

MAURITIUS TIMES

• "Power does not corrupt. Fear corrupts... perhaps the fear of a loss of power." -- John Steinbeck

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Privy Council: Dayal vs Jugnauth

Five judges sitting on Brazil's highest electoral court delivered judgement last Friday 30th June barring former Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro from running for office again until 2030 after they found that he 'abused his power and cast unfounded doubts on the country's electronic voting system'. The judges agreed that 'Bolsonaro used government communication channels to promote his campaign and sowed distrust about the vote'. Two judges voted against.

News agencies report that the case focused on a July 18, 2022, meeting where Bolsonaro used government staffers, the state television channel and the presidential palace in Brasilia to tell foreign ambassadors that the country's electronic voting system was rigged. In her decisive vote that formed a majority, Judge Carmen Lucia said 'the facts are incontrovertible'. The Bolsonaro case (also commented by Jan Arden on Page 3) marks the first time a president has been suspended for election violations rather than a criminal offence; it removes the former president from the 2024 and 2028 municipal elections as well as the 2026 general elections; the latter also faces other legal troubles, including criminal investigations. Future criminal convictions could extend his ban by years and subject him to imprisonment.

The Brazilian electoral court judgement could be seen to have been come rather fortuitously in light of the case opposing Suren Dayal to Pravind Jugnauth (and seven others) that will be heard by the Law Lords of the Privy Council next Monday 10th July. Suren Dayal challenges the election of Pravind Jugnauth and his two other running candidates, Leela Devi Dookun-Luchoomun and Yogita Sawmynaden to the National Assembly of Mauritius 'on the grounds of bribery, treating, and undue influence'.

Appeals to the Privy Council however can be a double-edged sword. There is neither predictability nor certainty in how the Law Lords may scrutinise the constitutional and legal issues at stake. In the MedPoint-Pravind Jugnauth case, for example, the ODPP learnt to its dismay that the about-turn of ICAC in this same case contributed, as acknowledged by the Law Lords themselves, to their reversing a lower court judgement. There had earlier been the challenge to then MSM candidate Ashock Jugnauth's election by Raj Ringadoo for electoral bribery, which required that the final judgement be delivered by the Law Lords and has

become since part of our jurisprudence. There's also the case of the unilateral contract termination of the Red Eagle/Betamax contract, wherein the Law Lords overruled the SC judges who had reversed an initial Intermediate Court and an international arbitrator ruling in favour of Betamax.

Some observers have opined that the PM will plough on at the helm of the country, regardless of the outcome of the appeal lodged at the Privy Council by Suren Dayal. However, opinions in the legal circles differ on this question. Whatever the final outcome, it's bound to weigh heavily on the course politics will take in the run-up to the next general elections. However, given the different factors and agents involved, including the role of the state broadcaster, MBC-TV, there is a possibility that the Law Lords judgement, as distinct from the Bolsonaro one, may be couched in terms where neither party or both can claim a "win" in terms of what happens next.

If Pravind Jugnauth were to "win" his case, it's more than likely he'll go to the end of his mandate. But he may decide to go for early elections if only to take on what appears at this stage to be an unprepared and vulnerable opposition which to date has not settled the terms and conditionalities of an alliance between the Labour Party, the MMM and the PMSD.

Pravind Jugnauth's government has adopted a business-as-usual attitude even in the face of the misgovernance issues which have hogged the headlines these last four years. It's also likely to remain unperturbed no matter what critics, whether on the streets, on social media, or in the Opposition, say about its record on this count. It will therefore press on regardless of the alleged mafia infiltration in our institutions (as stated by the PM himself), the perceived misdoings of the Special Striking Team or the revelations that have come out about the ramifications of drug trafficking in the West or around Grand Bassin.

Pravind Jugnauth will in all likelihood hold elections when he would deem the political conditions suitable for the MSM-led alliance, which moreover is suspected to have a formidable war chest, the technology and the backing, here as elsewhere, to make its re-election possible. It is therefore up to the Opposition to create the political dynamics to overturn what in the present political circumstances seems inevitable in the absence of a credible alternative.

The Conversation

AI is an existential threat – just not the way you think

From open letters to congressional testimony, some AI leaders have stoked fears that the technology is a direct threat to humanity. The reality is less dramatic but perhaps more insidious



The rise of ChatGPT and similar artificial intelligence systems has been accompanied by a sharp increase in anxiety about AI. For the past few months, executives and AI safety researchers have been offering predictions, dubbed "P(doom)," about the probability that AI will bring about a large-scale catastrophe.

Worries peaked in May 2023 when the nonprofit research and advocacy organization Center for AI Safety released a one-sentence statement: "Mitigating the risk of extinction from A.I. should be a global priority alongside other societal-scale risks, such as pandemics and nuclear war." The statement was signed by many key players in the field, including the leaders of OpenAI, Google and Anthropic, as well as two of the so-called "godfathers" of AI: Geoffrey Hinton and Yoshua Bengio.

You might ask how such existential fears are supposed to play out. One famous scenario is the "paper clip maximizer" thought experiment articulated by Oxford philosopher Nick Bostrom. The idea is that an AI system tasked with producing as many paper clips as possible might go to extraordinary lengths to find raw materials, like destroying factories and causing car accidents.

A less resource-intensive variation has an AI tasked with procuring a reservation to a popular restaurant shutting down cellular networks and traffic lights in order to prevent other patrons from getting a table.

Actual harm

In the past few years, my colleagues and I at UMass Boston's Applied Ethics Center have been studying the impact of engagement with AI on people's understanding of themselves, and I believe these catastrophic anxieties are overblown and misdirected.

Yes, AI's ability to create convincing deep-fake video and audio is frightening, and it can be abused by people with bad intent. In fact, that is already happening: Russian operatives likely attempted to embarrass Kremlin critic Bill Browder by ensnaring him in a conversation with an avatar for former Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko.

*Nir Eisikovits, Professor of Philosophy and Director,
Applied Ethics Center, UMass Boston*

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Doojesh Ramlallah, Sultana Kurmally and Kersley Ramsamy

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

mtimes@intnet.mu



www.mauritiustimes.com



facebook.com/mauritius.times



Of Corruption and Democracy

Lessons from Brazil's eventful history

Jan Arden

Brazil's recent political history has been eventful, with a military rule last century until mass demonstrations led by trade union leader Lula da Silva, forced the installation of a form of presidential democracy and ultimately paved the way for leftist President Lula's two terms from 2003 to 2010 after several attempts to win the presidency in the nineties. Lula was the first Brazilian president to come from a worker background, a mass movement organiser with no formal high education, a sort of predecessor across the oceans to his equally successful counterpart in BRICS, Narendra Modi, the former tea-seller with great organisational skills and political acumen. While there was this visible social and economic progress under President Lula, with massive declines in absolute and relative poverty as per the World Bank, there were also allegations of corruption that brought down Lula and plagued him in later years.

Lula was succeeded as President of Brazil by his Chief of Staff Dilma Rousseff. During Rousseff's second tenure, a corruption scandal enveloped her government, herself and Lula's Workers Party. Later in 2016, Lula himself was dragged into it and within a year, he, his wife, and six others were facing six corruption cases. In 2017, Lula was convicted and was sentenced to 10 years in jail. Lula walked out of prison in 2019 and his sentence was annulled by the Supreme Court of Brazil in 2021, paving the way for his political comeback. In the October 2022 presidential elections, President Lula narrowly won by a margin of only 2% and was intronised on 1 Jan 2023,

“Mass demonstrations, led by trade union leader Lula da Silva, forced the installation of a form of presidential democracy and ultimately paved the way for leftist President Lula's two terms from 2003 to 2010 after several attempts to win the presidency in the nineties. Lula was the first Brazilian president to come from a worker background, a mass movement organiser with no formal high education, a sort of predecessor across the oceans to his equally successful counterpart in BRICS, Narendra Modi, the former tea-seller with great organisational skills and political acumen...”



“Far-right former Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro was barred Friday from running for office again until 2030 after a panel of judges concluded that he abused his power and cast unfounded doubts on the country's electronic voting system. The decision upends the 68-year-old's political future and likely erases any chance for him to regain power. Five judges on the nation's highest electoral court agreed that Bolsonaro used government communication channels to promote his campaign and sowed distrust about the vote. Two judges voted against the move. Pic - Lakeshore PBS”

while the far-right conservative party of his opponent Jair Bolsonaro won and controls both Houses of Parliament.

Bolsonaro was widely attacked for Amazon rainforest deforestation to benefit American cattle and beef agro-business, a massively corrupt and incompetent handling of the Covid pandemic and a slide into authoritarianism (repression of the press and clamp down on civic freedoms). He refused to concede election results, fled to Florida from where he floated a Trump copycat load of conspiracy theories, even fomenting an equally failed Jan 8th riot in the Brazilian capital.

No wonder that on his first major overseas trip to the US earlier this year, President Lula was welcomed by his US counterpart Joe Biden, as the ageing left-wing populist embodied the endurance of democracy in an era of growing repression of people's voices and rights by corrupt and wealthy elites. There, 77-year-old Lula warned that a global web of right-wing forces continued to threaten political freedom and that voters crushed by economic inequality and confused by a torrent of social-media disinformation remained vulnerable to figures like Donald Trump and Jair Bolsonaro, the two brutish strongmen who symbolised the threat to democratic values and functionings.

Indian PM Modi's recent high-profile official state visit to the US, although more tinged with regional national security considerations, was the opportunity for

another BRICS leader to highlight the virtues and deliverables of democracy even in a context of hostility and aggression by occult forces that cross national lines. Most of us would recall the allegations that billionaire George Soros was willing to spend a fortune to upend India's democracy. But there is some feeling around the world that the global humanistic or progressive left has yet to formulate a more concerted, universal or coherent counter-narrative and strategy to the poison that the corrupt elites and

the financially powerful or the far-right represent.

Although the political contexts in far-away large economies may not be directly relevant here, we should not ignore the widespread concern that Mauritius has been sliding downhill into authoritarianism, manifest in multiple fronts, a virtual total impunity of a powerful political nomenklatura, corruption of pandemic and other procurement processes and a failure to bring any drug warlords or their financial backers to trial and conviction despite several billion-rupee catches.

The latest Audit Report on drug effectiveness counter measures, the figures make for alarming reading: 6,600 injection users and 55,000 other drug adult users, near 170 children below 19 and even 17 below 14 years admitted to hospitals for drug-related complications, while from 2017-2020, the proportion of criminality related to drug usage has grown from 12% to 32%. It is a wake-up call from an official source that only confirms what competent rehabilitation social workers and activists have been saying for several years. The drug scourge is unprecedented.

How the population reacts to these far broader, yet vital issues for our living space, when confronted with their more immediate concerns and our social context may not be entirely decipherable at this stage, particularly with the slow progress in the crystallisation of a united opposition front. But they can certainly be expected to have a bearing on our next general elections.

UK's National Census: England and Wales are no longer majority Christian

The final figures of UK's National Census 2021, released in November 2022, with a voluntary question on faiths, has been widely commented in the UK and abroad. For the first time in a census of England and Wales, less than half of the population (46.2%, 27.5 million people) described themselves as "Christian", a 13.1 percentage point decrease from 59.3% (33.3 million) in 2011.

"No religion", which includes atheists, agnostics or any number of new age beliefs, was the second most common response, increasing by 12.0 percentage points to 37.2% (22.2 million) from 25.2% (14.1 million) in 2011.

There were increases in the number of people who described themselves as "Muslim" (3.9 million, 6.5% in 2021, up from 2.7 million, 4.9% in 2011) and "Hindu" (1.0 million, 1.7% in 2021, up from 818,000, 1.5% in 2011).

London is still the most religiously diverse region of England with 40.7% describing themselves as "Christian", no religion specified at 25%, Moslems at 15% and Hindus at 5%.

Traditional Christian churches will view this as a disturbing trend, confirming the decline in church membership and attendance.

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Privy Council: l'appel de Suren Dayal contre Pravind Jugnauth

Par A. Bartleby



Il y a deux issues possibles à ce jugement. Ou bien Suren Dayal gagne son cas, ou bien il le perd. Et ces deux issues ouvrent des scénarios différents, radicalement différents même, concernant le cheminement vers les prochaines échéances électorales

C'est le 'talk of the town', l'appel de Suren Dayal contestant les élections de Pravind Jugnauth, Leela Devi Dookun-Luchoomun et Yogida Sawmynaden «for having been obtained by reason of bribery, treating, undue influence, illegal practice and/or any other valid reason» sera entendu au Privy Council lundi prochain à 14h, heure de Maurice.

La mobilisation de l'opposition, dans son ensemble, a commencé depuis un moment. Certains groupes de la diaspora appellent, par exemple, à des rassemblements devant le Privy Council pendant l'audience. D'autres groupes sur les réseaux sociaux ont commencé des 'countdowns' par rapport à la destitution de Pravind Jugnauth.

Les partis politiques de l'opposition parlementaire, eux, sont restés extrêmement discrets sur ce 'hearing'. Mise à part quelques posts Facebook qui souhaitent bonne chance aux hommes de loi de Suren Dayal, il n'y a eu aucune posture officielle du PTr. Tout comme le MMM et le PMSD d'ailleurs qui sont restés silencieux sur ce 'hearing' jusqu'à présent.

Cette posture témoigne d'une sagesse que seule permet une longue expérience politique. Non seulement le verdict des Law Lords est incertain, mais les conséquences de ce verdict ne sont pas forcément une aubaine pour les partis traditionnels. Il y a deux issues possibles à ce jugement. Ou bien Suren Dayal gagne son cas, ou bien il le perd. Et ces deux issues ouvrent des scénarios différents, radicalement différents même, concernant le cheminement vers les prochaines échéances électorales.

Dans le premier cas, il semble certain que nous nous dirigeons vers des élections. Mais quelles élections? L'invalidation de l'élection de Pravind Jugnauth devrait s'accompagner d'une invalidation à se représenter aux prochaines élections. Mais la Constitution

mauricienne n'est pas claire sur une question cruciale: est-ce qu'une invalidation et une disqualification d'un candidat n'est valide uniquement que dans une circonscription, la numéro 8 dans ce cas précis, ou bien dans toutes les circonscriptions?

Ainsi, une victoire de Suren Dayal ouvre la voie aux deux scénarios suivants :

Scénario 1: L'élection de Pravind Jugnauth et de ses deux colistiers est invalidée et le Commissaire électoral se doit d'organiser des élections partielles dans les délais accordés par la Constitution. En cas d'invalidité des candidats déboutés, le PM ne pourra pas se représenter, ce qui signifie que le MSM devra aligner trois nouveaux candidats. Mais cela ne signifie pas forcément le retrait de Pravind Jugnauth comme PM puisqu'il peut très bien faire démissionner un de ses députés d'une autre circonscription et s'y faire élire lors d'une autre élection partielle, ce qui lui permettrait de revenir à l'Assemblée nationale et de reprendre le portefeuille premier ministériel, et ainsi repousser les échéances d'une élection générale le plus tard possible. Un scénario qui comporte des risques toutefois car la bataille sera rude.

La question d'une candidature de Navin Ramgoolam se posera dans ce cas de figure. Sera-t-il candidat à la partielle de la No 8 ou à une autre éventuelle partielle, en concurrence directe avec Pravind Jugnauth? Ce serait pour lui l'opportunité de justifier ses ambitions de redevenir PM. En se jetant dans l'arène et en se faisant élire, il pourrait également redevenir Leader de l'Opposition.

Mais ce scénario comporte des risques énormes pour lui s'il n'arrive pas à se faire élire, et les stratégies du PTr seront sans doute plus chaudes pour une candidature plus jeune, notamment un jeune qui se positionne difficilement à la No 8 dans son ambition de remplacer un jour le fils du Père de la Nation. Un tel scénario sera ainsi pour lui l'occasion d'un test grandeur nature qui enverra un signal fort de sa capacité ou de son incapacité à devenir le prochain leader des rouges.

Scénario 2: Le leader actuel du MSM pourrait très bien être tenté de dissoudre l'Assemblée nationale et d'appeler les Mauriciens aux urnes dans des élections générales anticipées dans un délai maximum de 5 mois. Dans ce cas de figure, la question de l'invalidité d'une candidature du PM ne devrait pas se poser, puisque la mandature où son élection a été invalidée sera terminée. Se posera alors la question de sa capacité à occuper la même circonscription. Mais rien ne l'empêchera de changer de circonscription. D'ailleurs, il se murmure que la No 7, ancien bastion de son père et où Maneesh Gobin est en perte de vitesse, serait son choix privilégié. Dans ce cas de figure, il devient urgent pour les partis de l'opposition de finaliser leur alliance et proposer un projet aux Mauriciens pour les prochaines joutes électorales.

D'ailleurs, il est clair que les partis extra parlementaires sont actuellement dans une ébullition particulière, avec la multiplication des réunions dans les différentes circonscriptions. Ils sentent que c'est maintenant que les choses sont en train de se jouer en réalité; et qu'ils doivent passer à la vitesse supérieure s'ils souhaitent être plus que de simples figurants dont la seule fonction est de casser les bases des partis traditionnels aux prochaines élections générales.

Il y a bien évidemment un troisième scénario, celui d'une défaite de Suren Dayal. Ce scénario serait dramatique pour le PTr. Navin Ramgoolam n'a eu de cesse de justifier sa position de leader du PTr par le fait que les élections de 2019 avaient été entachées de soupçons trop graves pour que le MSM ait pu les remporter

légitimement. Toute la rhétorique du PTr s'est articulée autour de cela depuis fin 2019, forçant même le MMM à soumettre des pétitions électorales alors que, selon des 'insiders', ils ne le souhaitaient pas vraiment. Ces pétitions n'ont pas été retenues par la justice, menant à la situation actuelle où seule celle de Suren Dayal a passé le test du Privy Council. Si Suren Dayal est débouté la semaine prochaine, Jugnauth aura alors le loisir de choisir le 'timing' des prochaines élections en toute sérénité.

* * *

La Cour suprême des États-Unis fait un virage à droite

Le verdict en a choqué plus d'un aux États-Unis. Dans un 'ruling' qui aura des répercussions extrêmement profondes, la Cour suprême des États-Unis a invalidé la proposition du Président Joe Biden d'effacer les dettes de centaines de milliers d'étudiants tout en annulant les procédures d'admission aux universités sur la base de la discrimination positive.

Nous voyons, là, la conséquence directe des nominations que Donald Trump avait avalisées avant les dernières élections américaines, permettant à la Cour suprême de basculer dans le camp des conservateurs, voire même des néoconservateurs.



Par delà la volonté claire de la Cour suprême de bloquer les projets de loi de l'administration Biden, le retour sur les politiques de discrimination positive auront un impact certain sur le tissu social américain. P - Jose Luis Magana/AP/SIPA

Il est clair que ce verdict comporte une charge politique d'envergure, pour ne pas dire qu'il comporte un positionnement idéologique clair. En effet, par-delà la volonté claire de la Cour suprême de bloquer les projets de loi de l'administration Biden, le retour sur les politiques de discrimination positive auront un impact certain sur le tissu social américain.

Cette politique d'admission aux universités, qui garantissait des quotas pour les minorités issues de milieux socio-économiques défavorisés, permettait à un nombre important de jeunes d'avoir accès à l'ascenseur social par la voie de l'éducation. Et revenir sur cette politique, discriminatoire certes, mais dont l'objectif était de rectifier les injustices de départ en prenant en compte le fait que tout individu n'a pas accès aux mêmes chances et aux mêmes opportunités, ne manquera pas d'envoyer un message clair aux minorités qui constituent la majorité des exclus aux États-Unis.

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La Cour suprême des États-Unis fait un virage à droite



Il est impossible de ne pas interpréter cette décision de la Cour suprême comme une réponse acerbe aux récents mouvements du type 'Black Lives Matter', au mouvement 'Woke' ou encore à la 'Cancel Culture'. P - Allison Bailey/Nur

☞ Suite de la page 4

D'ailleurs, il est impossible de ne pas interpréter cette décision de la Cour suprême comme une réponse acerbe aux récents mouvements du type 'Black Lives Matter', au mouvement 'Woke' ou encore à la 'Cancel Culture' qui sert aujourd'hui d'idéologie à un pan de plus en plus important de la gauche américaine.

Certains pourront même y voir une tentative néo-conservatrice de diviser un parti démocrate pris dans une scission idéologique importante avec, d'un côté, les démocrates libéraux à la Clinton et, de l'autre côté, les démocrates abreuvés de cette culture 'Woke'.

Ce qui est certain, c'est que la bataille idéologique entre les néoconservateurs et la gauche américaine, bataille qui signifie déjà le début des prochaines élections présidentielles, est plus que jamais virulente aux États-Unis. Cela n'est d'ailleurs pas sans rappeler les sombres heures du maccarthysme.

* * *

Croissance économique revue à 5,3% pour cette année

Le chiffre de la croissance économique pour l'année 2023 a été revue à la hausse par Mauritius Statistics. Alors que cette dernière prévoyait une croissance d'un peu plus de 4%, elle a rectifié ses estimations en rajoutant un point pour une estimation de 5,3%.

Cette augmentation est directement liée au dernier budget du ministre des Finances, et des projets en infrastructures qui y sont inscrits. Ainsi les influx en capitaux et les investissements de l'État semblent participer pleinement à la consolidation de la reprise post-Covid. Un tour d'horizon des différents secteurs de l'activité économique démontre effectivement que la reprise est solide, et elle prend appui sur la grande capacité de résilience du pays.

