds.

We have witnessed an "élan" of solidarity and patriotic fervour from many organizations, NGOs, and the public. There have been many proposals, requests and advice to clear up the muck as fast as possible so as to limit the harm to the aquatic environment.

Oil spill also affects human health due to its toxicological properties. People who are in contact with the polluted water for cleaning or for other reasons are more at risk. Oil spills may involve health risks to those staying in the coastal regions.

Some of the observed effects

“Indirect exposure to oil spills occur even to people living in places far from the actual site of the oil spill. This exposure occurs in people bathing in contaminated water even when an oil sheen may not be visible, the result of dissolved oil contaminants existing in water emanating from the tributaries, rivulets, rivers or canals...”

Dr C.S (Praveen) Ramdaursingh
Obstetrician & Gynaecologist, Secretary of Association 'Believe in Caring'



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Champions League: what you need to know about Man City, 'sportswashing' and future of Financial Fair Play



The Champions League is back underway, after being delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Meanwhile, Manchester City have successfully appealed a ruling that would have seen them banned from the competition and are resuming their bid to win the most coveted trophy in European football.

The club recently saw off one of their biggest challenges in recent years - a 20-month legal battle with European football's governing body UEFA.

In July, the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS), an international body established to settle sports-related disputes, found in favour of City's appeal against sanctions for "serious breaches" of Financial Fair Play (FFP) regulations committed between 2012 and 2016.

The decision meant that a two-year ban from European competition was overturned, but it came up short of full exoneration with a 30 million fine reduced to 10 million. This, CAS said, reflected the club's culpability to the lesser charge of failing to cooperate with UEFA's club financial control body.

The more serious allegation of "dishonest concealment" of revenue attracted from sponsorship deals - otherwise known as financial doping - was thrown out, much to the delight of the Abu Dhabi-owned club. City officials thanked CAS for its "due diligence and due process" claiming "validation of the club's position".

Why this happened

In 2009, UEFA proposed FFP to try and curb European clubs' inflationary spending on player transfers and wages. The new rules were rolled out on a staggered basis from 2012 with full implementation by 2015 and a "break-even" requirement as the main pillar of financial discipline.

As FFP would ultimately prevent wealthy owners from bankrolling clubs from their own vast resources, it was telling how in 2010-2011

City recorded English football's biggest ever financial loss of £197 million a year before winning a first league title for nearly 40 years.

The club was sanctioned for FFP breaches in 2014 when the rules had come into force, albeit £33 million of a £49 million fine was returned three years later as City met with operational and financial measures put in place by UEFA.

It was thought that increased commercial revenue from Man City's improved success had helped the club turn its losses into profit to now comply with FFP. That is until leaked documents alleged City had misled UEFA by inflating the value and disguising the true financial source of some commercial deals that led back to the club's owners.

Reputation and relations

CAS' recent ruling, based on "insufficient evidence" and "time-barred" dealings, has left many frustrated. Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp described the decision as "bad for football", while Tottenham's Jose Mourinho branded it "disgraceful".

Bullish to the end, City boss Pep Guardiola insists his club deserves an apology. "We were damaged," said the Spaniard. "The people say we cheated and were lying - and many times. The presumption of innocence wasn't there."

The significance of Guardiola's point about damage to reputation should not be understated. While a two-year Champions League ban could have left a £200m hole in City's revenues, money is perhaps not the primary motive for multi-billionaire football club owners from territories such as Abu Dhabi.

Research suggests that what appeals to the owners of some of the world's biggest foot-

ball clubs are so-called "soft power gains". Or in other words, countries whose political and human rights records have drawn criticism in the past, like to invest heavily in elite sport.

Countries such as Qatar, United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Azerbaijan and China have all increasingly aligned themselves with elite sports and mega-sports events in the pursuit of improved international relations and geopolitical acceptance. This is sometimes referred to as "sportswashing" their image.

Final whistle for FFP?

For parent company City Football Group then, whose pan-global interests stretch from Manchester to Mumbai, New York to Melbourne and Yokohama to Sichuan, Girona, Lommel and Montevideo, reputational damage could have far-reaching and lasting effect."

Nonetheless, there are those who believe the CAS decision has undermined FFP to the point of no return and that the balance of power has shifted towards super-rich clubs intent on outspending their rivals regardless of cost.

But there are others who feel the system is not completely broken. UEFA, for one, might point to how Europe's top leagues have generated more than 4.3 billion in operating profits over the past five years. This is in stark contrast to combined operating losses of more than 740 million reported in the five years from 2009 prior to FFP.



As proponents will say the system works if everyone plays by the same rules, opponents claim FFP serves simply to maintain the traditional economic status quo in European football - old money preventing new money from joining an exclusive elite.

Time will tell what the fallout really means for club ownership, FFP and UEFA. For now, Manchester City will rest safe in the knowledge that regardless of how they fare in this season's delayed Champions League competition, they will be sat at the top table again next year.

David Randles

Senior Lecturer in Sports Journalism,
Liverpool John Moores University

Could a pill make people more moral?

* Cont. from page 2

Moral enhancement as an alternative to vaccines

There are of course pitfalls to moral enhancement.

One is that the science isn't developed enough. For example, while oxytocin may cause some people to be more pro-social, it also appears to encourage ethnocentrism, and so is probably a bad candidate for a widely distributed moral enhancement. But this doesn't mean that a morality pill is impossible. The solution to the under-developed science isn't to quit on it, but to direct resources to related research in neuroscience, psychology or one of the behavioural sciences.

Another challenge is that the defectors who need moral enhancement are also the least likely to sign up for it. As some have argued, a solution would be to make moral enhancement compulsory or administer it secretly, perhaps via the water supply. These actions require weighing other values. Does the good of covertly dosing the public with a drug that would change people's behaviour outweigh individuals' autonomy to choose whether to participate? Does the good associated with wearing a mask outweigh an individual's autonomy to not wear one?

The scenario in which the government forces an immunity booster upon everyone is plausible. And the military has been forcing enhancements like vaccines or "uppers" upon soldiers for a long time. The scenario in which the government forces a morality booster upon everyone is far-fetched. But a strategy like this one could be a way out of this pandemic, a future outbreak or the suffering associated with climate change. That's why we should be thinking of it now.

The World Seen From My Screens Last Week



Preamvada Dookhun

The pandemic has changed our daily habits and screen time routine. Many of us have ended up spending hours on social media - be it *Facebooking* to keep the gossiping alive, *You-tubing* to know what the celebrities - famous and smart ones - are doing, or simply check those recipes; *Zooming* or *MSTeaming* to make sure we don't miss any free webinars, or work-from-home meetings to stay connected with the professional world and, of course, *Whatsapping* to forward inspiring quotes, share daily glimpses of our lives, chatting and video-calling our dear ones, without forgetting *Netflixing* to balance the moods - and TV to keep updated with the news. So basically, besides cooking, cleaning, sleeping, bathing, probably shopping for groceries, and maybe exercising, the only other thing that is keeping many people in pandemic affected areas busy is nerve-wrecking hours stuck to their screens. From my own screens my experience of the world last week was...Love, Horror, Faith, Fear and Curiosity.

Love. Last Monday, Hindus celebrated Raksha Bandhan, the unique festival that glorifies the love and respect between brothers and sisters. 'Rakhi' as we know it, is when the brothers promise to protect and take care of their sisters. I was happy to follow live via Whatsapp as my sisters tied Rakhi on our brother's wrist. But this triggered mixed feelings in me. What about those who don't have either a brother or a sister? Or how do you explain to the older daughter(s) that the baby or little brother is expected to protect her?

Indeed, this is where parents step in to give the right interpretation that makes sense to today's inquisitive kids, and the context. *'Of course, beti, it's not only about the brother who protects the sister or vice-versa but it is about brotherhood and sisterhood where, as a family, we always stand for each other. Be it brother-sister or sister-sister or brother-brother'*. In fact, due to the pandemic and distance, many sisters found themselves celebrating Rakhi alone - like me being in Australia far from my sisters. But somehow I felt closer to my sisters, for we know that despite our quibbles, we are always there for each other, supporting, teasing, watching out for and listening to each other. Happy Raksha Bandhan sisters!

