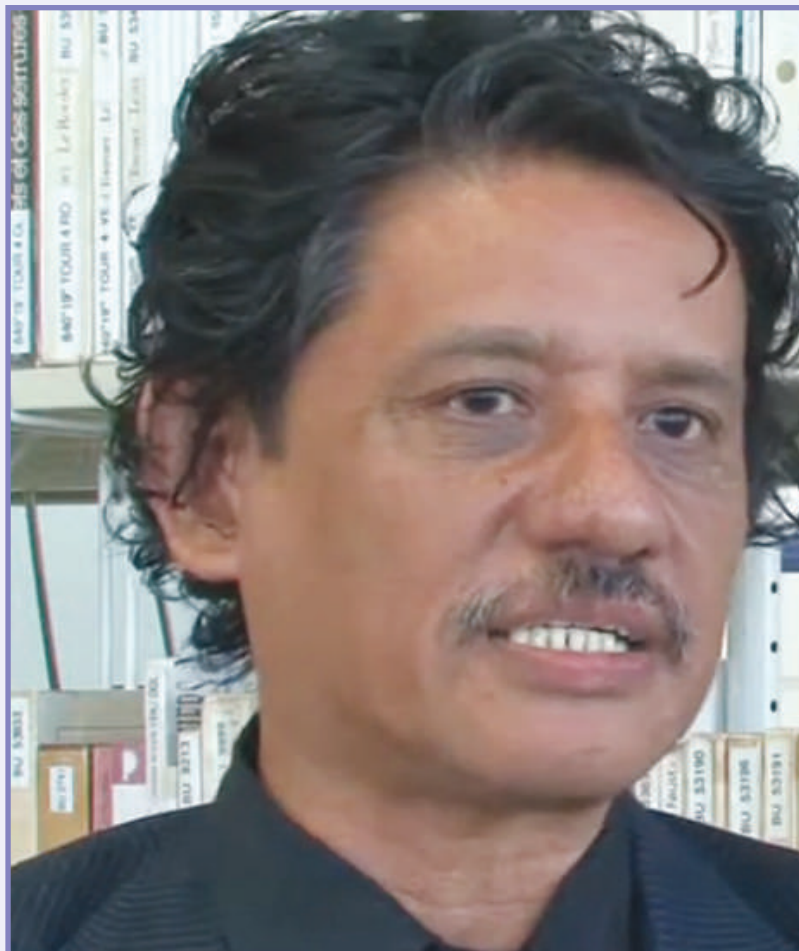


MAURITIUS TIMES

• *There is always light. If only we're brave enough to see it. If only we're brave enough to be it. -- Amanda Gorman*



Interview: Jocelyn Chan Low, Historien

“Le MSM et ses alliés ont tout intérêt à casser la campagne de mobilisation de l’alliance PTr-MMM-PMSD

pour éviter qu’une véritable synergie ne se développe entre les partisans de ces trois partis”

- ‘Les allégations de scandales à l’encontre des membres du gouvernement ne manquent pas. On aura droit à un festival des horreurs’

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India’s 76th Independence Day

Reflections on the Incredible Road travelled since 1947

India needs to rewrite its own history and legends, without faux-semblants and political correctness, the complexities, nuances and diverse threads that weave through the Indianness in today’s renaissance

Breakfast with Bwana

Did Xi Jinping make a losing bet on Putin or a losing bet on China?

It has never been a good idea to bet against America. In the final analysis, when Xi bet against America, that may have been his worst bad bet yet



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Le vote des jeunes sera d'une importance capitale lors des prochaines élections

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Air Mauritius and State-Owned Enterprises

What accountability?

The ability to hear out differing or opposing views even when not necessarily agreeing, to consider political opponents as adversaries not as enemies, to allow public manifestations as legitimate democratic expressions, are all part of what should distinguish us from autocratic states. When competencies are believed to emanate primarily from a small and restricted coterie of faithful friends, cronies, yes-men, advisors when it's not simply family and relatives, then we end up where we are today, a society that is in a mess and is looking for answers and alternatives.

