

MAURITIUS **TIMES**

• *“Impossible only means that you haven't found the solution yet.” -- Anonymous*

Interview: Jean-Claude de l'Estrac

Commission d'enquête sur l'affaire Betamax: 'Ça va être saignant !'

'Je vois au peloton d'exécution: Ramgoolam, Jeetah, SAJ, Duval, Bhadain...'

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Opening/reopening by no means signifies that we are out of the crisis

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ICAC & The Country's Image

The Leader of the Opposition's publicly expressed objection to the reappointment of Navin Beekharry as Director General of the ICAC has once again focused attention on the anti-corruption agency.

Section 19 (4) the Prevention of Corruption Act 2002 (PoCA), as amended, provides for the appointment of the Director-General of ICAC by the Prime Minister after consultation with the Leader of the Opposition. Given the weight that is given to the "after consultation" proviso in the law, it is the Prime Minister who *in fine* decides who should head the institution. Successive governments seem to have taken comfort with this legal provision (rather than a more transparent and independent mechanism), that is open to the suspicion or the charge that it allows Prime Ministers to influence if not 'monitor' the performance of the institution.

Does this place the Director-General of ICAC in an uncomfortable position vis-à-vis the head of government? In an earlier contribution to our Qs & As column, Lex expressed the view that 'the POCA 2002 guarantees the independence of ICAC. The law is there. Its proper functioning depends on the holders of power within the ICAC.'

Moreover, even if the POCA 2002 does not provide for any oversight mechanism that could have monitored the ICAC at its operational level, especially as regards the conduct of investigations, Section 20 (2) & (3) provides that 'the Commission shall act independently, impartially, fairly and in the public interest', and 'subject to this Act, the Director-General shall not be under the control, direction of any other person or authority' respectively.

To the question as to whether these legal provisions help further the public interest, Lex opined that 'it is in the public interest, and for the sake of the integrity of investigations it is necessary that an institution that is mandated to fight financial crimes should be independent and not be under the control or authority of anybody or any other institution. The only monitoring mechanism resides in the people who man ICAC. How they do it and how the public react to their actions can be said to constitute a form of monitoring.' He added however that 'the perception in the public is that it is not functioning independently. Why, it

may be asked, but this would be a rhetorical question.'

In fact, the performance of ICAC has been under the scanner since before Xavier Duval's objection much earlier - even under the preceding government to date - with its handling of a large number of high-profile cases.

Its inexplicable turnaround in the MedPoint case threw doubt on its will to deal with corruption, as much as the list of affairs where it is yet to be known where its inquiries stand, such as the Dufry scandal (2015); the Alvaro Sobrinho scandal (2018); the Sugar Insurance Fund Board's highly excessive overpayment of land v/s valuation scandal (2018); the Yerrigadoo/Bet 365 scandal (2018); the Glen Agliotti affair (2019), the Serenity Gate/Film Rebate Scheme scandal (2019), St Louis Power Station Redevelopment Project.

The actual list is too long to compile. But all these pending inquiries highlight the absence of a credible and respected investigative agency capable of handling white collar crime independently of political proximity.

Moreover, the Opposition's dissatisfaction with the workings of the Parliamentary Committee, whose functions is to monitor and review the general manner in which the Commission fulfils its functions - but it cannot query progress being made, still less intervene or interfere in any specific case under investigation by the Commission. This situation as well as the recent case filed against ICAC by the Integrity Reporting Services Agency (another State agency) for allegedly failing to furnish it with detailed reports on cases of unexplained wealth do little to help the image of the ICAC.

It was always unlikely that Xavier Duval would have met with the same success as when he blocked the Prosecutions Commission Bill with his public objection to the reappointment of the current DG of ICAC, and he has indeed been ignored. But it is to be hoped that the government will do what is required to refurbish the poor image of the Mauritius jurisdiction, especially after the drubbing by the FATF and the European Commission since 2020 and now the irritation of the IMF/WB tandem with key aspects of our public finance management during the pandemic.

The Conversation

The fight against economic fraud

How African countries are tackling the challenge

In recent years many initiatives have been put forward in the name of fighting and reducing various forms of fraud and other crimes in the economy. But have these measures actually been effective in containing fraud? Will the typical package of anti-fraud measures stop the fraud pandemic?



Technology has been key in tackling fraud. Mpedigree

We did research into major characteristics of anti-fraud measures in several African countries. In the south we looked at Malawi, Botswana, South Africa and Zambia. In the east we covered Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Madagascar and in the west Ghana, Nigeria and Sierra Leone.

We found a diverse set of measures had been introduced. We were able to identify 10 particular characteristics.

The landscape

The first notable feature was a remarkable proliferation of anti-fraud agencies and cross-agency alliances and cooperation. This was between government agencies, the government and the private sector, and at times civil society actors such as consumer protection agencies too.

Agreements, memorandums of understanding and partnerships had been signed to encourage data collection and sharing and knowledge exchange within and across borders as different actors were brought together to fight the "common enemy".

At the state level, new anti-fraud agencies, taskforces, squads and networks were set up regularly. One example was the Kenya Police Insurance Fraud Investigations Unit. We also found that a number of regulatory agencies had been established. These included competition and consumer protection authorities at national and regional level.

Second, outreach, engagement and "empowerment" of consumers played a major role. Here, education, sensitisation and awareness raising - also among business actors - emerged strongly as a way to popularise the anti-fraud fight. This was promoted by a range of actors. Among them were banks, insurance

providers, private consultancies, international organisations such as the International Monetary Fund and aid agencies, as well as NGOs. Regional organisations such as the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa were also included.

Third, large-scale technology was used extensively in anti-fraud measures. This was particularly the case in financial services and banking.

Anti-fraud software in various forms featured strongly. One example was detecting fraudulent transactions. Additional technological solutions included PIN protection techniques, enhanced chip technology for payment cards and authentication technology.

Technology was also used to uncover counterfeit or substandard products.

Fourth, anti-fraud measures regularly came with rhetoric and language that was strong in giving a sense of alarm and urgency. The vices of fraud (and corruption) were presented as "weeds" needing to be "rooted out". They were also referred to as a virus or a disease that needed "eradication".

At times, warfare-type language was used, that is, fraud needed to be "combated" like an enemy.

Fifth, anti-fraud measures were regularly political in nature. Pledges to counter fraud featured in election campaigns.

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Dr R Neerunjun Gopee

The Reopening, again

Opening/reopening by no means signifies that we are out of the crisis

Yet another reopening since yesterday, as announced earlier. We have got used to this pattern, isn't it, like most other countries which have painfully or reluctantly gone through these cycles of lockdown-reopening over the past 18 months since the pandemic has hit

us. Every time it has been the same agonizing choice: people's safety versus the economy. It isn't incorrect to say that the economy has won every time, under pressures overt and covert.

But it would be too simplistic to put down the final decision to either purely safety or solely economic concerns. The issue is too complex and important to resolve it into this simple binary. Realistically, it can only be a combination of several factors that has led to the final decision to first lift some restrictions, then proceed to a greater opening up - a multifactorial phenomenon, as are most matters in life. Not black and white but shades of grey.

There were so many changes that were instantaneously imposed when first lockdowns were announced that they sent shockwaves in both household and work settings, impacting well-settled routines and habits, services, education, professions, relationships. In every sphere multiple adjustments had to be made, and over the months new habits and arrangements performed developed.

It was perhaps easier for the younger crowd and children to get used to, for example, online interactions and learning, though they posed their own problems. Time slots had to be allocated and each one had to have access via smartphone, tablet or laptop, in line with modern technology. Both adults and children were perhaps excited initially to be at home, the first group enjoying domestic comfort and the children no longer being chided at to be with the smart devices most of the time. But in both instances imposed schedules of work or learning soon began to tie them down into yet another rushed routine - and that began to tire, to bore even.

As one little fellow told his mum when asked how it is going with your classes, 'the teachers think that little children are DUMB!' That, I thought when I was told the story just a few days ago with the lad snuggling up to his mother, is as fine a piece of wisdom as can be! After all, children in their innocence can be brutally frank isn't it, like the tiniest of the von Trapp sisters when she looked up to the face of Maria (their governess sent from the abbey) after she had stopped waltzing with her widower father, Captain von Trapp, 'why are your cheeks so pink?' The first telltale sign of their budding love...and Gretl's future loving new mother! That was in the film *The Sound of Music*.

As for me and a number of my senior citizen friends, we are still not comfortable with our online classes, and are certainly looking forward to some face-to-face ones as soon as possible.

It goes without saying that everywhere people have been reminded over and over again that opening/reopening by no means signifies that we are out of the crisis, which translates as: all safety precautions and sanitary measures are still mandatory for basically two rea-



Social distancing. Pic - Hospitality Net

“There were so many changes that were instantaneously imposed when first lockdowns were announced that they sent shockwaves in both household and work settings, impacting well-settled routines and habits, services, education, professions, relationships. In every sphere multiple adjustments had to be made, and over the months new habits and arrangements performed developed...”

sons: levels of vaccination sufficient to ensure safety have mostly not been achieved, and the appearance and spread of a more transmissible and deadly mutant of the virus: Delta Variant. In fact, this morning I have received a post describing a fifth, even more mortal wave that is likely to hit us in the near future. They call it the fifth wave, and it is estimated to be even more dangerous because the variant responsible causes profound lung damage without any of the usual upper respiratory symptoms appearing first as a prodrome, so that people keep going about and infecting others unknowingly. That is the danger.

Be that as it may, we ought to take it seriously and protect ourselves as advised.

On the other hand, these have been other, harsher realities that have been thrust upon us within months of the onset of the pandemic. Neither they nor their impacts are yet over; if anything, these are set to prolong - like the long Covid syndrome that scientists and doctors have been investigating, the sequelae of which they fear are likely to be severe.

Further, tens of thousands of people locally and millions across the world have lost their jobs, and perhaps

many more have drained their savings and are no better off than their jobless peers. Governments will have to manage national finances and budgets more effectively and efficiently - this is certainly the case here! - to come to the rescue of those at the lower end of the social scale who are facing very difficult times and bleak futures, but more in terms of incentives to make them self-supporting and self-sufficient rather than become permanently dependent on state largesse, which inevitably means cutting down for others, something that never goes down well in any society.

In truth, with the partial lifting of restrictions a few weeks ago, most activities of a trade or commercial nature had begun in earnest, and so too several services, but within strict parameters. To this has been added the burden of the spiralling prices of consumer goods, what with the phenomenal increase in cost of freight and the no less consequential depreciation of the rupee. There is no end in sight.

One rather unpleasant reality is the further increase in the volume of traffic, and that frankly frightens me. A few times during the past weeks I have had to travel towards Port Louis, starting off at what I thought was early enough: 7 a.m. Only to snake up against long lines of vehicles that had already been on the roads much earlier. I wonder whether one will have to leave Curepipe at 5 o'clock henceforth to reach Port Louis in time for office before 9! I do not envy those poor souls stuck behind their steering wheels. And there's also the question of managing the children if any for working couples in this our nuclear age (family, not weapons!).

Like many of our citizens, I am impatient to see the metro works being completed. Whether that will result in changing the current *enfer routier* (driving hell) into a smoother transit or into un *hyperenfer routier* (a bigger driving hell) - the jury is still out, and may well be so for a long time. 'cos everything is in prolongation mode now ...

The Coronavirus Delta Variant Threat - More Contagious and Deadly



Mrinal Roy

After more than 18 months of battling against Covid-19, a death toll of more than 3.9 million and wide disparities in access to vaccines and vaccination programmes among countries across the world, normality still seems very elusive. Second and third waves of infection, mutations and more infectious variants of coronavirus have repeatedly hobbled and disrupted plans to open up the economy and forced countries across the world to reimpose lockdowns, curfews and restrictions to robustly contain the deadly spread of the virus.

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The world is therefore still groping its way in its protracted battle against Covid-19. There are new developments about the virus almost every week. Countries have to keep diligent watch on these developments in order to factor in and fine tune their strategies to fight the battle against a formidable virus. All relevant developments must therefore be carefully weighed and assessed.

Highly contagious

The biggest threat currently faced by the world is the spread of the extremely contagious Delta Plus variant of Covid-19 -- a new and slightly changed version of the Delta variant. The World Health Organization warned last week that 'the Delta variant of coronavirus has been identified in at least 92 countries, including the US and Europe and is widely considered the most transmissible Covid-19 strain observed so far and is spreading rapidly among unvaccinated populations.' He added: 'As some countries ease public health and social measures, we are starting to see increases in transmission around the world.'

Dr Anthony Fauci of the National Institutes of Health said last week that 20.6% of new cases in the US are due to the Delta variant. He added that it is the 'greatest threat' to the nation's efforts to eliminate Covid-19. Other scientists tracking the variant say it is on track to become the dominant virus variant in the US and globally. It is also driving spikes of infections in Europe, despite vaccination rates in some countries being on the rise.

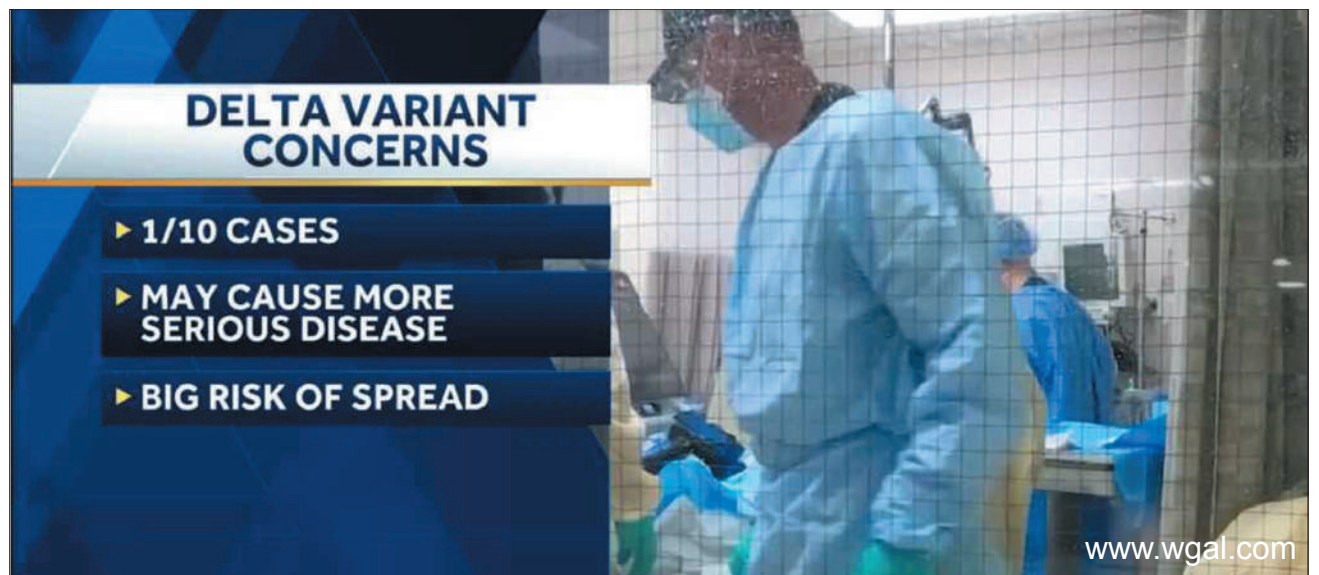
Health experts warn that the rapid spread of the highly infectious Delta variant is a sign that the global race between vaccination and the coronavirus could tilt in favour of the virus, unless countries ramp up their immunization campaigns and practise caution instead of hastily and rashly opening borders or economic activities.