Tout semble indiquer que le pays revient à une situation normale après trois années de crise mondiale. D'ailleurs, les données du FMI et de la Banque mondiale

le sont extrêmement encourageantes, plaçant Maurice dans la moitié des pays où la reprise est la plus positive. Pour 2023, le taux de croissance sera supérieur et le taux d'inflation sera inférieur à la moyenne mondiale. Le taux de chômage est - lui - en baisse. Après avoir atteint 8,2% au début de 2022, il est actuellement à 6,7%, une baisse qui correspond à près de 50,000 emplois pourvus entre janvier 2022 et janvier 2023. Le chômage devrait encore continuer à baisser puisque tous les secteurs d'activités sont actuellement à la recherche d'employés.

Mais les choses ne sont pas aussi roses et positives pour tous. Nous pouvons lire, par exemple, dans les journaux de cette semaine que, sur les quelque 520,000 employés à Maurice, près de 111,000 percevaient un salaire ne dépassant pas Rs 12,000 par mois. Un peu plus de 20% des salariés mauriciens touchent ainsi des revenus qui dépassent à peine le seuil du salaire minimum. Cette statistique témoigne du fait que la distance entre les hauts et les bas revenus a augmenté exponentiellement depuis la Covid-19.

En fait, nous voyons traduits dans des statistiques concrètes ce que nous constatons facilement dans la réalité sociale mauricienne : l'économie est bien répartie, mais les classes ouvrières ont du mal à arrondir les fins de mois. Cela est directement lié à la crise de la cherté de la vie: le pays étant trop dépendant des importations, le pouvoir d'achat des Mauriciens est exposé aux risques des fluctuations des prix sur le marché mondial. Mais comprendre la crise actuelle de la cherté de la vie - uniquement par le prisme de l'inflation - ne suffit pas. Il y a clairement une disparité structurelle qui doit être comblée.

C'est là que les choses se compliquent dramatiquement en réalité puisque cette disparité ne sera pas comblée par des politiques économiques ou des mesures sociales, mais par une relance de la productivité. Et relancer la productivité n'est pas chose aisée puisque cela appelle à revoir tout un ensemble de choses, à commencer par la réadaptation du système de l'éducation et des formations tertiaires, afin de mieux armer les jeunes à faire face à l'impératif qu'ils devront produire bien plus afin de contrer les immenses problèmes liés au vieillissement de la population mauricienne.

Ce point est absolument critique pour comprendre ce qui nous attend comme défi pour les prochaines années. La productivité à Maurice a été soutenue grâce à l'influx des travailleurs étrangers. Ces derniers ont permis une augmentation de la productivité qui a balancé la perte de productivité des travailleurs mauriciens depuis plusieurs années. Mais cette situation a



Les données du FMI et de la Banque mondiale sont extrêmement encourageantes, plaçant Maurice dans la moitié des pays où la reprise est la plus positive - P - Shutterstock

mis le pays dans un piège qu'il sera de plus en plus difficile de s'extirper, celui de la dépendance au travail étranger au détriment de celui des Mauriciens, moins productifs et dont le coût est plus élevé.

Comment sortir de cette situation aujourd'hui? La réponse apportée à cette question donnera le ton de la direction sociale du pays pour les prochaines années.

* * *

Émeutes en France: radicalisation des banlieues?

Les faits ressemblent fortement aux émeutes de 2005 qui avaient été déclenchées par la mort de Zyed Benna et Bouna Traoré. Ces derniers s'étaient réfugiés dans un poste de transformation d'EDF afin d'échapper aux policiers qui les poursuivaient. Ils avaient trouvé la mort par électrocution. Cet événement avait été immédiatement suivi d'émeutes à Clichy-sous-Bois, émeutes qui s'étaient propagées sur la totalité du territoire français.



La France des émeutes: les faits peuvent ressembler fortement aux émeutes de 2005, mais à y regarder de plus près, nous constatons facilement que les émeutes actuelles sont extrêmement différentes. P - Valeurs Actuelles

Jacques Chirac était alors Président de la République, alors que Dominique de Villepin occupait le poste de Premier ministre et Nicolas Sarkozy celui de ministre de l'Intérieur. C'était il y a un peu moins de 20 ans, mais cela semble déjà bien loin dans les mémoires.

Les faits de l'élément déclencheur se sont produits le 27 juin dernier. Nahel Merzouk, un jeune de 17 ans et fiché des services de police, s'est pris une balle dans la cage thoracique alors qu'il tentait d'échapper aux policiers après une course poursuite. Comme en 2005, les banlieues se sont immédiatement embrasées, et les émeutes se sont propagées sur tout le territoire français.

Les faits peuvent ressembler fortement aux émeutes de 2005, mais à y regarder de plus près, nous constatons facilement que les émeutes actuelles sont extrêmement différentes, et ce, sur plusieurs points.

Tout d'abord, l'intensité de la violence déployée par les émeutiers est beaucoup plus importante qu'en 2005. Certains d'entre eux utilisent même des armes de poing afin de tirer à balle réelle sur la police.

☞ Suite en page 6

UK's National Census: England and Wales are no longer majority Christian

☞ Cont. from page 3

A Church poll in 2016 had already shown that 38% of respondents declared believing in neither God nor a spiritual power while a further 14% replied being unsure of their belief in either of these.



Ethnic minorities 'will make up one third of the population by 2050'. Pic - Daily Mail Online

Some will feel alarm that England and Wales are no longer majority Christian, while Asian associations, in particular Moslem ones, have been quick to point out the vitality and economic dynamics that a younger, more enterprising immigrant-origin generation brings to the country.

There is also a possibility that they wished to allay fears that a minority extremist mindset may drag the UK away from its tolerant culture, as the shocking scuffles

“London is still the most religiously diverse region of England with 40.7% describing themselves as “Christian”, no religion specified at 25%, Moslems at 15% and Hindus at 5%. Traditional Christian churches will view this as a disturbing trend, confirming the decline in church membership and attendance. A Church poll in 2016 had already shown that 38% of respondents declared believing in neither God nor a spiritual power while a further 14% replied being unsure of their belief in either of these...”

and anti-Hindu mobbing in Leicester demonstrated around September last year.

* * *

Chagos sovereignty negotiations

There have been the usual snippets from Parliament these days with the Opposition doing its best to extract some information in the interest of the public good and governance, despite having to counter the Speaker's undoubted agility in acting as general bodyguard for the PM and his Cabinet team, throwing MPs out for trying to do their normal duties. Thus, we had to listen to another long-winded explanation about the fantastic successes of Mauritius and the Jugnauth father and son prime ministerships in the long-drawn-out battle to get the UK to recognise Mauritian sovereignty over the Chagos Archipelago.

Given the national contours of such a dispute and the continuous cross-party battle against obdurate UK

resistance over 50 years or more, one might have expected some greater statesmanlike poise from the PM in answering the PNQ of the Leader of the Opposition this Tuesday.

Still, we learned something about the progress on the multitude of issues that have to be thrashed out between the delegations of the two sides in the protracted negotiations that are taking place. Those started since the UK government announced last year that it would engage discussions with Mauritius with a view to restoring our national sovereignty over that archipelago, which includes the Diego Garcia aero-naval base leased out by the UK to the US.



Pic - AFP via Getty Images

We understand the necessity for such negotiations to be conducted away from the press and public eyes, but at some stage, both governments will have to take the Opposition parties and the population in their confidence and share the outlines of any agreement before putting ink to paper. Without any confidentiality clause.

Jan Arden

Éclairages

Émeutes en France: radicalisation des banlieues?

☞ Suite de la page 5

Les dégâts sont également bien plus importants et la méthode utilisée relève d'organisations de gangs bien plus sophistiqués qu'en 2005. En témoigne cette attaque à la voiture bélier sur le domicile d'un élu local, ce qui a grièvement blessé son épouse alors que cette dernière tentait d'évacuer les lieux avec ses deux enfants en bas âge.

Ensuite, le traitement politique et médiatique est radicalement différent, ce qui risque de laisser des traces profondes dans la psychologie nationale. Le trio Chirac/de Villepin/Sarkozy qui tenait les rênes en 2005 faisait extrêmement attention à éviter tout dérapage et tout débordement, mais leur posture était idéologiquement claire. Nicolas Sarkozy incarnait d'ailleurs parfaitement bien cette posture avec un discours considéré par la gauche à l'époque comme extrême et virulent, mais comme ferme et forte par la droite. Ces émeutes avaient d'ailleurs cristallisé l'image autoritaire de Nicolas Sarkozy, qui a su surfer sur cette vague afin de facilement remporter les élections présidentielles de



2007.

Or, les choses semblent bien différentes aujourd'hui. Alors que la majorité des Français attendaient des postures fortes et fermes de Macron, ils ont eu droit à un président vacillant, sans direction réelle et sans poigne. Cette posture confuse est le résultat direct de ce que tant de personnes vantent chez Macron: le fait qu'il ait fait voler en éclats la droite et la gauche républicaine en France. Cela pouvait sembler extraordinaire en 2016 et en 2021, mais les émeutes actuelles démontrent à quel point cet éclatement est un piège vicieux pour l'espace politique en France.

En effet, l'incapacité de Macron à agir et à affirmer une posture claire et limpide sur la question sécuritaire est la conséquence directe de sa tentative de concilier la droite et la gauche républicaines en France. Comment pouvait-il dès lors avoir une position claire et limpide? Une posture trop sécuritaire aurait aliéné ses

alliés de gauche. Et une posture trop molle aurait aliéné ses alliés de la droite. Résultat: une incapacité à envoyer un signal fort et lisible par l'ensemble de la population française, et un Président qui ne se montre ni fort ni mou.

Seul l'avenir le dira. Mais il se pourrait bien que le système Macron - dans sa tentative de jouer sur les deux tableaux de la dichotomie politique historique en France afin de réconcilier des contradictions qui avaient des fonctions politiques précises - se soit effondré ces dernières semaines.

Il est en tout cas clair que les grands gagnants politiques de ces émeutes soient les partis et les mouvements d'extrême-droite, et une personne en particulier: Jordan Bardella. Ce jeune du Rassemblement National, lui-même issu de l'immigration, devient une voix de plus en plus forte dans le paysage politique français.

Ses prises de position, son argumentaire et ses propositions auront fait mouche depuis quelques jours et ne sont pas sans rappeler un jeune Nicolas Sarkozy, convaincant même des Français n'adhérant aucunement au programme nationaliste et raciste du Rassemblement national (RN). En fait, Bardella a compris une chose: lorsque la France des banlieues se soulève, il suffit de faire du Sarkozy pour rallier la France qui décide des joutes électorales. Autant une Marine Le Pen comme Présidente de la République restait hypothétique, autant l'hypothèse d'un Jordan Bardella arrivant à l'Élysée d'ici une dizaine d'années est devenue une réalité déconcertante de réalisme de ces derniers jours.

A. Bartleby

Harvard and University of North Carolina Admissions Methods Upended

The Limits of Law as a Social Tool



Anil Madan

Last week the Supreme Court of the United States (“SCOTUS” or “the Court”) issued its long-anticipated decision in two cases consolidated for consideration on appeal. The Court considered whether the admissions systems used by Harvard College (the undergraduate college of Harvard University) and the University of North Carolina (UNC), two of the oldest institutions of higher learning in the United States, are lawful under the Equal

Protection Clause of the 14th Amendment.

The Court concluded they are not lawful. The decision was 6-3 with the so-called conservative justices joining Chief Justice Roberts’ opinion for the majority. Justice Sotomayor (Justices Kagan and Jackson joined her opinion), and Justice Jackson writing separately authored blistering dissents.

Enacted in the wake of the Civil War, the 14th Amendment to the United States Constitution provides that no State shall “deny to any person ... the equal protection of the laws.”

The language of the amendment is directed to the states. So, what does this have to do with Harvard and UNC? Over time, SCOTUS decisions interpreting the 14th amendment have long recognized that a state may act directly as well as indirectly and governmental action whether by the state, its agencies, or cities, towns, and municipalities and their agencies and boards, fit within the concept of state action. But states may also act through private institutions by funding them. Harvard and UNC receive massive federal and state grants. Hence, the anti-discrimination provisions of the 14th Amendment and laws enacted pursuant to its enabling provisions, apply to these two institutions and any others receiving federal or state aid.

The Harvard and UNC admissions process

In 2022, over 60,000 people applied for admission to Harvard; fewer than 2,000 were admitted. Gaining admission to Harvard thus involves success in one of the most selective evaluations processes. Admission can depend on having excellent grades, glowing recommendation letters, or overcoming significant adversity. It can also depend on your race.

The admissions process at Harvard evaluates each applicant through successive stages of review. The initial screening involves a reader assigning scores in six categories: academic, extracurricular, athletic, school support, personal, and overall.

In assigning the overall rating, the first readers “can and do take an applicant’s race into account.”

The applicants are then evaluated by regional subcommittees. The subcommittees are responsible for making recommendations to the full admissions committee. They can and do take an applicant’s race into account when making their recommendations.



US Supreme Court ruled that Harvard and UNC’s admission programs violate the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment. Pic- New York Times

“Chief Justice Roberts is entirely correct in stating that college admissions to Harvard, UNC, and other colleges with hyper-competitive applicant pools is a zero-sum game. Every action that tips the balance in favor of one race, negatively affects another. In my view, Chief Justice Roberts has the better legal argument and Justices Sotomayor and Jackson have the better social policy argument. The problem as I see it is that we turn to the law as a tool to remedy social ills all too often. In this case, the Constitution does not permit the chosen remedy and it was time to recognize that fact...”

The next step of the Harvard process is the full committee meeting. The committee has 40 members, and its discussion centers around the applicants who have been recommended by the regional subcommittees. At the beginning of the meeting, the committee discusses the relative breakdown of applicants by race. The “goal,” according to Harvard’s director of admissions, is to make sure that Harvard does not have a dramatic drop-off in minority admissions from the prior class.

The full committee selects a class of applicants who are tentatively admitted. Then comes the final process called the “lop.” Any applicants that Harvard considers cutting at this stage are placed on a “lop list,” which contains only four pieces of information: legacy status, recruited athlete status, financial aid eligibility, and race. The full committee decides as a group which students to lop. In doing so, the committee can and does take race into account. Once the lop process is complete, Harvard’s admitted class is set.

In the Harvard admissions process, “race is a determinative tip for” a significant percentage “of all admitted African American and Hispanic applicants.”

UNC’s admission process is also selective for a class of 4,200 out of 43,500 applicants. At UNC, initial readers are required to consider “race and ethnicity” as one factor in their review.

The evidence established that during the years at issue in this litigation, underrepresented minority students were more likely to score highly on their personal ratings than their white and Asian American peers but were more likely to be rated lower by UNC readers on their academic program, academic performance, extracurricular activities, and essays.

After the initial readings and recommendations for admission by readers, the selected applicants go through a committee review. The review committee either approves or rejects each admission recommendation made by the first reader, after which the admissions decisions are finalized. In making those decisions, the review committee may also consider the applicant’s race.

Race consideration and the doctrine of equality

SCOTUS was thus faced with undeniable evidence that race was being considered as a factor in admissions by both Harvard and UNC. The evidence was also undeniable that these admissions policies had increased the number of Black and Latino admittees to both colleges.

But whereas the end result in each case was desired, and even consonant with the idea of equality, was it legal under the language of the 14th Amendment?

If the 14th Amendment was the expression of a noble American idea, execution of that idea in the years after its adoption is tainted by almost a century of shameful failure. Indeed, state-mandated segregation was in many parts of the nation a regrettable norm. As Chief Justice Roberts admitted, the Court played its own role in that ignoble history. This culminated in the infamous case *Plessy v. Ferguson*, which held that separate facilities for whites and blacks were acceptable. This notion of separate but equal was the law of the land that perpetuated segregation of the races and a deep-seated inequality in the extent and quality of opportunities and services for blacks.

It was not until the landmark 1954 decision in *Brown v. Board of Education* that SCOTUS finally declared that “separate but equal” was just gloss and that separate is inherently unequal.

● Cont. on page 8

Harvard and University of North Carolina Admissions Methods Upended

The Limits of Law as a Social Tool

● Cont. from page 7

The Court ordered desegregation of schools, the admission of blacks to white schools and whites to black schools to achieve mixed schools. In a follow up decision, the principle expressed in the *Brown* case was emphasized: schools must admit students on a nondiscriminatory basis. In short, the case had declared the fundamental principle that racial discrimination in public education is unconstitutional.”

Subsequent case law expanded the application of the *Brown* pronouncement to virtually all areas affected by state action, and it was established that the clear and central purpose of the 14th Amendment was to eliminate all official state sources of invidious racial discrimination in the States. In short, the central purpose of the 14th Amendment was to eliminate racial discrimination.

It is not difficult to see where this path led the majority. Eliminating racial discrimination means eliminating all of it. The Court had ruled that “the Equal Protection Clause applies without regard to any differences of race, of color, or of nationality—it is universal in its application. For the guarantee of equal protection cannot mean one thing when applied to one individual and something else when applied to a person of another color. If both are not accorded the same protection, then it is not equal.”

These considerations inexorably led the majority to declare the admissions policies used at Harvard and UNC to be unconstitutional.

In doing so, the Court emphasized one principle that is at the core of the American idea: “Distinctions between citizens solely because of their ancestry are by their very nature odious to a free people whose institutions are founded upon the doctrine of equality.”

Sordid and dark history

What of the dissenting Justices? Both Justices Sotomayor and Jackson recounted in considerable detail the sordid and dark history of the abuses that African American slaves suffered. Nor was the history of this country anything but shameful in the treatment and exploitation of blacks following the Civil War and for another century following the adoption of the 14th Amendment and remedial legislation enacted under its authority. Effects linger to this day.

Both dissenters correctly stated that the precedents of SCOTUS had recognized the validity of doing precisely

“Eliminating racial discrimination means eliminating all of it. The Court had ruled that “the Equal Protection Clause applies without regard to any differences of race, of color, or of nationality—it is universal in its application. For the guarantee of equal protection cannot mean one thing when applied to one individual and something else when applied to a person of another color. If both are not accorded the same protection, then it is not equal...”



US Supreme Court rejects Affirmative Action at Harvard and UNC. Pic - Boston 25 News

“In the Harvard admissions process, “race is a determinative tip for” a significant percentage “of all admitted African American and Hispanic applicants.” UNC’s admission process is also selective for a class of 4,200 out of 43,500 applicants. At UNC, initial readers are required to consider “race and ethnicity” as one factor in their review. The evidence established that during the years at issue in this litigation, underrepresented minority students were more likely to score highly on their personal ratings than their white and Asian American peers...”

what the majority rejected in these cases: that it is necessary and appropriate to take affirmative steps to remedy past discrimination.

For example, the *Brown v. Board of Education* case involved the use of race as an identifying factor to achieve a mixed-race makeup in all schools. Why then is it not lawful to carry on the same practice to achieve a mixed-race composition at Harvard and UNC?

The short answer is that the tension between the literal words of the 14th Amendment and the endorsement of actions that are clearly antithetical to its command are too much for the law to bear.

Chief Justice Roberts is entirely correct in stating that college admissions to Harvard, UNC, and other colleges with hyper-competitive applicant pools is a zero-sum game. Every action that tips the balance in favor of one race, negatively affects another.

In my view, Chief Justice Roberts has the better *legal* argument and Justices Sotomayor and Jackson have the better social policy argument. The problem as I see it is that we turn to the law as a tool to remedy social ills all too often. In this case, the Constitution does not permit the chosen remedy and it was time to recognize that fact. At the same time, abandoning the remedy, as Justice Sotomayor stated, does to some extent subvert the constitutional guarantee of equal protection by further entrenching racial inequality in education.

She went so far as to say that the Court’s majority opinion is not grounded in law or fact and contravenes the vision of equality embodied in the 14th Amendment. Justice Jackson made a similar argument. To me, the dissenters missed the point that the majority accepts that denial of equal opportunity to minorities is itself a violation

of the 14th Amendment, but it rejects the idea that fixing a violation by another violation is the right approach.

On the other hand, as Justice Jackson pointed out, a successful affirmative action program should carry the seeds of its own destruction. This, for her, justifies the use of such an approach. The tension is palpable: use current discrimination to remedy past discrimination cannot be reconciled with the 14th Amendment which prohibits *all* discrimination.

Admissions based on academic merit

Why not simply have admissions simply based on academic merit, an approach many opponents of affirmative action often urge? Justice Sotomayor dismissed this idea. She wrote: “Using class rank or standardized test scores as the only admissions criteria would severely undermine multidimensional diversity in higher education. Such a system would exclude the star athlete or musician whose grades suffered because of daily practices and training. It would exclude a talented young biologist who struggled to maintain above-average grades in humanities classes. And it would exclude a student whose freshman-year grades were poor because of a family crisis but who got herself back on track in her last three years of school, only to find herself just outside of the top decile of her class. A myopic focus on academic ratings does not lead to a diverse student body.”

And therein lies the problem. We need to find a solution that is compatible with the 14th Amendment.

If Harvard and other colleges were to start a program of education, perhaps even an Internet-based online instruction modality, open to students of all races at modest cost to give students an academic boost so that when considered in an applicant pool without using race as a factor, they could reapply for admission and not require preferential consideration. The downside is, of course, the delay in commencing their studies. Students can be paid a stipend and even given the opportunity to work while enrolled in such a program. Delay of opportunity earned is better than denial. It must be recognized that such an approach addresses mainly the academic prowess factor.

