

MAURITIUS TIMES

• "A budget should reflect the values and priorities of our nation and its people." -- Mary Landrieu

Interview: Dr Vinaye Ancharaz - International
Economic Consultant

**«There is a risk of the economy
being sucked into a
vicious circle,
with lose-lose outcomes for all»**

**'The government may be keeping public
infrastructure projects as a joker up
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**«There is nothing preventing the DPP from
filing a public prosecution if the evidence
available raises a prima facie case»**



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Is the Battle against Drug Trafficking being Won?

In his reply to the PNQ put by the Leader of the Opposition Hon Xavier Duval last Friday, on the number of persons prosecuted and convicted with regard to drug seizures of street value greater than Rs 1 billion since year 2017 to date, the Prime Minister referred to the 'exceptional results in terms of arrests and drug seizures'. He said they are 'testimony to the colossal ongoing work to clean our country from the drug scourge': 17,556 drug cases have been detected and 15,571 persons arrested. The street value of the drugs seized is estimated at around Rs 13.7 billion. In terms of convictions, however, with regard to drug seizures of street value greater than Rs 1 billion, only two individuals have been prosecuted and convicted to undergo three years' imprisonment by the Intermediate Court for 'Money Laundering', and five have been provisionally charged with the offence of 'Drug Dealing with Aggravating Circumstances'. The convictions and provisional charges refer to the seizure of heroin in 6 cylinders of Rs 1.8 billion street value in March 2017.

Investigations are still ongoing as regards seizures of 100 kgs of heroin on a speed boat of Rs 1.5 billion street value in October 2018; 95 kgs of cocaine in a *tractopelle* of Rs 1.4 billion street value in July 2019; and 243 kgs of heroin and 26 kgs of hashish in Pointe aux Canonnières of Rs 3.6 billion street value in May 2021. One can well understand that investigation in such matters is complex and requires the assistance of foreign judicial and police authorities given their international ramifications, and we do not want to speculate on the local ramifications of local drug trafficking with the political world as some are inclined to suspect. But the facts speak for themselves and police investigations must have surely revealed intriguing connections, for this kind of trade can't go on unless all these dots are tightly connected. Various levels of complicity are required.

In recent years we have learnt about one master player in the drug trade allegedly pulling the strings from behind the jail bars. There have also been the cases of mobile phones (with batteries, chargers, etc) sneaked into our prisons at will due to laxities in the security system, and utilised for the carrying on of the trade from prison cells. And just like the "importers" were beating down all controls at the entry point in Mauritius, they would have managed equally well to get the drugs on board ships in the source countries without the customs, police and such other relevant authorities in those places knowing anything about it. On the other hand, there is also the financing of the business. Suppliers in foreign countries would need to be paid for in foreign exchange, and what this means

is that all those rupees collected from retail sales locally and part of the proceeds therefrom requiring to be converted into foreign currencies for "import payment" would be obtained by the drug traders from local financial sources. The other issue that comes up is about the impact of this illicit trade on the economy and which, along with illegal betting, is said to have created an underground economy sufficiently large relative to the 'white' or official economy with the potential of producing serious destabilizing effects. Another matter to consider is: if illicit drugs can be sneaked into the country so easily, what about other goods, such as arms and ammunitions? This raises an important question of national security.

It will be recalled that following the submission of the report of the last Commission of Inquiry on drug trafficking chaired by former Puisne Judge Paul Lam Shang Leen, a Task Force had been set up under the chairmanship of the Director General of the ICAC to coordinate the implementation of its recommendations with the collaboration of different investigative agencies. It would appear that a number of recommendations have already been implemented, but it is not known where matters stand and whether the Task Force is still in operation. The port and fast boats plying between island destinations or fishing vessels conveniently disconnecting their situation trackers were identified as major drug entry points, and again we have no report that matters are under control.

Statistics in relation to the large number of drug hauls may suggest that the drug situation is "under control", but it may likewise mean that it could be getting out of hand especially with the proliferation of the cheaply available synthetic drugs, apparently available not only in city suburbs but all across the island. All this is a matter of serious concern for the country, especially for Mauritian families affected by the havoc wrought by such drugs in their lives.

There is an increasing body of opinion that believes, unless we bury our heads in the sand, that new approaches have to be considered as a matter of some urgency to more successfully fight the scourge of drugs and their infiltration into our society. We may well need to consider differentiating between "soft" and harder drugs as some have proposed but, whatever the available options, it is perhaps time to appoint a broad-based panel comprising all the stakeholders, and also sourcing global expertise to benefit from their potentially wider experience. Such a panel would review with local NGOs and agencies the situation and recommend novel approaches based on the latest science and sociology, including what works in other countries or island states.

The Conversation

Queen Elizabeth II & The end of the British empire in Africa

The decolonisation process was to take place rapidly during the reign of Elizabeth II

In the UK the Queen's official title is: Elizabeth the Second, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and of Her other Realms and Territories Queen, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith.

There has been a lot of political and social change during her 70 years on the throne. None less than in what was once her African empire.

Famously, she was in Kenya (then pronounced by the British as "Keenya"), at the luxury Tree Tops game lodge, when her father died in 1952. She returned hastily to Britain to accede to the throne that year.

This was her second trip to Africa. She had accompanied her parents to South Africa in 1947, the monarchy's "last hurrah" in the country before the National Party, which formalised apartheid, displaced General Jan Smuts' United Party the following year.

At its height, the British Empire extended over something like a third of the world, but was already in recession when the Queen came to the throne. India had been the "Jewel in the Crown", but had proceeded to a violently partitioned independence involving the creation of predominantly Muslim Pakistan in 1947. Burma (now Myanmar) went in 1948. There were still other territories in Asia, notably Malaya, odd outposts in Latin America and various islands in Oceania. And there was still Africa.

There Britain's territories included:

- four territories in west Africa
- four in east Africa (inclusive of Zanzibar, then still separate from Tanganyika),
- the two Rhodesias (Zambia and Zimbabwe) and Nyasaland (Malawi)
- the three High Commission Territories in southern Africa (Bechuanaland, Basutoland and Swaziland),



Queen Elizabeth II waves from the balcony of Buckingham Palace during the Platinum Jubilee Pageant. Pic- Getty Images

- the island of Mauritius, and
- the Dominion of South Africa.

All are now independent, and have become republics, although all (Zimbabwe being the exception) belong to what used to be known as – but is no longer known as – the "British" Commonwealth.

It was not realised at the time, nor intended, that the Empire would begin to dissolve as fast as it did after the Queen had come to the throne. However, by the early 1970s a bulk of the Empire had gone.

Britain effectively scuttled in the face of early nationalist stirrings (Ghana); the expense in blood, money and prestige of confronting armed struggle and violence (Malaya and Kenya); the increasing cost of demands for "development" in the colonies; the foreign policy disaster of Suez; and London's developing sense that it should reorient its trade to a uniting Europe.

In fact, the decolonisation process had started half-a-century before. Ironically, it was South Africa which provided the constitutional precedent for the decolonisation process which was to take place so rapidly during the reign of Elizabeth II.

Roger Southall, Professor of Sociology, University of the Witwatersrand

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Doojesh Ramlallah, Sultana Kurmally and Kersley Ramsamy

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

mtimes@intnet.mu

www.mauritiustimes.com

facebook.com/mauritius.times

National Assembly election, 2022

Democratic shock: French yorker for President Macron

Jan Arden

The second round of French legislative elections have taken place last Sunday and the outcome has sent the French political class and parties spinning, with the President bearing much of the blame directly, with his La République En Marche! (LREM) party and associates losing more than 100 seats from his comfortable majority of 2017. All elected Presidents, on the back of a presidential victory, are handed by the French electorate a legislative victory to enable them to apply their policies and campaign promises, choose their PM and run the country from the all-powerful Elysée nerve centre of power. Even Macron's rapidly cobbled together LREM with some *débauchages* from the left and centre parties, benefiting from his youth and undoubted capacity to argue his views, was handed a clear absolute majority in 2017 that has this week tumbled from grace.

Obviously, the French political system is a product of its own history, culture and traditions, with a rather uniquely centralising Fifth Republic power nexus residing in the Elysée from where most policies and affairs of state are decided with the selected and appointed PM and a cabinet (largely hand-picked by the President himself), charged with the task of implementing them and, should political reasons so dictate, be ever ready to vacate his or her office as a convenient circuit-breaker. That power centre with its cohort of well-read but unelected advisors who step in, and frame policies and priorities can rapidly become a heady ego trip for many who have little idea of actual constituencies and their political realities or management.

Macron, like an agitated predecessor Sarkozy, became aloof, cut-off from the ordinary preoccupations of ordinary folk,



French election - Macron loses absolute majority in parliament in 'democratic shock'. Pic - Taiwan News

“Macron and his party have brought parliamentarism back in force, when every policy and every decision will have to be bargained either with the NUPES left or Sarkozy's party on a case-by-case basis, a very uncomfortable position after he had treated both very dismissively during the legislative battle and a possible fore-runner to a culture of conjectural or opportunistic alliance and deal brokering...”

and became perceived as smug and condescending throughout a first mandate marked by intense social agitations (the Gilets Jaunes movement), disquiet on several fronts (dwindling purchasing power, high fuel prices compared to EU neighbours, and outright resistance at his pension reform plans or public sector health plans and an aggravating housing situation) while the far right relentlessly bore into his immigration policies. Blithely ignoring these from his regal perch, while the Covid crisis made matters worse, seems to have engineered the French rebellion that took place quietly last Sunday.

The President and his “Macronie” style of superior governance, convinced that he would always win a second man-

date against Marine Le Pen's far-right Rassemblement National (RN), did everything he could to keep the left and traditional right (Les Républicains — LR — the left-over Sarkozy party) parties under pressure. These entered the boulevards left gaping by Macronie's insensitivity, focusing most of their campaign on populist measures to assuage large fractions of the working-class electorate. Jean-Luc Melenchon had the foresight to successfully cobble together around his party (La France Insoumise), the socialists and ecologist movement, and willy-nilly, even the communists under the common flag Nouvelle Union populaire écologique et sociale (NUPES) while the Marine Le Pen RN, successfully distanced from the sulphurous past images, neatly ignoring the sideswipes of her niece and Zemmour, stoked the popular classes to hand elitist Macron a “third round” of emasculation: in office but powerless, with no clear-cut majority in the National Assembly (LREM got some 234 elected MPs, a far cry from the 289 needed for an absolute majority). This is a totally unprecedented situation in a Fifth Republic that had to date been used to Presidential majorities or, at worse, an uneasy power-sharing cohabitation

should Opponents be granted a clear legislative majority against the sitting President.

The President, and his bevy of close advisors, believing up till 48hrs before Sunday his Ministry of Interior ground reports were utterly convinced that his party would reach close to 300 seats or at the very worst a few seats short of the magic 289 number, and he sped off to a Kiev international photo-shoot, leaving a totally inexperienced newly appointed PM, Elisabeth Borne, to lead the electoral battles he had unknowingly already lost.

For French political watchers, with the Sunday seat distribution as follows:

Ensemble (ex LREM)	246 MPs
NUPES	142
RN (Le Pen)	89
LR-UDI (ex Sarko party)	64
Other left	13

President Macron has wrought about, through his own aloof and smug style, several historical firsts.

a) He is the first elected President to be handed a yorker, no legislative majority for his programs and policies, concocted during his first mandate, with little regard for French distress and popular discontent. Unable to represent himself again, he is already a walking shadow.

b) Several of his key ministers and close collaborators have bitten the dust and will be resigning shortly, forcing an impending Cabinet reshuffle.

c) He and his party have brought parliamentarism back in force, when every policy and every decision will have to be bargained either with the NUPES left or Sarkozy's party on a case-by-case basis, a very uncomfortable position after he had treated both very dismissively during the legislative battle and a possible fore-runner to a culture of conjectural or opportunistic alliance and deal brokering.

d) The left NUPES makes an unprecedented score on the basis of J-L Melenchon's fiery personal charisma but will divide into separate Groups (15 MPs at least) to benefit from National Assembly privileges and speaking time for each component.

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“Unless French chefs, chief among whom the President, find the words and acts to eat humble pie rapidly and come up with credible revamped general and social policies, France may be ushered into an era of instability with a diminished credibility for President Macron on the international scene, with particular regard to the ongoing Ukraine crisis. Such instability and a necessary refocus on internal discontent with many of his proposals, may not bode well in the medium-term for our major tourism inflows from France and Reunion...”

The Dayal Private Prosecution & The 'Kistnen Papers'

"There is nothing preventing the DPP from filing a public prosecution if the evidence available raises a *prima facie* case"

In the private prosecution lodged by Suren Dayal against the PM for alleged violations of the spending limits as indicated by the 'Kistnen Papers', the DPP has intervened to discontinue the case. That decision may be open to judicial review according to Mr Dayal's lawyers. Lex helps clarify to what extent a DPP's decision is amenable for judicial review.

LEX

* SC Antoine Domingue has stated that his client, Suren Dayal, might consider applying for a judicial review of the decision of the Director of Public Prosecutions to discontinue the private prosecution lodged by Mr Dayal against the leader of the MSM, Pravind Jugnauth, for allegedly swearing a false affidavit with regard to his electoral expenses at the last elections. The first question that comes up is whether the decision by the DPP to discontinue a private prosecution is reviewable by the courts?

The Judicial Committee of the Privy Council ruled in the case *Mohit v DPP* [2006 UK PC 20] that the decision of the DPP is reviewable, thereby reversing a judgment of the Supreme Court that held the contrary view. In that latter case the DPP put a stop to a private prosecution, and Mr Mohit challenged that decision. Though the Court would intervene, it will not substitute its own decision to that of DPP.

In that connection the Privy Council held: "Recognition of a right to challenge the DPP's decision does not involve the courts in substituting their own administrative decision for his: where grounds for challenging the DPP's decision are made out, it involves the courts in requiring the decision to be made again in (as the case may be) a lawful, proper or rational manner."

*** What are the grounds that might be considered in this present matter to support the application for a judicial review?**

The grounds are for the lawyers involved in the case to come up with. But the Privy Council did give some guidance in the *Mohit v DPP* case by holding as follows:

"It may be accepted, however, that a purported exercise of power would be reviewable if it were made:

1. In excess of the DPP's constitutional or statutory grants of power— such as an attempt to institute proceedings in a court established by a disciplinary



“There is nothing preventing the DPP from filing a public prosecution if the evidence available raises a *prima facie* case against the Prime Minister. It would be up to him to decide. But, as mentioned earlier, in the name of transparency giving reasons for any decision taken would be recommendable...”

law (see s 96(4)(a)).

2. When, contrary to the provisions of the Constitution, the DPP could be shown to have acted under the direction or control of another person or authority and to have failed to exercise his or her own independent discretion— if the DPP were to act upon a political instruction the decision could be amenable to review.
3. In bad faith, for example, dishonesty. An example would arise if a prosecution were commenced or discontinued in consideration of the payment of a bribe.
4. In abuse of the process of the court in which it was instituted, although the proper forum for review of that action would ordinarily be the court involved.
5. Where the DPP has fettered his or her discretion by a rigid policy— e.g., one that precludes prosecution of a specific class of offences.

There may be other circumstances not precisely covered by the above in which judicial review of a prosecutorial discretion would be available. But contentions that the power has been exercised for improper purposes not amounting to bad faith, by reference to irrelevant considerations or without regard to relevant considerations or otherwise unreasonably, are unlikely to be vindicated because of the width of the considerations to which the DPP may properly have regard in instituting or discontinuing proceedings. Nor is it easy to conceive of

situations in which such decisions would be reviewable for want of natural justice.”

*** We understand that the DPP may, in exercise of his powers under section 72(3)(c) of the 1968 Constitution, discontinue a private prosecution without giving reasons for his decision. But isn't it fair that the DPP should be seen to be and made more accountable when it comes to the issue of taking over private prosecutions for the purpose of either continuing or discontinuing such prosecutions?**

Of course, the DPP does not need to give reasons for any decision he takes. However, in the name of transparency giving reasons would be recommendable. In this connection the Privy Council held -

“But it is for the DPP to decide whether reasons should be given and, if reasons are given, how full those reasons should be. The English authorities cited above show that there is in the ordinary way no legal obligation on the DPP to give reasons and no legal rule, if reasons are given, governing their form or content. This is a matter for the judgment of the DPP, to be exercised in the light of all relevant circumstances, which may include any reasons already given. The Supreme Court must then decide on all the material before it, drawing such inferences as it considers proper, whether the appellant has established his entitlement to relief.”

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Dr R Neerunjun Gopee

Managing Success and Failure

In last week's issue of this paper, in the last page under 'Life lessons' there is an article titled 'Success is a lousy teacher'. It is about a brilliant science student from Madras who always scored 100% and got admission in IIT Madras where his excellent scores earned him a seat at the University of California to do MBA. After

passing out he got a high paying job, married a beautiful Tamil girl and lived in a 5-room big house with her and their children, and they had luxury cars in their garage. Then came the US economic crisis, he lost his job and couldn't get another job even at reduced salary. His tragic end is described as follows:

'His house instalment broke, and he and his family lost their home. They survived a few months with less money, then he and his wife decided to commit suicide. He first shot his wife and children and then shot himself.'

An academic psychologist carried out research on his case, obtaining information from family and friends, and concluded that 'he was programmed for success not for handling failures'. Lessons are drawn from this sad case, one of which is that 'knowledge of life' will help to face every problem.

I do remember reading about this incident a few years ago, the news report showing the house where it took place. The story resonated with me: a classmate of mine at Royal College Curepipe died prematurely because of job problems he too had faced. I learnt this from a common friend who had settled in Geneva where I used to attend WHO work sessions. It was during one of my visits there, when I usually caught up with him that he told me about our erstwhile classmate, let's call him Emile.

He was not only a brilliant student right from Form I but also a superb athlete who won countless medals. In HSC we used to work in adjacent benches in the physics laboratory, and once a few of us were discussing career options. He knew I was hoping to do medicine and told me that he did find medicine an interesting profession, but he didn't like the idea of the odd, unsocial hours of work such as night duties and emergencies – probably because he had seen how that impacted the life of his doctor relative, a quite renowned one.

Emile excelled in physics and almost naturally went on to become an electronics engineer, which I think was an emerging field in the 1960s. He became one of the high-level cadres in a big firm in Geneva, where he lived in a mansion with his wife and their three children. One weekend when he was doing some odd job at home he fell down and broke his ankle, which had to be immobilized in plaster for six weeks, and he was given medical leave accordingly. However, his company would grant him only two weeks of leave – something which I found very strange indeed – and so they thanked him and gave him his due package.

That's where his life takes a wrong turn. Once he had recovered, he started looking for a job, not easy when you are past 50. Finally, he accepted one at lower salary, and in the meantime the family had to move across the border to Ferney in France, to a smaller house and overall reduced amenities and social status. This led to family problems, resulting in him falling into depression and

alcoholism, until he passed in his mid-fifties. I was very saddened to hear this, as we were fairly close friends; once when he had had some injury and was admitted to then Clinique Darne, a group of us went to visit him. All sorts of memories started to surface when my friend was narrating this to me.

Most probably all of us have personal knowledge about some similar cases, but equally there are those who have bounced back higher after initial failure, and among them my own favourite is the most inspirational one of President Abdul Kalam of India, as narrated in his autobiography 'Wings of Fire'. After obtaining a BSc in physics and one in electronics he travelled to New Delhi from Madras to attend an interview for a post of technical officer. He was not selected, and since he had a few days to take his train back, he decided to make a trip to the sacred places in North India, starting with Hardwar. He next proceeded to Rishikesh in the Himalayas which he had heard a lot about.

