

MAURITIUS TIMES

• "When we have reached the depths of despair, only then can we look up and see the light of hope." -- Stephen Richards

Interview: Me Antoine Domingue

«La divulgation du 'Judicial Report' dans son intégralité

aura de multiples
conséquences qu'il est
impossible d'évaluer...»

Voir  Page 9



Matters of The Moment

Justice delayed is justice denied



*This is not the time for
political shenanigans and
endless politicking*

By Mrinal Roy  See Page 4

Opinion

Metro: Laurels or Thorns?



By Jan Arden  See Page 3

Soopramanien Kistnen & Judicial Inquiry Report

«A conspiracy requires an agreement between two or more people to commit an offence

How will the Attorney General prove that two or more persons
conspired to leak the report?»

By LEX  See Page 5

Qs
&
As

Under Lock

Nobody in his right mind would have given any credence to the doubts expressed last Saturday and thereafter by several government ministers about the authenticity of the report of the judicial inquiry into the death in mysterious circumstances of Soopramanien Kistnen in October 2020, excerpts of which, for want of the full report, have been reproduced by the media. That latest spin by the government ministers in a clumsy exercise of damage control has only confirmed what most people had been suspecting: the former MSM activist posed too great a risk because he apparently knew too much about too many people and too many things that could potentially rock the boat.

Magistrate Vidya Mungroo-Jugurnauth has in her report demolished the initial conclusion of suicide by the police. Testimonies and findings unravelled during the judicial inquiry have brought to light the circumstances and the possible motives for the murder of Soopramanien Kistnen, the "abhorrent" dysfunctions at the level of the police, the inexplicable and implausible absence of images which are supposed to be captured by the ultra-sophisticated Safe City cameras and which would have shed light on the whereabouts of the victim on that fateful day he was murdered, the controversy surrounding the forensic autopsy, the wheelings and dealings with regard to the Covid Emergency Procurements and, not least, immigrant voters and campaign expenses that would have been above the limit as prescribed by law.

What the findings of the judicial inquiry also inform us is that the governance system has been locked, institutional dysfunctions have become rife, and in such circumstances, it is no wonder that the public perception for quite some time has been that nothing would come out of the present mess given that all the investigative agencies have been placed under the heavy hand of the political establishment so as not to jeopardise the professional or political careers of those who might have

been involved in the cases that have shocked public opinion – and even threaten the existence of the government itself.

The scope and liberty of Opposition parliamentarians to probe the Executive's acts and omissions are also limited in the face of an overbearing Speaker, who is perceived to be more intent to protect the government from embarrassment. Can we in these circumstances pin our hopes on the judiciary and on the Director of Public Prosecutions, whose office is charged with the prosecution of criminal offences? It has often been argued by jurists that there is not much the DPP can do if investigations into cases of crime/murder, corruption, money-laundering are not carried out in a comprehensive and impartial manner by the police and/or ICAC. Nevertheless, as in previous cases generating massive public interest, the least the DPP could do since the Magistrate's Report is in possession of his Office, is to forward an official copy of that report to the direct relatives of the victim of the ghastly assassination for any civil action they might feel appropriate and justified, as suggested by Senior Counsel Antoine Domingue in this issue's interview. So perhaps should the CP be in presence of the full document for any disciplinary action at his end for what looks like a masquerade of an enquiry by officers under his Constitutional purview.

The development of the country can only take place if there is law and order, and a perceived sense of unshakeable fairness and equity in the quest for truths, how-ever unpalatable to any parties in office. That is why all societies place a premium on this crucial aspect of their governance. The police cannot have ample reserves of Provisional Charge sheets for those peacefully demanding that the law be respected and run out of them whenever any agent of the ruling regime are concerned. One would therefore expect that all those directly or indirectly assigned with the responsibility of maintaining law and order will uphold the Constitution of the country.

The Conversation

A Fine Mess In UK Politics

UK prime minister forced from office amid economic turmoil, chaos in parliament and a party in disarray



Liz Truss resigned after six weeks in office. Pic - INEWS

The UK government is in tatters after Prime Minister Liz Truss resigned on Oct. 20, 2022 – the second leader to be forced out in mere months. It follows an economic mess largely of her own making that resulted in U-turns, a high-profile firing, curious absences and plummeting support.

The resignation means that Truss will go down as the shortest-lived UK prime minister in history.

So what exactly has gone wrong, and what happens next?

Liz Truss was, until Oct. 20, both the leader of the Conservative Party and the UK's political leader – albeit she was not put in place by the electorate. In early July 2022, then-UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson, having lost the support of his party after a series of scandals, resigned as leader of the Conservatives. Instead of stepping down immediately as prime minister, Johnson announced that he would stay on until his party had selected a successor.

That leadership election proceeded in two distinct steps over the course of the summer. Through a series of votes, Conservative members of Parliament whittled down the list of candidates to two finalists: Truss, who served as foreign secretary, and former Chancellor of the Exchequer Rishi Sunak. It was then up to the wider members of the Conservative Party to pick between the top two. On Sept. 5, Truss was formally announced as the winner, with 57.4% of the votes, paving her way to

become the new prime minister.

Her tenure lasted just over six weeks.

What caused her trouble?

Truss came to office amid extremely difficult circumstances. Queen Elizabeth II died within a few days of her taking over from Johnson. That removed the promise of any new leadership "bounce," as the nation was plunged into an official period of mourning.

Overseeing the transition to a new monarch only added to the plethora of thorny challenges affecting the government, including the war in Ukraine and the threat of Scottish secession, as well as the severe energy and inflation crises.

But if any observers expected caution from Truss, they were rapidly corrected. On Sept. 23, then-Chancellor of the Exchequer Kwasi Kwarteng outlined a bold "mini-budget" to Parliament. This new plan promised growth for a struggling UK economy, relying on a massive package of tax cuts. It would have represented the biggest tax cut in half a century, with benefits predominantly for richer segments of the population.

This was not a complete surprise, since Truss had campaigned on such a platform during the leadership election.

**Garret Martin, American University
School of International Service**

● Cont. on page 14

Mauritius Times

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

Editor-in-chief: M. Ramlallah / Senior Editor: Dr RN Gopee

This epaper has been produced with the assistance of

Doojesh Ramlallah, Sultana Kurmally and Kersley Ramsamy

Pearl House 4th Floor Room 406 - Sir Virgil Naz Street, Port Louis

Tel: 5-29 29301 Tel/Fax: 212 1313



Metro: Laurels or Thorns?

Jan Arden

We have to recognise here that the completion of the tramway line (Metro Express) between Port-Louis and Curepipe, going through the country's major urban centres, is an achievement bringing modernity, reliable and comfortable travel conditions to several thousands daily. Larsen and Toubro aided by a variety of Mauritian authorities responsible for electricity supply, water drains, local authorities, etc., have delivered on time the baby that the Prime Minister, the MSM at central or local levels and India's high representative can justifiably be proud of. The CEO of Metro Express Ltd (MEL) estimates that ridership is presently at some 40,000 daily and may reach 50K on that critical axis, all of them, standing or seated, enjoying the ride.

Nevertheless, we as many observers here and in other media, had expressed reservations on several aspects of the project and, even as we applaud the technological and managerial feat of competent professionals, or the tram riders that look on happily from air-con carriages, some of those observations bear recapitulation as they have as yet found no satisfactory answers and detract from a more fulsome commendation.

1. Capital costs - While we have little real independent accounting of its operational or financial state, according to a reported off the cuff statement of the PM, the investment costs of the main metro line, would have been of the order of Rs 24 billion. Further estimates of the suddenly urgent derivative line through Reduit to Cote d'Or adds another Rs 21 billion, suggesting the capital forecasts of the two lines would be close to Rs 50 billion, out of which India generously contributed some Rs 10 billion (some say in counterpoint to doing away with DTAA provisions and any other favours Mauritius may have granted our big brother security partner in the Indian Ocean). The rest, some Rs 40 billion, seems then to be public-debt financed for a combined daily ridership of around 60,000 of which an unknown proportion are non-revenue generating senior citizens and students.

As these are public monies and debts which the whole population has to bear, probably over several generations, the stage has come for a fuller disclosure of operational and economic/financial forecasts by a credible, independent team of transport logisticians/economists who naturally can take on board the derived larger socio-economic benefits for the



“Some Rs 40 billion seem to be public-debt financed for a combined daily ridership of around 60,000 of which an unknown proportion are non-revenue generating senior citizens and students. As these are public monies and debts which the whole population has to bear, probably over several generations, the stage has come for a fuller disclosure of operational and economic/financial forecasts by a credible, independent team of transport logisticians/economists who naturally can take on board the derived larger socio-economic benefits for the country. An associated question which has bearing for this or any future government is the level of public subsidies that are or will have to be included to maintain the tickets affordable...”

country. An associated question which has bearing for this or any future government is the level of public subsidies that are or will have to be included to maintain the tickets affordable, either on stand-alone trips or to attract weekly/monthly travel card holders.

2. Commuting and congestion

— Most of us are for the modernisation of the country's transport infrastructure and the comfort of 40,000 daily commuting travellers, but this should not blinker the authorities to the resulting difficulties that need urgent attention if only to mitigate the predictable effects of the tram which have heightened the daily plight of some 200,000 commuters trapped in hair-raising traffic congestion in most urban agglomerations. Quatre-Bornes, Vacoas, Floreal and to a lesser extent Phoenix, have been all badly hit by a decision to place the tram on the ground-level, thus adding a most disturbing competitor forcing pedestrians, two-wheelers, cars, buses, vans, trucks, ambulances and emergency services to coexist with the tramway on our existing congested streets and traffic.

Last year we asked here, at maximum carrying capacities of some 900 every 10 minutes starting from Curepipe, how long it would take to tackle rush-hour commuters into Port-Louis and how long those stuck at intermediate stations would have to wait before getting on board the jam-packed lines from Curepipe. The same applies for afternoon return trips from the Capital. Feeder lines

are still in limbo and prevent many town-folk from enjoying the tramway transport, keeping them locked in congested traffic.

Those awkward questions can now be answered. Many shops and small business activities alongside the metro line have suffered or are closing down due to the inconveniences caused, even temporarily, by the construction works to

lay down the infrastructure while the much-vaunted Urban Terminals are yet to offer credible alternatives even in Port-Louis. At a total Rs 50 billion spent, we suspect that most of the tramway could have been on elevated platforms, but there is no point in crying over a bad decision for a road-level tramway line, except for more roundabouts and flyovers, displacing one road traffic nightmare a few hundred metres further away, raising fuel consumption and the phenomenon of road-rage.

The crown of laurels of MEL and commuters cannot be in exchange for a crown of thorns for the rest of the population. It would therefore be to MEL's credit to sober up from their legitimate sense of satisfaction and provide our countrymen with a more balanced view of this important infrastructure which the population in its entirety will be funding over several generations and will have to sustain through heavy transport subsidies.

We do not expect MEL to comment on whether the Rs 50 billion are comparatively fair investment for the expected ridership, nor whether, on the basis of costs for the current mainline, those Rs 50 billion would have allowed the full completion of the tramway from the airport and Mahebourg through Port-Louis to Grand Bay in the north. These are obviously high-level political decisions and choices of the governing regime beyond MEL's purview, but they can certainly enlighten the population about all other important matters and those urgent corrective actions being planned to alleviate traffic congestion in what have become nightmarish areas.

Hats off, ladies!

At a time when our top civil service ranking officers have not covered themselves in glory, to say the least, as board members in most of the scandals attached to CEO political appointees at a variety of flagship institutions of the country, including the likes of Air Mauritius, Mauritius Telecom, State Bank of Mauritius, etc., we can find cause for satisfaction that some members of the fairer sex have bravely taken stands that do justice to their positions and responsibilities. There may be many more anonymous ones out there, but several have recently come in the media spotlight for no reason of their own.

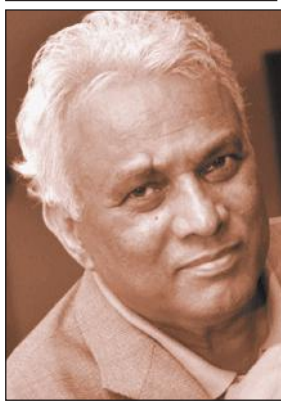
We all know what the widow (and son) of well-connected MSM agent or chief agent Soopramanien Kistnen has had to endure as traumas since the atrocious murder of her late husband sometime in October 2020, particularly as enquiring officers at police in Moka

and higher echelons of CCID or MCIT were so prompt to dismiss that as a suicide. Until the weight of contradictory evidence gathered in particular by a committed legal team (Avengers) forced the CCID head to dismiss that hirsute suicide thesis late in December that year. However, the criminals, their conspirators and accomplices, if any, are still on the loose two years later.

We also know from the public hearings competently headed by the learned District Magistrate Vidya Mungroo-Jugurnath how she bravely soldiered on, undeterred by considerations other than public interest and the quest for truth in the judicial enquiry ordered by the DPP about this mysterious death as far as evidence and depositions of key witnesses could guide her about the probable causes of death and possible motives.

● Cont. on page 6

Justice delayed is justice denied



Mrinal Roy

This is not the time for political shenanigans and endless politicking

The disclosure of the purported findings of the judicial inquiry into the death of the political activist Soopramanien Kistnen, which occurred more than two years ago, seems to have set the cat among the pigeons. The alleged findings covering diverse eye-opening ramifications of the inquiry, if true, are damning. They have jolted the nation and forced government Ministers to multiply their declarations in damage control mode.

However, the firefighting narrative seems rather mixed up. After demanding an urgent inquiry to nab those who leaked the findings of the judicial inquiry and brandishing the red flag that the leaked document could, owing to the risk of a trial by the press, undermine the case against any accused party, the government is now questioning the authenticity of the unsigned document. Which is which?

Scathing response

In a scathing communique, the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP), whose role and powers are protected by the Constitution, stated that he 'takes strong exception to any insinuation that any criminal offence may have been committed by any officer of the Office of the DPP, who would allegedly be subjected to a police enquiry and to possible disciplinary proceedings.'

The DPP had ordered a judicial inquiry by a magistrate into the death of Soopramanien Kistnen. On receipt of the Magistrate's findings, the DPP had on 26 January 2022 advised the Commissioner of Police to carry out an in-depth enquiry, in line with all the Magistrate's recommendations. The DPP also stated that his office 'remains focused on the urgency of the completion of the police enquiry to identify those responsible for the death of Soopramanien Kistnen with a view to bringing them to justice.' He added that he will not allow himself to be intimidated and will fearlessly uphold the rule of law.

These are comforting assurances from an institution committed to unswervingly honour its constitutional mandate. The separation of powers between the legislative and executive branch and the judicial branch as well as timely justice are fundamental anchors of a democracy. There is therefore a growing uproar and pervasive frustration among the people at the inordinate delay in the completion of police inquiries to identify culprits and bring them to justice in a long list of cases. It

is extremely galling for families of victims who in some cases have been waiting for more than 10 years to obtain justice and people in general in matters of public interest to see years go by without pending police or ICAC investigations being concluded in a plethora of cases. The list of protracted investigations is getting longer and longer.

Never ending

For example, the never-ending investigations relating to the explicit allegations of corruption and bribery by 'members of the Mauritian administration and others' made by the African Development Bank and the Danish contractor Burmeister & Wain Scandinavian Contractor A/S (BWSC) in June 2020 on the Rs 4.3 billion CEB Saint Louis Power Plant Redevelopment Project allocated to the latter in 2014 are yet to be concluded more than two years after. Similarly, the investigations relating to emergency government procurement tenders to source medicines, protective equipment, medical supplies and equipment and laboratory supplies in 2020 to fight the Covid-19 pandemic at a cost of more than Rs 1 billion from a nondescript array of suppliers leaving the country saddled with 50 inoperative ventilators costing Rs 80 million also seem to be in limbo.

Despite the government rhetoric about its relentless fight against drug traffickers, barring the small fry, none of the kingpins behind, for example, the three big hauls of heroin and cocaine valued at more than Rs 2 billion each over the last five years have been caught and brought to justice. Is this the reason drug trafficking continues unabated in the country despite these big hauls of hard and other drugs? Why would drug traffickers risk importing such costly consignments of drugs in the country if the risk of being caught and facing expeditious



“Despite the government rhetoric about its relentless fight against drug traffickers, barring the small fry, none of the kingpins behind, for example, the three big hauls of heroin and cocaine valued at more than Rs 2 billion each over the last five years have been caught and brought to justice. Is this the reason drug trafficking continues unabated in the country despite these big hauls of hard and other drugs? Why would drug traffickers risk importing such costly consignments of drugs in the country if the risk of being caught and facing expeditious and severe punishment are high?”

and severe punishment are high?

The country will never be able to win the war against drug traffickers if the kingpins of the drug cartels thriving in Mauritius and causing such pain and distress to families and the young in the country are not caught and made to bear the full brunt of a more severe arsenal of laws which act as potent deterrents to this deadly trade akin to those in countries which are successfully fighting to eliminate this scourge.

Stark reality

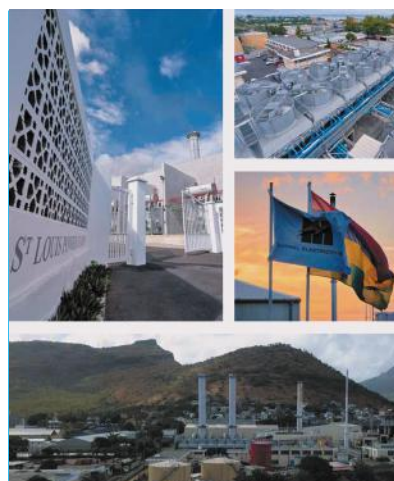
The stark reality is that the list of stalled, uncompleted or inordinately delayed police and ICAC investigations are countless. Against such a galling backdrop, the purported findings of the judicial inquiry report are bound to fuel the wildest public conjectures about the root causes of the unduly long and systemic delays which plague police and ICAC investigations in the country. They also beg the question as to why the damning elements brought to light in the purported findings have been so blithely missed by those mandated to diligently investigate and bring culprits to justice. It also showcases the failure of the Rs 19 billion Safe City project to deliver key video footage of the victim's final movements.

Closure

Justice delayed is justice denied. This is not the time for political shenanigans and endless politicking. This deplorable situation also puts in question the ethos and values of politicians who cannot take care of and provide timely justice to their own activist.

Is it asking for too much of politicians who repeatedly pay lip service to serving the people to ensure that the bereaved widow and family finally obtain justice to achieve closure?

● Cont. on page 6



“The never-ending investigations relating to the explicit allegations of corruption and bribery by 'members of the Mauritian administration and others' made by the African Development Bank and the Danish contractor Burmeister & Wain Scandinavian Contractor A/S (BWSC) in June 2020 on the Rs 4.3 billion CEB Saint Louis Power Plant Redevelopment Project are yet to be concluded more than two years after. Similarly, the investigations relating to emergency government procurement tenders to... fight the Covid-19 pandemic at a cost of more than Rs 1 billion... also seem to be in limbo...”

Soopramanien Kistnen & Judicial Inquiry Report

“A conspiracy requires an agreement between two or more people to commit an offence

How will the Attorney General prove that two or more persons conspired to leak the report?”

LEX

The public airing last Friday of a report purporting to be that of the judicial inquiry into the suspicious death of MSM activist Soopramanien Kistnen has generated a threatening communique from the Attorney General about such a “leakage” to which the DPP has given a stern rejoinder about his constitutional prerogatives. While government ministers are questioning that aspect, the detailed findings included in the document risk being side-stepped, namely the “abhorrent” conduct of the criminal investigations by the police and the latter’s ignorance of either the Magistrate’s or the DPP’s urgings to complete various aspects of their investigations into the murder and its possible political motivations. Lex shares his legal views on the questions and the absence of any recourse should the police ignore those urgings.

* Attorney General Maneesh Gobin, the “principal legal adviser to the Government of Mauritius”, condemned during a press conference, last Saturday (15th Oct), the leakage of the report of the judicial inquiry presided by the Magistrate Vidya Mungroo-Jugurnauth into the death in suspicious circumstances of former MSM activist Soopramanien Kistnen - a first in our history, he said. This would suggest that the report referred to by the media and excerpts of which have been published is indeed the real one - not any fake report as hinted by one of his colleague ministers?