We have no crystal ball to gauge the undercurrents in the population, but clearly the message from the unified Opposition regional congress in Mare d'Albert has rattled the MSM and its satellite outfits as they attempt to claw back from the demeanour of the past five years or more. Some aspects of that image clean-up strategy may be seen in the proposal to set up a future Financial Crimes Commission after years of lacklustre performance and a signal failure to take any of several ministers and other high officials of the ruling regime to task. Another is the rather more obvious attempt to rope in civil society, the press and NGOs in the necessary fight against drug trafficking and abuse, and somehow share or dilute the responsibility for the most notorious failure of the ruling regime since they took office.

It is with this background that the continuous damages to the national image of our national carrier MK in the Yogita Babboo dismissal case is adding unwanted fuel to government's discomfort both locally and from international agencies (e.g., ILO) and professional cabin-crew associations. A few months ago, some political nominees at MK and Air Mauritius Holdings have found criticisms of their management and policies by the president of the MK Cabin Crew Association too ruffling for their personal image and that of the airline they were despatched to manage. So, Ms Babboo-Rama, already with some 15 other cabin crew on leave without pay well after the mandatory vaccination requirements for staff have gone, was called in for a disciplinary hearing and dismissed.

MK was a former cherished carrier, which was brought to its knees in 2019-2020, ended up in receivership, getting first an injection of Rs 14 bil-

lion to stave off liquidation, then a further Rs 25 billion from Bank of Mauritius/Mauritius Investment Corporation generosity from public purse. In that dark period, consultants earned countless millions while brand-new Airbus planes were reportedly sold off for peanuts and spare parts while older ones are being leased today under unknown conditions. Whatever the legal contours the Babboo case takes in the industrial courts, with the obvious inability of the Ministry of Labour to rein in the excesses and ego-trips of mighty power nominees against a long-serving professional, the public image of government and its babus is taking a severe blow.

It raises a more fundamental question our polity has to address, that of the essential unaccountability of our major State-Owned Enterprises (SOEs), not amenable to questions in the National Assembly or to some form of supervision of its good governance practices. Whether at the national carrier (MK), or at other major entities where public funds, whether majority or fully-owned, like Mauritius Telecom or the State Bank, the quest for improved accountability and transparency has to define new modes of thinking.

The reliance on once-a-year shareholders meeting is obviously proving insufficient. As for top representatives of various ministries, the cream of our civil service establishment, on their Board, their contribution in preventing abuse either during the pandemic or after, has been less than sterling. Who is advising or supervising the MK Board for instance in those plane disposal and leasing arrangements or the announced decision to release its slots at Heathrow, in favour of Gatwick one assumes, and which is causing quite a stir in knowledgeable circles? One avenue might be through a permanent Select Committee chaired by an independent figurehead empowered, without overstepping Board and management, to supervise good governance and to keep tabs over any departures in those SOEs. Another alternative is to rely on a Freedom of Information Act and/or a stiffened Public Accounts Committee but the excesses of today should guide experienced minds on necessary changes that are needed to promote corporate good governance.

The Conversation

West Africa has experienced a wave of coups - superficial democracy is to blame

Although West Africa has made some headway with efforts to propagate democracy, its dividends, in the form of good governance, remain elusive

West Africa has seen coups and military takeovers in three countries in 2022. Like those of the past, they came with promises of a quick return to civilian regimes once socio-economic and political challenges had been met. The challenges are usually listed as inept governance, corruption, rising insecurity and popular revolts amid economic hardship.



A small group of protesters holds Russia and Burkina flags as they protest against the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS).
Issouf Sanogo/AFP via Getty Images

One view of governance on the African continent is that liberal democracy has spread since the 2000s, bringing an end to dictatorships. Most African countries, it's argued, have multiparty democracies with elected governments.

My own view is that a mere introduction of electoral democracy is not sufficient. A strong democracy needs strong institutions to build resilience against fragility. Poverty and insecurity are an indication of fragility. They show that institutions are not efficiently distributing wealth. Civil rule is under threat as long as institutions remain fragile.