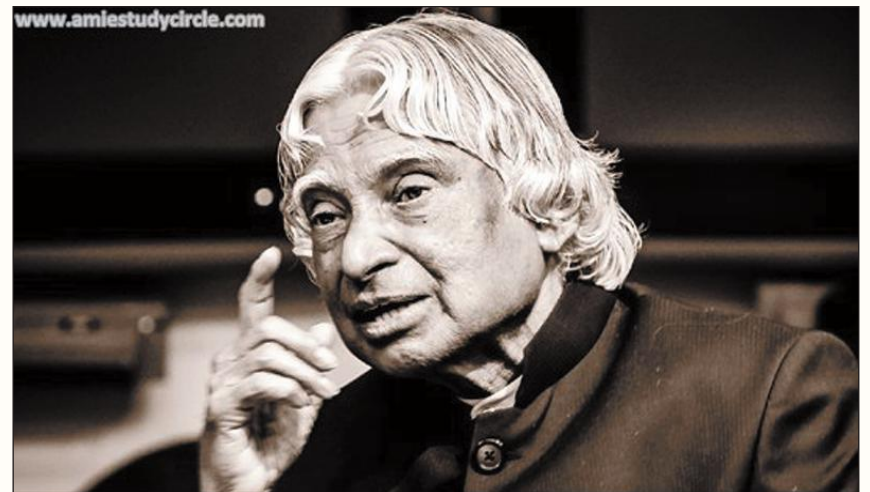
On reaching there on a bright sunny but cold wintry morning, he walked about and reached the Divine Life Society ashram. Entering the forecourt, he went towards the Swami who was sitting on the steps in front of a temple. When he faced the Swami, the latter asked what was troubling him. He then explained that he had failed to obtain the technical officer job.

They spoke in Tamil because Pujya Swami Sivananda – for that was who he was, the founder of the Divine Life Society – was himself Tamilian. Swamiji commiserated with him but advised him not to despair and to go back with a peaceful mind, because he was destined for higher things. A couple of months later he successfully cleared the interview for a post of scientific officer, went on to become India's leading rocket scientist and then her much loved and respected President.

How did Swamiji know? Well, this is who these illumined souls are, possessing the Higher ('spiritual') Knowledge, experience, insight and foresight that derive from a deep understanding of life, nay of existence itself, of its eternal laws and principles. One of them is the Law of Karma, which states that every karma (action) is followed by a fruit or result. As explained by late Pujya Swami Dayananda (who was also the guru of PM Narendra Modi), every action is accompanied by an expectation, and there are only four possible results or fruits of an action: equal to, more than, less than, and the opposite of what is expected.

For example, a student about to take his Higher School Certificate examination, sitting for three subjects at principal level hopes to get the best possible results in his three principal subjects (graded from A: highest to E: lowest) – that is, 3As. When the results are announced, there are only four possibilities to his expectations: 3As (equal), he becomes a laureate (more); 2As + 1B (less); failure (opposite).

Faced with these possibilities, how should he



If you fail, never give up because FAIL means, first Attempt In Learning. End is not the end, if fact END means, Effort Never Dies. If you get No as an answer, remember NO means, Next Opportunity. So Let's be positive.

respond? Naturally, in the case of the first two (equal or more), he will be happy and would want to celebrate, which is quite legitimate, but he must not allow himself to be overtaken by euphoria. By the same token, in case of bad results or failure, the student must not feel guilty or become depressed, and nor should his parents.

Whether the result was higher or below his expectations, the student must keep a cool mind. The typical reaction to this advice is: easier said than done! Granted – but this is where the issue of 'knowledge of life' alluded to above becomes relevant, namely equipping ourselves to face any eventualities in our life, by understanding the 'why' of things so as to respond appropriately.

We have to know what is involved in performing actions as we go through life. Three basic factors are involved in the accomplishment of an action: time or *kalam*, the required effort or *prayetna*, on both of which the person has a degree of control; the third is the 'divine' factor or *daivam* over which the person has no control and that is often designated by the terms 'fate' or 'destiny'.

For example, if on the day of examination, the student has a health problem or is delayed on the road (e.g., due to an accident), this can impact on his performance and lead him to obtain less good results.

The Bhagavad Gita imparts a teaching which will give succour to the student (as also to his family), and that is: to accept any fruit of action as *kripa* or divine grace from *Ishwara*, as a *prasad* of divine origin, since there is always some element that is beyond our control. We must maintain a balanced mind or equanimity in both success and failure and go on from there with confidence that new opportunities will show up if we persevere.

In other words, we must always have a Plan B, or even a Plan C in anticipation and prepare accordingly. This is what I have always advised my students and juniors, backed up by the numerous successful examples which can guide and inspire them.

'The DPP does not need to give reasons for any decision he takes.

However, in the name of transparency giving reasons would be recommendable'



“There is nothing however for a witness to testify to facts contained in the ‘Kistnen Papers’ if he has direct knowledge of them. If the papers contained facts from which inferences can be drawn, they would constitute circumstantial evidence — provided that the papers are admitted as evidence...”

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* The United Kingdom's Court of Appeal held in the matter of *Gujra. R (on the application of) v Crown Prosecution Service* that 'private prosecution is... a safeguard against the feelings of injustice that can arise when, in the eyes of the public, public authorities do not pursue criminal investigations and proceedings in a manner which leads to culprits being brought before a criminal court. The impunity which offenders appear to enjoy can be socially detrimental.' That makes sense, doesn't it?

In the *Gujra* case the Court explained that "until late in the 19th century prosecutions were brought almost entirely by the victims of the alleged crimes or, if they were dead, by their kinsmen. Local parish constables, not organised on any national or even regional basis and not even paid, sometimes helped the victims to prosecute. By about 1730, if they could afford it, prosecutors and defendants sometimes engaged lawyers to represent them. At around the same time associations of people with a common, sectional, interest in prosecuting particular felonies sprang up in order to conduct prosecutions on behalf of their members."

By about 1830, as explained in the *Gujra* case, a system of public prosecution came into force, but the law also provided that an individual has the right to file a private prosecution, subject to the British DPP or Attorney General taking over the case or discontinue it.

* Now that the DPP would have taken cognizance of the material evidence contained in the so-called 'Kistnen Papers', which contain the alleged expenses incurred in beach of the Representation of

the People Act, does it mean that the DPP is now in possession of what could be considered as *prima facie* evidence to take over and continue any criminal proceedings that he would deem appropriate?

There is nothing preventing the DPP from filing a public prosecution if the evidence available raises a *prima facie* case against the Prime Minister. It would be up to him to decide. But, as mentioned earlier, in the name of transparency giving reasons for any decision taken would be recommendable.

* *Prima facie* is a term commonly used in civil and criminal matters, but what is the

prima facie rule and why is it important?

In civil proceedings, one party - the plaintiff - has a burden of proof, which requires him to present *prima facie* evidence for each element of his claim. In criminal proceedings where the burden of proof is on the prosecution, it is for the latter to bring evidence of the charges against the accused that raises a presumption of guilt beyond reasonable doubt.

* Mr Dayal's case is built on the basis of information contained in the 'Kistnen Papers', which were in the custody of the late Soopramanien Kistnen. Whose responsibility is it to confirm the veracity or otherwise of those documents - and therefore constitute *prima facie* evidence?

That will rest on those who produce the papers and any expert witness who would be called to establish the authenticity of the documents. There is nothing however for a witness to testify to facts contained in the papers if he has direct knowledge of them.

If the papers contained facts from which inferences can be drawn, they would constitute circumstantial evidence — provided that the papers are admitted as evidence.

* Do you think that justice would be best served if the DPP were to take over the case if he is now in possession of the *prima facie* evidence?

The DPP has all the powers to take over and conduct a case filed by a private party. It will be for him to decide.

LEX

National Assembly election, 2022

Democratic shock: French yorker for President Macron

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e) The undoubted clear victor of Macronie has been Marine Le Pen, who had shed off her catastrophic anti-EU jibes of 2017 to run the gauntlet on social and economic distress, earning a historic entry of some 89 seats, a powerful bloc at the National Assembly, a presence in all regions and an undoubted platform for a renewed launch at the Presidential of 2027.

f) Under some shock, President Macron has been unable as yet to address the French electorate or take stock of his alternatives for governance; he has limited manoeuvring room when all major parties have won their seats on an anti-Macron rhetoric. He will have to swallow hard and face the music from those he so regally dismissed for the past five years.



French far-right leader Marine Le Pen addresses reporters Monday in Henin-Beaumont, northern France. French President Emmanuel Macron's centrist alliance lost its majority despite getting the most seats in the final round of parliamentary elections Sunday, while the far-right National Rally made big gains.
Pic - media.npr.org/assets/img

g) In days to come, the Chair of the most powerful Commission des Finances has to be selected, obligatorily from a declared Opposition party, but the Constitution does not specify the largest, which means all three Opposition parties could put forward a name for secret ballot from which the ruling party traditionally abstains from voting. In which case NUPES may snatch the position from Marine Le Pen's appetites.

Whatever we make of these elections from our shores, there may be some consequences around Europe, the G7 and in the rest of the world. Unless French chefs, chief among whom the President, find the words and acts to eat humble pie rapidly and come up with credible revamped general and social policies, France may be ushered into an era of instability with a diminished credibility for President Macron on the international scene, with particular regard to the ongoing Ukraine crisis. Such instability and a necessary refocus on internal discontent with many of his proposals, may not bode well in the medium-term for our major tourism inflows from France and Reunion. With our relationships already strained with the traditional Western powers, and little more to expect realistically either from China, India or the Middle East, our margins and investing props to take Mauritius onto new levels of development may need revisiting.

Jan Arden

Sri Lanka's debt-laden economy has "collapsed"

Sri Lanka's debt-laden economy has "collapsed" after months of shortages of food, fuel and electricity, the prime minister told lawmakers in comments that underscored the country's dire situation as it seeks help from international lenders, reports AP.

Ranil Wickremesinghe told parliament the South Asian nation faces "a far more serious situation" than the shortages alone, and he warned of "a possible fall to rock bottom."

The crisis on the island of 22 million is considered its worst in recent memory.

Wickremesinghe's remarks also sent a message to potential lenders. "You can't let a country of such strategic importance collapse," said Mukherjee, who noted that Sri Lanka sits in one of the world's busiest shipping lanes.

The Sri Lankan economy is foundering under the weight of heavy debts, lost tourism revenue and other effects of the pandemic, as well as surging costs for commodities. The result is a country hurtling towards bankruptcy, with hardly any money to import gasoline, milk, cooking gas



A woman sits outside a police station during a protest in Colombo to demand cooking gas. Pic- AP

and toilet paper.

The crisis has started to hurt Sri Lanka's middle class, which is estimated to be 15% to 20% of the country's urban population. The middle class began to swell in the 1970s after the economy opened up to more trade and investment. It has grown steadily since.

Until recently, middle-class families generally enjoyed economic security. Now those that never had to think twice about fuel or food are struggling to manage three meals a day.

Government officials have been given every Friday off for three months to save on fuel and grow their own fruits and vegetables. The inflation rate for food is 57%, according to official data.

So far, Sri Lanka has been muddling through, mainly supported by \$4bn in credit lines from neighbouring India. But Wickremesinghe said India would not be able to keep Sri Lanka afloat for long. It also has received pledges of \$300m to \$600m from the World Bank to buy medicine and other essential items.

Indonesia to start building new capital city worth \$34 billion in August

Indonesia will start construction of government buildings at its new capital in August, as President Joko Widodo pushes ahead with his \$34 billion ambition to build the city from scratch.

The Minister of Public Works and Housing Basuki Hadimuljono told Jokowi as the president visited the site where the state palace would be built. The government will also start developing infrastructure at Nusantara, as the capital will be known, including water systems, sanitation and toll roads, the minister said.



On January 18, Indonesia's Parliament approved a bill to relocate the country's capital from Jakarta to East Kalimantan. Pic - Science

Indonesia plans to move its capital to East Kalimantan, from Jakarta, to bring more wealth and development outside of the wealthiest island of Java. Nusantara is being planned as an environmentally-friendly city that will use entirely renewable energy, despite criticism that its construction could threaten one of the world's oldest rainforests, reports Bloomberg.

Belgium finally returns murdered DRC leader Lumumba's tooth

Sixty-one years after Belgian mercenaries and separatists murdered Congolese leader Patrice Lumumba, Belgium officially returned his tooth, his only remains, in a televised ceremony on Monday.

"I think it will provide solace for the family and the Congolese people," Lumumba's eldest son François told Belgium's RTBF broadcaster, adding that the family had been waiting more than 60 years for the event.

Relatives, including his son François, were given a bright blue box containing the tooth, which was placed in a casket, draped by the Democratic Republic of Congo flag. The casket will be flown back to the DRC for an official interment, reports Radio France Internationale.

Belgium's chief prosecutor Frederic Van Leeuw, who handed over the relic, said that the legal action the family had pursued against a number of Belgian officials and diplomats had finally delivered "justice."

François filed a legal complaint in Belgium in 2011.

Saying that the country's authorities turned the other way and did not act to stop the killing, Prime Minister Alexander De Croo, apologized to his family at the ceremony on behalf of Belgium.

This is the second time the government apologized; a Belgian parliamentary commission of inquiry in 2001 found that Belgium had a "moral responsibility" for Lumumba's assassination. It apologized in 2002.

The Democratic Republic of Congo considers Lumumba as the anti-colonialist hero and father of the country. This assassination and the cruel Belgian past has remained a source of pain for the Congolese.

The DRC will hold three days of national mourning from 27 to 30 June to mark the burial ceremony. Its 62nd independence day, 30 June, will coincide with the ceremony.

BJP picks Draupadi Murmu as its choice for the President of India

The BJP named former Jharkhand governor Draupadi Murmu as the ruling National Democratic Alliance's presidential candidate on Tuesday. If elected, the 64-year-old leader from Odisha will be the first tribal and the second woman to become the President of India.

"After discussion with all the NDA allies we have decided to name Draupadi Murmu as the presidential candidate," BJP president JP Nadda announced on Tuesday, hours after the opposition named former party veteran Yashwant Sinha as its joint candidate for the July election, reports Economic Times.

Murmu, a grassroots politician, has many firsts to her credit. She was the first woman and tribal leader from Odisha to be appointed as governor of any state. She served as the governor of Jharkhand from 2015 to 2021, the first governor to complete the term in the state.



Former Jharkhand governor Draupadi Murmu being greeted after being announced as candidate of NDA. Pic - Ommcom News

She was also in consideration for the presidential post in 2017 but later Ramnath Kovind made the cut. Her political career began when she contested and won an election for councillor in Rairangpur, Odisha. She later won the assembly election in 2000 from Rairangpur and became a minister in the BJD-BJP government in the state. She earned great respect in her tenure as an MLA and minister in the state.

The BJP's move to name Murmu as its presidential candidate comes ahead of assembly elections in Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh. The four states have 128 seats reserved for Scheduled Tribes, of which the BJP had won just 35 seats in the last assembly elections.

With Murmu as its presidential candidate, the party can hope to strengthen its appeal among tribal voters. In addition, the party is now sure of getting support from the ruling BJD in Odisha, said people aware of the matter. Odisha CM and BJD leader Navin Patnaik has welcomed Murmu's candidature indicating support for her. At the same time, Murmu's candidature would also put Jharkhand chief minister and JMM leader Hemant Soren in a fix. Soren's party is known for its tribal politics and it would be difficult for him to oppose a tribal woman, especially one who has been the governor of his state.

* Contd on page 8



Vienna makes comeback as the world's most liveable city. Pic- AFP

Vienna returns as world's 'most liveable city'. 6 in top 10 list from Europe

The Austrian capital Vienna has made a comeback as the world's most liveable city, according to an annual report from The Economist published Thursday.

Vienna snatched the top spot from Auckland, which

tumbled down to 34th place due to coronavirus pandemic restrictions, according to the report by the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU), reports AFP.

Europe boasted six out of the top ten cities.

The Austrian capital was followed by the Danish capital Copenhagen and Switzerland's Zurich. Fellow Swiss city Geneva came sixth, Germany's Frankfurt seventh, and the Netherlands' Amsterdam ninth.

Canada also did well. Calgary came in joint third position, followed by Vancouver in fifth place and Toronto in eighth.

Japan's Osaka and Australia's Melbourne shared the tenth place.

France's capital Paris came 19th, 23 places up from last year. The Belgian capital Brussels was 24th, just behind Canada's Montreal. The United Kingdom's capital London was the world's 33rd most liveable city, while Spain's Barcelona and Madrid came 35th and 43rd respectively.

Italy's Milan ranked number 49, the US city of New York 51, and China's Beijing came 71st.

The capital of war-torn Syria, Damascus, retained its place as least liveable city on the planet.

In UK, concern over 2 Omicron variants, new wave amid surge in cases

Scientists in Britain have warned of another fresh Covid wave as the United Kingdom logged over 15,800 new cases on Tuesday. Last week, British health officials also expressed concerns that there were "early signs the country could be at the start of a new wave of infections driven by Omicron variants," news agency AP reported Tuesday. The new BA.4 and BA.5 strains of the Omicron variant are said to be closer to the earlier, 'more dangerous' Alpha and Delta variants as against the highly transmissible but milder Omicron, The Independent, a UK media outlet, reported, citing experts.

Although hospitalisation rates



A child receives Covid vaccine dose. Pic- Reuters

have so far remained "very low," UK's fresh infections have been hovering above the 10,000-mark since June 12. In the week ending June 19, the UK recorded a 43 per cent increase in its fresh cases, AP reported. In a period of ten days (from June 12 to 21) the UK has recorded over 124,000 new infections. This as the number of fresh cases globally went down by 3 per cent as per World Health Organisation. "There were 3.3 million new Covid-19 infections last week, marking a 4 per cent decrease, with more than 7,500 deaths. But cases jumped by about 6 per cent in Europe," the global health body was quoted as saying.

Nearly 1 in 5 adults who were infected with Covid have lingering symptoms

Nearly 1 in 5 American adults who reported having Covid-19 in the past are still having symptoms of long Covid, according to survey data collected in the first two weeks of June, U.S. health officials said on Wednesday.

Overall, 1 in 13 adults in the United States have long Covid symptoms lasting for three months or more after first contracting the disease, and which they did not have before the infection, reports Reuters.

The data was collected from June 1-13 by the U.S. Census Bureau and analyzed by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Long Covid symptoms range from fatigue, rapid heart-beat, shortness of breath, cognitive difficulties, chronic pain, sensory abnormalities and muscle weakness. They can be debilitating and last for weeks or months after recovery from the initial infection.

The CDC analysis also found that younger adults were more likely to have persistent symptoms than older adults.

Women were also more likely to have long Covid than men, according to the study, with 9.4% of U.S. adult women reporting long Covid symptoms compared to 5.5% of men.

Dutch lawmakers are planning to make work-from-home a legal right

Two Dutch lawmakers are proposing a legislation to establish work-from-home as a legal right, which would make the Netherlands one of the first countries to grant remote working flexibility by law.

The legislation will be introduced by Steven van Weyenberg, a member of pro-European D-66 Party, and Senna Maatoug, a lawmaker for the Green Party, Weyenberg told Bloomberg on Wednesday. The two will submit the proposal to parliament before the house enters summer recess on July 3, reports Bloomberg.

The pandemic has fuelled a shift in attitudes about work, with many workers seeking to maintain some of the flexibility they've enjoyed over the last two years. But with companies seeking to respond to surging demand as the pandemic recedes, the topic is becoming an increasingly polarizing issue. Earlier this month, Tesla founder Elon Musk issued an ultimatum for staff at the company to return to the office - or leave.



Tesla founder Elon Musk issued an ultimatum for staff at the company to return to the office - or leave. Pic-Bloomberg



India's Chief of the Army Staff General Manoj Pande (right) interacts with the troops as he visits forward areas in Ladakh. Pic - ANI

Interests outweigh differences, let's meet halfway: China to India

China and India's "common interests far outweigh differences", Chinese foreign minister Wang Yi has said, adding that the two countries should put the differences on the border in its appropriate place and seek to resolve the dispute through dialogue and consultation.

The two countries should support rather than undermine each other and enhance trust rather than be suspicious, Wang said in his first meeting with ambassador Pradeep Kumar Rawat, who became India's envoy to China in March, in Beijing on Wednesday.

Wang said the two sides "should meet each other halfway to push bilateral relations back onto the track of stable and healthy development at an early date..."

Wang's meeting with Rawat ahead of the 14th Brics (Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa) summit - which is being hosted online by Beijing - appears to be China's attempt to convey a sense of solidarity within the group despite serious Sino-India bilateral differences, reports Hindustan Times.

Military deployment continues on both sides of the LAC in eastern Ladakh despite several rounds of diplomatic talks and negotiations between the armed forces.

