

MAURITIUS TIMES

• "I am the first man - I want to inspire many people. That no human is limited". - Eliud Kipchoge



Interview: Jean Claude de l'Estrac

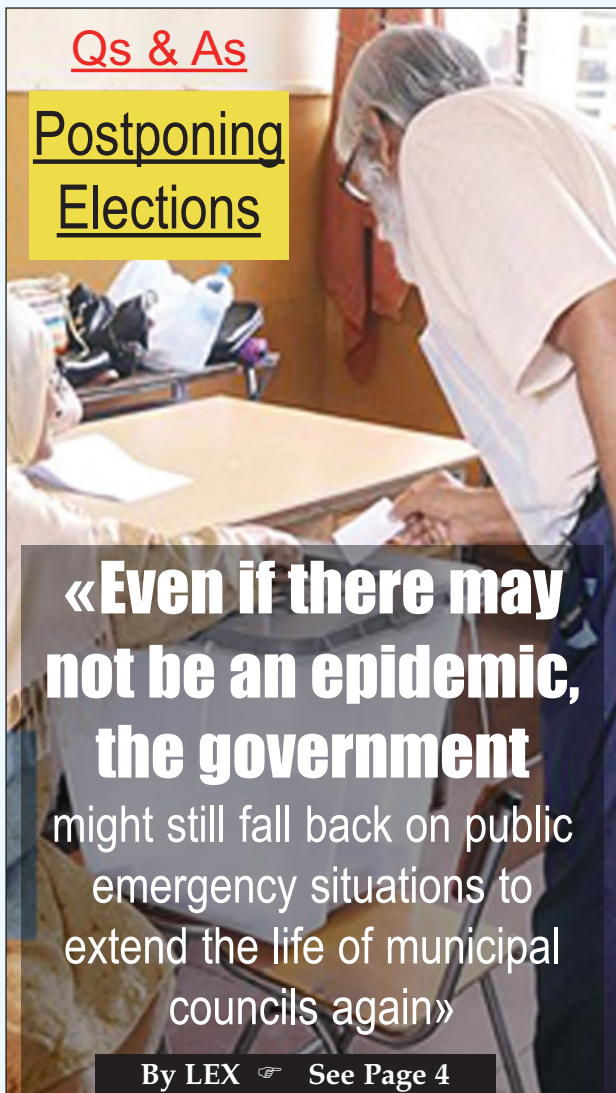
«Le PTr ne choisira personne d'autre que Ramgoolam pour mener les prochaines batailles électorales...

... et je ne vois pas Ramgoolam partager un mandat premier ministériel»

☞ Voir Page 9

Qs & As

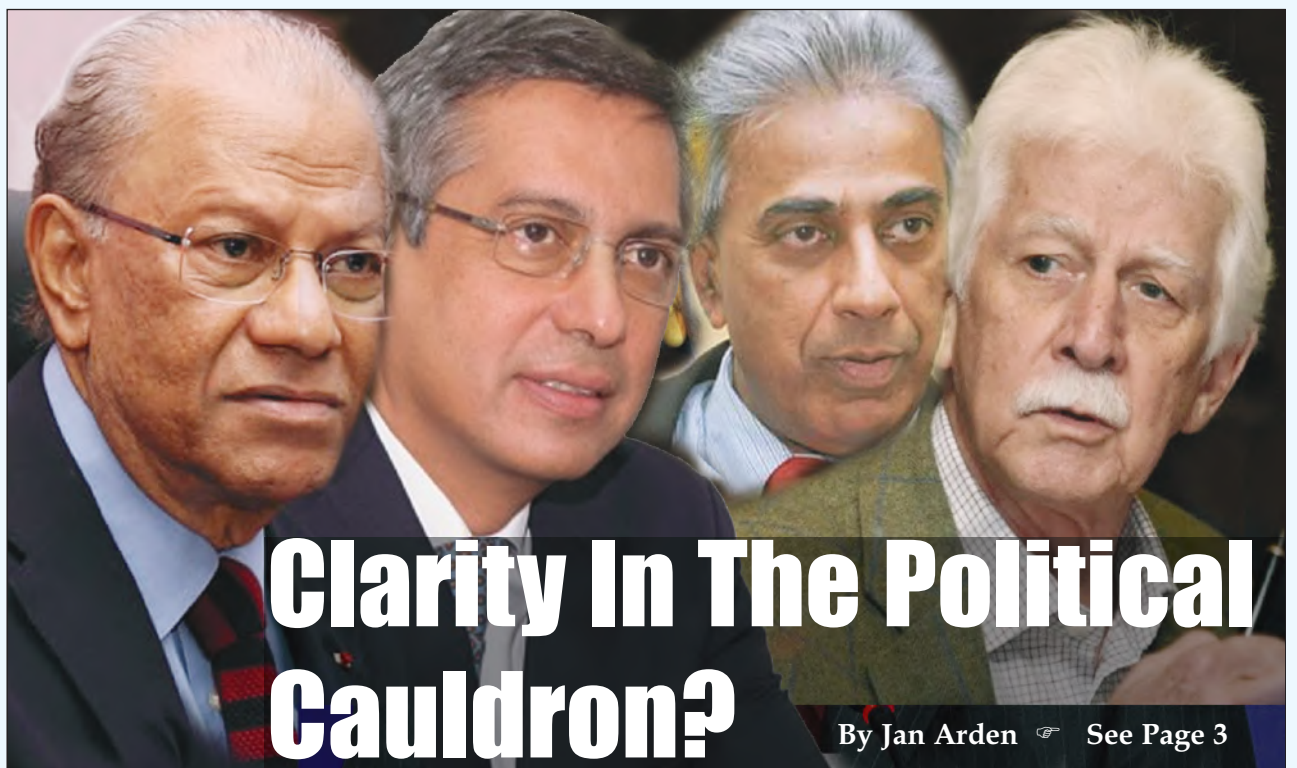
Postponing Elections



«Even if there may not be an epidemic, the government

might still fall back on public emergency situations to extend the life of municipal councils again»

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Victoria Hospital: 100 years

While a centenary is no doubt cause for celebration, one may ponder, or wonder, whether the expansion of hospital services is a marker of good health or rather one indicating that we are in fact a sick population!

By Dr R Neerunjun Gopee ☞ See Page 6

Suren Dayal vs Pravind Jugnauth

Electoral Petition Dismissed

The Supreme Court has today delivered its judgement in the case lodged by unreturned candidate Suren Dayal at the last general elections in Constituency No. 8. The petition called for the invalidation of the election of the Prime Minister and leader of the MSM, Pravind Jugnauth, and his two running mates, the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Education, Leela Devi Dookun-Luchoomun and former Minister of Commerce Yogida Sawmynaden, in Quartier Militaire/Moka.

Unlike other electoral petitions lodged by a number of unreturned candidates in different constituencies, which were grounded on objections relating to, amongst others, the "glaring and unexplained discrepancies in the Recapitulation of Votes form that are on record and point to prima facie to mistakes in the counting process", as noted by Justices Aruna Narain and Denis Mootoo in the case Adebire O.J. v Collendavelloo I.L. & Ors, and the opacity surrounding the operation of Computer Rooms at Counting Centres, the main arguments put forward by Suren Dayal relate to alleged electoral bribery/corruption or the undue influence of electors in No 8.

The five main grounds of the petition against the election of the three candidates in Constituency No. 8 included the promise of a substantial upward revision of the retirement pension to Rs 9,000 in January 2020, contrary to what was stated in the 2019-2020 Budget Speech which referred an increase of Rs 500, the accelerated implementation of the Pay Research Bureau report in favour of public sector employees as from January 2020, the promise to pay more than Rs 3 billion to holders of the Super Cash Back Gold plan and those of Bramer Asset Management Ltd, the announcement of the payment of a performance bonus to police officers, fire-fighters and prison officers.

The petitioner also argued his case against what he considered to constitute the misuse of the state apparatus, more particularly of the Mauritius Broadcasting Corporation (MBC), which would have also contributed to unduly influence voters in general, including those in Constituency No. 8. Suren Dayal also took objection to the announcement made by Pravind Jugnauth at an official function organized on October 1, 2019 at the Swami Vivekananda International Convention Center, Pailles, on the occasion of the

International Day for Older Persons, which had been broadcast live on television and taken up in the news bulletins of the MBC, relating to an increase in the old age pension from Rs 6,210 to Rs 13,500.

Our legal contributor Lex has clearly expounded on the attitude and approach of our Supreme Court towards electoral petitions as illustrated in recent judgements. The Supreme Court, he argued, will not easily and readily upset the results of an election, which are after all the will of the people. 'The Court will tread carefully and cautiously before upsetting the will of the electorate,' although it did previously invalidate the election of Ashok Jugnauth who was elected at the 2005 general elections (in the same constituency which elected Pravind Jugnauth, Leela Devi Dookun-Luchoomun and Yogida Sawmynaden in 2019), following a case lodged by unreturned candidate Raj Ringadoo. Ashok Jugnauth was accused of electoral bribery in the form of a promised new Muslim cemetery and jobs to 101 healthcare assistants in exchange for votes in his favour. The Privy Council upheld the judgment. Furthermore, the election of Romriky Ramsamy who had defeated Gaetan Duval at the 1959 elections was invalidated on the ground that he did not inscribe his name properly on the Nomination Paper.

Not being in receipt at this point in time of the full text of the judgement from the two learned judges, we will abstain from further comments at this stage. However, our understanding of the ruling is that promises, however populist, made countrywide and any alleged and visible bias in national TV coverage, were not matters specific to one particular constituency and they accordingly dismissed the petitioner's claims. That reading, if correct, may be unsettling since it would confer for instance unlimited abuse of national airwaves or populist announcements in the final weeks of electoral hustlings without much recourse since our Representation of Peoples Act has a very narrow approach to breaches in electoral etiquette or procedures. Furthermore, a decision announced so late in the day, three years after the facts, may severely limit any effective recourse to the Law Lords, in so far as this might be entertained by the legal team of the petitioner. There is much the body politic should consider reviewing to make the laws and processes overseeing our democracy more effective and commensurate with better practices elsewhere in the Commonwealth.

The Conversation

When the IMF comes to town: why they visit and what to watch out for

The IMF sends its staff on two types of mission to member countries: to assess the state of the country's macro economy or to assess the need for financial support.

In most rich countries the news that a mission from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) is coming to visit is met with indifference. But, in most African countries the news can cause great consternation.



Pic - shabiba.eu-central-1.linodeobjects.com

Why the difference?

History has a lot to do with it. The citizens of many African countries have suffered through their governments, under IMF pressure, cutting subsidies and social spending, firing public sector workers and increasing taxes. For example, a 2021 Oxfam study, found that the IMF encouraged 33 African countries to adopt austerity policies in the wake of the COVID pandemic.

On the other hand, with a few exceptions, such as Greece, citizens of rich countries have not experienced the IMF having any direct impact on their lives.

Another important reason is lack of knowledge. Usually, when the IMF comes to town, the public gets little information about the purpose of the IMF's visit – or its likely outcomes. In other cases, people are concerned that they have limited ability to influence the outcome of the visit or its impact on their lives.

This article seeks to remove some of the mystery surrounding IMF visits to a country. It explains the two basic reasons for the IMF sending its staff on "missions" to a country. And what can be expected in each case.

The IMF's remit

According to its Articles of Agreement, the IMF's purposes include promoting monetary cooperation among its 190 member states so that they can more sustainably manage their macroeconomic situations and their international financial relations. This should help them promote and maintain high levels of employment and real income and develop their productive resources.

The IMF also provides financing to countries that do not have sufficient foreign exchange to meet all their needs and obligations so they do not have to resort to measures that are destructive of "national or international prosperity".

To fulfil these responsibilities, the IMF sends its staff on two basic types of missions to member countries.

Danny Bradlow

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Clarity In The Political Cauldron?

Jan Arden

The political chessboard may become clearer this week as Pravind Jugnauth goes on a rally tour of rural constituencies starting this Friday in the northern segment. It may be revealing of the fortunes of the ruling regime that when long overdue municipal elections are expected this year, the MSM should be seen as shoring up its standing in the rural half of Mauritius.

Attendees will likely be bussed and treated with good fare and neither the crowd-pull nor their rumbustious cheers would be any gauge of popularity. What could be of potential interest is the PM's ability to get carried away and go off-script either veering into attacks of the Opposition and the media or step into more controversy with the national security issue of SAFE cable survey/sniffing allegations following the defection and allegations of his erstwhile confidante, Sherry Singh. Unwise commentary by the PM after some functions and some untutored ministerial live radio-web-TV commentaries have already fuelled the beginnings of a diplomatic and geopolitical row with India and China-Huawei, both understandably annoyed at being thrust into the limelight over the local snafus.

Much of the attendance may not be worried by their leader's wrangling on the diplomatic front or by last year's White Paper proposal to control internet and social media traffic, perhaps not even miffed by the various PM versions of the SAFE cable network survey. We suspect that their essential worries are about unchecked supermarket prices, the continued devaluation of the rupee, the high taxes on fuel at gas station prices, the limited availability of foreign exchange or the worrying impact of drug abuse and violence even in village life and the absence of some pharmaceuticals from outlets.

While the authorities seem bent on their borrow, tax, and spend policies, relying on one-off fire-sales of public assets and the opening of the country to foreign property purchases may provide some artificial comfort to Minister Padayachy, but the international watchers (IMF, World Bank, Moody's) are not buying the Ministry of Finance's fuzzy public debt data, nor the



“If the more traditional LP-PMSD-MMM pact has thrashed and sorted out the more thorny leadership, personnel and party roles that hover above alliances, all is not cut and dry. There is such disenchantment among the majority of the population that the combined Opposition leaders' energies, beyond each party's announced agenda, should turn to the formulation of a credible framework of economic, social, development policies and the sterling management principles covering the immediate, short-term future as much as the longer-term...”

pitch that all is well. Even if there is some logic to steer the buzz away from the accumulating bad news, the PM's advisors would be well-advised to keep the PM on a more sober track, rather than opting for bush warfare and theatrics.

Traditional tripartite entente

Clarity also seems in the air regarding the Opposition forces and, as some might have expected and in response to demand from a wide section of the population, there is a pressure felt by the “traditional” political parties to unite their forces at least for the upcoming municipals against a ruling regime that has a reported massive war chest and considerable levers of office at its disposal. The LP, PMSD and MMM, after the Entente de l'Espoir's manifest inability to establish itself as a workable political formula, have decided to set aside their differences, egos, and ambitions for a return to a more feasible traditional tripartite entente between Opposition parties. This leaves Roshni Bhadain to follow the mandate of its recent Reform Party assembly and Nando Bodha to chalk out his role after talks with the PMSD and MMM.

The impression that there were too many aspiring PMs in the Opposition's bandwagon will also have been dispelled this week. The agreement confirms a tri-

partite consensus that former PM Navin Ramgoolam would lead that electoral pact to the Municipals and as a full-term PM candidate should the pact be extended to the general elections. There is no substitute for experienced hands at the helm particularly when the country faces flak on the international front, but more so when ably supported by a cohort of talented and competent fresh faces who we trust will not see their role as primarily that of table thumpers or as an uninformed shouting brigade.

The LP is reckoned to have the loyalty of a significant proportion of both the urban or rural population, many of whom have been deeply aggrieved by the vendetta politics practised since 2015. They are enough to constitute the driving force of any Opposition alliance as most observers have acknowledged, but whether such an electoral pact passes muster and gets traction in the electorate will depend on several factors. The first concerns probably the reaction and stance of non-parliamentary Opposition voices and parties, as they figure out whether their primary objective is to rid the country of the current ruling dispensation or take the risk of furthering a divisive confetti that can only suit the MSM hopes. Some, like Resistans ek Alternativ, have more of a specific agenda of electoral reform and might seek answers that have been largely ignored since 2015. The Reform Party, the sputtering Linion Pep Mauricien or Bruno Laurette, as other NGOs and erstwhile newby forces, will have to sort out their political priorities over the coming weeks and months.

But if the more traditional LP-PMSD-MMM pact has thrashed and sorted out the

more thorny leadership, personnel and party roles that hover above alliances, all is not cut and dry. There is such disenchantment among the majority of the population that the combined Opposition leaders' energies, beyond each party's announced agenda, should turn to the formulation of a credible framework of economic, social, development policies and the sterling management principles covering the immediate, short-term future as much as the longer-term.

In the difficult straits facing the country and its population, nobody perhaps expects a program to “make us dream”. However, the status quo, the gallivanting wastes, the structural independence and credibility of key institutions, the curbing of lavish lifestyles, the impunity of corruption, the unalloyed nepotism of appointees, courtiers and intrigants, the sale of the countryside to foreigners, the borrow and spend policies that will be paid for by our children and grandchildren, simply cannot go on.

Many therefore are the institutional reforms needed to buck the trends and restore the sense of belonging and pride in our flag and confidence of our youth in a future that embraces rather than divides recklessly. That backbone program needs not be a daunting task and can be completed even before the announced LP Congress of this month end.

How the electoral pact rolls out and projects itself from there on to the necessary grassroots mobilisation will provide indication if the Opposition has a concrete alternative and hope to offer the population and the country.

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Postponing Elections

“Even if there may not be an epidemic, the government might still fall back on public emergency situations to extend the life of municipal councils again”



Lex is invited to share his legal insight into various matters related to the holding of general or local municipal elections. Namely the unfettered powers granted to the PM under the Westminster system for fixing the date of general elections at the time of his choosing within the five-year mandate and whether this should be checked. There are also questions regarding the ease with which municipal elections, last held in 2015 and postponed in 2020 due to the pandemic, can be further postponed under the guise of a pandemic or any unspecified public emergency.

LEX

* On 7 May 2021 Cabinet took the decision to introduce the Local Government (Amendment) Bill into the National Assembly with a view to extending “the life of 6 years of the entire Municipal City Council and Municipal Town Councils, or entire Village Councils, by not more than one year at a time, provided that the life of the Councils shall not be extended for more than 2 years”. Would it be correct to conclude that the government would be bound, on the basis of that amendment, to hold the next municipal councils elections, last held in 2015, this year?

It would be possible to extend the life of a municipal council indefinitely under the Local Government Act. When the law was amended in June 2021, the object of the Local Government (Amendment) Bill read as follows: ‘The object of this Bill is to amend the Local Government Act so as to provide that, at any time, when – (a) a period of public emergency is in force in Mauritius; and (b) there is, or there is likely to be, an epidemic of a communicable disease in Mauritius and a quarantine period is in force in Mauritius, the President, acting in accordance with the advice of the Prime Minister, shall, by Proclamation, extend, during such periods, from time to

time the life of 6 years of the entire Municipal City Council and Municipal Town Councils, or entire Village Councils, by not more than one year at a time, provided that the life of the Councils shall not be extended for more than 2 years.’

It will be noticed that the justification for the extension of the life of municipal and village councils was a public emergency or an epidemic. Even if there may not be an epidemic, the government might still fall back on public emergency situations to extend the life of these councils again. Any event can be invoked as a public emergency. It may not be only social unrest or a political turmoil. It can be an emergency caused by an economic crisis or based on threats to national security.

*** What if the government were to seek to circumvent that legal obligation with a view to extending further the life of the municipal councils? Can it possibly do that and, if so, is there any way this could be prevented?**

Not really. The Local Government Act can be amended by a simple majority and does not require a weighted majority of three quarters or two thirds of the votes in Parliament. Those who want to challenge any further amendment may invoke the anti-democratic nature of any further amendment. However, this would be very difficult to establish.