Justice Jackson articulated the proposition that the majority’s race-blindness approach does not solve the problem of race-based disadvantage. To her, the irony is that requiring colleges to ignore the initial race-linked opportunity gap between applicants will inevitably widen that gap, not narrow it. It will delay the day that every American has an equal opportunity to thrive, regardless of race.

With this case, we butted up against the limits of using the law as a tool of social engineering. We can either amend the Constitution to declare that discrimination is acceptable in some circumstances, a notion antithetical to the very notion of a society of equals, or we can find other ways of ensuring that people of all races are given a better education and thus, open more opportunity for all.

I will add a postlude. The language of the majority opinion leaves no doubt that reparations initiatives conferring benefits based on race or color will not face constitutional muster.

Cheerz...
Bwana

Two new Partygate investigations opened by Met Police – as Boris Johnson let off the hook

The Partygate scandal deepened on Tuesday night as British police dramatically opened two new investigations into events held in parliament and Conservative Party headquarters during Covid restrictions – but said they would take no further action against Boris Johnson.

Scotland Yard announced that it was reinvestigating a “jingle and mingle” Christmas party held by Shaun Bailey’s London mayoral campaign staff at CCHQ on 14 December 2020, after assessing new video evidence.

Rishi Sunak immediately faced fresh calls to block Mr Bailey’s peerage – handed to the failed mayoral



More Partygate investigations opened by Met Police. Pic - STV News

candidate by Mr Johnson in his resignation honours – while the police investigation takes place, reports The

Independent.

The Metropolitan Police also announced an investigation into “potential breaches” of Covid rules at a gathering inside parliament on 8 December the same year, the date of an alleged drinks event attended by Tory grandee Sir Bernard Jenkin for his wife’s birthday.

More than 18 months into the Partygate scandal, the latest move means that questionnaires will be sent out to those who were present at either of the events, asking if they had a “reasonable excuse” to attend a gathering under the Covid laws in place at the time.

But police said that “a number of other events” at Downing Street and the prime minister’s country residence, Chequers, that were believed to involve Mr Johnson in 2020 and 2021, would not be investigated further.



Bill Pertwee who starred in the classic TV comedy *Dad's Army*. Pic - PA

Classic British sitcoms like *Fawlty Towers* and *'Allo 'Allo!* ‘contributed to Brexit vote’

Classic British sitcoms such as *Fawlty Towers*, *Dad's Army* and *'Allo 'Allo!* contributed to the Brexit vote, an academic has claimed.

Professor Gavin Schaffer said the tone of the shows provided a partial insight into the identity and political culture which led to the country voting to leave the European Union in 2016, reports *The Independent*.

Much of this centres on British attitudes to its European neighbours, with large parts of the UK’s Euroscepticism having “never strayed too far from suspicions rooted in the second world war”, he said.

Pointing to *Allo 'Allo!*, the University of Birmingham academic claimed it “reveals a story of a nation that remains unready for further European integration”.

A distrust of Europe was deliberately set up as the elephant in the room in *Fawlty Towers*, he wrote in the Bloomsbury book *British Humour and the Second World War: Keep Smiling Through*.

Broadcast after the 1975 referendum where the UK voted to remain in the European Common Market, Basil Fawlty tells one guest: “I didn’t vote for it myself, quite honestly. But, now that we’re in, I’m determined to make it work.”

Meanwhile, the stars of wartime comedy *Dad's Army* are portrayed as an exemplar of British characters triumphing over European foes, he said.

In a more modern context, the continuing affection for the shows’ sense of humour points to a “British blind spot about the legacy of the war and the barriers between Britain and the rest of Europe”, Prof Schaffer added.

Over 900,000 South Africans have already left, so where are they going?

South Africa has been grappling with a series of challenges in recent months, from frequent power outages to soaring interest rates and concerns over its international relationships. As a result, a significant number of South Africans are seeking greener pastures beyond their country’s borders. According to the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs’ 2020 International Migrant Stock report, over 900,000 South Africans have already left the country, with the figure rising from 786,554 in 2015.

In the face of increasing global competitiveness, numerous nations are enticing investors and talented individuals with attractive incentives. Among these nations is the Commonwealth of Dominica, an island nation that has gained a reputation for being one of the safest countries worldwide, as highlighted in the 2023 World Citizenship Report.

Dominica has been successfully



Leaving South Africa for greener pastures. Pic - Youtube

drawing global citizens for nearly three decades through its Citizenship by Investment Programme. This program enables investors to obtain a second citizenship by investing in the country’s economy. By contributing to either the Economic Diversification Fund or investing in Real Estate, South Africans can enjoy the benefits of a stable economy, a currency pegged against the US dollar, and enhanced access to top-notch healthcare, business hubs, and education facilities, reports *Globe Newswire*.

To participate in Dominica’s Citizenship by Investment Programme, applicants are required to meet minimum contribution amounts. These include a minimum contribution of US\$100,000 for the main applicant, US\$150,000 for the main applicant and spouse, US\$175,000 for the main applicant and up to three dependents, and US\$50,000 for each additional dependent aged 18 or older. Additional fees may apply based on the applicant’s primary citizenship and personal circumstances.

France passes bill that would allow police to spy on suspects through digital devices

French police should be able to spy on suspects by remotely activating the camera, microphone and GPS of their phones and other devices, lawmakers agreed late Wednesday.

Part of a wider justice reform bill, the spying provision has been attacked by the left and rights defenders as an authoritarian snoopers’ charter, though Justice Minister Eric Dupond-Moretti insists it would affect only “dozens of cases a year”.

Covering laptops, cars and other connected objects as well as phones, the measure would allow geolocation of suspects in crimes punishable by at least five years’ jail, reports *AFP*.

Devices could also be remotely activated to record sound and images of people suspected of terror offenses, as well as delinquency and organised crime.

The provisions “raise serious concerns over infringements of fundamental liberties,” digital rights group *La Quadrature du Net* wrote in a May statement. It cited the



Devices could also be remotely activated to record sound and images of people suspected of terror offenses. Pic – Peoples Gazette

“right to security, right to a private life and to private correspondence” and “the right to come and go freely”, calling the proposal part of a “slide into heavy-handed security”.

During debate on Wednesday, MPs in President Emmanuel Macron’s camp inserted an amendment limiting the use of remote spying to “when justified by the nature and seriousness of the crime” and “for a strictly proportional duration”. Any use of the provision must be approved by a judge, while the total duration of the surveillance cannot exceed six months.

* Contd on page 10

India reacts to Trudeau's comments on Khalistani protests

India on Thursday responded sharply to comments on 'freedom of expression' made by Canada prime minister Justin Trudeau against the backdrop of increasing pro-Khalistan activity in that country and planned protests on Saturday. Foreign ministry spokesperson Arindam Bagchi stressed such freedom could not be used to instigate violence or excuse terrorist activity.

What did Trudeau say? Earlier today a video of Trudeau responding to a question - about the parade float in Brampton last month and that he may be unwilling to take action against Khalistani terrorists because he relies on Sikh votes - emerged online, reports Hindustan Times.

The Canadian leader called such reports 'wrong' and insisted his government 'always takes serious action against terrorism and we always will'.

"They are wrong. Canada has always taken extremely seriously violence and threats of violence. We have always taken serious action against terrorism and we always will. We have an extremely diverse country and freedom of expression is something we have... we always make sure we are pushing back against violence and extremism in all its forms," he said at a media



interaction.

In his response, Trudeau also referred to foreign minister S Jaishankar's statement this week that 'radical, extremist' ideologies are 'neither good for us nor them nor our relations (with each other)'.

Trudeau's assertion came two days after India served Canada a demarche over proposed protests by pro-Khalistan terror outfits outside the Indian High Commission in Ottawa and consulates in Toronto and Vancouver on July 8.

'Driven by vote bank compulsions'

Last week Jaishankar was highly critical of the Canadian government's lack of action against Khalistani protests and said, "It is something which is a continuing

conversation with Canada... not always satisfactory... but something on which we have been very clear."

Acknowledging the issue 'has impacted our ties in many ways', Jaishankar also said, "How Canada has dealt with the Khalistani issue is a longstanding issue... very frankly, they seem to be driven by vote bank politics... responses constrained by what they regard as vote bank compulsions."

On Tuesday the Narendra Modi government formally warned Canada of planned pro-Khalistan activities to take place this week on its soil and requested strong measures to prevent protesters from breaking into or vandalising its missions and consulates or desecrating the Indian flag.

This comes after shocking scenes this week from the Indian consulate in San Francisco in the US, which was targeted for a second time in less than three months; a part of the building was set on fire as 'revenge' for the killing of Khalistani leader Hardeep Singh Nijjar in Canada in June.

The US government reacted swiftly, calling it a 'criminal offence' and ordering a full investigation.

The Canadian government has said the proposed multi-city Khalistani rally in that country is 'unacceptable' and that the safety of Indian diplomats and officials is its priority.

Foreign minister Melanie Joly tweeted: "Canada takes its obligations under Vienna Conventions regarding the safety of diplomats very seriously."

Beijing's work from home order amid scorching summer heat

Beijing ordered employers to stop outdoor work amid scorching heat in the Chinese capital as temperatures were forecast to reach 40 degrees Celsius. Government departments were ordered to ensure the elderly and ill could stay cool, issuing a "red alert"- the highest level of a warning system for extreme temperatures. "Relevant departments and units shall take emergency measures for heatstroke prevention and cooling," said a city government notice. Employers should "stop outdoor operations", it said.



Residents carry umbrellas to shield from the sun as they take rest on a bench on a hot day in Beijing. Pic - AP

Beijing recorded 10 days of temperatures above 35 C, longest streak since 1961. This comes as flooding forced thousands of people to flee their homes in southern China as the government issued an alert for possible flash flooding in Inner Mongolia in the north, Heilongjiang in the northeast and Tibet and Sichuan in the southwest, reports Hindustan Times.

Earlier authorities warned of extreme weather and "multiple natural disasters" in the month of July. Heavy rain in parts of the country led to thousands being evacuated in central and south-western China, Xinhua news agency reported as weather agencies warned that the country will face "multiple natural disasters in July, including floods, severe convection weather, typhoons and high temperatures."

China's weather agency warned residents in Beijing and a dozen other regions to stay indoors as for an average of 4.1 days each month in the first half of this year mercury exceeded 35 degrees in China. In June, Beijing witnessed a heatwave for a total of 14 days.



Major changes coming up in US citizenship test

The US citizenship test- one of the final steps toward citizenship in the country- is being updated. The process requires legal permanent residency for years before applying. The test was last changed by former US president Donald Trump's administration in 2020 when it was made longer and more difficult.

After Joe Biden took office, he signed an executive order aimed at eliminating barriers to citizenship- changing it back to its previous version which was updated in 2008, reports Hindustan Times.

What we know so far?

1. In December, US authorities said the test was due for an update after 15 years.
2. The new version is expected late next year.
3. The new test will add a speaking section to assess English skills. It would involve an officer to show photos of ordinary scenarios and ask the applicant to verbally describe the photos.
4. Currently, an officer evaluates speaking ability by

asking personal questions.

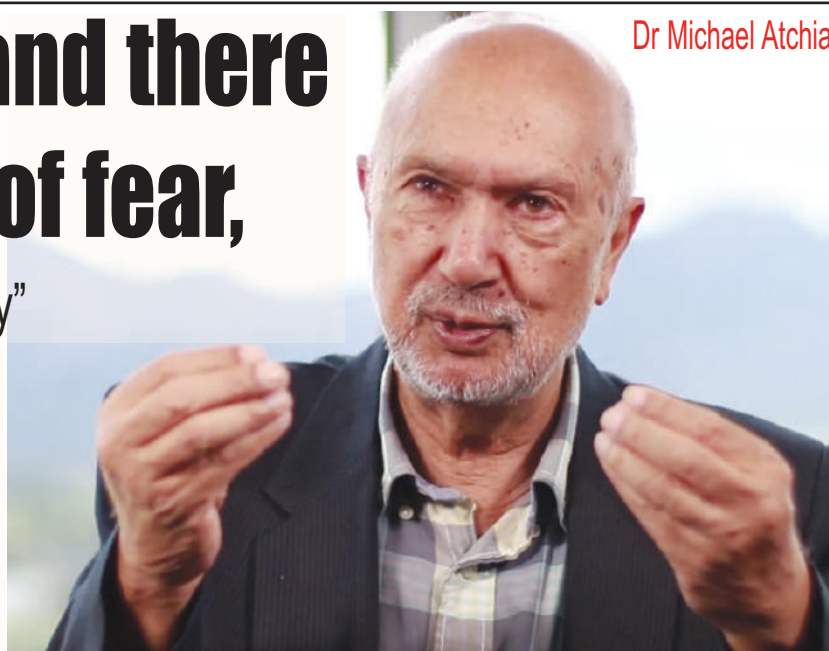
5. The civics section on US history and government would switch to multiple-choice instead of the current oral short-answer format.
6. Experts believe that the changes will require a "significantly higher level of language proficiency and test-taking skill."
7. Currently, an applicant must answer six out of 10 civics questions correctly to pass which are selected from a bank of 100 civics questions.
8. US Citizenship and Immigration Services said that the proposed changes "reflect current best practices in test design" and would help standardize the test.
9. The agency said it will conduct a nationwide trial of the proposed changes in 2023 .
10. The US currently has the easiest citizenship test compared to other countries — including Germany, Canada and the United Kingdom.
11. About 96% of applicants pass the test, according to recent estimates.
12. More than 1 million people became US citizens in 2022 — one of the highest numbers on record since 1907.

Compiled by Doojesh Ramlallah

“The public is disillusioned, and there is now a growing perception of fear,

especially with regard to freedom of speech and public safety”

Dr Michael Atchia



Dr Atchia is a senior Mauritian consultant in the Environmental Education sectors and has been a Programme Director at UN Environmental Program in Nairobi from 1986 to 1996, responsible during the same period for the 'International Environmental Education Programme' of UNESCO/UNEP. He is also outgoing President of the Mauritian Academy of Science and Technology and member of the Democracy Watch Mauritius. We thought it appropriate to have his views on various topics that have been hogging the limelight in recent weeks together with more specific recommendations on the environment front.

Mauritius Times: As a member of Democracy Watch Mauritius (DWM), what's your “independent and non-partisan” reading of the mood of the people here these days? Most Mauritians have concerns these days about the rising cost of living, but do you think that they are also concerned about the state of our democracy or that it could be under threat?

Dr Michael Atchia: At the level of the DWM, we have asked this key question: 'Where do the crises originate?', and we have proposed possible answers to that question. We are of the view that the people and organisations which do not abide by the law are one source of the problem. Government institutions which do not stick to the rule of law are responsible for their own poor rating. Wrong decision-making by the Executive adds to the crisis. One has to read the annual report of the Director of Audit to be shocked by the waste of millions of public funds without the culprits being held accountable.

“Planting is a criminal action indeed, because it's so difficult to disprove. It is so difficult to defend oneself against evidence from a concrete prohibited/offensive/ illegal bject/weapon/document/ substance/information found in your house/car... But we have to be cautious because the fake cry of 'planting' has been used by drug dealers and others when caught with direct evidence at their place...”

As regards the Audit report, Democracy Watch would like to know whether Section 110(1) of the Constitution has been respected in regard to the recent appointment of a new Director of Audit. We learnt from the press that the Leader of the Opposition has complained that he was not consulted. We have not seen any communiqué from the President's Office or the PMO stating the facts. Should the citizens rush to the Supreme Court to file a complaint? At the end of the day, we should be asking this question: Do we know where we are heading? We believe that such *laissez faire* attitude can be harmful to our democracy.

* Some people suggest that there is an evident mood of anxiety and fear among the population, who perceive a policy of repression being imposed by the authorities. Do you think that's a correct reading of the present situation, or is it all being made up by the media, written and broadcast, with their daily feeds about the bad things happening in our society?

I totally reject this “all being made up by the media” excuse. We have a superb, diverse and responsible media which indeed plays its role, fully reflecting the current situation in the country and informing the public as to what is going on. An A+ to our diverse media: printed press, private

radios and online papers like your respected *Mauritius Times*. An A+ even to MBC-TV, which reflects very well the ruling party's and government's position. They have done so *à outrance* when Navin Ramgoolam was in power and continue to do the same thing under Pravind Jugnauth. Except that it's not what the MBC Act specifically prescribes!

The Mo Ibrahim Index of African Governance (IIAG), published every two years, is the most comprehensive dataset measuring African governance performance. It constitutes a framework for citizens, governments, institutions, academics and business to assess the delivery of public goods and services, and policy outcomes, across Africa. The number one position of Mauritius (out of 54 African states) in this Index of governance is a good reflection of our situation. We score 74.9 out of 100.0 in Overall Governance, ranking 1st out of 54 countries in Africa, while the African average was 48.9, and that for Eastern Africa stood at 46.0.

When citing this ranking for Mauritius, there has often been a reaction from some UN colleagues: 'Compare your country with Scandinavia, with Europe, with North America if you want higher standing. I have vouched in some previous articles of two models which I admire: Finland and Singapore. Both have very different approaches, with Finland being truly democratic, with the participation of citizens at all stages of governance. On the other hand, Singapore is autocratic but stands at the top of the world in terms of governance, planning its future all the time, with its citizens' full participation, but true to say left with no choice as to do so or not to do so.

Mentioning Europe as a standard, just see what has happened in France these last few days, as a result of one police incident and the earlier riots a few months back over the age of retirement. The riots which have spread throughout France and its departments, including our neighbour, Reunion Island are terrifying. We need to draw appropriate lessons as to what makes good governance and stability and what does not.

* In any case, it does not help when the Prime

“The people and organisations which do not abide by the law are one source of the problem. Government institutions which do not stick to the rule of law are responsible for their own poor rating. Wrong decision-making by the Executive adds to the crisis. One has to read the annual report of the Director of Audit to be shocked by the waste of millions of public funds without the culprits being held accountable...”

“When working properly, the criminal justice system can be an incredible tool for holding guilty parties accountable. When it doesn't work, people's rights are violated”

Minister himself, as the best-informed citizen locally, referred some weeks back to the infiltration by the mafia - presumably drug mafia - of certain key institutions- a statement which he again repeated last Saturday at Lallmatie. The PM did not reveal the names of the mafia-infiltrated institutions nor what action he would be taking to neutralise any such infiltration, but he should know what he is talking about, shouldn't he?

The PM is the CEO of the State and is, of course, the person who gets the most comprehensive and thorough information. Mafia infiltration is very bad indeed, and it has to be combated as the government is hopefully trying to do. But one determining element is the choice of people to fill key posts in all instances.

Far too often today (and during the mandate of the previous government as well) the *nou-bann* factor took precedence over competence, honesty and willingness to abide by the rule of law. Some such people did and still do think they are protected and are “above the law”. We must absolutely change that *nou-bann* culture deeply rooted in all political parties who have governed this country since 1968.

A key point often made by DWM after each general election is contained in this phrase: '*Ou finne eli par enn parti, mais aster qui ou finne vinne PM... ou PM tous dimoune.*' That is, affiliation to a party should not prevent the elected Prime Minister from looking at and working in the best interest of the people.

* 'The credibility of our institutions is at stake. The recent open tug of war between the DPP's Office and the Police Department does not augur well for our law-and-order situation and our criminal justice system. If the *laissez aller* continues, other vital institutions like Parliament and others... may become ineffective.' This is what Democracy Watch says in its latest bulletin. If we are in the midst of a crisis and 'governments often like to listen to their own voice', how do we get out of it then? Through regime change?

Is the credibility of our institutions at stake? We have an excellent democracy, and in the past when difficulties between institutions have arisen, they have been solved thanks to the initiative taken by those concerned to get together to iron out misunderstandings as to each one's respective roles, leaving us with a true and functional democracy. I cannot say the same for a majority of the 54 independent states of our continent, Africa.

☞ Cont. on page 12

'The recent open tug of war between the ODPP and the Police

does not augur well for our law-and-order situation and our criminal justice system'

☞ Cont. from page 11

It is true that the recent open tug of war between the Office of the DPP and the Police does not augur well for our law-and-order situation and our criminal justice system. If the *laissez aller* continues, other vital institutions like Parliament and others, which do not, in public opinion, function as they should, may become ineffective. The public is disillusioned, and there is now a growing perception of fear, especially with regard to freedom of speech and public safety.

How do we get out of this situation then? How far can the Constitution protect us? Can the judiciary give us all the protection measures that are enshrined in the Constitution? In some countries like UK and India, judges have maintained a long-standing tradition of impartiality and fearlessness. The quality of their judgment reflects a profound understanding of the law, the social fabric, the various institutions, and the national issues. Their judgment enriches the jurisprudence of their countries and serves as a welcome guidance for judges in other countries. So, it is and has been for a long time in this blessed country! But there is also the time it takes to obtain redress from our justice system.

At times, it can be rapid, but we have also witnessed recently some very lengthy delays - thus making true the saying "justice delayed, justice denied". One excellent example of swift delivery of justice concerned the condemnation of the rapist of a young girl of 11, a tourist from India. The verdict took only a few days! (*L'Express*, 20 June 2023). That prompted us to express appreciation as follows:

'Democracy Watch adresse ses démocratiques félicitations aux fonctionnaires ayant concouru à un verdict aussi express. Cela nous renvoie aux jours bénis hélas coloniaux quand moins d'une année séparait les crimes les plus odieux au verdict pédagogiquement réparateur de nos tribunaux et magistratures, rappelant à tous que le crime ne doit pas payer dans la colonie Maurice et que le plus tôt tout coupable est arrêté. Ensuite confronté avec succès aux preuves policières retenues contre lui, sans *planting*, ni *posting*, dûment sanctionné par une justice enfin rendue en notre nom souverain, détenu à des fins réparatrices, et plus notre population se sent en sécurité et enclaine à faire confiance à nos autorités et institutions.'

