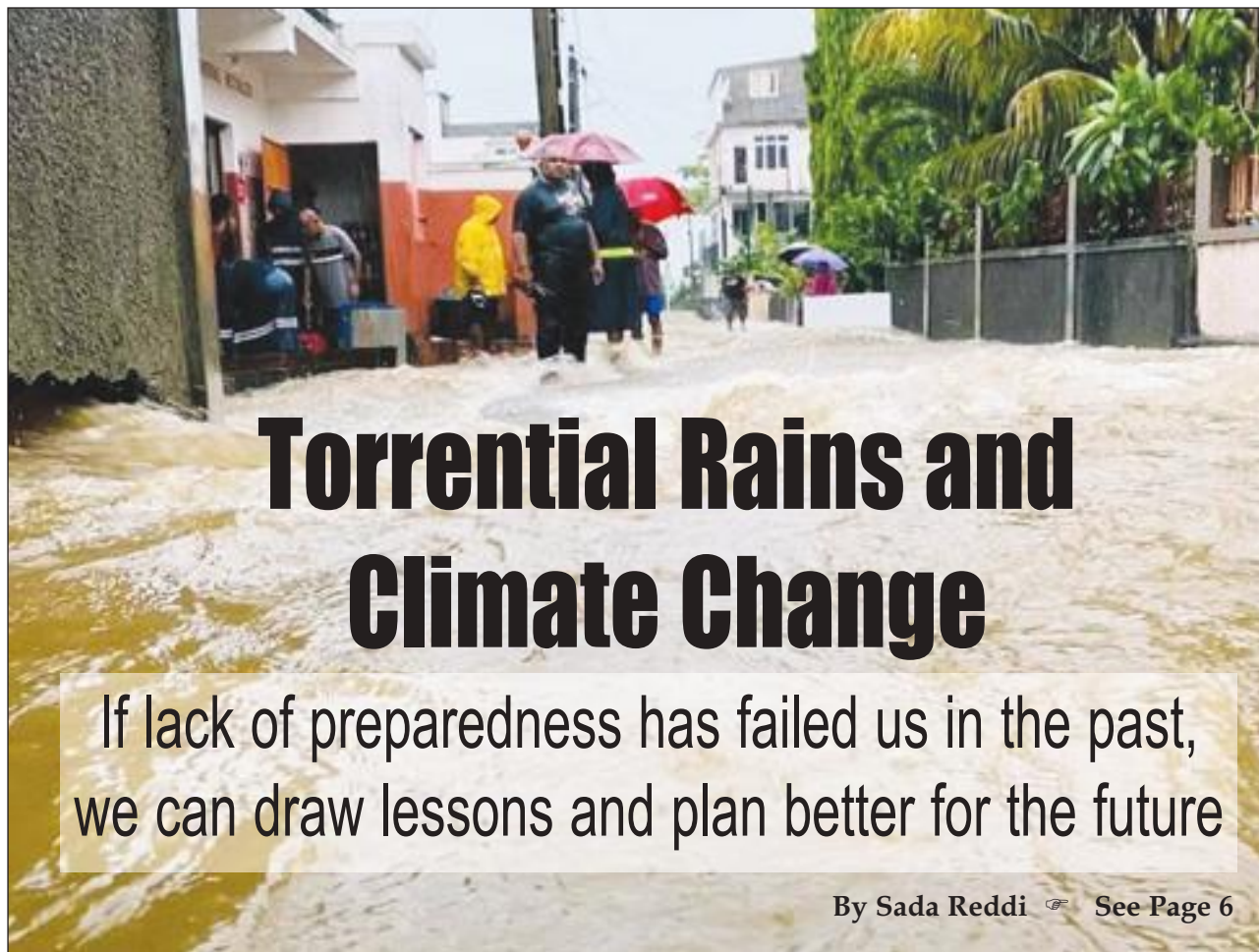


# MAURITIUS TIMES

• "There's no such thing as good weather, or bad weather. There's just weather and your attitude towards it." — Louise Hay

## Environment & Climate Change



### Torrential Rains and Climate Change

If lack of preparedness has failed us in the past, we can draw lessons and plan better for the future

By Sada Reddi ☞ See Page 6

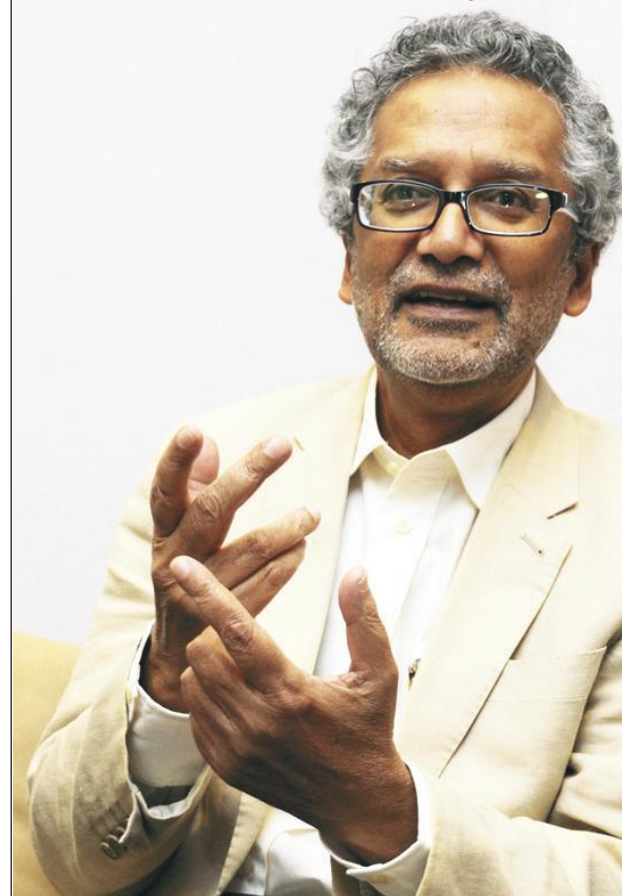
## Opinion

### India and the BBC's Intellectual Trash



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## Interview: Kris Valaydon



### «La descente va continuer, les dysfonctionnements vont perdurer...

...puisque le parti au pouvoir semble avoir compris qu'il n'y a aucune barrière sur sa route et qu'il ne craint même pas un soulèvement populaire»

☞ Voir Page 9

### Liability for Covid vaccine injuries in the face of windfall profits

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## A New World (Dis)order

By Dr R Neerunjun Gopee ☞ See Page 5



# The St Brandon Affair

**T**he unexpected solo sortie last week of the Attorney General Maneesh Gobin (and accessorially Secretary General of the ruling MSM party) about leading a relentless battle to reclaim the "permanent lease" granted in colonial times to Raphael Fishing Co Ltd over what is called Cargados Carajos or Saint Brandon, despite a Privy Council decision in 2008 that had confirmed the validity of the lease, has made headlines. It has transpired since that this is a pristine archipelago of 28 sandy islands and islets, a few of which go under with bad weather or high tides, and the granted colonial lease covers only 13 of these islets for a nominal annual rent of One MRU.

The other fact is that it is government through the Outer Island Development Corporation (OIDC) that grants fishing and exploitation licenses to any vessels wishing to operate or accost in the area and they had maintained two National Coast Guard (NCG) outposts and a Met station on one of the Raphael islands built and installed with the concurrence and assistance of the latter company. Over the past ten years there have been a few unwanted beachings of Taiwanese fishing vessels, the latest, the Yu Feng, only a few days ago and, as with the previous ones, is still hanging out miserably on the reefs threatening to spill its oil at any time without any effective preventive action conducted.

In a stark reminder of the Wakashio marine disaster at Pointe d'Esny two kms from our coastline, it only highlights the dramatic inability of government to come to grips with our maritime nation, its fragile coral reefs and sandy islets and islands, whether close or remote, or their pristine environment. The recent Yu Feng beaching can hardly be called upon to explain the real intentions of government through the fiery discourse of Maneesh Gobin. Whether the latter has a point that in our French-inspired law and civil code a "permanent lease" cannot exceed 99 years, the argument has been dismissed in the Anglo-Saxon interpretation it seems at the Privy Council, our highest appellate court. Why then rake up the issue now and what legal strategy will government employ to reverse that, the AG/SG is rather coy about, while being wary not to attack directly the Privy Council ruling.

The Attorney General/Secretary Gene-

ral is not unaccustomed to somewhat surprising stands on various issues where he brings his legal mind to bear, to explain or to justify government's actions. Following the Commission of Inquiry into the Britam sale where allegations had been spread but were eventually unproven about a Rs 2bn loss, he had announced a legal chase half-way around the world that would rope in Interpol and some agency of the United Nations, to recover the missing billions the Commission had failed to uncover. In Opposition he stood for freedom of expression and that of the press, in office he has forgotten the issue and rightly or wrongly has been associated with proposals to capture internet traffic or otherwise through IBA/ICTA to interfere with media and journalist freedoms. We may therefore respect his office but suspect that there may be more than a sudden itch to reclaim a dozen islets at St Brandon through as yet unknown legal mechanisms.

A generous soul might wonder whether at a time when the heavy taxes on fuel prices and high price at the pump hitting inflation, individuals, elderlies, small businesses and the distribution network, and NGO or consumer actions are in the offing, there was an urgency in high offices to drag the public attention to other matters. An observer more attuned to the powerful family and crony businesses gravitating in high spheres of power and extracting their pound of flesh (cf the Mauritius Turf Club and Champ de Mars affair) at any costs may start wondering what hidden appetite lurks behind the high-octane sortie of the AG. This is precisely the sort of questions raised in yesterday's issue of *l'express* by Alain Langlois, a former director of Raphael Fishing Co Ltd and to which answers to the population should be forthcoming.

Bluntly put, is an exclusive private resort location on the beachy sandy islets being hungered after? One might be shocked that such a pristine and fragile environment, rather than being protected, might be the object of airport, airline and associated infrastructure for a remote resort. It would be easy enough for the AG/SG to dispel such an intention as far-fetched and declare that the archipelago would remain protected from any developments beyond a well-equipped NCG patrol station. The authorities should come clean on their real intent.

## The Conversation

### Social welfare services are being cut across the world, but providing them is about more than just money

*Governments reduce access to social services at their own risk*



Thousands shout 'Cut War, Not Welfare' during protest in London over cost of living crisis. Pic - Radio Havana Cuba

**A**cross the globe, health-care workers have gone on strike to protest the stress placed on them by the global Covid-19 pandemic and economic downturn, pushing already-strained services beyond their limits. These labour actions are part of the challenges faced by countries attempting to provide welfare services to their populations. Welfare services – like unemployment benefits, health care and pensions – are how countries keep their populations healthy and productive in order to maintain robust and growing economies. Nehal El-Hadi & Daniel Merino of The Conversation talks to three experts about what actions governments may need to take to ensure better access.

Miguel Niño-Zarazúa, a senior lecturer in the Department of Economics, at the School of Oriental and African Studies in London, UK who looks at welfare institutions in the Global south, explains that welfare systems are integrated social policies, which "have become one of the most important policy instruments against poverty and vulnerability in the developing world."

However, Niño-Zarazúa says that welfare institutions in developing nations are increasingly under threat. "In low-income countries in particular, now, we see many countries facing a debt crisis that has been accumulating over the last decade because they continue borrowing to sustain their economic growth."

But it's not just developing countries where access to welfare is diminishing. Christine Corlet Walker, who is a research fellow at the Centre for the Understanding of Sustainable Prosperity at the University of Surrey in the UK looks at member countries of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

Global economic growth is slowing down – and many experts expect it to approach zero or negative. Facing this, governments have responded with austerity measures and cuts to welfare services. "A post-growth welfare system is a welfare system that can function and can flourish in the absence of economic growth," Corlet Walker says, "and there's obviously a huge amount that can be done in terms of redistribution through progressive taxes on wealth and land, for example."

Erdem Yörük is an associate professor at Koç University in Istanbul in Turkey. He studies how developing countries implement welfare programs, but during his research, he found that existing scholarship on welfare excluded developing nations. "There are two reasons for this western or Eurocentrism," he explains. Scholars assume that "there is no welfare state because capitalism is not fully developed in the non-west as opposed to European countries."

Nehal El-Hadi & Daniel Merino

● Cont. on page 14

## Mauritius Times

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# India and the BBC's Intellectual Trash

Jan Arden

**I**t is a matter of historical record that the major 90s economic crisis in India, with little forex reserves left, a Moody's downgrade, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) suspending its loan program and the World Bank also stopping its assistance, forced India's hand. The then shell-shocked establishment and government had few options to address the crisis, and it was forced to take drastic measures to avoid defaulting on its debt payments.

This paved the way for the liberalisation of the Indian economy, since one of the conditions stipulated in the World Bank and IMF loan, required India to remove obstacles and open itself up to participation from foreign entities in its industries, including its state-owned enterprises. India's economic rise since those reforms initiated by Manmohan Singh in the early 90s, has been pushed by all governments since and the improvement has been dramatic across the past 25 years.

**“Alastair Pinkerton, a reader in geopolitics at Royal Holloway, University of London, had conducted an in-depth analysis of BBC coverage of South Asian geopolitics in 2008 and reported a “pervasive and hostile anti-India bias” attributed to its imperial past and neo-colonial mindset. Obviously, the anti-Hindu mobbing and the haughty dismissal of systematic biased reporting by the Beeb cannot continue without placing a heavy strain on strategic relations between the two countries at a time of economical and geostrategic confluence of interests...”**

Since 1995, the country's nominal GDP has jumped more than 700% and a couple of years ago India leapfrogged UK, France, Italy and Canada to become the world's fifth economy in terms of nominal GDP. Despite that impressive progress, a half-full glass is always half-empty, and India still has numerous enormous challenges to tackle (regional and wealth disparities, poverty reduction, sustainable and greener development, public sanitation, etc). Still, international agencies reckon India as one of the

engines for worldwide post-pandemic recovery with growth expected to hum along at 7-8% over the coming decade and India targets a \$ 5-10 trillion economy over the next 5 years from its current \$ 3.1 trillion.

Forex reserves, including gold and dollars, at a bare bone 5 weeks of imports in 1990, stand today at an impressive \$570 billion, that is more than the combined reserves of UK and France. PM Modi's accession to the Presidency of the G20 recognises the trajectory and fact that India has no longer a sub-regional South Asian dimension but its inherent dynamism can contribute to larger conversations about poverty reduction, national security or sustainable economic growth and development on the world stage in an era of increased global competition for rarefied resources.

## Gigantic turnaround

Without having the resources of expert analysts, an educated guess would surmise that this gigantic turnaround will have deep and lasting implications both for geoeconomics and geopolitics in the region. The post-Brexit British government of Boris Johnson have been hard at work since 2021 to develop a framework trade and economic agreement which PM Rishi Surnak and his successors are likely to explore further. As other European governments (France, Italy or Scandinavians), they foresee and hope to tap into consequential opportunities for trade or investment in key sectors such as military hardware, avionics and aviation, space or communication and 5G technology, tourism and massive public infrastructure India plans and still needs to invest in.

On the geopolitical front, one can expect India to try and maintain a focus on its own strategic interests while meshing more and more closely with the Western and Quad military and naval powers notably the US, France, UK and Australia in the Indian Ocean. A delicate balance demonstrated with some consummate juggling over the Ukraine crisis.

With the near collapse of Pakistan caught in the grips of economic turmoil that is leaving much of the country's population impoverished and starving, its national currency wrecked, its terror networks revived and its regions increasingly rebellious of its Punjab deep state after decades of freewheeling with US military assistance and subsidies, there was no choice for the latter but to dispel the past narratives and establish a growing trusting strategic partnership with India Inc.

Breakup of the ISIS state and dispersal of its terror network across south Asia and the Middle East, the Afghan take-



BBC's anti-India bias must end: British Indians launch massive protests in London. Pic - PGurus

over by the Taliban and China's aggressivity in the South China region makes sense for such a partnership when ominous regional perspectives and the security of energy supplies across the Indian Ocean become more vital.

This unparalleled growth and development has brought its own share of accentuated problems both internal and worldwide. Faced with the BJP's clear successes, Congress still has no clear focus and strategy beyond damning the BJP and PM Modi while regional political chiefs in Bengal or the greater South have their own oppositional agendas.

## BBC's intellectual trash

More worryingly, outside influence and the resurgence of manipulation and radicalisation of youths by a variety of non-state actors and hotbed institutions like Jawaharlal Nehru University has to be addressed firmly but with some intelligence to maintain the common thrust for development with benefits accruing to all sections of the population. The Hindu Dharmashastra of peace, tolerance and goodwill can be upended by terror networks financed by inimical interests from outside and local politicians jumping on every bandwagon so long as it makes noise.

As if those internal and sub-regional dynamics were not enough, there are some quarters particularly in the former colonial power who seem deeply troubled and unable to grow over the rise of an economic giant they had so liberally plundered and left waste at the end of their two-century rule. Winston Churchill's long shadow of racism towards those half-naked fakirs and wogs (an insulting and contemptuous term for dark-skinned persons) Indians, Hindus or the Indian renaissance, still seems to haunt some corridors of the UK's liberal media, peddling somewhat regular bias or abuse that could upset the budding

UK-India strategic partnership. The Guardian and the BBC have come under heavy fire from Indian associations in Britain for their running biased and malicious coverages: in September, the community strongly condemned the Guardian for coverage of Leicester anti-Hindu rioting by vandals based on biased and fake reporting.

So too was the Leicester reporting by the BBC, more accustomed perhaps to systematic anti-India or anti-Hindu biased coverages. The latest two-part BBC documentary is another cheap intellectual trash as it tries to rake up the 2002 issue of rioting in Gujarat and blaming it on PM Modi, when the matter has been amply investigated and Modi's responsibility conclusively dispelled at the Indian Supreme Court. Would the UK welcome an Indian investigative team probing rigorously its treatment of Irish nationalists or even the Chagos islanders for that matter?

The authorities in India and the UK have condemned the BBC for trying to raise communal disharmony inside India and there are demands for the BBC's director-general and peddlers of anti-India narratives to be investigated or sacked.

## Jaundiced view

What prompts the Beeb's jaundiced view of India? Alastair Pinkerton, a reader in geopolitics at Royal Holloway, University of London, had conducted an in-depth analysis of BBC coverage of South Asian geopolitics in 2008 and reported a "pervasive and hostile anti-India bias" attributed to its imperial past and neo-colonial mindset. Obviously the anti-Hindu mobbing and the haughty dismissal of systematic biased reporting by the Beeb cannot continue without placing a heavy strain on strategic relations between the two countries at a time of economical and geostrategic confluence of interests.





Anil Madan

# Liability for Covid vaccine injuries in the face of windfall profits

Last week was abuzz with media reports about a confrontation between Pfizer CEO, Albert Bourla, and two journalists in Davos, Switzerland. They peppered Bourla with questions about why he had not disclosed that the Pfizer vaccine does not prevent transmission of the virus, about the vaccine's effectiveness, whether he is concerned about product liability (for vaccine injuries), and how much he personally made off the vaccine. The questions conflated the issues of vaccine effectiveness with preventing transmission or retransmission of the virus. The other questions raise some interesting issues, but certainly, the encounter between the reporters and Bourla has been blown out of proportion.

At one point, Bourla was asked: "You (Pfizer) said it (the vaccine) was 100 per cent effective, then 90 per cent, then 80 per cent, then 70 per cent, but we now know that the vaccines do not stop transmission. Why do you keep that secret?" Readers curious about the encounter can view the video [here](#) and look up the profiles of the reporters on the Internet.

## Vaccine Effectiveness and Preventing Transmission of the Virus

It goes without saying that Covid vaccines have been immensely effective in curtailing the severity of illness associated with infections and in reducing mortality dramatically. The experiences of the US, Britain, India, Europe, Japan, South Korea, etc., are testimony to this. A [study](#) reported in *Lancet*, the British journal estimated that vaccines had saved between 14 and 20 million deaths. Underscoring this is China's experience where Chinese vaccines were ineffective, and the lifting of draconian lockdowns and quarantine rules has, according to reports, led to a surge of infections and deaths.

The effectiveness of a vaccine in preventing infection, mitigating the effects of an infection, or in preventing death, do not necessarily tell us whether the vaccine prevents the transmission of the virus. We need first to dismiss the myth that vaccines are ineffective if one can be infected despite being vaccinated. If this were the case, every first shot of a multi-shot vaccine would be deemed ineffective. Moreover, vaccines are not 100% effective. The premise on which a vaccine works is that it enables a vaccinated person to generate antibodies to fight off the infection if that person is attacked by the virus.

There is nothing new here. Anika Singanayagam, academic clinical lecturer in adult infectious disease at Imperial College London, is quoted in a year-old [BMJ article](#): "The main point of vaccines is not to do with preventing transmission. The main reasons for vaccines for Covid-19 is to prevent illness and death." Therefore, it is not unexpected that it is still possible to pass on the virus while vaccinated. Adding to the complexity is that Omicron variants are more transmissible than the original Covid virus.

She added: "There are avenues to think about the development of vaccines that can have more of an



**“Pfizer plans to increase the cost of its vaccine from approximately \$20 per dose charged during the height of the pandemic to governments, to over \$130 per dose and is planning on recommending an annual shot. Pfizer's cost per dose is said to be \$1.18 but this does not include the costs of transporting the vaccine under stringent cold chain storage requirements. Nevertheless, the price increase reeks of gouging and opportunism...”**

effect on transmission. Those are usually vaccines delivered more locally, such as directly through the respiratory tract, which could tackle the source of major transmission, rather than the lungs, which is where the first generation of vaccines was targeted in order to prevent severe infection. That's probably the way things will move in the future.”