*** In South Africa efforts were under way to postpone local government elections, set for October 2021 as per the current constitutional requirement that such elections be held every five years, because of the Covid-19 pandemic. But the application by the South African Electoral Commission for postponement was dismissed by the Constitutional Court, which ordered that the polls must go ahead. What lessons should we draw from South Africa in that regard?**

We cannot know as nobody has to date challenged the extension of the life of the municipal councils.

In the end, to adopt the reasoning of the South Africa Constitutional Court, the question that must be asked is whether elections would be free and fair if they were held when due. If the answer is yes, then that is the end of the

“One of the favourite examination questions in Constitutional papers is: If you have to choose between being the Prime Minister of Great Britain and the President of the United States, which one would choose? One of the main reasons why many students would choose the UK prime ministership is because he holds the prerogative for the timing of elections. It is a powerful political weapon in the hands of a Prime Minister in the Westminster system...”

matter. If the answer is no, then the question is whether the elections should have taken place despite the Covid-19 risk,

*** Even if one of the defining characteristics of a democracy is that it holds regular, periodic elections - a requirement enshrined into Article 21(3) of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UN General Assembly 1948) -, between February 21 and August 18, 2020, elections in at least 70 countries and territories across the globe had been postponed. Yet during the same time period, plans for national or subnational elections in at least 54 countries continued (International IDEA 2020a). Would you say therefore that once an election has been scheduled, it should take place come what may?**

That should be the rule. Elections can only be postponed in exceptional circumstances. Only extreme situations can give rise to exceptional circumstances. Now that restrictions have been lifted and the wearing of masks is not compulsory what would prevent the government from holding the local elections? The fear of a massive defeat looming ahead? There is no other justification.

*** The constitutional amendments of 1982 have made the holding of general elections every five years obligatory. There is no such obligation as regards municipal and village councils elections. What would explain that omission by the then MMM-PSM government?**

From its creation the MMM led by Sir Anerood Jugnauth led a ferocious campaign against the postponement of general elections that were due in 1972 to another additional five years. The MMM argued that this was unconstitutional though the vote was a weighted one of three quarters. A challenge was made in the Supreme Court in 1983 and the Court held as long as the amendment to the Constitution was done according to the procedure laid down in the Constitution for amending any of its provisions, the amendment to postpone the general elections was legal. The Court did not venture to make any pronouncement on the political aspect of the amendment.

● Cont. on page 5

'Any event can be invoked as a public emergency. It may not be only social unrest or a political turmoil.

It can be an emergency caused by an economic crisis or based on threats to national security'

● Cont. from page 4

* Besides the issues of the dissolution of Parliament, the holding of snap elections or the postponement of municipal and village councils elections, there is also the issue of the PM's prerogative as regards the timing of elections generally. There is a case for review here as well, isn't it?

One of the favourite examination questions in Constitutional papers is: If you have to choose between being the Prime Minister of Great Britain and the President of the United States, which one would choose?

“The monitoring of electoral expenses is a mess in Mauritius. It is a system that institutionalizes lies and fraud. Public perception here is that the powers that be and those who should audit election expenses are passively condoning such malpractices...”

One of the main reasons why many students would choose the UK prime ministership is because he holds the prerogative for the timing of elections. It might not be democratic strictly speaking, but this is how it works. It is a powerful political weapon in the hands of a Prime Minister in the Westminster system. In the US, an election for President of the United States happens every four years on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November, and the President can serve only two terms. There is no such restriction on the number of terms a British Prime Minister can serve.

Given this power of the Prime Minister in the Westminster model, who would want to give it up?

The Sachs Commission proposed the following: 'We feel that in order to provide a level playing field to all the political parties it should be the Electoral Supervisory



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Commission in consultation with the Electoral Commission which should be in a position to activate the electoral machinery for the holding of general elections or by-elections. The date of the elections should therefore be fixed by the Electoral Supervisory Commission in consultation with the Electoral Commission. No other authority should have a role in this regard.'

This proposal can only work if we have really independent institutions in place. Is that the case today,

especially following the last general elections?

* The UK parliament has paved the way for fixed terms with the introduction of the Fixed Term Parliament (FTP) Act 2011, which introduces the element of certainty in the electoral process, and it's Parliament, not the Prime minister, that may call for an early election on the strength of a two-third majority vote. Furthermore the Electoral Commission has been empowered to start monitoring electoral expenses of political parties and candidates as from the 55th month from the date the last general elections. What's your take on that?

The amendment restricts the power of the Prime Minister to call an election before the expiry of the life of Parliament. But if the Prime Minister has the required majority he can still go for an early election and there is no doubt that the Opposition would vote for such a law.

* In France, where there is some form of state refund of electoral campaigns, there is a credible mechanism to vet those declared expenses before any refund is entertained. That provision has landed former President Sarkozy and his party into financial trouble. Should we consider some form of state funding with proper safeguards and credible, independent vetting of expenses?

The monitoring of electoral expenses is a mess in Mauritius. It is a system that institutionalizes lies and fraud. Public perception here is that the powers that be and those who should audit election expenses are passively condoning such malpractices.

LEX



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Victoria Hospital: 100 years



Dr R Neerunjun Gopee

While a centenary is no doubt cause for celebration, one may ponder, or wonder, whether the expansion of hospital services is a marker of good health or rather one indicating that we are in fact a sick population!



In the midst of all these hi-fi developments, the one vital ingredient that we must never forget is the human touch which all patients crave for.

Yesterday there was a ceremony marking the 100th anniversary of the Victoria Hospital (VH), which was opened on July 6, 1922, converted from army barracks. At that time, it was the largest and most modern hospital in the country that could accommodate about 240 patients, who came from both Plaines Wilhems and Black River districts. Dr Lucien de Chazal, MD London was the Medical Superintendent and Dr P. de Chaumont the resident medical officer. VH had medical, surgical and obstetric wards, and later ENT and eye patients were also treated.

It has now come a long way indeed, the bed capacity being now 956, and the range of services offered has expanded to respond to the changing disease profile that has been taking place since the early 1980s. One of the first specialist services that was established in the country was Orthopaedics, with the inauguration of the Princess Margaret Orthopaedic Centre, better known as PMOC, in 1956, in the same compound as VH. Princess Margaret of the British Royal Family came over to do the inauguration.

When I was growing up in the 1950s, hardly anyone used the name Victoria Hospital: it was more commonly referred to as 'L'Hopital Candos' where it was situated, and interestingly, these three appellations - PMOC, L'Hopital Victoria and L'Hopital Candos - are still used interchangeably. People don't really make the distinction that PMOC is meant for treatment of orthopaedic problems, but that is not of material consequence as far as the patient is concerned.

Yesterday's celebration programme comprised a video clip of the hospital with some pictures of the historical buildings as well as visuals of the latest modern

services and equipments available, official discourses on the part of the Prime Minister and the Minister of Health & Wellness, launching of a souvenir e-magazine, and award of shields to former medical and nursing staff of the hospital for their long and dedicated years of service there.

Further, there was also the presentation of the latest Report on the Survey of NCDs (2021). As for previous ones, this one too is the result of painstaking and meticulous collection and analysis of data by the collaboration of the local team and our valued overseas partners since long, under the ever-generous guidance and support of Prof Paul Zimmet who has been at the origin of all the projects and programmes that are being run today as regards the noncommunicable diseases.

This latest Report has shown some favourable trends compared to the previous one of five years ago, namely encouraging decreases or stabilization in the prevalence of these diseases, reductions in alcohol and tobacco consumption amongst others. While this is no doubt a good sign, the fact remains, however, that increasing numbers of patients are requiring treatment for complications of these diseases affecting the heart, the kidneys - 210,000 annually now being the number of dialyses being carried out - the eyes, the limbs, in fact all the organs systems of the body, so that the health budget keeps increasing.

While a centenary is no doubt cause for celebration, even that of a hospital, one may ponder, or wonder, whether the expansion of hospital services is a marker of good health or rather one indicating that we are in fact a sick population! However, this is another level of debate that I would prefer not to engage in here.

But one thing that certainly needs to be pointed out is that in the midst of all these hi-fi developments, the one vital ingredient that we must never forget is the human touch which all patients crave for. We may have a lot of hardware that facilitates diagnosis and treatment, for which the hardware uses physical software i.e., the operating systems, but all of us health professionals often forget that other software that only human beings can provide - communication and attitude.

Instead of calling upon lay customer care professionals or communication specialists to lecture young doctors about how to engage with their patients, this is something that can only and genuinely be learnt through apprenticeship with senior doctors. This

responsibility falls squarely upon their shoulders and it is one they should gladly assume if they truly care for the image of the medical and health professions in general. I must concede that this is not always the case, which is all the more reason for us to emphasise its importance.

The starting premise for this is that we should not look upon the patient as a faulty machine that needs fixing up, but as a human being who needs not only our technical expertise but also our care and benevolence. In other words, we must change from thinking that we are treating a disease in a patient to the more humane one of considering that we are facing a patient with a disease. This is a paradigm shift in the sense that it forces us to take into account all the other determinants of health that come into play, family, social, economic, cultural factors that we need to factor so as to not only tackle the disease but also comfort the patient and family.

In the days of yore, this was a mainstay of medical practice, since there were not effective treatments for many diseases, and disease mortality was high. Perhaps it is such circumstances that led the famous 18th century surgeon Ambroise Pare to come up with the saying the role of the doctor is: *guérir parfois, soulager souvent, consoler toujours*. However technologically advanced medicine may become, this truism will be ever relevant.

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If only for this reason, that is why it is important for all of us, and doctors in particular, to know about the history of medicine. I have tried to cover this dimension for Victoria Hospital in an article I have written for the souvenir e-magazine.

However, it is only professional historians who can give a more comprehensive narrative about the evolution of the medical and health services in the country, as they have the methodology to research sources and materials and wrap up their findings in a more coherent manner. I think it is vitally important not only for health professionals but also for the population to be aware of the major historical landmarks in the development of our health system.

I sincerely believe that it would be well worth it for the MOH to contract out the writing of our medical history to historians who may be interested in particular aspects, such as the history of infectious disease in the pre-mentioned book. But it also behoves individual doctors to take the pain to delve into the past of their own specialties and areas of interest and share this with the medical community and the population at large.



Inauguration of the Princess Margaret Orthopaedic Centre, better known as PMOC, in 1956, in the same compound as Victoria Hospital. Pic - Vintage Mauritius

In major policy shift, China says it will take Taiwan by force if necessary

China on Wednesday, in only its third white paper on Taiwan since 1993 and the first after President Xi Jinping came to power in 2012, said it will not "renounce" the use of military force to bring the self-governed island under its control as its armed forces concluded the largest ever exercises around the island but announced that it will conduct regular patrols in the region.

The military exercise announced last week in response to US House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's Taiwan visit - which extended beyond the initial four-day schedule - ended on Wednesday, said the People's Liberation Army's (PLA).

The eastern command said: "Theatre forces will keep an eye on the changes in the situation in the Taiwan Strait, continue to carry out training and preparation for combat, organise regular combat readiness patrols in the direction of the Taiwan Strait, and resolutely defend national sovereignty and territorial integrity."

China's decision to conduct "regular patrols" in the region means it is in no mood to relent from its posturing against Taiwan, a self-ruled democracy which



China on Wednesday said it will not "renounce" the use of military force to bring the self-governed island under its control. Pic- France 24

Beijing claims as a renegade region, reports Hindustan Times.

For nearly a week, the PLA fired missiles over the island, while its fighter jets and warships entered into Taiwan's air and water space with impunity, crossing the notional median line on the Taiwan Strait.

Chinese state media said the unprecedented military drills were a practice for the final "reunification" of Taiwan and a blueprint to blockade it.

Against the backdrop of rising tension in the region, the Chinese government's latest policy paper on Taiwan released on Wednesday reiterated Beijing's tough

stance even as it talked about peace.

The previous editions of the documents were 'The Taiwan Question and Reunification of China' (1993) and 'The One-China Principle and the Taiwan Question' (2000), a state media report said.

China will seek "peaceful reunification," but "will not renounce the use of force, and we reserve the option of taking all necessary measures," said the white paper titled 'The Taiwan Question and China's Reunification in the New Era'. It was released by the Taiwan affairs office of the state council (China's Cabinet) and its information department.

Without naming the US, the white paper criticised "external forces" for instigating provocative action in the region.

A Reuters report pointed out that in the latest document China had withdrawn an assurance not to send troops or administrators to Taiwan after taking it back unlike in the past two documents (1993 and 2000), "...signalling a decision by President Xi Jinping to grant less autonomy than previously suggested".

Russia launches Iranian satellite amid Ukraine war concerns



The launch from the Baikonur cosmodrome in southern Kazakhstan took place at 5:52 GMT on 9 August 2022. Pic - AFP

An Iranian satellite launched by Russia blasted off from Kazakhstan Tuesday and reached orbit amid controversy that Moscow might use it to boost its surveillance of military targets in Ukraine.

As Russia's international isolation grows following Western sanctions over its invasion of Ukraine, the Kremlin is seeking to pivot towards the Middle East, Asia and Africa and find new clients for its embattled space programme, reports AFP.

Speaking at the Moscow-controlled Baikonur Cosmodrome in the Kazakh steppe, Russian space chief Yuri Borisov hailed "an important milestone in Russian-

Iranian bilateral cooperation, opening the way to the implementation of new and even larger projects".

Iran, which has maintained ties with Moscow and refrained from criticism of the Ukraine invasion, has sought to deflect suspicions that Moscow could use Khayyam to spy on Ukraine.

Responding to the launch, Washington said Russia's growing cooperation with Iran should be viewed as a "profound threat".

Last week, The Washington Post quoted anonymous Western intelligence officials as saying that Russia "plans to use the satellite for several months or longer" to assist its war efforts before allowing Iran to take control.

Less than two hours after the satellite was launched on a Soyuz-2.1b rocket, the Iran Space Agency (ISA) said "ground stations of the Iran Space Agency" had already received "first telemetric data".

The space agency stressed on Sunday that the Islamic republic would control the satellite "from day one" in an apparent reaction to the Post's report.

The purpose of Khayyam is to "monitor the country's borders", enhance agricultural productivity and monitor water resources and natural disasters, according to the space agency.

Joe Biden formalises US support for Finland, Sweden joining Nato



President Joe Biden poses for a photo with Vice President Kamala Harris, left, Karin Olofsson, Sweden's ambassador to the US, second from left, and Mikko Hautala, Finland's ambassador to the US, right, White House in Washington, August 9, 2022. Pic- AP

President Joe Biden formally welcomed Finland and Sweden joining the Nato alliance Tuesday as he signed the instruments of ratification that delivered the US's formal backing of the Nordic nations entering the mutual defense pact, part of a reshaping of the European security posture after Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

The US became the 23rd ally to approve Nato membership for the two countries. Biden said he spoke with the heads of both nations before signing the ratification and urged the remaining Nato members to finish their own ratification process "as quickly as possible."

The countries sought out Nato membership earlier this year to guarantee their security in the wake of Russia's offensive in Ukraine. The North Atlantic Treaty Organization's rules require the consent of all of its 30 existing members before Finland and Sweden can officially accede

into the alliance, which is expected in the coming months.

The candidacies of the two prosperous Northern European nations have won ratification from more than half of the Nato member nations in the roughly three months since the two applied. It marks one of the speediest expansions of the pact of mutual defense among the United States and democratic allies in Europe in its 73-year history.

Sweden and Finland applied to join Nato in May, setting aside their long-standing stance of military nonalignment. It was a major shift of security arrangements for the two countries. Biden encouraged their joining and welcomed the two countries' government heads to the White House in May, standing side by side with them in a display of US backing.

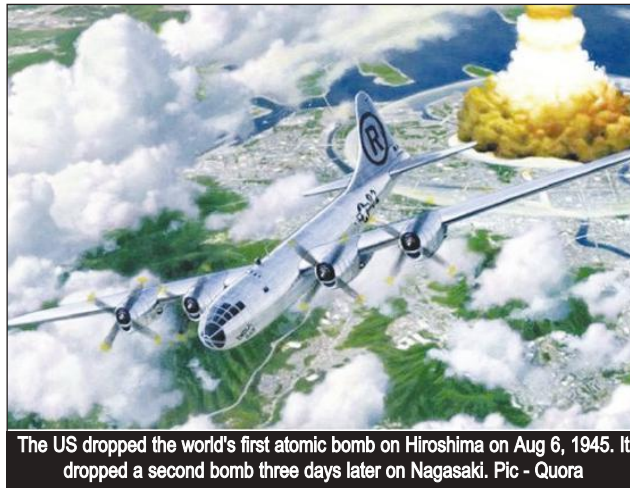
* Contd on page 8

77 years for atomic bombing -- Nagasaki marks anniversary

Nagasaki paid tribute to the victims of the US atomic bombing 77 years ago on Aug 9, with the mayor Tomihisa Taue saying, in his speech Tuesday at the Nagasaki Peace Park, Russia's war on Ukraine showed the world that another nuclear attack is not just a worry but "a tangible and present crisis", reports PTI.

The United States dropped the world's first atomic bomb on Hiroshima on Aug 6, 1945, destroying the city and killing 140,000 people. It dropped a second bomb three days later on Nagasaki, killing another 70,000. Japan surrendered on Aug. 15, ending World War II and Japan's nearly half-century of aggression in Asia.

Participants, including diplomats from nuclear states, observed a moment of silence at 11:02 am, the moment



The US dropped the world's first atomic bomb on Hiroshima on Aug 6, 1945. It dropped a second bomb three days later on Nagasaki. Pic - Quora

the bomb exploded above the southern Japanese city on Aug. 9, 1945.

Although Russia last week tried to roll back on Putin's warning, fears of a third atomic bombing have grown amid Russia's threats of nuclear attack since its war on

Ukraine began in February. Russia last week shelled a Ukrainian city close to Europe's largest nuclear plant.

Japanese officials worry that the conflict may embolden China to be even more assertive in East Asia, and the government is pushing to further step up its military capability and spending.

Japan renounces its own possession, production or hosting of nuclear weapons, but as a US ally Japan hosts 50,000 American troops and is protected by the US nuclear umbrella. Still, Russia's nuclear threat has prompted some hawkish lawmakers in the governing party have also proposed a possibility of nuclear sharing with the United States.

Prime Minister Fumio Kishida said, "Even though we face a severe security environment, we must pursue the history of non-nuclear use and make Nagasaki the last place of nuclear attack."

Many survivors of the bombings have lasting injuries and illnesses resulting from the explosions and radiation exposure and have faced discrimination in Japan.

'Extreme heat' warning begins in UK even as France battles 'devastating wildfire'

A four-day "extreme heat" warning came into force across England, Wales, and parts of Northern Ireland and Scotland on Thursday as temperatures are expected to breach 35 degree Celsius. The heatwave is likely to affect water supplies and transport services, the weather office said.

The Met office sounded its 'amber' warning, the second-highest alert after red, and cautioned people vulnerable to the extreme heat of "sunny and hot or very hot" weather that could lead to adverse health effects. The amber warning follows Britain's first-ever red "extreme heat" warning in July, following months of minimal rainfall, reports Hindustan Times.

Photos of a parched River Thames were shared online amid the scorching heat over the past few days. Fears are

that an official drought will soon be declared. "It's completely dried up," said an IT worker from northern England, who was on holiday in the area and planned to walk the Thames Path with his wife.

Even England's famously lush countryside went from shades of green to yellow. "It was like walking across the savannah in Africa because it's so arid and so dry," a 60-year-old retiree told news agency AFP.