*** If we go by the crime statistics, as revealed by the PM, last Tuesday, in Parliament, the Special Striking Team is not only chasing the so-called "narco politicians"; it has carried out 60 arrests in connection with 47 cases. (There has been no condemnation to date though.) Moreover, exhibits have been secured in respect of 30 cases related to drugs with a total estimated street value of Rs 606,849,714. Even if that may sound reassuring, the allegations of "drug planting/posting" remains a matter of serious concern...**

By definition, planted evidence is 'the type of evidence that has been changed, or deposited at a scene, to make it appear as related to the accused party. For example, samples of blood or saliva, stash of notes, drugs, fake documents, etc., can be planted at crime scenes. The aim: to get an innocent or targeted individual wrongly accused



“Just see what has happened in France these last few days, as a result of one police incident and the earlier riots a few months back over the age of retirement. The riots which have spread throughout France and its departments, including our neighbour, Reunion Island are terrifying. We need to draw appropriate lessons as to what makes good governance and stability and what does not...”

“The PM is the CEO of the State and is, of course, the person who gets the most comprehensive and thorough information. Mafia infiltration is very bad indeed, and it has to be combated as the government is hopefully trying to do. But one determining element is the choice of people to fill key posts in all instances. Far too often today (and during the mandate of the previous government as well) the *nou-bann* factor took precedence over competence...”

“The criminal justice system can be an incredible tool for finding the truth and holding guilty parties accountable. When it doesn't work, people's rights are violated... While most law enforcement officials perform their duties honestly and honorably, mistakes and sometimes instances of intentional misconduct do happen. Similarly, if another police officer, judge, or lawyer discovers the police planted evidence, then they have an ethical obligation to bring that information before the court...”

/convicted, while the guilty go free'.

Planting is a criminal action indeed, because it's so difficult to disprove. It is so difficult to defend oneself against evidence from a concrete prohibited/offensive/illegal object/weapon/document/substance/information found in your house /car/office/pocket/garden/cupboard/mattress or other personal location.

One very specific action is the "throw down", which is the planting of a weapon at a crime scene, used by the police to justify shooting the victim in self-defence, and thus avoid possible prosecution for manslaughter. But we have to be cautious because the fake cry of 'planting' has been

used by drug dealers and others when caught with direct evidence at their place.

Police officers are tasked with identifying and investigating crimes. But in mostly very rare cases, officers may plant evidence for a variety of reasons:

- Feeling pressure from superiors to solve a case quickly,
- Feeling certain a suspect committed the crime but lacking the evidence to support it,
- Believing that the suspect has committed other offences and deserves incarceration whether or not they committed the particular crime they are investigating,
- Political reasons or corruption.

The question that arises is what can be done to prevent such situations?

One obvious answer is the careful vetting of recruitment/promotions/assignments as well as continuous monitoring of anyone who is given legal authority to search people or premises. Not just police officers but others such as anti-corruption officers, custom and immigration officers, inspectors of various denominations and such others.

When working properly, the criminal justice system can be an incredible tool for finding the truth and holding guilty parties accountable. When it doesn't work, people's rights are violated, and innocent people can end up in jail.

While most law enforcement officials perform their duties honestly and honorably, mistakes and sometimes instances of intentional misconduct do happen. Similarly, if another police officer, judge, or lawyer discovers the police planted evidence, then they have an ethical obligation to bring that information before the court.

*** You have often written about the need for making Mauritius independent of fossil fuels and submitted a number of proposals thereon. What distance would you say we have travelled so far?**

A fleet of electric vehicles plus the metro will ensure our mobility when petrol becomes too expensive or is not available. And to the consumer a drastic reduction in his/her "petrol" bill. Fortunately, the CEB is already planning for solar charging stations for such vehicles.

In 2014 there was only one Nissan electric vehicle available. Today many vehicles manufacturers make hybrid and electric vehicles, such as Nissan itself, Renault, Ford, Toyota, Hyundai, Kia, BMW, Jaguar, Mahindra, Peugeot, Chevrolet, Citroën, Fiat, Honda, Volkswagen, Mitsubishi, Mercedes-Benz, TESLA, etc.

My four proposals are:

1. Electric vehicles imported duty-free.
2. Democratise the import of zero emission vehicles with a subvention of Rs 200,000 per vehicle, limited to one par family. We already give subventions for solar water heater, why not for cars?
3. When batteries will be more efficient and cheaper, we can assemble electric vehicles here, including (using the latest technology) convert old secondhand petrol vehicles into electric ones. Also, as from right now all duty-free vehicles authorized for civil servants would have to be electric cars.
4. Increase of 20%, then 50%, of custom duties on all petrol and diesel vehicles imported.

The Minister of Finance in his last two budgets has indeed taken appropriate financial measures to encourage the import of electric vehicles. Even a new all-electric 'filling' station has just opened and a major paper and project on the use of biomass has been launched. These measures form part of the preparedness for the future (not just the 5 years of a mandate) but for the next decade and the next. We really have really an obligation to do so... before we are caught with petrol becoming too expensive, then not available to minor importers such as Mauritius, then finally unavailable, as this non-renewable resource becomes completely exhausted.

From the Pages of History - MT 60 Years Ago

6th Year No 233**MAURITIUS TIMES**

Friday 30 January, 1959

•“Spring makes everything young again except man.” -- Charles Francis Richter

Dr Millien Leaves

“Un opportuniste et un bateleur de la politique.” It is hard to find better words to qualify political actions of one who changes colour. Dr Millien has been realist enough to find that people may take him for an opportunist. For certain they will. What else has he been throughout his political career?

The Dr Millien who used to stand on the trade union platform of Anquetil and Rozemont from where he was glorified veered round and openly proclaimed that in Mauritius people use the trade union movement for political purposes. Rozemont had succeeded in unmasking him early in life and had expelled him from the Labour Party in 1948. In 1951 our “Socialiste Indépendant” joined the Conservatives so that he might be elected as member of the Executive Council but in 1953 he had again changed his ideology.

He was again a member of the Labour Party and presented himself for the elections under Labour’s banner. He was elected, yet he was neither a staunch supporter of the Party nor a stickler to its principles. To him, being a member of the Labour Party was to reach the uppermost rung of the political ladder. And the comrades who helped him to climb up are today in his eyes no more than “politiciens fanatiques ou aveugles”.

Dr Millien glorifies himself in biting the hand that fed him. These very fanatical and blind politicians made him Mayor in 1957 — the first time that Labour was in power at the Municipality and Minister — the highest glory a politician can aspire to.

Though he has left the Labour Party, Dr Millien still proclaims himself a socialist. It is difficult to understand how he can claim to be a socialist, he who was lately prosecuted as Mayor for paying less labourers at the Municipality of their wages, he who opposed to the legitimate demands of the Midland tea workers for better wages, he who arbitrarily cancelled the TUC course which was elaborately planned and from which the trade unionists would have gained so much. Today he has left the Labour Party to stand at the forthcoming elections as “Socialist Indépendant”. Dr Millien cannot fool the people all the time. His actions in the past have completely shown him up. Leaving the Labour Party, which stands for socialist principles, to stand as an independent candidate is not the mark of socialism.

Dr Millien has left the Labour Party not because of an ideology but because he felt that his election in Constituency No. 2 would not be easy. He had ever been the bitter opponent of Mr Mohamed and that could only have the inevitable effect of alienating the 876 Muslims in that Constituency. It would have been hard for the 1,200 Hindus in that Constituency to vote for him after his repeated contemptuous declarations against them. And the workers of Port Louis have little reason to like him. He had managed to alienate everybody against him. In these circumstances what else could he do than give up the Labour Party and stand somewhere where he hopes better chances would favour him. In his case party loyalty and socialist principles could serve as no barrier.

Will the electorate of Rose Hill return Dr Millien? Everything pleads against him. The Parti Mauricien has no mean candidate in Dr Ythier. The Labour Party will have its own candidate. Dr Millien will be crushed in

between. Politics in modern times has little or no room for independent candidates and Mauritius is no exception. Opportunity may have helped him in the past. But Dr Millien has overstepped the limits. The old political strategist has at last caught himself in meshes of his own making. There is no doubt that the electorate of Rose-Hill will reject him.

And the trouble with Dr Millien is that he has reached a stage in his life when he thinks he is infallible, when he fools himself in believing that he is the master of all he surveys. He thinks he has learned enough and that is the fatal mistakes of politicians. It is therefore natural that he should hurry to the end of his political career.

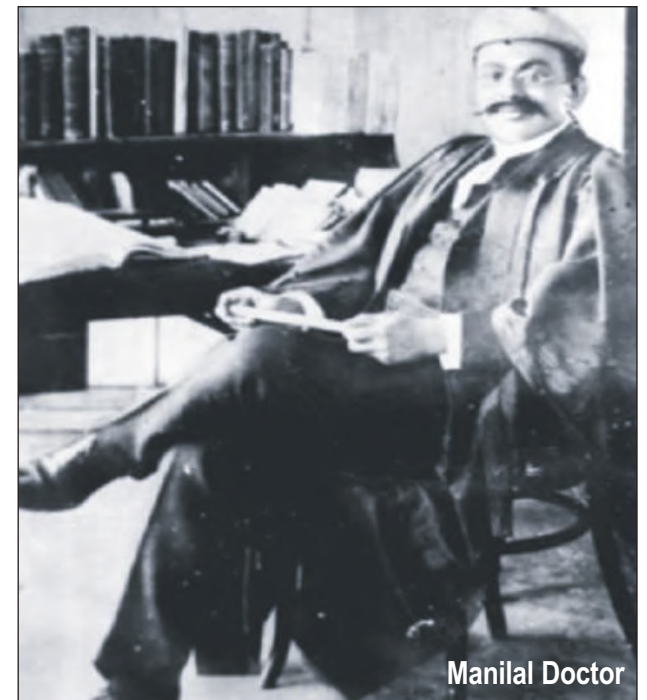
* * *

Manilal Doctor

At 2 pm on Sunday His Worship the Mayor of Port Louis, Mr Guy Forget, will unveil a life-size statue of Manilal Doctor at the Company’s Garden, Port Louis. By so doing Mr Forget will but immortalize a man who redeemed the workers of this country and who certainly has today a place in every worker’s heart.

It is hardly necessary to recall that Manilal Doctor was the man by whose determination to split the shackles of slavery with which the Indian immigrants were bound that the great struggles for the emancipation of workers were sparked off. If he were alive today he would have certainly realised to what extent his mission has been successful.

We therefore appeal to every worker to whatever



Manilal Doctor

community he may belong to make it a point to pay his homage to a great leader by attending the ceremony on Sunday which will henceforth be regarded as one of the glowing dates in the history of Mauritian workers.

We wish also to express the workers’ gratitude to the Manilal Memorial Committee which has left no stone unturned to perpetuate the memory of a man who laid down his life for the uplift of the downtrodden. It is not always good to live too much in the past but we cannot afford not to be grateful to the past.

May we hope that Dr Millien and those of his group will not find in our attitude a communalist tendency.

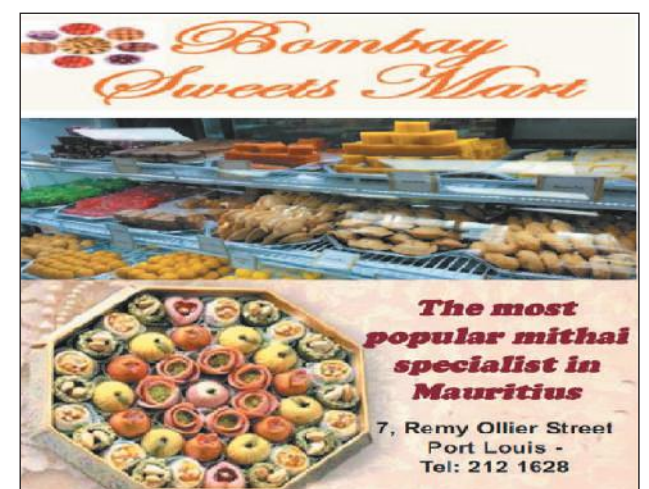
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Take notice that I Mrs Malini Govinden will apply to the **District Council of Rivière du Rempart** for a Building and Land Use Permit for a proposed Hardware Store/Quincaillerie, sale of steel bars, cements, and construction materials, etc., at Royal Road, L’Amitié.

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

07 July 2023

AI is an existential threat – just not the way you think

● Cont. from page 2

Cybercriminals have been using AI voice cloning for a variety of crimes – from high-tech heists to ordinary scams.

AI decision-making systems that offer loan approval and hiring recommendations carry the risk of algorithmic bias, since the training data and decision models they run on reflect long-standing social prejudices.

These are big problems, and they require the attention of policymakers. But they have been around for a while, and they are hardly cataclysmic.



P- Spencer Platt/Getty Images

Not in the same league

The statement from the Center for AI Safety lumped AI in with pandemics and nuclear weapons as a major risk to civilization. There are problems with that comparison. COVID-19 resulted in almost 7 million deaths worldwide, brought on a massive and continuing mental health crisis and created economic challenges, including chronic supply chain shortages and runaway inflation.

Nuclear weapons probably killed more than 200,000 people in Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945, claimed many more lives from cancer in the years that followed, generated decades of profound anxiety during the Cold War and brought the world to the brink of annihilation during the Cuban Missile crisis in 1962. They have also changed the calculations of national leaders on how to respond to international aggression, as currently playing out with Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

AI is simply nowhere near gaining the ability to do this kind of damage. The paper clip scenario and others like it are science fiction. Existing AI applications execute specific tasks rather than making broad judgments. The technology is far from being able to decide on and then plan out the goals and subordinate goals necessary for shutting down traffic in order to get you a seat in a restaurant or blowing up a car factory in order to satisfy your itch for paper clips.

Not only does the technology lack the complicated capacity for multilayer judgment that's involved in these scenarios, it also does not have autonomous access to sufficient parts of our critical infrastructure to start causing that kind of damage.

What it means to be human

Actually, there is an existential danger inherent in using AI, but that risk is existential in the philosophical rather than apocalyptic sense. AI in its current form can alter the way people view themselves. It can degrade abilities and experiences that people consider essential to being human.

For example, humans are judgment-making creatures. People rationally weigh particulars and make daily judgment calls at work and during leisure time about whom to

hire, who should get a loan, what to watch and so on. But more and more of these judgments are being automated and farmed out to algorithms. As that happens, the world won't end. But people will gradually lose the capacity to make these judgments themselves. The fewer of them people make, the worse they are likely to become at making them.

Or consider the role of chance in people's lives. Humans value serendipitous encounters: coming across a place, person or activity by accident, being drawn into it and retrospectively appreciating the role accident played in these meaningful finds. But the role of algorithmic recommendation engines is to reduce that kind of serendipity and replace it with planning and prediction.

Finally, consider ChatGPT's writing capabilities. The technology is in the process of eliminating the role of writing assignments in higher education. If it does, educators will lose a key tool for teaching students how to think criti-

cally.

Not dead but diminished

So, no, AI won't blow up the world. But the increasingly uncritical embrace of it, in a variety of narrow contexts, means the gradual erosion of some of humans' most important skills. Algorithms are already undermining people's capacity to make judgments, enjoy serendipitous encounters and hone critical thinking.

The human species will survive such losses. But our way of existing will be impoverished in the process. The fantastic anxieties around the coming AI cataclysm, singularity, Skynet, or however you might think of it, obscure these more subtle costs. Recall T.S. Eliot's famous closing lines of "The Hollow Men": "This is the way the world ends," he wrote, "not with a bang but a whimper."

Nir Eisikovits, Professor of Philosophy and Director, Applied Ethics Center, UMass Boston

Mauritius Times

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Thank you so much.
Mauritius Times

Are rich people more intelligent?

Here's what the science says

Education, contacts and luck can play a considerable role when it comes to building up wealth

From *White Lotus* to *Succession*, there's high demand for television dramas about the super rich. The characters on these shows are typically portrayed as entitled, hollow and sad. But they aren't necessarily depicted as unintelligent. So, are rich people rich because they are smart?

In the middle of a cost-of-living crisis, this question goes beyond scientific curiosity and touches something deeper.

If people's net worth were only the consequence of their intelligence, the gigantic wealth gap we see in our society might be perceived as less intolerable – at least by some. Inequality would be the price to pay for having the smartest lead us all to a better future.

There is little doubt that intelligence contributes to one's economic and professional success. Take self-made billionaires Elon Musk, Jeff Bezos and Ray Dalio, just to name a few. It would be surprising if top innovators in advanced fields such as tech and finance turned out to be average.

In fact, intelligence is the best predictor of both educational achievement and work performance. And academic and professional success is, in turn, a fairly good forecaster of income. But that's not the whole story.

Not all highly intelligent people are primarily driven by a desire for wealth – they often have a thirst for knowledge. Some may instead opt for comparatively less well-paying jobs that are more intellectually rewarding, such as architecture, engineering or research. A recent Swedish study showed that cognitive test scores of the top 1% of earners were not significantly dif-

ferent to the scores obtained by those who earned slightly less.

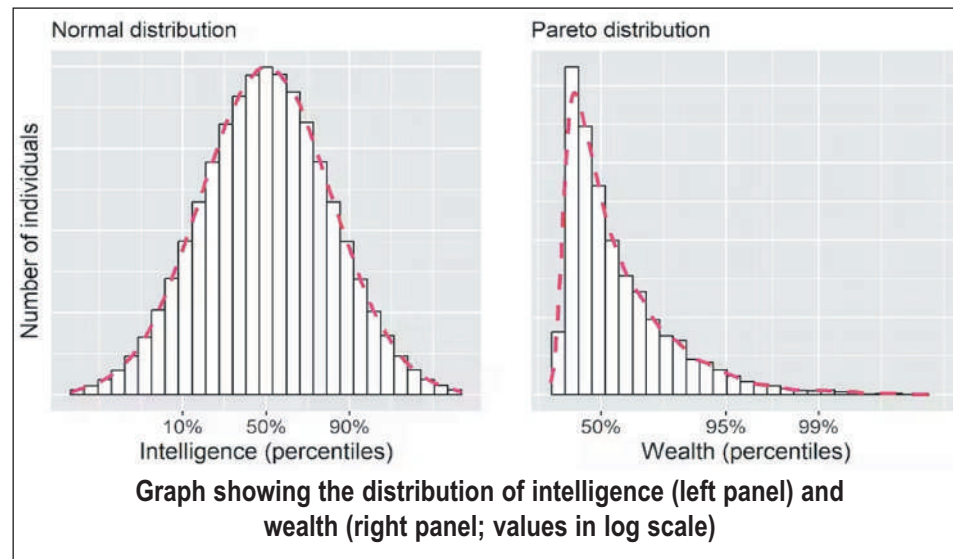
But to what extent does intelligence boost wealth? Before diving into the evidence, we must clarify what researchers mean by "intelligence". Intelligence can be defined as the ability to perform a wide range of cognitive tests successfully. And these seem to be linked. If someone is good at resolving a particular cognitive test, they will probably perform well in other cognitive tests too.

Intelligence is not a monolithic trait, though. In fact, it consists of at least two broad constructs: fluid intelligence and crystallised intelligence. Fluid intelligence taps into core cognitive mechanisms, such as the speed of processing stimuli, memory capacity and abstract reasoning. Conversely, crystallised intelligence refers to those skills developed in a social environment, such as literacy, numeracy and knowledge about specific topics.

This distinction matters because these two types of intelligence develop in different ways. Fluid intelligence can be inherited, cannot be boosted and decreases fairly quickly with age. By contrast, crystallised intelligence increases throughout most adulthood and starts declining only after about 65 years.

But fluid intelligence helps build up crystallised intelligence. Fluid intelligence represents the brain's capacity of acquiring and elaborating information. Crystallised intelligence is, to a large extent, acquired information.

This means that if your reasoning skills are sharp, then you will process new information quickly. You will integrate novel



information with old information accurately. Ultimately, this will speed up learning of any discipline and contribute to your academic and financial success.

Education is a factor

That said, innate capabilities are not the only thing that matters. Another significant factor is education.

A quantitative review has established that the more years of schooling, the higher students' intelligence scores. Crucially, these improvements stem from training in specific skills rather than enhancing general intellectual ability. So, school teaches you useful stuff for both professional success and performing intelligence tests.

Unsurprisingly, education in turn is affected by family socioeconomic status. For example, expensive schools and private tutors provide the student highly efficient personalised instruction. Access to top quality education may therefore make a huge difference in future income.

Of course, the influence of family socioeconomic status on wealth does not operate solely through education. Inheritance and networks are among the most obvious mechanisms. This is particularly true for entrepreneurs, whose investing potential and connections are fundamental for business success.

The role of luck

So, intelligence, education and socioeconomic status all affect one's income. However, these factors alone are unlikely to fully account for the individual differences in wealth. In fact, a recent study suggests that luck exerts a significant impact.

This study highlights that the statistical distribution of wealth differs from the distribution of intelligence. Intelligence is "normally distributed", with most individuals being around average. By contrast, wealth

follows a "pareto distribution", a formula which shows that 80% of a country's wealth is in the hands of only 20% of the population.

