

# MAURITIUS TIMES

- “The pandemic’s mandatory lockdown has set in motion an array of economic, political and global instabilities.” — Asa Don Brown

Interview: Kugan Parapen, Economist & Member of REA

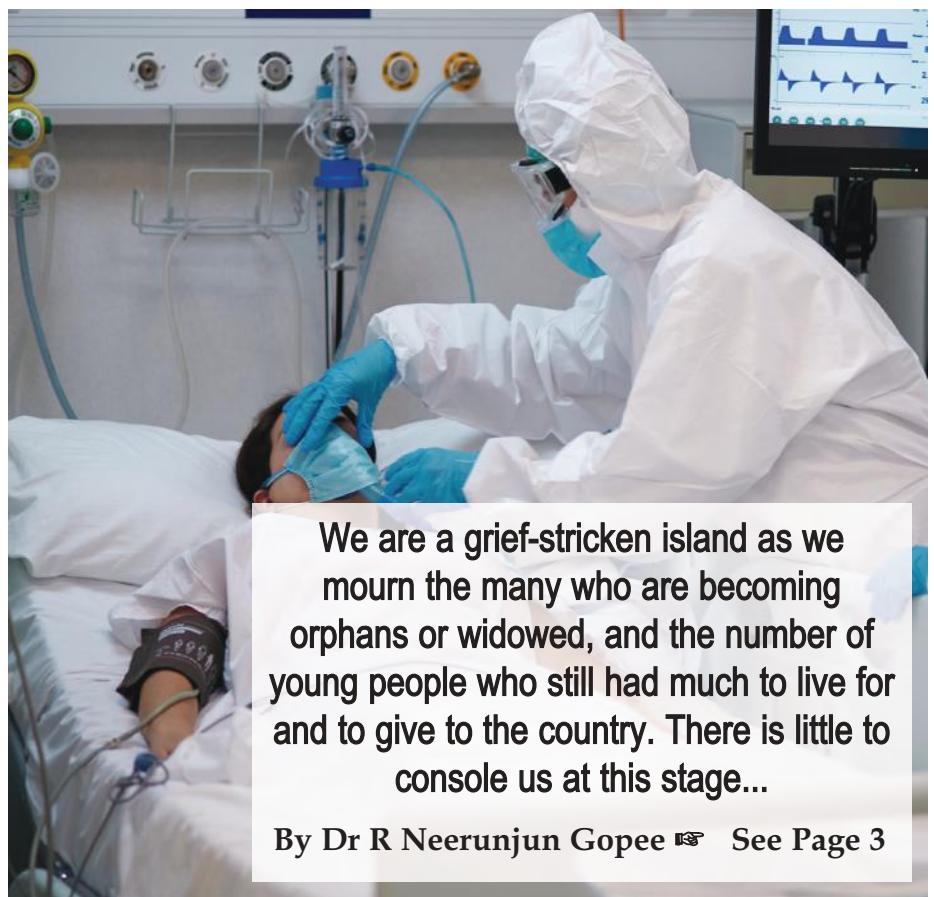


## Covid-19: ‘Government’s intransigence akin to promoting a *'politique de la mort'* over economic considerations’

‘The Opposition is as divided as ever. Will pragmatism prevail or will the opposition forces offer a new prime ministership to Jugnauth?’

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## Too Deep For Tears



We are a grief-stricken island as we mourn the many who are becoming orphans or widowed, and the number of young people who still had much to live for and to give to the country. There is little to console us at this stage...

By Dr R Neerunjun Gopee ☞ See Page 3

## Rumour, News and Information during the Covid-19 Pandemic



By Sada Reddi ☞ See Page 4

# Should the authorities bite the bullet?

**A**t the time of writing, sadly, 475 people have passed away this year from Covid-19; only 10 deaths were recorded last year since the onset of the pandemic. The higher death toll has been attributed to different variants of the coronavirus, initially coming under different scientific names, the latest being the Delta variant - one that is highly contagious, in fact much more contagious than previous variants, and which would explain the spike in the number of cases during the last two weeks or so.

The latest news reports point to the existence of another variant - the C.1.2, first detected in South Africa some six months back - in Mauritius, and which has spread to other countries like China, Congo, New Zealand, and in Europe as well. Yet another disturbing news item that has come out only yesterday relates to another Covid-19 variant with multiple mutations, which scientists in South Africa have detected and which would be responsible for a surge in infection numbers. According to a statement by virologist Tulio de Oliveira at a "hastily-called news conference", the variant, which goes by the scientific lineage number B.1.1.529, has a very high number of mutations, and is causing a resurgence of infections. Health Minister Joe Phaahla said the variant was of "serious concern" and behind an "exponential" increase in reported cases, making it "a major threat". This new variant has also been detected in Botswana and Hong Kong among travellers from South Africa, he said. With our frontiers now reopened, and with more tourists coming in and Mauritians flying back to the country, the risks of transmission and propagation of the latest and other variants in the country are potentially high.

With new variants emerging, the efficacy of existing vaccines may raise questions while it's becoming much more unlikely that Covid-19 will be eradicated any time soon. The World Health Organization said on Wednesday that Covid vaccines reduce transmission of the dominant Delta variant by only about 40%, and warned people against falling into "a false sense of security". That is why the WHO chief Tedros Ghebreyesus urged vaccinated people to continue to take measures to avoid catching Covid-19 and passing on the disease.

The leader of the Labour Party, himself a

victim of the Covid-19 infection earlier, has added his voice to calls from other Opposition leaders (namely Xavier Duval of the PMSD) and from civil society about the need for another lockdown, albeit a shorter one (a 'semi-lockdown') than the earlier two previous ones in light of the resurgence of the pandemic and the increasing number of victims in the country. Besides political considerations, it is to be expected that the government is unlikely to give serious consideration to those calls from civil society or the Opposition's if only not to credit the widespread criticisms for its lack of preparedness leading to the resurgence of Covid cases and the record number of deaths during the past weeks.

To be fair, however, one can well understand that governments have to weigh the pros and cons of applying such strict measures in crisis situations - in this case lockdowns which economists - and businessmen, obviously - say hurt a country's economy, thereby compounding the human and economic damage already wreaked by the pandemic. If there is on the one hand the private sector's apprehensions over economic recovery and the survival of important companies and sectors, which may be endangered by lockdowns, there is also the view expressed by scientists, medical professionals and epidemiologists that the medium-to long-term consequences of allowing infections to continue will have enduring consequences for both the economy and society. What seems to be obvious is that no single perspective from whichever quarter will lead us out of the current situation, and there's certainly a tricky balancing act for government to perform.

Previous lockdowns had the desired effect of breaking the transmission cycle but the inability to control the irruption of the new variants and their spread since March this year have compounded matters. The population has been drip-fed a boisterously breezy line of a Covid-safe destination where all was under control, when the situation was visibly deteriorating, fuelling both population fatigue, loss of credibility of official communications and health personnel demoralisation. Is it high time to bite the bullet now at some economic costs or face further traumas of unknown proportions and durations?

## The Conversation

# Conspiracy theories about the pandemic are spreading offline as well as through social media

Activists are using a traditional newspaper format to spread misinformation and promote real-world harms.



Pic - Alamy/ Vuk Valcic

A consistent feature of the pandemic has been the presence of a relatively small but vocal number of conspiracy theorists who resist attempts to tackle COVID-19. Their views might seem marginal and extreme but recent research suggests that we should take them seriously.

Survey data shows that belief in conspiracy theories is associated with a lack of confidence in steps aimed at addressing the pandemic and risky health behaviours and that conspiracy adherents are more likely to refuse to socially distance, wear a mask or get vaccinated.

One reason for this is that conspiracy theories work differently to other forms of misinformation. Rather than simply trading in inaccurate or misleading information, conspiracy theorists believe they have discovered the hidden truth that world events result from the deliberate actions of unseen, malevolent actors.

This might mean blaming the emergence of COVID-19 on "big pharma" or believing that social distancing measures form part of an attempt by a hidden "world government" to restrict civil liberties. This kind of thinking provides a simple explanation for complex and unpredictable events. In a time of widespread uncertainty and fear it is easy to see the appeal in claims that the pandemic is deliberate and controlled.

When we think about how conspiracy theories like these spread, there is a tendency to focus on the role of social media. We've become accustomed to seeing fact checking and moderators working in these spaces to manage the problem.

But with colleagues, I've been exploring the offline space through an analysis of the Light, a monthly newspaper (and self-described "truthpaper") delivered free of charge across the UK. It provides sceptical coverage of the COVID-19 pandemic and we've concluded that a significant proportion of its content can be seen as conspiracist in nature.

Rod Dacombe, Director of the Centre for British Politics and Government, King's College London

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## Mauritius Times

Founder/Editor: Beekrumsing Ramlallah - Aug 1954-Sept 2000

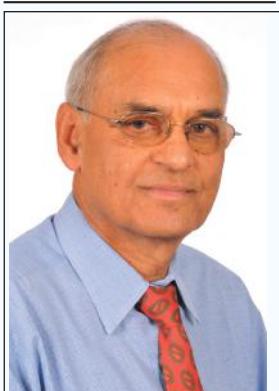
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Dr R Neerunjun Gopee

The health situation caused by the Covid-19 pandemic in the country is so dire that the only way in which we can hope to rein in its relentless march is a 'Whole of Government, Whole of Country' approach. This means that the main focus of both government and the people – who are rapidly turning into hapless victims – should be about how best (for government) to control the spread of the disease based on the most reliable evidence available as regards prevention and treatment, and for the people how most effectively to protect themselves from getting infected by following sound and reliable advice.

We are not the only country facing the multiple challenges and difficulties that Covid-19 is throwing up non-stop. However, what can make the difference in outcome is the management approach at each level, with system-wide coordination and collaboration both vertically and horizontally. Two days ago, this is what appeared in an online newspaper in the UK:

'Ministers in England have "lost the message" over Covid-19, scientific advisers and leading experts have warned – on the same day the devolved nations strengthened their own strategies against the virus.'

'While Northern Ireland reinforced its working-from-home guidance and the Scottish government admitted the country was in a "precarious" position, scientists in England warned that Downing Street needed to take Covid "more seriously" as the country heads into winter.'

'Experts believe messaging has slipped around basic measures such as mask-wearing and avoiding crowded, unventilated spaces – policies that are being actively pushed by England's closest neighbours.'

Have we too reached a stage where we have 'lost the message'? We must hope not, otherwise things are going to get worse. As is happening in several other countries such as Germany where the number of new infections is now running into 400 per 100,000 people (nearly 67,000 in 24 hours on Wednesday).

As a result, according to online sources and witness accounts on the German TV channel DW, intensive care units (ICUs) in the country are packed to the brim with over 90% of the Covid-19 cases in ICUs being unvaccinated people. Patients are being forced to move around to where ICU beds are available. But at least they have that possibi-

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Pic -media.news24online.com

**“As regards vaccination levels they vary depending on the willingness of people to accept being jabbed or not. Then there is a rush to vaccination outlets when the surge is occurring, by then it is rather too late already for the body to mount a response in time. Of course, vaccines do not give full protection, and that is a fact that has been emphasized repeatedly by all competent authorities, so that they have necessarily to be supplemented by the most reliable and basic sanitary measures, of which mask wearing is the most effective in preventing transmission...”**

lity and obviously infinitely vaster and more sophisticated resources than we have.

How serious the level of infection is in Germany can be gauged when compared to that in the hardest hit state in the US, Michigan, where the comparable figure is 82/100,000. It has been pointed out that the vaccination rate in Germany stands at 68% fully vaccinated people, which is comparably low compared to European standards. And Germany may go into a fifth lockdown.

This resurgence in Europe has led the US Centers for Disease Control to add Germany and Denmark to its 'Do not travel' list. Protests against pandemic restrictions have erupted in Austria – where authorities had to use water cannons against protesters – and, for that matter, in two French overseas territories as well.

Inevitably, we are falling into the pattern that has characterized the pandemic as it swept across countries, which have seen surges and serial lockdowns succeeded by intervals of relatively freer movements before there were new restrictions and also their serial partial lifting, followed by re-imposition of more stringent ones afresh.

As regards vaccination levels they vary depending on the willingness of people to accept being jabbed or not, sometimes because of a clear-cut official protocol widely disseminated is absent. Then there is a panic rush to vaccination outlets when the surge is occurring, by then it is rather too late already for the body to mount a response in time. Of course, vaccines do not give full protection, and that is a fact that has been emphasized repeatedly by all competent authorities, so that they have necessarily to be supplemented by the most reliable and basic sanitary measures, of which mask wearing is the most effective in preventing transmission – that is, in catching the virus oneself and in spreading it to others, especially the mostly

asymptomatic Delta variant.

Throughout the pandemic, the sanitary protocol has remained the only one of the control strategies available (sanitary measures, vaccination, treatment) that has been consistent and constant. Data on vaccines and treatment options have been undergoing constant scrutiny and review in light of new findings coming in based on ongoing studies which are reported regularly in the medical press.

With some manageable logistical hiccups, the vaccine rollout locally – including booster doses despite initial reluctance – has been extending the coverage. Foreseeably, some division of views about vaccination are likely to persist, which is all the more reason for everybody – especially those who are reluctant – to be even more rigorous about adhering to the sanitary protocol.

As regards treatment, the lack of adequate and accurate information has sent a number of people either testing positive or having responsibility for family or relatives similarly affected to rush to get medicines without proper medical advice. The difficult conditions in the hospitals have received ample publicity in the media, and the truth cannot be hidden.

However, the most crying lacuna is the paucity of personal attention and care, especially of a general nature such as hygiene, feeding, providing moral support and comfort, because of a lack of sufficient nursing personnel, themselves exhausted and overwhelmed.

Under even normal civilian circumstances, such as having to handle patients in crowded outpatient clinics or in the Accident & Emergency Department, medical care is a stressful and daunting task. And now that we are literally at war, the risk of burnout and of staff themselves falling to the disease is a permanent sword of Damocles on their heads which doesn't help either them or the patients.

Ways will have to be found about how to ensure general care of admitted patients so as to release qualified nursing staff from these chores and free them to do the continuous monitoring of, in particular, oxygen levels of patients which is key to managing these patients. Roping in interns in the various hospitals to do such monitoring – which will hone their skills and add to their training – is an option to be considered. One suggestion has been to allow relatives in to provide general care. With a bit of organisation this should be possible in selected cases and help to reduce the pressure on nurses. Such carers, however, must not come in the way of the nursing or medical procedures

Further, as is well known by now, most critical is the timing of treatment based on the oxygen level (other than administration of oxygen) which comprises administration of steroids and anticoagulants. This is in addition to all other supportive treatments administered.

An experienced senior physician colleague has successfully treated several patients at home following this line of thinking, and that is why the 'Whole of Country' approach is vitally needed – so that all the available local experience is put into the service of patients. It is still possible to save lives by proceeding logically and according to evidence and experience.

