

MAURITIUS TIMES

• "True peace is not merely the absence of war, it is the presence of justice". -- Jane Addams

Interview: Milan Meetarbhan

**"Investigative journalism
by professionals is not
trial by the press.**

**It's not always a partisan
witch hunt either"**

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China and India figure in Biden's foreign policy challenges



*President-elect Biden's greatest challenge
to reset and redefine America's relationship
with China has deep economic, strategic,
and societal overtones.*

By Anil Madan * See Page 4-18

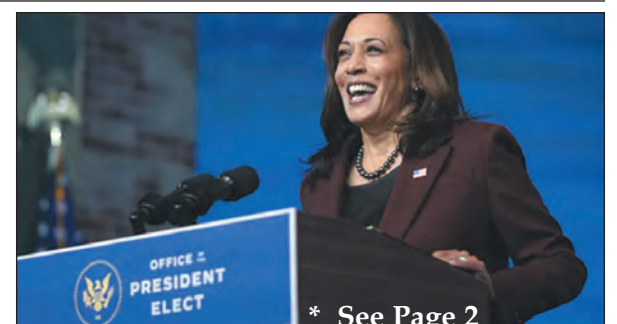


**THE FIRST OFFICIAL
COVID-19 VACCINE IS HERE**

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Covid-19: The Buzz about Vaccines

**The world needs
more women
leaders during
Covid-19 and beyond**



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Recurrent Water Problem

It is the same sorry tale of water shortage and cuts that is heard every year whenever it has not rained for only a short period. It is put down to the problem of old pipes of the Central Water Authority (CWA) being prone to leakage and wastage of large quantities of water, of the order of 60% at the latest count. This is despite the billions of rupees that have gone into the replacement of long stretches of pipes and lately the increased water retention capacity with the construction of the Bagatelle Dam. The public express their exasperation when water cuts or revised distribution schedules are announced, and politicians in power again start talking about redress action to be taken even if it means that sanctions have to be taken against non-performers. One wonders whether the recurrent water problem is due to a sheer management problem? Or is there a deeper underlying reason?

For many years now, the entire world has been debating means and measures to adopt so as not to have to face a situation of inadequate availability of water in different parts of the world. It is a serious issue as, in certain cases, it can even lead to "water wars" among countries given the importance of water for the very sustenance of life. Climatic factors, galloping global demography, growing intensity of water usage in industrial processes are among the reasons why water is predicted to become even more scarce in the years to come. Fortunately we do not fortunately have to dispute with neighbours about water-sharing rights; otherwise, this could have become yet one more sore point. But we have a macro problem that has to be addressed.

What is this fundamental problem? Since independence, the only tangible advancement we have made in the matter of storing adequate supplies of water has been in the construction of the Midlands Dam and the Bagatelle Dam. The Midlands Dam has added another 25 cubic million gallons of water to our reserves, equivalent to the full capacity of the Mare-aux-Vacoas reservoir. Yet the population has more than doubled. Water-intensive industrial activity and tourism sectors have expanded many-fold. Certainly, the addition to supply by the Midlands Dam has not been commensurate with the growing demand.

As for the Bagatelle Dam, completed in December 2016, and its Treatment Plant inaugurated last year, it is supposed to add some 60000m³/day to the water network and supply Plaine Wilhems and Port Louis. Why this is not happening is still a mystery to which no clear answer has been provided to the public. Some of the pipes transporting water from the high-gravity parts of the

island to the lower regions must be about a hundred years old, and have been in need of urgent replacement and modernisation for decades. Others have been battered by works carried out by other departments and left to leak out whatever water they were transporting to their supposed destinations. Absence of coordination of this type has been the hallmark of our development process. In other words, we have not deployed the necessary resources to even retain whatever little water we have been able to store and distribute to good purpose. Needless to add that when the rains come pouring down, there is a lot of flooding and loss of precious water that could have been harvested and stored.

There are two factors at least underlying this fundamental failure to tap and retain this essential and basic element for our day-to-day needs. One is the failure of those in a position to take strategic decisions to conceptualise the issue and work out an enduring solution. This work should most apparently have been the responsibility of the Ministry in charge, and perhaps the Water Resources Unit of that Ministry.

The second factor relates to the financial resources made available to develop this essential infrastructure. It costs money to build new dams although it costs nothing to keep speaking about the construction of new dams. It costs money to replace pipes that have gone decrepit. It costs courage to charge consumers more for their daily water supplies to garner enough funds to meet capital expenditures - even though we have to concede that water is in the nature of a public good for which it is the State that should bear the major part of the costs.

We have been told in the past that foreign experts will come and advise how to run our water system so that it does not break down recurrently. What is the use of such expertise when it is quite clear that the expertise is available locally - if only that expertise, available from our Mauritian engineers and other water management specialists, is listened to and put to good use, and when the fundamental problem has been one of insufficient allocation of resources to restore greater efficiency in the sector? At one time, we were being told that we should outsource our water management to foreign companies. This is nonsense.

We have reached a stage when we will have to cease looking for scapegoats. Instead, we should address head-on the real shortcomings arising from insufficient decision-making and failure to adequately finance a sector on which - and this bears reiterating -- our whole livelihood depends.

The Conversation

The world needs more women leaders during Covid-19 and beyond

Gender parity leads to collaboration and a blending of visions, and paves the way for the adoption of more comprehensive and inclusive solutions than if they're conceived from only one perspective

With the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic top of mind for most of our leaders, economic recovery plans are being studied and analyzed by researchers.

As with any plan, success hinges on certain conditions being put in place. The one we consider most important is the gender balance in positions of power and influence within our societies.

Gender parity leads to collaboration and a blending of visions, and paves the way for the adoption of more comprehensive and inclusive solutions than if they're conceived from only one perspective.

A recent study that looked at the performance of 194 countries in their fight against COVID-19 found that women-led countries were generally more successful in fighting the pandemic than those led by men. However, it's worth noting that there was already a balanced representation of both sexes in the countries' key roles of power and influence, suggesting that leadership environments with gender parity lead to healthier, stronger and more consensual decisions.

Male characteristics

Leadership has historically been defined in terms of the stereotypes that characterize men in power: rationality, pragmatism, hierarchy and a focus on short-term outcomes. This helps explain why the legitimacy of power is more associated with men, as revealed by the Reykjavik Leadership Index.

The index, launched in 2018, helps measure perceptions of women in power in 11 different countries, including all G7 countries. It assesses the perceived legitimacy of male and female leadership in different positions of power, and it shows there are still unfortunately large disparities.

Now to ask the tough question: Is leadership gendered? In other words, do gender prejudices about leadership lead to harsh judgments from society?

To quote a 2019 research article one of us co-authored entitled "Women as Leaders: The More Things Change, the More It's the Same Thing":

"Women and men remain categorized according to their sexual roles; women have community behaviours and men have so-called self-determination or individualistic behaviours. The ... leadership style attributed to men is considered normal and acceptable, but when women seek to make it theirs by displaying characteristics such as assertiveness, tenacity and competitiveness, they no longer fit the stereotypical definition that has been devolved to them."

Louise Champoux-Paillé, Anne-Marie Croteau & Steven H. Appelbaum, Concordia University



United States Vice-President-elect Kamala Harris speaks on Nov. 24, 2020, in Wilmington - Photo - mercurynews.com

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Dr R Neerunjun Gopee

Covid-19: The Buzz about Vaccines

While there is palpable excitement in the world about finally being able to stop the march of that monster, this does not mean that Covid-19 will go away so soon

With the announcement that some vaccine candidates have achieved over 90% efficacy, there is palpable excitement in the world about finally being able to stop the march of that monster called Covid-19 which has caused so much of disruption in all countries, without exception. While that wish and hope is understandable, what must be realized is that this does not mean that Covid-19 will go away so soon: we will still have a long way to go because there is such a lot that is not known about the behaviour of the virus in the long term, such as whether it can or will mutate to such a degree that we may have to start all over again.

Most likely therefore, we will have to continue with sanitary measures for a good while to come. Which is not a bad thing anyway – after all keeping ourselves clean for the sake of our health is surely worth the effort and the little sacrifice required, isn't it. At least, Covid-19 ought to remind us that health is our most precious gift which we must do everything to preserve.

Nevertheless, the announcement by the UK government that it has given emergency authorization to Pfizer's coronavirus vaccine, with hospitals in the country already scheduling doses to be given starting in London at 7 am on Monday next, is a sign for optimism. Pfizer will be shipping 800,000 doses to the UK, a total of 40 million doses having been ordered. Patients will need two doses each, given a month apart.

It may be recalled that the UK has registered the highest number of deaths in Europe at about 60,000. Numbers have been surging and restrictions imposed afresh, despite public resentment – as of

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course has happened in several other countries such as Germany, France, Italy, the US among others.

So this is a welcome development as far as the UK is concerned. Though described as a first, this is not quite so because China had already produced a vaccine and started a vaccination programme, and so too Russia with its Sputnik vaccine. There have been criticisms levelled to the effect that not much information has filtered out about these two vaccines regarding their efficacy and safety.

In particular, concern has been expressed about the fact that not enough people have been enrolled in the crucial Phase 3 trials, which have involved up to 30,000 volunteers in trials of the other vaccine candidates. However, it may be noted that the Sputnik vaccine is being trialled in India and depending on the outcome of trials it may then be rolled out there.

Besides efficacy (how good is the vaccine at producing adequate amounts of antibodies in clinical trials) and safety (does it produce any side effects?), there are other issues that need to be addressed and are as important. These include price, access, rollout logistics, post-vaccination surveillance, who will receive the vaccines first in any country.

It goes without saying that wealthy countries will have better financing means, which will allow them to make bilateral arrangements with manufacturers, from those that belong to the middle income and lower income, and poor, categories. The latter have to depend on the World Health Organisation.

In fact WHO has set up COVAX, a vaccines platform which, according to its website, 'will ensure that all participating countries, regardless of income levels, will have equal access to these vaccines once they are developed and available. The aim is to have 2 billion doses of vaccine available by the end of 2021'. This is considered enough to protect high risk and vulnerable people, as well as frontline healthcare

workers.

Further, 'by joining COVAX, both self-financing countries and funded countries will gain access to this portfolio of vaccines, as and when they prove to be both safe and effective. Self-financing countries will be guaranteed sufficient doses to protect a certain proportion of their population,



Photo - cbsnews2.cbsistatic.com

“The announcement by the UK government that it has given emergency authorization to Pfizer's coronavirus vaccine, with hospitals in the country already scheduling doses to be given starting in London at 7 am on Monday next, is a sign for optimism. Pfizer will be shipping 800,000 doses to the UK, a total of 40 million doses having been ordered. Patients will need two doses each, given a month apart...”

depending upon how much they buy into it.

'Subject to funding availability, funded countries will receive enough doses to vaccinate up to 20 per cent of their population in the longer term. Since demand is initially likely to exceed supply once vaccines do become available, allocation will be spread across countries based on the number of doses that are available and increase as that availability increases'.

We learn that Mauritius is one of the 92 countries that have joined COVAX, which means that in due course we will also be able to start an anti-Covid vaccination programme, probably by the end of the first quarter of 2021 at the earliest.

This is conditional upon 'any of the COVAX portfolio vaccines have successfully undergone clinical trials and proved themselves to be both safe and effective, and have received regulatory approval'.

“The Primary Healthcare Directorate in Mauritius has a robust and well-honed immunization system and there should be no problem to roll out the vaccine once it is available, that is, managing its deployment, implementation and monitoring. Perhaps the only constraint that has to be addressed is the storage, which is likely to require additional cold chain facilities. But given that we will initially be receiving only up to 20% of total requirements – and that too probably in batches – this may not be a major issue...”

Following this, 'available doses will be allocated to all participating countries at the same rate, proportional to their total population size'.

It is important to note that 'no country will receive enough doses to vaccinate

more than 20% of its population until all countries in the financing group have been offered this amount. The only exception is those countries that have opted to receive fewer than 20%'.

The Primary Healthcare Directorate in Mauritius has a robust and well-honed immunization system and there should be no problem to roll out the vaccine once it is available, that is, managing its deployment, implementation and monitoring. Perhaps the only constraint that has to be addressed is the storage, which is likely to require additional cold chain facilities. But given that we will initially be receiving only up to 20% of total requirements – and that too probably in batches – this may not be a major issue.

With these developments, the world may look forward to a better 2021 – at least let us hope so!



Anil Madan

Breakfast With Bwana

China and India figure in Biden's foreign policy challenges

'Many proclaim that America has already lost the war and that whereas she may win a battle here or there, the long-term outcome is a foregone conclusion'

Donald Trump's signature battle cries from 2016, 'Build the Wall!' and 'America First!' resonated during his campaign four years ago portending a discordant and dissonant American introversion from longstanding engagements with the rest of the world. The discord and dissonance felt strange because America's retrenchment was not expected given Trump's belligerent personality. Certainly, his interactions with NATO and other European allies were far more aggressive than his muted interactions with Putin, Kim Jong Un, and Xi Jinping. In all cases, his foreign policy was marked by sloppy execution.