In my opinion, based on my research, is that the failure of civilian governments to improve living conditions, provide leadership and protect citizens is a major threat to democracy in the west African sub-region.

The military never left

The military continues to wield huge influence in governance in the region. Citizens don't seem willing or able to challenge this.

In Nigeria, for example, since the return to civil rule in 1999, former military generals have largely led the country. By the end of the current regime in May 2023, former military rulers will have been civilian presidents too for 16 out of 24 years of civil rule.

Similarly, in Sierra Leone, former military head of state Brigadier Maada Bio returned as elected civilian president in 2018.

Election periods in these countries see frequent trips by candidates to the homes of previous military or autocratic leaders, seeking their endorsement.

An example is the move by the Gambian president Adama Barrow to form an alliance with the hitherto sit-tight dictator Yahya Jammeh. Jammeh ruled the country for 22 years, starting with a 1994 coup, and sustained himself in office through incessant human rights violations.

By Temitope J. Laniran, Research Associate, University of Bradford

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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



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India's 76th Independence Day

Reflections on the Incredible Road travelled since 1947

India needs to rewrite its own history and legends, without faux-semblants and political correctness, the complexities, nuances and diverse threads that weave through the Indianness in today's renaissance

Jan Arden

As India celebrated on 15th August its 76th Independence Day with some style across the vast sub-continent, with the Tiranga raised in the US, decorating the iconic Burj Khalifa Tower in Dubai, waved by Kashmiris in their largely pacified and renovated capital Srinagar, and in Mauritius at the Ebene High Commission compound, some reflections on the incredible road travelled since 1947 come to mind.

The historical aspects of how a trading sea-farer nation abused the coastal residences assigned to the East India Company traders, infiltrated, and imposed themselves on separate Indian fiefdoms and states with private armies, until famines, riots and the widespread mutiny of 1857 led to the imposition of direct British imperial rule, have been amply related from different viewpoints. And so has the succession of events and oppression that led to the unstoppable wave of the «Quit India» movement at a time when the British were embroiled in two European and world wars and badly needed support from its former colonies in North America but more particularly its extant «jewel in the crown» Indian colony.

Taxes and cheap imports from the latter had not only enabled the industrial revolution in Britain, enriched the class of adventurer-traders but had indeed funded much of the UK imperial adventures around the globe. UK children and popular culture learned about how Britain was courageously assuming its «moral and civilising duty» to bring civilisation and the Holy Book to, for instance, «wild, often warring indigenous tribes and savages» (e.g., Henrietta Marshall, 'Our Empire story' 2008) in Southern Africa.

Much of that long, painful Indian history and even learned and often puerile discourses about Sanskritam, Indian sacred texts, Indian beliefs and religious practices, have been written by former masters, authors from the Oxbridge UK centres of authority or their intellectual allies and compradores inside India itself, «Macaulay's children». The latter, often educated and trained in Oxbridge, sometimes known more pejoratively as the «brown sahibs», took up the mantle of independent India, without ever feeling the need to decolonise the Indian mind and history books.



“If much has been achieved on the economic development front against the internal and external punditry that seemed against India's growing clout and responsible status in the world, there remains the fundamental necessity to clean up the layers of colonial froth that still clog India's diverse veins and arteries. The first is promoting a sense of national unity and pride in India's new-found economic opportunities and self-confidence, without any community being exposed to victimhood narratives...”

The Empire's criminal misdeeds

Having read much of my college history and colonial empire from British textbooks, it took a learned headmaster's treasured gift in 1969 to remove the scales and help me discover another reality. Written by a British socialite Reginald Reynolds in 1937: «White sahibs in India» was a relentless fiery and documented indictment exposing the dishonesty, the inhumanity, the brutality of the growth and maintenance of British rule in India.

Taken up by my university studies, I only reconnected with the painful and sinful legacy of British enrichment throughout the colonial empire, through other detailed books by such British history professors as John Newsinger ('The blood never dried' by John Newsinger, and 'A people's history of the British Empire', 2006) or the compelling factual interventions of Dr Shashi Tharoor at his former university debates.