Preying ability

The Delta Plus variant has an enhanced ability to prey on the vulnerable especially in places with low vaccination rates. Research conducted in the U.K., where the strain already accounts for 99% of new Covid-19 cases, suggests it is about 60% more transmissible than the Alpha

Despite all the robust and costly measures in place, the authorities have as yet been unable to stem the spread of the second wave of Covid-19 infection. The government cannot water down or botch crucial decisions

Covid-19 and climate change are existential threats to the world and humanity. They are severely testing the crisis management acumen of



“The Delta Plus variant has an enhanced ability to prey on the vulnerable especially in places with low vaccination rates. Research conducted in the U.K., where the strain already accounts for 99% of new Covid-19 cases, suggests it is about 60% more transmissible than the Alpha variant, which previously dominated. It also increases the risk of hospitalization and is more resistant to vaccines when only one dose has been taken in two-jab vaccines...”

variant, which previously dominated. It also increases the risk of hospitalization and is more resistant to vaccines when only one dose has been taken in two-jab vaccines.

The Delta variant is dominant in the UK, according to the latest data from Public Health England, with younger people, the unvaccinated and the partially vaccinated more at risk from infection while older people are still most at risk of dying from an infection. The warning is clear. The young, unvaccinated, over 50 or those having received only one vaccine dose are most at risk from the Delta variant.

The Delta variant has thus fuelled a third wave of infection in the UK which is currently registering about 20,000 new cases daily, about 10-times the average in early May. This surge has triggered travel restrictions from other countries and caused the government to push its campaign to vaccinate all adults as quickly as possible. It has also forced the government to delay the lifting of remaining restrictions it had planned for 21 June till 19 July.

Protective measures

Drawing lessons from the UK Delta variant experience, the US, Europe and other countries with ample access to vaccines are boosting their vaccination campaigns in a bid to cushion the impact of the Delta variant. However, in Africa and other developing countries with limited access to vaccines and low rate of vaccination of the population, the impact of the Delta variant could be devastating.

Its rapid spread has forced a growing number of countries to reimpose lockdowns and other restrictions, amid fears that this more contagious virus strain would hobble global efforts to contain the pandemic. The new curbs on travel and daily life stretch from Australia and Bangladesh

to South Africa and Germany, where the authorities imposed new restrictions on travellers from Covid-19 variant affected countries such as Portugal and Russia.

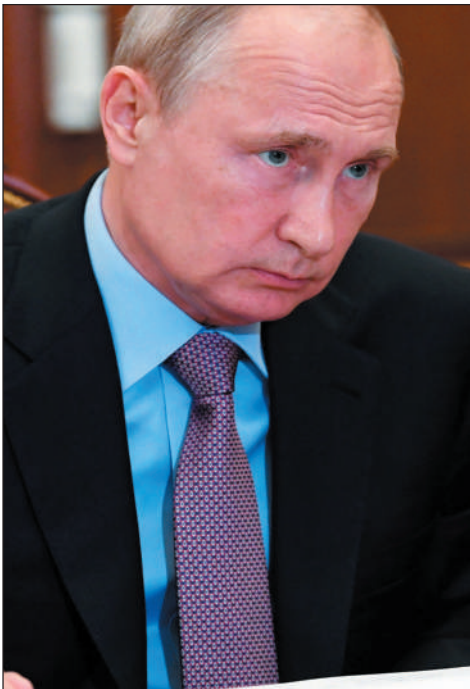
Thai authorities declared a month-long limited lockdown in the capital, Bangkok, and neighbouring provinces owing to a surge in new cases of Covid-19 infection attributed to the Delta variant. Malaysia extended a nationwide shutdown that was scheduled to be relaxed next week. Taiwan, which reported its first Delta case on Saturday announced new restrictions for people arriving from seven 'high-risk countries' namely Bangladesh, Britain, Brazil, India, Indonesia, Israel and Peru. Israel, which has one of the world's highest vaccination rates, has also registered a jump in Delta variant cases in recent weeks, causing the authorities to reinstate an indoor mask mandate that was dropped. Hong Kong also said that it was banning all passenger flights from Britain as from 1 July because of the spike of Delta variant virus strain there.

What if?

The Delta variant represents a serious threat to people. We cannot take this threat lightly. Our priority must be to save people. It is therefore important that Mauritius takes on board the strong actions taken by counties across the world to robustly contain the Delta variant and urgently factors the potent risks of the variant on the health and lives of people in its plans to open its borders to fully vaccinated international travellers as from 15 July under certain conditions and more openly as from 1 October 2021.

This is doubly necessary as the Delta variant has a dominant presence in a number of countries which are our principal sources of tourists.

Vladimir Putin says he received both doses of Sputnik-V, urges Russians to follow suit



Russian president Vladimir Putin takes part in an annual nationwide televised phone-in show in Moscow. Pic - www.wavy.com

Vladimir Putin, the Russian president on Wednesday said that he was vaccinated with Russia's Sputnik V vaccine against the coronavirus disease (Covid-19) earlier in March and April during the annual nationwide televised phone-in show in Moscow, news agencies reported.

Putin said that he felt he needed to be

protected against Covid-19 for as long as possible and also said that he did not feel any significant side-effects barring tenderness at the jab site. "After the first shot, I didn't feel anything at all. About four hours later, I felt that there was some tenderness where I had received the shot. I received the second at mid-day. At midnight, I measured my temperature. It was 98.9°F. I went to sleep, when I woke up my temperature was 97.8°F. That was it," Putin told the nation.

Putin said that he is against mandatory vaccination but said that the army is getting vaccinated with Sputnik-V like him. He also defended the local authorities taking steps to ensure vaccination saying it is needed to avoid a national lockdown. "The military is getting vaccinated with Sputnik V, and after all I'm the commander-in-chief," Putin said. The Russian president however urged Russians to not listen to rumours and pay heed to what the specialists are saying about the vaccine. He said it is 'necessary' to avoid listening to people 'who understand less and spread rumours'.

Putin's comments come in the backdrop of Russia reporting a record-high number of deaths from coronavirus in the last 24 hours and as daily case tally remained above 20,000. Russia on Wednesday reported 669 deaths and 21,042 fresh cases which brought the caseload to more than 5.5 million.

'Torture device': Scientists develop weight loss tool that locks jaw; spark outrage



The magnetic device that limits the wearer to a liquid diet, but "allows free speech and doesn't restrict breathing." Pic - img.republicworld.com

Scientists have developed a "world-first" weight loss device with locking bolts that restricts a person's jaw from opening wide enough to intake solids. A team of researchers from the University of Otago, New Zealand, and the UK collaborated to develop the magnetic device that limits the wearer to a liquid diet, but "allows free speech and doesn't restrict breathing."

Trial participants lost an average of 6.36 kilograms within two weeks and were motivated to continue with their weight loss journey, the University said. The magnetic device is fitted by a dentist, can be released by the user in the case of an emergency and can be repeatedly fitted and removed.

The announcement drew a massive backlash on social media as users termed it a "torture device" meant to force people

to go on a liquid diet. "And this, kids, is why ethics needs to be taught in science. Good God, I thought medicine was past these kinds of torture devices," replied one user.

The outrage on social media prompted the University to issue a clarification, saying the device is not intended as a quick or long-term weight-loss solution, but to assist people who need to undergo surgery and who cannot have the surgery until they have lost weight. It stated that users can have the magnets disengaged and the device removed after two or three weeks.

"They could then have a period with a less restricted diet and then go back into treatment. This would allow for a phased approach to weight loss supported by advice from a dietician," the University of Otago tweeted.

'Rules make sense': Facebook India voices open support to new IT policy

Tech giant Facebook has declared its open support to India's new IT rules stating that they 'make sense' at the time when Twitter has consistently refrained from adhering to in the last couple of months.

Facebook India MD Ajit Mohan affirmed to the Times of India (TOI) that the agenda of online safety and security is an important agenda for the company, particularly in a country where around 70 crore people use the internet.

He added that the concept of having a framework of accountability and also regulations regarding harmful content is sensible.

"The (Indian) government wants to limit the misuse and abuse of social media platforms by bad actors, and that is an agenda that we are entirely aligned with," Mohan was quoted in a report by the TOI.

The top executive further stressed that Facebook along with its group companies have undertaken measures for user hygiene and security with respect to content.

Mohan assured that the social media platform will continue investing in safety to stay ahead in this respect whilst simulta-



Union Law Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad (Vipin Kumar/Hindustan Times via Gettyimages)

neously following the new IT rules as directed by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeITY).

The Facebook-owned WhatsApp has challenged the provision of tracing the source 'unlawful' messages in the Delhi High Court. Yet, the company currently seems to be in agreement with all the other regulations as per the amended rules.

South Africa: Green Paper proposing to permit multiple husbands sparks protests

South Africa's home department has put forth a green paper proposing to permit women to have multiple husbands. The green paper was drawn out in April and has been open for comments right from May to 30th June. However, the said document has invited criticism from the conservative section of the country's society.

The government maintains that the document was prepared on the backdrop of comprehensive consultations with religious and traditional leaders along with human rights activists. Apparently, the activists claim that legal recognition for polyandry is a demand of the right to equality.

The document from the government argues that the legislation that regulates marriages in the country isn't based on the constitutional provisions of the country. It

adds that the law at the time being has some legacy issues.

"The purpose of the marriage policy is to establish a policy foundation for regulating the marriages of all persons that reside in SA," the document reads as per a report by the Hindustan Times.

It adds, "The envisaged marriage statute will enable South Africans and residents of all sexual orientations, religious and cultural persuasions to conclude legal marriages that will accord with the principles of equality, non-discrimination, human dignity and unity in diversity, as encapsulated in the Constitution."

The South African constitution reportedly legally recognizes and permits polygamy.

* Contd on page 6

Notice for Permission for Land Use

Take notice that **J'm Mon Cafe Ltee** will apply to the Municipal Council of Quatre Bornes for a Building and Land Use permit for a proposed **Pastry Shop/Manufacturer at La Louise Quatre Bornes**.

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

Date: 3 July 2021



"This is five years sooner than our previous goal," Omar Alghabra said. Pic - The New Motion

New cars to be zero-emissions by 2035 in Canada, says transport minister

All new cars and light-duty trucks in Canada will be required to be zero-emissions by 2035, Transport Minister Omar Alghabra announced Tuesday, moving up the timeline for eliminating vehicle pollution.

"Today, I'm announcing that we are accelerating our zero emission vehicles goal. By 2035, all new cars and light duty trucks sold in Canada will be zero emission vehicles -- 100 percent of them," Alghabra told a news conference.

"This is five years sooner than our previous goal," he said.

The regulatory move, he said, will help Canada to meet its overall net-zero carbon emissions target for the economy by mid-century.

Alghabra noted that his country is one of the few in the world with domestic access to all of the key resources for producing electric vehicle (EV) batteries, and praised General Motors, Ford and other automakers for opening EV assembly plants in Canada.

But despite government incentives to defray the relatively higher prices of EVs, purchases have been slow to take off.

According to government data, battery electric vehicles and plug-in hybrids accounted for less than four percent of the 25 million passenger cars and trucks registered in Canada last year -- up from about two percent in 2019.

Green pass not precondition to travel, says EU official

The European Union (EU)'s so-called "green pass" is not a precondition to travel and individual states have the option to accept vaccines approved by the WHO such as Covishield, an EU official said on Tuesday.

The EU offered the clarification against the backdrop of speculation on the possible impact of the "EU Digital Covid Certificate" or green pass on Indian nationals as the regime doesn't include any of the vaccines currently being administered in India. The green pass system is expected to be in place from July 1.

As of Monday, the Serum Institute of India (SII) had not applied to the European Medicines Agency (EMA) for approval of Covishield, the EU official said. The EMA has so far approved only four vaccines - Comirnaty, Johnson & Johnson's Janssen vaccine, Spikevax or the Moderna vaccine and Vaxzevria or the AstraZeneca vaccine.

The Digital Covid Certificate is meant to "facilitate safe free movement during the Covid-19 pandemic within the EU", and it will serve as "proof that a person was vaccinated against Covid-19, received a nega-



The European Union (EU) has recommended to open its external borders to non-essential travel into the bloc if travellers have been fully vaccinated against Covid-19. Pic - Bloomberg

tive test result or recovered from Covid-19", the official added.

Referring to the possible EMA authorisation for Covishield, the official said, "As of yesterday [Monday], the EMA stated that it had not received a request for approval. It will examine any such request when received, as per its procedures."

The issue of a "fair travel regime" figured in talks between Indian external affairs minister S Jaishankar and the EU commissioner for internation-

al partnerships, Jutta Urpilainen, when they met in Italy on Monday ahead of a meeting of G20 foreign ministers.

India has linked the issue of so-called "vaccine passports" to equitable access to doses around the world. External affairs ministry spokesperson Arindam Bagchi had said on June 17 that many developing countries had not yet been able to vaccinate a large percentage of their population.

Poor care responsible for deaths of babies

Dozens of babies have died or been left brain-damaged after errors during childbirth at one of Britain's biggest hospitals - while managers failed to properly investigate concerns and altered reports to take blame away from the maternity unit. An investigation by The Independent and Channel 4 News has uncovered repeated examples of poor care over the past decade at Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust, with parents forced to fight to find out the truth about what happened to their child.

Families say that if lessons had been learnt, further tragedies at the hospital could have been prevented. Naomi Lewin, whose baby Freddie died after a harrowing labour, told The Independent: "They don't listen to families. It's ignorance. If they don't learn from it, it's going to

be a repeat cycle over and over and over again."

Labour's deputy leader Angela Rayner has said a report that her supporters are preparing a leadership challenge to Sir Keir Starmer if he loses the Batley and Spen by-election is "news to me." MPs have been canvassing support among parliamentary colleagues and trade unions, The Times reported. She would need the support of 40 MPs, 20 per cent of the parliamentary party, to mount a challenge. Left-wing MPs have been approached about a possible mutiny if Labour's performance at Thursday's by-election is poor, the newspaper said. But Rayner herself tweeted on Wednesday night: "The 'story' on the front page of @thetimes tomorrow is news to me."

Top US general says security in Afghanistan deteriorating

The US's top general in Afghanistan on Tuesday gave a sobering assessment of the country's deteriorating security situation as America winds down its so-called "forever war."

Gen. Austin S. Miller said the rapid loss of districts around the country to the Taliban - several with significant strategic value - is worrisome. He also cautioned that the militias deployed to help the beleaguered national security forces could lead the country into civil war.

Miller told a small group of reporters in the Afghan capital that for now he has the weapons and the capability to aid Afghanistan's National Defense and Security Forces.



White House Press Secretary Jen Psaki said in meetings at the White House last week with President Ashraf Ghani and Abdullah Abdullah - the Afghan official tasked with making peace with the Taliban

- President Joe Biden said the US was committed to humanitarian and security assistance to Afghanistan.

But the president also said that keeping US soldiers in Afghanistan defied a peace deal the Trump administration negotiated with the Taliban and that wasn't a risk he was prepared to take.

Washington signed a peace deal with the Taliban in February 2020. It laid out the promise of a US withdrawal and commitments by the Taliban to ensure Afghanistan does not harbor militants that can attack the United States. The details of those commitments have never been made public.