On Tuesday, I watched with Horror the



“Besides cooking, cleaning, sleeping, bathing, probably shopping for groceries, and maybe exercising, the only other thing that is keeping many people in pandemic affected areas busy is nerve-wrecking hours stuck to their screens. From my own screens my experience of the world last week was...Love, Horror, Faith, Fear and Curiosity...”

blast in Beirut, which killed nearly 150 people (as at today 07 Aug 2020), injuring over 5000. One Australian is among the victims. Apparently, a fire started near the warehouse, blowing away 27,000 tonnes of ammonium nitrate pellets, which are primarily used as fertilisers, releasing toxic red gases and spreading despair in an already politically and economically torn country. Australians feel concerned as ammonium nitrate, classified as a dangerous good is produced, stored and used widely in Australia. Though it is tightly regulated, the explosion in Beirut rings a bell of caution and reminds Australians just how disastrous it can be. The other Horror of the week is the Wakashio oil spill in the

south-eastern waters of Mauritius. I am lost for words but pray that we are able to avoid *l'irreparable*. *Courage!* to the volunteers who are joining the authorities on the massive national clean-up. Stay safe.

On Wednesday 5th August, I watched the live telecast along with millions, as Faith triumphed and the 'wait of centuries ended', when the Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi, performed the Bhoomi Poojan in Ayodhya for the Rama Mandir. For the unaware, Ayodhya is considered to be the birthplace of Lord Rama who represents the epitome of Dharma. The much-disputed land endured three decades of legal battles, along with the wars and the blood of thousands of Hindus

since the 16th century. The final verdict awarded in November 2019 by India's Supreme Court offered the aggrieved defendants twice as much land further away and a Trust was set up to lead the re-construction of the Rama Temple. This is a historic celebration for Hindus worldwide as 'the structure will stand as a tribute to the best of timeless human values', and is not just a religious affair. We can say with a little pride that the world's first Rama Mandir is found in Mauritius at the Ramayana Centre at Union Park. Though small, it was still the first of its kind.

Victoria went into stage 4 lockdown and a curfew last week. Alone it has reported nearly 70% of Covid cases and deaths across Australia. The second wave has been deadlier for Victoria with elderlies in their 60s and above. Now the Fear of second waves is palpable in other States. Interstate borders closed again, travel bubbles were cancelled, businesses were going slow and people had to don masks when out in public places. Some States have re-introduced the bans on get-togethers. One could nearly hear the despair in the voice of Premiers as they addressed the people to share the bad news of the deaths of Covid-19 cases and the disobedience and reckless acts of certain people - like the woman who repeatedly bashed the head of a police-woman on the concrete floor, when asked the reason why she was not wearing a mask!

Nevertheless, the Australian government, both federal and state, is visibly doing what needs to be done. The hardship allowances were extended and eligibility criteria relaxed, businesses closed but assistance promised, paid sick leaves granted to Victorians so that they don't go to work when sick or with symptoms, additional staff to support overwhelmed teams in hospitals and aged care centres, and finally tougher penalty for those who still choose to wander around when expected to self-isolate or simply be indoors. As I mentioned in one of my previous articles, we can only cooperate in unity to come out of this crisis.

The last thing to catch my eye is the unbelievable *'tourment des choses'* in the case of Indian actor Sushant Singh Rajput's murder. It seems that it is no longer a case of suicide but murder. Widespread queries from millions of fans, chilling testimonies of people from the Indian film industry - mostly the 'outsiders', namely actors, directors not from the Bollywood 'gang', parallel investigations by local media people, especially, the TV anchor Arnab Goswami's intimidating questioning have forced the CBI to take up the matter. Even the Mumbai Police was accused of tampering with evidence and not collaborating with Bihar Police - who are also investigating the case in parallel, since the FIR was lodged in Patna. This is certainly an *'affaire à suivre'*.

Until next time...

Work Smarter

Adopt a collaborative mindset when negotiating in a crisis

In typical negotiations, a best practice is for both sides to focus on how to maximize potential gains. But in times of crisis, the goal is often to minimize potential losses. The standard tactics aren't as helpful under these circumstances, and the stress of a crisis can lead us to adopt a more skeptical, adversarial mindset toward the people we're negotiating with. To negotiate well under pressure, you should move toward a more collaborative mindset - and help others do the same. This means being transparent and open with everyone involved and emphasizing that you share a common purpose. Collaborative negotiation can be useful under normal circumstances, but it's critical to adopt it now. Both you and your negotiation partners will be better off for it.

This tip is adapted from "Avoid These Traps When Negotiating in a Crisis," by Adil Najam.

To run a good meeting, get the basics right

Plenty of meetings are a waste of time. They're unfocused, badly run, and way too long. But improving your meetings isn't rocket science -- work on getting the basics right. When planning a meeting, know why you are scheduling it in the first place. Having a specific goal in mind will help you create a useful agenda.

Next, decide who truly needs to be there, considering the key decision makers, influencers, and stakeholders. If certain people should be in the loop but don't need to attend, you can ask for their input beforehand and update them afterward. Open the meeting by clearly laying out its purpose and focusing people on the task at hand. As the facilitator, your role is to get attendees to feel committed to the outcome.

When the meeting is over, take a few minutes to reflect. Did everyone participate? Were people distracted? What worked well, and what didn't? Use your reflections (ask others for their thoughts, too) to keep improving for next time.

Adapted from "Why Your Meetings Stink -- and What to Do About It," by Steven G. Rogelberg

Don't brush off positive feedback -- study it

Most of us remember critical feedback. Because it's jarring and threatening, it tends to stick in our brains. But positive feedback is an invaluable

way to learn about your strengths and growth areas. Create a space (digital or physical) where you save the praise you get, anything from thank-you cards to written notes in your evaluations to comments in email threads.

When you get mixed feedback, tease apart the positive and negative aspects, and put the positive ones in your kudos folder as well. Set a time in your calendar to periodically review and reflect on what you've saved. Ask yourself: What patterns or themes can I identify? How could I use my strengths in new situations? What else can I learn about my strengths, and who might provide that perspective?

It may feel immodest or uncomfortable to bask in the positive feedback you get. But think of it like this: Someone has gone out of their way to highlight what you're good at -- so use it.

Adapted from "To Become Your Best Self, Study Your Successes," by Laura Morgan Roberts et al.

Your employees want to feel the purpose in their work

Instilling purpose in your employees takes more than motivational talks, lofty speeches, or mission statements. In fact, if overblown or insincere, those methods can backfire, triggering cynicism rather than commitment. To inspire and engage your employees, keep two things in mind.

First, purpose is a feeling. You could tell your team that their work is important, but how can you help individuals feel it firsthand? Think about ways to show people the impact of their jobs. Perhaps you could bring a customer in to share a testimonial, or send a small team into the field to experience the client's needs for themselves.

Second, authenticity matters -- a lot. If your attempts at creating purpose do not align with how you've acted in the past, employees will likely be skeptical, and they might be left feeling more manipulated than inspired. Making the pursuit of purpose a routine, rather than a one-off initiative, will show employees that you're serious about it.

Adapted from "Helping Your Team Feel the Purpose in Their Work," by Dan Cable

Harvard Business Review's Management Tip

Naufrage du vraquier Wakashio

Une enquête internationale s'impose pour situer les responsabilités



* Suite de la page 4

L'Etat omniprésent et prévaricateur qui décide de tout, qui décide ce qui est vrai ou faux et qui fait de ses dirigeants des chefs de culte est mauvais pour la démocratie et la bonne gouvernance. Une société de soumission paralyse les bonnes initiatives citoyennes.