A more thorough and vivid account of resistance to the British Empire awaited 2011 in Richard Gott's magisterial 569-page account of the Empire's criminal misdeeds across the world

(‘Britain's Empire, Resistance, repression and revolt’). “Britain's Empire was established and maintained for more than two centuries, through bloodshed, violence, brutality, conquest, and war,” he states unequivocally in the introduction, depriving the UK of any innocent, well-meaning, high moral narrative it never deserved as it plundered the globe.

On India's 76th Independence Day, the *Economic Times* reports that a consummate economic historian, Utsa Patnaik, had in 2017 published a researched account of how much money the UK colonial adventure actually transferred from India to the



An Indian girl examines a painting of the 1919 Amritsar massacre at the Jallianwala Bagh memorial. It was built as a tribute to the 379 unarmed people murdered by British soldiers at a protest. Pic - Getty Images

British homeland over two centuries. She and her co-workers established that the British colonial regime looted nearly \$45 trillion from India from 1765 to 1938.

* * *

Diversity, Demographics and Democracy

Of course, the British did hand India a language that cuts across divides and a structured administration and judiciary and, of course, they were not alone as European Empire-builders in the three centuries to the 20th. From the daughters of Catholic Rome, Spain, and Portugal, to the French through the Dutch and Italians and even the hapless Belgian King Leopold, they had all sailed forth, some with royal or papal blessings, to extract all the riches they could lay their hands on.

That extraordinary tale in Africa was vividly recounted in Thomas Pakenham's 1991 masterly 'The scramble for Africa, White man's conquest of the dark continent (1876 to 1912)'. But the UK certainly turned their colonial adventures into the world's most formidable maritime trade and military Empire, carving frontiers, slave, and indentured labour to produce their own riches from the outer colonies. And south Asian immigrants in the UK, when queried by naive English journalists, can simply say: «We are here, because you were there!»...

In the lead-up to India's freedom from the British Empire in 1947, the British establishment, despising the Indian multitude and its «half-naked fakir» Gandhi (Winston Churchill himself), extremely peeved at losing its colonial jewel, playing up the Muslim card, carved India in its East and West and stacked up the odds against it. Pakistan inherited the rich agricultural lands of the Punjab (rice, cotton, wheat) and Bengal (jute and rice), the military colleges, personnel, equipment and infrastructure in Rawalpindi and the major ports of Karachi or Dacca.

That would teach the rowdy, divided multitude of India a lesson and keep them permanently under the thumb of its powerful economic and military neighbour might have been the FCO intent. And the British FCO dutifully backed its proteges as they invaded Balochistan, India or Kashmir and even committed genocide on its Bengali Muslims in 1971.

But that's history as India, the laggard, condemned in 1947 to remain a militarily weak and divided nation, a basket case of international food aid, has in an extraordinary reversal since 1991 of the heavily stacked odds, overtaken the British, now out of Europe, in either GDP or in world influence. A land of Diversity, Demographics and Democracy aiming for 3rd economic powerhouse of the world as PM Modi quipped aptly in his traditional Lal Quila address to the nation.

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Le vote des jeunes sera d'une importance capitale lors des prochaines élections. Pravind Jugnauth a bien compris cela, ce qui explique ses sorties récentes dans des écoles.
P - Le Mauricien

Le vote des jeunes sera d'une importance capitale lors des prochaines élections

Par A. Bartleby

Roshi Badhain a attiré les foudres de l'opposition sur lui suite à ses sorties virulentes sur l'âge des leaders des partis de l'opposition parlementaire. Le leader du Reform Party n'a ainsi pas hésité à s'attaquer frontalement à l'âge avancé de ces leaders.