Even though Trump deserves credit for making an issue of China's unfair exploitation of the US, his actual China policy has been disastrous. A trade agreement of minor proportions has done little to reduce the trade imbalance that favours China. Worse, Trump's policies have led to incalculable losses to America's detriment: loss of prestige, diminution of trust among allies and friendly nations that no longer see America as reliable in

lating belligerence against India, bullying Australia with economic and diplomatic pressure, and enabling Iran's Ayatollahs who continue to promote hatred and support terrorism.

On top of that, China has expanded its predatory infrastructure lending -- financed by its stash of American Treasury bonds no less -- around the world and blithely disregarded maritime boundaries in its quest to control the South China Sea. Indeed, the CCP has even presented a revi-



"President-elect Biden's greatest challenge to reset and redefine America's relationship with China has deep economic, strategic, and societal overtones. Photo - deccanherald.com"



"India and the US on Oct. 26, 2020 signed a major defense pact for the exchange of classified geospatial intelligence. From right, Indian Foreign Minister Subrahmanyam Jaishankar and Defence Minister Rajnath Singh attend a joint news conference with US. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and Defense Secretary Mark Esper in New Delhi. Photo - AP..."

dealing with a more aggressive and overreaching China, and lessened influence over world affairs. Whereas Trump correctly recognized that great disruptions stemming from globalization needed to be corrected, his blunderbuss approach of isolationism over engagement has further upset the prospect of cooperative action with the Asia-Pacific nations that might have reset the balance.

The irony is that China has been able to take advantage of the vacuum in leadership created by Trump's 'America First' approach that was unwelcome around the world. Trump might as well have declared a "China-first" policy. An emboldened Chinese Communist Party (CCP) has doubled down, disregarding human and civil rights at home, erasing democracy in Hong Kong, continuing and escalating its threats to Taiwanese sovereignty, esca-

sionist disclaimer of responsibility for the origin of the Covid-19 virus from within its borders. America is no longer a restraining hand on the reins, and certainly not brake slowing down a runaway China.

America's future

It will now be one of President-elect Biden's greatest challenges to reset and redefine America's relationship with China. This challenge has deep economic, strategic, and societal overtones, perhaps even taking on existential overtones in terms of America's future as the dominant world power.

It has been observed and indeed is an article of faith among analysts that China's leaders are patient and take

a long-term view on matters of policy, strategy, and tactics whereas the US and other Western countries are more short-term oriented, indeed shortsighted. What is equally true but not as often acknowledged is that successive American administrations, cheered on by corporate leaders looking for greater profits from cheap Chinese labour have been complicit in enabling China to forge ahead with little fear of restraint.

The dramatic changes we have experienced over the past decade give new urgency to establishing a more informed and realistic American policy toward China. It is no longer enough to think of restoring the status quo ante but rather we must hear the clarion call for a more enlightened and outcome-oriented engagement with China going forward. Time is short, the stakes are huge.

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Consider that in 2011 Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner issued an extraordinary public warning¹: "They [China] have made possible systematic stealing of intellectual property of American companies and have not been very aggressive to put in place the basic protections for property rights that every serious economy needs over time."

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Biden-Harris transition team includes over 20 eminent Indian Americans

For the first time in the United States' presidential history, the Biden-Harris transition team is the most diverse comprising over 20 eminent Indian Americans from different walks of life.

President-elect Joe Biden and Vice President-elect Kamala Harris have formed several agency review teams, including a COVID task force, of highly talented professionals with profound domain knowledge and experience in various federal agencies to keep the ball rolling from day one following their oath-taking ceremony in January 2021.

Dr Celine Gounder, Biden's Coronavirus Taskforce

Born to an Indian father, Raj Natarajan Gounder, an aerospace engineer from a village in Tamil Nadu, Dr Celine is a practicing infectious disease specialist, epidemiologist, medical journalist, and assistant professor in the New York University Grossman School of Medicine. Dr Celine, a molecular biology graduate of Princeton University, earned a Master of Science degree from Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health and a Doctor of Medicine degree from the University of Washington School of Medicine.

She is a co-founder of the International Health Group that calls for doctors to serve the underprivileged worldwide. She has worked with the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. Being a medical journalist, she



Dr Celine Gounder, Kiran Ahuja, Dr Bhavya Lal, Seema Nanda (from left to right)

has extensively written on various medical topics and public health issues in The New Yorker, The Atlantic, and other media. In 2017, People's Magazine features her among 25 Women Changing the World.

Kiran Ahuja, Office of Personnel Management

Among the Indian American women in the Biden presidential transition agency review team, Kiran Ahuja is volunteering to support transition over the US Office of Personnel Management. An India-born American lawyer and activist, Kiran Ahuja was the Chief of Staff to the Director of the Office of Personnel Management from

2015 to 2017.

Once a lawyer with the Department of Justice, she founded the National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum, a non-profit for South Asian Women's civil rights. She led the White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPI) for six years. Her unconditional work on health care for AAPI is a significant step towards eradicating the stigma against mental illness in communities of color.

Dr Bhavya Lal, NASA

One of the key Indian-origin women in President-elect Biden's agency review

teams, Dr Bhavya Lal is helping with transition over NASA in the upcoming US government. A leading researcher at the IDA Science and Technology Policy Institute for the White House Office of Science and Technology, she has leveraged her expertise in engineering and innovation related to space science, satellites, space nuclear energy, and space exploration.

She has profusely authored articles for The Economist, National Geographic, Space News, and other prestigious publications. Her contributions to the domain of space got her selected as a Corresponding Member of the International Academy of Astronautics. A distinguished alumnus of MIT in nuclear engineering, Dr Bhavya Lal has also served on the National Academy of Science committees.

Seema Nanda, US Department of Labor

Indian American Seema Nanda is a key member of Joe Biden's agency review teams, helping with transition over the US Department of Labor. A graduate of Boston College Law School and a member of the Massachusetts Bar Association, she joined the Department of Labor in 2013 and served as the Deputy Chief of Staff and a senior counselor to Secretary Tom Perez.

At the Department of Labor, Seema Nanda dealt with various issues, such as workforce development, immigration, fair pay, and employee engagement. Prior to joining the Department of Labor, Office of Special Counsel for Immigration-related Unfair Employment Practices (OSC) in the Civil Rights Division of the US Department of Justice. She is an eminent member on the board of directors of many non-profits.

US scientists developing nasal spray to prevent Covid-19

Scientists at the University of Pennsylvania and the biotech firm Regeneron are investigating whether technology developed for gene therapy can be used to make a nasal spray that will prevent infection with the new coronavirus, reports AFP.

The idea is to use a weakened virus as a delivery truck to carry genetic instructions to cells within the nose and the throat, which will in turn create powerful antibodies to stop SARS-CoV-2 from invading our bodies.

"The advantage of our approach is that you don't need a competent immune system for this to be effective," James Wilson, a professor of medicine at Penn who is leading the project told AFP.

The technology is currently being tested in animals and Wilson believes that, if successful, it could provide people with around six months of protection from a single dose, sprayed up the nose, and therefore



Since coronavirus enters lungs through nasal passage, the spray could halt infection. Photo - c.ndtvmg.com

complement vaccines that could soon be approved.

Wilson is a pioneer of gene therapy -- delivering genetic code into a patient's cells to correct for defects and treat

disease.

His research team discovered that the Adeno-Associated Virus (AAV) group of viruses, which infect both humans and other primates but aren't known to cause disease, can be engineered to ferry healthy DNA into cells.

This approach led in 2019 to the approval of Zolgensma, the first drug for the treatment of spinal muscular atrophy, and today AAVs are being investigated for dozens of more possible applications.

Wilson was contacted by the US government in February to see if he and his lab could use the technology against Covid-19.

But it wasn't until Regeneron developed two promising lab-made antibodies against the coronavirus, which bind to a surface protein of the pathogen and stop it from invading our cells, that his team could move ahead.

Regeneron's antibodies are themselves in clinical testing but have received emergency approval for patients with mild or moderate Covid-19 who are at high-risk of getting severe disease -- and were notably used recently to treat President Donald Trump.

Researchers are hoping that the nasal spray could be squirted through the nostrils, enter nasal epithelial cells, and hijack their protein-making machinery so that they make Regeneron's antibodies.

More on page 7

India invites Boris Johnson as Chief Guest for Republic Day celebrations

India has invited Prime Minister of the United Kingdom Boris Johnson as the chief guest for Republic Day celebrations in 2021.

The invite was extended during the telephonic conversation that took place between the two sides on November 27, sources have told India Today TV.



India invites Boris Johnson as Chief Guest for Republic Day celebrations

After the telephonic exchange, Prime Minister Narendra Modi in a tweet had said, "Had an excellent discussion with my friend, UK PM Boris Johnson on an ambitious roadmap for India-UK ties in the next decade. We agreed to work towards a quantum leap in our cooperation in all areas - trade and investment, defence and security, climate change, and fighting Covid-19."

Responding to PM Modi's tweet, the UK Prime Minister thanked him and tweeted, "Thank you @narendramodi, great to speak to you. I'm very much looking forward to deepening and strengthening the UK-India relationship in 2021 and beyond!"

While there is no official confirmation or announcement of the invitation extended by India, the timing is important since PM Modi is likely to visit London next year to attend the G-7 summit for which the British premier had extended him an invitation.

A proposal to include India and expand the G-7 grouping came from US President Donald Trump when he invited PM Modi to attend the G-7 meeting this year.

During the telephonic conversation between President Trump and Prime Minister Modi in June this year, the former "conveyed his desire to expand the ambit of the grouping beyond the existing membership, to include other important countries, including India," said a statement by the Ministry of External Affairs.

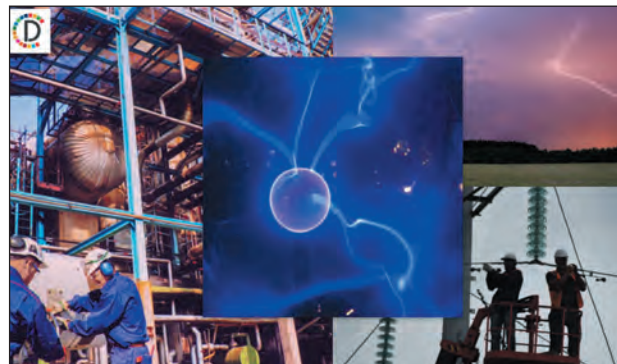
The decision to expand the grouping, however, cannot be taken by the US alone. Other members such as the UK, France, Germany, Italy, Japan and Canada, have to not only agree to Trump's proposal to expand the grouping but also on the new members that he wants to add.

Pak starts fuel loading in Chinese-assisted nuclear power plant in Karachi

Pakistan has started loading fuel to its Chinese-assisted 1,100MW nuclear power plant in Karachi for testing in run-up to its commercial operations in April 2021, according to a media report on Wednesday, reports PTI.

The fuel loading for the newly built Karachi Nuclear Power Plant Unit-2 (K-2) began on Tuesday after obtaining fuel load permit from the Pakistan Nuclear Regulatory Authority.

The fuel loading was witnessed by Director General of the Strategic Plan Division Lt Gen Nadeem Zaki Manj, Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission



K-2 is one of the two 1,100MW nuclear power plants being constructed in Karachi. Photo - devdiscourse.com

(PAEC) Chairman Mohammad Naeem and senior Chinese and Pakistani officials, the Dawn newspaper reported.

K-2 is a pressurised water reactor based on the Chinese HPR-1000 tech-

nology and a third generation plant equipped with advanced safety features, according to officials.

The construction of K-2 plant started on August 31, 2015 and its commercial operation will begin in April 2021 after undergoing several operational and safety tests.

K-2 is one of the two 1,100MW nuclear power plants being constructed in Karachi. The other plant, K-3, is expected to become operational by the end of 2021.

The completion of these nuclear power plants has remained largely on schedule despite the Covid-19 outbreak.

Singapore becomes first country to approve sale of lab-grown meat

Singapore has given US start-up Eat Just the greenlight to sell its lab-grown chicken meat, in what the firm says is the world's first regulatory approval for so-called clean meat that does not come from slaughtered animals.

Demand for alternatives to regular meat is surging due to consumer concerns about health, animal welfare and the environment. Plant-based meat options, popularised by Beyond Meat Inc and Impossible Foods, increasingly feature on supermarket shelves and restaurant menus, reports Reuters.

But so-called clean or cultured meat, which is grown from animal muscle cells in a lab, is still at a nascent stage given high production costs.

"The first-in-the-world regulatory allowance of real, high-quality meat created directly from animal cells for safe human consumption paves the way for a forthcoming small-scale commercial launch in Singapore," Eat Just said on Wednesday.

The firm said the meat will be sold as nuggets and had previously pegged their cost at \$50 each.



Demand for alternatives to regular meat is surging due to consumer concerns about health. Photo - storage.googleapis.com

But co-founder and CEO Josh Tetrick said the cost has since come down and the meat would be priced at parity to premium chicken when it first launches in a restaurant in Singapore "in the very near term". He declined to give exact details or costs.