The Taliban have accused Washington

of breaking the agreement, which called for all troops to be out by May 1, the date the final withdrawal began. US officials have said the Taliban have made some progress, but it's not clear whether the insurgent group has kept its end of the deal.

The insurgent group issued orders to commanders against allowing foreign fighters among their ranks, but evidence continues to surface that non-Afghans are on the battlefield.

Still, Miller was insistent that only a political solution will bring peace to the war-torn nation.

'Le challenger de Pravind Jugnauth aux prochaines élections législatives ne peut émerger que des rangs du PTr.'

Tant que le Parti Travalliste gardera une certaine opacité sur la question de leadership du parti, le gouvernement en place est certain de ne faire face à aucun problème politique. Bien entendu, la question sanitaire demeure omniprésente. Il reste à savoir si le PM optera pour le principe de réalisme comme Singapour ou décuplera ses efforts pour maintenir le principe de précaution. Jean-Claude de l'Estrac, nous en parle.

Mauritius Times: Nous ne sommes pas encore au bout de nos peines eu égard à une nouvelle menace virale, le variant " Delta Plus ", qui serait présent déjà dans 78 pays, et qui est soupçonné d'être plus résistant aux anticorps que les autres, et dont le taux de contamination serait trois fois plus rapide... Cela alors que la réouverture de nos frontières est prévue dans les prochains jours. L'état de notre économie n'offre pas d'alternative, paraît-il?

Jean-Claude de l'Estrac: Faisons d'abord une distinction entre les deux enjeux : il y a l'enjeu sanitaire et il y a le défi économique. Comme je ne suis pas un infectiologue, je vais m'aventurer avec prudence sur la question sanitaire. Mais je pense que la communication sur ces virus, au niveau mondial, est mal fondée. Elle est terriblement anxiogène et paralysante.

Si la Covid-19 et ses variants sont là pour durer, si les virus tuent très rarement les contaminés, si tous ont été vaccinés, je ne vois pas l'intérêt de ces statistiques quotidiennes sur le nombre de contaminés. Comme si les contaminés sont tous destinés à mourir... Apprendre à vivre avec ces virus voudra dire relativiser ses effets mortifères et vacciner le plus grand nombre.

La contrepartie, toutefois, doit être l'assurance que les services hospitaliers publics sont parfaitement équipés pour faire face à une éventuelle situation de crise. La seule vertu que je trouve à cette stratégie de la peur, c'est qu'elle incite la population à respecter les protocoles sanitaires.

En ce qui concerne l'ouverture des frontières, je n'ai pas cessé de penser que le principe de précaution et l'excessive prudence des gouvernants nous condamnent à mourir en bonne santé... Je constate que le bon sens revient, les frontières sont graduellement rouvertes alors que l'on continue à recenser de nouveaux contaminés. Il faut se préparer à dénombrer encore plus de contaminés sans parler de reconfinement.

* Singapour vient d'annoncer un changement radical de stratégie face à la Covid-19. L'objectif n'est plus de ne plus avoir d'infection, mais plutôt de vivre avec le virus, tout en poursuivant son programme de vaccination pour atteindre les deux tiers de sa population. C'est une stratégie qui paraît fiable pour Maurice également, mais sommes-nous réellement prêts pour la réouverture ?



La nouvelle stratégie de Singapour part d'un principe de réalisme plutôt que de précaution. Les autorités singapouriennes estiment que les virus de la Covid-19 - comme tant d'autres dans nos vies - sont là pour durer : il faut donc apprendre à vivre avec ces virus. Mais il faut protéger la population.

La réponse que nous offre la science, c'est la vaccination. Les vaccins qui protègent les humains contre un large éventail de maladies sont l'une des grandes avancées de la médecine depuis des décennies. Ils sont considérés comme l'une des mesures sanitaires les plus économiques et les plus efficaces. Il faut donc accélérer la campagne de vaccination, c'est ce que ce fait le gouvernement avec raison ; il lui reste à mettre au pas les inconscients antivaccins qui prennent des risques inutiles.

* Pour ce qui est de l'économie, des doutes ont été exprimés sur la capacité du budget 2021-2022 de remettre l'économie sur une trajectoire de croissance plus élevée. Il y a aussi les critiques du FMI sur la politique monétaire du gouvernement, le financement du budget par les transferts de la Banque de Maurice et le rôle de la MIC. Rien n'indique si le gouvernement tiendra compte de ces commentaires du

“Ce pays qui veut s'ouvrir au monde, qui a besoin impérativement de s'ouvrir, qui sollicite l'investissement étranger, qui veut retrouver ses visiteurs étrangers, a, aujourd'hui, un gros problème d'image à l'étranger. Ce n'est pas une question de branding, cela a tout à voir avec le modèle de société que nous sommes en train de construire, parfois de déconstruire...”

FMI, et à bien voir le gouvernement n'a peut-être pas beaucoup de choix, non ?

La stratégie économique du gouvernement est illisible pour le plus grand nombre de nos concitoyens.

Les spécialistes, économistes et financiers, les institutions financières internationales telles le Fonds monétaire interna-

tional, les agences de notation, ont exprimé des critiques sinon des doutes, sur la capacité du gouvernement d'atteindre les objectifs fixés. Plus grave encore sa comptabilité créative est dénoncée, cette semaine encore, par le FMI.

Le ministre n'en a cure, il est resté droit dans ses bottes lors des débats sur le budget. Nous verrons bien où cela nous mène, le budget 2022 n'est pas loin... Ce prochain rendez-vous budgétaire sera son *litmus test*, son test de vérité.

* Certains observateurs soutiennent que le pire est encore à venir, avec les fermetures de nombreuses entreprises jusqu'ici soutenues avec l'aide publique - ce qui ne pourra pas durer indéfiniment. Il y a aussi les difficultés de trouver un emploi pour beaucoup de Mauriciens et le coût de la vie qui grimpe en raison de la forte dépréciation de la roupie depuis début 2020... Avez-vous des craintes pour le social ?

Il ne fait pas de doute que les prochains mois seront dramatiques pour un grand nombre de Mauriciens, et pas seulement pour ceux qui se trouvent au bas de l'échelle. La conjonction de la dévaluation délibérée de la roupie, de l'augmentation colossale du coût du fret, de l'augmentation à la source des prix des produits alimentaires importés sont autant de coups de massue.

Mais, en même temps, beaucoup de nos concitoyens espèrent que les choses finiront par aller mieux, si ce n'est pas demain, peut-être après-demain. Ils n'ont pas tout à fait tort. L'échec n'est pas une fatalité. Ce pays conserve malgré tout une grande capacité de rebond.

C'est pourquoi je ne crains pas une explosion sociale, aussi parce que l'offre politique alternative n'est toujours pas crédible, parce que les syndicats sont peu représentatifs, parce que personne ne voudra mettre en péril l'existant.

* Le gouvernement doit être conscient des menaces qui guettent le pays et des challenges auxquels il sera confronté dans les mois à venir et durant le reste de son mandat - des défis plus énormes à relever sur le plan économique que sur le plan politique. Voyez-vous l'équipe gouvernementale capable de relever ces défis ?

Cette équipe gouvernementale, ces nouveaux ministres, ont eu à faire face, au cours des derniers mois, à des situations particulièrement contraignantes.

* Suite en page 8

‘Je ne crains pas une explosion sociale parce que l'offre politique alternative n'est toujours pas crédible, les syndicats sont peu représentatifs...’

* Suite de la page 7

Il faut espérer qu'ils auront appris une ou deux leçons fondamentales. Et d'abord que l'on ne gouverne pas dans l'arrogance ou avec l'esprit de représailles en bafouant la continuité de l'Etat même quand on subodore des maldonnnes ; que l'on obtient de meilleurs résultats dans le dialogue et la concertation ; que l'on ne viole pas indument les règles internationales de transparence et de justice; qu'une fourmi est plus avisée qu'une cigale, qu'un leader s'isole s'il ne travaille que pour son camp.

Compte tenu de l'ampleur des défis à relever, je sens comme une aspiration à tendre vers plus d'unité nationale.

* **Quelle est votre opinion sur la façon de faire de Pravind Jugnauth et de son équipe quand ils dirigent les affaires de l'État?**

Si par "façon" vous entendez la forme, je n'hésite pas à dire que Pravind Jugnauth émerge de ces derniers mois de pandémie et de cataclysmes répétés comme un Leader. Il s'est affirmé, il est à la manœuvre, il est présent, il est pédagogique, il parle clairement.

Ensuite, il y a le fond : j'ai du mal à attribuer, dans la gestion des affaires de l'Etat, ce qui relève de ses choix personnels et autoritaires, et ce que les médias et l'opposition attribuent à son entourage. Il aurait intérêt à clarifier cette ambiguïté.

* **En tout cas, il ne devrait pas se faire beaucoup de soucis avec l'éparpillement des forces de l'opposition sur le terrain. Et, par ailleurs, certaines institutions qui normalement devraient jouer un rôle clé sur le plan de 'law and order' semblent être sous contrôle. Cela va durer, selon vous?**

La division de l'opposition, c'est un problème politique. C'est grave mais bien moins grave que le délitement des institutions censées assurer, en toute indépendance, le bon fonctionnement du système démocratique.

Nous sommes, en effet, dans une spirale que des organismes internationaux désignent déjà comme un risque d'autocratie. C'est une sacrée déculotée pour le pays qui faisait figure d'exemple démocratique.

Ce pays qui veut s'ouvrir au monde, qui a besoin impérativement de s'ouvrir, qui sollicite l'investissement étranger, qui veut retrouver ses visiteurs étrangers, a, aujourd'hui, un gros problème d'image à l'étranger. Ce n'est pas une question de branding, cela a tout à voir avec le modèle

“La seule alternative crédible à Pravind Jugnauth aux prochaines élections générales est une alliance de l'opposition menée par un Parti Travailleuse qui aura résolu son problème de leadership. Tout le reste est illusoire. Voilà pourquoi l'on aurait tort, à ce stade, de write-off Jugnauth...”

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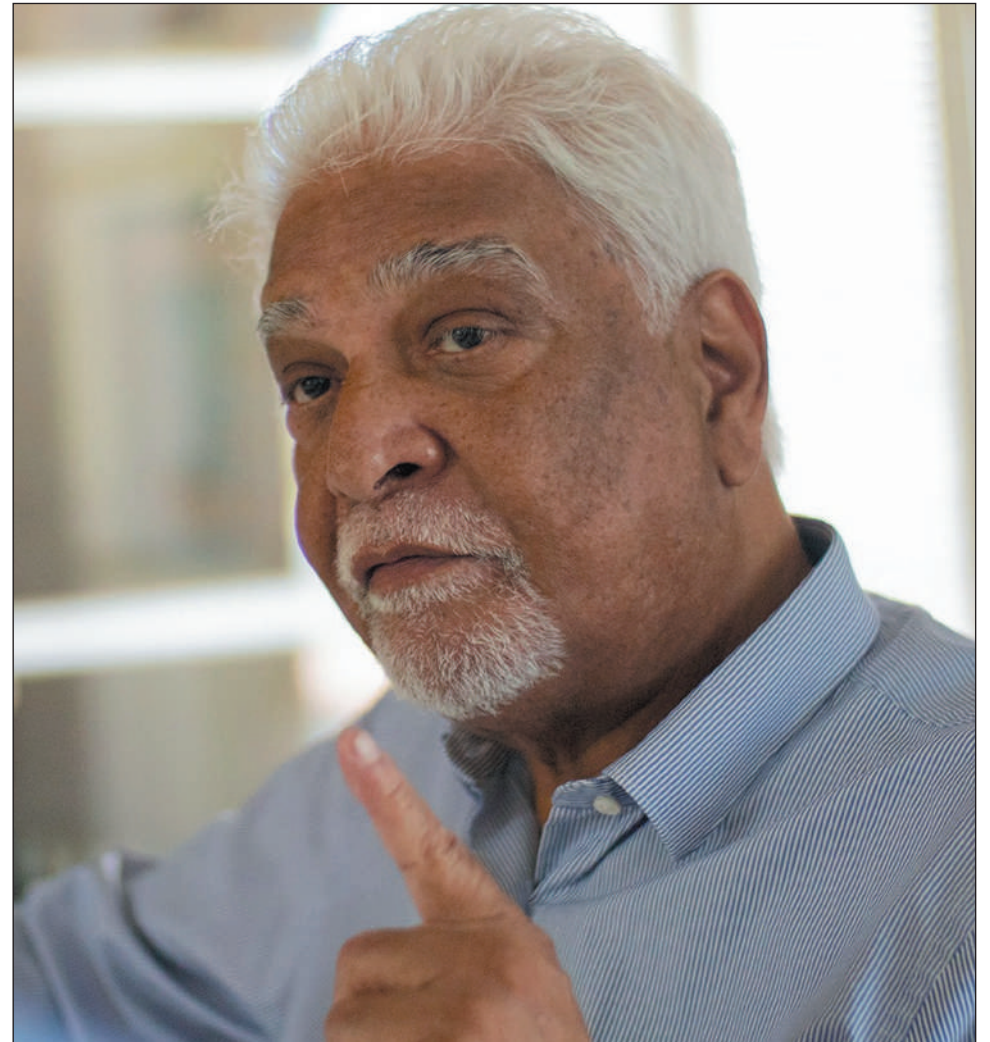
de société que nous sommes en train de construire, parfois de déconstruire, à la face du monde.

* **On ne comprend pas trop la démarche du leader de l'opposition et leader du PMSD de rechercher une commission d'enquête sur l'affaire Betamax. Le PTr est contre le principe d'une commission d'enquête, qui pourrait éventuellement l'embarrasser, et Xavier Duval en est sûrement conscient. Que recherche-t-il, à votre avis?**

Je ne suis pas certain que cette initiative soit bien pensée. C'est un classique chez l'opposition de réclamer la nomination d'une Commission d'enquête à chaque fois qu'elle veut surfer sur une perception de corruption.

L'affaire Betamax réunit toutes les conditions, mais je suis mal à l'aise à l'idée que cette Commission pourrait être perçue comme une remise en cause du jugement du *Privy Council*.

En tout cas, si un juge indépendant devait présider cette Commission d'enquête, je vois au peloton d'exécution:



Ramgoolam, Jeetah, SAJ, Duval, Bhadain... Ça va être saignant !

* **Les prochaines élections municipales ne vont pas tarder, semble-t-il, et on peut envisager le PMSD et le MMM unissant leurs forces dans cette perspective. Mais ces deux partis vont devoir compter sur le PTr en ce qui concerne les élections générales. Qu'en pensez-vous?**

Mon expérience politique m'incite à penser que le challenger de Pravind Jugnauth aux prochaines élections législatives ne peut émerger que des rangs du Parti Travailleuse. J'aurais voulu me tromper mais je veux rester réaliste. Je n'attache qu'une importance relative aux élections municipales parce que ce n'est pas l'électorat urbain qui choisit le locataire de l'Hôtel du gouvernement.

* **Voyez-vous Xavier Duval ou Paul Bérenger envisager leur avenir politique dans une énième lutte à trois lors des prochaines législatives, ce qui pourrait donner le même résultat que 2019? Ils devront tôt ou tard se décider en ce qui concerne le leadership d'une alliance de l'opposition... sauf si l'un ou l'autre envisagerait d'autres options?**

La seule alternative crédible à Pravind Jugnauth aux prochaines élections générales est une alliance de l'opposition menée par un Parti Travailleuse qui aura résolu son problème de leadership. Tout le reste est illusoire.