## Immunity from Liability for Vaccine Manufacturers

In a story covering the encounter with Bourla, The Times of India [reported](#) that in the early days of the vaccination drive, Pfizer sought an indemnity bond that would exempt it from legal claims arising from adverse effects of the vaccine. India's Minister for State for Information and Technology is quoted as having chimed in with a tweet: "Just to remind all Indians that Pfizer tried to bully Govt of India into accepting conditions of indemnity." This surely exaggerates the situation.

As is well documented, India relied entirely on the AstraZeneca vaccine produced under license by Serum Institute of India under the name Covishield and Covaxin produced by Bharat Biotech. Since then, the Sputnik V vaccine as well as the Moderna mRNA vaccine, and the Johnson & Johnson vaccine have been produced in India. Indeed, in September 2021, India's government announced that it would not buy Covid-19 shots from Pfizer and Moderna mainly because the domestic output of more affordable and easier-to-store vaccines had increased dramatically.

And, if Pfizer did ask for indemnity, that should be no surprise in view of the history of vaccine injury laws in the US. In 1955, about 200 people who received the polio vaccine in the US were paralyzed. In the *Cutter* case, the California Supreme Court upheld a jury verdict for the plaintiff, finding a vaccine manufacturer strictly liable for injury. In the 1970s and 80s, suits for vaccine injuries increased dramatically and soon, pharma companies abandoned the vaccine business. In 1986,

Congress passed the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act (NCVIA) to address the situation. Not all vaccines are covered under the act and some adult vaccines are covered.

Under the act, a person claiming a vaccine injury from a covered vaccine cannot sue a vaccine manufacturer without first filing a claim with the US Court of Federal Claims. Certain side-effects are presumed to be caused by the vaccination. Claims are paid based on a formula. If a claim is denied, or if the claimant is not satisfied with the compensation, only then may lawsuit for damages be filed.

Vaccine manufacturers pay an excise tax per dose to the US Treasury to fund the NVICP. Through 2023, almost \$5 billion in awards have been paid and an additional \$56 million awarded in attorney fees. Even unsuccessful claimants are eligible to recover counsel fees for claims brought in good faith and on a reasonable basis.

Of course, this compensation is nowhere near what successful claimants might recover through regular tort actions in court. But the right to pursue such suits is preserved.

It should also be noted that at the height of the pandemic Congress passed an emergency law under which except for willful misconduct, a covered person is immune from lawsuits and liability under federal and state law with respect to all claims for loss resulting from the administration or use of a covered countermeasure, such as a Covid-19 vaccine.

## Bourla Compensation and Pfizer profits

Bourla has received total compensation of approximately \$70 million for the three years 2020-2022. This is not surprising in view of Pfizer's revenues of over \$100 billion for Covid-related vaccines and drugs such as Paxlovid. The company projects revenue of \$100 billion for 2023.

Pfizer plans to increase the cost of its vaccine from approximately \$20 per dose charged during the height of the pandemic to governments, to over \$130 per dose and is planning on recommending an annual shot. Pfizer's cost per dose is said to be \$1.18 but this does not include the costs of transporting the vaccine under stringent cold chain storage requirements. Nevertheless, the price increase reeks of gouging and opportunism.

Although the questions about whether Pfizer's vaccine and, indeed other vaccines, prevent transmission of the virus were scientifically unsound, it appears that with more focused efforts, vaccines that are better designed to prevent transmission are possible. Certainly, Pfizer and by extension Moderna, have generated enough profits to commit resources to such an effort.

The goal should be to compensate adequately and fully, all those who suffer from vaccine injuries. Vaccine liability laws allow manufacturers to reap profits without accountability beyond a low excise tax. An ideal law would tax the profits of vaccine manufacturers sufficiently to ensure just compensation and the development of safer vaccines.

Cheerz...  
Bwana



# A New World (Dis)order



Dr R Neerunjun Gopee

If we take a cursory look at the way that the world has evolved in modern times, especially since the age of industrialization set in a couple of centuries ago, we will no doubt have to acknowledge that science and technology have brought about drastic changes in our lives through improvements in the material conditions of living. Gadgets that have allowed us to spend less time on routine household chores like cooking, cleaning, and washing have given us more leisure time – for which advancing technology and man's creativity have also made available all kinds of gimmicks designed to enhance pleasure, to tickle and titillate as well.

So far so 'good'. In parallel, though, there has been competition among countries to access resources from wherever they are available so as to meet the increasing demands and stimulate appetites of rising numbers of people the world over. Even if this competition has not always been healthy, nevertheless overall practically all countries have gradually organized themselves politically, economically, and socially to benefit from all the advances that have kept taking place.

The political/economic arrangements that evolved and were eventually adopted by different countries were capitalism, socialism, Marxism/communism, autocracies and dictatorships, and some constitutional monarchies. Post-World War II the developed world found itself divided into two blocs led by two superpowers, the United States of America, and the United Soviet Socialist Republic, pitting the capitalist mode of governance against the communist model. The former was deemed to be the epitome of democracy in contrast to the latter which was believed to be less democratic. Most remaining countries opted to follow the socialist/capitalist model of democracy. In the 1990s this led noted historian Francis Fukuyama to advocate that liberal democracy was the ideal model for a country's development and thus represented 'The End of History' – the title of the book he wrote on the subject.

## Emerging faultlines

But then social and religious faultlines began to crack open the facades and fabrics of the most lauded western democracies, as their capacities to manage these potentially divisive tendencies through fundamentally two models – the 'melting pot' one of the US and the 'multicultural' one with the UK in the forefront – fell short of their expectations. This has impacted their politics as well, with liberal democracy in Europe and the US taking a hard knock, especially in the wake of the financial crisis of 2008/09, if one is to go by the profusion of articles about the 'crisis of democracy' that have been published since, and that peaked during the elections that brought Donald Trump to power. The flow of such articles has not ceased.

Embroilment in wars and conflicts in Africa, the Middle East and Asia has further complicated matters, with migrants massively flooding into Europe in particular, causing further social dislocations, with increasingly frequent rioting and attacks against the native citizenry.

These have been accompanied by open threats to radically alter the demographics of several European countries and eventually take over and rule them according to archaic models. The latest stressor is the Ukrainian war which is now in its second year and unending.

Despite its being the least bad of political systems,



**“As was to be expected, there has been a robust response from the External Affairs Ministry of India, which has called the BBC documentary a piece of propaganda, a discredited narrative which reeks of colonialism and bigotry intended to cause tension not only in India but also globally between the Hindus and the Muslims. Besides letters addressed to the BBC by UK parliamentarians, nearly 200 former Indian ambassadors, judges and army officers have penned a strongly worded letter to the BBC, which they averred is having delusions of imperialism...”**

according to British politician Winston Churchill, democracy with its weaknesses is nevertheless the deemed best way to run a country. Our own model of democracy is the Westminsterian one inherited from the UK, looked up to as a robust representation of that system. One would have thought, therefore, that people in responsible positions and established organizations in the UK would hail both the greatest and the largest democracies in the world by their own standards, namely the US and India respectively.

## The British 'Bullshitting' Corporation

Quite often, this is not the case when it comes to India. An example of this is a BBC documentary on PM Modi putting blame on him in the riots that took place in Gujarat in 2002 when he was Chief Minister. It is a matter that has been laid to rest by no less than both High Courts and the Supreme Court of India, exonerating him and uncovering the evil design of the plotters who brought the case to the Supreme Court, among others the tainted activist Teesta Setalvad.

As was to be expected, there has been a robust response from the External Affairs Ministry of India, which has called the BBC documentary a piece of propaganda, a discredited narrative which reeks of colonialism and bigotry intended to cause tension not only in India but also globally between the Hindus and the Muslims. Besides letters addressed to the BBC by UK parliamentarians, nearly 200 former Indian ambassadors, judges and army officers have penned a strongly worded letter to the BBC, which they averred is having delusions of imperialism. This is clearly an attempt to stop the inexorable onward march of Modi towards a widely predicted victory in the general elections due next year. Both the rise of India and that of Modi – and his close personal ties with leaders such as Emmanuel Macron, Barack Obama, John Biden, Putin – are stirring

discomfort in certain quarters, and much that has been happening earlier with respect to the rise of China is now being thrust at India.

## The poison from Harvard University

Against the oft-repeated position of India, ably articulated by its suave External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar on various global platforms, that it advocates and practises multi-alignment rather than play the superpower game of hegemonic dominance – cooperation instead of killer competition –, there is a cabal of

anti-India forces that have been at work for many years. In his seminal book published in 2011, 'Breaking India', author Rajiv Malhotra (a former computer and AI expert and corporate giant based in Princeton, New Jersey, US, for over 40 years) has provided the detailed documentary evidence regarding these organizations and the people ('the ecosystem') who are with them, and that includes befooled Indians who are lavishly bought into playing the victimhood card and groomed to be anti-patriotic.

All educated people would have heard about, and many would have read, the well-known book 'Clash of Civilisations' by Samuel Huntington. This is almost happening, but to it is now added a new dimension, that of pushing destructive agendas by taking control of the discourse about persons, organizations or countries. Currently Modi and India are the chosen targets of this global workhorse which has its origins at Harvard University. In what he calls Breaking India 2.0, his latest book 'Snakes in the Ganga', Rajiv Malhotra in the Introduction gives a comprehensive account of the kind of 'Atrocity literature' against India that is being churned out at Harvard.

## Wokeism: World disorder

He goes on to explain 'The Americanisation of Marxism' and the conflation of the Critical Race Theory with the caste system, which has been shown to be a Portuguese construct and not of Indian origin as is widely believed. In 23 chapters he spells out with his co-author Vijaya Viswanathan (mechanical engineer and corporate cadre turned educator) the conspiracies inspired by 'wokeism' that are being hatched against India – and about which a majority of Indians including its leaders are blissfully oblivious.

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# Torrential Rains and Climate Change

*If lack of preparedness has failed us in the past, we can draw lessons and plan better for the future*



Sada Reddi

Cyclones Alix and Carol however have lingered in the collective memory of many people not only because they were amongst our worst cyclones, but they also significantly altered our physical landscape, affected the lives of future generations and created thousands of refugees. Due to lack of solidarity from those who owned so much land, the government was compelled to squeeze new

settlements for the homeless on whatever Crown Lands were available in their respective localities.

Today we are faced with another big challenge: climate change, and in the next two or three decades, we could be confronted with the problem of climate refugees. It is quite possible that many would probably have to seek asylum in other countries or be relocated in other places. Climate change, as everybody knows, will bring in its wake a number of challenges and if we do not some hard thinking and take the necessary action, we will put future generations at risk.

At the moment the nation is worried about so many issues, namely low fertility rate, food security, poverty, unemployment, drugs and climate change. On many of these issues, there is the nagging feeling that too little is being done and there is not enough sensitization about their implications for the present and the future. It is fair to say that the population is well aware of climate change and its consequences such as reef degradation, shrinking beaches, loss of livelihoods for coastal communities, and threats to our fisheries, tourism and agriculture sectors. However, most of the time these issues are being reduced to mere clichés and this is dangerous as they prevent some deep thinking and the search for long-lasting, sustainable solutions.

We have also been talking a lot about environmental protection and there have been laudable initiatives by numerous individuals and organisations that have put in a lot of effort to protect our beaches, to denounce encroachment on sand dunes and wetlands and to start projects aimed at growing more trees. At the national and international levels, organisations have reminded us that rising sea level for Mauritius is about twice the average and that sea level may rise by 18 to 19 metres by 2100.

It has fortunately dawned on many of us for some time now that our beaches are shrinking, by as much as 10 metres in some places. *Ad hoc* efforts have been made to prevent further beach erosion. Beach fences, walls and sand bags are currently being used to slow coastal erosion, and it is known that these can only be temporary measures and will eventually cause more erosion. The best alternative would have been to build further away from the coastline but this looks like an impossible task for many.

Our policy towards climate change is flawed in many ways. There is concern about the impact climate change will eventually have on the tourist industry yet we allow hotels to occupy sand dunes or encourage hotel construction to encroach on our Crown Lands. We are concerned about shrinking beaches but not so much about



**“It was the lethal combination of torrential rains and the consequent rise of the sea and river levels which caused such havoc and fatalities in several places in the Capital during the flash floods of 2013. Many were helpless because the rising sea level, the river nearby and the drains could not absorb the overspill of water. Many were helpless because the rising sea level, the river nearby and the drains could not absorb the overspill of water. Many villages have this week been flooded because of absence of a proper drainage system. If lack of preparedness has failed us in the past, we can draw lessons and plan better for the future...”**

other coastal areas and villages which are equally affected and where livelihoods are being threatened and destroyed. In other words, not all our problems should be imputed to climate change. Short-termism, greed and self-interest also play their part.

If the flash floods of 2013 and the heavy rainfalls in the north of the island a few years back have led the authorities to focus on the construction of drains, one can legitimately ask how effective will these drains be in the event of a fierce cyclone when people have been allowed to build their houses on wetlands or flood plains without any proper guidance. It was the lethal combination of torrential rains and the consequent rise of the sea and river levels which caused such havoc and fatalities in several places in the Capital during the flash floods of 2013. Many were helpless because the rising sea level, the river nearby and the drains could not absorb the overspill of water. Many villages have this week been flooded because of absence of a proper drainage system. If lack of preparedness has failed us in the past, we can draw lessons and plan better for the future.

There are at least two areas which require urgent consideration if we are to take climate change seriously: housing and food security. We have to reflect on the need for more high-rise buildings put up on proper sites, with the appropriate social infrastructure and especially adequate green space for the residents. It is no longer acceptable that official clearance be given to the parcelling of lands for

**“Closely linked with climate change is the threat to our food security. Extreme weather, torrential rains, droughts, rising sea levels affect all communities in many ways and put our sources of water and foodstuff at risk. One can imagine the catastrophe that will ensue if nothing is done to prepare for such contingencies. Not only will the economy be on its knees, our island will be so threatened that one wonders who will be interested to invest in the country if they do not see the preparation and implementation of a credible plan to tackle climate change...”**

VRS schemes or other ‘morcellements’ without proper consideration of the site and with indifference to the risks that future residents are likely to encounter.

We should revisit our construction, housing and land and environmental laws and their enforcement. For example, we cannot allow a 10-15 storey residential building without adequate and proper green space. Without provision for the same, where would the residents and their children participate in some outdoor activities? If our children and grandchildren are cut off from nature and grow up in a jungle of concrete, how can we expect them to become socially responsible, healthy citizens and the future stewards of the environment?

Closely linked with climate change is the threat to our food security. Extreme weather, torrential rains, droughts, rising sea levels affect all communities in many ways and put our sources of water and foodstuff at risk. One can imagine the catastrophe that will ensue if nothing is done to prepare for such contingencies. Not only will the economy be on its knees, our island will be so threatened that one wonders who will be interested to invest in the country if they do not see the preparation and implementation of a credible plan to tackle climate change. We can even wonder whether we will have the money to even import our basic foods. This catastrophic scenario may or may not happen, but the population must realize that climate change is the most important danger we face now and in the future.

It should be the priority challenge for an island like Mauritius. We have to plan for future generations right now if we want to leave them a worthwhile legacy. There are many countries in the past and in the present that have taken measures successfully to deal with similar challenges. Holland, known as the low country because it is below sea level, has had to adapt itself to survive as a nation. Singapore has planned for the future keeping climate change in view. We could draw from their experience and that of many other islands that are actively combating climate change and learn from their achievements and mistakes. But such planning requires a judicious mix of the top-down and bottom-up approach; mere material and technical solutions are useless they also incorporate ideas from below and engage all communities in this endeavour.



## In major shift, US and Germany agree to send battle tanks to Ukraine

Marking a critical shift in the nature of Western military support to Ukraine, the US and Germany have decided to provide battle tanks to Kyiv to both mount a more effective resistance against an anticipated new round of Russian attacks and change the dynamic on the ground in eastern Ukraine.

While President Joe Biden announced that US would send 31 M1 Abrams tanks to Ukraine, German chancellor Olaf Scholz declared that Berlin would send a company of 14 A6 Leopard 2 tanks to Kyiv. The decision comes after weeks of discussion and divergences between the US and Germany, with Berlin asking Washington DC to first send tanks before Germany did so, reports Hindustan Times.

Announcing the US's decision from the White House on Wednesday, Biden said that with spring approaching, Ukrainians were working to defend the territory they held and prepare for new counteroffensives. "To liberate their land, they need to be able to counter Russia's evolving



tactics and strategy in the battlefield in the very near term. They need to improve their ability to manoeuvre in open terrain. They need an enduring capability to deter and defend against Russian aggression in the long term."

Earlier on Wednesday, a spokesperson for the German government announced that Scholz had told the Cabinet that Germany had decided to provide Ukraine

with the Leopard 2 battle tanks. "This is the result of intensive consultations with Germany's closest European and international partners," Scholz said.

The German government's spokesperson said that Germany would quickly assemble two tank battalions with Leopard 2 tanks. "As a first step, Germany will provide a company of 14 Leopard 2 A6 tanks from Bundeswehr stocks. Other European partners will also hand over Leopard 2 tanks. Training of Ukrainians crews is to begin soon in Germany. In addition to training, the package will also include logistics, ammunition and maintenance."

The decision is significant for the US has been careful in the nature of military support it has offered to Ukraine, weighing it constantly against the risks of escalation. While Ukraine has sought 300 battle tanks to dent Russian capabilities and fight Moscow's offensive - it has so far been using Soviet era tanks - there were weeks of an intense debate in Washington DC, Brussels, and Berlin about whether to meet the request.

Despite pressure from other Nato allies, Berlin had maintained that it would only send tanks to Ukraine if the US did so. Scholz gave the green signal only when it became clear that the US would send the tanks.

The United Kingdom has already announced its decision to send 14 of its Challenger 2 tanks to Ukraine.



A patient lies on a bed at the emergency department of a hospital, amid the coronavirus disease outbreak in Shanghai, China. Pic - Reuters

## China says Covid deaths down by nearly 80% since 2023

The number of daily Covid-19 deaths in China has fallen by nearly 80 percent since the start of the month, authorities have said, in a sign that the country's unprecedented infection surge may have started to abate.

A wave of virus cases has washed over the world's most populous nation since Beijing abruptly ended its zero-Covid policy last month.

Beijing's figures are believed to only represent a fraction of the true toll, given China's narrow definition of a Covid death and official estimates that swathes of the population have been infected, reports AFP.

The CDC last week said nearly 13,000 people had died from Covid-related illnesses between January 13 and 19, adding to a previous announcement that around 60,000 people had succumbed to the virus in hospitals in just over a month.

But recent local government announcements and media reports have indicated that the wave may have started to recede since peaking in late December and early January when hospitals and crematoriums were packed.

There were 896 deaths attributable to the virus in hospitals on Monday, a decline of 79 percent from January 4, China's Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) said in a statement on Wednesday.

Severe cases in hospitals also dwindled to 36,000 by Monday, representing a 72% drop from a high of 128,000 on January 5, the CDC said.

## Pakistan staring at loan default, economic collapse

Pakistan's media has taken external affairs minister Subrahmanyam Jaishankar's invite to his counterpart Bilawal Zardari for the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) foreign ministers meeting in May as a sign of thaw with India post PM Shehbaz Sharif's offer of dialogue with India, facts on ground are to the contrary.

PM Sharif made the conditional offer on January 17, 2023, in an interview with a UAE channel, Jaishankar's invitation letter was sent on December 24, 2022 via diplomatic channels. As the President of SCO in 2023, it is India's duty to invite all the SCO members in the run-up to the SCO summit later this year.

Even though the votaries of India-Pak dialogue and the conflict resolution industry in India have also painted a similar picture as their Pakistani counterpart, there is no change in India's bilateral stance with Pakistan. The message is simple: End cross-border terrorism to talk and normalize relations, reports Hindustan Times.

Given the state of Pakistan's economy and political flux in the highly radicalized Islamic Republic,



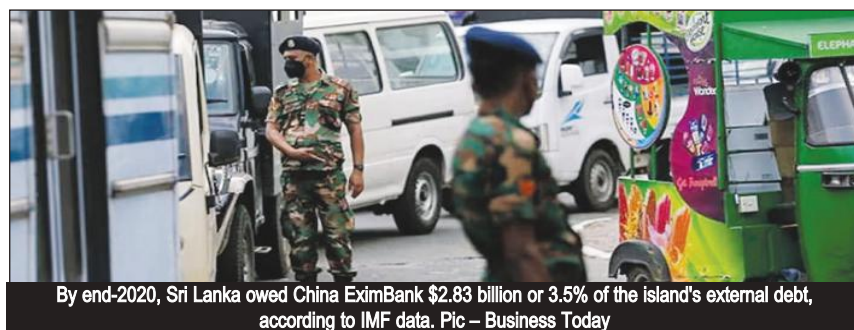
Islamabad's top priority is financing-debt relief for the beleaguered nation. Faced with tough IMF conditionalities for loan to Pakistan, Islamabad has now approached Washington to ask the Bretton Woods institution to go soft on the republic as it requires PM Sharif to raise electricity tariffs and impose more taxes to raise revenue. Such draconian steps would be politically disastrous for the present PDM regime and give a handle to arch-rival and rabble-rouser Imran Khan Niazi.

## China offers debt aid to crisis-hit Sri Lanka, IMF help in doubt

The Export-Import Bank of China has offered Sri Lanka a two-year moratorium on its debt and said it will support the country's efforts to secure a \$2.9 billion loan from the International Monetary Fund, according to a letter reviewed by Reuters.