If it was fake, the Attorney General would have said so. The report contains so many scientific details and observations by Magistrate Vidya Mungroo-Jugurnauth that it cannot be fake. If it had been fake, the Attorney General would not have reacted violently in the media and through his communique as he has done.

* Minister Gobin himself hinted that the leakage could have been orchestrated at the level of either the District Court or the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP). That’s totally unacceptable, he said, given that the report of a judicial inquiry is not a public document. If the AG is right about the confidentiality of the magistrate’s report, does it make of the leakage an offence?

The Attorney General should bring proof that the leakage was indeed orchestrated either by the Office of the DPP or by the District Court. It is not sufficient to make wild statements that smack of demagoguery. The leakage of a confidential document without any justification or authorisation would be an offence. But an accused party could invoke the public interest motive

provided for in the Constitution as a defence.

* AG Gobin issued a communique on Sunday 16 Oct to say that in view of the “seriousness” of the leakage of the “purported report” the Commissioner of Police will be advised to initiate an enquiry as to... “whether a potential offence of conspiracy to do an unlawful act wrongful to another person is warranted”. He will also have consultations with the Chief Justice about this matter to ascertain through the Judicial and Legal Service Commission whether “officers within its purview have maintained the highest ethical and professional conduct or not”. How do you react to that?

A conspiracy requires an agreement between two or more people to commit an offence. How will the Attorney General prove that two or more persons conspired to leak the report? This is nonsensical. He wants to drag the judiciary into the political arena by having consultations with the Chief Justice. The latter will surely react as her office demands. He wants to show that he can control or threaten the DPP. The latter has reacted very firmly, something that the Attorney General might not have anticipated. What will the AG do now in the light of the scathing reaction of DPP Satyajit Boollell?

* What does Magistrate Vidya Mungroo-Jugurnauth’s report itself inform us about the state of governance in the country?

It seems that the rot is everywhere - not only at the level of the government. The Report has opened a Pandora’s box by exposing how the Police Medical Unit and the Forensic Science Laboratory would have misled the court on the cause of death of Kistnen.

As for the police, it is best to quote what the Magistrate says: “I consider the conduct of the police in this case to be abhorrent. The manner in which the inquiry was conducted fell so below what may be considered reasonable that it marks new level of incompetence. I consider it my duty to remark on same so that no other case is dealt with in the same manner as the present case in future.”

* The District Magistrate has pointed the finger of suspicion at a number of individuals who were involved directly or otherwise in the different alleged fraudulent activities and dealings leading to the murder of S.Kistnen. At this stage, however, in the eyes of the law every man is presumed innocent until proven guilty, isn’t it?



“The Attorney General should bring proof that the leakage was indeed orchestrated either by the Office of the DPP or by the District Court. It is not sufficient to make wild statements that smack of demagoguery. The leakage of a confidential document without any justification or authorisation would be an offence. But an accused party could invoke the public interest motive provided for in the Constitution as a defence...”

In the eyes of the law any individual is indeed presumed innocent until proven guilty. This however does not apply to those who are not in the good books of the present regime.

Presumption of innocence does not mean that an investigation cannot be started if an offence is alleged to have been committed. But the investigation must be carried out in a fair, objective, independent manner.

If an investigator starts an investigation on the premise that he should protect somebody close to the government or a friend, what would be the result of the inquiry?

* According to press reports published early this year, following the submission of the magistrate’s report, the DPP had instructed the police to probe further into this murder case. It would seem that the police investigations are still ongoing. Given that the police is not answerable to the DPP, what else can or should the DPP do to bring this case to a closure?

Once the DPP obtains the report, he may request the police to investigate any possible offences that the inquiring magistrate would have mentioned. As a rule, the police should follow the directives of the DPP. What happens if they do not? There is nothing the DPP can do about it.

In an article written by a former DPP in the seventies, the late Cyrille d’Arifat explained that the DPP cannot be held responsible for the mistakes of investigations.

● Cont. on page 6

Road Congestion Hell

The systemic bottlenecks related to the manner the metro project was conceptualized and implemented must be addressed and urgently fixed.



“I invite the Minister of Transport to travel in a car without police escort in the day from Reduit to Beau-Bassin and from there to Vacoas. The scale and seriousness of road congestion in the main urban thoroughfares will then dawn upon him. It will be a jolting snapshot of an appalling ground reality. It is therefore important that the government first take stock of the state of acute road congestion on the main urban thoroughfares in towns which clash with the metro line and render public the final costs and viability of the Metro Express financed from public funds before blindly rushing to invest in costly extension of the metro...”

● Cont. from page 4

There has been a revisionist narrative (as is the case with court scribes rewriting the political history of the country) regarding the metro in the country. The 2014 government was not favourable to the metro project. It is only two years later in December 2016 that the government gave the green light for the implementation of the Metro Express project. Financing of the Rs18.8 billion project was provided by the Indian government, half of which was in the form of a grant.

The Port Louis to Curepipe metro line is now fully operational. Among the deliverables were that the Metro Express would significantly reduce road congestion, render road traffic on the highways and thoroughfares more fluid, reduce polluting carbon emissions and commuting time and improve road safety. This is far from happening.

In towns such as Beau-Bassin, Quatre Bornes or Vacoas where there is a frontal clash between the Metro and road traffic, especially if as is invariably the case traffic lights are not synchronized, it is road congestion hell. This is an untenable situation. This is not the time for government to blow its own trumpet or to bury its head in the sand. These systemic bottlenecks related to the manner the metro project was conceptualized and implemented must be addressed and urgently fixed.

Look before rushing forward

I invite the Minister of Transport to travel in a car without police escort in the day from Reduit to Beau-Bassin and from there to Vacoas. The scale and seriousness of road congestion in the main urban

thoroughfares in a context of rising fuel costs will then dawn upon him. It will be a jolting snapshot of an appalling ground reality.

It is therefore important that the government first take stock of the state of acute road congestion on the main urban thoroughfares in towns which clash with the metro line and render public the final costs and viability of the Metro Express financed from public funds before blindly rushing to invest in costly extension of the Metro and other onerous road infrastructure in a context of strapped public finances. Transparency and accountability must be our compass as we need above all to avoid investing in costly white elephants.

Similarly, the flyovers in Phoenix to render traffic more fluid have transferred the brunt of the highway bottleneck to the Wooton roundabout. In the morning it takes more than half an hour for Curepipe residents to reach the highway at Wooton as priority is given to the South-North traffic flow. Are new flyovers at Wooton the next step?

Such a makeshift and knee jerk approach in a context of a continuously rising park of vehicles is just not on. As at June 2022 the number of vehicles stood at 636,116 which represents an increase of 2.1% over the 622,988 registered at the end of 2021. It is, therefore, high time to tackle the problem and the onerous costs of acute road congestion, rising polluting carbon emissions, wear and tear and commuting time, etc., in a holistic, competent and rational manner to assure an efficient, safe, eco-friendly, pleasant and rapid travel mode for all.

Mrinal Roy

Hats off, ladies!

● Cont. from page 3

A document purporting to be the report of the judicial inquiry, submitted since late last year to the Office of the DPP, has been released on airwaves last Friday and we will not comment further other than to concur with universal plaudits for Simla Kistnen's commendable spine where others elsewhere have wilted. And, while we are at it, may the ladies at the Forensic Science Laboratory and in particular Dr Sheila Jankee-Parsad, Principal Police Medical Officer, find equal tributes here for standing up for what's right, professional and proper.

We may recall that elsewhere, self-serving top bureaucrats and politicians were reported to be fawning on luxury limousines of Alvaro Sobrinho and other goodies. When both the former Governor of the Central Bank, Ramesh Basant Roi, balked at granting a banking license to the patronaged guy, the law was urgently amended and four directors at the FSC resigned rather than comply with directives to issue the Angolan investor with investment banking licenses in the country.

“We know from the public hearings competently headed by the learned District Magistrate Vidya Mungroo-Jugurnath how she bravely soldiered on, undeterred by considerations other than public interest and the quest for truth in the judicial enquiry ordered by the DPP... We also concur with universal plaudits for Simla Kistnen's commendable spine where others elsewhere have wilted. And, while we are at it, may the ladies at the Forensic Science Laboratory and in particular Dr Sheila Jankee-Parsad, Principal Police Medical Officer, find equal tributes here for standing up for what's right, professional and proper...”

Those on that 6th June 2017 included former Solicitor-General Dhiren Dabee and independent Financial Services Commission Directors Warda Dulmar Ebrahim, Rhoy Ramlackhan and Jacques Li Chung. Their stance deserved this tribute as further rare exemplars of cleaner, less corrupt governance.

Jan Arden

Soopramanien Kistnen & Judicial Inquiry Report

"A conspiracy requires an agreement between two or more people to commit an offence..."

● Cont. from page 5

What he can do is to ask for clarifications after the conclusions of an inquiry have been submitted to him. But there may be irreparable mistakes, and the DPP cannot remedy any injustice that would have been done to a victim by an uninformed, negligent or dishonest investigator.

All that the DPP can do is to inform the Commissioner of Police about an investigation badly bungled or the wrongdoing of the investigator.

* Lawyer Roshi Bhadain, who is also leader of the Reform Party, has suggested that the DPP could in the circumstances issue a deadline to the police to complete its inquiry. What are your views on these two points?

Roshi Bhadain is right. Faced with a deadline, the police can come up with a clumsily done investigation. Or they may not respect the deadline and come up with all kinds of justifications to delay the investigation. Or they can simply ignore the directives of the DPP.

* Common sense would dictate that it's a different team of police officers that should have been tasked to undertake the further investigations as directed by the DPP in light of the findings of the judicial inquiry. That's for the Commissioner to decide, and he is perfectly empowered by the Constitution to take that call, isn't he?

The perception today is that the police are just toeing the line of the powers that be.

Now that the report has been leaked, the murder of Kistnen has been relegated to the back seat; the focus is now on the leakage. What an irony in a country that professes to be one where the rule of law prevails.

* Given that we do not have any instrument like Public Interest Litigation, which is resorted to in India for the enforcement of public interest, isn't there any other judicial process in the local context that could have forced the different institutions to act according to their mandate?

A citizen might move for a mandatory injunction to compel institutions to fulfil their duties. In fact, a mandatory injunction is issued when a court directs a person to perform certain acts. But there would still remain the stumbling block in relation to *locus standi*, that is, what interest would the applicant invoke.

There have been cases where applicants have been thrown out for lack of *locus standi*. Whereas under the principle of public interest litigation, a procedure created by the Supreme Court of India by Justices V.R. Krishna Iyer and P.N. Bhagwati, any public citizen can move the court in the interest of the public or public welfare by filing a petition on a matter of public interest.

LEX

UK PM Liz Truss resigns after 45 days in office, shortest serving premier

British prime minister Liz Truss' chaotic premiership came to an end despite having barely begun. Discounting 10 days of mourning for the late Queen Elizabeth II, Liz Truss had only a week before her political programme imploded, which led to the sacking of her finance minister Kwasi Kwarteng.

Liz Truss won a vote by Conservative party members by 81,326, against 60,399 for Indian-origin Rishi Sunak, who had served as finance minister under previous Prime minister Boris Johnson.

Resigning from her position, Liz Truss said, "I recognise... given the situation I cannot deliver the mandate on which I was elected by the Conservative Party."

Liz Truss' resignation comes just a day after she had vowed to stay in power, saying she was "a fighter and not a quitter."

Liz Truss also informed that a leadership election will take place which will be completed within the next week, reports Hindustan Times.

Candidates to replace her are likely to include former Chancellor of the Exchequer Rishi Sunak -- runner-



Britain's Prime Minister Liz Truss delivers a speech outside of 10 Downing Street. Pic - AFP

up to Liz Truss in the Conservative party leadership contest. Other contenders could include Penny Mordaunt, Grant Shapps and Kemi Badenoch.

Former home secretary Suella Braverman may also be in the running.

Announcing her resignation, what Liz Truss said on her economic plan

On her economic plan which resulted in a market rout as well as her exit from the position, Liz Truss said, "I came into office at a time of great economic and international instability. Families and businesses

were worried about how to pay their bills, Putin's illegal war in Ukraine threatens the security of our whole continent and our country has been held back for too long by low economic growth."

"We delivered on energy bills and on cutting National Insurance. And we set out a vision for a low tax, high growth economy that would take advantage of the freedoms of Brexit," she said.

Following her disastrous political programme, her finance minister Kwasi Kwarteng was shown the door. "That is the shelf-life of a lettuce," The Economist newspaper had commented last week on his sacking.

Jeremy Hunt took over the role and scrapped plans to cut taxes, signaling that consumers would shoulder more of the increase in energy prices from next April.

World Bank estimates Pakistan's deadly floods caused \$40 billion in damages

Pakistan said Wednesday that the World Bank estimates this summer's record-breaking floods have caused \$40 billion in damages in this impoverished South Asian nation. The figure is \$10 billion more than an earlier estimate by the Pakistani government.

Cash-strapped Pakistan was already facing a serious financial crisis before the heavy monsoon rains hit in mid-June. The rains triggered unprecedented floods that at one point left a third of the country's territory submerged, forcing hundreds of thousands of people to move to safer places.

The new assessment came during a meeting in the capital, Islamabad, between Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif and experts on climate change. There was no immediate word from the World Bank on the new estimate, reports AP.



Army troops evacuate people from a flood-hit area in Rajanpur, district of Punjab in Pakistan. Pic- AP

The flooding, which experts say is made worse by climate change, has killed 1,719 people and affected 33 million since mid-June. The waters have damaged or washed away 2 million homes.

Sharif's government last month offered an estimate of \$30 billion from the floods but cautioned that the real figure may be far higher. A final report on the damages is yet to be finalized with the help of international aid agencies and lending institutions, including the World Bank.

The United Nations has revised its appeal for aid for Pakistan five-fold, to \$816 million, from the initial \$160 million, saying recent assessments about the damages caused by floods pointed to the urgent need for long-term help, lasting into next year.

A government statement following Wednesday's meeting between the premier and the newly formed Pakistan Climate Change Council quoted an often-repeated statement by Sharif that despite having less than 1% share in global carbon emissions, Pakistan is among 10 countries most affected by climate change.

According to government officials, more than half of the flood victims in Pakistan's worst-hit Sindh province have returned to their homes over the past three weeks after floodwaters receded there and elsewhere in the country, including Baluchistan, where the U.N. estimates that floods damaged 43% of crops.

Pakistan wants the world community to scale up aid for flood survivors, now also threatened by waterborne diseases, malaria and dengue fever. Experts say people in flood-hit areas will face a harsh winter this year and that aid is urgently needed.

* Contd on page 8



Business in Vietnam. Pic - cloudfront.net

This country in Southeast Asia has the fastest-growing economy

Prim Minister Pham Minh Chinh is confident Vietnam's growth will exceed expectations this year, and retain the title of Southeast Asia's fastest-growing economy through next year, as it emerges from the pandemic.

He expects gross domestic product to rise 8% in 2022 -- faster than the median 7.3% pace estimated in a Bloomberg survey -- and expand 6.5% in the following year.

In a speech to the National Assembly's fall session,

Chinh described the 2023 projection as "reasonable" given the many challenges and difficulties facing the economy amid a worsening global outlook. He said the current year's GDP performance will also add a layer of challenge for growth next year by way of a higher base, reports Bloomberg.

The Prime minister's annual address sets the economic direction for the year ahead and comes amid efforts to support a recovery from last year's anti-virus lockdowns when factories were shuttered and global supply chains were crippled. Since then, the economy has rebounded as restrictions ended, domestic demand

picked up and exports increased.

Vietnam posted a double-digit growth in the third quarter, with the government striving to balance between curbing inflation, shielding households from the impact of rising costs of living and maintaining the economy's recovery momentum. The central bank is urging commercial banks to find ways to keep lending costs low, even after it delivered a rare monetary policy tightening with last month's interest rate hike to curb inflation and stabilize the currency.

The government "will manage policies that can help economic recovery but will also be mindful about the risk of fueling inflation," Chinh told the parliament. "The government will aim to maintain sufficient money supply for businesses while strictly controlling loans to potentially risky areas," he added.



Health workers and staff wear protective suits inside a residential compound in Beijing. Pic- Reuters

Covid pandemic over? WHO says not really

The World Health Organization (WHO) said that the Covid-19 pandemic remains a global emergency on Wednesday. WHO director-general Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said, "This pandemic has surprised us before and very well may again."

The statement comes amid new sub-variants sparking concern in some parts of the world, a month after Ghebreyesus had said that the end of the pandemic is "in sight".

The global health body's committee highlighted five priority areas to end the emergency which include tracking variants of Covid, surging medical capacity to treat patients, vaccination, ensuring access to affordable therapeutics and a robust global pandemic preparedness architecture, reports Hindustan Times.

India recorded a single day rise of 2,141 Covid cases on Thursday, taking the tally to 4,46,36,517, while active cases declined to 25,510, the health ministry informed. The death toll climbed to 528,943 with 20 related-fatalities on the same day.

Court to decide if Lord Mountbatten was a child abuser, a mentor of King Charles

King Charles III's great-uncle Lord Mountbatten has been accused of molesting an 11-year-old boy at a children's home in the 1970s. The allegations were made by former Kincora resident Arthur Smyth who gave up his right to secrecy in order to make the accusations, reports Hindustan Times.

Lord Mountbatten - or often called "Uncle Dickie" in the royal family - is set to be a close mentor to King Charles III. Lord Mountbatten was also appointed the Viceroy of India and oversaw the Partition of India and Pakistan.

He then served as the first Governor-General of India until June 1978. Lord Mountbatten was murdered in 1979 at the hands of the IRA when a bomb exploded on his yacht.

A historical institutional abuse inquiry has revealed that thirty-nine boys were assaulted at Kincora which led to the imprisonment of three men for the abuse of 11 boys. William McGrath, Joseph Mains and Raymond Semple are said to be at the centre of the scandal.

If these accusations are confirmed, Arthur Smyth would be the fourth person to come forward and accuse Lord Mountbatten. His lawyer said, "In issuing this action Arthur Smyth has now put down a marker and taken the next important step in his battle to get justice over the horrific abuse suffered by him when he was a child."

Iran girl, 16, beaten to death for not singing anthem praising supreme leader

A 16-year-old Iranian girl died after she was allegedly beaten up by security forces in her classroom. The girl was beaten up for refusing to sing an anthem praising supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei along with other students.

The incident took place last week in northwestern Ardabil city when the security forces were raiding Shaheed Girls High School. The security forces forced the girls to sing that anthem but when Asra Panahi, among others, resisted, they were beaten up, reports Hindustan Times.

Asra Panahi later succumbed to her injuries in hospital, BBC reported quoting coordinating council of



The 16-year-old Iranian schoolgirl was beaten to death, reports said. Pic - nybreaking.com

Iranian teachers' trade associations.

However, the authorities have denied responsibility for Asra Panahi's death.

Asra Panahi's death comes at a time when Iran is witnessing anti-government protests which began over a month ago. Women in Iran have been protesting against the regime following the custodial death of 22-year-old Mahsa Amini. Mahsa Amini was arrested by Iran's infamous morality police for not wearing hijab.

Videos widely shared on social media show huge protests by women in Iran. In many of the videos, women can be seen confronting male officials with slogans like "Woman, life, freedom" and "Death to the dictator" - a reference to the supreme leader.

US considering joint weapons production with Taiwan as China threat looms

The U.S. government is considering a plan to jointly produce weapons with Taiwan, a business lobby said on Wednesday, an initiative intended to speed up arms transfers to bolster Taipei's deterrence against China.

U.S. presidents have approved more than \$20 billion in weapons sales to Taiwan since 2017 as China has ramped up military pressure on

the democratically-governed island Beijing claims as its own territory.

But Taiwan and the U.S. Congress have warned of delivery delays because of supply chain difficulties and backlogs caused by increased demand for some systems due to the war in Ukraine, reports Reuters.

Hammond-Chambers said it was yet to be determined which weapons would be considered as part of the effort, though it would likely focus on providing Taiwan with more munitions and long-established missile technology.

But he cautioned that any such move would require weapons

makers to obtain co-production licenses from the State and Defense departments. Hammond-Chambers added there could be resistance within the U.S. government to issuing co-production licenses due to uneasiness about approving critical technology for a foreign platform.