Voilà pourquoi l'on aurait tort, à ce stade, de write-off Jugnauth... Les "autres options" auxquelles vous faites allusion ne sont absolument pas farfelues. Des forces occultes y travaillent. Nous verrons plus clair lorsque nous aborderons la deuxième partie du mandat de Pravind Jugnauth. C'est bientôt.

* **Par ailleurs, il semblerait que le Parti Travailleuse soit toujours en hibernation, laissant le champ libre à l'Alliance L'Espoir. Avez-vous des doutes quant à la capacité du PTr à se remettre sur pied ?**

L'appareil du parti est paralysé par l'absence de visibilité sur la question cruciale du leadership.

C'est Navin Ramgoolam, et lui seul, qui déterminera l'avenir immédiat du parti. Il ne peut pas ne pas mesurer l'importance capitale de sa décision, pour lui-même, pour son parti, pour le pays.



Catherine Boudet
Docteur en Analyse
politique

Vaccination Anti-Covid

'Consent form': quand le gouvernement abdique sa souveraineté sur la santé publique

Le 'consent form' pour la vaccination anti-Covid fait assumer tous les risques aux seuls vaccinés. Ce faisant, les autorités sanitaires s'enlèvent les moyens d'une pharmacovigilance transparente et préventive sur les effets de la vaccination massive.

Sur le principe, l'idée de faire signer un formulaire de consentement aux vaccinés paraît d'une sage décision. Surtout qu'il s'agissait de reconnaître la spécificité de la vaccination contre la Covid-19, encore au stade expérimental mais considérée comme urgente dans les circonstances liées à la pandémie. En raison de la rapidité de la mise sur le marché des vaccins, liée à cette urgence sanitaire, la vaccination anti-Covid comporte un certain nombre de risques. Le 'consent form' du ministère de la Santé reconnaît ces spécificités :

«Le ministère de la Santé et du Bien-Être a rendu le vaccin contre la Covid-19 disponible suivant les approbations réglementaires de son usage en vigueur aux Etats-Unis, au Royaume-Uni, en Inde et dans d'autres pays, du fait que les circonstances justifient son utilisation dans un cas d'urgence comme la pandémie de Covid-19.»

Le 'consent form' admet aussi l'existence des risques venant du fait que l'homologation des vaccins anti-Covid n'a pas complété les procédures habituelles appliquées en temps normal. Le ministère reconnaît qu'il rend la vaccination anti-Covid disponible «sur la base de la totalité des preuves scientifiques existantes actuellement disponibles, qui montrent que les bénéfices connus et potentiels des vaccins surpassent les risques connus et potentiels».

Des risques passés sous silence

Calqué sur l'argumentaire officiel de l'OMS, ce discours établit une balance bienfaits/risques de la vaccination à un instant T donné («for the time being»), en vertu «des preuves scientifiques existantes actuellement disponibles». Prendre la précaution de reconnaître que cette balance bienfaits/risques est établie à un instant T, c'est aussi admettre implicitement qu'elle peut être amenée à se modifier ultérieurement (y compris en faveur d'une potentielle aggravation des risques); notamment avec l'avancée de la campagne de vaccination elle-même.

D'ailleurs, cette dernière s'assimile à une phase d'essai grandeur nature. De ce fait, un certain nombre de données pourraient faire pencher la balance du côté d'une aggravation des risques ou des effets secondaires:

- des risques connus à court ou moyen terme, mais sous-estimés ou passés sous silence, comme ceux que fait peser la vaccination anti-Covid sur le système immunitaire. Les vaccins peuvent augmenter le risque de contracter la Covid-19 mais aussi des co-infections virales multiples, en raison du mécanisme d'ADE (Antibody Dependent Enhancement, en français : Facilitation de l'infection par des anticorps). Ce n'est nullement un délire complotiste, mais un fait documenté par des études médicales, en particulier, cet article, publié le 9 septembre 2020 dans la très sérieuse revue *Nature Microbiology*, intitulé «Antibody-dependent enhancement and SARS-CoV-2 vaccines and therapies» ;

- des risques inconnus à long terme, notamment de cancer... car l'OMS aurait jugé inutile de demander aux fabricants des tests sur la carcérogénicité de leurs vaccins anti-Covid... Pour prendre l'exemple du vaccin Sinopharm qui est actuellement administré à Maurice, le 'consent form' explique qu'il est fabriqué à base d'un antigène de Sars-Cov-2 inactivé. En omettant de préciser que cet antigène est inactivé avec du beta-propiolactone... Une substance reconnue comme cancérogène pour l'humain (risque documenté par plusieurs études notamment dans le *British Journal of Cancer*).

N'envisageant le problème qu'à échelle individuelle, le 'consent form' fait assumer tous les risques au seul vacciné. Ce dernier doit reconnaître en le signant que «comme résultat de la vaccination certains risques sont impliqués» qui peuvent l'exposer à des blessures et même à la mort. Le candidat à la vaccination accepte ainsi qu'il «l'exécute volontairement» (étrange formule pour un document médical, et étrange façon de concevoir un consentement à la vaccination). Et il reconnaît assumer «volontairement» tous ces risques liés à l'administration du vaccin, y compris la mort.

Il apparaît que le 'consent form' est un document contractuel, quand il fait dire au vacciné qu'il «renonce à toute poursuite contre l'État mauricien, le Global Health Partnership aussi connu comme GAVI Alliance, les producteurs de vaccins ou leurs agents et préposés (...) je les décharge pour toujours de toutes poursuites».

Le document va encore plus loin, en stipulant que le vacciné s'engage même à indemniser toutes ces parties si elles venaient à être poursuivies pour des dommages résultant de la vaccination.

Un document contractuel d'un cynisme extraordinaire

On est loin du 'consent form' sud-africain qui informe le patient que «des mesures appropriées seront prises pour prévenir, prendre en charge et soigner les effets indésirables de ce vaccin sur [s]a personne». Ce genre de précaution vise non seulement à protéger le patient, mais permet aussi aux autorités sanitaires d'assortir la vaccination d'une pharmacovigilance véritablement tournée vers le suivi et la protection des populations. Dans ce cas, cela favorise un 'monitoring' permettant d'anticiper à

échelle nationale des possibles effets secondaires de la campagne de vaccination.

Rien de tout cela à Maurice, où le 'consent form' signé par les Mauriciens n'est donc finalement qu'un document contractuel dénué de toute humanité, visant à protéger complètement et de façon unilatérale les fabricants de vaccins, les pays fournisseurs et le GAVI. Ce serait donc paradoxalement un document d'un cynisme et d'un mépris extraordinaires, alors qu'il était question au départ de protéger la population d'une pandémie et de ses dangers.

Une telle posture s'inscrit totalement à l'encontre de la politique gouvernementale menée jusqu'à présent par le premier Ministre Pravind Jugnauth, et ce, alors que le Premier ministre lui-même vient de rappeler à l'occasion du 12 mars 2021 que la santé de sa population est une priorité pour lui.

Le premier mandat de Pravind Jugnauth avait pourtant été marqué par l'introduction de véritables politiques publiques pour le pays. La politique sociale de son gou-



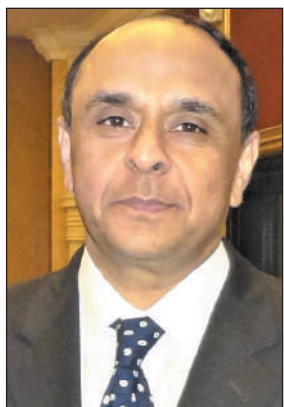
Pic - BBC

vernement s'était attachée à protéger la population et en particulier les catégories de citoyens les plus vulnérables, on l'a vu notamment avec l'augmentation de la pension vieillesse et l'introduction du salaire minimum. C'est également sous le gouvernement MSM que la gestion du risque a été introduite dans le pays, avec la mise sur pied en 2016 d'un *National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Committee* pour prévenir et mitiger les risques de catastrophes naturelles.

La notion de gestion du risque n'est visiblement pas conçue de la même manière en ce qui concerne la santé publique. Le 'consent form' vaccinal, faisant porter au seul patient les effets secondaires potentiellement nocifs du vaccin, parcellise et relègue au niveau individuel les risques inhérents à la vaccination. Pire, il dédouane totalement le GAVI, les fabricants de vaccins et les pays fournisseurs de toute responsabilité dans cette prise de risque.

Une manière pour les autorités sanitaires de se voiler la face car, en répondant prioritairement au souci de se dédouaner de toute poursuite, ce formulaire hypothèque la possibilité d'une pharmacovigilance transparente et cohérente. En condamnant le vacciné à subir seul ses effets secondaires, le 'consent form' freine la remontée d'informations libres et volontaires sur la santé du patient, et surtout leur corrélation au vaccin.

● Suite en page 12



Arvind Saxena

“Be the change that you want to see in the world”
-- Mahatma Gandhi

Having discussed the need for moral education, we must deal with the most difficult question parents have to contend with. There are genuine concerns that their children, reared on idealistic lines, will be misfits in the real world. There are also misgivings that moral value systems are pushed by the rich and powerful to restrain the masses, even while they themselves unabashedly flout the same and flaunt their ‘successful’ lifestyles.

Why shouldn't all parents want their children to be successful? How long can we expect our young to ignore the audacious, ‘in your face’, amoral value system of the most prosperous people around us? Why should we give a value system to our children which run contrary to the prevailing ‘aspirational’ moral framework of our most celebrated ‘achievers’?

If the billionaire former President of the most powerful nation on earth could boast that he paid no taxes because he is ‘smart’ or people get rich by stealing data, spreading fake news and creating artificial needs, then telling our children this is wrong is bound to be difficult. How can we ignore what we see around us: that you can get ahead of others by lying and cheating; by flagrantly subverting the system and destroying institutions; rise to the top by undermining competition, cornering resources and unashamedly corrupting institutions; become rich by selling foods that cause malnutrition and organ damage, by pushing drugs whose efficacy and fatal consequences are wilfully concealed, by setting up industry which causes ecological damage and destruction of biodiversity, by fudging accounts and reports to distort reality and rob the people; or creating fake intelligence to divide people, provoke hatred and wage wars? What moral values can we teach if the definition of success itself has gone horribly wrong?

These questions will have to be addressed for otherwise we will be building a moral edifice which stands on wishful thinking. Success can be redefined but if the levers of education and information are in the hands of the same people, who have climbed up the ladder of success through cheating and lying, it is going to be difficult.

This is where the sensibility of the educated middle class comes in. They will have to reassert their role as conscience keepers – as a group they are least covetous and having been shielded from deprivation and dispossession bear less grudge against others. Though this group is struggling with a growing number of their brethren aspiring for the lifestyles of the nouveau riche, there are still a large number of clear-headed people

Moral Education and Character Building

‘Honesty is the Best Policy’ – But What about Success?

What moral values can we teach if the definition of success itself has gone horribly wrong?

“The values drawn from thousands of years of human existence, as brought out in folklore and written in epics across the world cannot be wrong. It is the false value systems propagated over the last couple of hundred years, more so the last fifty years, which are wrong. Look around to see the poverty, deprivation, devastation of nature, war and strife and there should be no doubt that a false narrative of success is destroying humanity...”

around.

The values drawn from thousands of years of human existence, as brought out in folklore and written in epics across the world cannot be wrong. It is the false value systems propagated over the last couple of hundred years, more so the last fifty years, which are wrong. Look around to see the poverty, deprivation, devastation of nature, war and strife and there should be no doubt that a false narrative of success is destroying humanity.

One way to challenge this false definition of success is for all of us to realise that howsoever powerful the rich and mighty be, ultimately it is nature and its power which determines the course of history. The human race can survive and prosper only as long as it works in sync with nature. The nature of nature is quite clear. It seeks harmony and equilibrium. Everything moves according to laws and a human life span is an insignificant blip. The megalomania of a few powerful people may appear disastrous – indeed it will cause suffering and pain, but nature will reassert its huge power by causing corrective and constructive destruction.

The old cliché is true – “nature has enough for everyone’s needs but not for their greed”. Nature does not discriminate between people. In our quest for more, as we disturb the ecological balance and interfere with the habitats of the flora and fauna, we will be visited by floods, storms, climate change, famine, pestilence and pandemics. Gandhi said: “We must not lose faith in humanity. Humanity is an ocean; if a few drops of the ocean are dirty, the ocean does not become dirty”.

True we have come a long way from the time Gandhi walked this earth; the few drops do seem to look like a sluice valve turned full on. Yet, history is witness that the mightiest of kings, colonisers, rulers, capitalists and power brokers will eventually perish. The power of nature and the cycle of life and death are the only undeniable forces which sustain man. The ocean will destroy the dirt!

The second way is to inculcate a scientific temper in our young. This does not mean that all children have to be taught physics, chemistry or maths. Scientific temper would mean developing a systematic approach to looking at things, asking questions, understanding the concepts of ecology, demanding evidence for fantastic claims, insisting on finding the cause and effect of phenomenon and having the strength and courage to take questions from others.

Let there be no doubt, everyone has the capacity for

understanding nature as a whole. There is no right side or left side limit of the mind for science and arts, nor is science more difficult than arts. With good teachers it is easy to explain the basic concepts to every child. Remember, some of the most famous scientists and innovators like Albert Einstein, Galileo Galilei and Samuel Morse were also famous for their works of art and music. On the other hand, the music of Johann Sebastian Bach is often described as ‘mathematical’ due to its organised symmetry.

I could intuitively even say that worthwhile inventions are not forthcoming in the last sixty to seventy years because our educators created a divide between science education and education in the fine arts. Children should be taught that everything in nature connects to everything else. A global, scientific, innovative and imaginative mind alone can think of solutions for sustainable development and prosperity, not people living in silos.

The correct moral compass has to point in this direction. Let the educated men and women of fine arts, our doctors, scientists, engineers, industrial workers, agriculturists, teachers, academicians, and of course our young students assert their responsibility to take back control over our value systems. We must redefine success. Only those who are inquisitive, respect nature, seek truth and create harmony are successful in nurturing life. Call it a universal faith if you like. It can provide the vision and direction to steer back our country to a more egalitarian and functional social system, which will draw tremendous strength by learning to survive within the laws of nature.

While it may not be easy to change the false narratives immediately, each one of us can create small islands of scientific inquiry, respect for nature and moral excellence, wherever we are – at home or at the workplace. The goodness and wholesomeness will surely radiate from these moral havens, and as the value system and scientific temper permeates our schooling, we can look forward to a new kind of human existence; a ‘civilisational’ change, which the whole world will celebrate and rejoice in – perhaps even replicate!

Can Mauritius take the lead?

This is the third and final part of a three-part series of articles.

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The fight against economic fraud

● Cont. from page 2

The rising or falling of fraud was used as a metric to determine whether politicians and public servants were effective in their roles. At times, political or business opponents of the government were allegedly targeted by the measures. And some powerful business actors reportedly got around regulations.

Sixth, corruption, as well as in-fights, conflicts, tensions and power struggles within and between state agencies charged with anti-fraud measures, featured too. One example was Kenya Bureau of Standards. In recent years, several managing directors of the bureau were accused of graft.