India wrote to the IMF earlier this month, saying it would commit to supporting Sri Lanka with financing and debt relief, but the island nation also needs the backing of China in order to reach a final agreement with the global lender, reports Reuters.

China's Jan. 19 letter, sent to the finance ministry, however, may not be enough for Sri Lanka to immedi-



ately gain the IMF's approval for the critical loan, a Sri Lankan source with knowledge of the matter said.

Regional rivals China and India are the biggest bilateral lenders to Sri Lanka, a country of 22 million people that is facing its worst economic crisis in seven decades.

According to the letter, the Export-Import Bank of China said it was going to provide "an extension on the debt service due in 2022 and 2023 as an immediate contingency measure" based on Sri Lanka's

request.

At the end of 2020, China EXIM bank had loaned Sri Lanka \$2.83 billion which is 3.5% of the island's debt, according to an IMF report released in March last year.

Sri Lanka owed Chinese lenders \$7.4 billion, or nearly a fifth of its public external debt, by the end of last year, calculations by the China Africa Research Initiative showed.





Pic - media.townhall.com

## 'Act quick': Biden calls for assault weapons ban after California shootings

**U**S President Joe Biden called Tuesday for Congress to act quickly to ban assault weapons, as California reeled from two deadly mass shootings in less than 48 hours.

A group of senators on Monday reintroduced a federal Assault Weapons Ban and legislation that would raise the minimum purchase age for assault weapons to 21, reports AFP.

A suspected gunman was in custody Tuesday over the killing of seven people in a rural community in northern California, just two days after a mass shooting at a Lunar New Year celebration near Los Angeles.

A law banning assault rifles expired in 2004 and Congress has repeatedly failed to renew it even as the country endures repeated mass shootings.

Many Republicans oppose a ban citing the constitutional right to gun ownership.



Japan's Prime Minister Fumio Kishida delivers a policy speech at the Ordinary Diet session in Tokyo on January 23, 2023. Pic - AFP

## 'Now or never': Japanese PM Kishida on stopping country's shrinking population

**J**apanese Prime minister Fumio Kishida pledged on Monday to take urgent steps to tackle the country's declining birth rate, saying it was "now or never" for the world's oldest society.

"Our nation is on the cusp of whether it can maintain its societal functions," Kishida said in a policy speech at the opening of this year's parliamentary session.

"It is now or never when it comes to policies regarding

births and child-rearing - it is an issue that simply cannot wait any longer," he added.

Kishida said he would submit plans to double the budget on child-related policies by June, and that a new government agency to tackle the issue would be set up in April, reports Reuters.

Japan saw a record low number of births in 2021, the latest data available, prompting the biggest-ever natural decline in the population.

# US sues Google over dominance of online ad market

**T**he US Justice Department sued Google on Tuesday for its dominance of the online advertising market, launching a fresh legal battle against the California-based tech giant.

The federal antitrust suit accused Google of unlawfully maintaining a monopoly that had "corrupted legitimate competition in the ad tech industry."

"Google has used anticompetitive, exclusionary, and unlawful means to eliminate or severely diminish any threat to its dominance over digital advertising technologies," the suit added.

The case was launched by the US Justice Department (DOJ) in conjunction with eight states: California, Colorado, Connecticut, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, Tennessee, and Virginia, reports AFP.

Central to the case is Google's dominance of the ad tech business, the technology that companies rely on for their online advertising needs.

The prosecutors said Google "now controls" the crucial sector, meaning website creators earn



US sues Google over dominance of online ad market. Pic - dangnhatminh.com

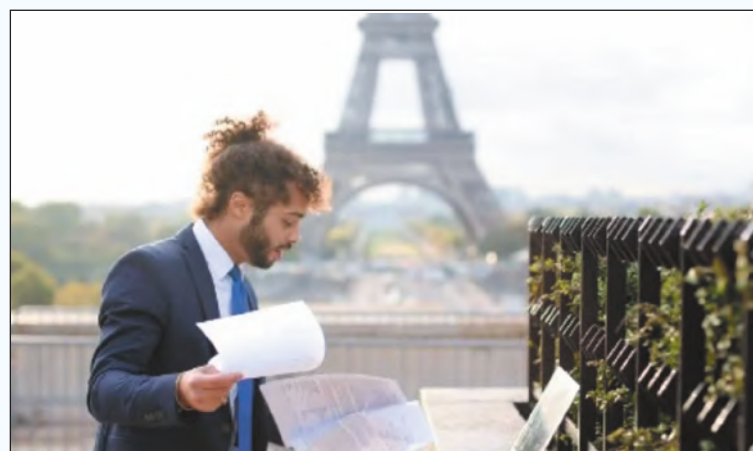
less and advertisers pay more, all while innovation is choked by the lack of rivals.

Google has denied vehemently it is a monopoly, saying rivals in the online ad market include Amazon, Facebook-owner Meta and Microsoft.

The United States is home to global tech giants Google, Apple, Amazon and Meta and has largely depended on the courts to curb their power.

Earlier this month, President Joe Biden urged Republican and Democratic lawmakers to break years of political gridlock and pass laws that would set stricter rules for Big Tech.

## France has the world's worst workaholics



French executives are the world's worst workaholics, finds study. Pic - Twitter

**A**mericans have popularized "hustle culture," but it's French executives who binge work the most, according to a new survey.

Nearly four in ten French business leaders admit to working intense, long hours without regular breaks, well above the 25% global average and besting rates in the US, UK and China, the survey from health insurer Bupa Global found. French

executives also had the most anxiety around their individual work performance of any country surveyed. Concerns about their organizations' ability to weather the current economic instability, along with a reluctance to work remotely compared to their global peers, contributed to their workaholic tendencies, the survey's authors found.

"This combination of external

economic pressures and tendency to take responsibilities upon themselves could contribute to French executives binge working the most," said Anthony Cabrelli, managing director of Bupa Global, which serves expatriates, executives and other high net-worth individuals, reports Bloomberg.

The findings could surprise some, in light of France's workplace policies and lifestyle. Most blue-collar and service employees are under a 35-hour work week, and summer holidays can take up the bulk of August. In 2017, France became the first European nation to apply a law regarding the "right to disconnect," which requires organizations to prohibit emails, calls or other workplace encroachments after certain hours. The shift to remote work during the pandemic has prompted additional countries to propose similar legislation. For years, it's been forbidden under French labor code for anyone to eat lunch at their desks, although the law was suspended during the height of the pandemic.

Compiled by Doojesh Ramlallah



Interview: Kris Valaydon

# “La descente va continuer, les dysfonctionnements vont perdurer...”

puisque le parti au pouvoir semble avoir compris qu'il n'y a aucune barrière sur sa route et qu'il ne craint même pas un soulèvement populaire”

**Mauritius Times:** On ne connaît pas les tenants et aboutissants derrière la démarche du gouvernement, comme annoncée par l'Attorney General Maneesh Gobin, en vue d'engager les procédures légales pour reprendre la main sur l'archipel de Saint-Brandon, mais tout cela ainsi que le 'timing' semblent suspects. Y a-t-il, selon vous, des intérêts financiers/commerciaux en jeu ou des intérêts qui dépasseraient nos frontières?

**Kris Valaydon:** Quelques remarques à ce propos.

Tout d'abord quelques remarques préliminaires associées à la manière dont l'annonce sur le bail de Saint-Brandon est faite. On ne sait pas si c'est un exercice de 'management of public opinion' qui est amorcé afin de détourner l'attention du public sur les vrais problèmes, sur les vrais défis auxquels le pays fait face.

Puis il y a cette insistance, dans la confusion, lorsque le ministre dit qu'il ne parle pas en son nom mais que c'est une décision du gouvernement. Mais, ensuite, il rajoute ce qu'il pense comme citoyen. Tout cela paraît décousu et sème un doute: est-ce que cette décision a été prise par le Conseil des ministres ou bien par une ou deux personnes seulement au gouvernement? Cela étant dit, on n'a jamais vu passer une décision du Cabinet à ce sujet.

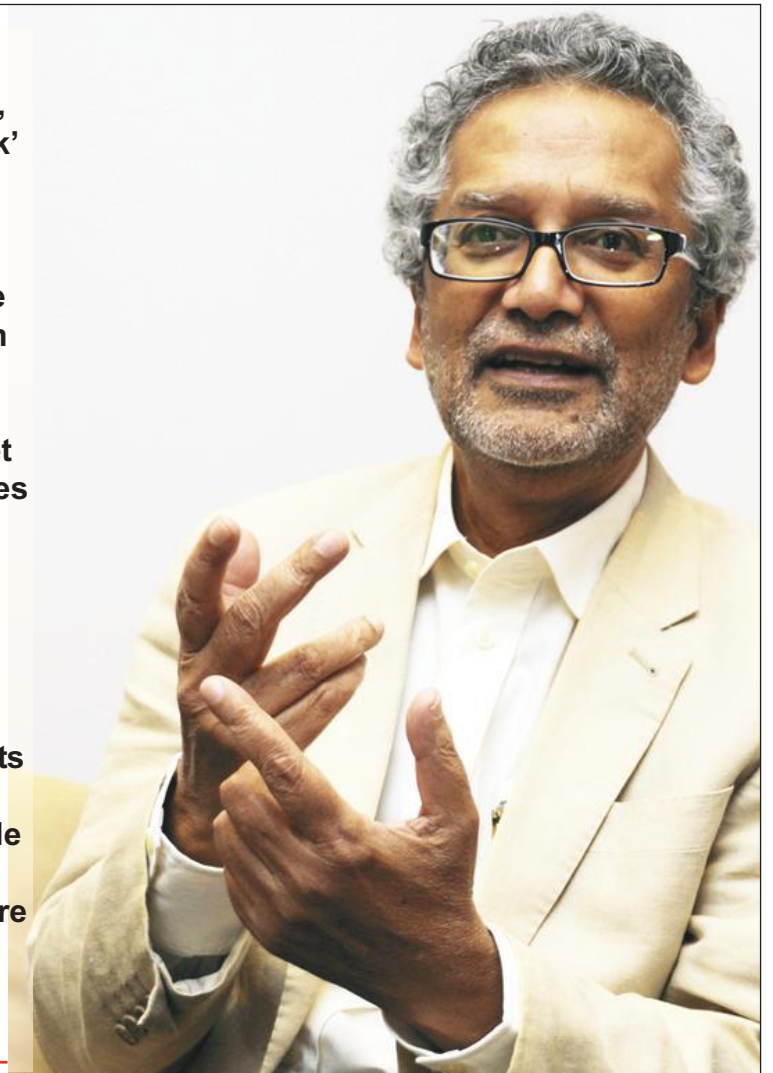
La troisième observation qu'on peut faire concerne effectivement le 'timing' de l'annonce de la décision. L'on se demande comment cette décision qui n'a jamais figuré dans le programme gouvernemental intervient à la fin de la troisième année de son mandat.

Quatrième point. L'absence de plus d'informations sur une décision aussi importante donne lieu à des spéculations quant aux intentions réelles du gouvernement. Cette opacité ouvre la voie à des rumeurs, des allégations, des accusations qui jouent manifestement en sa défaveur. Ce qui est perceptible, c'est le désordre dans la communication. Et cela nous fait comprendre qu'il n'y a pas eu de réflexion sérieuse sur la question avant sa présentation au public.

De plus, il y a aussi le fait le fait que ce n'est pas le

“Alors que les élections sont dans deux ans, ils sont en train de se partager des tickets et de distribuer des postes à pourvoir... En faisant une alliance à deux ans avant les élections générales, l'opposition parlementaire est en train de faire comme dans une fable très connue... Il est nécessaire que l'opposition - si elle veut vraiment apporter un changement dans le pays - revisite sa stratégie qui s'apparente paradoxalement à une manœuvre de division de l'opposition elle-même!”

**K**ris Valaydon, juriste et observateur politique, ancien 'Assistant Clerk' de l'Assemblée nationale, haut cadre du système des Nations Unies, analyse la situation politique à Maurice et nous livre ses impressions avec un certain franc-parler. Il est diplômé en sciences économiques. Il a complété une Maîtrise de droit et un Diplôme d'Études Approfondies (DEA) en Études Politiques à l'Université d'Aix-Marseille. Il a continué ses études pour parachever une thèse sur la démographie. Selon Kris Valaydon, 'la descente va continuer, les dysfonctionnements que l'on a vus ces dernières années vont perdurer... puisque le parti au pouvoir semble avoir compris qu'il n'y a aucune barrière sur sa route et qu'il ne craint même pas un soulèvement populaire contre son règne!'



chef du gouvernement, le Premier ministre lui-même, qui annonce de manière officielle une décision qui pourrait évoquer un amendement de la Constitution du pays.

Donc, tous ces éléments nous laissent croire que c'est peut-être un ballon-sonde lancé pour observer le degré d'acceptation du public d'une telle proposition ou encore, comme je l'ai dit auparavant, un exercice de gestion de l'opinion publique, donc une annonce à intention politique.

Quant à la question d'intérêts, il est nécessaire de dépasser les domaines financiers et commerciaux et voir au-delà, car il ne s'agit pas d'une banale portion de 'State Land' ou de Pas Géométriques dont le gouvernement entend reprendre l'occupation, mais bien d'une île ou des îles se trouvant dans l'espace maritime, un océan très convoité - l'océan Indien.

Il y a dans la mémoire des Mauriciens l'exemple des Chagos et la base de Diego Garcia aussi bien que l'occupation et tout ce qui se passe à Agaléga. On serait

bien naïf de croire que c'est pour avoir quelques roupies de plus que le gouvernement veut résilier le contrat que détient Raphaël Fishing Co Ltd, et qu'il va le refiler à un de ses agents... Il faut voir plus loin.

\* Le plus haut tribunal du pays, le Privy Council, a en 2008 confirmé le 'permanent lease/grant' accordé à Raphael Fishing Co. Ltd sur les 13 des 28 îlots de l'archipel. C'est difficile de concevoir que le gouvernement puisse annuler le bail accordé par le gouvernement colonial en 1901, sauf en payant une compensation énorme à Raphael Fishing ou par un autre moyen légal. Qu'en pensez-vous?

Pour faire simple, puisqu'il s'agit d'une question éminemment technique, on sait que les lois et droits acquis avant l'indépendance seront maintenus par ceux qui les détiennent après l'accession du pays à l'indépendance. C'était une condition rattachée à l'indépendance du pays.

☞ Suite en page 10



# 'Il est nécessaire que l'opposition - si elle veut vraiment apporter un changement dans le pays - revisite sa stratégie'

☞ Suite de la page 9

Il est vrai que dans le présent Code Civil Mauricien, et même l'ancien, la notion de bail permanent n'existe pas. Toutefois, le Privy Council a déjà statué sur ce point et considère qu'il s'agissait d'un 'grant'. La question est de savoir si on peut remettre en question ce jugement du Privy Council qui avait donné gain de cause à Raphael Fishing.

Ce qui est grave, c'est surtout que pour aller à l'encontre du jugement du Privy Council, le gouvernement, si l'on s'en tient à l'annonce de l'Attorney-General, compte amender la Constitution. Si tel est effectivement l'intention du gouvernement, cela confirmerait l'existence d'une situation dangereuse au niveau de l'exercice des pouvoirs au sein de l'État.

“L'artificialité de la croissance est dénoncée par le surendettement : cette situation n'est pas soutenable dans les moyen et long termes. Quelle est la limite quand on fait de la démagogie sur une croissance construite sur des dettes? Dans quelle mesure peut-on endetter un pays en y liant les futures générations? Et à quel point peut-on mettre en péril la souveraineté de notre pays?”

Une telle démarche de révision constitutionnelle pour annuler une décision du Privy Council impliquerait que le gouvernement persiste dans son élan de s'approprier de tous les pouvoirs de l'État, et persiste dans la voie d'une fragilisation du judiciaire, car n'oublions pas que le Privy Council fait partie du judiciaire.

Utiliser une majorité parlementaire pour annuler une décision de justice est une vivante indication de l'absence de la séparation des pouvoirs et de la déchéance politique. On sait très bien que ce genre de manœuvre, servant particulièrement à annihiler le pouvoir du judiciaire, a déjà été fortement critiqué par des juges.

Si le gouvernement persiste dans sa démarche, la réputation de Maurice, un pays où le 'rule of law' est en déliquescence, prendra encore une fois un sale coup. Une telle manœuvre aura des conséquences graves pour le pays : on sera traité d'État voyou!

Par ailleurs, je pense que la question de la compensation ne se pose pas pour l'instant puisqu'il n'est pas donné que le gouvernement puisse résilier aussi facilement ce contrat sur la base légale, c'est-à-dire en ayant recours à un procès civil puisque, pour cela, il va falloir aller à l'encontre d'un jugement du Privy Council avec les conséquences désastreuses pour le pays.

Aussi, même si Raphael Fishing accepte de partir moyennant une compensation, l'argent ne sera pas un problème pour le gouvernement: il contrôle, sans aucun obstacle institutionnel sur sa route, les finances du pays ; il a la possibilité de mettre le prix qu'il faut pour dédommager Raphael Fishing. Il puisera allègrement du Trésor public, il endettera le pays encore plus; il empruntera sûrement auprès de ceux qui veulent et attendent l'évic-

tion de la compagnie mauricienne de Saint-Brandon.

**\* Nos îles, principalement les 'outer islands', attirent la convoitise des grandes puissances engagées dans une rivalité d'influence dans l'océan Indien, devenu un espace stratégique du commerce mondial. Comment entrevoyez-vous les choses sur ce plan-là? Voyez-vous Maurice perdre sa neutralité dans cette guerre d'influence des grandes puissances?**

L'océan Indien n'est pas seulement un espace stratégique du commerce mondial ou de transport maritime mais - et surtout, c'est ce qui doit nous intéresser - de tout ce qui relève de la géopolitique et de la géostratégie. Simplement dit, les grandes puissances veulent contrôler l'océan Indien; elles font même des alliances entre elles dans le dos des pays riverains; elles se partagent les rôles afin de barrer la route aux autres grandes puissances.

Le danger pour Maurice, c'est d'agir comme si le pays a choisi son camp entre les belligérants, en choisissant d'offrir son territoire à une partie. Alors que jusqu'à tout récemment, le pays a mené une politique étrangère intelligente, sachant composer stratégiquement avec les grandes puissances, se verrait-elle aujourd'hui en train de soutenir un camp au détriment d'un autre?

Ce faisant, non seulement on provoque une militarisation accentuée de l'océan Indien mais on fait courir à Maurice le danger d'exposer son territoire, avec ses îles devenant le théâtre de conflits ouverts.

Et, comme on le sait, les grandes puissances ne livrent pas bataille entre elles sur leur territoire propre mais cela se joue en offshore, toujours dans un pays, sur un territoire qui ne leur appartient pas. Ce n'est donc pas utopique de dire que la Troisième Guerre mondiale aura pour champ de bataille l'océan Indien et ses îles.

**\* 2023 devrait également être une année importante pour le dossier des Chagos. Votre point de vue?**

Je pense que l'acceptation des Anglais à ouvrir des discussions ne peut être séparée d'une réflexion sur la géographie politique et stratégique. Et il est nécessaire également de situer toute initiative de négociations en tenant en ligne de compte ce qu'on vient de dire et aussi du 'Global Strategic Partnership' entre les États-Unis et l'Inde.

“Personne ne s'occupe de notre politique de population, de migration, de vieillissement de la population, de l'exode des Mauriciens - cadres et travailleurs manuels - vers d'autres pays, on ne parle même pas du fait que la population de Maurice sera de moins d'un million dans une trentaine d'années. Du moment que les effets d'une crise ne sont pas ressentis dans les cinq ans d'un mandat gouvernemental, la politique c'est de dire: 'On verra plus tard'...”



L'absence de transparence même dans les grandes lignes sur les négociations va également ouvrir la voie à des spéculations de toutes sortes. Mais le gouvernement a déjà pris position pour dire qu'il ne remet pas en cause la présence des Américains sur l'île de Diego Garcia. Donc, ils ne vont pas remettre en cause l'occupation d'une partie du territoire mauricien, ils chercheront à obtenir peut-être une part de la location ou du loyer.

Cela étant dit, est-ce que les Anglais démantèleront le BIOT et retourneront les Chagos à Maurice? Ce n'est pas évident. De même, vont-ils consentir à un bail permanent avec Maurice gardant les droits de propriété sur l'archipel?

Mais, en définitive, quel que soit le deal avec les Anglais, il y aura toujours de la suspicion entourant la transaction, et ce, fondée sur l'expérience du modus operandi que l'on connaît du présent régime.

**\* Par ailleurs, nous sommes à un peu moins de deux ans des prochaines élections générales. Comment envisagez-vous l'année 2023 du point de vue politique?**

Ce sera du 'business as usual'. Le pays est entré dans une phase de déchéance politique, et cela n'a pas démarré avec le présent régime. Toutefois, la descente va continuer, les dysfonctionnements que l'on a vus ces dernières années vont perdurer, la concentration du pouvoir entre les mains d'un parti politique va continuer à se manifester - et peut-être de manière de plus en plus forte et agressive - puisque le parti au pouvoir semble avoir compris qu'il n'y a aucune barrière sur sa route et qu'il ne craint même pas un soulèvement populaire contre son règne!

☞ Suite en page 11



# Saint-Brandon: 'Utiliser une majorité parlementaire pour annuler une décision de justice est une vivante indication de la déchéance politique'

☞ Suite de la page 10

La démocratie parlementaire va continuer à être vidée de son essence, la perception de la séparation des pouvoirs se renforcera davantage, et pire, le 'rule of law', la règle de l'État de droit perdra encore plus de terrain, avec la fragilisation du judiciaire; le champ politique continuera à exposer ses marqueurs anti-démocratiques.