Taiwan's Foreign Ministry declined to comment, but reiterated that Taiwan-U.S. relations were both "close and friendly".

Asked about the effort, a U.S. State Department spokesperson said: "The United States is looking at all options to ensure the rapid transfer of defensive capabilities to Taiwan."

From 'driving seat' to 'actively' take part, Xi Jinping's changing tune on tackling climate crisis

President Xi Jinping used the phrase "actively participate" when describing China's future role in addressing climate crisis in his key speech at the Communist party's 20th national congress inaugural on Sunday instead of his 2017 assertion that China would take the global "driving seat" in doing so.

Xi's decision to seemingly reduce China's role in fighting climate crisis is a signal that the country has not only emerged bruised and chastened from crippling power shortages in the last couple of years but also that the China-US "climate honeymoon" is over.

For now, at least.

"Deeply promote energy revolution, strengthen the clean and efficient use of coal, accelerate the planning and construction of a new energy system, and actively participate in addressing climate change and global governance," Xi said on October 16, addressing nearly 3000 delegates at the Great Hall of the



Smoke and steam rise from a coal processing plant in Hejin in central China's Shanxi province. Pic- AP

People.

Compare that to what he had said at a similar CPC national congress in 2017: "Taking a driving seat in international cooperation to respond to climate change, China has become an important participant, contributor, and torchbearer in the global endeavour for ecological civilisation."

The Chinese leader had also noted in 2017 that China's efforts to reduce consumption and save resources were paying off domestically and setting an example globally,

reports Hindustan Times.

Not so much anymore, it seems.

The global situation has changed in the past five years especially because of the Covid-19 pandemic; China's economy has slowed down compared to its rate of growth five years ago.

The US and China were still talking on climate crisis despite serious bilateral

differences on other issues.

No longer. China suspended climate talks with the US in August as part of measures in retaliation for US House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's visit to Taiwan, which Beijing claims as its own territory.

China's own economic and power problems contributed to its apparent shift on international climate issues.

Interview: Me Antoine Domingue

“La divulgation du ‘Judicial Report’ dans son intégralité

aura de multiples conséquences qu’il est impossible d’évaluer...”

Sujet très sensible abordé par Me Antoine Domingue cette semaine: il est question de fuite d’extraits d’un rapport de l’enquête judiciaire concernant feu Soopramanien Kistnen. Me Domingue fait ressortir lors d’une interview accordée ce matin certaines anomalies à propos du déroulement des événements, du processus officiel à maintenir et des procédures qui devraient être suivies. Il met ainsi en exergue les faiblesses et les lacunes dans le traitement de ce dossier.



Mauritius Times: La réaction de l’Attorney General Maneesh Gobin tel que dévoilée dans un communiqué émis dimanche, et lors d’une conférence de presse tenue le samedi et le lundi, suite à la publication des extraits du présumé rapport de l’enquête judiciaire concernant la cause et les circonstances du décès de Soopramanien Kistnen, vendredi dernier, trahit une appréhension du pouvoir en place quant au potentiel hautement explosif de cette affaire et dont les tenants et aboutissants ont été révélés dans le rapport de la magistrate Vidya Mungroo-Jugurnauth. Est-ce vraiment le cas, selon vous?

Me Antoine Domingue: Je tiens d’abord à dire que pour le moment à cause de l’inertie du DPP, nul ne peut savoir si les extraits du document qui sont en circulation proviennent du ‘Judicial Report’. Ce que je constate, c’est que la copie qui est en circulation n’est pas authentifiée et elle est visiblement incomplète, au vu de sa pagination.

Mais cela ne veut pas dire que les extraits que nous avons sous les yeux ne proviennent pas du ‘Judicial Report’. S’il se confirme que ces larges extraits que nous avons pu lire proviennent du ‘Judicial Report’, dans ce cas, la police, le gouvernement et beaucoup d’autres personnes et institutions incluant de nombreux ‘public officials’ ont du souci à se faire.

La crédibilité de la police a déjà été mise à mal par le ‘taser’ et la torture. Cette fois-ci, elle essuie un revers dont elle peinera à se relever. La divulgation du ‘Judicial Report’ dans son intégralité aura de multiples conséquences qu’il est impossible d’évaluer à ce stade. Ce qui m’amène à dire qu’il est maintenant impérieux que le DPP divulgue immédiatement le ‘Judicial Report’ dans son intégralité. Ainsi, nous saurons à quoi nous en tenir et cela mettra fin à tous ces commérages et toutes ces vaines spéculations.

Si le ‘Judicial Report’ et le ‘Court Record’ ont été transmis au DPP depuis novembre de l’année dernière, comme on est maintenant en droit de le penser, je m’étonne que tous ces documents n’aient pas encore été soumis à qui de droit, c’est-à-dire à la police, à l’ICAC et à la veuve. Ils ont tous un intérêt légitime à être informés de la cause et des circonstances du décès de Kistnen. Ils ont tous un intérêt légitime à la communication de ces documents. Ils ne sont pas des “*busy bodies, interlopers or cranks*”.

Donc, si on veut que la police puisse enquêter, il faut donner aux enquêteurs de la police tous les moyens de le faire : pas seulement le rapport mais aussi les dépositions, les documents et les ‘Exhibits’. En tant que ‘Responsible Officer’, le CP doit être éclairé afin s’il sache s’il doit initier des actions disciplinaires. Il ne peut le faire que s’il est en présence de tous les faits.

Je tiens aussi à souligner que le lundi 17 octobre, notre garde des sceaux (l’Attorney General), tout en affirmant que les extraits qui sont en libre circulation ne sont pas authentiques (comment pourrait-il le savoir s’il n’a pas lu le rapport?), prend le soin de rassurer que la jus-

tice suivra néanmoins son cours, nul ne sera épargné et ceux qui auraient fauté seront sanctionnés.

*** On soutient que le DPP est parfaitement en droit de rendre public le rapport dans ce cas précis également vu que d’autres rapports d’enquête judiciaire ont été rendus public dans le passé. Votre opinion?**

Cela a été fait en plusieurs occasions, et ce, dans l’intérêt public, entre autres, quand dix personnes avaient trouvé tragiquement la mort par noyade lors d’une crue éclair (Flash Flood) à Port Louis. Le rapport avait non seulement été dévoilé, mais tout le dossier de l’enquête judiciaire avait aussi été remis aux proches des personnes décédées et à leurs ‘legal advisers’. Mon avouée s’est basée sur ces documents à l’appui de plusieurs demandes de dommages et intérêts qui sont devant la Cour suprême.

Le même principe devrait trouver à s’appliquer aux ayants droit et ayants cause de M. Kistnen comme ce fut le cas pour M. Wright et les autres personnes dont les proches avaient péri tragiquement par noyade.

D’autre part, je tiens à souligner que quand vous examinez la jurisprudence locale depuis 1956, en toutes occasions, invariablement, sans aucune exception, des plaignants ont fait convoquer devant la cour le représentant du DPP que ce soit en Cour suprême ou en Cour intermédiaire afin de produire comme preuve le rapport, les dépositions et les autres documents surgis de l’enquête judiciaire.

La Cour suprême aussi bien que la Cour intermédiaire se sont basés sur ces documents pour rendre leurs jugements. *Vve Commins v Mauritius Government Railways* en 1956 devant Sir Francis Herchenroder CJ, plaidé par Jules Koenig, *Pierre Louis v CEB* en 2021 en Cour suprême devant la juge Gaitree Manna.

“L’AG et les membres de la majorité, à l’instar d’Ivan Collendavelloo sur Radio Plus, souhaitent que la police et la ‘Judicial and Legal Service Commission’ enquêtent sur le DPP et le ODPP. Pendant ce temps, les assassins de Kistnen courent toujours et l’Honorable député de la majorité Monsieur Yogida Sawmynaden ne sera pas inquiet. C’est tout ce que je retiens des propos de Maître Ivan Collendavelloo et de Maître Maneesh Gobin...”

☞ Suite en page 10

'Il est maintenant impérieux que le DPP divulgue immédiatement le rapport dans son intégralité'

☞ Suite de page 9

Ramnauth v Rainbow en 2022 en Cour intermédiaire sont là pour en attester. Cela fait partie intégrante de notre 'cursus' et la procédure qui a cours devant nos tribunaux.

Je dois aussi ajouter que dans les cas de suicide, de mort violente, de mort suspecte ou quand le décès d'une personne est dû à des "unnatural causes", le DPP est obligé d'ordonner une enquête judiciaire. Peu importe le choix des mots, c'est au fait un 'Coroner's Inquest'. Contrairement à ce que prétend le garde des sceaux dans son communiqué du dimanche 16 octobre, on ne peut et on n'a jamais contesté un tel rapport sur les causes et les circonstances du décès "and whether there has been foul play".

*** L'Attorney General est, selon notre Constitution, le "principal legal adviser" du gouvernement. Sa prise de position telle que révélée dans son communiqué émis dimanche, constitue-t-elle une violation de la séparation des pouvoirs?**

Ce communiqué souffre d'un manque de cogitation ayant été émis de façon précipitée un certain dimanche - c'est-à-dire le lendemain de la conférence de presse de Maneesh Gobin qui s'exprimait comme secrétaire général du MSM, flanqué de Mme Leela Devi Dookun (la colistière de Yogida Sawmynaden).

Ayant dit ce qu'il a dit le samedi en tant que secrétaire général du MSM, Maneesh Gobin fut très mal inspiré d'émettre ce communiqué du dimanche comme Attorney General et ministre de la Justice où il se permet d'amoindrir la valeur du 'Judicial Report', où il suggère que le rapport est contestable et invite les parties concernées à le contester.

Il annonce aussi que le Commissaire de Police sera "advised"... Est-il le conseiller de la force policière et du CP en matière d'enquêtes de police? Il semblerait qu'il n'ait pas eu le temps de parcourir la section 71 de la Constitution concernant les attributions du Commissaire de Police et le 'Proviso' à la Section 69(3) de la Constitution qui interdit que la même personne cumule les fonctions d'Attorney General et de DPP.

Il n'est donc pas autorisé à donner des directives au CP. Ni a-t-il le droit de dire "je sais..." concernant le progrès des enquêtes de police et de l'ICAC qui sont en cours et qui sont "privileged". C'est ce qu'il vient annoncer avec candeur le lundi lors de sa conférence de presse en tant que ministre de la Justice.

Dans son communiqué du dimanche, il cloue au pilori les 'judicial officers' et les 'law officers', ses anciens confrères et consœurs, des collègues envers lesquels il aurait dû faire montre de plus d'égard et de courtoisie. Et, cerise sur le gâteau, pour ne pas être en reste, il embarasse la 'Judicial and Legal Service Commission' dans un ultime paragraphe qui est un contresens, en disant qu'il s'assurera que la Commission examine l'opportunité de prendre des actions à l'encontre de ses officiers, qu'ils aient maintenu le plus haut standard de déontologie et de conduite professionnelle ou pas. Ce qui est un contresens. Qui est censé faire appliquer le 'Code of Ethics'? Est-ce la Commission ou est-ce le Bar Council?

*** Voulez-vous donc dire que sa prise de position constitue une violation de la Constitution?**



“Le DPP doit maintenant très sérieusement considérer s'il devrait communiquer le rapport et tous les autres documents aux ayants droits et ayants cause du défunt. Je pense qu'il devrait le faire. La décision lui appartient. Si le DPP ne le fait pas, les 'legal advisers' de Mme Kistnen devraient agir en conséquence...”

“J'ai appris de source digne de foi que ce n'est que récemment (depuis environ un mois), que le bureau du DPP a 'advised prosecution'. Les 'Enquiring Officers' de la police doivent sûrement plancher dessus d'arrache-pied 'no doubt with the same alacrity as has been recently displayed towards Nawaz Noorbux and Bissoon Mungroo'...”

“Ayant dit ce qu'il a dit le samedi en tant que secrétaire général du MSM, Maneesh Gobin fut très mal inspiré d'émettre ce communiqué du dimanche comme Attorney General et ministre de la Justice où il se permet d'amoindrir la valeur du 'Judicial Report', où il suggère que le rapport est contestable et invite les parties concernées à le contester...”

Cela en a tout l'air. Si on veut être charitable, "this arises from a misconception of his powers and duties under the Constitution".

*** L'Attorney General a aussi annoncé qu'il aura des consultations avec la cheffe juge en vue de mener une enquête. Voyez-vous le judiciaire se laisser entraîner dans une affaire qui prend de plus en plus un relent politique?**

Le judiciaire a fait consigner une déclaration à la station de police de Pope Hennessy afin de se dégager de toute responsabilité.

*** D'autre part, est-ce normal que la police n'ait pas encore réinterrogé Yogida Sawmynaden quoi qu'il soit toujours présumé innocent à ce stade?**

J'ai appris de source digne de foi que ce n'est que récemment (depuis environ un mois), que le bureau du DPP a "advised prosecution". Les 'Enquiring Officers' de la police doivent sûrement plancher dessus d'arrache-pied "no doubt with the same alacrity as has been recently displayed towards Nawaz Noorbux and Bissoon Mungroo".

Je note aussi, "for the sake of completeness", que devant la Cour de district de Port Louis au cours de la 'Private Prosecution' et avant le "discontinuance of proceedings" par le représentant du DPP, celui-ci avait informé la Cour que la police ne s'était pas pliée aux directives du DPP et que la police n'avait pas "completed the enquiry" dans le délai qui lui avait été imparti.

*** Maintenant que c'est du domaine public et que des éléments de ce présumé rapport ont été révélés, faites-vous confiance à la police pour faire diligence?**

"That's anyone's bet." Qui vivra verra.

*** Un ministre de la République et certains de ses proches sont pointés du doigt dans le rapport d'une enquête judiciaire, des extraits de ce rapport sont reproduits par la presse, ce qui provoque la colère du pouvoir en place qui réclame du judiciaire et de la police qu'une enquête soit menée sur les fuites de ce rapport. Le DPP ne se laisse pas intimider. La question qui se pose aujourd'hui : 'What next?' Qu'est ce qui doit se passer?**

Le DPP doit maintenant très sérieusement considérer s'il devrait communiquer le rapport et tous les autres documents aux ayants droits et ayants cause du défunt. Je pense qu'il devrait le faire. La décision lui appartient.

Si le DPP ne le fait pas, les 'legal advisers' de Mme Kistnen devraient agir en conséquence. Ce n'est pas à moi de leur dire ici ce qu'il conviendrait de faire.

*** Mais faut-il que la police mène des enquêtes sur les points soulevés dans le rapport dont les manquements allégués des enquêteurs dans l'affaire Kistnen. On se retrouvera ainsi dans une situation où c'est la police qui va enquêter sur la police?**

La question ne se pose pas en ces termes. C'est au Commissaire de Police, en tant que 'Responsible Officer' de prendre les mesures disciplinaires et faire procéder aux compléments d'enquête qui s'imposent à la lumière du 'judicial inquiry'. Le DPP et le CP devraient travailler en symbiose.

☞ Suite en page 11

'La prise de position de Maneesh Gobin constitue une violation de la Constitution'

'La crédibilité de la police a déjà été mise à mal par le 'taser' et la torture. Cette fois-ci, elle essuie un revers dont elle peinera à se relever'

☞ Suite de page 10

L'AG et les membres de la majorité, à l'instar d'Ivan Collendavelloo sur Radio Plus, souhaitent que la police et la 'Judicial and Legal Service Commission' enquêtent sur le DPP et le ODPP. Pendant ce temps, les assassins de Kistnen courent toujours et l'Honorable député de la majorité Monsieur Yogida Sawmynaden, l'ancien ministre et le colistier du Premier ministre, ne sera pas inquiété.

C'est tout ce que je retiens des propos de Maître Ivan Collendavelloo et de Maître Maneesh Gobin.

*** Il y a eu meurtre, des allégations de corruption dans l'affaire des 'Emergency Procurements'. Il y a également les 'Kistnen Papers' qui concerne la violation alléguée des dépenses électorales en 2019. On a affaire-là à des dossiers très sensibles pouvant "rock the boat"...**

C'est du ressort du Commissaire électoral, du ressort de la commission électorale, du ressort de la police et du ressort de l'ICAC qui n'ont démontré aucun empressement. Vous savez pourquoi, je n'ai donc pas besoin de vous faire un dessin ou de vous en dire plus...

*** L'Opposition réclame la publication du rapport, et cette pression va sans doute s'accroître dans les jours à venir. Si vous avez un conseil à donner à celui qui occupe le poste de DPP, un poste protégé par la Constitution, que lui diriez-vous?**

De divulguer sans plus tarder le rapport du 'Judicial



Inquiry' qui lui a été soumis par la Cour depuis le mois de novembre de l'année dernière.

De s'assurer que son "advice to prosecute" contre Yogida Sawmynaden soit immédiatement suivi d'effet.

De s'assurer que le contenu du rapport ne reste pas lettre morte.

De s'assurer que tous les moyens dont il dispose soient utilisés afin que les assassins de Kistnen soient identifiés et "brought to justice".

Et, enfin, que les 'Kistnen Papers' et tout ce qui va avec soient "properly investigated by the law enforcement agencies who need to report to him for advice in

“Si on veut que la police puisse enquêter, il faut donner aux enquêteurs de la police tous les moyens de le faire: pas seulement le rapport mais aussi les dépositions, les documents et les 'Exhibits'. En tant que 'Responsible Officer', le CP doit être éclairé afin s'il sache s'il doit initier des actions disciplinaires. Il ne peut le faire que s'il est en présence de tous les faits...”

“La divulgation du 'Judicial Report' dans son intégralité aura de multiples conséquences qu'il est impossible d'évaluer à ce stade. Ce qui m'amène à dire qu'il est maintenant impérieux que le DPP divulgue immédiatement le 'Judicial Report' dans son intégralité. Ainsi, nous saurons à quoi nous en tenir et cela mettra fin à tous ces commérages...”

relation to corruption offences, money laundering and electoral offences”, afin que la loi s'applique à tous de la même façon au lieu que ce soit “with an evil eye and an uneven hand”.

*** La veuve de Soopramanien Kistnen pourra-t-elle aussi agir sur la base de ce que contient le rapport de l'enquête judiciaire ?**

Elle peut le faire à condition que le DPP consente à lui remettre à elle et aux autres ayants cause et ayants droit de défunt tous les documents auxquels ils ont droit — “not as a matter of grace or favour, but as of right”.

Si le DPP ne le fait pas dans un délai raisonnable, il y a des moyens pour le contraindre.

The MRA collects an unprecedented year-on-year 26% growth in revenue collections - Rs 112.6 billion

At the annual press conference of the Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA), held on Thursday 13th October, Mr Sudhamo Lal, the Director-General made a presentation highlighting the performance of the main revenue collecting arm of government.

The MRA collected a total of Rs 112.6 billion for the financial year 2021/22 representing an unprecedented year-on-year 26% growth in revenue collections. This is attributed to some key factors: encouraging signs of economic recovery, coupled with excise duties on fuel products and a sustained effort by MRA to improve its efficiency in revenue collections. Of the Rs 112.6 billion, Rs 106.5 have been remitted to government's Consolidated Fund.

Value Added Tax (VAT) & Excise Duties constitute by far government's main source of revenues at Rs 38 billion, (+33.9%), explainable by the improved VAT revenues in Trading (+35.5% or +Rs 4.5 billion), Manufacturing (+47.8% or +Rs 1.2 billion) and Hospitality/Food Services (+Rs 2.4 billion). The excise duties on petroleum pro-

ducts have roped in some Rs 20 billion. Other sources of government revenue come from personal Income tax at Rs 14 billion (+21%) and corporate taxation at Rs 16.5 billion (+40%).

In addition to the taxes and duties which the MRA collects for the Consolidated Fund, the organisation, explained Mr Sudhamo Lal, has also been entrusted with the responsibility of collecting other taxes/contribution. For instance, NSF collection goes directly into the National Savings Fund which is used to pay gratuity on retirement. The Training Levy is remitted to the HRDC for the refund of training costs.

Mr. Sudhamo Lal took the opportunity to highlight some statistics about revenue collection from some white-collar professional sectors (legal and medical) and sketch out the main ongoing or forthcoming reforms to increase its operational effectiveness particularly in areas of E-invoicing and customs control scanners at the port and airport, including at the Passenger Cruise Terminal at Les Salines.