Intelligence versus wealth distribution

This means intellect alone cannot account for the disproportionate disparities between rich and poor in our society.

The study does not downplay the role of intelligence (or talent in general). A fine intellectual ability improves the chances of getting rich. Nonetheless, intelligence is no guarantee of getting rich. Furthermore, a series of fortunate events can clearly turn unremarkable individuals into high earners.

That is, when it comes to getting rich, intelligence is neither sufficient nor necessary. But it does help.

"I'd rather be lucky than good," says the character Chris Wilton (Jonathan Rhys Meyers) in Woody Allen's film *Match Point*. In the light of the evidence we have just reviewed, he may be right.

Being born into a wealthy and highly educated family is a fortunate event. Likewise, random strokes of luck (like winning the lottery) do not come from years of hard work. We may even push the argument a bit further and conclude that being intelligent is a form of luck itself.

Many things that contribute to achieving financial success are beyond our control. Most, if not all, extremely wealthy people have been blessed by Lady Luck somehow.

Conversely, making the most of what luck brings us certainly matters. Granted, a good deal of individuals merely cash in the benefits of inherited privilege.

Regardless, many small and big fortunes stem from an intelligent use of the resources we are lucky to have been gifted with – whether they are intellectual, educational or socioeconomic.

By Giovanni Sala, University of Liverpool & Fernand Gobet, London School of Economics and Political Science



Expecting to always feel happy and relaxed a recipe for disappointment

People generally think of stress and anxiety as negative concepts, but while both stress and anxiety can reach unhealthy levels, psychologists have long known that both are unavoidable -- and that they often play a helpful, not harmful, role in our daily lives, according to a presentation at the annual convention of the American Psychological Association.

"Many people now feel stressed about being stressed and anxious about being anxious. Unfortunately, by the time someone reaches out to a professional for help, stress and anxiety have already built to unhealthy levels," said Lisa Damour, PhD, a private-practice psychologist who presented at the meeting. Damour also writes a regular column for *The New York Times* and is author of the book 'Under Pressure: Confronting the Epidemic of Stress and Anxiety in Girls'.

Stress usually occurs when people operate at the edge of their abilities -- when they push themselves or are forced

by circumstances to stretch beyond their familiar limits, according to Damour. It's also important to understand that stress can result from both bad and good events. For instance, being fired is stressful but so is bringing a baby home for the first time.

"It's important to remember that stress is a given in daily life, that working at the edge of our abilities often builds those capacities and that moderate levels of stress can have an inoculating function, which leads to higher than average resilience when we are faced with new difficulties," she said.

Anxiety, too, gets an unnecessarily bad rap, according to Damour.

"As all psychologists know, anxiety is an internal alarm system, likely handed down by evolution, that alerts us to threats both external -- such as a driver swerving in a nearby lane -- and internal -- such as when we've procrastinated too long and it's time to get started on our work," said Damour.



Viewing anxiety as sometimes helpful and protective allows people to make good use of it. For example, Damour said she often tells the teenagers she works with in her practice to pay attention if they start to feel anxious at a party because their nerves may be alerting them to a problem.

"Similarly, if a client shares that she's worried about an upcoming test for which she has yet to study, I am quick to reassure her that she is having the right reaction and that she'll feel better as soon

as she hits the books," she said.

That doesn't mean that stress and anxiety can't be harmful, said Damour. Stress can become unhealthy if it is chronic (allowing for no possibility of recovery) or if it is traumatic (psychologically catastrophic).

"In other words, stress causes harm when it exceeds any level that a person can reasonably absorb or use to build psychological strength," she said. "Likewise, anxiety becomes unhealthy when its alarm makes no sense. Sometimes, people feel routinely anxious for no reason at all. At other times, the alarm is totally out of proportion to the threat, such as when a student has a panic attack over a minor quiz."

Untreated stress and anxiety can cause persistent misery but can also contribute to a host of additional psychological and medical symptoms, such as depression or an increased risk of cardiovascular disease, according to Damour.



Why are snails and slugs so slow?

These members of the mollusk family may be slow, small and slimy, but they are an indispensable part of the ecosystem.

Wander through your backyard or walk along a stream and it's likely you'll see a snail -- small, squishy animals with shells on their backs.

Snails are found in water, whether in salty oceans, rivers or lakes. They're also on land: in forests, grasslands and even your garden.

As you explore your yard or woods, you can also encounter slugs, which are slow-moving animals related to snails. They look like them too, except that slugs lack shells.

Not only can you find slugs crossing sidewalks or on plants at the park -- some are in our oceans.

All told, an estimated 240,000 species of snails and slugs live all over the world. But no matter what continent they're on, or what ocean they're in, there's one thing they all have in common: They move slowly.

Here's an example of just how slow they are: The World Snail Racing Championships, held in the United Kingdom, pits the quickest snails against one another in a "foot" race.

The fastest snail on record sped through the course at a blazing 0.06 miles per hour.

Or to look at it another way -- if you were that slow, it would take about three minutes to get a bite of food from your plate to your mouth.

Mollusks are everywhere

Why is it that snails and slugs are in no hurry?

As researchers who specialize in the study of plants and animals, we've learned the answer is more complicated than you might think.

Snails and slugs are members of a large group of related animals known as mollusks, which also includes clams, oysters, squids and octopuses.

Within mollusks, there's a smaller set of related animals called gastropods; this includes snails and slugs.

Because they live in such diverse places, different gastropods have evolved to consume almost every type of food. Some species are herbivores -- they eat living plants. Some are detritivores -- they feed on dead or



One distinction between a snail and a slug: The snail has a shell. maxphotography/Moment via Getty Images

decomposing plants. Others are carnivores or scavengers -- they eat other animals.

The reasons for slowness

The lack of speed of snails and slugs can be attributed to at least three factors: how they move, what they eat and what eats them.

First, while some animals fly, jump or slither, snails and slugs move using what biologists call the "ventral foot." But the word "foot" here can be confusing. A snail or slug foot is nothing like a human foot.

Instead, it's a band of muscle that runs along the underside of their body and is covered in sticky mucus. When contracted, this muscle ripples, sending tiny waves from the animal's tail to its head. These waves compress the mucus on the bottom of the foot into a slippery liquid, allowing the snail or slug to glide over the ground or climb plants.

It's a unique way to move, and it forces snails and slugs to go slowly because their speed is limited by the number of foot contractions and the amount of mucus they can make.

And snails and slugs don't need to rush to find their food anyway.

Many animals, particularly predators, must move fast to catch a meal; a cheetah needs to outrun a gazelle, for example. But most slugs and snails eat plants, decaying matter or marine animals, like sponges, which are

anchored in place. None move around much, so dinner's not going anywhere -- no rush.

Dealing with predators

Nor do snails and slugs need to be fast to avoid predators. They've evolved other ways to evade mice, birds, shrews and other enemies.

Typically, snails withdraw into their shells to hide until the predator passes.

Land slugs hide in plain sight. Most are shades of gray, tan or brown and blend in well with their surroundings. Predators simply don't notice them. They also have an additional layer of protection. Land slugs are covered with a sticky mucus, similar to the mucus that lubricates their movement. But this version is so gooey that it can gum up the mouths of predators and make it hard to chew. Not to mention that most predators probably wouldn't find the slime very tasty.

In contrast, sea slugs are often easy to see because they are colorful. But these bright colors advertise to predators that they should stay away, because the slugs are protected with nasty-tasting poisons.

Treat snails and slugs with respect

Snails and slugs, small as they are, are big contributors to the health of their ecosystems.

By feeding on seeds and young plants, they can control which plants grow in an area. By eating decaying matter, they help recycle nutrients that growing plants can use. And despite their best efforts, snails and slugs do often become food for other animals.

So the next time you see a snail or slug hanging from a plant, dawdling in your yard or gliding across a concrete sidewalk, stop and observe. Remember its remarkable biology, the unique way it moves and looks, and the many ways it benefits the environment.

And then, let them be. These small animals help keep our world running.

Ashok Prasad & Kenneth F. Reardon
Associate Professor of Chemical and Biological
Engineering, Colorado State University



Margaret Thatcher answers the phone

Margaret Thatcher answers the phone, "Can I speak to the Prime Minister?" says the voice at the other end. She politely tells him she is no longer Prime Minister and suggests he tries another number. A few minutes later, Maggie's phone rings again, "Can I speak to the Prime Minister please?"

"Look, I've told you once more I'm not Prime Minister any longer."

Two minutes later he calls again, "Is this the Prime Minister?"

Maggie says, "I've told you repeatedly that I am not Prime Minister any longer, why are you doing this to me?"

"I just love hearing you say it."

Did you hear about the Italian chef who died?
His obituary in English read as follows:

He pasta way.

We cannoli do so much.

His legacy will become a pizza history.

Here today, gone tomato.

I can only espress-so much grief, but I must romaine calm.

How sad that he ran out of thyme.

Ashes to ashes, crust to crust.

There's just not mushroom left for Italian chefs in this world.

Sending olive my prayers to his family.

His wife is really upset, cheese still not over it.

You never sausage a tragic thing.

It's such a shame good people die fusilli reasons.

It was a farfalle from grace.

My condolences for Roberto, who died in the spaghetti.

† May he Rest in Yeast...†

A man gets home from work and tells his wife: "Get me a beer before it starts."

So, she brings him a beer and he drinks it.

"Get me another beer before it starts," he shouts.

So, she brings another beer, and he drowns that one as well.

"Get me a last beer before it starts," he shouts at her again.

"Listen here, you lazy fat bastard, you walk in here, sit down and start barking orders."

"Fucking hell, it's started already."

The Olympic sprinter Usain Bolt decided to take up golf, so he went down to the local course.

"Hi, I'd like to join your golf club," said Usain.

The receptionist called the club captain, who came to meet Bolt at the reception.

"Hi, I'd like to join your golf club," said Usain.

"I'm terribly sorry but we do not admit beginners in our club, however if you turn right out of the main gates there is a public golf course about fifteen minutes up the road, you'll have absolutely no problem joining there," said the club captain.

"I don't think you understand, I am Usain Bolt," he said.

"Oh, I see, I'm terribly sorry. In that case, the public course is five minutes away," said the captain.

A man is stuck in traffic near parliament, he asks a police officer what the hold-up is, and is told: "The prime minister is so depressed about UK's debt that he's stopped his car and is threatening to douse himself with petrol."

"What are you going to do?"

"We are putting together a collection for him," says the cop.

"How much have you got?"

"About forty gallons so far," says the officer.

My ex-wife left me for a deaf friend of hers.

To be honest, I should have seen the signs.

When the police arrest a deaf and dumb person, do they have to tell him he has the right to remain silent?

Husband: Knocks the door at midnight.

Wife: Go back where you are coming from!

Husband: Open the door or I throw myself in the swimming pool!

Wife: Go ahead and kill yourself, do you think I care?



So, the husband stands near the dark part of the gate and waits for two minutes, takes a big stone and throws it into the swimming pool! Scheweew!

Wife hears and opens the door and runs towards the swimming pool. The husband quickly sneaks into the house then locks the door.

Wife: Open the door or I will shout!

Husband: Shout till all the neighbours wake up and come here. Tell them where you are coming from by this time of the night in your underwear!

At 85 years of age, Roger married Jenny, a lovely 25-year-old. Since her new

husband is so old, Jenny decides that after their wedding she and Roger

should have separate bedrooms, because she is concerned that her new but

aged husband may overexert himself if they spend the entire night together.

After the wedding festivities Jenny prepares herself for bed and waited for the expected knock on the door. Sure, enough the knock comes, the door opens and there is Roger, her 85-year-old groom, ready for action. They unite as one.

All goes well, Roger takes leave of his bride, and she prepares to go to sleep. After a few minutes, Jenny hears another knock on her bedroom door, and it's Roger. Again, he is ready for more "action". Somewhat surprised, Jenny consents for more coupling. When the newlyweds are done, Roger kisses his bride, bids her a fond good night and leaves.

She is set to go to sleep again, but, aha you guessed it - Roger is back again, rapping on the door, and is as fresh as a 25-year-old, ready for more "action".

And, once more they enjoy each other. But as Roger gets set to leave again, his young bride says to him, "I am thoroughly impressed that at your age you can perform so well and so often. I have been with guys less than a third of your age who were only good once. You are truly a great lover, Roger."

Roger, somewhat embarrassed, turns to Jenny and says: "You mean I was here already?"

The moral of the story: Don't be afraid of getting old, Alzheimer's has its advantages.

A father and son moved into a new house. One day, the father saw the son was looking oddly pale.

"What's wrong, son?" he asked.

"Dad, do you believe in ghosts?" the son asked.

"Of course not," said the father. "Ghosts don't exist."

"But Dad," the son replied, "our maid said that there is a ghost in this house."

"Son, pack your bags. We're leaving," the father said.

"Why, Dad?" the son asked.

The father replied, "We don't have a maid!"

I attended a burial ceremony of my friend's grandmother yesterday, but their tradition demands that at every burial ceremony an old man would come out and announce the next person to die. So, this man came out and said the first person to leave the burial ground will be the next to die.

Since yesterday morning many people are still at the burial ceremony. Even one elderly man who is more than 98 years was asking me if my parents won't be looking for me.



1. Stop telling people your plans.

When you over share, you hurt your own progress. Keep things private and win.

2. Know when to say no.

Strong people put their own well being before pleasing others. Practice saying no more often.

3. Make a decision, and commit to it.

Too many people lack discipline and go back to their toxic patterns. Make a decision to change and stick to it.

4. There is power in numbers.

Nobody has made it in life all by themselves. You need a team that uplifts and supports you. Stop being a lone wolf.

5. Starve your distractions, feed your focus.

Focus on your goals instead of cheap dopamine. You will achieve anything you ever wanted.

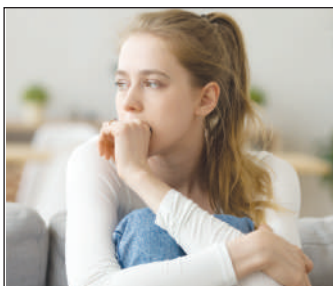
6. Always provide value to others.

There is only one secret to success: making other people's lives easier. In business and relationships, providing value will keep you their first priority.

Author Unknown

10 things to remember

1. Love is why we are here.
 2. The most important day is today.
 3. If you always do your best, you will never have regrets.
 4. In spite of your best efforts, some things are just not in your control.
 5. Things will always look better tomorrow.
 6. Sometimes a wrong turn will bring you exactly to the right place.
 7. Sometimes when you think the answer is "no", it is just "not yet".
 8. True friends share your joy, see the best in you and support you through your challenges.
 9. God and your parents will always love you.
 10. For all your accomplishments nothing will bring you more happiness than the love that you find.
- Credits Birds of a Feather



Wisdom

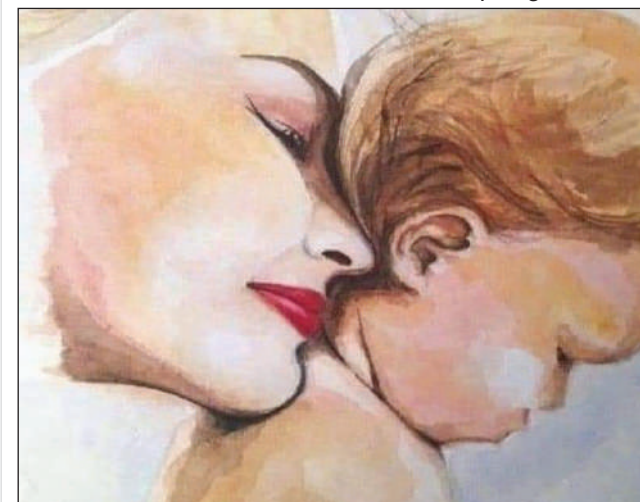
Teach these 40 phrases to your kids.

Teach these 40 phrases to your sons and daughters so they can be more resilient, successful, and confident in life.

1. Where there's a will, there's a way.
2. Good manners don't cost anything.
3. Always ask. They can only say no.
4. You're not marrying one; you're marrying the whole family.
5. Find the good in everybody.
6. Don't cry before you try.
7. There are no stupid questions, only stupid answers.
8. Pretty is as pretty does.
9. Treat others as you would like to be treated.
10. You can't control what others do, only your own reactions.
11. Don't buy what you can't afford.
12. Remember that things don't make you happy, people do.
13. You catch more flies with honey than with vinegar.
14. Two wrongs don't make a right.
15. Watch what you step in.
16. Cow turds are a cattlemen's dollar signs. It all depends on how you look at it.
17. Teamwork makes the dream work.
18. Life isn't about finding yourself. Life is about creating yourself.
19. What we think determines what happens to us, so if we want to change our lives, we need to stretch our minds.
20. Fair? The fair is two weeks in the fall.
21. One man's trash is another man's treasure.
22. The greatest day in your life is when you take total responsibility for your attitudes. That's the day you truly grow up.
23. True freedom is understanding that we have a choice in who and what we allow to have power over us.

24. You're only as old as you feel.
25. A rolling stone gathers no moss.
26. Early to bed and early to rise makes you healthy, wealthy, and wise.
27. Happiness is not by chance but by choice.
28. If you don't like the road you're walking, start paving another one.
29. A rising tide lifts all boats.
30. Don't judge a book by its cover.
31. You're braver than you believe, and stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think.
32. The early bird catches the worm.
33. Each day comes bearing its gifts. Untie the ribbon.
34. Expecting the world to treat you fairly because you are a good person is a little like expecting the bull not to attack you because you are a vegetarian.
35. Confession is good for the soul.
36. You can't make an omelette without breaking a few eggs.
37. The grass is greener where you water it.
38. The greatest glory in living lies not in never failing, but in rising every time we fail.
39. There is no single recipe for success. But there is one essential ingredient: Passion.
40. Never lose hope. And never underestimate the power of prayer.

Inspiring Contents



Poetry

The Road Not Taken

-- Robert Frost

Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,
And sorry I could not travel both,
And be one traveller, long I stood,
And looked down one as far as I

could.

To where it bent in the undergrowth.

Then took the other, as just as fair,
And having perhaps the better claim,

Because it was grassy and wanted wear.

Though as for that the passing there
Had worn them really about the same,

And both that morning equally lay.

In leaves no step had trodden black.
Oh, I kept the first for another day!
Yet knowing how way leads on to way,
I debted if I should ever come back.

I shall be telling this with a sigh.
Somewhere ages and ages hence:
Two roads diverged in a wood, and
I took the one less travelled by,
And that has made all the difference.

My Kids

My kids don't owe me anything for my sacrifices.
It was all my choice.
I wanted to give my body to breastfeed and carry them.
I wanted to give all my time and energy to them.
I always wanted to put them first.
I wanted to comfort them through many sleepless nights.
I wanted to put aside some of my dreams to focus on them, to be their everything.
Because as a parent.

I want to support their journey on earth.
and for them to know they're never alone
because I'll be by their side or, in their subconscious,
loving them.
And I want them to be happy above anything in my life.
I love them that much.
So, they owe me nothing.
Because they didn't ask me to do any of this
It was all my choice.
And I would never change a thing.
-- Living full

Men's Health

Get the Benefits of a Cold-Water Swim

Cold-water immersion can boost health, increase libido, and cut body fat in men. Here's how to do it at home

A systematic review of 104 studies, by researchers from UiT The Arctic University of Norway and from the University Hospital of North Norway, found strong evidence that cold-water swims and therapies based on them offer significant physical and mental health benefits.

Taking a dip in icy-cold water cuts “bad” body fat in men, according to the analysis published in the peer-reviewed *International Journal of Circumpolar Health*. It also boosts the development of “good” fat that helps burn calories and combats obesity, cardiovascular disease and diabetes, the authors concluded.

James Mercer, PhD, a thermal physiology specialist from UiT who led the new research, says the new review is one of the most comprehensive assessments of the benefits of cold-water swimming, bathing, showering and therapies based on exposing the body to low temperatures.

Over the years there has been evidence that cold-water swimming can boost your health, Mercer says. Among those benefits: Everything from increased libido to improved heart health, mental health, and more.

Not a new trend

Cold-water swims and therapies have been practiced for centuries in many countries with colder winter climates.

“Ice swimming,” where the frozen ice over a lake or pond has been removed to expose the water below, is so common that global organizations have sprung up around the practice: the International Ice Swimming Association and the International Winter Swimming Association.

Ice swimmers typically take the plunge into waters that are under 50 degrees F and may even be near or just below freezing temperatures, Mercer’s team reports.

Many people who engage in these activities say they



Photo Credit: Jim McConnell

believe the practice has helped them lose weight, have better mental health (and less depression), improve their immune system function, boost their circulation, and even increase their libido, among other benefits.

Some studies showed solid evidence that cold-water swimmers often experience significant improvements in overall cardiovascular health.

Cold-water immersion triggers a “shock response” that stresses the cardiovascular system and elevates the heart rate – a chief goal of high-intensity heart-healthy exercise.

Ice baths and other hydrotherapies can reduce cholesterol, boost the immune system, help treat autoimmune inflammation, ease pain and speed recovery from sports injuries.

Cold-water swimming boosts the body’s stores of so-called “brown adipose tissue” (BAT), a type of “good” body fat activated by low temperatures. BAT burns calories to maintain body heat, which can lead to weight loss, unlike “bad” white fat which stores energy and hikes obesity risks.

Exposure to cold water or air boosts BAT’s production of adiponectin, a protein that helps protect against insulin resistance, diabetes and other diseases.

