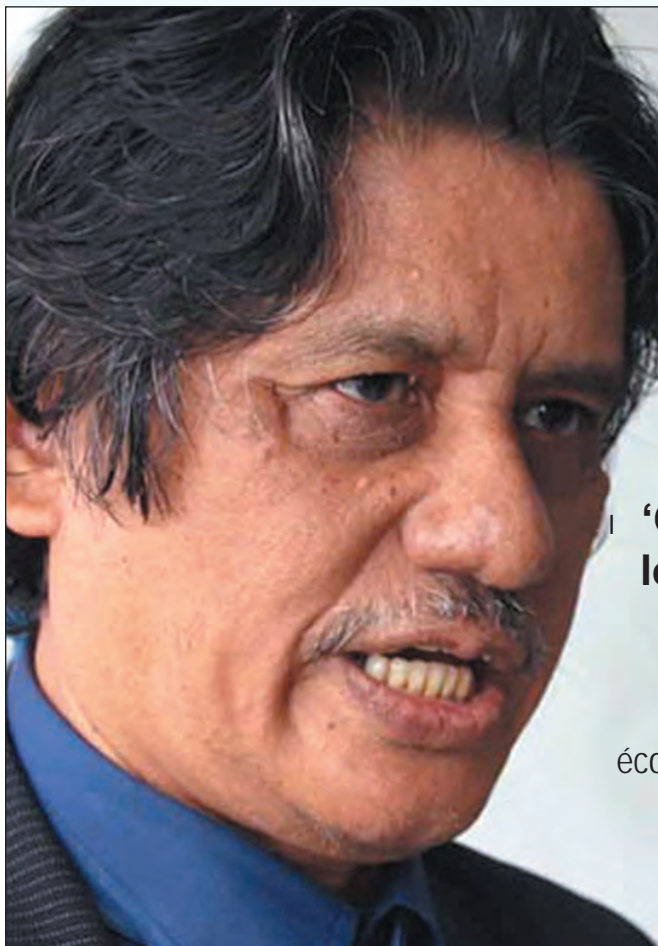


MAURITIUS TIMES

• "The ability to influence people without irritating them is the most profitable skill you can learn." -- Napoleon Hill

Interview : Jocelyn Chan Low, Historien



"La solution idéale est évidemment de constituer un gouvernement d'unité nationale"

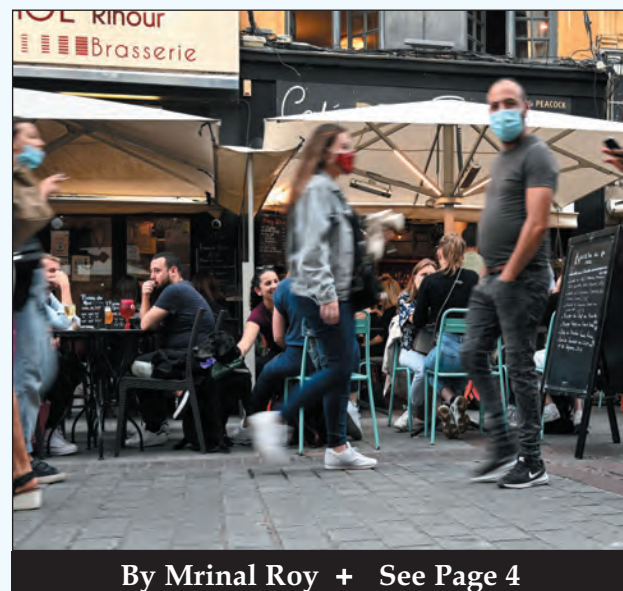
'C'est toujours difficile de tenir les rênes du pouvoir dans un climat de fin de règne'

'Si le pays s'enfonce dans une crise économique et sociale avec des manifestations de rue spontanées, il sera extrêmement compliqué de gérer le pays'

+ See Pages 7-8-9

Reality Check

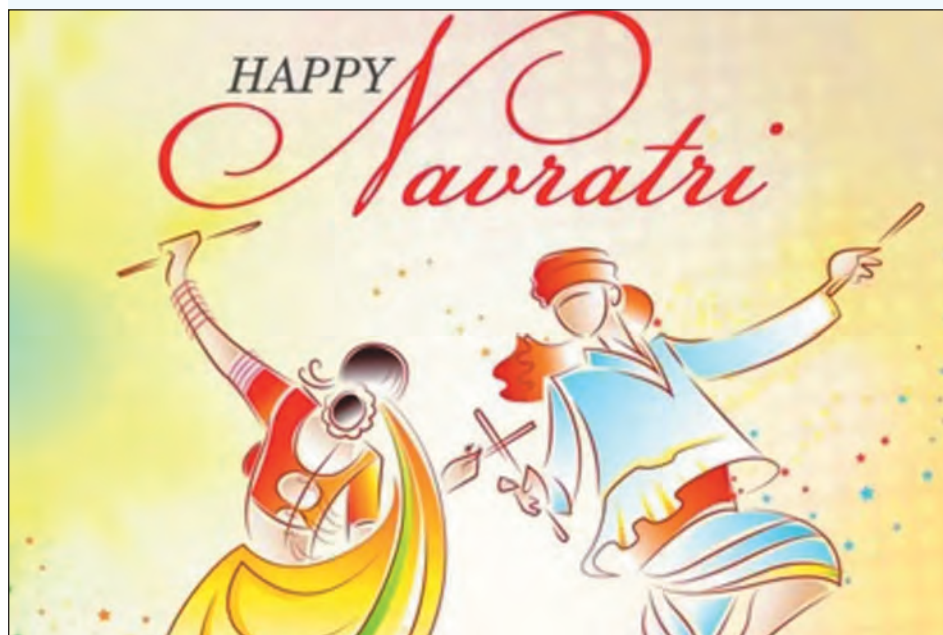
The world does not seem to have drawn lessons from the warnings of an impending climate change catastrophe or the dire socio-economic consequences of the Covid-10 pandemic. The insatiable pursuit of Mammon and power seems unabated



By Mrinal Roy + See Page 4

Time for some joy in our lives!

As we go through the coming days of inner purification, let us pray to obtain illumination in our minds and hearts as to what course we must chart for a better future for all of us



By Dr R Neerunjun Gopee + See Page 3

For more transparency...



By Nita Chicooree-Mercier + See Page 18

How do pandemics end?

History suggests diseases fade but are almost never truly gone

By Nukhet Varlik
+ See Page 2



Where are we heading?

The view that nothing has changed in the way of doing politics is gaining ground. So too is the growing idea that the poor practices of the past have been perpetuated under the new government. Yet, like others earlier, it too was voted for in the hope that it would bring to an end past malpractices and embrace an improved way of running the affairs of the country.

Lots of people got disillusioned quite soon. The promise of better days to come was simply drowned in a confusion of poor as well as questionable decisions taken. It soon came out that some persons close to the regime were taking undue pecuniary advantage of their proximity to the new incumbents of power – a repeat of previous practices. But that was not all. More damage was being done to the economic infrastructure while barely any fresh promising project was being undertaken. Government's largesse and its handling of the public funds in its custody and the Special Reserves of the Bank of Mauritius have raised a hue and cry – and for good reasons.

As if that was not enough, ever newer stories of malpractices associated with certain members of the government kept surfacing on an almost regular basis. Certain ministers showed that they were more apt to bungle matters than to be leading the way forward. Wrong decisions were taken that resulted in undermining the effectiveness of public institutions; they also speak poorly of the independence of these institutions.

There was no convincing communication made to change popular focus away from the bad stories which kept piling up. It seemed as if the government was indifferent to the bad publicity resulting from them. It was to be expected that these depressing accounts, narrated frequently in the media and commented upon on social media platforms on a daily basis, would somehow get firmly stuck in the mind of the public after some time. The avalanche of criticisms against mis-governance – a good amount of which was justified – has now actually sunk into popular perception.

A growing feeling that the government may, after all, not be able to turn the situation around to its advantage has by now gathered momentum. The good thing for the government – if one may call it so -- in the midst of so much turmoil is that politicians on the opposite side of the fence are also not held in high public esteem either. People think all of them are fish of the same kettle who change their tone and lan-

guage according to circumstances but will do no better. And so, not only is the eco-nomy left to itself in the midst of so many gales blowing on the international scene, but people are feeling let down by politics as a whole.

Surely, bouncers or fist fighters pumped up into 'social activists' by a section of the media and heading street protests, but whose real agenda and financial backings remain unknown to the people, are not the answer to the dire predicament in which the country finds itself today. There must be enough mature persons outside the fold of customary political parties capable of infusing new life into the polity. The question that comes up is why they have not been willing to jump into the political fray so far. The answer is probably disgust with the way politics has been conducted for a number of years now. But the country cannot also wait too long to get out of the backwaters into which it has fallen. Although one could argue that the media has been painting and will continue to paint a picture of poor prospects for the country, highlighting as many bad things as possible with every passing day, the doings of the present government haven't helped either.

It is in such a situation that the country needs a convincing re-orientation of its future prospects. Normally, governments try to infuse the necessary confidence that they will manage to do so, despite conjunctural difficulties. It seems a point has now been reached where the public don't want to allow themselves to be convinced that the tide will actually turn for the better. Jocelyn Chan Low, historian, notes in today's interview that in these trying times when the whole world, including this country, is reeling under an economic and humanitarian crisis due to the Covid-19 pandemic – the worst since the 1930s depression – the way forward is to go for a 'gouvernement d'unité nationale'.

This has happened on occasion in other countries, e.g. France when the country was considered to be teetering on the brink of collapse. Leaders put aside their political differences and their personal animus towards each other to get the country out of the rut. We would hope that this might yet be possible here, that an element of patriotism and some magnanimity would be brought in to lift the country out of the sinking mood and heads put together to revamp the economy. Does the moral leadership exist for such an eventuality? That surely is a tall order.

It is for those who are vying for leadership to answer concretely.

The Conversation

How do pandemics end?

History suggests diseases fade but are almost never truly gone

As ready as you are to be done with Covid-19, it's not going anywhere soon. A historian of disease describes how once a pathogen emerges, it's usually here to stay

When will the pandemic end? All these months in, with over 37 million Covid-19 cases and more than 1 million deaths globally, you may be wondering, with

herd immunity would kick in once enough people had been infected. But none of that has happened.

A combination of public health efforts to contain and mitigate the pan-



Children in Cameroon show off their smallpox vaccination certificates in 1975.
Photo: Smith Collection/Gado via Getty Images

increasing exasperation, how long this will continue.

Since the beginning of the pandemic, epidemiologists and public health specialists have been using mathematical models to forecast the future in an effort to curb the coronavirus's spread. But infectious disease modeling is tricky. Epidemiologists warn that "models are not crystal balls," and even sophisticated versions, like those that combine forecasts or use machine learning, can't necessarily reveal when the pandemic will end or how many people will die.

As a historian who studies disease and public health, I suggest that instead of looking forward for clues, you can look back to see what brought past outbreaks to a close – or didn't.

Where we are now in the course of the pandemic

In the early days of the pandemic, many people hoped the coronavirus would simply fade away. Some argued that it would disappear on its own with the summer heat. Others claimed that

demic – from rigorous testing and contact tracing to social distancing and wearing masks – have been proven to help. Given that the virus has spread almost everywhere in the world, though, such measures alone can't bring the pandemic to an end. All eyes are now turned to vaccine development, which is being pursued at unprecedented speed.

Yet experts tell us that even with a successful vaccine and effective treatment, Covid-19 may never go away. Even if the pandemic is curbed in one part of the world, it will likely continue in other places, causing infections elsewhere. And even if it is no longer an immediate pandemic-level threat, the coronavirus will likely become endemic – meaning slow, sustained transmission will persist.

Nükhet Varlik,
Associate Professor of History, University of South Carolina

* Cont. on page 12

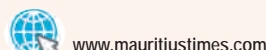
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Dr R Neerunjun Gopee

Time for some joy in our lives!

As we go through the coming days of inner purification, let us pray to obtain illumination in our minds and hearts as to what course we must chart for a better future for all of us

To the delight of those who had were getting tired of the rainy, wintry, dark mornings and days, summer has come creeping

in by the by and is now pretty well set in. Dawn comes earlier, bringing with her the soft daylight of the rising sun - an immersive experience that has to be truly lived for one to feel the joy of being suffused with the glow and the warmth that is radiated out for all to partake of. How could I afford to miss out on this?

As I started my walk at Trou-O-Cerfs yesterday, the golden saffron orb of the sun was emerging from behind the dark grey clouds that spanned the horizon. Soon there was a bright golden halo that was spreading out in tandem, even as the rims of the clouds were in their turn transforming into lace-like patterns of shining gold against the backdrop of the sky, itself gradually turning blue. As if to add to the beauty and deepen the encounter with the source of life, a light mist embraced all that was, and a gentle breeze kissed my face.

Despite the presence of other walkers and their chatter and laughter, I felt a profound silence as I stopped and stood transfixed at the sight in front of my eyes, which I instinctively closed after a few seconds of staring at the bright centre of the halo, the sun, our life-giver and bearer of universal Light. No wonder our ancestors the rishis called the sun Surya Devta, and yogis enjoined us to express our gratitude for these boons in the form of Suryanamaskar.

After a few minutes I resumed my walk, feeling 'blessed in that dawn to be alive', and even more blessed as one by one my walker companions joined me to share our stories and cares. How lucky we are here, I told myself, to be able to freely move around and especially enjoy our morning walks. Because in most of the countries of the world, the Covid pandemic has led national authorities to so severely impose restrictions that millions of people are forced to be housebound, and even children are avoiding visiting parents for fear of spreading the virus.

Two days ago, I was speaking to a relative in Mumbai who was exactly in that sort of situation which that has been going on for months now. Husband and wife live in an apartment, one daughter lives not far away - they can see her apartment block from where their own stands - and yet they can only contact on the phone. Vegetables are ordered and delivered outside the gate. Thank goodness, she told me, for the smartphone which allows video calls - and Zoom, via which the relatives were able to 'celebrate' the 75th birthday of one of theirs who is based in Dubai, where they all had scheduled to meet for the occasion. And we reminisced about their visit to Mauritius here a few years ago, having come on a package tour they had gifted themselves for their 50th wedding anniversary.

Earlier this week I met another elderly couple who were feeling rather stressed for not being able to visit their daughter and family of two grandchildren who are in the US. It goes without saying that there are many people who are in a similar dilemma, myself included, and at the very best all we can do is to wait and pray for this pan-

demic to be brought under control as soon as possible, itself a big question mark. And in the meantime, find consolation by socializing to the extent we can and in our environments. Of which, for me and my friends, Trou-O-Cerfs is certainly unique.

On the other hand, the Hindu calendar provides ample occasions throughout the year for partaking of soulful and joyous experiences of the kind that connecting with Surya Devta in the mornings affords one. But they are also opportunities and moments for introspection and reflection about ourselves and some of the deeper issues and matters about life, about existence as a whole.

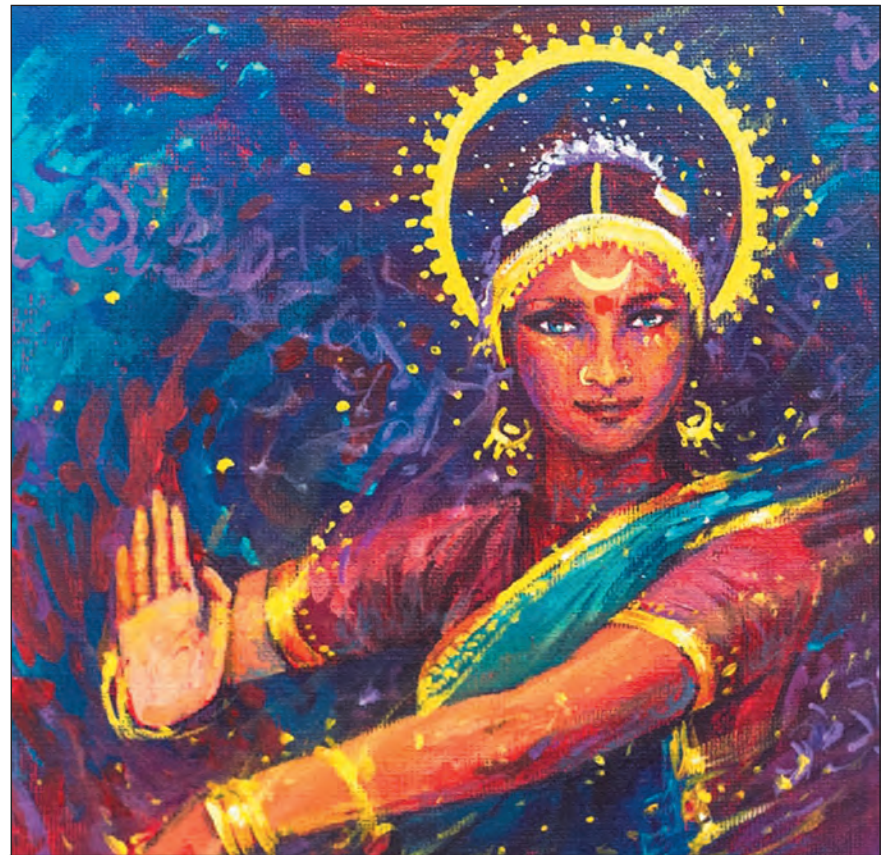
Thus, for example, Durga-Puja time is here again, an occasion to remind us - for we tend to forget - of the centrality of the Universal Mother in our existence. Belief in a Mother Goddess can be found in almost all cultures in the ancient times, the Semitic, Hellenic, Nordic and Teutonic alike, but what singles out India has been the continued history of the cult from the hoary past till now. As Elizabeth U Harding, an American devotee of Kali and the author of 'Kali: The Black Goddess of Dakshineswar' observes: 'Consider the first being a child relates to is its nurturing mother, and considering that primitive people who had no scientific knowledge must have watched the miracle of birth with wonder and awe, it comes as no surprise that our remote ancestors greatly revered the mother. When ancient peoples began to conceive of a higher supernatural being that would nourish and protect them from evil, they naturally conceived it in the image of the mother.'