Les images de l'immense nappe d'huile lourde s'échappant du vraquier au beau milieu des eaux turquoise du lagon, transmises par les chaînes de télévision internationales (en Europe et Amérique du Nord) ont causé émoi, inquiétude et frustration dans tous les pays riverains de l'océan Indien. A telle enseigne que la France a dépêché une équipe de secours avec hommes et équipements à partir de la Réunion, territoire français, afin de soutenir l'effort visant à endiguer la marée noire qui menace les côtes.

Enquête internationale

Le naufrage du vraquier n'est plus un problème mauricien uniquement. La Réunion craint que la marée noire ne touche sa zone maritime. Faute de compétences, Maurice n'a pas les moyens de faire une enquête indépendante sur ce désastre. Ni n'a-t-elle la volonté politique de le faire pour ne pas exposer l'incompétence de ses services responsables. Il faudrait une enquête internationale sous l'égide la Commission de l'océan Indien ou d'une agence de l'ONU avec des experts qui puissent interroger l'armateur japonais, le personnel navigant du vraquier et les autorités locales en vue d'éclaircir les zones d'ombres (erreur de navigation, manque de communication du côté du capitaine, réaction tardive des garde-côtes, etc.) et d'évaluer le plan de contingence du gouvernement.

Ce désastre est une opportunité pour les pays riverains de l'océan Indien, dont les voies maritimes sont hautement fréquentées par des navires-cargo, de se mettre autour d'une table en vue d'évaluer les risques de naufrages des navires, la probabilité d'une catastrophe écologique et la capacité des plans de contingence nationaux à en atténuer

les effets néfastes à la vie marine. C'est là un projet autrement important de coopération régionale avec pour parties prenantes Maurice, les Seychelles, Madagascar et la Réunion. La France, en tant que puissance riveraine, a les moyens logistiques d'être un partenaire efficace. Les enjeux du changement climatique et de l'environnement marin dépassent le cadre national.

Le pays voulait être un « Petroleum Hub » dans l'océan Indien avec la capacité de stocker et de transborder des produits pétroliers pour l'usage des pays riverains et d'Afrique de l'Est. Evidemment elle n'a pas les compétences techniques pour envisager une telle ambition. Le pays ne peut même pas surveiller sa zone économique exclusive (ZEE) de 200 milles marins pour y déceler les mouvements de navires faute de bateaux de patrouille et de radars modernes. Un bateau de remorquage de la Marine Authority est en panne dans le port depuis quelque temps. Le gouvernement dépense des milliards de roupies sur des projets d'éléphant blanc (Rs 5 milliards pour le stade de Côte d'Or) et des caméras de surveillance (Rs 19 milliards) à travers l'île qui ne rapportent aucun rendement économique.

Dans le cadre d'un développement économique alternatif, Il fallait investir dans l'économie bleue avec des bateaux de patrouille et une industrie de la pêche moderne, laquelle aurait créé des emplois productifs et assurer une production de poissons exportable. Si le pays ne peut déceler la présence d'un navire à moins d'un kilomètre de la côte sud-est, comment va-t-il surveiller des navires qui entrent dans sa ZEE sans aucun signal, surtout dans les parages des îles lointaines telles que Saint Brandon, Rodrigues, Agaléga et les Chagos, dont il veut recouvrer la souveraineté. Il ne suffit pas de se proclamer Etat-océan. Encore faut-il avoir les moyens de prévenir ou de mitiger une catastrophe écologique en mer.

Aditya Narayan

Your Health

Are you at risk for colorectal cancer?

See which factors increase your odds for getting cancer of the colon or rectum



The exact cause of colorectal cancer is not known. But there are several risk factors for the disease. Photo - healtheuropa.eu

Inside your abdominal cavity is the long, tubular digestive tract. The second part of this tube -- the large intestine -- is composed of the colon, which stretches 4 feet to 6 feet, and the rectum, which is only 4 inches to 6 inches long.

The inner lining of this "colorectal tube" can be a fertile breeding ground for small tumors, called polyps. Most colorectal cancers develop from polyps in glandular tissue of the intestinal lining. Most polyps are benign, but at least one type is known to be precancerous. These are called adenomatous polyps.

The size of the polyp correlates with the development of cancer. Polyps less than 1 centimeter in size have a slightly greater than a 1% chance of becoming cancer, but those 2 centimeters or greater have a 40% chance of transforming into cancer. Overall, the incidence is about 5%. Most colorectal cancers develop from polyps in glandular tissue of the intestinal lining.

If colorectal cancer is diagnosed and treated early while the tumor is still localized, the disease is highly curable, with five-year survival rates of about 90%. If the tumor continues to grow, cancer can spread directly through the bowel wall to surrounding lymph nodes, tissues, and organs, as well as into the bloodstream.

Once the cancer spreads to lymph nodes or other organs, successful treatment becomes more difficult. Depending on how advanced the disease is, five-year survival rates range from 11% to 87%.

Cancers of the colon and rectum are common, with approximately 135,000 cases diagnosed each year. Like many cancers, colorectal cancer is of particular concern for people older than age 50.

Although diagnosis is often possi-

ble at an early stage, many people delay seeking medical care because they are embarrassed or fearful of symptoms related to their bowels. Risk increases significantly after age 50 and continues to increase with age.

What causes colorectal cancer?

The exact cause of colorectal cancer is not known. But there are several risk factors for the disease.

- **Other diseases.** Colorectal cancer is strongly associated with certain other diseases. Those people considered at high risk include anyone with a personal or family history of colon polyps or colon cancer, inflammatory disease of the colon such as ulcerative colitis or Crohn's disease, and cancers of the pancreas, breast, ovaries, or uterus.
- **Heredity.** As with any cancer, susceptibility to colorectal cancer is at least partly determined by genetic makeup. A few people inherit medical conditions, such as familial adenomatous polyposis (FAP), MYH-associated polyposis (MAP), Gardner's syndrome, Turcot's syndrome, Peutz-Jagher's syndrome, juvenile polyposis, and Cowden's disease. In all of these disorders, colon polyps develop at an early age, and unless treated, these people are at high risk of developing colorectal cancer.
- **Hereditary nonpolyposis colon cancer.** The disease extends from generation to generation and causes a person to develop colon cancer. This disease is associated with other cancers including endometrial, ovarian, stomach, small intestine, pancreas, kidney, ureter, brain, and bile duct.

- **Diet.** Diet also contributes to the risk of colorectal cancer, although the cause-and-effect relationship is still unclear. People whose diets are high in fruits and vegetables seem to have a reduced risk. Many studies implicate animal fat and protein as promoters of colorectal cancer, although researchers are cautious about drawing any definite conclusions. Some studies show that regularly eating red meat, which is rich in saturated fat and protein, increases risk, while others find no connection. Some scientists note that fat is the main culprit, while others suspect protein. Others contend that it's not the fat and protein themselves, but the way they are cooked. They note that fats and protein cooked at high temperatures -- especially when broiled and barbecued -- can produce a host of potentially carcinogenic substances linked to colorectal cancer.

- **Chemical exposure.** Heavy exposure to certain chemicals, including chlorine -- which in small amounts is commonly used to purify drinking water -- may increase the risk of colorectal cancer. Exposure to asbestos is thought to be potentially harmful because it has been implicated in causing formation of polyps in the colon.

- **History of certain types of surgery.** Surgeries such as ureterosigmoidostomy, which is performed in the treatment of bladder cancer, and a cholecystectomy (the removal of the gallbladder). Some studies show surgery of the bladder may lead to a risk for colon cancer development, but other studies do not.

- **History of colon cancer.** A prior case of colon cancer increases the risk of a second colon cancer, especially if the first cancer was diagnosed before the age of 60.

- **Lifestyle.** Smoking and alcohol intake of more than 4 drinks per week increases the risk of developing colon cancer.

- **Family history.** Those with a first-degree relative with colorectal cancer have an increased risk of the disease. The risk increases if more than one first-degree relative has colon cancer.

- **Radiation.** Prior radiation increases the risk of cancer to the radiated tissue only.

WebMD

Motivation

Feel blessed

Break through all the barriers and feel that you are blessed. This is the one and only step you have to take - the rest will all happen.