As regards income declared and tax



paid by legal professionals (notaries, barristers and attorneys) the DG said that growth in gross income has averaged 25% annually since 2006 and the growth in tax payments grew on average by 14% during the same period. It is noted that in 2006 there were 25 legal professionals declaring net income of more than Rs 3 million in a year; in 2021, the figure had risen to 156.

As for medical practitioners, the MRA has reviewed the income declared and tax paid by that category of professionals over

a 14-year period (2006-2020) to determine any future strategy for managing the auditing of these professionals. Speaking about the income declared and tax paid by Medical Practitioners, Mr Lal said that the growth in gross income has averaged 25% annually since 2006 and the growth in tax payments grew on average by 35% during the same period. In 2006, there were 2 medical practitioners declaring net income of more than Rs 3 million in a year. In 2021, 181 professionals were to be included in this category.

Facing the dual threat of climate change and human disturbance

Mumbai's Koli community are taking risk reduction into their own hands – other vulnerable coastal settlements should take note

Coastal cities and settlements are at the forefront of climate disruption. Rising sea levels, warmer seas and changes in rainfall patterns are together creating conditions that mean misery for coastal dwellers.

Disasters triggered by extreme weather often make headlines, but many problems linked to the climate are harder to see. These include the effects of warmer sea temperatures on marine ecosystems, the encroachment of seawater into once-fertile land, and coastal erosion.

Climate risks vary for coastal cities around the world. But according to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, people living in coastal settlements with high social inequality are particularly at risk. This includes cities with a high proportion of informal settlements and those built near river deltas.

The Koli people are one such community. As the original inhabitants of Mumbai, they are spread across a number of historic fishing villages on the city's coast. But they have steadily been marginalised. Mumbai's official development plan ignores the role of the Koli, and the ecosystems they depend on, in reducing the climate risks facing the city.

This has forced the community to take risk mitigation into their own hands. Through our work with the Koli community, we have seen how their response to human threats has the potential to create a city more resilient to environmental change.

Mumbai's environmental problem

In Mumbai, enormous wealth co-exists with poverty. Largely built on reclaimed land, the city has undergone rapid development.

Poor waste management, property development and increasingly frequent extreme weather have reduced mangrove cover and polluted the city's coastal waters. Mangroves are important breeding grounds for a diverse range of aquatic species. Many of these species, such as the Bombay Duck and Pomfret, are vital sources of income for Koli fishers and are key to mangrove biodiversity.

But fish stocks are disappearing fast.

Environmental degradation combined with intensive trawling has led to declining catches for traditional fishers. This has affected livelihoods, with Koli women feeling the impact particularly strongly due to their prominent role in processing and selling fish.

Studies have also shown that mangrove forests protect coastal areas from storm surges and coastal erosion. Reduced mangrove cover means extreme weather events now inflict severe damage to fishing infrastructure. Cyclone Tauktae in 2021 inflicted losses of 10 billion rupees (£109,000) to coastal fishers – damage to fishing boats alone was worth 250,000 rupees (£2,700).

Taking the initiative

Following Cyclone Tauktae, the Koli produced reports documenting the changing frequency and intensity of cyclones affecting the region. These reports, supplemented by media coverage, have raised awareness of the community's vulnerability towards climate change.

This has allowed the Koli to collaborate with various groups to reduce their vulnerability. We have been working with the Koli community through our own research project, Tapestry. Our research has involved creating photographs and maps with the community to build a more comprehensive understanding of the consequences of climate change and environmental degradation for the region. This has highlighted the importance of mangroves for marine biodiversity and flooding protection.

The efforts of the Conservation Action Trust, a Mumbai-based non-profit organisation that aims to protect forests and wildlife, have also been key in protecting mangroves. They found that mangroves were being cleared to make way for golf courses, residential buildings, rubbish dumps and transport infrastructure. They were instrumental in the development of the Mangrove Cell, a government agency that monitors efforts to conserve and enhance mangrove cover in India's western Maharashtra state.



Addressing water pollution also emerged as a priority through discussions with the Koli community. Our project partner Bombay61 has since implemented measures to improve water quality. Over three days, a pilot trial of net filters collected around 500kg of waste from a single creek. This initiative also

challenges the perception of creeks as "drains" or "sewers".

Engagement between the Koli community, environmental organisations, government officials and local public events and exhibitions has allowed more equitable solutions to human threats to be explored. These highlight the importance of local communities to resource governance and urban planning, and could help dissuade the government from destructive future development plans.

The lessons from the Koli experience extend beyond just Mumbai. While each coast and city will face different threats, the seeds of responses can be found in the people who know and understand the environments in which they live. Working with grassroots methods and groups can reveal how action can respond to local needs and address more than just physical climate risks.

If local strategies can be scaled up, they could transform urban planning and climate change mitigation. These strategies must address the need to adapt to climate change and minimise human disturbance. Paying attention to local people's struggles and harnessing their ideas can be an essential part of creating cities that are more resilient to future threats.

Lyla Mehta, Institute of Development Studies; D Parthasarathy, Indian Institute of Technology Bombay; Shibaji Bose, National Institute of Technology Durgapur

7, Remy Ollier Street, Port Louis
Tel. 212-1628 / 208-2424
Email: bombaysweets@intnet.mu
Website: www.bombaysweetsmart.com

Vous invite à déguster ses succulents Mithai pour la fête de Divali

Kaju Roll
Pista King
Kaju Pan
Chocolate Slice
Bournvita Kaju

Bombay Mishthan
Flacq City Plaza
Opposite Arcade Virginie
Flacq
Tel. 413-1919

Le magasin sera ouvert le jour de Divali de 9hr à midi

Veuillez placer vos commandes à l'avance
Date limite: samedi 15 octobre 2022

Mawa Samoussa
Halwa Special
Moduk
Kalakhan
Kaju Katli

Bombay
delights sweets
Columbia Court
Opposite SBI
Rte St. Jean, Q-Bornes
Tel. 465-2424

From the Pages of History - MT 60 Years Ago

5th Year No 208

MAURITIUS TIMES

Friday 1st August, 1958

• 'Liberty may be endangered by the abuse of liberty, but also by the abuse of power.' — James Madison

By Doojendranath Napal

Pierre de Sornay has since some time ago been writing historical and biographical sketches in *Le Cernéen*.

His articles are highly appreciative in so far as the marshalling of facts are concerned. There is one thing, however, which should be noted: when a historian is out to prove some thesis, he may deliberately ignore facts which may go contrary to his contention. I do not mean to say that Pierre de Sornay does so. However, it is clear to anybody that his interpretation of facts betrays conservative leanings.

This is natural, as natural as for somebody to say that my leanings are for the workers. I, for example, always highlight the contribution of the workers in the making of the colony. Facts to me have value in the degree to which they illustrate my contention that the colony owes its existence and prosperity to the unflinching industry of the working classes, whose contribution has been belittled or ignored by our historians.

Let me, for example, consider the latest historical-biographical excursion of Pierre de Sornay which is devoted to Celicourt Antelme. Whatever the contributor has written is true, but there are facts of high importance omitted with the idea of minimising the reactionary tendencies of Celicourt Antelme. There is no need to enter into the multifarious activities of Celicourt Antelme to show how much he opposed the progress of the workers. One aspect of his political career is more than enough to support my contention.

Antelme opposed the introduction of the elective element in the Council of Government. When the question was first taken up in 1882, Celicourt Antelme had a deep influence on the then Governor, Sir Napier Broom, who, as evidenced in his despatches to the Secretary of State for the Colonies on the question of Reform, based all his arguments on those of Antelme as they appeared in his articles in *Le Cernéen*. The Governor even spoke of him as an authority on local matters. He was in fact at that time a senior unofficial nominated member of the Council for more than a quarter of a century. And he was jealous of the prerogatives of his class, who in those days monopolised political power. He regretted too, that coloured people had progressed since the coming of Remy Ollier on the political scene.

Hear him on this matter and note the tone of regret. "Forty five years ago, I may say half a century ago, when I arrived in this island, the class to which I belonged

thought they were predominant and it was question at the time to have an elective system. I had frequent conversation with my friends on the matter and I told them before you get an elective system you should establish a union (1) between all classes of the population. Some of them laughed at the idea and thought that the descendants of the former masters would always have the upper hand in everything.

One morning, a rumour circulated in the colony that the *Sentinelle* had been founded and from that moment a most intelligent, most able and most progressive population took its rank by our side, and we see what it has since become."

The advocates of reform found in the new Governor, Sir John Pope Hennessy, an ally to their cause. Gradually all the nefarious influences on the Secretary of State were effaced and the reform of the Constitution became a certainty. Then almost desperately, Antelme came forward with his bogey of Asiatic sceptre and Asiatic hegemony. May I note that in those days Indians were regarded not in terms of Hindus and Muslims but as Asiatics. Antelme said: "As soon as the Indians get their papers and become barristers and so on, they will take up a position here which will be very different from that of the class I have just alluded to."

He went on in this vein, fighting des-



Mauritius in the 1880s. Pic - Mauritius Attractions

perately for the retention of the *status quo*, the old Council of official and nominated unofficial members. His efforts proved vain. The elective element was introduced.

When the Electoral Commission was appointed, Celicourt Antelme was a changed man; he fought for a wider franchise to include the coloured middle classes and some of the enlightened Indians. Why?

Historians may say, some have said that he proved to be liberal-minded. I do not agree. I shall not say that he was a politician endowed with the foresight which is hallmark of outstanding statesmen. Had he been one, he would not have made vain attempts to stop the wheels of history by creating artificial barriers to stop the progress of the Indians. Nor had the principles for which he would be ready to sacrifice his own career. He had at the time of the agitation for the reform of the Constitution been a member of the Council for a comparatively long period. He would not

for the sake of principles be prepared to give up his seat in Council.

He was an arch-Conservative who did everything in his power to prevent the reform of the Constitution. Yet when Reform became a certainty, he made volte face. Knowing that if at that stage he would continue to support his conservative ideas he would risk his seat as a member of the Council. He therefore pro-

nounced himself for a wider franchise than those who had since the beginning agitated for Reform, notably Sir William Newton. The cunning politician in him had the better of the reactionary or die-hard conservative. Needless to tell that Celicourt Antelme was elected in the first election held in the island in 1886 with a strong majority. Was it because he was li-beral-minded, keen on the progress of people or simply because he was an adept in political maneuvering, ready to sacrifice cherished principles for some immediate end? Here is a question of interpretation, without which History is no more than as dry as dust a pursuit, to put it in Carlyle's words.

(1) *When the conservatives in those days spoke of Union, they did not mean union based on brotherhood and equality but a sort of union in which they had the lion's share in all the good things of the island. Remy Ollier used to denounce this unfairness.*

188th Anniversary Celebrations of Indentured Immigrants Arrival 2 November 1834 - 2 November 2022

The Aapravasi Ghat Indian Indentured Immigrants Arrival Celebration Committee is solemnly inviting you to be present at the

Annual Yaj Ceremony

to pay tribute to the Girmitias - Indian Indentured Immigrants.

**Aapravasi Ghat
Wednesday 2nd November 2022
From 8.00 am to 8.45 am**

The programme will comprise Yaj, Prayers, Tribute, Lighting of Lamp and Shradhanjali with offering of flowers. Please bring along garlands, flowers, bouquets for the Shradhanjali.

**Dr Mrs Sarita Boodhoo - President
Rita Ramlallah - Secretary**

26 SEPT- 24 OCT 2022

Magical DIWALI

jetha tulsidas

together with mastercard.

PAY WITH YOUR MASTERCARD & GET A RS 200 VOUCHER ON ALL PURCHASES ABOVE RS 5000

PROMO ON LADIES / GIRLS CHURIDARS, GOWNS, CROP TOPS & KURTIS

**BUY 1 GET 30% OFF
BUY 2 GET 35% OFF
BUY 3 GET 40% OFF**

NOT APPLICABLE ON GOODS ALREADY ON REDUCED PRICE ENDING BY 99

P-LOUIS R-HILL BAGATELLE FLACQ TRIOLET VICTORIA URBAN TERMINAL CASCABELLE R-BELLE CUREPIPE GOODLANDS R-DU REMPART

A Fine Mess In UK Politics

UK prime minister forced from office amid economic turmoil, chaos in parliament and a party in disarray

● Cont. from page 2

Yet the scale and speed of the announcement were stunning, an example of what BBC journalist Nicholas Watt referred to as “shock and awe” tactics.

It was an audacious gamble by Truss – and one that completely failed to convince the markets. Within days of Kwarteng’s announcements, the pound had plummeted in value, leading British borrowing costs to shoot up. Meanwhile, soaring interest rates piled on misery to millions in the UK in the shape of higher mortgage payments.

The International Monetary Fund piled on as well, urging the UK government to “reevaluate” the planned tax cuts because of how they might “stoke soaring inflation.” And the Bank of England was forced to take drastic measures, including buying an unlimited quantity of government bonds, to protect the UK economy from crashing even further. Truss’ premiership never recovered from the loss of credibility.

How did she respond to the crisis?

With pressure mounting and growing disquiet among the wider public and members of her own party, Truss resorted yet again to drastic measures. She sacked Kwarteng unceremoniously on Oct. 14, meaning he had lasted only 38 days on the job.

Jeremy Hunt, a former foreign secretary, stepped in to replace Kwarteng – the fourth chancellor in less than four months. He immediately proceeded to roll back nearly all the measures promised in Kwarteng’s mini-budget. Hunt emphasized that this was necessary to restore confidence in the UK economy, but it was also an unmistakable and stunning



UK prime minister forced from office amid economic turmoil. Pic - Yahoo

rebuttal of the prime minister. Her absence from Parliament during an “urgent question” on the dismissal of Kwarteng and subsequent ducking out of a planned media event did little to instill confidence in her handling of a political crisis.

The crisis worsened on Oct. 19 with the announcement that the UK’s home secretary had resigned over an apparent security breach. It was followed by chaotic scenes in Parliament in which Conservative politicians were allegedly manhandled and bullied into voting in line with Truss’ wishes. It angered many members of Parliament, and appeared to have sealed the deal of her undoing.

Why did she have to go?

Truss’ loss of credibility and support posed a dilemma for the Conservative Party. It could have tried to stick with Truss, in the hope that there would be enough time for her to recover. After all,

the next election could be as far away as January 2025.

Yet the prime minister was so deeply wounded that the party as a whole was suffering and its future electoral chances diminishing. Prior to her resignation, only 10% of voters approved of her leadership, with 80% having an unfavourable view, a significantly worse score than even Boris

Johnson when he resigned. Within her own party, a whopping 55% wanted Truss to leave. Meanwhile the Conservatives trail the opposition Labour Party by a dramatic 29 percentage points in the latest polls.

So what happens now?

There are several possible candidates to replace her.

These include figures like Rishi Sunak; Leader of the House of Commons Penny Mordaunt; or Jeremy Hunt – all of whom ran against Truss in July. Boris Johnson might even try a daring comeback, although that remains a stretch, considering the circumstances in which he left office.

But whoever is in office will face a steep climb to regain the confidence and support of voters.

Garret Martin, Senior Professorial Lecturer, American University School of International Service

To Our Readers

Subscribe to the Mauritius Times

67 years ago, *Mauritius Times* was founded with a resolve to fight for justice and fairness and the advancement of the public good. It has never deviated from this principle no matter how daunting the challenges and how costly the price it has had to pay at different times of our history. We are determined not to abandon this line of action, which is the cardinal principle of our *raison-d'être*. This is what has given *Mauritius Times* a unique standing in the local publishing world.

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

Readers will no doubt appreciate that it takes a lot of time, hard work, money and the continued support of our contributors to produce the *Mauritius Times* - as we have done without interruption in these last 67 years.

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

For those who are regular readers but are not subscribed, please do consider becoming a **regular subscriber** by sending us your contribution. To do so, please click on the link below to see the payment options available and to enter your personal details which are required to ensure immediate processing of your subscription. Thank you.

The Editorial Team

Readers having any difficulty to access the Google Form for Subscription, may please contact us on: Tel: 5 2929 301 / 212 13 13 or send us an email at: mtimes@intnet.mu

CLICK TO SUBSCRIBE



SUBSCRIBE NOW



Publish Your

Annual General Meeting - AGM - General Assembly - Applications for Building and Land Use Permits & Corporate - Company Notices

in

Mauritius Times Digital Editions

Send Your Notices + Proof of ID By Email or WhatsApp

Payment: Bank Transfer or Juice

Contact us: Tel: 212 1313 -- 5 2929301

Email: mtimes@intnet.mu

Do not Hesitate to Contact us for any Queries

Five things to do in your 20s and 30s to reduce your risk of preventable cancer

Avoiding smoking and keeping a healthy weight can cut your risk of cancer



Sarah Allinson
Senior Lecturer, Lancaster
University

Most of us don't think about cancer when we're in our 20s and 30s. But recent research has shown that people born after 1990 are more likely to develop cancer before the age of 50 than any other generation before.

While there are some things we can't change when it comes to cancer – such as certain genes we've inherited – up to half of all cancers are preventable. This means the lifestyle choices we

make early in life can have a big effect on our risk of developing cancer later on.

Here are a few of the most important lifestyle changes you can make now to slash your risk of cancer.

1. Don't smoke

Not only is smoking the leading cause of lung cancer each year, it's also associated with 14 other types of cancer, including mouth and throat cancer.

While young people are less likely to smoke these days, partly thanks to the popularity of vaping, research still shows that nine out of 10 people who regularly smoke start before the age of 25. If you want to significantly reduce your risk of many types of cancer, don't smoke – or quit if you do.

While vaping is certainly less harmful than smoking, its long-term effects have not yet been studied. For this reason, Cancer Research UK recommends you should only use e-cigarettes to help you quit smoking. The effects of smoking cannabis on cancer risk also aren't well known, though there is some evidence of a small link between cannabis use and increased risk of testicular cancer. Until more research has done, it may be best to avoid both of these as well.

2. Practice safe sex

HPV (human papillomavirus) – which causes genital warts – is the most common sexually transmitted infection in the world. It can also cause a range of cancers – including cancer of the cervix, penis, mouth and throat.

HPV-associated cancers are particularly common in young people. In the UK alone, cervical cancer is most commonly diagnosed in women aged 30-34. It's also thought that increasing rates of HPV may explain the recent surge in oral cancers in young men.

Being vaccinated against HPV and practising safe sex will protect you against infection from the virus. For women, cervical screening (a "smear test") is also important, as it can detect the presence of an HPV infection before it has a chance to cause cancer. As such, women between 25 and 64 should aim to be screened regularly every five years.

3. Maintain a healthy weight

Being overweight or obese has been linked to an increased risk of 13 different cancers, including bowel, breast, uterus and pancreas. Excess fat leads to inflammation in the body which promotes the growth of tumours and helps cancer cells divide. Fat cells also produce the hormone oestrogen, which can stimulate growth of tumours in the breast and womb. For this reason, the increased risk of cancer is more pronounced in women. Cancers associated with being overweight or obese are

becoming more common, particularly in younger adults.

Not only that, but poor diet alone can also contribute to greater cancer risk. For example, eating too much red and processed meats has been linked to an increased chance of developing bowel cancer. On the flip side, a growing body of evidence suggests that eating a healthy, balanced diet containing fibre and a variety of fruits and vegetables actually reduces risk of several different types of cancer.

Eating the right diet and trying to maintain a healthy weight can both be great ways to lower your risk of many different types of cancer later in life.

4. Drink less

Alcohol is well known to increase risk of developing several cancers, including liver, breast and oesophagus. Although it's the case that the more you drink, the greater the risk, it's also thought that even moderate drinking contributes 100,000 cases to the annual worldwide burden of cancer. Although the effects of binge drinking haven't been studied much, one study suggests moderate drinkers who regularly binge drink are up to 50% more likely to develop breast cancer. Smoking while drinking alcohol can also enhance the cancer-causing effects of smoking.

Cutting down the amount you drink – or eliminating it entirely – will help decrease your risk of developing cancer. The NHS recommends that you drink no more than 14 units of alcohol a week (approximately 6 pints or 10 small glasses of wine), and that you aim to have several days without a drink each week.