We are a grief-stricken island as we mourn the many who are becoming orphans or widowed, and the number of young people who still had much to live for and to give to the country. There is little to console us at this stage, save to seek refuge in words written long ago about the expression of our human emotions, such as those of the English poet William Wordsworth. Though they were meant for happier circumstances, modified slightly (the third line), they still resonate:

*Thanks to the human heart by which we live,  
Thanks to its tenderness, its joys, and fears,  
To me the Covid cyclone that is blowing can give  
Thoughts that do often lie too deep for tears.*



Sada Reddi

**A** week before the authorities officially announced the case of Covid patients at the Victoria (Candos) Hospital, rumour was afloat that there were three cases of infection at the hospital and that the nearby areas were already infected with the virus. The rumour was received with some scepticism, but later the alleged cases at the hospital were confirmed. In fact, part of the rumour relating to hospital cases was no rumour at all. It also appears that following protests from the hospital's medical staff, the decision was finally taken to transfer the first Covid patient from Candos to a hospital in the south of the island. Since then, there has been a communication battle between the authorities and the public to control the narrative about the spread of the pandemic in the island.

From the State perspective, it was clear that the policy was to control information, to selectively disseminate information to the public, to advise on sanitary measures to be taken by the public but also to project government handling of the pandemic as a success story. Such an approach was also intended principally to safeguard the State from an impending disaster and to protect the government. So, during the first phase of the pandemic last year, in spite of the belated closing of the frontiers, and the implementation of quarantine measures with all its flaws, the preventive measures were able to contain the spread of the epidemic. The public was positively responsive to the health measures and trusted that they were sufficiently protected from the pandemic.

Then came a turning point in public opinion following a few deaths at the Souillac Hospital. It was the failure to protect dialysis patients, the refusal to acknowledge the lacunae in the treatment of Covid patients in hospitals and in quarantine stations, and the convenient explanation that it was comorbidities which were responsible for the many deaths which changed the mood of the population and made the public become suspicious of the management of Covid cases in government institutions.

As a result, public opinion on the course of the pandemic was ultimately shaped by alternative sources of information from the non-State controlled press, cases reported on the ground by journalists, by the public on

# Rumour, News and Information during the Covid-19 Pandemic



Pic - Stat News

**“What the authorities tend to forget is that Mauritius is a small island-state, well connected through various formal and informal channels of communication. Even the press is only one of the major sources of information. Other sources of often more accurate information exist over which the State has no control. Interpersonal communication between people is deemed more reliable than mass communication. Here, frontliners are the most reliable sources of information, and the public is prepared to believe their stories...”**

social media as well as the various debates on the numerous issues regarding the State's responses to the situation. It was not unexpected that in the absence of reliable information from the authorities, public opinion turned to other sources of information and that is how rumours gained the upper hand on the government's narrative. One would have expected that a balanced and truthful account of the Covid situation could have won the trust of the public.

This unfortunately did not happen. Whether in government press conferences, or even in the National Assembly, the public began to draw their own conclusions -- not on what the government ministers and advisers chose to reveal but what they failed to disclose, not to mention the evasive and often inaccurate long-winded answers given in the National Assembly. As a result, the government sources of information lost their credibility. Public television propaganda on the pandemic became counter-productive as a result of their crash reporting which thus further negatively impacted the image of the government in the population.

There are several factors which contributed to this. To start with the government which came out in the 2019 elections was already being challenged with a number of elections results being contested in court. The unacceptably long delays in which such cases were being dealt with intensified doubts on state institutions. Against this background, the pandemic broke out. Despite the initial success in controlling it, the subsequent course revealed a lack of adequate preparedness of the medical services.

What the authorities tend to forget is that Mauritius is

a small island-state, well connected through various formal and informal channels of communication. Even the press is only one of the major sources of information. Other sources of often more accurate information exist over which the State has no control. Interpersonal communication between people is deemed more reliable than mass communication. Here, frontliners are the most reliable sources of information, and the public is prepared to believe their stories as they have little reason to conceal the truth and events that they witness, to members of their own family, relatives friends and neighbours.

In their official capacity they respected the official guidelines to remain discreet about events taking place around them or giving out such information only through official channels. At the same time, they unofficially conveyed the real situation to their acquaintances which is far from the rosy picture painted by the authorities. Medical and paramedical personnel, security guards and other personnel are eye witnesses to the tragic consequences resulting from the pandemic and were readily embraced as the most reliable sources for the evolution of the pandemic in the island.

During the second wave of the pandemic with the opening of the frontiers, the government appeared to have lost the battle to control information. Irrefutable evidence was circulating about the high mortality rate as a result of the pandemic from various corroborating sources. One could learn about dead bodies lying on hospital beds for hours, lack of ambulance facilities, positive cases in schools or even in hotels as the Delta variant spread in the community from unrevealed sources.

International organizations and institutions monitoring Covid mortality in the world countered the version that Mauritius was and is Covid-safe. Even worse, the erratic measures from the Government decision makers, lack of coordination in their communication strategy and fire fighting approach as the health authorities were overwhelmed by the numerous cases have resulted in a virtual breakdown of the health services.

While a truthful account of the situation would have emboldened the population to be more vigilant and follow the sanitary measures more rigorously, promoting the narrative that everything was under control must have shattered any remaining faith of the public that the government could be relied upon to protect its citizens. The decision to open the frontiers and schools without a realistic assessment of the situation and in the absence of preparedness plans in terms of personnel, equipment and logistics has exacerbated the health crisis during the second wave.

In the end, what matters is not to win the battle of information or even win some credit but to win the war against the pandemic and to save lives. In the first phase, we were told that there would be one death per family if no precaution is taken by everyone; in the second phase, unofficial sources have already projected the number of deaths in the coming weeks. Let us still hope that even if the authorities have not learnt the lessons from the experiences of other countries, they can at least learn from their own mishaps and not repeat the same mistakes or bury their heads in the sand.

## Sweden's first female prime minister resigns hours after appointment

**H**ours after being tapped as Sweden's first female prime minister, Magdalena Andersson resigned Wednesday after suffering a budget defeat in parliament and her coalition partner the Greens left the two-party minority government.

The government's own budget proposal was rejected in favour of one presented by the opposition that includes the right-wing populist Sweden Democrats. Sweden's third-largest party is rooted in a neo-Nazi movement. The vote was 154-143 in favour of the opposition's budget proposal, reports AP.

Andersson, leader of the Social Democratic party, decided it was best to step down from the post more than seven hours after she made history by becoming the first woman to lead the country.

"For me, it is about respect, but I also do not want to lead a government where there may be grounds to question its legitimacy," Andersson said in a news conference.

Andersson, who was finance minister before briefly becoming prime minister, informed parliamentary Speaker Andreas Norlen that she is still interested in leading a Social Democratic one-party government.

Andersson said that "a coalition government should resign if a party chooses to leave the government. Despite the fact that the parliamentary situation is unchanged, it needs to be tried again."



Sweden's Finance Minister and Social Democratic Party leader Magdalena Andersson looks on, during a vote in the Swedish parliament Riksdagen, in Stockholm. Pic- static.dw.com

Earlier in the day, Andersson said she could "govern the country with the opposition's budget."

Andersson's appointment as prime minister had marked a milestone for Sweden, viewed for decades as one of Europe's most progressive countries when it comes to gender relations, but which had yet to have a woman in the top political post.

Andersson had been tapped to replace Stefan Lofven as party leader and prime minister, roles he relinquished earlier this year.

Under the Swedish Constitution, prime ministers can be named and govern as long as a parliamentary majority — a minimum of 175 lawmakers — is not against them.

## Mom, daughter bound for space after winning Virgin Galactic prize



Mom and daughter bound for space after winning Virgin Galactic prize. Pic - tribune.net.ph

**A** health coach from Antigua and Barbuda has won two tickets worth almost \$1 million to be among Virgin Galactic's first space tourists -- and plans to take the trip of a lifetime with her teenage daughter.

Keisha Schahaff, 44, said she wanted to cross the final frontier with her 17-year-old, a science student living in Britain who dreams of one day working for NASA.

Virgin Galactic founder Richard Branson surprised Schahaff with the news at her home in the Caribbean in early November.

"I just thought I was doing a zoom interview," she said.

"When I saw Richard Branson walking in I just started screaming! I couldn't believe it."

"I always was interested in space as a little girl," she added. "This is a great opportunity for me to feel alive and to just make the greatest adven-

ture ever."

Schahaff won the prize after entering a fundraiser sweepstakes organized by Virgin Galactic on the Omaze platform, which raised \$1.7 million, reports AFP.

The money will be donated to non-government group Space for Humanity, which works for wider access to space.

The amount she donated was not made public, but entry started with a minimum contribution of \$10.

Schahaff, a health and energy coach who works in particular with women, decided to take a shot at the prize after seeing an advertisement on a Virgin Atlantic flight.

### 'Equal access to space'

Wednesday's announcement aimed to show that space tourism is opening up opportunities for a variety of people, despite prices remaining well beyond the reach of most.

"Being able to give people of all ages and backgrounds equal access to space, and in turn, the opportunity to lead and inspire others back on Earth, is what Virgin Galactic has been building towards for the past two decades," said Branson.

The British septuagenarian flew in his company's test mission to space in July, beating by a matter of days Blue Origin owner Jeff Bezos in their billionaire space race.

Schahaff will be among the first of Virgin Galactic's space tourists, but her place in the line has yet to be determined, a company spokesperson said.

Virgin Galactic has already pre-sold some 700 space tickets: 600 between 2005 and 2014 for up to \$250,000 apiece, and another 100 since August, when they were relisted for a price of \$450,000.

Their aim is to sell 1000 in total before the launch of commercial flights, the first of which is to take place in late 2022.

The proposed trip offers a few minutes in zero gravity. A giant carrier plane takes off from a traditional runway carrying the space vessel, which looks like a large private jet, and then releases it at a high altitude.

The space plane then ignites its own rocket engine until it exceeds 50 miles (80 kilometers) above sea level -- the lower limit of space, according to the US military -- before gliding back to the runway.

## DART spacecraft to kick an asteroid off course

**A** spacecraft that must ultimately crash to succeed was launched late on Tuesday from California on a Nasa mission to demonstrate the world's first planetary defence system, designed to deflect an asteroid from a potential doomsday collision with Earth.

The DART spacecraft soared into the night sky at 10:21pm Pacific time on Tuesday from Vandenberg US Space Force Base, carried aboard a SpaceX-owned Falcon 9 rocket.

The DART payload, about the size of a vending machine, was released from the booster a few minutes after launch to begin a 10-month journey into space, some 11 million km from Earth, reports Hindustan Times.



The DART Spacecraft takes off onboard a SpaceX rocket from California. Pic - aljazeera.com

DART will fly under the guidance of NASA's flight directors until the last hours of its odyssey, when control will be handed over to an autonomous onboard navigation system.

The mission's finale will test spacecraft's ability to alter an asteroid's trajectory with sheer kinetic force, plowing into it at high speed to nudge the space boulder off course just enough to keep our planet out of harm's way.

Cameras mounted on the impactor and on a briefcase-sized mini-spacecraft to be released from DART about 10 days beforehand will record the collision and beam images of it back to Earth.

The asteroid that DART is aiming for poses no actual threat and is tiny compared with the cataclysmic Chicxulub asteroid that struck Earth some 66 million years ago, leading to extinction of the dinosaurs.

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## Pentagon to form new group to probe UFOs

The US department of defence late on Tuesday said it will establish a new group, called the Airborne Object Identification and Management Synchronization Group, to probe reports on the presence of UFOs in restricted airspace. This comes after the government released a report in June, encompassing 144 observations, which said there was a lack of sufficient data to determine the nature of mysterious flying objects.

\*Contd on page 6

## Putin 'feeling fine' after taking experimental nasal vaccine



Russian President Vladimir Putin speaks during a news conference. Pic - AP

**R**ussian President Vladimir Putin said Wednesday he took an experimental nasal Covid-19 vaccine earlier this week, a day after getting a booster injection of the locally developed Sputnik Light inoculation.

The nasal version is still in trials and hasn't been approved by regulators. Sunday, in a televised appearance announcing he'd taken the injected booster, Putin said he would volunteer to participate in the testing of the nasal vaccine, as well.

That option provides better protection in the upper respiratory tract against breakthrough infections than injected versions, Denis Logunov, deputy director of the Gamaleya National Research Center, Sputnik's developer, told Putin.

The Russian president, 69, said Logunov gave him the nasal version Monday. Putin told a government meeting that he's "feeling fine" after the boosters and had exercised on Thursday, reports Hindustan Times.

Russia claimed to be the first to approve a Covid vaccine in the summer of 2020, but officials and scientists began getting the shots even before Sputnik was registered. Putin, however, got his first two-dose inoculation only in March of this year.

## Scientists detect new Covid-19 variant in South Africa

**S**cientists in South Africa have detected a new variant of the coronavirus disease (Covid-19) with multiple mutations, AFP reported on Thursday. The development was announced amid a recent surge in infection rate in the country.

"Unfortunately we have detected a new variant which is a reason for concern in South Africa," virologist Tulio de Oliveira said at an emergency news conference.

Earlier today, the WHO officials met to discuss the emergence of a new coronavirus variant – B.1.1529 – circulating in South Africa and neighbouring Botswana, reports Hindustan Times.

The variant, according to a statement by Francois Balloux, director of the UCL Genetics Institute published in the Science Media Centre, possibly evolved during a chronic infection of an immuno-compromised, likely in an untreated HIV/AIDS patient.

As many as 22 cases of the new variant have been reported in South



A nurse from Lancet Nectare hospital performs a COVID-19 coronavirus test in Richmond, Johannesburg. Pic - AFP

Africa so far, stated the National Institute for Communicable Diseases.

Data is limited and scientists are still working to find more about its potential transmissibility. However, a

## Covid resurgence in Europe forces govts to rethink need for booster shots

**C**oronavirus infections broke records in parts of Europe on Wednesday, with the continent once again the epicentre of a pandemic that has prompted new curbs on movement and made health experts think again about booster vaccination shots.

Slovakia, the Czech Republic, the Netherlands and Hungary all reported new highs in daily infections as winter grips Europe and people gather indoors in the run-up to Christmas, providing a perfect breeding ground for Covid-19, reports Reuters.

The disease has swept the world in the two years since it was first identified in central China, infecting more than 258 million people and killing 5.4 million.

The European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) recommended vaccine boosters for all adults, with priority for those over 40, in a major shift from its previous guidance which suggested the extra doses should be considered for older frail people and those with weakened immune systems.

"Available evidence emerging from Israel and the UK shows a significant increase in protection against infection and severe disease following a booster dose in all age groups in the short term," the ECDC said in a report published on Wednesday.