**\* Le gouvernement fait face à un certain nombre de défis dont les solutions prendront du temps à porter leurs fruits - comme régler le problème de l'eau et du pouvoir d'achat. Pensez-vous que l'équipe gouvernementale actuelle a les moyens de relever ces défis dans le temps restant du mandat?**

Je pense que le gouvernement est pris dans un piège systémique, c'est-à-dire que le système existant de la gestion des affaires du pays rend difficile le fait de trouver des solutions aux problèmes structurels qui minent la société mauricienne.

Nous avons un système que l'on pourrait qualifier de 'Management by Crisis', c'est-à-dire que l'on ne planifie pas pour l'avenir mais on gère les crises. Lorsqu'il n'y a pas d'eau dans un village, on envoie une citerne de la CWA et les villageois sont contents. On raisonne dans le court terme et on refuse de voir les causes profondes des dysfonctionnements au sein de notre société.

La gestion du quotidien, le ad hoc, est devenu la règle. Le peuple semble satisfait, même si on lui a promis du 24/7 pour l'eau et qu'il finit par avoir 24 SEC; son regard n'est pas tourné vers le manque de planification.

Par ailleurs, nous avons un problème de ressources humaines pour maintenir ou améliorer la croissance économique du pays. Personne ne s'occupe de notre politique de population, de migration, de vieillissement de la population, de l'exode des Mauriciens - cadres et travailleurs manuels - vers d'autres pays, on ne parle même pas du fait que la population de Maurice sera de moins d'un million dans une trentaine d'années. Du moment que les effets d'une crise ne sont pas ressentis dans les cinq ans d'un mandat gouvernemental, la politique c'est



**Lorsqu'il n'y a pas d'eau dans un village, on envoie une citerne de la CWA et les villageois sont contents. On raisonne dans le court terme et on refuse de voir les causes profondes des dysfonctionnements au sein de notre société. La gestion du quotidien, le ad hoc, est devenu la règle. Le peuple semble satisfait, même si on lui a promis du 24/7 pour l'eau et qu'il finit par avoir 24 SEC; son regard n'est pas tourné vers le manque de planification..."**

de dire: 'On verra plus tard'.

**\* Il n'y a donc pas vraiment de raison d'être optimiste quant à la bonne santé de notre économie, comme peut le penser le ministre des Finances?**

Notre économie a montré son aptitude à la résilience. Mais il faut lier ce constat au surendettement du pays qui a lieu en parallèle. L'artificialité de la croissance est dénoncée par le surendettement: cette situation n'est pas soutenable dans les moyen et long termes.

Quelle est la limite quand on fait de la démagogie sur une croissance construite sur des dettes? Dans quelle mesure peut-on endetter un pays en y liant les futures générations? Et à quel point peut-on mettre en péril la souveraineté de notre pays?

On a vu ce qui s'est passé récemment au Sri Lanka. Et la question demeure: est-ce qu'on peut faire autrement? Évidemment oui, lorsque l'on voit le gaspillage de cet argent emprunté, ces projets fondés sur des dettes, cette corruption dit-on d'origine politique... Il semblerait que tout cela se fasse avec des dettes qu'on a contractées, et que le ministre des Finances lui-même ne sera pas là pour l'exécution du remboursement car ce sont les générations futures qui vont devoir en subir les conséquences et payer le prix des pétards que l'on fait éclater pour les plaisirs éphémères d'aujourd'hui.

**\* Le PM a parlé de 'feel-good factor' dans son message du nouvel an, ce qui n'a pas manqué de faire réagir les partis de l'opposition. Pensez-vous que cela témoigne d'une déconnexion avec la réalité des Mauriciens?**

L'on voudrait bien savoir sur quoi repose une telle déclaration, quelle en est la base scientifique de ce 'feel-good factor'? Comment sait-il qu'il existe un tel sentiment au sein de la population? Il serait bien de lui conseiller de se méfier de ses courtisans qui, par peur d'être répudiés, lui soufflent à l'oreille que le peuple est content!

On pourrait aussi lui conseiller de jeter un coup d'œil sur Facebook, sur les réseaux sociaux, sur la presse indépendante... Il aurait un jugement plus équilibré sur ce que pense le peuple. Il est vrai que les gens se sont

affairés autour des magasins et ils ont fait sonner des pétards en décembre. Est-ce que cela est suffisant pour traduire une telle proposition sur le sentiment de la population?

Il est possible qu'il y ait un 'feel-good factor', mais ce n'est décidément pas au sein de l'ensemble de la population.

**\* En ce qui concerne l'Opposition 'mainstream', c'est difficile de dire à ce stade si les négociations pour une alliance PTR-MMM-PMSD semblent bien progresser. Certains au sein de l'Entente de L'Espoir disent que c'est loin d'être fait eu égard aux divergences sur le partage des tickets entre le PTR et l'Entente, la durée du 'prime ministership' de Navin Ramgoolam, et dans une moindre mesure l'ambition de Nando Bodha. Il reste donc un long chemin à parcourir, semble-t-il?**

Cette situation au sein de l'opposition et les négociations en vue d'une alliance sont aussi un symbole des dysfonctionnements qui minent notre élite politique. Je crois que l'opposition se trompe de priorité. Alors que les élections sont dans deux ans, ils sont en train de se partager des tickets et de distribuer des postes à pourvoir... En faisant une alliance à deux ans avant les élections générales, l'opposition parlementaire est en train de faire comme dans une fable très connue...

**"Utiliser une majorité parlementaire pour annuler une décision de justice est une vivante indication de l'absence de la séparation des pouvoirs et de la déchéance politique. On sait très bien que ce genre de manœuvre, servant particulièrement à annihiler le pouvoir du judiciaire, a déjà été fortement critiqué par des juges. Si le gouvernement persiste dans sa démarche, la réputation de Maurice prendra encore une fois un sale coup..."**

Il est nécessaire que l'opposition - si elle veut vraiment apporter un changement dans le pays - revisite sa stratégie qui s'apparente paradoxalement à une manœuvre de division de l'opposition elle-même ! Les politiciens qui parlent d'alliance oublient la présence des forces extraparlémentaires, alors que celles-là ont démontré leur présence et leur capacité de mobilisation.

Une alliance prématurée non seulement crée des différends entre les partis qui sont représentés au Parlement mais ils provoquent une dichotomie avec cet ensemble de forces extraparlémentaires dont on ne saurait escamoter l'importance.

Les trois grands partis qui décident entre eux sur le nombre de tickets que chacun va avoir constituent un élément de division de l'opposition. Cela provoque une division des opposants au régime alors que la tâche de l'opposition aurait dû être d'élever la conscience populaire, de faire en sorte à ce que la voix du peuple soit entendue sur les manquements du présent régime, et de travailler afin de promouvoir un programme pour que le peuple puisse mieux vivre.

**"La descente va continuer, les dysfonctionnements que l'on a vus ces dernières années vont perdurer, la concentration du pouvoir entre les mains d'un parti politique va continuer à se manifester - et peut-être de manière de plus en**



**plus forte et agressive - puisque le parti au pouvoir semble avoir compris qu'il n'y a aucune barrière sur sa route et qu'il ne craint même pas un soulèvement populaire contre son règne! La démocratie parlementaire va continuer à être vidée de son essence..."**



# Minister Mentor: The Lesson from Singapore

Sonah Ruchpaul

**T**he article of Jan Arden in your issue of 13 January 22 - 'Unpacking Corruption! The Lesson from Singapore' - is well written. It is balanced and in terms of fairness would meet the requirements of the man in the Clapham omnibus. However, Jan Arden seems to be a Lee Kuan Yew fan, which I am not.

Like him I have at times also admired Lee's unequalled courage in fighting petty corruption in Singapore. As a Monetary Economics undergraduate at the London School of Economics in the early 70s after being called to the English bar in Michaelmas 1973, I supported his crusade against monopolies in his country, which culminated in the expulsion of Slater-Walker Securities despite this conglomerate's patrimonial links with a senior minister of the then British government.

The 48 hours given to Mr Slater to leave Singapore by Lee, a latter-day little dragon spewing venom inches away from the big toe of Chairman Mao, firm on his Great Wall, earned him instant acclaims in the United States, the home of the best anti-trust laws in the world. These acclaims last to this day and have caused the Singaporean model to be imitated, mimicked, adapted or simply cut and pasted across the world.

In the process two paradoxes became blurred, in that (a) the USA, the lead capitalist country of the Western world, had nursed and established within itself the most pro-worker industrial relations system East of Suez, and (b) this feat has been achieved with tremendous support from strong trade unions at both State and Federal levels.



Pic – Sputnik Mediabank

Most of our academia, including L.S.E. in *Mauritius Times* two decades back and probably Jan Arden himself, have been used to seeing Jack Jones and Hugh Scanlon (both British trade union leaders) in tripartite talks at 10 Downing Street in the good old Wilson days.

They would not have been watching the corresponding scenario in the United States, as there was nothing there to see at the State or White House levels. Over there, wage negotiations take place at arms' length between the parties themselves periodically at each firm's level and they turn around the new procedure agreement to be signed.

This doesn't mean that the Jones-Scanlon negotiations at No 10 were not real, good faith negotiations. They indeed were. Sometimes the talking - and haggling - with the Trades Union Congress (TUC) and the then Confederation of British Industry (CBI) took weeks on end, with the government acting as arbiter.

These negotiations properly so called are not, however, what we in Mauritius have inherited. What we proudly embark on every year and is presently taking

place is a rigmarole of exchanges between the Minister of Finance and as many as 13 federations of trade unions, during which the government proposes and disposes from beginning to end. One will remember boorish Béranger's celebrated 1982 proposals to his own "pep admirab" of 8% ... 8% ... 8% which rhymed with the biblical "ma vérité, ma vraievérité, rien que ma vérité"!!

To come back to Lee Kuan Yew, he hasn't always been admired in his own country until the late 90s, when he had clearly come clean of the then ongoing financial crisis. Dissonance to his policies appeared in Singapore, when in the late 1950s he successfully wrested his island from what would have been a Malay hegemony. In tactful, nay, crafty independence exchanges with the British, he safeguarded the interests of his 76% rich and middle-class Chinese in the island with abundant support from the remaining minority Portuguese and Indians. In the process Lee Kuan Yew carved for himself and his elected dynasty a golden throne in the new economic haven. Who wouldn't?

Fresh from Cambridge the new Chinese Tsar had studied Chairman Mao from hair to toe as much as Stalin had examined Churchill before invading Poland and had concluded that the dollar hungry Chairman would stand and watch!

I heard similar views to mine expressed on Lee Kuan Yew, when I attended the LSE centenary celebrations at Houghton Street in 1995. They were expressed by LSE alumni from the USA, who challenged his right-wing stands on internal issues in Singapore and the family dynasty he had installed there.

That was 1995. We hadn't heard yet of the cabinet seat of 'Minister Mentor' he had created for himself to perpetuate his family's grip on the island state and the importation of the 'concept' by our own Sun Trust!!

## A New World (Dis)order

• Cont. from page 5

It is the 'unknown unknown' poison that is being covertly and at times even overtly spread to undermine India's advancing development and global influence through its presidency of the G20.

This is how the authors define the core thesis of Wokeism: All structures must be dismantled that are in any way linked to the oppression of any groups of people and that were erected by the oppressors.

BBC is trying the Wokeism trick on India and Modi, the idea being no less than the dismantling of the country. But Wokeism has spread beyond the US borders, and its adverse impacts so widespread that the latest issue of the French magazine *Valeurs Actuelles* has devoted a whole section to analyze the phenomenon. Its editorialist has coined the term 'gréiculture' to describe the widespread anarchic and violent protests that have been rocking France.

For me, the BBC had lost its credibility since long. At one time, it was a respected body. Many of us who were students at the Royal College Curepipe in the 1960s when Bullen was the Rector would recall that, upon his recommendation, we listened to the 8 o'clock BBC news every morning to learn the proper pronunciation of English and to get reliable information for our GP essays.

But BBC, at least some sections of it, is now infested with Wokes who regularly spew venom against India. They had better keep in mind Newton's Law that to every action there is an equal and opposite reaction.

Karma, they say, is a bitch. And when the backlash comes, as it inevitably will, it will not be the BBC that calls the shots. Instead of finger-pointing India, it had better deal with the snakes in its own and its supporters' backyards which are destabilising the world order.

Dr R. Neerunjun Gopee

## GENERAL TRADE UNIONS FEDERATION

1st Floor Pearl House - Sir Virgil Naz Street, Port Louis - Tel./Fax: 208-0320

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Members are kindly requested to attend the Annual General Assembly of the General Trade Unions Federation (GTUF) to be held on Sunday 09 April 2023 at its registered seat - 1st Floor, Pearl House, Sir Virgil Naz Street, Port Louis at 10.00 am.

### AGENDA:

1. Reading & approval of minutes of proceedings of last AGM
2. Matters arising out of minutes
3. President's report
4. Treasurer's report
5. A.O.B

D. Ramjuttun  
Secretary

27 January 2023



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From the Pages of History - MT 60 Years Ago

5th Year No 217

## MAURITIUS TIMES

Friday 3 October, 1958

• *Caste is not a question of birth; it is a question of character. — Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan*

# Abortion - A Social Scourge

By Dr I.M. Mansoor

**I**t is time for frank speaking on a delicate subject — the sad practice of induced abortions. I believe that most of the medical practitioners here share my experience of repeated demands by women for this illegal intervention. They come asking for medicines, as if it was an easy and permissible thing to cause the loss of a newly-formed baby. But apart from the fact that there are no really reliable drugs for this purpose, which are at the same time harmless to the mother, there are the strongest legal, moral and religious objections to the destruction of life.

Eventually, many of these desperate women, determined to get rid of what they regard as an unbearable burden, turn to anyone who will relieve them of it. Unfortunately, there are always unqualified and unscrupulous persons willing to do this job for the sake of a good fee. Under the cloak of secrecy, they usually operate without proper knowledge, in unsuitable and unhygienic conditions. Immediate and long-term complications are often the sad result. These criminal abortions, including self-

“In England it has been estimated that illegal abortions reach the figure of nearly 100,000 annually; in France, the rate of secret abortions is thought to be higher than the birth rate, resulting in over 10,000 maternal deaths in one car: in Japan, by 1954, with a population of about 90 million, more than one million abortions were performed per year. As far as Mauritius is concerned... in these last 10 months, I have had to turn away 176 women begging for termination of their pregnancy. Of these: 68 were Catholics, 58 Muslims & 50 Hindus...”

induced ones, have been found by different investigating committees to be an important cause of maternal death, or subsequent ill health and sterility. It has also been concluded that an economic reason of some sort is the predominating cause of the decision to end a pregnancy.

The general experience is that mere irresponsibility and purely selfish motives come into play. There are a few cases of unmarried girls who have fallen victim to the false promises of unprincipled men or been subject to seduction. But the vast majority are decent housewives, mothers of large families, who feel unable to bear yet another baby. They are nearly always anaemic and generally weakened by repeated pregnancies. At 30, they are already too tired to take any interest in anything. They are old and worn out, forever harassed by the difficulties of their life. What a problem to feed so many mouths, clothe so many bodies, and look after them properly, etc., especially if there is not enough money coming in. They do not know the great joy wanted children bring to a home, because they have too many — for their financial, physical and psychological means.

This is a vast problem. In England it has been estimated that illegal abortions reach the figure of nearly 100,000 annually; in France, the rate of secret abortions is thought to be higher than the birth rate, resulting in over 10,000 maternal deaths in one car: in Japan, by 1954, with a popula-

tion of about 90 million, more than one million abortions were performed per year. After having legalised abortions to deal with their grave overpopulation problem, the government found it necessary to provide birth control facilities in certain areas, where as a result, the number of abortions were halved in a period of 5 years.

As far as Mauritius is concerned I have collected some interesting figures since the end of November 1957. In these last 10 months, I have had to turn away 176 women begging for termination of their pregnancy. Of these: 68 were Catholics, 58 Muslims & 50 Hindus.

These figures are not merely dead statistics — they represent a tragic human problem, a wastage of life, and a great source of mental and physical suffering. We, who work for Family Planning in this country, see ourselves driven to it — yes, are actually forced to take some positive steps in the face of the incessant requests for abortion which are merely desperate substitutes for birth control. We do not impose these precautionary methods on anyone, but recognise the need to aid those who cannot cope with another pregnancy, if they ask for methods of contraception.

The Royal Commission on Population in England stated that the wide dissemination of contraceptive advice would be a most useful contribution to the problem of criminal abortion. Similarly, the Prime Minister of the West Indies Federation said recently that the health of all the West Indian communities could be improved by fighting abortion and by a simultaneous programme of child spacing. This holds equally strong for Mauritius — one cannot say it too often: “Prevention is better than ‘cure’.”



## Sugar Industry Labourers' Union

1st Floor, Pearl House - Sir Virgil Naz Street, Port Louis - Tel./Fax: 208-0320

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Members are kindly requested to attend the Annual General Assembly of the Sugar Industry Labourers' Union to be held on Sunday 19 February 2023 at its registered seat — 1st Floor, Pearl House, Sir Virgil Naz Street, Port Louis at 10.00 am. In case of lack of quorum, the AGM will be held on Saturday 11 March 2023 at same place and time.

#### AGENDA:

1. Reading & approval of minutes of proceedings of last AGM
2. Matters arising out of minutes
3. President's Report
4. Treasurer's Report
5. A.O.B

**P. Sydamah**  
Secretary

27.01.2023

## Salt Pan Workers' Union

1st Floor, Pearl House - Sir Virgil Naz Street, Port Louis - Tel./Fax: 208-0320

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Members are kindly requested to attend the Annual General Assembly of the Salt Pan Workers Union to be held on Sunday 19 March 2023 at Rivière Noire Village Hall at 11.00 am.

#### AGENDA:

1. Reading & approval of minutes of proceedings of last AGM
2. Matters arising out of minutes
3. President's Report
4. Treasurer's Report
5. A.O.B

**Marie France Dumatin**  
Secretary

27.01.2023

## Union of Workers of Animal Farms

1st Floor, Pearl House - Sir Virgil Naz Street, Port Louis - Tel./Fax: 208-0320

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Members are kindly invited to attend the Annual General Assembly of the Union of Workers of Animal Farms to be held on Saturday 25 March 2023 at Flic en Flac Village Hall at 4.00 pm.

#### AGENDA:

1. Reading & approval of minutes of proceedings of last AGM
2. Matters arising out of minutes
3. President's Report
4. Treasurer's Report
5. Election of Executive members for years 2023-2025
6. Appointment of one Auditor for years 2023-2025
7. A.O.B

Any member who wishes to stand as candidate in the election should forward his/her letter of candidature to the Secretary on the above address by registered post by Tuesday 21 March 2023 at latest.

**Suresh Dhunnoo**  
Secretary

27 January 2023

## The Livestock & Allied Industries Workers' Union

1st Floor, Pearl House - Sir Virgil Naz Street, Port Louis - Tel./Fax: 208-0320

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Members are kindly requested to attend the Annual General Assembly of The Livestock & Allied Industries Workers Union to be held on Saturday 18 March 2023 at Bambous Village Hall at 4.00 pm.

#### AGENDA:

1. Reading & approval of minutes of proceedings of last AGM
2. Matters arising out of minutes
3. President's Report
4. Treasurer's Report
5. A.O.B

**Christophe Colfir**  
Secretary

27 January 2023



## Social welfare services are being cut across the world, but providing them is about more than just money



War-fuelled surge in food prices to hit poorer nations hardest. Pic - IMF

### ● Cont. from page 2

The second reason, was that welfare systems regimes literature is a highly empirical literature. And so there was no data to conduct such similar analysis for the non-west.

So, at first, Yörük and his team compiled the data. And he determined that there was an additional type of welfare regime beyond the three main types established by scholars of western countries, which he refers to as a "populist welfare state regime."

This type of regime uses the provision of welfare services as a political bargaining tool: this occurs during times of political unrest, as in Turkey where Yörük conducted his research, or to leverage the voting power of the poor during elections.

Because welfare services contribute to a productive society, it's imperative that governments understand the value of taking care of their populations. But during these uncertain economic times, coun-

tries are contending with the unprecedented and unexpected expenditures produced by climate change mitigation, environmental disasters, the Covid-19 pandemic and political conflict.

Niño-Zarazúa believes that governments reduce access to social services at their own risk. "So, despite the fact that many countries face substantial and very difficult challenges, there are always ways to finance and make savings or reorganize the spending to support these programs."

Cuts to welfare will only exacerbate the rates of poverty around the world. And as economic pressures increase on governments in both developed and developing nations, the provision of welfare is under risk. And the strain on welfare systems is felt not only by those attempting to access services, but by also by those who work within them under these conditions.

**Nehal El-Hadi & Daniel Merino**

### Poem

## International Day of Education

What does it take to go beyond just learning words and numbers?

Grasping knowledge relentlessly  
Acquiring skills year after year  
Keeping the zeal to be the cleverest  
Defying the other meaning of education, sadly

Time to educate ourselves to live in peace and harmony

For the young soldiers at war  
Resisting the chaos and rumbles  
Refusing to be doomed by the burnt soil  
Protecting their Motherland from the black ashes!

Time to educate ourselves to be more empathetic

For the chubby teenager bullying the skinny one

An energetic school compound enjoying the spectacle

For the seated youth staring at the standing pregnant lady  
A talkative and moving bus going blank!