5. Wear sunscreen

Skin cancer is one of the most common cancers diagnosed in the under 40s. It's also become more common over the past few decades.



A healthy diet with plenty of variety can lower risk. Pic - Shutterstock

The primary cause of skin cancer is ultraviolet radiation – either from the sun or tanning beds. Since the effects of UV radiation are cumulative, the areas of our skin most often exposed to the sun (such as our face) are most likely to develop skin cancer. On top of these cumulative effects, a bad sunburn when you're young can specifically increase your risk of developing the most dangerous form of skin cancer.

You can protect yourself from skin cancer by using sun protection whenever you're out in intense sun. This includes wearing hats, covering up with long clothes and applying a sunscreen of at least SPF 15, bearing in mind that no sunscreen offers 100% protection. This is particularly important for people who are at increased risk of skin cancer, such as those with fair skin and a tendency to freckle.

The best ways to reduce your risk of many types of cancer are also linked with better health in general.

Other ways that you can improve your overall health and fitness while protecting against cancer include being physically active and avoiding air pollution.



गौरव और विश्वास
के 66 वर्ष

66 years
ANNIVERSARY

66 Years
of Glory and Trust

1956 - 2022



LIC

भारतीय जीवन बीमा निगम
LIFE INSURANCE CORPORATION OF INDIA

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

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

marketing@licmauritius.intnet.mu

licmauritius.mu

*LIC understands your dreams and aspirations. We will help you to realise them.
Thank you for your support and patronage.*

Oh my aching back: Do yoga, tai chi or qigong help?

It's a pain. About 80 percent of adults in the United States will experience lower back pain at some point. Treating back pain typically involves medication, including opioids, surgery, therapy and self-care options. Efforts to reduce opioid use and increase physically based therapies to reduce pain and increase physical function and safety are crucial.

In a review published in the journal 'Holistic Nursing Practice', researchers from Florida Atlantic University evaluated the evidence of effects of three movement-based mind-body interventions on chronic low back pain: yoga, tai chi, which combines gentle physical exercise and stretching with mindfulness, and qigong, a traditional Chinese meditative movement therapy focused on body awareness and attention during slow, relaxed, and fluid repetitive body movements. Little is known about the effects of movement-based mind-body intervention, in particular qigong and tai chi.



Findings from their review provide empirical evidence regarding the benefits of yoga, tai chi, and qigong, which have been recommended by health care providers for patients with lower back pain.

Among the key findings, researchers discovered that longer duration and high-dose yoga intervention showed

reductions in back pain while tai chi reduced acute lower back pain in males in their 20s. Tai chi also was more effective than stretching for lower back pain in young males. In the general community, tai chi showed greater reductions in pain intensity, bothersomeness of pain symptoms, and pain-related disability than the control intervention. Because there are only three qigong studies to date, it was unclear to the researchers whether this intervention is useful in treating chronic lower back pain. Existing research suggests positive benefits of yoga, however, tai chi and qigong for lower back pain are still under-investigated.

"Yoga, tai chi and qigong could be used as effective treatment alternatives to pain medications, surgery, or injection-based treatments such as nerve blocks, which are associated with high incidence of adverse effects in treating lower back pain," said Juyoung Park, PhD, corresponding author and an associate Prof. "We need more clinical trials and empirical evidence so that clinicians can prescribe these types of interventions with more confidence."

Social media users 'copy' friends' eating habits

Social media users are more likely to eat fruit and veg -- or snack on junk food -- if they think their friends do the same, a new study has found.

The research, by Aston University's School of Life and Health Sciences, found that study participants ate an extra fifth of a portion of fruit and vegetables themselves for every portion they thought their social media peers ate. So, if they believed their friends got their 'five a day' of fruit and veg, they were likely to eat an extra portion themselves.

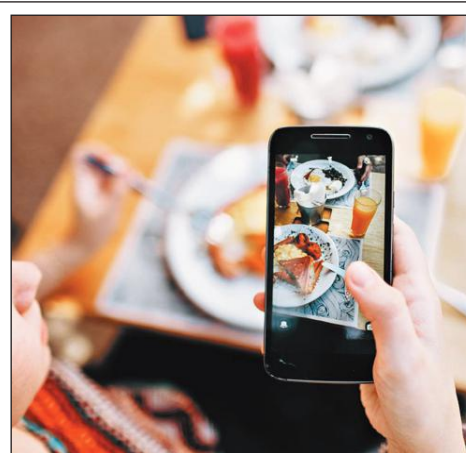
But conversely, the Facebook users were found to consume an extra portion of unhealthy snack foods and sugary drinks

for every three portions they believed their online social circles did. The finding suggests we eat around a third more junk food if we think our friends also indulge.

The Aston University researchers said the findings provide the first evidence to suggest our online social circles could be implicitly influencing our eating habits, with important implications for using 'nudge' techniques on social media to encourage healthy eating.

In the study, published in the scientific journal 'Appetite', the researchers asked 369 university students to estimate the amount of fruit, vegetables, 'energy-dense snacks' and sugary drinks their Facebook peers consumed on a daily basis.

This information was cross-referenced with the participants' own actual eating habits and showed that those who felt their social circles 'approved' of eating junk food consumed significantly more



themselves. Meanwhile, those who thought their friends ate a healthy diet ate more portions of fruit and veg. Their perceptions could have come from seeing friends' posts about the food and drink they consumed, or simply a general impression of their overall health.

Aston University health psychology

PhD student Lily Hawkins, who led the study alongside supervisor Dr Jason Thomas, said:

"This study suggests we may be influenced by our social peers more than we realise when choosing certain foods. We seem to be subconsciously accounting for how others behave when making our own food choices.

"So if we believe our friends are eating plenty of fruit and veg we're more likely to eat fruit and veg ourselves. On the other hand, if we feel they're happy to consume lots of snacks and sugary drinks, it can give us a 'licence to overeat' foods that are bad for our health.

"The implication is that we can use social media as a tool to 'nudge' each other's eating behaviour within friendship groups, and potentially use this knowledge as a tool for public health interventions."



Will time ever stop?

Time ends when the universe does.

Time began when the universe did. How – and if – the universe ends will determine whether time will end as well.

We think the universe started out squeezed into an infinitely small space. For some reason we do not yet understand, the universe immediately started to expand – to get bigger and bigger. This idea, or "model", of the beginning of the universe is called the Big Bang.

In 1998, scientists learned that the universe is expanding faster and faster, but we still don't know why this is happening.

Dark energy

It might have something to do with the energy of the vacuum of space. It might be a new type of energy field. Or, it might be some completely new form of physics. To symbolise our lack of understanding, we call this new phenomenon "dark energy".

Even though we are still trying to work out what dark energy is, we can already

use it to predict different ways in which the universe might end.

If dark energy is not too strong, it will take an infinite amount of time for the universe to expand to an infinitely large size. Infinite means never-ending, and so in this case, time will never end.

But, if dark energy is too strong, it will cause the universe to expand so fast that everything in it – even the tiny atoms that are the building blocks for every single thing in existence – will be ripped apart. In this Big Rip scenario, the universe will not expand forever.

Instead, it will expand so fast that it will reach an infinitely large size at a specific moment in time. That moment, when the universe is infinitely large and all matter has been ripped apart, will be the last. The universe will cease to exist, and time will come to an end.

There is another way that the universe might end. This is called the Big Crunch. In

this scenario, the universe will at some point stop expanding and start shrinking again.

The universe will get smaller and smaller, galaxies will collide with each other, and all the matter in the universe will be scrunched up together. When the universe will once again be squeezed into an infinitely small space, time will end.

The Big Bounce

Some physicists think that a Big Crunch may not be the end of the universe, but merely the middle of its existence. According to this way of thinking, the universe starts out infinitely large, then shrinks for an infinitely long time until it is squeezed into the smallest size possible. When that happens, instead of ending, there is a Big Bang and the universe begins to expand.

In this Big Bounce scenario, there is an infinite amount of time before the universe becomes scrunched up into the smallest possible space, and an infinite amount of time as it expands afterwards. Time has no



Olga_Kuzmina/Shutterstock

beginning and no end.

In some Big Bounce models, the universe only bounces once. In others it goes through an infinite number of bounces, constantly expanding and contracting, like an accordion that never stops playing.

All of these scenarios show us what is possible, not necessarily what is true. For one thing, we still need to figure out what dark energy is. More importantly, there is no guarantee that our current understanding of how the universe works is correct.

One day, maybe 100 years or just a few weeks from now, someone (perhaps you?) will come up with a better theory to describe the workings of the universe. Maybe then we will know whether time ever comes to an end. Then again, perhaps the new theory will have a wildly different concept of time, or even do away with it altogether.

Hawani Negussie
University of Massachusetts



The New Secretary

Kevin gets a new secretary.

A few days later his wife learns of this new hire, and so he faces a volley of rapid, suspicious questions.

Emma (Kevin's wife): "Does your new secretary have nice legs?"

Kevin: "Didn't quite notice."

Emma: "What colour are her eyes?"

Kevin: "Haven't had the time to check."

Emma: "What are the nail polish colours she uses, metallic, gel or neon?"

Kevin: "Not a clue in the world."

Emma: "Does she have a local accent?"

Kevin: "I barely spoke to her, so don't know."

Emma: "How does she dress?"

Kevin: "Very quickly."

Kevin's funeral will be held on Tuesday.

How Mommy and Daddy Met

A boy goes to his father and asks him: "Daddy, how was I born?"

"Ah, very well," his dad sighed. "One day you'll find out anyway. How shall I put it in a way your generation will understand..."

"Well, mom and dad got together in a chat room. Dad set up a date via e-mail with your Mom and we met at a cyber café. We snuck into a secluded room, and then your mother downloaded from your dad's memory stick. As soon as dad was ready for an upload, it was discovered that neither one of us had used a firewall. Since it was too late to hit the delete button, nine months later the blessed virus appeared. And that's the story!"

The Retiring Rabbi

A rabbi is planning on retiring from his main occupation, which is giving circumcisions. Over the years he's saved up all the foreskins from all the circumcisions he's taken part in. He looks at them and decides to take them to the local leatherworker to see if something can be made of them.

The rabbi explains that he'd like to have a retirement gift made out of the foreskins and the leatherworker agrees and tells the rabbi to come back in a couple weeks.

A couple weeks later the rabbi comes back and the leatherworker hands him a wallet. "All those foreskins and you only made me a wallet?!" the rabbi exclaims.

The leatherworker replies, "Don't fret, if you rub it a bit it becomes a suitcase."

A businessman received an urgent call from his lawyer requesting him to come to the lawyer's office immediately.

When he arrived, his lawyer greeted him gloomily with a question; 'Do you want the bad news or the

terrible news?'

The guy said: 'If you put it like that, I guess I'll take the bad news first.'

'Okay, your wife found a painting worth \$100,000.'

'That's the bad news? If you call that bad, I can't wait to hear the terrible news!' queried the businessman.

'The terrible news is the painting is of you and your mistress.'

A young woman travelling home on a flight from Belgium to the United States turned to a priest sitting next to her and said:

'Father, I wonder if I could ask you a favour?'

'Certainly my child,' he replied.

'You see, in Brussels I bought an expensive electronic hairdryer and that is well over custom limits, and I'm worried they'll confiscate it. Could you possibly carry it through the customs for me -- under your robes.'

At customs, she let the priest go through first. The customs officer asked the priest whether he has anything to declare.

The priest answered: 'From top of my head down to my waist, I have nothing to declare.'

Puzzled by this reply the officer asked: 'What do you have to declare from your waist to your feet?'

The priest replied: 'I have a marvellous little device designed to be used on a woman, but which is to date unused.'

The officer smiled and said: 'Very good, Father, go through...'

A priest, well known for his lengthy sermons, watched as a man got up and left halfway through his message. The same man returned just near the end of his sermon.

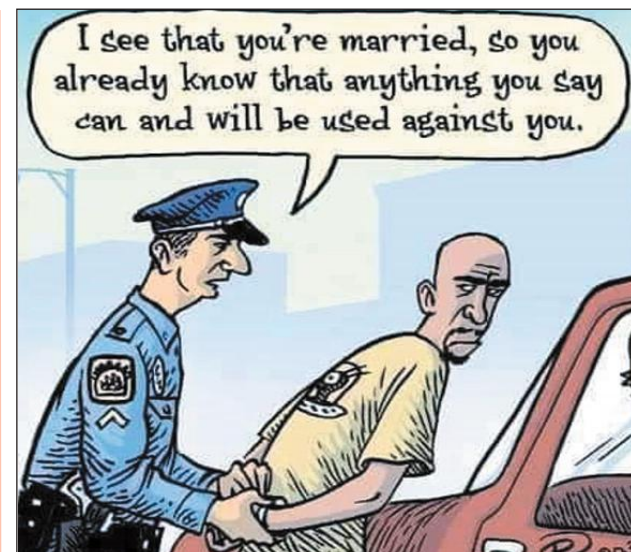
Afterwards the priest asked him where he had gone.

'I went to get a haircut,' said the guy.

'Why didn't you do that before the service?' asked the padre.

'I didn't need one then!'

A priest and a nun stood by the side of a road holding up a sign that read: 'The end is near, turn your-



self around now before it's too late!

They planned to hold the sign up to each passing car, but as the first driver sped by, he yelled: 'Leave us alone, you religious nuts!'

Seconds later, from around the corner they heard a screech of tyres followed by loud splash.

The priest turned to the nun and said: 'Do you think that instead we should put up a sign that says 'Bridge out' (a traffic sign that indicates a road hazard ahead).

The Cat Statue

A man walks into an antique store and starts looking around. Suddenly, he gazes upon the most stunning bronze statue of a Siamese cat. He asks the store owner how much he wants for the statue.

The store owner replies: "It's \$200 for the statue and \$2000 for the story that goes with it."

The man replies: "I really don't care about the story, but I do want the statue."

As the man is paying for the statue, the shop owner says: "All right, but I guarantee you will be back for the story."

The man walks out of the shop and starts down the street carrying the cat statue. When he comes to the crosswalk, he happens to glance behind him and sees 3 or 4 cats sitting about 10 feet away, looking at him. He shrugs it off and crosses when the light changes. He goes several more blocks and, at another crosswalk, looks behind himself again. This time there are about 30 cats sitting there looking at him.

The man starts to get a little nervous and picks up his pace when the light changes. By the time the man reaches the pier at the end of the street, he has now been running for several blocks. He was running because every time he turned around, there were more and more cats behind him. He looked like the pied piper.

When he got to the end of the pier, he turned around once more and saw at least 2000 cats sitting there looking at him. There were so many cats that there was no way to get off the pier without going through them and he knew there was no way he was going to do that.

In a panic, he turned toward the water and heaved the statue as far as he could.

Amazingly, all of the cats ran right past him and jumped in the water after the statue and never came out. The man, still shaking from his ordeal, immediately started running back to the shop.

As he burst through the door, the shop owner saw him and said, "I told you that you'd be back for the story!"

"To heck with the story," gasps the man, "do you have a statue of a politician?"

Short Stories

A Hot Plate of Rice

Once upon a time, there lived a great king known for being brave and strong. One day he was wandering around the woods by himself. Soon he found that he had lost his way. It was getting dark, and he hadn't planned to spend the night in the forest since it was riskier at night. So, he went to the top of a hill, he looked around but couldn't see any people or villages. Then, he could see the light from a great distance after some time. The King thought the light must be coming from a human settlement, so he walked in the direction of the light and soon came to a hut.

As he approached the shack, he noticed an older woman cleaning up outside the hut.

The old lady did not recognize the king but thought he was a soldier and welcomed him with warm hospitality. She provided her guest with clean water for cleaning and prepared a comfortable mattress for relaxing. After a while, she served a steaming hot rice and curry dish in front of him.

The king was famished as he hadn't eaten all day, so he hastily put his fingers on the hot food. However, the hot food burnt his hand, and he dropped some rice on the floor.

"Oh, you seem very impatient and hasty like your king," the old lady observed. "That's why you burned your fingers and lost some food."

The king was taken aback by the lady's words and asked, "Why do you believe our king is impatient and hasty?"

The old lady grinned and replied, "My darling son, our king has a big dream of taking all his enemy forts. By doing so, he concentrates on taking the larger, more prominent forts while disregarding the smaller ones."

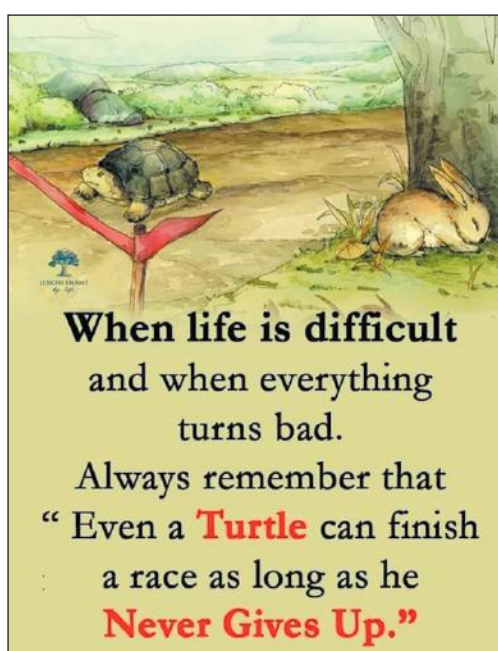
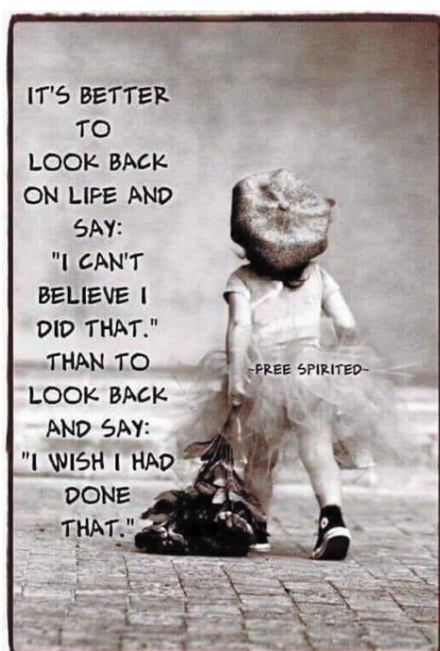
The King was confused and interrupted the lady, "But, isn't that a nice thing, I don't see any problem with it."



With a smile, she replied, "The impatience that caused you to burn your fingertips also caused you to squander a portion of the meal. Similarly, the king's haste to crush his foes led to the deaths of many of his soldiers. Instead, If you eat less hot food on the outer edge and then steadily move to the hotter middle, you can avoid burning your fingers and wasting food. Similarly, the king has to first focus on the smaller forts to consolidate his power. Then, as he grows stronger, he can take the large forts without suffering heavy casualties among his force."

After hearing this, the king realized his mistake and learned the importance of patience and not acting hastily. So, he thanked the woman for her wisdom and left the following morning. After that day, he always made plans to grow his kingdom steadily rather than prematurely acting on impulses.

Moral: If we want to succeed in life, we need to learn how to get there and then put in the time and effort necessary to make it happen. When we want quick results, we will become impatient, make mistakes and may never reach what we want in life.



Life's Lesson

Prepare your children for the road

According to psychologists, there are four types of intelligence:

1. **Intelligence Quotient (IQ)**
2. **Emotional Quotient (EQ)**
3. **Social Quotient (SQ)**
4. **Adversity Quotient (AQ)**

1. **Intelligence Quotient (IQ):** this is the measure of your level of comprehension. You need IQ to solve math's, memorize things, and recall lessons.

2. **Emotional Quotient (EQ):** this is the measure of your ability to maintain peace with others, keep to time, be responsible, be honest, respect boundaries, be humble, genuine and considerate.

3. **Social Quotient (SQ):** this is the measure of your ability to build a network of friends and maintain it over a long period of time.

People that have higher EQ and SQ tend to go further in life than those with a high IQ but low EQ and SQ. Most schools capitalize on improving IQ levels while EQ and SQ are played down.

A man of high IQ can end up being employed by a man of high EQ and SQ

even though he has an average IQ.

Your EQ represents your Character, while your SQ represents your Charisma. Give in to habits that will improve these three Qs, especially your EQ and SQ.

Now there is a 4th one, a new paradigm:

4. **The Adversity Quotient (AQ):** The measure of your ability to go through a rough patch in life, and come out of it without losing your mind.