England's heatwave warning comes amid a devastating wildfire in southern France. More than 1000 firefighters and a water-bombing aircraft battled a "monster" wildfire near the wine-growing heartland of Bordeaux for a third day, with no relief from the blistering temperatures, forcing thousands of people to flee from their homes.

The fires have reportedly destroyed



A firefighter burns a plot of land to try to stop a wildfire from spreading near Louchats in Gironde, south-west France. Pic- AFP

more than a dozen properties and scorched more than 6800 hectares of forest. "It's a disaster, economically, ecologically, it's awful," Jean-Louis Dartailh, the mayor of Hostens, a small town close to the fire, told Radio Classique, as quoted

by Reuters. "The area is totally disfigured. We're heartbroken, we're exhausted."

Other European nations have also faced a scorching heatwave in recent weeks with temperatures often exceeding 40 degrees.

Did Trump break the law? FBI search raises fresh questions

The year was 2016, the presidential candidate under investigation was Hillary Clinton and the FBI director at the time, James Comey, laid out the factors the Justice Department weighs in deciding whether to charge someone with mishandling classified records.

Fast forward to 2022 and that tutorial proves instructive as another candidate from that election, Donald Trump, is entangled in an FBI probe related to sensitive government documents, reports AP.

Whether an FBI search of Trump's Mar-a-Lago residence is a prelude to criminal charges is unknown. The action Monday nonetheless focuses attention on the thicket of statutes that govern the handling of government records, though the department's own history of prosecutorial discretion — some high-profile investigations have ended without charges or in misde-



Former President Donald Trump arrives at Trump Tower, late Tuesday, Aug. 9, 2022, in New York. Pic- AP

meanor plea deals — makes it hard to forecast with certainty what might happen this time.

Much remains uncertain about Monday's search, including precisely what documents the FBI was looking for — Trump says agents opened a safe — or why it acted when it did. But people familiar with the matter say it relates to an ongoing Justice Department investigation into the discovery of classified material in boxes of White House records the National Archives and Records Administration

recovered from Mar-A-Lago earlier this year.

To obtain a search warrant, the Justice Department would have had to persuade a judge that probable cause existed that a crime was committed, though what statute officials think may have been violated is unclear.

Multiple federal laws require the safekeeping of government secrets. One potentially relevant statute makes it a crime to remove classified information and retain it an unauthorized location. Another makes it illegal to mishandle national defense information, including maps, photographs and documents, or transmit it to a person not authorized to receive it.

But if past is any precedent, the mere mishandling of classified information isn't always enough for a felony conviction — or any charges at all.

Compiled by Doojesh Ramlallah

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Jean Claude de l'Estrac

“Le PTr ne choisira personne d'autre que Ramgoolam pour mener les prochaines batailles électorales...”



Mauritius Times: Après l'annonce de l'accord intervenu entre le Parti Travailliste, le MMM et le PMSD sur le principe d'une alliance en prévision des prochaines élections municipales, des questions se posent sur la viabilité d'une telle alliance. Est-ce enfin la bonne, selon vous? Et, est-ce crédible?

Jean Claude de l'Estrac: Si cette alliance se fait pour les élections municipales - au cas où elles se tiennent - elle se fera pour les législatives, sauf si les résultats des urnes sont catastro-

phiques pour elle.

Cette alliance a été rendue possible parce que Bérenger s'est résolu à soutenir Navin Ramgoolam dans sa quête d'un nouveau mandat. Si les résultats sont probants aux municipales, ils

« Bérenger et Duval ont fini par adouber Ramgoolam faute de l'émergence d'un autre premier ministrable potentiellement capable de donner la réplique à Pravind Jugnauth dans la dizaine de circonscriptions qui font les élections. C'est de la réalpolitique. L'idée d'un renouvellement du leadership politique, c'est pour 2029! »

A côté des tensions traditionnelles entre la Chine et l'Inde, il existe aussi toute la panoplie d'autres problèmes. Depuis la fin de la guerre froide, le poids stratégique et économique de l'océan Indien a considérablement augmenté. Cette zone est convoitée par plusieurs groupes. Si les Etats-Unis n'ont jamais sous-estimé son importance et la base militaire de Diego Garcia est l'exemple parfait de la vision de cette grande puissance pour garder un œil sur la région, la République populaire de Chine, elle, négocie sagement pour consolider ses bases sur le continent africain et Madagascar. Jean Claude de l'Estrac, journaliste, homme politique de longue date et ancien ministre des Affaires étrangères, nous dévoile les subtilités politiques associées à la région océan Indien dans le monde contemporain.

cimenteront l'alliance. Si, au contraire, les électeurs boudent cette nouvelle coalition, il est probable qu'une débandade s'ensuivra.

*** Paul Bérenger et Xavier Duval s'étaient opposés à l'idée que Navin Ramgoolam soit présenté comme candidat au poste de Premier ministre en février dernier. Qu'est-ce qui a changé, selon vous, pour que Paul Bérenger et Xavier Duval reviennent à de meilleurs sentiments par rapport à un éventuel 'prime ministership' de Navin Ramgoolam?**

Le Parti Travailliste, son comité exécutif tel qu'il est constitué, ne choisira personne d'autre que Ramgoolam pour mener les prochaines batailles électorales. Et je ne vois pas Ramgoolam porter un mandat premier ministériel.

La question d'un autre candidat travailliste au poste de Premier ministre ne

se posera que si Ramgoolam, pour une raison ou une autre, s'en trouve empêché.

Bérenger et Duval ont fini par adouber Ramgoolam faute de l'émergence d'un autre premier ministrable potentiellement capable de donner la réplique à Pravind Jugnauth dans la dizaine de circonscriptions qui font les élections. C'est de la réalpolitique. L'idée d'un renouvellement du leadership politique, c'est pour 2029!

*** La question la plus importante, toutefois, c'est de savoir si cette alliance - si elle dure au-delà des municipales - obtiendra l'adhésion d'une grande majorité de militants et de travaillistes, et d'une frange importante des abstentionnistes pour constituer une majorité gagnante?**

C'est effectivement l'enjeu de ces municipales, si elles se tiennent.

D'abord, légalement, la date butoir pour organiser ces élections est le 13 juin 2023. Et là encore, arrivé à cette date, le gouvernement peut toujours proposer au Parlement de voter un nouveau renvoi.

● Suite en page 10

'Les grandes eaux du tsunami annoncé se sont transformées en eau de boudin...'

● Suite de la page 9

C'est ce qu'il sera tenté de faire à mon avis. Je ne vois pas le gouvernement prendre le risque de tenir ces élections municipales, à quelques mois des législatives, dans des circonscriptions a priori plutôt gagnées à la cause de l'opposition. Cela dit, le MSM peut vouloir tenter le coup en tablant sur un éparpillement du vote anti-gouvernemental.

* De l'autre côté de la barrière, il y a l'alliance gouvernementale qui n'a eu de cesse d'accumuler les scandales, et le PM est lui-même pris dans la situation délicate que nous connaissons. Parallèlement à cela, nous subissons de plein fouet les effets de l'inflation et de la crise économique, avec une baisse significative du niveau de vie. Mais le gouvernement de Pravind Jugnauth ne semble pas forcément faiblir aux yeux d'une part importante de l'électorat. Qu'est-ce qui explique cela, selon vous?

C'est la conséquence de l'extrême fanatisation d'une partie de l'électorat et de l'indifférence d'une autre partie. Au fait, nous savons peu de choses du *mood* réel de l'électorat même si on sent bien que la perte de son pouvoir d'achat est sa principale préoccupation pour le moment. Mais n'extrapolons pas.

Dans deux ans, la situation pourrait être bien différente; une catastrophe économique n'est pas une fatalité, et la distribution de quelques douceurs au moment voulu suffira sans doute pour impressionner l'amnésique qu'est l'électeur. C'est le pari de Pravind Jugnauth.

* Pravind Jugnauth disposerait aussi, du moins pour l'instant, de soutiens importants de l'étranger. Des acquis non-négligeables, paraît-il?

« Les grandes eaux du tsunami annoncé se sont transformées en eau de boudin. C'était prévisible et c'est la faute de Sherry Singh. Dans un premier temps, il était apparu comme un protecteur de la transparence publique, sacrifiant sa carrière et ses intérêts personnels pour le bien public. Un vent frais traversa le pays. Ce fut de courte durée. Dès que Sherry Singh se jeta dans les eaux troubles de la politique, il perdit une grosse part de sa crédibilité... »

« Le Parti Travailleiste, son comité exécutif tel qu'il est constitué, ne choisira personne d'autre que Ramgoolam pour mener les prochaines batailles électorales. Et je ne vois pas Ramgoolam partager un mandat premier ministériel. La question d'un autre candidat travailliste au poste de Premier ministre ne se posera que si Ramgoolam, pour une raison ou une autre, s'en trouve empêché... »

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Si vous parlez de soutien électoral, je ne crois pas qu'un apport étranger soit déterminant; si vous parlez de soutien financier, je crois que le MSM n'en a pas besoin.

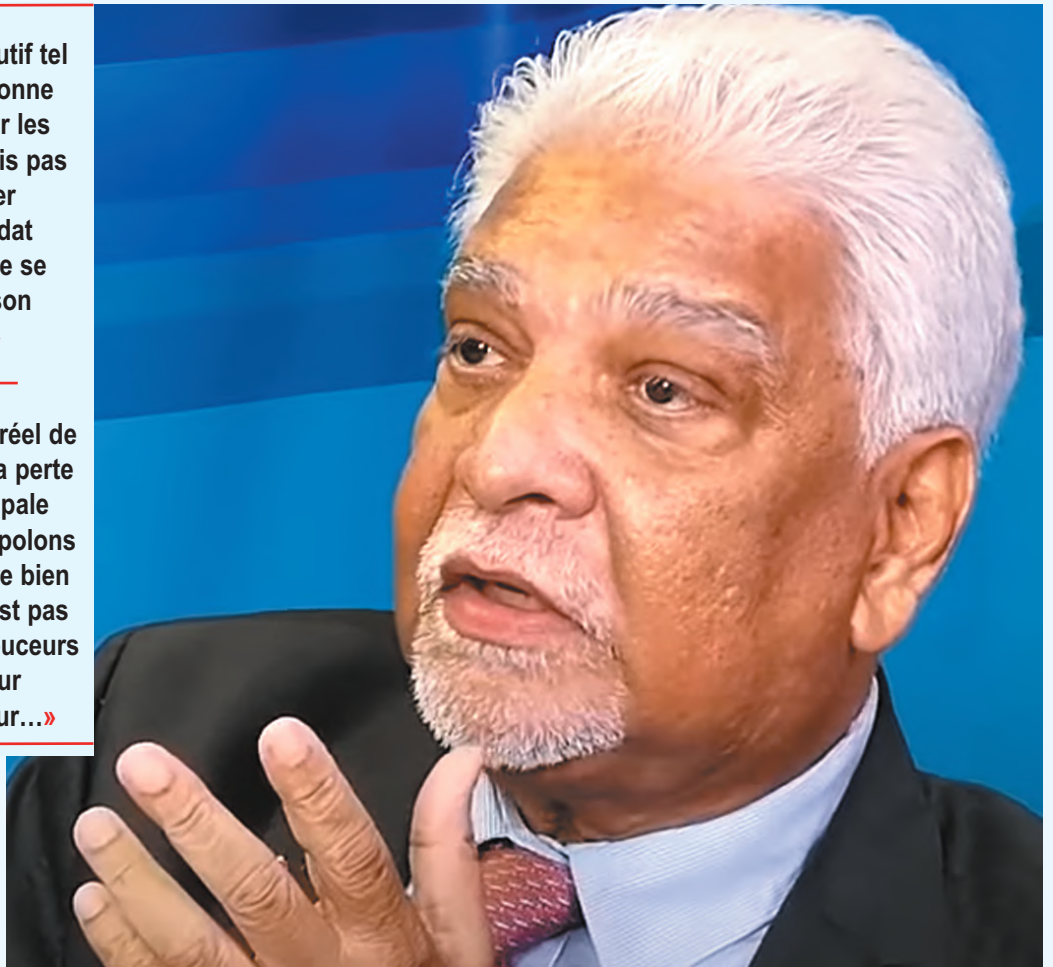
* Par ailleurs, ceux qui voulaient croire que l'affaire de 'sniffing' et le 'coming-out' de Sherry Singh allaient déstabiliser l'alliance gouvernementale ont vite déchanté, paraît-il. Le tsunami annoncé ne s'est pas produit. Pire, Sherry Singh semble avoir été laissé sur la touche par les grands partis du pays – le PTr et le MMM, mais aussi le PMSD. Était-ce prévisible?

Oui, les grandes eaux du tsunami annoncé se sont transformées en eau de boudin. C'était prévisible et c'est la faute de Sherry Singh.

Dans un premier temps, au moment de ses premières allégations, l'ancien patron de Mauritius Telecom s'était drapé du manteau d'un chevalier blanc, dénonçant l'inacceptable du haut de ses «valeurs» et de ses «convictions» proclamées.

Il était apparu comme un protecteur de la transparence publique, sacrifiant sa carrière et ses intérêts personnels pour le bien public. Un vent frais traversa le pays. Ce fut de courte durée. Dès que Sherry Singh se jeta dans les eaux troubles de la politique, il perdit une grosse part de sa crédibilité.

* Cette affaire de 'sniffing' a mis en lumière les manœuvres de grande envergure - certaines très discrètes - des grandes puissances dans cette partie du monde. Vous avez soutenu dans un article paru dans *l'express* l'année dernière que



«L'enjeu est très large. Nous sommes concernés...» Les données n'ont pas changé, semble-t-il?

Absolument pas.

Je n'ai pas cessé d'attirer l'attention des Mauriciens sur la situation explosive qui existe désormais dans l'océan Indien et des risques que nous courons. Un grand nombre de stratèges estiment que le risque d'une confrontation dans l'océan Indien entre les rivaux historiques, l'Inde et la Chine, est très réel depuis que le centre de gravité de la géopolitique mondiale s'est déplacé du théâtre euro-atlantique à l'aire Asie Pacifique et océan Indien.

Ce risque est tellement réel qu'il a poussé et l'Inde et la Chine, à se constituer des réserves de pétrole de peur d'un blocus sur les voies maritimes de navigation de l'océan Indien, devenues les principales routes commerciales du monde. Il est estimé que plus de 100 000 navires et près de 50% des containers transitent dans la région chaque année.

Nous sommes directement concernés: nous avons offert à l'un des rivaux de construire une base sur notre territoire; à une demi-heure d'avion, il y a la base navale française, à Pointe des Galets, à l'île de la Réunion; à 1000 kms se trouve une des plus importantes bases américaines, à Diégo Garcia. En cas d'un conflit ouvert, nous serons certainement impactés.

● Suite en page 11

'Les Chinois sont des adeptes de la *realpolitik*. Ils ne feront pas de vagues...'

• Suite de la page 10

* On parle de la nécessité pour Maurice d'adopter une politique de neutralité devant ce qui se dessine dans l'océan Indien. Mais nous savons tous que c'est dit pour la galerie et les forums internationaux, car tous les gouvernements mauriciens depuis l'indépendance ont été impliqués, de façon directe ou indirecte, dans le jeu des grandes puissances dans l'océan Indien, et c'est probable que cela ne va pas changer de sitôt. Qu'en pensez-vous?

Ce n'était pas que pour la galerie. Pendant plusieurs années, la diplomatie mauricienne s'était tenue au principe du non-alignement.

C'était le cas au temps de la guerre froide entre les Etats-Unis et l'Union soviétique. Nous étions soucieux d'apparaître véritablement non alignés par rapport à ces deux superpuissances.

Ministre des Affaires étrangères à l'époque, c'est ce qui m'avait poussé à faire nommer un diplomate de carrière, en l'occurrence Armand Maudave, aux Nations unies plutôt qu'un politicien du MMM soupçonné d'être proche de Moscou.

La rivalité Inde/Chine a remplacé celle des Américains et des Soviétiques dans notre région,

cienne est inféodée à l'Inde.

Avant l'affaire Huawei, les Chinois ont été rabroués par Maurice à diverses reprises en raison de cet alignement et même en sacrifiant nos propres intérêts. Cela a été le cas quand, à l'instigation de l'Inde, nous avons refusé le projet de construction d'un port de pêche à Bain des Dames.

Pareillement, nous avons refusé de nous joindre au projet chinois de Route de la Soie, et de profiter des investissements qu'il propose, parce que l'Inde est hostile à ce projet qu'elle décrit comme une tentative de l'encercler politiquement et militairement.

* Quel rôle est aujourd'hui accordé ou doit être accordé à la Chine en raison de sa montée en puissance sur le plan global dans notre politique internationale et régionale?

Les Chinois sont des adeptes de la *realpolitik*. Ils ne feront pas de vagues, espérant des jours meilleurs en jouant de la force de leur économie infiniment plus

« Je n'ai pas cessé d'attirer l'attention des Mauriciens sur la situation explosive qui existe désormais dans l'océan Indien et des risques que nous courons. Un grand nombre de stratégies estiment que le risque d'une confrontation dans l'océan Indien entre les rivaux historiques, l'Inde et la Chine, est très réel depuis que le centre de gravité de la géopolitique mondiale s'est déplacé du théâtre euro-atlantique à l'aire Asie Pacifique et océan Indien... »



côtes consolidera la sécurité de notre région, selon vous?

Nous sommes déjà encerclés par les bases militaires de trois différents pays, y compris celle que nous installons sur notre propre territoire. Une quatrième à Madagascar, si cela se vérifie, ne changera rien à la donne.

Je ne suis pas sûr qu'elles soient un gage de sécurité pour notre région. Le plus souvent, les analyses sur le rapport de forces dans la région et sur les manœuvres des uns et des autres insistent plutôt sur les risques de guerre dans un océan Indien devenu *A Sea of Uncertainty*.



« Pendant plusieurs années, la diplomatie mauricienne s'était tenue au principe du non-alignement. C'était le cas au temps de la guerre froide entre les Etats-Unis et l'Union soviétique. Nous étions soucieux d'apparaître véritablement non alignés par rapport à ces deux superpuissances. Ministre des Affaires étrangères à l'époque, c'est ce qui m'avait poussé à faire nommer un diplomate de carrière, en l'occurrence Armand Maudave, aux Nations unies plutôt qu'un politicien du MMM soupçonné d'être proche de Moscou... »

mais cette fois-ci, nous sommes perçus comme étant alignés sur l'Inde.

* Le récent échange par médias interposés entre le ministre Bobby Hureeram et l'ambassadeur de Chine à Maurice sur les contrats de Huawei à Maurice nous a fait vivre un épisode rare dans la vie politique mauricienne. Nous n'entendons jamais un diplomate interpellé ainsi un ministre, tout comme nous entendons rarement les ministres parler aussi ouvertement et frontalement des dossiers qui relèvent de la politique internationale de Maurice. Pensez-vous qu'une fissure est apparue dans les relations avec la Chine?

Je ne le crois pas. Les diplomates chinois sont parfaitement conscients du fait que la diplomatie mauri-

puissante que celle de l'Inde.

* On entend la rumeur insistante que la Chine est en train de négocier avec le gouvernement malgache pour l'installation d'une base militaire dans la grande île. Si ce projet va de l'avant, ce sera le deuxième ancrage militaire chinois dans la région, après celui de Djibouti. Est-ce qu'une telle base militaire aussi proche de nos

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Is race an issue for Rishi Sunak?