Many EU countries have already begun giving booster doses to their



Covid resurgence in Europe. Pic – cloudfront.com

populations but are using different criteria to make priorities and different intervals between the first shots and boosters.

ECDC head Andrea Ammon said boosters would increase protection against infection caused by waning immunity and "could potentially reduce the transmission in the population and prevent additional hospitalisations and deaths".

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### Vaccines reduce Delta transmission by 40%

Covid vaccines reduce transmission of the dominant Delta variant by about 40%, the World Health

Organization (WHO) said on Wednesday, warning that people were falling into a false sense of security.

The WHO chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus urged vaccinated people to continue to take measures to avoid catching Covid-19 and passing on the disease. He noted that last week, more than 60% of all reported cases and deaths from Covid-19 were once again in Europe.

Italy on Wednesday said that unvaccinated people will not be able to enter venues such as cinemas, restaurants and sports events starting from December 6, at least until January 15.

## Appartement à louer - long terme



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Compiled by Doojesh Ramlallah



Interview: Kugan Parapen, Economist & Member of REA

# Covid-19: 'Government's intransigence akin to promoting a 'politique de la mort' over economic considerations'

**K**ugan Parapen is an economist and investment professional in the private sector, as also a member of Resistans ek Alternativ. He shares his views on the deterioration of the Covid situation in the country much of which he ascribes to a lack of forward planning because of the relative initial success in control. He also comments on the political situation and the attempt being made to stifle media voices.

**Covid-19. Do you think the Mauritian government also lost the plot here over its response to the pandemic's resurgence?**

The posture adopted by the government is a far cry from the severe rigid lockdown introduced in March 2020. It is of prime importance to analyse what happened over that time period to really gauge the responsibility of the Mauritian government.

The initial approach was first and foremost to shield the population from the virus and in hindsight, one can say that this objective was met. We can all remember the Prime Minister boasting about the drastic measures put in place by his government on the BBC in the early days of the pandemic. Eventually, following the rather successful vaccination campaign in Mauritius, the government prepared the population for a new phase – the New Normal.

**“There is an element of disbelief among Mauritians right now regarding the whole situation we are going through. For many, it has been a very harsh reality check in that the virus has struck at the heart of their universe when they expected it the least. Despite the presence of the Covid-19 virus on our shores over the last fifteen months or so, the local population felt rather immune to the deadly realities of the pandemic. The country watched from afar the unraveling human tragedies surrounding Covid-19 in regions like Europe, Brazil and India under the false illusion that somehow, we were Covid-safe on our little rock in the middle of the Indian Ocean.”**

**Mauritius Times:** These are difficult times. Following the resurgence of the Covid pandemic, made worse by the Delta variant, scores of people, young and old, have died, and the booster dose, currently being administered, will hopefully help stop the propagation of the disease. But how did matters go so badly wrong?

The situation is indeed dire with a lot of uncertainty about what lies ahead for the population over the coming weeks. There is an element of disbelief among Mauritians right now regarding the whole situation we are going through.

For many, it has been a very harsh reality check in that the virus has struck at the heart of their universe when they expected it the least. Despite the presence of the Covid-19 virus on our shores over the last fifteen months or so, the local population felt rather immune to the deadly realities of the pandemic. The country watched from afar the unraveling human tragedies surrounding Covid-19 in regions like Europe, Brazil and India under the false illusion that somehow, we were Covid-safe on our little rock in the middle of the Indian Ocean.

The seemingly mild local strain of the virus in the early months of the pandemic confused many but, consciously or unconsciously, did instill a cloak of safety in the psyche of the population. In many ways, this perceived immunity turned out to be an oasis of vulnerability.

There are obviously a set of factors and decisions which subsequently led us on the path we are now. The chronology of this tragedy will need to be ascertained down the line as I'm afraid many lives which could have been saved have been sacrificed...

\* It's usually at governments' door where the blame is laid when things go wrong; that what's happening in many countries and also in the UK presently where 'The Independent' reports that scientific advisers and leading experts have warned that ministers in England have "lost the message" over

to promoting a '*politique de la mort*' over economic considerations.

The New Normal has brought about chaos. And the authorities are turning a blind eye to it. *Il n'est pire aveugle que celui qui ne veut pas voir.* We've heard from several quarters that the official numbers are being manipulated and judging by the accounts we've heard from Covid-19 patients and the relatives of the deceased, there is certainly some credibility to those claims.

Resistans ek Alternativ have drilled down the numbers and it is obvious now that the methodology used to count the number of Covid-19 active cases has been altered in recent weeks and the direct consequence is obviously an underestimation of the gravity of the situation. The implication of such manipulation, if any, is damning since it conveyed a false sense of 'security' to the population.

The recent spike in Covid-19 cases has been attributed by some in government to the irresponsibility of the population, especially during the public holiday laden week. We have confirmed reports that the situation was already alarming prior to that week and that public hospitals, including the ENT Hospital, were already saturated by then.

This brings into question the contingency plans of the authorities in case things got out of control. A failure to plan is a plan to fail. And we have unfortunately witnessed this failure unfold in recent weeks. The population has been left baffled by the absence of planning by the authorities amid a worsening situation. If you know that you are going ahead with the New Normal, surely you must have planned for the worst-case under that scenario.

What we have seen in recent days has nothing to do with the authorities having things under control. The scrambling for oxygen supply from neighbouring Reunion Island is a clear indication that our government has been completely overwhelmed by the current sanitary situation. And it beggars belief that we could be so unprepared for the worst-case scenario when relevant ministries have had months to put in place adequate contingency plans.

Last but not least, the incoherence of emergency measures recently announced reflect poorly on the government. Of the lot, the decision to abstain from social distancing measures in public transport is shocking to say the least.

• Cont. on page 8

During the second confinement at the start of 2021, elements of this New Normal were tangible with more than 300,000 Work Access Permits (WAPs) being delivered. The population was told it had to come to terms with the lasting nature of the pandemic and that it had to coexist with Covid-19. Borders were opened progressively while the tourism industry was preparing itself to welcome foreigners again. And then came the Delta variant...

In face of a worsening of the Covid-19 situation, the government has so far refused to reconsider its approach. We get the impression that the New Normal mode is irrevocable in that no matter how much damage the Covid-19 could do going forward, the Mauritian authorities will not change their approach. Resistans ek Alternativ has denounced this intransigence as it is akin

# 'The Opposition is as divided as ever. Will pragmatism prevail or will the opposition forces offer a new prime ministership to Jugnauth?'

• Cont. from page 7

What is the point of limiting access to public places, beaches, and religious venues if those same people who have practised social distancing measures there are to travel next to each other on the buses or the metro?

\* On the other hand, the full human impact and economic cost of the pandemic has yet to be assessed, but what are the lessons that could be drawn from your own personal as well as professional perspectives?

I believe one's perspective on life changes dramatically in the face of death. In normal times, for most people, that does not happen until quite late. However, in the times we are currently living, this confrontation is likely to have happened much earlier than would normally be the case and could lead to a renewed attitude to life on earth.

During the social lockdowns, human beings were placed in a situation they had never experienced before and through these experiences, came to realise what really mattered and what was superficial. For many of them, the pandemic will act as a demarcation between their old-self and their new-self.

It remains to be seen however how this traumatic episode shapes the future of humanity. It might still be too early to fully assess the full impact of the pandemic on life and society. But one thing is for sure - traumas leave consequences.

From a professional perspective, the pandemic's impact on most of the world was similar to that of natural disasters. One would think that an earthquake would weaken an economy but in reality, the negative impact of such disasters is short-lived as the recovery effort tends to outweigh the initial pullback.

What we've seen in the aftermath of the pandemic is a massive effort by governments and central banks around the world to restart economic activity through huge budget deficits and monetary programmes. Even before the pandemic, the level of public debt across the developed world was at unsustainable levels. That did not prevent the governments of these economies from increasing the debt burden even further. After all, in times of crisis, anything is possible. Beware of the backlash though!

\* It was reported in one local publication that the reopening of the borders and of the economy has not produced an economic impact of great significance so far. It might be too to expect the reopening to have a greater impact on the economy at this stage, but what does it do to the rest of the economy when one of its pillars, tourism, falters?

It is indeed true that the economic recovery has faltered in Mauritius despite the optimism put forward by the Ministry of Finance. The process has been hampered by the high prevailing inflation rates which have curtailed real growth rates further. Also, I believe the government has been behind the curve with respect to much needed fiscal stimulus.

Given the magnitude of the economic pullback in 2020, a major policy response was needed. In its absence, Mauritius is likely to encounter a U-recovery as opposed to a V-recovery. The paltry growth projections do indeed point towards a U-recovery, that is a recovery which will take time to come to fruition. Most economists do not expect Mauritius to return to its pre-Covid level of economic activity before 2023, if not 2024.



**“Opposition is as divided as ever and I do not believe that is necessarily a bad thing at this point in time. What will matter ultimately is the setup in which the next general elections will take place. Will pragmatism prevail or will the opposition forces offer a new prime ministership to Jugnauth?”**

**“We do understand the harsh prevailing economic situation but for heaven’s sake, there must be a balance to be found. Can anyone from the government tell us why the sanitary situation has worsened so much? No one seems to know, or if they do know, the population is being kept in the dark. The transmission cycle needs to be addressed, otherwise the situation could worsen even further...”**

With respect to the faltering of the tourism sector, it served as a timely reminder of the major dependence of the economy on a single industry. In these same columns, I alluded to Mauritius becoming a ‘mono-service’ economy and drew a parallel to the ‘mono-crop’ economy we once were before our industrialisation process in the 1980s.

Whenever Mauritius was hit by major cyclones before independence, the country would experience a major recession since all the crops (sugarcane mostly) would be destroyed and the revenue stream would dry up.

The pandemic reminded us that the same will happen if our tourism industry were to be negatively affected. It is high time we move towards a revamped economic model whereby new pillars of the economy can be developed and sustained.

The greatest challenge that lies ahead of us is climate change and, as a small island developing state, we ought to be at the forefront of sustainable development. Are oil bunkering and deep-sea mining activities where we should be heading?

\* Economists tell us that the continuing uncertain-

ty about the Covid-19 situation makes economic forecasting a difficult or even a hazardous exercise during these pandemic times. Where is the world economy heading, and will it take time for our economy to start growing again?

The world economy has recovered mostly from the pandemic-induced recession and is expected to grow further in coming quarters. As we now know, the pandemic has had disparate impacts on different economies with some experiencing straight forward recoveries while others have had a more troublesome time.

One must not however forget that the economic recession from 2020 was one of the shortest on record and was brought forward by what economists would term as an exogenous factor, that is something that is beyond the scope of the economic model; in this instance, a pandemic.

As such, most of the economic imbalances that existed pre-pandemic are still key features of the world economy and have yet to be addressed. It is thus very likely that the next economic cyclical downturn is in the offing and I believe that the current economic recovery could turn out to be one of the shortest on record.

Inflation is the major headwind currently facing the world economy as pent-up demand and supply chain issues combine to push prices higher. The world's major central banks see the current inflationary pressures as transitory and expect them to disappear over the medium term. As such, they are unwilling to withdraw their accommodative monetary policies.

Should they be wrong in their assessment, we can expect inflationary pressures to become entrenched and the world would then potentially be facing a scenario it has not experienced since the 1980s and that is stagflation whereby inflationary pressures are present within a stagnating economic environment.

With respect to Mauritius, I do not expect the below-trend growth pattern experienced over the last couple of years to significantly change. Without a major shakeup of the economic and political mindset, not much can be achieved in terms of economic growth I'm afraid. In the meantime, we shall continue to drift further away from the rest of the world, while many African nations will overtake us in terms of development, welfare and innovation.

\* Would you therefore say that in those circumstances, more restrictions or a lockdown, even for a short period, might be counterproductive, or should the health of the people prevail over the economy?

Social restrictions should not have a lasting impact on our economic trajectory. The latter has more to do with long-term policy decisions and economic vision than anything else. Coming back to the sanitary situation, the health of the population is paramount and overrides any other considerations. We are not talking about the health of a few here but rather of that of dozens, if not hundreds, of our fellow citizens.

We do understand the harsh prevailing economic situation but for heaven’s sake, there must be a balance to be found. Can anyone from the government tell us why the sanitary situation has worsened so much? No one seems to know, or if they do know, the population is being kept in the dark. The transmission cycle needs to be addressed, otherwise the situation could worsen even further.

• Cont. on page 9

# 'Mauritius is likely to encounter a U-recovery as opposed to a V-recovery'

*Most economists do not expect Mauritius to return to its pre-Covid level of economic activity before 2023, if not 2024'*

• Cont. from page 8

\* In light of the numerous challenges facing the country, both on the sanitary and economic fronts - and the financial problems that have come in their wake, one is at a loss to understand the Government's current focus on amending the Independent Broadcasting Authority Act with a view to providing "a better legal framework to regulate licensees of the Authority", empowering "the Authority to impose administrative penalties", and enhancing "the regulatory provisions in the Act". What's your reading on this?

One way to look at it is to focus on the way the Mauritius Broadcasting Corporation is currently treating information. Here we have the country's only audiovisual operator completely misrepresenting the sanitary situation in the country by adopting a completely biased positioning.

The government wants to control the media space and is, *de facto*, willing to turn the screw on media outlets that won't dance to its tune. This is not the first attempt by the incumbent government to undermine the liberty of expression of independent broadcasters. And it surely will not be its last incursion in this field.



**“During the social lockdowns, human beings were placed in a situation they had never experienced before and through these experiences, came to realise what really mattered and what was superficial. For many of them, the pandemic will act as a demarcation between their old-self and their new-self. It remains to be seen however how this traumatic episode shapes the future of humanity...”**

\* It might be politically expeditious to raise the bogey of an impending dictatorship in light of the laws that are being amended, but we are not there. And even a semblance of democracy, as some would suggest, does not also equate with dictatorship, isn't it?

We do not believe that there is a formal blueprint for dictatorships. They do come in all shapes and sizes. And there is an element of relativity to them. What can be a dictatorship to some may be a thriving democracy to others. A lot depends on personal considerations towards various kinds of freedom for instance. Also, dictatorships can exist in different forms with the spectrum ranging from soft dictatorships to harder and harsher versions.

There are several features of our "democracy" which are worth dissecting. One could argue that by virtue of the concentrated powers bestowed upon the Prime Minister by our Constitution, a layer of autocracy is inherent. If one

**“There is an element of disbelief among Mauritians right now regarding the whole situation we are going through. For many, it has been a very harsh reality check in that the virus has struck at the heart of their universe when they expected it the least. Despite the presence of the Covid-19 virus on our shores over the last fifteen months or so, the local population felt rather immune to the deadly realities of the pandemic...”**



were to add the numerous attempts to undermine critical institutions like the DPP's Office, the Electoral Supervisory Commission and the Independent Broadcasting Authority amongst others while also focusing on the acts of repression against engaged citizens, politicians and the media, the shadow of some sort of dictatorship would surely be casted.