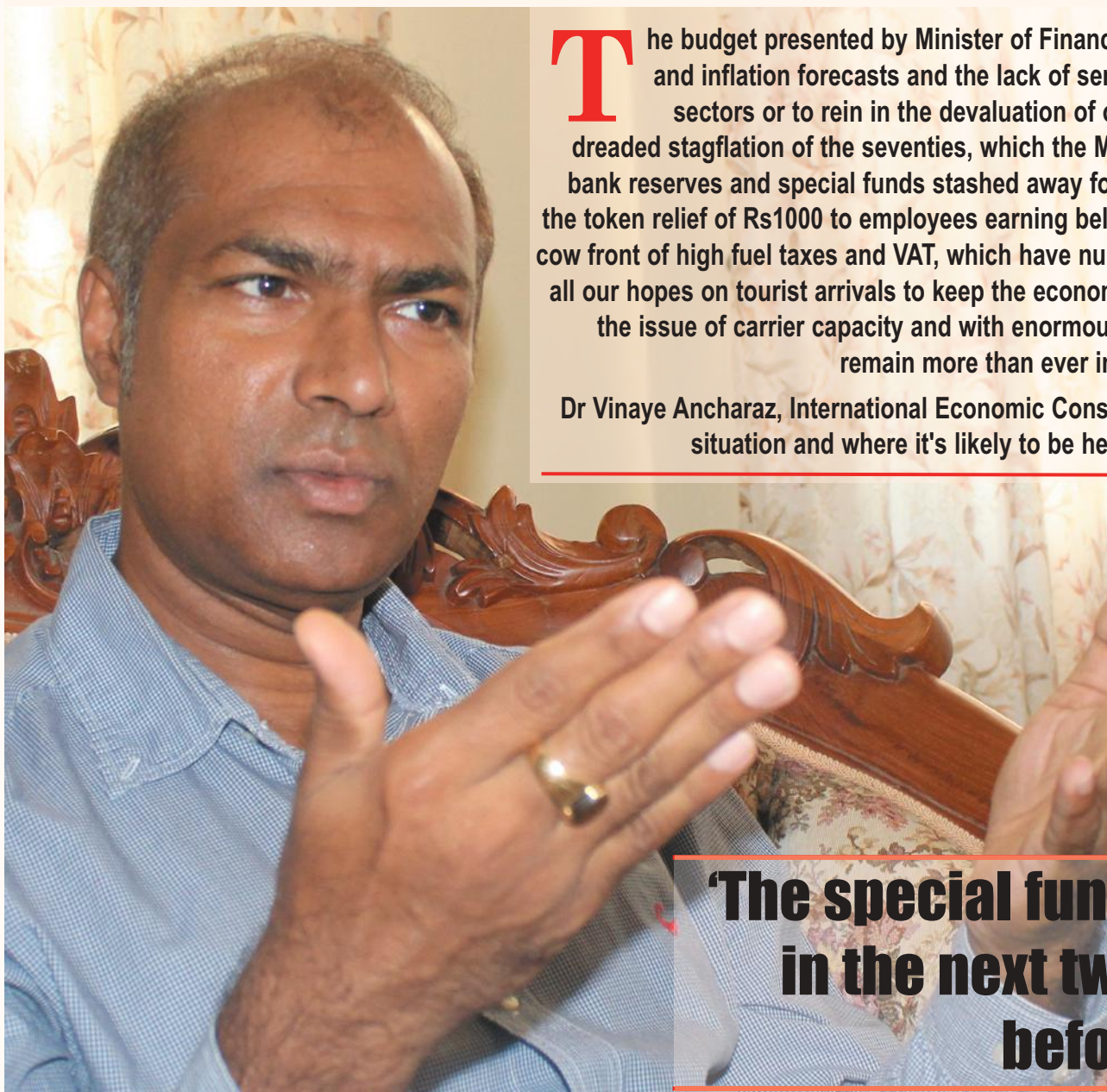
The four principles Wang mentioned included the requirement to follow the "important strategic consensus" reached by the top leadership of the two countries that "China and India are not competitors, but partners; and China and India will not pose threats to each other and are mutual development opportunities".

The remaining two principles were the need to expand "mutually beneficial cooperation" and to "expand multilateral cooperation" and "jointly cope with the 'complex world situation'". Wang said India's tradition of independent foreign policy was reflected in a recent speech by external affairs minister, S Jaishankar, on June 3 at the GLOBESEC 2022 Bratislava Forum where he had expressed his disapproval of "Eurocentrism" and his hope that no external forces should interfere in China-India relations.

Indian ambassador Rawat, according to the statement, said: India will firmly pursue an independent foreign policy, and is willing to work with China to adhere to the strategic consensus reached by the leaders of the two countries, strengthen communication, properly handle differences, enhance mutual trust, and keep advancing bilateral cooperation."

Dr Vinaye Ancharaz - International Economic Consultant

“There is a risk of the economy being sucked into a vicious circle, with lose-lose outcomes for all”



The budget presented by Minister of Finance, has observers worried by its unrealistic growth and inflation forecasts and the lack of serious measures to revamp the production or export sectors or to rein in the devaluation of our national currency. We are in the middle of the dreaded stagflation of the seventies, which the MoF has sidestepped with the bonanza of central bank reserves and special funds stashed away for the coming years to general elections. Against the token relief of Rs1000 to employees earning below Rs 50,000, there has been no relief on the cash cow front of high fuel taxes and VAT, which have numerous cascading effects on the economy. Pinning all our hopes on tourist arrivals to keep the economy and growth figures buoyant has not addressed the issue of carrier capacity and with enormous sums allocated for public infrastructure, we remain more than ever in a vulnerable situation.

Dr Vinaye Ancharaz, International Economic Consultant, shares his views on the current economic situation and where it's likely to be heading in the short and medium terms

a combination of two dreaded economic evils: slow growth and rising inflation, a situation that economists call 'stagflation'. While a recession requires that the government takes bold measures cut down on waste and use dwindling resources optimally to stimulate the economy, our government discovered that it could plough into the central bank's reserves to fuel its spending frenzy in the midst of the worst pandemic we have ever known! The result is that no reform ever took place.

On the contrary, the availability of easy money created a mirage – as if our policymakers were looking at the hard reality with rose-tinted glasses! There is little

‘The special funds will be fully tapped in the next two years, and depleted before the 2024 elections’

Mauritius Times: Let's go beyond the 'For the People' budget of Finance Minister Padayachy and its relief measures for the lower-income groups and the middle-class. What's your assessment of the present state of our economy, and where do you think we'll stand two years down the road?

The economy is recovering, but not fast enough to make up for the loss of GDP since the pandemic. Recall that the economy contracted by 15% in 2020 and although it bounced back last year, it did so at a subdued rate of 4% against a growth forecast of 9%. Growth this year will turn around 6%, lower than initial projections of 7.5%, and 5.6% in 2023.

On these trends, real GDP at the end of 2023 will still be a shade lower than the pre-pandemic level in 2019. While I don't wish to fixate on GDP growth, there is no denying that it remains the single most important indicator of how the economy emerges from the combined effects of the Covid-19 pandemic and the ongoing war in Ukraine. On this count, the narrative is not a very positive one. Many of our comparative economies are doing much better than us.

*** Do you mean to say that the 'For the People' budget and what is likely to be more populist next year will make an already bad situation worse?**

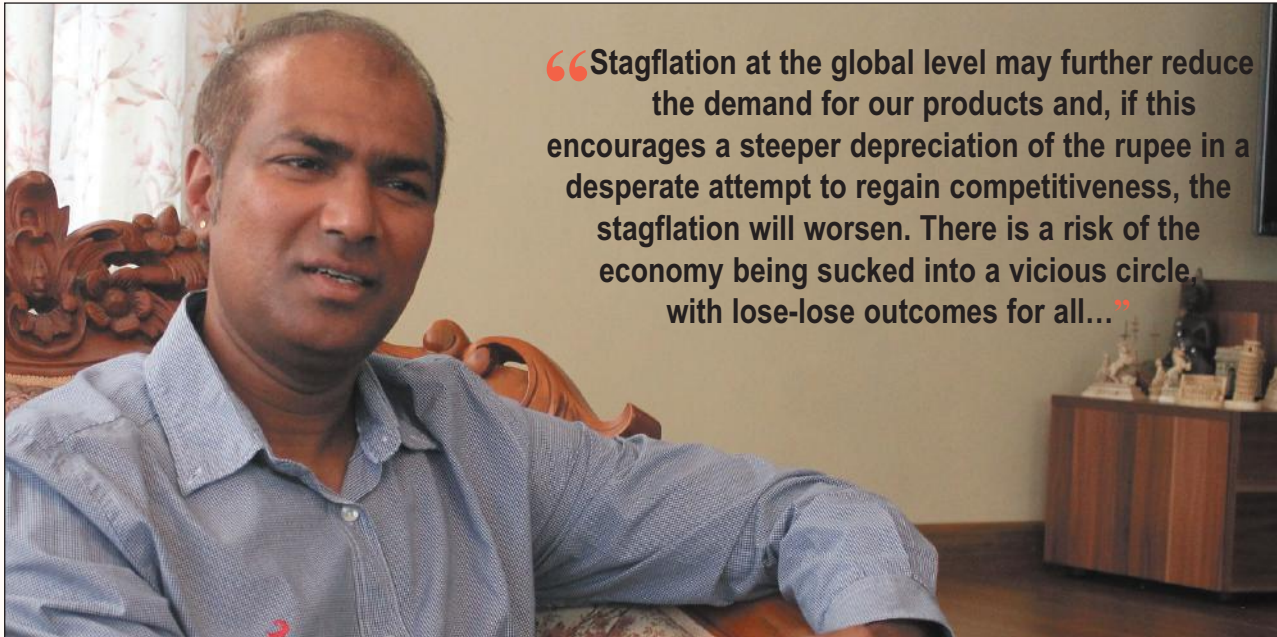
What we have witnessed over the past two years is

doubt that the monetizing of the Rs60 billion budget deficit in 2020 is the root-cause of the economic pains today. The depreciation of the rupee, which created those artificial revaluation gains, has been pursued as a deliberate policy choice, resulting in inflation in excess of 11%. And then as the rising cost of living led to popular calls for relief, the government came up with what you call a 'populist' Budget that tries to compensate some segments of the population for their loss of purchasing power.

Again, the government missed another chance to launch some critically-needed real reforms, some of which would be bitter pills to swallow.

☞ **Cont. on page 10**

'The government may be keeping public infrastructure projects as a joker up its sleeves to later drum up support for the upcoming elections'



“Stagflation at the global level may further reduce the demand for our products and, if this encourages a steeper depreciation of the rupee in a desperate attempt to regain competitiveness, the stagflation will worsen. There is a risk of the economy being sucked into a vicious circle with lose-lose outcomes for all...”

☞ Cont. from page 9

The populist tone of the Budget is likely to continue – with added zeal – over the next two years as the elections draw closer. The budget deficit for the next financial year is forecast at 4% of GDP, but this feat was achieved by engaging in deceitful accounting, and running a parallel budget, which remains hidden from public scrutiny. But international agencies are watching, and they cannot be easily fooled. With the government repeatedly ignoring the IMF's advice, the risk of another credit downgrade by Moody's is hanging like the sword of Damocles on our heads. That would be disastrous for the country.

*** The government is betting on the revival of the tourism sector with one million tourists expected during the current financial year and the promotion of food security projects to bring the economy back to its pre-Covid level. Would these be sufficient to achieve that objective?**

The government's forecast of one million tourist arrivals this year is based on the assumption that we are out of the woods and that the war in Ukraine will not impact our traditional tourist markets. This is a dangerous assumption to make – more so, since the World Bank

“Finances are drying up, and so, the capital spending spree of the past years cannot continue. It is little surprise, therefore, that large infrastructure projects are absent from this year's Budget. Perhaps it is a good thing – for these projects have not had the multiplier effect that one would usually expect. This is because they are generally contracted out to foreign firms, which import their materials and machines, and use their own workers. This leads to a significant leakage of income that leaves little in terms of gains to the domestic economy...”

has just revised its forecasts for global GDP growth in 2022 down from 4.1% to 2.9%, citing the combined effects of the war, the gradual lifting of fiscal support and the rise of interest rates to stamp out inflationary pressures. These events will inevitably have an impact on global tourism, and Mauritius may not be spared.

Against this background, the growth forecast of 8.5% for the next financial year is utterly unrealistic. Recall that in the 2021-22 Budget exercise, the government projected the economy to grow by 9% on the back of a slow recovery in tourism, with 650,000 tourists expected during the financial year ending 30 June 2022. Based on the latest statistics, we can now reasonably expect tourist arrivals to top 550,000, and the real GDP growth rate to turn around 5%, both well below target.

The IMF expects tourist arrivals to reach 800,000 this year. I believe that is a more reasonable figure. I don't see how 1 million tourists will reach our shores this year, and 1.4 million by June 2023, in the absence of a government plan to provide more air connections between Mauritius and our key tourist markets.

Beyond tourism, the Budget proposes a panoply of measures and incentives, but none strong enough to propel the much-awaited economic recovery. As you mentioned, in agriculture, the focus is on food security rather than on production for export. In fisheries, the Budget speaks of exploration and surveillance, while off-lagoon aquaculture is not a new concept. In the manufacturing sector, the measures proposed are merely palliatives. And in tourism, the key proposal is to give each tourist a voucher worth Rs200 (that is, less than USD5) to be spent at the duty-free shop! There is no mention of the pharmaceutical industry, which was announced with great pomp in last year's budget, and the ITC sector has also been largely forgotten.

*** In fact, the latest World Bank's Global Economic outlook warns that in light of the Covid-19 pandemic and the war in Ukraine the 'global economy might be on the brink of high prices and low economic**

growth'. In other words, 'stagflation, generally viewed as a relic of the 1970s, could make a comeback'. What does this mean for a small economy like ours which relies heavily on its export markets for its growth?

I believe we are already in the grips of a stagflation. Stagflation is an economist's nightmare since it presents an unpalatable policy dilemma. Expansionary policies to stimulate the economy will typically fan the inflationary fire while measures to control inflation will dampen growth. For a small economy like Mauritius, it is important to find the middle ground. The recent price hikes have impoverished people, especially those who are now emerging from a long period of unemployment induced by the pandemic, and those living off fixed incomes, such as the elderly. A caring government should protect the people against the onslaught of inflation while cautiously supporting the private sector to create jobs.

“The Bank of Mauritius, it seems, has now become accustomed to a weakening rupee that boosts its revaluation gains and makes its balance sheet look healthier than it actually is. I believe this latter tendency will dominate – over the short term, at least. This means that inflationary pressures will become endemic. As such, the government's forecast of inflation at 8.6% for the year is ill-inspired. It assumes that inflation will fall rather than rise. It goes against current trends and is far off the IMF forecast of 11.5%...”

Unfortunately, I don't think the Budget lays the right conditions for job creation. Nor does it do enough to boost export growth. Even if our merchandise exports increased in the first quarter of 2022, careful analysis shows that the increase is entirely due to higher prices, reflecting the effects of currency depreciation, rather than bigger volumes. Stagflation at the global level may further reduce the demand for our products and, if this encourages a steeper depreciation of the rupee in a desperate attempt to regain competitiveness, the stagflation will worsen. There is a risk of the economy being sucked into a vicious circle, with lose-lose outcomes for all.

*** The other important source of foreign exchange is the financial sector. Do you have any indications that would keep us somewhat confident that such inflows can keep us buoyant?**

The Budget proposes to merge the tax regimes applicable to domestic and global business companies. This will take away the tax advantage that traditionally attracted businesses to the Mauritian offshore centre, making it harder for Mauritius to compete against established financial centres around the world. This is an important setback given that we just came out of the EU blacklist and were hoping to leverage the contribution of the financial sector to the ongoing efforts at economic recovery.

☞ Cont. on page 11

The government is preying on the 'money illusion' – the fact that people would rather have Rs1000 more as a cash handout than benefit from Rs1000 (or more) worth of price cuts'

☞ Cont. from page 10

Moreover, as the stagflation deepens, the global business sector too will feel the pinch. In short, it would be imprudent to bet too much on the financial sector as a source of foreign exchange over the next financial year.

*** What's your forecast on the state of our currency by the end of the fiscal year and what continued impact will that have on imported inflation?**

There are opposite forces bearing on the external value of the rupee. On the one hand, as tourism picks up, foreign exchange shortages will gradually disappear, relieving the pressure on the rupee. On the other hand, as the spectre of stagflation plays out, there may be a need to support national competitiveness through an orchestrated depreciation.

Moreover, the Bank of Mauritius, it seems, has now become accustomed to a weakening rupee that boosts its revaluation gains and makes its balance sheet look healthier than it actually is. I believe this latter tendency will dominate – over the short term, at least. This means that inflationary pressures will become endemic. As such, the government's forecast of inflation at 8.6% for the year is ill-inspired. It assumes that inflation will fall rather than rise. It goes against current trends and is far off the IMF forecast of 11.5%.

*** Economists and all those who are seriously concerned about the state of our economy may have come out disappointed with the absence of concrete measures designed to address the systemic weakness in our economic infrastructure. That's quite understandable but no government would be inclined to go in that direction two years ahead of elections, isn't it?**

Well, you may have a point there, but let us not forget that the government had made investment in big-ticket public infrastructure projects a priority in the last two Budgets. Specifically, it committed Rs11.7 billion in the 2021-22 Budget to the construction of drains along with Rs 22 billion more to road development and Rs9.4 billion to the ubiquitous Rivière des Anguilles Dam project. The



“What we have witnessed over the past two years is a combination of two dreaded economic evils: slow growth and rising inflation, a situation that economists call ‘stagflation’. While a recession requires that the government takes bold measures cut down on waste and use dwindling resources optimally to stimulate the economy, our government discovered that it could plough into the central bank's reserves to fuel its spending frenzy in the midst of the worst pandemic we have ever known!”

“The budget deficit for the next financial year is forecast at 4% of GDP, but this feat was achieved by engaging in deceitful accounting, and running a parallel budget, which remains hidden from public scrutiny. But international agencies are watching, and they cannot be easily fooled.

With the government repeatedly ignoring the IMF's advice, the risk of another credit downgrade by Moody's is hanging like the sword of Damocles on our heads. That would be disastrous for the country...”



government picked up Rs8.5 billion from the reserves of state-owned enterprises to finance the flood management programme.

Obviously, finances are drying up, and so, the capital spending spree of the past years cannot continue. It is little surprise, therefore, that large infrastructure projects are absent from this year's Budget. Perhaps it is a good thing – for these projects have not had the multiplier effect that one would usually expect. This is because they are generally contracted out to foreign firms, which import their materials and machines, and use their own workers. This leads to a significant leakage of income that leaves little in terms of gains to the domestic economy.

However, the government may be keeping public infrastructure projects as a joker up its sleeves. A joker that it can play to great effect later in 2023 and in 2024 to drum up support for the upcoming elections. This possibility looks all the more real as the government seems to have built a secret war chest – the special funds – outside of the consolidated budget, which it has cleverly exploited to fund several popular projects and programmes, including, it appears, the wage assistance schemes. I am convinced that the special funds will be fully tapped in the next two years, and depleted before the 2024 elections.

*** We have never known a state of such high fuel prices on a sector that earns government massive revenues but has so many cascading effects on all aspects of everyday life for citizens and businesses, transport or the costs of distribution. Do you think, that as many countries elsewhere, government could have eliminated some “contributions” or brought VAT down on fuel prices even for a limited period of 1 or 2 years?**

Indeed, that was one of the biggest disappointments of the Budget. Everybody was expecting that the government would make an effort to relieve the burden of such high fuel prices on motor vehicle users. Personally, I thought that the government would, at the very least, remove the Rs3 per litre representing contributions for the purchase of Covid-19 vaccines and to the Covid-19 Fund.

This did not happen. By hindsight, the government's

decision has an eerie logic to it. First, the Covid-related levies bring in billions. So, why kill the cash cow? Second, public transport fares had already been hiked prior to the Budget, and slashing fuel prices would have led to large windfall gains to bus and taxi operators, and the metro. Then, the Budget offered an extra Rs1000 to those earning less than Rs50,000 per month as well as a top-up on travel allowances. In doing so, the government is preying on the ‘money illusion’ – the fact that people would rather have Rs1000 more as a cash handout than benefit from Rs1000 (or more) worth of price cuts, the effects of which are easily dissipated.

To Our Readers

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67 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 pandemic, 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.

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 67 years.

We are so grateful that our voice and readership extend far beyond our actual subscription base of loyal well-wishers. But we now need to expand that base of readers who value our independence and commitment to continue improving the paper and reach new audiences.

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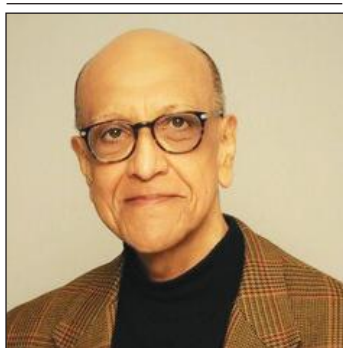
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Western countries demand Russia follows international law – so why don't they?