Cold-water immersions greatly increase insulin sensitivity and decrease insulin concentrations. This is true for both inexperienced and experienced swimmers.

Winter-weather swimmers typically describe feeling “joyful” in the water, suggesting the practice has “a positive effect on mental health and brain development.”

Beyond icy-water swims, Mercer says his findings also apply to cold-water therapies, such as using ice baths after sports activities, cold showers and related treatments.

Tips to Get Started

Amanda Alexander, ND, a naturopathic doctor with Sonoran University of Health Sciences in Tempe, AZ, and other experts recommend the following ways:

Gradually turn the temperature of the water down when showering, ending with cold water for 30-60 seconds. This can help blood circulate to the surface where cold water is applied and may also relieve congestion and boost energy.

You can also skip the warmup and go straight to a cold shower, particularly after a vigorous workout.

Wearing cold, wet socks also help improve blood and nutrient circulation by stimulating a pump-like effect within the circulatory and lymphatic systems, increasing vitality and speeding recovery from an acute illness with fever.

Try an ice bath. Add ice to water until the temperature is 50-59 degrees F. Athletes have used ice baths for years, particular for sore muscles. Aim to stay submerged for no more than 10 to 15 minutes.

Swim in an unheated pool but not icy-cold water, at least for starters.

If you do decide to give cold-water immersion a shot, Alexander, Mercer and other experts recommend talking to your doctor first if you have a heart condition or other health concerns.

It’s also a good idea for beginners to keep their initial experiences to just a few minutes and gradually increase their time in the water as your cold tolerance increases. In addition, be sure to warm up after any cold-water immersion to eliminate the risk for hypothermia.

“Before anyone should get involved in this they have to be aware of the negative effects and the dangers, if you’re not used to this kind of activity,” Mercer says. “What I’m afraid [of] is people will think they should go and jump into icy-cold water without being used to it, perhaps not realizing they might have some underlying health problem.”

Nick Tate, WebMD

Parenting

Lying to your kids may have a deep impact on their future

Let’s accept - we all lie to kids at times. When they are persistent to go to the playground or when they want something that is not good for them, we do not hesitate to tell those little white lies to calm them down. It is one of the easiest ways to tackle their random demands without any noise or fuss. But dear parents, if you often resort to lying to handle your child’s tantrum then you must think it through as it may have a deep impact on their present as well as their future. That’s what a new study suggests.

Why white lies are harmful

White lies seem harmless and it might feel that there is nothing wrong in using



them at times when you are stuck in a difficult situation. Nevertheless, a new study carried by the researchers in Singapore revealed that being even a little bit dishonest with kids can affect our kids adversely. Your explanation might convince them for a while, but it may have a long term negative impact on your little one. They are more likely to lie when they grow up and may even have difficulty dealing with psychological and social challenges.

What the study suggests

In the study carried out on 379 Singaporean young adults, it was revealed that participants who were lied to as children were more likely to hide things from their parents as adults. Besides, they even grew up to be more selfish and experience more guilt and shame. They even had difficulty meeting psychological and social challenges.

The researchers drew these conclusions after conducting a detailed study where the participants were asked to complete four questionnaires online. In the first one, they were asked to recall if their parents told them lies related to eating, leaving or staying, children’s misbehaviour and spending money when they were kids.

The second questionnaire asked participants to recall how frequently they lied to their parents as adults related to issues like their activities and actions or exaggerations about events.

In the last two questionnaires, the participants had to fill two questionnaires that measured their self-reported psy-

chosocial difficulty and tendency to behave selfishly and impulsively.

The result

At the end of the study, it was concluded that parents who lie to kids put their little ones at greater risk of developing some behavioural issues like aggression, rule-breaking and intrusive conduct. However, there are some limitations to the study, like relying only on the version of young adults about their personal experience of parents’ lying. More research is needed where inputs from parents can also be taken into consideration.

Alternatives to lying to your kids

Instead of lying to your kids, when stuck in a difficult situation try to explain the situation by giving them valid reasons. When you will try to pacify them by giving valid reasons instead of lying, it will make them more receptive. Kids might not always be happy with your replies and may protest a little, but this will teach them honesty and they will practise it even when they will grow up.



Kiara Advani reveals she impressed Sidharth Malhotra's mom with home-made pani puri

In a recent interview, while promoting her latest film *Satyaprem Ki Katha*, Kiara Advani was asked about her love for pani puri. The actor was asked if the famous street food was 'overrated', when she said she loves puchka, gol gappe, *pani puri* – different varieties of the Indian snack found in Kolkata, Delhi and Mumbai, respectively.

Kiara also revealed how she used *pani puri* to impress her mother-in-law, actor-husband Sidharth Malhotra's mom Rimma Malhotra.

Kiara, who has spoken fondly about Sidharth Malhotra's mom earlier in her social media posts, opened up about her recent visit to Mumbai, where she stayed at the couple's home. Kiara said she made sure her mother-in-law had pani puri on her first day in the city.

Kiara was asked in her recent interview with Mirchi Plus, if she had a *pani puri* stall at her wedding. To which the actor replied, "Of course. *Meri mother-in-law jo hain, unko pani puri itna pasand hai! Woh abhi humare saath reh rahi hain, Mumbai mein aayi hui hain Delhi se. So, on her first day, mujhe pata hai ki unko pani puri kitna pasand hai, I said aaj ghar mein hum pani puri banayenge. Jo maska lagaya...* I knew she will love me to another level. She was so happy (My mother-in-law likes pani puri a lot. She is now living with us in Mumbai. On the first day of her visit, I made sure she had home-made *pani puri*. It really impressed her and made her happy)."

Kiara Advani and Sidharth Malhotra's wedding

Sidharth and Kiara's wedding was a grand affair. The actors married on February 7 at Jaisalmer's Suryagarh Palace. Sidharth was seen in a sherwani with gold embroidery, while Kiara wore an ivory and pink lehenga, both designed by Manish Malhotra.

Their wedding guest list included Karan Johar, Shahid Kapoor, Mira Rajput, Juhi Chawla, and others. Businessman Mukesh Ambani's daughter Isha Ambani, who is a childhood friend of Kiara's, was also spotted at a pre-wedding function. She was joined by businessman-husband Anand Piramal.

After hosting a reception in Delhi, Kiara and Sidharth had a grand reception in Mumbai.

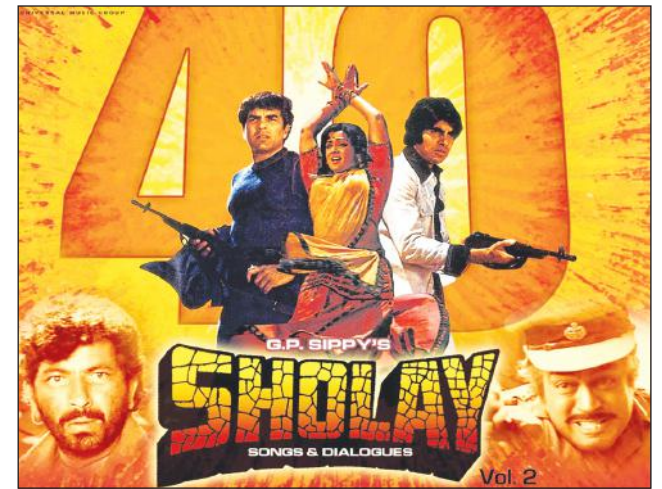
Most successful Bollywood star ever has 73 hits...

and it's not Amitabh, Shah Rukh, Salman, Rajesh Khanna, or Dilip Kumar

Bollywood has seen several stars and superstars over the years. Many of these actors have headlined several successful films. But if one asks who is the actor with most hits against their name, suggestions like Amitabh Bachchan or one of the Khans would float around. The truth is that none of these names actually come close to the 73 hits delivered by this star from the 70s.

With 73 box office hits in his career, the most successful Bollywood actor ever is Dharmendra. There is a catch here though. The number is this high because Dharmendra has acted in a lot of films, compared to some of the other actors.

As per various sources, the actor has been part of over 250 films in his life. This means that his 73 hits give him a success rate of around 30%. Some of Dharmendra's biggest hits include *Sholay*, *Chupke Chupke*, *Seeta Aur Geeta*, *Mera Gaon Mera Desh*, *Dharam Veer*, *Phool Aur Patthar*, and *Yamla Pagla Deewana*. The actor has been part of several multi-starrer and ensemble films too, which have contributed to his hit count. Dharmendra now has a chance to add to his



tally with *Rocky Aur Rani Kii Prem Kahaani*.

Following Dharmendra in the list of most hits by Bollywood stars is Jeetendra with 56 hits in over 200 films. At number 3 is Amitabh Bachchan with 55 hits in 150 movies. Mithun Chakraborty follows with 50 hits in over 300 films. Others in the top 10 include Rajesh Khanna (42), Akshay Kumar (38), Salman Khan (37), Rishi Kapoor (34), Vinod Khanna (33), and Shah Rukh Khan (32).

Another fair way of measuring success is looking at actors who have given highest proportion of hits in their career. Using that metric, Dilip Kumar comes out on top with over half his films being hits. The acting legend had 31 hits in 56 releases.

Vidya Balan on Siddharth Roy Kapur and how they won 'each other's hearts'

Vidya Balan has spoken about husband-producer Siddharth Roy Kapur in a new interview. She recalled how they fell in love, as well as gave a glimpse of their relationship, admitting it was 'lust at first sight' for them. The actor said they had some emotional connection, but their relationship began due to physical attraction, reports *Hindustan Times*.

Siddharth Roy Kapur, who has his own production house, Roy Kapur Films and has produced films like *The Sky Is Pink*, was the one who made the first move, Vidya revealed in the interview. She also spoke about the qualities she admires in her husband.

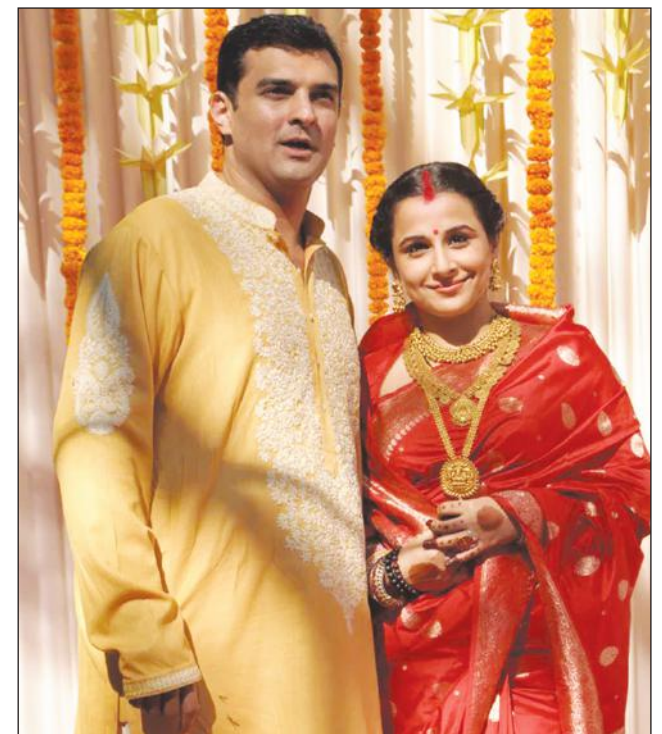
"Obviously, it is always lust at first sight. Of course, there's was some emotional connection, but it starts with a physical attraction. He is the most good-looking man. To me, he is the most good-looking man I know. But I also got attracted to the fact he is a very secure man. He is more secure than most men I have met. I have seen my father, who is very secure. And as they say you look for your parents in your partner. So therefore, what drew me to him was how secure he was being who he is. He is very private but very authentic, there is no facade. He is not fake," Vidya said on *The Ranveer Show*.

On who made the first move

"I don't know whether he hit on me, But I definitely think that he made the first move. Because I am too... I don't think I would have made the first move... whether he wanted to be with the actor or with the person, those are things you wonder about. So, I just would not have made the first move with anyone because this was so fresh, fame was a new thing I was faced with. So yeah, he made the first move."

Vidya and Siddharth's relationship

Vidya Balan and Siddharth Roy Kapur married in Mumbai on December 14, 2012. The actor and producer dated for a couple of years before tying the knot. Earlier this year, the actor recalled how she first met Siddharth after an awards event in 2010. She also revealed that it



was filmmaker Karan Johar, who played the matchmaker.

Speaking to *Humans of Bombay* in a 2023 interview, Vidya had said, "Life was bringing us together a lot at that time. We ended up at a party together at Karan's place. Karan has played Cupid in this relationship. He invited me to a party at his house and I was a bit [surprised] because I didn't really know him. I [felt] how sweet. I went to his house and I didn't really know most of the others. I was a bit shy and Siddharth walks in and because we had just watched [a] play together, we ended up having a chat. That's when probably something happened that night. Later of course, I got to know that Karan had wanted us to meet. This was an intentional invitation. And it worked."

Erica Fernandes on why she left...

"I was doing good shows, but I was not growing as an actor"

Erica Fernandes, who rose to fame from TV show *Kuch Rang Pyar Ke Aise Bhi*, in an exclusive interview to ETimes TV opened up about taking a break from television, returning to the small screen and more. Erica revealed that the reason she took a break because she felt stuck and felt she wasn't growing as an actor.

The actress talked about why she decided to take a break from TV, "I felt very stagnant. It's not about the success you get out of the successful shows that you are a part of. Why I said I felt stagnant is because I was doing good shows, but I was not growing as an actor. I was doing very similar kind of things. I was not getting any challenging roles to play. So, I wanted to give myself some time and see what's coming my way. Everything was perfect. Sometimes you just get tired doing the same things and you want something that would change it."

While talking about making a return she added, "I don't want to take a break from TV intentionally.

Kundali Bhagya's Shradha Arya: "I am more responsible now, my life has also seen changes"

Shradha Arya, who is popularly known as Preeta from her show, *Kundali Bhagya* is elated as her daily soap completed 1500 episodes. At the 1500-episode celebration the actress expressed her happiness and revealed she had no qualms ageing on-screen and playing a mother to Paras Kalnawat and Baseer Ali.

"When I heard that the show is going to take the leap, Srishty (Anjum Fakih) and I used to discuss that after one-week new characters will join the show and they will start calling us *maa*. Srishty was very clear that she doesn't want to be called *maa* or *maasi* (laughs). We used to feel very odd but when the day came and the leap started, we found Paras, Baseer so cute. Our bonding became strong, and we hit it off instantly. *Ab bada mazaa aata hai*. I am not really bothered that I am playing a mother on-screen, I'm enjoying myself," shared the actress about her bond with Baseer and Paras.

Shradha is playing an on-screen mother to actors with just an 8-10-year age gap. She shared that she was open to the idea of generation leap as it would lift the burden off her shoulders. She said, "I never had any issues but people around



If I get something which is different from the past two shows (KZK 2 and KRPKAB) that I have done, then I will definitely come back to TV. Even if I have to change my appearance, I am ok. A good role doesn't mean you have to look glamorous on screen. I don't believe in that. People don't see you for the look, they see the weightage a character has on you."

Erica Fernandes gained major popularity from TV show *Kasauti Zindagii Kay* and *Kuch Rang Pyar Ke Aise Bhi*. The actress took a considerable break from TV and shifted base to Dubai.

me kept saying so initially I developed a little issue. But the first day when the leap happened, I was very happy that the burden will be shared, and I will get time for my personal life. Since the time I've gotten married I haven't got time to spend time with my husband in my house in Visakhapatnam. I only visit him for 5 days whenever I get time and it is just like a holiday... I've not really lived with him like a wife."

Talking about having any inhibitions or apprehension of ageing on-screen, she said, "I've been part of this show since the beginning, I've grown in the show and otherwise. *Ek saal pehle ki Shradha mein aur aaj ki Shradha mein bahut farak hai...* She was carefree, she wanted to



travel abroad every month, hang around with friends. But now when I get some time off, I quickly rush to spend time with my husband. I am more responsible now, my life has also seen changes. Obviously, it will not be like the show, but it will be my story and why should I not play my character. I have become a mother on the show, but not in real life. I think actors need to keep an open mind to play all kinds of roles and roles belonging to different age groups. Because you are an actor at the end of the day."

YOUR STARS

Sagittarius: Nov 22 - Dec 21

The upcoming week is all about growth and self-discovery, Sagittarius. Jupiter, your ruling planet, shines a spotlight on hidden aspects of your personality. It urges you to embrace every facet of your being and learn from them. This might involve stepping out of your comfort zone and challenging yourself in different ways. As you journey inward, you'll uncover strengths and talents you didn't know you possessed.

Lucky Numbers: 3, 9, 15, 24, 30, 31

Capricorn: Dec 22 - Jan 19

The upcoming week is all about discipline and focus, Capricorn. Saturn, your ruling planet, calls for perseverance and structured planning. This is a favourable time to set long-term goals and chart a course to achieve them. Remember, while it's good to have a defined plan, it's equally important to be flexible and adaptable. It's the week to take charge of your future and navigate it with determination and resilience.

Lucky Numbers: 5, 7, 14, 28, 29, 36

Aquarius: Jan 20 - Feb 18

The upcoming week promises intellectual stimulation and social connections, Aquarius. Mercury's influence over your chart opens the doors to enriching conversations and exciting debates. Be open to sharing your unique perspectives and absorbing new ideas. This week, you might find the discussions you engage in to be more intellectually rewarding than usual.

Lucky Numbers: 7, 10, 14, 25, 36, 40

Pisces: Feb 19 - Mar 20

A wave of creativity and heightened intuition will wash over you this week, Pisces. Neptune, your ruling planet, nurtures your inherent artistic and intuitive abilities. This celestial influence creates a perfect environment for dreaming, creating, and expressing. Trust your gut feelings, they are likely to be more accurate than usual. Let your creative juices flow and express your imaginative side, you might surprise yourself with the results.

Lucky Numbers: 9, 10, 16, 28, 33, 40

Aries: Mar 21 - Apr 19

The upcoming week holds a golden opportunity for tranquillity and self-reflection. The quietude around you is not a lull, but a gentle push to look inward, to evaluate your priorities. Mars, your ruling planet, alongside Venus, symbolizes a harmonious dance in your chart. It's a week of emotional, physical, and spiritual alignment. You might find yourself pulling away from the clamour to seek solace in your own thoughts. In this silence, you may uncover a revelation or two about your personal and professional life.

Lucky Numbers: 9, 10, 14, 17, 23, 30

Taurus: Apr 20 - May 20

Venus, your ruling planet, is spinning a web of artistic stimulation around you. This is a time of blossoming, of allowing your ideas to bear fruit. The celestial movements this week favour artistic pursuits, making it a prime time to engage in new projects or rejuvenate the old ones. You may also find your creative output being appreciated and acknowledged more than usual. But as you ride this creative high, remember to ground yourself.

Lucky Numbers: 1, 2, 9, 15, 20, 23

Gemini: May 21 - June 20

The upcoming week is a time of introspection and expansive learning, Gemini. Mercury, your ruling planet, alongside Jupiter, the planet of wisdom and expansion, is occupying a significant position in your chart. This alignment brings forth opportunities for intellectual growth. There may be a book that catches your attention or an online course that piques your curiosity - indulge in it. Any effort towards gaining new knowledge will bring about personal growth.

Lucky Numbers: 7, 14, 19, 30, 31, 35

Cancer: June 21 - July 22

The moon, your ruling planet, moves into your house of relationships, encouraging open dialogue and reconciliation. The upcoming week, you'll be treading on the path of mending and strengthening your bonds. It might be through a family gathering that's long overdue, or an intimate heart-to-heart conversation with a close friend. These are your opportunities to deepen your emotional connections and understand your loved ones better.

Lucky Numbers: 6, 9, 15, 18, 30, 31

Leo: July 23 - Aug 22

Ganesha says you'll feel a surge of ambition and motivation, Leo. The Sun, your ruling planet, casts a radiant light on your goals, injecting a newfound drive into your pursuits. Harness this energy to tackle those big projects or ideas that you've postponed. Perhaps there's a business plan waiting for your attention or a creative project yearning for completion. Remember, while you're striving for your ambitions, it's equally important to acknowledge and celebrate each milestone you cross.

Lucky Numbers: 9, 17, 21, 28, 30, 34

Virgo: Aug 23 - Sept 22

Harmony and effective communication are the themes of the upcoming week for you, Virgo. Mercury's influential position in your sign facilitates dialogue and understanding. This week, you're being encouraged to voice your feelings, clarify misunderstandings, and share your wisdom with others. You might find conversations flowing more naturally and your words carrying more weight. Similarly, it's a time to listen actively - there might be important insights waiting to be discovered in the words of others.

Lucky Numbers: 18, 19, 23, 26, 30, 32

Libra: Sept 23 - Oct 22

An exciting blend of balance and spontaneity awaits you this upcoming week, Libra. Venus, your ruling planet, is in a harmonious aspect with Uranus, the planet of sudden changes. While Venus implores you to indulge in self-care and maintain equilibrium, Uranus promises surprises. You might find a disruption in your plans or an unexpected turn of events. Embrace these changes with grace. This week teaches you to find joy in unpredictability while holding onto your inner balance.