In many ways, the journey matters more than the destination on this democratic issue. The country has regressed in international tables pertaining to freedoms and human rights under this regime. This has got to be a red flag.

**\* The government alliance commands a comfortable parliamentary majority, Pravind Jugnauth remains the uncontested leader of a resource-rich party, and it looks like that the petitions contesting the election of some of his alliance's candidates in November 2019 will fall by the wayside. He should therefore not have any cause for worry, isn't it?**

There are legitimate doubts to be held over the Opposition's strategy to challenge the result of elections in so many constituencies. While we concur that the government made use of all types of questionable strategies including tinkering with the registration of electors process, as alleged, and getting citizens of the Commonwealth to vote, it was always unlikely that their MPs would be disqualified in court. We believe that the recent withdrawal of petitions recognises this inevitability.

That said, the Prime Minister is also facing other legal charges, including the case of allegedly declaring a false affidavit regarding his electoral expenses for the last general election campaign. We all know that all candidates from the traditional parties exceed the threshold for expenses for these elections by quite a margin. The Kistnen Papers have brought tangible proof of that and is definitely a major thorn for the government alliance.

A more inspired approach to challenging the democratic process of representative elections in Mauritius would be to focus on the major flaws of the First Past The Post (FPTP) system because what happened in 2019 should never happen again in our democracy. The FPTP system has shown its major limitations in 2019 when a party with only 38% of the votes managed to form a ruling government and control 60% of the seats in Parliament.

Putting aside party politics, it should occur to everyone that this is an absurdity and a farcical version of demo-

cacy. Opposition members, both parliamentary and extra parliamentary, should rather focus on this all-important issue. Given the semblance of democracy conferred by our vetust electoral system, should politicians who want to uphold the values of democracy continue to stand as candidates under it? Or shall they boycott it and demand its replacement?

**\* It's also unlikely the Opposition will cause the leader of the MSM any worry any time soon. What's your opinion on what's happening on the other side of the fence?**

The Opposition is as divided as ever and I do not believe that is necessarily a bad thing at this point in time.

What will matter ultimately is the setup in which the next general elections will take place. Will pragmatism prevail or will the opposition forces offer a new prime ministership to Jugnauth?

It is hard to believe that the MSM could be any stronger than it was at the last elections but then again, some of the electorate reason in a way which defies logic or even sanity.

## MAURITIUS TIMES To Our Readers

65 years ago, *Mauritius Times* was founded with a resolve to fight for justice and fairness and the advancement of the public good. It has never deviated from this principle no matter how daunting the challenges and how costly the price it has had to pay at different times of our history.

We are determined not to abandon this line of action, which is the cardinal principle of our *raison-d'être*. This is what has given *Mauritius Times* a unique standing in the local publishing world.

Our production circumstances have changed since last year with the onset of the Covid-19 lockdown, and we have had to move to the digital platform. We have since March 2020 freely circulated the paper via WhatsApp and by email, besides making it available on our website.

However, with print journalism in Mauritius and across the world struggling to keep afloat due to falling advertising revenues and the wide availability of free sources of information, it is crucially important for the *Mauritius Times* to still meet its cost of production for it to survive and prosper.

Readers will no doubt appreciate that it takes a lot of time, hard work, money and the continued support of our contributors to produce the *Mauritius Times* - as we have done without interruption in these last 65 years. We can only continue doing it with the support of our readers.

We hope you'll continue to support the paper by taking a subscription or by making a recurring donation through a Standing Order to our not-for-profit Foundation. Our future will be secure with the support of our readers and well-wishers.

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Tel: 5 2929 301 / 212 13 13 or send an email to [mtimes@intnet.mu](mailto:mtimes@intnet.mu)**

*The Editorial Team*

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## Waiting for rabbit suicide

Once there lived a lazy farmer who did not enjoy working hard in the fields. He spent his days napping under a tree. One day, while he was resting under a tree, a fox came chasing a rabbit. There was a loud thump – the rabbit had crashed into the tree and died.

The farmer picked up the dead rabbit and took it home, frustrating the hell out of the fox. The farmer cooked and ate the rabbit for dinner.

ner and sold its fur at the market. The farmer thought to himself, "If I could get a rabbit like that every day, I'd never have to work again."

The next day, the farmer went right back to the tree and waited for another rabbit to die in a similar way. He saw a few rabbits, but none of them ran into the tree like before. Indeed, it was a very rare incident, but the farmer did not realize it.

"Oh well," he thought cheerfully, "There's always tomorrow."

Since, he was just waiting for a rabbit to hit a tree and die, he did

not give any attention to his field. Weeds grew in his rice field. Soon, the farmer ran out of his rice and never caught any other rabbit too.

Moral: Do not wait for good things to come without doing anything. Do not give your life to luck without working for success.

\* \* \*

## Twenty-dollar bill

A well-known speaker started his seminar by holding up a brand new twenty-dollar bill. In the room filled with people he asked if anyone would like to have his \$20

bill. Hands in the rooms started going up. He crumpled and crumpled the bill and asked the crowd if anyone was still interested to have the bill. The hands were still up signing that people still wanted the crumpled \$20 bill.

He then dropped the bill on the ground and started to grind it with his shoe. He picked up, now crumpled and dirty \$20 bill. "Does anyone still want the bill?" he asked. Still the hands went into the air.

The speaker said, "Today we have all learned a valuable lesson. No matter what I did to the bill, you

still wanted it because it did not lose its value."

"Many times in our lives, we are dropped, crumpled, and ground into the dirt by the decisions we make and the circumstances that come our way. We may feel as we are worthless; but no matter what happened or what will happen, you will never lose your value."

Moral: Dirty or clean, crumpled or finely creased, we are priceless. The worth of our lives comes from who we know, but by who we are.

*Alltimeshortstories.com*

**Filed by:**  
**DR WEDER, KAUTA & HOVEKA INC**  
**Per: TSHUKA LUVINDAO**  
**Legal Practitioners for APPLICANTS**  
**3rd Floor WKH House**  
**Jan Jonker Rd.**  
**Ausspannplatz**  
**Windhoek**

**Managing Judge:** Motion Court  
**Date of Hearing:** 21 JANUARY 2022  
**Time of Hearing:** 10:00  
**Roll:** RULE 108

## NOTICE OF MOTION IN THE HIGH COURT OF NAMIBIA MAIN DIVISION

CASE NUMBER: HC-MD-CIV-ACT-CON-2018/04135

KAUNAPAUUA NDILULA N.O.  
EVANGELINA NANGULA HAMUNYELA N.O.  
STUART MOIR N.O.  
JACOBUS DU TOIT N.O.  
EFFAISHE NGHIIDIPAA N.O.  
ANDREW CAMPBELL N.O.  
ROBERT PROPER PANKRATIUS FREIHERR  
HEEREMAN VON ZUYDTWYCK N.O. FABIAN DAVID TAIT N.O.  
and  
STEPHANUS BERGH  
RUDOLF WOLDEMAR WINCKLER  
HENDRIK PIETER FACULIN GOUS N.O  
PAPALLONA INVESTMENTS (PTY) LTD  
SERVE INVESTMENTS FIVE ZERO (PTY) LTD  
SIGMA INVESTMENTS CC  
LAZARETT STREET NUMBER THIRTEEN CC  
BFS FUND MANAGER (PTY) LTD

1<sup>ST</sup> APPLICANT  
2<sup>ND</sup> APPLICANT  
3<sup>RD</sup> APPLICANT  
4<sup>TH</sup> APPLICANT  
5<sup>TH</sup> APPLICANT  
6<sup>TH</sup> APPLICANT  
7<sup>TH</sup> APPLICANT  
8<sup>TH</sup> APPLICANT  
  
1<sup>st</sup> RESPONDENT  
2<sup>nd</sup> RESPONDENT  
3<sup>rd</sup> RESPONDENT  
4<sup>th</sup> RESPONDENT  
5<sup>th</sup> RESPONDENT  
6<sup>th</sup> RESPONDENT  
7<sup>th</sup> RESPONDENT  
8<sup>th</sup> RESPONDENT

KHOMAS REGION  
MEASURING: 5400 (FIVE FOUR NOUGHT NOUGHT) SQUARE METRES AS INDICATED ON GENERAL PLAN NO. S.G. NO. A407/2011 AND  
HELD BY: CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRED TITLE NO. T5333/2011  
(c) CERTAIN: ERF NO. 2818 (A PORTION OF ERF 2816) KLEIN WINDHOEK  
SITUATE: IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF WINDHOEK  
REGISTRATION DIVISION "K"  
KHOMAS REGION  
EXTENT: 1070 (ONE NIL SEVEN NIL) SQUARE METRES

FIRST REGISTERED and still held by certificate of registered title no. t8436/1993 with diagram no. a 68/90 relating thereto.  
SUBJECT to the following conditions imposed in terms of section 19 of the townships and divisions of land ordinance 1963 (ordinance 11 of 1963, created in said certificate of registered title no. T8436/1993.

2. Costs of this application on the scale as between attorney and own client as agreed.
3. Further and/or alternative relief.

**KINDLY TAKE FURTHER NOTICE THAT** the affidavits of KAUNAPAUUA NDILULA and TSHUKA LUVINDAO together with the annexures thereto will be used in support of this Application.

**TAKE FURTHER NOTICE THAT** the Applicants have appointed Dr Weder, Kauta & Hoveka Inc., 3<sup>rd</sup> floor WKH House, Jan Jonker Road, Windhoek at which the Applicants will accept notice and service of all process in these proceedings.

**KINDLY TAKE FURTHER NOTICE** That First Respondent must within 10 days of service of this application file his notice of intention to oppose the Rule 108 application and to provide the Court reasons why the immovable properties should not be declared specifically executable.

**KINDLY PLACE THE MATTER ON THE ROLL ACCORDINGLY.**

DATED AND SIGNED AT WINDHOEK ON THIS 24<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF NOVEMBER 2021.

DR WEDER, KAUTA & HOVEKA INC.

PER: TSHUKA LUVINDAO

LEGAL PRACTITIONER FOR THE APPLICANT

3<sup>RD</sup> FLOOR WKH HOUSE

JAN JONKER ROAD

WINDHOEK

[REF: MAT58625/MVH]

TO: THE REGISTRAR OF THE HIGH COURT  
MAIN DIVISION- WINDHOEK

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT** the above-named Applicants / Judgment Creditors will make application to this Court on **FRIDAY, 21 JANUARY 2022**, at **10:00** or as soon thereafter as counsel may be heard, for an order in the following terms:

1. An order as relates to the First Respondent, declaring the following immovable properties specially executable:

(a)  $\frac{3}{4}$  (THREE QUARTER) SHARE IN AND TO  
CERTAIN: ERF NO. 374 ELISENHEIM  
SITUATE: IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF WINDHOEK  
REGISTRATION DIVISION "K"  
KHOMAS REGION  
MEASURING: 4280 (FOUR TWO EIGHT NOUGHT) SQUARE METRES AS INDICATED ON GENERAL PLAN NO. S.G. NO. A407/2011 AND  
HELD BY: CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRED TITLE NO. T5333/2011  
(b)  $\frac{3}{4}$  (THREE QUARTER) SHARE IN AND TO  
CERTAIN: ERF NO. 394 ELISENHEIM  
SITUATE: IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF WINDHOEK  
REGISTRATION DIVISION "K"

# Conspiracy theories about the pandemic are spreading offline as well as through social media

• Cont. from page 2

## What is a 'truthpaper'?

In terms of style and layout, the Light looks like a conventional newspaper. It has a masthead and banner headlines and each article is laid out in columns. The content varies in both style and topic, with opinion pieces and interviews appearing alongside news items.

Conspiracist articles are presented alongside other, unrelated material, so that overall, readers experience the variety of content that might be expected in a mainstream source of news. For instance, the same issue might include an article suggesting COVID vaccines could be used for mind control and a more conventional news item on Russian shipping.

As an example of the offline dissemination of conspiracy theories related to the pandemic, the Light is important for a number of reasons. It seemingly has a wide reach, with claims of a print run of over 100,000 copies for each issue. It is produced and distributed by a network of activists, drawing on a closed Facebook group of more than 8,000 members.

## Conspiracy and activism

However, the Light's real significance is that it appears to be encouraging a



A front cover of an issue of The Light. Author provided

highly participatory engagement with its content. Readers are encouraged to seek out, disseminate and act on the issues they are reading about rather than simply passively receiving the information. This approach means that the Light doesn't just aim to broaden readers' knowledge but to engage them in a process of discovery, revelation and action.

We found this happens in a number of ways. There are direct calls for action, for example, through articles encouraging readers to attend rallies and events, or promoting the refusal to wear face coverings.

Other articles promote the importance

of "doing your own research", directing readers to seek out content that challenges mainstream opinion on the pandemic. There are even puzzle features that require the reader to conduct research into conspiratorial content in order to be successfully completed.

Being "awake" is a central theme in conspiracist content. Readers are invited to join an in-group of conspiracy adherents who refute the "official narrative". The state of being "awake" is often put across as being virtuous and exceptional, and readers are frequently encouraged to view their knowledge of the pandemic's "true" nature as a motivating factor to action.

Alongside this are frequent moral appeals to action which play upon readers' emotions to drive them to act. This includes content written in language that draws on themes of war and conflict and emotive articles warning of the effects of public health measures on children.

## Why it matters

These calls to action are taking place in the context of an increasingly dangerous atmosphere. We already know that conspiracy theories have the potential to promote political polarisation, extremism and violence. Recent months have seen numerous examples of COVID-19 conspiracy theories influencing real-world activism.

Some of these might seem relatively trivial, such as sticker campaigns disputing the safety of the vaccination programme, or leaflets promoting unproven treatments posted through letterboxes. But there have also been protests at media organisations' offices, attempts to disrupt the work of vaccination centres and even footage of threats of violence being made against public figures associated with the pandemic response.

Offline material like the Light is highly potent because readers experience a sense of agency when they pick it up. They are being offered a way to actively engage in public issues which is outside of mainstream forms of political participation. And it's all happening without the automated warnings and links to more reliable sources which are now a mainstay of social media sites.