This deep sense of feeling that "I am blessed" can help you overcome any obstacles in life. It gives you courage and confidence and it will open your lid for grace to be poured in.

Once you realize that you are blessed, then:

All the complaints disappear

All the grumbling disappears

All the insecurities disappear

A sense of feeling unloved disappears

Wanting love disappears.

If you don't realize you are blessed, then the doership begins.

And especially for those on this path of knowledge, there is no reason for you to not feel blessed. So, feel you are blessed. This is the first step towards the Self.

Blessing comes to you in many forms.

If you are generous, blessing comes to you as abundance.

If you are hardworking, blessing comes to you as happiness.

If you are lazy, blessing comes to you as hard work! (Laughter)

If you are pleasure loving, blessing comes to you as dispassion.

If you are dispassionate, blessing comes to you as knowledge of the Self.

Gurudev Sri Sri Ravi Shankar



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In a light vein

A woman joins a country club and when she hears the guys talking about their golf round, she says. "I played on my college's golf team. I was pretty good. Mind if I join you next week?"

No one wants to say 'yes', but they're on the spot.

Finally, one man says. "Okay, but we start at 6.30 am." He figures the early tee-time will discourage her.

The woman says this may be a problem and asks if she can be up to 15 minutes late.

They roll their eyes, but say, "Okay."

She's there at 6.30 am sharp, and beats all of them with an eye-opening 2-under par round.

She's fun and pleasant and the guys are impressed. They congratulate her and invite her back the next week.

She smiles, and says, "I'll be there at 6.30, or 6.45."

The next week she again shows up at 6:30 sharp. Only this time, she plays left-handed.

The three guys are incredulous as she still beats them with an even par round, despite playing with her off-hand.

They're totally amazed. They can't figure her out. She's very pleasant and a gracious winner.

They invite her back again, but each man harbours a burning desire to beat her.

The third week, she's 15 minutes late, which irritates the guys.

This week she plays right-handed and narrowly beats all three of them.

The men grumble that her late arrival is petty gamesmanship on her part.

However, she's so charming and complimentary of their strong play, they can't hold a grudge.

This woman is a riddle no one can figure out.

They have a couple of beers in the club house and finally one of the men asks her: "How do you decide if you're going to golf right-handed or left-handed?"

The lady blushes, and grins. "When my dad taught me to play golf, I learnt that I was able to use the right and left hands equally well," she replies. "I like to switch back and forth. When I got married after college, I discovered my husband always sleeps in the nude. From then on, I developed a silly habit. Right before I leave in the morning for golf practice, I pull the covers off him. If his willie points to the right, I golf right-handed; if it points to the left, I golf left-handed."

The guys think this is hysterical.

Astonished at this bizarre information, one of the guys says: "What if it's pointing straight up?"

She says. "That's when I get fifteen minutes late."

A collection of superb, hard hitting, humorous comments...

"In my many years I have come to a conclusion ... that one useless man is a shame, two (useless men) is a law firm and three or more (useless men) is a government."

-- John Adams

"If you don't read the newspaper you are uninformed, if you do read the newspaper, you are misinformed."

-- Mark Twain

"I contend that for a nation to try to tax itself into prosperity is like a man standing in a bucket and trying to lift himself up by the handle."

-- Winston Churchill

"A government which robs Peter to pay Paul can always depend on the support of Paul."

-- George Bernard Shaw

"Foreign aid might be defined as a transfer of money from poor

people in rich countries to rich people in poor countries."

-- Douglas Casey, *Classmate of Bill Clinton at Georgetown University*

"Giving money and power to government is like giving whiskey and car keys to teenage boys."

-- P.J. O'Rourke, *Civil Libertarian*

"Just because you do not take an interest in politics doesn't mean politics won't take an interest in you!"

-- Pericles (430 B.C.)

"No man's life, liberty, or property is safe while the legislature is in session."

-- Mark Twain (1866)

"The government is like a baby's alimentary canal, with a happy appetite at one end and no responsibility at the other."

-- Ronald Reagan

Life's Talk

Why dad is always lagging behind?

Don't know why Dad is always lagging behind.

1. Mom carries for 9 months, Dad carries for 25 years, both are equal, still don't know why Dad is lagging behind.

2. Mother works without pay for the family, Dad spends all his pay for the family, both their efforts are equal, still don't know why Dad is lagging behind.

3. Mom cooks whatever you want, Dad buys whatever you want, both their love is equal, but Mom's love is shown as superior. Don't know why Dad is lagging behind.

4. When you talk over the phone, you want to talk to Mom first, if you get hurt, you cry 'Mom'. You will only remember dad when you need him, but did Dad never feel bad that you don't remember him the other times? When it comes to receiving love from children, for generations, don't know why Dad is lagging behind.

5. Cupboards will be filled with colourful sarees and many clothes for kids but Dad's clothes are very few, he doesn't care about his

own needs, still don't know why Dad is lagging behind.

6. Mom has many gold ornaments, but Dad has only one ring that was given during his wedding. Still Mom may complain of less jewellery and Dad doesn't. Still don't know why Dad is lagging behind.

7. Dad works very hard all his life to take care of the family, but when it comes to getting recognition, don't know why he is always lagging behind.

8. Mom says, we need to pay college tuition this month, please don't buy a saree for me for the festival whereas dad has not even thought of new clothes. Both their love is equal, still don't know why Dad is lagging behind.

9. When parents become old, children say, Mom is at least useful in taking care of household chores, but they say, Dad is useless.

Dad is behind (or 'at the back') because he is the backbone of the family. Because of him, we are able to stand erect. Probably, this is the reason why he is lagging "behind"....!!!

Dr Abdul Kalam - A tribute

-- Wg Cdr Nasir Hanfee (Retd)

27 July was the death anniversary of Dr Abdul Kalam.

I can't resist sharing a story about him.

This was way back in 1998. Our PSLV missile programme was in full swing. But it was being done clandestinely to avoid detection by US spy satellites. The programme director was Dr APJ Abdul Kalam, who we did not recognise at that time.

The cryogenic engines used were secretly shipped to Chennai port from where they were airlifted by our heavy lift helicopter.

If this helicopter was to fly straight from Chennai, it would have taken only 2 hours to reach the launch site. But to avoid detection by US satellites, a zigzag route was worked out involving long halts at unscheduled places. Due to this, a two-hour flight would take us 8 hrs of flying and 8 hours halt, but it ensures no detection - a small price to pay.

Due to the heavy load, our passenger carrying capacity was significantly reduced. We were able to carry only 12 supporting staff from the missile programme, including two sweepers to sweep and mop the constantly leaking fuel and oil from the cryogenic engine. All 12 names were approved by officials at the highest level of the government and the director was allowed only to change two sweepers, if required.

On the day of our departure, a gentleman with long grey hair approached us. "I have missed my flight and I have no choice but to travel with you all because I am required at the launch site." We had to refuse him because the names were cleared from high up and we could neither make any changes, nor carry any extra passenger.

Just when we were about to go, this man came to us running: "Captain, the project director has kindly agreed to have me replace a sweeper. Here is authorisation. Please take me on board."



The Captain said Ok and he jumped on board like a happy child.

Our second halt was about four hours long. As we were sipping our tea, we saw this gentleman sweeping and wiping the floor. We saw some of the senior scientists run to him and engage in animated conversation but he continued doing his job.

One of the scientists then approached the Captain and requested him to order the sweeper not to sweep! "Sir, he is our project director, Dr APJ Abdul Kalam, and you have to stop him please."

We were shell shocked. The Captain approached him, but he simply said: "I am travelling in the capacity of a sweeper and no one can stop me from doing my job."

At a loss as to how to deal with this situation, we remained passive spectators. On our next halt too, he did his duty. His simplicity bowled us over.

We dropped the men and machine at the drop site and bid him goodbye.

Many years later I received an invitation from the President House to visit Mughal Gardens to see how much work he had done on it and judge if 'he was a better maali or a better sweeper'. I sent my regrets as I was out of the country.

I met him after he retired as President and he remembered the episode.