The West isn't exactly diligent about following international rules of law. It conveniently ignores or sidesteps global rules-based order when it's convenient



Aryn Sajoo,
Scholar-in-Residence & Lecturer,
Simon Fraser University

With a passion that recalls the aftermath of the Second World War, politicians and commentators are demanding a global order that takes seriously the rules of the United Nations Charter — notably on respect for sovereignty and fundamental human rights.

While Russia's invasion of Ukraine is the immediate spur, China's conduct in the Indo-Pacific region has prompted similar calls.

It's more than a fight between autocracies and democracies, Fareed Zakaria recently argued in the Washington Post. This moment requires a rules-based international order that has inclusive global appeal beyond western interests.

Zakaria is joined by Edward Luce in the Financial Times in arguing these appeals for a global rules-based order clearly require the West to take those rules seriously too, pointing to both the war on terror and the International Criminal Court as evidence it's not truly serious.

The United States, for example, has refrained from joining the court, even as it advocates for war crimes trials for Russian soldiers and politicians.

Railing against China's encroachment on the marine sovereignty of its neighbours in the South and East China Sea — in violation of the Convention on the Law of the Sea — also isn't helped by the U.S. failure to ratify that treaty or participate in its tribunal (which ruled against China in a landmark 2016 case brought by the Philippines).

According to international affairs experts Robin Niblett and

Leslie Vinjamuri, there is a similar penchant for arbitrariness when it comes trade rules and the World Trade Organization, health rules and the World Health Organization and attitudes about development financing in sub-Saharan Africa. They argue that the Covid-19 pandemic's impact on the fortunes of populist and authoritarian politicians may further erode liberalism.

This only scratches the surface. The essential issue is not merely inconsistency in following rules that have uncontested legitimacy. Rather, it's whether those rules have withstood the assaults on their legitimacy by their western architects.

Global order hypocrisies

Russia's Ukraine invasion has resulted in a massive exodus of people, exceeding 6.4 million at this point. Their reception in neighbouring Poland and Hungary has contrasted starkly with the treatment of equally desperate refugees from Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria and Yemen, among others. The conduct of supposedly liberal nations — from Great Britain and France to Nordic states, Canada and the United States — in terms of how they've received Ukrainian refugees compared to those from other nations isn't any better.

The principle of nonrefoulement — a guarantee that no one will be returned to a country where they face torture, degrading treatment or other irreparable harm — is hardwired in international law, as is the right to seek asylum. Neither enjoy much respect in the face of populist attitudes, which have gone increasingly mainstream among politicians and citizens alike.

What has been called the "ethical spasm" in welcoming Ukrainian refugees (support for resettling refugees has been as high as 76 per cent in Britain) stands out precisely because asylum has otherwise been discarded as a pillar of international humanitarian law, and is replaced by what philosopher Serena Parekh calls "structural injustice" that's comparable to Jim Crow segregation laws.

This conspicuous lack of regard for the letter and sub-



U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken speaks during the International Migration Review Forum on May 19, 2022, at United Nations headquarters in New York. (AP Photo/John Minchillo)

stance of rules is tied to resistance against scrutiny of domestic compliance with international human rights law. When it comes to Indigenous Peoples, for example, settler states like Australia, Canada and the United States have dragged their feet on any binding agreement, especially one that honours collective human rights.

'Free speech' folly

Incitement to hatred of vulnerable minorities, in violation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, is also now justified via a loose interpretation of "free speech" — a phenomenon we see in white supremacist and Islamophobic activism, especially on social media.

In Canada, the "trucker convoy" protest that openly espoused white supremacy received support from the official Opposition within and outside Parliament. It's hard to imagine such accommodation of a non-white protest paralyzing cities and borders for weeks on end.

Finally, there is an outcry about "occupation," which Crimea has endured since 2014 and the Donbas region of eastern Ukraine appears fated for in the aftermath of Russia's invasion.

Foreign occupation is at the heart of the narrative of Ukraine's plight as David confronting the Russian Goliath. The occupation has placed Taiwan on high alert, nervous China might be inspired by Russia.

But what about Palestine, where over a half century's occupation by Israel is actively funded, militarily supported and legally shielded by western liberal democracies? Gershon Shafir, an American sociologist and human rights scholar, has explored why this is the case in the face of clear international legal and political norms to the contrary — from the UN Charter and the 1949 Geneva Conventions to explicit judicial rulings and UN resolutions, in addition to essential ethical and humanitarian principles.

The International Court of Justice found in 2004 that Israel's "separation wall," built in the name of security against Palestinian attacks, was outright illegal in its intrusion on occupied territories. It amounted to extending colonial capture by conquest, a practice explicitly outlawed since the 1960 Declaration on Colonial Peoples and Territories, which not a single UN member opposed.

The UN Security Council's unanimous Resolution 242 of

1967 on the Palestine question affirmed the "inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by war." Israel nonetheless ignored the International Court's finding.

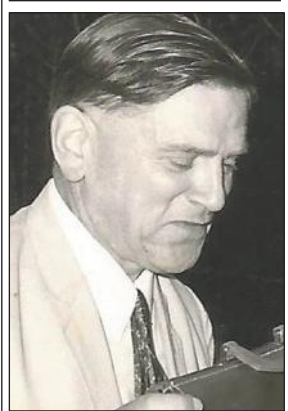
Precedents set

A major precedent for dismissing judicial findings on a salient issue of global order was set by the U.S. in response to the 1986 International Court of Justice ruling on "military and paramilitary activities against Nicaragua." The U.S. simply rejected the decision of a court that it had helped establish.

An Ipsos poll on public attitudes toward the Russia-Ukraine conflict reveals, unsurprisingly, a stark divide between the Global North and South. While 82 per cent of people agreed that the conflict poses great global risk, only 39 per cent (entirely in the north) disagreed with the proposition that Ukraine's problems "are none of our business, and we should not interfere."

This is not just about the north-south divide at the UN in condemning the invasion; it's about the alienation of civil society and ordinary folk from the global order. Which begs the question as to whether the very adoption of the rules of global order has been systematically snuffed out.

• "Common sense is the genius of humanity — Johann Wolfgang von Goethe



Peter Ibbotson

Political Funds

Only a law to compel the publication by political parties of the source of their funds can really be effective in lessening the purchase of political power by wealth

The General Elections cannot be far off. The London Agreement provided that the elections due this coming August could be postponed for a short while to allow election machinery to

be made ready to cope with the new constitutional arrangements, especially as many thousands of voters will for the first time be added to the lists: those who up to now have been denied the right to vote because they cannot read or write.

One matter concerned with the elections should be put right beforehand. That is the question of finance. At recent by-elections we have seen the Parti Mauricien and its stooges splashing money around in an attempt to win support. So far their efforts have been thwarted by the inherent good sense of the electorate who prefer the Labour Party's performances to the Parti Mauricien's specious promises. But the General Election will surely see the Parti Mauricien spending money again, right and left, so as to get its Legislative Council majority (it hopes!)

Where the Parti Mauricien (PM) gets its money is a mystery — certainly it can't spend the huge sums it does spend simply out of its membership subscriptions. There are PM local secretaries with four-figure monthly salaries. There is the Black Fund from which undercover agents are subsidised, PM "spies" in private and Government employment are paid, and newspapers and periodicals are bought for free distribution to estate libraries and reading rooms.

What is badly needed is a law to compel all political parties to make public the source of their income and means. In the UK, as also in Western Germany for example, only one party does this: the Labour Party in the UK, the Social Democratic Party in Western Germany. The English and German Tories (the Conservatives in the UK, the Christian Democrats in Western Germany) do not publish the source of their income. Why not? And why does not the Parti Mauricien publish the source of its income? I suggest that the reason, which applies to all three reactionary parties mentioned — though of course I am here concerned only with the Parti Mauricien —, is due to the fact that publication of the source of its means would inevitably reveal its political motives and goals and would perhaps cause a falling-off in

electoral support.

It is of course impossible to prevent money from buying political power by subsidising party propaganda. But the fact that prevention is impossible is no reason for doing nothing about it. Even if we cannot prevent money buying political power, we can at least do something to limit opportunities for buying it.

In the UK, legislation does not compel political parties to reveal the source of their income (though, as I have said, the Labour Party publishes its balance sheets every year), but it does do what it can to ensure equal chances in elections and to ensure that the party with the most money does not thereby have an unfair advantage over the party that is less well-off. The law of 1949 stipulates that no party may spend in any constituency a sum of money larger than has been determined beforehand.

The maximum sum expendable is determined by adding a small sum of money multiplied by the number of voters on the electoral roll to a basic amount per constituency. The formula is more generous in scattered rural constituencies than in compact urban constituencies.

This formula laid down in the Representation of the People Act combats the effect of wealth in party politics at election times; but only at those times. Between elections, the Party that can spend money on propaganda has an advantage over the party that cannot afford to do so. And it is between elections that the British Tories, like the Parti Mauricien, have the edge over their Labour opponents. Only a law to compel the publication by political parties of the source of their funds can really be effective in lessening the purchase of political power by wealth.

Low Level of English

By R. Rummun

Examination results always cause surprises to the parties concerned, and not unnecessarily too. But the recent SC, HSC and GCE results, revealing once more staggering failures due mainly to a low standard of English have set many minds thinking. Pupils, parents, even teachers have been disappointed and bewildered; the press, the platform have been shocked; and onlookers have been left wondering. For English is our national language and our weakness in it means our weakness as a nation.

What are the causes of this low standard? Who are to blame for such a national calamity? What will happen if this continues? Some are blaming the colleges; others the pupils themselves, others still, the government for its apathy. But we must not leave behind the essential background of the problem in our search for truth. We mean the turmoil of our national life during the last decade — the suddenness of our awakening; the craze for colleges combined with the woeful ignorance of most parents on the question of education, which tempted unprincipled or ignorant people to become Principals and teachers;

the uncongenial home life of the students; the almost one-sidedness of our system of education, and most important, financial inequality and instability with its well-known repercussion on teachers. Nor must we forget to consider the age we live in, with its lack of faith, its irresponsibility, its reliance on show and glittering tinsel. What wonder then if, unskillfully launched on such tumultuous waters, the tender lily of the English language has not been able to blossom?

It is not our purpose in these lines to refer to the great and good colleges and teachers. Far be it for us, again, to censure anybody but we are convinced that a frank, sincere and objective expose of the various factors involved will be helpful in canalizing public opinion and enlightening parents.

The Student Factor

This is the most human aspect of the problem, complex and delicate, entailing serious psychological and sociological study. It is also the most important, for a great deal, if not everything, depends on the student, on what he has assimilated during the five years preceding the exam. What is his attitude towards English? Generally speaking, it is negative. He learns it as a dead language, fears or is

ashamed to use it in his daily talks, and consequently writes without fluency and vigour.

Most of the students are victims of poverty, besides being rarely above the average in intelligence (the bright ones being elsewhere). A few bravely crash their way to success in spite, or even because, of this but with others the bane is psychological. Chronic anxiety, owing to unpleasant remarks from parents or fear of failure, makes them careless, distrustful of themselves and their teachers and ultimately unsuccessful.

Much has been written against those "colleges" and their ways. We shall not in our turn pour any venom on them but simply state that by their unscrupulous practices, they are responsible in a large measure for the present situation. The main cause of weakness in English, as far as colleges are concerned, are lack of proper teachers, unsuitable books and wrong methods of work; lack of facilities for oral work; overcrowding; recklessness of annual exams and promotion; and lastly that beastly competition by which parents are duped into transferring their sons from a good to an inferior college to follow a higher class there, and well-meaning Principals find themselves out-stripped by "cavassers" and balked of their lofty ideals.

To be fair to many colleges, we must admit that their only weak point is lack of

proper teachers. This is a thorny problem, lengthily dealt with in the Education Code.

Enough has been said in the foregoing lines, we hope, to establish the parent's share of responsibility however small, direct or indirect in the failure of his son. He is too credulous, too prone to wash his hands of his son the moment he joins a college, to treat him indifferently and though educated, to tear him away from his concentration time and again to run useless errands. His excuse may be ignorance, perhaps poverty too. But the harm is done.

Now, let the public judge, a boy is the product of his home, his school, his environment and his country. Had public opinion been alive to this grave question earlier than now, had the Education Code been published, say, only five years ago, had there been encouragement from the M.B.S. and British Council, and help from the Education Department, had there been technical and agricultural schools for the backward boys, there would have been no case now. Hence we must prepare ourselves for five years of gloom — till teachers be trained and they as well as colleges united and strong to clear the debris left behind. The history of Education in our island is now at its turning point and what we are actually experiencing are merely the death-throes of the Old Order and the birth pangs of the NEW.

In Memoriam

Rajeeb Gangoosingh

On Friday, 20 May 2022, Rajeeb Gangoosingh set the alarm clock on his phone for 19h30.

He did that just after he told his wife, Padmini, who had called him earlier in the day to check on the evening's plans, that he would be leaving home at that time.

At 19h30, the alarm did go off as planned. And Rajeeb, 39, did leave on time. But he left his body, not just the family home.

Rajeeb Gangoosingh, Associate Client Director at Prodigious, a brand logistics company based in Ebène, passed away following a cardiac arrest, four months shy of his 40th birthday. He was finishing off his Work From Home (WFH) workload and was getting ready to leave to meet his friends for a car project he'd been working on when he called out to his wife to complain of stomach pains. Padmini, panicked and helpless, tried to bring succour to her husband while looking for his phone to call the SAMU.

The alarm on Rajeeb's phone went off

just as Padmini was looking for it. That's how she found it. And as she grabbed it to call the ambulance, Rajeeb took his last breath. By the time the doctor from the SAMU arrived, he could only confirm Rajeeb's death.

As with all sudden deaths that befall younger people, news of Rajeeb's death sent a shock wave to those who knew him. The only son of Shilla and Rajen Gangoosingh, both retired from the education sector, Rajeeb leaves behind an older sister, Aruna, and his wife of just one year, Padmini.

Padmini describes Rajeeb as someone who brought light and happiness wherever he went, saying he was a wonderful soul, wonderful son and husband and "fur daddy to four wonderful fur babies".

A graduate in Graphic Design from Lasalle College of the Arts in Singapore,



Rajeeb was also a known car enthusiast. He was passionate about tuning, mapping and car projects. He would buy the chassis of an old car – not just any car, Subarus and Mitsubishis were a favourite – and build it again from scratch, remapping the engine for the ultimate, power. Padmini, also a car enthusiast, explains that it's a whole science, saying that Rajeeb had mastered it. It took docu-

mentation, trials and error, and infinite patience and passion, but that's what made Rajeeb tick.

As the world of car rallies in Mauritius mourns one of its most talented enthusiasts, his colleagues and loved ones struggle to make sense of this loss. Padmini has decided that she will continue Rajeeb's passion for building and perfecting cars. He had just recently bought an old BMW and was preparing to turn it into a supercar. She is now determined to continue Rajeeb's project saying she knows that's what he would have wanted. Rajeeb had started working on a

number of cars for friends, and because his method was unique, Padmini reckons it would be hard for someone who hasn't the benefit of his long acquired knowledge to do it. She takes solace in the knowledge that she must now continue his work.

If this sense of purpose will go a long way in helping Padmini come to terms with her immense loss, the road ahead is hazier for Rajeeb's parents. The hearts of parents don't seem to have been built with the capacity to withstand the loss of a child. And yet, they must go on.

Rajen and Shilla are currently taking great comfort from the outpouring of love from Rajeeb's friends, drawing solace from the sanctuary of memories of their son and facets of his life until now unknown.

News that his friends will bring out their cars and "race for Rajeeb" soon, as a tribute to his talent, passion and mentorship, has gone a long way to soothe their broken hearts.

Padmini says that Rajeeb explained his passion for tuning by saying it was the last process for someone with his inclinations. From a geek to a gamer to a tuner.

Almost as if he had come full circle.

Friends of Gangoosingh Family

The Conversation

Queen Elizabeth II & The end of the British empire in Africa

● Cont. from page 2

The story of the dominions

The rot (if that is the right word) started at the 1911 Imperial Conference, the first of several meetings of the British Prime Minister and his counterparts in the four "dominions" (Australia, Canada, South Africa and New Zealand). These were all countries of white settlement, territories to which Britain had exported population since the end of the Napoleonic wars.

Some went as "explorers", more as traders, and some (notoriously to Australia) were dispatched as convicts. The majority went to make a new life, many escaping hunger and misery at home.

Fearful of a repeat of the loss of their American empire, the British governments of the day conceded "self-government" to British settlers, albeit in fits and starts. An early marker was laid down with by the North America Act of 1867 which created confederation in Canada.

As dominions, such settler states enjoyed "self-government" over their internal affairs. But they lacked total independence as Britain continued to control their foreign affairs, and notably, the right to take them into a war.

South Africa had become a "dominion" at Union in 1910, and Prime Minister Louis Botha attended the imperial conference of the following year. In response to the growing assertiveness of the four dominions, the British government made a significant concession.

It retained the right to declare that the

dominions would join it in declaring war against an enemy state. But it conceded that they would have the right to decide their level of support for the war effort. The British were wholly confident that Australia, Canada and New Zealand would display their loyalty for "the mother country" in any European conflict.

However, a question hung over South Africa. Its government headed by Botha and Jan Smuts, two former Boer generals who had recently been fighting against the British. This was answered in 1914. When it came to the crunch, Botha and Smuts threw South African troops into the First World War without any hesitation.

They subsequently took to the field in uniform to crush an Afrikaner Nationalist rebellion against fighting "Britain's war". Yet when the war was over, a Nationalist government led by another former Boer general, Barry Hertzog, led the way in securing a further concession from the British at the Imperial Conference in 1926.

This time round, the dominions gained the right to run their own foreign policies, to have separate diplomatic representation in countries around the world, and importantly, to decide for themselves whether to side with Britain in the event of another war.

All this was confirmed by the Statute of Westminster of 1931. Come 1939, Smuts won a critical vote in the Union Parliament to lead South Africa into the Second World War against Nationalist opposition. But, they took their revenge by defeating him in the 1948 election.

Although Nationalist desire for South Africa to cut ties with Britain and become a republic ran deep, caution initially prevailed, and formally, the Queen remained head of state, represented by a governor-general as her viceroy. But when faced with hostility to apartheid by African states, Prime Minister Hendrik Verwoerd led South Africa out of the Commonwealth.

By 1961 it was also a republic.

Decolonisation

This began with the Gold Coast, which achieved "self-government" in 1951 before moving rapidly to independence as Ghana in 1957. Government was now firmly in African hands. But, the imperial legacy remained in the form of a governor-general, who represented the Queen as the country's formal head of state and sovereign. But this was not to last long.

The time of the Great White Queen sitting at the heart of Empire had long gone, and Ghana transitioned to the status of a republic in 1960 with Kwame Nkrumah becoming its first president and head of state. Albeit with local variations, this was the route followed in virtually every other British African territory over the course of following two decades.

By the late 1970s, every formerly British African state, bar Lesotho and Swaziland (now Eswatini) whose own monarchs replaced the Queen as head of state, had become a republic.

The exception which proved the rule was Rhodesia. White Rhodesians, a tiny proportion of the territory's population, had obtained self-government in 1923, yet Britain had

retained nominal sovereignty. As one African government after another swept to freedom, the Rhodesians wanted to follow suit to retain white rule, but fearing African reaction, Britain had declined to grant full independence unless an incoming government had a democratic mandate.

Ian Smith's Rhodesian Front party rebelled and unilaterally declared independence in 1965 and although the white settlers famously thought themselves more British than the British themselves, declared in 1970 that they no longer recognised the Queen as head of state and declared Rhodesia a republic. This never gained international recognition, and a conservative politician, Christopher Soames returned briefly as governor and the Queen's representative in 1980.

The last British governor in Africa, he waved goodbye when Rhodesia transitioned to independence as the Republic of Zimbabwe in 1980.

Looking to the future

Britain's relationships with its former African colonies are now those of trade, aid and diplomacy. The Queen herself remains highly respected, and acknowledged as head of the Commonwealth. Yet once she has gone, and that cannot be long, even that status for the British monarch may go.

At that moment, the rout of the British monarchy in Africa will be complete.

*Roger Southall, Professor of Sociology,
University of the Witwatersrand*

Can you be overweight and healthy?