Harding emphasizes this intimate link by noting that 'if we dig through our carefully built-up layers of society-dictated values, we will admit that somewhere deep in the heart is a very soft spot reserved for our earthly as well as archetypal mother.' But as we evolved, she continues, 'we began to understand that there cannot be any creation unless there is the union of two, the male and the female. Extending human analogy to the creation of the universe as a whole, we came to believe in a Primordial Father and a Primordial Mother which formed the first pair. All the pairs in the universe are said to be replicas of this first pair.'

In the words of Swami Vivekananda: 'Every manifestation of power in the universe is Mother. She is life, She is intelligence, She is Love. She is in the universe, yet separate from it... She can show Herself to us in any form at any moment. She can have name and form, or name

without form, and as we worship her in these various aspects, we can rise to Pure Being, having neither form nor name.'

No one who has ever participated in a Durga-Puja with a clean heart could have missed this experience of rising to a sense of self larger than the material - and emerge enriched for a more meaningful engagement with



We need Durga Shakti to beat Covid-19. Photo - lauraplumb.com

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fellow human beings, with one's own family to begin with.

As we go through the coming days of inner purification, let us pray to obtain illumination in our minds and hearts as to what course we must chart for a better future for all of us in these tough times.

We need Durga Shakti to beat Covid-19...

Jai Durga-Mata.

Aum Shri Ganeshaya Namaha

The President & Members of Vacoas Clairfonds Hindu Progressive Assn

Shiv Mandir

kindly invite you with your family, friends & relatives to attend the

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At Shiv Mandir Premises, Clairfonds Rd No.1, Vacoas



Mrinal Roy

Reality Check

The world does not seem to have drawn lessons from the warnings of an impending climate change catastrophe or the dire socio-economic consequences of the Covid-10 pandemic. The insatiable pursuit of Mammon and power seems unabated

In so many ways, the government, the leaders of opposition parties and the private sector lobbies and their proxies jockeying for their vested interests seem to be cut off from reality. At a time when Mauritius and the world are buckling under the dire sanitary and disastrous socio-economic fallouts of Covid-

19, the priority of the leaders of the main opposition political parties of the country is to cobble a nondescript alliance and share the key constitutional posts of the country in a bid to challenge the ruling regime when general elections are more than four years away. Is this a credible option for the future in a context of pervasive ire and exasperation of the people at the whole political class and their mode of governance? Is such an alliance

in the interest of the country and the people or in the interest of the politicians concerned?

Such a ragtag alliance is tantamount to offering, yet again, as in the case of the 2019 general elections power to the ruling government. The country cannot continue to be held hostage by the endless clan wars which have plagued the political history of the country and have been so detrimental to the prospects of the country.

Despite two successive debacles at the polls, the ageing leaders of the Labour Party and the MMM doggedly want to lead their parties at a time when the people are clamouring for a new leadership, a new political ethos and a new class of young, competent and altruistic politicians committed to serve the people and propose an innovative pathway to realize our loftiest ambitions as a nation for the benefit of all. Surely, we can no longer, as a nation, allow governance and the performance of the country to remain in the doldrums.

Rush to normality

Doing business is about risk taking after a careful evaluation of the risks and opportunities of the marketplace. Covid-19 is an unexpected event which has thrown the whole business world and the market place in disarray. It tests the mettle and management acumen of business leaders to chart out alternative strategies to conjure or mitigate the adverse impact of the crisis. In the precipitated rush to normality, too many countries across the world have privileged the economy over the lives of people. Too many countries have opted prematurely to end shutdowns aimed at containing the spread of the virus to safeguard the lives of people in order to reboot the economy.

The upshot is that Covid-19 has infected more than 38.7 million people in 189 countries and has caused a death toll of more than a million people in the world. In addition, a large number of Covid-19 deaths have remained unrecorded. There is also evidence that about 1% of survivors have long term viral damage such as crippling fatigue and scarred lungs. In India, there are fewer deaths because the average age of the population is 28. The young are found to be generally more resistant to the virus than the elderly. Pending the availability of a safe, effective and affordable vaccine, strict hygiene protocols, social distancing and the wearing of masks remain the ultimate protection

against the risk of infection.

New surge of infection

There is a new surge of Covid-19 infection in the world. A rise in infection and hospital admissions is noted in Europe, our principal source of tourists. In order to drive the scale of infection down, England has this week unveiled a new three-tier system of Covid-19 restrictions. While most of the country will be in the lowest tier, millions of people in the North and the Midlands face extra curbs on households mixing. Liverpool and possibly Greater Manchester, Lancashire and some other areas will be under the toughest restrictions, with pubs and bars not serving meals being closed.

In France roughly 18,000 new cases are being detected every day. The latest data show that the main vector of infection is young people. Last week, a range of strict restrictions have been imposed in the country. The government announced this week that it will restore the state of health emergency in the country as from Saturday. This will enable government to introduce new and stricter measures in localities and at national level to fight the resurgence of coronavirus infections.

Countries where cases have risen to more than 5000 per day are the US, Brazil, India, UK, Spain, France,



France, Spain, Switzerland, Belgium bans travel to 12 Covid red zones Europe. Photo - Gettyimages

Netherlands, Columbia, Argentina and Russia. A spike in infection is expected as winter sets in the northern hemisphere. People remain indoors in a closed space which favours the spread of the virus.

Irresponsible blunders

We need to count our blessings that despite the spread of coronavirus in the world, Mauritius is Covid-19 free as there are no local cases of coronavirus infection in the country. We should all strive to keep it so. People know that opening our frontiers in the present state of the Covid-19 pandemic is fraught with high risks. Under pressure from the tourism sector and their proxies including those among the political class complaining about the lack of visibility in the sector ahead of the high season, the government has decided as an interim step to open the borders of Mauritius under strict sanitary conditions to Mauritian nationals and tourists travelling to Mauritius for long stays. Thus, all incoming passengers must have proof of a negative Covid-19 test taken at most 7 days before their arrival in the country. They will be tested again on arrival and will have to be confined in a strict 14-day quarantine in a medically secured hotel.

Despite all the rigorous health protocols in place to ensure that all incoming passengers are shepherded to their quarantine hotels, there have already been condemnable blunders by actors of the tourism sector in the first week of operation of the system in place. Sanitary protocols were breached when unknown to the authorities, taxis were irresponsibly subcontracted by a tour operator to carry incoming passengers to their quarantine hotels. Each of the 37 taxi drivers involved had to be tracked down, tested and quarantined. This is a serious breach of the strict sanitary measures in place as several passengers on the incoming flights were tested Covid-19 positive on arrival. It is expected that such irresponsible behaviour will be severely sanctioned by the laws in place as it rashly exposes the people of the country to the risk of infection by carriers of the virus.

Furthermore, every week a certain number of passengers are tested positive on arrival despite being tested negative prior to embarkation. A total of some 35 infected passengers have so far been detected and sent for treatment to the Covid-19 hospital.

Mrinal Roy

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Indian Americans solidly behind Joe Biden in US presidential election: New survey

Contrary to Republican claims, the love affair of Indian-Americans with the Democratic Party continues. No, they are not abandoning ship and moving in droves to US President Donald Trump

Around 72 per cent of registered voters are behind Democratic candidate Joe Biden compared to 22 per cent for President Donald Trump, a new survey has found.

Joe Biden's choice of Senator Kamala Harris, a woman of Indian and African descent, as his vice-presidential candidate is mobilising the vote to some extent and creating "greater enthusiasm" for the Democratic ticket, reports Seema Sirohi of IndiaToday.

Support for Democrats driven by issues of healthcare and economy

The strong Indian American support for the Democrats is driven by bread and butter issues, healthcare and the economy and not by Trump's personal relationship with Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

However, almost equal numbers of Indian Americans approve (33 per cent) or disapprove (37 per cent) of Trump's handling of US-India relations while 29 per cent had no opinion. The spread is roughly a third, a third and a third, which is significant. The Trump-Modi factor is not to be dismissed.

The survey question on which party handles bilateral relations better was too broad to elicit a real response. In a sample leaning already towards the Democrats, the survey found 39 per cent of Indian Americans said the Democrats were better at managing Indo-US relations while only 18 per cent said Republicans were better. It's



The strong Indian American support for the Democrats is driven by bread and butter issues, healthcare and the economy. Photo - Foreign Policy

significant that 26 per cent said there was no difference while 16 per cent said they didn't know.

The survey of 936 Indian American citizens by the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies, Carnegie Endowment and University of Pennsylvania was done last month. It counters the recent narrative that the strong Trump-Modi friendship and criticism of Modi's policies by some Democrats, including by Harris, was driving Indian Americans to the Republican Party in significant numbers.

Republican operatives have claimed without scientific surveys that nearly 50 per cent of the Indian American vote would shift to Trump in the 2020 election, mainly because of his strong position in favour of India.

Devesh Kapur, director of Asia Programs at Johns Hopkins, said: "So much of what's been written about the

vote shifting to Republicans is not borne out by the survey. Too much media attention goes to those who make the most noise."

The Modi factor

However, India and "the Modi factor" do figure in the voters' calculations; even Biden voters have a positive view of the Indian PM, placing him at 52 while Trump voters put him at a high 76 on the likeability scale of 0 to 100, according to the survey. Modi falls between Biden and Trump on the likeability scale.

But when it comes down to brass tacks and reasons why Indian Americans lean towards the Democratic Party, a large number find the Republican Party "unwelcoming" because of its policies on immigration and treatment of minorities. They also find the influence of Evangelicals on the Republican Party troubling, but it is something Christian Indian Americans find appealing.

What are top concerns of Indian Americans?

In the list of policy issues considered important, Indian Americans rated the economy on top (21 per cent), followed by healthcare (20 per cent), racism (12 per cent), taxes (9 per cent) and immigration (7 per cent). Interestingly, India-US relations came second last while sexism came last.

The new findings come against the background of the avid courtship of the Indian American vote by both parties. The increased attention is primarily because of their growing numbers and influence in the political process. Between 2000 and 2018, the Indian American population grew by nearly 150 per cent, making it the second-largest immigrant group in the US, the survey said.

Chinese President Xi Jinping asks troops to prepare for war, be absolutely loyal: Report

At a time when tension between India and China is high owing to the ongoing military standoff in Eastern Ladakh along the Line of Actual Control (LAC), Chinese President Xi Jinping has reportedly asked his troops to prepare for war. News reports have quoted Xi Jinping telling the Chinese soldiers to stay "absolutely loyal" to the country.

According to a report published by CNN, Xi Jinping visited a military base in Guangdong on Tuesday, when he asked the Chinese troops to "put all (their) minds and energy on preparing for war and maintain a state of high alert".

The CNN attributed these comments to Chinese state news agency Xinhua.

However, it was not yet clear whether this comment was directed towards India or the US and other countries with which China is embroiled in a tussle in the South China Sea region, or to both, reports IndiaToday.

In his address at the People's Liberation Army (PLA) Marine Corps, Xi Jinping asked the troops to "maintain a state of high alert" besides telling them to be "absolutely loyal, absolutely pure, and absolutely reliable".

Meanwhile, reporting Xi's visit to the military base, Xinhua reported, Xi Jinping emphasised on "speeding up the transformation and construction, speeding up the improvement of combat capabilities, and striving to forge a strong force with multiple capabilities and rapid response across the field".

On Tuesday, India and China held their seventh round of Corps Commanders-level talks to resolve military standoff in Ladakh region. The faceoff began in early May and has continued since then.

India and China have held several rounds of military, diplomatic and ministerial-level talks to defuse the ongoing military tension but without much success.

Bangladesh to instate the death penalty in rape cases



Women's rights activists and others protesting against gender-based violence hold placards outside the Parliament in Dhaka, Bangladesh, Friday, Oct.9, 2020. Photo - AP

Bangladesh's Cabinet on Monday approved an increase in the maximum punishment in rape cases to death from life imprisonment after a series of recent sexual assaults triggered protests on streets and in social media.

Cabinet spokesman Khandaker Anwarul Islam said President Abdul Hamid is likely to issue an ordinance amending the Women and Children Repression Prevention Act because Parliament is not in session.

Details of the amendment were not immediately available, but Islam said the Cabinet agreed to a proposal that trials in rape cases be completed in a speedy manner, reports Associated Press.

Under the current law, the maximum punishment in rape cases is life imprisonment, except for

cases in which the victim dies, when capital punishment is allowed.

A series of violent sexual attacks in recent weeks has triggered protests in the capital, Dhaka, and elsewhere.

Local human rights groups say rapes have surged in the country. Ain-o-Salish Kendra, a women's rights group, said 889 rapes, including many gang rapes, occurred between January and August. At least 41 victims died, it said.

Protests broke out in recent days after a video of a group of men stripping and attacking a woman in a southeastern district went public through Facebook. An investigation by the country's National Human Rights Commission found the woman in the video had been raped repeatedly and terrorized over the last year.

In another case, a woman was dragged into a college dorm from a car where she was travelling with her husband and was gang-raped. Several members of the ruling Awami League's student wing were arrested.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina said she would bring those responsible to justice.

* More on Page 6



Workers pick leaves from cannabis plants inside a greenhouse in Lesotho. Photo - AFP

Rwanda approves cannabis production for export

Rwanda has approved the cultivation and export of cannabis even as the use of the stimulant for medical or recreational purposes remains illegal in the country.

The government is targeting to grow its export earnings from the global cannabis market valued at the \$345 billion according to analysts New Frontier Data.

The decision has caused confusion with some warning it could be detrimental to the youth if tough controls are not enforced.

Rwanda's Minister of Health Dr Daniel Ngamije said that despite the government's intention to profit from the production and export of marijuana, its use in the country is prohibited, reports Ivan R. Mugisha of *The East African*.

"This will not give an excuse for drug abusers and dealers. The law against narcotics is available and it will continue to be enforced," Dr Ngamije said on state-run television Rwanda Broadcasting Agency on Tuesday.

A Cabinet meeting, chaired by President Paul Kagame, on Monday approved regulatory guidelines on cultivation, processing, and export of "high-value therapeutic crops".

Last year, the Rwanda Development Board had invited companies to bid for the development of medical cannabis in Rwanda with a focus on the export market.

Prohibition

The production or sale of cannabis is prohibited in Rwanda. Doctors are banned from prescribing it as medicine, and doing so could land them in jail for two years and a fine of about Rwf3 million (about \$3000), under Article 266 of the Penal Code.

Use of the narcotics attracts a jail term of two years, while drug dealers face between 20 years to life in prison, and a fine of up to Rwf30 million (\$30,000).

According to the law governing narcotics and psychotropic substances, authorisation of production, distribution and use of narcotic drugs shall be delivered if their use is limited to medical and research purposes only.

The law further states that every authorised private or public enterprise selected can only retain the quantities of narcotics drugs that are necessary for the smooth running of the enterprise.

New lockdowns from China to Europe as virus trials stumble

As Europe imposed new restrictions to try to stall a surging second wave of the novel coronavirus, hopes for vaccines to rapidly provide relief suffered a blow Tuesday with the suspension of two clinical trials in the United States.