Paul Whiteley

Professor, Department of Government, University of Essex

No one says 'yes, ethnicity is an issue for me' when pollsters ask but Conservative party members do show an above average opposition to diversity drives

A YouGov poll of party members completed on August 2 shows Rishi Sunak to be trailing Liz Truss 31% to 69% in the Conservative leadership contest. A similar poll completed on July 21 had him on 38% to her 62%. She appears to be winning the contest hands down.

This is surprising given that Sunak was a very popular chancellor at the time of the Covid lockdown, in large part due to his generosity in supporting workers with the furlough scheme. But the survey shows that the members prefer Truss to him by large margins on the key policy issues such as the cost of living, the NHS, asylum seekers, housing and defence.

In addition, they think she is more likely to deliver a Conservative victory in the next election – although many are pessimistic about whether this can be achieved. This raises the interesting question: why he is doing so badly among the party members?

One reason is the “stab-in-the-back” narrative – the idea that Sunak was disloyal to his boss by resigning as chancellor. This set off an avalanche of departures from the government that brought prime minister Boris Johnson down. Altogether 51% of respondents to the survey thought it was wrong for him to resign and only 40% thought this was the right thing to do. In addition, only 27% of members thought he was “trustworthy”, compared with 60% who thought the same thing about Truss. It looks like his early resignation damaged him a lot in the leadership race.

But there is another factor which has not been discussed at all. This is the possibility that some Conservative party members are prejudiced against him because he comes from an ethnic minority background. In a country striving for greater equality, this is not a question that should be avoided. Indeed, were this a general election, some discussion of this would surely be happening. Inequality cannot be addressed without evidence and honesty – a fact that is accepted by businesses, government organisations and indeed parliamentary parties.

When David Cameron was party leader, he promoted the cause of inclusion in the parliamentary party for ethnic minorities. He made key appointments to his cabinet that could be seen as shifting the dial. So the Conservative parliamentary party cannot be accused of ignoring this issue. But the same may not be true of the party members. Is prejudice among the members a fact that dare not speak its name?

If prime ministers are to be selected via party elections, this is an issue that must be at least considered.

No one ticks the 'Yes, I'm racist' box

Identifying prejudice is a longstanding difficulty for pollsters. Survey respondents are unlikely to admit they are prejudiced against ethnic minorities,

because it is seen as socially undesirable. They are highly unlikely to say outright that they don't want a leader from an ethnic minority. And indeed, many will proudly state that it isn't an issue when asked. There are some methodological techniques for finding out how people really feel, such as list experiments, in which some people are asked to give their view on a sensitive issue and others are not. More generally, we have to find these things out using indirect methods rather than direct questions.

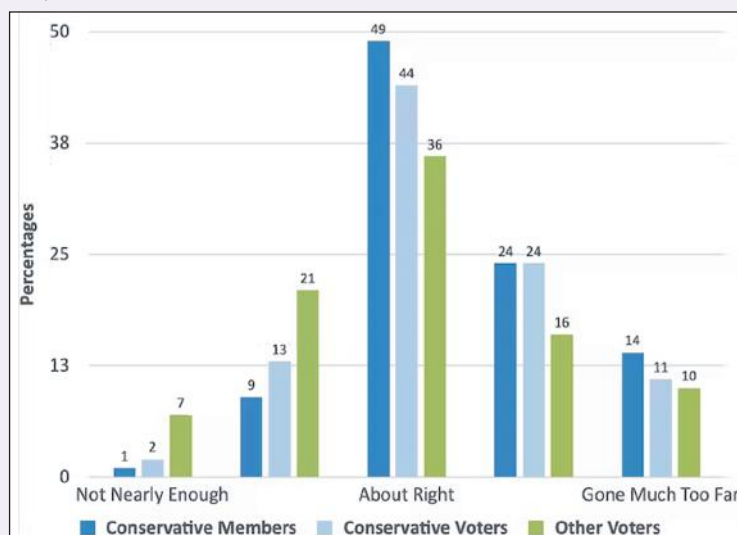
When it comes to the party membership election specifically, pollsters face another problem: it's tricky to harvest a representative sample since they only make up a relatively small percentage of the population. National polls of the electorate typically involve about 1,000 to 1,500 respondents and so there are too few party members in these surveys to do any analysis. YouGov solves this problem by drawing on its very large panel of potential respondents who are paid to take surveys, and this allows them to identify a reasonably sized sample of Conservative party members.

What the data does tell us

We can, however, get around both problems with the help of a very large online survey conducted by the British Election Study just prior to the 2019 general election. This survey had more than 34,000 respondents and included just over 2500 members from the major parties. It also asked some indirect questions which help us to identify prejudice against ethnic minorities.

One question asked respondents if they thought that policies aimed at giving ethnic minorities equal opportunities in society had “gone too far” or had not “gone far enough”.

Have Policies on Equal Opportunities for Ethnic Minorities in Britain Not Gone Far Enough or Gone too Far?



How voters view diversity drives. BES, Author provided



Pic - News Portal

About 10% of non-Conservative voters thought these policies had “gone much too far” – roughly the same as Conservative voters at 11%. In contrast some 14% of Conservative party members thought this, a statistically significant difference from the voters. At the “not gone nearly far enough” end of the scale these differences were even more marked. Only 1% of Conservative party members and 2% of Conservative voters thought this, compared with 7% of other party voters.

“Identifying prejudice is a longstanding difficulty for pollsters. Survey respondents are unlikely to admit they are prejudiced against ethnic minorities, because it is seen as socially undesirable. They are highly unlikely to say outright that they don't want a leader from an ethnic minority. And indeed, many will proudly state that it isn't an issue when asked...”

These differences were replicated in the “not gone far enough” and “gone too far” categories as well. Conservative party members are consistently more opposed to the levelling up of ethnic minorities compared with voters in general, including Conservative voters.

A second indirect question asked about opposition to further immigration into Britain. Responses showed that 19% of non-Conservative voters were strongly opposed to this, compared with 38% of Conservative voters and 45% of Conservative party members.

It looks like some Tory grassroots members hold views that would imply they do not want an ethnic minority politician as their prime minister. Knowing this with certainty is always a problem but if results of this kind were thrown up in another context – such as in a parliamentary party – they would be recognised as warranting deeper thought and investigation. As things stand, this probably contributes to Sunak's poor performance among the party members who are after all choosing the next prime minister. This issue does not appear to be attracting nearly enough attention.

• «Death but supplies the oil for the inextinguishable lamp of life». — Coleridge

The Last Journey... Renganaden Seeneevassen

By Hon Dr Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam

The death of Renganaden Seeneevassen has removed from our midst one of the most illustrious figures in our history. The country is shocked by this sudden and shattering tragedy, and the people have been struck dumb with grief, for he was always a man of the people. They have already given him a funeral reserved only to Princes and Kings. As in life so in death he towered above everything.

We have hardly recovered from our first shock to realize the immensity of our public loss. Renga leaves a gap that can never be filled. To me a close and personal association of eighteen years has abruptly come to an end, at a time when his experience and guidance are most needed in the shaping of our future. But God's will must be done, and in his robe of simpleness he is now before his Maker. Let us pray for his rest!

The country has lost one of its ablest sons and the poor and the humble their closest friend. He consumed himself

in their service. We all know that the principal task of his life was to merge himself with the people whom he served loyally and faithfully to the end of his life.

Renga was a great democrat, and it is rare to find a man actuated with such high principles and ability of spirit. In the short time of his political career, he has achieved a fame which will go down to posterity.

He leaves behind him an example and a name to be remembered by generations to come. Such men are rare, but when they take root amongst us, we must learn to prize their memory so that the country may not be left behind in the vanguard of progress.

Renga dedicated his life to the service of the country, and in all his actions it could be discerned that this spirit of service was innate in him. He looked upon Mahatma Gandhi as his greatest master.

At the Bar, as a Municipal Councillor, and as a foremost political leader he always remained the



B. Ramlallah, Editor of Mauritius Times,
with Renganaden Seeneevassen at
Gymkhana Club, Port Louis

gentleman who overpowered everybody by his magnetic personality and sincerity of purpose. He was a master of rhetoric, and all his public utterances are models of lucidity and logic.

As I said only last Tuesday in the Legislative Council he was "a symbol of national unity, of integrity and honesty of purpose, of loyalty and sincerity, of intelligence and wide-comprehension, of a life spent in the service of the nation."

But we must not forget the man of action. He always had his feet firmly on the ground. For him, as Auden, the British poet, has said in his great poem "Spain":

*Yesterday all the past
Tomorrow, perhaps, the future
But today the struggle*

Renganaden Seeneevassen is gone now. We pay our humble tribute to him, but while lingering near his shrine in our mourning let us extend our deep sorrow and sympathy to the young widow with three children who nourished and preserved for the nation such a great soul.

Le politique, l'avocat, le parlementaire et l'orateur aimé des foules était généralement connu. Je suis invité à vous parler de l'homme et à évoquer quelques souvenirs personnels.

Bien avant que j'eusse eu l'occasion de le rencontrer, sa réputation l'avait précédé et était parvenue jusqu'à moi. Tant d'éloges m'avaient laissé sceptique. Et je conclusais : réputation surfaite, enthousiasme d'amis.

Mais le jour de la première rencontre vint. Je fus surpris et ne crus pas à la vérité du personnage. Cette gentillesse, cette douceur de voix qu'accompagnait l'harmonie des gestes, cette élégance de tenue à laquelle répondait une distinction qui déconcertait par sa simplicité, ce respect de l'opinion émise quoique ne la partageant pas, cette cordialité qui se tendait, ouverte, et qui insensiblement s'emparait de vous -- tout cela, pensais-je, ne pouvait être vrai, mais seulement le fait d'un esprit étudié et rompu à une excellente discipline. Même cela n'eut pas été sans valeur, ni sans mérite. Mais d'autres rencontres suivirent et l'homme se livra davantage, accentuant les traits qui devaient graduellement se confirmer et révéler définitivement cette nature exceptionnelle qui était en fait celle de Seeneevassen.

La gentillesse était vraie, l'élégance de tenue était naturelle, la voix conservait tout son charme, une tolérance largement compréhensive était une des qualités marquantes de son esprit, et l'homme se révélait un charmeur à qui on était heureux de se livrer à son tour, non par contrainte mais par une douce attraction qui ne vous procurait que délices.

Et cet homme, on l'a dit, était, à tout moment, d'humeur égale, et ne montrait jamais à son interlocuteur (qui était rarement un non-solliciteur) qu'un visage souriant et accueillant. Privilège réservé qu'à quelques rares natures d'exception.

Et nous voilà partis, à quatre, sur le même avion pour une mission dont l'importance place sur nos épaules une tâche des plus lourdes. Il s'agit de la première délégation

Ce Que Fut L'Homme

Par L'Hon. Guy Forget

(1955) à Londres. Guy Rozemont est déjà souffrant et votre serviteur est sujet au mal de l'air.

Mais il y a Renga à bord. A-t-il manqué sa vocation et y avait-il chez lui des dons spéciaux et une compréhension particulière pour ceux qui souffrent physiquement ? Toujours est-il qu'à tel ou tel moment où "ça n'ira pas", où l'escalier de descente, à l'escale, apparaîtra soudain trop perpendiculaire, où le bras s'entortillera dans le manche du water proof, "quelqu'un" sera là. Une voix, dont on goûte mieux à ces moments la douceur, dira : "Laissez-moi vous aider, Forget". Ou encore : "Comment vous sentez-vous ? Tout à l'heure ça ira mieux !" Et la magie a opéré. C'est Seeneevassen qui est à vos côtés ou qui s'est penché sur vous, et... l'on se sent déjà "un peu mieux".

Et, plus tard, quand il jugera que "ça va définitivement mieux", la voix douce devenue gouailleuse vous dira un bon mot, et, devant le rire ou le sourire qu'il aura provoqué, il dira : "Astère-là, ou fine bien même !"

Au sein de la délégation, il sera la liaison entre tous, et, entre nous quatre, c'est lui qui règlera la température au cours de nos discussions -- fort heureusement, quelquefois.

Nous n'avons jamais pris un taxi à Londres si Seeneevassen ne s'effaçait pour faire entrer ses collègues d'abord, et, très souvent, avant qu'on eût le temps de se grouiller, Seeneevassen à l'arrivée réglait déjà la course. Et le "Thank you, Sir !" que lançait le chauffeur était tel que l'on sentait que ces trois petits mots traduisaient autant la générosité de notre ami que la gentillesse qui l'avait accompagnée.

Mais quand le jour pour recevoir "les lettres de Maurice" arrivait, nul n'aurait pu le retenir longtemps hors de l'hôtel après l'heure où, il le savait, les petits carrés

bleus, rangés, l'attendaient au "Postal Delivery" de l'hôtel. Seeneevassen était avec nous, mais sa pensée... était aussi à Maurice, au foyer.

En 1955 le Secrétaire d'Etat, à l'issue d'une des conférences de la délégation qu'il avait présidée, nous invita avec d'autres à déjeuner chez lui. Les convives sont assis à de petites tables pour quatre couverts. Le hasard m'a installé en face du Secrétaire d'Etat. A l'heure du café, les convives changent de sièges et Monsieur Lennox Boyd aperçoit Seeneevassen qui passe. Il s'adresse à lui -- je préfère traduire : -- M. Seeneevassen venez donc vous asseoir un peu à ma table et parlez-moi avec cette voix extraordinairement harmonieuse que vous possédez. Où avez-vous appris à parler ainsi et quelle université avez-vous fréquentée ?

J'avoue que j'en éprouvai une certaine fierté.

Ramgoolam et moi, on se heurtait assez souvent. "Qui zotte gagné ?" disait la voix... Et nos aspérités fondaient, au contact du soleil de chez nous, instantanément ramené par la voix magique.

Ce que fut Seeneevassen pour la délégation de 1957 fut exactement ce qu'il avait été en 1955 -- et ce qu'il resta jusqu'à cette séance (mémorable pour ceux qui étaient là) du Comité Municipal du mercredi après-midi, 4 juin, quelques heures seulement avant le départ définitif. Au cours de cette séance -- la dernière -- à deux reprises, il nous exhorta avec sa voix de magie et de bonté, à la générosité -- aussi bien quand il fallait sévir que lorsqu'il fallait récompenser.

... Merveilleux testament d'un homme chez qui le trait dominant était peut-être cette générosité congénitale de tous les instants, à l'égard de quiconque, et qui, chez lui, engendrait ces autres attributs qui composaient le magnifique ensemble humain auquel le pays a rendu hommage splendidement, tel que le méritait ce fils distingué, ce patriote au noble cœur.



When the IMF comes to town: why they visit and what to watch out for



Kristalina Georgieva, the Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund, speaking in Senegal in 2019.
Pic - Seyllou/AFP via Getty Images

● Cont. from page 2 Surveillance missions

The first are surveillance missions. Article IV says that the IMF should exercise “firm surveillance” over the efforts of its member states to try and direct their economic and financial policies towards the objective of fostering orderly economic growth with reasonable price stability.

Thus, the IMF regularly – usually annually – sends a staff team to assess the state of each country’s macro economy, the risks it faces and its capacity to continue evolving in a sustainable way. This team usually meets with officials in each country’s ministry of finance and central bank. In addition, they can ask to meet other government officials. For example, during COVID, the IMF might have been interested in meeting with health department officials.

The IMF staff will also normally meet with members of parliament and with representatives of business and labour. They may also meet with representatives of civil society.

There are four important points to note about these missions.

First, while the IMF provides some guidance to its staff, it does not require them to follow any particular procedures for informing interested parties that it is visiting the country. The result is that it’s difficult for anybody interested in the visit to learn how they might engage with the mission or provide it with information.

Second, in principle, there is no limit on what issues the

IMF can focus on during its mission. Consequently, IMF staff can raise any issue and request whatever information they think is relevant to assessing the state of the country’s macroeconomic situation. This has led to a gradual expansion in the range of issues the IMF may raise in these missions. They now range from fiscal policy, inflation and unemployment rates, and balance of payments deficits to issues about how the country is dealing with climate change, gender discrimination, public health and wealth inequality.

Third, the outcome of the mission is a report prepared by the staff that is discussed by the IMF’s Board of Executive Directors. The report is usually made public after the discussion, together with a press release.

The IMF also uses the information in preparing its reports on the global economy.

Fourth, the IMF can make recommendations to the government on actions that it should take to deal with any challenges that have been identified.

These recommendations are purely advisory. In principle, the country is free to ignore them. This may be the case if the country is confident that it will not need IMF financing in the future. This is the reason that the citizens of rich countries do not usually care that an IMF mission is visiting their countries. However, this is a luxury that a country cannot afford if it thinks it may need IMF financial support. Or that its access to international financial markets may be influenced by the IMF’s view. This, of course, is the case for most African countries.

Financing missions

The second type of mission is initiated by requests for IMF financing.

Their purpose is to assess the country’s need for financial support. And to negotiate the terms on which it will be provided.

The IMF effectively acts as a lender of last resort. Consequently, governments are reluctant to ask for IMF financing unless they cannot get enough foreign exchange from other sources.

The IMF provides the financing on an unsecured basis. It tries to ensure that it will be repaid by making the financing subject to policy conditions, known as conditionalities. The premise of these conditionalities is that the country is essentially living beyond its means and must reduce its expenditures to the level of its income, including the funds contributed by the IMF. In short, the IMF is demanding that the country makes sacrifices.

This means, inevitably, that the terms of IMF financing are controversial. First, the scale of the sacrifices necessary to restore a country to macroeconomic health are not easily determined. They depend on perceptions of the causes of the country’s crisis, assumptions about future economic developments and the capacity of the government to implement policy changes and the public to accept and absorb these changes. Reasonable people can, of course, have different views on these issues.

Second, the scope, terms and number of conditionalities the IMF chooses to attach to its financing can be very broad, or quite specific. For example, it can merely state the size of budget cuts that the country must make or the amount of additional revenues it must raise and then leave it up to the country to decide how to meet these conditions. Alternatively, it can specify which budget items should be cut, which taxes should be increased, and which structural reforms must be implemented in order to get IMF financing.

This effectively means that the conditionalities are matters for negotiation between the government and the IMF and that they depend on the balance of bargaining power between them. This means that the IMF is effectively a player in the domestic economic policy making process of countries that need its financing.

However, the IMF is not subject to the same legal requirements regarding participation or transparency as other players in this process. It is also less accountable to those who will be affected by its policy choices than the government itself.

Danny Bradlow

SARCHI Professor of International Development Law and African Economic Relations, University of Pretoria

Life Stories

The Most Beautiful Heart



A young man was proud of his healthy and beautiful heart. One day, standing in the middle of the town, he proclaimed that he had the most beautiful heart in the whole valley. A large crowd gathered to have a look at his heart. His heart was smooth, shiny and looked very healthy. Indeed, the man had the most beautiful heart in the valley, everyone agreed.

The proud young man felt delighted and boasted his perfect heart which everyone admired. Suddenly, a voice from the crowd said, “Your heart is not as beautiful as mine.”

The young man searched for the person behind the voice and an old man appeared in front him.

“Show us your heart if you believe you have got more beautiful heart than mine,” said the young man. The old man care-

fully showed his heart. The crowd and the young man looked at the old man’s heart. The heart was beating strongly and healthily but it was not smooth and shiny as the young man’s heart. Instead, it had scars all over it. It had places where some pieces of the heart had been removed and other pieces were put in.

The other pieces didn’t fit perfectly and there were several uneven edges. In some places, there were deep gouges where some pieces were missing.

The crowd laughed at the old man’s heart. “How can he claim that he has the most beautiful heart when it is all scared and uneven,” they thought.