Shruti Haasan on working with family in a film



Actress Shruti Haasan said that working with her family in a film will not necessarily make it a great film.

Shruti is the daughter of veteran actors Kamal Haasan and Sarika. Her sister Akshara is an actress, too. She said she has not thought of working with all of them together.

"I tell you why because that doesn't determine that it will make a great film. Everybody from the same family. That's absolutely not what's going to determine that at all," Shruti told.

The actress believes that a "great film is that a film chooses to be great and the people working on it"

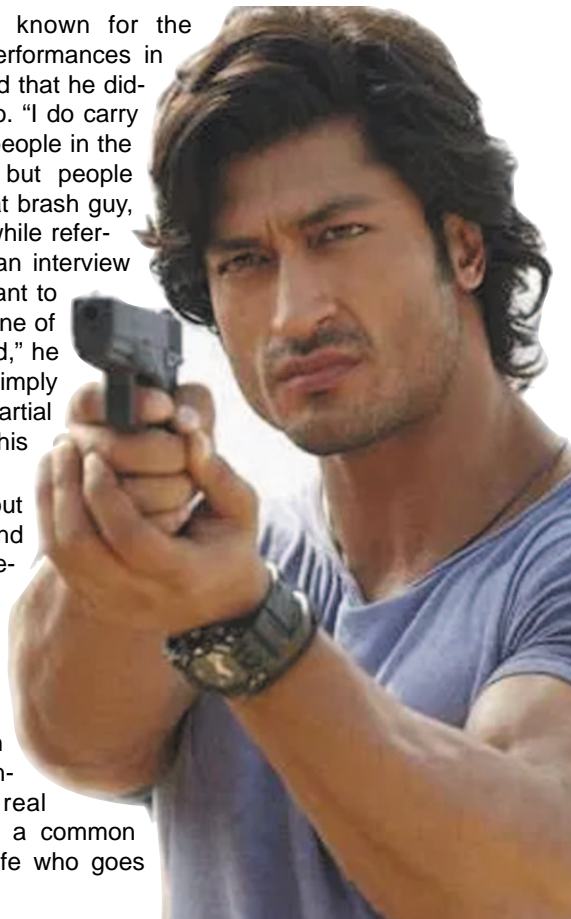
She added: "I think films have a life of their own, which is really wonderful and then we kind of become a conduit to the energy and destiny of the film, and that can be with anybody. I don't necessarily think that it would be with my family."

Shruti was recently seen in the digitally-released film, 'Yaara', which also stars Vidyut Jammwal, Kenny Basumatry, Vijay Varma and Amit Sadh.

Vidyut Jammwal wants to be one of the biggest action stars in the world, says he didn't come to Bollywood to be a hero

Action star Vidyut Jammwal, known for the Commando series and his performances in numerous other action films, shared that he didn't come to Bollywood to be a hero. "I do carry the weight of being one of the 10 people in the world you shouldn't mess with, but people around will vouch that I am not that brash guy, ready to pick up a fight," he said while referring to a magazine article during an interview with a news publication. "I don't want to sound pompous, but I want to be one of the biggest action stars in the world," he added, and mentioned that he simply wanted people to know about the martial art form, Kalaripayattu, through his films.

Vidyut then went on to talk about investing more efforts in stories, and shared that he participates in the pre-production processes like going on location hunt and preparing for the tiniest of details. The actor will next be seen in director-writer Faruk Kabir's upcoming film, 'Khuda Haafiz', which will release on an OTT platform this week. The romantic-action-thriller, inspired by real events, will see Vidyut portraying a common man on a mission to trace his wife who goes missing in another country.



Vaani Kapoor: Fear is the biggest roadblock



Actress Vaani Kapoor said she is working at busting fear.

"I am working very hard on myself to not live in fear, and that (fear) is one thing that everybody needs to disown," Vaani told.

She calls fear a roadblock. "Fear is our biggest enemy and it's the biggest roadblock for all of us. So, I think that's one thing we should all just disown," she added.

On the work front, Vaani has a great lineup coming up. She will be seen opposite Ranbir Kapoor in 'Shamsher' and Akshay Kumar in 'Bell Bottom'.

She also recently signed Abhishek Kapoor's untitled next film opposite Ayushmann Khurrana.

Dirty Dancing sequel in the works with Jennifer Grey



In the original film, Jennifer Grey played Frances 'Baby' Houseman, a teenager who becomes smitten with a dance instructor, played by Patrick Swayze, while on vacation at a New York resort in the 1960s.

Jennifer Grey, the actress who starred alongside Patrick Swayze in romantic drama *Dirty Dancing*, will appear in a sequel to the classic 1987 movie, the studio behind the film announced on Thursday.

Grey also will serve as an executive producer on the film, which will be directed by Warm Bodies director Jonathan Levine, said Jon Feltheimer, chief executive of Lions Gate Entertainment Corp.

"It will be exactly the kind of romantic nostalgic movie that the franchise's fans have been waiting for," Feltheimer said on a call with industry analysts.

The company did not provide any details about the movie's plot or when it would be released.

In the original film, Grey played Frances 'Baby' Houseman, a teenager who becomes smitten with a dance instructor (Swayze) while on vacation at a New York resort in the 1960s.

Swayze died of cancer in 2009 at age 57.

Dirty Dancing was a box office smash and featured hit song "(I've Had) The Time of My Life," which won an Oscar for best original song.

Surekha Sikri denies seeking financial aid: Don't want wrong impression to be created that I'm going around begging for money

Badhaai Ho actor Surekha Sikri says she needs to go back to work to earn to take care of her escalating medical bills and other expenses, but she hasn't asked anyone for money



Surekha Sikri had recently voiced against the Maharashtra government's decision to not permit cast and crew above 65 years to shoot. While talking to Hindustan Times, she shares that though she got a few offers, they were all for ad films.

"But nothing has been finalised yet. Again, these won't be sufficient. I need to do more work to take care of my medical bills and other expenses. I think producers aren't ready to take the risk," she says.

While she needs to work now to manage her expenses, Sikri, 75, is quite upset with recent reports

doing the rounds that she has asked her friends for loans.

"I don't want any wrong impression to be created among people that I am going around begging people for money. I don't want charity. Yes many have reached out to me, which is very kind of them. I really feel grateful. But I've not taken anything from anyone. Give me work and I want to earn respectfully," adds the National Award winning actor.

Sikri, who has not been working for quite some time, says the present pandemic has only made things worse. "If politicians and bureaucrats over 65 are still working, why can't the actors and technicians also go out? Many of us are going through a difficult time, we need money to survive. Such restrictions are making things difficult for us," asserts the actor, whose medical expenses go up to Rs 200,000 a month.

In 2018, she suffered a brain stroke that left her partially paralysed. While she took time to recover, Sikri couldn't take up much work, which had an effect on her financial status.

Last seen in *Ghost Stories* earlier this year, Sikri is raring to resume work and insists that she can take care of herself with a little help from her nurses.

"I'll take all necessary precautions. I can't sit at home like this any longer and be a burden on my family. Everyone is going through a tough time and these medical bills are adding to my concern," adds the actor.

Mohit Malik: It feels odd to be shooting in this new environment

Mohit Malik is all set to make a comeback on the small screen with a show based on love amid the pandemic. Mohit recently began shooting and along with following the necessary precautionary measures that have been implemented on the set, Mohit is also ensuring that he takes additional care of his own hygiene and safety during these times, reports Times of India.

Talking about shooting in the current environment, Mohit shares, "The team on the set is ensuring that all safety measures and protocols are in place. From the time we step onto the set till the time we leave, there are regular temperature checks and sanitisation. There are also very few of us on the set. Social distancing is also maintained by everybody, and the minute the shot is over we are all back to wearing our masks again."

He continues, "It does feel strange and odd to be shooting under such uncertain circumstances. I am someone who has always been used to a set full of people, where I can gauge their reactions after a shot and even discuss things with them, but due to the new norms now in place, these things are not possible at all. This is the time when you have to be self-dependent and realise what is important for your own safety. I really feel that we all need to do our bit during this phase by keeping safe not only for ourselves, but for others around us too. Luckily, everyone here on our set is doing just that," he elaborates.