China meanwhile rushed to test an entire city of nine million within days after a minor coronavirus outbreak in the sprawling country, and Europe struggled to tackle a new surge of infections.

The virus is still spreading rapidly worldwide, with over one million deaths and 37 million infections. Many nations that suppressed their first outbreaks now face a second wave, reports AFP.

Hopes for a rapid vaccine rollout suffered a setback as US pharmaceutical firm Eli Lilly said it had suspended the Phase 3 trial of its antibody treatment over an unspecified incident, the second in less than 24 hours after Johnson & Johnson ran into a similar problem.

In Europe, the Netherlands imposed a "partial lockdown" to curb one of the region's worst coronavirus surges, with all bars, cafes and restaurants to close, and non-medical face coverings mandatory in all indoor spaces for people aged over 13.

In Britain, Labour opposition leader Keir Starmer called for a 2-3 week "circuit break" lockdown to slow the rates, saying the government had "lost control" of the outbreak having ignored stringent measures suggested by scientific experts on September 21.

French President Emmanuel Macron is expected to announce tighter restrictions and faster testing in a prime-



Residents of Qindao, China line up for novel coronavirus tests in the street

time TV interview late Wednesday, with some media speculating Paris and other cities could face evening curfews.

Meanwhile China -- where Covid-19 first emerged late last year -- launched a drive to test all residents of Qingdao after a handful of cases were detected on Sunday. Chinese officials intend to test the entire city -- around 9.4 million people.

As the rest of Europe struggled to contain the disease, Russia also reported its highest-ever number of daily virus deaths, at 244, and a record number of new cases at almost 14,000.

Italy imposed new, tougher rules to control a resurgence, including an end to parties, amateur football matches and snacking at bars at night.

Italian computer whiz who died at 15 set on path to become Catholic saint



An image of 15-year-old Carlo Acutis, an Italian boy who died in 2006 of leukemia, during his beatification ceremony celebrated by Cardinal Agostino Vallini, center, in the St. Francis Basilica, in Assisi, Italy, on Oct. 10. Photo - AP

A 15-year-old Italian computer whiz who died of leukemia in 2006 moved a step closer to possible sainthood Saturday with his beatification in the town of Assisi, where he is buried.

Carlo Acutis is the youngest contemporary person to be beatified, a path taken by two Portuguese shepherd children living in the early 1900s who were proclaimed Catholic saints in 2017, reports Associated Press.

Cardinal Agostino Vallini, the papal legate for the Assisi basilicas, kissed each of the boy's mask-wearing parents, Andrea Acutis and Antonia Salzano, after reading the proclamation decreed by Pope Francis.

Already touted as the "patron saint of the internet," Acutis created a website to catalog miracles and took care of websites for some local Catholic organizations. While still in elementary school, Acutis taught himself to code

using a university computer science textbook, and then learned how to edit videos and create animation.

"Carlo used the internet in service of the Gospel, to reach as many people as possible," the cardinal said during his homily, adding that the teen saw the web "as a place to use with responsibility, without becoming enslaved."

Acutis was born in London on May 3, 1991, to Italian parents and moved to Milan as a child. Already as a small child, he showed a strong religious devotion that surprised his non-practicing parents. His mother told the *Corriere della Sera* newspaper that from age 3 he would ask to visit churches they passed in Milan, and by age 7 had asked to receive the sacrament of Holy Communion, winning an exception to the customary age requirement.

"There was in him a natural predisposition for the sacred," his mother said.

His curiosity prompted her to study theology in order to answer his questions, renewing her own faith.

Acutis died of acute leukemia on Oct. 12, 2006.

He was put on the road to sainthood after Pope Francis approved a miracle attributed to Acutis: The healing of a 7-year-old Brazilian boy from a rare pancreatic disorder after coming into contact with an Acutis relic, a piece of one of his T-shirts.

Another verified miracle is necessary for sainthood, although Pope Francis has waived that on rare occasions.

Jocelyn Chan Low, Historien

“La solution idéale est évidemment de constituer un gouvernement d'unité nationale”

Dans le sillage de la Covid-19, il est possible de s'interroger à propos de la capacité des partis politiques de certains pays en voie de développement et/ou émergents à diriger les pays tout en restant des formations aux structures rigides, et prônant une forte dépendance sur les aides financières des pays du Nord. La pandémie a donné naissance à une situation d'urgence sanitaire mais se transforme-t-elle graduellement en une situation d'urgence politique? Jocelyn Chan Low, historien, nous explique les effets des pandémies du passé sur le monde avant d'explorer l'avenir de la classe politique mauricienne.

Mauritius Times : Il n'y a pas urgence pour les partis de l'opposition de discuter alliance à quatre ans de nouvelles élections législatives. Cela ne répond pas à une logique politique, mais qu'est-ce qui expliquerait donc la démarche des partis de l'opposition, en particulier l'implication personnelle de Paul Bérenger en vue de concrétiser l'alliance assez rapidement ?

Jocelyn Chan Low : La logique est toute simple: Pourquoi attendre 2024 quand les conditions sont réunies actuellement pour la concrétisation d'une telle alliance ?

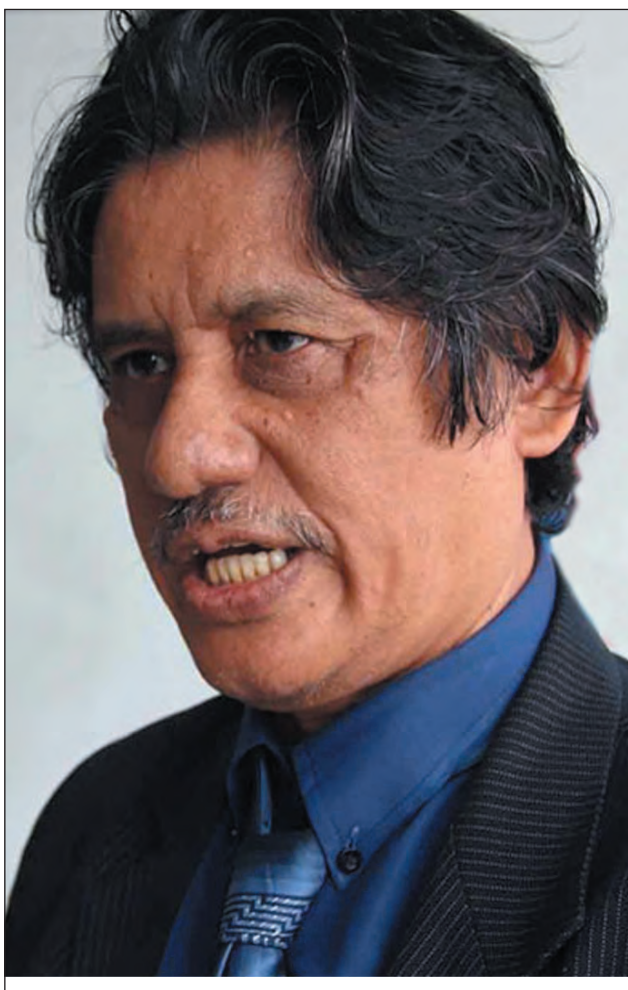
Je crois que les dirigeants des trois partis concernés (et même Roshi Bhadain) ont compris que la victoire du gouvernement sortant aux dernières élections générales est due principalement à la dispersion des forces de l'opposition. D'ailleurs, le Gouvernement n'a récolté que 37% des votes exprimés.

« Evidemment que le régime actuel, acculé comme il l'est, va tenter de semer la division entre et dans les partis de l'opposition. Avec recul, on peut même affirmer que certains départs du MMM entre 2014 et 2019 avaient été savamment orchestrés par le MSM. D'autres sont partis parce qu'ils ne croyaient plus dans la capacité du MMM à retourner au pouvoir... »

C'est ainsi que dès le lendemain des élections générales, il y a eu une coordination dans l'action des partis de l'opposition dans leur démarche de contester les résultats par voie de pétitions électorales.

Ensuite, il y a eu une véritable entente au niveau de l'action parlementaire qui a débouché en des rencontres entre les leaders des différents partis alors que leurs ailes jeunes se réunissent régulièrement.

Et cette entente entre ces trois partis s'est révélée



inébranlable quand Pravind Jugnauth a balancé le nom de Paul Bérenger dans l'affaire Saint Louis : les autres leaders ont affiché une solidarité sans faille envers le leader du MMM.

Après environ une année de travail en commun, je crois que la décision a été prise pour aller ensemble aux élections municipales prévues pour 2021. Or, il est impératif que l'opposition fasse un sans-faute à ces élections : elle affaiblirait considérablement le régime actuel. Mais en même temps comment demander un mandat de cinq ans aux citoyens si le flou persiste quant à la survie même de cette alliance?

Ensuite il est évident que l'état-major et les jeunes de ces divers partis n'ont pas de difficultés pour travailler ensemble. Il faudrait maintenant convaincre leurs partisans d'abord et, ensuite, les déçus du Gouvernement.

Le Gouvernement est au plus bas de sa popularité en ce moment. Et le pire sur le plan social et économique est devant nous... D'où la nécessité de présenter rapidement un programme et une équipe crédible dès maintenant. Et, en même temps, ces délibérations vont sans doute clore le débat sur celui qui sera présenté comme le challenger de Pravind Jugnauth en tant que Premier ministre.

Il est aussi vrai qu'on voit émerger un mouvement citoyen très actif et revendicatif et où certains n'hésitent pas à réclamer le remplacement de tout le personnel politique comme au Liban. Mais ce mouvement n'est pas

encore très bien structuré d'où l'urgence pour l'opposition de trancher une fois pour toutes sur le programme et l'équipe gouvernementale de l'alternance.

*** Au-delà de la menace que pourrait poser le mouvement de Bruneau Laurette au MMM et au PMSD - il pêche dans le même bassin électoral de ces deux partis -, voyez-vous dans la démarche des leaders du PTR et du MMM une stratégie visant à se protéger contre toute tentative de 'poaching' des seconds couteaux travaillistes et militants de la part du MSM?**

Evidemment que le régime actuel, acculé comme il l'est, va tenter de semer la division entre et dans les partis de l'opposition. Avec recul, on peut même affirmer que certains départs du MMM entre 2014 et 2019 avaient été savamment orchestrés par le MSM.

« Nous sommes entrés de plein pied en récession. Il y a eu une contraction majeure dans le secteur touristique, la construction, les services, etc. Et le chômage de masse est derrière la porte. Le Gouvernement a injecté des milliards pour éviter la catastrophe sociale mais l'économie n'est que sous perfusion. Cette situation ne peut durer éternellement... »

D'autres sont partis parce qu'ils ne croyaient plus dans la capacité du MMM à retourner au pouvoir.

Evidemment si l'opposition arrive à présenter une alternance crédible face à un Gouvernement en perte de vitesse, l'exercice de *poaching* par les *spin doctors* du régime sera plus compliqué. C'est l'inverse qui risquerait de se passer...

*** Le Muvman Liberator d'Ivan Collendavelloo ne représente pas grand-chose aux yeux du MSM aujourd'hui, surtout depuis le retrait de SAJ et d'avantage après l'affaire St Louis. Voyez-vous le MSM tenté, dans ces nouvelles circonstances, de tendre la perche à certains dirigeants du PTR et du MMM, surtout ceux du groupe parlementaire?**

Dans l'histoire politique, il y a toujours eu des transfuges. SSR avait pu consolider sa majorité entre 1976 et 1982 justement grâce à des transfuges.

Mais cela n'a pas évité sa cuisante défaite aux élections de 1982, principalement en raison de la crise économique qui avait entraîné le chômage massif et deux dévaluations de la roupie.

Toutefois, à la différence de SSR de 1976 à 1982, le Gouvernement dispose d'une majorité confortable au Parlement. Il n'a nullement besoin d'avoir recours à de tels procédés si ce n'est que pour affaiblir l'opposition. Mais est-ce que cela changera grand-chose sur le terrain?

'C'est toujours difficile de tenir les rênes du pouvoir dans un climat de fin de règne'

☞ Suite de la page 7

* D'un côté, il y a le PTr qui - de toute évidence - n'est pas à l'aise comme parti de l'opposition, et de l'autre côté, le MMM avec ses militants usés par la fatigue de longues années dans l'opposition qui se retrouve encore une fois dans la même configuration. Leur seule chance pour qu'ils puissent reprendre du poil de la bête, c'est de reprendre les rênes du pouvoir, non ?

Ces deux grands partis ont connu des défaites, des changements de leadership mais, tout comme le PMSD d'ailleurs, ont toujours su comment rebondir.

Quant à l'exercice du pouvoir, sincèrement, croyez-vous que c'est une sinécure dans un monde post Covid-19? Au contraire! Politiquement dans de telles conditions, le pouvoir peut se révéler être une malédiction... Et pas seulement à Maurice. On n'a qu'à voir les sondages quant à l'issue des présidentielles aux Etats-Unis...

Effectivement, comment dans une démocratie faire face à une pandémie avec des conséquences économiques et sociales catastrophiques? Comment faire sans aucune visibilité quant à l'issue de la crise tout en restant populaire au niveau politique? La recette est toujours introuvable...

* Si les leaders des partis de l'opposition pensent avoir besoin d'une alliance pour assurer à chacun la pérennité de son parti et de sa carrière politique, comment vont réagir les partisans de leur parti respectif, selon vous?

C'est justement pour cela que les leaders politiques ont accéléré leur calendrier. Une grande partie de la population ne veut plus du gouvernement actuel d'où la popularité du slogan 'B... li deor!' dans les diverses manifestations, lesquelles - faut-il le rappeler - ont battu tous les records de mobilisation de foule.

Les milliards du Gouvernement auraient dû être canalisés davantage vers les PME, avec en toile de fond, une campagne agressive pour favoriser la consommation des produits locaux. Mais il est clair que l'unité nationale pour faire face aux défis immenses du monde post-Covid-19 n'intéresse ni le Gouvernement ni l'opposition...~

A mon avis, c'est justement c'est sur ce sentiment de la nécessité de changer de gouvernement et de modèle de gouvernance que les leaders des partis de l'opposition comptent capitaliser pour réunir leurs partisans derrière l'idée d'un front de l'opposition. Ce dernier, à mon avis, devrait aussi inclure Roshni Bhadain du Reform Party et d'autres éléments de la société civile.

Il faut rappeler qu'avant les élections de 2019, Paul Bérenger avait lancé l'invitation à des éléments de la société pour se rallier derrière le parti. Et au dernier congrès du MMM, il avait même lancé l'idée d'une collaboration avec certains partis de la gauche radicale...

* Même s'ils arrivent à concrétiser une alliance

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assez rapidement, voyez-vous cette force combinée du PTr-MMM-PSMD pouvoir chasser du pouvoir l'actuel Gouvernement avant la tenue des prochaines législatives?

Si le pays s'enfoncé dans une crise économique et sociale avec des manifestations de rue spontanées, il sera extrêmement compliqué de gérer le pays. C'est toujours difficile de tenir les rênes du pouvoir dans un climat de fin de règne.

Cependant, le Gouvernement dispose d'une majorité confortable au Parlement et, constitutionnellement, c'est cela qui compte. En outre, en ce qu'il s'agit des pétitions électorales, il faudra attendre quelques années encore avant le verdict final.

Par ailleurs, je pense que le Gouvernement attendra sans doute la reprise économique mondiale et ses effets sur l'économie du pays afin de réintroduire des mesures populistes à des fins électorales...

* Par ailleurs, si les deux grands partis qui ont dominé l'échiquier politique à Maurice durant des décennies, se voient aujourd'hui dans l'obligation de ne pas disperser leurs forces, c'est probable qu'ils considèrent que l'adversaire en face est de taille, voire probablement imbattable, dans les circonstances actuelles?