Globally more than two dozen firms are testing lab-grown fish, beef and chicken, hoping to break into an unproven segment of the alternative meat market, which Barclays estimates could be worth \$140 billion by 2029.

Unmanned Chinese spacecraft lands on moon

China successfully landed a spacecraft on the moon's surface on Tuesday in a historic mission to retrieve lunar surface samples, Chinese state media reported.

China launched its Chang'e-5 probe on Nov. 24. The uncrewed mission, named after the mythical Chinese goddess of the moon, aims to collect lunar material to help scientists learn more about the moon's origins, reports Reuters.

The mission will attempt to collect

2 kg (4-1/2 lbs) of samples in a previously unvisited area in a massive lava plain known as Oceanus Procellarum, or "Ocean of Storms".

If the mission is completed as planned, it would make China the third nation to have retrieved lunar samples after the United States and the Soviet Union.

The lander vehicle that touched down on the moon's surface was one of several spacecraft deployed by the Chang'e-5 probe.

Upon landing, the lander vehicle

is supposed to drill into the ground with a robotic arm, then transfer its soil and rock samples to an ascender vehicle that would lift off and dock with an orbiting module.

State broadcaster CCTV said it would start collecting samples on the lunar surface in the next two days. The samples would be transferred to a return capsule for the trip back to Earth, landing in China's Inner Mongolia region.

Compiled by Doojesh Ramlallah

Interview: Milan Meetarbhan

"Investigative journalism by professionals is not trial by the press."

It's not always a partisan witch hunt either"

Milan Meetarbhan, a lawyer and former diplomat, calls for an early trial in current defamation cases for allegations to be proved or disproved by the Supreme Court and for broader judicial control of various institutions. Looking at challenges faced by US democracy in recent years, he warns against the drift to authoritarianism in smaller states. The former Ambassador to the UN urges greater cooperation between coastal States of the Indian Ocean. Read on.



Mauritius Times: The Angus Road saga involving allegations against Pravind Jugnauth is getting foggier for some, and nastier for others. The press is clearly after the skin of Pravind Jugnauth, but the latter does not appear willing, for whatever reason, to lay bare all the facts of the matter at this stage. What does all this mean to you?

Milan Meetarbhan: I do not believe that the press is after PJ's skin. Scrutiny of the propriety of conduct of a person holding a high public office with regard to acts or omissions relating to the law or public affairs is legitimate. It is also legitimate for the media, the politicians, the forces vives and the public at large to ask questions regarding the conduct by a public body of an investigation which started at least seven years ago.

This matter is about potential persistent breaches of the law and is not about who a Prime minister danced the sega with at a private party. Even in the latter case the Supreme Court found that the press should not be gagged!

"When it is argued that an election was not free and fair, there is a lot which is public and widely known like abuse of state machinery or propaganda on state media but there may be other evidence which is specific to a constituency, like electoral bribes. The present legal framework for challenging elections dates back to the 50s and the modern trend is for a global assessment of how credible elections were and not limit legal challenges to unfair practices at micro-level..."

The avalanche of legal proceedings initiated in recent months is reminiscent of what happened in 2015 except that what's happening now is before the civil and not criminal courts.

I believe that it is in the interest of the person who claims that he has been defamed and in the interest of the country that serious allegations be proved or disproved before a court of law at the earliest. I therefore hope that the parties to these civil cases ensure that there is no protracted exchange of pleadings and avoid preliminary issues and seek an early trial on the merits.

I am sure that the Plaintiff would be only too happy for his reputation to be buttressed by the court as early as possible. The best route for him to be vindicated is for an early trial in all the cases he has now filed and the ones he's announced he will be filing.

*** But if the public looks up to the media for doing its job of protecting public interest by doing investigative journalism and bringing to light matters which reek of corruption, fraud, etc., it is not expected however to substitute itself as some form of popular tribunal which would amount to a trial by the press. What do you think?**

Yes, absolutely. The media brings up the facts and informs public opinion. Often this is what leads the investigative agencies to do their job and prosecute offenders, specially the well-connected ones.

In some countries the media may sometimes get it wrong through negligence, error in good faith or through deliberate fake news of which we have seen a lot in the USA recently. Here we have both the media and the elected representatives of the people disclosing evidence which may suggest possible criminal offences. The evidence has been challenged. The courts may indeed find that there is no conclusive evidence of criminal conduct. But the media and the parliamentarians would still have fulfilled their duty in raising the right questions based on what they honestly perceived as facts which warranted public scrutiny.

"What has happened over the last four years in the US shows how fragile democracy can actually be. If this can happen to a country like the US, how vulnerable other small states can be? All nations have to be vigilant about any drift away from democracy to autocratic rule. It takes decades to build a democratic society, but everything can be lost faster than we think. Once you lose it, you will take several decades to build it again..."

Investigative journalism by professionals is not trial by the press. It's not always a partisan witch hunt either, even if those who fear its outcome the most may portray it as such. There may be party hacks or hired guns embedded in some parts of the media but not all investigative journalism is partisan. There are also journalists who act professionally.

Whitewashing and defensive or offensive propaganda by public funded media with statutory duties are the other side of the coin. It could be more reprehensible because it's a gross abuse of public funds and a flagrant breach of obligations imposed by law.

When we talk of the role of the media, we must distinguish between the harm which can be caused by the private media and that inflicted by public funded media established by law which either play offence or defence for purely partisan ends.

* Contd on page 8



*** Whether we like it or not, all the bad publicity around this matter does not speak well for the reputation of Mauritius since it is no other than the country's Prime Minister that's being accused of various offences still under investigation by the anti-corruption agency since many years now. Do you think ICAC could have spared the country of this unnecessary embarrassment?**

Opinion polls tend to confirm that people are losing trust in institutions. People feel that those institutions they fund and to which they entrusted certain duties are failing them.

Failure by an anti-corruption agency or a law enforcement agency to prosecute some people whilst persecuting and prosecuting others leads to a serious breach of trust.

That ICAC should have been investigating possible offences for seven years before interviewing the main person involved may give rise to concerns. To make matters worse, the person concerned states that he was never called by ICAC but he asked to be interviewed.

The fact that, according to press reports, a new government immediately on taking office should write to foreign authorities to cancel a request for mutual legal assistance involving one of the new ministers may also give rise to concerns. The government did this whilst at the same time seeking legal mutual assistance in connection with investigations regarding the conduct of the outgoing Prime Minister and even sending its Attorney General all the way to Rome only to file papers before an Italian judge

*** Speaking of ICAC, is there a problem therefore with the oversight such and other institutions that are deemed by virtue of the related legislations/constitutional prerogatives to function independently of political proximity?**

'The Privy Council held that the DPP is amenable to judicial review by the Supreme Court.'

If this is so, why should not ICAC or the Speaker for that matter, also be subject to supervision by the courts?

The Privy Council held that the Director of Public Prosecutions, who is appointed under the Constitution and whose discretionary powers are conferred by the Constitution, is amenable to judicial review by the Supreme Court. If this is so, why should not ICAC or the Speaker for that matter, also be subject to supervision by the courts?

In the case of ICAC, it is supposed to be overseen by a parliamentary committee. Not only are the oversight powers clearly limited but the committee is composed of a majority of members from the government of the day.

*** Things are not any better at the level of Parliament as well, judging from the recurrent complaints of the opposition about the way the Speaker chairs the debates in the National Assembly. What's your take on that?**

Each time when we think we have seen it all, it only gets worse. What's happening in Parliament is incredible. I am not sure however that we should focus so much on the Speaker himself. He is part of and a product of a culture. I'm afraid we can't see the wood from the trees right now.

When the likes of Obeegadoo and Ganoo defend the conduct of parliamentary proceedings tooth and nail, they are defending a political system of which they are now part of. Veterans who spent a lifetime attacking the system join hands with the supposedly new kids on the block in upholding a system which ultimately rests on fealty rather than anything else.

As a general rule, no power should be unfettered. All powers even if expressly conferred by law should be exercised fairly, reasonably and in accordance with rules of natural justice and not arbitrarily. And whether the power has been so used or not, whether there has been a misuse or abuse of the power should be judicially reviewable.

In any parliamentary democracy, if there is tyranny by the majority held by the Executive in Parliament, there must be a judicial recourse. Let us take a hypothetical case. A parliamentarian asks embarrassing questions about the majority leader. The leader's fellow members first seek to prevent the questioning with a barrage of Points of Order citing chapter and verse each time with the Standing Orders at the ready.

Then the member asking the questions is "named" by the person presiding who is himself a nominee of the majority leader. The same majority leader then moves for suspension of the member asking the embarrassing questions from future sittings so that no questions are asked. The majority leader's motion to suspend the questioner is formally approved by the leader's majority and there are no more questions for the next few weeks.

This scenario is purely hypothetical, but if it actually happens what is the recourse?

In a democracy, when the political class cannot set things right, it's only the judiciary that can right certain

“When the likes of Obeegadoo and Ganoo defend the conduct of parliamentary proceedings tooth and nail, they are defending a political system of which they are now part of. Veterans who spent a lifetime attacking the system join hands with the supposedly new kids on the block in upholding a system which ultimately rests on fealty rather than anything else...”

“Any pretext - whether it's a mass at St Louis Cathedral or the PM being abroad or a foreign guest visiting Mauritius - is now good enough for ensuring that Parliament does not sit on a Tuesday. We all remember from our childhood days reading about Pinocchio who wished that every day was a Wednesday as there is no school on that day of the week. Here some seem to wish that Tuesdays were wiped out of the calendar...”

wrongs until the people have a say and make an informed decision.

*** Does it all mean that in the present constitutional setup, any government with a comfortable majority can consolidate its control over the political system and key institutions of the country and lock out the whole system from the prying eyes of the public and the opposition?**

We do not always realise to what extent, even in advanced democracies, it is the character and values of individuals holding office which make a difference and not only the legal and constitutional safeguards. The same laws and the same Constitution work differently with different people at the helm.

A Speaker, for example, may be elected and hold the same legal powers as another one, but the respect and trust enjoyed by one may differ from the way the other one is treated. The same applies to a President or a Prime Minister.

*** Contd on page 9**

'What has happened over the last four years in the US shows how fragile democracy can actually be.'

All nations have to be vigilant about any drift away from democracy to autocratic rule'

* Contd from page 9

* On the other hand, we have had the village council elections last month. We have seen new faces armed with much less resources than the main "traditional parties" in the field doing things differently and reasonably well in terms of electoral performance. Did you see in all that a desire to stand out from the petty politics of our political parties?

Indeed, at the grassroots level there may be some, but not all, who may genuinely want to serve differently. This is true at village council level. However, once elected, the pressures are such that what ultimately comes out of the process leading to the election of heads of district councils is very different from what was seen at grassroots level.

To that extent, municipal elections are relatively more transparent. Even if a Mayor is handpicked by party bosses, the town will still be administered by the party which got the votes of a majority of the townspeople at the elections. This is not always the case at district council level.

The politicking, the maneuverings, at times the horse trading start after the village council elections.

* Were these elections, according to you, also a test of popularity for either the government or the opposition?

I believe that all elections are to some extent an opportunity to express discontent against a ruling party whether at national or local level. However, village council elections have traditionally also been an opportunity for local people to canvass local issues and bank on local connections to get elected.

Village and district council elections have always seen an attempt by the government of the day to deploy all the paraphernalia of office to cajole voters. Voter attitude at municipal elections is rather different. Party affiliations play a greater role though a vote against the government of the day also play an important part.

* In the US, Donald Trump has finally conceded, but that was not without the many legal challenges he had his lawyers put forward to retain his presidency. Are there lessons for the rest of the world including Mauritius from these elections and the legal challenges of President Trump?

Trump has not actually conceded yet and may not ever do so. He will keep telling his supporters that the election was stolen from them. He cannot lose except if the election is rigged. As he keeps the momentum on his campaign, denigrating the electoral machinery of the country of

which he is President, he collects nearly 200 million dollars from donors for this campaign.

What has happened over the last four years in the US, considered the world's second largest democracy (after India) and often cited as a beacon of an advanced democracy, shows how fragile democracy can actually be. If this can happen to a country like the US, how vulnerable other small states can be? All nations have to be vigilant about any drift away from democracy to autocratic rule. It takes decades to build a democratic society, but everything can be lost faster than we think. Once you lose it, you will take several decades to build it again.

* In a comment on the legal challenges of President Trump, Steven Mulroy Law Professor in Constitutional



"The Indian Ocean has, as many analysts foresaw, acquired greater geostrategic importance in recent years. Coastal States have put in place an Indian Ocean Rim Organisation which has had variable success so far. But the framework is there and can be built upon. Indian Ocean coastal states must overcome their ideological and policy differences to have greater cooperation..."

Law at the University of Memphis states that 'there seems to be a real disconnect between the claims of widespread fraud, a stolen election and illegal voting made by President Donald Trump... and the actual claims formally made by his lawyers in court'. He concludes by saying: 'The lawyers are going to have to present actual evidence to judges. Without such evidence, judges will dismiss the claim.' The same test will sure apply here as well when it comes to the legal challenges of the 2019 elections, isn't it?