The seventh feature was that many anti-fraud measures were carried out by specialised for-profit private actors. They were therefore arguably shaped by business interests, competition for anti-fraud measure contracts, and the dynamics of industries and markets.

We also found that international companies specialising in regulations and standards often played a role. Such commercially oriented actors were particularly active in promoting the proliferation of anti-fraud measures.

Eight, arrests, confiscation and destruction of items were widespread in reports about anti-fraud activity.

Ninth, we noticed a prevalence of anti-fraud measures in efforts to increase tax revenue and inhibit illicit financial flows. Various initiatives emphasised the need to increase compliance. At times we detected tensions in



moves to create an “enabling” business environment to attract foreign investment – such as low taxes – and calls to protect the national tax bases.

We found there was international cooperation and the involvement of civil society actors in efforts to address tax evasion and transnational money laundering. One example was the Tax Justice Network.

Tenth, civil society actors seemed to have a limited role – or no role at all – in various anti-fraud measure coalitions. In some cases, however, they seemed to play a larger role. One example was consumer protection agencies.

Challenges

A challenge we identified was that anti-fraud measures could be launched and sustained for reasons that went beyond an interest in simply fighting fraud. This included commercial interests of specialised anti-fraud

firms. These were often companies that operated globally. Other interests at play included governments that used anti-fraud platforms to seek legitimacy or state agencies that sought government funding as well as new areas of operations and streams of revenues.

We also came across criticisms in some cases of the measures’ design, costs, bureaucracy and impracticality. There were also concerns about the heavy-handed way in which some measures were implemented.

Anti-fraud measures are mostly initiated and shaped by powerful actors. This includes big business, particularly transnational companies, rather than grassroots or activist organisations. They are uneven across sectors (for example, the financial sector gets significant attention), and they seem to have become a business and revenue generation vehicle in itself.

It is important to acknowledge that some measures certainly make a positive impact and that efforts are made by various agencies to address internal and other shortcomings, thereby improving the effectiveness of measures. But the question remains: how can countries substantially contain “irregularities” in situations where the irregular has become widespread, routine and institutionalised? And the dominant agendas and pressures of the day – such as economic growth, profit and commercialisation – are highly conducive to fraud.

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Programme des Courses

8è journée samedi 3 juillet 2021

1 THE RIVER RUN CUP 1600 m - Valeur [0-20] - 12h15					
1 Seoul	JMH	0-0-0-0-2	60	G.D.Aucharuz	5 320
2 Eagles Vision	SPN	6-2/8-R-6	59.5	K.Kalychurun	7 480
3 Opague	G	0-5-7/4-2	59.5	S.Donohoe	3 260
4 Midnight Oracle	SPN	4-6-10/7-7	59.5	B.Soolful	1 1600
5 Glitterrock	AS	6-7-7-8-8/	59.5	S.Rama	9 2000
6 Kali's Champ	CR	5-4-6-7/7	58.5	R.Joorawon	6 1600
7 Desert Thief	RG	3-1-3-3/3	58(-4)	J.Allyhosain	4 500
8 Double Gratitude	RM	7-4-7/8-5	58	P.C.Orffer	2 800
9 Greatfieight	CD	6-7-4/9-4	57.5	M.Sonaram	8 1600

2 THE LE TURBO CUP 1500 m - Valeur [0-25] - 12h50					
1 Al Madhar	GR	nouveau	60	N.Teeha	7 260
2 Barak Lavan	SN	2-6-5-8-8/	59.5	G.D.Aucharuz	5 1000
3 Eurotec	RM	0-0-0-0-1	59.5	P.C.Orffer	8 430
4 Flowerscape	RG	3-4-1/2-4	59.5	J.Allyhosain	1 350
5 Fundraiser	P	0-7-A/7-3	59.5	O.Sola	2 1000
6 Ticket Holder	SJ	7-7-10/9-8	59.5	T.Juglall	9 2500
7 Street Byte	CD	6-5-3-1/5	59(-4)	M.Sonaram	4 2000
8 The Riddler	SH	10-7-2/6-1	59	I.Santana	6 500
9 Chosen Way	G	0-0-0-0-7	58	S.Donohoe	3 1200

3 THE ZILLAH CUP 1400 m - Valeur Benchmark 36 - 13h25					
1 Alameery	SJ	0-0-0-8-4	60	N.Teeha	1 300
2 Good Buddy	JMH	5-6-3/7-4	60	R.Joorawon	4 500
3 Kingsman	P	4-4-7/8-3	60	O.Sola	2 350
4 Skip The Red	RM	1-7-1-R-8/	60	P.C.Orffer	7 1400
5 Nao Faz Mal	RG	6-2-3-1/3	59.5	J.Allyhosain	3 280
6 The Jazz Singer	SH	1/8-7-6-9/	59.5	I.Santana	6 1800
7 Zigi Zagi Zugi	SN	7-3-3-5/C	59.5	G.D.Aucharuz	5 600

4 THE HOLDALL CUP 1600 m - Valeur Benchmark 46 - 14h00					
1 Carbon Fibre	SPN	0-0-0-0-7	60	R.Joorawon	1 1000
2 Lemon Drop Shot	P	7-2-4-8/4	60	G.D.Aucharuz	7 360
3 Liverpool Champ	GR	0-0-0-0-3	60	N.Teeha	4 260
4 Afdeek	RM	3-2-5/4-8	59.5	P.C.Orffer	9 750
5 Ovation Award	GR	5-3-4-3/6	59.5	B.Bhaugeerothee	3 430
6 John Hancock	G	6-9-6-3/6	59	S.Donohoe	5 550
7 Inauguration	CR	9-6-4-7/4	58.5(-4)	N.S.Batchameah	6 1500
8 Protea Paradise	RG	6-4-5-10/5	58.5	J.Allyhosain	2 1800
9 Absolutist	AS	nouveau	58	S.Rama	8 2500

5 THE PONDICHERY CUP - 1365 m - Valeur [50+] - 14h35					
1 Rule The Night	GR	1-3-5-2/C	61(-3)	A.Roy	2 290
2 Virtue	CR	1-1-2-4/3	58(-4)	N.S.Batchameah	1 400
3 Wall Tag	VA	5-3-3/2-1	57.5	B.Fayd'herbe	7 380
4 Pietro Mascagni	SN	4-7-4-4-7/	56.5	T.Juglall	3 2500
5 Kamadeva	RG	1-5-N-2/1	54	S.Rama	4 290
6 Prince Of Persia	G	3-5-1/3-2	53	Y.Emamdee	6 550
7 Etched In Blue	JMH	0-0-0-0-3	52	B.Soolful	5 2000

6 THE TABASCOREZ CUP 990 m - Valeur Benchmark 51 - 15h10					
1 Toro Bravo	SN	1-1-R-1/1	60	G.D.Aucharuz	5 250
2 Gimmetherain	SJ	3-1-1-5-5/	59.5	T.Juglall	4 2000
3 Colour My Fate	AS	nouveau	59	S.Rama	7 1000
4 Emerald Band	VA	2-2-1-6/4	59	B.Fayd'herbe	2 290
5 Henry Tudor	CD	2-6-6-9/9	59(-4)	M.Sonaram	1 650
6 Yorktown	RG	nouveau	59	J.Allyhosain	8 900
7 Candy Apple	GR	3-4-2/5-1	56	B.Soolful	3 420
8 Waimea	JMH	nouveau	54	R.Joorawon	6 1400
9 Hooves of Thunder[EA]	AS	0-0-0-8-10	59	-----	9 ----

7 THE GAETAN HALBWACHS CUP 1365 m - Valeur [50+] - 15h45					
1 Black Cat Back	G	4-1-7/1-1/	61	S.Donohoe	7 550
2 Count Jack	GR	0-0-0-0-6	58.5	N.Teeha	4 260
3 Horse Guards	CD	1-6/5-1/4	57.5(-4)	M.Sonaram	1 260
4 Alramz	RM	0-0-0-0-9	56.5	P.C.Orffer	5 900
5 Vascostreettractor	SJ	1-3-2-7/8	55.5	R.Joorawon	3 1000
6 Huyssteen	RG	2-1-4-1/1	53	S.Rama	2 400
7 We Light The Fire	CR	nouveau	52	K.Kalychurun	6 2000

8 THE SHADARI CUP 1850 m - Valeur Benchmark 31 - 16h20					
1 Nimitz	SJ	0-0-5-6/3	60	N.Teeha	6 290
2 Potawatomi	SN	2-6-8/3-9	60(-3)	A.Roy	3 2200
3 Dreamforest	CD	5-5/3-1-2	59.5(-4)	M.Sonaram	4 500
4 Alssakhra	G	5-6-5-4/3	58.5	S.Donohoe	5 380
5 Subtropical	SPN	4-6-9/9-4	58.5	K.Kalychurun	1 1800
6 Overdose	AS	5-4-2/6-4	58	S.Rama	7 800
7 Giratorio	VA	0-0-0-3-2	57.5	B.Fayd'herbe	8 280
8 West Coast Warrior	RG	3-3-3/5-3	57.5(-4)	N.S.Batchameah	2 1200

9 THE BAISER DE PAIX PLATE 1450 m - Valeur [0-26] - 16h55					
1 Free To Win	SH	nouveau	60	I.Santana	1 500
2 Gontravelin	CR	nouveau	60(-4)	N.S.Batchameah	3 2000
3 Grand Vision	G	nouveau	60	S.Donohoe	8 800
4 Supreme Elevation	JMH	nouveau	60(-3)	A.Roy	2 1600
5 Hardfallingrain	CD	0-0-0-0-8	59.5	R.Joorawon	7 800
6 Master Of Disguise	VA	nouveau	59.5	B.Fayd'herbe	5 280
7 Amandla	JMH	9-2-3/5-1	59	G.D.Aucharuz	4 450
8 Grey Again	RG	6-7-4/5-2	58.5	B.Bhaugeerothee	6 300

S E L E C T I O N S					
1. Desert Thief, Eagles Vision, Seoul					
2. Al Madhar, Flowerscape, Eurotec					
3. Nao Faz Mal, Alameery, Good Buddy					
4. Liverpool Champ, Lemon Drop Shot, John Hancock					
5. Rule The Night, Virtue, Wall Tag					
6. Toro Bravo, Candy Apple, Emerald Band					
7. Horse Guards, Huyssteen, Black Cat Back					
8. Nimitz, Giratorio, Alssakhra					
9. Master Of Disguise, Amandla, Grey Again					

The Coronavirus Delta Variant Threat - More Contagious and Deadly

● Cont. from page 4

The country cannot take any risks with such a deadly variant of coronavirus and put the hotel and frontliners of the hospitality sector as well as the vulnerable elderly and people at large at risk. It would be disastrous if the Delta variant were to enter the country.

Every precaution must therefore be taken to prevent the delta variant from entering the country. This means very carefully choosing the countries air flights to Mauritius will be allowed from and more importantly which Delta variant free countries whose nationals would be allowed to come. The prudent and sensible action to take would be to ban tourists and travellers from all Delta variant infected countries. The government cannot water down or botch such crucial decisions.

Preventing mayhem

We should remember that despite months having elapsed since the start of the second wave of infection in Mauritius, we still do not know

how it all started. It is obvious that, as was the case for the 2020 Covid-19 outbreak, the virus was imported into the country through an incoming traveller. Rodrigues remains Covid-free because every precaution is taken to limit travel to the island and prevent the spread of the virus to Rodrigues.

The facts are telling. Despite all the robust and costly measures in place in terms of contact tracing, thousands of daily PCR tests, quarantine and sanitary and social distancing measures since early March, the authorities have as yet been unable to stem the spread of the second wave of Covid-19 infection as new cases continue to be detected almost daily in the community. Under such circumstances, the more contagious and deadly Delta variant would wreak havoc and cause socio-economic and health mayhem if it were to enter the country. The authorities must therefore take every action necessary to prevent this.

Mrinal Roy

Vaccination Anti-Covid

● Suite de la page 9

La pharmacovigilance se résume alors à remonter des données nationales aux fournisseurs de vaccins et aux organisations internationales. Comment dans ces conditions, estimer l'impact réel de la vaccination sur la santé publique, et surtout le risque d'émergence de pathologies à grande échelle?

Le contraire d'une politique de gestion des risques

Pourtant, avec l'ambition d'une vaccination de masse, la gestion du risque à échelle collective, en termes de santé publique, s'impose comme une nécessité d'importance nationale. Or, c'est tout le contraire d'une politique de gestion des risques qui est mis en place avec ce 'consent form'. En politique publique, la gestion des risques vise à identifier et évaluer les risques liés aux activités humaines ou naturelles, ainsi que les publics exposés, ce qui permet aux autorités de contrôler et, si possible, de réduire la probabilité des événements redoutés, leur impact éventuel, mais aussi et surtout la prise en charge des dommages éventuels.

Pourquoi, en matière de santé publique, la notion de risque a-t-elle été évaluée en faveur des entités internationales que sont le GAVI,

les pays fournisseurs et les fabricants de vaccins, sans considération pour la protection des citoyens mauriciens? Si demain, ou après-demain, la recherche médicale et les faits montrent une surmortalité vaccinale, ou encore une augmentation de certaines pathologies découlant de la vaccination de masse de la population mauricienne, à qui reviendra la charge de gérer le fardeau ainsi occasionné sur la santé publique (et sur les finances publiques)?

Une facture qui pourrait s'alourdir encore, alors que des 'regulations' ministérielles viennent instaurer l'obligation vaccinale de catégories de personnels comme les soignants et les enseignants (une vaccination devenue «volontaire sous la contrainte», où le consentement est donc vicié). En fin de compte, c'est le gouvernement lui-même qui risque d'être le plus pénalisé par les effets secondaires de ce 'consent form' et d'une politique de (non-) gestion du risque vaccinal. Le GM viendrait-il d'abdiquer sa souveraineté en matière de santé publique? Et si, au contraire, la pandémie de Covid-19 était l'occasion d'instaurer une véritable politique de pharmacovigilance pour Maurice, dans laquelle l'État et la société seraient partenaires pour le bien commun?