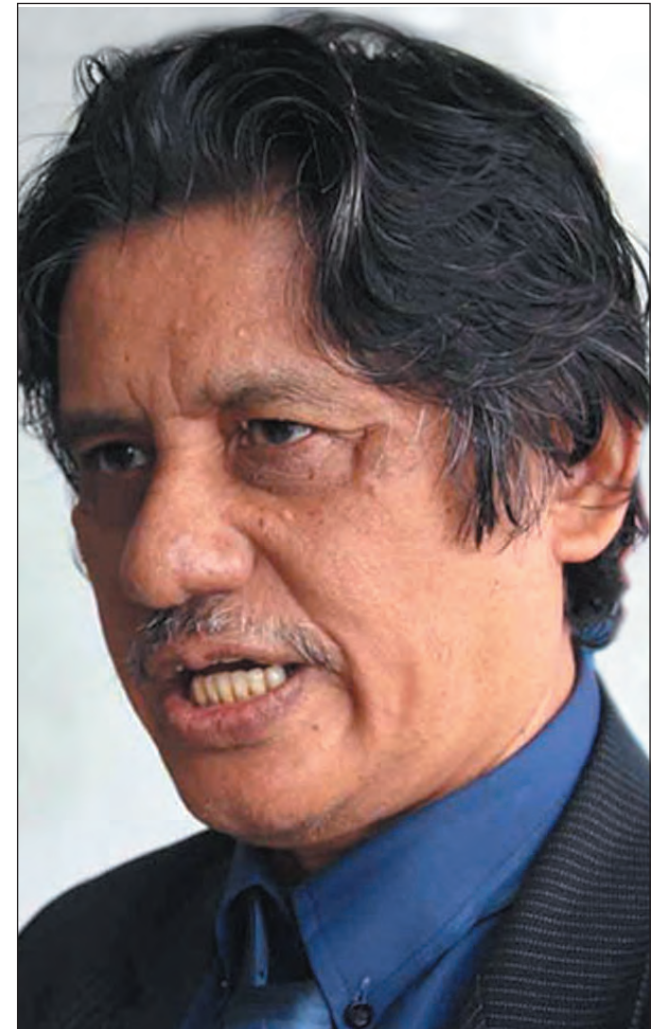
Parce que c'est effectivement le cas. Le Gouvernement a une légitimité constitutionnelle mais au fond une très faible popularité dans le pays.

D'ailleurs, il n'y a pas eu de meetings de remerciement après les élections de 2019 car il y avait une très grande morosité dans le pays après la victoire de Pravind Jugnauth.

Il ne pouvait en être autrement car il n'a récolté que 37% des votes exprimés. Si l'on ajoute les abstentionnistes, il dispose du soutien de moins de 30% de la population.

D'ailleurs, dans une telle situation et face aux difficultés engendrées par la pandémie, le Gouvernement aurait dû se montrer conciliant envers l'opposition et même, pourquoi pas, œuvrer vers un gouvernement d'unité nationale. Il aurait dû mettre de côté les différends politiques afin de se concentrer sur le *re-engineering* de notre économie pour faire face aux défis d'un monde post Covid-19.

Au lieu de cela, il a privilégié la confrontation au Parlement, le Speaker lui-même est devenu le symbole de cette confrontation. Et ensuite, les nominations démontrent clairement une volonté de mainmise sur



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toutes les institutions du pays.

L'opposition semble avoir compris qu'il n'y a d'autres solutions que de s'unir face à un Gouvernement qui va utiliser toutes les astuces disponibles pour rester au pouvoir. Outre le contrôle des institutions- clés, il y a aussi le *money politics*...

* Par ailleurs, les perspectives sur le plan mondial restent très incertaines, car les risques de nouvelles vagues de contagion, d'inversion des flux de capitaux et de nouvelle diminution des échanges internationaux se profilent toujours à l'horizon, selon le Fonds monétaire international (FMI)...

Il faut d'abord comprendre qu'un grand nombre de spécialistes avaient prévu une récession mondiale pour 2020 bien avant qu'éclate la pandémie de Covid-19.

☞ Suite en page 9

'Si le pays s'enfonce dans une crise économique et sociale avec des manifestations de rue spontanées, il sera extrêmement compliqué de gérer le pays'

☞ Suite de la page 8

Parce que pour sortir de la crise de 2008, à la fois le secteur public et le secteur privé se sont massivement endettés. La bulle, selon certains, devait éclater en 2020.

Mais, avec la crise, la dette publique et privée a considérablement augmenté. Quel sera l'effet de tout cela dans les années à venir si ce n'est une crise économique mondiale de longue durée?

Il faut ajouter à cela une situation géopolitique très préoccupante... La crise du coronavirus a accéléré la confrontation entre la Chine et les Etats-Unis et ses alliés. En effet, la Chine aspire à retrouver le statut du centre économique mondial - l'empire du milieu - qu'elle était avant les guerres de l'opium du 19ème siècle.

« Il faut comprendre qu'un grand nombre de spécialistes avaient prévu une récession mondiale pour 2020 bien avant qu'éclate la pandémie de Covid-19. Parce que pour sortir de la crise de 2008, à la fois le secteur public et le secteur privé se sont massivement endettés. La bulle, selon certains, devait éclater en 2020... »

En fait, le 21ème siècle sera le siècle de l'Asie avec la Chine et l'Inde comme les principaux moteurs de l'économie mondiale. Mais les Etats-Unis et, dans une moindre mesure, certains pays européens ne sont pas prêts à accepter la nouvelle situation.

Ainsi, une nouvelle guerre froide s'est installée dans le monde avec la possibilité du retour vers le protectionnisme, ce qui aura évidemment des effets considérables sur l'économie mondiale.

Et il y a pire. Les Etats-Unis et la Chine risquent de se retrouver dans le 'Piège de Thucydide'.

Ce terme est de Graham T. Allison. Selon ce dernier, l'histoire du monde révèle que dans la grande majorité des cas, quand un pays émergent a contesté l'hégémonie de la puissance dominante, cela a résulté en un conflit sanglant.

Et ces incertitudes vont peser très lourdement sur la reprise économique mondiale. Ajoutons à cela les difficultés à prévoir aux Etats-Unis quant à l'issue des présidentielles, les problèmes du Brexit qui n'en finissent plus, etc., l'avenir est vraiment très incertain...

La situation actuelle ressemble étrangement à la situation qui a prévalu au niveau mondial dans les années 30 : tensions et conflits au niveau international, le retour du protectionnisme, démondialisation et dépression économique de longue durée. Il est vrai qu'aujourd'hui les causes de la dépression sont aussi liées à une pandémie.

*** A Maurice, la situation risque de se corser dans les mois à venir, selon les économistes. Déjà des milliers de Mauriciens ont perdu leur emploi, et on parle de plus de la détérioration ces derniers mois du niveau des pauvres mais aussi celui de la classe moyenne. Quel va être l'impact de cette situation sur le plan politique?**

La Covid-19 n'a fait qu'aggraver les difficultés de l'é-



conomie mauricienne. Les clignotants étaient déjà dans le rouge bien avant la pandémie, que ce soit dans le secteur touristique, à Air Mauritius, dans le secteur off-shore, etc., ou encore en ce qu'il s'agit de la dette publique et privée.

Aujourd'hui, effectivement, nous sommes entrés de plein pied en récession. Il y a eu une contraction majeure dans le secteur touristique, la construction, les services, etc. Et le chômage de masse est derrière la porte. Le Gouvernement a injecté des milliards pour éviter la catastrophe sociale mais l'économie n'est que sous perfusion. Cette situation ne peut durer éternellement.

« Le 21ème siècle sera le siècle de l'Asie avec la Chine et l'Inde comme les principaux moteurs de l'économie mondiale. Mais les Etats-Unis et, dans une moindre mesure, certains pays européens ne sont pas prêts à accepter la nouvelle situation. Ainsi, une nouvelle guerre froide s'est installée dans le monde avec la possibilité du retour vers le protectionnisme, ce qui aura évidemment des effets considérables sur l'économie mondiale... »

En outre, il ne faut pas se bercer d'illusions. La reprise dans le secteur du tourisme n'est pas pour demain. Il faudra attendre des années avant qu'on retrouve le même niveau d'arrivées que 2019. Puis, le danger d'une deuxième vague est réel dans les pays qui sont nos principaux pourvoyeurs de visiteurs.

Quant au secteur financier, non seulement le pays est sur la liste noire de l'Union européenne mais les initiatives récentes de l'Inde et du Botswana ne font qu'accroître les pressions sur ce secteur.

Et avec la dépréciation continue de la roupie, le niveau de vie ira en se dégradant. La classe moyenne s'est considérablement appauvrie ces dernières années, et va encore une fois en souffrir.

De plus, il y a des mesures telles que la Contribution

« La situation actuelle ressemble étrangement à la situation qui a prévalu au niveau mondial dans les années 30 : tensions et conflits au niveau international, le retour du protectionnisme, démondialisation et dépression économique de longue durée. Il est vrai qu'aujourd'hui les causes de la dépression sont aussi liées à une pandémie... »

Sociale Généralisée (CSG) qui va l'affecter davantage. Par exemple, dans le secteur privé, le recrutement et les promotions de jeunes professionnels vont diminuer ou alors ils seront recrutés mais le salaire proposé sera inférieur car à partir d'un certain barème salarial, la contribution de l'employeur au CSG va doubler. Il y a des entreprises qui ont déjà mis cela en pratique.

*** Le poêlon deviendra donc plus chaud pour le Gouvernement...**

Evidemment. Bien sûr, le Gouvernement va essayer de jouer l'attentisme en attendant une reprise au niveau mondial avant les prochaines élections générales. Il viendrait alors de l'avant avec d'autres mesures populistes. C'est un pari risqué car il n'y a pas de visibilité mais que des incertitudes par rapport à l'avenir au niveau économique mondial.

La solution idéale est évidemment de constituer un gouvernement d'unité nationale qui amènera une trêve politique. Alors, le pays pourra se réinventer économiquement. Il est évident que le monde post-Covid-19 est différent de celui d'avant. Dans ce contexte, il faut aujourd'hui sortir de cette *overreliance* sur le secteur du tourisme et des IRS, et miser davantage sur la sécurité alimentaire et la *Blue Ocean Economy*.

En outre, les milliards du Gouvernement auraient dû être canalisés davantage vers les PME, avec en toile de fond, une campagne agressive pour favoriser la consommation des produits locaux.

Mais il est clair que l'unité nationale pour faire face aux défis immenses du monde post-Covid-19 n'intéresse ni le Gouvernement ni l'opposition.

L'autre option serait que Pravind Jugnauth reprenne toutes les demandes de la société civile en ce qu'il s'agit de réformes des institutions vers la bonne gouvernance dans la transparence, vers plus de méritocratie, vers une démocratie participative -- option difficile à envisager car elle se retrouverait, dit-on, aux antipodes de la culture politique prévalant au MSM.

On comprend mieux alors l'empressement des partis de l'opposition à présenter le programme et l'équipe de l'alternance dès maintenant.

Second Generation Mauritians in Britain - Master Chef Shelina Permalloo



Kishore Teelanah

This is a continuation of success stories of children born of Mauritian parents in the UK. These children really make their parents proud by being successful both academically and in their personal development as well as with regard to their culture too. It seems that the Mauritians have conditioned their children to be tough in order to survive whatever life might throw at them.

This is a story of a special lady who has made herself famous in the culinary field, especially

Mauritian cuisine, as well as her resilience to keep her going. Her name is Shelina Permalloo, who was born and raised in Southampton, UK. Besides of being a proud Britisher, she has retained strong links with her Mauritian heritage and family.



Shelina Permalloo after winning her famous prize of MasterChef, 2012

Shelina was not known to the British media until she entered her MasterChef competition in 2012. After winning this prestigious award, she became instantly famous and started her career started as a TV chef, cookery author and 'restaurateur'. She became popular not only because of her excellent cookery skills which wowed the judges but her pleasant personality and her radiant smile. Her MasterChef final was watched on BBC by over 6.5 million viewers when she was able to demonstrate her mastery at cooking the spicy and exotic dishes of Mauritius. With her instinctive spicing of exotic flavours, presentation and her skills, she brought Mauritian food to British TV for the first time. With this, Shelina had inspired many thousands of viewers to try out her recipes at home.

Before she took part in the MasterChef competition, Shelina was working as a Project Manager in London. After winning MasterChef, she worked in various London-based restaurants. Shelina's success and popularity went from strength to strength. She was invited to be part of the expert culinary panel for BBC Radio 4: 'The Kitchen Cabinet'. Shelina's exotic dishes of octopus served on marinated fennel and ginger, mutton curry and mango cannelloni filled with lime curd really impressed the judges. Mauritius' cuisine has since come in the limelight, thanks to Shelina Permalloo's dogged determination, television coverage and friendly personality.

Shelina has written wrote a book: 'Sunshine on a Plate' in which she describes Mauritius as a melting pot of

cultures and food reflecting Creole, French, Indian, African, British and Chinese influences. The 'Sunshine Diet', as she calls it, has an abundance of exotic recipes which can be prepared by everybody. The flavours and fragrance of the recipes are geared for healthy diets. Shelina's recipes contain fresh ingredients, chillies, herbs, spices to make them mouth-watering.

Her career went from success to success. She was determined to write her second book: 'The Sunshine Diet' in 2015. She did not rest on her laurel and her restless ambition to open a restaurant in Southampton came to fruition soon afterwards. She called the restaurant 'Lacaz Maman' (Mother's House). Shelina has also featured on 'Women's Hour', 'The Food Programme' and BBC's Asian Network. Shelina's cookery skills are highly sought after for live demonstrations at food events including BBC's 'Good Food Show' and 'The Cake & Bake Show'.

Shelina has appeared in numerous TV programmes and returns every year as a guest judge on Channel 4: 'What's Cooking' and 'Sunday Brunch'. She has also been a guest on ITV's 'Lorraine Kelly' and This Morning Food Network 'The Big Eat'. She also appeared in the Christmas Series of MasterChef in South Africa. Finally, her cookery mastery would not be complete without landing at her ancestral homeland. Shelina completed three series of cookery in Mauritius as a guest judge.

Her popularity also made Shelina visit her ancestral country of Mauritius once again. Four Seasons Resort Mauritius at Anahita welcomed Masterchef Shelina Permalloo to showcase her culinary experience to the local media. This was especially meant to provide a sneak peek into the renowned chef's modern Mauritian streetfood.

In 2019, Shelina started to promote griddled Pineapple with Mango and Limes dessert with Rouse Honey. She also



Masterchef winner Shelina Permalloo rustling up some mouth-watering dishes in Mauritius

promoted Billington's sugar to highlight the quality of the golden sugar, natural molasses giving unrivalled colour and flavour to her desserts.

Shelina's popularity also led her to appear in Food Festivals & Cooking Classes (Hosting & Demo's) Leith's School of Food and Wine, Chewton Glen, BBC Good Food Shows, Foodies Festival, Taste Kuwait (by invitation), Taste Abu Dhabi (by invitation) Romsey Food and Drink Festival, Thame Food Festival, Sandringham Food Festival, Eastleigh Mela, Southampton Mela.

The stories of immigrant families in the UK are about their strong belief and determination to graduate from poverty to success; it's a story of hard work and striving against all odds. Mauritian families have made sure that their offspring do even better in education, have higher than average literacy in business and science.

Mauritian-born Kishore Teelanah, Section Manager for Science in a College of Further and Higher Education, London, migrated to the UK in 1974, as a nursing student. He has over 34 years of experience in teaching, learning and education management in Science having worked in many educational establishments at different levels. He is also a mentor to final year Bioscience degree students at Kingston University.





Protecting lives, ensuring happiness

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1956-2020

Rush to normality



Germany steps up restrictions amid Covid-19 surge. Photo - AP

Cont. from page 4

This was to be expected as the incoming passengers are coming from countries where Covid-19 infection is rife.

What if?

Those lobbying for our frontiers to be opened seem to be solely driven by the narrow perspective of their own vested interests totally oblivious of the global plight of the tourism sector in the world. In a report released last month which draws on the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) data to quantify the devastating impact of the coronavirus pandemic on global tourism, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said that 'up to 120 million tourism jobs are at risk and that depending on when travel restrictions will be fully lifted, the World Tourism Organization expects international tourism receipts to drop between \$910 billion and \$1.2 trillion this year, which would set the global tourism industry back by 20 years.

Even when travel restrictions are eased, people are reluctant to travel because of the risk of infection owing to

the wide spread of Covid-19 across the world. It is certainly not as if the tourism sector is thriving across the world whilst Mauritius is being left out owing to its closed borders. Covid-19 has also adversely impacted the airline industry as a multitude of airlines have filed for bankruptcy or are in voluntary administration.

Despite all the sanitary precautions taken, what if the relaxation of travel restrictions triggers a resurgence of local cases of infection in the country and casualties. Will all those lobbying for our frontiers to be opened in the teeth of elementary common sense and the movers and shakers of the tourism sector assume the responsibility of any adverse consequences? Will they fully bear the consequences of their actions?

* * *

Legitimate interrogations

The government cannot continue to bury its head in the sand or lie low in the face of the clamour from the streets and the many questionable government decisions being decried by the multitude. These *inter alia* include governance, the lack of transparency, accountability and rigour in the management of public funds, nepotism and the appointment of the coterie at the head of key institutions of the State and widening inequality.