One of the most contentious questions asked in the health community today is whether you can be overweight and healthy.



Nick Fuller

Charles Perkins Centre
Research Program Leader,
University of Sydney

This question – sometimes framed using the term “fat but fit” – has preoccupied medical researchers for decades, fuelling numerous studies both supporting and debunking the concept.

The debate revolves around whether a physically active overweight or obese person can still be considered metabolically healthy – that is, they have good blood pressure, cholesterol and insulin levels.

As a health professional and obesity expert, my response to this question often surprises: I believe a person can indeed be overweight and healthy. Here's why.

1. Weight and health are not perfectly correlated

As I discussed in my article on the Body Mass Index (BMI), a person's weight doesn't always tell the full story of their health.

While being overweight increases an individual's risk of a range of health issues, including heart disease, stroke, diabetes and some cancers, many studies have shown a person's disease risk is linked not to weight, but to body fat and where it's distributed in the body.

While BMI calculators provide a starting point for assessing body fat, the BMI is not an accurate measure of health because it doesn't explain where fat is distributed in the body.

People with a high amount of visceral fat – a type of especially unhealthy fat stored around the stomach, close to the organs – have a higher risk of disease than people who hold body fat around their hips.

It's also important to remember muscle is much denser than fat – another thing the BMI can't measure.

Therefore, if a BMI calculator classifies you as overweight or obese, but you're physically fit, have a healthy diet and lifestyle, and fat stored around your hips, you could be healthier than someone with a BMI in the “normal” range if they don't exercise or eat a balanced diet.

2. Weight and fitness are not perfectly related either

We've been conditioned to believe being overweight is directly associated with being unfit. But it's inactivity, not our weight, that directly impacts our fitness levels.

Indeed, numerous studies have used exercise



testing to show that some overweight and obese people have high cardiovascular fitness and strength levels. The difference? These people engaged in regular physical activity.

Regular exercise will improve your fitness, no matter what you weigh. Sadly, more than half of the Australian population don't even do the 30 minutes of exercise needed five days a week to stay healthy and alive, let alone help them manage their weight.

3. Lifestyle is more important than a number on the scales

It may sound obvious, but healthy behaviours – not weight – make us healthy.

While understanding and managing the relationship between our weight and health is important, we need to remember other factors influence good health too. Top among these are getting enough exercise, eating a healthy and balanced diet, reducing stress, and improving our sleep quality.

How to be healthy at any weight

You can do several simple things right now to support your overall health, no matter what you weigh.

Mix up your exercise routine

It's indisputable that exercise has enormous health benefits. Alongside improving your heart health, regular activity improves muscle strength and mobility, reduces stress levels and promotes better sleep and energy levels.

To encourage more exercise, take up something you enjoy, no matter what it is. But make sure to include variety, as doing the same routine every day is a surefire way to get bored and avoid activity, and can also make it hard to hit your goals.

It's also important to look for ways to incorporate incidental activity in your daily routine. Our sedentary lifestyles are literally killing us, with experts suggesting a week of physical inactivity has the equivalent personal health cost of smoking 20 cigarettes.

Introducing more activity can be as simple as taking the stairs instead of the lift, parking the car a little bit further away from our destination, or switching off the robot vacuum cleaner and taking on the housework ourselves.

Improve your sleep

Getting the recommended seven to nine hours of shut-eye we need each night will significantly benefit your health. The good news is it's easy to dramatically improve your sleep quality by taking simple steps to support good sleep hygiene. Start with the “no blue light after twilight” rule, switching off your devices early to boost your body's secretion of sleep-inducing hormones such as melatonin.

Retrain your brain to manage your stress

Stress will adversely impact your health, often encouraging unhealthy dietary habits and contributing to chronic conditions such as high blood pressure.

Contrary to popular belief, alcohol isn't a good way to deal with stress! Instead, take up more beneficial activities to relieve stress, such as exercise and meditation.

The bottom line

Your weight does matter when it comes to your overall levels of health. It's just not the *only* thing that matters, and it's not *always* necessary to achieve the definition of a “healthy weight” category.

We should all be engaging in healthier lifestyle habits – whatever our weight.



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LIC Centre, 1st Floor,
John Kennedy Street,
Port Louis

208 1458, Ext 24 (Port Louis)
467 4960 (Quatre Bornes)

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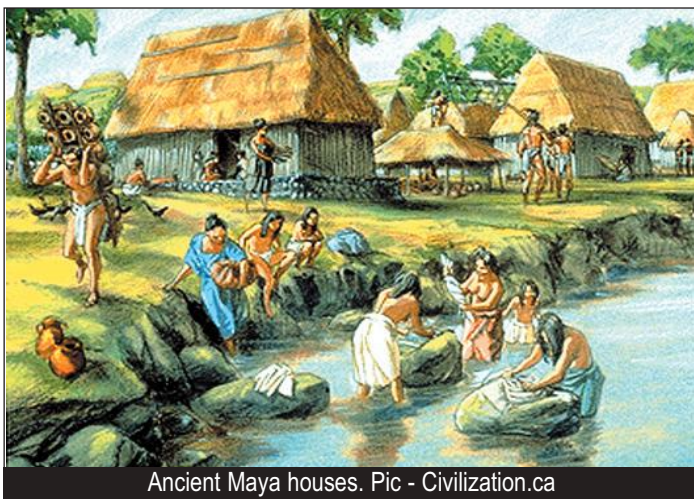
Ancient Maya houses show wealth inequality is tied to despotic governance

Every society has some degree of wealth inequality -- over history, across continents, there always seem to be some people who have more than others. But the amount of inequality differs -- in some civilizations, a few powerful people have nearly all the wealth, whereas in others, it's more spread out. In a new study in PLOS ONE, archaeologists examined the remains of houses in ancient Maya cities and compared them with other Mesoamerican societies; they found that the societies with the most wealth inequality were also the ones that had governments that concentrated power with a smaller number of people.

"Differences in house size are a reflection of wealth inequality," says Amy Thompson, a postdoctoral researcher at Chicago's Field Museum. "By looking at how house size varies within different neighborhoods within ancient cities, we can learn about wealth inequality in Classic Maya cities."

Classic Maya civilization dates to 250-900 CE; it stretched across what's now eastern Mexico, the Yucatan Peninsula, Guatemala, Belize, and western El Salvador and Honduras, and it was composed of a network of independent cities. "Rather than being like the United States today where we have one central government overseeing all the states, Classic Maya civilization was a series of cities that each had its own independent ruler," says Thompson.

Across Mesoamerica, these political systems varied -- some shared power more collectively, while others were more autocratic and concentrated power in a smaller group of individuals. Archaeologists use a variety of clues to infer how autocratic a state was. "We look at the way they represented their leadership. In burials, are certain individuals treated completely differently from everyone else, or are the differences more muted?" says Keith Prufer, an author of the study from the University of New Mexico. "Another key is to look at palaces. When you have very centralized palace buildings or funerary temples dedicated to a ruling lineage, the government tends to be more autocratic. In societies that were less



Ancient Maya houses. Pic - Civilization.ca

autocratic, it's harder to determine where rulers lived or even who they were."

In this study, the researchers wanted to know how the governmental structure affected the distribution of wealth among the people. They note that in more autocratic societies wealth inequality is pronounced between different social groups, and also between people living in the same neighborhoods who were previously assumed by archaeologists to be economic equals. Much of this inequality is linked to access to market goods or trade networks. To learn about how wealth was dispersed across the community, they analyzed the remains of ancient houses.

Factors like house size don't give an absolute picture of wealth -- for instance, a one-bedroom apartment off Central Park might be worth more than a two-bedroom in Queens, or a whole house in rural Kansas. "Everything is looked at in a relative sense," says Gary Feinman, the Field Museum's MacArthur curator of anthropology and a co-author of the paper.

To study Maya houses, the researchers looked at a number of variables beyond just size. "Using household archaeology, we can get at the interactions and relation-

ships between the people," says Thompson. "We document where these houses are on the landscape, how big they are, where they're located in relationship to each other, and which resources -- like water and good agricultural land -- are nearby." For further clues about the distribution of wealth, the researchers also excavated houses to learn about the types of ceramics and stone tools that the people used.

The researchers found that patterns of wealth inequality were fairly consistent in different neighborhoods within two Classic Maya cities in southern Belize -- even if one neighborhood was richer overall than another. Nevertheless, at both sites distinctions in wealth were most magnified in neighborhoods with access to exchange routes. "People have known for decades, if not centuries, that the Classic Maya were unequal," says Prufer. "But the real thing we can add is that this inequality trickled down, even to neighborhoods."

The link between wealth inequality and autocracy isn't exclusive to the Classic Maya, the researchers note. "We're really trying to get at some of these very real issues of how inequality forms, how it's perpetuated, and how it manifests in early cities," says Prufer. "One of the larger goals within archaeology is to try to show that modern societies and ancient societies are, in their fundamental elements, not that much different from each other. There's a lot of similarities that reflect human behaviour and human ingenuity and also manifestations of human inequality and cruelty on different levels."

And while inequality has plagued humanity for millennia, Feinman says that we're not doomed as a species. "There's a tight interconnection between how power is funded and how power is wielded and monopolized," he says. "People can and do establish institutions that try to check power, but it takes work, and it takes interpersonal interdependence and the recognition that we cooperate with communities of people beyond just one's self and one's family."



Why is the Sun orange when white stars are the hottest?

The very hottest stars actually glow blue.

The reason the Sun shines so bright is that it's hot. And the colour it glows depends on how hot it is.

You are right that a star that glows white is hotter than one that glows orange.

And it's true the Sun often looks orange. But it isn't really orange. It is white. Well, it's a bit on the yellow side but it's mostly white.

But even white stars aren't the hottest.

The blue giants that burn bright and briefly

The very hottest stars actually glow blue. We call them blue giant stars.

These blue giants are around 80 times larger than our Sun -- so they are really, really big. They live and die very quickly. They are so hot and so big they burn through their fuel very quickly and last just a few million years.

That might sound like a long time but it's not much compared to how long our Sun will live.

When our Sun was a million years old, it was still just a child. It's about 5 billion years old now and will live to about 10

billion years. So you could say the Sun is now middle-aged. It's about halfway through its life.

So blue giants are hottest, white stars are very hot, but there are also orange stars that burn less hot. There are even red stars, which are a bit cooler again. They are a half or even a quarter the size of our Sun and while they are still burning hot, they are nowhere near as hot as our lovely Sun.

So why does the Sun look orange, then?

A lot of the pictures we take of the Sun make it look orange because of special filters we use to take the photo. The Sun is putting out so much light that we would not be able to photograph the detail on its surface unless we cut some of the brightness out. That's what the filters do.

At sunrise and sunset, the Sun can look especially orange to our eyes. That's because, at those times of day, its light has to travel through a lot of the Earth's atmosphere (the layer of swirling air that surrounds our planet). And all the dust and



It's true the Sun often looks orange, but it isn't really orange. It is white. Flickr/Eyesplash, CC BY

stuff in the atmosphere makes the light scatter and change so it looks less blue and more orangey-red.

Only Bored Astronomers Find Gratification Knowing Mnemonics

In the olden days, astronomers used letters to try to sort different types of stars. As we learned more about stars, the order changed, and labels became quite mixed up! Today we still use this naming system to remember the order of stars from hottest to least hot. It goes like this: O, B, A, F, G, K, M. (Some versions have more letters at the end).

The O-stars are the blue giants, while our Sun is a "G-class" star. That means it's not the hottest but it's not the coolest either.

Those letters are hard to remember, so astronomers came up with different tricks to remember it. One memory trick is called a "mnemonic" where you pretend each letter stands for a word. It's easier to remember a sentence instead of a bunch of letters.

One student in my class came up with this mnemonic: "Only Bored Astronomers Find Gratification Knowing Mnemonics" (gratification means something like happiness).

Another one I like is: "Orange Butterflies And Frogs Get Knitted Mittens".

Belinda Nicholson
Lecturer, University of Southern
Queensland



Be positive

Doctor: Your liver is enlarged.

Patient: Does that mean it has space for more whisky?

(This is called 'Positive Thinking'.)

Lady to her dietician: What I am worried about is my height and not my weight.

Doc: How come?

Lady: According to my weight, my height should be 7.8 feet.

(Now this is called 'Positive Attitude'.)

A man wrote to the bank. "My cheque was returned with remark 'Insufficient funds'. I want to know whether it refers to mine or the bank's".

(This is self confidence at its peak.)

This one is classic !!

A cockroach's last words to a man who wanted to kill it: "Go ahead and kill me, you coward. You're just jealous because I can scare your wife and you cannot!!!"

Always be positive even in difficult situations.

Testimonials

Two blokes living in the Australian outback saw a couple of jobs advertised by the Queen of England.

She was looking for footmen to walk beside her carriage.

They applied and were very happy to be flown to London for an interview with Her Majesty.

She says to them: "Because my footmen must wear long white stockings, I must see your ankles to be sure they are not swollen or misshapen."

After they show her their ankles, the Queen says: "It is also important that you don't have knobby knees, so I need to see your knees too."

Once she has seen their knees, she says: "Now everything appears to be in shape, so I just need to see your testimonials."

Husband called wife on phone and said "today no need to cook i will bring dinner from the Second Wife" .. 🍔🍷

Husband came home and knocked at the door. Wife opened the door and thats the only thing husband remembered

🍔🍷🍷🍷🍷

Husband is in ICU now...🏥. Whereas second wife is a name of a particular restaurant.

Second wife Photo..👉



Nine years later, when the pair are finally released from prison, one of the blokes says to the other:

"I reckon, if we just had a bit more education we would have got that job!"

Ready for sex

Went for a walk past a farm with my new girlfriend and we saw dogs mating.

She said: "How does the male know when the female is ready for sex?"

I replied: "He can smell she is ready. That's how nature works."

We then walked past a sheep field and the ram was mating the ewe.

Again, my girlfriend asked: "How does the ram know when the ewe is ready for sex?"

I replied: "It's nature. He can smell she is ready."

We then went past another pasture and the bull was mating with the cow.

My girlfriend said: "This is odd. They are really going at it. Surely the bull can't smell when she is ready?"

I said: "Oh, yes; it's nature. All animals can smell when the female is ready for sex."

Anyway, after the walk, I dropped her at home and kissed her goodbye. She said: "Take care and get yourself tested for Covid-19."

Surprised, "Why do you say that?" I asked her.

She replied: "You seem to have lost your sense of smell."



Border Patrol

Five Germans in an Audi Quattro arrive at the Italian border.

The Italian Customs Officer stops them and tells them: "It's a illegal a to put a 5 people in a Quattro."

"Vot do you mean it's illegal?" asks the German driver.

"Quattro means a four," replies the Italian official.

"Quattro is just ze name of ze friken automobile," the German says disbelievingly. "Look at ze dam papers: ze car is designed to carry 5 persons!"

"You canta pull that one on me!" replies the Italian customs officer. "Quattro means a four. You have five-a people in your car and you are therefore a breaking the law."

The German driver replies angrily, "You idiot! Call your supervisor over. I want to speak to someone viz more intelligence!"

"Sorry," responds the Italian officer, "He can't come. He's a busy with 2 guys in a Fiat Uno."



A woman went walking on a beach. She saw a lamp on the way. She picked it up and rubbed it. Suddenly, a Genie came out of it.....

He said, It is your lucky day. I will grant you five wishes. Go ahead and ask."

She spoke up:

1. I want my husband not to go anywhere without me.
2. Nothing should be more important than me in his life.
3. He is able to sleep only when I am laying next to him.
4. When he opens his eye in the morning, I should be the first thing he sees.
5. Even if I get a small scratch on my body, he should scream with intense pain

The genie smiled and disappearedSoon she became a cell phone



Buttering Boss

Our colleague Rohan is number one *kamchor*. He avoids all office work but he is master in buttering our MD, Mr Ganesh Chadda.

He does all work whatever Boss orders.

Apart from Boss's official work, he does all his personal household work like depositing son's college fee, buying daughter's dance school dress, taking Boss's wife to shopping, etc. Rohan also does Boss's car servicing job, complete son's project work everything whatever Boss says.

So Rohan is number one favourite of MD Saheb. This way Rohan got all promotions very fast. We are only repenting our fate because Boss is not happy with our job. Rohan has a beautiful time.

One day, we got sudden news about MD saheb's mother's demise. We all ran to his house with a very sad face as if our mother has expired!

Surprisingly Rohan was not to be seen anywhere in Boss's bungalow.

Everybody was speculating about how Rohan is missing the chance to score a point.

We all arranged for a vehicle furnished with garlands and Boss's mother was taken to crematorium.

What a fate! There are about 16 bodies lying in the queue. I calculated that each body would at least take 3 hrs to burn. So that would take several hours in which case we had better come back the following morning.

Boss was red faced and his mood very bitter.

Suddenly, the second body started sitting up.

We all ran helter-skelter.

To our utter surprise we discovered it was none other than Rohan.

He called MD Saheb, 'Sir, we are the next one in the queue. I was waiting from early morning, lying there as a dead body.'

Life's Lessons

We don't live in bungalows, duplexes or flats. We live in our minds

Yes, that's our permanent residence. And there are no constraints of square-feet there. It's a vast space with unlimited area. And you know what! No matter how well-organized your rooms, balconies, garages and verandas are, life is good only when things are sorted there - in your mind.

And that's where we keep things messy - regrets piling up in one corner,

expectations stuffed in a closet, secrets under the carpet, worries littered everywhere, comparisons spilt on the table, complexes leaking from an old bottle, and grudges stinking in a box.

Be aware. For this 'real home' of yours, you can't outsource housekeeping. You've got to do it yourself and see the beauty that surrounds you when your inner being is stable.

Know your worth

A father told his daughter, "Congrats on your graduation. I bought you a car a while back. I want you to have it now. Before I give it to you, take it to a car dealer in the city and sell it. See how much they offer."

The girl came back to her father and said: "They offered me \$10,000 dollars because it looks very old."

Father said: "Ok, now take it to the pawn shop."

The girl returns to her father and said: "The pawn shop offered \$1000 dollars because it's a very old car and a lot of work has to be done."

The father told her to join a passionate car club with experts and show them the car. The girl drove to the passionate car club. She returned to her father after a few hours and told him, "Some people in the club offered me \$100,000 dollars because it's a rare car that's in good condition."

Then the father said, "I wanted to let you know that you are not worth anything if you are not in the right place. If you are not appreciated, do not be angry; that means you are in the wrong

place. Don't stay in a place where no one sees your value."

The moral of the story: Know your worth and know where you are valued. A diamond doesn't shine on the bottom of a cave.



Quotable Quotes

The Future

The best way to predict the future is to create it.

-- Abraham Lincoln

The past is your lesson. The present is your gift. The future is your motivation.

-- Anonymous

A person can change his future by merely changing his attitude.

-- Earl Nightingale

Do not let the shadows of your past darken the doorstep of your future.

-- Anonymous

The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams.

-- Eleanor Roosevelt

The past is a source of knowledge, and the future is a source of hope. Love of the past implies faith in the future.

-- Stephen Ambrose

Life can only be understood backwards, but it must be lived forwards.

-- Soren Kierkegaard

Stop being a prisoner of your past. Become the architect of your future.

-- Robin Sharma

It is what you do in the present that will redeem the past and thereby change the future.

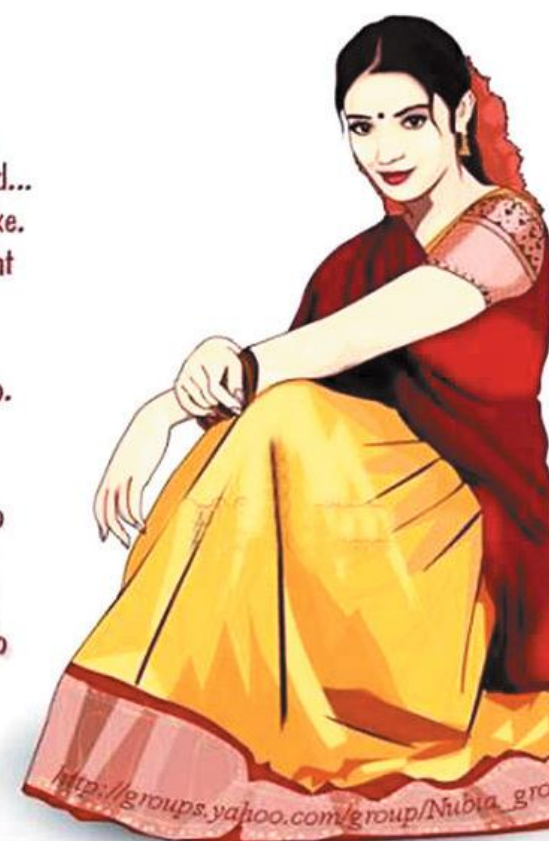
-- Paulo Coelho

Live quietly in the moment and see the beauty of all before you. The future will take care of itself.