The young man looked at the old man’s heart and laughed. “You must be kidding. Compare your heart and mine. My heart looks perfect and smooth and yours is a mess of scars and tears.”

“Yes, your heart looks perfect, but I would never trade your heart with mine,” said the old man. “Every scar in my heart represents a person whom I have given my love. I tear a piece of my heart and give to them. Often, my loved one gives me back a piece of their heart which fits

into the empty place in my heart. Since everyone loves each other in a different way, their piece of heart may not perfectly fit my heart, so you can see some rough edges. These scars and rough edges remind me of the love we shared. So, do you now see what a true beauty?” asked the old man.

The young man and the crowd stood silently with tears running down their cheeks. The young man walked to the old man, reached into his perfect young and beautiful heart, ripped a piece out of it and offered it to the man with trembling hands.

The old man gratefully received his offering, placed it in his heart and then took a piece from his old heart and placed it in the young man’s heart.

The young man looked at his heart, it did not look shiny and smooth like it used to. But it was now more beautiful because he could feel the love from the old man’s heart flowing into him.

Men's fertility also declines with age — here's what to know if you're planning to wait to have kids

Despite what many men believe, they might not have all the time in the world when it comes to having children



Caroline Law
Senior Research Fellow, De
Montfort University

While women are often reminded about their “biological clock,” many guys just don't feel the same pressures when it comes to settling down and starting a family. In fact, a lot of men in their 20s — especially cisgender, heterosexual men — don't think a great deal about having children or when they might want to have children.

This might be because many people think men have all the time in the world when it comes to having children. Exceptional examples such as Mick Jagger — who had a child when he was 73 years old — are often cited to reinforce this argument. But in reality, there are many things men need to bear in mind when it comes to their fertility and starting a family.

In recent decades we have seen a gradual shift towards more people becoming parents later in life. In England and Wales, both men and women are having children later than ever before in recorded history. Men alone now have children on average aged nearly 34-years-old, compared to around 29-years-old in the mid-70s.

There are multiple, complex reasons for this — including young people facing more difficulties buying houses and living in an uncertain economic climate, alongside changes in the way people date and form relationships. Another factor is that both women and men are staying in education longer, and taking longer to establish careers. Alongside this, people appear to feel more pressure to have children at a time when they can give them the “best start” in life.

While some people can have children in their 30s, 40s and beyond with ease, others may struggle. There are often misconceptions that only women face fertility difficulties the older they get but growing evidence suggests that age also affects a man's fertility, too — from around about 40 onwards. In fact, age has been shown to

negatively affect sperm quality, reduce fertility, and carry a greater likelihood of both miscarriage and health conditions in children — particularly autism, schizophrenia, bipolar disorder and childhood leukaemia.

But this evidence is rarely talked about — and men often aren't aware their fertility can decline as they get older. While this is not a reason to panic — arguably the risks still remain low — it is something to be aware of if you are planning to wait to have kids.

Improving your odds

So what can you do then to make sure you have the best chance possible when you do want to have children? There are a couple of factors to take into account.

The first is your lifestyle. Research shows that many different lifestyle factors can affect a man's fertility. In particular, research suggests avoiding smoking and excess alcohol intake, as well as having a healthy diet and BMI, are important for healthy sperm and for fertility. Men (and women) are encouraged to think about these things — and others such as avoiding tight underwear, drugs and steroids — in their teens and 20s.

But having a healthy lifestyle is only one part of the equation. Another key part is age. Ideally, you want to try to have children before “fertility ageing” becomes a problem — that is, before age may affect your chance of conceiving or the wellbeing of your children. Although many people believe that men can continue having children well into old age, the evidence shows us that this may not necessarily be true — and may also come with risks. This is why it may be important for more young men to start thinking about whether, when and under what circumstances they may want children, and build these ideas into how they plan and live their life.

Being single is a key reason why both men and women aren't able to have children at their ideal time — and why some remain childless even if they wanted children. So it's important to keep fatherhood in mind when navigating dating and relationships. Both avoiding “settling down” or staying with the wrong person for too long can affect your (and your partner's) chances of finding the right person to have children with in the future.

Fertility isn't just down to one person. If you do have a partner, it may be important to consider both of your ages and fertility when considering having kids. A woman's fertility decreases faster than a man's does, so having frank and honest conversations about if and when you'd both like to become parents may help you avoid



Age is a factor for male fertility too!

future arguments and disappointments.

New technologies continue to be developed which may help people increase their odds of becoming parents in the middle and older age. In particular, egg freezing is a growing phenomenon and some suggest sperm freezing in younger adulthood can help men

have children later in life but using the best quality sperm. But just because these technologies may make it possible, doesn't mean you shouldn't still think about whether and when you want to have children as you begin to plan your adult life.

NOTICE FOR PERMISSION FOR LAND USE

Take notice that **Graceland Nursery & Preschool (Mrs Grace K. JouanaJeetun)** will apply to the **District Council of Pamplemousses** for a Building and Land Use permit for a proposed Use of Existing Ground Floor for Nursery & Pre-Primary at Royal Road Mamode Ally Lane Notre Dame.

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

Date: 12.08.2022

MAHATMA GANDHI SECONDARY SCHOOL (FLACQ) PTA

REG No: 7630

RE: Annual General Meeting

All members of the Mahatma Gandhi Secondary School (MGSS) Flacq Parent Teacher Association (PTA) are kindly requested to attend the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the above-mentioned Association on **Thursday 25th August 2022 at 12:30 pm** at the seat of the school.

AGENDA

1. Welcome Address by the President of MGSS Flacq PTA
2. Welcome Address by the Head of School of MGSS Flacq
3. Reading & Approval of Minutes of AGM 2021 (18th February 2021)
4. Matters Arising
5. President's Report
6. Treasurer's Report
7. A.O.B.

NOTE: If there is **NO QUORUM** on Thursday 25th August 2022, the AGM will be adjourned for **Thursday 8th September 2022 at 12:30 pm** at the same seat, with the same agenda.

Mahatma Gandhi Secondary School Flacq
François Mitterrand Street
Central Flacq

Miss T.Beeharry
Secretary

Date: 8 August 2022

In women, higher body fat may protect against heart disease death, study shows

A new UCLA study shows that while men and women who have high muscle mass are less likely to die from heart disease, it also appears that women who have higher levels of body fat -- regardless of their muscle mass -- have a greater degree of protection than women with less fat.

The researchers analyzed national health survey data collected over a 15-year period and found that heart disease-related death in women with high muscle mass and high body fat was 42% lower than in a comparison group of women with low muscle mass and low body fat. However, women who had high muscle mass and low body fat did not appear have a significant advantage over the comparison group.

Among men, on the other hand, while having high muscle mass and high body fat decreased their risk by 26% (compared to those with low muscle mass and low body fat), having high muscle mass and low body fat decreased their risk by 60%.

The American Heart Association estimates that 5 million men and 3 million women have heart attacks annually. Yet despite this wide gender gap and an overall decrease in heart attack-related deaths for both men and women over the past 50 years, an equal number of men and women still die from heart disease.

In addition, mortality among women



over those five decades has fallen at a slower rate than for men, and the incidence of heart attacks appears to be increasing among women between the ages of 35 and 54. Recent research has also found that women have significantly higher levels of risk factors associated with adverse heart disease than men.

The researchers analyzed body composition data from the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey 1999-2004 and cardiovascular disease data from the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey 1999-2014.

The findings highlight the importance of recognizing physiological differences between women and men when considering body composition and the risk of death from heart disease, particularly when it comes to how differences in body fat may modify that risk.

The research also underscores the need to develop sex-appropriate guidelines with respect to exercise and nutrition as preventive strategies against the development of cardiovascular disease.

The right '5-a-day' mix is 2 fruit and 3 vegetable servings for longer life

Studies representing nearly 2 million adults worldwide show that eating about five daily servings of fruits and vegetables, in which 2 are fruits and 3 are vegetables, is likely the optimal amount for a longer life, according to new research published in the American Heart Association's flagship journal *Circulation*.

Diets rich in fruits and vegetables help reduce risk for numerous chronic health conditions that are leading causes of death, including cardiovascular disease and cancer. Yet, only about one in 10 adults eat enough fruits or vegetables, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

"While groups like the American Heart Association recommend four to five servings each of fruits and vegetables daily, consumers likely get inconsistent messages about what defines optimal daily intake of fruits and vegetables such as the recommended amount, and which foods to include and avoid," said lead study author Dong D. Wang, an epidemiologist, nutritionist.

Wang and colleagues analyzed data from the Nurses' Health Study and the Health Professionals Follow-Up Study, two studies including more than 100,000

adults who were followed for up to 30 years. Analysis of all studies, with a composite of more than 2 million participants, revealed:

Intake of about five servings of fruits and vegetables daily was associated with the lowest risk of death. Eating more than



five servings was not associated with additional benefit.

Eating about two servings daily of fruits and three servings daily of vegetables was associated with the greatest longevity.

Not all foods that one might consider to be fruits and vegetables offered the same benefits. For example: Starchy vegetables, such as peas and corn, fruit juices and potatoes were not associated with reduced risk of death from all causes or specific chronic diseases.

On the other hand, green leafy vegetables, including spinach, lettuce and kale, and fruit and vegetables rich in beta carotene and vitamin C, such as citrus fruits, berries and carrots, showed benefits.



Could people breathe the air on Mars?

Let's suppose you were an astronaut who just landed on the planet Mars. What would you need to survive?

For starters, here's a short list: Water, food, shelter -- and oxygen.

Oxygen is in the air we breathe here on Earth. Plants and some kinds of bacteria provide it for us.

But oxygen is not the only gas in the Earth's atmosphere. It's not even the most abundant. In fact, only 21% of our air is made up of oxygen. Almost all the rest is nitrogen -- about 78%.

Now you might be wondering: If there's more nitrogen in the air, why do we breathe oxygen?

Here's how it works: Technically, when you breathe in, you take in everything that's in the atmosphere. But your body uses only the oxygen; you get rid of the rest when you exhale.

The air on Mars

The Martian atmosphere is thin -- its volume is only 1% of the Earth's atmosphere. To put it another way, there's 99% less air on Mars than on Earth.

That's partly because Mars is about half the size of Earth. Its gravity isn't strong enough to keep atmospheric gases from escaping into space.

And the most abundant gas in that thin air is carbon dioxide. For people on Earth, that's a poisonous gas at high concentrations. Fortunately, it makes up far less than 1% of our atmosphere. But on Mars, carbon dioxide is 96% of the air!

Meanwhile, Mars has almost no oxygen; it's only one-tenth of one percent of the air, not nearly enough for humans to survive.

If you tried to breathe on the surface of Mars without a spacesuit supplying your oxygen -- bad idea -- you would die in an instant. You would suffocate, and because of the low atmospheric pressure, your blood would boil, both at about the same time.

Life without oxygen

So far, researchers have not found any evidence of life on Mars. But the search is just beginning; our robotic probes have barely scratched the surface.

Without question, Mars is an extreme



An artist's concept of an astronaut walking on Mars. But what would happen if the astronaut weren't wearing a space helmet? cckada/E+ via Getty Images

environment. And it's not just the air. Very little liquid water is on the Martian surface. Temperatures are incredibly cold -- at night, it's more than -100 degrees Fahrenheit (-73 degrees Celsius).

But plenty of organisms on Earth survive extreme environments. Life has been found in the Antarctic ice, at the bottom of the ocean and miles below the Earth's surface. Many of those places have extremely hot or cold temperatures, almost no water and little to no oxygen.

And even if life no longer exists on Mars, maybe it did billions of years ago, when it had a thicker atmosphere, more oxygen, warmer temperatures and significant amounts of liquid water on the surface.

That's one of the goals of NASA's Mars Perseverance rover mission -- to look for signs of ancient Martian life. That's why Perseverance is searching within the Martian rocks for fossils of organisms that

once lived -- most likely, primitive life, like Martian microbes.

Do-it-yourself oxygen

Among the seven instruments on board the Perseverance rover is MOXIE, an incredible device that takes carbon dioxide out of the Martian atmosphere and turns it into oxygen.

If MOXIE works the way that scientists hope it will, future astronauts will not only make their own oxygen; they could use it as a component in the rocket fuel they'll need to fly back to Earth. The more oxygen people are able to make on Mars, the less they'll need to bring from Earth -- and the easier it becomes for visitors to go there. But even with "homegrown" oxygen, astronauts will still need a spacesuit.

Right now, NASA is working on the new technologies needed to send humans to Mars. That could happen in the next decade, perhaps sometime during the late 2030s. By then, you'll be an adult -- and maybe one of the first to take a step on Mars.

Phylindia Gant

Ph.D. Student in Geological Sciences,
University of Florida

Amy J. Williams

Assistant Professor of Geology,
University of Florida



A company had a policy of hiring only married men.

Concerned about this, the leader of a local Woman's Liberation Front, called on the CEO of the company and asked him, "Why is it that you limit your employees to married men? Is it because you consider us women weak, dumb, cantankerous, tantrum-throwers and bossy?"

The CEO replied, "Not at all, Ma'am. Our policy is to hire staff who are used to obeying orders without questioning, are accustomed to being shouted around, know how to keep their mouths shut, and would put up with anything, when I yell at them. And we found all these qualities only in married men."

Married in Heaven

On their way to get married, a young Catholic couple were involved in a fatal car accident. The couple found themselves sitting outside the Pearly Gates waiting for St. Peter to process them into Heaven.

While waiting they began to wonder: Could they possibly get married in Heaven?

When St. Peter arrived, they asked him if they could get married in Heaven.

St. Peter said, "I don't know. This is the first time anyone has asked. Let me go find out," and he left.

The couple sat and waited for an answer... for a couple of months.

While they waited, they discussed the pros and cons. If they were allowed to get married in Heaven, should they get married, what with the eternal aspect of it all? What if it doesn't work? Are we stuck in Heaven together forever?

Another month passed. St. Peter finally returned, looking somewhat bedraggled.

"Yes," he informed the couple, "You can get married in Heaven."

"Great!" said the couple. "But we were just wondering; what if things don't work out? Could we also get a divorce in Heaven?"

St. Peter, red-faced with anger, slammed his clipboard on the ground.

"What's wrong?" asked the frightened couple.

"Oh, come on!" St. Peter shouted. "It took me 3 months to find a priest up here! Do you have ANY idea how long it'll take to find a lawyer?"

Aids

An Irishman named Murphy went to his doctor after a long illness. The doctor, after a lengthy examination, sighed and looked Murphy in the eye and said, "I've got some bad news for you... you have the cancer and it can't be cured. I'd give you two weeks to a month."

Murphy, shocked and saddened by the news, but of solid character, managed to compose himself and walk from the doctor's office into the waiting room.

There he saw his son who had been waiting.



The World's First Tool



Made by Black & Pecker

Murphy said, "Son, we Irish celebrate when things are good and celebrate when things don't go so well. In this case, things aren't so well. I have cancer and I've been given a short time to live. Let's head for the pub and have a few pints."

After three or four pints the two were feeling a little less sombre. There were some laughs and more beers. They were eventually approached by some of Murphy's old friends who asked what the two were celebrating.

Murphy told them that the Irish celebrate the good and the bad... He went on to tell them that they were drinking to his impending end.

He told his friends "I've only got a few weeks to live as I have been diagnosed with AIDS." The friends gave Murphy their condolences and they had a couple more beers.

After his friends left, Murphy's son leaned over and whispered his confusion, "Dad, I thought you said that you were dying from cancer? You just told your friends that you were dying from AIDS?"

Murphy said, "I am dying from cancer son, I just don't want any of them sleeping with your mother."

Life's Stories

Dinner with Another Woman

After 21 years of marriage, my wife wanted me to take another woman out to dinner and a movie. She said, "I love you, but I know this other woman loves you and would love to spend some time with you."

The other woman that my wife wanted me to visit was my mother, who had been a widow for 19 years, but the demands of my work and my three children had made it possible to visit her only occasionally.

That night I called to invite her to go out for dinner and a movie.

"What's wrong, are you well?" she asked. My mother is the type of woman who suspects that a late-night call or surprise invitation is a sign of bad news.

"I thought that it would be pleasant to spend some time with you," I responded. "Just the two of us."

She thought about it for a moment, and then said, "I would like that very much."

That Friday after work, as I drove over to pick her up I was a bit nervous. When I arrived at her house, I



noticed that she, too, seemed to be nervous about our date. She waited in the door with her coat on. She had curled her hair and was wearing the dress that she had worn to celebrate her last wedding anniversary. She smiled from a face that was as radiant as an Angel's. "I told my friends that I was going to go out with my son, and they were impressed," she said, as she got into the car. "They can't wait to hear about our meeting."

We went to a restaurant that, although not elegant, was very nice and cosy. My mother took my arm as if she were the First Lady. After we sat down, I had to read the menu. Her eyes could only read large print. Half way through the entries, I lifted my eyes and saw Mom sitting there staring at me. A nostalgic smile was on her lips. "It was I who used to have to read the menu when you were

small," she said. "Then it's time that you relax and let me return the favour," I responded.

During the dinner, we had an agreeable conversation — nothing extraordinary but catching up on recent events of each other's life. We talked so much that we missed the movie. As we arrived at her house later, she said, "I'll go out with you again, but only if you let me invite you." I agreed.

"How was your dinner date?" asked my wife when I got home.

"Very nice. Much more so than I could have imagined," I answered.

A few days later, my mother died of a massive heart attack. It happened so suddenly that I didn't have a chance to do anything for her. Sometime later, I received an envelope with a copy of a restaurant receipt from the same place where mother and I had dined. An attached note said: "I paid this bill in advance. I wasn't sure that I could be there; but nevertheless I paid for two plates — one for you and the other for your wife. You will never know what that night meant for me. I love you, son."

At that moment, I understood the importance of saying in time: "I love you," and to give our loved ones the time that they deserve. Nothing in life is more important than your family. Give them the time they deserve, because these things cannot be put off till "some other time."

Life's Stories

Growing Good Corn

Once upon a time, there lived a farmer who grew high-quality award-winning corn. Each year he would enter in the state farmer's fair and win a gold award for his exceptionally good corns.

The farmer's high-quality corn was praised all around in the state. The success story of his exceptional corn reached the ears of a journalist and he wanted to interview the farmer. While he was learning about the agriculture process of the farmer, he discovered that the farmer shared his best quality seeds with his neighbours.

"How can you afford to share your best corn seeds with your neighbours when some of them compete with you in the agriculture fair?", asked the curious reporter.

"Why wouldn't I, Sir?", asked the farmer. "Didn't you know that the wind picks up pollen from the ripening corn and swirls it from field to field. If my neighbours grow inferior quality corn, cross-pollination would eventually degrade the quality of my corn too. If I am to grow high quality corn, I must help my neighbours grow a good corn too."

The farmer's answer made the reporter realize how aware the old farmer was about connections in life.

Moral: It is the same with our life. Those who choose to live in peace must help others around them to live in peace too. The one who wishes to be loved, must first learn to love others too. The one who chooses to live well must help to make others live well too, as the value of a life is measured by the lives it touches. Those who choose to be happy must let others find their happiness as the welfare of each is intertwined with the welfare of all.



Life's Lessons

The little help you extend to others can change their whole lives

Once a Train Ticket Examiner (TTE) who was on duty on a Bangalore bound train from Mumbai caught a girl who was hiding under a seat. She was around 13 or 14 years old.

The TTE asked the girl to produce her ticket. The girl hesitantly replied that she had no ticket. The TTE told the girl to get off the train immediately.