Ram Mandir bhoomi poojan

Ramayan's 'Sita' Dipika Chikhlia celebrates 'victory of all Indians'



Ramayan actors Dipika Chikhlia, Arun Govil and Sunil Lahri welcomed Indian PM Narendra Modi laying of the foundation stone of Ram temple in Ayodhya.

Dipika Chikhlia, better known as Sita of Ramanand Sagar's *Ramayan*, has welcomed the bhoomi puja ceremony of Ram Mandir in Ayodhya on Wednesday. She called it a 'great victory for all Indians', reports Hindustan Times.

She took to Twitter to share a fresh picture of herself that shows her sitting with an oil lamp in her hand and wrote, "This is a great victory for all Indians... jyot se jyot jalate chalo ram ka naam japte chalo #ayodhya #RamMandir @narendramodi @PMOIndia @myogiadityanath (This is a great victory for all Indians... light one lamp from another and keep reciting Ram's name)."

Arun Govil, who played Ram on the show, wrote in Hindi on Twitter. "This day will be written in golden letters in history. With the laying of the foundation stone of Shri Ram temple, the dream of the devotees of the whole world is coming true. Warm greetings and best wishes to all of you. Jai Shree Ram."

Sunil Lahri, known for playing Lakshman in *Ramayan*, shared a picture of himself and a model of the Ram temple on Twitter. He wrote in Hindi, "5 August is a historical day, just like 15th August, this day will also be remembered in the history of India. The laying of the foundation of the Ram temple is the solution to a 500-year-old problem. Congratulations to all Indians and best wishes. Jai Siyaram."

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday laid the foundation of the Ram temple. He also participated in the bhoomi poojan rituals.

Sending out the message that "Ram is everywhere, Ram belongs to all", Modi said the temple symbolises India's rich heritage and will be an inspiration for all of humanity. "Social harmony was the core principle of Lord Ram's governance," the PM said. Citing Lord Ram's message, Modi said the more powerful India gets, the more it will be loved and remain peaceful. The construction of the Ram temple is an instrument to unite the country, he said.