-- Swami Paramahansa Yogananda

A Wife's Poem

He didn't like the curry
And he didn't like my cake.
He said my biscuits were too hard...
Not like his mother used to make.
I didn't prepare the coffee right
He didn't like the stew,
I didn't mend his socks
The way his mother used to do.
I pondered for an answer
I was looking for a clue.
Isn't there anything I could do
To match his mother's shoe
Then I smiled as I saw light
One thing I could definitely do
I turned around
and slapped him tight...
Like his mother used to!!!!
author unknown



Life's Lessons

Old age

Most of us are now in the last quarter of our life and should read this interesting piece of advice

You know... time has a way of moving quickly and catching you unawares of the passing years.

It seems just yesterday that I was young and embarking on my new life. Yet in a way, it seems like eons ago, and I wonder where all the years went.

I know that I lived them all.

I have glimpses of how it was back then and of all my hopes and dreams.

However, here it is... the last quarter of my life and it catches me by surprise.

How did I get here so fast?

Where did the years go and where did

my youth go?

I remember well seeing older people through the years and thinking that those older people were years away from me and that I was only on the first quarter and that the fourth quarter was so far off that I could not visualise it or imagine fully what it would be like.

Yet, here it is... my friends are retired and getting grey - they move slower and I see an older person now. Some are in better and some worse shape than me but I see the great change. They're not like the ones that I remember who were young and vibrant... but like me, their age is beginning to show and we are now those older folks that we used to see and never thought we'd become.

Each day now, I find that just getting a shower is a real target for the day and taking a nap is not a treat anymore. It's mandatory because if I don't of my own free will, I fall asleep where I sit.

And so, now I enter into this new sea-

son of my life unprepared for all the aches and pains and the loss of strength and ability to go and do things that I wish I had done but never did. But at least I know that though I'm on the last quarter and I'm not sure how long it will last, that when it's over on this earth, it's over. A new adventure will begin!

Yes, I have regrets. There are things I wish I hadn't done; things I should have done but truly there are many things I'm happy to have been done.

It's all in a lifetime.

So, if you're not on the last quarter yet, let me remind you that it will be here faster than you think. So, whatever you would like to accomplish in your life, do it quickly.

Don't put things off too long. Life goes by so quickly.

So, do what you can today, as you can never be sure whether you're on the last quarter or not.

You have no promise that you will see all the seasons of life. So, live for today and say all the things that you want your loved ones to remember - and hope that they appreciate and love you for all the things that you have done for them in all the past years.

Today is a new day, let your yesterdays go. Tomorrow is not here, there's no reason to become anxious or live in fear. Take the moment and be there, still and relaxed. Focus on the beauty of living your life, smile at someone, give a hug, spend time listening to one who needs you, and be a good friend. Open your heart, count your blessing, and keep shining. 🌟💖🙏

Keep shining, beautiful one.
The world needs your
light

Living Better

Secrets to a Longer Life



Your friends are a surprisingly strong influence on how long you live. See what else can help give you more healthy years

Protect your DNA: As you age, the ends of your chromosomes become shorter. This makes you more likely to get sick. But lifestyle changes can boost an enzyme that makes them longer. Plus, studies show diet and exercise can help protect them. The bottom line: Healthy habits may slow aging at the cellular level.

Play to win: An 80-year study found people who are conscientious -- meaning they pay attention to detail, think things through, and try to do what's right -- live longer. They do more for their health and make choices that lead to stronger relationships and better careers.

Make friends: Here's another reason to be grateful for your friends: They might help you live longer. Dozens of studies show a clear link between strong social ties and a longer life. So make the time to keep in touch.

Choose friends wisely: Your friends' habits rub off on you, so look for buddies with healthy lifestyles. Your chances of becoming obese go up if you have a friend who adds extra pounds. Smoking also spreads through social ties, but quitting is also contagious.

Quit smoking: We know giving up cigarettes can lengthen your life, but by how much may surprise you. A 50-year British study shows that quitting at age 30 could give you an entire decade. Kicking the habit at age 40, 50, or 60 can add 9, 6, or 3 years to your life, respectively.

Embrace the art of the nap: A siesta is standard in many parts of the world, and now there's scientific evidence that napping may help you live longer. One study showed that those who had a regular snooze were 37% less likely to die from heart disease than those who rarely steal a few winks. Researchers think naps might help your heart by keeping stress hormones down.

Follow a Mediterranean diet: It's rich in fruits, vegetables, whole grains, olive oil, and fish. The plan can also put a serious dent in your chances of getting metabolic syndrome -- a mix of obesity, high blood sugar, high blood pressure, and other things that make you more

likely to get heart disease and diabetes.

Eat like an Okinawan: The people of Okinawa, Japan, once lived longer than any other group on Earth. The region's traditional diet is why. It's high in green and yellow vegetables and low in calories. Plus, some Okinawans made a habit of eating only 80% of the food on their plate. Younger generations have dropped the old ways and aren't living as long.

Get hitched: Married people tend to outlive their single friends. Researchers say it's due to the social and economic support that wedded bliss provides. While a current union offers the greatest benefit, people who are divorced or widowed have lower death rates than those who've never tied the knot.

Lose weight: If you're overweight, slimming down can protect against diabetes, heart disease, and other conditions that take years off your life. Belly fat is bad for you, so focus on deflating that spare tire. Eat more fiber and exercise regularly to whittle your middle.

Keep moving: The evidence is clear. People who exercise live longer on average than those who don't. Regular physical activity lowers your chances of getting heart disease, stroke, diabetes, some forms of cancer, and depression. It may even help you stay mentally sharp

into old age. Ten-minute spurts are fine, as long as they add up to about 2.5 hours of moderate exercise per week.

Drink in moderation: Heart disease is less common in people who drink in moderation than in people who don't drink at all. On the other hand, too much alcohol pads the belly, boosts blood pressure, and can cause a host of other health problems. If you drink alcohol, the limit should be one drink a day for women and one or two for men. But if you don't drink, don't start. There are better ways to protect your heart!

Get spiritual: People who attend religious services tend to live longer than those who don't. In a 12-year study of people over age 65, those who went more than once a week had higher levels of a key immune system protein than their peers who didn't. The strong social network that develops among people who worship together may boost your health.

Forgive: Letting go of grudges has surprising physical health benefits. Chronic anger is linked to heart disease, stroke, poorer lung health, and other problems. Forgiveness will reduce anxiety, lower blood pressure, and help you breathe more easily. The rewards tend to go up as you get older.

Make sleep a priority: Getting enough quality sleep can lower your risk of obesity, diabetes, heart disease, and mood disorders. It'll also help you recover from illness faster. Burning the midnight oil, on the other hand, is bad for you. Snooze for less than 5 hours a night and you might boost your chances of dying early, so make sleep a priority.

Manage stress: You'll never completely avoid stress, but you can learn ways to control it. Try yoga, meditation, or deep breathing. Even a few minutes a day can make a difference.

Keep a sense of purpose: Hobbies and activities that have meaning for you may lengthen your life. Japanese researchers found men with a strong sense of purpose were less likely to die from stroke, heart disease, or other causes over a 13-year period than those who were less sure of themselves. Being clear about what you're doing and why can also lower your chances of getting Alzheimer's disease.

Reviewed by Melinda Ratini, DO, MS - WebMD

Sanlam
Central Agency Ltd

Accredited Agency

Contact: Mrs V. Gopal

1st floor, ARC Building, c/r SSR & Sir William Newton
Streets, Port Louis Tel: 208 0289 / 5782 5678 - Fax: 213 0961
Email: centralagency@intnet.mu



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Rupali Ganguly's ad agency to Karan Kundrra's international call centre

Popular TV celebs who are also successful entrepreneurs



Acting is an unstable profession and therefore TV actors often walk with a backup plan for their financial stability. Here's a list of all the popular television celebrities who are owners of successful businesses, as reported by Times of India.

Rupali Ganguly

Rupali Ganguly is one of the A-list actors in the television industry and is ruling the small screen with her role, *Anupamaa* in the show by the same name. The 45-year-old runs an advertising agency, which she co-founded along with her father, Anil Ganguly in 2000. The company produces films and commercials under this banner.

Karan Kundrra

Karan Kundrra might be ruling hearts with his charismatic personality onscreen and by being a doting boyfriend to Tejaswi Prakash, but he is also an entrepreneur. He owns an international call centre in Jalandhar. Karan's father is a businessman and they also own an infrastructure business. During a particular task in *Bigg Boss 15*, where the contestants had to extract juice from the sugarcane, the actor had revealed that he's well-informed about the machines as he's always been around them.

Ronit Roy

Ronit Roy is a talented and extremely popular actor, who has shown his expertise in acting even in Bollywood films and web shows. He owns a Security and Protection agency. AceSquad Security Services LLP looks into the security of various celebrities.

Angad Hasija

Currently seen as an antagonist in the show *Dharm Yoddha Garud*, Angad Hasija also has a backup plan. He is an architect too and has architecture work in Chandigarh. Talking about it, he told BT, "It's very important for everyone to have a backup plan. People say you cannot focus on one thing if you have a backup plan. On the contrary, I believe that if you have a backup plan and you are sorted with your finances, you become more focused. It makes a person choosy about what is best for them. You can take on better things from the options that you have or else you have to do things on compulsion because you don't have a plan. It is applicable as an actor and also to every business and field. It makes the person mentally satisfied and free."

Arjun Bijlani

Khatron Ke Khiladi 11 winner and seen in popular TV shows such as 'Miley Jab Hum Tum,' 'Naagin' to name a few, actor Arjun Bijlani owns Mumbai Tigers' Team of the Box Cricket League. Reportedly, Arjun also owns an alcohol shop in

Mumbai.

Mohit Malik

Known for some great shows such as 'Doli Armaan Ki' and 'Kulfi Kumar Bajewala', actor Mohit Malik is also a restaurateur. He owns cafes in Mumbai and Goa with his wife Aditi Malik.

Shabir Ahluwalia

Kumkum Bhagya actor Shabir Ahluwalia, who is best known for playing the role of Abhi, owns a production house in Mumbai. The actor has quit the show and will now be seen in 'Radha Mohan.'

Mouni Roy

Mouni Roy and her husband Suraj Nambiar ventured into the field of new-age global education technology - a subscription-based digital platform. Talking about it, Mouni had told a portal, "As an actress, I didn't have someone to advise me, especially in my formative years. I can't overstate the importance of having an avenue that provides direction and thought process to budding artists from the absolute best in the business. I am sure, with 'Ultimate Gurus,' people will find the right advice from the Gurus and the ultra-supportive community that will help them unlock greatness."

Anusha Dandekar

Anusha Dandekar is a renowned VJ and artist, who is loved by fans for her style and confidence. A few years ago, Anusha launched a clothing and skin-care line under her name.

Ravi Dubey and Sargun Mehta

This popular couple, Ravi Dubey and Sargun Mehta, recently launched their production house and it has turned out to be very successful. They've released the show, 'Udaariyan' and 'Swarn Ghar' under their banner, which has garnered much love from the audience. Apart from Hindi TV shows, the duo also produces Punjabi films and aims at web shows too.

Cinema Sirsa

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MOVIE BHOOL BHULAIYAA 2

Friday 24 to Saturday 25 June 2022 - 13:15/20:15

Sunday 26 June 2022 - 13:15/16:15

Monday 27 to Wednesday 29 June 2022 - 13:15/20:15

YOUR STARS

Sagittarius: Nov 22 - Dec 21

You don't have to worry about small wins and losses. Think about your overall investment strategy rather than looking for short-term profits. If you are single, there will be a proposal that might come through family members. Your negative words affect your partner and if you use them too often, they can block you.

Lucky Numbers: 3, 9, 14, 18, 20, 33

Capricorn: Dec 22 - Jan 19

This is a suitable week on the both personal and professional fronts. Some challenging situations may put hurdles on the business front, but you may deal with it calmly. An unnecessary argument with spouse is not good for your married life. Singles may meet someone special.

Lucky Numbers: 8, 11, 14, 20, 23, 40

Aquarius: Jan 20 - Feb 18

If you are determined, you will surely enjoy success. It is a terrific time to make decisions regarding your professional life as your thoughts are focused right now. You will have a stable income to support your financial needs. This can be a fantastic week on the love front. Having an intimate relationship with a love partner is indicated. You may buy an expensive gift for your spouse.

Lucky Numbers: 1, 7, 8, 10, 15, 30

Pisces: Feb 19 - Mar 20

Your financial targets will be achieved and you could gain from multiple sources. You will be successful to a great extent in your endeavours. Your positive thinking will work. Your relationship is tensed now, and you need to pay close attention to what your partner is saying when trying to convey their needs. Showing that you care will blossom your connection today.

Lucky Numbers: 15, 17, 20, 21, 23, 26

Aries: Mar 21 - Apr 19

It may be a day of self-discovery. You can choose to spend some coveted time with yourself. Explore the depth of your personality to make the necessary changes. This is the moment when you appreciate love and it will bring some happy moments to your life. You will meet a nice person who can bring amazing emotions.

Lucky Numbers: 3, 4, 7, 12, 23, 30

Taurus: Apr 20 - May 20

You will be more productive, and feel better overall. Your expectation of quick results may not be possible. Most of you are happy with your love life. Singles may find someone and when it comes to finding a life partner for the rest of your life, you will make the right decision.

Lucky Numbers: 18, 20, 21, 36, 37, 38

Gemini: May 21 - June 20

Mood has a huge impact on your body, so be aware of your current stress levels. You may be impatient today. However, you must be generous and kind in your interactions with others. If possible, you can celebrate love life by having a fun-filled journey with your partner.

Lucky Numbers: 1, 9, 11, 15, 16, 19

Cancer: June 21 - July 22

You will find yourself caught in the middle of a situation and not knowing which side to choose at work. There will be an atmosphere of stress. Even if you don't agree, open your heart and listen and absorb what is being said. During this time, you will find that your life partner is your true partner, whom you can trust blindly.

Lucky Numbers: 5, 7, 11, 14, 18, 31

Leo: July 23 - Aug 22

Be kind in your opinion and focus on what's more important in your life. Engage in recreational activities that enhance your spirit and instil a sense of peacefulness. Your mind may wander and you may feel emotionally swamped between your spouse and someone else. In such a situation, you are advised to take any rash decision.

Lucky Numbers: 3, 14, 18, 20, 27, 33

Virgo: Aug 23 - Sept 22

Attention should also be paid to new developments in the workplace. Express your love and infuse some romance into your marriage. Your partner's company will allow you to enjoy the wonders of love. It will provide you with a lasting treasure that will be cherished.

Lucky Numbers: 1, 20, 24, 29, 33, 36

Libra: Sept 23 - Oct 22

Try to save money and stay away from impulsive financial decisions. You may experience unhappiness, insecurities and anxiety in relationships. But it is not as bad as it seems; it is mostly in your head. This is the time to learn and improve your skills. Many things are happening, so you may be neglecting some of your responsibilities.

Lucky Numbers: 7, 10, 11, 25, 36, 40

Scorpion: 23 Oct - 21 Nov

Today is also a good day to finally get rid of long unpaid debt. Try to get more involved in your work. This will help you to deepen your interest. Broadening your horizons strengthen relationship with someone special to you. On the romantic side, think about how your outdated beliefs prevent your relationship from progressing.

Lucky Numbers: 3, 6, 10, 11, 16, 33

Akshay Kumar's lavish lifestyle: how Bollywood's highest paid actor spends his multimillion-dollar fortune

He has climbed his way up to become one of the highest-paid actors in Bollywood, and has also gained a reputation for being a savvy businessman. Known for his impeccable punctuality, admirable work ethic and his chiselled physique, the 53-year-old actor is not only one of Hindi cinema's most talented actors, but he is also one of the richest.

His wealth has landed him on the 52nd spot on Forbes' World's Highest-Paid Celebrities in 2020 list – making him the only Indian actor to be featured. According to Forbes, his annual income is around US\$48.5 million.

Without a single flop in six years, he is now preparing to dominate theatres again with his newly released spy thriller *Bell Bottom*. With so many back-to-back box office successes, it's no surprise that he is one of Bollywood's top-earning actors. Here is how the witty and talented actor rakes in the money and spends his riches, as reported by Ameena Navab of South China Morning Post.

How he makes the big bucks

With recent box office hits like *Housefull 4*, *Rustom* and *Good Newz*, Hindustan Times reported that Kumar makes quite the amount by charging around US\$16 million per film. Now that there's more weight to his name with his continuous box-office hits, and many pres-

tigious awards including the Filmfare Award, National Award and the honourable Padma Shri, Bollywood Hungama reported that he will be charging around US\$18 million per film in 2022.

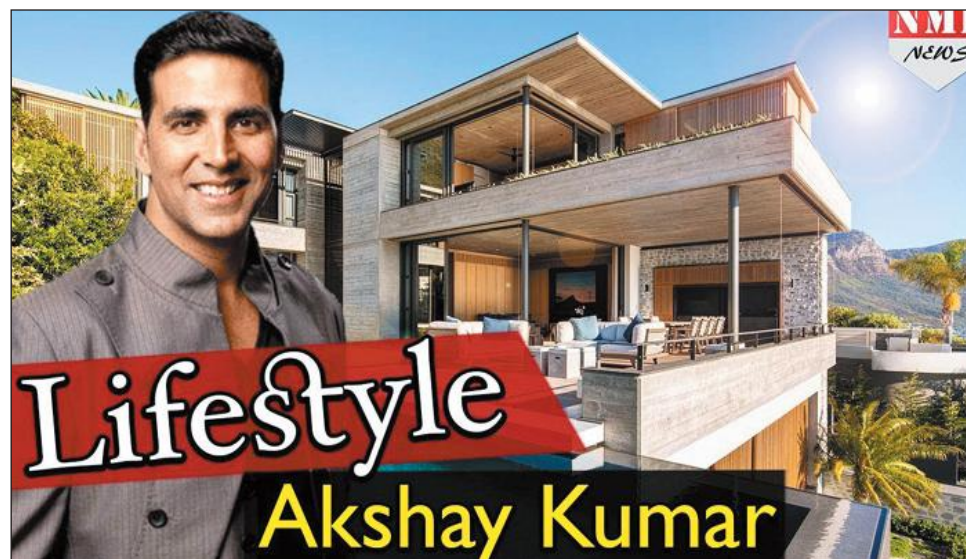
The talented actor has supported and endorsed various start-ups and luxury brands throughout his career. According to The Financial Express, Kumar charges roughly US\$200,000 per day for an ad shoot.

GQ stated that Kumar is the top choice for personal care brands, and he is also one of the top five celebrities in demand for the "Product Brands with Maximum Digital Media Impact" category.

Another main source of the actor's income is his own production company Hari Om Entertainment, which has produced over 15 Bollywood blockbuster films such as *Singh is King*, *Airlift*, *Rustom* and *Padman*.

How he spends it

With so much money in the bank, this B-town A-lister is an international real estate enthusiast. According to Times Now News, he owns a sea-facing duplex and four other flats in Mumbai, a Portuguese style beach-house in Goa that's worth nearly US\$670,000, an entire hill in Toronto and another luxurious beach house in Mauritius.



Cars

He is also a lover of cars, owning high-end luxury rides such as a Porsche Cayenne, Rolls-Royce Phantom, Range Rover Vogue, Mercedes GL Class (SUV) and Honda CR-V. DNA India reports that he owns a private jet worth US\$35 million too.

Sports

A fan of martial arts and fitness, it came as no surprise when he bought "Bengal Warriors", a pro team in the World Kabaddi League. He also opened a martial arts school, the Women's Self Defence

Center in Mumbai, where women and girls can learn all kinds of self defence moves.

Charity

But the Khiladi actor is not just about splurging on himself. He is also known for lending a helping hand to those in need. According to India Today, in 2015, he donated around US\$130,000 towards Chennai flood relief work and recently donated the same amount to the Gautam Gambhir Foundation to help those affected by the pandemic. He also donated US\$130,000 to rebuild a school in Kashmir, reported Hindustan Times.