Suddenly, a voice from behind said, "I will pay for her." That was the voice of Mrs Usha Bhattacharya, who was a college lecturer by profession.

Mrs Bhattacharya paid for the girl's ticket and requested her to sit near her. She asked her what her name was.

"Chitra," the girl replied.

"Where you are going?"

"I have nowhere to go," the girl said.

"Then come with me," Mrs. Bhattacharya told her. After reaching Bangalore, Mrs Bhattacharya handed over the girl to an NGO, to be taken care of. Later Mrs Bhattacharya shifted to Delhi and the two lost contacts with each other.

After around 20 years, Mrs. Bhattacharya was invited to San Francisco, USA to deliver a lecture in a college there.

She was in a restaurant, having a meal. After she finished, she asked for the bill, but she was told that her bill was already paid for. When she turned back, she saw a woman with her husband smiling at her. Mrs Bhattacharya asked the couple, "Why did you pay my bill?"

The young woman replied, "Ma'am, the bill I paid is extremely little, compared to the fare you paid for me for that train journey from Mumbai to Bangalore."

Tears rolled down from the eyes of both women.

"Oh Chitra... It's you...!" Mrs Bhattacharya said happily astonished.

While hugging each other, the young lady said, "Ma'am my name is not Chitra now. I am Sudha Murty. And this is my husband... Narayan Murty."

Don't be astonished. You are reading the true story of Mrs Sudha Murty, the wife of Mr Narayan Murty, the man who established the multimillion Infosys software company.

Akshata Murthy is the daughter of this couple and married to Rishi Sunak who is in the race to become the Prime Minister of UK.

Yes, the little help you extend to others can change their whole lives!

"Please do not withhold doing good to those in distress, especially when it is in your power to do it".

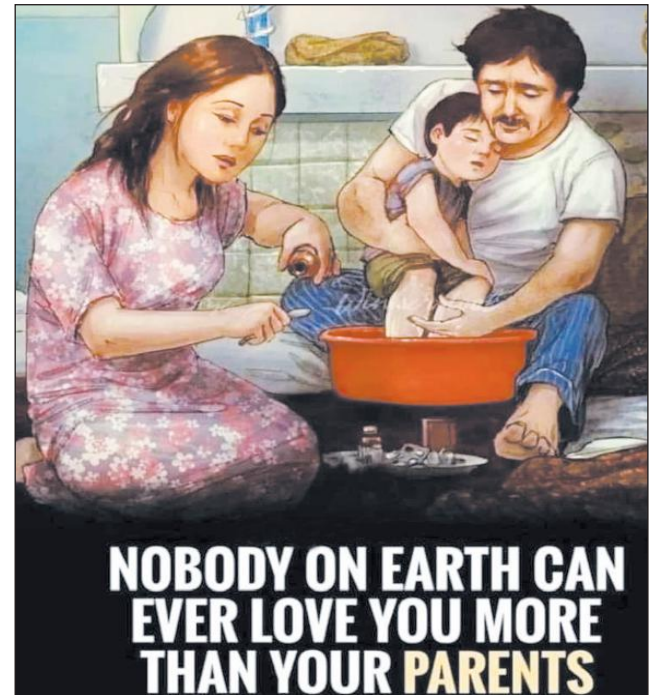
Ayn Rand did warn us in 1957 !

"When you see that in order to produce, you need to obtain permission from men who produce nothing - When you see that money is flowing to those who deal, not in goods, but in favors - When you see that men get richer by graft and by pull than by work, and your laws don't protect you against them, but protect them against you -



'When you see corruption being rewarded and honesty becoming a self-sacrifice - You may know that your society is doomed.'

Ayn Rand,
Atlas Shrugged, 1957



NOBODY ON EARTH CAN EVER LOVE YOU MORE THAN YOUR PARENTS

Quotable Quotes

Rainbows

Human beings must co-exist harmoniously like colours in a rainbow and realizing that all colours come from White light.

-- Anonymous

Try to be a rainbow in someone's cloud.

-- Maya Angelou

Rainbow is the symbol of Hope, like seeing a rainbow during a

thunderstorm.

-- Anonymous

Life comes with challenges and every challenge comes with rainbows and lights to conquer it.

-- Amit Ray

It takes sunshine and rain to make a rainbow.

-- Roy Bennett

Let me, Oh let me bathe my soul in colours; let me swallow the sunset and drink the rainbow.

-- Khalil Gibran

Rainbows introduce us to reflec-

tions of different beautiful possibilities so that we never forget that pain and grief are not the final options in life.

-- Aberjhani

The rainbow is a sign from the spirit in all things. It is a sign of the union of all people, like one big family.

-- Native American

Life without dreams is like a rainbow without colours.

-- Anonymous



Brother:

A person who is there when you need him.

Someone who picks you up when you fall.

A person who sticks up for you when no one else will.

A brother is always a friend.

Health

Prediabetes: You Can Turn It Around

Prediabetes is when your blood sugar is higher than normal, but not high enough to be called diabetes. You won't necessarily notice any symptoms -- you can have it and not know it. A simple blood test can tell you if you do. You're at risk if you're overweight, over 45, and you don't exercise. It makes you more likely to have type 2 diabetes and heart disease, but you can take steps to change that as suggested by Jennifer Robinson, MD, for WebMD.

Lose Weight

It doesn't have to be a lot. If you lose just 7% of your body weight, it can make a huge difference (that's only 14 pounds for a 200-pound person). The first step is to eat healthier food with fewer calories. Start by keeping track of your weight, eating habits, and physical activities.



Eat Healthy

A good rule of thumb is to fill half your plate with non-starchy vegetables (asparagus, Brussels sprouts, and carrots, among many others). One quarter should have starchy foods (like potatoes, corn, or peas). The remaining quarter should be protein -- chicken, fish, or



beans are best. Be extra careful with carbs like baked goods or pasta -- they can raise your blood sugar.

Exercise

You'll lose weight faster and feel better if you get out and burn more calories. You don't need to train for a marathon: A brisk 30-minute walk five times a week should do the trick. A workout buddy can sometimes help you stick to a routine, so call a friend or join a gym and make some new ones. Aerobic exercise (walking, swimming, dancing) and strength training (weight lifting, pushups, pull-ups) are both good. A little of both is best.

Get Your ZZZs

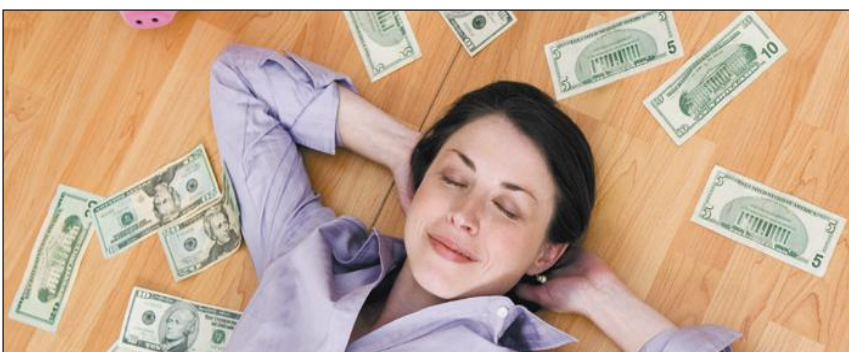
The right amount of shut-eye helps keep your blood sugar at healthy levels. If you can't stay asleep, wake up too early, or get less than 5 hours a night, you're more likely to get diabetes. About 7 or 8 hours a night is ideal. For better sleep, don't have alcohol or caffeine late in the day, keep regular sleep hours, and stick to a calm, quiet bedtime routine.

Don't Smoke

If you smoke, now's the time to quit. Smokers are 30% to 40% more likely to get type 2 diabetes than non-smokers. And if you get diabetes and still smoke, your symptoms may be worse and your blood sugar may be harder to control.

Medication

Certain drugs can help with blood sugar levels and obesity, as well as high cholesterol and high blood pressure. And you're more likely to have those if you have prediabetes. If you do, take your medication as prescribed -- it can improve your health and help you live longer.



Make Your Financial Life Happier

Handling your finances is a big deal when it comes to analysing your life prospects. The more prepared you are to battle monetary adversities, the better control you can have, over your life. But what most people don't know is that the first step to becoming financially

stable is being happy with what you have. Here are some ways suggested by TOI to keep your financial life happier.

Be content with what you have

You will always have the hunger to earn more and be more successful than you are now. That's human nature. But when you finally put that hunger to rest, you will realise there's a lot more to running behind money. Start being content with what you already have.

Concentrate on your affairs

Your need to have more money is fuelled by looking at other people's wealth. The need to compete also

arises when you're not content with what you have. Analyse what matters to you most, compared to others.

Save time

Wasting time in your life when you can use it to do things of much greater value, is simple irresponsible. If you're planning to be financially stable and happy, then start utilising your time and working on it relentlessly.

Don't engage in fights with your loved ones

Stressful financial situations can bring out the worst in couples. And that can lead to a lot of irrational situations. But this is where you have got to stop. Don't engage in conflict with your loved ones because it will increase the chances of you ruining your finances.

Remind yourself of your achievements

Whenever you feel low, remind yourself of the accomplishments you have achieved. It will motivate you to work better, harder and strive for success even more.

He & She

Top reasons that lead to divorce

Marriage is a beautiful concept but it comes with a heavy price. It is not so easy to maintain the sanctity of any relationship unless both sides are willing to work on it. A number of times this unwillingness and callousness leads to divorce which can get ugly. It is being observed that divorce rates have gone way high in recent times and there are several reasons cited for the same. Here is a list of some of the most common reasons why marriages come to an end.



Incompatibility: When we say irreconcilable differences, it basically means the level of incompatibility. Either you are poles apart and unwilling to come to a midpoint or you simply grow apart. It could be due to different values, problems in sex life, religious differences or growth as a person which is independent and not at all in sync.

Miscommunication: The root cause of most fights, arguments and divorces is miscommunication. Assuming and presuming comes hand in hand with this issue. Family issues and financial burdens if not discussed, leads to separation and divorces and they can be very ugly as well.

Infidelity: Being unfaithful whether married or not is unacceptable. If this happens in a marriage, you cannot expect the other to understand. There is obviously some kind of unhappiness, a missing puzzle in your marriage which should be worked on and if it cannot then end it before you cheat. Extramarital affairs are the last straw in a marriage and this often leads to divorces.

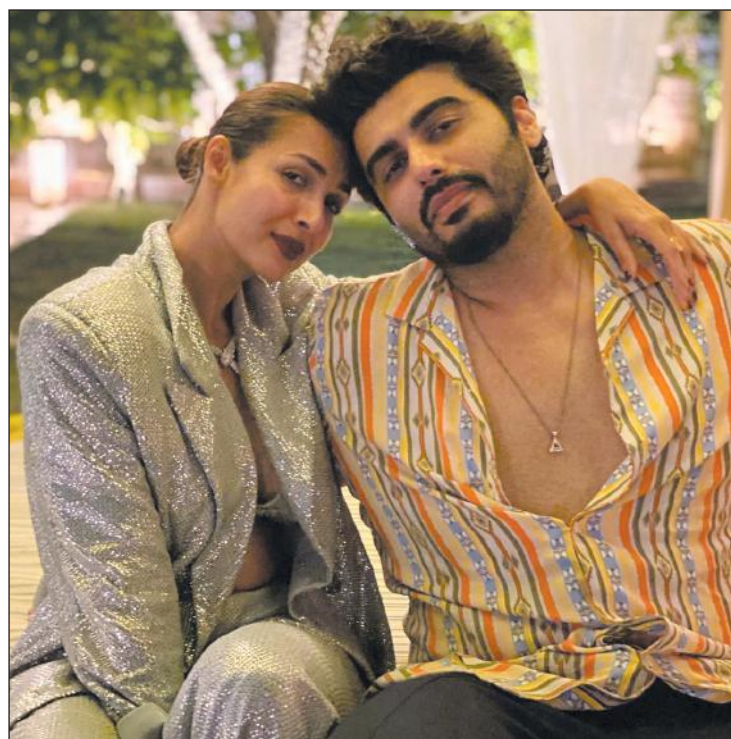
Addictions: Alcohol, drugs or any other substance abuse can often lead to a divorce. Such addictions affect your mood swings, behaviour, sleep pattern, appetite, family responsibilities, friends and connections, wastage of money and not to forget, memory loss.

Domestic abuse: This is a major reason which can lead to divorces. Not just women but men too experience it and it is intolerable and an offence.

Family issues: It is not just the couple that is there in a married picture. If your family or your partner interferes in how you live, how you bring up your child and other household obligations, things tend to get ugly and people do file for divorce in that given scenario. They do not want their kid to grow in a negative environment if the partners do not support each other.

BollyBytes

Arjun Kapoor-Malaika Arora marrying this year?



Karan Johar was straightforward when he asked the same to Arjun Kapoor who appeared on 'Koffee With Karan' with his cousin and Bollywood actress Sonam Kapoor. As direct was Karan, so was Arjun's response. Without blinking an eye or beating around the bush, Arjun said 'No'. The actor reasoned his answer by saying that at this point in time, he wants to achieve stability in his career. He wants to work more and pick projects he's happy about. Hence marriage is not in his mind right now.

Arjun also answered why it took him so much time to go public with his relationship with Malaika. He shared, "I think I've lived a life being on the other side of the spectrum. I grew up in a disjointed family, and it was not easy to see what was going on, and still had to accept everything. I can't just jump on her (Malaika). The first reaction could be 'What do you mean?' If you ease people in, they'll understand."

When questioned about a future wedding, Arjun Kapoor responded that it is not yet planned. "No, because it's been two years of Covid, I want to focus on my career. I want to see where I am going. I am a realistic person. I'm not hiding anything and neither am I coy. I want to be more stable, not just financially. If I am happy, only then I can make my partner happy, and a lot of happiness comes from my work."

Arjun, who is riding on the success of *Ek Villain Returns* at the moment will next be seen in Aasman Bhardwaj's *'Kuttey'* and Ajay Bahl's *'The Ladykiller'*.



Sridevi warned Janhvi Kapoor against joining Bollywood: 'You get hurt too much'

Janhvi Kapoor says her superstar mother, Sridevi had apprehension about her joining movies because she felt her daughter was too "naive and soft-hearted" to be in an industry which could be quite ruthless.

Janhvi Kapoor made her big screen debut with *Dhadak* in July 2018, five months after Sridevi passed away in Dubai. In a recent interview with ET Times, Janhvi opened up about her first conversation with her mother, where she told her about her acting dreams.

Janhvi said her mother's instant response was "don't get into it", as she felt she had worked hard for decades so that her children could enjoy a comfortable life, which the film industry can never provide.

According to Janhvi, who was 21 when Sridevi passed away, her mother wondered why did she want to put herself through the challenges of the industry as she believed Janhvi could easily get carried away, get hurt a lot and didn't want her to adapt to the toughness of the profession.

Janhvi Kapoor said when she insisted that she was sure about her acting ambitions, Sridevi understood, but not without warning her about the workings of the industry and how she would have to fight out the brutal comparisons with the star to make space for herself.

Since her debut in 2018, Janhvi has starred in projects like Netflix anthology *Ghost Stories*, *Gunjan Saxena: The Kargil Girl*, *Roohi* and her latest release, *Good Luck Jerry*.

Her younger sister, Khushi Kapoor, is also set to make her debut with Zoya Akhtar's live-action musical *The Archies*. The Netflix movie also marks screen debut of Shah Rukh Khan's daughter Suhana Khan and Amitabh Bachchan's grandson Agastya Nanda.

'Raksha Bandhan' Akshay Kumar: 'Sisters are stronger and take care of brothers more'

Subjects are his "driving force", and among them, "socially relevant films" push him more. Akshay Kumar told Hindustan Times a day before the release of *Raksha Bandhan*, he says, "I can easily make a *Rowdy Rathore 2* or *Singh is Kinng 2* and make triple the amount of money, but these are social awareness films, and I like making such films because they can make a difference. I was discussing with my director (Aanand L Rai) that after watching our film, even if just 10 people can make a decision to not take or offer dowry, then I consider it my success."

Talking further about the movie, Kumar says, "It has the very basic emotion of *bhai-behen, jo sabke ghar par chalta hai*, but people don't often think about it. We make films on all emotions and relationships, but it has been over four decades since we made a film on the brother-sister bond. *Tapasya*

(1976) was probably the last film on this."

Kumar surely shares a close bond with his sibling, Alka Bhatia. And fans saw him get incredibly emotional as he received a message from her while he was promoting his movie on a reality show. The 54-year-old says, "I rarely get emotional during a show. But when I saw the video where my sister spoke, I got carried away. We say men are strong and take care of their sisters, but I've seen sisters are stronger and take care of brothers more."



Cinema Sirsa

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Friday	12 August	- 13:15 / 20:15
Saturday	13 August	- 10:15 / 13:15 / 20:15
Sunday	14 August	- 13:15 / 16:15 / 20:15
Monday	15 August	- 10:15 / 13:15 / 20:15
Tuesday	16 to Thursday	
	18 August	- 13:15 / 20:15

Rajev Paul's character to turn positive

Rajev Paul, who plays the main antagonist Giriraj Oswal in 'Sasural Simar Ka 2' and was an out-and-out negative character who tried to kill his brother, will be seen having a change of heart, reports ETimes.

After a massive re-entry and throwing the family out on streets and taking over the entire business empire, he is left alone with his wife and no one to share his power, happiness and wealth, while his entire family is together. He starts having remorse for his actions and thus takes a positive turn.

The actor himself is surprised with this new twist in the tale. Rajev Paul shares, "Television is all about a story which moves forward and progresses. I am excited that after a year of playing the out and out villain, arrogant and a cunning son who wants to murder his brother, now turns positive. He has remorse for his actions and realises his mistake and wants to make amends.

"We have had heroes turning negative in the past but one rarely sees a villain turning into a



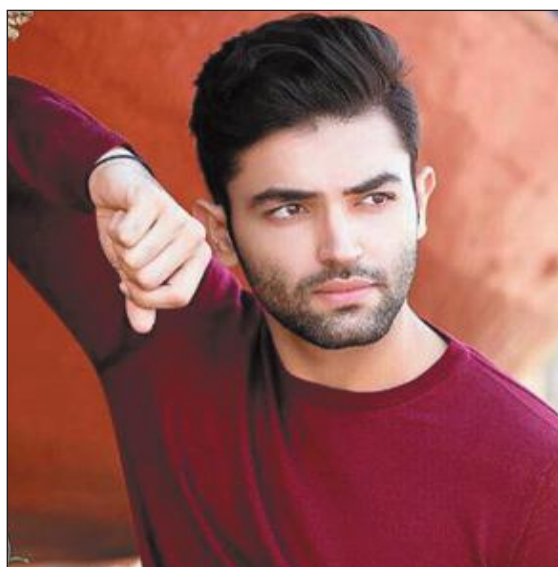
hero. As an actor it is a great opportunity to play such a character with so much of contrast. My character has been negative and it could be challenging to convince the audience that he is a changed man now."

Akash Jagga: 'I was homeless for three months as most people don't want to rent out their houses to actors'

Pursuing a career in the glamour world comes with its own pros and cons. Those who come from various parts of the country to Mumbai often have a challenging time finding accommodation. In fact, several actors have spoken about what an ordeal it has been to find a house in the city. Akash Jagga, who is currently seen playing the role of Gagan in *Sasural Simar Ka 2*, also faced a similar dilemma. In fact, the actor was homeless for three months because he was unable to find a place to live in.