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CINE 12

Mardi 11 août - 21.15

Unforgotten

Avec Nicola Walker, Sanjeev Bhaskar, Peter Egan



mhc-1

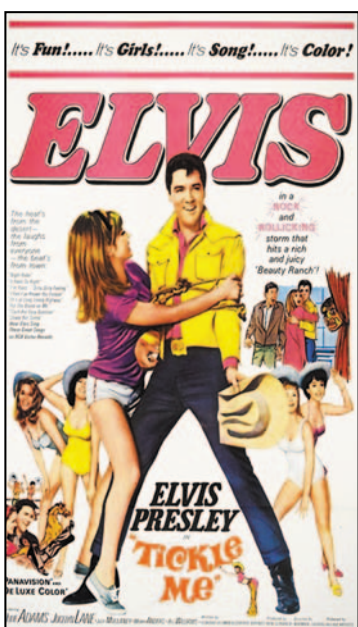
Mercredi 12 août - 21.15

Cassidy Red



CINE 12

Jeudi 13 août - 21.15



MBC 1	MBC 2	MBC 3	Cine 12	Bollywood TV
mardi 11 août 07.00 Rencontre Avec Nos Aînés 09.25 Mag: Shift 10.09 Mag: Euromaxx 11.30 Mag: Mixeur, Les Gouts.. 12.00 Le Journal 12.25 Mag: Women Who Changed 12.35 Doc: Visite Guidee 14.00 Local: Sur Prise 14.30 D.Anime: Kid-E-Cats 14.47 D.Anime: Le Quiz De Zack 14.51 D.Anime: Chuck's Choice 15.05 D.Anime: Twirlywoos 16.11 D.Anime: Boule Et Bill 17.31 Serial: You and Me 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.30 Serial: Jamai Raja 19.30 Journal & La Meteo 20.00 Local: Priorite Sante 21.10 Film: The Perfect Guy 22.45 Serial: The Blacklist 23.30 Le Journal	mardi 11 août 10.00 Serial: CID 10.44 Serial: Ye Vaada Raha 12.04 Film: Fifty Fifty Starring: Rajesh Khanna, Tina Munim, Om Shivpuri 14.18 DDI Magazine 15.00 Mag: Strictly Street 15.18 Serial: Honaar Soon Mee.. 15.48 Serial: Mooga Manasulu 16.10 Serial: Apoorva Raagangal 16.33 Serial: Ki Jaana Mein Kaun 16.54 Mehendi Tohra Naam Ke 17.17 Serial: Gangaa 18.00 Serial: Dr. Quin 18.30 DDI Magazine 20.00 Local: Tamil Programme 20.30 Film: Gopal - Krishna Starring: Prakash, Jayshree Gadkar, D.K. Sapru 22.38 DDI Live	mardi 11 août 06.00 Mag: Eco@Africa 06.44 Mag: World Stories 07.00 Mag: Voa Connect 07.29 Doc: A Question Of Science 07.30 Mag: In Good Shape 09.00 Doc: 360 GEO 10.43 Vincent Van Gogh Superstar 11.28 Mag: Eco@Africa 11.54 Mag: Urban Gardens 12.12 Mag: World Stories 12.24 Mag: Voa Connect 12.59 Mag: In Good Shape 14.23 Doc: 360 GEO 15.15 Mag: Global 3000 16.08 Doc: Vincent Van Gogh Superstar 16.50 Mag: Eco@Africa 17.40 Mag: World Stories 18.23 Mag: Urban Gardens 18.30 Live: News 18.44 Mag: Shift	mardi 11 août 01.27 Film: Knock Off 02.54 Serial: The Good Doctor 03.35 Film: Pressure 05.06 Tele: Totalement Diva 05.57 Serial: Shades Of Blue 06.39 Film: Mike Hammer 08.30 Serial: NCIS 09.12 Tele: Au Nom De L'Amour 10.35 Serial: The Good Doctor 11.25 Tele: Dulce Amor 11.53 Film: Pressure 13.36 Tele: Totalement Diva 14.45 Film: Mike Hammer 16.41 Serial: NCIS 17.24 Serial: Shades Of Blue 18.14 Tele: Soleil Levant 19.10 Tele: Dulce Amor 20.05 Tele: Le Prix Du Désir 20.30 Serial: Shades Of Blue 21.15 Film: Unforgotten Avec Nicola Walker, Sanjeev Bhaskar, Peter Egan	mardi 11 août 08.00 Film: Hijack 12.04 / 19.54 - Kahan Hum Kahan Tuam 12.26 / 20.11 - Kullfi Kumarr Bajewala 12.38 / 20.32 Radha Krishna 13.09 / 21.09 - Bin Kuch Kahe 13.31 / 21.24 - Zindagi Ki Mehek 13.56 / 21.46 - Bade Acche Lagte Hai 14.20 / 21.59 - Chhanchhan 14.28 / 22.25 - Bin Kuch Kahe 15.09 Film: Satte Pe Satta Starring: Amitabh Bachchan, Hema Malini, Ranjeeta Kaur 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.30 Kumkum Bhagya 18.51 Piya Albela 19.13 Mere Angne Mein 19.33 Yeh Un Dinon Ki Baat Hai
mercredi 12 août 06.30 Local: Ecriture Mauricienne 07.30 Local: Priorite Sante 09.00 Doc: Waterworld 12.00 Le Journal 12.25 Local: Women Who Changed 12.35 Local: Groov'in 14.00 Local: Priorite Sante 14.35 D.Anime: Nos Voisins Les.. 14.46 D.Anime: Le Quiz De Zack 14.50 D.Anime: Chuck's Choice 15.02 D.Anime: Petit Creux 16.09 D.Anime: Teenie Weenies 16.11 D.Anime: Boule Et Bill 16.32 D.Anime: G-Fighters 17.30 Serial: Lucas Etc 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.30 Serial: Jamai Raja 19.30 Journal & La Meteo 20.00 Prod: Lottotech 21.10 Film: Cassidy Red 22.45 Serial: The Blacklist 23.30 Local: Le Journal	mercredi 12 août 10.00 Pyar Ka Dard Meetha.. 11.17 Suhani Ek Ladhi 12.00 Film: Swarg Narak Stars: Sanjeev Kumar, Jeetendra 14.38 DDI Magazine 15.00 Mag: Strictly Street 15.23 Honaar Soon Mee Hya Gharchi 15.50 Mooga Manasulu 16.10 Apoorva Raagangal 16.34 Ki Jaana Mein Kaun 16.55 Mehendi Tohra Namam Ke 17.18 Serial: Gangaa 17.38 Serial: Kulvadh 18.00 Serial: Dr. Quin 18.30 Serial: DDI Magazine 19.30 DDI Magazine 20.00 Programme In Marathi 21.00 Film: Flash - Chinese Film Starring Chiang Chen, Yasuaki Kurata, Chu-Hua Chiang	mercredi 12 août 06.00 Mag: Rev: The Global 06.26 Mag: Urban Gardens 06.57 Mag: Check In 07.54 Doc: Garden Party 08.49 Doc: World Stamps 08.55 Doc: Gutenberg, L'aventure.. 10.13 Local Prod: Klip Seleksion 12.07 Mag: Urban Gardens 12.38 Mag: Check In 14.31 Doc: World Stamps 15.55 Local: Klip Seleksion 16.38 Doc: Tanzania Transit 17.23 Mag: Rev: The Global Auto.. 17.54 Mag: Motorweek 18.23 Mag: Urban Gardens 18.44 Mag: Healthy Living 19.30 Live From Sri Rukmini Dwarkadhish Hare Krishna Temple 20.30 Live From ISCKON Temple 00.30 Mag: Urban Gardens 00.35 Doc: The Melting Arctic	mercredi 12 août 01.26 Film: Unforgotten 02.47 Serial: The Good Doctor 04.58 Tele: Totalement Diva 05.59 Serial: Shades Of Blue 06.48 Film: For The Love Of George 09.00 Serial: NCIS 09.45 Tele: Soleil Levant 10.35 Serial: The Good Doctor 11.25 Tele: Dulce Amor 11.49 Film: Hailey Dean Mysteries 13.30 Tele: Totalement Diva 14.19 Mag: Hollywood On Set 14.45 Film: For The Love Of George 16.40 Serial: Mission: Impossible 17.22 Serial: Shades Of Blue 18.12 Tele: Soleil Levant 19.00 Tele: Dulce Amor 20.05 Tele: Le Prix Du Désir 20.30 Tele: Esmeraldas 21.15 Film: Mike Hammer 22.46 Tele: Totalement Diva	mercredi 12 août 08.00 Film: Satte Pe Satta 12.04 / 19.54 - Kahan Hum Kahan Tuam 12.26 / 20.11 - Kullfi Kumarr Bajewala 12.47 / 20.32 Radha Krishna 13.09 / 21.09 - Bin Kuch Kahe 13.31 / 21.24 - Zindagi Ki Mehek 13.56 / 21.46 - Bade Acche Lagte Hai 14.20 / 21.59 - Chhanchhan 14.36 / 22.25 - Bitti Business 15.09 Film: Dhanwaan Starring: Ajay Devgan, Manisha Koirala and Karisma Kapoor 17.35 Yeh Hai Mohabbatein 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.30 Kumkum Bhagya 18.51 Piya Albela 19.13 Mere Angne Mein 19.33 Yeh Un Dinon Ki Baat Hai
jeudi 13 août 06.00 Klip Seleksion 07.00 Local: Arxiv MBC 09.00 Local: Made In Germany 09.30 Local: World Stories 12.00 Le Journal 12.35 Doc: Visite Guidee 14.15 Local: Nou Later Nou Lamer Nou Rises 14.30 Local Production 16.30 Live Activities on the "Calendrier Culturel": Launching of The Intercontinental Slavery Museum - Vernissage By The National Art Gallery & Exhibition By The Appravasi Ghat Trust Fund 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.30 Jamai Raja 19.30 Le Journal 20.06 Film: Rabba Main Kya Karoon	jeudi 13 août 10.00 Karm Phal Data Shani 12.05 Film: Bidaai Starring Jeetendra, Leena Chandavarkar, Durga Khote 14.23 DDI Magazine 15.00 Mag: Strictly Street 15.23 Honaar Soon Mee Hya Gharchi 15.47 Mooga Manasulu 16.15 Apoorva Raagangal 16.56 Mehendi Tohra Naam Ke 17.19 Gangaa 18.00 Serial: Dr. Quin 18.30 Serial: Ghar Pahucha Da Devi Maiya 20.00 Magazine: MBC Production 21.00 Film: Tickle Me Starring Elvis Presley, Julie Adams, Jocelyn Lane 22.33 DDI Live	jeudi 13 août 06.00 Mag: Motorweek 06.25 Mag: Urban Gardens 07.31 Doc: Garden Party 08.48 Doc: World Stamps 10.38 Doc: Riding The Rails... 11.24 Mag: Motorweek 11.55 Doc: The Melting Arctic 12.21 Mag: Arts 21 14.30 Dessin Anime - Kid-E-Cats 17.21 Serial: Lucas Etc. 18.24 Mag: Urban Gardens 18.30 Live: News 19.05 Open Univ: Student Support 19.26 Doc: A Question Of Science 20.05 Doc: Comme Un Poisson... 21.03 Doc: 360 Geo 21.53 Mag: Strictly Street 22.19 Doc: Lead In The Blood 22.56 Mag: Eco India 23.22 Mag: Urban Gardens 23.29 Mag: Sur Mesure	jeudi 13 août 01.31 Film: Mike Hammer 03.42 Film: A Date With Miss Fortune 05.22 Tele: Totalement Diva 06.11 Tele: Esmeraldas 06.44 Film: The Next Karate Kid 09.00 Serial: NCIS 09.45 Tele: Soleil Levant 10.35 Serial: The Good Doctor 11.21 Tele: Dulce Amor 12.00 Film: A Date With Miss Fortune 13.54 Tele: Totalement Diva 14.45 Film: The Next Karate Kid 16.37 Serial: NCIS 17.26 Tele: Esmeraldas 18.14 Tele: Soleil Levant 19.00 Tele: Dulce Amor 20.05 Tele: Le Prix Du Désir 20.30 Serial: Esmeraldas 21.15 Film: Hailey Dean Mysteries 22.46 Tele: Totalement Diva	jeudi 13 août 08.00 Film: Dhanwaan 12.04 / 19.54 - Kahan Hum Kahan Tuam 12.26 / 20.11 - Kullfi Kumarr Bajewala 12.47 / 20.32 Radha Krishna 13.09 / 21.09 - Bin Kuch Kahe 13.31 / 21.24 - Zindagi Ki Mehek 13.56 / 21.46 - Bade Acche Lagte Hai 14.20 / 21.59 - Jai Kanhaiya Lal Ke 14.36 / 22.25 - Bitti Business Wali 15.09 Film: Ghar Ho To Aisa Starring: Anil Kapoor, Meenakshi Seshadri, Saeed Jaffrey 17.30 Yeh Hai Mohabbatein 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.30 Kumkum Bhagya



Jeudi 13 août - 15.09

Stars: Anil Kapoor, Meenakshi Seshadri, Saeed Jaffrey



Jeudi 13 août - 20.10

Stars: Akash Sagar Chopra, Arshad Warsi, Paresh Rawal





Niranjana KarthigaiRajan

As we celebrate the foundation stone laying ceremony of Ram Mandir, let's get to know the greatness of Ayodhya and uniqueness of Ram Mandir in Ayodhya, and clear our doubts. The word Ayodhya in Sanskrit means, "invincible city". Ayodhya had been the capital of the Ikshvaku dynasty. The city had been ruled by 35 kings of the Ikshvaku clan preceding Sri Rama.