Lucky Numbers: 12, 19, 20, 28, 34, 35

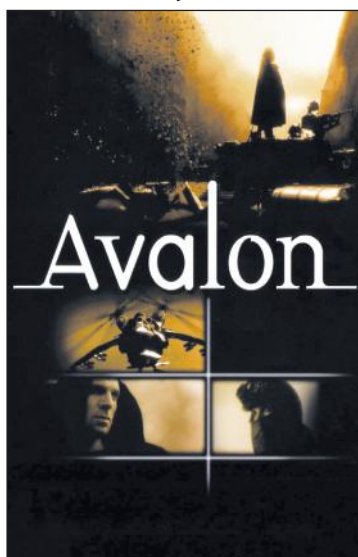
Scorpion: 23 Oct - 21 Nov

Ganesha says a period of emotional intensity awaits you, Scorpio. Mars' transit through your sign amplifies your emotions and passions. This is a time to explore your inner depths, to understand the root of your feelings. You might find yourself drawn to activities that allow you to express your passionate side. Use this period to engage more deeply in your hobbies or pursue things you feel intensely about. Authenticity will be your greatest ally during this week.

Lucky Numbers: 3, 11, 12, 14, 26, 30



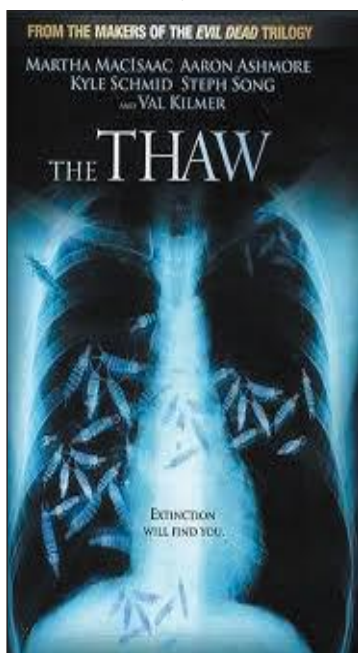
Vendredi 7 Juillet - 20.30



Samedi 8 Juillet - 22.25



Dimanche 9 Juillet - 20.30



Programme TV



SERIAL



vendredi 7 juillet

samedi 8 juillet

dimanche 9 juillet

lundi 10 juillet

MBC 1

06.01 Serial: New Amsterdam
 06.45 Film: Les Demoiselles De Rochefort
 08.50 Serial: Suits
 09.35 Tele: Le Chemin Du Destin
 10.06 Tele: A Que No Me Dejas
 10.25 The Gardener's Daughter
 10.55 Tele: Marimar
 11.15 Serial: Anomalia
 12.00 Le Journal
 12.35 Tele: Sublime Mensonge
 13.25 Tele: Fierce Angel
 13.45 Tele: Imperio De Mentiras
 14.15 Serial: Burden Of Truth
 15.21 Film: Major Dundee
 17.33 The Gardener's Daughter
 18.31 Serial: Wagle Ki Duniya
 18.55 Serial: Mere Dad Ki Dulhan
 20.35 Film: Avalon
 22.32 Tele: Sublime Mensonge

02.20 Film: Avalon
 04.22 Serial: Deux Flics A Miami
 05.13 Tele: L'Envers Du Paradis
 06.55 Le Livre Perdu Des Sortileges
 07.45 Serial: L.A.'S Finest
 08.25 Serial: Blue Bloods
 09.15 Serial: Wanted
 09.55 Serial: Deux Flics à Miami
 10.45 Serial: Kojak
 11.35 Tele: Le Chemin Du Destin
 12.00 Le Journal
 12.25 Serial: Lincoln Rhyme
 13.25 Tele: Missing Bride
 15.20 Film: Hero Mode
 16.50 Tele: Tour De Babel
 18.00 Live: Samachar
 20.30 Film: Torpedo
 22.07 Serial: Pulse
 23.04 Tele: Rubi

03.00 Film: Leçons De Seduction
 05.13 Tele: L'Envers Du Paradis
 06.25 Tele: Le Chemin Du Destin
 06.55 Film: Torpedo
 08.38 Serial: Le Livre Perdu Des Sortileges
 10.50 Serial: Under Pressure
 11.35 Tele: Le Chemin Du Destin
 12.00 Le Journal
 12.40 Film: Major Dundee
 15.00 Live: Samachar
 15.25 Film: Croczilla
 16.55 Tele: Tour De Babel
 18.00 Live: Samachar
 18.31 Enter: Sa Re Ga Ma Pa
 19.16 Sayings Radha Krishna
 19.30 Le Journal
 20.30 Film: The Thaw
 With: Val Kilmer, Martha MacIsaac
 22.04 Serial: Chicago PD
 22.43 Tele: Rubi

06.01 Serial: New Amsterdam
 07.05 Film: The Night Is Young
 08.45 Serial: The Bionic Woman
 09.35 Tele: Le Chemin Du Destin
 09.55 Tele: A Que No Me Dejas
 10.26 The Gardener's Daughter
 10.55 Tele: Marimar
 12.00 Le Journal
 12.25 Tele: Sublime Mensonge
 13.15 Tele: Fierce Angel
 13.40 Tele: Imperio De Mentiras
 14.15 Serial: The Bionic Woman
 15.21 Film: The Thaw
 17.30 The Gardener's Daughter
 18.30 Serial: Wagle Ki Duniya
 18.55 Serial: Mere Dad Ki Dulhan
 19.30 Le Journal
 20.25 Serial: Le Livre Perdu Des Sortileges
 21.15 Serial: Newton's Law
 22.07 Serial: Blue Bloods

MBC 2

06.19 Local: Les Grandes Lignes
 08.21 Local: An Eta Dalert
 10.30 Local: J'ai Faim
 11.02 Local: Groov'in
 12.02 Rodrig: Li Bon Ou Konnin
 12.26 Local: Les Grandes Lignes
 13.05 MBC Prod
 15.05 Local: An Eta Dalert
 15.21 Local: Rodrig Sa
 15.47 Local: Groov'in
 17.03 Local: La Societe
 18.00 Tele: Imperio De Mentiras
 18.28 Tele: A Que No Me Dejas
 19.30 Local: Rodrig Prog
 20.04 Local: Animalia Nos Amis...
 21.00 Local: Come On Let's Dance
 22.00 Local: La Societe
 23.00 Zournal Kreol
 23.20 Local: Voyage Au Feminin
 00.26 Local: Itinerer Rodrig
 00.39 Local: Les Grands Noms...

06.14 Local: Enn Semenn Dan Lafrik
 08.33 Local: Animalia Nos Amis...
 10.30 Local: Rodrig: Nou La Ter
 12.02 Rodrig: 13 Minit Natir Rodrig
 12.38 Local: Lir Ekriir Kreol
 13.18 Local: Voyage Au Feminin
 14.12 Local: Zanfan Nou Pei
 15.03 Local: La Societe
 17.05 Local: Come On Let's Dance
 18.00 Serial: The Bionic Woman
 19.00 Zournal Kreol
 19.20 Magazine De L'emploi
 20.10 Local: Les Petits Genies
 21.35 Local: Glwar Dantan
 23.00 Zournal Kreol
 23.23 Local: Rodrig: D'jam
 23.46 Local: Rodrig - Lavi Fam
 00.08 Local: Saver Kiltirel

06.00 Rodrig: D'Jam
 06.26 Rodrig Prog: Kot Nou
 06.45 Local: Aktiv
 07.31 Rodrig Prog: Komanter
 09.00 Local: Les Petits Genies
 10.00 Local: Glwar Dantan
 11.00 Local: Nu Rasinn
 12.30 Local: Les Petits Genies
 13.01 La Journee Sous Le Regard
 14.00 Local: Elle
 15.00 Local: Pause Cuisine
 17.30 Local: Glwar Dantan
 18.00 Serial: The Bionic Woman
 19.00 Zournal Kreol
 19.20 Local: Inspiration
 20.45 Local: Les Klips
 21.37 Local: Elle
 22.36 Local: Retrouvizer
 23.20 Local: Rodrig: Sa Lavi-La
 00.37 Local: Nu Lakwizin
 01.08 Rodrig Prog: Komanter

07.19 Local: Inspirasion
 08.17 Rodrig: Sa Lavi-La
 10.32 Local: Le Challenge
 11.00 Local: Les Klips
 12.00 Local: Nu Rasinn
 13.00 Local: Rodrig: Komanter
 13.10 Rodrigues: Nu Lakwizin
 13.58 Local: Elle
 14.56 Local: Inspirasion
 15.18 Local: Tipa Tipa Nu Avance
 16.02 Local: Les Klips
 17.11 Local: Radio Vision
 18.04 Tele: Imperio De Mentiras
 18.30 Tele: A Que No Me Dejas
 19.00 Zournal Kreol
 19.30 Rodrig: Feminin Pluriel
 20.30 Local: Deba Klima
 21.30 Local: Metie
 21.46 Local: Radio Vision
 22.38 Local: Lir - Ekriir Kreol
 22.50 La Journee Sous Le Regard

MBC 3

07.00 Serial: Chacha Bhatija
 08.10 Local: Amrit Vaani
 10.07 Serial: Agniphera
 11.30 Serial: Radha Krishna
 12.00 Film: Jal Mahal
 Starring: Jeetendra, Rekha
 15.00 Live: Samachar
 15.30 Bhagwan Ab Ho Kitne Door
 16.00 Serial: Ishaaron Ishaaron Mein
 16.21 Serial: Bhakharwadi
 18.00 Live: Samachar
 18.30 Local: Mati Ke Mol
 19.29 Local: Nacha Gawa Jhooma
 20.30 Serial: Vidrohi
 20.57 Film: Devta
 23.28 Serial: Jijaji Chhat Par Hain
 23.39 Serial: Yeh Teri Galiyan
 00.34 MBC Prod: Mati Ke Mol
 00.45 Local: Khel Khiladi

07.00 Serial: Chacha Bhatija
 08.26 MBC Prod: Mati Ke Mol
 10.43 Serial: Bade Acche Lagte Hai
 11.52 Serial: Dikri Vahalno Dariyo
 12.19 Local: Mati Ke Mol
 12.44 Local: Khel Khiladi
 13.10 Local Prod: Taare Zameen...
 15.00 Live: Samachar
 15.21 Film: Lootere
 Starring: Sunny Deol, Juhi Chawla, Naseeruddin Shah, Pooja Bedi
 18.00 Live: Samachar
 18.30 Local: Satrangi
 19.16 Local: Khoobsurat
 19.31 Magazine
 20.00 Indian Idol Winner 2023
 21.10 Film: Kucch To Hai
 Starring: Tusshar Kapoor, Esha Deol, Anita Hassanandani
 23.18 KicakL Satrangi

07.00 Serial: Chacha Bhatija
 09.00 Duniya Mein Is Saptah
 09.32 MBC Production
 12.02 Film: Dil Ne Jise Apna Kaha
 14.08 Mag: DDI Mag
 14.59 Live: Samachar
 15.30 Local: Satrangi
 15.58 Duniya Mein Is Saptah
 16.15 Local: Khoobsurat
 18.00 Live: Samachar
 18.29 Sayings Radha Krishna
 19.00 Local: Tohar Rashi
 19.30 Local: Tohar Farmaish
 20.10 Local: Yaadein
 20.30 Serial: Porus
 21.02 Serial: Naagin Season 3
 21.44 Serial: Crime Patrol
 22.27 Serial: Chhotki Dulhin
 23.11 Serial: Bhaag Na Bachhe Koi
 00.12 Local: Planet Bollywood
 00.53 Local: Tohar Rashi

07.00 Serial: Babu
 09.35 Serial: Chhotki Dulhin
 10.21 Serial: Bhaag Na Bachhe Koi
 12.02 Film: Radha Krishna
 14.13 Mag: DDI Mag
 14.59 Live: Samachar
 15.21 Dulhin Uhe Jo Nanad Man...
 15.40 Kundali Bhagya
 17.31 Radha Krishna
 18.00 Live: Samachar
 18.29 Local: Ved Ki Shikshayen
 19.00 Local: Radha Krishna
 19.30 Local: Excerpts From Shiv...
 20.10 Local: Vaad Vivaad
 20.30 Film: Abhimanyu
 23.03 Serial: Jijai Chhat Par Hain
 23.00 Serial: Yeh Teri Galiyan
 00.11 Local: Ved Ki Shikshayen
 00.41 Local: Ayush
 01.07 Local: Excerpts From Shiv Abhishek
 01.47 Local: Vaad Vivaad

Cine 12

06.03 Mag: Eco India
 06.41 Mag: Carnet De Sante
 07.28 Mag: Tomorrow Today
 07.54 Doc: Nobel Prize
 08.29 Doc: The North Drift
 09.14 Doc: Fine Arts Sculptures
 09.57 Doc: Disappear
 10.42 Doc: Tea-New Ideas For A Traditional Drink
 11.10 Doc: Sweet Magic
 12.10 Mag: Border Crossing
 12.27 Mag: Tomorrow Today
 12.53 Mag: The Answer To Almost
 15.00 D.Anime: PAF Le Chien
 15.10 Serial: Panda And Little Mole
 15.22 D.Anime: La Petite Ecole...
 15.48 D.Anime: Fast And Furious
 16.10 D.Anime: Fangbone
 16.31 D.Anime: Sam Ke Pompier
 16.43 D.Anime: Ubongo Kids
 17.16 Mag: Lab 360

06.12 D.Anime: Les Blagues De...
 06.45 D.Anime: L'Heure Du Conte
 09.22 D.Anime: Early Learning
 10.01 Mag: The World Is Yours
 11.05 Doc: Healthy Living
 13.11 Doc: Quand L'Histoire Fait...
 15.00 D.Anime: PAF Le Chien
 15.10 D.Anime: Panda And Little...
 15.39 D.Anime: Fast And Furious
 16.09 D.Anime: Fangbone
 16.28 D.Anime: Sam Le Pompier
 16.40 D.Anime: Ubongo Kids
 17.04 Mag: Lab 360
 17.25 Mag: National Anthem
 17.29 Doc: Quand L'Histoire Fait...
 18.00 Doc: Wourld Capitals
 20.01 Tele: Le Chemin Du Destin
 20.30 Live: News
 21.40 Film: Leçons De Seduction
 23.47 Doc: Persons
 23.50 Doc: Deep Sea Greed
 00.32 Doc: The Never Ending...

06.28 D.Anime: Les Blagues De...
 06.51 D.Anime: L'Heure Du Conte
 07.13 D.Anime: Paf Le Chien
 09.46 Mag: Recipes For Kids
 10.08 Serial: Malory Towers
 11.04 Mag: Rev: The Global Auto...
 11.35 Mag: In Good Shape
 12.06 Doc: Space Robot Revolution
 13.26 Doc: Deep Sea Greed
 15.04 D.Anime: PAF Le Chien
 15.06 D.Anime: Panda And Little...
 15.18 D.Anime: La Petite Ecole...
 15.49 D.Anime: Fast And Furious
 16.32 D.Anime: Ubongo Kids
 17.03 Mag: Sand Tales
 18.00 Doc: World Capitals
 18.28 Doc: Foodland
 19.00 Mag: Healthy Living
 20.00 Tele: Le Chemin Du Destin
 20.30 Live: News
 21.42 Film: The Night Is Young

06.00 Doc: Eye On SADC
 08.00 Doc: Hotel
 08.57 Doc: No U-Turn
 10.22 Doc: Fat, Fatter, Fattest
 11.06 Doc: World Capitals
 11.21 Mag: Luana's Kitchen
 11.50 Mag: Global US
 12.20 Doc: World Famous...
 12.53 Mag: Arts 21
 14.05 Doc: Fat, Fatter, Fattest
 15.00 D.Anime: PAF Le Chien
 15.10 D.Anime: Panda And Little...
 15.22 D.Anime: La Petite Ecole...
 15.46 D.Anime: Fast And Furious
 16.11 D.Anime: Fangbone
 16.33 D.Anime: Sam Le Pompier
 16.37 D.Anime: Ubongo Kids
 18.30 Mag: The 77 Percent
 18.55 Doc: World Heritage
 19.00 Student Support Prog
 21.36 Film: The Dark Beginnings Of Sherlock Holmes

Bollywood TV

14.15 Serial: Zindagi Mere Ghar Aana
 14.43 Bade Acche Lagte Hai 2
 15.30 Film: Hote Hote Pyar Ho Gaya
 Starring Jackie Shroff, Kajol
 18.00 Live: Samachar
 18.31 Kundali Bhagya
 19.01 Udaariyaan
 19.31 Kuch Rang Pyar Ke Aise...
 20.01 Sasural Simar Ka 2
 20.30 Radha Krishna
 22.53 Mag: The Answer To Almost
 21.30 Mere Sai
 22.01 Kismat Ki Lakiron Se
 22.31 Kabhi Kabhie Ittefaq Sey
 22.59 Patiala Babes
 23.29 Film: Hote Hote Pyar Ho Gaya
 Stars : Jackie Shroff, Kajol

08.00 Kabhi Kabhie Ittefaq Sey
 10.00 Kalari Kids
 10.20 Sasural Simar Ka 2
 12.06 Udaariyaan
 14.05 Anupamaa
 16.00 Kuch Rang Pyar Ke Aise...



18.31 Film: 83
 Starring: Ranveer Singh, Deepika Padukone, Tahir Raj Bhasin
 20.13 Serial: Kalari Kids
 21.27 Serial: Porus
 21.49 Naagin Season 05
 22.30 Serial: Kabhi Kabhie Ittefaq Sey

00.00 Sasural Simar Ka 2
 02.05 Udaariyaan
 04.00 Anupamaa
 05.53 Kuch Rang Pyar Ka Aise...
 08.00 Kalari Kids
 08.13 Main Maike Chali Jaungi...
 10.02 Kundali Bhagya
 12.00 Bade Acche Lagte Hai 2
 14.03 Kismat Ki Lakiron Se
 16.00 Jijaji Chhat Par Hain
 18.32 Film: Mere Baap Pehle Aap
 Starring Akshaye Khanna, Genelia D'Souza, Paresh Rawal, Om Puri
 21.31 Serial: Kalari Kids
 21.45 Serial: Naagin Season
 22.25 Serial: Bade Acche Lagte Hai 2
 00.10 Serial: Main Maike Chali Jaungi Tum Dekhte Rahiyo

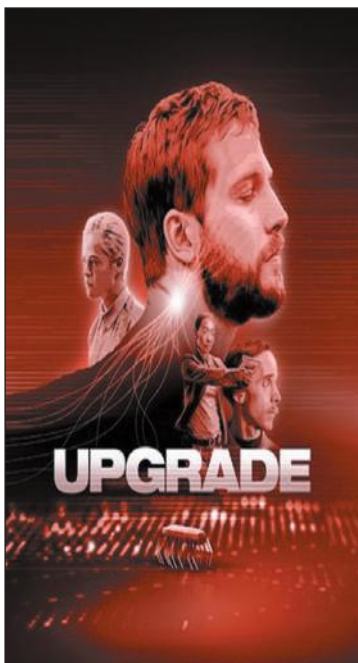
14.25 Serial: Zindagi Mere Ghar...
 15.00 Serial: Bade Acche Lagte Hai 2
 15.26 Film: Aashiqui. In
 Starring: Ishaan Manhaas & Ankita
 18.00 Live: Samachar
 18.30 Kundali Bhagya
 19.00 Udaariyaan
 19.31 Kuch Rang Pyar Ke Aise...
 20.08 Sasural Simar Ka 2
 20.36 Radha Krishna
 21.06 Anupamaa
 21.32 Mere Sai
 22.04 Kismat Ki Lakiron Se
 22.29 Kabhi Kabhie Ittefaq Sey
 22.53 Patiala Babes
 23.30 Film: Aashiqui. In
 Starring: Ishaan Manhaas & Ankita



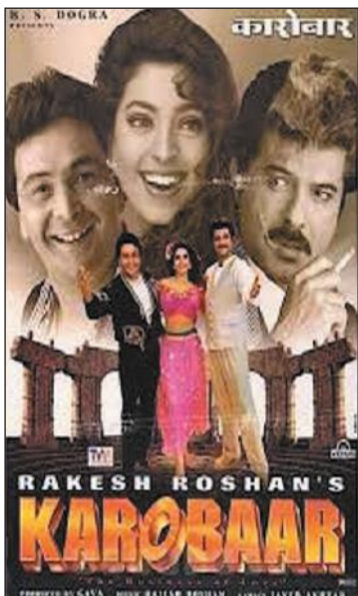
Mardi 11 Juillet - 20.30



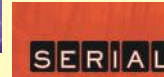
Mercredi 12 Juillet - 15.12



Mercredi 12 Juillet - 20.50



Programme TV



mardi 11 juillet

MBC 1

06.00 Serial: New Amsterdam
 07.15 Serial: Le Livre Perdu Des...
 08.09 Serial: Newton's Law
 08.54 Serial: Blue Bloods
 09.40 Tele: Le Chemin Du Destin
 10.05 Local: A Que No Me Dejas
 10.30 The Gardener's Daughter
 10.55 Tele: Marimar
 12.00 Le Journal
 12.25 Tele: Sublime Mensonge
 13.15 Tele: Fierce Angel
 13.45 Tele: Imperio De Mentiras
 14.10 Serial: L'Incroyable Hulk
 15.21 Film: The Dark Beginnings Of Sherlock Holmes
 17.30 The Gardener's Daughter
 17.59 Live: Samachar
 18.31 Serial: Wagle Duniya
 18.55 Serial: Mere Dad Ki Dulhan
 20.30 Film: Intrusion
 Avec: Richard Gere, Dakota Fanning