La levée de bouclier a été immédiate du côté des partisans de l'alliance rouge-mauve-bleue. Les postes et les memes se sont multipliés sur les réseaux sociaux, et certains sont même allés déterrer une vidéo où il fait la liste du 'Shadow Cabinet', vantant au passage les mérites des mêmes "dinosaures" qu'il attaque aujourd'hui ainsi que leurs progénitures. Mais ça, c'était à l'époque où Roshi Badhain faisait encore partie de la défunte Alliance de l'Espoir, et qu'il gardait encore l'espoir d'être sur un 'front bench' lui permettant de se positionner comme un futur Premier ministre.

Il est clair que Roshi Badhain est sorti beaucoup trop rapidement des 'starting blocks', mordant pleinement à l'hameçon des élections générales anticipées. Ses attaques, notamment contre l'opposition, sont montées en puissance mais dans une situation où nous ne sommes pas en campagne électorale. De ce fait, il se retrouve esseulé, son compagnon de fortune Patrick Belcourt se faisant extrêmement discret depuis que Roshi a entamé ses sorties virulentes, se débattant pour tenter de conserver le peu de capacité qu'il lui reste à négocier une alliance de dernière minute.

L'expérience et la jeunesse

Mais les sorties récentes de Roshi Badhain auront eu le mérite de mettre l'accent sur la question des jeunes en politique et, notamment, sur l'équilibre à trouver entre l'expérience et la jeunesse. Il est clair que, de ce point de vue, les deux blocs qui vont se constituer pourraient développer des approches différentes.

Pravind Jugnauth avait surpris plus d'un en 2019 en évinçant certaines fortes têtes du MSM (comme Showkutally Soodhun) en faveur de nouveaux candidats plus jeunes. Ce pari sur le renouvellement de son équipe avait porté les fruits électoraux que nous connaissons, mais certains de ces jeunes et nouveaux sont aujourd'hui décriés, notamment à cause du manque d'expérience et la perception que ces mêmes jeunes n'apportaient pas la plus-value politique tant attendue de la jeunesse.

Est-ce que le MSM conservera cette stratégie de renouvellement et de rajeunissement des candidats pour les prochaines élections? Disons que certaines adhésions récentes et le retrait de certains ministres de la lumière médiatique semblent pointer dans cette direction, et que ce renouvellement est un outil dont Pravind Jugnauth fera un usage massif puisqu'il en a également les moyens.

En face, la simple équation de l'attribution des tickets pourrait rendre le renouvellement difficile. Entre les leaders, les parlementaires qui seront reconduits et les progénitures, il ne restera pas beaucoup de place pour du sang neuf. Il faut toutefois remarquer que le PTR pousse actuellement ses jeunes sur les plateaux des débats radiophoniques et sur le terrain. Cette stratégie était celle qu'avait adoptée Navin Ramgoolam en 2019, déployant de nouveaux candidats dans un certain nombre de circonscriptions. Nous nous souvenons tous de ce qui s'était passé lorsque le PTR avait finalisé son alliance avec le PMSD.

Est-ce que Ramgoolam est en train de refaire la même chose, mettant de l'avant certains candidats potentiels pour aller à la bataille avant de s'en débarrasser à la dernière minute? Nous le verrons bien, mais il est intéressant de constater que des jeunes comme Daneshwar Damry et autres se font particulièrement discrets depuis un moment.

Quoi qu'il en soit, le vote des jeunes sera d'une importance capitale pour les partis traditionnels lors des prochaines élections. Ce vote est complexe et les partis traditionnels ont beaucoup de mal à comprendre ce que veulent les jeunes, d'où le taux d'abstention extrêmement élevé lors des élections de 2019.

Pravind Jugnauth a bien compris cela, ce qui explique ses sorties récentes dans des écoles et ses prises de position sur des enjeux chers à la jeunesse. Il a compris que les prochaines élections se joueront sur trois claviers fondamentaux: le vote des pensionnaires, le vote des fonctionnaires et le vote jeune. Et, de ce point de vue, il se pourrait bien que la stratégie du MSM soit déjà bel et bien en place.

* * *

Est-il grand temps de revoir les régulations routières?

Les routes de Maurice auront été particulièrement meurtrières ces dernières semaines. À la mi-août, la police avait enregistré près de 97 accidents mortels, soit 17 de plus qu'à la même période l'année dernière.