They also include legitimate interrogations on the lack of transparency on the terms on which the substantial bailout funds drawn from some US \$ 2 billion (about Rs 80 billion) of the foreign exchange reserves of the Bank of Mauritius by the Mauritius Investment Corporation Ltd

(MIC) are allocated to distressed companies and more importantly whether these funds are being used as a vector of fundamental change to recast the ownership of prime assets in the country and democratize the economy for the common good. These key issues cannot be swept under the carpet. They have to be urgently addressed by government to defuse the risk of a backlash.

“The government cannot continue to bury its head in the sand or lie low in the face of the clamour from the streets and the many questionable government decisions being decried by the multitude. These *inter alia* include governance, accountability... They also include legitimate interrogations on the lack of transparency on the terms on which the substantial bailout funds drawn from some US \$ 2 billion (about Rs 80 billion) of the foreign exchange reserves of the Bank of Mauritius by the Mauritius Investment Corporation Ltd (MIC) are allocated to distressed companies...”

The world does not seem to have drawn lessons from the warnings of an impending climate change catastrophe or the dire socio-economic consequences of the Covid-10 pandemic. The insatiable pursuit of Mammon and power seems unabated at a time when the world needs to urgently ensure that its actions and model of development are in harmony with the laws of nature, sustainable and respectful of the environment and its biodiversity. There is therefore an urgent need for a sobering reality check by politicians, the government and all those who continue to be solely driven by their narrow vested interests.

Mrinal Roy

Programme des Courses

21e Journée - samedi 17 Octobre 2020



1 THE PRETTY MOLLIE - JMLS CANCER SUPPORT CUP 1400 m Valeur [0-25] Time - 12h50

1	AMANDLA	JMH	0-3-4-4-3	61	R.Joorawon	5	210
2	COME ON SONNY	SPN	6/8-7-1-1	61	G.D.Aucharuz	6	700
3	BOUCLETTE TOP	G	8-C-6-7-6	60.5	S.Rama	2	1200
4	CAPTAIN FALCON	G	5-6-7-6-7	60	N.Marday	3	1600
5	FAIRBANKS	VA	6-3-4-4-4	60	B.Fayd'herbe	4	320
6	TEMP THE TIGER	SPN	7-9-4-4-6	60	K.Kalychurun	7	4000
7	CAPTAIN MOSS	P	7-8-7-3-8	56.5	B.Sooful	1	1100

2 THE FLAMING AXE CUP 1500 m Valeur [0-26] - 13h25

1	DOUBLE GAMES	VA	0-6-3-1-3	60	B.Fayd'herbe	5	190
2	INTERNET KID	VA	11-7-6-7-9	60(-3)	A.Roy	2	5000
3	RIVER THAMES	SJ	8/7-8-6-2	60	B.Bhaugeroothee	1	370
4	TYRIAN	PM	6/7-2-5-6	60	C.Segeon	6	600
5	VOLATILE ENERGY	SN	3/1-6-9-5	58.5	D.Bheekary	3	800
6	KEMAL KAVUR	G	8-2-9-6-5	58	S.Rama	4	3300
7	BARKING IRONS	JHM	8-7-7-9/8	57	O.Sola	7	6000

3 THE LORD DUFFERIN CUP 1650 m Valeur Benchmark 36 Time - 14h00

1	BONNIE PRINCE	SH	5-4-6-8/4	61.5(-3)	A.Roy	4	1400
2	MOSCHINO	VA	5-1-3-1-2	61	B.Fayd'herbe	6	210
3	PADDINGTONS LUCK	GR	2-8/R-4-4	61	N.Juglall	1	400
4	KEIKO	SJ	0-0-C-5-2	60.5	B.Bhaugeroothee	3	320
5	EPIC SWORD	SN	7-5-8/7-5	57	G.D.Aucharuz	5	2000
6	STOLEN PARADISE	AS	0-7-10-4-7	56.5(-4)	B.Deenath	2	5500

4 THE J. PAUL HEIN CMG CUP 1365 m Valeur Benchmark 41 Time -- 14h35

1	BYE BYE ROCKET	SH	2-3-1-3/7	60.5	D.Bheekary	1	2000
2	GREAT STOHHANEN	AS	9-6-R-1-4	60.5(-4)	B.Deenath	3	1500
3	NINOTTO	RG	0-3-1-1-3	60.5	R.Joorawon	4	800
4	BORYA	G	3-2-4/10-6	59.5	S.Rama	5	900
5	SAVVY	SJ	nouveau	59.5	B.Bhaugeroothee	9	520
6	PROMISSORY	VA	4-4-3-3-2	59	B.Fayd'herbe	7	570
7	WATCH ME DAD	GR	2/1-2-2-1	59	N.Juglall	2	225
8	KINGSMAN	PM	0-0-0-0-R	57	C.Segeon	6	3300
9	BADAWEE [EA]	SJ	1-9/2-4-5	60.5	-----	8	---

5 THE RENE DE C DU MEE CUP 1400 m Valeur Benchmark 51 Time - 15h10

1	MAMBO ROCK	GR	2/2-4-2-2	61.5	N.Juglall	8	480
2	PRINCE OF PERSIA	G	0-0-1-4-3	61.5	S.Rama	3	600
3	HUYSSTEEN	RG	3-3/7-2-1	61	N.Teeha	1	430
4	NORTHERN SPY	SJ	2/1-1-5-1	60.5	B.Bhaugeroothee	2	320
5	HOOVES OF THUNDER	AS	nouveau	59.5(-4)	B.Deenath	11	4000
6	SUGOI	SH	0-0-0-4-4	59.5	G.D.Aucharuz	4	1200
7	ERNIE	JMH	6-6-6-4-5	59	K.Kalychurun	6	3500
8	SEA AIR	PM	nouveau	59	C.Segeon	5	2000
9	CHILI CON CARNE	RG	7-8-10-9-3/	58.5	O.Sola	9	5000
10	CLOUDED HILL	JMH	nouveau	57	R.Joorawon	7	2500
11	PERA PALACE [EA]	RM	7-6/8-5-4	61.5	-----	10	----

6 THE MAJOR PAUL HEIN CUP 1500 m Valeur Benchmark 66 Time -- 15h45

1	VASCOSTREETTRACTOR	SJ	2/1-3-1-3	61.5	B.Bhaugeroothee	6	900
2	FOOLS GOLD	RM	0-0-6-1-1	59.5	P.C.Orffer	4	190
3	IDITAROD TRAIL	GR	1/1-1-2-1	58	N.Juglall	1	250
4	THE SULTANS BAZAAR	PM	0-0-8-6-4	57.5	C.Segeon	5	3300
5	TRIPLE FATE LINE	SH	0-0-0-0-4	57.5	S.Rama	2	2000
6	RAP ATTACK	SH	4-1-1/3-3	56	G.D.Aucharuz	3	2000

7 LE PRIX PIERRE HUGNIN 1450 m Valeur Benchmark 31 Time -- 16h20

1	BOLD PHOENIX	SJ	0-0-0-2-1	60	B.Bhaugeroothee	7	330
2	SACRED NIGHT	VA	8-1-2-3-1	59.5	B.Fayd'herbe	6	400
3	STOCKBRIDGE	SPN	6-7-3-8-6	59.5	B.Sooful	4	750
4	KALGOORLIE	G	0-0-0-4-1	59	S.Rama	2	900
5	SKIP THE RED	RM	6/4-3-1-7	59	P.C.Orffer	3	800
6	MANETHEREN	SN	4/4-4-7-6	58.5	D.Bheekary	5	900
7	MINNESOTA DREAM	GR	5-5-6-1-4	58.5	N.Juglall	8	900
8	RUBY SPIRIT	AS	0-0-5-7-5	58.5(-4)	B.Deenath	1	1600

8 THE ELAINE PLATE 1450 m Valeur (0-20) Time -- 17h00

1	MANOLETE	CD	2/2-2-2-2	62(-4)	A.Sonaram	6	450
2	TOP OF THE ROCK	JMH	10-7/7-6-7	61	B.Sooful	2	1800
3	DOUBLE GRATITUDE	RM	0-0-6-7-9	60.5	P.C.Orffer	9	2500
4	HEAD OF THE PACK	SPN	9-5-8-8-4	59.5	K.Kalychurun	3	1600
5	ITALIAN WAY	VA	7/8-6-7-2	59.5	B.Fayd'herbe	5	250
6	SARAH'S SECRET	CR	3-3/10-7-5	59.5	R.Joorawon	4	1100
7	TIGER'S BOND	PM	8-7-9-4-10	59.5	C.Segeon	7	3000
8	NEW GOLDEN AGE	P	6-R/2-R-5	57.5	S.Bussunt	1	380
9	KIMBERLEY	SN	3-2-5-6-7	56	D.Bheekary	8	1500

SELECTIONS

1. AMANDLA, FAIRBANKS, COME ON SONNY
2. DOUBLE GAMES, RIVER THAMES, KEMAL KAVUR
3. MOSCHINO, PADDINGTONS LUCK, KEIKO
4. WATCH ME DAD, SAVVY, PROMISSORY
5. NORTHERN SPY, HUYSSTEEN, MAMBO ROCK
6. FOOLS GOLD, IDITAROD TRAIL, VASCOSTREETTRACTOR
7. BOLD PHOENIX, SACRED NIGHT, STOCKBRIDGE
8. MANOLETE, ITALIAN WAY, NEW GOLDEN AGE

How do pandemics end?

* Cont. from page 2

The coronavirus will continue to cause smaller outbreaks, much like seasonal flu.

The history of pandemics is full of such frustrating examples.

Once they emerge, diseases rarely leave

Whether bacterial, viral or parasitic, virtually every disease pathogen that has affected people over the last several thousand years is still with us, because it is nearly impossible to fully eradicate them.

The only disease that has been eradicated through vaccination is smallpox. Mass vaccination campaigns led by the World Health Organization in the 1960s and 1970s were successful, and in 1980, smallpox was declared the first – and still, the only – human disease to be fully eradicated.

So, success stories like smallpox are exceptional. It is rather the rule that diseases come to stay.

Take, for example, pathogens like malaria. Transmitted via parasite, it's almost as old as humanity and still exacts a heavy disease burden today: There were about 228 million malaria cases and 405,000 deaths worldwide in 2018. Since 1955, global programs to eradicate malaria, assisted by the use of DDT and chloroquine, brought some success, but the disease is still endemic in many countries of the Global South.

Similarly, diseases such as tuberculosis, leprosy and measles have been with us for several millennia. And despite all efforts, immediate eradication is still not in sight.

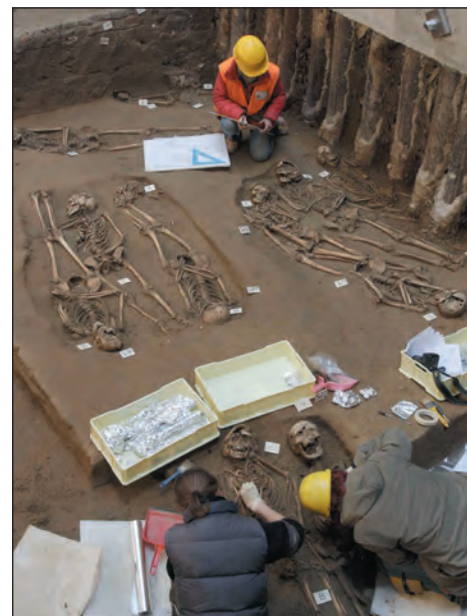
Add to this mix relatively younger pathogens, such as HIV and Ebola virus, along with influenza and coronaviruses including SARS, MERS and SARS-CoV-2 that causes Covid-19, and the overall epidemiological picture becomes clear. Research on the global burden of disease finds that annual mortality caused by infectious diseases – most of which occurs in the developing world – is nearly one-third of all deaths globally.

Today, in an age of global air travel, climate change and ecological disturbances, we are constantly exposed to the threat of emerging infectious diseases while continuing to suffer from much older diseases that remain alive and well.

Once added to the repertoire of pathogens that affect human societies, most infectious diseases are here to stay.

Plague caused past pandemics – and still pops up

Even infections that now have effective vaccines and treatments continue to take lives. Perhaps no disease can help illustrate this point better than plague, the single most deadly infectious disease in human history. Its name continues to be synonymous with horror even today.



Archaeologists learn more about diseases of the past when they excavate mass graves like this one in Italy. - AP Photo/Francesco Bellini

Plague is caused by the bacterium *Yersinia pestis*. There have been countless local outbreaks and at least three documented plague pandemics over the last 5,000 years, killing hundreds of millions of people. The most notorious of all pandemics was the Black Death of the mid-14th century.

Yet the Black Death was far from being an isolated outburst. Plague returned every decade or even more frequently, each time hitting already weakened so-

cieties and taking its toll during at least six centuries. Even before the sanitary revolution of the 19th century, each outbreak gradually died down over the course of months and sometimes years as a result of changes in temperature, humidity and the availability of hosts, vectors and a sufficient number of susceptible individuals.

Some societies recovered relatively quickly from their losses caused by the Black Death. Others never did. For example, medieval Egypt could not fully recover from the lingering effects of the pandemic, which particularly devastated its agricultural sector. The cumulative effects of declining populations became impossible to recoup. It led to the gradual decline of the Mamluk Sultanate and its conquest by the Ottomans within less than two centuries.

That very same state-wrecking plague bacterium remains with us even today, a reminder of the very long persistence and resilience of pathogens.

Hopefully Covid-19 will not persist for millennia. But until there's a successful vaccine, and likely even after, no one is safe. Politics here are crucial: When vaccination programs are weakened, infections can come roaring back. Just look at measles and polio, which resurge as soon as vaccination efforts falter.

Given such historical and contemporary precedents, humanity can only hope that the coronavirus that causes Covid-19 will prove to be a tractable and eradicable pathogen. But the history of pandemics teaches us to expect otherwise.

Programme des Courses

22ème Journée - dimanche 18 octobre 2020

1 THE TRUMP - SOLIDARITE MARYE PIKE CUP 1650 m Valeur [0-25] 12h50									
1. EAGLES VISION	SPN	0-0-0-0-6	61.5	S. Bussunt	7				
2. FLOWERSCAPE	RG	0-4-3-2-2	61.5	R. Joorawon	4				
3. THE RIDDLER	SH	0-9-3-6-4	60.5	G. D.Aucharuz	2				
4. GLITTERROCK	AS	7/4-6-7-7	60(-4)	B. Deenath	8				
5. LUCKY AT LAST	CD	1-3-3/8-5	60	I. Chisty	1				
6. SIR CAPERS	PM	6-3-4-2-1	60	C. Segeon	6				
7. DAREDEVIL AVIATOR	JMH	4-2-1-4-4	59.5	B. Sooful	3				
8. LADY'S KNIGHT	RM	6/7-5-3-2	59	P. C.Orffer	5				
2 THE ICE AXE CUP 1600 m Valeur Benchmark 31 13h25									
1. DECLARATOR	RG	10-6-9-2-3	60	S. Bussunt	2				
2. MR GREEN STREET	RM	3-1/6-5-2	60	P.C.Orffer	4				
3. SIBERIAN HUSKY	CR	7-7-8-3-9	60	R. Joorawon	5				
4. EMAAR	CD	10/2-5-1-9	59.5	I. Chisty	7				
5. HIGH KEY	SN	0-0-R-4-2	59.5	G.D.Aucharuz	3				
6. JET PATH	VA	8-1-3-10-4	59.5	B. Fayd'herbe	9				
7. ARTAX	AS	5-6-6-1-5	58.5(-4)	B. Deenath	6				
8. SENOR'S GUEST	GR	6-2-3-2-3	58.5	N. Juglall	1				
9. STAR OF ZEUS	PM	2-1-2-5-4	58.5	C. Segeon	8				
3 THE LORD DUFFERIN CUP 1365 m Valeur [0-26] 14h00									
1. DUKE OF YORK	RM	0-0-0-0-A	61	P.C.Orffer	7				
2. JALS TIGER	GR	9-4-7-4-7	61	N.Juglall	2				
3. WHAT A KID	RG	nouveau	61	S.Bussunt	4				
4. GORDONSTOUN	SN	9-4-6-R-3	60.5	G.D.Aucharuz	1				
5. KING'S STORY	JHM	0-6-10/9-10	60.5	B.Sooful	6				
6. LOOSEN YOUR TIE	JHM	0-0-10-5-6	59.5	R.Joorawon	5				
7. GREATFIVEEIGHT	CD	1/9-5-7-8	56	I.Chisty	3				