Yes, of course, impartial judges can only act on the basis of evidence adduced before them. Trump has not offered such evidence yet but still manages to enlist the support of his followers who are convinced that the election was rigged. In the electoral petitions before our Supreme Court, the petitioners have averred several irregularities which they will have to prove. In some cases, the petitioners are asking for a recount and the grounds on which this can be obtained may be of a different nature.

When it is argued that an election was not free and fair, there is a lot which is public and widely known like abuse of state machinery or propaganda on state media but there may be other evidence

which is specific to a constituency, like electoral bribes. The present legal framework for challenging elections dates back to the 50s and the modern trend is for a global assessment of how credible elections were and not limit legal challenges to unfair practices at micro-level.

* What is the significance of Seychelles' President Wavel Ramkalawan official visit to Mauritius?

I am a great believer in regional cooperation. Small States in particular have to pool resources to manage issues of common interest. Managing ocean resources, for example, is a great example of the need for regional cooperation. The agreement between the Seychelles and Mauritius in 2012 on joint management of the continental shelf in the Mascarene Plateau was hailed by the United Nations

more pragmatic ('Seychelles First' policy) than his predecessors and even what the political leadership has been doing here and that might serve his country better?

When in opposition, Mr Ramkalawan's party had expressed reservations about facilities granted to India by the previous Seychelles government. Whether President Ramkalawan will maintain the same position now that he is in power is yet to be seen.

Seychelles' geostrategic position attracts a lot of interest, and consultations between the Mauritian and Seychelles governments on regional matters could be beneficial to both States and to the region as a whole. India is an Indian Ocean state with a huge coastline on the ocean. Its interests are therefore different in nature from those of States outside the region.

* The power game in the Indian Ocean involving the great powers of the world and other emerging ones is the new geopolitical reality that is largely beyond our control, but one we must reckon with as it impacts our own security and economy. How is Mauritius doing on that front?

The Indian Ocean has, as many analysts foresaw, acquired greater geostrategic importance in recent years. Coastal States have put in place an Indian Ocean Rim Organisation which has had variable success so far. But the framework is there and can be built upon.

Indian Ocean coastal states must overcome their ideological and policy differences to have greater cooperation in areas like trade, ocean management, security and also promote more exchanges between their peoples and institutions.

The bigger countries in the region like India, South Africa and Australia (once it resolves that it will commit itself to being and acting as an Indian Ocean state) have other more global interests. All three are members of G20 and two of them aspire to permanent seats on the UN Security Council. The active involvement of these States in regional arrangements should be seen as a force for good.

Today, increasingly, the discourse is about the Indo-Pacific region. This changes the picture radically. I have just been reading an interview of Indian Minister of External Affairs, S. Jaishankar in which he says, "My sense is that when it comes to the Indo-Pacific, there is the recognition today that you cannot deal with the Indian Ocean and the Pacific Ocean as separate watertight theatres."

Coastal states of the Indian Ocean will have to take this on board when reviewing their international and regional relations.

The only mystery in life is why the kamikaze pilots wore helmets.

-- Al McGuire

The difference between stupidity and genius is that genius has its limits.

-- Albert Einstein

War is God's way of teaching Americans geography.

-- Ambrose Bierce

It would be nice to spend billions on

schools and roads, but right now that money is desperately needed for political ads.

-- Andy Borowitz

The average dog is a nicer person than the average person.

-- Andy Rooney

At every party there are two kinds of

people - those who want to go home and those who don't. The trouble is they are usually married to each other.

-- Ann Landers

Doctors are just the same as lawyers; the only difference is that lawyers merely rob you, whereas doctors rob you and kill you too.

-- Anton Chekhov

My opinions may have changed, but not the fact that I'm right.

-- Ashleigh Brilliant

Trouble knocked at the door, but hearing laughter, hurried away.

-- Benjamin Franklin

Have you noticed that all the people in favour of birth control are already born?

-- Benny Hill

Quotable Quotes

Food for thought

The current population of Earth is around 7.8 Billion.

For most people, it is a large figure that is all.

However, someone has condensed the 7.8 billion in the world into 100 persons, and then into various percentage statistics. The resulting analysis is relatively much easier to comprehend.

Out of 100:

11 are in Europe
5 are in North America
9 are in South America
15 are in Africa
60 are in Asia

49 live in the countryside
51 live in cities

12 speak Chinese
5 speak Spanish
5 speak English
3 speak Arabic
3 speak Hindi
3 speak Bengali
3 speak Portuguese
2 speak Russian
2 speak Japanese
62 speak their own language.

77 have their own houses
23 have no place to live.

21 are over-nourished
63 can eat full
15 are under-nourished
1 ate the last meal, but did not make it to the next meal.

The daily cost of living for 48 is less than US\$2.

87 have clean drinking water

13 either lack clean drinking water or have access to a water source that is polluted.

75 have mobile phones

25 do not.

30 have internet access
70 do not have conditions to go online

7 received university education
93 did not attend college.

83 can read
17 are illiterate.

33 are Christians
22 are Muslims
14 are Hindus
7 are Buddhists
12 are other religions
12 have no religious beliefs.

26 live less than 14 years
66 died between 15 - 64 years of age
8 are over 65 years old.

If you have your own home,
Eat full meals & drink clean water,
Have a mobile phone,
Can surf the internet, and
have gone to college,
You are in the miniscule privileged lot.
(in the less than 7% category)

Amongst 100 persons in the world, only 8 can live or exceed the age of 65.

You are over 65 years old.

Be content & grateful.
Cherish life, grasp the moment.

You did not leave this world before the age of 64 years like the 92 persons who have gone before you. You are already the blessed amongst mankind.

Take good care of your own health because nobody cares more than you yourself!

Cherish every remaining moment.



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3. Business Studies	13. Mandarin	23. Bharata Natyam
4. Chemistry	14. Mathematics	24. Kathak
5. Design and Technology	15. Marathi	25. Kuchipudi
6. French	16. Physical Education	26. Mridangam
7. Geography	17. Physics	27. Sitar
8. Hindi	18. Tamil	28. Tabla
9. Hinduism	19. Telugu	29. Violin (Hindustani)
10. Home Economics (with specialisation in Food and Nutrition)	20. Urdu	30. Vocal Carnatic Music
		31. Vocal Hindustani Music

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Moka,
Tel No. 403 200

Date: 26 November 2020

Why Mauritius is culling an endangered fruit bat that exists nowhere else

Conflict between fruit-growers, the Mauritian government and conservationists has dragged on for years – it's time for a new approach

The endangered Mauritius fruit bat is once again the centre of a controversial cull at the hands of its government, much to the alarm of wildlife conservation organisations. Under pressure from both farmers and the public, the government of the Indian Ocean island recently announced a plan to cull 10% of its 80,000 or so fruit bats to protect the nation's fruit industry.

Bat culling in Mauritius is fraught with deep divisions and entrenched interests. No one disputes that the fruit bat – the clue is in its name – can cause damage to lychee and mango harvests in orchards and private gardens. That's why pressure from fruit farmers and the general public led the government to order culls of tens of thousands of bats – at least a third of the species' population – in 2015, 2016, 2018 and 2019. Many conservationists feel that these culls contravene the UN Convention on Biological Diversity, which Mauritius was the very first nation to sign and ratify in 1992.

This has led to perpetual arguments and increasing divisions between farmers, agricultural companies, fruit traders, conservationists academics, government agencies, media and the public.

These bats are found nowhere else in the world. That's why conservation organisations both in Mauritius and elsewhere have raised concerns that these repeated culls could decimate their population. Large island fruit bats are particularly vulnerable because reproductive rates are low, with females giving birth to just one pup per year at best, which makes it difficult for populations to recover losses. Six of the past eight bat extinctions, including the Guam flying fox and the lesser Mascarene flying fox, were similar species who succumbed to similar combinations of intense hunting and habitat loss.

Mauritius has already lost two bat species to extinction, and its fruit bats now find themselves in the same precarious situation. Less than 4% of their native forests remain, so there isn't much leeway for the bats to recover from culls.

Blame birds – not bats

However, there is more to this case of human-wildlife conflict than first meets the eye. For one thing, though both the government and media generally portray this as an agricultural problem centred around farmers losing income, several



Photo - animal.memozee.com



Tree netting trials in Mauritius

academic studies (including one that one of us worked on) have shown that most of the damage to fruit in the island's orchards is not caused by bats but by birds, often species invasive in Mauritius. Bats, however, make for much better scapegoats.

Bats don't specifically target orchards but, to the dismay of many Mauritians, also visit people's backyards, feeding in large groups and making a great deal of noise and mess. These intrusions are hugely irritating and certainly don't help bats with their popularity. Surprisingly though, we've found in our research that it is the general public who have the most hostile attitudes towards bats, many wanting them extinct. Orchard owners had softer NIMBY ("not in my backyard") attitudes towards bats, wanting the damage taken care of but the bats left alone.

There is also a political angle to any human-wildlife conflict, involving political and economic interests, and the relative dynamics of institutions. It would not be fair to presume the entire government of Mauritius is in favour of killing bats, nor that this is necessarily its own first choice course of action. While the Ministry of Agro-Industry and Food Security may be ordering the culls, its own conservation and agricultural outreach sub-agencies are also keen to explore gentler solutions with minimal resources. To this end, a series of workshops and dialogues with different groups and government agencies between 2017-18 offered initially promising results.

Meanwhile, the scientific conservation community repeatedly emphasises the importance of evidence-based decisions regarding bat culling. The International

Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) has issued official letters, passed a formal resolution and a position statement urging for a U-turn on culling. It has even sent specialist technical assistance in the shape of conservation mediators and bat experts, requesting the Mauritian government to develop alternatives.

Non-lethal damage control solutions do exist. Orchards can be covered in nets, for instance, or trees can be planted in rows and pruned to stay small, which much improves the efficacy of netting as well as crop yield. Such techniques have been shown to work well in Australia and were demonstrated by experts from a Queensland lychee farm during a tree netting workshop run as a collaboration between IUCN, the Mauritian Wildlife Foundation (an NGO) and the Mauritian

government.

But the conflict seems at an impasse, as the proposed practical measures are proving near impossible to implement. So long as people are divided, and neither side trusts the other, evidence-based arguments simply won't gain traction. There is great need for extensive mediation work to bring the parties together and rebuild cooperative relationships. As so often in complex human wildlife conflicts, the missing piece is the acceptance that you'll rarely solve a complex social problem by arguing about facts.

Public opinion is deeply divided, and the escalating tensions between the farmers, public, conservationists, and government are the primary obstacle to progress. Soon this may become an intractable hindrance to finding any commonly acceptable way forward.

Alexandra Zimmermann & Ewan Macdonald, University of Oxford & Tigga Kingston, Texas Tech University





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1956-2020

The world needs more women leaders during Covid-19 and beyond

* Cont. from page 2

We believe it's time to revise the definition of leadership to make it more multi-dimensional by expanding the list of qualities it should include while understanding that leadership is expressed differently depending on the challenges and needs of different organizations.

More compassionate leadership

We advocate for a leadership style that is more consensus-building, caring, more open and inclusive and more likely to encourage participation by others. When women join leadership teams, there is an increase in leadership qualities like empathy, compassion, communication and collaboration that become part of the DNA of those organizations.

Recent research has concluded that even alpha male subordinates prefer and prosper under a leadership style with more feminine characteristics.

There are advantages to a multi-dimensional leadership style, in particular during

difficult times like the ones we're experiencing now. Employees are looking at their leaders for inspiration and reassurance. They need to be listened to and they expect the leadership team to pay attention to signs of exhaustion and provide support to those who need it.

Time will tell if a gender-neutral leadership style exists and is successful since there's not an equal number of women and men in leadership roles.

A quick look at the Canadian business community shows the various difficulties faced by women that create barriers for them to access these leadership roles: biases, stereotypes, work-life balance, absences due to motherhood and corporate policies ill-suited to the realities of women's lives.



Prime Minister Justin Trudeau takes part in a Women One roundtable discussion at the Case Foundation in Washington, D.C. in October 2017 delving into the barriers women face in reaching leadership positions. THE CANADIAN PRESS/Sean Kilpatrick

All of this means that very few women reach the highest levels of our organizations. Only four per cent of president and CEO positions are held by women and none of them hold this position among the TSX60 companies. The situation is even more dismal for racialized people.

Achieving full potential

We strongly believe that everyone, men and women, should be able to achieve their

greatest potential. Women need to know early on in their lives that they can be leaders and should not limit themselves. Kamala Harris, the newly elected vice-president of the United States, said on election night:

"Every little girl watching tonight sees that this is a country of possibilities."

We have yet to see what the "Harris effect" will be, but previous research has suggested having positive role models leads to some powerful outcomes, particularly for women and women of colour.