Le Premier ministre a d'ailleurs réuni le comité interministériel concernant la prévention routière afin d'alerter un peu plus la population quant aux dangers de la route. Éduquer, former et conscientiser les usagers de la route aux dangers et à la sécurité sont une nécessité absolue si nous souhaitons permettre le développement d'une culture routière plus sécurisée, voire plus saine.

Mais il semble évident que nous devons en faire plus... Bien plus même.

Déjà en matière de conscientisation, il pourrait être intéressant que le gouvernement mette en place une campagne visuelle extrêmement agressive. Cela a été fait avec un certain succès ailleurs, l'idée étant de submerger les automobilistes d'images choc sur les «billboards» des routes. Il en est de même pour des publicités à la télévision et sur les radios, avec des témoignages des victimes et des images dont l'objectif est de choquer les usagers de la route.

Mais cela ne suffira pas ! En fait, nous avons un souci avec l'apprentissage même de la conduite à Maurice. N'importe quel conducteur qui vient d'avoir son permis de conduire vous dira que les auto-écoles ne leur ont pas appris à conduire mais plutôt à passer l'examen en vue d'obtenir le permis de conduire. Et c'est uniquement lorsque le permis est obtenu que les nouveaux conducteurs apprennent vraiment à conduire et à utiliser les routes. Ceci découle de la méthode même dont le permis de conduire est délivré, méthode qui ne correspond pas à la réalité des routes mauriciennes.

Ainsi, il faut considérer le problème différemment et revoir la manière d'enseigner et d'apprendre, et aussi la manière d'examiner un futur conducteur en vue de la délivrance d'un permis de conduire. Par ailleurs, cela est plus particulièrement pertinent et important pour les deux roues.



À la mi-août, la police avait enregistré près de 97 accidents mortels, soit 17 de plus qu'à la même période l'année dernière. P - Le Matinal

Aujourd'hui, il est possible à Maurice de conduire un deux-roues en ayant uniquement une «Licence», ce qui explique le fait qu'un nombre extrêmement important de motocyclistes n'ont pas de permis de conduire. Il suffit d'emprunter les routes pour constater que très peu de motocyclistes respectent le code de la route ; ils conduisent n'importe comment et ils mettent la vie des autres usagers à risque.

Ainsi la question des moto-écoles doit également être réglée.

Il faudrait également repenser les amendes et la pénalité pour les infractions routières. Elles ne doivent pas forcément être plus sévères mais plus efficaces. Ainsi, le retour du permis à points pourrait être une solution réelle au problème de l'insécurité routière, du moment que les retraits de permis sont appliqués et les procédures respectées.

Le gouvernement dispose de plusieurs outils s'il souhaite vraiment adresser le problème de l'insécurité routière. Mais il se doit de prendre les mesures efficaces et multiplier ces mesures dans les divers domaines où des réformes doivent être mises en place.

☞ Suite en page 5

Donald Trump formellement inculpé pour tentative de manipulations électorales

Et de quatre! Après l'affaire Stormy Daniels, après celle du recel de documents, après l'inculpation pour les émeutes du Capitol, voilà Donald Trump inculpé pour une quatrième affaire par le grand jury de l'Etat de Géorgie!

Cette fois, l'ancien Président des États-Unis est accusé d'avoir tenté de manipuler les élections dans cet État-clé, lors de la présidentielle en 2020. L'enquête de Fani Willis, la procureure du Comté de Fulton, implique également dix-huit conseillers et membres de l'entourage de l'ancien président.



Donald Trump inculpé pour une quatrième affaire par le grand jury de l'Etat de Géorgie. P - Le Temps

Donald Trump fait l'objet de treize chefs d'accusation, dont des tentatives de fraude électorale ou encore l'exercice de pressions sur des employés. D'après l'enquête, Trump et les autres inculpés ont, en effet, multiplié les pressions sur les élus locaux pour dénicher des irrégularités ou ont encore répandu mensonges et rumeurs sur d'éventuelles fraudes.