4 THE SIR RAYMOND HEIN QC CUP 1850 m Valeur Benchmark 41 14h35									
1. CHARLESTON HERO	VA	4-4-4-3-1	61.5	B.Fayd'herbe	3				
2. CYBER SPECIAL	GR	6/7-3-1-5	60.5	N.Juglall	4				
3. THE GREY CRUSADER	RG	3-6-3-4-3	59	S.Bussunt	6				
4. DREAMFOREST	CD	R-7-6-5-3	58.5	I.Chisty	7				
5. EIGHT CITIES	VA	2-4-1-8-5	57.5	B.Sooful	1				
6. UNCLE FRANK	SPN	0-0-4-3-1	57.5	G.D.Aucharuz	2				
7. CONFESSIONAL	G	0-0-2-7-3	57	S.Rama	5				
5 TTHE SIR GAETAN DUVAL Q.C CUP 1400 m Valeur Benchmark 46 15h10									
1. HUBBLE	SJ	0-0-5-1-1	61	B.Bhaugeerothee	4				
2. RED LINE CAPTAIN	GR	4-8/4-8-5	61	N.Juglall	2				
3. GUNSTON	SH	1/10-5-6-7	60.5	N.Teeha	7				
4. DOLLAR TRACTOR	SN	9-4-3-C-3	60	G.D.Aucharuz	3				
5. YANKEEDOODLEDANDY	G	5/6-2-6-6	60	S.Rama	5				
6. VIKING TRAIL	SJ	1-9/3-3-4	59.5	K.Kalychurun	1				
7.WORDBUSTER	VA	1/R-4-2-R	55	B.Sooful	6				
6 THE RAJCOOMAR GUJADHUR CUP 1450 m Valeur Benchmark 61 15h45									
1. PALACE CHAPEL	SJ	0-3-3-2-1	60.5	B.Bhaugeerothee	1				
2. ELUSIVE PATH	VA	8/8-7-4-3	60	B.Fayd'herbe	6				
3. IDEAL SECRET	RM	3-4-3-2-2	59.5	P.C.Orffer	3				
4. TOWER OF WISDOM	GR	2/1-2-1-3	59.5	N.Juglall	2				
5. BIG MISTAKE	SH	4-4-2-2/6	59	B.Sooful	8				
6. ARABIAN AIR	JHM	0-0-2-1-5	58.5	G.D.Aucharuz	4				
7. KAMADEVA	RG	1-1-1-2-1	58	R.Joorawon	5				
8. MARAUDING	G	1/1-1-1-2	56.5	S.Rama	7				
9. ROLL OF DRUMS	CD	0-0-0-0-7	54	I.Chisty	9				

7 THE NIPPY REGEN CUP 990 m Valeur Benchmark 31 16h20									
1. OCEAN DRIVE SOUTH	CD	9-5-2-4-2	60	I.Chisty	2				
2. KU DU TU	VA	7-5-N-8-3	59.5	B.Fayd'herbe	3				
3. MARULA	JMH	0-9-7-4-8	59.5	B.Sooful	4				
4. TRAVELIN MAN	RM	nouveau	59.5	P.C.Orffer	1				
5. ARCTIC FLYER	SPN	R-5-8-9-7	59	G.D.Aucharuz	5				
6. TORO BRAVO	SN	0-0-0-2-4	59	D.Bheekary	8				
7. TROJAN QUEST	JMH	2/9-2-4-5	59	R.Joorawon	7				
8. EL PATRON	AS	0-0-0-4-1	57.5(-4)	B.Deenath	6				
8 THE EDOUARD DESBLEDS PLATE 1400 m Valeur Benchmark 36 17h00									
1. BLOW IN THE BOX	PM	5/6-4-3-5	60	C.Segeon	7				
2. DIVINE CONNECTION	JMH	2-3-5/6-7	60	S.Bussunt	1				
3. KING OF TARA	VA	2-1-2-1-3	60	B.Fayd'herbe	9				
4. SUPREME ORATOR	CR	2-8-4-5-4	59	R.Joorawon	5				
5. NAO FAZ MAL	RG	0-0-0-5/7	58.5	K.Kalychurun	10				
6. THE RIGHT STUFF	CD	4/3-2-3-4	58.5	I.Chisty	2				
7. VISION OF TRUST	SPN	4-8-4-5-9	58.5	K.Ghunowa	4				
8. ZIGI ZAGI ZUGI	SN	3-1-1-7-3	58.5	G.D.Aucharuz	6				
9. ROMANUS	G	2-1-N-5-3	58	S.Rama	3				
10.SILVER HERITAGE	RM	6/5-3-1-2	58	P.C.Orffer	8				
SELECTIONS									
1. FLOWERSCAPE, SIR CAPERS, LADY'S KNIGHT									
2. SENOR'S GUEST, DECLARATOR, HIGH KEY									
3. GORDONSTOUN, JALS TIGER, LOOSEN YOUR TIE									
4. UNCLE FRANK, CHARLESTON HERO, DREAMFOREST									
5. VIKING TRAIL, DOLLAR TRACTOR, HUBBLE									
6. KAMADEVA, PALACE CHAPEL, TOWER OF WISDOM									
7. TORO BRAVO. OCEAN DRIVE SOUTH, TROJAN QUEST									
8. KING OF TARA, ZIGI ZAGI ZUGI, ROMANUS									

Life's Stories

We can all make a difference

At the prodding of my friends I am writing this story. My name is Mildred Honor. I am a former elementary school Music Teacher from Des Moines, Iowa.

I have always supplemented my income by teaching piano lessons... Something I have done for over 30 years. During those years, I found that children have many levels of musical ability, and even though I have never had the prodigy, I have taught some very talented students. However, I have also had my share of what I call 'musically challenged' pupils.

One such pupil being Robby. Robby was 11 years old when his mother (a single mom) dropped him off for his first piano lesson.

I prefer that students (especially boys) begin at an earlier age, which I explained to Robby. But Robby said that it had always been his mother's dream to hear him play the piano, so I took him as a student.

At the end of each weekly lesson he would always say, 'My mom's going to hear me play someday.' But to me, it seemed hopeless, he just did not have any inborn ability. I only knew his mother from a distance as she dropped Robby off or waited in her aged car to pick him up. She always waved and smiled, but never dropped in;

Then one day Robby stopped coming for his Lessons. I thought about calling him, but assumed that because of his lack of ability he had decided to pursue something else. I was also glad that he had stopped coming. He was a bad advertisement for my teaching!

Several weeks later I mailed a flyer recital to the students' homes. To my surprise, Robby (who had received a flyer) asked if he could be in the recital. I told him that the recital was for current pupils and



that because he had dropped out, he really did not qualify.

He told me that his mother had been sick and unable to take him to his piano lessons, but that he had been practicing. 'Please Miss Honor, I've just got to play,' he insisted. I don't know what led me to allow him to play in the recital - perhaps it was his insistence or maybe something inside of me saying that it would be all right;

The night of the recital came and the high school gymnasium was packed with parents, relatives and friends. I put Robby last in the program, just before I was to come up and thank all the students and play a finishing piece. I thought that any damage he might do would come at the end of the program and I could always salvage his poor performance through my 'Curtain Closer'.

Well, the recital went off without a hitch,

the students had been practicing and it showed. Then Robby came up on the stage. His clothes were wrinkled and his Hair looked as though he had run an egg beater through it. 'Why wasn't he dressed up like the other students?' I thought. 'Why didn't his mother at least make him comb his hair for this special night?'

Robby pulled out the piano bench, and I was surprised when he announced that he had chosen to play Mozart's Concerto No.21 in C Major. I was not prepared for what I heard next. His fingers were light on the keys, they even danced nimbly on the ivories. He went from Pianissimo to Fortissimo, from Allegro to Virtuoso; his Suspended Chords that Mozart demands were magnificent! Never had I heard Mozart played so well by anyone his age.

After six and a half minutes, he ended in a Grand Crescendo, and everyone was

on their feet in wild applause!!! Overcome and in tears, I ran up on stage and put my arms around Robby in joy.

'I have never heard you play like that Robby, how did you do it?' Through the microphone Robby explained: 'Well, Miss Honor, remember I told you that my mom was sick? Well, she actually had cancer and passed away this morning. And well... she was born deaf, so tonight was the first time she had ever heard me play, and I wanted to make it special.'

There wasn't a dry eye in the house that evening. As people from Social Services led Robby from the stage to be placed in to foster care, I noticed that even their eyes were red and puffy. I thought to myself then how much richer my life had been for taking Robby as my pupil.

No, I have never had a Prodigy, but that night I became a Prodigy... of Robby. He was the Teacher and I was the Pupil, for he had taught me the meaning of perseverance and love and believing in yourself, and may be even taking a chance on someone and you didn't know why.

Robby was killed years later in the senseless bombing of the Alfred P. Murray Federal Building in Oklahoma City in April, 1995.

We can all make a difference. If God didn't have a purpose for us, we wouldn't be here!

Live Simply.

Love Generously.

Care Deeply.

Speak Kindly.

If you cried, you are just human.

In a light vein

Australia is an expensive country... ...but the civic services are of the best standards

Last year during Christmas, a family from Kanpur was on a holiday in Australia.

Apart from his wife and two children, this man from Kanpur was also accompanied by his father.

They were travelling on one of the freeways. This Indian family was in their car and was followed by a local Aussie lady, driving at a safe distance. Suddenly the Aussie lady saw a head of an old man coming out of the window and vomiting blood...

She took a quick action by calling 000 for help.

In no time, there appeared an Air Ambulance Helicopter. The well trained staff quickly shifted that old

man on the stretcher. Oxygen supply started. Doctors started examining him....

Sometime later, the old man was declared safe and fit to travel again.

Kudos to quick help and thanks to the Aussie lady!

However, for these services, our Kanpur man had to pay A\$ 3,500 i.e. Rs 182,685 Indian rupees.

With these unplanned heavy financial charges, the Kanpur man was in shock and he blasted his father...

"Paan kha kar khidki ke bahar pichkari maarne ki kya zaroorat thhi?"

Age Matters!

Agroup of old friends, all aged about 40, discussed where they should meet for lunch for their reunion.

Finally it was agreed that they would meet at the Ocean View restaurant, because the waitresses there were pretty.

Ten years later, at age 50, the friends once again

discussed where they should meet for lunch.

Finally it was agreed that they would meet at the Ocean View restaurant because the food was good and the wine selection was excellent.

Ten years later, at age 60, the friends again discussed where they should meet for lunch.

Finally it was agreed that they would meet at the Ocean View restaurant because they could dine in peace and quiet and the restaurant had a beautiful view of the ocean.

Ten years later, at age 70, the friends discussed where they should meet for lunch.

Finally it was agreed that they would meet at the Ocean View restaurant because the restaurant was wheelchair accessible and had an elevator.

Ten years later, at age 80, the friends discussed where they should meet for lunch.

Finally it was agreed that they would meet at the Ocean View restaurant because they had never been there before!

Age with grace.

Health Matters

Surprising reasons your hair is falling out

From a lack of protein to certain steroids and other medicines, these things can lead to hair loss

You're on certain meds

Take another look at the side effects of the drugs you're taking -- hair loss may be on the list. Examples of such meds include blood thinners, acne medications high in vitamin A, anabolic steroids, or medications for arthritis, depression, gout, heart problems, or high blood pressure.

You just had a baby

When you're pregnant, your hormones keep your hair from falling out as often as it normally does. That makes it seem thicker and more luscious. After you give birth, you lose the extra hair you've been hanging onto as your hormones shift again. Everything should balance out about 3 to 6 months later.

You don't have enough iron

Iron helps keep your hair healthy. When levels drop, so can your hair. You'll likely have other clues that low iron is to blame for your hair loss, like brittle nails, yellow or pale skin, shortness of breath, weakness, and a fast heartbeat.

You're stressed

Sometimes, large doses of stress can make your body's immune system turn on itself and attack your hair follicles. Lots of worry and anxiety can also pause your hair growth, which makes hair more likely to fall out when you brush.

You've had weight loss surgery

You're more likely to deal with this post-surgery symptom if your zinc levels are low, but it's common to lose some locks after bariatric surgery. Your doctor may recommend a zinc supplement to help halt your hair loss.



Hair falling out. Photo - Photo - cimg2.ibsrv.net/

You don't get enough protein

A body low on protein finds a way to conserve where it can, and that includes halting hair growth. About 2 to 3 months after that, hair starts to fall out. Adding more meat, eggs, fish, nuts, seeds, and beans to your meals can pack more protein into your diet.

You're on birth control

Hormonal birth control like oral contraceptives, implants, injections, vaginal rings, and patches can trigger hair loss if you have a history of it in your family. Your doctor might be able to recommend a non-hormonal option that may help you keep more of your locks.

You've gone off birth control

Not only can starting hormonal birth control kick off hair loss, so can quitting. You'll probably notice a change several

weeks or months after you stop.

You're hard on your hair

Sometimes it's your styling routine that's to blame when your hair starts to break or fall out. Using too much shampoo, brushing or combing your hair when it's wet, rubbing hair dry with a towel, or brushing too hard or too often can all strain your strands and make them break. Two big cause of breakage include braids that are too tight and weaves that weight down the hair.

You use heat and science on it

Daily use of blow-dryers, flat irons, and curling irons dries out your locks and makes it easier for them break and fall out. Bleach, dye, relaxers, and hair sprays can do the same thing.

You have another condition

Hair loss is a symptom of more than 30

diseases, including polycystic ovary syndrome, ringworm on your scalp, thyroid disorders, and autoimmune diseases. You can also lose hair when you have the flu, a high fever, or an infection.

You smoke

Your hair isn't immune to the damage smoking can cause. Toxins in cigarette smoke can mess with your hair follicles and keep hair from growing and staying on your head.

You're going through menopause

The shifting hormones of it can ramp up shedding. It should go away after about 6 months. But if you notice your part widening, or hair loss at the top and crown of your head, talk to your doctor. You may have female pattern hair loss, which can be treated.

You pull it out

Hair-pulling disorder, or trichotillomania, is a mental health condition that makes you feel like pulling out your hair from your scalp. It can be hard to stop, even when you start to get bald patches. When you have it, you may want to pull out your eyelashes or eyebrows, too.

You have an eating disorder

Both anorexia (not eating enough) and bulimia (throwing up after you eat) can make your hair fall out, because your body isn't getting the nutrients it needs to grow and maintain healthy hair. These are mental disorders. They need to be treated by a team of mental health professionals, dietitians, and other medical specialists.

WebMD

Life's Stories

What makes you happy in life?



There really isn't a big secret to life ... Just do what makes you happy.

In a telephone interview, the radio announcer asked his guest, a millionaire, 'What made you happiest in life?'

The millionaire said:

'I have gone through four stages of happiness in life and finally I understood the meaning of true happiness. The first stage was to accumulate wealth and means. But at this stage I did not get the happiness I wanted. Then came the second stage of collecting valuables and items. But I realized that the effect of this thing is also temporary and the lustre of valuable things does not last long.

'Then came the third stage of getting big projects. Like buying a football team, buying a tourist resort, etc. But even here I did not get the happiness I had imagined. The fourth time a friend of mine asked me to buy a wheelchair for some disabled children.

'At a friend's request, I immediately bought a wheelchair. But the friend insisted that I go with him and hand over the wheelchairs to the children. I got ready and went with it. There I give these chairs to these children with my own hands. I saw the strange glow of happiness on the faces of these children. I saw them all sitting on chairs, moving around and having fun. It was as if they had arrived at a picnic spot.

'But I felt real joy when I started to leave and one of the kids grabbed my leg. I gently tried to free my legs but the child stared at my face and held my legs tightly.

I bent down and asked the child: Do you need anything else?

'The answer that this child gave me not only made me happy but also changed my life completely. This child said: 'I want to remember your face so that when I meet you in heaven, I will be able to recognize you and thank you once again.'

Appartement à louer - long terme



Appartement meublé de 3 c.a.c, climatisé, cuisine équipée, piscine et parking, sécurité (24/24) à Trou aux Biches - Complexe Fleury sur Mer
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To Rent

Fully furnished and air conditioned 3-bedroom apartment at Fleury sur Mer Complex, Trou aux Biches for long-term.
Parking and 24 hour security, swimming pool
Tel: 57809413 - 57530881

Theatres reopening in India: risk or advantage?

After seven months of total shutdown, due to Covid-19 pandemic, the Ministry of Home Affairs has given the green signal to reopen theatres. But the big question is: will audiences turn up at cinemas amid the pandemic?



all the safety guidelines suggested by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. As per an estimate, it's going to cost anything between Rs three to five lakh per month. But exhibitors/theatre owners are "ready to make the investment."