*Rod Dacombe, King's College London*

## Programme des Courses

1 THE BENITCH PLATE 1600 m -- Valeur [0-15] -- 12h30					
1 Fairbanks	VA	4-4-5-6-6	62	P.Mogun	4 3300
2 Midnight Oracle	SPN	7-4-1-3-6	61.5	G.D.Aucharuz	8 900
3 Desert Thief	RG	5-3-3-1-6	60.5(-4)	N.S.Batchameah	3 450
4 Big Smoke	AS	3-1-7-3-4	59.5(-4)	I.Taka	10 900
5 Starsky	CD	4-9-4-7-6	59(-3)	M.Sonaram	2 600
6 Jet Path	VA	4-6-6-10-8	58.5	R.K.Chumun	5 1600
7 Nightingale Lane	CR	1-8-9/5-4	58.5	K.Ramsamy	9 900
8 Barking Irons	SN	4-7-9/10-2	57.5	K.Kalychurun	6 700
9 Lady's Knight	RM	8-6-8-6-8	57.5	T.Juglall	7 1400
10 Bypass	SPN	2-2-5-8-5	56	R.Hoolash	1 600

2 THE DROMUS PLATE 1500 m -- Valeur [0-25] -- 13h05					
1 Beni Des Dieux	RG	0-0-5-5-10	60.5	R.Joorawon	5 1100
2 Betathantherest	SJ	7-8-8-4-1	60.5	B.Sooful	7 400
3 Carlton Heights	AS	3-7-5-9-4	60.5	S.Rama	9 500
4 Quest For Good	P	0-6-9-8-3	60.5	G.D.Aucharuz	10 1100
5 Stone Circle	RM	0-8-R-7-5	60.5	P.C.Orffer	2 350
6 Gontravelin	CR	2-3-2-4-2	60	J.Allyhosain	6 750
7 Seventh Rule	SM	4-9/9-2-6	59(-4)	N.S.Batchameah	4 2200
8 The Gypsy King	SPN	0-10-5-8-8	59	R.Vaibhav	1 5500
9 Supreme Elevation	SH	7-9-6-9-5	58.5	I.Santana	8 1100
10 Dreamforest	CD	5-4-6-4-6	57	D.Bheekary	3 2000

3 THE SAMAT PLATE 990 m -- Valeur Benchmark 36 -- 13h40					
1 Remus	SH	0-0-1-1-1	60	I.Santana	5 160
2 Donnan	SN	1-4/3-2-4	59.5	J.Allyhosain	8 2000
3 Soul Connection	SPN	7-5-8-6-8	59.5	G.D.Aucharuz	1 3700
4 Short Cut	CD	0-0-8-7-5	59	D.Bheekary	7 3300
5 Dark Force	RM	8-3-8-3-6	58.5	P.C.Orffer	6 2200
6 Poinciana	SJ	1-2/2-5-1	58.5	B.Woodworth	4 260
7 Senor Don	P	0-0-0-4-8	58.5	K.Kalychurun	2 4500
8 Tripod	CR	5-7-4-8-6	58.5	S.Bussunt	3 4500

## 34è journée samedi 27 novembre 2021

### 4 THE ROUGH ROPE PLATE 1600 m -- Valeur Benchmark 41 -- 14h15

1 Bold Horizon	AS	9-6-8-9-7	60	S.Rama	4 1600
2 Freedom Of Speech	SM	0-0-7-10-5	59.5(-4)	N.S.Batchameah	6 360
3 Senatla	CR	3/4-4-5-8	59	K.Ramsamy	5 3000
4 Taking Silk	GR	3-2-7-7-3	58.5	N.Teeha	1 258
5 Bonnie Prince	SH	4/4-7-7-1	58	I.Santana	2 330
6 Drop Kick	VA	9-4-11-3-5	58	R.Joorawon	3 650

### 5 THE ACCELERATED AUCTIONNERS PLATE 1400 m -- Valeur Benchmark 46 -- 14h50

1 Culture Trip	SN	1-1-7-7-7	61.5	K.Ramsamy	2 400
2 Roman Dancer	G	1-3-3-5-2	61	R.Joorawon	6 750
3 Sugoi	SH	4-4-6-9-2/	60.5	I.Santana	3 900
4 Carlas Mambo	SJ	5/3-1-4-6	60	D.Bheekary	1 700
5 Big Mistake	SM	3-7/7-11-8	59(-4)	N.S.Batchameah	5 2000
6 Bold Phoenix	SJ	7-5-5-4-1	59	B.Woodworth	4 280
7 Ron's Joy	GR	1/1-1-1-3	59	B.Sooful	7 530

### 6 THE CENTENARY OF THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION TROPHY 1600 m -- Valeur Benchmark 51 -- 15h25

1 Backpacker	VA	4-3-8-6-2	62	D.Bheekary	1 380
2 Puget Sound	SPN	3-7/8-9-8	61.5	K.Kalychurun	5 9900
3 Creation	SPN	7-5-10-6-4	61	G.D.Aucharuz	3 450
4 Prince Of Venice	SM	R-7-1-5-5	60(-4)	N.S.Batchameah	7 1800
5 Sea Dance	CD	1-5-1-4-2	60(-3)	M.Sonaram	8 1000
6 Double The Fun	G	0-0-9-8-8	59.5	S.Bussunt	2 2500
7 Cyber Special	GR	1-2-2-6-3	59	B.Sooful	6 470
8 Gunston	SH	9-5-5-1-1	57	I.Santana	4 330

### 7 THE JOKERS WILD PLATE 1500 m -- Valeur Benchmark 31 -- 16h00

1 Protea Paradise	RG	8-8-9-5-6	60	R.Joorawon	4 3500
2 The Jazz Singer	SH	9/6-7-8-1	60	I.Santana	8 580
3 Anderson	SJ	8-7-6-6-10	59.5	B.Sooful	3 1400
4 Never Fear	CD	1/2-1/1-7	59.5	D.Bheekary	7 1000
5 Promissory	VA	4-5-7-5-4	59.5(-4)	N.S.Batchameah	6 1000
6 Skip The Red	RM	5-6-2-1-3	59.5	P.C.Orffer	2 320
7 Smuts	AS	7-3-3-1-8	59	S.Rama	10 1000
8 Grand Vision	G	1-7-3-3-5	58.5	S.Bussunt	1 550
9 Jals Tiger	GR	4-1-2-5-9	58.5	N.Teeha	5 1000
10 James Peter	SN	6-5-6-6-2	58.5	J.Allyhosain	9 800

### 8 THE BASIL LEWIS PLATE 1365 m -- Valeur [0-25] -- 16h35

1 Rock Manor	CR	4-3-8-8-6	61.5	S.Bussunt	5 3500
2 Global Glory	SM	9-R-A-2-3	60.5	K.Ramsamy	2 330
3 Hardfallingrain	CD	8-6-7-2-2	60.5	D.Bheekary	7 310
4 Pin Drop	SH	4-3-2-3-5	60.5	I.Santana	3 900
5 San Andreas	SJ	3-3-8-8-2	60	B.Sooful	6 450
6					

## Ravina Ramlugun

*"The great thing about Ayurveda is that its treatments always yield side benefits and not side effects."* -- Shubra Krishan

Ayurveda is one of the great gifts of the sages of ancient India and in Sanskrit it means "the science of life". Contrary to the belief that Ayurveda is an old dated and archaic medicinal system, it actually does have a crucial role to play in the current situation where Covid-19 is ravaging the world.

A profound study of the Charaka and Sushruta Samhita depicts that epidemics can result from man's activities when they go against the laws of nature. Nature is God-gifted and is meant to be respected and protected. An accumulation of toxins in the environment can create the conditions for an epidemic to occur.

The Covid-19 infection attacks the person through the nose, mouth and throat. From there it moves to the respiratory tract and can prove to be fatal to some people. Ayurveda offers individuals a wide panoply of rules and regulations to be followed on a daily basis (termed as dinacharya) which cleans the different passages and channels in the human body. Many of these principles can be used to ward off the Covid-19 infection:

• **Tongue scraping** is a traditional part of Ayurvedic self-care. Overnight, as the body processes everything that was ingested that day, toxins begin to form, and are visible as a coating on the tongue. Scraping the coating off first thing in the morning prevents reabsorption of the toxins that your body worked so hard to expel. As the Covid-19 infection starts its trail from the mouth, this activity of cleaning the tongue can prove to be help greatly in preventing it.

• **Oil pulling** involves swishing a tablespoon of oil (sesame usually) in your mouth on an empty stomach for around 20 minutes. Rinse the mouth with warm water afterwards. This is meant to draw out toxins from the oral cavity and induce a good oral health.

• **Gargling with warm salty water** helps in cleansing of the throat and kills any bacteria present therein.



## Ayurveda for Covid

- The Covid-19 infection remains on surface for some time and thus can also be transmitted through touch. As a consequence, keeping the body clean is also recommended. Ayurveda recommends a **daily bath** for every individual.

- Nasya treatment involves oiling of the nasal passage. Ayurveda offers a wide variety of oil for nasya treatment, such as medicated ghee, Shadbindutailam (easily available in Ayurvedic shops in Mauritius), sesame oil among others. These oils/ghee helps in **eliminating bacteria in the nasal passage** and consequently help in the prevention of infections.

- Steam inhalation with mint leaves/tulsi leaves/rosemary leaves or caraway seeds (ajwain) with deep breathing and exhaling from the mouth clears nose blocks and keeps the nasal passages clean. Toxin that has dried up in the tract will soften and come out as phlegm from the nose or mouth.

- Jala neti can also be practised on a daily basis in the morning to clean the sinuses and remove mucus that has dried up in the air passages. This should be done using warm salty water and a neti pot.

- Ayurveda also strongly advocates sustaining immunity. One who abuses of his body is prone to illness. There is a saying in Ayurveda that the one who eats the wrong foods and indulges in the wrong activities is the one prone to illness. Among the three pillars of health stated in Ayurvedic

texts, food is one. Healthy and immunity bestowing foods such as Amla, Chywanaprash, herbs (lemongrass, rosemary, thyme, coriander, Tulasi, etc) have been promoted by Ayurveda. Having a healthy and wholesome diet contributes to the body re-enforcing its own power and fighting off anything unwelcome and unpleasant to it.

- A mixture of **Tulasi leaves, dalchini (cinnamon), cardamom and Krishna march (black pepper)** can be taken in the form of a tea. All these spices together help in keeping infections at bay. Also, they improve the overall functioning of the lungs and respiratory organs. **Golden milk (milk, turmeric, cardamom and saffron)** can be drunk at night for improving immunity. Milk helps in better absorption of the spices added to it which means better efficacy.

- Yoga and Ayurveda go hand in hand. Ayurveda is considered as the literature while Yoga is regarded as the practice. Thus, in order to fight off the Covid-19 infection, the practice of **Yogasanas, meditation, kapalbhati and pranayama** also prove beneficial. These breathing exercises help in expelling out toxic matters from the respiratory tracts and encourage better absorption of oxygen from the air.

- Ayurveda also recommends lighting dried herbs/spices (ghee can be added), agarbatti and dhoop to keep the air around us clean and pure. **The mixture of these spices and herbs or dhoop helps killing the bacteria in the air and purifies it.**

According to a study at AYUSH-Gujarat, Covid-19 patients on combined therapy of allopathy and ayurveda, got RT-PCR negative results in an average of 7.85 days compared to 12.19 for those only on allopathic medicines. Thus, it can be seen that faster recovery is achieved through Ayurvedic medicines. Shatavari, Ashwagandha and Guduchi are powerful antiviral Ayurvedic medicines. Unlike the various vaccines, pills and other medicines which have been found to fight against Covid-19, the Ayurvedic treatment does not have any side-effects. On the other hand, it only helps in boosting one's immunity.

## Programme des Courses

35è journée dimanche 28 novembre 2021

1	THE URBAN COWBOY PLATE				
	1400 m -- Valeur [0-20] -- 12h30				
1 Captain Falcon	G	2-3-1-3-1	61.5	R.Joorawon	3
2 Lasair	JMH	7-8-8-3-5	61	B.Sooful	4
3 Time Is Gold	SH	7/4-6-9-R	60	I.Santana	6
4 Secret Circle	SJ	7-6-9-3-6	59	B.Woodworth	5
5 Subtropical	SPN	4-7-9-5-5	59	R.Vaibhav	2
6 Seven Colours	SN	10-6-6-9-9/	55.5	R.K.Chumun	1
7 Misty Roller	CD	2-1/4-10-11	55(-3)	M.Sonaram	7

2	THE DISRAELI PLATE				
	1850 m -- Valeur [0-25] -- 13h05				
1 Citadel	G	0-3-7-3-2	61	R.Joorawon	2
2 Why Wouldn't Yew	RM	4-4-4-3-4	61	P.C.Orffer	3
3 Casanova King	SJ	0-9-10-10-2	60.5	B.Sooful	6
4 Mounted Warrior	CD	0-5-6-3-5	60.5	D.Bheekary	4
5 Arnica Montana	SN	7-R-3-5-2	59.5(-4)	N.S.Batchameah	1
6 Blunderbuss	CR	9/10-5-5-1	54	S.Rama	5

3	THE GAY KNIGHT PLATE				
	1600 m -- Valeur Benchmark 36 -- 13h40				
1 Roll Of Drums	CD	6-5/9-8-6	62(-3)	M.Sonaram	5
2 Borya	G	1-1-4-6-5	61.5	R.Joorawon	2
3 Senor's Guest	GR	3-1-1-6-3	61.5	N.Teeha	7
4 Times New Roman	AS	0-5-9-3-7	61.5(-4)	N.S.Batchameah	6
5 Cash Call	SH	8-5-4-7-5	61	I.Santana	1
6 Inauguration	CR	3-3-5-6-7	60.5	R.Beeharry	10
7 Six Degrees	SN	1-2-2-4-2	60.5	J.Allyhosain	9
8 Ballantine Hall	G	5-2-1-4-3	60	S.Bussunt	4
9 Canary Island	VA	4-1-3-2-4	59.5	D.Bheekary	3
10 Global Spectrum	RM	0-6-4-7-1	56.5	S.Rama	8

4	THE HOME STYLE PLATE				
	1365 m -- Valeur Benchmark 31 -- 14h15				
1 Marula	JMH	1-1-3-2-4	60	D.Bheekary	7
2 Savvy	SJ	9-6-7-4-7	60	T.Juglall	4
3 Candle Cove	SN	0-6-4-4-8	59.5	K.Ramsamy	8
4 High Voltage	AS	6-10-9-6-5	59	S.Rama	3
5 Stockbridge	SM	3-2-1-2-6	59(-4)	N.S.Batchameah	6
6 Travelin Man	RM	3-4-2-3-R	59	P.C.Orffer	5
7 Jacalac	P	7-4-R-1-2	58.5	G.D.Aucharuz	2
8 Coup For Lute	SH	4-5-3-7-1	58	I.Santana	1
9 Matchless Captain [EA]	RG	5/7-4-7-7	57.5	-----	9

5	THE LOUIS LARCHER CUP				
	1500 m -- Valeur Benchmark 56 -- 14h50				
1 Ideal Secret	RM	3-6-8-6-5	60.5	P.C.Orffer	9
2 Tower Of Wisdom	GR	3-2-3-2-3	60.5	B.Sooful	4
3 Etched In Blue	SPN	1-5-6-5-7	60	G.D.Aucharuz	6
4 Seattle Kid	CD	3-1-2-3-3	60	D.Bheekary	7
5 Your Pace Or Mine	SN	0-0-0-4-5	60	J.Allyhosain	2
6 Arabian Air	CR	6-8-5-1-R	59.5	S.Bussunt	3
7 Ottoman Empire	GR	0-0-0-7-6	59.5	N.Teeha	8
8 Battle Of Alesia	RG	3-5-6-2-R	59(-4)	N.S.Batchameah	1
9 The It Factor	SM	0-10-6-8-R	56.5	R.K.Chumun	5

6	THE GOVERNOR GENERAL CUP				
	1850 m -- Valeur Benchmark 71 -- 15h25				
1 Opera Royal	SH	5-5-4-4-2	60	I.Santana	5
2 The Dazzler	SN	6-6-2-3-7	59	B.Sooful	2
3 Bag Of Tricks	RG	3-2-1-1-5	56.5	R.Joorawon	4
4 Spring Man	RM	6-2-7-1-2	56	S.Rama	3
5 Fools Gold	RM	6-3-4-8-5	55.5	T.Juglall	1
6 Hubble	SJ	2-6-5-1-1	55	B.Woodworth	6

7	THE CLASSITWIST PLATE				
	1500 m -- Valeur [0-26] -- 16h00				
1 Al Jazeera	CR	0-4-1-7-7	61.5	K.Ramsamy	1
2 Manetheren	SN	7/1-2-1-2	61.5	J.Allyhosain	3
3 Bonjour Baby	CR	5/9/8-9-10	61	P.Mogun	5
4 Do Or Dare	SPN	3-R-8-9-7	61(-4)	N.S.Batchameah	2
5 Master Mariner	SPN	0-7-8-7-8	59	G.D.Aucharuz	4
6 Le Quartier	CD	7-8-9-8-8	55.5(-3)	M.Sonaram	6

8	THE VIC CADDY PLATE
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## Maasai man takes out a loan

A Maasai man walks into a bank in Nairobi and asks for the loan officer. He tells the loan officer that he is going to Dubai on business for four weeks and needs to borrow KSH 5,000 (Kenyan Shilling).