Time to educate ourselves to be more grateful

For the modern world at our fingertips  
Yet refusing to go the extra mile  
For our parents shielding us from social evils

Yet wandering away seems a better option for some!

**Angkush Poonye**

Ex-Student of John Kennedy College

## Quotable Quotes

"The only mystery in life is why the Japanese Kamikaze Pilots wore helmets." – *Al McGuire*

"The difference between stupidity and genius is that genius has its limits." – *Albert Einstein*

"War is God's way of teaching Americans geography." – *Ambrose Bierce*

"It would be nice to spend billions on schools and roads, but right now that money is desperately needed for political ads." – *Andy Borowitz*

"At every party there are two kinds of people – those who want to go home and those who don't. The trouble is, they are usually married to each other." – *Ann Landers*

"My opinions may have changed, but not the fact that I'm right." – *Ashleigh Brilliant*

"Have you noticed that all the people in favour of birth control are already born?" – *Benny Hill*

"The surest sign that intelligent life exists elsewhere in the universe is that it has never tried to contact us." – *Bill Watterson*

"As a child my family's menu consisted of two choices: take it or leave it." – *Buddy Hackett*

"My favourite machine at the gym is the vending machine." – *Caroline Rhea*

"All right everyone, line up alphabetically according to your height." – *Casey Stengel*

"The duty of a patriot is to protect his country from its government." – *Edward Abbey*

"If you live to be one hundred, you've got it made. Very few people die past that age." – *George Burns*

"Trouble knocked at the door, but, hearing laughter, hurried away." – *Benjamin Franklin*

Listen to the wind, it talks. Listen to the silence, it speaks. Listen to your heart, it knows. – *Native American*

"A happy person can always enjoy the scenery when life takes them on a detour." – *Positively Sherry*

"Life is difficult and those who make us laugh are angels." – *Wayne Gerard Trotman*

"Smile, breathe, and go slowly." – *Thich Nhat Hanh*

"Anxiety is a thin stream of fear trickling through the mind. If encouraged, it cuts a channel into which all other thoughts are drained." – *Arthur Somers Roche*

"Without great solitude, no serious work is possible." – *Pablo Picasso*

## To Our Readers

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

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

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

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

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*The Editorial Team*

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# Should we move our loved one with dementia into a nursing home?

*The decision to move a loved one with dementia into residential care is an incredibly difficult one. These considerations may help*



**Lee-Fay Low**  
Professor in Ageing  
and Health,  
University of Sydney

**D**eciding to move a loved one into a nursing home is an incredibly difficult one. I found it difficult and stressful considering this move for my own loved one, even with 20 years of experience in dementia and aged care. Sometimes the decision has to be made quickly, such as when the person is in hospital. Sometimes the decision takes much longer and is made over months, or even years.

There are some important things you should consider when trying to decide the best option for you and your loved one. I've outlined five here.

## 1. Your loved ones' views around going into care

We don't want to force our loved one to do something against their wishes. It's unusual for someone to want to go into a nursing home. It may take many conversations and a decent amount of time before your loved one accepts they might need more care and that a nursing home is the right place to get that care.

## 2. Your loved one's current quality of life

If your loved one currently has all their needs met at home, perhaps supporting them to stay there is a good option. [micheile.com/unsplash](https://micheile.com/unsplash), CC BY

If you think your loved one has an overall good quality of life, and that their quality of life may decrease when they go into a nursing home, this could be a sign you should keep trying to support the person to live at home.

However, if their quality of life is currently poor, particularly if this is due to not having enough day-to-day physical care, health care or emotional support, then moving into a nursing home might help meet their daily needs.

Spend some time observing to figure out how your loved one is doing at home.

You could perhaps make a list of the things they need to lead a good life (company, three square meals, help taking medicines, going out into the community) and see if these are currently being met.

## 3. Risks if your loved one stays at home

People often go into a nursing home because we think they are no longer safe living at home.

It might be possible to reduce some of the risks of



Improving dementia care requires a change in mindset. Pic - PBS NewsHour

them being at home through modifying the home and using technology (personal emergency alarms, GPS trackers, stove timers) or services (meals on wheels, community care, physiotherapy for mobility).

## 4. Capacity of your loved one's family and friends to keep supporting them

The availability and capacity of family carers is probably the most crucial part in supporting someone with dementia to keep living well at home. Carers often have other responsibilities such as work and children, which means they can't support their loved one as much as they would like.

Being a carer is physically and emotionally demanding, and over time caring can take its toll. Carers should seek help and support from other family and friends, learn more about dementia, use services including respite care and Dementia Australia.

Carers often face a difficult choice between their own health and wellbeing, and supporting their loved one to remain at home. If carers are caring as much as their time, energy and physical and mental wellbeing will allow, and that care is not enough for their loved one's needs, then more help is needed – and residential care is one way of getting that help.

Some families choose to move in with the person with dementia, or have them move in with family. This may be an option if there is suitable accommodation, and they are able to live together comfortably.

## 5. Availability of quality nursing home care

It's emotionally easier to place a loved one in a nursing home if carers are confident the home will provide suitable care. Often, family want a nursing home that is geographically close so they can visit, has a suitable room (such as a single room with an ensuite), sufficient and kind staff with training in supporting people with dementia, a pleasant environment, nutritious appealing food, and quality clinical care.

It takes time to visit and pick a suitable nursing home, check it's appropriately accredited, and understand how much it will cost. You might have to wait for a bed in a quality home. You can often trial the nursing home by having your loved one stay for two weeks of respite

care.

When your loved one enters nursing home care, you'll still be caring for them. You want to ensure you can continue to support your loved one emotionally and practically in partnership with the nursing home.

## Getting help

Usually there is no "right" or "wrong" decision. You might struggle and there might be family conflict around what the "right" decision is.

Speaking to a counsellor might help work through the options and your feelings, you can talk to them as an individual or attend as a family.

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## Beverages Industry Workers' Union

1st Floor, Pearl House  
Sir Virgil Naz Street, Port Louis  
Tel./Fax: 208-0320

## Annual General Meeting

Members are kindly requested to attend the Annual General Assembly of the Beverages Industry Workers' Union to be held on Sunday 19 February 2023 at its registered seat – 1st Floor, Pearl House, Sir Virgil Naz Street, Port Louis at 10.00 am. In case of lack of quorum, the AGM will be held on Sunday 05 March 2023 at same place at 10.00 am.

## Agenda:

1. Reading & approval of minutes of proceedings of last AGM
2. Matters arising out of minutes
3. President's report
4. Treasurer's report
5. Dissolution of the union
6. A.O.B

**K. Teeluck**  
Secretary

27 January 2023

## Senior Citizen Association

Ward IV - Port Louis

## Annual General Meeting

Members are kindly requested to attend the Annual General Assembly of the Senior Citizen Association - Ward IV, Port Louis, to be held at its registered seat Monseigneur Leen Hall, Port Louis on Wednesday 1 March 2023 at 10.00 am.

## Agenda:

1. Reading & approval of minutes of proceedings of the last AGM
2. Matters arising out of minutes
3. President's report
4. Treasurer's report
5. A.O.B

**Mrs Anita Purrusing**  
Secretary

27.01.2023



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## Study shows humans are optimists for most of life

Is middle age really the "golden age" when people are the most optimistic in life? Researchers from Michigan State University led the largest study of its kind to determine how optimistic people are in life and when, as well as how major life events affect how optimistic they are about the future.

"We found that optimism continued to increase throughout young adulthood, seemed to steadily plateau and then decline into older adulthood," said William Chopik, MSU assistant professor of psychology at MSU and lead author. "Even people with fairly bad circumstances, who have had tough things happen in their lives, look to their futures and life ahead and felt optimistic."

The study, published in the Journal of Research in Personality, surveyed 75,000 American, German and



Dutch people between the ages of 16 and 101 to measure optimism and their outlook about the future. Chopik said the researchers looked at life events such as: marriage, divorce, a new job, retirement, changes in health and loss of a partner, a parent or a child.

Chopik explained that regardless of life's good and bad circumstances, from the time people are 15 to almost 60 or 70, they become more and more optimistic.

As people age into the elderly phase of life, the study showed a shift to declines in optimism, likely driven by health-related concerns and knowing that the bulk of life is behind you. While the elderly aren't full-fledge pessimists, Chopik said, there is still a noticeable change.

Chopik said one of the most profound conclusions in the study was showing how resilient people are in life.

## See no evil: People find good in villains

Whether it's on television or in a movie, we love the villain.

No matter how egotistical, power hungry or greedy the person is, many of us are still attracted to their dark side -- in part because we suspect some may have a redeeming quality. In fact, according to a new University of Michigan study, both adults and children more often reported

that villains were inwardly good than that heroes were inwardly bad.

Valerie Umscheid, U-M psychology doctoral student and the study's lead author, and colleagues conducted three studies with 434 children (ages 4-12) and 277 adults to determine how individuals make sense of antisocial acts committed by evil-doers. They focused on participants' judgments of both familiar and novel fictional villains and heroes, such as Disney's Ursula from "The Little Mermaid" and Pixar's Woody from "Toy Story."

Study 1 established that children

viewed villains' actions and emotions as overwhelmingly negative. This suggests that children's well-documented tendency to judge people as good does not prevent their appreciation of extreme forms of villainy.

Studies 2 and 3 assessed children's and adults' beliefs regarding heroes' and villains' moral character and true selves, using an array of converging evidence, including how a character felt inside, whether a character's actions reflected their true self and whether a character's true self could change over time.

Across these measures, the research indicated that both children and adults consistently evaluated villains' true selves to be overwhelmingly evil and much more negative than heroes'. At the same time, researchers also detected an asymmetry in the judgments, wherein villains were more likely than heroes to have a true self that differed from their outward behaviour.

Both children and adults believed characters like Ursula had some inner goodness, despite the bad/immoral actions they regularly engage in, Umscheid said.



## How is fabric made?

*From fibre to fabric. The process of making textiles has been important to humans for almost 35,000 years.*

From clothes to curtains, towels and sheets, fabrics are everywhere in our daily lives. You might also hear people call them "textiles".

People have been making fabric, or textiles, for a very long time. In fact, they've been doing it for almost 35,000 years!

Let's first think about what a fabric is. The dictionary says fabric is a cloth made by knitting or weaving together fibres.

### What is a fibre?

A fibre is like a strand of hair. It's very long and thin.

Fibres can come from nature. Some common natural fibres are cotton, silk and wool.

Humans have also found ways to make fibres ourselves in the past 150 years. We can use technology to turn oil into fibres. We can even make special fibres to make your raincoat waterproof, or make a soldier's vest bullet-proof.

But how can these thin, hair-like fibres be made into something we can wear?

### From fibre to yarn

First, we need to put the fibres together to make long strings of yarn. This can be tricky because many fibres are quite short, especially natural ones.

A cotton fibre is usually only around 3cm long. That's shorter than a paper clip. Wool is usually cut from a sheep when it is 7.5cm long – about the length of a crayon.

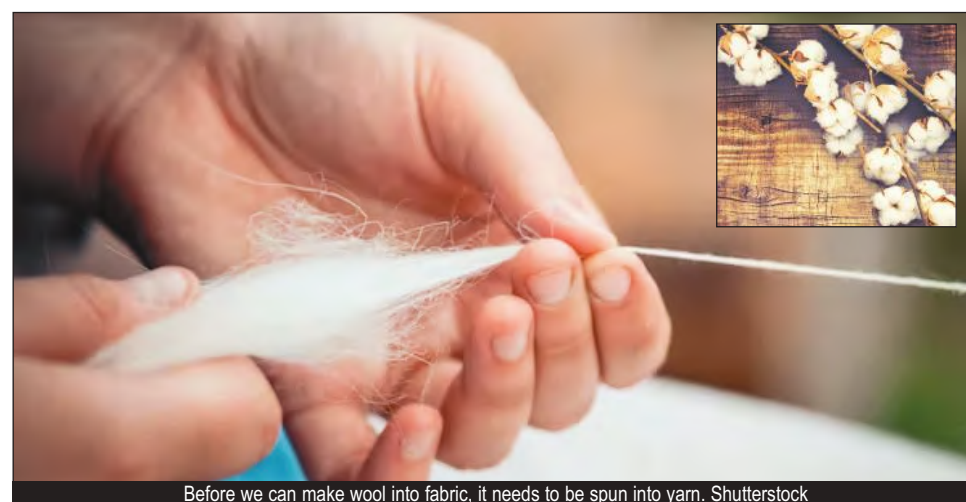
We twist these shorter fibres together to make a longer yarn. The twisting makes the fibres rub together and grip to each other. This is called yarn spinning.

### Yarn spinning

The first step of yarn spinning involves taking bundle of fibres, lining them up, them combing them like you comb your hair ... or how you might comb a long beard! In fact, when we've combed them into a sheet, we call it a "beard".



Weaving yarn into fabric can be done by hand, or by machine. Shutterstock



Before we can make wool into fabric, it needs to be spun into yarn. Shutterstock

Next, the sheet is stretched into a long tube. As it stretches, it becomes thinner and thinner. Then we twist it to form a yarn. This delicate sheet of fibres may have been metres wide to begin with, but we twist it into a thin thread.

There are all types of yarn threads. They can be thin, thick, hard, soft, stretchy, or even ones you can't cut! It all depends on the starting fibre and the machine settings.

### Turning yarn into fabric

Once we have our yarn, we're ready to make fabric. There are many ways to do this, such as weaving, knitting or

felting.

Weaving crosses the yarns over and under in a chessboard pattern. Knitting makes loops that pass through each other.

Felting is when we get wool fibres wet and soapy. We rub the fibres together until they are all tangled up. Then we press the fibres into a flat sheet called felt.

Weaving, knitting and felting can be very slow if you do them by hand! These days we often use machines to speed things up.

### How fabric is made

So we start with the fibre. Then we spin it into long strings of yarn. Next we weave, knit or felt the yarn into fabric. And that, Saskia, is how we make fabric.

**Ken Aldren S. Usman, Deakin University and Dylan Hegh, Deakin University**





## Four retired old men are walking down a street

Four retired old men are walking down a street in Cooktown.

They turned a corner and see a sign that says, 'Old Timer's Bar – all drinks 10 cents!'

They look at each other, and then go in, thinking this is too good to be true.

The old bartender says in a voice that carries across the room,

'Come on in and let me pour one for you! What'll it be, gentlemen?'

There seemed to be a fully-stocked bar, so each of the men asks for a Martini... In short order, the bartender serves up four iced Martinis... shaken, not stirred, and says, 'That'll be 10 cents each, please.'

The four men stare at the bartender for a moment. Then look at each other... they can't believe their good luck.

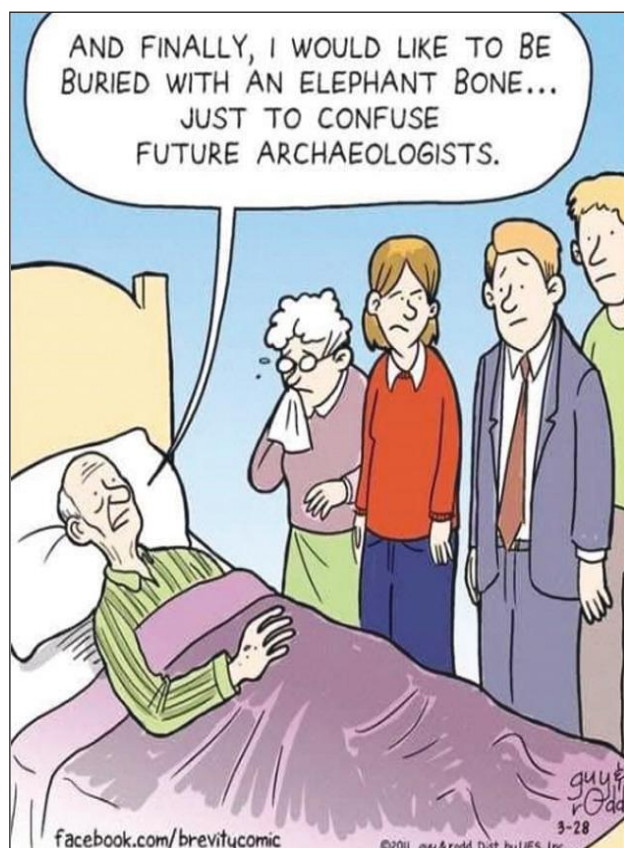
They pay the 40 cents, finish their Martinis, and order another round.

Again, four excellent Martinis are produced and the bartender again saying,

'That's 40 cents, please.'

They pay the 40 cents, but their curiosity is more than they can stand.

They have each had two Martinis and so far, they've spent less than a dollar.



Finally, one of the men says, 'How can you afford to serve Martinis as good as these for 10 cents each?'

'I'm a retired tailor from Sydney,' the bartender said, 'and I always wanted to own a bar. Last year I hit the Lottery for \$25 million and decided to open this place. Every drink costs ten cents – wine, liquor, beer, it's all the same.'

'Wow!!!! That's quite a story,' says one of the men.

The four of them sipped at their Martinis and couldn't help but notice seven other people at the end of the bar who didn't have drinks in front of them and hadn't ordered anything the whole time they were there.

One man gestures at the seven at the end of the bar without drinks and asks the bartender, 'What's with them?'

The bartender says, 'Oh, they're all grey nomads from the caravan park, waiting for happy hour when drinks are half price.'

\*\*\*

## An old farmer died

An old farmer died leaving his 17 horses to his 3 sons.

When his sons opened up the will it read:

'My eldest son should get 1/2 (half) of total horses.'

'My middle son should be given 1/3rd (one-third) of the total horses.'

'My youngest son should be given 1/9th (one-ninth) of the total horses.'

As it's impossible to divide 17 into half or 17 by 3 or 17 by 9, the three sons started to fight with each other.

So, they decided to go to a farmer friend who they considered quite smart, to see if he could work it out for them.

The farmer friend read the will patiently, and, after giving due thought, brought one of his own horses over and added it to the 17.

That increased the total to 18 horses.

Now, he divided the horses according to their father's will.

Half of 18 = 9. So, he gave the eldest son 9 horses.

1/3rd of 18 = 6. So, he gave the middle son 6 horses.

1/9th of 18 = 2. So, he gave the youngest son 2 horses.

Now add up how many horses they have:

Eldest son: 9

Middle son: 6

Youngest son: 2

TOTAL = 17

This leaves one horse over, so the farmer friend takes his horse back to his farm...

\*\*\*

## School Days

During my school days, after getting the first cane on my hands from the teacher, I used to wipe my hands on my trousers and then only take the second one...!

I was very particular about cleanliness.

All my teachers used to stand and take the classes... You know the reason? Respect...

They respected me so much... Nothing else.

During my school days, my teachers used to often request me to bring my father as they were afraid of telling me anything, lest they offend me.

My teachers were very fond of reading what I had written... In fact, they would make me write it a hundred times so that they can read it again and again...

Many times, the teachers have thrown their valuable chalks to me without me asking for it.

Many times, my teachers have made me stand outside the class to ensure 'Z' category security while they were teaching.

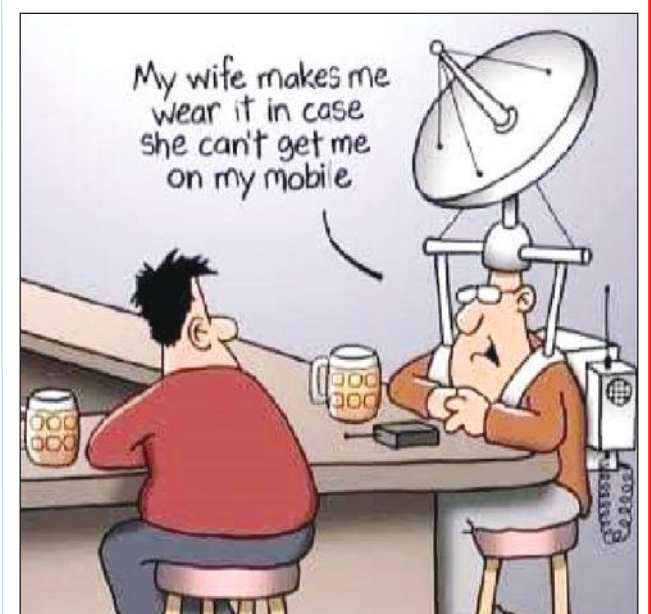
Many times, I have been asked to attend lower classes to assist those teachers evaluate the students...

How many times I have been honoured/elevated by asking me to stand up on the bench with all others looking up to me ....

How many times I have been given a break from class to enjoy the sunshine & fresh air, when most others were sweating/choking inside the classroom ...

As I knew everything, the teachers used to appreciate my knowledge and have told me many times... Why do you come to school? Why can't you do something else instead

Those were golden young days.





## That's Life

## The Last Leg

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

I know that I lived them all.

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

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

How did I get here so fast?

Where did the years go and where did my youth go?

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

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

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

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



begin!

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

It's all in a lifetime.

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

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

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

You have no promise that you will see all the seasons of life. So, live for today and say all the things that you

want your loved ones to remember - and hope that they appreciate and love you for all the things that you have done for them in all the past years.

'Life' is a gift to you.

Be Happy!

Remember, it is health that is real wealth and not pieces of gold and silver.

You may think: Going out is good - but coming home is better!

You forget names - but it's okay because some people forgot they even knew you!

You realize you're never going to be really good at anything like golf - but you like the outdoors!

The things you used to care to do, you aren't as interested in anymore - but you really don't care that you aren't as interested.