When faced with troubles, AQ determines who will give up, who will abandon their family, and who will consider suicide.

Parents, please expose your children to other areas of life than just academics. They should adore manual labour (never use work as a form of punishment), Sports and Arts.

Develop their IQ, as well as their EQ, SQ and AQ. They should become multifaceted human beings able to do things independently of their parents.

Finally, do not prepare the road for your children. Prepare your children for the road.

Author Unknown



Quotable Quotes

Annie Besant

Annie Besant was a British socialist, theosophist, women's rights activist, writer, orator, educationist and philanthropist. She wrote more than 300 books. She also participated in the Indian independence movement of India.

She met Helena Blavatsky (a world-known Mystic) in 1890 and she became interested in theosophy. She joined the Theosophical Society of Madras (founded in Adyar), where she became the president in 1907. She died in Adyar, Madras in 1933 at the age of 85. She was considered a Mystic by people who knew her well.

1. Better remain silent, better not ever think, if you are not prepared to act.

2. There is no life without consciousness; there is no consciousness without life.

3. Where love rules, laws are not needed.

4. Socialism is the ideal state, but it can never be achieved as man is so selfish.

5. The man of meditation is the man who wastes no time and energy, and misses no opportunity.

6. Purification is the cleaning of the lamp-glass which hides the light.

7. I will suggest that the great aim of our Education is to bring out of the child who comes into our hands every faculty that he brings with him, and then try to win that child to turn all his abilities, his powers and his capacities, to the helping and serving of the community which he forms part.

8. The true mystic, realizing God, has no need of Scriptures, for he has touched the source where all Scriptures flow.

9. My own life in India, since I came to it in 1893 to make it my home, has been devoted to one purpose, to give back to India her ancient freedom.

(She stayed in India from 1893 until she died in 1933 at the age of 85)

10. You should always take religion at its best and not at its worst, from its highest teachings and not from the lowest practices of some of its adherents.

11. Liberty is a great celestial Goddess, strong, beneficent and austere, and she can never descend upon a nation by the shouting of crowds, nor by arguments of unbridled passion, nor by the hatred of class against class.

Men's Health**How Coffee might fight Prostate Cancer**

Two compounds in coffee may slow the growth of prostate cancer cells. But you're giving up those perks if you use paper filters

Some people can't face the day before their first cup of coffee. It turns out that your mug of joe might offer more benefits than just a morning jolt. Several studies suggest that coffee may lower a man's odds of getting prostate cancer.

In one study, men who drank 6 or more cups of coffee each day had their chance of prostate cancer cut by almost 20%. Interestingly, it didn't matter whether they drank caffeinated or decaffeinated coffee.

What's more, the benefit appears to be even bigger for lethal prostate cancer. Men who drank 6 or more cups of coffee had their chances of that cut by almost 60%.

But you don't have to drink java all the time to see an upside. One to 3 cups a day can lower your odds of aggressive prostate cancer by nearly a third -- no matter what your health condition is.

If you have or used to have prostate cancer, the news could be good for you, too. Researchers also found that 4 or more cups of coffee a day may help delay the disease's progression. It could also keep prostate cancer from coming back.

How does coffee help?

We aren't exactly sure why this popular drink seems to lower chances of certain types of prostate cancer. We do know that coffee has hundreds of active ingredients that can help your health. For example, it's rich in antioxidants like flavonoids and polyphenols. Some of these compounds may prevent damage to your cells and ease inflammation.

Scientists did identify two possi-

ble contenders for coffee's cancer-fighting abilities: kahweol acetate and cafestol. These compounds slowed the growth of prostate cancer cells in a recent study.

This may explain why men who drink boiled coffee have lower odds of prostate cancer compared to men who drink filtered coffee. Paper filters trap kahweol acetate and cafestol. Since boiled coffee doesn't need a filter, the compounds stay in your cup.

Not so fast

The findings are promising, but we need more studies. The current research shows a relationship between coffee consumption and a lower chance of prostate cancer. But they don't prove that drinking coffee can prevent prostate cancer. Clinical trials can test that.

Plus, there are downsides if you have too much coffee. More than 4 cups a day might give you:

- Headaches
- Irregular heartbeat
- Insomnia
- Irritability

Keep in mind that a cup is 8 ounces. Most coffeehouses give you much more than that, as do those giant mugs you might have at home.

Some people may be more sensitive to caffeine, too. Pay attention to how your body reacts to your daily brew. Cut back if you find coffee gives you the jitters or keeps you up at night.

WebMD

Questions to ask yourself after a first date

The first date is always tricky and unpredictable. By any chance, if it happens to go well, there are a hundred questions swirling around in your mind about the date. "Was I looking good?", "did he like me?" or "will there be a second date?" and many such thoughts occur in your mind that force you to continuously ponder over your date. But to be in the clear, here are some questions you should ask yourself after the first date.

"Did I actually enjoy time with the person?"

This is the question you should ask yourself first because spending a good time with that person should be a priority. Don't compromise over quality time just because that person either seems too good to be true or is very attractive.

"Was there a chemistry?"

Having chemistry or an intense connection between two people is extremely necessary to formulate a bond. So, it's important to understand if you and your date are compatible and have chemistry between you both. If not, then it's just a dull date, after all.

"Was he/she interested in me?"

You can know the answer to this question by analysing how many and what type of questions your



date was asking you. If a person is interested in someone, then they will be inquisitive about the person's life, preferences, friends, etc. If not, they will

"What are their values?"

This may not seem like a big issue but having similar values helps when looking for a potential partner in a committed relationship. When you have contrasting values and interests it can often turn into a huge problem or fights later on.

"Do I want to see this going further?"

Before you ponder over your date, you must be clear with your own intentions. Ask yourself if you're in the state to date someone seriously or can you see this going further, possibly towards a secure future? This is very important because it makes you clear about what you want and also keeps your partner informed.

Beauty Tips**Benefits of Including Water in Skin Care**

With so much information going around like what is good for your skin and what is not, people tend to forget the most basic aspect that defines one's healthy being: Water.



Water does wonders to your skin both, directly and indirectly. In its purest form, as well as other states such as steam and ice, it can be used as part of our skincare regime to achieve glowing skin. While drinking too much water will also do harm, there are other ways water can be included as part of your skincare regime as it is the most natural way to cure many skin problems as well. Below is a list of benefits of including water in skincare to achieve that glow, as reported by TOI with inputs from Ruchika Acharya, founder Glow and Green.

pH Balance

With so, many products being applied on your face, and with the pollution that it faces, it is a wonder that our skins have not already been damaged beyond repair. Drinking water ensures that the pH balance of the skin is restored back to normal. Washing your face with water, too, cleans the acidic and alkaline substances in your skin, and gives out balanced healthy skin.

Puffy eyes

With the amount of workload and disruption of our sleep cycles owing to technology, it is not uncommon to see dark circles under our eyes and resembling pandas! Well, instead of using more makeup to conceal it, compressing ice wrapped in a handkerchief or even cloth damped in cold water helps the circulation under your eyes, and helps in getting rid of dark circles.

Toxic flush

Drinking the required amount of water helps flush out the toxins via different means including sweating, which is very important to remove the toxins from the skin. Similarly, steaming helps deep cleanse the skin as it removes adamant toxins from the skin easily, and clears blackheads as well.

Elasticity

Water helps in regaining your once bouncy skin, which has now become dull due to lack of nutrition and pollution. The more the water retains in the skin, the bouncier and healthier your skin will look. This also helps in preventing wrinkles.

Skin sagging

Losing weight has an aftermath of leaving sagging skin, which people find very inconvenient. Drinking water could help keep up with the collagen, as it constitutes the major part of collagen. Hence, drinking plenty will help with the sagging.

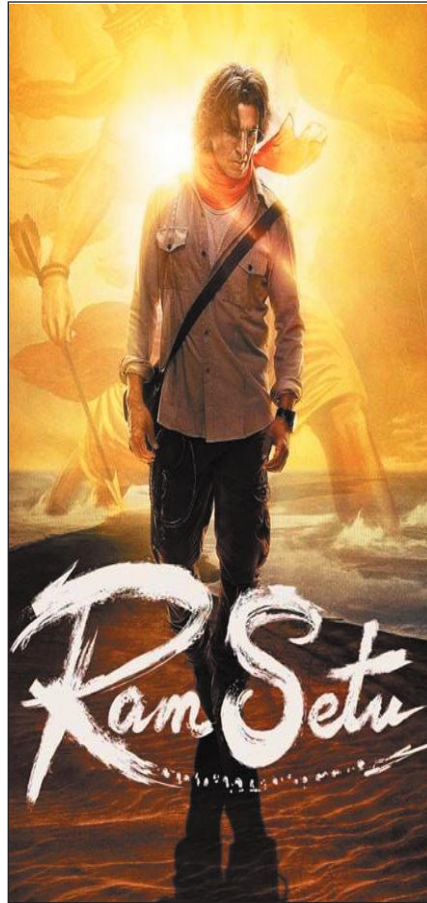
BollyBytes

Akshay Kumar slams reports of owning a private jet worth Rs 2.6bn

Akshay Kumar is one of the highest-paid actors in Bollywood and was also awarded the highest- taxpayer award by the Indian government this year. The *Ram Setu* actor recently called out a news portal for spreading fake reports about him owning a private jet worth Rs 2.6bn. Akshay did not mince his words and wrote that the reports were 'baseless lies', reports massable.com.

Refuting the reports, Kumar wrote on Twitter, "Liar, Liar... pants on fire! Heard this in childhood? Well, some people have clearly not grown up, and I'm just not in a mood to let them get away with it. Write baseless lies about me, and I'll call it out. Here, a Pants on Fire (POF) gem for you."

In his upcoming adventure movie *Ram Setu*, Akshay plays the role of an atheist archaeologist turned believer who is in a race against time to prove the true existence of the legendary Ram Setu aka Adam's Bridge, before evil forces destroy the pillar of India's heritage.



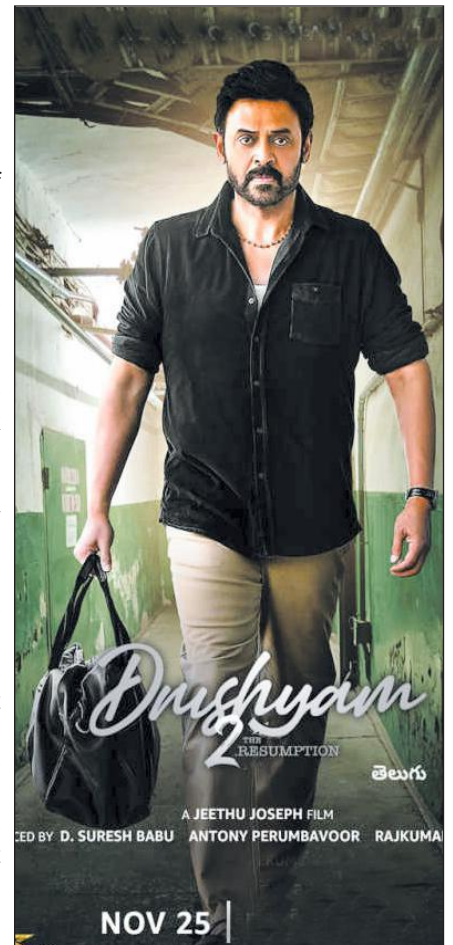
Ajay Devgn says 'Drishyam 2' is very different from the Malayalam original

Drishyam, the 2015 film, was a remake of the Malayalam film of the same name starring Mohanlal. But it came out when viewership of South films wasn't as high in the Hindi-speaking belt. With *Drishyam 2*, that is not the case. The Malayalam and Telugu versions of *Drishyam 2* are already on OTT, having been seen by millions during the pandemic. Ajay Devgn and director Abhishek Pathak reveal how they made sure the Hindi version stays fresh.

During the trailer launch event in Goa, Ajay Devgn responded to a query from Hindustan Times, saying that in *Drishyam 2* there were a lot of characters added, and a lot of changes made whilst keeping the soul of the film intact.

Drishyam is a sequel to Nishikant Kamat's hit thriller from 2015. Besides Ajay Devgn, it also stars Tabu, Ishita Dutta, Akshaye Khanna, Rajat Kapoor, and Shriya Saran. It's all set to hit the theaters on November 18.

In the film, Ajay will be reprising his role as Vijay Salgaonkar who convinced people that his family was on a holiday, in order to save them from a murder conviction.



Deepika to star opposite Mahesh Babu in Rajamouli's next film



After the phenomenal success of 'RRR', superstar director S.S. Rajamouli is making his next movie with Telugu superstar Mahesh Babu in lead.

The film, written by Rajamouli's father K.V. Vijayendra Prasad, is said to be inspired by real life events and the latest buzz is that it will star Deepika Padukone opposite Mahesh Babu.

Tentatively titled 'SSMB29', the film is an adventure drama and will most likely go on floors by the first half of 2023. According to the

media reports, this will be the first time when Deepika and Mahesh will be working together.

Meanwhile, Deepika is currently busy with another pan-India film titled 'Project K', where she will be seen along with Prabhas, Amitabh Bachchan and Suniel Shetty.

Earlier, Deepika fell ill on the sets of 'Project K' and was rushed to a hospital after her heart rate spiked. The actress soon recovered and was back to shooting the film.

Varun Dhawan turns into fierce werewolf in new poster for 'Bhediya'

Varun Dhawan channeled his inner werewolf in the just released poster of his upcoming horror comedy 'Bhediya'.

In the first poster from the film Varun is seen turning into a fierce werewolf during a full moon night. Kriti Sanon, Abhishek Bannerjee and others from the film's cast look terrified as they seem to be roaming with torchlights.

Featuring Hollywood's premier effects



studio Mr. X, the Amar Kaushik directorial is touted to boast of exquisite visual effects.

'Bhediya' is written by National Award winner, Niren Bhatt. The film which is slated to release on November 25.



Vidya Malvade felt liberated while for 'Mismatched 2'

Vidya Malvade, who is receiving positive response for her work in the streaming show 'Mismatched 2', felt liberated while playing the character of Zeenat Karim in the show.

The actress mentioned that Zeenat's sense of freedom in the series after her husband's death deeply resonated with her own pursuit for liberation which convinced her to be a part of 'Mismatched'.

Vidya's character of a Muslim widow woman from Lucknow who is trying to adapt to the modern world strongly resonates with most women. Despite the judgements, self-consciousness and nervousness, she makes every effort to befriend even the doourest of the teenagers.

Talking about her part in the show, the actress said, "Zeenat, older than her peers, tries everything to be accepted, to be acknowledged and welcomed. We've all been there, haven't we? I hope, in some way, the character of Zeenat too will encourage some women to go back to college, if they so wish and follow their long-lost dream."

'Kantara' took me back to my roots, says Shilpa Shetty

Shilpa Shetty, who is the latest to shower praise on director Rishab Shetty's critically acclaimed Kannada film 'Kantara', said that the film took her back to her roots.

Taking to Instagram, Shilpa Shetty, whose mother tongue is Kannada, wrote: "Appreciation post for 'Kantara'. Watched the film in the theatre... Oh My God! What a narrative, emotion, vibe and world."

"Without any bias, this one's a must watch just for the sheer brilliance of

storytelling, performances, heart, faith and direction. Whoa!"

A series of celebrities cutting across south Indian film industries have been lauding the film.

Only recently, actress Anushka Shetty had said: "Watched 'Kantara'.. Totally totally loved it. Congratulations to each and every actor, producer, technicians. Please watch the movie in the theatres. Don't miss it!"

A couple of days before, Tamil star Dhanush and Telugu star Prabhas had lauded the film.

The film features Rishab Shetty and Sapthami Gowda in the lead.

Meaty roles, hefty paychecks, powerful content: Television actors cross over to regional cinema

While crossing over to Bollywood is still a preferred career move for a sizeable chunk of TV actors, many are turning to regional films. Known for being rooted in specific cultures, with strong narratives and scope for experimenting with content, regional films have moved from the fringes to mainstream in the last few years and Hindi television actors are now preferring to take up these projects, reports Akash Wadhwa of Times of India. Aniruddh Dave, Shraddha Arya, Shrenu Parikh, Jay Soni, Vatsal Sheth, Aditi Sharma, Sharan Kaur and Bhavya Gandhi are small screen's latest exports to regional cinema; while the likes of Kavita Kaushik, Avika Gor, Tridha Chaudhary, Sargun Mehta, Nikitin Dheer, Puja Banerjee and Sana Makbul Khan have already earned their place in regional films.

'Working style of Television and regional cinema are similar'

Regional filmmakers are increasingly roping in TV actors who are experienced in their craft, have a loyal fan following and are economically viable options, for their projects. The multiplex culture has given regional cinema a pan-India reach and TV actors don't mind working in regional films anymore. Avtar Singh, director of the Punjabi film *Mindo Taseeldarni*, which starred telly's favourite Kavita Kaushik in the lead, explains, "Earlier, TV actors used to only eye Bollywood films. Ab aisa nahi hai. Casting a television actor in our films makes sense not only because of their popularity and fan following, but also because the working style and economics of television and regional cinemas are similar. Our budgets are limited, we shoot maximum scenes in a short time span. I'd seen Kavita Kaushik in *FIR* and had visualised her in my film even when I was scripting it."

Aniruddh Dave, who's playing the male lead in the TV show *Patiala Babes*, has made his Haryanvi film debut with *Chhorian Chhoron Se Kam Nahi Hoti* and will act in its sequel too.

'Actors get to experiment'

Television soaps rarely offer actors the scope to test their acting skills or experiment. Content-driven realistic and relatable regional cinema on the other hand fetches critical acclaim and gives actors a diverse audience. Actress Aditi Sharma (last seen in *Silsila Badaltey Rishton Ka*), who has worked in an array of Telugu films and is currently doing Punjabi films (*Subedar Joginder Singh*, *Golak*, *Bugni Bank Te Batua*, *Nankana and Laatu*), shares, "Regional films require powerful performers; luckily, television actors are being approached by regional filmmakers for their projects. At the end of the day, actors like to be part of good cinema." For actors, working in a good film is important, speaking the language fluently is secondary. Aniruddh Dave (currently seen in *Patiala Babes*) who has wrapped up his first Haryanvi film *Chhorian Chhoron Se Kam Nahi Hoti*, says, "Language can never be a barrier for an actor. Regional filmmakers are writing

awesome scripts, doing a regional film gives us an opportunity to explore our talent."

'Meaty roles in regional cinema'

Despite their massive popularity, TV actors don't find it easy to get a toe-hold in Bollywood films. Gaining acceptance and success in regional cinema are relatively easier. Kavita Kaushik rues that TV actors tend to get a raw deal in Bollywood films. "It is unfortunate that some filmmakers in Bollywood prefer a star kid over TV actors. Thankfully, we are getting strong roles in regional cinema," she adds. While not all TV actors get to play lead roles in Bollywood films, most of them headline the cast in regional cinema. "A leading production house recently asked me to audition for a 10-minute role in his film, I politely rejected the offer. Pehle aisa kahan hota tha ki ek TV actor Bollywood movie ke offer ko reject kare? Regional cinema has created options for us," adds Aniruddh.



PUJA BANERJEE
(BENGALI FILMS)

Actress Puja Banerjee who's done TV shows like *Devon Ka Dev Mahadev*, *Dev 2* and *Vish* (inset) is a commercially successful star from the Bengali film industry. Seen here (left) with co-star Dev in a still from a film

'Regional filmmakers want popular television faces to be in their films'

Massive global appeal, fat paychecks and the opportunity to work in a big-ticket film are incentive enough for Hindi TV actors like Nikitin Dheer, Avika Gor and Anita Hassanandani to choose work in the southern film industry. Actor Sonu Sood, who has also produced a few films in the southern film industry, says, "TV actors who have been signed up by filmmakers in the South have to be very good in their craft, as the producer is spending a lot of money on them, vis-a-vis a local actor. South Indian films are huge in every aspect, and it is every actor's dream to work here, so it's more competitive as well," he adds.

Actor-producer Jimmy Shegill who's a popular face in Punjabi cinema, says, "Not just southern films, good content is also being created in Marathi, Punjabi, Bengali and Gujarati film industries as well. When a popular TV actor gets to play the lead in regional films, he/she doesn't hesitate in doing them. Even the makers of regional films want popular TV faces to be in their films."