Talking about it, Akash who hails from Jaipur, says, "I have been in Mumbai for three years now, but finding a good accommodation has become an impossible task because of my entertainment background. Earlier this year, from January to March, I was looking for a place to rent, but most housing societies do not consider people from the entertainment industry as normal citizens! They believe we are bad people, law breakers and drug addicts. It was only in April that I finally found a place to stay and I was so relieved. I don't know why people have this wrong opinion about actors. We have not committed a crime by entering this industry, so why are we given such a difficult time when it comes to renting a house?"

He adds, "People from the entertainment industry are often deemed undisciplined, and assumed to cause nuisance and chaos in a



housing society. Most house owners reject our offers for rented flats and come up with strange rules, stating that there's no vacancy or that bachelors aren't allowed even though they have empty flats to rent out. I can say this from my own personal experience when I was homeless for three months and desperately looking for a house. I stayed in a hotel during that time. It was only after months of tireless apartment hunting that I finally found a flat for myself."

Supriya Pilgaonkar reveals 'Ishwari' will always be special to her

Supriya Pilgaonkar says her character Ishwari will always be special for her. The actress also adds: "Ishwari as a character will always be special to me. Viewers have not only loved this character but also enjoyed watching the mother-son bond me and Shaheer Sheikh aka Dev share



on the show. The best part about this show is the journey that one takes with the characters - it's very relatable. It's very mature in its narration and is treated with evolved sensibilities. I am happy to be a part of the show and the reunion with the entire cast has been fabulous."

YOUR STARS

Sagittarius: Nov 22 - Dec 21

Sagittarius natives may also find new sources of income, which are likely to bring monetary gains. Positive thinking will immensely help in withering away stress. Your loving nature multiplies your partner's joy and divides sorrow. You are likely to plan a romantic meeting with your signature at a lively and serene place where nobody could disturb you. You may make memories of a lifetime.

Lucky Numbers: 3, 9, 25, 26, 27, 40

Capricorn: Dec 22 - Jan 19

You need to put extra effort to get desired emotional satisfaction in personal relations. Taking a break from the routine for a short vacation is possible. Don't forget to give tiny bits of love to make it a special day for your beloved. You are likely to get desired results in your love life, as you both are looking together in the same direction.

Lucky Numbers: 7, 15, 16, 20, 33, 39

Aquarius: Jan 20 - Feb 18

Fortune may favour Aquarius natives today. Opportunities coming your way are likely to yield encouraging results in the coming days. Do not let them go. On the economic front, careful investments made in the past are likely to increase the value of your assets. Making the right choices in love is likely to bring stability to your life.

Lucky Numbers: 1, 9, 18, 21, 31, 35

Pisces: Feb 19 - Mar 20

Some more time will be needed to improve your financial situation. You may be unable to close a debt, which is likely to weaken your monetary position. Developing mutual trust and understanding to sort out misunderstandings with a partner would immensely help. Committed Pisces natives may tie the knot.

Lucky Numbers: 2, 9, 14, 19, 23, 25

Aries: Mar 21 - Apr 19

Handling additional responsibilities may make you a winner at work. Traders are likely to make small profits from their business. Failure in conveying true feelings may make you miss a golden opportunity on the romantic front. Being too choosy for a romantic destination might irritate your partner.

Lucky Numbers: 3, 5, 9, 27, 30, 31

Taurus: Apr 20 - May 20

It is time for you to work on improving your communication skills and discovering new approaches that may help to connect with people. Consider the long-term possibilities of your relationship and make every effort to make it stronger every day. When you and your partner get into arguments that aren't necessary, it's a warning indication that tensions may build up.

Lucky Numbers: 7, 11, 12, 15, 21, 36

Gemini: May 21 - June 20

Opportunities that may make goal of buying a home come true may be coming your way. You may not need to reside in rental properties. You can receive rewards at work, it can be a recommendation letter, a promotion, a potential overseas trip, a sizeable raise, or perhaps the interdepartmental move you were hoping for!

Lucky Numbers: 1, 7, 18, 21, 29, 37

Cancer: June 21 - July 22

Opportunities abroad are now becoming available to you if you work in a pharmacy or a medically connected area. Use your skills to their fullest potential. Take some time for yoga or just a general body stretch to loosen the fatigue and spasm. You might feel a little zealous and hotheaded in romance.

Lucky Numbers: 12, 19, 20, 25, 30, 33

Leo: July 23 - Aug 22

You may start the process of putting your dream house together. Old friendships may be rekindled, and you'll enjoy a great evening thinking back on the good moments you've had with your pals. You may spend a lot of money on purchasing gifts and other items for your loved ones. You want your partner to be content, and you may stop at nothing to win their approval.

Lucky Numbers: 1, 3, 5, 22, 29, 31

Virgo: Aug 23 - Sept 22

You are likely to realise the importance of reaching out to people. Enjoying a vacation is on the cards for Virgo natives. Before you plan a property, just go through your bank balance. Don't forget to forgive your romantic partner for past follies in love. You may share your innermost feelings with your romantic partner and they are likely to reciprocate them.

Lucky Numbers: 7, 9, 14, 21, 23, 26

Libra: Sept 23 - Oct 22

Your relationship offers a sense of security and safety. Show loved ones how much you care. It is advisable to check the authenticity of the real estate agent, whom you are dealing with. A long wait for interesting things happening to you might disappoint. You may share your innermost feelings with your romantic partner and they are likely to reciprocate them.

Lucky Numbers: 14, 15, 18, 21, 23, 26

Scorpion: 23 Oct - 21 Nov

On the professional front, positive changes are likely, which may work in your favour. You may be busy expanding your business, which may be moving towards growth, eventually bringing maximum gains. Do not make rash decisions as they may deteriorate your relationship with your loved ones.

Lucky Numbers: 4, 9, 12, 14, 17, 20



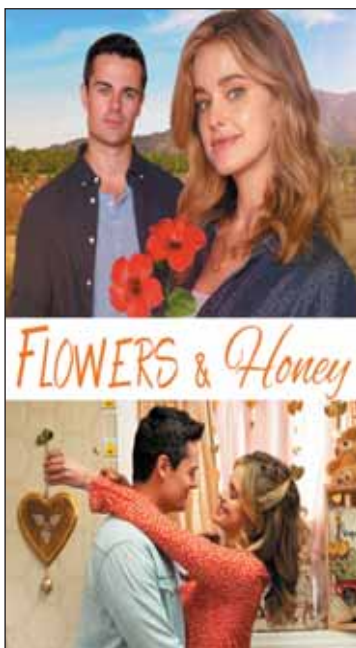
Vendredi 12 août - 21.15



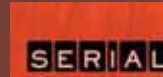
Samedi 13 août - 21.00



Dimanche 14 août - 21.52



Programme TV



vendredi 12 août

samedi 13 août

dimanche 14 août

lundi 15 août

MBC 1

07.16 D.Anime: Sabrina
08.00 D.Anime: P'tit Cosmonaute
09.00 Film: The Queen Of The Swallows
11.00 Mag: Top 100 Famous...
11.10 Tele: Les Trois Visages D'ana
12.00 Le Journal
12.30 Tele: Muneca Brava
13.50 MBC Production
14.45 D.Anime: Gon
15.20 D.Anime: Les Blagues De...
15.34 Film: Toys & Pets
16.59 D.Anime: Cleopatra In Space
17.30 Serial: Malory Towers
18.00 Live: Samachar
18.55 Serial: Surya Puran
19.30 Journal & La Meteo
20.10 Local: Les Grands Noms...
21.06 Local: Radio Vision
22.05 Serial: Billions
23.00 Le Journal

06.00 D.Anime: Ubongo Kids
07.43 D.Anime: Paf, Le Chien
08.00 Film: Spark
09.30 D.Anime: Kids' Planet
10.00 Local: Zanfan Nou Zil
10.30 Serial: Oh Yuck!
10.52 Local: Autour Des Valeurs...
12.00 Le Journal
12.20 En Direct De La City Trianon
15.00 Live: Samachar
15.35 Film: Fireman Sam
16.35 D.Anime: Paf, Le Chien
16.43 D.Anime: All Hail Kng Julien
17.06 Doc: World Capitals
17.15 Mag: Human Nature
18.00 Samachar
18.30 Enter: Taare Zameen
19.30 Journal & La Meteo
20.25 Local: Autour Des Valeurs...
21.25 Film: A Perfect Match
23.00 Local: Le Journal

06.00 D.Anime: Ubongo Kids
07.25 D.Anime: Inspecteur Gadget
07.46 D.Anime: Paf, Le Chien
08.00 D.Anime: Kid Lucky
10.00 Local: Zanfan Nou Zil
11.00 Local: Nu Rasinn
11.55 Local: Autour Des Valeurs...
12.00 Le Journal
12.36 Tele: Muneca Brava
13.16 Tele: La Femme De Lorenzo
15.21 D.Anime: Les Blagues De To...
15.35 Film: Fish School 2
16.35 D.Anime: PAF, Le Chien
17.15 Mag: Human Nature
17.45 Local: 13 Minit Natir Rodrig
18.00 Live: Samachar
18.30 Local: Yeh Shaam Mastani
19.30 Le Journal
20.20 Local Production: Les Klips
21.25 Film: Erin Brockovich
23.30 Le Journal

06.00 Local: Mots & Ecrits
07.00 D. Anime: Clip - Akili Family
07.55 D. Anime: P'tit Cosmonaute
09.00 Film: Holiday Joy
10.35 Local: Zanfan Nou Zil
11.10 Tele: Les Trois Visages D'ana
12.00 Le Journal
12.30 Tele: Muneca Brava
13.51 Local: Nu Rasinn
15.20 D.Anime: Les Blagues De...
15.35 Film: The Swan Prince
17.30 Serial: Malory Towers
18.00 Live: Samachar
18.30 Serial: Mere Sai
18.55 Serial: Jag Jaanani Maa Vaishnodevi
19.30 Le Journal
20.25 MBC Production
21.25 Local: La Societe
22.20 Film: The Wind And The Lion
Star: Sean Connery, Candice Bergen

MBC 2

07.00 DDI Live
10.00 Serial: Sila
11.24 Serial: Tu Ishq Hai
12.00 Film: Un Samayal Arayil
14.43 Filler: Radha Krishna
15.00 Live: Samachar
15.22 Serial: Saare Tujhyachsathi
15.46 Serial: Bommarillu
16.13 Serial: Sondha Bandham
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

07.00 Film: Alibaba Marjinaa
Starring Urmila Bhatt, Prem Kishen, Birbal
10.00 Bade Acche Lagte Hai
11.23 Serial: Dikri Vahalno Dariyo
12.11 Serial: Nanda Saukhya Bhare
12.25 Serial: Mooga Manasulu
12.48 Serial: High School
15.00 Live: Samachar
15.25 Film: Rabba Main Kya Karoon
Stars: Akash Sagar Chopra, Arshad Warsi, Paresh Rawal
17.19 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: Cookie
Starring Nabeel Ahmed, Ashar, Bhavin

07.00 Film: Jazbaat
11.03 Serial: Azhagu
11.20 Jag Jaanani Maa Vaishnodevi
11.45 Serial: Surya Puran
12.06 Film: Ek Rishtaa
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
17.03 Serial: Siya Ke Ram
19.00 Live: Zournal Kreol
19.30 Serial: Radha Krishna
20.05 Serial: Porus
21.26 Serial: CID
21.07 Serial: Naagin Season 3
Starring: Mouni Roy, Arjun Bijlani, Adaa Khan, Karanvir Bohra

07.00 DDI Live
10.00 Kundali Bhagya
12.06 Film: Kranti
Starring Dilip Kumar, Manoj Kumar, Shashi Kapoor
15.00 Samachar
15.20 Serial: Saare Tujhyachsathi
15.47 Serial: Bommarillu
16.02 Serial: Sondha Bandham
16.26 Serial: Pyar Ke Sadqay
16.46 Serial: Bhaag Na Bachhe
17.04 Serial: Kullfi Kumarr...
17.30 Serial: Vandhal Sridevi
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: Maara
Starring: Madhavan, Shraddha Srinath

MBC 3

07.00 Mag: Border Crossing
07.51 Doc: Hotels
08.41 Doc: Castles
09.45 Doc: The Miracle Of Hearing
11.50 Mag: Carnet De Sante
13.57 Doc: Castles
15.39 Doc: China's Cities
16.25 Mag: Eco India
17.06 Mag: Border Crossing
19.00 Student Support Prog...
20.30 Live: News
20.45 Doc: World Heritage
21.42 Doc: Quand L'Histoire
22.50 Doc: The Virgin Of The Rock
23.30 Doc: Riding The Rails...
00.27 Doc: World Famous Writers
00.30 Mag: Our Voices
00.56 Mag: Euromaxx
01.22 Expedition Kachgar
02.14 Doc: World Heritage
02.19 Doc: Lost Edens

06.00 Doc: Riding The Rails...
06.42 Mag: World Stories
06.57 Mag: Our Vocies
07.25 Mag: Euromaxx
07.56 Doc: Expedition Yangtze
09.45 Doc: Quand L'Histoire Fait...
11.39 Doc: Riding The Rails...
13.05 Mag: World Stories
13.16 Doc: World Famous Writers
17.16 Doc: The Virgin Of The Rock
18.08 Doc: Sweet Magic
18.25 Doc: Smoothie Mania
19.33 Doc: Fregates Fleuron...
20.30 Local: News (English)
20.45 Doc: World Heritage
20.50 Doc: Cuisine Sauvage
21.42 Doc: Skuld
22.08 Mag: Luana's Kitchen
22.53 Doc: Sweet Magic
23.42 Doc: Smoothie Mania
23.26 Mag: In Good Shape

06.00 Doc: Sweet Magic
07.02 Mag: Salad Area
07.31 Mag: Check In
09.49 Doc: Skuld
10.38 Doc: Bohemian Switzerland
11.20 Doc: Sweet Magic
11.25 Doc: Snapshots
11.55 Doc: Smoothie Mania
12.25 Mag: The 77 Percent
14.09 Doc: World Heritage
14.53 Doc: Skuld
15.32 Mag: Luana's Kitchen
16.07 The Language Of Whales
17.23 Mag: In Good Shape
19.06 Mag: The Inside Story
19.37 Mag: Japan Video Topics
20.30 Live: News (English)
20.50 Doc: World Heritage
22.02 Mag: Sky Eye
22.51 Doc: Beneath The Waves
23.17 Doc: Sweet Magic

07.00 Mag: Saladeria
07.58 Doc: Paradis Perdus
08.47 Doc: Antarctique Printemps
09.41 Doc: Sky Eye
12.24 Mag: The Inside Story
14.02 Doc: World Heritage
14.59 Doc: Sky Eye
16.06 Doc: Beneath The Waves
18.00 Mag: EcoAfrica
19.00 Doc: Persons
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 Doc: Extreme Climate...
23.40 Mag: EcoAfrica
00.06 Mag: The 77 Percent
00.35 Mag: Africa 54
01.03 Mag: In Good Shape
01.29 Doc: Castles

Cine 12

01.32 Film: 3 Secondes
03.43 Film: On Wings Of Eagles
05.34 Tele: Marimar
05.56 Tele: Rubi
06.59 Film: 3 Secondes
09.00 Serial: Deux Flics A Miami
09.45 Tele: La Beaute Du Diable
10.35 Tele: Fierce Angel
11.00 Serial: Elementary
12.00 Film: On Wings Of Eagles
13.37 Tele: Marimar
14.45 Film: 3 Secondes
16.30 Serial: Deux Flics A Miami
17.17 Serial: Lincoln Rhyme
18.05 Tele: La Beaute Du Diable
19.00 Tele: Fierce Angel
19.34 Serial: Oh Yuck!
20.05 Tele: Missing Bride
20.30 Serial: Timeless
21.15 Film: Alpha
22.48 Tele: Marimar

01.31 Film: Alpha
02.58 Serial: Pure Genius
03.41 Serial: Under Pressure
04.22 Serial: Gone
05.17 Tele: Tanto Amor
06.02 Serial: Timeless
06.45 Serial: Imposters
08.30 Serial: Lincoln Rhyme
09.11 Serial: Under Pressure
10.40 Film: What The Night Can Do
12.15 Serial: Pure Genius
13.30 Serial: Elementary
15.00 Tele: Muneca Brava
16.20 Serial: Timeless
17.03 Film: The Little Mermaid
18.30 Serial: Knight Rider
19.35 Serial: Oh Yuck!
20.05 Tele: Missing Bride
20.30 Series: Timeless
21.15 Film: Baby Driver
23.05 Tele: Sinu, Rio Des Pasiones

01.28 Film: Baby Driver
03.20 Serial: Absentia
04.00 Film: A Perfect Match
05.22 Tele: Tanto Amor
06.02 Serial: Timeless
08.30 Serial: Lincoln Rhyme
09.11 Film: A Perfect Match
10.40 Film: The Little Mermaid
12.16 Serial: Absentia
13.30 Serial: Elementary
15.35 Tele: Muneca Brava
17.00 Serial: Timeless
17.45 Serial: Absentia
18.30 Serial: L'Agence Tous Risque
19.36 Serial: Oh Yuck
20.05 Tele: Missing Bride
20.30 Serial: The Good Doctor
21.15 Serial: Scorpion
22.00 Film: Flowers And Honey
23.30 Tele: Sinu, Rio Des Pasiones

01.55 Film: Flowers And Honey
04.04 Film: Erin Brockovich
05.58 Tele: Marimar
06.22 Tele: Rubi
06.46 Serial: The Good Doctor
07.28 Serial: Scorpion
08.07 Film: Flowers And Honey
09.45 Tele: La Beaute Du Diable
10.35 Tele: Fierce Angel
11.00 Serial: Elementary
11.45 Film: Erin Brockovich
13.40 Tele: Marimar
13.54 Tele: Rubi
14.45 Film: Flowers And Honey
16.35 Serial: The Good Doctor
18.05 Tele: La Beaute Du Diable
19.00 Tele: Fierce Angel
19.39 Serial: Oh Yuck
20.05 Tele: Missing Bride
20.30 Serial: The Baker And The...
21.15 Film: Faith Under Fire

Bollywood TV

06.52 Film: Rishtey
Starring: Anil Kapoor, Karisma Kapoor, Shilpa Shetty
11.12 / 20.30 - Radha Krishna
11.41 / 21.00 - Anupamaa
12.11 / 21.30 - Mere Sai
12.42 / 22.00 - Agnihera
13.11 / 22.03 - Yeh Teri Galiyan
13.36 / 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: Gali Gali Chor Hai
Starring: Akshaye Khanna, Shriya Saran, Mugdha Godse
18.00 Live: Samachar
18.30 Kundali Bhagya
19.00 Udaariyaan
19.28 Serial: Kuch Rang Pyar Ke Aise Bhi

04.02 Radha Krishna
04.33 Anupamaa
05.03 Mere Sai
05.24 Agnihera
06.00 Yeh Teri Galiyan
06.16 Patiala Babes
08.00 Yeh Teri Galiyan
10.11 Motu Patlu
10.09 Sasural Simar Ka 2
12.20 Serial: Bhakharwadi
13.06 Serial: Udaariyaan
14.15 Serial: Anupamaa
16.05 Kuch Rang Pyar Ke Aise...
18.00 Samachar
18.30 Film: Love Aaj Kal
Starring Kartik Aaryan, Sara Ali Khan, Randeep Hooda
21.19 Serial: Namah
21.11 Serial: Naagin Season 3
21.53 Serial: Yeh Teri Galiyan