You sleep better on a lounge chair with the TV on than in bed - you call it 'pre-sleep'!

You miss the days when everything worked with just an 'On' and 'Off' switch!

You tend to use more 4 letter words - 'what' and 'when'

You have lots of clothes in your wardrobe, more than half of which you will never wear - but just in case!

Old is good -

- Old is comfortable
- Old is safe
- Old songs
- Old movies, ... and best of all, friends of old!

So, stay well, 'Old friend!'

Have an awesome quarter - whichever one you're in! It's not what you gather but what you scatter that tells what kind of life you have lived.

Take care.

## Life's Lesson

## Prepare your children for the road

**A**ccording 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.

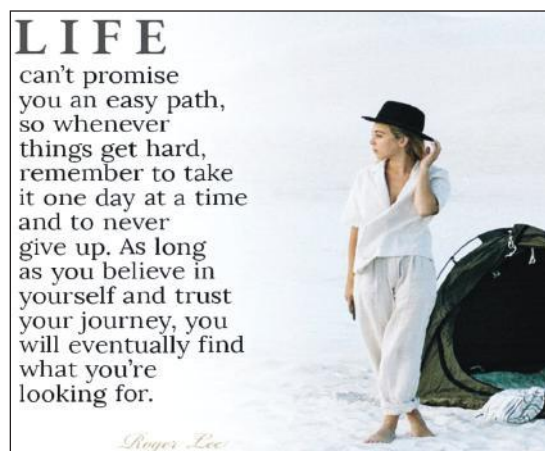
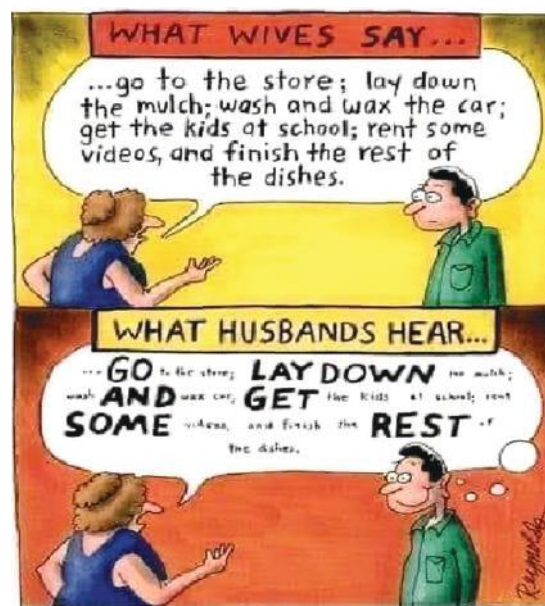
When faced with troubles, AQ determines who will give up, who will abandon their family, and who will consider suicide.

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  
HR Diary



## Life in a nutshell...

## Somewhere between...

**S**omewhere between "8 toffees for 1 rupee" and "1 toffee for 8 rupees", we grew up!

Somewhere between "Ground mai aaja" and "Online aaja", we grew up!

Somewhere between "stealing chocolate of our sis" and "Buying chocolate for her children", we grew up!

Somewhere between "Just five more mins Ammi" and "Pressing the snooze button", we grew up!

Somewhere between "Crying out loud just to get what we want" and "Holding our tears when we are broken inside", we grew up!

Somewhere between "I want to grow up" and "I want to be a child again", we grew up!

Somewhere between "Let's meet and plan" and "Let's plan and meet", we grew up!

And as we grew up, now we realize how silently, but surely, our lives have changed.



## Intimacy Habits that can hurt your intimate relationship

**I**f you're a junk-food junkie, you're filling your body with lots of refined carbs, simple sugars, and saturated and trans fat. This can slow your blood flow and affect how well you can perform during love-making. Cut out the junk and go for plenty of fruits, veggies, and plant-based protein (nuts, beans, and tofu).

**You eat too much salt:** When salty foods are a regular part of your diet, you're more likely to have high blood pressure, which can lower your libido. Steer clear of prepackaged foods, which often have lots of sodium, and watch how much you add at the table. Instead, add flavor with herbs and spices.

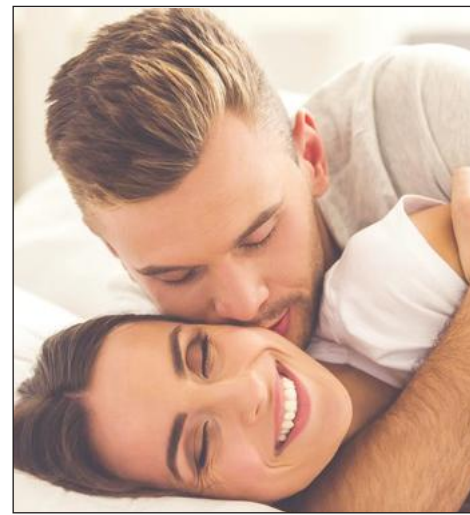
**You stay stressed:** Constant strain and worry wears you out -- everywhere. When you flood your body with stress hormones

for a long periods of time, it hijacks your health and also tanks your desire to have sex. Try to figure out what's stressing you so you can think about the best ways to handle it. It's also a good idea to make time for regular stress-relief -- a walk in a park, a yoga class, or laughing at your favorite comedy.

**You're too busy:** When life gets hectic, sex can sometimes be the first thing kicked off your "to-do" list. But intimacy in your relationship should be a priority. Scheduling sex may sound like a buzzkill, but it can help you make sure you don't keep putting it off. So mark time on your calendars, and stick to it. You'll feel more connected, which will lead to better bouts in bed.

**You don't speak up:** If there's something about your sex life that's bothering you, or you have ideas about new things you'd like to try, talk about it. Worried about how your partner might handle the conversation? Try to frame it around your feelings and reactions, not your partner's. It helps to start your sentences with "I" instead of "you."

**You diss your body:** The messages



you tell yourself -- or hear from others -- about your body make a big difference in how confident you feel. When those messages are negative, your self-image takes a hit, and so does your sex drive. If your default mode is to put yourself down, break the habit and try to focus on what you like about yourself. Take care of yourself, and spend time with people who make you feel good.

**You drink too much:** One glass of wine

or a beer might help you relax, but a booze binge can make you crash and burn in the bedroom. Men in particular can struggle with performance issues when they have too much alcohol in their system. Keep your drinking in moderation -- no more than one drink a day for women and two for men.

**You skimp on shut-eye:** If you don't snooze, you could lose your libido. One study found that women who got more sleep tended to have more (and better) sex.

**You don't watch your waistline:** Is your scale showing a higher number than usual these days? Shedding a few pounds could boost your performance in the bedroom -- especially if you're a guy. One study found that men with a waist over 40 inches were more likely to have erectile dysfunction than those with slimmer stomachs.

**You light up:** There's a long list of ways smoking harms your health, and slashing sexual desire is on it. Chemicals in tobacco can mess with blood flow, which can cause sexual problems, especially for men. Talk to your doctor about how you can kick the habit.

## Relationship

## Having trouble understanding your partner? Communicate better!



**O**ften, it's the little things in relationships that make people happy. Think about the last laugh you shared with your significant other, or recall a film you enjoyed together. Small moments can drag your relationship down too. Consider the following lack of communication examples. Do any of them sound familiar?

**Being passive-aggressive.** Passive-aggressive behaviour is irritating. You might pout, act irritable, or make your partner play guessing games about what they did when you're mad at them. If you have trouble being direct with your partner, start small. The next time your partner upsets you, take a deep breath and tell them that what they just did wasn't OK with you. You might be surprised at your partner's willingness to listen.

**Making assumptions.** Are you and your partner far apart in age, or did you grow up speaking different languages? Perhaps one of you is very blunt in communication, while the other hints at what they need. All of these situations can create hurt feelings when you fail to discuss your differences and resort to making unfair assumptions about the other person. The next time you feel anger at your partner's odd or hurtful actions, take the time to ask questions instead of jumping to a

conclusion.

**Not paying attention.** There are few situations more upsetting than when you're speaking to someone who seems like they're mentally elsewhere. Maybe they're swamped at work, busy with a mental to-do list, or simply distracted. Tell your partner how much their preoccupation with other things hurts your feelings -- and do your best to be equally present in your conversations with them.

**Blaming.** It's easy to blame your partner for everything that happens in a relationship. When you're talking to your partner about a problem, resist the urge to explain to them how wrong they were or how they could have done everything better. Instead, use "I" statements to convey to your partner how you felt when they behaved in a certain way.

### Learn how to fix communication in a relationship

While it's actually normal to argue with your partner, it's not healthy to argue for hours, insult each other, or give each other the silent treatment. Think about employing the following techniques to repair broken communication in relationships:

**Learn your fighting style.** Do you yell your feelings? Do you keep a mental list of your partner's misdeeds to use as ammunition later? Maybe you resort to passive-aggressive declarations that you're "fine" when, in reality, you're seething inside. Be honest about your communication weaknesses. The more you know about yourself, including your strengths and weaknesses, the healthier your communication will become.

**Identify your triggers.** Is there a topic that always makes your partner angry? Maybe the way you respond to your partner's emotions keeps sparking an argument. Take some time with your partner -- when you're calm and not in the midst of a fight -- to write down your emotional triggers and discuss how you might handle them when they arise again.

Taylor Wendt, WebMD

### Local Authorities Workers' Association

1st Floor, Pearl House  
Sir Virgil Naz Street, Port Louis  
Tel./Fax: 208-0320

### Annual General Meeting

Members are kindly requested to attend the Annual General Assembly of the Local Authorities Workers' Association to be held on Saturday 11 March 2022 at Rose Belle Village Council at 2.00 pm. In case of lack of quorum, the AGM will be held on Saturday 25 March 2023 at same place at 2.00 pm.

#### Agenda:

1. Reading & approval of minutes of proceedings of last AGM
2. Matters arising out of minutes
3. President's report
4. Treasurer's report
5. A.O.B

*Sutyandising Runglall*  
Secretary

27 January 2023

### Cleaning Enterprises Workers' Association

1st Floor, Pearl House, Sir Virgil Naz Street, Port Louis  
Tel./Fax: 208-0320

### Annual General Meeting

Members are kindly requested to attend the Annual General Assembly of the Cleaning Enterprises Workers Association to be held on Sunday 05 March 2023 at its registered seat -- 1st Floor, Pearl House, Sir Virgil Naz Street, Port Louis at 10.00 am.

#### Agenda:

1. Reading & approval of minutes of proceedings of last AGM
2. Matters arising out of minutes
3. President's report
4. Treasurer's report
5. Election of Executive members for years 2023-2025
6. Appointment of one Auditor for years 2023-2025
7. A.O.B

Any member who wishes to stand as candidate in the election should forward his/her letter of candidature to the Secretary on the above address by registered post by Wednesday 01 March 2023 at latest.

*Julmain Dalambé*  
Secretary

27 January 2023





## Kriti Sanon to Deepika Padukone set to rule the box office

The tide is changing in Bollywood and it is bringing with it a wave of fierce and feisty women. Spanning versatile genres, offering meaty roles and some of the most anticipated movies in the near future here's taking a look at the leading ladies with the most exciting line-up as reported by Zee TV.

### Deepika Padukone

Bollywood's Numero Uno has an exciting lineup ahead which also includes *Fighter* with Hrithik Roshan, *Pathaan* with Shah Rukh Khan, Prabhas's *Project K* and the official Hindi remake of *The Intern* starring Amitabh Bachchan.

### Kriti Sanon

After a breakthrough performance in and as *Mimi* and *Bhediya* recently, Kriti Sanon is positioned in the top league of female stars – Her upcoming line-up of films shows immense promise of continuing her lucky streak as *Shehzada*, *Ganapath* and *Adipurush* are some of the most anticipated films of recent times, where Kriti will be seen in different roles and characters.

### Alia Bhatt

After rave reviews for her performance in *Brahmastra: Part One*, Alia Bhatt is also set to impress with, *Jee Le Zaraa* that marks her first collaboration with Priyanka Chopra and Katrina Kaif, Dharma's *Rocky Aur Rani Ki Prem Kahani* with Ranveer Singh and the international spy thriller *Heart of Stone*, that marks her Hollywood debut.

## Oscar nominee 'RRR' is charming the West

It has been 10 months since action-fantasy film *RRR* hit theatres in India, but the conversation around it hasn't died down. As the movie rides its popularity wave into the Oscars, the BBC's Meryl Sebastian unpacks why it has captivated viewers around the world.

Director SS Rajamouli has said that he made *RRR* mainly for Indians – people living in the country and the diaspora.

But since its release, the movie – which features Telugu-language stars Ram Charan and Jr NTR, and tells the fictional story of two real-life Indian revolutionaries fighting against British rule – has pushed many boundaries.

It has grossed more than 12bn rupees (\$146.5m) globally, spent weeks in the top 10 on Netflix US and is now breaking box-office records in Japan. It has been included in several prestigious lists of best films of 2022, including that of the British Film Institute and National Board of Review in the US.

*Naatu Naatu*, a catchy, exuberant musical number from the film, was nominated for Best Original Song at the Oscars.

It had earlier won a Golden Globe award for best original song, and both the song and the movie also won big at the Critics' Choice Awards in Los Angeles. BBC Culture film critics Nicholas Barber and Caryn James included it in their top 20 films of 2022.

*Naatu Naatu* has been nominated for Best Original Song at the Oscars

Rajamouli's joy and surprise at the movie's global reception is evident in his many interviews.

"When we started getting appreciation from the West, we thought, 'These guys must be friends of the Indians who went to watch the film'," he joked recently on the US talk show *Late Night* with Seth Meyers.

When *RRR* first released in the US, it wasn't different from other mainstream Indian films, says New York-based critic Siddhant Adlakha, a member of The New York Film Critics Circle which chose Rajamouli as best director in December.

"On opening weekend, the audience was mostly Indian," Adlakha says. "But a few weeks in, the demographics had totally shifted."



*RRR* serves up spectacular visuals and extravagant set pieces

Word about the film spread as people flocked to watch it in theatres, critics wrote rave reviews and A-list Hollywood directors – including Anthony and Joe Russo, Edgar Wright, Scott Derrickson and James Gunn – praised it.

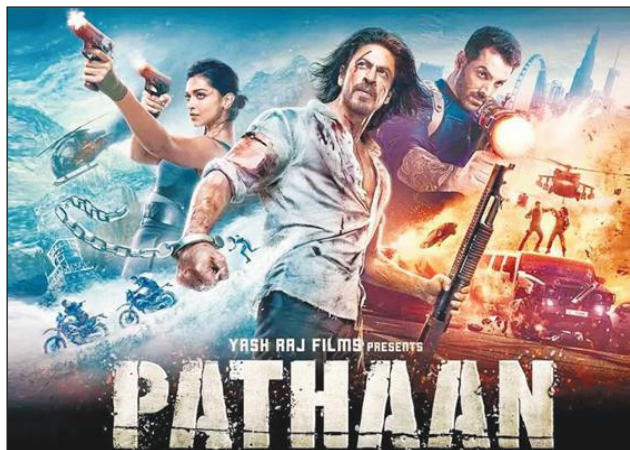
American distributors have said they screened the film after seeing the enthusiastic public response to it.

## 'Pathaan' likely to enter Rs 100 cr club on Republic Day

Amid fan frenzy of the kind that the Hindi film industry had not witnessed in a very long time, *Pathaan*'s box office performance has been better than expected on opening day, and that too without the help of traditional marketing tools. Early estimates by industry tracker Sacnilk suggest that the film has netted Rs 52.5 crore on day one of release.

The number would surely have been higher, *Box Office India* says, if the film was released on a holiday, like Republic Day today. But despite this, *Pathaan* is battling for the top spot on the list of biggest-ever Hindi debuts in a tight race with the Hrithik Roshan-starrer *War* (Rs 53.3 crore), Aamir Khan's *Thugs of Hindostan* (Rs 52 crore) and the Hindi dub version of the Kannada film *KGF: Chapter 2* (Rs 53.9 crore).

*Pathaan* is expected to extend its box office earnings on January 26, Republic Day, and comfortably enter Rs 100 crore club. This will be unprecedented for Hindi cin-



ema and will bring Shah Rukh Khan on top of the biggest earner charts.

Billed as SRK's grand comeback to starring roles after a gap of over four years, and his first action film after a career playing heartthrobs, *Pathaan* is an action-spy film that also stars Deepika Padukone and John Abraham. Salman Khan appears in an extended cameo as his character from the *Tiger* movies, which are also a part of the new shared universe that YRF has set up. The franchise also includes *War*, directed by Siddharth Anand, who also helmed *Pathaan*.

### Building & General Construction Workers' Union

1st Floor, Pearl House  
Sir Virgil Naz Street, Port Louis  
Tel./Fax: 208-0320

### Annual General Meeting

Members are kindly requested to attend the Annual General Assembly of the Building & General Construction Workers' Union to be held on Saturday 04 March 2023 at its registered seat – 1st Floor, Pearl House, Sir Virgil Naz Street, Port Louis at 3.00 pm.

#### Agenda:

1. Reading & approval of minutes of proceedings of last AGM
2. Matters arising out of minutes
3. President's report
4. Treasurer's report
5. Election of Executive members for years 2023-2025
6. Appointment of two Auditors for years 2023-2025
7. A.O.B

Devanand Kodai  
Secretary

27 January 2023



From Smriti Irani to Ram Kapoor

## The weight loss journey of celebrities

Actors are expected to look a certain way by their fans and they too have to reduce their weight after getting a little chubby. And often actors get trolled by netizens for gaining weight. The actors specifically have to look good in front of the camera and it becomes necessary for them to stay fit and healthy. There have been many actors who shared their weight loss journey with their fans and the drastic change blew their fans away.

### Shehnaaz Gill

Shehnaaz Gill shed a lot of weight after her participation in Bigg Boss 13. The actress had openly stated that she wanted to lose weight in order to look attractive and acquire excellent work opportunities. She shed 12 kg by adopting a calorie-restricted diet and exercising portion control. Shehnaaz claimed on Shilpa Shetty's chat show that she wanted to wow her admirers, who had shown her far too much love, with her new changed and fit image. Shehnaaz does not exercise and instead consumes a high-protein breakfast.

### Ram Kapoor

Bade Achhe Lagte Hain fame Ram Kapoor astonished everyone by releasing images of his dramatic weight loss. The actor lost 30 kg in 7 months and told ETimes TV in July 2019 that he expected to lose an additional 20 kg by December. He revealed his secret weight loss journey with us "I eat for 8 hours and fast for 16 hours. I work out 2 hours in the morning and at night. I had so much to do, and I wanted to do it properly. I started in January this year and till now the progress has been good. I am 60 per cent there but I still have to achieve 40 per cent. My goal is to be 80 kilos by December 2019. Actually, Gautami (his wife) is my inspiration because when I see how fit she is even after delivering two kids, I can't help but get inspired. She has been my biggest strength and motivation throughout my journey."

### Mandira Bedi

Mandira Bedi had a tough time after the death of her husband, Raj Kaushal, due to a heart attack. While she resumed her walks and work, she also returned to her workout programme after a year and a half of absence. Mandira wrote down her actual weight and how much she lost. She wrote "It's been a very trying year and a half and I have kinda let the grip that I had on my health loosen and I am the heaviest I have ever been. A couple of days ago my scale was showing 56.5 kgs which is quite alarming and today we are 55.2 kgs. It's a good enough start and putting myself out in the Universe and making myself accountable for my journey up ahead. I want to get to 51kg.. I don't know whether that will happen. But let's give it a go!"

### Drashti Dhami

Geet Hui Sabse Prayi actress Drashti Dhami spoke exclusively to ETimes TV about how she initially focused on fitness to reduce weight, which eventually is now a part of her life. "When I took up fitness, I started off with an aim to lose weight. Initially, I felt I had put on some weight and I did put on weight after I got married. I was in a happy

zone and I don't have any regrets. But after sometime I felt I should lose weight and I started working out with that intention. Now workout is not primarily for me to stay fit or thin. It just makes me happy, keeps me content, it gives me a lot of peace."

### Bharti Singh

Bharti Singh astonished everyone when spoke about shedding 15 kg before getting pregnant. The comedian, who has frequently been used as a prop in body-shaming jokes, would constantly speak out against it. Bharti stated in an exclusive chat with BT that she was 91 to 76 kilos by September 2021. She said: "Even though I am surprised that I have lost so much weight, I am equally happy because I feel healthy and fit. As per the reports, Bharti followed intermittent fasting and would not have anything between 7 pm to 12 pm."



Smriti Irani's drastic weight loss leaves fans in disbelief

### Aanchal Munjal

Parvarrish celebrity Aanchal Munjal had to endure extensive surgery, which jeopardized her health and career as an actor. The actress revealed that she gained weight as a result of antibiotics and that it took her time to return to shape.

She told ETimes TV: "With antibiotics, I bloat up really badly and I used to see that bloating. Today, when I work out, I make sure when I squat, I don't work out using heavy weights. I take care of my diet. No refined sugar, oily food and I only have healthy food."

### Aashika Bhatia

Kuch Rang Pyaar Ke Aise Bhi actor Aashika who used to be trolled for her weight gain on social media had shared before and after transformation pictures. The actor looked quite stunning after her transformation and had slammed trolls for calling her 'moti', 'bhains', and 'Fatso'.

### Smriti Irani

Former actress and Union Minister Smriti Irani, also famous as Tulsi from Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi, shed a tremendous amount of weight after she shared a picture on her Instagram and shocked all her fans along with her friend Ekta Kapoor. As per reports, Smriti opted for a gluten-free and non-dairy diet method. Smriti never thought that her fans would be so sharp and find out about her weight loss after she shared a picture while spending some quality time in the woods.