Satish Kaushik who set to make a sequel of his Haryanvi film with Aniruddh and is the Chairman of Governing Council for Projects under Haryana Film Policy, says, "TV today has a massive reach, so when popular TV actors do regional films, it becomes an added advantage for the makers."

YOUR STARS

Sagittarius: Nov 22 - Dec 21

Despite the stagnation in your financial situation, things should improve significantly very soon. Single Sagittarius natives looking for love may meet that special person. Those lucky enough to be in a committed relationship can anticipate a period of mutual happiness.

Lucky Numbers: 15, 19, 20, 21, 23, 31

Capricorn: Dec 22 - Jan 19

You need a strategy to ensure you keep your competitive edge as you work. Stop putting yourself down and start standing up for what you deserve. If you're looking for love, now is the time. The feeling of closeness and affection may remain strong among committed Capricorn partners.

Lucky Numbers: 2, 9, 12, 19, 21, 27

Aquarius: Jan 20 - Feb 18

There are a lot of different investment options that might end up being profitable for Aquarius natives in the near future. Conflicts with loved ones are indicated, so your domestic life may not be as smooth as your professional one. But a long-lost friend or coworker may surprise you with a proposal.

Lucky Numbers: 7, 13, 19, 21, 24, 30

Pisces: Feb 19 - Mar 20

There is a distinct possibility of unnecessary expenses. A tight hold over expenses would enable you to save a lot. Your desire to recreate romantic memories might be fulfilled. You are likely to feel full of energy as you begin to listen to your body.

Lucky Numbers: 14, 17, 19, 20, 23, 25

Aries: Mar 21 - Apr 19

Your loved ones are most likely going to be your rock during this time. Romance calls for an open mind to remain smooth and stable. Use caution while meeting new connections. Some misunderstandings may lead to a disappointing outcome.

Lucky Numbers: 5, 9, 17, 20, 23, 26

Taurus: Apr 20 - May 20

You can be kept very busy with your job or company, and you can also make progress toward your goals. Taking possession of the ancestral house seems like a strong possibility today. Even if Taurus students experience some difficulty in understanding the subject, they can still do well on tests by working hard.

Lucky Numbers: 1, 14, 19, 20, 26, 33

Gemini: May 21 - June 20

Seek professional advice if you want to make money from a deal. You can give your full attention to your feelings as the day bodes well for romantic overtures. It's possible that friendly relations with someone in Gemini natives' social circle will develop into a passionate love affair.

Lucky Numbers: 8, 17, 19, 20, 23, 28

Cancer: June 21 - July 22

Positive developments on the professional front may further bolster your zeal. A leadership role or coveted project may come Cancer natives' way. Your financial life will remain balanced with a healthy mix of income and expenditures. Minor conflicts and harsh words are possible in Cancer individuals' love life.

Lucky Numbers: 8, 19, 25, 26, 30, 31

Leo: July 23 - Aug 22

For some, unanticipated profits and lucrative deals cannot be ruled out. The future looks bright and full of joy and shared experiences. Create new opportunities for getting together with current acquaintances in order to strengthen existing connections.

Lucky Numbers: 12, 16, 14, 17, 20, 23

Virgo: Aug 23 - Sept 22

Some may explore real estate market to find better investment options. Your brimming bank balance may allow you to get home decoration work completed. Love birds are going to have an amazing trip experience. If you are single, someone may show his or her interest in you.

Lucky Numbers: 1, 4, 7, 9, 12, 30

Libra: Sept 23 - Oct 22

Financial stability is indicated for some. You may explore investment options. Try not to invest in any property deal. Those who are in a committed relationship, may make some serious future decisions. You may find it easy to convince your parents to get married to your love partner.

Lucky Numbers: 4, 9, 15, 20, 30, 36

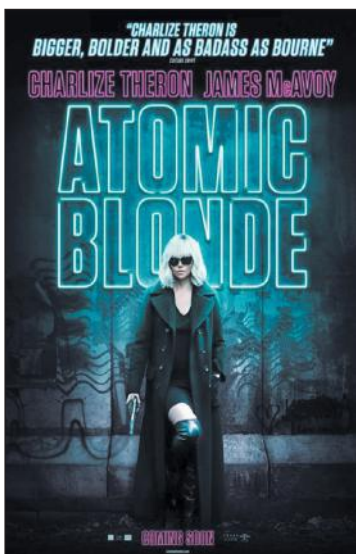
Scorpion: 23 Oct - 21 Nov

Yoga and meditation can prove healing for some dealing with work stress lately. Financial condition seems stable. Some may also buy a new property. Your love life seems okay. A long vacation with spouse or beloved is on the cards.

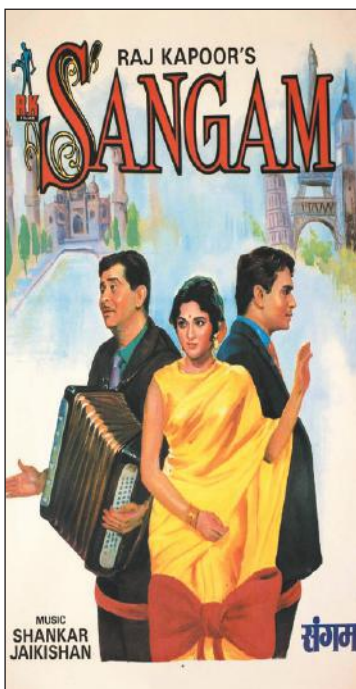
Lucky Numbers: 7, 9, 12, 14, 20, 23

CINE 2

Vendredi 21 Octobre - 21.15



Samedi 22 octobre - 21.00



Dimanche 23 octobre - 21.52



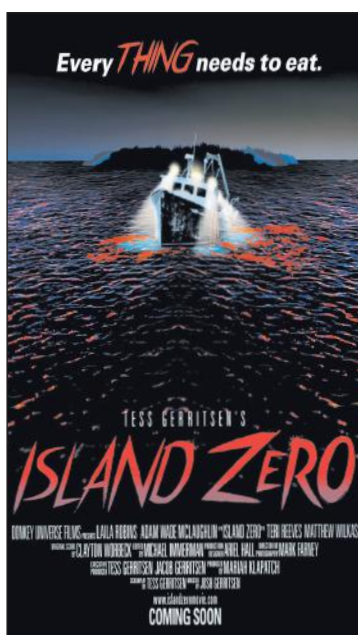
Programme TV



	MBC 1	MBC 2	MBC 3	Cine 12	Bollywood TV
vendredi 21 Octobre	07.00 Local: Les Grandes Lignes 08.00 Local: Profil 09.00 Doc: Lavi Zoli An XXL 11.00 Doc: Books 11.15 Tele: Muneca Brava 12.00 Le Journal 12.40 Tele: Muneca Brava 14.05 MBC Production 14.47 D.Anime: Spongo, Fuzz And... 15.20 D.Anime: Oum Le Dauphin... 15.33 D.Anime: La Petite Ecole... 17.10 Mag: National Anthem 17.15 Serial: Oh Yuck! 17.37 Mag: World Cup Qatar 2022 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.31 Serial: Surya Pura 18.55 Serial: Jag Jaanani Maa... 19.30 Journal & La Meteo 20.25 Local: Les Grands Noms... 21.25 Serial: Billions 23.00 Le Journal	07.00 DDI Live 10.00 Serial: Aatish 11.16 Serial: Tu Ishq Hai 12.02 Film: Choricha Mamla 14.47 Filler: Radha Krishna 15.00 Live: Samachar 15.22 Serial: Saare Tujhyachsathi 15.45 Serial: Bommarillu 16.04 Serial: Sondha Bandham 16.31 Serial: Meer Abru 16.49 Serial: Bhaag Na Banche... 17.11 Serial: Bhakharwadi 17.30 Serial: Ishaaron Ishaaron Mein 18.01 Serial: Meteor Butterfly... 19.00 Live: Zournal Kreol 19.30 Serial: Radha Krishna 20.00 Serial: Mushk 20.44 Local: Anjuman 21.15 Local: Noor-E-Iman 22.05 DDI Live	07.00 Mag: Border Crossing 07.49 Doc: Nature Always Wins 08.39 Doc: DIY Kings 09.34 Doc: Guinea-Bissau 11.03 Mag: Eco India 14.39 Doc: Guinea-Bissau 15.23 Doc: Muay Thai 16.09 Mag: Eco India 16.47 Mag: Carnet De Sante 17.27 Student Support Prog... 20.30 Live: News 20.45 Doc: World Heritage 21.50 Doc: Planet Home 22.17 Doc: The Rocky Road To... 23.41 Doc: Fungal Empire 00.29 Mag: World Stories 00.46 Mag: Our Voices 01.12 Mag: Euromaxx 01.38 Doc: The Viking Warriorress 02.26 Doc: World Heritage	01.32 Film: Signed, Sealed, Delive... 03.50 Film: A Harvest Wedding 05.40 Tele: Tour De Babel 06.04 Serial: Burden Of Truth 06.47 Film: Signed, Sealed, Delive... 09.00 Serial: Imposters 09.45 Tele: La Beaute Du Diable 10.35 Tele: Fierce Angel 11.00 Serial: 19-2 11.45 Film: A Harvest Wedding 13.30 Tele: Tour De Babel 14.48 Film: Signed, Sealed, Delive... 16.41 Serial: Imposters 17.21 Serial: Burden Of Truth 18.05 Tele: La Beaute Du Diable 19.00 Tele: Fierce Angel 19.34 Serial: Backstage 20.05 Tele: L'envers Du Paradis 20.30 Serial: S.W.A.T 21.20 Film: Atomic Blonde 23.04 Tele: Tour De Babel	06.42 Film: Waqt Hamara Hai Starring: Akshay Kumar, Sunil Shetty, Ayesha Jhulk 11.25 / 20.30 - Radha Krishna 11.59 / 21.00 - Anupamaa 12.31 / 21.30 - Mere Sai 13.02 / 22.00 - Agnihera 13.30 / 22.03 - Yeh Teri Galiyan 14.04 / 22.30 - Patiala Babes 14.25 / 23.00 - 100 Years Of Indian Cinema 15.00 / 21.46 - Yeh Hai Mohabbatein 15.26 Film: Patthar Ke Phool Starring: Salman Khan, Raveena Tandon, Kiran Kumar, Reema Lagoo 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.30 Kundali Bhagya 19.00 Udaariyaan 19.28 Kuch Rang Pyar Ke...
samedi 22 octobre	06.00 D.Anime: Ubongo Kids 06.50 D.Anime: Kid Lucky 09.18 D.Anime: Magic Kaito 1412 09.45 Mag: National Anthem 10.20 Local: Zafan Nou Zil 11.00 Local: Come On Lets Dance 12.00 Le Journal 12.25 Local: Pause Cuisine 12.35 Tele: Muneca Brava 13.55 Tele: La Femme De Lorenzo 15.00 Live: Samachar 15.21 D.Anime: Oum Le Dauphin... 15.45 D.Anime: La Petite Ecole... 16.32 D.Anime: Paf, Le Chien 17.06 Mag: World Cup Qatar 2022 17.40 Local: Les Grands Noms... 18.00 Samachar 18.30 Enter: Taare Zameen Par 19.30 Journal & La Meteo 20.25 Local: Divali 2021 21.25 Film: Hard Target 23.05 Local: Le Journal	07.00 Film: Karishmaa Starring Kamal Haasan, Reena Roy, Tina Munim 09.55 Bade Acche Lagte Hai 11.10 Serial: Dikri Vahalo Dariyo 11.44 Serial: The Demi-Gods And... 12.32 Serial: Mooga Manasulu 12.45 Serial: High School 13.17 Serial: Annakodiyum Ainthu... 15.00 Live: Samachar 15.25 Film: Ghar Ka Chiraag Stars: Rajesh Khanna, Neelam, Chunky Pandey 17.49 Mag: DDI Mag 19.00 Live: Zournal Kreol 19.30 Serial: Radha Krishna 20.00 Serial: Vikram Betaal Ki Rahasya Gatha 20.30 Serial: Porus 21.00 Film: Sangam Starring Raj Kapoor, Vyjayantimala, Rajendra Kumar	06.00 Doc: Fungal Empire 06.42 Mag: World Stories 06.59 Mag: Our Vocies 07.28 Mag: Euromaxx 07.54 Doc: The Viking Warriorress 09.47 Doc: Planet Home 10.14 Doc: The Rocky Road To... 12.24 Mag: World Stories 13.59 Doc: Fregates Fleuron De La Marine Francaise 17.45 Live From La Vallée Village Hall, Pamplermouss: Deepavali 19.32 Mag: In Good Shape 20.50 Doc: Heritages 21.47 Doc: A Mediterranean... 22.13 Doc: The Brain Paradox 23.13 Doc: Our Friend The Atom 23.55 Doc: World Capitals 23.58 Doc: Quand L'Histoire Fait... 00.26 Doc: Smoothie Mania 00.29 Mag: In Good Shape	01.46 Film: Atomic Blonde 03.26 Serial: Madam Secretary 04.08 Serial: Rich Man, Poor Man 04.56 Tele: Les Trois Visages D'ana 06.08 Serial: S.W.A.T 06.48 Serial: Absentia 08.30 Serial: Burden Of Truth 09.12 Serial: Madam Secretary 10.40 Film: Memories Of War 12.30 Serial: Les Proies 13.20 Serial: 19-2 14.45 Tele: Marimar 16.18 Serial: S.W.A.T 17.06 Film: Jumanji 18.35 Serial: Kojak 19.35 Serial: Backstage 20.05 Tele: L'Envers Du Paradis 20.30 Series: S.W.A.T 21.15 Film: 100 Streets 22.45 Tele: I Forgot I Love You	04.33 Anupamaa 05.03 Mere Sai 05.28 Agnihera 05.52 Yeh Teri Galiyan 06.33 Patiala Babes 08.00 Yeh Teri Galiyan 10.32 Motu Patlu 10.44 Sasural Simar Ka 2 12.35 Serial: Udaariyaan 14.23 Serial: Anupamaa 16.19 Kuch Rang Pyar Ke Aise... 18.00 Samachar 18.30 Film: Arjun Patiala Starring: Diljit Dosanjh, Kriti Sanon, Varun Sharma 20.14 Motu Patlu 20.26 Serial: Namah 20.48 Serial: Naagin Season 3 21.30 Serial: Yeh Teri Galiyan
dimanche 23 octobre	06.00 D.Anime: Ubongo Kids 06.39 D.Anime: Boule Et Bill 07.02 D.Anime: The Twisted... 07.57 Film: Groundhog Dave 2 10.00 Local: Zafan Nou Zil 11.00 Local: Nu Rasinn 11.55 Local: Divali 2021 12.00 Le Journal 12.36 Tele: Muneca Brava 13.12 Tele: La Femme De Lorenzo 15.22 D.Anime: Oum Le Dauphin... 15.33 D.Anime: La Petite Ecole... 16.42 D.Anime: All Hail King Julien 17.15 Mag: National Anthem 17.40 Mag: World Cup Qatar 2022 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.30 Local: Yeh Shaam Mastani 19.30 Le Journal 20.30 Local Production: Divali 2021 21.25 Film: Blade Runner 2049 23.00 Le Journal	07.00 Film: Dard-E-Dil 11.03 Serial: Azhagu 11.20 Jag Jaanani Maa Vaishnodevi 11.43 Serial: Surya Pura 12.06 Film: Jab We Met 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 17.13 Serial: Siya Ke Ram 19.00 Live: Zournal Kreol 19.30 Serial: Radha Krishna 20.05 Serial: Porus 20.52 Mag: 100 Years Of Cinema 21.09 Serial: Naagin Season 3 Starring: Mouni Roy, Arjun Bijlani, Adaa Khan, Karanvir Bohra	06.00 Doc: World Capitals 07.06 Mag: Shift 07.18 Mag: Check In 09.58 Doc: The Brain Paradox 12.15 Doc: Smoothie Mania 12.18 Mag: In Good Shape 12.44 Mag: Saladeria 12.51 Mag: The 77 Percent 13.17 Mag: Check In 14.34 Doc: World Heritage 14.43 The Prince Of The Forest 15.31 Doc: A Mediterranean... 18.05 Doc: La Route De La Soie 18.29 Doc: Smoothie Mania 18.32 Mag: Global 3000 19.26 The Great Berlin Escape 20.30 Live: News (English) 20.50 Doc: World Heritage 20.55 Other: 44th International 22.59 Doc: A World Without Bees? 23.44 Doc: La Route De La Soie	01.21 Film: 100 Streets 03.29 Film: Hard Target 05.01 Tele: Les Trois Visages D'ana 06.09 Serial: S.W.A.T 06.50 Film: An Emma Fielding Mystery 08.30 Serial: Burden Of Truth 09.11 Film: Hard Target 10.44 Film: Jumanji (1995) 12.24 Serial: Le Livre Perdu Des... 13.30 Serial: 19-2 15.42 Tele: Marimar 17.00 Serial: S.W.A.T 17.55 Serial: Le Livre Perdu Des... 18.40 Serial: Galactica 19.38 Serial: Backstage 20.05 Tele: L'Envers Du Paradis 20.30 Serial: Under Pressure 22.00 Film: Nowhere To Run 23.25 Tele: I Forgot I Loved You	00.00 Serial: Sasural Simar Ka 2 01.50 Udaariyaan 04.07 Anupamaa 06.00 Kuch Rang Pyar Ke Aise... 08.12 Main Maik Chali Jaungi... 10.00 Kundali Bhagya 11.50 Yeh Hai Mohabbatein 13.35 Agnihera 15.39 Jijaji Chhat Par Hain 16.23 Punar Vivaah 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.30 Film: Badmashiyaaan Starring: Sidhant Gupta, Suzanna Mukherjee, Gunjan Malhotra 20.29 Naagin Season 3 21.11 Yeh Hai Mohabbatein 22.56 Main Maik Chali Jaungi... 00.57 Kundali Bhagya 03.00 Agnihera
lundi 24 octobre	06.00 Local: Zafan Nou Zil 07.00 D. Anime: Ubongo Kids 07.50 D. Anime: Boule Et Bill 09.00 Film: White Fang 10.45 Local: Nos Aines 11.10 Tele: Muneca Brava 12.00 Le Journal 12.30 Tele: Muneca Brava 13.55 Local: Nu Rasinn 15.20 Other: Radha Krishna 15.21 D.Anime: Oum Le Dauphin... 15.35 Film: The Jungle Book 3 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.30 Serial: Mere Sai 18.55 Serial: Jag Jaanani Maa Vaishnodevi 19.30 Le Journal 20.25 Local Production 21.15 Local: Agir Ensemble 21.45 Serial: Rich Man, Poor Man Avec: Nick Nolte, Peter Strauss	07.00 DDI Live 10.00 Kundali Bhagya 12.06 Film: Hum Do Hamare Do Starring Rajkummar Rao, Kriti Sanon, Paresw Rawal... 15.00 Samachar 15.20 Serial: Saare Tujhyachsathi 15.47 Serial: Bommarillu 16.02 Serial: Sondha Bandham 16.27 Serial: Meer Abru 16.53 Serial: Bhaag Na Bachhe... 17.17 Serial: Bhakharwadi 17.39 Serial: Vandhal Sridevi 17.57 Serial: Meteor Butterflu... 18.30 Mag: DDI Mag 19.00 Live: Zournal Kreol 19.30 Serial: Radha Krishna 20.00 Programme In Telugu 20.30 Film: Dikkiloona Starring: SanthanamAnagha, Shirin Kanchwala, Yogi Babu, Sha Ra	07.00 Mag: Salad Area 07.55 The Great Berlin Escape 09.01 Doc: Trust The Guide 09.53 Doc: A World Without Bees? 11.51 Doc: Smoothie Mania 14.55 Doc: World Heritage 15.04 Doc: Trust The Guide 16.46 Doc: Legendary Hotels 18.00 Mag: EcoAfrica 19.00 Doc: Persons 19.33 Mag: In Good Shape 20.50 Doc: Fine Arts Sculptures 20.53 Doc: Secrets Des Plantes 22.15 Mag: Tomorrow Today 22.41 Mag: Washington Forum 23.00 Doc: Seeds Of Profit 23.50 Mag: EcoAfrica 00.16 Mag: The 77 Percent 00.45 Mag: Africa 54 01.12 Mag: In Good Shape 01.41 Doc: Fine Arts Sculptures	01.03 Film: Nowhere To Run 04.06 Film: L'amour A La Carte 05.38 Serial: Under Pressure 07.03 Film: Blade Runner 2049 09.45 Tele: La Beaute Du Diable 10.12 Tele: A Que No Me Dejas 10.35 Tele: Fierce Angel 11.00 Serial: 19-2 12.00 Film: L'Amour A La Carte 13.31 Tele: Tour De Babel 14.15 Film: Blade Runner 2049 16.52 Serial: Under Pressure 18.17 Tele: La Beaute Du Diable 18.43 Tele: A Que No Me Dejas 19.00 Tele: Fierce Angel 19.39 Serial: Backstage 20.05 Tele: L'Envers Du Paradis 20.30 Serial: L.A.'s Finest 21.15 Film: Fixer Upper Mystery Stars: Jewel Kilcher, Colin Ferguson, Erin Karpluk, Ron Lea, Colin Lawrence,	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 13.31 / 22.03 - Yeh Teri Galiyan 14.00 / 22.30 - Patiala Babes 14.30 / 23.00 - 100 Years Of Indian Cinema 15.00 / 21.46 - Yeh Hai Mohabbatein 15.27 Film: Hindustani Film 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.30 Kundali Bhagya 19.01 Udaariyaan 19.30 Kuch Rang Pyar Ke Aise... 20.01 Sasural Simar Ka 2 20.30 Film: Jug Jugg Jeeyo Starring Varun Dhawan, Anil Kapoor, Kiara Advani 23.00 Patiala Babes