The challenges of the 21st century — climate change, health, the environment, depletion of global resources, an aging population, talent development, social inequities, telecommuting, new technologies and so on — require a new multi-dimensional style of leadership, because the challenges ahead of us require the contributions of everyone. We advocate for a leadership model that incorporates the skills, intelligence and talents of all in order to tackle these challenges.

1 THE SCALDED CAT - JMLS CANCER SUPPORT CUP 990 m Valeur [0-20] Time - 12h10

1 DUNZIE	CD	8-6-4-8-2	62(-4)	A.Sonaram	10	650
2 BIRTHDAY BOY	VA	4-4-7-8-7	61	B.Fayd'herbe	7	520
3 GROBAN	RM	0-10-9-9-7	61	P.C.Orffer	11	2500
4 TAKE OFF MODE	SN	3-1-2-3-4	60.5	D.Bheekary	8	450
5 REAL VISION	JMH	9-6-5-5-4	60	J.Allyhosain	3	820
6 CAPTAIN FALCON	G	6-7-7-5-6	59.5	G.D.Aucharuz	6	800
7 KINGS EMPIRE	SH	6-5-4-6-R	58.5	S.Rama	9	1700
8 NORTHERN REBEL	JMH	R-5-8-4-8	58	T.Juglall	4	2000
9 HEAD OF THE PACK	SPN	8-4-6-7-9	56.5(-1.5)	M.Teetan	1	5000
10 BLUE JEANS	CR	5-4-7-8-10	56	N.Marday	5	5000
11 SPECIAL FORCE	SPN	7-8-2-11-10	56	R.Joorawon	2	620

2 SWAN SECURITIES LTD SOUVENIR PLATE 1450 m Valeur [0-25] Time - 12h45

1 SECRET IDEA	CD	4-3-0-2-1	60(-4)	A.Sonaram	8	750
2 THE FORERUNNER	VA	0-2-1-2-3	60	B.Fayd'herbe	1	250
3 THOMAS HENRY	G	0-0-0-0-2	60	G.D.Aucharuz	6	380
4 AFTER THE ORDER	CR	3-5-2-4-4	59.5	R.Joorawon	4	1400
5 EAGLES VISION	SPN	0-0-6-5-8	59.5	T.Juglall	9	2500
6 GORDONSTOUN	SN	6-R-3-2-4	59.5	D.Bheekary	5	1400
7 MINALOUSHE VENTURE	AS	7-7-R-5-4	59.5	M.Martinez	2	750
8 AMANDLA	JMH	4-4-3-6-9	58.5	J.Allyhosain	3	600
9 SEVENTH SILVER	RG	1-4-7-8-7	57.5(-1.5)	M.Teetan	7	5000

3 SWAN PENSIONS LTD SOUVENIR PLATE 1400 m Valeur Benchmark 31 Time -- 13h20

1 BALLANTINE HALL	G	0-1-6-3-2	61	G.D.Aucharuz	7	550
2 CRAZY CHARLIE	GR	0-0-0-R-1	61	N.Juglall	3	370
3 EUOKLIDON	SN	6-2/11-5-9	61	D.Bheekary	5	3300
4 RIVER THAMES	SJ	8-6-2-1-7	61	J.Allyhosain	9	770
5 DOUBLE GAMES	VA	3-1-3-2-1	60.5	B.Fayd'herbe	6	620
6 TILL DAWN	AS	3/3-2-7-3	60.5	M.Martinez	8	1200
7 TRAVELIN MAN	RM	0-0-0-3-2	60.5	P.C.Orffer	2	300
8 LEARNING TO FLY	P	0-0-0-0-4	60	S.Bussunt	4	1400
9 SAND PATH	CD	7-8-7-6-3	60	I.Chisty	1	650
10 THE RIDDLER	SH	3-6-4-6-10	56	S.Rama	10	5000

4 SWAN WEALTH MANAGERS LTD SOUVENIR PLATE 990 m Valeur Benchmark 36 Time -- 13h55

1 DARK FORCE	RM	3-3-2-6-1	61	P.C.Orffer	2	220
2 MR HARDY	CR	2-10/5-2-8	60	R.Joorawon	4	2200
3 ROCK MANOR	PM	9-2-1-5-2	60	C.Segeon	3	340
4 GUNNER RUNNER	GR	0-0-1-2-6	58	N.Teeha	5	820
5 MATCHLESS CAPTAIN	RG	nouveau	58	T.Juglall	7	1400
6 ZENZERO	SH	3/5-5-3-2	57.5	S.Rama	1	720
7 PRIDE ROCK	CD	9-3-5-5-7	53.5(-4)	A.Sonaram	6	4000

Programme des Courses



5 SWAN GENERAL LTD SOUVENIR PLATE 1500 m Valeur Benchmark 46 Time - 14h30

1 CAPTAIN FLYNT	GR	0-0-0-0-6	61	N.Juglall	7	900
2 HAKEEM	CR	1-5-2-5-5	61	R.Joorawon	3	800
3 DYNAMITE JACK	RG	2-7-1-5-1	60.5	J.Allyhosain	2	200
4 SEA DANCE	CD	0-0-0-4-2	60	I.Chisty	12	900
5 PROMISSORY	VA	3-3-2-3-1	59.5	B.Fayd'herbe	4	750
6 UNBELIEVABLE LAD	AS	8/4-5-6-7	59.5	M.Martinez	10	3000
7 VIKING TRAIL	SJ	3-3-4-2-4	59.5	G.D.Aucharuz	11	900
8 SPLIT THE BREEZE	JMH	6-3-8-4-9	59	T.Juglall	6	4000
9 YANKEEDOODLEDANDY	G	2-6-6-4-9	59	D.Bheekary	8	2500
10 ITDAWNEDONME	SH	1-3/7-10-2	57.5	S.Rama	1	650
11 MEMPHIS MAFIA	RM	7-10-1-1-1	56	P.C.Orffer	9	1400
12 DUKE'S DOMAIN [EA]	RG	1-1-4-3-2	60	-----	5	----

6 SWAN LIFE LTD SOUVENIR PLATE 1850 m Valeur Benchmark 56 Time -- 15h05

1 RED MARS	SJ	1-3-1-2-2	61.5	J.Allyhosain	8	450
2 OUR EMPEROR	SJ	9/5-4-4-5	60	T.Juglall	7	2500
3 RAP ATTACK	SH	3-3-4-4-N	60	S.Rama	2	2000
4 SPRING MAN	RM	5-7-3-1-7	60	P.C.Orffer	5	550
5 CONSUL OF WAR	CD	1-N-1-1-3	58.5	I.Chisty	3	550
6 INN A MILLION	SN	3/4-5-1-2	58	G.D.Aucharuz	6	350
7 LEMON DROP SHOT	SN	1-2-3-7-2	56	R.Joorawon	4	400
8 THE BYZANTINE	JMH	9-7-4-5-8	54.5	B.Soolful	1	3000

7 SWAN-DUKE OF YORK CUP 1600 m Valeur P. d'Age [65+] G.1 Time -- 15h45

1 UNDERCOVER AGENT	RM	0-2-4-1-4	58	P.C.Orffer	7	700
2 BLACK CAT BACK	G	2-4-1-7/1	58	G.D.Aucharuz	6	620
3 ALYAASAAT	GR	6-1-2-1-1	58	N.Juglall	1	200
4 THE DAZZLER	AS	0-0-0-5-2	58	M.Martinez	5	920
5 MARAUDING	G	1-1-2-1-1	58	B.Fayd'herbe	4	450
6 PUGET SOUND	CD	10-8-7-6-3	58	I.Chisty	2	5000
7 HAYLOR	SJ	5-3-2-2-N	58	J.Allyhosain	3	2500

29^e Journée samedi 5 décembre 2020

8 SWAN ACTUARIAL SERVICES LTD SOUVENIR PLATE 1650 m Valeur Benchmark 36 Time -- 16h20

1 BLACK INDY	PM	8-1-2-5-6	60	C.Segeon	5	1000
2 KAYDENS PRIDE	RM	2-1-5-2-2	59.5	P.C.Orffer	3	200
3 WILD FIRE	CR	0-0-10-8-R	59.5	R.Joorawon	7	5000
4 WORDBUSTER	VA	4-2-R-6-2	59.5	B.Fayd'herbe	10	500
5 ALSSAKHRA	G	7-4-2-5-6	59	G.D.Aucharuz	2	1200
6 POWER TOWER	RG	4/10-5-7-1	59	J.Allyhosain	4	750
7 OVERDOSE	AS	5-5-6-4-5	58.5	M.Martinez	1	1400
8 SENOR'S GUEST	GR	2-3-2-3-1	58.5	N.Juglall	9	770
9 DO OR DARE	CD	0-7-1-2-8	58(-4)	A.Sonaram	6	750
10 LUCKY AT LAST	CD	3/8-5-1-7	56.5	I.Chisty	8	3500

9 SWAN FOUNDATION SOUVENIR PLATE 990 m Valeur [0-26] Time -- 17h00

1 MAJESTIC MOON	SPN	8-5-1-1-5	61.5	R.Joorawon	8	1000
2 MASTER JAY	G	0-0-3-7-7	61.5	D.Bheekary	1	600
3 MINNESOTA DREAM	GR	6-1-4-R-7	61.5	N.Teeha	7	1400
4 BLEU ROYALE	P	nouveau	61	S.Bussunt	2	650
5 EL PATRON	AS	0-4-1-2-3	61	M.Martinez	6	300
6 VERY VARY	SN	2-5/1-2-1	61	G.D.Aucharuz	9	850
7 ZENO	VA	nouveau	61	B.Fayd'herbe	3	800
8 WHAT A KID	RG	0-0-5-6-7	60	T.Juglall	10	3300
9 MANOLETE	CD	2-2-2-4-5	59	I.Chisty	5	650
10 LOOSEN YOUR TIE	JMH	0-10-5-6-4	58.5	J.Allyhosain	4	1400

Selections

1. TAKE OFF MODE, DUNZIE, CAPTAIN FALCON
2. THE FORERUNNER, AFTER THE ORDER, SECRET IDEA
3. CRAZY CHARLIE, DOUBLE GAMES, TRAVELIN MAN
4. DARK FORCE, ROCK MANOR, ZENZERO
5. DYNAMITE JACK, SEA DANCE, MEMPHIS MAFIA
6. INN A MILLION, RED MARS, THE BYZANTINE
7. ALYAASAAT, MARAUDING, BLACK CAT BACK
8. KAYDENS PRIDE, WORDBUSTER, SENOR'S GUEST
9. EL PATRON, VERY VARY, MANOLETE



Pun World

How does a lawyer sleep? First he lies on one side, then he lies on the other.

There was a kidnapping at school yesterday. Don't worry, though - he woke up.

He wasn't originally going to get a brain transplant, but then he changed his mind.

Which country's capital has the fastest-growing population? - Ireland. It's Dublin every day.

A supercilious crook going downstairs? Oh you mean, a condescending con, descending.

Jill broke her finger today, but on the other hand she was completely fine.

England doesn't have a kidney bank, but it does have a Liverpool.

I tried to sue the airline for losing my luggage. I lost my case.

I can't believe I got fired from the calendar factory. All I did was take a day off.

The man who survived pepper spray and mustard gas is now a seasoned veteran.

Will glass coffins be a success? Remains to be seen.

'I have a split personality,' said Tom, being Frank.

What did one flag say to the other? Nothing, it just waved.

A boy was going through his grandmother's wallet one night and found her ID card.

"Grandma?" he asked, "How much do you weigh?"

His grandmother replied, "That's not an appropriate question, Jimmy."

He then asked, "How old are you?"

She again replied, "That's not appropriate, Jimmy."

Finally, he asked, "Grandma, why did grandpa leave you?"

Before she had time to answer, Jimmy looked at the card and said, "Oh I see, it's because you got an 'F' in sex."

Travelling through the country, an old couple drives into a gas station. The attendant asks the old man, "Where you folks from? I know everybody in this town."

The old man says, "We're from Nebraska."

Hard of hearing, the old lady nudges her husband, "What did he

say, papa?"

The old man answers her, "He asked us where we are from."

"Oh," replies the old woman.

The old man tells the attendant to fill up the tank and check the tires.

When that's all done, the attendant tells the old man, "You know, the worst piece of ass I ever had was from Nebraska."

The old lady nudges her husband once more and asks, "What did he say, papa?"

The husband replies, "He thinks he knows you, mama."

Two guys are sitting on a bar stool. One starts to insult the other one.

He screams, "I slept with your mother!"

The bar gets quiet as everyone listens to see what the other man will do.

The first again yells, "I slept with your mother!" The other man says, "Go home, dad. You're drunk."

When I was young, I used to eat a lot because my parents told me that fat kids are harder to kidnap.

A: Why does your nose run?

B: Because it can't walk.

A little boy gets a toy



plane. The boy loves his plane. He flies it all over the house. One day, the boy is in the living room with his plane while his mom is in the kitchen washing dishes. She listens to the boy playing and hears him say, "Vroom, vroom, vroom. All you mother f....g people want to get on, get on. All you mother f....g people want to get off, get off."