BollyBytes

Kartik Aaryan talks about link-up rumours and infidelity in Bollywood

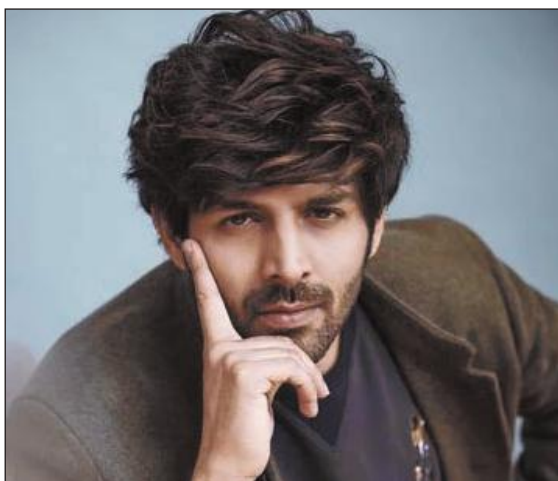
Kartik Aaryan, who is currently basking on the success of his latest release, *'Bhool Bhulaiyaa 2'*, recently revealed that he has dated a Bollywood actor in the past as he spoke about link-up rumours and infidelity in the industry, reports ETimes.

In an interview with a news portal, the actor was asked if he has ever dated a Bollywood actor. Without naming her, Kartik answered affirmatively. He also went on to talk about infidelity in the industry. According to him, if two actors are working together and go out for a coffee, it gets reported that they are dating. However, that doesn't stop him from hanging out with his co-stars and friends.

Reports were rife that Kartik was in a relationship with his *'Love Aaj Kal'* co-star Sara Ali Khan. However, they soon parted ways for reasons best known to them. The rumoured couple also never made their relationship official.

Directed by Anees Bazmee, *'Bhool Bhulaiyaa 2'* also stars Tabu and Kiara Advani in lead roles. The movie has been receiving positive reviews from the audience and critics alike. The movie also locked horns with Kangana Ranaut starrer *'Dhaakad'* at the box office.

Kartik will next be seen in *'Shehzada'* with his *'Luka Chuppi'* co-star Kriti Sanon. The movie also stars Manisha Koirala and Paresh Rawal in pivotal roles.



'Munna Bhai 3' might never happen, says Arshad Warsi

'Feels claustrophobic doing the same thing, I want to move on'

Arshad Warsi has said he doesn't think AMBBS part 3 will ever get made. The actor is known for his role as Circuit in *Munna Bhai MBBS* and *Lage Raho Munna Bhai* that had Sanjay Dutt in titular role. He expressed his wish to have the main characters get closure in the final part of the franchise but added that he also wishes to move on.

Rajkumar Hirani directed 2003 film *Munna Bhai MBBS* and followed it with a sequel, titled *Lage Raho Munna Bhai*. Arshad played an uneducated goon's sidekick named Circuit in the two films.

On being asked about the possibility of the films getting a third part in the franchise, Arshad told Indian Express, "*Munna Bhai MBBS* resurrected my career. I had no movies for three-four years before that. I was out of sight, gone! When will the next film in the *Munnabhai* series return? We have been waiting for 16 years since *Lage Raho Munna Bhai*. Honestly, I don't think Part 3 will happen. I wish it would, that we could have a proper closure. We owe that much to the audience, but it's been too long."

He however, added, "A creative person feels claustrophobic if he is asked to do the same thing over and over again. As an actor, I want to move on. I'm sure Raju wants to do different things too, more so because for a director each film takes a few years of his life."

The success of the two films had a domino effect on his career, as the actor went on to feature in consecutive comedy movies like *Hulchul*, the *Golmaal* series, *Maine Pyaar Kyun Kiya?* and even *Jolly LLB*.



CINE 12

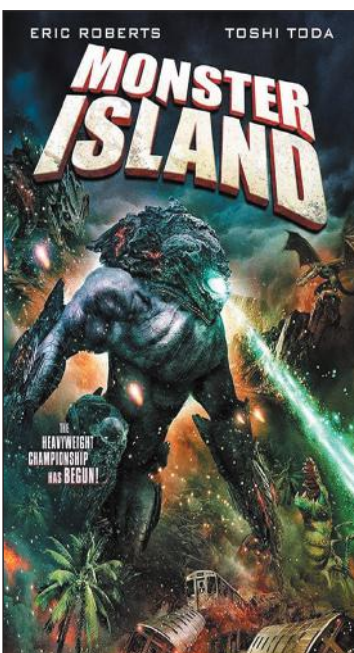
Vendredi 17 Juin - 21.15



Samedi 18 Juin - 21.00



Dimanche 27 Juin - 21.52



Programme TV



SERIAL

BTV



vendredi 24 juin

MBC 1

06.00 Local: Voyage Au Feminin
07.20 Local: Glwar Dantan
08.30 Local: Nou Later Nou Lamer
10.00 Mag: Radio Vision
11.00 Mag: Top 100 Famous...
11.30 Tele: Les Trois Visages D'ana
12.00 Le Journal
12.25 Tele: Tanto Amor
13.15 Local Production
14.35 D.Anime: Gon
15.20 D.Anime: The Hive
15.34 D.Anime: Booba
15.40 D.Anime: Mondo Yan
17.05 Serial: Superstore
18.00 Live: Samachar
18.55 Serial: Jijaji Chhat Par Hain
19.30 Journal & La Meteo
20.10 Local: Les Grands Noms...
21.06 Local: Radio Vision
22.05 Serial: Billions
23.00 Le Journal

MBC 2

07.00 DDI Live
10.00 Serial: Sila
11.18 Serial: Tu Ishq Hai
12.00 Film: Bagavat
14.04 Mag: DDI Mag
15.00 Live: Samachar
15.20 Serial: Saare Tujhyachsathi
15.43 Serial: Bommarillu
16.04 Serial: Sondha Bandham
16.26 Serial: Pyar Ke Sadqay
16.47 Serial: Bhaag Na Banche...
17.05 Kullfi Kumarr Bajewala
17.30 Serial: Chhanchhan
18.01 Serial: The Demi-Gods...
19.00 Live: Zournal Kreol
19.30 Serial: Radha Krishna
20.00 Serial: Dil Ruba
20.44 Local: Anjuman
21.10 Local: Urdu Programme -
22.05 DDI Live

MBC 3

07.00 Mag: Border Crossing
07.51 Doc: Topsy Turvy Penguin
08.41 Doc: Castles
09.38 Danger From The Depths
12.03 Mag: Border Crossing
13.49 Doc: Castles
15.30 Doc: Fungal Empire
16.12 Mag: Eco India
16.52 Mag: Carnet De Sante
19.00 Student Support Prog...
19.33 Doc: Iran From Above
20.45 Doc: World Heritage
20.48 Doc: Heritage
21.41 Doc: Volcano Stories
22.08 Doc: The Neanderthals
23.33 Doc: Germany
00.26 Doc: World Famous Writers
00.27 Mag: Our Voices
00.56 Mag: Euromaxx
01.22 Doc: Iran From Above
02.13 Doc: World Heritage

Cine 12

01.27 Film: Soul Surfer
04.00 Film: Bienvenue A Noel
05.15 Tele: Marimar
05.50 Tele: Rubi
06.57 Film: Soul Surfer
09.00 Serial: Deux Flics A Miami
09.45 Tele: La Femme De Lorenzo
10.35 Tele: Fierce Angel
11.00 Serial: New Amsterdam
11.44 Film: Bienvenue A Noel
13.31 Tele: Marimar
14.45 Film: Soul Surfer
16.40 Serial: Deux Flics A Miami
17.24 Serial: For Life
18.05 Tele: La Femme De Lorenzo
19.00 Tele: Fierce Angel
19.34 Serial: Creeped Out
20.05 Tele: Missing Bride
20.30 Serial: The Magicians
21.15 Film: Gorillas In The Mist
23.15 Tele: Marimar

Bollywood TV

07.00 Film: Albela
Star: Govinda, Aishwarya Rai and Jackie Shroff
11.35 / 20.30 - Radha Krishna
11.52 / 21.00 - Anupamaa
12.23 / 21.30 - Mere Sai
12.53 / 22.00 - Agnihera
13.36 / 22.03 - Yeh Teri Galiyan
13.53 / 22.30 - Patiala Babes
14.30 / 23.00 - Main Maikhe Chali Jaungi Tum Dekhte Rahiyo
15.00 / 21.46 - Yeh Hai Mohabbatein
15.25 Film: Lovers
Starring: Kumar Gaurav, Padmini Kolhapure, Danny Denzongpa
18.00 Live: Samachar
18.30 Kundali Bhagya
19.00 Udaariyaan
19.28 Bhakharwadi

samedi 25 juin

06.00 D.Anime: Marco Macaco
07.30 D.Anime: Paf, Le Chien
07.57 D.Anime: Akill And Me
08.22 D.Anime: Briko
08.29 D.Anime: Cat & Keet
08.56 D.Anime: Les Triples
09.00 D.Anime: Panda Fanfare
09.33 Mag: Kid's Planet
10.00 Local: Zafan Nou Zil
10.30 Serial: Oh Yuck!
12.00 Le Journal
12.20 La Fête De La Musique
15.20 D.Anime: The Hive
15.34 D.Anime: Booba
15.41 D.Anime: Mondo Yan
17.15 Mag: Human Nature
18.00 Samachar
18.30 Enter: Taare Zameen Par
19.30 Journal & La Meteo
20.10 Local: Autour Des Valeurs...
22.33 Film: A Harvest Wedding
00.00 Local: Le Journal

07.00 Film: Bhanwar
Star: Ashok Kumar, Randhir Kapoor, Parveen Babi
10.00 Bade Acche Lagte Hai
11.05 Serial: Dikri Vahalno Dariyo
12.00 Serial: Nanda Saukhyia Bhare
12.30 Serial: Mooga Manasulu
12.46 Serial: High School
15.00 Live: Samachar
15.20 Film: Sniff
Stars: Parshva Dhariwal, Khushmeet Gill, Putul Guha
16.49 Mag: DDI Mag
19.00 Live: Zournal Kreol
19.30 Serial: Radha Krishna
20.00 Serial: Vikram Betaal Ki Rahasya Gatha
20.30 Serial: Porus
21.00 Film: Marjaavaan
Starring: Riteish Deshmukh, Sidharth Malhotra, Tara Sutaria

06.00 Doc: Germany??S
06.42 Mag: World Stories
06.57 Mag: Our Vocies
07.25 Mag: Euromaxx
07.54 Doc: Iran From Above
09.42 Doc: Volcano Stories
11.37 Doc: Germany??S
12.45 Mag: Euromaxx
13.11 Doc: Iran From Above
15.00 Student Support Prog...
17.52 Doc: Sweet Magic
18.00 Doc: Tresors Oublies...
18.33 Doc: Smoothie Mania
19.00 Mag: Saladeria
20.30 Local: News (English)
20.45 Doc: World Heritage
20.50 Doc: Hotels
21.42 Doc: Skuld
22.08 Mag: Luana's Kitchen
23.15 Doc: Sweet Magic
23.46 Doc: Smoothie Mania
23.51 Mag: In Good Shape

01.26 Film: Gorillas In The Mist
03.28 Serial: Powers
04.07 Serial: L.A.'S Finest
04.52 Serial: Reckoning
05.36 Tele: Tanto Amor
06.19 Serial: The Magicians
08.30 Serial: Shades Of Blue
09.10 Serial: L.A.'s Finest
10.40 Film: Gorillas In The Mist
12.15 Serial: Powers
13.30 Serial: New Amsterdam
14.57 Tele: Muneca Brava
16.17 Serial: The Magicians
17.03 Film: Stormboy
19.35 Serial: Creeped Out
20.05 Tele: Missing Bride
20.30 Series: The Magicians
21.15 Film: Atomic Blonde
Avec Charlize Theron, James McAvoy, Eddie Marsan...
23.04 Tele: Sinu, Rio Des Pasiones

04.44 Anupamaa
05.15 Mere Sai
05.46 Agnihera
06.13 Yeh Teri Galiyan
06.38 Patiala Babes
08.00 Yeh Teri Galiyan
10.30 Motu Patlu
10.42 Sasural Simar Ka 2
12.36 Serial: Bhakharwadi
14.30 Serial: Anupamaa
16.19 Pavitra Rishta
18.00 Samachar
18.30 Film: Mr India
Starring: Anil Kapoor, Sridevi, Amrith Puri
21.15 Serial: Namah
21.37 Serial: Naagin Season 3
22.18 Serial: Yeh Teri Galiyan

dimanche 26 juin

06.00 Film: Ribbit, Prince Malgre Lui
07.30 D.Anime: Inspecteur Gadget
07.58 D.Anime: Akili And Me
08.23 D.Anime: Briko
10.00 Local: Zafan Nou Zil
11.00 Local: Nu Rasinn
11.55 Local: Autour Des Valeurs...
12.00 Le Journal
12.36 Tele: Tanto Amor
13.21 Tele: La Femme De Lorenzo
15.27 D.Anime: The Hive
15.35 D. Anime: Booba
16.46 D.Anime: Shezow
17.15 Mag: Human Nature
17.45 Local Prod: 13 Minit Natir...
18.00 Live: Samachar
18.30 Local: Yeh Shaam Mastani
19.30 Le Journal
20.20 Local Production: Les Klips
21.15 Film: Liberte Sauvage
23.05 Le Journal

07.00 Film: Gauri
11.03 Serial: Azhagu
11.24 Jag Jaanani Maa Vaishnodevi
11.45 Serial: Surya Pura
12.06 Film: Pagalpanti
15.00 Samachar
15.20 Mooga Manasulu
15.42 Serial: He Mann Baware
16.04 Serial: Sondha Bandham
Starring: Bharathi, Badekilla, Pradeep, Naresh Eswar
16.30 Local: Yaadein
16.58 Serial: Siya Ke Ram
19.00 Live: Zournal Kreol
19.30 Serial: Radha Krishna
20.06 Serial: Porus
20.46 Serial: CID
21.16 Serial: Naagin Season 2
Starring: Mouni Roy, Karanvir Bohra...

06.00 Mag: Tresors Oublies De...
07.02 Mag: Saladeria
07.32 Mag: Check In
09.45 Doc: Skuld
10.42 Doc: Craft Chocolate
11.26 Doc: Sweet Magic
11.30 Mag: Tresors Oublies De...
11.57 Doc: Smoothie Mania
12.31 Mag: The 77 Percent
14.21 Doc: World Heritage
14.26 Doc: Hotels
15.15 Doc: Skuld, A Look Into...
15.44 Mag: Luana's Kitchen
18.35 Doc: Smoothie Mania
19.00 Mag: The Inside Story
19.33 Doc: Japan From Above
20.30 Live: News (English)
20.50 Doc: World Heritage
21.43 Doc: La Route De La Soie
22.08 The Language Of Whales
22.51 Doc: Sweet Magic

01.28 Film: Atomic Blonde
02.58 Serial: Absentia
03.50 Film: A Harvest Wedding
05.11 Tele: Tanto Amor
06.36 Serial: Island Doctor
08.30 Serial: Shades Of Blue
09.11 Film: A Harvest Wedding
10.40 Film: Stormboy
12.15 Serial: Absentia
13.31 Serial: New Amsterdam
15.34 Tele: Muneca Brava
17.00 Serial: The Magicians
17.45 Serial: Absentia
18.30 Serial: L'Agence Tous Risque
19.36 Serial: Creeped Out
20.05 Tele: Missing Bride
20.30 Serial: The Good Doctor
21.15 Serial: Scorpion
21.52 Film: Jeepers Creepers
23.25 Tele: Sinu, Rio Des Pasiones

00.15 Serial: Sasural Simar Ka 2
02.27 Bhakharwadi
04.20 Anupamaa
06.10 Pavitra Rishta
08.11 Ishaaron Ishaaron Mein
10.03 Kundali Bhagya
12.00 Yeh Hai Mohabbatein
14.02 Agnihera
16.01 Jijaji Chhat Par Hain
17.00 Punar Vivaah
18.00 Live: Samachar
18.30 Film: Yeh Teraa Ghar Yeh...
Starring: Sunil Shetty, Mahima Chaudhry, Paresh Rawal
20.32 Naagin Season 3
21.20 Yeh Hai Mohabbatein
23.13 Ishaaron Ishaaron Mein
00.53 Kundali Bhagya
03.04 Agnihera

lundi 27 juin

06.00 Local: Zafan Nou Zil
07.00 Local: Nu Rasinn
07.55 Local: Music Tour 2022
09.12 Doc: Dictatorship
10.00 Local: Kreatis Aksewar
11.10 Tele: I Forgot I Loved You
11.31 Tele: Les Trois Visages D'ana
12.00 Le Journal
12.30 Tele: Tanto Amor
13.15 Local: Nu Rasinn
15.20 D.Anime: The Hive
17.05 Serial: Superstore
17.30 Mag: The World Is Yours
18.00 Live: Samachar
18.30 Serial: Mere Sai
18.55 Serial: Jag Jaanani Maa Vaishnodevi
19.30 Le Journal
20.15 MBC Production
22.05 Film: Moster Island
Avec: Eric Roberts, Toshi Toda...

07.00 DDI Live
10.00 Kundali Bhagya
12.06 Film: Dharam Veer
Starring: Dharmendra, Jeetendra, Zeenat Aman
14.30 DDI Magazine
15.00 Samachar
15.20 Serial: Saare Tujhyachsathi
15.42 Serial: Bommarillu
16.04 Serial: Sondha Bandham
16.24 Serial: Pyar Ke Sadqay
16.42 Serial: Bhaag Na Bachhe
17.12 Serial: Kullfi Kumarr
17.57 Serial: The Demi-Gods...
18.30 Mag: DDI Mag
19.00 Live: Zournal Kreol
19.30 Serial: Radha Krishna
20.00 Programme In Telugu
20.30 Film: Prematho Mee Karthik
Starg: Kartikeya Gummakonda, Jhansi Simrat Kaur

07.00 Mag: Saladeria
07.58 Doc: Japan from Above
08.53 Doc: World Heritage
10.16 The Language Of Whales
12.08 Mag: The Inside Story
13.54 Doc: World Heritage
14.51 Doc: La Route De La Soie
16.08 Doc: Innovation On Board
18.00 Mag: Eco@Africa
19.00 Student Support Prog...
19.33 Mag: In Good Shape
20.45 Doc: Castles
20.48 Mag: Luana's Kitchen
22.06 Mag: Global 3000
22.32 Mag: Washington Forum
22.58 Love Around The World
23.40 Mag: Eco@Africa
00.06 Mag: The 77 Percent
00.27 Doc: Persons
00.36 Mag: Africa 54
01.01 Mag: In Good Shape

02.17 Film: Jeepers Creepers
04.25 Film: Grace And Goliath
05.57 Tele: Marimar
06.20 Tele: Rubi
06.43 Serial: The Good Doctor
08.06 Film: Liberte Sauvage
09.48 Tele: La Femme De Lorenzo
10.35 Tele: Fierce Angel
11.00 Serial: New Asterdam
12.00 Film: Grace And Goliath
13.35 Tele: Marimar
13.54 Tele: Rubi
14.45 Film: Liberte Sauvage
16.29 Serial: The Good Doctor
18.05 Tele: La Femme De Lorenzo
19.00 Tele: Fierce Angel
19.39 Serial: Creeped Out
20.05 Tele: Missing Bride
20.30 Serial: Chicago PD
21.15 Film: The Girl In The Bathtub
22.38 Tele: Marimar

08.00 Taare Zameen Par
11.30 / 20.30 - Radha Krishna
11.59 / 21.00 - Anupamaa
12.31 / 21.30 - Mere Sai
13.00 / 22.00 - Agnihera
13.30 / 22.03 - Yeh Teri Galiyan
13.55 / 22.30 - Patiala Babes
14.30 / 23.00 - Main Maikhe Chali Jaungi Tum Dekhte Rahiyo
15.00 / 21.46 - Yeh Hai Mohabbatein
15.19 Film: Khel
Starring: Sunny Deol, Sunil Shetty, Celina Jaitley
18.00 Live: Samachar
18.30 Kundali Bhagya
19.00 Udaariyaan
19.31 Serial: Bhakharwadi
20.01 Sasural Simar Ka 2
20.30 Radha Krishna
21.06 Anupamaa