"We are mentally prepared that in the first couple of weeks, a month or even a couple of months, there may not be much revenues. So, we might have to make investments, with no returns. What's most important is that we need to reintroduce and

After seven months of total shutdown (due to Covid-19 pandemic), the Ministry of Home Affairs has given the green signal to reopen theatres (though many states such as Maharashtra are yet to join the bandwagon). Since then, the focus has been on the much-in-demand Diwali weekend, especially after Akshay Kumar-starrer *Sooryavanshi* was moved from the lucrative festive date.

As of now, only Manoj Bajpayee-Diljit Dosanjh starrer *Suraj Pe Mangal Bhari* (SPMB) has been announced as the Diwali release. Before that, Ishaan Khatter-Ananya Panday starrer *Khaali Peeli*, which earlier took the pay-per-view route, will hit the big screen on Friday (October 16). Plus, from this weekend onwards, Hollywood films such as *My Spy*, *Force of Nature* and *The Rental* will also start running in theatres. Also, past releases such as *Tanhaji: The Unsung Warrior*, *Shubh Mangal Zyada Saavdhan*, *Malang*, *Thappad*, *Kedarnath* and *War* are set to have a stint with 70mm screen again.

But the big question is: will audiences turn up at cinemas amid the pandemic? "People still have a lot of fear of Covid-19. So, they might go to theatres or may give it a miss. But, it's imperative for cinemas to reopen as so many livelihoods are at stake. It's also true that audiences may not be enthusiastic about 'smaller films' but it's high time theatres reopen, like other businesses," says trade analyst Taran Adarsh.

Insiders feel "smaller movies" coming out on Diwali "may have an added advantage" too. As exhibitor-distributor Akshay Rath puts it: "It's true that during a pandemic, people may not turn up in big numbers to watch mid-budget films but at the same time, such films may even fly due to pent-up demand. So, you never know."

Even before earning a single penny, theatre owners are compelled to spend money from their own pockets on account of following



help inculcate the 'theatre habit' in people again," says Rath, adding: "Till the time you don't open the shop, how will you know whether there's a demand for your product or not?"

Filmmakers, on their part, are keen to "see theatres up and running again." "As a film aficionado, who loves to watch movies on the big screen, as well as an artist, I am personally very excited (to have my film out in theatres). I feel people are fed up of constantly sitting at home," says SPMB director, Abhishek Sharma, adding: "Plus, the movie exhibition sector, more than any other business, has suffered maximum losses over the past seven months. So, I'm happy that my film will, in a way, kick off the 'theatre culture' again."

Besides SPMB, other films such as Ranveer Singh's Jayeshbhai Jordaar, Kiara Advani-starrer *Indoo Ki Jawani*, Sanjay Leela Bhansali's production, Tuesdays and Fridays, Sandeep Aur Pinky Faraar, featuring Arjun Kapoor and Parineeti Chopra, and Saif Ali Khan-Rani Mukerji starrer *Bunty Aur Babli 2*, which didn't take the digital route, may also open in theatres now. Insiders feel "fresh content may be a much bigger draw for audiences" than a film that has already been on an OTT platform.

"I feel the real test will be when big-ticket films such as *Sooryavanshi* and *'83* hit the big screens. Then, we will know where things are, and whether audiences are lapping up movies again or not," concludes Adarsh.

YOUR STARS

Sagittarius: Nov 22 - Dec 21

If you feel tired, take vitamins and be more indulgent toward yourself. In work, rigour and efficiency will pay, but originality would be frowned upon. You'll have a tendency to indulge in food and sex excesses; mind yourself!

Lucky Numbers: 6, 10, 15, 20, 22, 30

Capricorn: Dec 22 - Jan 19

You'll be clear-minded enough to give up some utopian projects; but you'll have a tendency to grant your confidence too easily. Mind your words, otherwise you won't be able to avoid various sorrows and annoyances.

Lucky Numbers: 3, 7, 12, 14, 15, 17

Aquarius: Jan 20 - Feb 18

Don't wait for happiness to come to you, go out and seek it by enjoying each moment of your life. You'd be willing to follow a newly met person to the end of the world; nevertheless, take time to reflect before engaging yourself; love is blind, as is said everywhere and forever.

Lucky Numbers: 1, 3, 7, 9, 11, 17

Pisces: Feb 19 - Mar 20

Don't take at face value what your relations will tell you: there'll be deceit in the air. In your work, the efforts that you've made will bear their fruits. Beware of disagreements with your spouse: they could lead to a serious sentimental crisis.

Lucky Numbers: 4, 7, 12, 18, 19, 24

Aries: Mar 21 - Apr 19

Learn to see the brighter side of things and be convinced that perfection is not of this world at all. The stars will encourage you to launch a drastic savings program; don't resist this influence, even though you'll feel great impulses for spending your money.

Lucky Numbers: 5, 8, 19, 31, 33, 39

Taurus: Apr 20 - May 20

Don't try to surpass yourself either on the physical or the mental plane, and cultivate humour. Fine prospects for work; you can obtain an interesting promotion. A good unexpected money entry will fill you with enthusiasm.

Lucky Numbers: 12, 15, 18, 19, 21, 30

Gemini: May 21 - June 20

Watch your words; otherwise your marital relations will become explosive. It's useless hoping to win a fortune by spending your savings at gambling; continue patiently to earn your bread by the sweat of your front.

Lucky Numbers: 1, 4, 7, 14, 19, 21

Cancer: June 21 - July 22

Family concerns are more than probable, but you'll be able to find the positive attitude to solve everything. Beware of intruders! Your vitality is likely to be a little less strong than usual; you'll be more exposed to microbial and viral contamination.

Lucky Numbers: 1, 13, 14, 19, 20, 24

Leo: July 23 - Aug 22

You'll feel imprisoned in family constraints; however, there're ways to make them less heavy. In order to strengthen your professional position, you'll have to show patience and tenacity. Risk of confusion and ambiguity in couple life; don't lend your spouse hidden intentions.

Lucky Numbers: 11, 19, 20, 25, 36, 39

Virgo: Aug 23 - Sept 22

You'll be very active, but your reactions are likely to be aggressive and impulsive; no precipitation, no needless risks! If you're still lonely, you'll have all chances of finally meeting your soul mate during this week.

Lucky Numbers: 4, 8, 11, 16, 17, 33

Libra: Sept 23 - Oct 22

Some problems with your neighbours: choose dialogue or silence instead of confrontation. Don't be so touchy with your loved one; try to keep up harmonious relations, and don't let yourself be carried away by changing moods.

Lucky Numbers: 7, 12, 19, 20, 31, 40

Scorpion: 23 Oct - 21 Nov

Annoyances of all types won't be spared you; try to control your nerves and not to be angry with your close relations. Respect your partner's secret world, otherwise he/she could very well quit you!

Lucky Numbers: 20, 27, 29, 33, 37, 38

Aly Goni: 'Sushant Singh gave hope to TV actors transitioning to films

Aly Goni tells Hindustan Times that he would like to do substantial supporting roles and reality shows on TV and would also concentrate in exploring opportunities in films and web

While he does want to do leading parts, Aly Goni is equally happy doing small yet impactful roles. The actor shares that he is inspired by the likes of Irrfan Khan, Nawazuddin Siddiqui, Pankaj Tripathi, Sushant Singh Rajput, among others, who also started off doing smaller roles on TV and in films.

"For me it was never like either lead roles or nothing else. After *Ye Hai Mohabbatein* I did let go off many lead roles in TV shows that have topped charts and lost out several hundred thousands in terms of remuneration. But I've no regrets," he says.

Goni reveals he was cautioned by many that he wasn't doing right with his TV career.

"I want to do different things. TV is home, I'm grateful to the medium for what it has done for me. I'll never say no to TV. But there are so many other things that I want to do. At 28 I don't want to limit myself. Even if I'm getting small but meaningful roles in film or web, I'm ready," adds the actor, who makes his

web debut with Boney Kapoor production *Zidd* that also stars Amit Sadh and Amrita Puri. He plays an army officer in it.

"Again I don't play a leading part but the character does add to the narrative. I'll keep doing such interesting characters till I start getting substantial leading characters in films or web. On TV, I want to concentrate on supporting roles and non-fiction shows that I really enjoy," says Goni, adding how Rajput's journey has inspired him.

"Sushant was at the peak of his TV career when he started doing movies. Even when he made it big in films, he did a small role in PK. He was close friends with my cousin and would visit our house often, play cricket and party with us. He was humble and ever ready to help. I would always tell him how he has shown us the way, gave hope to many of us working in TV. There has been this divide between TV and film actors. *Kahin na kahin unhone woh change kiya hai, aur Bollywood mein nepotism ko maarke gaye hai*," he says.



It was the kind of person that Rajput was, which reflected on screen too, which made him so relatable, feels Goni. "His demise broke many of us. We're yet to come to terms with it. The way he has inspired us, very few people could possibly do that," he ends.

Hiten Teiwani: TV facing tough competition from web



Content is king, says actor Hiten Teiwani, adding that if you have a good project at hand it will outshine the medium.

"If your content is good, your project will shine irrespective of the medium. Good work will always speak. Today, TV is facing a tough competition from web and films. One has to evolve and experiment to survive. TV, no doubt, has evolved. Today, if a TV show revolves around Banaras, the whole unit will go to Banaras and shoot. Earlier TV was

only restricted to studio sets. There's a healthy competition between the mediums and all of us are doing our best to serve the best content to the audience," Hiten told IANS.

Apart from the evolution of TV, Hiten feels he has evolved over the years personally, too.

"The more you work, the more you evolve and I feel I have also evolved as an artiste. It's been 18 years since I started my journey in showbiz. All my projects have taught me something or the other. There was also a time when people were coming to me with same kind roles but as an actor, I have always tried to be versatile and challenge myself. I have been trying to explore different genres," he shared.

Hiten was recently seen in the short film, '*Unkahee*', a crime thriller. He is working in a TV show titled '*Gupta Brothers: Chaar Kunwaare From Ganga Kinaare*'.

Arjun Bijlani: After my wife, my son has also tested positive for Covid-19



Last week, actor Arjun Bijlani's wife Neha tested positive for Covid-19. His family had self-quarantined and the actor posted about it on Instagram. Now, after three days, the actor's six-year-old son Ayaan has also tested positive for coronavirus, and Arjun took to social media to share that his son had tested negative for rapid tests, however, the detailed PCR test came positive, reports Times of India.

The '*Ishq Mein Marjawan*' and '*Naagin*' actor said, "I feel the best thing right now is to not have a panic attack or suffer from anxiety. It is very important that people don't take this lightly. My wife had tested positive and we all prayed that the rest of the members in my family don't test positive."

Arjun's Instagram post read: "The moment that I dreaded the most has unfortunately come true. My boy, Ayaan, has also tested positive for the coronavirus. Though the rapid test had come negative, the detailed PCR test came positive. He is in quarantine with my wife, Neha, who is also fighting the virus. Both my tests have come negative, and I wish it stays the same so that I can take care of my family, even if it is from a distance. At this moment, all I can say is, please be safe. You never know how and when you might contract the virus. The outside world seems to be very alluring right now, but it's best to stay indoors. The virus shows different symptoms on different people, so please don't take it lightly. Please keep us in your prayers and thoughts. Stay safe and I wish that this virus never reaches your home (sic)."

TV SERIAL

Bade Achhe Lagte Hain

Tuesday 20 Oct: Ram and Pihu try their best to find Priya, who is waiting for a response from the crowd about Pihu's whereabouts. Later, Pihu identifies her mother's bookstore and thus Pihu finally finds Priya. An emotional moment takes place between Pihu and Priya. The latter once again fails to see Priya. On the other side, Ram and Rajit are spending some good time together in the mall. Vikram's son reveals to Cady that he knows Mr Anjan and also sends his e-mail id to Cady.

Wednesday 21 Oct: Pihu wins a Bumper prize of a 5-course meal in a five-star hotel and also receives the gift from Ram Kapoor. Later, Ram takes Pihu's autograph and also shares some light moments together. Pihu tries to show her photo with Ram to Priya but the latter fails to have a look at it as she is busy observing a promotion stand which mentions that Anjaan is arriving in their mall. Priya gets tensed, but Cady explains to Priya that she knows in which hotel Anjaan is staying.

In India, all the members of Sharma family are extremely excited and are having a good time in the party hosted by Vikram and Neha to celebrate their 17th wedding anniversary. At Rajit's house, Rajit warns Cady that he will take a drastic step, if she doesn't clear her exams.

Thursday 22 Oct: Daijaan asks Rajit to spend some quality time with Cady and Raina. Rajit strictly disagrees and also reveals to Daijaan that he is least interested to know what's happening in their life. On the other side, Cady, Priya and Pihu enter Mr Anjaan's room without his appointment and eagerly waits for his arrival, but a major trouble takes place there as Pihu gets locked in the bathroom. Priya rushes to call for help and coincidentally meets with Rajit in the reception area. Rajit has doubts about Priya's character, but this does not go down too well with Priya...

Kahan Hum Kahan Tum

Friday 16 Oct: While Raima cunningly fools Pooja, Mahesh forcibly tries to marry Sonakshi. Later, Rohit takes a shocking decision.

Monday 19 Oct: While Suman and Sulochana get into a dispute, Mahesh and Sonakshi are injured in a mishap. Elsewhere, Rohit and Raima are all set to tie the knot.

Tuesday 20 Oct: Rohit is in for a huge shock during the sindoor ritual. Later, Sonakshi makes a stunning revelation about Mahesh.

Wednesday 21 Oct: A regretful Raima apologises to Rohit and Sonakshi. Later, Mahesh wreaks havoc at the wedding venue and threatens to kill Rohit.

Thursday 22 Oct: Sonakshi bids an emotional farewell to Suman, Pari and Pulkit. Later, she is left alone during her Gruha Pravesh ritual.

CINE 12

Vendredi 16 oct - 21.15

BOLSHOY : LE GRAND SAUT

Avec: Alisa Freyndlikh, Valentina
Telichkina, Aleksandr Domogarov

MBC 1

Samedi 17 oct - 21.10

Daughter Of The Wolf

Star: Gina Carano, Richard Dreyfuss,
Brendan Fehr

CINE 12

Dimanche 18 oct - 21.15



MBC 1

07.05 Local: Passerelles
09.45 Local: Later Set Kouler
10.20 Local: Itinerer - Rodrig
11.00 Local Prod: Saver Kil Tirel
12.00 Le Journal
12.25 Mag: Eye On SADC
12.55 Mag: Urban Gardens
14.00 Doc: World Stammps
14.30 D.Anime: Grenadine Et...
15.21 D.Anime: The Minimighty...
15.40 D.Anime: Gadget And The...
16.03 D.Anime: Monster Math...
16.40 D.Anime: Lucky Fred
17.14 D.Anime: Raju The Rickshaw
18.00 Live: Samachar
18.30 Serial: Siya Ke Ram
19.30 Journal & La Meteo
20.10 Local Prod
21.10 Serial: When Calls The Heart
22.30 Serial: The Blacklist
23.50 Mag: Eye On SADC

MBC 2

10.00 Serial: Mah-E-Tamaam
12.00 Film: Ashtavvakra
Starring: Mangesh Giri,
Vidyardhar Joshi
14.05 DDI Magazine
15.00 Mag: Comedy Classes
15.21 Serial: Honaar Soon Mee
15.43 Serial: Mooga Manasulu
16.07 Serial: Apoorva Raagangal
16.28 Serial: Bisaat-E-Dil
16.49 Mehendi Tohra Namam Ke
17.11 Kullfi Kumarr Bajewala
17.35 Serial: Chhanchhan
18.00 Serial: My Little Princess
18.30 DDI Magazine
19.00 Live: Zournal Kreol
19.30 DDI Magazine
20.00 Serial: Tawaan
20.44 Local: Anjuman
21.11 Local: Urdu Programme
22.06 DDI Live

MBC 3

06.00 Mag: Eco India
06.44 Mag: Shift
07.00 Mag: Border Crossing
07.34 Mag: Tomorrow Today
08.01 Doc: Children In Art
08.58 Doc: 360 GEO
09.51 Mag: Strictly Street
11.44 Mag: Eco India
12.07 Mag: Green Touch
12.29 Mag: Shift
12.47 Mag: Border Crossing
13.17 Mag: Tomorrow Today
14.39 Mag: Women Who Change...
16.43 Doc: Hooked On Painkillers
17.28 Mag: Eco India
18.00 Doc: The woman with The...
18.40 Mag: Green Touch
18.48 Mag: Arts And Culture
19.00 Student Support Programme
19.34 Mag: Euromaxx