Catherine Boudet

1 THE ALEXEI CUP 990 m - Valeur [0-20] - 12h15					
1 Arctic Flyer	SPN	6-5-5-7/3	60	K.Kalychurun	2
2 Crushing Force	JMH	0-0-1/8-5	60	G.D.Aucharuz	5
3 Secret Circle	SJ	0-0-0-9-6	60	T.Juglall	7
4 What A Kid	RG	7-N-5-5/2	60	J.Allyhosain	4
5 Dunzie	CD	2-2-2/5-4	59.5(-4)	M.Sonaram	6
6 Million Dollar Man	CR	nouveau	58.5(-4)	N.S.Batchameah	1
7 Mauritius	SH	nouveau	58	I.Santana	3

2 THE WILD AMBER CUP 1600 m - Valeur Benchmark 36 - 12h50					
1 Edge of The Sun	AS	7-2-6/4-10	61	S.Rama	9
2 Eight Cities	VA	1-9-9-9/7	61	B.Fayd'herbe	1
3 Ernie	JMH	7-7-7/6-4	61(-3)	A.Roy	7
4 Paddingtons Luck	GR	2-7-2/1-8	61	N.Teeha	5
5 Bound By Duty	RM	5-1-1/6-2	60.5	P.C.Orffer	4
6 Power Tower	RG	7-1-2-3/1	60.5	J.Allyhosain	8
7 Yankeedoodledandy	G	4-9-11-8/3	60.5	S.Donohoe	3
8 Itdawnedonme	SH	2-8-5/2-10	60	I.Santana	10
9 G I Joe	PM	0-0-0-1-3	59	R.Oliver	6
10 Perfect Pursuit	SN	1-6-5/5-6	57	G.D.Aucharuz	2

3 THE AMERICA CHALLENGE CUP 1450 m - Valeur Benchmark 41 - 13h25					
1 Bold Phoenix	SJ	1-3-1-1/4	60	R.Joorawon	2
2 Promissory	VA	3-1-3/6-7	60	B.Fayd'herbe	4
3 Clouded Hill	JMH	0-9-9/8-7	59.5(-3)	A.Roy	1
4 Taking Silk	GR	nouveau	59.5	N.Teeha	5
5 Uncle Frank	SPN	1-4-1-3-4/	58.5	K.Kalychurun	3
6 Silver Heritage	RM	2-2-1-1/4	58	P.C.Orffer	7
7 Varside	SH	4-2-3/2-2	58	I.Santana	6

4 THE PIERRE NOEL CUP 990 m - Valeur Benchmark 46 - 14h00					
1 Bold Horizon	AS	nouveau	61	S.Rama	9
2 Zo Lucky	SJ	nouveau	60.5	R.Boutanive	10
3 Soul Connection	SPN	nouveau	60	G.D.Aucharuz	11
4 Tripod	CR	3-6-8-3/5	59.5(-4)	N.S.Batchameah	7
5 Nevil Mu	GR	nouveau	59	N.Teeha	3
6 Dark Force	RM	2-6-1-1/8	58.5	P.C.Orffer	4
7 Mac 'N Scar	SH	6-7-3-8/3	58	I.Santana	1
8 Ninotto	RG	3-5-2-5/3	57.5	J.Allyhosain	5
9 Harmonica	JMH	7-3-7-5/7	57	R.Joorawon	8
10 Captain Garett	GR	6-R-2/1-1	56.5	B.Sooiful	6
11 El Patron	SN	1-2-3-N-1	54	T.Juglall	2

5 THE SERVO WORLD CLASS LUBRICANT CUP 1500 m - Valeur Benchmark 61 - 14h35					
1 Trippi's Express	RG	2-3-1-3/2	62(-4)	N.S.Batchameah	8
2 Haylor	SJ	N-5-1/9-8	61(-3)	A.Roy	6
3 Ideal Secret	RM	2-4-1/3-6	61	S.Rama	11
4 Triple Fate Line	SH	4-5-4-R/1	60.5	I.Santana	1
5 Spring Man	RM	3-1-7-1-4/	59.5	P.C.Orffer	10
6 Tower Of Wisdom	GR	3-3-N-6/4	59.5	N.Teeha	2
7 Stream Ahead	CD	5-3-1-N/6	59(-4)	M.Sonaram	9
8 Creation	SPN	nouveau	58	G.D.Aucharuz	5
9 Northern Spy	SJ	1-1-5-1-1/	58	J.Allyhosain	7
10 Pop Icon	SPN	0-0-0-7-R	56.5	K.Kalychurun	4
11 Big Mistake	PM	6-8-3-7/7	55	R.Oliver	3

6 THE INDIANOIL BARBE CUP 2021 1600 m - Valeur P. d'Age [60+] G.1 - 15h10					
1 Twist Of Fate	VA	0-0-0-1-4	58	B.Fayd'herbe	7
2 Undercover Agent	RM	4-1-4-3/5	58	P.C.Orffer	2
3 Alyaasaat	GR	2-1-1-2/1	58	N.Teeha	4
4 Alshibaa	RM	3/3-1-2-1/	58	R.Joorawon	9
5 Patrol Officer	GR	1-1-1-1/3	58	J.Allyhosain	12
6 Marshall Foch	GR	0-0-0-0-10	58	B.Bhaugerothee	1
7 Opera Royal	SH	4-5-2-5/5	58	I.Santana	3
8 The Dazzler	SN	5-2-4-1/6	58	G.D.Aucharuz	8
9 Iditarod Trail	GR	1-1-2-7/6	58	B.Sooiful	6
10 Marauding	G	2-1-1-6/2	58	S.Donohoe	11
11 Specialtheclocks	CD	0-0-0-7-7	58	M.Sonaram	10
12 Special Blend[EA]	SPN	0-0-0-0-9	58	-----	5

7 THE INDIANOIL BRINGING ENERGY TO LIFE CUP 1450 m - Valeur Benchmark 41 - 15h45					
1 Lighthearted	P	0-2-7-8/8	60	O.Sola	4
2 St Vladimir	CR	nouveau	60(-4)	N.S.Batchameah	5
3 Swagger Jagger	PM	0-0-0-2-7	59.5	R.Oliver	1
4 Captain Gone Wild	SH	1-5-4-5/3	59	I.Santana	6
5 High Voltage	AS	0-0-0-0-R	58	S.Rama	7
6 Savvy	SJ	0-6-7/9-6	58	T.Juglall	3
7 The Byzantine	JMH	5-6/R-4-8	58	J.Allyhosain	2

8 THE EXPERTISE PLATE 1450 m - Valeur Benchmark 31 - 16h20					
1 Mr Hardy	CR	2-8-3-5/2	60(-4)	N.S.Batchameah	8
2 Desert Illusion	SN	0-0-0-4-1	59.5	G.D.Aucharuz	7
3 Jals Tiger	GR	1-3-3/2-5	59.5	N.Teeha	10
4 Winter Guard	AS	0-0-0-2-1	59.5	S.Rama	2
5 Ladder Man	P	3-7-4-7/8	59	O.Sola	11
6 River Thames	SJ	1-7-8/2-6	59	J.Allyhosain	6
7 Wordbuster	VA	6-2-8-2/8	59	B.Fayd'herbe	9
8 Nikhils Inn	PM	0-0-0-3-2	58.5	R.Oliver	5
9 Straight	JMH	2-2-4/6-1	58.5	B.Sooiful	1
10 Adamo	SH	6-5/8/7-4	57.5	I.Santana	4
11 Oxford Blue	CD	0-0-0-7-4	57.5(-4)	M.Sonaram	3

SELECTIONS

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Dunzie, What A Kid, Arctic Flyer | 5. Trippi's Express, Spring Man, Triple Fate Line |
| 2. G I Joe, Power Tower, Yankeedoodledandy | 6. Alyaasaat, Patrol Officer, Marauding |
| 3. Uncle Frank, Silver Heritage, Promissory | 7. Captain Gone Wild, Lighthearted, High Voltage |
| 4. Ninotto, Tripod, Captain Garett | 8. Nikhils Inn, Winter Guard, Straight |



A parliament of baboons

The English language has some wonderfully anthropomorphic collective nouns for the various groups of animals.

Herd of cows.
Flock of chicken.
School of fish.
Gaggle of geese.
A pride of lions.

However, less widely known

A murder of crows.

An exaltation of doves.

And, presumably because they look so wise: A congress of owls.

Now consider a group of baboons.

They are the loudest, most dangerous, most obnoxious, most viciously aggressive and least intelligent of all primates.

And what is the proper collective noun

for a group of baboons?

Believe it or not it is a parliament!

Yes, a parliament of baboons!

Pretty much explains everything doesn't it?

A gynaecologist waits on his last patient, who does not arrive.

After an hour, he makes a gin and tonic to relax. After he settles into an arm-chair to read the newspaper, he hears the doorbell ring.

It's the patient, who arrives all embarrassed and apologizes for the delay.

"It doesn't matter," answers the doctor. "Look, I was having a gin and tonic while waiting. Do you want one to help you relax?"

"I accept, thanks!" she answers. He gives her a drink, sits down in front of her and they start talking. Suddenly someone is heard opening the entrance office door.

The doctor looks worried, gets up and says: "My wife! Quick, take off your clothes and spread your legs, otherwise she might think there is some nonsense going on!"

Punchlines

1. I'm a nobody, nobody is perfect, and therefore I'm perfect.
2. I've got to sit down and work out

where I stand.

3. If I save time, when do I get it back?
4. Where there's a will, I want to be in it.
5. I am free of all prejudices. I hate everyone equally.
6. Take my advice, I don't use it any way.
7. The statement below is true. The statement above is false.
8. As I said before, I never repeat myself.
9. Sometimes I need what only you can provide: your absence.
10. I wish there was a knob on the TV to turn up the intelligence. There's a knob called brightness, but it doesn't work.
11. A conscience does not prevent sin. It only prevents you from enjoying it.
12. If at first you don't succeed, skydiving is not for you.
13. War doesn't determine who's right. War determines who's left.
14. Best way to prevent hangover is to stay drunk.
15. Doesn't expecting the unexpected make the unexpected become the expected?
16. If your father is a poor man, it is your fate, but if your father-in-law is a poor man, it's your stupidity.
17. I was born intelligent - education ruined me.

18. A bus station is where a bus stops. A train station is where train stops. On my desk, I have a work station... What more can I say?
19. If it's true that we are here to help others, then what exactly are the others here for?
20. Since light travels faster than sound, people appear bright until you hear them speak.
21. How come "abbreviated" is such a long word.
22. Don't frown. You never know who is falling in love with your smile.
23. The best of proverbs: Should women have children after 35? No, 35 children are enough.
24. Living on earth may be expensive... but it includes an annual free trip around the sun.
25. Your future depends on your dreams So go to sleep!
26. Alcohol kills slowly. So what? who's in a hurry?
27. Whom are you working for? Same people. My wife and kids.
28. Can you do anything that other people can't? Sure, I can read my handwriting.
29. A drunk was hauled into court. Mister, the judge began, you've been brought here for drinking... Great, the drunk exclaimed. When do we get started?

Life's Lessons

The Story of the Donkey and Tiger

The donkey told the tiger: "The grass is blue."

The tiger replied: "No, the grass is green."

The discussion became heated, and the two decided to submit the issue to arbitration, and to do so they approached the lion, King of the Jungle.

Before reaching the clearing in the forest where the lion was sitting on his throne, the donkey started screaming: "Your Highness, is it true that grass is blue?"

The lion replied: "True, the grass is blue."

The donkey rushed forward and continued: "The tiger disagrees with me and annoys me. Please punish him."

The king then declared: "The tiger will be punished with 5 years of silence."

The donkey jumped for joy and went on his way, content and



repeating: "The grass is blue."

The tiger accepted his punishment, but he asked the lion: "Your Majesty, why have you punished me? After all, the grass is green."

The lion replied: "In fact, the grass is green."

The tiger asked: "So why do you punish me?"

The lion replied: "That has nothing to do with the question of whether the grass is blue or green. The punishment is because it is not possible for a brave, intelligent creature like you to waste time arguing with a donkey, and on top of that to come and

bother me with that question."

The worst waste of time is arguing with the fool and fanatic who doesn't care about the truth or reality, but only the victory of their beliefs and illusions. Never waste time on discussions that make no sense... There are people who for all the evidence presented to them, do not have the ability to understand, and others who are blinded by ego, hatred and resentment, and the only thing that they want is to be right even if they aren't. When ignorance screams, intelligence shuts up. Your peace and tranquillity are worth more.

-- Author unknown

Home Tips

Why you ought to leave a coin in the freezer

When on holidays or when out of the house for some days, there is no way to know if there was a power outage in your absence or for how long there was no electricity, right?

There is a possibility that the power outage was for several days, leading to defrosting of food and its deterioration. Once the electricity comes back, foods freeze again and you almost do not notice that they were thawed. Thawed food can be really dangerous as certain types of foods are at risk of spreading salmonella and other bacteria!

Below is a way to find out if and how long your freezer was without electricity! And more importantly you can find out if you can consume the food in the freezer.

For this you need: a cup, a coin, and water.

First pour water into a cup and place it in the freezer. When the water in the cup is frozen, put a coin on top of the frozen water in the cup. After returning home, before taking out the food from the freezer, look at where the coin is!

If the coin is still at the top or in the middle of the cup, there was no power failure or power outage was for a short time, so the water was only partly melted.

If the coin is at the bottom of a cup, it means that electricity failure was for a long time, so the water completely melted and the coin sank all the way to the bottom of the cup. At that point, it is advisable not to consume the foods from the freezer.

Happy & safe eating!

Healthy Beauty

Stop making these beauty mistakes

Find out why you shouldn't brush your teeth after drinking coffee, go swimming with dry hair, or shave before a pedicure.

You brush after coffee

It's true that the acid or sugar in coffee, sodas, and fruit juice eat away at your teeth's outer shell, called enamel. But don't try to scrub them off right away. When you brush your teeth right after you down an acidic food or drink, you will remove that weak enamel. Instead, swish well with water and wait at least 1 hour before you brush. Even better, brush before you sip.

You skip water at cocktail hour

Red wine is an obvious teeth-stainer, but white wine has acid and tannins, too. They can damage your enamel and make teeth easier to stain. Alcohol also dries out your mouth, which means you have less saliva to wash away acid and bacteria. To protect your teeth and prevent staining, rinse your mouth with water after every drink.

You swim with dry hair

Pool water has chemicals that damage hair and turn blonde locks green. Think of your hair like a dried-out sponge: If you wet it with tap water before you swim, it can't soak up as much in the pool. When you get out, wash your hair right away,



preferably with an after-swim shampoo.

You shampoo too much ... Or too little

Shampoo strips hair of your scalp's natural oils. Do it too much and your locks will get dull and dry. But how often your suds up depend on your hair type. For fine, straight hair, you can shampoo every day if oil and dirt build up, but many experts say you should do it every 2 to 3 days. Thicker or curly hair can go a few days to a week between cleansings. People with very textured hair can wash it once or twice a month. Ask your stylist what routine and products are right for your hair.

You skip conditioner

Maybe you worry it will weigh your hair down. Or you just don't have time for it. But without it, hair will get dry and dull. To keep your strands looking smooth and healthy, apply a lightweight conditioner each time you wash your hair. Put it on the ends of your strands (not the roots). Use your fingers to work it in.

You swab out your ears

It may feel good, but cotton swabs actually push earwax in deeper. What's more, you might even damage your eardrum or the tiny bones that help you

hear. So how are you supposed to clean out earwax? Ideally, you shouldn't have to -- your body can clear it out on its own. But if your ears feel full, you hear ringing, or you have trouble hearing, see your doctor. They can decide how to safely remove the wax.

You use deodorant to stop sweat

Deodorant masks odor, but if you've got sticky or sweaty armpits, antiperspirant is what you need. It stops moisture by plugging sweat glands. Do you put it on fresh out of your morning shower? Read the instructions first. Some products should go on at night and again in the morning on dry skin. Got sweaty palms? You can use antiperspirant there, too.

You shave right before a pedicure

You may not want your nail technician to feel your hairy legs. But the tiny breaks in your skin right after you shave are the perfect entry point for any bacteria in the foot bath. That could lead to an infection. Don't shave at least 24 hours before a pedicure. On that note, don't let your aesthetician cut your cuticles, since that also creates an opening for germs.

You don't swap your razor

If you're using a dull razor to shave, you'll likely need to pass over the same area multiple times to get smooth. That creates tiny cuts in your skin that can lead to bumps, rashes, irritation, and infection. After about five to seven shaves -- or any time you need to go over an area multiple times -- it's time to switch blades.