CINE 12

Mardi 28 Juin - 21.10



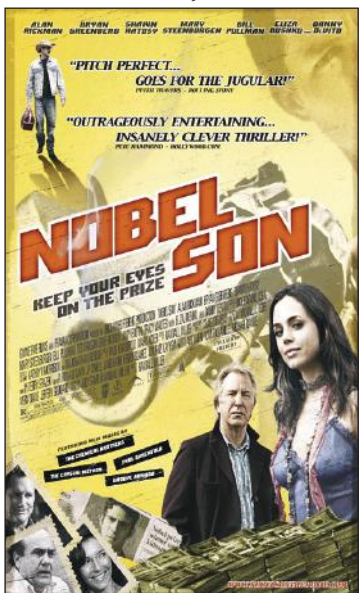
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Mercredi 29 juin - 21.15



CINE 12

Mercredi 29 juin - 21.15



Programme TV



SERIAL



mardi 28 juin

MBC 1

06.00 Local: Rodrig
07.35 Local: Rodrig Prog
09.05 Doc: Burnout
10.00 Local: La Societe
11.00 Tele: I Forgot I Loved You
11.29 Tele: Les Trois Visages D'ana
12.00 Le Journal
12.25 Les Grands Noms Interna...
12.30 Tele: Tanto Amor
13.15 Local: Come On Let's Dance
15.00 Live: Samachar
15.20 D.Anime: The Hive
16.00 D.Anime: Sam Le Pompier
17.05 Serial: Superstore
18.00 Live: Samachar
18.30 Serial: Jijaji Chhat Par Hain
19.30 Journal & La Meteo
20.15 Local: Autour Des Valeurs...
22.05 Film: A Harvest Wedding
With Jill Wagner, Victor Webster

MBC 2

07.00 DDI Live
10.00 Serial: CID
12.00 Film: Lorie
Starring: Shabana Azmi, Farooq Shaikh, Naseeruddin Shah
15.00 Live: Samachar
15.20 Saare Tujhyachsathi
15.43 Bommarillu
16.07 Sondha Bandham
16.25 Serial: Pyar Ke Sadqay
16.49 Bhaag Na Bachhe Koi
17.08 Kullfi Kumarr Bajewala
17.31 Serial: Premabhishekam
18.00 Serial: The Demi-Gods And Semi-Devils
18.30 Local: DDI Magazine
19.00 Journal Kreol
19.30 Serial: Radha Krishna
20.06 Local: Tamil Programme
20.30 Film: Woh Kaun Thi
Star Sadhana, Manoj Kumar, Parveen

MBC 3

06.00 Mag: Eco@Africa
07.24 Mag: In Good Shape
07.53 Mag: Luana's Kitchen
09.39 Mag: Washington Forum
10.48 Mag: Set One
13.21 Doc: Secret Des Plantes
14.42 Mag: Washington Forum
16.04 Mag: Eco@Africa
18.00 Mag: Rev: The Global Auto...
18.41 Mag: Red Carpet
19.03 Student Support Prog...
19.34 Doc: Nos Cinq Sens
20.30 Live: News
20.45 Doc: Japanese Festival...
21.40 Mag: Euromaxx
22.03 Mag: Close Up
22.29 Local: Rodrig-Klip Seleksion
23.11 Mag: The Global Auto...
23.37 Mag: Healthy Living
23.52 Doc: Persons
23.55 Mag: Check In

Cine 12

01.26 Film: The Girl In The Bathtub
02.48 Serial: New Amsterdam
03.30 Film: Monster Island
04.59 Tele: Marimar
05.23 Tele: Rubi
05.47 Serial: Chicago PD
07.00 Film: The Girl In The Bathtub
09.47 Tele: La Femme De Lorenzo
10.35 Tele: Fierce Angel
11.00 Serial: New Amsterdam
12.00 Film: Monster Island
13.30 Tele: Marimar
13.57 Tele: Rubi
14.45 Film: The Girl In The Bathtub
16.34 Serial: Deux Flics A Miami
17.25 Serial: Chicago PD
18.05 Tele: La Femme De Lorenzo
19.00 Tele: Fierce Angel
20.05 Tele: Missing Bride
21.15 Film: The Patriot, Le Chemin De La Liberté

Bollywood TV

06.50 Film: Khel?? No Ordinary
Star Sunny Deol, Sunil Shetty, Celina Jaitley
11.43 / 19.27 - Radha Krishna
12.12 / 20.57 - Anupamaa
12.47 / 21.27 - Mere Sai
13.17 / 22.07 - Agniphera
13.37 / 22.37 - Yeh Teri Galiyan
14.08 / 23.07 - Patiala Babes
14.30 / 21.59 - Main Maikhe Chali Jaungi Tum Dekhte Rahiyo
14.53 / 22.25 - Yeh Hai Mohabbatein
15.28 Film: Phool
Star Sunil Dutt, Rajendra Kumar, Kumar Gaurav
18.00 Live: Samachar
18.30 Serial: Kundali Bhagya
18.59 Udaariyaan
19.30 Bhakharwadi
20.00 Serial: Sasural Simar Ka 2

mercredi 29 juin

07.00 Local: Profil
07.30 Local: Priorite Sante
08.09 Local: Rodrig: Sa Lavi-La
09.00 Mag: Happiness Is On The...
10.05 Local: Morisien Konn Ou...
11.00 Mag: Top 100 Famous Actre...
12.00 Le Journal
12.30 Tele: Tanto Amor
13.15 Local Production: Les Klips
14.05 Local: Priorite Sante
14.35 D.Anime: Gon
15.20 D.Anime: The Hive
15.35 D.Anime: Booba
17.10 Serial: Superstore
17.35 Mag: The World Is Yours
18.00 Live: Samachar
18.30 Serial: Jijaji Chhat Par Hain
18.55 MBC Production
19.30 Journal & La Meteo
20.30 MBC Production
22.20 Film: Jeepers Creepers
Star: Gina Philips, Justin Long...

07.00 DDI Live
10.00 Suhani Si Ek Ladki
12.00 Film: Ek Chitthi Pyar Bhari
Starring: Raj Babbar, Reena Roy
15.00 Live: Samachar
15.23 Saare Tujhyachsathi
15.49 Bommarillu
16.07 Sondha Bandham
16.25 Serial: Pyar Ke Sadqay
16.49 Bhaag Na Bachhe Koi
17.10 Kullfi Kumarr Bajewala
17.31 Serial: Kulvadh
18.00 Serial: The Demi-Gods...
18.30 Local: DDI Magazine
19.00 Journal Kreol
19.30 Serial: Radha Krishna
20.06 Programme In Marathi
21.00 Film: The Dream Sword
Star: Nora Miao Ke-Hsiu, Tsung Hua, Yueh Hua

06.00 Mag: Rev: Global Auto...
06.41 Mag: Red Carpet
07.02 Mag: Check In
08.46 Doc: Japanese Festival...
09.39 Mag: Euromaxx
15.52 Mag: Close Up
16.58 Mag: Healthy Living
18.00 Mag: Motorweek
18.30 Mag: Vous Et Nous
19.00 Student Support Prog...
19.35 Mag: The Inside Story
20.30 Local: News (English)
20.45 Doc: Castles
21.29 Les Montagnes Du Monde
22.23 Mag: Focus On Europe
23.31 Mag: Motorweek
00.12 Mag: Vous Et Nous
00.24 Doc: Persons
00.27 Mag: Arts.21
00.53 Mag: The Inside Story
01.45 Doc: Castles
01.48 Doc: Planet Home

01.45 Film: The Patriot, Le Chemin
04.40 Film: A Harvest Wedding
06.06 Tele: Marimar
06.54 Serial: Chicago PD
07.35 Film: Jonathan
09.15 L'Agence Tous Risques
10.01 Tele: La Femme De Lorenzo
10.42 Tele: Fierce Angel
11.03 Serial: New Amsterdam
12.00 Film: A Harvest Wedding
13.30 Tele: Marimar
14.45 Film: Jonathan
16.27 L'Agence Tous Risques
17.18 Serial: Chicago PD
18.09 Tele: La Femme De Lorenzo
19.00 Tele: Fierce Angel
19.37 Serial: Creeped Out
20.05 Tele: Missing Bride
20.30 Serial: For Life
21.15 Film: Nobel Son
23.05 Tele: Marimar
23.53 L'Agence Tous Risques

07.00 Film: Phool
11.29 / 20.06 - Radha Krishna
12.00 / 20.26 - Anupamaa
12.31 / 20.02 - Mere Sai
13.08 / 20.46 - Agniphera
13.32 / 21.09 - Yeh Teri Galiyan
14.00 / 21.50 - Patiala Babes
14.32 / 22.15 - Main Maikhe Chali Jaungi Tum Dekhte Rahiyo
14.47 / 21.46 - Yeh Hai Mohabbatein
15.25 Film: Zakhmi Dil
Starring Akshay Kumar, Ashwini Bhawe, Ravi Kishan
18.00 Live: Samachar
18.30 Kundali Bhagya
19.00 Udaariyaan
19.30 Serial: Bhakharwadi
20.00 Sasural Simar Ka 2
20.30 Radha Krishna
20.59 Anupamaa

jeudi 30 juin

06.00 Local: Klip Seleksion
06.45 Local: Coin Jardin
06.59 Local: Itinerer Rodrig
07.45 Local: Ero Deryer Rido
08.15 Local: Elle
10.05 Local: Radio Vision
12.00 Le Journal
12.30 Tele: Tanto Amor
13.15 Local: Music Tour 2022
14.35 D.Anime: Gon
15.20 D.Anime: The Hive
15.34 D.Anime: Booba
17.10 Serial: Superstore
17.35 Mag: The World Is Yours
18.00 Live: Samachar
18.30 Serial: Jijaji Chhat Par Hain
19.30 Le Journal
20.10 Local: Autour Des Valeurs...
20.20 Film: Pink
Starring Amitabh Bachchan, Tapsee Pannu, Kirti Kulhari...

07.00 DDI Live
10.00 Serial: Vikram Betaal Ki Rahasya Gatha
11.07 Serial: Mann Mein Vishwas...
12.00 Film: Mangal Pandey
15.00 Live: Samachar
15.22 Serial: Saare Tujhyachsathi
15.43 Serial: Bommarillu
16.04 Serial: Sondha Bandham
16.27 Serial: Pyar Ke Sadqay
16.48 Bhaag Na Bachhe Koi
17.05 Kullfi Kumarr Bajewala
17.40 Local: Bhajan Sandhya
18.00 Serial: The Demi-Gods And...
18.30 Mag: DDI Mag
19.30 Filler: Radha Krishna
20.04 Local: Les Grandes Lignes
20.59 Local: Profil
21.14 Film: Sugar!
With Alice Ripley, Robert Clohessy

06.00 Mag: Motorweek
06.24 Mag: Vous Et Nous
06.52 Doc: Persons
08.17 Doc: Castles
10.23 Doc: Bhutan
11.35 Local: Vous Et Nous
12.34 Mag: The Inside Story
13.26 Doc: Castles
15.05 Mag: Focus On Europe
16.19 Mag: Motorweek
18.00 Mag: Eco India
18.29 Mag: Shift
19.00 Student Support Prog...
19.30 Doc: En Attendant Les...
20.30 Local: News (English)
20.48 Doc: L'île De Pont De Re
21.40 Doc: Les Grand Mythes
22.44 Doc: My Family War And I
23.27 Mag: Eco India
23.53 Mag: Shift
00.05 Mag: Carnet De Sante

01.19 Film: Nobel Son
03.05 Serial: New Amsterdam
03.46 Film: Mississippi River Shark
05.09 Tele: Marimar
05.31 Tele: Rubi
06.35 Film: Stormboy
09.00 Serial: Deux Flics A Miami
09.45 Tele: La Femme De Lorenzo
10.37 Tele: Fierce Angel
11.00 Serial: New Amsterdam
11.57 Film: Mississippi River Shark
13.35 Tele: Marimar
14.45 Film: Stormboy
16.30 Serial: Deux Flics A Miami
17.21 Serial: For Life
18.05 Tele: La Femme De Lorenzo
19.00 Tele: Fierce Angel
19.36 Serial: Creeped Out
20.05 Tele: Missing Bride
20.30 Serial: For Life
21.15 Serial: Knight Rider

07.00 Film: Zakhmi Dil
Starring Akshay Kumar, Ashwini Bhawe, Ravi Kishan
11.34 / 20.11 - Radha Krishna
12.04 / 20.28 - Anupamaa
12.32 / 20.32 - Mere Sai
13.04 / 21.09 - Agniphera
13.31 / 21.24 - Yeh Teri Galiyan
14.05 / 21.50 - Patiala Babes
14.30 / 22.15 - Main Maikhe Chali Jaungi Tum Dekhte Rahiyo
15.00 / 21.46 - Yeh Hai Mohabbatein
15.23 Film: Isi Life Mein
Starring Akshay Oberoi, Sandeepa Dhar, Mohnish Bahl
18.00 Samachar
18.30 Kundali Bhagya
18.59 Udaariyaan
19.29 Bhakharwadi
19.54 Sasural Simar Ka 2



Jeudi 30 juin - 15.30

Stars: Akshay Oberoi, Sandeepa Dhar, Mohnish Bahl



Jeudi 30 juin - 20.20

Star: Amitabh Bachchan, Tapsee Pannu, Kirti Kulhari, Andrea Tariang





Nita Chicooree-Mercier

En attendant que la porte du Boeing d'Air Mauritius s'ouvre pour libérer le mince flot de voyageurs, un brin de causerie entre quelques passagers.

Pour cette Sino-française, c'est la première visite dans l'île. Le blé, la guerre, le pétrole et la vie chère : c'est le même sujet de conversation entre des milliers des gens à travers le monde.

- Est-ce qu'il y a du blé à Maurice ? s'interroge-t-elle.

Son compagnon, un Franco-mauricien, signale son intention de se lancer dans la culture du blé.

- Ah bon, c'est sérieux ? J'ai cru à une blague vu qu'il s'est laissé aller à quelques plaisanteries pendant le vol.
- Et vous le feriez où ?
- A Maurice. Je suis Mauricien. Et de rajouter avec un sourire : Et je suis pro-Russie.

Eh ben, tenez ! On se croyait isolée, à lire les écrits dans la presse locale. Maurice est abonné à ce chimère de 'Manifest Destiny' des Pères fondateurs d'un pays naissant en 1789 qui prétend réaliser ses rêves à coup de bombe et de coup d'Etat aux quatre coins du monde.

Tant qu'existe l'esprit d'entreprise et la volonté de relever les défis, il est permis de penser sans naïveté que le pays se relèvera toujours. La guerre ? On n'y peut rien tant que l'Amérique s'autorise à redessiner un monde binaire de 'nous' et les 'autres' en alimentant son obsession d'ennemi à abattre. La guerre en Syrie remettant la Russie sur le devant de la scène internationale mit un terme à toute tentative de boycott du gaz russe par les alliés occidentaux qui s'acharnèrent à obliger Bachir-al-Assad d'accepter sur le sol syrien le passage d'un oléoduc en provenance du Qatar pour alimenter l'Europe. Assad refusa et paya le prix ainsi que son peuple.

Poutine eut l'audace de rabattre les cartes de la géopolitique en s'acoquinant avec la Turquie, l'Iran et pire cauchemar, avec la puissante Chine. L'Ukraine, une aubaine pour le bloc occidental de coincer la Russie et d'envoyer un message à la Chine par la même occasion. L'Otan à la porte de la Russie ? Pour Poutine, c'est Niet.

Nous voilà tous dans un sacré pétrin.

Le pétrole ? Il y a beaucoup plus de chances d'en trouver un jour à Agalega ou dans le vaste bassin océanique dont dispose Maurice que d'espérer une quel-

C'est dans l'air du temps



« 13 hres n'est pas l'heure de pointe à l'aéroport et, c'est inquiétant de voir cet immense aéroport, un des plus modernes de la région, aussi vide. Une rentabilité qui piétine en espérant que la classe aisée de la Chine et de l'Inde retrouve Maurice dans son champ de vision dès lors qu'elle envisage une escapade des intempéries et d'autres tensions... »

Pic - Gensler

conque amélioration de l'anglais parlé par le commandant de bord d'Air Mauritius, un Crenglish qui désespère autant que celui des honorables membres du Parlement. Si le pétrole surgit de l'océan dans un avenir qui aura opté pour les énergies renouvelables, ce sera raté, tout comme le Metro Express qui est tout sauf express. Un peu tard, mais habitué à ne pas avoir les compétences de ses ambitions, le pays se contentera du moindre gain comme une réussite.

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Les Européens traversent un des pires moments depuis 70 ans et, il y a fort à faire pour séduire les clients importants que représentent l'Angleterre, la France et l'Allemagne où des turbulences sont prévisibles dans un avenir proche.

Maurice, pays le plus paisible d'Afrique, est un atout majeur dans une stratégie de marketing auprès des Européens inquiets de la tournure d'une guerre qui pourrait faire craindre le pire.

Une Américaine résidant dans le nord le confirme. Elle a fait l'expérience de quelques pays d'Afrique et c'est à Maurice qu'elle retrouve la diversité ethnique, culturelle et culinaire de sa Californie natale. Mariée à un ressortissant d'Afrique du Sud, avec sa *girlfriend* à vrai dire, elle compte bien séjourner ici le plus longtemps possible. Grand bien lui en

fasse.

- Ici dans les îles, on ne risque rien, non ? se demande la Sino-française ? Son compagnon hausse les épaules.
- Eh ben, non, non. Les bombes nucléaires, ce sera plutôt pour Paris et Londres.

Je renchéris : Il y en a qui se répandent sur quelques kilomètres seulement, paraît-il, pour limiter les dégâts. A dosage varié, les Russes ont pensé à tout.

On en rit. A la porte de l'avion, on est hors sol, suspendu dans un espace sans ancrage, libéré et insouciant en quelque sorte.

- Vous êtes politicienne, journaliste ? me demande ce compatriote, dernières paroles d'une conversation de circonstance.
- Oh que non ! La politique, plus qu'une carrière, c'est une vocation et aussi, une grande aventure qui est fondamentalement noble. Le journalisme, presse ou télévisuel, c'est souvent du prêt-à-penser dicté par la ligne éditoriale.

Heureux sont ceux pour lesquels la liberté d'esprit prime sur tout.

Aussi vide que l'aéroport sont les rues

commerçantes de Port-Louis. Magasins cherchent clients, pourrait-on lire sur le visage des vendeurs qui guettent l'entrée de leur commerce. A la rue Desforges, les magasins regorgent de beaux tissus, coton, soie, cretonne, viscose, popeline, voile, un véritable plaisir. Les clients potentiels ont déserté les boutiques, le superflu n'étant plus une priorité. Quelques touristes français dégustent le *dhal puri* en flânant dans la rue.

Cherté de la vie ? Les signes qui ne trompent pas. Dans les villages, comme dans la capitale, les files d'attente devant les échoppes de plats-à-emporter ont disparu. Les ventilateurs tournent à fond dans ce restaurant à la rue La Corderie (un des rares noms de rue qui déroge à la règle de conserver le souvenir des personnages du 18ème et 19ème siècles), où il est plus aisé de déposer les sacs et de se restaurer.

Trois ou quatre cuillerées de riz vous suffisent lorsque vous n'en consommez que de temps à autre, une montagne de riz dans ce plat de briyani peu parfumé aux épices en poudre est un moyen sûr de surcharger l'estomac pendant deux jours. Ce qui n'a pas l'air de gêner les jeunes cadres en cravate et d'autres, en trois pièces, perchées sur talons à aiguille, cheveux teints à la mode, et tous avec le smartphone indispensable posé à côté de l'assiette, bavardant gaiement ou dégustant leur plat en solitaire.

Au vu d'une quarantaine de barquettes à emporter posées sur une table dans un coin du restaurant, on se dit que le mauvais goût ne se discute pas et que c'est même la chose la plus partagée parmi les friqués en costard qui auront toujours du blé à dépenser.

Les traine-savates du quartier ont été obligés de se trouver une occupation, ce qui est une bonne chose quand on sait qu'ils ont la fâcheuse habitude de vivre aux crochets de la pension mensuelle de leurs parents âgés. Les compagnons de beuverie *en-bas-la-boutique* se font plus discrets.

Comme partout dans le monde les conversations tourneront encore autour de la vie chère, du pétrole, de la guerre et la nécessité de se serrer la ceinture. Pour 20% de la population des sociétés plutôt prospères à travers le monde aussi bien qu'à Maurice, les aléas de l'économie sont imperméables comme l'eau sur la brède songe.

Grand bien leur en fasse.

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