00.05 Serial: Sasural Simar Ka 2
02.15 Bhakharwadi
04.04 Anupamaa
06.00 Kuch Rang Pyar Ke Aise...
08.12 Ishaaron Ishaaron Mein
10.01 Kundali Bhagya
12.01 Yeh Hai Mohabbatein
13.44 Agnihera
16.08 Jijaji Chhat Par Hain
17.00 Punar Vivaah
18.00 Live: Samachar
18.30 Film: Housefull 4
Starring: Akshay Kumar, Sam Nagar, Riteish Deshmukh
20.46 Naagin Season 3
21.27 Yeh Hai Mohabbatein
23.12 Ishaaron Ishaaron Mein
00.52 Kundali Bhagya
02.41 Agnihera

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
14.06 / 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: Pukaar
Starring: Anil Kapoor, Madhuri Dixit, Namrata Shirodkar...
18.00 Live: Samachar
18.30 Kundali Bhagya
19.00 Udaariyaan
19.31 Kuch Rang Pyar Ke Aise...
20.01 Sasural Simar Ka 2
20.30 Radha Krishna
21.06 Anupamaa

CINE 12

Mardi 16 août - 21.10



MBC 1

Mercredi 17 août - 21.15



MBC 2

Jeudi 18 août - 21.15



Programme TV



SERIAL



mardi 16 août

MBC 1

06.00 Local: Rodrig
07.27 D.Anime: Sabrina
09.05 Film: Diamond Dog Caper
10.45 Doc: Destination
11.10 Tele: Les Trois Visages D'ana
12.00 Le Journal
12.30 Tele: Muneca Brava
13.55 Local: Come On Let's Dance
14.47 D.Anime: Gon
15.00 Live: Samachar
15.20 D.Anime: Les Blagues De...
15.35 Film: Groundhog Dave 1
17.30 Serial: Malory Towers
18.00 Live: Samachar
18.30 Serial: Jijaji Chhat Par Hain
19.30 Journal & La Meteo
20.20 Local: Autour Des Valeurs...
22.15 Film: Potter's Ground
With: Isaiiah Stratton, Scott Crain

MBC 2

07.00 DDI Live
10.00 Serial: CID
12.00 Film: Jai Radhe Krishna
Starring: Jayshree T., Mohan Choti, Satyaajeet
15.00 Live: Samachar
15.20 Saare Tujhyachsathi
15.43 Bommarillu
16.07 Sondha Bandham
16.33 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...
18.30 Local: DDI Magazine
19.00 Zournal Kreol
19.30 Serial: Radha Krishna
20.06 Local: Tamil Programme
20.30 Film: Geet Gaata Chal
Star: Sachin, Sarika, Madan Puri
22.48 DDI Live

MBC 3

06.00 Mag: Eco@Africa
07.24 Mag: In Good Shape
07.53 Mag: Luana's Kitchen
09.46 Mag: Washington Forum
11.00 Mag: Eco@Africa
13.26 Doc: Global Drinks
14.47 Mag: Washington Forum
16.12 Mag: Eco@Africa
18.00 Mag: Rev: The Global Auto...
18.45 Mag: Red Carpet
19.03 Doc: Persons
19.34 Doc: Archipel De Feu
20.30 Live: News
20.45 Doc: Tree Stories
21.54 Mag: Euromaxx
22.19 Local Prod: Rodrig
22.36 Local: Rodrig-Klip Seleksion
23.44 Mag: The Global Auto...
00.10 Mag: Healthy Living
00.40 Doc: Persons
00.43 Mag: Check In

Cine 12

01.34 Film: Faith Under Fire
02.59 Serial: Elementary
03.38 Film: The Wind And The Lion
05.32 Tele: Marimar
05.56 Tele: Rubi
06.20 Serial: The Baker And The...
07.00 Film: Faith Under Fire
09.47 Tele: La Beaute Du Diable
10.35 Tele: Fierce Angel
11.00 Serial: Elementary
11.42 Film: The Wind And The Lion
13.39 Tele: Marimar
14.03 Tele: Rubi
14.45 Film: Faith Under Fire
16.40 Serial: Dynasty 2
17.20 Serial: The Baker And The...
18.05 Tele: La Beaute Du Diable
19.00 Tele: Fierce Angel
20.05 Tele: Missing Bride
20.30 Seiral: The Baker And The...
21.15 Film: All About Nina

Bollywood TV

06.50 Film: Pukaar
Stars: Anil Kapoor, Madhuri Dixit, Namrata Shirodkar...
11.56 / 19.27 - Radha Krishna
12.26 / 20.57 - Anupamaa
12.55 / 21.27 - Mere Sai
13.26 / 22.07 - Agniphera
13.45 / 22.37 - Yeh Teri Galiyan
14.16 / 23.07 - Patiala Babes
14.13 / 21.59 - Main Maikhe Chali Jaungi Tum Dekhte Rahiyo
14.40 / 22.25 - Yeh Hai Mohabbatein
15.07 Film: Saagar
Star: Rishi Kapoor, Kamal Haasan, Dimple Kapadia
18.00 Live: Samachar
18.30 Serial: Kundali Bhagya
19.04 Udaariyaan
19.34 Kuch Rang Pyar Ke Aise..
20.00 Serial: Sasural Simar Ka 2

mercredi 17 août

07.00 D.Anime: Tom-Tom Et Nana
07.40 D.Anime: Sabrina
08.09 D.Anime: P'tit Cosmonaute
09.00 Film: Fantastica
10.20 Mag: National Anthem
11.10 Tele: Les Trois Visages D'ana
12.00 Le Journal
12.30 Tele: Muneca Brava
13.55 Local Production: Les Klips
14.47 D.Anime: Gon
15.20 D.Anime: Les Blagues De...
15.35 Film: Go Fish
17.30 Serial: Superstore
18.00 Live: Samachar
18.30 Local Prod - Ayush
19.00 Local: Planet Bollywood
19.30 Journal & La Meteo
20.30 MBC Production
22.20 Film: The Marine 5: Battleground
Star: Mike 'The Miz' Mizanin, Maryse Mizanin

07.00 DDI Live
10.00 Suhani Si Ek Ladki
12.00 Film: Mahabharat
Starring: Pradeep Kumar, Padmini, Dara Singh
15.00 Live: Samachar
15.23 Saare Tujhyachsathi
15.49 Bommarillu
16.07 Sondha Bandham
16.36 Serial: Pyar Ke Sadqay
16.53 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 Zournal Kreol
19.30 Serial: Radha Krishna
20.06 Programme In Marathi
21.00 Film: Eka Fantasychi Gosht
22.18 DDI Live

06.00 Mag: Rev: Global Auto...
06.41 Mag: Red Carpet
07.02 Mag: Check In
08.46 Doc: Castles
09.57 Mag: Euromaxx
14.40 Doc: Tree Stories
17.39 Mag: Healthy Living
18.07 Mag: Motorweek
18.26 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 Doc: Tresors Oublies
22.24 Mag: Focus On Europe
23.32 Mag: Motorweek
23.58 Mag: Vous Et Nous
00.26 Doc: Persons
00.39 Mag: Arts.21
01.05 Mag: The Inside Story
01.31 Doc: Skuld, A Look Into...
01.54 Doc: Castles

01.28 Film: All About Nina
03.40 Film: A Perfect Match
05.17 Tele: Marimar
05.41 Serial: Rubi
06.47 Film: Driving By Braille
09.00 L'Agence Tous Risques
09.45 Tele: La Beaute Du Diable
10.40 Tele: Fierce Angel
11.10 Serial: Elementary
12.05 Film: A Perfect Match
13.30 Tele: Marimar
14.45 Film: Driving By Braille
16.40 L'Agence Tous Risques
17.22 Serial: The Baker And The...
18.09 Tele: La Beaute Du Diable
19.00 Tele: Fierce Angel
19.37 Serial: Malory Towers
20.05 Tele: Missing Bride
20.30 Serial: Lincoln Rhyme
21.15 Film: Alvarez Kelly
23.09 Tele: Marimar

07.23 Film: Saagar
11.45 / 20.06 - Radha Krishna
12.30 / 20.26 - Anupamaa
13.00 / 20.02 - Mere Sai
13.25 / 20.46 - Agniphera
13.50 / 21.09 - Yeh Teri Galiyan
14.15 / 21.50 - Patiala Babes
14.35 / 22.15 - Main Maikhe Chali Jaungi Tum Dekhte Rahiyo
14.55 / 21.46 - Yeh Hai Mohabbatein
15.19 Film: Shola Aur Shabnam
Starring: Govinda, Divya Bharti, Gulshan Grover
18.00 Live: Samachar
18.30 Kundali Bhagya
19.00 Udaariyaan
19.30 Kuch Rang Pyar Ke Aise..
20.00 Sasural Simar Ka 2
20.30 Radha Krishna
20.59 Anupamaa

jeudi 18 août

06.00 Local: Klip Seleksion
06.45 Local: Coin Jardin
06.59 D.Anime: Clip - Akili Family
07.16 D.Anime: Tom-Tom Et Nana
08.05 D.Anime: P'tit Cosmonaute
09.00 Film: Simba, The King Lion
12.00 Le Journal
12.30 Tele: Muneca Brava
13.51 Local: Music Tour 2022
14.45 D.Anime: Gon
15.21 D.Anime: Les Blagues De...
15.40 Film: Kids Of Wuzhumuqin...
17.03 D.Anime: PAF, Le Chien
17.30 Serial: Superstore
18.00 Live: Samachar
18.30 Serial: Jijaji Chhat Par Hain
19.30 Le Journal
20.10 Local: Autour Des Valeurs...
20.20 Film: Baabul
Starring Amitabh Bachchan, Hema Malini, Salman Khan, Rani Mukherjee, John Abraham

07.00 DDI Live
10.16 Serial: Vikram Betaal Ki Rahasya Gatha
10.59 Serial: Mann Mein Vishwas...
12.00 Film: Gopal Krishna
15.00 Live: Samachar
15.22 Serial: Saare Tujhyachsathi
15.43 Serial: Bommarillu
16.12 Serial: Sondha Bandham
16.26 Serial: Pyar Ke Sadqay
16.45 Bhaag Na Bachhe Koi
17.04 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: Baby Driver
With Ansel Elgort, Jon Bernthal

06.00 Mag: Motorweek
06.24 Mag: Vous Et Nous
06.52 Mag: Arts.21
08.17 Doc: Castles
10.31 Doc: Once Upon A River
11.45 Local: Vous Et Nous
12.39 Mag: The Inside Story
13.35 Doc: Castles
15.21 Mag: Focus On Europe
16.33 Mag: Motorweek
18.00 Mag: Eco India
18.29 Mag: Shift
19.00 Student Support Prog...
19.34 Doc: Hotels
20.30 Local: News (English)
20.48 Doc: Castles
21.40 Doc: Craft Chocolate
22.28 Doc: The Internet Of Every...
23.11 Mag: Eco India
23.37 Mag: Shift
23.49 Mag: Carnet De Sante

01.31 Film: Nanny's Secret
03.04 Serial: Elementary
03.39 Film: Alvarez Kelly
05.24 Tele: Marimar
05.47 Tele: Rubi
06.51 Film: Nanny's Secret
09.00 Serial: Dynasty 2
09.45 Tele: La Beaute Du Diable
10.37 Tele: Fierce Angel
11.00 Serial: Elementary
11.43 Film: Alvarez Kelly
13.35 Tele: Marimar
14.45 Film: Nanny's Secret
16.35 Serial: Dynasty 2
17.21 Serial: Lincoln Rhyme
18.05 Tele: La Beaute Du Diable
19.00 Tele: Fierce Angel
19.34 Serial: Malory Towers
20.05 Tele: Missing Bride
20.30 Serial: Lincoln Rhyme
21.15 Serial: Knight Rider

07.00 Film: Shola Aur Shabnam
11.45 / 20.11 - Radha Krishna
12.10 / 20.28 - Anupamaa
12.33 / 20.32 - Mere Sai
13.07 / 21.09 - Agniphera
13.36 / 21.24 - Yeh Teri Galiyan
14.06 / 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: Meera
Starring Hema Malini, Vinod Khanna, Shreeram Lagoo, Shammi Kapoor
18.00 Samachar
18.30 Kundali Bhagya
18.59 Udaariyaan
19.34 Kuch Rang Pyar Ke Aise..
20.02 Sasural Simar Ka 2
20.18 Serial: Radha Krishna



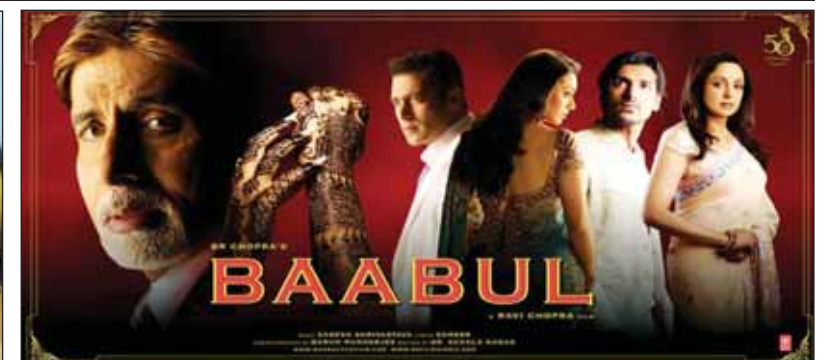
Jeudi 18 août - 15.30

Stars: Hema Malini, Vinod Khanna, Shreeram Lagoo, Shammi Kapoor



Jeudi 18 août - 20.20

Star: Amitabh Bachchan, Hema Malini, Salman Khan, Rani Mukherjee, John Abraham





Nita Chicooree-Mercier

In 'The Foundations of Indian Culture', mystic and poet Sri Aurobindo laid much emphasis on the dharmic culture and ancient spirit of the land of the rishis. For him it was the prime force underlying its evolution through the ages and sustained its civilization.

Dharma is the Eternal Truth that enlightens every aspect of the exploration of the spirit, the scientific understanding of the Cosmic Energy and the Laws of Nature, how they illustrate the unity of beings, the various forms in which this unity is expressed and celebrated in the aesthetics, sculpture, arts, devotional songs, music, dance and the general outlook on humanity, life, politics and society. The spiritual dimension of this dharmic culture permeates all aspects of its age-old civilization. It is about spirituality being a prime motive, and not a cosmetic artifice that is evoked conveniently to give credibility to and justify actions undertaken by alien forces that clashed with Indian civilization over centuries up to modern times.

How long the ancient spirit of India will survive depends on the will of its sons and daughters to sustain it - or to let it be engulfed in the whirlwind of other pursuits and to then perish slowly. Sri Aurobindo pointed at the imitation of western political system, which started in the de-colonization period, as a warning sign of the corrosive effects such imitation might engender if it is swallowed wholesale, as it is not in harmony with the ancient spirit of Indian civilization.

In today's world, it should matter to the people of India, its diaspora and people of Indian origin whether the upbringing in their homes and the formal education imparted in schools and colleges open the doors to the knowledge of their own culture, past and history, and equip them with the necessary tools to guide and give a holistic sense of purpose to themselves, the society they live in, and Indian culture at a higher level. We cannot but agree with François Gautier, an outspoken voice on Indian culture, who underlines the fact that an intellectual of the calibre of Sri Aurobindo would have been held in high esteem in France and his books on culture, politics, philosophy, and poetry studied and discussed in universities. This is far from being the case in India itself.

Sri Aurobindo belongs to modern history when you think of it. How much the younger generation knows about the influence of the Vedas and the Upanishad on thinkers like Schopenhauer in Germany, Spinoza in the Netherlands and Thoreau in America is anybody's guess. Let alone the names and works of past mathematicians and scholars in various fields of science who are blithely ignored. For example, it would seem the findings of leading nuclear scientists in the 20th century do not receive

India's Shakti



How long the ancient spirit of India will survive depends on the will of its sons and daughters to sustain it. Pic - eSamskriti

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due recognition. The career of a contemporary space scientist, Dr Narayanan, has been ruined for political reasons by a Congress-led government in Kerala since 2009. He was harassed and thrown out of a rickshaw in Kerala. Despite the humiliation, Dr Narayanan remains a staunch patriot and refused a brighter future offered to him in the US.

Scientists are honoured in advanced countries, Europe, the US, Canada, Japan and China. Their interviews and conferences are highlighted in the media. Intellectuals, philosophers and writers are treated like demi-gods in France, a status which has been monopolized by politicians in developing countries where political rivalry and ego issues overweigh national interests. Western countries have borrowed a lot from Indian thought and science without acknowledging it. Even Steven Spielberg's film 'ET' in the 1980s was an imitation of Bengali film producer and writer Satyajit Ray's short story relating the accidental landing of a UFO in a village illustrated with a drawing of an alien being. Spielberg ignored the protests of Indians in New York.

Western countries did not predict the future and potential of Information Technology and were ill-prepared to cater for the huge demands in various sectors in the 1990s. It caused a brain drain of engineers, educated at Indian taxpayers' expense, to the West at a time when India was hardly beginning to emerge from under-development. Ayurvedic medicine recipes are copied by Americans and smartly marketed with different labels with capital A and exported to India to make it sound local. Cosmetic brands like the British Estée Lauder came to India to study Ayurveda and used it without paying a single penny to India. Just see how the Americans send lawyers to hound any foreigner who ventures to copy their brands with disrespect to property rights.

The point is how much credit India itself has given to its intellectuals, thinkers, and scientists so that they could be role models for the younger and upcoming generation. A policy of appeasement and a distorted sense of secularism that marked decades of Congress-led governments as from 1947 are singled out as the causes for an inadequate knowledge of history in Indian schools. To what extent a free market economy, borrowings from IMF, introduction of American TV channels have opened the way to further gross imitation as Sri Aurobindo warned about is an open question. An all-Sanskrit-based medium of teaching is reported to be undergoing experimentation in the US to create a new breed of mathematicians and scientists. By 2012, budget cuts in Sanskrit by the Congress government drew criticism in India. Interestingly there were then more foreigners studying Sanskrit in India than locals. Has the situation changed?

It seems that 800 years of foreign rule have created a mindset which is seen as yielding to the ones who shout loudest. However, the other half of the glass is full of energy, India's Shakti embodied by rulers who are striving to assert their values and national ambitions in a spirit of patriotism despite all the odds and obstacles.



Tree of Knowledge

Madisyn Taylor

Reconnecting with Friends

Every person that passes through our lives makes a contribution to our life stories. There are those who play large roles and make deep impressions, but sometimes a brief special appearance before life takes them in another direction creates a meaningful connection. It is a rare gift when they suddenly reappear in our lives after a long absence.



Though the world may seem full of more people than we could ever know, we are often drawn to people with similar energy, which brings us together time and time again. On first meeting, the characters in our life stories may seem familiar. We may know each other from past lives or perhaps we merely recognize the energy of a kindred spirit.

But when fate brings old friends back into our lives, there is always a reason. They may act as messengers, reminding us of a part of ourselves we have forgotten to nurture. They might appear to give us a chance to react in a new way to an old situation. They may even bring up unresolved issues so that we may complete them, giving us the chance to move forward on our life path. Whether old friends, previous romances, or once and future partners, their reappearance is more than mere chance. They may never know what they bring into our lives, but the renewed contact is a gift.

If this hasn't happened to you, maybe you are meant to initiate contact by seeking out old friends. If old friends come to mind or into your dreams, use their appearance as an excuse to get in touch. If an old song or movie reminds you of them, reach out to share the gift of renewed contact. Wherever you fall in the circle of connection and reconnection, be sure to look beyond the surprise of the moment to enjoy the deeper gift that this revelation brings.