The bank officer tells him that the bank will need some form of security for the loan, so the Maasai man hands over the keys to a brand new Mercedes Benz S class 500 parked on the street in front of the bank. He produces the log book and everything checks out. The loan officer agrees to accept the car as collateral for the loan.

The bank's president and its officers all enjoy a good laugh at the Maasai for using a KSH 15 Million Mercedes Benz as collateral against a KSH 5,000 loan.

An employee of the bank then drives the Mercedes Benz into the bank's underground garage and parks it there. Four weeks later, the Maasai returns, repays the 5,000 and the interest, which comes to KSH 150.41.

The loan officer says: 'Sir, we are very happy to have had your business, and this transaction has worked out very nicely but we are a little puzzled. While you were away, we checked you out and found that you are a multimillionaire. What puzzles us is, why would you bother to borrow KSH 5,000?

The Maasai man replies: 'Where else in Nairobi can I park my car for four weeks for only KSH 150.41 and expect it to be there when I return?'

\*\*\*

20 years ago we had Johnny Cash, Bob Hope and Steve Jobs.

Now we have no Cash, no Hope and no Jobs. Please don't let Kevin Bacon die!

\*\*\*

When I see lovers' names carved in a tree, I don't think it's cute. I just think it's crazy how many people bring knives on a date.

\*\*\*

Husband (watching a video): "Don't do it! I swear you are going to regret it for the

rest of your life. You're dumb if you say it...! Don't say yes. No! Aw dang, he actually did it! What an idiot!"

Wife: "Honey, why are you so mad? What is it you are watching?"

Husband: "Our wedding ceremony."

\*\*\*

Ever notice how after an argument is all over, you start to think about more clever awesome shit you could have said?

\*\*\*

Boyfriend: You know you can be a real bitch.

Girlfriend: I have been called worse.

Boyfriend: Like what?

Girlfriend: Your girlfriend!

\*\*\*

Q: Is Google a boy or girl?

A: Obviously a girl because it won't let you finish your sentence without suggesting other ideas

\*\*\*

Election and Erection are spelled almost exactly the same. They both mean the same thing too. A dick rising to power.

\*\*\*

Here are 10 facts I think we can conclude about you:

At first she was my girlfriend. I would talk and she would listen.

Then our marriage was fixed and she would talk while I would listen.



Now we are married. We talk and the neighborhood listens.

[www.joklu.com](http://www.joklu.com)

Fact 1: You are reading this.

Fact 2: You can't say the letter 'm' without touching your lips.

Fact 3: You just tried it.

Fact 4: You're smiling.

Fact 6: You're smiling or laughing again.

Fact 7: You didn't notice I missed fact 5.

Fact 8: You just checked it.

Fact 9: You're smiling again.

## Life's Lessons

### Rich Man, Poor Man

*Bill Gates explains why his daughter can't marry a poor man*

A few years ago, there was a conference in the United States on investment and finance. One of the speakers was Bill Gates and during the question-and-answer session, he was asked a question that had everyone laughing.

The question was about whether he, the richest man in the world, could accept that his daughter marry a poor or modest man?

His answer can change something in everyone. Read on

Bill Gates - "First of all, understand that wealth does not mean having a fat bank account. Wealth is primarily the ability to create wealth.

Example: Someone who wins the lottery or gambling. Even if he wins 100 million is not a rich man: he is a poor man with a lot of money. That's the reason why 90% of the lottery millionaires become poor again after 5 years.

You also have rich people who have no money.

Example: Most entrepreneurs. They are already on the road to wealth even though they have no money, because they are developing their financial intelligence and that is wealth.

How are the rich and the poor different?

To put it simply: The rich may die to



become rich, while the poor may kill to become rich.

If you see a young person who decides to train, to learn new things, who tries to improve himself constantly, know that he is a rich man.

If you see a young person who thinks that the problem is the state, and who thinks that the rich are all thieves and who criticizes constantly, know that he is a poor man.

The rich are convinced that they just need information and training to take off, the poor think that others must give them money to take off.

In conclusion, when I say that my daughter will not marry a poor man, I am not talking about money. I'm talking about the ability to create wealth in that man.

Excuse me for saying this, but most criminals are poor people. When they

are in front of money, they lose their mind, that's why they rob, steal, etc... For them it is a grace because they don't know how they could earn money by themselves.

One day, the guard of a bank found a bag full of money, he took the bag and went to give it to the bank manager.

People called this man an idiot, but in reality, this man was just a rich man who had no money.

One year later, the bank offered him a job as a receptionist, 3 years later he was a customer manager and 10 years later he is appointed to look after the regional management of this bank, he manages hundreds of employees and his annual bonus exceeds the amount he could have stolen."

Wealth is first of all a state of mind. So... are you rich or poor?

## About Happiness

One of the best ways to be happy in life, is to be able to enjoy the simple things of life in the same way we were doing so as a child.

-- Anonymous

There is no path to happiness. Happiness is the path. Life is a journey, not a destination.

-- Buddha

I have chosen to be happy because it is good for my health.

-- Voltaire

No medicine cures what happiness cannot.

-- Gabriel Garcia Marquez

They say a person just needs three things to be truly happy in this world: someone to love, something to do and something to hope for.

-- Tom Bodett

Let us be grateful to the people who make us happy. They are the charming gardeners who make our souls blossom.

-- Marcel Proust

If you want to be happy, do not dwell in the past, do not worry about the future, focus on living fully in the present.

-- Roy T Bennett

There is no end of craving. Hence contentment alone is the best way to happiness. Therefore acquire contentment.

-- Swami Sivananda

Stop acting small. You are the Universe in ecstatic motion.

-- Rumi

Who acts in stillness finds stillness in one's life.

-- Lao Tzu

## Being Mum & Dad



### 4 fun ways to brush up your child's general knowledge

General knowledge essentially allows your child to better understand and comprehend the many facets of the world and its functionality. Your child's general awareness will only be stronger if he/she can relate to various subjects while also develop at the same time greater problem-solving skills and interactiveness. Not only can you

as a parent instil information acquisition habits or take learning as fun. Hence here are some tactics to encourage your child to become more interested in learning and to improve his or her general knowledge.

#### Constructive discussion on varied topics

A good interactive family discussion can help your child to share and imbibe knowledge and information. It's not enough to only gather information, it definitely needs sharing or a flow of ideas and even debates to sometimes rectify the myths to ensure that your child's general knowledge improves. You can host a quiz session with many rounds based on various disciplines of knowledge. In order to persuade your child to participate enthusiastically, you can even keep rewards and position for such contests. These classes might assist your child in expanding their general knowledge and developing social skills which can automatically fuel his/her participation in school or amongst friends.

#### Introduce them to informational movies or books

Insightful movies are an excellent audio-visual form for improving children through nonfiction content. Such colourful and engaging modes of learning are sometimes more appealing to children than traditional bookish approaches. If your child is immensely inclined towards a particular topic, you can introduce various movies regarding that genre.

Encyclopaedias can also be a good approach to inspire your youngster to learn more about a variety of topics. Emphasis more on making learning a continuous and never-ending process which will ultimately allow your

child to be inquisitive about different things and hence fueling their general knowledge.

#### Talk about the world by including various games

Remember the game called atlas or name, place animal, thing? They can play a vital role in also encouraging your child to learn more about the world. Such games include not just playing but also learning the names of countries and their capitals. You can also use the globe to locate a country or discover what information is available about that region in the atlas. This may aid with their knowledge retention process.

#### Emphasise making the right use of technology and media

It is very essential for a parent to consider how the media might be a valuable source of knowledge about the world to your child. Assist them in using technology and media in a way that allows them to enjoy the goodness of knowledge, whether it's on any platform, be it newspaper, television or internet. Do not forget to allow your child a set amount of screen time on a regular basis, on the condition that they use some of it to find new facts about the world on a daily basis. As kids mostly love to play games on the mobile or laptop, encourage them to play entertaining as well as learning-based games.

Lastly, although reading a newspaper may appear to be archaic, it can still be a valuable source of general knowledge for any individual. It is no joke that your child can work wonders if he/she gets into the habit of reading and analysing newspapers.

## Work Smarter

### How to Stop Procrastinating

Ever feel like you worked all day but didn't get much done? Try these tips to help make the most of your time.

Figure out your goals: We're talking about "big-picture" goals for both your work and home life. For example, you may want to find a better work-life balance, get more exercise, and be more involved in your children's after-school activities. Once you know what they are, you can break them into smaller tasks and focus on how to fit them into your life.

#### Keep track

It can help to take a week or so and note how long it really takes you to do things you do all the time -- do laundry, make breakfast, make your bed. Most people overestimate how long it takes to do something simple like take a shower and underestimate the time needed for bigger tasks, like write a term paper. If you know exactly how you spend your time, you may be able to manage it better.

#### Prioritize

Put to-do's in 4 groups:

- Urgent and important
- Not urgent but important
- Urgent but not important
- Neither urgent nor important

The goal is to have as few things under "urgent and important" as possible. Those cause stress when they pile up. If you manage your time well, you'll probably spend most of your time on "not urgent, but



important" -- that's where you can get the most useful things done and keep from feeling overwhelmed later.

#### Schedule your day

Once you know just how long things take and what's most important, start to plan things out. Be flexible. Do you get more done in the late afternoon or early morning? Do you like to have your evenings free to relax? Are you more likely to do yard work if you have a chunk of time to do it all at once or spread it out over the course of a week? Think about what works best for you, and don't be afraid to change things up.

#### Do the hard stuff first

Mark Twain said, "If it's your job to eat a frog, it's best to do it first thing in the morning. And If it's your job to eat two frogs, it's best to eat the biggest one first." In other words, if you have something hard to do, get it out of the way so you don't have to worry about it the rest of the day. At least that's how the author of one prominent time management book understood it. They titled it "Eat That Frog!"

#### Write it down

A "to-do" list is tried and true. But you can use other tools, too -- the main thing is to write it down somewhere. Whatever you use to keep track of things you need to do,

it's better to have just one and keep it with you wherever you go -- on your cell phone for example. Some kind of list keeper or calendar app is probably on your phone already.

#### Is it worth your time?

Remember your big-picture goals and ask yourself if what you're doing is likely to help you get there. For example, that extra hour spent at work on something no one asked you to do might have been better spent at the gym or on the piano or at your child's baseball game.

#### Don't cheat

If you schedule a work session at 9 a.m., stick to it -- 9:17 a.m. won't do, even if you work alone. Missing one start time will make you more likely to miss others. If you want some flexibility, allow yourself a choice -- return emails or file papers, for example -- but stick with the schedule as if it's set in stone. If you try it and find it doesn't work for you, you can always change it.

#### Just start it!

If you feel a strong urge to put things off, find a way to push past it and take even a small step forward. You'll feel better once you make a little progress and may soon find yourself in a real groove. That's because your attitude often comes from your behaviour -- and your results -- rather than the other way around.

#### All your time counts

You've got a free 15-minute chunk of time before you have to be somewhere -- time to surf the Web and check social media, right? You might be surprised by what you can get done in that time. Four 15-minute chunks spread through the day is an hour of productivity. And you'll feel better about kicking back later.

#### Your computer can help

Technology -- the Web, email, social networking sites -- can distract you for hours on

end. But it can help too. Look for tools to help you track and schedule your time, remind you when you need to do something, or even block you from the time-sucking websites that tempt you most.

#### Set time limits

That is, set the most allowable time for the task. You may get it done sooner, but if not, the limit helps keep you from overdoing it. Once you hit the limit, move on.

#### Email: The Black Hole of time wasting

It can be a huge time suck and a source of stress. Try "The Four Ds":

Delete: If it doesn't concern you or isn't something you need to know, get rid of it.

Do: If it's about something urgent or something that can be done quickly, respond to it.

Delegate: If an email asks you something that's better taken care of by someone else, forward it to that person and move on.

Defer: If it's going to take more time than you have at the moment, set aside time for it later.

#### Take a lunch break

It may seem "efficient" to work through lunch, but it can backfire. As a general rule, 30 minutes away from your job will help you work better in the afternoon. If you're not hungry, go for a walk outside or do some stretching. You'll likely come back with more energy and focus.

#### Schedule good stuff

The whole point of getting better with your time is to make more time for the things you want to do. Sprinkle fun, healthy, non-work stuff throughout your week to keep you positive about your schedule and motivated to keep going. This includes breaks, snacks, recreation, exercise, even vacations -- especially when you finish an important task.

Jennifer Casarella, WebMD

## Bollywood celebs who became parents in 2021

# Anushka Sharma, Dia Mirza & others got a reason to cheer!

While the year 2020 was all about Covid, pandemic and lockdown, the first half of this year struggled with its aftermath. Amid these trying times, there were a couple of instances when fans got a chance to celebrate some 'good news' with the Bollywood brigade as the latter welcomed a new addition in their respective families, reports Filmibeat.