Mardi 25 octobre - 21.10



Mercredi 26 octobre - 21.15



Mercredi 26 octobre - 21.15



Programme TV



MBC 1	MBC 2	MBC 3	Cine 12	Bollywood TV
mardi 25 octobre 06.30 Local: Artizan 07.30 Local: Rodrig Prog 09.30 Doc: The Expanding Desert 10.00 Local: Sekirite Larout 11.15 Tele: Muneca Brava 12.00 Le Journal 12.25 Local: Les Grands Noms... 12.30 Tele: Muneca Brava 13.50 Local Production 14.45 D.Anime: Spongo, Fuzz And... 15.00 Live: Samachar 15.20 D.Anime: Oum Le Dauphin... 15.35 D.Anime: La Petite Ecole... 17.15 Serial: Oh Yuck! 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.30 Serial: Jijaji Chhat Par Hain 19.30 Journal & La Meteo 20.20 Local: Autour Des Valeurs... 22.25 Film: Island Zero With: Laila Robins, Adam Wade McLaughlin	mardi 25 octobre 07.00 DDI Live 10.00 Serial: CID 10.44 Serial: Jijaji Chhat Par Hain 12.00 Film: Amrit Starring: Ajesh Khanna, Smita Patil, Aruna Irani, Satish Shah 15.00 Live: Samachar 15.20 Saare Tujhyachsathi 15.43 Bommarillu 16.04 Sondha Bandham 16.33 Serial: Meer Abru 16.56 Bhaag Na Bachhe Koi 17.05 Bhakharwadi 17.31 Serial: Premabhishekam 18.00 Serial: Meteor Butterfly... 18.30 Local: DDI Magazine 19.00 Zournal Kreol 19.30 Serial: Radha Krishna 20.06 Local: Tamil Programme 20.30 Film: Anupama Starring Dharmendra, Sharmila Tagore, Deven Verma	mardi 25 octobre 06.00 Mag: Eco@Africa 07.24 Mag: In Good Shape 07.53 Doc: Fine Arts Sculptures 09.41 Mag: Washington Forum 11.08 Mag: Eco@Africa 14.00 Doc: Volcano Stories 14.52 Mag: Washington Forum 16.21 Mag: Eco@Africa 18.00 Mag: Rev: The Global Auto... 18.41 Mag: Red Carpet 19.03 Student Support Prog... 19.34 Doc: Guardians Of Nature 20.30 Live: News 20.50 Doc: Fine Arts Sculptures 21.45 Mag: Euromaxx 22.16 Mag: Close Up 22.41 Local: Rodrig-Klip Seleksion 00.05 Mag: The Global Auto... 00.31 Mag: Red Carpet 00.46 Doc: Persons 00.49 Mag: Check In	mardi 25 octobre 01.34 Film: Fixer Upper Mystery 03.08 Serial: 19-2 03.50 Film: Signed, Sealed, Delive... 05.21 Tele: Tour De Babel 05.59 Serial: L.A.'s Finest 06.58 Film: Land Raiders 09.45 Tele: La Beaute Du Diable 10.37 Tele: Fierce Angel 11.00 Serial: 19-2 12.00 Film: Signed, Sealed, Delive... 13.30 Tele: Tour De Babel 14.22 Mag: Hollywood Best Film 14.50 Film: Land Raiders 16.40 Serial: Imposters 17.20 Serial: L.A.'s Finest 18.05 Tele: La Beaute Du Diable 19.00 Tele: Fierce Angel 19.37 Serial: Backstage 20.05 Tele: L'Envers Du Paradis 20.30 Seiral: L.A.'s Finest 21.15 Film: The Bad Guys	mardi 25 octobre 06.50 Film: Teri Payal Mere Geet Stars: Govinda, Meenakshi Sheshadri, Kadar Khan, Shakti Kapoor 11.26 / 19.27 - Radha Krishna 12.00 / 20.57 - Anupamaa 12.30 / 21.27 - Mere Sai 13.01 / 22.07 - Agniphera 13.31 / 22.37 - Yeh Teri Galiyan 14.05 / 23.07 - Patiala Babes 14.25 / 21.59 - 100 Years Of Indian Cinema 15.00 / 22.25 - Yeh Hai Mohabbatein 15.26 Film: Welcome Star: Akshay Kumar, Katrina Kaif, Nana Patekar... 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.30 Serial: Kundali Bhagya 19.04 Udaariyaan 19.34 Kuch Rang Pyar Ke Aise
mercredi 26 octobre 07.00 Local Prod: En Forme 07.30 MBC Production 08.00 Local: Sa Lavi-La 09.05 Doc: Snapshots 09.50 Local: Rodrig Prog 11.15 Tele: Muneca Brava 12.00 Le Journal 12.30 Tele: Muneca Brava 13.50 Local Production: Les Klips 14.45 D.Anime: Spongo, Fuzz and... 15.21 D.Anime: Oum Le Dauphin... 15.33 D.Anime: La Petite Ecole... 15.56 D.Anime: Les Triples 17.10 Serial: Oh Yuck! 17.40 Mag: Sand Tales 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.30 Filler: Sayings Radha Krishna 19.00 Local: Planet Bollywood 19.30 Journal & La Meteo 20.30 MBC Production 22.20 Film: 100 Streets With Idris Elba, Gemma Arterton	mercredi 26 octobre 07.00 DDI Live 10.00 Suhani Si Ek Ladki 12.00 Film: Kaalia Starring: Amitabh Bachchan, Parveen Babi, Asha Parekh 15.00 Live: Samachar 15.23 Saare Tujhyachsathi 15.49 Bommarillu 16.15 Sondha Bandham 16.26 Serial: Meer Abru 16.53 Bhaag Na Bachhe Koi 17.18 Bhakharwadi 17.31 Serial: Kulvadh 18.00 Meteor Butterfly Sword 18.30 Local: DDI Magazine 19.00 Zournal Kreol 19.30 Serial: Radha Krishna 20.06 Programme In Marathi 20.30 Film: Once More Stars: Poornima Bhawe, Naresh Mahadeo Bidkar, Dhanashree Dalvi	mercredi 26 octobre 06.00 Mag: Rev: Global Auto... 06.56 Mag: Check In 07.28 Mag: Made In Germany 08.49 Doc: Fine Arts Sculptures 09.58 Mag: Close Up 14.03 Doc: Guardians Of Nature 16.32 Rodrig - Klip Seleksion 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) 20.50 Doc: Fine Arts Sculptures 21.08 Les Montagnes Du Monde 21.41 Mag: Initiative Africa 22.07 Mag: Focus On Europe 22.33 Doc: Iran From Above 23.57 Mag: Motorweek 00.23 Mag: Vous Et Nous 00.54 Mag: Arts.21 01.20 Mag: The Inside Story 01.46 Doc: Skuld	mercredi 26 octobre 01.34 Film: The Bad Guys 03.23 Serial: 19-2 03.50 Film: Memories Of War 05.53 Tele: Tour De Babel 06.16 Serial: L.A.'S Finest 07.23 Film: Grace And Goliath 09.45 Tele: La Beaute Du Diable 10.37 Tele: Fierce Angel 11.00 Serial: 19-2 12.00 Film: Memories Of War 13.30 Tele: Tour De Babel 14.22 Mag: Hollywood Best Film 14.50 Film: White Reindeer 16.40 Serial: Galactica 17.20 Serial: L.A.'S Finest 18.05 Tele: La Beaute Du Diable 19.00 Tele: Fierce Angel 19.37 Serial: Backstage 20.05 Tele: L'Envers Du Paradis 20.30 Seiral: Burden Of Truth 21.15 Film: Nowhere To Run Avec: Jean-Claude Van Damme, Rosanna Arquette	mercredi 26 octobre 07.08 Film: Welcome 11.30 / 20.06 - Radha Krishna 12.00 / 20.26 - Anupamaa 12.29 / 20.02 - Mere Sai 13.00 / 20.46 - Agniphera 13.30 / 21.09 - Yeh Teri Galiyan 14.00 / 21.50 - Patiala Babes 14.25 / 22.15 - 100 Years Of Indian Cinema 15.00 / 21.46 - Yeh Hai Mohabbatein 15.06 Film: Malaal Starring: Meezaan Jafri, Sharmin Segal, Chinmayee Surve 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 27 octobre 06.00 Local: Klip Seleksion 07.00 Local: Rodrig Prog 07.40 Local: Itinerer Moris 08.15 Local: Elle 09.10 Doc: Our Friend The Atom 11.10 Mag: National Anthem 12.00 Le Journal 12.30 Tele: Muneca Brava 13.55 Local: Music Tour 2022 15.21 D.Anime: P'tit Cosmonaute 15.33 D.Anime: La Petite Ecole... 15.56 D.Anime: Les Triples 16.56 D.Anime: Cosmic Quantum... 17.14 Serial: Oh Yuck! 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.30 Serial: Jijaji Chhat Par Hain 19.30 Le Journal 20.15 Local: Eclairage Economique 20.30 Film: Melaire Starring: Ajay Devgan, Aftab Shivdasani, Vivek Oberoi, Ritesh Deshmukh,	jeudi 27 octobre 07.00 DDI Live 09.58 Serial: Vikram Betaal Ki... 11.05 Serial: Mann Mein Vishwas... 12.00 Film: AAG 15.00 Live: Samachar 15.22 Serial: Saare Tujhyachsathi 15.45 Serial: Bommarillu 16.12 Serial: Sondha Bandham 16.32 Serial: Meer Abru 16.46 Bhaag Na Bachhe Koi 17.15 Bhakharwadi 17.40 Local: Bhajan Sandhya 18.00 Serial: Meteor Butterfly... 18.30 Mag: DDI Mag 19.30 Serial: Radha Krishna 20.04 Local: Les Grandes Lignes 20.30 MBC Production 21.20 Film: Blade Runner 2049 With: Ryan Gosling, Harrison Ford, Ana de Armas, S. Hoeks, Robin Wright	jeudi 27 octobre 06.00 Mag: Motorweek 06.24 Mag: Vous Et Nous 06.57 Mag: Arts.21 08.15 Doc: Fine Arts Sculptures 10.38 Doc: Once Upon A River 11.52 Local: Vous Et Nous 12.53 Mag: The Inside Story 13.39 Doc: Fine Arts Sculptures 15.22 Doc: Iran From Above 16.52 Mag: Motorweek 18.00 Mag: Eco India 18.30 Mag: Shift 19.00 Student Support Prog... 19.40 Doc: Nature Always Wins 20.30 Local: News (English) 20.50 Doc: Fine Arts Sculptures 22.01 Doc: The Power Of Gentle... 22.53 Doc: The Stork Army 23.35 Mag: Eco India 00.01 Mag: Shift 00.13 Mag: Carnet De Sante	jeudi 27 octobre 01.39 Film: Nowhere To Run 03.06 Serial: 19-2 03.50 Film: The Last Boy 05.17 Tele: Tour De Babel 06.25 Serial: Burden Of Truth 07.09 Film: Jumanji 09.00 Serial: Imposters 09.45 Tele: La Beaute Du Diable 10.38 Tele: Fierce Angel 11.05 Serial: 19-2 11.55 Film: The Last Boy 13.30 Tele: Tour De Babel 14.53 Film: Jumanji 16.40 Serial: Imposters 17.21 Serial: Burden Of Truth 18.05 Tele: La Beaute Du Diable 19.00 Tele: Fierce Angel 19.38 Serial: Backstage 20.05 Tele: L'Envers Du Paradis 20.30 Serial: Seal Team 21.15 Serial: Kojak	jeudi 27 octobre 07.00 Film: Malaal 11.22 / 20.26 - Radha Krishna 12.00 / 21.01 - Anupamaa 12.26 / 21.31 - Mere Sai 12.57 / 21.56 - Agniphera 13.25 / 22.20 - Yeh Teri Galiyan 14.00 / 22.52 - Patiala Babes 14.25 - Mag 100 Year Of Indian Cinema 15.00 / 21.46 - Yeh Hai Mohabbatein 15.23 Film: Blackboard V/s Whiteboard Starring: Manish Choudhary, Dharmendra, Alismita... 18.00 Samachar 18.30 Kundali Bhagya 18.59 Udaariyaan 19.22 Kuch Rang Pyar Ke Aise... 20.01 Sasural Simar Ka 2 20.26 Radha Krishna



Jeudi 27 octobre - 15.30

Stars: Manish Choudhary, Dharmendra, Alismita Goswami, Pankaj Jha



Jeudi 27 octobre - 20.20

Star: Ajay Devgan, Aftab Shivdasani, Vivek Oberoi, Ritesh Deshmukh, Amrita Rao, Lara Dutta



How will China interact with the world over the next 5 years?

A Chinese studies expert analyses Xi Jinping's 104-minute speech opening the 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China



Yu Tao
The University of
Western Australia

The 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, currently underway in Beijing, is China's most significant political event in half a decade.

Like the pre-election leaders' debates in Western democracies, the party congress, held once every five years, provides valuable opportunities for us to learn more about the country's political leaders and their policies.

It's unlikely any heated political debate will occur during the congress, as most political arrangements are made behind the scenes beforehand. However, the general secretary's report to the party congress often sets the tone of what China's leadership will prioritise in the coming years.

Over the weekend, President Xi Jinping delivered a speech to the congress. In over 104 minutes, Xi summarised the "great achievements" of his first decade as China's top leader and coined the phrase "Chinese-style modernisation". He laid out his vision for China for the next five years and beyond, signalling how the country will engage with the world.

Continuity is key

Five years ago, Xi's report to the previous party congress indicated China would become a more assertive shaper of international orders.

Many foreign policy narratives in this year's report are similar or identical to those in his 2017 report. This includes key phrases such as "upholding world peace", "promoting common development", and "working to build a community with a shared future for humankind".

The continuity in Xi's narratives indicates China is unlikely to embrace rapid foreign policy changes in the foreseeable future. Keeping the existing foreign policy narratives may also be a deliberate choice. After all, Xi is widely expected to secure a historic third term as China's top leader, so his policies will likely stay.

According to Xi, China will "remain firm in pursuing an independent foreign policy of peace". Xi also pledges "China will never seek hegemony or engage in expansion".

However, Xi stresses that China won't compromise on issues over Taiwan. Following the established party line on Taiwan, Xi reiterated in his report that "resolving the Taiwan issue is the Chinese people's own business, and it up to the Chinese people to decide".

Xi voiced the support for "a peaceful

reunification" with "the greatest sincerity and utmost effort". But he also said China will "never promise to renounce use of force".

It would be naive to assume the lack of new keywords in Xi's foreign policy narratives means China will return to being a "quiet achiever" in the international arena. On the contrary, given China's mighty economic, military, and technological capacities, the country has already become an essential shaper of international orders, whether its diplomats act as "wolf warriors" or keep a low profile.

Though not directly confrontational, Xi's report signals China does not adhere to the "rules-based international order" advocated by the United States and its Western allies. Instead, according to Xi, China will "promote the democratisation of international relations".

Ambiguity

One of the few noticeable new foreign policy phrases in Xi's report is that China will "decide its position and policy on issues based on their own merits".

China's foreign minister and ministry spokespersons have frequently used this phrase to justify the country's position of refraining from condemning Russia for its invasion of Ukraine.

Including this phrase in Xi's report indicates China is likely to keep its ambiguous position on the war in Ukraine. It won't follow the West in cutting ties with Russia, nor will it explicitly support Russia's military operations.

Introducing this new phrase also gives China's foreign policymakers more space to manoeuvre in complicated issues in the future.

National security an essential focus

According to a Reuters count based on the not-yet-published full written report, which is much longer than Xi's speech, the terms "security" and "safety" appear 89 times.

Compared with Xi's report five years ago, the frequency of these two words increased by over 60%.

A whole chapter of Xi's report is devoted to national security. The report calls for "a holistic approach to national security", which involves coordinating China's "external and internal security".

His report also indicates China will not



only look after its own security, but also work on "common security", primarily through the "Global Security Initiative" raised by Xi in April 2022. This initiative, though still lacking in details, stresses that any state shouldn't pursue its own security in the expanse of other states' security.

It will likely become China's new foreign policy framework to take on the US's Indo-Pacific Strategy, which China believes "aims to contain China and attempts to make Asia-Pacific countries 'pawns' of US hegemony".

Xi's report also explicitly states China will protect the "legitimate rights and interests" of its "overseas citizens and legal persons". Linking this with the report's emphasis on securing China's industrial chains and supply chains, it's expected China will make more efforts to extend its protection over state-owned and private entities beyond its physical borders.

Engaging via 'development'

As the country was hit hard by Covid in mid-2020, many observers speculated China would gradually cut its economic ties with the external market and seek to be economically self-reliant.

Xi's report, however, reiterates that China will keep its door open. Echoing Xi's report, Zhao Chenxin, deputy director of China's macroeconomic management agency the National Development and Reform Commission, clarified that China isn't seeking to become a self-sufficient economy.

According to Xi's report, China also intends to "create new opportunities for the world with its own development". As China's development-driven international engagement continues, the Belt-and-Road Initiative is likely to remain a significant policy platform for China's foreign relations.



Tree of Knowledge

Madisyn Taylor

Walking with Awareness

Walking meditation is a simple way to connect with your spirit and mother earth in a very grounded way.

Many of us take the benefits of walking for granted. Each day we limit the steps we take by driving or sitting for long periods of time. But walking even a few blocks a day has unlimited benefits -- not only for our health, but our spirit as well, for as we walk, we connect with the earth.

Even when walking on concrete, the earth is still beneath us, supporting us. Walking lets our body remember simpler times, when life was less complicated. This helps us slow down to the speed of our body and take the time to integrate the natural flow of life into our cellular tissue. Instead of running from place to place or thinking about how much more we can fit into our day, walking allows us to exist in the moment.

Each step we take can lead us to becoming more mindful of ourselves and our feelings. Walking slows us down enough not only to pay attention to where we are in our body, but also to our breath. Taking time to simply notice our breath while we walk, through the length of our inhales and exhales, and becoming attuned to the way in which we breathe is taking a step towards mindfulness. When we become more mindful, we gradually increase our awareness of the environment around us and start to recognize that the normal flow of our thoughts and feelings are not always related to where we are in the present moment. Gradually we realize that the connection we have with the earth and the ground beneath our feet is all that is. By walking and practicing breathing mindfully we gain a sense of calm and tranquility -- the problems and troubles of the day slowly fade away because we are in the 'now'.

The simplicity and ease of a walking practice allows us to create time, space and awareness of our surroundings and of the wonders that lie within. Taking a few moments to walk each day and become more aware of our breath will in turn open the door for the beauty of the world around us to filter in.