### Kapil Sharma

Kapil Sharma who makes everyone laugh in his famous comedy show The Kapil Sharma Show, shared some transformation pictures after the third season of the show was coming up in 2022. The actors looked fit in his new photoshoots and many of his fans praised him for his weight loss.

## YOUR STARS

### Sagittarius: Nov 22 - Dec 21

Your interest in new technologies may increase and it may get you work opportunities. Those who are in research or the medical field may have a lucky period on the work front. If you are single, you may think about making a dating profile to find someone special to start a relationship with.

**Lucky Numbers:** 5, 14, 17, 23, 36, 40

### Capricorn: Dec 22 - Jan 19

Nothing can stop you from shining on the work front this coming week. Your ideas may help solve a complicated work issue. Favourable developments are ahead and your efforts may be noticed by the right people. You may not feel a deep-level connection with your beloved. It's time to work on your relationship to make it interesting, exciting, and worthwhile.

**Lucky Numbers:** 14, 19, 20, 21, 26, 30

### Aquarius: Jan 20 - Feb 18

You may finally finish a project you have been working on for a long time and you will be satisfied with the final outcomes. You should be proud of yourself today. Your beloved may take you for granted and do not care about your plans and it may hurt you. Some may find it hard to start a new relationship due to bitter experiences in their past.

**Lucky Numbers:** 8, 11, 19, 30, 31, 33

### Pisces: Feb 19 - Mar 20

It is not a favourable day on the work front, some complicated situations may arise. Your mind should be relaxed so that you can easily deal with the issues that come your way. You may be in love with someone and dress in something amazing to impress him or her. Your plans may work to win the heart of that someone.

**Lucky Numbers:** 1, 3, 9, 10, 25, 31

### Aries: Mar 21 - Apr 19

Your career prospects seem good and you may use your experience and skills to start a business. Working women may get an appreciation for their extraordinary performance at work. You may miss your beloved and plan to surprise him or her with chocolates or flower bouquets. If you are planning to impress someone, then this is a lucky day.

**Lucky Numbers:** 3, 15, 16, 20, 30, 31

### Taurus: Apr 20 - May 20

Working women may find it hard to strike a balance between personal and professional life. Those who are in government jobs may be victims of office politics. Things seem moderate on the love front. Your partner may misunderstand a situation, so you need to clarify doubts and misunderstandings in order to maintain harmony in the relationship.

**Lucky Numbers:** 6, 12, 13, 19, 20, 33

### Gemini: May 21 - June 20

It is high time to work on your career goals and hone your skills. Some may make some wrong decisions today and think about leaving their current job. Committed couples may do something nice for each other. Singles may update their dating profile so that they can find someone special soon.

**Lucky Numbers:** 1, 8, 11, 16, 20, 21

### Cancer: June 21 - July 22

Keep your confidence high and be ready to face some complicated issues at work though you may have to work with colleagues you do not like. Some may look for a marriage partner but feel disappointed. Better communication may help strengthen your bond with your love partner.

**Lucky Numbers:** 2, 3, 6, 7, 20, 30

### Leo: July 23 - Aug 22

Your passionate side may be highlighted. Confidence is the key, believe in your abilities. Good things may come your way, so keep putting your efforts. Dear Leo, this is a favourable week to spend with your beloved. Singles may find someone special to start a relationship with.

**Lucky Numbers:** 4, 15, 20, 23, 29, 30

### Virgo: Aug 23 - Sept 22

This may be a promising week on the work front and you may get success in every field. This is also a favourable time for those who want to change jobs. Committed couples may go on a trip and try to spend quality time but some issues may crop up and turn this trip into an awkward event, so avoid making any big plan.

**Lucky Numbers:** 17, 20, 25, 29, 31, 34

### Libra: Sept 23 - Oct 22

This is an excellent week for people who are trying to get government jobs or promotions. It is all about devising a strategy to achieve what you want. Your partner may neglect you and avoid your calls or messages. If things have not been going well lately, you should get out of your current relationship. Singles should be cautious if they are planning to go on a date with someone.

**Lucky Numbers:** 1, 7, 15, 26, 27, 32

### Scorpion: 23 Oct - 21 Nov

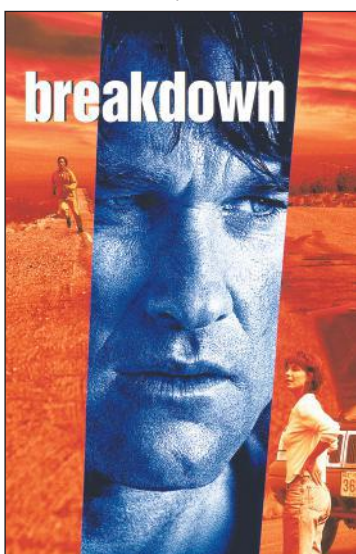
You may overcome obstacles at work and things may go as per your planning. Freshers may get some new job offers. Dear Scorpio, you may come closer to your beloved and strengthen your bond of love. It is the right time to take your relationship to the next level and set a meeting with the parents of your beloved.

**Lucky Numbers:** 10, 12, 19, 22, 31, 35





Vendredi 27 janvier - 21.15



Samedi 28 janvier - 21.00



Dimanche 29 janvier - 21.52



# Programme TV



vendredi 27 janvier

## MBC 1

07.15 Local: Les Grandes Lignes  
08.00 Local: Profil  
08.45 Local: Nou Later Nou Lamer..  
11.09 Tele: Rubi  
11.56 Local Prod: Leritaz Nu Zanset  
12.00 Le Journal  
12.40 Tele: Fierce Angel  
14.11 Local: MBC Production  
14.38 D.Anime: Briko  
15.24 D.Anime: Pet Alien  
15.34 D.Anime: Where's Waldo  
16.42 D.Anime: Kids Songs  
17.04 D.Anime: Fast And Furious  
17.35 Serial: Backstage  
18.00 Live: Samachar  
18.31 Serial: Surya Puran  
18.55 Serial: Jag Jaanani Maa...  
19.30 Journal & La Meteo  
20.25 Local: Les Grands Noms...  
21.30 Serial: Rookie Blue  
23.00 Le Journal

## MBC 2

07.00 DDI Live  
10.00 Serial: Wafa Lazim To Nahin  
11.22 Serial: Pyar Ke Sadqay  
12.02 Film: Rajawadi Chahiye Ame  
Manbhen Rahiye  
14.27 Mag: DDI Mag  
15.00 Live: Samachar  
15.22 Serial: Saare Tujhyachsathi  
15.45 Serial: Bommarillu  
16.04 Serial: Sondha Bandham  
16.27 Serial: Ishq Zahe Naseeb  
17.11 Serial: Bhakharwadi  
17.30 Serial: Ishaaron Ishaaron...  
18.01 Serial: Ancient Detective  
19.00 Live: Zournal Kreol  
19.30 Serial: Radha Krishna  
20.00 Serial: Mushk  
20.44 Local: Anjuman  
21.09 Local: Urdu Programme -  
22.04 DDI Live

## MBC 3

07.00 Mag: Border Crossing  
07.54 Doc: Skuld, A Look Into...  
08.24 Doc: Fine Arts Sculptures  
09.45 Doc: Smoothie Mania  
11.51 Mag: Carnet De Sante  
14.36 Doc: A Passion For Helping  
15.48 Doc: Bahrain  
16.34 Mag: Eco India  
17.00 Mag: Shift  
17.27 Mag: Border Crossing  
19.00 Student Support Prog...  
20.30 Live: News  
20.53 Doc: Hotels  
21.49 Mag: Saladeria  
22.20 Doc: Burnout  
23.45 Doc: Foodland: Veggie...  
00.30 Mag: World Stories  
00.45 Mag: Our Voices  
01.07 Mag: Euromaxx  
01.43 Doc: Let's Go All To The Sea  
02.26 Doc: Fine Arts Sculptures

## Cine 12

01.17 Film: Awake  
03.35 Film: Legacy  
05.09 Tele: Tour De Babel  
05.57 Serial: Madam Secretary  
06.44 Film: Awake  
08.45 Serial: Pure Genius  
09.30 Tele: La Beaute Du Diable  
10.21 Tele: Fierce Angel  
11.00 Serial: Scorpion  
12.00 Film: Legacy  
13.35 Tele: Tour De Babel  
14.45 Film: Awake  
16.35 Serial: Pure Genius  
17.15 Serial: Madam Secretary  
18.05 Tele: La Beaute Du Diable  
19.00 Tele: Fierce Angel  
19.34 Serial: Hank Zipzer The World  
20.05 Tele: L'Envers Du Paradis  
20.30 Serial: F.B.I  
21.20 Film: Breakdown

## Bollywood TV

06.42 Film: Teesri Aankh  
Starring: Sunny Deol,  
Ameesha Patel, Neha Dhupia  
11.27 / 20.30 - Radha Krishna  
11.57 / 21.00 - Anupamaa  
12.26 / 21.30 - Mere Sai  
12.53 / 22.00 - Kismat Ki Lakiron  
13.24 / 22.03 - Yeh Teri Galiyan  
13.52 / 22.30 - Patiala Babes  
14.25 / 23.00 - 100 Years Of  
Indian Cinema  
14.53 Bade Acche Lagte Hai 2  
15.23 Film: Dil Tera Ashiq  
Starring: Salman Khan,  
Madhuri Dixit, Anupam Kher  
18.00 Live: Samachar  
16.15 Kundali Bhagya  
19.00 Udaariyaan  
19.28 Kuch Rang Pyar Ke...

samedi 28 janvier

06.00 D.Anime: Akili And Me  
06.48 D.Anime: Gon  
09.35 Serial: Monster Hunt  
10.00 Local: Zafan Nou Zil  
10.30 Mag: Sand Tales  
10.55 Doc: World Capitals  
12.00 Le Journal  
12.25 Local: Les Grands Noms...  
12.30 Tele: Tour De Babel  
14.45 Local: Evasion  
15.00 Live: Samachar  
15.21 D.Anime: Pet Alien  
15.32 D.Anime: Where's Waldo  
16.18 D.Anime: All Hail King Julien  
18.00 Samachar  
18.30 Enter: Taare Zameen  
19.30 Journal & La Meteo  
20.25 MBC Pro: Music Tour 2022  
21.25 Film: Ingrid Goes West  
Avec: Aubrey Plaza, Elizabeth  
Olsen, Wyatt Russell  
23.00 Local: Le Journal

07.00 Film: Trishna  
Starring Shashi Kapoor, Sanjeev  
Kumar, Rakhee Gulzar  
09.55 Bade Acche Lagte Hai  
10.47 Serial: Dikri Vahalno Dariyo  
11.37 Serial: The Demi-Gods And...  
12.04 Serial: Nanda Saukhya Bhare  
12.27 Serial: Mooga Manasulu  
12.50 Serial: High School  
15.00 Live: Samachar  
15.25 Film: Nishchaiy  
Stars: Salman Khan, Vinod  
Khanna, Karishma Kapoor  
17.51 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: Tevar  
Starring Arjun Kapoor, Sonakshi  
Sinha, Manoj Bajpayee

06.00 Doc: Deadly Bacteria  
06.26 Mag: World Stories  
06.42 Mag: Our Vocies  
07.09 Mag: Euromaxx  
08.25 Doc: Hotels  
09.57 Doc: Burnout  
10.40 Doc: Once The Dust Settles  
12.40 Mag: Euromaxx  
13.06 Doc: Global Food  
17.58 Doc: World Capitals  
18.24 Mag: In Good Shape  
19.00 Mag: Saladeria  
19.33 Mag: Check In  
20.30 Local: News (English)  
20.50 Doc: Fine Arts Sculptures  
21.48 Doc: Skuld  
22.08 Doc: Daniel Libeskind  
22.31 Doc: Treasures In The Sand  
23.16 Doc: The Satoshi Mystery  
23.56 Doc: World Capitals  
00.25 Doc: Smoothie Mania

01.17 Film: Breakdown  
03.01 Serial: The Baker And The...  
03.51 Serial: Blacklist  
04.32 Serial: Rich Man, Poor Man  
05.20 Tele: Les Trois Visages D'ana  
06.29 Serial: F.B.I  
07.11 Serial: Riviera  
08.35 Serial: Queens Of Mystery  
09.11 Serial: Rich Man, Poor Man  
10.25 Film: Breakdown  
12.20 The Baker And The Beauty  
13.30 Serial: Scorpion  
14.55 Tele: Missing Bride  
16.24 Serial: F.B.I  
17.06 Film: Ophelia  
18.50 Serial: Kojak  
19.35 Serial: Hank Zipzer The...  
20.05 Tele: L'Envers Du Paradis  
20.30 Series: F.B.I  
21.15 Film: 90 Feet From Home  
23.21 Tele: Rubi

04.04 Radha Krishna  
04.35 Anupamaa  
05.04 Mere Sai  
05.32 Kismat Ki Lakiron Se  
06.00 Yeh Teri Galiyan  
06.33 Patiala Babes  
08.00 Yeh Teri Galiyan  
10.00 Motu Patlu  
10.13 Sasural Simar Ka 2  
12.25 Serial: Udaariyaan  
14.04 Serial: Anupamaa  
16.15 Kuch Rang Pyar Ke Aise...  
18.00 Samachar  
18.30 Film: Dosti Friends  
Forever  
Starring: Bobby Deol,  
Akshay Kumar, Lara  
Dutta, Kareena Kapoor  
20.56 Serial: Porus  
20.59 Serial: Naagin Season 4  
21.52 Serial: Yeh Teri Galiyan

dimanche 29 janvier

06.00 D.Anime: Akili And Me  
06.46 D.Anime: Gon  
07.09 D.Anime: Sissi  
09.40 Serial: Monster Hunt  
10.00 Local: Zafan Nou Zil  
11.00 Local: Nu Rasinn  
11.55 Local: Leritaz Nou Zanset  
12.00 Le Journal  
12.40 Tele: Tour De Babel  
14.00 Local Prod: Elle  
15.00 Samachar  
15.21 D.Anime: Pet Alien  
16.15 D.Anime: All Hail King Julien  
18.00 Live: Samachar  
18.30 Local: yeh Shaam Mastani  
19.30 Le Journal  
20.30 Local Production: Les Klips  
21.25 Film: Crouching Tiger Hidden  
Dragon  
23.20 Le Journal

07.00 Film: Angel  
11.03 Serial: Azhagu  
11.20 Jag Jaanani Maa  
Vaishnodevi  
11.39 Serial: Surya Puran  
12.06 Film: Sargam  
15.00 Samachar  
15.20 Mooga Manasulu  
15.42 Serial: He Mann Baware  
16.04 Serial: Sondha Bandham  
Starring: Bharathi, Badekilla,  
Pradeep, Naresh Eswar  
16.30 Local: Yaadein  
17.03 Serial: Siya Ke Ram  
17.48 Serial: Chacha Bhatija  
18.30 Local: Tipa Tipa Nu Avanser  
19.00 Live: Zournal Kreol  
19.30 Serial: Radha Krishna  
20.05 Serial: Porus  
21.15 Serial: Crime Patrol  
22.02 Serial: Naagin Season 3

06.00 Doc: World Capitals  
07.06 Mag: The 77 Percent  
07.32 Mag: Check In  
09.22 Doc: Skuld  
10.49 Doc: The Satoshi Mystery  
12.35 Mag: Saladeria  
12.42 Mag: The 77 Percent  
13.08 Mag: Check In  
13.34 Doc: Volcano Stories  
14.08 Doc: The Last Of The Sea...  
14.58 Doc: Skuld  
15.46 Doc: Treasures In The Sand  
17.41 Mag: Healthy Living  
18.24 Mag: Global 3000  
19.06 Mag: Salad Area  
19.37 Doc: Japan From Above  
20.30 Live: News (English)  
20.50 Doc: Fine Arts Sculptures  
21.49 Doc: Innovation On Board  
22.15 Doc: Above Time  
22.58 Doc: Tsunamis

00.55 Film: 90 Feet From Home  
01.01 Serial: Imposters  
03.42 Film: Get Out  
05.21 Tele: Les Trois Visages D'ana  
06.30 Serial: F.B.I  
07.21 Film: The Delphi Effect  
08.33 Serial: Madam Secretary  
09.11 Film: Stormboy  
10.40 Film: Ophelia  
12.43 Serial: Imposters  
13.30 Serial: Scorpion  
15.35 Tele: Missing Bride  
17.00 Serial: F.B.I  
17.45 Serial: Imposters  
18.30 Serial: L'incroyable Hulk  
19.36 Serial: Hank Zipzer...  
20.05 Tele: L'Envers Du Paradis  
20.30 Serial: New Amsterdam  
21.15 Serial: Suits  
22.00 Film: Rendel  
23.40 Tele: Rubi

00.00 Serial: Sasural Simar Ka 2  
01.56 Udaariyaan  
03.50 Anupamaa  
06.37 Kuch Rang Pyar Ke Aise...  
08.00 Kalari Kids  
08.14 Main Maikhe Chali Jaungi...  
10.01 Kundali Bhagya  
12.01 Bade Acche Lagte Hai 2  
14.00 Kismat Ki Lakiron  
16.08 Jijaji Chhat Par Hain  
17.33 Live: Samachar  
18.30 Film: Patel Ki Punjabi  
Shaadi  
Starring: Rishi Kapoor,  
Paresh Rawal, Vir Das  
20.41 Naagin Season 4  
21.24 Bade Acche Lagte Hai 2  
23.19 Main Maikhe Chali Jaungi  
Tum Dekhte Rahiye  
01.21 Kundali Bhagya  
03.09 Kismat Ki Lakiron Se

lundi 30 janvier

06.00 Local: Zafan Nou Zil  
07.00 Local: Nu Rasinn  
07.55 MBC Production  
09.20 Doc: The Trillion Tree Plan  
11.00 Doc: World Capitals  
11.10 Tele: Rubi  
12.00 Le Journal  
12.30 Tele: Fierce Angel  
13.17 Local: Nu Rasinn  
15.22 D.Anime: Sissi  
15.35 D.Anime: Where's Waldo  
17.35 Serial: Backstage  
18.00 Live: Samachar  
18.30 Serial: Mere Sai  
18.55 Serial: Jag Jaanani Maa  
Vaishnodevi  
19.30 Le Journal  
20.25 MBC Production  
21.15 Local: Agir Ensemble  
21.40 Serial: Rich Man, Poor Man  
Avec: Nick Nolte, Peter Strauss

07.00 DDI Live  
10.00 Kundali Bhagya  
12.06 Film: Bobby  
Starring Rishi Kapoor,  
Dimple Kapadia  
15.00 Samachar  
15.20 Serial: Saare Tujhyachsathi  
15.47 Serial: Bommarillu  
16.02 Serial: Sondha Bandham  
16.26 Serial: Ishq Zahe Naseeb  
16.48 Serial: Saaton Vachanwa...  
17.08 Serial: Bhakharwadi  
17.30 Serial: Vandhal Sridevi  
18.00 Serial: Oh! My Sweet Liar!  
18.30 Mag: DDI Mag  
19.00 Live: Zournal Kreol  
19.30 Serial: Radha Krishna  
20.00 Programme In Telugu  
20.30 Film: Kadaisi Vivasayi  
Stars: Nallandi Vijay,  
Sethupathi Yogi Babu

07.00 Mag: Salad Area  
07.57 Doc: Japan From Above  
08.45 Doc: Fine Arts Sculptures  
09.48 Doc: Innovation On Board  
12.02 Mag: Smoothie Mania  
14.39 Doc: Fine Arts Sculptures  
15.31 Doc: Innovation On Board  
16.40 Doc: Tsunamis  
18.00 Mag: Eco@Africa  
19.00 Student Support Prog...  
19.33 Mag: In Good Shape  
20.45 Doc: Fine Arts Sculptures  
20.50 Doc: Nos Cinq Sens  
22.06 Mag: Tomorrow Today  
22.32 Doc: Smoothie Mania  
23.00 Doc: Fast Fashion  
23.46 Doc: Cool & Clever  
00.06 Foodland: Veggie Feasts  
00.15 Mag: Eco@Africa  
00.47 Mag: Africa 54  
01.15 Mag: In Good Shape

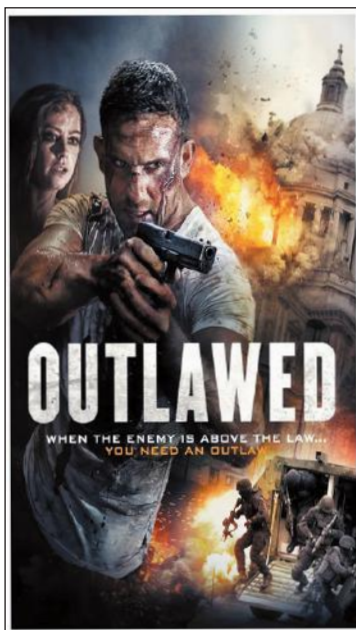
01.12 Film: Rendel  
02.52 Serial: Scorpion  
03.33 Film: Crouching Tiger Hidden  
05.30 Tele: Tour De Babel  
06.29 Serial: New Amsterdam  
07.47 Film: The Dark Beginnings...  
09.30 Tele: La Beaute Du Diable  
10.12 Tele: A Que No Me Dejas  
10.20 Tele: Fierce Angel  
11.00 Serial: Scorpion  
11.46 Film: Crouching Tiger Hidden  
13.30 Tele: Tour De Babel  
14.45 Film: The Dark Beginning...  
16.40 Serial: New Amsterdam  
17.21 Serial: Suits  
18.05 Tele: La Beaute Du Diable  
19.00 Tele: Fierce Angel  
19.39 Serial: Hank Zipzer  
20.05 Tele: L'Envers Du Paradis  
20.30 Serial: Riviera  
21.15 Film: Borrowed Time