Angry, his mom rushes into the living room, takes the plane away, and sends him into his room. After 15 minutes, she starts to feel bad and tells the boy, "If you don't use that kind of language, you can play with your plane."

The boy returns to the living room, his mom to the kitchen. She listens again to the boy playing, she hears him say, "Vroom, vroom, vroom. All you very nice people want to get on, get on. All you very nice people want to get off get off. If you have a problem with 15-minute delay, you can go talk to the bitch in the kitchen!"

Inspirational

Light the Lamp inside you

One-night Shankaracharya was desperately searching for something on the street outside his small hut.

When his pupil returned from his errand, he saw this and curiously asked the Master, "Aacharya, what are you looking for here on the street at this hour?"

Shankaracharya replied, "I lost my needle, I am looking for it."

The pupil joined him in the search, but after searching for a while, he asked, "Can you try and recollect where you might have dropped it?"

Shankaracharya said, "Of course, I remember. I dropped it near the bed in the hut."

The pupil, utterly astonished at the strange answer, said, "Aacharya, you say you lost it inside the house, then why are we looking for it outside?"

Shankaracharya innocently replied, "There is no oil left in the lamp, so it is pitch dark inside the house. Hence, I thought of searching for it outside, since there is enough street light here."

While holding back his laugh, the pupil said, "If you lost your needle inside the house, how could you even expect to find it outside?"

Shankaracharya simply smiled back at the pupil and said, "Isn't that what we do? We run to far-away temples and walk up mountains to search for what we have lost inside ourselves. We are all seeking outside what we have lost inside us. Why? Just because it is pitch dark inside. Silly, aren't we?"

Light the Lamp inside you to remove the darkness within and find your lost treasure right there in.

Food for Thought

We are all living this dream

Iwoke up today, having dreamt early morning at 4 am. I was in the biggest DLF Mall of India looking to buy a pair of socks and a neck tie.

As I walked in, I noticed a sweater with a price tag of Rs 9000. Next to the sweater were a pair of jeans for Rs10,000. The socks were Rs 8000! And tie for an astonishing 16,000.

I went looking for a salesperson and found one in the Watch Dept.

He was showing a man a Rs 225 Rolex watch. I looked in the glass case and there was a 4-carat diamond ring also on sales for Rs 95.

Shocked, I asked the salesperson: "How could a Rolex watch sell for Rs 225?, and a cheap pair of socks sell for Rs 8000?"

He said: "Someone slid into the store last night and changed the price tag on everything. Everyone is confused; people are acting like they have lost their sense of value. They are willing to pay lots of money for things of little value, and very little money for things of great value.

"It's like they don't know what is really valuable and what's not. I hope we get the price tags back-on right soon, I really pity seeing people paying way too much for things of little value."

I woke up startled and confused and thinking since then...

Maybe our life is like this dream.

Maybe someone slid into our lives and changed the price on everything

Maybe they marked up the value of competition, position, titles, fame, promotion, show-off, money and power!

And put a huge discount on the value of Happiness, Family, Relationships, Peace of mind, Contentment, Love, Knowledge, Kindness, Friendships...

Maybe we are all living this dream...

I hope we wake up well in time.

Après un certain âge, nous sommes

comme les voitures de collection :



Ce qui compte, c'est l'état de conservation et non l'année de fabrication. 😊

RELATIONSHIPS

What is "breadcrumbing"? A relationships expert explains

You've no doubt heard of "ghosting" and "gaslighting" - two online dating terms that have broken into the mainstream lexicon with the prevalence of dating apps like Tinder and Happn -- but how about "breadcrumbing"? To gain insight into the latest phenomenon in modern dating, Megan Beauchamp of My Domaine asked Kelly Campbell, PhD, an associate professor of psychology and human development at California State University, San Bernardino, to weigh in.

According to Campbell, breadcrumbing "is leading someone on romantically using online or electronic forums (think: social media or texting) to keep someone's interest in you, even if you never intend to become romantically involved with them."

Much like ghosting and gaslighting, breadcrumbing is essentially an emotionally manipulative tactic designed to make someone dependent on you (or vice versa, depending on the exact relationship dynamic).

Campbell breaks down the psychology behind breadcrumbing in relationships, including the red flags to watch for, the reasoning behind the manipulative behaviour, and how to navigate the next steps.

The red flags

They are less invested in getting together than you are.

"(Breadcrumbers) make plans with you but cancel or don't show up, and they seem too busy for you," explains Campbell.

They might even go absent for periods of time, she adds. You never know where you stand with them.

According to Campbell, breadcrumbers "are sporadic, inconsistent, and unpredictable in their expression of interest" in you.



They seem warm toward you but then turn cold. For instance, "they take a long time to respond to your messages," offers Campbell as an example of this behaviour.

You can't understand or explain their actions. "You are often left confused or frustrated after interacting with them," Campbell elaborates.

According to Campbell, people engage in bread-

crumbing "because their self-esteem is impacted by how much attention they can secure from others." Although the exact reasons for the behaviour can vary, there are a few psychological patterns she points to as to why people do it.

They feel better about themselves. "The more interest from others they maintain, the better they feel about themselves," she explains.

They need validation from others. "They don't feel comfortable or confident unless they get constant reassurance from others that they are worthy or valuable," says Campbell.

They're narcissistic. "Often, these individuals have a personality characterized by narcissism as well as a game-playing, shallow approach to relationships," she observes. "They don't feel guilty about manipulating others and playing with people's emotions."

They're already in a relationship. "Another reason this can happen is that they are already in a relationship with someone yet are still seeking attention from others," Campbell divulges.

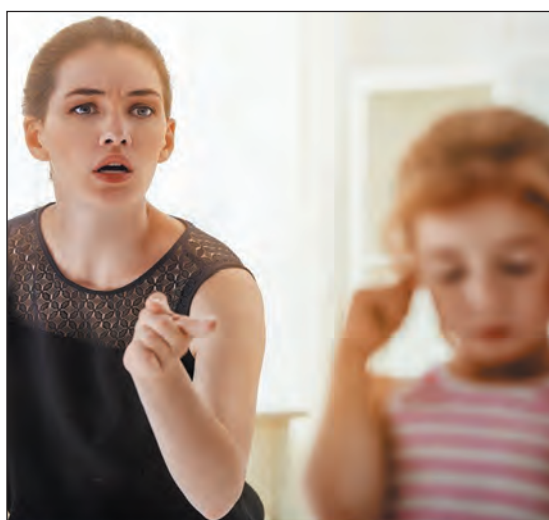
The next steps

First and foremost, "the solution is to work on yourself," says Campbell. Augment your self-esteem by engaging in activities that you excel at and by treating yourself kindly, she offers. "Engage in self-care, use positive self-talk," Campbell advises.

Taking care of your own well-being is an important step in boosting your self-esteem, according to Campbell. "You set the example for how others should treat you, so don't tolerate poor treatment," she explains. "You deserve someone who is willing to give you the same amount of attention you are willing to invest."

Being Mum & Dad

Yelling might be the easiest method, but I promise you it isn't the best method



How to stop yelling at your kids

Kids really know how to push their parents' buttons and test all of the limits. Parents get overwhelmed, and yelling feels like the only way to release the anger and calm down. It might be the

easiest method, but I promise you it isn't the best method. Here are some ways to deal with your anger in motherhood before you start yelling at your children.

Walk away from the situation

If your kids aren't in any danger and you feel like you are about to explode, simply walk away. Go outside and remove yourself from whatever is triggering the anger. If you have time or someone else to watch the kids, go for a walk or any exercise. This is a great way to diffuse anger!

Take a few deep breaths

After you've walked away and are outside or by yourself take a few deep relaxing breaths. This will help you regain your composure and calm yourself down.

Think about the situation clearly

How should you handle it? Should there be punishments? This is the time

to either think it through yourself or discuss it with your spouse. Do this after you've cleared your head.

Talk about it out loud

Call your spouse, a friend, or your mom. Sometimes we tend to build things up in our minds and overreact. Talking about it out loud can help put things into perspective.

Play with your kids

I totally mean it. Lay down on the floor with them, have a dance party, or a tickle fight. I promise you will instantly feel more relaxed and whatever was bothering you will not seem so important anymore.

Relax

Stop everything you are overwhelmed with and turn on a movie. Snuggle with your kids and put everything else aside. Some days we just need a break from life and that is 100 percent okay!

Try these methods out and I hope at least one of them will work for you. You'll be a happier mother because of it!

Appartement à louer - long terme



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Parking and 24 hour security, swimming pool
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International Men's Day 2020

From Akshay Kumar to Farhan Akhtar, Bollywood actors who crushed stereotypes



Farhan Akhtar in 'Dil Chahta Hai'

In his directorial debut 'Dil Chahta Hai', Farhan Akhtar brought to life the tale of three young men who weren't afraid to show emotions or be vulnerable on the big screen. The scene in which Aamir Khan's character breaks down in Australia after life and heartbreak begin to overwhelm him is cinematic gold. Akhtar's characters are usually strong men and women. There's no toxic masculinity on display. He also famously launched the campaign Men Against Rape And Discrimination (MARD) prompting men to be sensitive towards violence against women. In various interviews, he has spoken about how it's responsibility of a filmmaker and an actor to stay away from offensive portrayal on the big screen. His turn as a fierce journalist Sunny Gill in 'Dil Dhadakne Do' where he schools Manav (Rahul Bose as a patriarchal husband) on what constitutes feminism is all heart. As far as male role models go, he's a keeper and an advocate of be the change you want to see.

Arjun Kapoor in 'Ki and Ka'

Kapoor re-defined gender roles with his romantic comedy 'Ki And Ka', also starring Kareena Kapoor, and famously injected dignity into men who are homemakers. In the hit, he played Kabir who was married to a highly successful woman and preferred to stay home in a role traditionally assigned for women. As a house husband, he was confident and compelling.

Ajay Devgn in 'Hum Dil De Chuke Sanam'

We may be acquainted with Bollywood heroes who pursue a woman that catches his fancy until she breaks and embraces his affections. But Sanjay Leela Bhansali's sumptuous romantic drama HDDCS introduced Ajay Devgn as a caring husband who respects his wife's life choices.

Abhishek Bachchan in 'Manmarziyaan'

Bollywood's maverick director Anurag Kashyap may not be capable of making uncomplicated love stories, but



his turban-clad Robbie (Bachchan) was a hero that embraced his vulnerable and soft side. Even after knowing that his wife is involved in a torrid affair with a DJ (Vicky Kaushal), his character never lets anger erode his dignity. This was one of the rare instances where men were allowed to be vulnerable on the big screen and showcased male players who hadn't figured everything out in life and love.

Ranbir Kapoor in 'Tamaasha'

Ranbir Kapoor in 'Tamaasha' or Rahul Khanna in 'Love Aaj Kal': Director Imtiaz Ali has done a considerable amount at normalising heroes who are far from perfect and flawless. Ranbir Kapoor in Tamasha played the central role in this movie about a man who's a tad dull and boring in his daily life. Unlike the conventional heroes in Bollywood, Ali is an ace at sculpting Bollywood heroes who aren't hypermasculine and annoyingly confident.

Sagittarius: Nov 22 - Dec 21

You'll be capable of precisely evaluating the financial risks to take so as to enable your resources to bear their fruits. Your sentimental relationships are likely to turn sour; control your utterings.

Lucky Numbers: 13, 14, 17, 20, 32, 36

Capricorn: Dec 22 - Jan 19

Despite your recent difficulties, things will smooth themselves out little by little. Astral benevolence could principally manifest itself in the realm of love; it will satisfy everyone who's looking for a soul mate, just where and when one's hoping for it.

Lucky Numbers: 7, 12, 13, 24, 28, 30

Aquarius: Jan 20 - Feb 18

Efforts will have to be made to overcome your usual reserve and to express your feelings: that's what will be expected of you. Heartwise, you'll feel a great need for tenderness; don't look somewhere else for the happiness that's just simply at your home.

Lucky Numbers: 3, 9, 14, 21, 36, 38

Pisces: Feb 19 - Mar 20

Keep your spirits up in spite of your problems, for things will sort themselves out rather quickly. For couples, understanding will be good; moderate your words and show small attentions, which can arrange many things. Keep

watch on your children.

Lucky Numbers: 4, 9, 11, 18, 24, 30

Aries: Mar 21 - Apr 19

This week will see a clear improvement of your material situation. If you live in couple, it'll be time to take stock of the situation seriously so as to clarify your relations. You might have to make a vital decision quickly; show prudence above all, play it safe!

Lucky Numbers: 15, 17, 20, 33, 35, 40

Taurus: Apr 20 - May 20

Beware of a tendency to want to start all over again in your family or marital life! You'll succeed in achieving your best professional ambitions. Your material situation will be clearly on the ascent.

Lucky Numbers: 3, 8, 11, 20, 25, 30

Gemini: May 21 - June 20

Don't let yourself be blocked by fixed ideas: question them! In your family life, disturbing events may occur; you'll clearly say what's on your mind, which may hurt, but at least will have the appreciable advantage of clarifying the situation.