MBC 2

07.31 Local: Tous Egaux
 09.00 Prod: Deba Klima
 10.00 Local: Radio Vision
 11.00 Local: Le Rendez Vous...
 12.03 Rodrig: Feminin Pluriel
 12.25 Local: Belle Et Mysterieuse
 13.03 Local: Tous Egaux
 14.42 Rodrig Prog: Saver Lokal
 15.10 Prod: Deba Kliba
 16.04 Local: Le Rendez Vous...
 17.12 Local: Radio Vision
 18.00 Tele: Imperio De Mentiras
 18.32 Tele: A Que No Me Dejas
 19.00 Zournal Kreol
 19.30 Rodrig Prog: Plat Du Chef
 19.48 Local: Son Ladan Mem
 21.30 Local: Radio Vision
 22.22 Local: Mots & Ecrits
 22.51 La Journee Sous Le Regard
 23.20 Local: Music Tour 2022

MBC 3

07.00 Serial: Chacha Bhatija
 08.04 Local: Ved Ki Shikshayen
 08.30 Local: Ayush
 08.56 Excerpts From Shiv Abhishek
 11.10 Serial: Kundali Bhagya
 11.33 Serial: Radha Krishna
 12.00 Film: Rickshawala
 Starring: Mala Sinha, Randhir Kapoor, Neetu Singh
 15.00 Live: Samachar
 15.30 Serial: Badki Malkaain
 15.59 Serial: Jijaji Chhat Par Hain
 18.00 Live: Samachar
 18.30 Local: Tark Vitark
 19.00 Local: Bhojpuri Dhamaka
 20.00 Chikitsa Aur Swasthya
 20.30 Film: Babu
 23.35 Serial: Jijaji Chhat Par Hain
 00.11 Serial: Yeh Teri Galiyan

MBC 5

06.03 Mag: Eco At Africa
 08.52 Mag: Tomorrow Today
 09.21 Mag: Washington Forum
 10.32 Doc: To Tell A Tale
 11.35 Doc: Sweet Magic
 11.59 Mag: The 77 Percent
 13.02 Mag: In Good Shape
 14.11 Doc: Nobel Prize
 14.20 Mag: Tomorrow Today
 15.06 D.Anime: PAF Le Chien
 15.22 La Petite La Petite Ecole...
 15.41 D.Anime: Fast And Furious
 16.31 D.Anime: Fangbone
 16.04 D.Anime: Sam Le Pompier
 16.40 D.Anime: Ubongo Kids
 17.07 Mag: N*Gen
 17.37 Mag: National Anthem
 17.54 Doc: Sweet Magic
 18.01 Rev: The Global Auto...
 18.26 Mag: Healthy Living
 18.56 Doc: World Heritage

Bollywood TV

14.25 Zindagi Mere Ghar Aana
 15.25 Film: Aakhree Raasta
 Starring Amitabh Bachchan, Jaya Prada, Sridevi, Anupam Kher
 18.00 Live: Samachar
 18.30 Kundali Bhagya
 19.03 Udaariyaan
 19.33 Kuch Rang Pyar Ke Aise...
 20.06 Sasural Simar Ka 2
 20.38 Radha Krishna
 21.08 Anupama
 21.37 Mere Sai
 22.08 Kismat Ki Lakiron Se
 22.38 Kabhi Kabhie Ittefaq Sey
 23.06 Patiala Babes
 23.30 Film: Aakhree Raasta
 Starring: Amitabh Bachchan, Jaya Prada, Sridevi, Anupam Kher
 02.02 Kundali Bhagya

mercredi 12 juillet

07.10 Film: Memories Of War
 08.45 Serial: The Bionic Woman
 09.30 Tele: Le Chemin Du Destin
 10.05 Tele: A Que No Me Dejas
 10.30 The Gardener's Daughter
 10.55 Tele: Marimar
 11.15 Serial: Anomalia
 12.00 Le Journal
 12.25 Tele: Sublime Mensonge
 13.15 Tele: Fierce Angel
 13.45 Tele: Imperio De Mentiras
 14.15 Serial: The Bionic Woman
 15.21 Film: Intrusion
 17.30 The Gardener's Daughter
 18.31 Serial: Wagle Ki Duniya
 18.55 Serial: Mere Dad Ki Dulhan
 19.30 Journal & La Meteo
 20.30 Local: Focus Live
 21.30 Serial: Chicogo Med
 22.15 Film: Upgrade
 23.50 Le Journal

07.05 Local: Les Grands Moments
 08.07 Local: Priorite Sante
 08.29 Local: Paroles Agricoles
 09.13 Local: Zeness Dime
 10.22 Rodrig Prog: Promnad
 10.53 Local: Music Tour 2022
 12.15 Local: Son Ladan Mem
 13.05 Local: Priorite Sante
 13.53 Local: Zeness Dime
 14.30 Local: Rodrig: Rod'Art
 15.03 Local Prod: Nu Rasinn
 16.00 Local: Glwar Dantan
 17.09 Local: Music Tour 2022
 18.00 Tele: Imperio De Mentiras
 18.33 Tele: A Que No Me Dejas
 19.00 Zournal Kreol
 19.20 Le Magazine De L'Emploi
 19.30 Local: Rodrig Spor
 20.03 Mon Jardin Ma Maison
 21.00 Local: Agri Ensemble
 21.30 Local: Les Kliips
 22.22 Local: Proze Dime

07.00 Serial: Chacha Bhatija
 08.26 Local: Bhojpuri Dhamaka
 08.56 Prakriti Ki God Mein
 09.22 Chikitsa Aur Swasthya
 10.00 Serial: Jijaji Chhat Par Hain
 11.32 Serial: Radha Krishna
 12.00 Film: Naalayak
 Starring: Jeetendra, Leena Chandavarkar
 15.30 Serial: Dulhin Uhe Jo Nanad Man Bhave
 16.01 Serial: Suhani Si Ek Ladki
 17.30 Serial: Radha Krishna
 18.00 Live: Samachar
 18.30 Other: Radha Krishna
 19.00 Local: Kala
 20.00 Local: Virasat
 20.35 Film: Dewar Bina Angana Na Shobhe Raja
 22.56 Serial: Jijaji Chhat Par Hain
 23.20 Serial: Yeh Teri Galiyan

06.45 Mag: Red Carpet
 08.49 Doc: Nobel Prize
 09.58 Doc: Fine Arts Sculptures
 10.40 Doc: The Healing Power...
 11.28 Mag: Rev: The Global Auto...
 11.54 Mag: Healthy Living
 12.28 Doc: World Heritage
 12.59 Mag: Check In
 14.22 Doc: Nobel Prize
 15.00 D.Anime: Kids Songs
 15.16 D.Anime: Panda And Little...
 15.45 D.Anime: Fast And Furious
 16.08 D.Anime: Fangbone
 16.32 D.Anime: Sam Le Pompier
 16.40 D.Anime: Ubongo Kids
 17.10 Serial: N*Gen
 17.36 Mag: National Anthem
 17.55 Doc: Sweet Magic
 18.00 Mag: Motorweek
 19.00 Student Support Prog...
 20.00 Tele: Le Chemin Du Destin

14.25 Zindagi Mere Ghar Aana
 15.24 Film: Karobaar
 Starring: Anil Kapoor, Rishi Kapoor, Juhi Chawla
 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
 21.06 Anupama
 21.36 Mere Sai
 22.05 Kismat Ki Lakiron Se
 22.31 Kabhi Kabhie ittefaq Sey
 22.58 Patila Babes
 23.31 Film: Karobaar
 Starring: Anil Kapoor, Rishi Kapoor, Juhi Chawla
 02.00 Serial: Kundali Bhagya

jeudi 13 juillet

06.00 Serial: New Amsterdam
 07.10 Serial: Le Livre Perdu Des Sortilèges
 08.00 Serial: Chicago Med
 09.35 Tele: Le Chemin Du Destin
 09.55 Tele: A Que No Me Dejas
 10.25 The Gardener's Daughter
 10.50 Tele: Marimar
 12.00 Le Journal
 12.25 Tele: Sublime Mensonge
 13.15 Tele: Fierce Angel
 13.45 Tele: Imperio De Mentiras
 14.10 Serial: L'incroyable Hulk
 15.22 Film: Torpedo
 17.15 The Gardener's Daughter
 18.00 Live: Samachar
 18.30 Serial: Wagle Ki Duniya
 18.56 Serial: Mere Dad Ki Dulhan
 19.30 Le Journal
 20.30 Film: Patel Ki Punjabi Shaadi
 Stars: Rishi Kapoor, Paresh Rawal, Vir Das

07.09 Local: Toc Toc Doc
 09.09 Local: Rodrig: Kot Nou
 11.00 Local: Les Kliips
 12.03 Local: Rodrig Spor
 12.34 Mon Jardin Ma Maison
 13.05 Local: Toc Toc Doc
 13.20 Local: En Forme
 13.35 Local: Agir Ensemble
 13.57 Rodrig: Klip Seleccion
 16.10 Local: Come On Let's Dance
 17.05 Local: Radio Vision
 18.00 Tele: Imperio De Mentiras
 18.31 Tele: A Que No Me Dejas
 19.00 Live: Zournal Kreol
 19.20 Rodrig: Li Bon Ou Konnin
 19.30 Local: Rodrig:
 19.48 Local: Les Grandes Lignes
 20.30 Local: Meshiagare
 20.45 Local: Evasion
 23.00 Le Journal
 23.20 Local: Groov'in

07.00 Serial: Chacha Bhatija
 08.04 Mag: Tirth Yatra
 08.21 Local: Kala
 08.53 Local: Anjoria
 09.13 Local: Virasat
 09.28 Local: Gyan Vigyan
 10.03 Serial: Suhani Si Ek Ladki
 11.27 Radha Krishna
 12.00 Film: Paanch Qaidi
 Starring: Anjad Khan
 15.30 Serial: Badki Malkaain
 16.00 Serial: Agniphera
 18.00 Live: Samachar
 18.30 Local: Amrit Vaani
 19.11 Local: Swami Dayanand Saraswati
 19.37 Local: Bhajan Sandhya
 20.01 Local: Hunarbaaz
 20.30 Serial: Surya Puraan
 21.37 Serial: Jag Jaanani Maa
 22.42 Jijaji Chhat Par Hain

06.03 Mag: Motorweek
 09.25 Doc: Fine Arts Sculptures
 09.32 Doc: Focus On Europe
 10.39 Doc: Discover Uzbekistan
 11.26 Doc: Sweet Magic
 12.00 Mag: Vous Et Nous
 12.25 Mag: Arts 21
 13.04 Doc: The Inside Story
 13.34 Doc: Tree Stories
 15.04 D.Anime: Kids Songs
 15.22 D.Anime: Panda And Little...
 15.34 D.Anime: La Petite Ecole...
 15.42 D.Anime: Paf, Le Chien
 16.10 D.Anime: Fangbone
 16.39 D.Anime: Ubongo Kids
 17.10 Mag: Lab 360
 17.36 Mag: National Anthem
 17.54 Doc: Sweet Magic
 17.55 Doc: Eco India
 18.30 Mag: Shift
 18.42 Mag: Carnet De Sante

14.25 Zindagi Mere Ghar Aana
 15.21 Film: Patthar Ke Phool
 Stars: Salman Khan, Raveena Tandon, Kiran Kumar, Reema Lagoo
 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
 21.02 Anupama
 21.30 Mere Sai
 22.01 Kismat Ki Lakiron Se
 22.31 Kabhi Kabhie Ittefaq Sey
 22.59 Patiala Babes
 23.30 Film: Patthar Ke Phool
 Stars: Salman Khan, Raveena Tandon, Kiran Kumar, Reema Lagoo
 02.12 Kundali Bhagya
 02.30 Serial: Udaariyaan



Jeudi 13 Juillet - 15.30

Stars: Salman Khan, Raveena Tandon, Kiran Kumar, Reema Lagoo



Jeudi 13 Juillet - 20.30

Stars: Rishi Kapoor, Paresh Rawal, Vir Das



Alimentation. La loi des prix



Nita Chicooree-Mercier

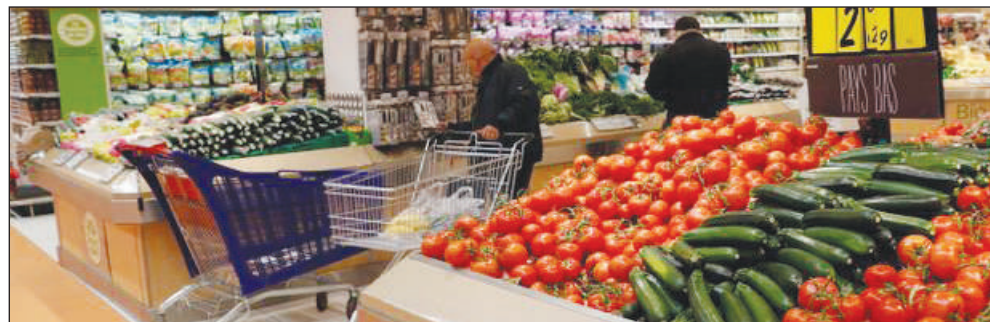
D'une part, les autorités lancent un appel à la responsabilité des gens sur la qualité de l'alimentation. D'autre part, le prix des produits alimentaires, notamment les légumes frais, suivent une course folle, soulevant des questions et des doutes sur les véritables causes expliquant une telle montée des prix... Ces prix qui ne donnent aucun signe de revenir à leur valeur marchande réelle depuis des mois.

D'abord, merci à la radio nationale de prodiguer des conseils aux professionnels de l'agriculture, de la pêche aux fermiers et, de faire un rappel régulier à la société toute entière d'agir en adultes responsables quant à la qualité des produits et le mode de cuisson pour le maintien d'une bonne santé désengorger les hôpitaux pour les anomalies de santé qui peuvent être évitées. La MBC le fait gratuitement depuis des décennies, fait inexistant dans d'autres contrées. Mais la contradiction saute aux yeux et fait froncer les sourcils du bon peuple, les végétariens et quasi végétariens en première ligne.

A la radio, le gras, le sel et le sucre sont désignés comme ennemis principaux à l'assaut de nos organes vulnérables. Or, les produits surgelés, le *processed food*, les aliments transformés, gorgés de gras et de sel, restent les moins chers et les plus abordables pour les ménages aux petits revenus, même s'ils ont subi en plein fouet l'augmentation des prix depuis plus d'un an.

Les autorités prennent soin de mettre un *price cap* sur la viande importée en période de grande consommation lors de certaines fêtes religieuses. Qu'en est-il des fêtes et des 'services' religieux qui exigent un repas végétarien, sans parler des jeûnes qui ponctuent ces fêtes toute l'année ? Point d'annonce à grande publicité à la radio et à la télévision d'une quelconque intervention de l'État pour régler les prix ? Qu'en est-il des végétariens et de ceux qui consomment principalement des légumes, des féculents et des grains secs ?

Pommes d'amour entre 40 et 80 roupies, brèdes à Rs20 ou Rs25, chou-fleur et brocoli à Rs75 et Rs100 la livre, un poireau maigrelet à Rs25, pomme de terre à Rs25, manioc à Rs25, betterave entre Rs25 et Rs30, etc. Les herbes essentielles telles que persil, cotomili, menthe et thym coûtent entre Rs20 et Rs25 pour quelques brins, un prix catastrophique, plus chers qu'en Europe. Des prix aussi élevés créent de grosses difficultés dans la vie quotidienne, lors des fêtes et de nombreux services religieux. Les autorités du ministère de la Santé ne peuvent ignorer l'utilité médicale des herbes fines, l'importance de certains légumes et féculents, et des fruits



dans une alimentation saine.

Est-ce que la hausse du prix de pétrole créée par le conflit en Ukraine justifie cette flambée générale du prix de l'alimentation ? L'impact du prix de l'essence est brandi comme un repoussoir pour toute velléité d'un retour à la normale des prix. D'aucuns se posent la question sur le coût réel impliqué dans la logistique des produits agricoles du champ au marché. Est-ce la loi du marché qui dicte la valeur marchande ou le libéralisme effréné dont certains entendent profiter au détriment des consommateurs ?

De même, est-ce la loi du marché ou la loi des industriels qui dicte les prix dans la grande distribution, dans les supermarchés à travers l'île ? C'est-à-dire la folie d'un libéralisme au service d'un capitalisme sans loi. A la question sur la cherté de ses produits dans les supermarchés, le patron d'une chaîne locale de production agricole répondit lors d'un Salon de l'Agriculture que les supermarchés prennent une marge de 30% de profit sur les produits, ce qui est énorme.

Entre industriels internationaux et grandes surfaces commerciales, qui profite d'une situation internationale instable pour procéder à un enrichissement indécent sur le dos du public ?

On n'apprend rien au public, espérons-le, en rappelant que la viande congelée est nocive pour la santé. Or c'est le seul recours de 65% à 80% de la population. La qualité du poulet frais, dit 'fermier', vendu dans les supermarchés laisse planer des doutes quant à son authenticité. A 250 ou 280 roupies la livre, l'agneau congelé importé de la Nouvelle Zélande, de mauvaise qualité, de surcroît, reste inaccessible tandis que l'agneau frais de Rodrigues se fera attendre jusqu'en septembre. Le cerf frais avoisine les 280 et 300 roupies la livre, donc, inabordable pour la majorité des gens. Le porc local est une alternative abordable pour ceux qui peinent à déboursier de l'argent pour les autres viandes. Les médias en Europe ont amplement pointé du doigt le nitrate utilisé pour enjoliver le jambon porc ou poulet d'une couleur rose car ce produit est réputé cancérigène, la couleur naturelle du porc étant le gris. Faut-il rappeler aussi à tous ceux qui sont soucieux de l'avenir de la planète que la consommation de la viande bovine devrait être impérativement réduite au minimum pour des raisons écologiques ? Laissons les raisons éthiques au bon vouloir des uns et des autres.

Produits à valeur nutritive zéro, le

corned mutton et *corned beef* qu'un produit artificiel rend tout rose pour être plus attrayant, sont très prisés par bon nombre des gens à Maurice, aux Seychelles et dans les îles de la Polynésie et du Pacifique. Ces produits en boîte de conserve consistent en un pot-pourri d'abats, de tripes, etc., broyés et mis en boîte de conserve. Fabriqués en Australie et Nouvelle Zélande, ils agrémentaient l'alimentation des gens des îles à l'époque coloniale. En France, ce type d'aliments est destiné aux chiens et aux chats. Il faut peut-être se réveiller ici ! Un père de famille se plaignait à la radio du fait qu'il peinait à garnir le sandwich de ses enfants avec le fameux *corned mutton* en raison du prix élevé. Pour le même prix, et même moins, entre 70 et 80 roupies, il était possible d'acheter une livre de thon frais l'an dernier, ce qui est nettement meilleur pour l'alimentation de ses enfants. Il faut bien aider les gens à se débarrasser des vieilles habitudes, une prise de position délicate pour une radio.

L'information diffusée par l'Organisation mondiale de la Santé sur la dangerosité des éléments chimiques, des *sweeteners* dans les boissons douces et gazeuses, est tout sauf une révélation. Il n'est un secret pour personne dans les milieux où l'alimentation est prise au sérieux que la quantité de sucre dans ces boissons est plus élevée dans les îles que dans d'autres pays. Dans certains cas, l'industrie agro-alimentaire agit comme une véritable mafia. La *Food and Drug Administration* aux Etats-Unis en ont fait la triste expérience maintes fois, toute vérité des experts sur la qualité de certains produits est parfois suivie de menaces de mort. C'est une affaire de milliards de dollars en jeu.

Ici, tout comme à l'échelle internationale, c'est le public qui paie les conséquences de la rapacité des puissants lobbys du monde industriel. On se souvient de la montée en flèche du prix du pétrole après la première guerre du Golfe en 1990. Alors que les prix ont chuté après la guerre, les compagnies aériennes ont maintenu le prix fort jusqu'à aujourd'hui. Un capitalisme débridé laisse un boulevard au grand banditisme du monde industriel, les hors-la-loi en toute impunité.

Il est impératif pour l'État et l'Association pour la protection des Consommateurs d'enquêter sur les prix pratiqués dans le commerce en ce temps de budget familial restrictif.



Tree of Knowledge

Madisyn Taylor

Working from Center

When you feel you are in the thick of things, tapping into your own inner resources will help bring strength.

When we are "in the thick of it," overwhelmed by too many things that need our attention, it's important to remember that we are never given more than we can handle. When life's challenges make us question this, our best coping mechanism is to follow the reliable and well-known course to our calm center and anchor ourselves there. It is for these times that we have been practicing regularly, so that our mind, body, and spirit will know how to find the peace within. Even in the midst of seeming chaos, a deep breath can help us turn within to find the space to work from, the calm at the center of the storm.

Tapping into our inner resources we begin again, bringing our focus to the needs of the present moment. Asking "why?" shifts our energy away from the task at hand. We can seek answers to those questions once we get to the other side of the present challenge. For now, we accept what is. Once we have collected scattered energy and created space, inspiration will strike, help will arrive, and what seemed impossible will either become possible or we will find it has become unnecessary. The flow of the universe and its perfect order has room to move in our lives when we get ourselves and our extraneous thoughts out of the way.

After the thick has become thin again, we have the opportunity to learn from the situation with a better idea of our true capabilities. We can now ask ourselves the "why" questions with the goal of fine-tuning our lives. Perhaps we have taken on more than is ours to do or made commitments out of obligation rather than insight. It could just be the ebb and flow and life, or we may be receiving life lessons on a fast track in preparation for something wonderful to come. But when we have a chance to make new choices, we know the best ones are made when we work from center.