Cine 12

00.47 Film: All The King's Men
02.50 Serial: Midnight, Texas
03.31 Film: Away And Back
05.03 Tele: Totalement Diva
05.51 Serial: Seal Team
06.37 Film: L'echange
09.00 Serial: The Magicians
09.45 Tele: Soleil Levant
10.35 Serial: Midnight, Texas
11.32 Tele: Tanto Amor
12.00 Film: Away And Back
13.30 Tele: Totalement Diva
14.45 Film: L'Echange
16.40 Serial: The Magicians
17.25 Serial: Seal Team
18.05 Tele: Soleil Levant
19.00 Tele: Tanto Amor
20.05 Tele: Le Prix Du Désir
20.30 Serial: Hawaii Five-0
21.15 Film: Bolshoy
22.46 Tele: Totalement Diva

Bollywood TV

08.00 Film: Utt Pataang
12.05/20.05
Kahan Hum Kahan Tum
12.30/ 20.11 -
Kullfi Kumarr Bajewala
12.47 / 20.32 Radha Krishna
13.10 / 21.09 - Bin Kuch Kahe
13.36 / 21.24 - Zindagi Ki Mehek
13.53 / 21.46 -
Bade Acche Lagte Hai
14.17 / 21.59 -
Jai Kanhaiya Lal Ki
14.43 / 22.25 - Bitti Business...
15.25 Serial: Khoobsurat
Starring: Sanjay Dutt, Urmila
Matondkar, Om Puri, Farida
Jalal
18.00 Live: Samacher
18.30 Kundali Bhagya
18.51 Piya Albela
19.14 Mere Angne Mein

vendredi 16 octobre

samedi 17 octobre

dimanche 18 octobre

06.00 D.Anime: Robot Trains
06.27 D.Anime: HTDT
07.36 D.Anime: Linkers
08.20 D.Anime: Tintin
12.00 Le Journal
12.25 Local: People
12.30 Doc: Builders Of The Future
14.30 Local: Teenie Fables
14.37 D.Anime: In The Night...
15.02 D.Anime: Nutri Ventures
15.22 D.Anime: The Minimighty Kid
15.38 D.Anime: Astrology
15.40 D.Anime: Gadget And The...
16.00 D.Anime: Monster Math...
16.27 D.Anime: Lucky Fred
16.54 D.Anime: The Deep
17.11 D.Anime: Raju The Rickshaw
18.00 Live: Samachar
18.35 Entertain: Nach Baliye
19.30 Journal & La Meteo
20.00 Prod: Lottotech
21.10 Film: Daughter Of The Wolf

07.00 Film: Kapurush Mahapurush
10.00 Bade Acchelagte Hai
12.00 Serial: Nanda Saukhya Bhare
12.29 Serial: Mooga Manasulu
12.52 Serial: Brundavanam
13.16 Annakodiyum Ainthus
Pengalum
13.35 Serial: Anu Pallavi
15.23 Film: 102 Not Out
Starring Amitabh Bachchan,
Rishi Kapoor
17.01 Mag: DDI Magazine
19.00 Journal Kreol
20.05 Serial: Vikram Betaal Ki
Rahasya Gatha
21.00 Film: Table No.21
Starring - Paresh Rawal, Rajeev
Khandelwal, Tena Desae
22.39 DDI Live

06.00 Doc: The Woman With The...
06.49 Doc: Arts And Culture
07.02 Mag: Global 3000
07.29 Mag: Euromaxx
08.02 Doc: Wildlife Heroes
09.00 Doc: Une Nuit, Orsay...
09.44 Doc: Is Date Africa's New Oil
11.12 Doc: The Woman With The...
11.55 Mag: Green Touch
12.16 Mag: Global 3000
12.43 Mag: Euromaxx
13.16 Doc: Wildlife Heroes
15.40 Doc: After The Escape
16.26 Open Univ: Student Support
19.29 Mag: Check In
20.05 Doc: Empires Of Silver
21.00 Local: News
21.10 Mag: Women Who Changed
21.15 Doc: Georgia On The Move
21.41 Doc: From Street Child...
22.07 Doc: The War On My Phone
22.49 Doc: The Dresden Legend

00.21 Serial: Hawaii Five-0
01.02 Film: Bolshoy
02.37 Film: Chicago Fire
03.17 Film: Extinction
06.08 Serial: Hawaii Five-0
06.38 Film: Mike Hammer
08.30 Serial: Emerald City
09.18 Serial: Shades Of Blue
09.51 Serial: Les Experts
10.40 Film: Victor Et Le Manoir
12.15 Serial: Chicago Fire
13.00 Tele: Amanda
13.47 Tele: Premiere Dame
15.05 Serial: Midnight, Texas
16.31 Mag: Hollywood On Set
17.00 Serial: Hawaii Five-0
17.45 Film: Annabelle Hooper...
19.45 Mag: Hollywood News Feed
20.05 Tele: Le Prix Du Désir
20.30 Series: Hawaii Five-0
21.15 Film: Space Time
22.45 Film: Exit Speed

04.05 Kahan Hum Kahan Tum
04.26 Kullfi Kumarr Bajewala
04.51 Radha Krishna
05.14 Zindagi Ki Mehek
05.34 Bade Acche Lagte Hai
06.22 Bitti Business Wali
06.38 Kundali Bhagya
07.07 Piya Albela
07.29 Mere Angne Mein
08.00 Zindagi Ki Mehek
10.12 Yeh Pyaar Nahi Toh Kya...
12.00 Yeh Hai Mohabbatein
14.22 Bin Kuch Kahe
16.00 Pavitra Rishta
18.30 Film: Chalo Dilli
Starring Lara Dutta, Vinay
Pathak, Akshay Kumar
20.22 Serial: Siya Ke Ram
21.04 Serial: Naagin
21.43 Serial: Zindagi Ki Mehek
23.38 Serial: Mere Angne Mein

06.00 D.Anime: Little People
06.23 D.Anime: HTDT
08.20 D.Anime: Asterix & Cleopatre
09.35 Serial: Waffle The Wonder...
12.00 Le Journal
12.30 Doc: Builders Off The Future
13.55 Local: Coin Jardin
14.30 D.Anime: Teenie Fables
15.30 D.Anime: The Minimighty...
15.47 D.Anime: Astrology
15.40 D.Anime: Gadget And The...
16.02 D.Anime: Monster Math...
16.35 D.Anime: Lucky Fred
16.53 D.Anime: The Deep
17.14 D.Anime: Raju The Rickshaw
17.30 Mag: Zoboomafooo
18.00 Live: Samachar
18.30 Local: Yeh Shaam Mastani
19.30 Le Journal
20.00 Local: Info 7 Sur 7
21.20 Film: Cassidy Red

07.00 Film: Naukar Biwi Ka
Starring: Dharmendra, Anita
Raj, Reena Roy
10.00 Local Production
11.00 Serial: Oru Kai Osai
11.21 Serial: Santoshi Maa
12.00 Film: Krrish 3
Starring - Hrithik Roshan,
Vivek Oberoi, Priyanka
Chopra, Kangna Ranaut
14.33 DDI Magazine
15.00 Mag: Comedy Classes
15.21 Serial: Mooga Manasulu
15.44 Eka Lagnachi Teesri Gosht
16.06 Serial: Apoorva Raagangal
17.00 Serial: Mahakali
18.30 Local: Tipa Tipa Nu Avance
19.00 Zournal Kreol
19.30 DDI Magazine
20.05 Serial: Maharakshak: Devi
20.47 Serial: Naagin

06.00 Doc: Amazing Gardens
06.26 Doc: Ville En Fête
06.52 The World From Above
07.15 Mag: Check In
08.39 Mag: Women Who Changed
08.44 Doc: Georgia On The Move
10.18 Doc: The Dresden Legend
11.09 Doc: Amazing Gardens
12.19 Mag: Check In
16.31 Doc: Ville En Fête
17.22 Mag: Check In
18.00 Doc: Olivia's Garden
18.30 Garden Party
19.05 Doc: Bohemian Switzerland
19.30 Mag: Future Mag
21.00 Doc: News (English)
21.10 Mag: Women Who Changed...
22.07 Doc: Ocean Grabbing
23.31 Doc: Olivia's Garden
23.57 Doc: Garden Party
00.23 Doc: Bohemian Switzerland

01.09 Film: Love: Space Time
03.11 Film: 3:10 To Yuma
05.09 Tele: Destiny
06.01 Serial: Hawaii Five-0
06.43 Film: Bolshoy
08.30 Serial: Emerald City
09.11 Serial: The Enemy Within
10.02 Serial: Les Experts
10.40 Film: Annabelle Hooper and...
12.15 Serial: Hawaii 5-0
13.09 Serial: Amanda
13.45 Tele: Premiere Dame
15.05 Serial: Midnight, Texas
17.08 Serial: Hawaii Five 0
17.48 Serial: The Enemy Within
18.30 Film: Brush With Danger
20.05 Tele: Le Prix Du Désir
20.30 Serial: The Good Doctor
21.15 Film: Sniper 6: Ghost
Shooter
22.45 Film: Annabelle Hooper

00.45 Yeh Hai Mohabbatein
02.25 Bin Kuch Kahe
04.15 Pavitra Rishta
05.38 Film: Chalo Dilli
Starring Lara Dutta, Vinay
Pathak, Akshay Kumar
08.06 Motu Patlu
08.31 Jai Kanhaiya Lal Ki
09.54 Jaana Na Dil Se Door
11.40 Piya Albela
14.00 Kahan Hum Kahan Tum
15.47 Kullfi Kumarr Bajewala
17.32 Punar Vivaah
18.00 Samachar
18.30 Film: Purani Jeans
Starring: Tanuj VirwaniAditya
Sealtzabelle Leite
21.30 Bade Acche Lagte Hai
23.20 Nach Baliye
21.58 Bade Acche Lagte Hai
23.20 Piya Albela

MBC 2

Samedi 17 oct - 21.00

Stars: Paresh Rawal, Rajeev
Khandelwal, Tena DesaeDimanche 18 oct
- 18.30Stars: Tanuj VirwaniAditya,
Sealtzabelle Leite



Nita Chicooree- Mercier

One of the biggest obstacles facing young adults and older employees who envisage to start a family, purchase land and build a home is the exorbitant rate of interest which keeps thousands of citizens indebted to banks for fifteen to twenty years and more. It is a vicious system which enriches the rich who themselves are granted lower rates of interest for colossal sums borrowed from banks for investment in highly lucrative economic sectors.

Citizens who do not register for NHDC assistance have to go through stressful borrowings and put up with a number of challenges to meet the deadline of reimbursement. Sometime back, the Ministry of Finance announced a new system of peer to peer loans to be regulated and supervised by the relevant institutions. That's good news to the public. A short presentation of the new measure gave us to understand that it would be a panacea to financial worries entailed by high interests on loans imposed by banks.

Not many details have come out since the first announcement. There was a laconic precision to the effect that rules would be set to determine the conditions that would make a borrower eligible for loans. Common folks already have a system of sit, whereby money is collected from all the members in a given group and handed over to one member on a monthly basis. It is a system built on mutual understanding, agreement and trust. Higher sums of money require a more elaborate and structured system which empowers borrowers to pursue personal projects without a sword hanging over their head.

The rate of interest remains high while it goes down to less than one percent in richer countries. How the system fleeces thousands of citizens and blatantly enriches the super-rich and big business corporations needs no further explanation to understand the huge inequalities prevailing between different social classes. Mortgage pains, overwork and multiple jobs are the collateral damages many a citizen have to face, with detrimental effects on the quality of their lives in the present system of loans from banks.

The prevailing loan system puts off young people from getting entangled and bogged down in a net that is far from being an appealing prospect in their early adult

For more transparency...



“DYFI members during a protest rally demanding justice for the Hathras victim outside the gate of IIT Powai in Mumbai Friday Oct. 2 2020. Photo - PTI

life, let alone start a family in such conditions. So the peer to peer loan should relieve a burden off their shoulders. A detailed report on the new financial service is expected in the near future.

It is obvious that changes have to be brought in sectors that generate huge disparities in society, and the present system is a nightmare that cannot be inflicted on the younger generation for years. Left-wing parties are not so vocal on an issue that should be of prime concern to them. Their suggestions, if any, should be given due attention.

Mauritian connection in Hathras protests?

Following news published in the press about funds sent from Mauritius to allegedly foment riots in Hathras district, Uttar Pradesh, after the rape and murder of a young Dalit woman and her swift cremation in the early hours of the morning in the absence of her relatives, which sparked anger and protests, a Mauritian minister stated that there was no official report from Delhi as regards the involvement of locals in financing unrest amongst Dalits in Hathras.

The question is why the Indian press published the news in the first place, and whether the Centre ordered an investigation into the matter to shed light on what is a serious case of fomenting unrest and pitching a caste against the authorities in Uttar Pradesh. And who stands to gain in disrupting law and peace in the state? Reportedly, the Indian press broke out the news after the arrest of four journalists from Kerala in Hathras and their interrogation by the police. Judging from the names of the journalists, suspicion arose regarding the likely source of funds that were allegedly sent from Mauritius, or whether the island served as a platform for the transfer of funds.

Any involvement of locals with media spokespersons in India to take advantage

of the pain of an aggrieved family to create uprisings is a serious matter that cannot be shoved under the carpet. It is therefore necessary that a thorough investigation be undertaken to dispel apprehensions about the likelihood of any underground mafiosi-like group operating from Mauritius.

An underworld of fishy business

Word went around that lots of shady business are slyly done in meat importation after non-compliance with sanitary rules was denounced recently. As things stand, pesticides and the use of hormones in industrial farming have altered the quality of meat over the years. Consumers certainly do not need to have stale meat with fake expiry dates sold to them. Regular inspection to detect fraud in the meat market will ensure food safety so as to avoid health problems.

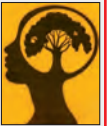
Sporadic arrests staged in street corners to round up vendors and embark all their stuff in ADSU cars may indicate a serious commitment to track down drug peddlers. Such news is splashed on television and in the press on a regular basis. The hard fact is that small fries are usually caught in the net of the police, but their arrests rarely lead to drug barons who thrive on the parallel economy.

What are the obstacles to the dismantling of the underground networks? This has created an atmosphere of deep distrust in the authorities over decades. How come that the big fish get away with almost any wrongdoing? Do the police authorities have a free hand in carrying out investigations independently to ensure a high degree of efficiency?

A high degree of transparency is needed to inform the public in the allocation of funds in generous government handouts right and left. Mere announcement of millions thrown here and there do not mean much to the public in terms of proper use of state funds.

Tree of Knowledge

Madisyn Taylor



Puja - Connecting with the Divine

Performing a puja ritual is a wonderful way to experience direct communication with the divine.

Forging a spiritual connection with the divine is the ultimate goal of many forms of worship. In our devotions, we transcend the limitations of our humanity using prayers, rituals, and invocations, or we seek the celestial in sacred items such as statuary, imagery, or natural objects. In the Hindu tradition, worshipers bond with the divine through the puja ritual. The purpose of the ritual is to create an atmosphere in which humans and spiritual beings can enjoy communion with one another. Though participants show reverence for their chosen deities, puja serves to bring the former and the latter together on an energetic level. Performing a puja ritual is thus a wonderful way to experience direct communication with the divine.

There are no limits as to whom may serve as the focal point of your puja. You need only choose a spirit guide to commune with and an object to represent them. Preparing for the puja ritual, however, can take some time, depending on the number of devotional acts you will perform. A classic puja includes 16 acts, including meditation, chanting, the reading of sacred texts, offerings of food and drink, and cleansing. You may also wish to present gifts of incense, flowers, and jewellery during the ritual. An altar or table covered by an altar cloth provides space for the representation of the divine and the seat of the puja. To begin, prepare your offerings and place them to the right of the altar. Then center yourself and release any stress you may feel - the puja is meant to be a joyful experience. Typically, the ritual begins with the ringing of a bell and an invitation, and progresses from chanting to the cleansing and dressing of the deity to the offerings to meditation. You can modify your puja in any way you wish.

Though the elaborate puja rituals performed in Hindu temples take place at sunrise, noon, sunset, and midnight, puja performed in the home primarily takes place in the mornings and evenings. When your intention is to invite your spiritual guides into your home and heart, however, the time of day matters little. With practice, you will create a direct path to spiritual oneness that allows you to experience an amazing sense of closeness that reinforces your connection with the divine.