Lucky Numbers: 1, 9, 12, 30, 36, 37

Cancer: June 21 - July 22

Money problems may be the cause of quarrel with your close relations; be careful. You'll give yourself totally to the person whom you love; however, if problems occur, don't close yourself up like an oyster while bitterly regretting your

communicative attitude.

Lucky Numbers: 5, 14, 18, 20, 24, 30

Leo: July 23 - Aug 22

You'll need a lot of tact and diplomacy if you work in a team or if you have a staff under your orders. Taxes, bills, bank drafts... you'll get everything on your back at the same time; you'll find the way to increase your profits or gain returns on your resources.

Lucky Numbers: 1, 10, 12, 17, 22, 25

Virgo: Aug 23 - Sept 22

You'll make stimulating encounters, but you'll have to indulge in a serious introspection session so as to find out what you want exactly. You'll try to establish harmony, and you'll succeed in creating a warm family atmosphere.

Lucky Numbers: 15, 24, 26, 27, 33, 35

Libra: Sept 23 - Oct 22

love, you'll have the feeling that not everything is lost; as always, trust your excellent intuition.

Lucky Numbers: 5, 11, 20, 23, 27, 30

Scorpion: 23 Oct - 21 Nov

You'll feel aggrieved by a friend who won't stop burdening you with his unwanted advice. On the financial front, your rather dreamy side can make you miss some excellent opportunities; it'll be useful to get help from a more realistic and qualified person.

Lucky Numbers: 3, 8, 11, 16, 21, 36

YOUR STARS

Palak Jain: 'I share a good chemistry with Namit Khanna'

Palak Jain opens up about her role in 'Yeh Pyaar Nahi Toh Kya Hai' and romancing 'Twisted 2' star Namit Khanna

Parmita Uniyal - New Delhi
March 21, 2018

It's raining romantic dramas on TV, and the latest mushy show to hit the TV screens is *Yeh Pyaar Nahi Toh Kya Hai*, a modern age love story which focuses on the relationship scenario of the current generation. The show stars Namit Khanna, Palak Jain and Manish Choudhry in key roles and revolves around the love story of Siddhant Sinha (Namit Khanna) and Anushka Reddy (Palak Jain).

Palak Jain, who makes her debut with the show, spoke to India today about her role.

"The character I am playing is called Anushka Reddy. She belongs to the richest family in Delhi, she has got everything in life that anybody could ever dream of, yet she is very down to earth and doesn't take anything for granted. She is family oriented and believes in working hard, and doesn't take advantage of her father's status or achievements. She would rather start from scratch and achieve her own things."

The soap will showcase the modern-day relationships that are short-sighted and half-baked.

"This love story targets the youth of today. They are so lost in their lives and career that somewhere down the line



emotions are lost. It reflects in their relationships also that are suffering because of this as they prefer to break up rather than communicating and resolving things," she said.

Palak is paired opposite Namit Khanna, who last got the love of viewers in web series *Twisted*, wherein he worked alongside Nia Sharma.

"It's good to work with Namit Khanna. He has faced the camera before, has a fan following. He helps me out as far as script is concerned. And there is a chemistry

between us and it's important because it's a love story. I am glad to have worked with somebody who already has experience in this field," she said.

The actress started out as a model in Delhi, but shifted to Mumbai last year to pursue her acting dreams.

"I started my journey with modelling in Delhi. It wasn't part of my plan but I started loving it. Eventually I realised I wanted to try my hands at acting and Delhi was not the place to start. I shifted to Mumbai and then started taking acting workshops and auditioning for everything -- ads, shows, etc. I got a call for the show as one of my pictures shot in Indian wear matched with the imagination of the writer. They felt that I fit the character. But of course, then I went through a few rounds of audition and was taken on board," the actress said.

For now, *Yeh Pyar Nahi Toh Kya Hai* would take up most of her time, but Palak plans to work in Bollywood films someday.

"Be it TV, movie or web, if a good offer comes, I will take it up. I will definitely consider Bollywood. There are dream roles I have in mind. I really admire *Queen*, I'm a big Deepika fan. I would like to do something like *Padmaavat* in future. I would like to do women-oriented roles."



'Ekta Kapoor is nothing less than a legend': Manit Joura

Manit Joura is currently busy playing the main lead Harsh Shastri in Ekta Kapoor's newly launched show *Prem Bandhan*. This is the actor's fourth project with Balaji Telefilms. Speaking about ace maker Ekta Kapoor, Manit tells Tellychakkar, "I have done four shows with Ekta ma'am - *Test Case*, *Kundali Bhagya*, *Barish* and now *Prem Bandhan*. She is a legend. I have immense respect for Ma'am not because she is my producer, but because of the human being she is. Even if she wasn't my producer, I would still have the same respect for her."

Manit feels if he has not done these shows in his career, he would have been lost. He adds, "I am eternally grateful and thankful to Ekta Ma'am for all the wonderful opportunities that she has given me and for having faith in me. It is one of the beautiful things that has happened to my career."

"After I worked with Balaji there is a different perception of me as an actor. To me Ekta Kapoor is nothing less than a legend. I still remember my first meeting with Ekta ma'am during *Kundali Bhagya* where she narrated the entire 15-20 episodes without a break and blinking an eye. She knows everything. She knows what is exactly happening on the shoot, she knows whether the story will work or not and that's what makes her so special."

Shraddha Arya has a reason to be happy; HERE'S WHY

Shraddha Arya is currently ruling several hearts with her stellar performance in Zee TV's show *Kundali Bhagya*. The actress plays the lead role of Preeta Luthra on the show.

The talented diva who is paired opposite popular TV actor Dheeraj Dhoopar makes a wonderful jodi of the Telly world.

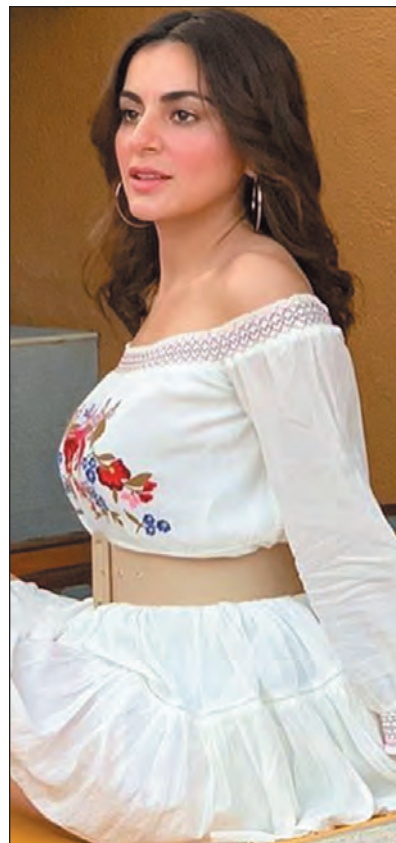
Shraddha has proved her mettle in acting with her stellar performance on the show which is one of the major reasons behind *Kundali Bhagya*'s popularity.

We have often seen celebs sharing a lot of things with their fans via social media. From sharing the highs and lows of their lives to everything, they know how to stay connected to their fans.

The same goes with Shraddha who has been extremely popular among the fans.

The actress recently shared an Instagram story where she revealed one of the reasons behind her recent happiness.

Shraddha reveals how she always had a headache in the morning when she used to wake up. However, she has not experienced the same and is quite happy about it.



TV SERIAL

Kahan Hum Kahan Tum

Friday 4 Dec: Sonakshi is startled to discover about Rani's daughter, Sitara. While Rohit sternly warns Rani against trying to act smart, YK and Nishi are in for a surprise.

Monday 7 Dec: Suman assigns Pari a task after learning about Sonakshi's resignation from KPK. Elsewhere, Rani rebukes Pooja while Rohan discovers the secret tracker in his car.

Tuesday 8 Dec: Sonakshi is shocked to learn about Rohit's secret meeting with Rani. Elsewhere, Pooja is in tears as Rani attempts to slap her and creates a scene.

Wednesday 9 Dec: Rohit supports Sonakshi when Naren berates her. While Sonakshi slaps Rani at the hospital, the Sippys celebrate the new year.

Thursday 10 Dec: A guilt-ridden Rohit apologises to Sonakshi, but she is not ready to forgive him. While the Sippys celebrate New Year, Rohit drops a bombshell on Sonakshi.



Samedi 4 Dec - 21.15

American Meltdown

Avec: Bruce Greenwood, Leslie Hope, Arnold Vosloo



Samedi 5 Dec - 21.15

The Pirate

Starring: Sebastian Koch, Evgeniy Stychkin, Juan Diego Botto



Dimanche 6 Dec - 21.20



vendredi 4 decembre

MBC 1

07.05 D. Anime: Teenie Weenies
10.00 Serial: Heidi, Bienvenida...
11.10 Tele: Au Nom De L'amour
12.00 Le Journal
12.25 Tele: Le Prix Du Désir
12.50 Doc: 360 GEO
13.55 Doc: World Stamps
14.00 Local: Au Tour Du Livre
14.30 D.Anime: Twirlywoos
15.03 D.Anime: The Hive
15.32 D.Anime: Yakari
16.07 D.Anime: Sissi, Jeune...
17.05 D.Anime: Dragons
17.30 Serial: Backstage
18.00 Live: Samachar
18.30 Serial: Siya Ke Ram
19.30 Journal & La Meteo
20.05 Magazine MBC Prod
21.10 Serial: When Calls The Heart
23.20 Le Journal
23.35 Mag: Eye On SADC

MBC 2

10.00 Serial: Ki Jaana Mein Kanu
12.00 Film: Bangalore Naatkal
14.13 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: Tu Ishq Hai
16.49 Serial: Achra Ke Moti
17.11 Kullfi Kumarr Bajewala
17.35 Serial: Chhanchhan
18.00 Serial: Bloody Romance
18.30 DDI Magazine
19.00 Live: Zournal Kreol
19.30 DDI Magazine
20.00 Serial: Tawaan
20.44 Local: Anjuman
21.11 Local: Noor-E-Iman
22.06 DDI Live

MBC 3

06.00 Doc: The Future Of Farming
06.39 Mag: Global 3000
07.05 Mag: Urban Gardens
07.12 Mag: Euromaxx
07.38 Sos Animaux En Danger
08.38 Antoine De Saint-Exupery
09.24 Doc: The Big Reset 2.0
11.27 Mag: Arts And Culture
12.14 Mag: Euromaxx
12.48 Mag: Tomorrow Today
13.33 Antoine De Saint-Exupery
15.13 Doc: Bhutan
15.55 Set One - ISM Pro Sweets
16.01 Doc: The Future Of Farming
16.27 Student Support Program...
19.00 Mag: Vue D'en Haut
19.30 Mag: Check In
21.00 Doc: Myopia Boom
22.01 Doc: Displaced: Tomatoes And Greed
22.43 Doc: On Route 7 Into Heart...

Cine 12

01.32 Film: Grizzly Park
02.59 Serial: Chicago Med
03.38 Film: Nessie & Me
05.07 Totalement Diva
06.00 Serial: Seal Team
06.42 Film: For The Love Of George
09.00 Serial: Incorporated
09.45 Tele: Soleil Levant
10.35 Tele: Tanto Amor
11.00 Serial: Chicago Med
12.00 Film: Nessie & Me
13.30 Tele: Totalement Diva
14.46 Film: For The Love Of George
16.44 Serial: Incorporated
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: The Night Shift

Bollywood TV

08.00 Film: Naam Hai Akira
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 - Sanjivani
13.36 / 21.24 - Zindagi Ki Mehek
13.53 / 21.46 - Bade Acche Lagte Hai
14.17 / 21.59 - Jai Kanhaiya Lal Ki
14.37 / 22.25 - Ikhwann
15.20 Film: God Tussi Great Ho
Starring: Salman Khan, Priyanka Chopra, Amitabh Bachchan
18.00 Live: Samacher
18.30 Kundali Bhagya
18.51 Ek Rishta Saajhedari Ka
19.14 Mere Angne Mein

samedi 5 decembre

06.00 D.Anime: Sindbad And The 7
06.23 D.Anime: Teenie Weenie
07.55 D.Anime: The Minimighty Kid
09.30 Serial: Lucas Etc
09.45 Serial: Magic Mania
12.00 Le Journal
12.25 Local: People - No95
12.35 Local: Glwar Dantan
14.30 D. Anime: Twirlywoos
14.57 D.Anime: The Garfield Show
15.18 D.Anime: Les Triples
15.33 D.Anime: Yakari
16.00 D.Anime: Sissi, Jeune...
17.30 Serial: Oh Yuck!
18.00 Live: Samachar
18.30 Entertain: Nach Baliye
19.30 Journal & La Meteo
20.15 Prod: Lottotech
20.20 Local: RDV Muzikal
21.15 Film: American Meltdown
Avec: Bruce Greenwood, Leslie Hope, Arnold Vosloo