You linger in steaming showers

Hot water dries out skin. If you have eczema, that can lead to flare ups. So, skip the long, hot showers and baths. Instead, keep the tap on warm. You'll know the temperature is too hot if your skin is red or feels warm when you step out.

You scrub your face

You don't need to scrub with a washcloth to clear the day's grime from your face. All your skin needs is a gentle massage with your fingertips and a mild cleanser. Wash your face once or twice a day in lukewarm or cool water. Check the label of your cleanser, and skip those with alcohol or abrasive ingredients. Rinse thoroughly.

You load up on skin products

Besides a gentle cleanser on your face, dermatologists say the only essentials are a moisturizer and a broad-spectrum sunscreen, SPF 30 or higher. Serums are pricey with unproven benefits, and toners may lead to dry and irritated skin. For acne, don't use multiple products with salicylic acid and benzoyl peroxide. They can combine to irritate skin. If drugstore acne treatments aren't working for you, talk to your dermatologist.

You soap up your sensitive areas

The private parts are super sensitive. So, skip harsh soaps that are scented or anti-septic -- they can throw off the balance of bacteria that keep the area healthy. The same goes for douches, scented wipes, and deodorants. All you need is plain, unperfumed soap to gently wash around the area every day.

Reviewed by Debra Jaliman, MD - WebMD

Ways to test your relationship before moving in together

Relationships are difficult and there is no doubt about it. A relationship that looks happy and successful to the outside world, may have actually gone through a bumpy ride in becoming so. It involves a lot of compromises, adjustments, and sacrifices. It is only after these that two people are able to finally be in a loving relationship. In addition, it is important to test one's relationship every now and then to keep everything in check. And for this, the couple doesn't need to live together. Here are some ways to test your relationship without moving in together.

Interact with your friends and family

When two people start dating, there are high chances they will cordon themselves off into an isolated bubble. This results in a limited purview of each other. Thus, observe how your partner interacts with each of your friends and family. How they treat them could give you an understanding of how you will be treated in a household setup.

Get clear on your values and expectations

Conversations about your values, beliefs, and expectations for your future life together should begin fairly early



in a relationship and will get deeper and more detailed as it becomes clearer that a future together is a realistic possibility. The underlying beliefs of your partner may give you an idea of what direction your shared lives will go.

Interact in a wide variety of situations

To get to know someone to a greater extent, it's helpful to see how they personally handle the unexpected and the extent to which you are able to work through difficulties together. Thus, navigate new kinds of experiences and interact with different types of people.

Travel together

Travelling can help you see how your significant other handles new people and places and deals with unexpected situations. Also, plotting out a significant trip takes some real effort and is a good chance to see how you work together as a team.

Do premarital training or counseling

Taking a premarital course can help facilitate some key valuable discussions, identify potential issues and disagreements, and teach relationship-strengthening tools.

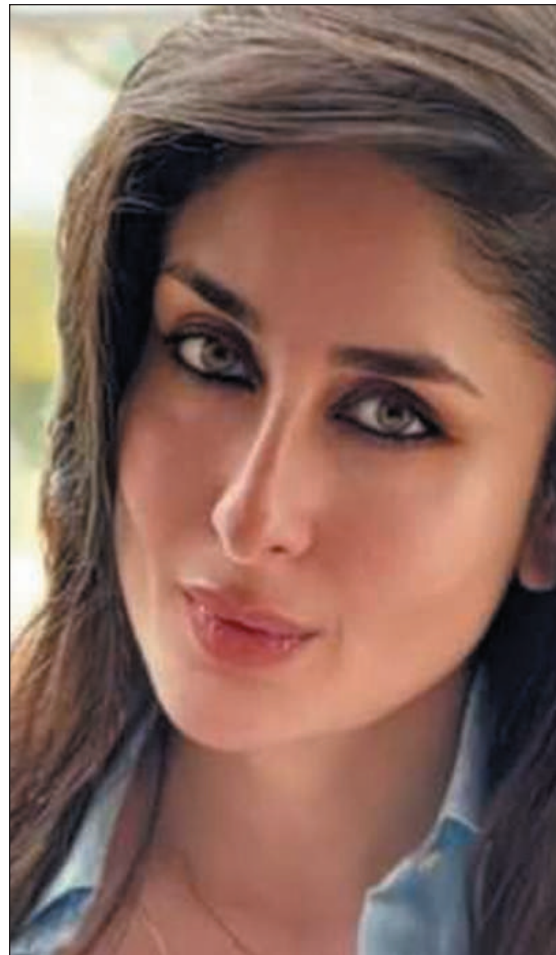
“Grateful, Happy, Blessed, Motivated”: Kareena Kapoor on completing 21 years in Bollywood

The 40-year-old actress completed 21 glorious years in Bollywood as her debut film *Refugee* clocked 21 years on Wednesday 30 June 21. Besides Kareena, the film also marked Abhishek Bachchan's Bollywood debut.

Kareena Kapoor marked the day with a special Instagram video that features clips from the movie. The video also features a poster of the film and a few still shots of Kareena Kapoor. In the caption of her Instagram post, Kareena expressed gratitude and thanked "everyone for the continuous love and support."

Kareena also said that's she is "ready" for another 21 years in the film industry. "21 years. Grateful, happy, blessed, motivated, passionate... 21 more to go... I'm ready. Thank you to everyone for the continuous love and support," she wrote in the caption, reports NDTV.

Kareena Kapoor received the Filmfare Award For Best Female Debut for her work in *Refugee*. She later delivered critically-acclaimed performances in films like *Jab We Met*, *Kabhi Khushi Kabhie Gham...*, *Chameli*, *Omkara* and many others.



Kareena was last seen in Homi Adajania's film *Angrezi Medium*, co-starring late actor Irrfan Khan. She will next be seen in Amir Khan's upcoming film *Laal Singh Chaddha*.

Bollywood's first 'intimacy coordinator' wants safe standards for sex scenes



She is hired for scenes involving nudity, simulated sexual intimacy and sexual violence.

"It was absolutely bizarre to see that while there were stunt coordinators for action sequences, and dance choreographers for Indian song-and-dance sequences, there were none for filming intimate scenes," Khanna told DW.

"Culturally, intimacy is not discussed. It is considered scandalous or provocative. Because it is taboo even behind the screen, it is extremely important for us to constantly have conversations about it."

What does an 'intimacy coordinator' do?

"My role entails talking about consent and boundaries with the actors first, understanding the scene and choreographing it according to the director's vision. I also make sure new changes are not made post-production," Khanna told DW.

In India, "intimacy coordination is largely a foreign concept and actors are mostly left to figure it out for themselves and are expected to be comfortable on their own," says Amit Kaur, a director's assistant who worked on Indian films for a decade.

Production crews have normally been responsible for the well-being of actors on Bollywood sets. But now India's film industry has its first certified intimacy coordinator, reports DW.

Production crews have normally been responsible for the well-being of actors on Bollywood sets. But now India's film industry has its first certified intimacy coordinator.

Aastha Khanna says she wants to create a safe space for actors on set while choreographing sex scenes. She is putting together a collective of intimacy professionals and is drawing up guidelines for Bollywood film producers.

YOUR STARS

Sagittarius: Nov 22 - Dec 21

You'll be endowed with much energy; make a frontal attack on your most ambitious projects. Accept your beloved one as he/she is, you'll consolidate the ties which bind you two together. Conflictual relationships with one of your children; show yourself firm but understanding.

Lucky Numbers: 2, 3, 4, 12, 20, 33

Capricorn: Dec 22 - Jan 19

Beware of a possible burglary. Your current romance will go through a rough zone; will it succeed in resisting this first test? This will depend mostly on you for your mate seems to value you very much and is ready to make concessions.

Lucky Numbers: 13, 20, 25, 26, 30, 31

Aquarius: Jan 20 - Feb 18

You'll enjoy good luck in money dealings. Career wise, you won't have to make titanic efforts to get very good results. Pains in your back and cardiac palpitations are probable; spare your forces and avoid all occasion of edginess.

Lucky Numbers: 1, 2, 9, 16, 20, 31

Pisces: Feb 19 - Mar 20

Pleasurable family life; your children will give you great satisfactions. Heart wise, your charm will be very much appreciated, and you'll know how to play with it skilfully. Career wise, this week will be rich in unexpected but favourable changes.

Lucky Numbers: 4, 15, 19, 21, 30, 36

Aries: Mar 21 - Apr 19

In love, you'll always want more pleasure; in case of a temptation, ask yourself if the person of your desires is really worth it. In your job, your need for expansion will push you to take excessive risks. Hardly favourable week for a moving.

Lucky Numbers: 4, 11, 18, 20, 21, 36

Taurus: Apr 20 - May 20

Beware of your present tendency to extol your qualities and merits; discretion will prove more beneficial. A favourable week to launch whatever project or to take up a new job. You'll by moments have the impression of being misunderstood by your family circle.

Lucky Numbers: 5, 9, 12, 16, 20, 36

Gemini: May 21 - June 20

Beware of your unstable humour which may complicate your relationships. Put your ideas into due order. Family problems which you thought already solved will make a comeback. Try painstakingly to find an acceptable solution to them.

Lucky Numbers: 3, 7, 9, 15, 20, 30

Cancer: June 21 - July 22

In your career, good luck will smile to you all the way. Your responsibilities will seem to you too heavy to assume; but in spite of all you'll remain steady and your efforts will be rewarded: your dear ones will give you their support.

Lucky Numbers: 8, 14, 24, 26, 30, 31

Leo: July 23 - Aug 22

You'll feel more romantic than ever; an encounter occurring this week can make you float on a cloud. If you want to be happy, know how to appreciate the small pleasures of current life. You'll be in good physical and mental shape.

Lucky Numbers: 1, 17, 20, 21, 23, 24

Virgo: Aug 23 - Sept 22

A favourable week for stable marriages. Everything will go well in your home. Luck won't be on your side, so don't untie the strings of your purse too easily. In your work, only take well calculated risks.

Lucky Numbers: 3, 11, 15, 18, 20, 21

Libra: Sept 23 - Oct 22

You'll have to cope with some annoyances in your work, but your desire to succeed will give you wings. Heart wise, possibility of disillusion, but things can straighten themselves out afterwards. Warm relationships with your friends.

Lucky Numbers: 8, 12, 14, 17, 21, 30

Scorpion: 23 Oct - 21 Nov

In love, you'll have the possibility to make a new start on new bases. You'll be able to get good returns on your possessions; your initiatives will be audacious, but you'll nevertheless limit risks, and the results will be most encouraging; reduce your expenses.

Lucky Numbers: 7, 3, 9, 12, 15, 30

'Kundali Bhagya' actor Sanjay Gagnani falls prey to online payment fraud

Shabana Azmi recently took to Twitter to alert netizens about a fraud after she was conned online. She wrote that the item she had ordered wasn't delivered even though she had made advance payment. She said that she managed to trace the owners of the online alcohol delivery platform and figured that those who conned her weren't associated with the brand. Times of India recently reported that something similar happened with *Kundali Bhagya* actor, Sanjay Gagnani, a few days ago.

He narrates, "I got a number online and ordered alcohol. The person asked me to make the payment against my purchase prior to the delivery and after that register and pay an extra amount on the digital payments platform I was using - a protocol that needed to be followed for the goods to be delivered."

Sanjay further says, "He told me to make a payment of Rs17,000, which did



not make sense. But he somehow convinced me that it was a requirement and the amount would be transferred back into my account immediately. He finally convinced me for Rs 9,000, which I trans-

ferred."

After that Sanjay waited for the amount to be credited back, but that didn't happen. He says, "When I called him, he told me

that the money won't be credited as I didn't write 'registration number'. He also told me that he wouldn't be able to deliver my order unless the registration process was completed. He gave me another digit to submit as my new registration number, asked for my debit card details and the CVV number. That is when I realised that it was a scam and refused to share any details with him. The next day, I called from a different mobile phone on the same number, but my calls went unanswered. Later, the man called me from a different number and tried the same tactic again."

The actor plans to register a complaint with the Cyber Crime Cell. "It may not be a big amount, but I want to alert people. This can happen to anyone. I regret not trusting my instincts. I will soon file a complaint with the cyber police against the fraudster. I also intend to visit the store and alert the owner," he ends.



Ratan Rajput, who has been a part of shows like *Radha Ki Betiyaan*, *Kuch Kar Dikhayengi*, *Agle Janam Mohe Bitiya Hi Kijo* and *Santoshi Maa*, is gearing up to return to television. While she doesn't want to talk about the show, which is still in the pipeline,

Just because I got engaged on national television, people thought it was a gimmick: Ratan Rajput

the actress reveals how she spent time during the pandemic pursuing her interest in psychology. She also spoke about her reality show *Ratan Ka Rishta* (2010), in which she chose a potential groom for herself. After getting engaged to him on national television, the two called off their engagement a year later. Ratan doesn't regret doing the reality show, but it did impact her acting career, she tells Hasti Doshi of TNN.

You got flak for doing the reality show *Ratan Ka Rishta*. How did it affect your career as an actress?

I know people have been assuming that I did the show for money and attention, but that's

not true. I took a lot of time to give my nod to the show. It wasn't fake at all, everything was organic and real. Just because I found a man on the show and got engaged on television, people thought it was a gimmick.

After Abhinav Sharma and I got engaged, I took a break from work for a year to work on our relationship. Unfortunately, it didn't work out, so it was a mutual decision to call it off. If I wasn't serious about it, why would I take a break from work? If we just wanted money, we could have lied and participated in dance reality shows together to earn, but we didn't do any of that. I feel upset when people assume such things.

Do you regret doing the show?

No, I have no regrets. Some people in the industry said that they would have cast me in their projects had I not done the show. I could never understand that logic; my acting skills were still the same and nothing could affect my work. At that time, all this had affected me badly, but now I just brush it off.

Are you looking out for a life partner now?

I want it to happen naturally. I would like a simple and down-to-earth man with whom I can connect and spend time. But currently, there's no such person on the radar.

How has the past year been for you?

While the pandemic has been difficult for everyone, I used the time to learn various things. I completed a course in Psychology and I'm very happy about that. I think I am a better listener now. While I don't plan to take this up as a profession, I would like to help people with my knowledge.

Shrenu Parikh on her marriage plans: 'I do want to settle down'

Shrenu Parikh, who has been a familiar face of the television industry, is expanding her horizons and has delved into the digital world. Recently, Shrenu Parikh spoke exclusively to ETimes TV about her career, working during the pandemic, and a lot more.

Amid all of this, the 31-year old also opened up about her marriage plans. On being asked if she has that "someone special" in her life and has plans of getting married anytime soon, Shrenu smiled and said, "This is not something that I am looking at right now."

However, the actress said that she is just like any other girl with plans of settling down. Shrenu Parikh said, "My career is on top priority but I do have a basic girl's dream, I do want to settle down but that perfect someone is still missing. So, yes, of course, marriage is on the cards but when I don't know."

Shrenu has won hearts with her shows namely *Iss Pyaar Ko Kya Naam Doon? Ek Baar Phi*, *Ek Bhram Sarvagun Sampanna*, *Ishqbaaaz*, and its spin-off, *Dil Boley Oberoi*. Talking about the fame she earned through television and how TV artists are perceived, she said, "I feel that there will always be a demarcation in mediums be it films, TV or OTT but lines are vanishing slowly, they are fading out."