08.00 Taare Zameen Par  
11.52 / 20.30 - Radha Krishna  
12.23 / 21.00 - Anupamaa  
12.51 / 21.30 - Mere Sai  
13.25 / 22.00 - Kismat Ki Lakiron  
13.52 / 22.03 - Yeh Teri Galiyan  
14.16 / 22.30 - Patiala Babes  
14.30 / 23.00 - 100 Years Of  
Indian Cinema  
15.00 / 21.46 -  
Bade Acche Lagte Hai 2  
15.27 Film: Hamara Dil Apke  
Paas Hai  
Starring: Anil Kapoor,  
Aishwariya Rai, Sonali  
Bendre  
18.00 Live: Samachar  
18.30 Kundali Bhagya  
19.00 Udaariyaan  
19.31 Kuch Rang Pyar Ke Aise...  
20.01 Sasural Simar Ka 2  
20.30 Radha Krishna





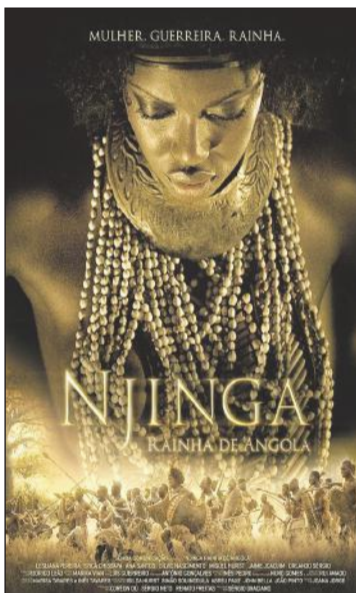
Mardi 31 Janvier - 21.10




Mercredi 1 février - 21.15




Mercredi 1 février - 21.15



# Programme TV





mardi 31 janvier

## MBC 1

07.20 Local: Fam Rakonte  
09.00 Local: Nu Zanset  
10.15 Le Morne Dan So Splander  
11.10 Tele: Rubi  
12.00 Le Journal  
12.25 Local: Les Grands Noms...  
12.30 Tele: Fierce Angel  
13.15 Local: Les Grands Noms...  
14.35 D.Anime: Briko  
15.00 Live: Samachar  
15.20 D.Anime: Pet Alien  
15.56 D.Anime: Sabrina  
17.30 Serial: Backstage  
18.00 Live: Samachar  
18.30 Serial: Jijaji Chhat Par Hain  
18.55 Local Prod: MBC  
19.30 Journal & La Meteo  
20.20 Local: Priorite Sante  
21.25 Film: Outlawed  
With: Adam Collins, Emmeline Hartley, Andy Calderwood

## MBC 2

07.00 DDI Live  
10.00 Serial: CID  
10.50 Serial: Jijaji Chhat Par Hain  
12.00 Film: Maa  
15.00 Live: Samachar  
15.20 Saare Tujhyachsathi  
15.43 Bommarillu  
16.04 Sondha Bandham  
16.24 Serial: Ishq Zahe Naseeb  
16.42 Serial: Saaton Vachanewa...  
17.13 Bhakharwadi  
17.35 Serial: Premabhishekam  
18.00 Serial: Oh! My Sweet Liar!  
18.30 Local: DDI Magazine  
19.00 Zournal Kreol  
19.30 Serial: Radha Krishna  
20.06 Local: Tamil Programme  
20.30 Film: Satyam Shivam Sundaram  
Starring: Shashi Kapoor, Zeenat Aman

## MBC 3

06.00 Mag: Eco@Africa  
07.27 Mag: In Good Shape  
09.02 Doc: Destination  
09.14 Mag: Tomorrow Today  
11.31 Mag: Eco@Africa  
14.43 Mag: Tomorrow Today  
15.16 Mag: Washington Forum  
16.57 Mag: Eco@Africa  
18.00 Mag: Rev: The Global Auto...  
18.50 Talk On Cavadee 2023  
19.31 Mag: Check In  
20.02 Doc: La Route De La Soie  
20.30 Live: News  
20.50 Doc: Fine Arts Sculptures  
21.28 Mag: Euromaxx  
21.54 Mag: Close Up  
22.23 Local: Rodrig-Klip Seleksion  
23.50 Mag: The Global Auto...  
00.16 Mag: Healthy Living  
01.17 Mag: Check In  
01.43 Doc: La Route De La Soie

## Cine 12

01.30 Film: Borrowed Time  
03.05 Serial: Scorpion  
03.44 Film: Memories Of War  
05.30 Tele: Tour De Babel  
06.18 Serial: Riviera  
06.52 Film: Borrowed Time  
08.45 Serial: Pure Genius  
09.30 Tele: La Beaute Du Diable  
10.20 Tele: Fierce Angel  
11.00 Serial: Scorpion  
12.00 Film: Memories Of War  
13.30 Tele: Tour De Babel  
14.39 Film: Borrowed Times  
16.40 Serial: Pure Genius  
17.20 Serial: Riviera  
18.05 Tele: La Beaute Du Diable  
19.00 Tele: Fierce Angel  
19.37 Serial: Hank Zipzer  
20.05 Tele: L'Envers Du Paradis  
20.30 Seiral: Riviera  
21.15 Film: The Dark Beginnings...

## Bollywood TV

07.15 Film: Hamara Dil Apke Paas Hai  
11.30 / 20.29 - Radha Krishna  
12.01 / 20.57 - Anupamaa  
12.29 / 21.27 - Mere Sai  
13.01 / 22.07 - Kismet Ki Lakiron Se  
13.30 / 22.37 - Yeh Teri Galiyan  
13.59 / 23.07 - Patiala Babes  
14.25 / 21.59 - 100 Years Of Indian Cinema  
15.00 / 22.25 - Bade Acche Lagte Hai 2  
15.26 Film: Gopi Kishan  
Starring Shilpa Shirodkar, Suniel Shetty, Karishma Kapoor  
18.00 Live: Samachar  
18.30 Kundali Bhagya  
19.03 Udaariyaan  
19.33 Kuch Rang Pyar Ke Aise  
20.06 Sasural Simar Ka 2

mercredi 1 février

07.00 Local Prod: En Forme  
07.40 Local: Priorite Sante  
07.40 Local Prod: Priorite Sante  
09.20 Local: Itinerer  
10.10 Local Production  
11.35 Local: Generations J  
12.00 Le Journal  
12.25 Local: Leritaz Nou Zanset  
12.30 Tele: Fierce Angel  
13.20 Local: Sant La Liberte  
14.07 MBC Prod: Zanfan Nou Zil  
14.37 D.Anime: Briko  
14.34 D.Anime: Cat & Keet  
16.00 Film: The Angry Birds Movie  
17.30 Local: Evasion  
18.00 Live: Samachar  
18.30 Other: Radha Krishna  
19.00 Local: Planet Bollywood  
19.30 Journal & La Meteo  
20.30 MBC Production  
21.25 Morisien Konn Ou La Sante  
22.20 Film: 90 Feet From Home

07.00 DDI Live  
10.00 Suhani Si Ek Ladki  
12.00 Film: Kranti  
14.30 DDI Magazine  
15.00 Live: Samachar  
15.23 Saare Tujhyachsathi  
15.49 Bommarillu  
16.15 Sondha Bandham  
16.26 Serial: Ishq Zahe Naseeb  
16.53 Saaton Vachanwa Saath...  
17.18 Bhakharwadi  
17.31 Serial: Kulvadhu  
18.00 Serial: Oh! My Sweet Liar!  
18.30 Local: DDI Magazine  
19.00 Zournal Kreol  
19.30 Serial: Radha Krishna  
19.59 Programme In Marathi  
20.30 Film News Marathi Film  
22.30 DDI Live

06.00 Mag: Rev: Global Auto...  
06.56 Mag: World Heritage  
07.31 D. Anime: Kids Songs  
08.00 Film: Sam Le Pompier  
09.00 Film: Zorro, La Legende Continue  
15.01 Mag: Euromaxx  
17.24 Mag: Rev: The Global Auto...  
17.56 Mag: Motorweek  
18.22 Mag: Vous Et Nous  
19.00 Mag: Arts 21  
19.30 Mag: The Inside Story  
20.30 Local: News (English)  
20.50 Doc: Tresors Oublies De...  
21.22 Mag: Saladeria  
22.11 Mag: Initiative Africa  
22.37 Doc: Smoothie Mania  
23.51 Mag: Motorweek  
00.17 Mag: Vous Et Nous  
00.50 Mag: Arts.21  
01.16 Mag: The Inside Story  
02.09 Doc: Fine Arts Sculptures

01.12 Film: Instructions Not Included  
03.02 Serial: Scorpion  
03.50 Film: The Dark Beginnings...  
05.15 Tele: Tour De Babel  
06.03 Serial: Riviera  
06.45 Film: Instruction Not Inclu...  
08.48 L'Incroyable Hulk  
10.22 Tele: Fierce Angel  
11.05 Serial: Anomalia  
12.05 Film: The Dark Beginnings...  
13.30 Tele: Tour De Babel  
14.48 Film: Instructions Not Inclu...  
16.33 L'Incroyable Hulk  
17.15 Serial: Riviera  
18.05 Tele: La Beaute Du Diable  
19.00 Tele: Fierce Angel  
19.37 Serial: Hank Zipzer  
20.05 Tele: L'Envers Du Paradis  
20.30 Seiral: Madam Secretary  
21.15 Film: Njinga, Reine D'angola

07.08 Film: Gopi Kishan  
Starring Shilpa Shirodkar, Suniel Shetty, Karishma Kapoor  
11.35 / 20.06 - Radha Krishna  
12.00 / 20.26 - Anupamaa  
12.29 / 20.02 - Mere Sai  
13.02 / 20.46 - Kismet Ki Lakiron Se  
13.37 / 21.09 - Yeh Teri Galiyan  
14.00 / 21.50 - Patiala Babes  
14.25 / 22.15 - 100 Years Of Indian Cinema  
15.30 Film: Tanhaji  
Starring: Ajay Devgn, Saif Ali Khan, Kajol, Neha Sharma  
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

jeudi 2 février

06.00 Local: Rodrig - Klip Seleksion  
07.00 Local: Rodrig Prog  
07.40 Local: Ero Deryer Rido  
08.10 Local Prod: Elle  
09.45 Doc: Son Ladan Mem  
11.04 Doc: World Capitals  
11.10 Tele: Rubi  
12.00 Le Journal  
12.30 Tele: Fierce Angel  
14.35 D.Anime: Briko  
14.46 D.Anime: Cat & Keet  
15.21 D.Anime: Pet Alien  
15.32 D.Anime: Darwin And Newts  
15.54 D.Anime: Sabrina  
17.25 Serial: Backstage  
18.00 Live: Samachar  
18.30 Serial: Jijaji Chhat Par Hain  
18.56 Local: Tirth Yatra  
19.30 Le Journal  
20.30 Film: Teri Meri Kahaani  
With: Shahid Kapoor, Priyanka Chopra, Prachi Desai, Neha Sharma

07.00 DDI Live  
09.58 Serial: Agnipheera  
12.00 Film: Anjane Mein  
14.38 Mag: DDI Mag  
15.00 Live: Samachar  
15.22 Serial: Saare Tujhyachsathi  
15.45 Serial: Bommarillu  
16.02 Serial: Sondha Bandham  
16.26 Serial: Ishq Zahe Naseeb  
16.41 Serial: Saaton Vachanwa Saath Nibhaib Sajna  
17.09 Bhakharwadi  
17.35 Local: Amrit Vaani  
17.45 Local: Bhajan Sandhya  
18.00 Serial: Oh! My Sweet Liar!  
18.30 Mag: DDI Mag  
19.30 Serial: Radha Krishna  
20.04 Local: Les Grandes Lignes  
21.20 Film: Crouching Tiger Hidden Dragon  
With: Chow Yun-Fat, Michelle Yeoh

06.00 Mag: Motorweek  
06.24 Mag: Vous Et Nous  
06.57 Mag: Arts.21  
07.55 Doc: Fine Arts Sculptures  
11.43 Mag: Motorweek  
12.09 Local: Vous Et Nous  
12.37 Doc: World Heritage  
13.38 Doc: Planet Home  
15.46 Doc: Smoothie Mania  
17.03 Mag: Motorweek  
18.00 Mag: Eco India  
18.26 Mag: Carnet De Sante  
19.30 Mag: Tomorrow Today  
20.01 Doc: Skuld, A Look Into...  
20.30 Local: News (English)  
20.50 Doc: Nature's Keepers  
21.48 Mag: Saladeria  
22.17 Doc: Smoothie Mania  
23.00 Doc: Silent Terror  
23.42 Doc: Eco India  
00.14 Mag: Shift

01.28 Film: Hamlet & Hutch  
02.52 Serial: Anomalia  
03.32 Film: Njinga, Reine D'Angola  
05.24 Tele: Tour De Babel  
06.12 Serial: Madam Secretary  
06.48 Film: Hamlet & Hutch  
08.50 Serial: Pure Genius  
09.30 Tele: La Beaute Du Diable  
10.19 Tele: Fierce Angel  
11.43 Film: Njinga, Reine D'Angola  
13.30 Tele: Tour De Babel  
14.51 Film: Hamlet & Hutch  
16.25 Mag: Top 100 Famous...  
16.40 Serial: Pure Genius  
17.15 Serial: Madam Secretary  
18.05 Tele: La Beaute Du Diable  
19.00 Tele: Fierce Angel  
19.36 Serial: Hank Zipzer  
20.05 Tele: L'envers Du Paradis  
20.30 Serial: Madam Secretary  
21.15 Serial: Kojak

07.00 Film: Tanhaji  
11.29 / 20.26 - Radha Krishna  
12.00 / 21.01 - Anupamaa  
12.31 / 21.31 - Mere Sai  
13.03 / 21.56 - Kismet Ki Lakiron Se  
13.34 / 22.20 - Yeh Teri Galiyan  
14.00 / 22.52 - Patiala Babes  
14.25 - Mag 100 Year Of Indian Cinema  
15.00 / 21.46 - Bade Acche Lagte Hai 2  
15.24 Film: Nachnewale Gaanewale  
Starring Sheeba Agarwal, Saathi Ganguly, Shahbaaz Khan  
18.00 Samachar  
18.30 Kundali Bhagya  
18.59 Udaariyaan  
19.31 Kuch Rang Pyar Ke Aise...  
20.01 Sasural Simar Ka 2



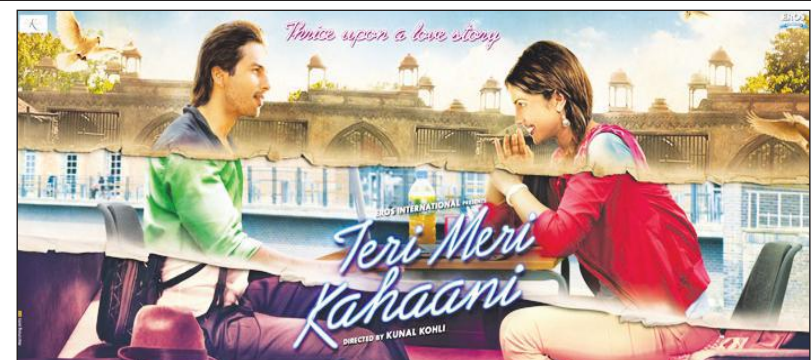
Jeudi 2 février - 15.30

Stars: Sheeba Agarwal, Saathi Ganguly, Shahbaaz Khan



Jeudi 2 février - 20.30

Star: Shahid Kapoor, Priyanka Chopra, Prachi Desai, Neha Sharma





# New passport rankings show that the world is opening up – but not for everyone

A passport from the United Arab Emirates will get you into far more destinations than one from Afghanistan. Gaps like this have big implications for people's ability to travel, reside and work



Patrick Bixby  
Associate  
Arizona State  
University

Salman Rushdie, the celebrated Anglo-Indian writer, once declared that the “most precious book” he possessed was his passport.

Rushdie had already published dozens of works, including novels, short stories, essays and travelogues, to wide acclaim and considerable controversy. But he acknowledged that it was his British passport, doing “its stuff efficiently and unobtrusively,” that enabled him

to pursue a literary career on the world stage.

Today, global mobility is on the rise. According to The Passport Index, an interactive ranking tool created by the investment firm Arton Capital, the “World Openness Score” reached an all-time high at the end of 2022. And the score has only continued to increase.

This means that passport holders around the world are receiving permission to travel to more countries without first obtaining a visa than ever before. As pandemic-related travel restrictions waned in 2022, the total number of visa waivers increased 18.5% globally. Nearly every passport on the index, which includes 193 United Nations member countries and six territories, became more powerful, with holders receiving immediate access to 16 additional countries on average.

But there's still a massive mobility gap between the most and least powerful passports – and it has big implications for where people can travel, reside and work. The United Nations may proclaim that “everyone has the right to leave any country, including one's own, and to return to one's country,” but the fact is, not all passports are created equal or treated with equal respect.

## Mobility for some

In my book 'License to Travel: A Cultural History of the Passport', I explore the evolution of travel documents and how passports have influenced the emotions and imaginings of those who hold them. Writers and artists like Rushdie have played an important role in identifying and contesting disparities in freedom of movement. They have also led the way in envisioning new forms of international openness.

Despite ongoing migrant crises, disease outbreaks, military conflicts, economic challenges and rising nationalist movements, the world is trending toward greater openness. Still, the international community has dedicated little effort to collapsing persistent inequities in the global passport regime.

Whether we like it or not, our passports define who we are in the geopolitical order. And unsurprisingly, the world's wealthy have better prospects.

Firms such as Arton Capital and Henley & Partners, the curators of a competing passport ranking index, have arisen in recent years to assess these prospects. They also advise investors, businesspeople and other affluent individuals on ways to attain a second passport when it is advantageous.

At the top of Arton's power ranking, holders of a United Arab Emirates passport can travel visa-free or obtain visas on arrival in 181 countries and territories. U.S. passport holders rank a bit lower, with access to 173 countries.



Our passports define who we are in the geopolitical order. And unsurprisingly, the world's wealthy have better prospects. Pic - The Wire

At the bottom of the list is Afghanistan, whose passport holders have direct access to just 39 countries. Holders of Syrian, Iraqi, Somalian and Bangladeshi travel documents fare only slightly better.

Nations sink to the low ranks for many reasons, including struggling economies, large displaced populations and turbulent histories of foreign invasion and civil war.

## Envisioning mobility for all

How do we account for the human costs associated with these passport scores and rankings?

Renowned German choreographer Helena Waldmann explored this divide in her 2017 dance work, 'Good Passports Bad Passports'. This production stages a series of dramatic encounters between two groups of dancers, sometimes separated by a wall of other performers. It evokes frontier crossings, border patrols, passport checks and other aspects of the global migrant crisis.

Waldmann's inspiration was the mobility gap. Travelling with dancers and crews from various parts of the world, she has frequently witnessed those with “bad” passports being delayed and subjected to intense questioning. Meanwhile, with her “good” German passport, Waldmann has navigated the customs and immigration process quickly and easily.

'Good Passports Bad Passports' ends with a remarkable gesture of human solidarity. As a spectral voice proclaims, “I believe that one day national borders won't exist,” the entire cast steps to the front of the stage, interlocks arms and gazes out into the audience.

Famed Chinese artist Ai Weiwei highlighted these issues in his award-winning 2017 documentary, 'Human Flow', which captures the overwhelming scale of the migrant crisis. In a striking scene, filmed in a rain-swept migrant camp on the Greek-Macedonia border, Ai chats with a Syrian refugee. To demonstrate their kinship, the men take out their passports and playfully offer to exchange them on the spot.

It's a devastating parody of the familiar passport control ritual. Rather than inspecting the document and

interrogating the holder, Ai extends a gesture of radical hospitality. He offers, if only symbolically, his own passport, his own citizenship – his own place in the world.

## An alternative 'Passaport'

A world without borders or passport controls may be a utopian dream, but that hasn't stopped other artists from imagining correctives to our current situation.

In 2009, Maltese writer Antoine Cassar published a protest poem titled “Passaport,” printed in a small format and bound in a red cardboard cover mimicking the Maltese passport. Rather than enclosing a photograph, personal data and the legalese of the nation-state, it contains about 250 lines of verse that object to the wounding force of the international passport system and its often brutal forms of exclusion and expulsion.

“Passaport,” as Cassar puts it, envisions “a world without customs and checkpoints, without border police out to snatch away the dawn, without the need for forms, documents, or biometric data. ... A world without the need to cross the desert barefoot, nor to float off on a raft, on an itinerary of hope all too quickly struck out by the realities of blackmail and exploitation.”

## Opening up the future

In 2022, Arton Capital co-founder Hrant Boghossian commented that “the rise in passport power that we have seen this year brings great cause for optimism.” This is surely true.

“The world has surpassed the benchmark of ‘openness’ set prior to the pandemic,” Boghossian continued, “and there are strong indicators that this upward trend is here to stay.” He finds particular encouragement in the fact that this has happened during a time of increased economic tumult and political tension, as well as lingering concerns regarding homeland security and mass migration.

Indeed, as we emerge from the Covid-19 pandemic and face the devastating effects of climate change, the motivation to leave home in search of work and safety will only continue to grow. But the world still has a long way to go to open itself to the entire global community.