07.00 Film: Meri Biwi Shaadi
Starring: Amol Palekar, Ranjeeta Kaur, Ashok Saraf
09.20 DDI Magazine
10.00 Bade Acchelagte Hai
12.00 Serial: Nanda Saukhya Bhare
12.35 Serial: Mooga Manasulu
12.48 Serial: High School
13.16 Annakodiyum Ainthus Pengalum
13.37 Serial: Anu Pallavi
15.18 Film: Mr Bechara
17.50 Mag: DDI Magazine
19.00 Zournal Kreol
20.05 Serial: Vikram Betaal Ki Rahasya Gatha
20.30 Serial: Bitti Business Wali
21.00 Film: Stree
Starring - Rajkummar Rao, Shraddha Kapoor, Pankaj Tripathi
23.08 DDI Live

06.00 Doc: The Future Of Farming
06.26 Mag: Arts And Cuulture
07.16 Mag: Euromaxx
07.38 Sos Animaux En Danger
08.30 Antoine De Saint-Exupery
09.24 Doc: The Big Reset 2.0
10.10 Doc: Bhutan
11.03 Doc: The Future Of Farming
12.45 Sos Animaux En Danger
13.37 Antoine De Saint-Exupery
14.28 Doc: The Big Reset 2.0
15.11 Doc: Bhutan
15.53 Doc: Set One
16.27 Student Support Prog...
19.30 Mag: Check In
21.00 Local: News (English)
21.10 La Vie Secrete Des Atolls...
22.02 Doc: Displaced: Tomatoes...
22.44 Doc: On Route 7 into The...
23.27 Doc: Amazing Gardens
23.53 Doc: Ville En Fête
00.17 Mag: Vue D'En Haut

01.30 Film: Evolution
03.10 Serial: Brooklyn Nine Nine
03.31 Film: Night Wolf
05.30 Tele: Esmeraldas
06.16 Serial: The Night Shift
06.58 Film: A Gift Horse
08.30 Serial: The Quest
09.18 Serial: Shades Of Blue
10.02 Serial: Unforgotten
10.45 Film: Evolution
12.26 Serial: Brooklyn Nine Nine
13.00 Tele: Amanda
13.46 Tele: Premiere Dame
15.05 Serial: Chicago Med
16.24 Mag: Hollywood On Set
17.00 Serial: The Night Shift
17.45 Film: Saving Flora
19.35 Mag: Hollywood Best Film...
20.05 Tele: Le Prix Du Désir
20.30 Serial: The Night Shift
21.15 Film: The Pirate
22.57 Tele: Dulce Amor

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
06.15 Ikhwann
06.38 Kundali Bhagya
06.59 Ek Rishta Saajhed Ka
07.22 Mere Angne Mein
08.00 Zindagi Ki Mehek
10.12 Yeh Pyaar Nahi Toh Kya...
12.00 Yeh Hai Mohabbatein
14.00 Sanjivani
16.00 Pavitra Rishta
18.30 Film: Rock On 2
Starring Albert Mawrie, Arjun Rampal, Farhan Akhtar, Shraddha Kapoor
21.02 Serial: Siya Ke Ram
21.45 Serial: Naagin
22.14 Serial: Zindagi Ki Mehek
00.20 Serial: Mere Angne Mein

dimanche 6 decembre

06.00 D.Anime: Sindbad And The 7
06.35 D.Anime: Boule Et Bill
07.56 D.Anime: The Minimighty Kid
08.02 D.Anime: Teenie Weenie
09.30 Serial: Lucas Etc.
09.45 Serial: Magic Mania
10.00 Local: Zafan Nou Zil
11.00 Local: Nu Rasinn
12.00 Le Journal
12.30 Local: Saver Kil Tirel
13.00 Local: Elle - No 123
14.30 D.Anime: Twirlywoos
15.30 D.Anime: Les Triples
17.35 Serial: Oh Yuck!
18.00 Live: Samachar
18.30 Local: Hit of 2020
19.30 Le Journal
20.15 Local: Info 7 Sur 7
21.20 Film: Brush With Danger
Stars: Ken Zheng, Livi Zheng, Nikita Breznikov

07.00 Film: Jiyo To Aise Jiyo
Starring: Arun Govil, Debashree Roy, Jayshree Gadkar, Ram Mohan
10.00 Local Production
11.00 Serial: Oru Kai Osai
11.23 Serial: Santoshi Maa
12.00 Film: October
Starring - Varun Dhawan, Banita Sandhu, Gitanjali Rao
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
20.50 Serial: Naagin
21.34 Serial: CID

06.00 Doc: Amazing Gardens
06.51 Mag: Vue D'en Haut
07.16 Mag: Check In
07.45 Doc: Taste Hunters
08.37 Doc: Myopia Boom
09.28 Doc: Displaced: Tomatoes...
10.10 Doc: On Route 7 Into The...
11.26 Doc: Ville En Fête
12.45 Doc: Taste Hunters
13.37 Doc: Myopia Boom
14.28 Doc: Displaced: Tomatoes...
15.11 Doc: On Route 7 Into The...
15.53 Doc: Japon 2019
16.27 Doc: Ville En Fête
19.30 Mag: Future Mag
21.00 Local: News (English)
21.10 La Vie Secrete Des Atolls...
22.02 Doc: Gaming For Gold
22.44 Doc: Chocolate's Heart Of...
23.27 Doc: Olivia's Garden
23.53 Les Artisans Du Rebut...

01.08 Mag: Close Up
01.28 Film: The Pirate
03.09 Serial: Hawaii 5-0
03.51 Film: Dark Tourist
05.33 Tele: Esmeraldas
06.15 Serial: The Night Shift
06.57 Film: SOX: A Family's Best...
08.30 Serial: The Quest
09.18 Film: A Sunday Horse
10.47 Film: Saving Flora
12.35 Serial: Hawaii 5-0
13.09 Serial: Amanda
13.59 Tele: Premiere Dame
15.05 Serial: Chicago Med
17.08 Serial: The Night Shift
17.48 Serial: Hawaii 5-0
18.26 Serial: Macgyver
20.05 Tele: Le Prix Du Désir
20.30 Serial: The Good Doctor
21.15 Film: Shark Island

00.35 Yeh Hai Mohabbatein
02.16 Sanjivani
04.03 Pavitra Rishta
05.30 Film: Rock On 2
Starring: Albert Mawrie, Arjun Rampal, Farhan Akhtar, Shraddha Kapoor
08.06 Motu Patlu
08.19 Jai Kanhaiya Lal Ki
09.54 Jaana Na Dil Se Door
11.40 Piya Albela
13.26 Kahan Hum Kahan Tum
15.14 Kullfi Kumarr Bajewala
17.00 Punar Vivaah
18.00 Samachar
18.30 Film: Malamaal Weekly
Starring: Paresh Rawal, Om Puri, Ritesh Deshmukh, Reema Sen
20.34 Nach Baliye
21.23 Bade Acche Lagte Hai
23.13 Piya Albela

MBC 2

Samedi 28 Nov - 21.00

Stars: Rajkummar Rao, Shraddha Kapoor, Pankaj Tripathi



Dimanche 6 Dec - 18.30

Stars: Paresh Rawal, Om Puri, Ritesh Deshmukh, Reema Sen



Breakfast With Bwana

China and India figure in Biden's foreign policy challenges

☞ Cont. from page 4

We're seeing China continue to be very, very aggressive in a strategy they started several decades ago, which goes like this: You want to sell to our country, we want you to come produce here ... If you want to come produce here, you need to transfer your technology to us."

Yet, little has changed in the years since, and America's dependence on China for critical supplies of manufactured goods, drugs, rare earth minerals, and even supplies affecting strategic and security issues, reflect a vulnerability that has been ignored and allowed to get almost to the point of no return.

Pie-in-sky thinking

History reveals that successive American Presidents from Nixon to Obama underestimate the challenges and threats that China poses and have often engaged in pie-in-sky thinking about their ability to influence the course that China should take. The truth is that China has not had to work too hard to deploy a strategy that is likely to prevail over the long haul. America is doing the leg work on China's behalf and to ensure its success.

“History reveals that successive American Presidents from Nixon to Obama underestimate the challenges and threats that China poses and have often engaged in pie-in-sky thinking about their ability to influence the course that China should take. The truth is that China has not had to work too hard to deploy a strategy that is likely to prevail over the long haul. America is doing the leg work on China's behalf and to ensure its success...”

As Joe Biden steps into this foreign policy landscape that is in turmoil many proclaim that America has already lost the war and that whereas she may win a battle here or there, the long-term outcome is a foregone conclusion: China will be the world's biggest economy and the most powerful nation on earth. That view may be closer to the truth than Americans have been willing to admit.

But consider betting on a horse race between China and the U.S. starting today. Undoubtedly one would choose to start with America's resources, wealth, and technological capabilities over those of China. But one might not choose the jockey riding the American steed over China's jockey. If Joe Biden can be the jockey willing to take on the challenge, or if he can find the right person to take charge, we have more than a fighting chance.

America's approach to China does not have to be an all-out economic war or a new arms race. Quite the contrary, enlightened engagement with China means convincing the CCP that America welcomes China as a competitor and partner on the world stage but insists on fair competition, mutual respect, responsible behaviour towards all countries, respect for human rights, intellectual property,



President-elect Biden with Narendra Modi. Photo - scroll.in

and international norms.

American companies understandingly want their goods produced by low-paid workers and will be reluctant to support any disruptions on that front. But realistically, short of bringing manufacturing back to America which is unlikely, or shifting production to other Asian countries, for the short-term, the only tool available to an American President is shutting off trade with China when it fails to meet these basic requirements. The pain for American companies and American consumers will be strong but even greater for China. The U.S. can withstand a \$2.2 trillion hit to its economy much more easily than China can take such a hit to its economy.

It is abundantly clear that America cannot face down China by itself and transmuting the America-alone approach that was devolved from Trump's America-First approach will take a lot of skill, luck, and cooperation from allies. India, Japan, Australia, Britain, the European Union, and other Asia-Pacific countries, will play a critical and pivotal role.

Economic and military bullying

Along with the US, India as well as Australia also need to reset their relations with China and establish the principle that economic and military bullying must stop. Obviously, India faces greater security and strategic challenges from China than does Australia.

Today Australia is the subject of retaliatory and punitive actions simply for trying to call China to account for its mistreatment of Uighurs, trampling of democracy in Hong

“It is abundantly clear that America cannot face down China by itself and transmuting the America-alone approach that was devolved from Trump's America-First approach will take a lot of skill, luck, and cooperation from allies. India, Japan, Australia, Britain, the European Union, and other Asia-Pacific countries, will play a critical and pivotal role...”

Kong, and for its irresponsible unleashing of the coronavirus upon the world.

India, on the other hand, faces threats to its water supply from the Indo-Gangetic and Tibeto-Gangetic plains as China encroaches more and more. China's Defense Chief promises military support for Nepal in its dispute with India and pledges that China will safeguard Nepal's independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity². China's history with Tibet and its recent incursions into the Doklam area would make such promises and pledges laughable if they were not so ominous.

India and the US come to this juncture after missteps dating back decades. Each has picked an unreliable partner in the past. For the US, it was Pakistan, and for India, the Soviet Union and its successor Russia. Jawaharlal Nehru's ill-fated dalliance with the idea of non-alignment and Indira Gandhi's tilt to the Soviets drove the US away and to an embrace of Pakistan.

Recently the Afghan war only served to increase American reliance on Pakistan. As American troops are withdrawn from Afghanistan, Pakistan's importance and indeed, its relevance, are diminished. At the same time, to whatever extent American engagement with Pakistan acts as a restraining influence on its nuclear arsenal and the threat of proliferation, the US must remain committed on that front.

As China builds bases in a ring around the sub-continent, threatens India's water supply, and chokes ocean routes, India needs a strong ally and partner to help it withstand the stress. India has much to offer in terms of labour, technical expertise, software excellence, and a robust military. Additionally, India can be the replacement low-cost manufacturing base that America so desperately needs to establish.

A US-India alliance to create an interface with China that is shaped in a constructive way to the benefit of all is a Herculean task with no promise of success. China has often talked in the dialect of cooperation while behaving in the language of a new imperial order of dominance and dominion. One can hardly blame China. American Presidents from Nixon to Trump have not given China cause to fear the consequences of its aggressive and belligerent approach. And there is often a certain naivete as when Joe Biden in 2019 said³: "China is going to eat our lunch? Come on, man, I mean, you know, they're not bad folks, folks. But guess what? They're not competition for us."

America needs to get past its naivete and find new partners and alliances. Cooperation between America and India on a mutually shared goal presents one important opportunity. The time to get going is upon us.

Cheerz...
Bwana

1. Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner's public warning:

<https://www.politico.com/story/2011/09/geithner-china-stealing-us-ideas-064275>

2. China's military support for Nepal

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/diplomacy/article/3111971/china-india-relations-chinese-defence-minister-declares>

3. Joe Biden's naivete about China

<https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/2020-election/biden-s-comments-downplaying-china-threat-u-s-fires-pols-n1001236>