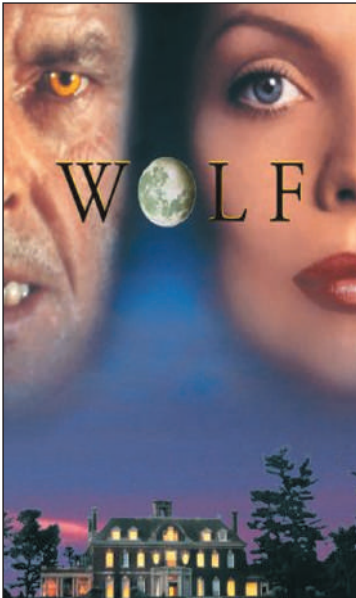
"In fact, I will always vouch for TV actors more - we are much more resilient than other actors because we work straight for 12 hours, are tired but still, we have the energy to remember our lines and to dance and cry, laugh on the same day at the same time. We play so many characters within our show itself. There are tracks where you play someone else."





Vendredi 2 Juillet - 21.15

Wolf



Samedi 3 Juillet - 21.20

Resident Evil



Dimanche 4 Juillet - 21.40



	MBC 1	MBC 2	MBC 3	Cine 12	Bollywood TV		
vendredi 2 juillet	07.00 Dessin Anime 10.15 Local Prod: Rodrig Prog 11.10 Tele: Soleil Levant 12.00 Le Journal 12.25 Tele: Le Prix Du Désir 12.53 Doc: L'art Et La Matière 13.08 Local: MBC Talent Show 14.30 D.Anime: Teenie Weenies 14.54 D.Anime: Spirit: Au Galop... 15.16 D.Anime: La Famille Blaireau 15.28 D.Anime: Little Spirou 15.35 D.Anime: Rev & Roll, Amis... 16.07 D.Anime: Garfield Originals 16.29 D.Anime: Tom-Tom Et Nana 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.30 Serial: Siya Ke Ram 19.30 Journal & La Meteo 20.00 Local: Resonances 21.20 Serial: Seal Team 23.00 Le Journal 23.35 Mag: Eye On Sadc	07.15 Serial: Babu 07.26 Serial: Chota Bheem 08.00 Live Educational Prog: Grade 3 10.15 Live Educational Prog: Grade 4 12.30 Film: Kalavaadiya Pozhuthu... 15.00 Serial: Zindagi Ki Mehek 15.25 Serial: Aamhi Doghi 15.46 Serial: Bava Maradallu 16.07 Serial: Apoorva Raagangal 16.27 Serial: Sila 16.48 Serial: Imtihaan 17.09 Kullfi Kumarr Bajewala 17.27 Serial: Chhanchhan 18.00 Serial: Colourful Bone 18.30 Mag: DDI Magazine 19.05 Zournal Kreol 19.30 Mag: Khwab Hamare Tabeer 20.00 Serial: Band Khirkiyan 20.45 Local: Aqeedat Ke Phool 21.45 Local: Urdu Programme 22.40 DDI Live	06.00 Mag: Eco India 06.26 Mag: Japan Video Topics 06.38 Mag: Sur Mesure 06.52 Mag: Border Crossing 07.13 Mag: Tomorrow Today 09.00 Educational Prog: Grade 5 11.30 Educational Prog: Grade 8 14.03 Doc: Treasures In The Sand 14.45 Doc: Transylvania 16.10 Mag: Eco India 16.39 Mag: Shift 17.04 Mag: Border Crossing 17.30 Mag: Tomorrow Today 18.00 Doc: Electricity To Go 18.26 Mag: The World From Above 18.46 Mag: Arts And Culture 19.00 Student Support Prog... 20.05 Doc: Innovation On Board 20.30 Local: News (English) 20.40 Master Of Engineering 21.31 Doc: The Forest Rescuers	01.16 Serial: Madam Secretary 01.58 Film: Hollows Grove 03.18 Serial: Shades Of Blue 05.27 Tele: Muneca Brava 06.09 Serial: Madam Secretary 06.51 Film: Le Chateau De Carte 09.00 Serial: Mission: Impossible 09.45 Tele: Daniella 10.37 Tele: Tanto Amor 11.00 Serial: Shades Of Blue 12.00 Serial: Island Doctor 13.30 Tele: Muneca Brava 14.45 Film: Le Chateau De Carte 16.43 Serial: Mission: Impossible 17.29 Serial: Madam Secretary 18.11 Tele: Daneilla 19.00 Tele: Tanto Amor 20.05 Tele: Sinu, Rio Des Pasiones 20.30 Serial: Night Shift 21.15 Film: Wolf 22.15 Tele: Muneca Brava	08.00 Film: Kuchh Meetha Ho... 12.05 / 19.54 - Radha Krishna 12.26 / 20.11 - Chupke Chupke 12.45 / 20.32 - Mere Sai 13.06 / 21.09 - Agniphera 13.29 / 21.24 - Bade Acche Lagte Hai 13.56 / 21.46 - Zindagi Ki Mehek 14.14 / 22.13 - Naagin S3 14.56 / 22.55 - Sethji 15.20 Film: Ranviir, The Marshsal Starring: Rishy, Rati Agnihotri, Ramnita Chaudhry 18.00 Live: Samacher 18.30 Kundali Bhagya 18.51 Ishaaron Ishaaron Mein 19.14 Serial: Bhakharwadi 19.37 Serial: Siddhi Vinayak		
	samedi 3 juillet	06.00 D.Anime: Mega Man 06.24 D.Anime: Spongo, Fuzz, And 06.46 D.Anime: Sissi, Jeune Impe... 07.24 D.Anime: Kid Lucky 07.35 D.Anime: The Twisted Whis... 08.02 D.Anime: Cosmic Quantum... 08.22 D.Anime: Teenie Weenies 08.36 D.Anime: The Garfield Show 12.00 Le Journal 12.30 Tele: Daniella 15.00 D.Anime: Teenie Weenies 15.41 D.Anime: La Famille Blaireau 16.06 D.Anime: Rev & Roll, Amis... 16.39 D.Anime: Garfield Originals 16.41 D.Anime: Tom-Tom Et Nana 17.35 Doc: A Question Of Science 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.30 Entertainment: Dance 19.30 Journal & La Meteo 20.25 Local: Le Rendez Vous 21.20 Film: The Killer Downstairs 23.00 Le Journal	07.00 Film: Meri Bhabhhi 09.30 Serial: Vir: The Robot Boy 09.41 Serial: Chacha Bhatija 10.00 Bade Acche Lagte Hai 11.36 Serial: Bloody Romance 12.00 Serial: Nanda Saukhya Bhare 12.24 Serial: Mooga Manasulu 12.47 Serial: High School 13.03 Annakodiyum Ainthu Pengalum 15.00 Serial: Zindagi Ki Mehek 15.30 Film: Maine Pyaar Kyun Kiya Starring Salman Khan, Sushmita Sen, Katrina Kaif 17.55 Mag: DDI Magazine 19.00 Live: Zournal Kreol 20.06 Serial: Vikram Betaal Ki Rahasya Gatha 20.28 Serial: Bitti Business Wali 21.01 Film: Ek Thi Daayan Starring: Emraan Hashmi, Huma Qureshi, Konkona Sen	06.00 Doc: Electricity To Go 06.42 Mag: Arts And Culture 07.21 Mag: Euromaxx 07.50 Doc: Innovation On Board 08.16 Master Of Engineering 09.51 Doc: Congo - Millionaires... 11.01 Doc: Set One 11.48 Mag: Global 3000 12.40 Doc: Innovation On Board 13.09 Doc: Master Of Engineering 14.02 Doc: The Forest Rescuers 14.52 Doc: Neuschwanstein 15.34 Doc: The Solar Power... 15.27 Student Support Program... 18.00 Doc: Amazing Gardens 18.30 Doc: Country Living For... 19.00 Magazine 19.30 Mag: Check In 20.01 Doc: Volcano Stories 20.30 Local: News (English) 20.40 Doc: Wedding The French... 21.32 Doc: Abbas By Abbas	01.30 Film: Wolf 03.27 Serial: Dynasty 2 04.06 Film: Kill Kane 05.21 Tele: Esmeraldas 05.30 Serial: Night Shift 06.47 Film: Hope Dance 08.30 Serial: Mike Hammer 09.18 Serial: The Enemy Within 09.59 Serial: 10.41 Film: Clarity 12.29 Serial: Dynasty 2 13.35 Serial: Shades Of Blue 15.05 Tele: Amanda 15.45 Tele: Muneca Brava 16.30 Mag: Hollywood On Set 17.00 Serial: Night Shift 17.45 Film: Love Potion No.9 20.05 Tele: Sinu, Rio Des Pasiones 20.30 Series: Night Shift 21.15 Film: Resident Evil 22.52 Tele: Dulce Amor	04.05 Radha Krishna 04.26 Chupke Chupke 04.48 Mere Sai -- Shraddha Aur... 05.11 Agniphera 05.34 Bade Acche Lagte Hai 06.00 Zindagi Ki Mehek 06.16 Sethji 06.38 Bin Kuck Kahe 07.38 Ishaaron Ishaaron Mein 08.02 Zindagi Ki Mehek 09.47 Motu Patlu 10.01 Siddhi Vinayak 12.00 Serial: Bhakharwadi 14.00 Sanjivani 14.20 Chupke Chupke 16.00 Pavitra Rishta 18.00 Samachar 18.30 Film: Bala Star: Ayushmann Khurrana, Bhumi Pednekar, Yami Gautam 20.48 Serial: Siya Ke Ram 21.27 Serial: Naagin	
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MBC 2 Samedi 3 Juillet Stars: Emraan Hashmi, Huma Qureshi, Konkona Sen - 21.00



Dimanche 4 Juillet Stars: Shahid Kapoor, Kareena Kapoor, Fardeen Khan, Kim Sharma - 18.30



Tokyo 2021: how Covid risks taking the fun out of the games

Strict enforcement of Covid-safe regulations in the Olympic Village could affect athletes' mental health. Their performance could suffer too



Bubble life means spending time with different people, to aid psychological recovery, will not be an option for athletes in Tokyo. EVREN KALINBACAK / Alamy Stock Photo

Eating alone, daily testing, no talking at mealtimes - the Covid rules recently announced for athletes competing in the Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games are challenging, to say the least. On top of the rules, there is the threat of deportation for failure to observe those rules.

This only compounds the considerable stress that athletes have been seen to experience at previous Olympics, and risks affecting their motivation. As Japanese tennis player Kei Nishikori put it, it's "not going to be fun for me ... you don't feel like playing the Olympics in your home country".

Much has been written about the fun that athletes had in the Olympic Village in games held pre- Covid. Its fabled hook-up culture was underlined during Rio 2016, which was memorably dubbed "the most promiscuous Olympics in history" after it was reported that as many as 42 condoms per athlete were allocated for the participants.

Opportunities in Tokyo to spend time with teammates, make new friends and create shared experiences is going to be limited. Teams will operate in bubbles, but those in individual sports such as surfing or kayaking will be even more isolated. How will this affect general motivation, mental health and performance?

State of mind

Lockdown has had a notable impact on athletes' mental health in general. The prolonged uncertainty around the delayed games has only made matters worse. Especially when you consider that many of these athletes only have one opportunity, every four years, to make a name for themselves.

Even without the additional rules of the Tokyo games, athletes have struggled with the restrictions placed on their careers during the pandemic. Professional golfer Andrew Johnston quit the 2020 British Masters nine holes into the competition, saying he couldn't cope with bubble life and was struggling "to get his head around it all".

More recently both the Indian and the English cricket teams have reportedly had "bubble fatigue". Some performers have come up with innovative challenges to alleviate the boredom, and attempt to switch off and have some fun. But as England cricketer Jofra Archer put it: "It starts to get hard if you are not having a great game or not feeling good with your cricket, because there is nowhere to go."

The Tokyo Covid rules will no doubt result in participants spending a lot of time alone. You might assume that this might help athletes feel psychologically rested - and there is something to be said for having no distractions and being solely focused on your performance. But time to yourself isn't necessarily beneficial.

Athletes will be spending large amounts of time in cramped rooms which, in previous years, have been described as spartan. Apartments can reportedly sleep up to eight people (in single beds), with team members sharing bathrooms and common areas.

In such an environment and with nowhere to escape to, cabin fever sounds like a real possibility. The question is how this might affect individual athletes' wellbeing and team cohesion?

Psychological recovery

Sport psychologists argue that psycho-

logical recovery is not only beneficial for athletes, it is crucial to their performance. The trick is figuring out how to achieve this: active psychological recovery (meeting friends for a coffee or a walk or watching other sports events) is equally as beneficial as passive rest (watching TV, or playing computer games).

And in fact, recent research has suggested that athletes can be at their most psychologically active when at rest, physically. With time on their hands, and nothing to distract them, they might simply worry more about their performance, which is both unhealthy and mentally exhausting.

In his 2015 autobiography, Didier Drogba offers a case in point. He writes about going on a quick holiday before the start of a Premier League football season. It should have been idyllic, he says, "but in reality, it was the worst holiday ever because I was very tense and could only think about the forthcoming season. So, my mind was in the opposite of a relaxed mode."

Psychologists and researchers have developed a number of strategies, including spending time with people who are not your teammates or coaches, being in spaces other than your training venue and other ways of winding down.

The idea is to follow different routines with different people in different places. But the Covid rules in Tokyo mean that none of these are options for participants. Athletes will lack the autonomy they need to to engage in that kind of activity.

Sport psychologist Rebecca Levett is currently working with the GB women's hockey team, having formerly looked after the GB Paralympic archery team. She recently told the Sport Psych Show podcast that not being able to switch off affects athletes' recovery. "Their ability to be at the same level the following day, and the day after that, is impacted."

"People think this isn't a performance issue," she added. "This is a performance issue." How Covid rules affect athletes' ability to perform might well be the legacy of the Tokyo 2021 games.

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Tree of Knowledge

Madisyn Taylor

Hard Days - Opportunity for Reflection

A hard day can sometimes be a great teacher if we stop for reflection

We all have days that seem endlessly difficult and hard. On these days, it is as if the odds are stacked against us and we just can't get a break as one challenging situation follows another. We may feel like we're standing in the ocean getting hit by wave after wave, never able to get a full breath. Sometimes it's necessary or worth it to stay in the fray and work our way through. Other times, the best idea is to go home and take the breath we need in order to carry on.

If the only choice is to get through it, a hard day can be a great teacher. It will eventually end and we can look back on it, taking pride in the stamina, courage, and ingenuity it took to hold our ground. We may also look back and see how we could have done things differently. This knowledge will be valuable when we face hard days in the future. Trust your gut as you're deciding whether to work through it, and know that sometimes a timely retreat is the best way to ensure a positive outcome. Getting space can remind us that external circumstances are not the whole picture. Once we catch our breath and re-center ourselves, we will be able to determine our next move. With a little perspective, we may even find the inner resources to change our attitude about what's happening. We may begin to see that what we saw as hardships are actually opportunities. As our attitude changes for the better, our actions and the circumstances will follow suit.

Sometimes all that's needed is a good night's sleep. No one is immune to having a hard day and these are usually the times we can learn the most. If we can find it in our hearts to examine the day, and maybe make one small change in perception, we can ease our pain and greet the next day that much wiser.