From Anushka Sharma, Kareena Kapoor Khan to Preity Zinta, everyone embraced parenthood and entered a new phase in their lives...

**Anushka Sharma:** Anushka and her cricketer-husband Virat Kohli began their New Year on a cheerful note as they were blessed with a baby girl Vamika on January 11, 2021. While 'Virushka' as fans lovingly call them have been very careful about not sharing their little munchkin's pictures on social media, the couple occasionally does give fans a sneak-peek of their bonding sessions with her.

**Dia Mirza:** *Rehnaa Hai Terre Dil Mein* actress Dia Mirza and her husband Vaibhav Rekhi welcomed a baby boy Avyaan Azad on May 14, 2021. However the couple kept this news under wraps for some time and made the announcement in July.

Dia broke the news on her Instagram page with a post a part of which read, "Our heartbeat, our son Avyaan Azaad Rekhi was born on May 14th. Having arrived early, our little miracle has since then been cared for by tireless



nurses and doctors in the Neonatal ICU. A sudden appendectomy during my pregnancy and a subsequent and very severe bacterial infection could have led to sepsis and proven to be life threatening. Thankfully, the timely care and intervention by our doctor ensured the safe birth of our baby via an emergency C-section."

**Neha Dhupia:** Neha and Angad Bedi were blessed with a baby boy on October 3 this year. An elated Angad had taken to social media to announce the arrival of his son and written, "The almighty today blessed us with a baby boy. Both Neha and the baby are well. Mehr is ready to pass on the 'baby' title to the new arrival."

**Preity Zinta:** Preity Zinta and her husband Gene Goodenough left fans pleasantly surprised when they revealed that they have been blessed with twins, Jai and Gia via surrogacy on November 18.

**Lisa Haydon:** Lisa announced her third pregnancy in March this year. In July, she and her husband Dino Lalwani welcomed a baby girl Lara. Later the actress shared a picture of her newborn and shared, "We love you baby girl, with everything we've got!! You are heavenly perfection!"

**Shreya Ghoshal:** Popular singer Shreya Ghoshal and her hubby Shiladitya Mukhopadhyaya welcomed a baby boy Devyaan on May 22 this year. Earlier this week when Devyaan turned six months, the 'Dola Re Dola' singer introduced her son to fans with a bunch of adorable pictures.

## BollyBytes

### Poonam Dhillon: I joined politics to see a bigger change in society

Veteran actress-turned-politician Poonam Dhillon who is playing a pivotal role in the upcoming web series '*Dil Bekaraar*', says she is a passionate actor and joined politics only to contribute to society to see a positive change.

The actress joined the Bhartiya Janta Party in 2004 and in 2019 she was appointed as vice president of the Mumbai unit.

Asked about if politics kept her away from acting, Poonam told IANS: "My personality type is such that whenever I do anything, I put all my energy into that and do not feel that I am missing out on anything. So when I was very busy with my work as a politician, I was not really missing acting because I have no sense of dissatisfaction.

"I joined politics with the emotion to bring about a change in our society. I used to do a lot of social activities because there are few causes that are close to my heart and with social work, I know I can touch many lives. Eventually, I realised that if I want to see the bigger change, joining politics is the right way to do it.



"But I think politics is a time-consuming occupation that requires aggression and passion both. I am a compassionate human being but not sure if I am aggressive. But my interest in doing social work for the greater good of human beings is very much there in my mind. Having said that, acting is my forever love."

The show '*Dil Bekaraar*' is an adaptation of Anuja Chauhan's 2013 book '*Those Pricey Thakur Girls*'. The show features Raj Babbar, Anjali Anand, Akshay Oberoi, and Sukhmani Sadana, among others.

'*Dil Bekaraar*' releases on November 25 on Disney+ Hotstar. (IANS)

### Vicky Kaushal and Katrina Kaif's December wedding: A no-phone affair!

ETimes was the first to report that Katrina Kaif and Vicky Kaushal will be tying the knot in December at a fort resort in Rajasthan. Now, according to the India Today report, their wedding ceremony will be a no-phone affair. For privacy purposes, the couple will be imposing a mobile ban on the guests at the wedding.

A source told the web portal that it is a big day for the couple and hence they want to ensure that no pictures or videos from the wedding should get leaked online. The report further stated that the couple has appointed a team to ensure privacy and security.

Reportedly, after a specific area, the guests will not be allowed to use their mobile phones. Apart from B'twon celebs,



the wedding will witness a lot of family members from both sides.

As per the reports, the guest list includes celebs like Karan Johar, Kabir Khan and his wife Mini Mathur, Rohit Shetty, Sidharth Malhotra and Kiara Advani, Varun Dhawan and Natasha Dalal, Ali Abbas Zafar and more.

Meanwhile, Vicky and Katrina recently had a Roka ceremony at filmmaker Kabir Khan's residence in Mumbai.

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## Shraddha Arya gets married to Delhi-based naval officer Rahul Sharma

**K**undali Bhagya actress Shraddha Arya surprised everyone with her wedding news recently. The actress managed to keep her wedding news a secret until the last minute. Several photos and videos from the grand 'shaadi' are doing the rounds on social media. Shraddha Arya married a Delhi-based Naval officer, Rahul Sharma on November 16.

Shraddha and Rahul's is reportedly an arranged marriage. A source close to her had informed that Rahul is a family friend and a low-key guy, who prefers staying away from social media and showbiz. Interestingly, it is an arranged marriage turned into love," reported Hindustan Times.

The 34-year-old Shraddha looked breathtakingly beautiful in a traditional red embellished lehenga with heavy accessories. Shraddha Arya made a typical Bollywood-style entry for her wedding rituals, and asked her hubby to carry her in his arms in front of everyone. Rahul Sharma abided his wife's orders and lifted the gorgeous girl in his arms while she couldn't stop herself from kissing him on his cheeks. Love is definitely in the air!

Another video that has caught the eye of her fans is Shraddha Arya's 'bidaai' (farewell) video. She is heard joking seen telling her friends, 'Mujhe yaad karna doston' (Remember me, my dear friends) whereas she can't stop laughing.

Shraddha Arya had kept the identity of her hus-



band Rahul Sharma a secret. However, pictures of him surfaced on social media from the wedding. He looked dapper in an off-white kurta pyjama and couldn't take his eyes off his bride, reports Times of India.

Shraddha was first seen in acting talent show, India's Best Cinestars Ki Khoj in 2004 and finished as the first runner-up. Shraddha went on to act in shows such as *Main Lakshmi Tere Aangan Ki*, *Tumhari Paakhi*, *Dream Girl* and *Kumkum Bhagya*. Since 2017, she has played a physiotherapist named Dr Preeta Arora in *Kundali Bhagya*.



then your time is not only yours. All my time goes out for my daughter and I am enjoying the phase," she adds.

## Work can wait. All my time is for my daughter, says Rakshanda Khan

**A**ctor Rakshanda Khan feels it's no point repeating oneself and playing same characters on different platforms. "I prefer doing characters that are different from my previous ones as I don't want to repeat myself in terms of roles. Just because I am getting to work on a different platform, I cannot repeat characters," says *Jassi Jaissi Koi Nahin* and *Naagini 3* actor.

Khan has been known for her looks and fitness. "I take zero credit for anything — be it my skin or looks as it's all because of my mother. I have this crazy love for food and I could have been a food taster if not an actor (laughs). My husband (actor Sachin Tyagi) is a yoga fanatic but his fitness fad has not rubbed on me even a bit but yes I have picked up his fondness for yoga."

The *Kasamh Se* actor of late has been seen playing strong characters, reports Hindustan Times.

"I am real *jhalla* person and love being me so when I get these heavy-weight characters to portray I don't know how I am able to pull them. I think it's due to the hard work put in by the creative teams. Also, playing negative is something that I enjoy the most because such roles bring along unlimited scope to perform for actors always. Doing grey characters pushes you to the brim to perform and challenges you to add on whatever more you want to," she adds.

After a couple of months break, Khan is currently seen playing a royal descendant in a TV daily. "When you have six years old to look after

"Since Enaya was born, one thing that I have done consciously is to give her most of my time. I resumed work only when she was 19 months or so. Also, I take a break after each project as these are her formative years and I want to be with her. These are the years that will not come back in my life and so work can wait," she signs off.

## YOUR STARS

### Sagittarius: Nov 22 - Dec 21

Your professional activities will prove very profitable. But a sentimental disappointment is possible. You'll however do everything to prevent boredom and monotony from settling in your life.

**Lucky Numbers:** 3, 9, 10, 23, 25, 30

### Capricorn: Dec 22 - Jan 19

It will be the moment to try everything so as to achieve a reconciliation with your close ones. Heartwise, you'll be inclined to become enthusiastic too quickly; be patient. You'll show lucidity in financial matters.

**Lucky Numbers:** 15, 20, 21, 22, 26, 29

### Aquarius: Jan 20 - Feb 18

Some possible money concerns but you can get things straightened out without damage. With your children, you'll need to be firm and understanding at the same time. You'll make long-term projects with your spouse.

**Lucky Numbers:** 3, 7, 9, 11, 15, 30

### Pisces: Feb 19 - Mar 20

In your work, the road will be free for your beautiful initiatives. Learn the good habit to liquidate your obligations as soon as they arrive, without letting them heap up. Take sufficient rest so as to recover your forces.

**Lucky Numbers:** 2, 9, 18, 30, 32, 35

### Aries: Mar 21 - Apr 19

Your morale will reach a peak: your optimism, your sociability, and your joviality will win you many sympathies. This astral juncture will favour romance, idyll, and tender sentiments. Be firm toward your children.

**Lucky Numbers:** 14, 21, 26, 31, 36, 38

### Taurus: Apr 20 - May 20

You'll think less to fight in order to achieve your ambitions than to profit by the pleasures of life. Your friendship life will give you many satisfactions. In your work, much will be demanded of you, but you'll be well supported by the stars.

**Lucky Numbers:** 1, 5, 6, 12, 30, 32

### Gemini: May 21 - June 20

You may know shattering love at first sight, whatever your age or your disillusionment concerning love. Think to profit well by your moments of rest and leisure; don't spend them at drinking or watching television.

**Lucky Numbers:** 20, 21, 24, 30, 36, 40

### Cancer: June 21 - July 22

Risks of headache, shortness of breath, and abnormal fatigue. The moment will be ill chosen to make a decision of capital importance: your judgment will be rather shaky.

**Lucky Numbers:** 8, 10, 12, 19, 25, 30

### Leo: July 23 - Aug 22

You'll attach capital importance to your relations with your close ones and you'll devote the maximum of your time to your family. You'll know real complicity with the love of your life. You'd feel much better physically if you did some sport.

**Lucky Numbers:** 1, 7, 13, 19, 20, 23

### Virgo: Aug 23 - Sept 22

Don't hesitate to do yourself pleasure, but with moderation, and you'll notice that your morale upsoars. As far as your affairs of the heart are concerned, a decisive encounter can change your life.

**Lucky Numbers:** 9, 14, 17, 19, 20, 30

### Libra: Sept 23 - Oct 22

In your work, you'll strengthen your position and could obtain a beautiful pay raise. Your love life will be stable and satisfying. Cope rapidly with a financial problem which begins to become serious; the more you'll wait the more difficulties you'll have.

**Lucky Numbers:** 8, 16, 20, 23, 30, 31

### Scorpio: 23 Oct - 21 Nov

Continue to cultivate useful relations, you'll sooner or later need them; but drop the relations which seem to you to be cumbersome or not quite trustworthy. Think to enjoy life more instead of complaining about your problems.