What's so unique about Ram Mandir in Ayodhya?

We might have worshipped Lord Rama in various forms across India - Kodanda Rama, Pattabi Rama, Kalyana Rama, Darbha Sayana Rama, and so on. What's so exceptional in Ayodhya is that the presiding deity is the Ram Lalla (the baby Ram). More commonly, it is Baby Krishna (called Santana Krishna or Bala Krishna) who is worshipped in India.

Why construct the temple particularly in Ayodhya?

Because it is the *janma bhoomi* (the place of incarnation) of Lord Rama, it is vital to have the Mandir built in Ayodhya. While the Lord Himself has chosen to be born here, the place holds significance and goodness for all of us.

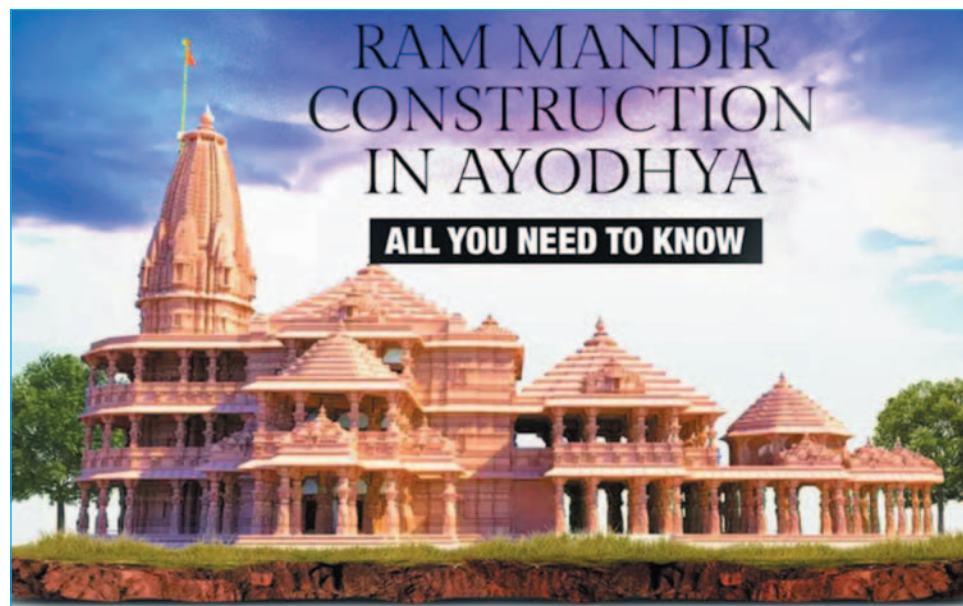
Is it a new temple?

It is only a restoration and rebuilding of a temple that existed 500 years ago. Valmiki mentioned that a portion of Sri Vaikundam was established as Ayodhya on the southern banks of River Sarayu during the period of Swayambhu Manu. This indicates that the place itself is ancient and significant. Moreover, it is very crucial to conserve the heritage, architecture, and culture of the country.

Can we attain liberation by just visiting Ayodhya?

In India, Ayodhya is revered as the first Mukthi Kshetrams from among Mathura, Maya, Kashi, Kanchi, Avantika, and Dwarakavati. When Rama returned to Sri Vaikunda, He took everyone along with Him. When Goddess Parvati asked Shiva which name of Lord Vishnu can be chanted in lieu of the 1000 names, Shiva replied that chanting 'Sri Rama'-nama would bestow the same benefits as reciting all the names. Nama japa and Ramayana parayanam are being carried out at every temple in Ayodhya with utmost devotion.

The Uniqueness of Ram Mandir



What is the benefit for today's young generation?

The life and history of Rama reveal him as a role model for the current generation. Lord Rama is an epitome of *ahimsa*, equality, equanimity, inclusiveness and universal brotherhood.

After Rama's victory in the battle with Ravana, when Hanuman requested for Sita's order to slay all the ogres who had caused distress, Sita demonstrated her immense compassion by forgiving all of them. Pillai Lokacharyar (one of the revered acharyas of Sri Vaishnavism) has said that it would have been appropriate if "Ramayanam" was named as "Sita-yanam", considering the greatness of Sita over Sri Rama.

Vidhura Neethi: The Five Strengths

In Mahabharata, Vidura is known for his intellect and wisdom. Vidhura Neethi is a part of Mahabharata consisting of Vidura's advice on statecraft to King Dhritarashtra before the onset of Kurukshetra war. However, Dhritarashtra did not heed Vidhura's valuable advice on ethics.

Vidhura lists five things which give strength to a king in an ascending order of superiority- though none of them is lesser than the other; rather, Vidhura prioritises on that which is vital.

1. Buhubalam (strength of shoulder)
2. Support of ministers
3. Dhanam (wealth)
4. Kula (clan)
5. Pragyabalam (wisdom)

In this article, we shall examine briefly these five strengths and how they are applicable to us in our day-to-day life.

Buhubalam

Buhubalam is physical valour. No



doubt physical strength is crucial for our life but it's not the ultimate strength and there's much more than this.

In Ramayana, Vali and Ravana believed in their own physical strength but that didn't last long. Both of them couldn't win over Lord Rama.

Similarly, in Mahabharata, Arjuna's valour is nothing in comparison to the remarkable valour of Bhishma and Dronacharya. But Arjuna won over them not because of his physical strength but because he had Lord Krishna on his side.

So, physical strength is the least important strength: anyone can become more powerful than us some day and defeat us.

Support of ministers

The strength which is more significant than valour is the support of ministers. The king must have ministers who provide valuable advice that takes into consideration his well-being.

The ministers in the courtroom of Ravana and Duryodhana fearful of their kings only advised what would be pleasing to Ravana and Duryodhana, rather than what would be ethical. So having inappro-

priate ministers was one of the reasons for their downfall.

Sugriva, though, had virtuous Hanuman as his minister. Hanuman is hailed as 'sachivothaman' (which means 'one who is head among the ministers'). Similarly, Sumantra had been a great minister to King Dasharatha.

In the worldly context, we can achieve anything with the support of our friends, relatives or well-wishers. Similarly for a prime minister or a chief minister it is vital to have a trusted and good team of ministers. In business, a leader must have efficient managers. It takes effort to train and retain an efficient workforce/ministers.

Dhanam

The strength which is more significant than the support of others is Dhanam.

Wealth is just a means to buy worldly things, but we can't buy everything with mere wealth, certainly not love, pure relationships, or devotion to God.

Kula

The strength which is more significant than the wealth is Kula.

Surya Kula had great kings in its lineage including Dilipan, Bhagiratha (he brought the Ganges to the Earth), Ikshvaku (he brought the deity of Sri Ranganatha from Brahma's Sathya Lokam to Ayodhya), Ajan, Dasaratha, and Sri Rama to name a few. Sri Rama was born in Surya Kula and further added glory to it.

Pragyabalam

The strength of pragyabalam is much greater than the above four strengths put together.

There is a striking difference between the first four strengths in comparison to pragyabalam. The first four relate to the body whereas pragyabalam relates to the inner Self. Second, entry barrier is higher.

With the knowledge about the Supreme and *atma* (the Real Self) one can get rid of the darkness. Parasara Maharishi in Vishnu Puranam says that there is no use accumulating any knowledge other than knowing which would give mukthi (the eternal bliss). The Lord, preceptors and Vedas open our minds to knowledge.

In the worldly context, businesses need to be creative and think out of the box in order to sustain stiff competition. In today's age when technology is disrupting traditional business practices, creativity is the new competitive advantage.

Vidhura's advice stands true even today. The five listed strengths are equally valid for individuals, for a country as well as for businesses.

Niranjana KarthigaiRajan is a globetrotter and freelance writer based in India. She has worked with ZOHO Corporation as Marketing Analyst. She writes primarily on the Indian epics. Her articles are also published in leading newspapers in India. She can be reached at niranjnavk@gmail.com