**Lucky Numbers:** 3, 9, 11, 15, 30, 36



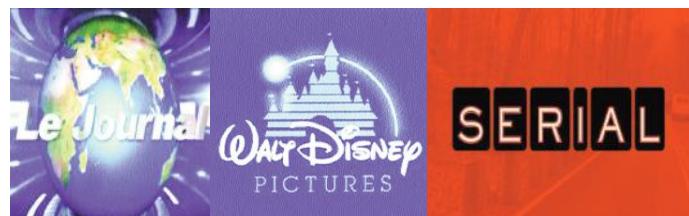
Vendredi 26 novembre - 21.15



Samedi 27 novembre - 21.20



Dimanche 28 novembre - 21.15



MBC 1	MBC 2	MBC 3	Cine 12	Bollywood TV
<b>vendredi 26 novembre</b>				
07.00 D.Anime: Robot Trains 08.57 Mag: Happy Tales 11.10 Tele: Sinu, Rio Des Pasiones 12.00 Le Journal 12.30 Tele: Le Prix Du Désir 12.55 Local: Prod: Elle - No 42 13.55 Local: Glwar Dantan 14.40 D.Anime: Robot Trains 15.20 D.Anime: Oum Le Dauphin... 15.32 D.Anime: Spongo, Fuzz And.. 15.43 D.Anime: Les Tripes 16.19 D.Anime: Kid Lucky 17.20 Mag: Human Nature 17.50 Mag: Le Saviez-Vous? 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.30 Serial: Surya Puran 19.30 Journal & La Meteo 20.29 Local Prod: Come On Let's... 21.24 Serial: 19-2 23.25 Le Journal 23.35 Mag: Eye On SADC	07.00 DDI Live 10.00 Bisaat-E-Dil 11.01 Tawaan 12.00 Film: Gujrat To Mumbai Starring: Kkalindi Dave, Aaditya Soni and Vansh Shah 15.00 Live: Samachar 15.26 Serial: Aamhi Doghi 15.46 Serial: Bava Maradallu 16.07 Serial: Sondha Bandham 16.31 Serial: Mera Maan Rakhna 16.47 Serial: Imtihaan 17.05 Kullfi Kumarr Bajewala 17.25 Serial: Chhanchhan 18.00 Serial: Colourful Bone 18.30 Mag: DDI Mag 19.05 Journal Kreol 19.30 Serial: Radha Krishna 20.02 Serial: Aas 20.46 Local: Anjuman 20.10 Local: Urdu Programme	06.00 Mag: Eco India 06.26 Mag: Shift 06.51 Mag: Border Crossing 07.20 Mag: Tomorrow Today 07.46 Mag: Science Ou Fiction 09.00 Educa Prog: Grade 5 11.30 Educa Prog: Grade 8 14.03 Doc: Comme Un Poisson... 14.55 Doc: Our Friend The Atom 15.36 Doc: Stolen Blood 17.31 Mag: Shift 18.00 The Language Of Whales 18.42 Mag: Arts And Culture 19.30 Mag: Euromaxx 20.05 Doc: Volcano Stories 20.30 Local: News (English) 20.40 Doc: Wedding The French... 21.39 Doc: Innovation On Board 22.03 Doc: Hard Landing 22.45 Contest Of The Cathedrals 23.28 The Language Of Whales	01.28 Serial: The Bold Type 02.45 Serial: French Series 03.27 Film: An Emma Fielding... 04.51 Tele: Muneca Brava 05.30 Serial: English Series 06.38 Film: The Big Gundown 09.45 Tele: Teresa 10.35 Tele: I Forgot I Loved You 11.00 Serial: French Series 12.00 Film: An Emma Fielding... 13.30 Tele: Muneca Brava 14.45 Film: The Big Gundown 16.38 Serial: English Series 17.20 Serial: French Series 18.10 Tele: Teresa 19.00 Tele: I Forgot I Loved You 19.34 Mag: Cinemag 20.05 Tele: Sinu, Rio Des Pasiones 20.30 Serial: Last Resort 21.15 Film: Mine Avec: Armie Hammer, Tom Cullen	06.34 Film: Dil Hai Tumhaara Starring: Rekha, Preity Zinta, Mahima Chaudhry, Arjun Rampal 11.30 / 20.30 - Radha Krishna 11.52 / 21.00 - Anupamaa 12.30 / 21.30 - Mere Sai 13.00 / 22.00 - Agnihera 14.00 / 22.30 - Bade Acche Lagte Hai 14.30 / 23.00 - Chhanchhan 15.00 / 21.46 - Sethji 15.25 Film: Nishchayi Starring: Salman Khan, Vinod Khanna, Karisma Kapoor 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.30 Kundali Bhagya 19.00 Ishaaron Ishaaron Mein 19.31 Serial: Bhakharwadi 20.00 Serial: Siddhi Vinayak
<b>samedi 27 novembre</b>				
06.27 D.Anime: The Hive 06.42 D.Anime: P'tit Cosmonaute 06.56 D.Anime: Boule Et Bill 07.28 D.Anime: Kung Fu Panda 07.35 Film: Shopkins: World Vacation 09.35 Mag: Human Nature 10.00 Local: Zanfan Nou Zil 10.30 Serial: Backstage 12.00 Le Journal 12.35 Tele: Teresa 14.45 Mag: Sur Mesure 15.20 D.Anime: Robot Trains 16.12 D.Anime: Les Tripes 16.20 D.Anime: Cosmic Quantum... 17.00 Serial: Hi Opie! 17.40 Mag: Le Saviez-Vous? 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.30 Entertainment: Dance 19.30 Journal & La Meteo 20.10 Local: Autour Des Valeurs 21.20 Film: Seized	07.00 Film: Saaz Aur Awaaz 09.14 Mag: DDI Magazine 10.00 Bade Acche Lagte Hai 11.03 Serial: Dikri Vahalno Dariyo 12.00 Serial: Nanda Saukhya Bhare 12.17 Serial: Mooga Manasulu 12.40 Serial: High School 13.02 Annakodiym Ainthu Pengulum 15.00 Live: Samachar 15.25 Film: Teri Payal Mere Geet Starring: Govinda, Meenakshi Sheshadri, Kadar Khan... 17.49 DDI Magazine 19.00 Live: Journal Kreol 19.30 Serial: Radha Krishna 20.06 Serial: Vikram Betaal Ki Rahasya Gatha 20.28 Serial: Bitti Business Wali 21.01 Film: Trapped Stars: Rajkummar Rao, Geetanjali Thapa	06.00 The Language Of Whales 06.42 Mag: Arts And Culture 06.55 Mag: Our Voices 07.50 Doc: Volcano Stories 09.08 Doc: Innovation On Board 10.16 Contest Of The Cathedrals 11.00 The Language Of Whales 11.44 Mag: Our Voices 13.00 Doc: Wedding The French... 14.56 Student Support Prog... 18.24 Mag: Science Ou Fiction 18.50 Magazine 19.42 Les Montagnes Du Monde 20.30 Local: News (English) 20.40 Doc: Japanese Festival... 22.20 Island Of White Antelopes 23.02 Mag: Future Mag 23.37 Mag: Science Ou Fiction 00.03 Magazine 00.29 Mag: Check In 00.55 Les Montagnes Du Monde	01.27 Film: Mine 03.09 Serial: Unforgotten 03.53 Serial: The Magicians 04.35 Serial: Hawaii Five-0 05.20 Tele: Tanto Amor 06.03 Serial: Last Resort 06.44 Serial: Absentia 09.15 Serial: The Magicians 09.56 Serial: Hawaii Five-0 10.40 Film: Mine 12.15 Serial: Unforgotten 13.32 Serial: Powers 15.05 Tele: Muneca Brava 16.29 Mag: Cinemag 17.00 Serial: Last Resort 17.45 Film: Men In Black II 20.05 Tele: Les Trois Visages D'ana 20.30 Series: Last Resort 21.15 Film: Liberte Sauvage Starring: Avec Sharon Stone, Dorian Brown, Tommy Flanagan	04.05 Radha Krishna 04.36 Anupamaa 05.03 Mere Sai – Shraddha Aur... 05.33 Agniphera 06.00 Yeh Teri Galiyan 06.30 Bade Acche Lagte Hai 06.38 Chhanchhan 06.57 Ishaaron Ishaaron Mein 07.18 Siddhi Vinayak 08.02 Yeh Teri Galiyan 10.12 Motu Patlu 10.01 Siddhi Vinayak 11.54 Serial: Bhakharwadi 14.00 Chupke Chupke 14.00 Anupamaa 16.00 Pavitra Rishtha 18.00 Samachar 18.30 Film: Jolly LLB 2 Star: Akshay Kumar, Huma Qureshi, Saurabh Shukla 20.41 Serial: Namah 21.45 Yeh Payaar Nahi Toh Kya..
<b>dimanche 28 novembre</b>				
06.00 D.Anime: Robot Trains 06.27 D.Anime: The Hive 06.41 D.Anime: P'tit Cosmonaute 07.00 D.Anime: Boule Et Bill 09.35 Mag: Human Nature 10.00 Local: Zanfan Nou Zil 11.00 Local: Nu Rasinn 12.00 Le Journal 12.40 Tele: Teresa 14.10 Local: Elle - No 168 15.20 D.Anime: Robot Trains 15.49 D.Anime: Oum Le Dauphin... 16.01 D.Anime: The Twisted... 17.10 Serial: Hi Opie! 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.30 MBC Production 19.30 Le Journal 19.30 Prod Inden: The Mic Africa... 21.25 Film: Last Action Hero Starring: Arnold Schwarzenegger, F. Murray Abraham, Art Carney	07.00 Film: Raja Jani 10.00 MBC Prod 11.00 Serial: Oru Kai Osai 11.22 DDI Magazine 12.00 Film: Kasak Stars: Rishi Kapoor, Neelam Kothari, Chunky Pandey 14.35 DDI Magazine 15.20 Serial: Mooga Manasulu 15.45 Serial: He Mann Baware 16.12 Serial: Sondha Bandham 17.05 Serial: Siya Ke Ram 17.40 Kisna 18.00 DDI Magazine 18.30 Local: Tipa Tipa Nu Avance 19.00 Live: Journal Kreol 20.05 Serial: Mann Mein Vishwas.. 20.48 Serial: CID 21.33 Serial: Naagin Season 2 22.19 Jai Kanhaiya Lal Ki	06.00 Mag: Future Mag 06.55 Magazine 07.21 Mag: Check In 08.32 Doc: Japanese Festival 09.24 Doc: La Ville Passe Au Vert 10.20 Island Of White Antelopes 11.29 Mag: Science Ou Fiction 11.55 Magazine 12.21 Mag: Check In 13.32 Doc: Japanese Festival 14.24 Doc: La Ville Passe Au Vert 18.33 Mag: Magnifique 19.00 Doc: Garden Party 19.33 Doc: Comme Une Envie... 20.30 Local Prod: News (English) 20.45 Doc: La Vie Rêvée De Gaspard 21.37 Doc: Where Women Are In Charge 22.19 Doc: Solar Storms 23.00 Doc: Coding Art	01.40 Film: Liberte Sauvage 03.19 Serial: Midnight, Texas 04.00 Film: Seized 05.22 Tele: Tanto Amor 06.04 Serial: Last Resort 06.45 Film: A Doggone Adventure 08.30 Serial: Reckoning 09.12 Film: Liberte Sauvage 11.36 Film: Maison A Vendre... 10.54 Film: Men In Black II 12.19 Serial: Midnight, Texas 15.38 Tele: Muneca Brava 16.55 Serial: Last Resort 17.45 Serial: Midnight, Texas 18.21 Film: Liberte Sauvage 20.05 Tele: Les Trois Visages D'ana 20.30 Serial: Les Proies 21.15 Film: What Doesn't Kill You Avec: Ethan Hawke, Mark Ruffalo, Brian Goodman 22.50 Tele: Le Prix Du Désir	00.00 Serial: Siddhi Vinayak 02.38 Bhakharwadi 04.31 Anupamaa 06.34 Pavitra Rishtha 08.00 Motu Patlu 08.11 Ikyawann 10.00 Jaana Na Dil Se Door 12.00 Piya Albelo 14.00 Agniphera 16.29 Punar Vivaah 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.30 Film: Raazi Starring: Alia Bhatt, Vicky Kaushal 20.40 Entertainment: Dance 21.29 Bade Acche Lagte Hai 23.24 Serial: Piya Albelo

**MBC 2**Samedi 27 novembre  
- 21.00

Stars: Rajkummar Rao, Geetanjali Thapa

Dimanche 28 novembre  
- 18.30

Stars: Alia Bhatt, Vicky Kaushal



# Celebrating La School and the Royal College (PL)

All those who studied at La School and subsequently, after its closure, at Royal College Port Louis in Cassis will have welcomed and indeed rejoiced at the initiative of former students of the College to have a commemorative plaque, sponsored by Philip Ah Chuen, affixed to the new Supreme Court building at Edith Cavell Street, Port Louis. The unveiling of the plaque ceremony was held on Monday 15th November in the presence of former Chief Justices Ashraf Caunhye and Eddy Balancy, President Cassam Uteem and Vice President Barlen Vyapoory - all of whom had been former students of the Royal College as well as numerous Old Boys of the RCPL.

This act of remembrance initiated by Rama Poonoosamy, director of Immedia, a former student of La School and the former Rector of the RCPL, Henri Wan Wing Kai, was inspired by the need "to acknowledge history, to do something memorable" for an institution that went beyond traditional educational transmission to help shape the outlook and values of generations of young men to which access was granted only on the basis of merit, irrespective of colour or creed -- not due to political or any other form of patronage. The same held true for the Royal



College dates back to 1799 during the French colonisation period by Charles Isidor De Caen. The institution was then called "Lycée des Iles de France", and provided primary and secondary education with a maximum capacity of 300 students.

In 1810, the island passed under British administration, and the institution's name was changed to "Lycée Colonial". In 1817, the college was renamed "Royal College" following a decree from the King of England.

In 1824, the college's building was destroyed by a cyclone. Scholarships were briefly interrupted between 1827 and 1839, after which they were reinstated.

In 1866, a malaria epidemic broke out in Port-Louis and the building was converted into a hospital. The college was thus relocated to a different area of Port-Louis which was later deemed not re-

putable by officers whose children were also studying at the college. The increasing number of students was also a problem for the new college as space was limited. On 1 May 1899, the Legislative Council moved the Royal College from Port Louis to Curepipe.

On 1 October 1912, the foundation stone was laid in Curepipe by Director of Public Works Paul Le Juge de Segrais. The architecture was intended to be a smaller replica of the Buckingham Palace. Construction of the college in granite was completed by 1914. The new establishment was named Royal College School or simply La School. Due to the sheer number of pupils, the new branch also faced accommodation problems, leading to extension work.

As the island's population grew significantly and to reduce commuting times for

students living in the northern part of Mauritius and Port Louis the government built a second and brand-new college at a location close to the capital. Thus, in 1956, during her visit to the island Princess Margaret laid the first stone for the new and ultimate building of Royal College Port Louis.'

In his address, Rama Poonoosamy said: 'La School was history with unforgettable pages of our young days, at least of those who studied and grew up there... 'le lieu de rencontre entre intelligences naissantes des élèves et puits de savoir divers et surprenants de nos profs!', where it was possible 'de prendre l'escalier (en colimaçon...) ou l'ascenseur de la mobilité sociale, ou encore l'indépendance d'un esprit critique...'

Like its sister institutions (RCC, QEC or JKC), they were places of learning, disciplined efforts and equally important, the dis-



covey and understanding of our multifaceted cultures. Those abodes contributed to fashion values of respect, fair-play, personal integrity and the quest for a brighter future for the country despite the socio-political fracas around national independence times and the glum predictions of renowned economists.

The RCPL will hopefully continue to live up to and celebrate these ideals.



**Tree of Knowledge**

Madisyn Taylor

## Worth The Time

It is when our lives are full and busy that we need our daily meditation to help centre us for the day.

Ironically, when we get busy, the first thing that tends to get cut back is our meditation practice. We have less time and a lot on our plates, so it makes sense that this happens, but in the end it doesn't really help us. Most of us know from experience that we function much better when we give ourselves time each day to sit in silence. And the more we have to do, the more we need that solitary, quiet time for the day ahead. As a result, while it may sound counterintuitive, it is during busy times that we most need to spend more time in meditation rather than less. By being quiet and listening to the universe, we will be given what we need to get through our day.

Expanding our morning meditation by just 10 minutes can make a big difference, as can the addition of short meditations into our daily schedule. The truth is, no matter how busy we are, unless we are in the midst of a crisis we always have five or 10 minutes to spare. The key is convincing ourselves that spending that time in meditation is the most fruitful choice. We could be getting our dishes done or heading into work earlier instead, so it's important that we come to value the importance of meditation in the context of all the other things competing for attention in our lives. All we have to do to discover whether it works to meditate more when we are busy is to try it.

We can start by creating more time in the morning, either by getting up earlier or by preparing breakfast the night before and using the extra time for meditation. We can also add short meditation breaks into our schedule, from five minutes before or after lunch to a meditation at night before we go to sleep. When we come from a place of centred calm, we are more effective in handling our busy schedules and more able to keep it all in perspective. If more time in meditation means less time feeling anxious, panicky, and overwhelmed, then it's certainly worth the extra time.



College Curepipe, the Queen Elizabeth College and the John Kennedy College -- a criterion that is maintained to this day for access to all State Colleges across the island.

It is therefore befitting in light of what La School and its later reincarnation - the RCPL - have stood for and symbolized that it's the Supreme Court of Mauritius (which in recent years has stood as a bulwark against the excesses of the regime and will surely stand this ground) that have come to occupy the premises that earlier housed the Royal College. This should put to rest the earlier misgivings of some of the votaries of the preservation of the historical *patrimoine* of *l'Ancien Régime*, who took objection to the pulling down of the premises which decades earlier housed La School.

La School was started in 1929 and until 1957 occupied the premises that have now given way to the Supreme Court. From Wikipedia, we learn that 'the creation of the