Ils «ont refusé d'accepter qu'il avait perdu et ont sciemment et délibérément participé à un complot pour changer illégalement le résultat des élections en faveur de Trump», ont ainsi déclaré les procureurs dans le préambule de l'acte d'accusation. Dorénavant, l'ancien président a jusqu'au 25 août pour se présenter devant le tribunal d'Atlanta.

La procureure du Comté de Fulton, Fani Willis, a déclaré qu'elle souhaitait un procès «dans les six mois» et a évoqué une loi en vigueur en Géorgie sur la délinquance en bande organisée, utilisée notamment contre les gangs et prévoyant des peines de cinq à vingt ans de prison.

Cette affaire vient donc s'ajouter aux autres et vient encore plus accabler un Donald Trump plus que jamais décidé à se présenter aux prochaines élections présidentielles. Il faut avouer que ses soutiens, au sein du Parti Républicain, mais également au sein de l'électorat conservateur au sens large de ce terme, ne faiblissent pas. Pire même, il semblerait que l'accumulation des affaires permettent à Donald Trump de consolider ses

bases, en jouant notamment sur le clavier du harcèlement et de la martyrologie.

Même si la situation d'un candidat - se présentant aux élections présidentielles en étant sous la menace de graves accusations avec des enquêtes et des procédures en cours - est absolument inédit, rien n'empêchera Donald Trump de briguer l'investiture républicaine sauf s'il est condamné.

Cela n'augure rien de bon pour les prochaines élections américaines qui approchent à grands pas. D'un côté, Joe Biden a déclaré toujours vouloir se représenter, et ce, malgré l'accumulation des incidents liés à son état de santé et les questionnements sur sa capacité mentale à assumer les lourdes responsabilités qui incombent à la Présidence américaine. Mais le Parti Démocrate est également dans un étau qu'il sera difficile de faire éclater avant les prochaines élections.

L'idéologie de Woke s'est emparée d'une part importante du parti et une scission est absolument claire entre, d'un côté, des Démocrates libéraux et, de l'autre, les Démocrates Woke. Ceci explique d'ailleurs pourquoi Biden persiste à affirmer qu'il sera candidat à sa propre succession. En refusant le débat sur le candidat qui aura l'investiture de son parti, Biden évite également de faire éclater au grand jour les tensions et les scissions internes qui risquent fort d'affaiblir le parti démocrate pour les prochaines élections.

Sauf qu'un challenger est en train d'émerger... Ce dernier possède un pedigree impeccable et incarne justement la réconciliation des deux courants majeurs au sein du parti. Son nom est Robert F. Kennedy Jr, et il se pourrait bien qu'il déjoue un certain nombre de pronostics même s'il est encore trop tôt pour l'affirmer.

Du côté des Républicains, Donald Trump reste bien évidemment le préféré mais une autre figure émerge également petit à petit. Ron De Santis, le gouverneur de la Floride, pourrait bien créer la surprise en se positionnant comme une alternative crédible capable de plaire tout autant aux trumpistes qu'aux Républicains libéraux.

La course semble bel et bien lancée pour 2024.

* * *

La Chine est officiellement en situation de déflation

L'économie chinoise est officiellement en situation de déflation. Que signifie ce terme? La déflation est tout simplement le contraire de l'inflation, c'est-à-dire que la déflation est une situation où les prix des biens et des services sont en baisse.

Sur papier, cette situation peut sembler favorable pour le pouvoir d'achat des ménages des pays importateurs des produits chinois. Et c'est sans doute le cas dans l'immédiat. Mais cette situation pourrait devenir inquiétante pour l'économie mondiale si elle se poursuit.

En effet, une situation de déflation peut entraîner ce que les économistes nomment la spirale déflationniste. Cette dernière résulte des conséquences d'une baisse continue des prix, elle-même causée par une réduction de la demande. En effet, une baisse continue des prix entraîne généralement une baisse de l'investissement dans les facteurs de production, ce qui à son tour produit une réduction des coûts de production. Ces réductions des coûts de production se traduisent le plus souvent par des compressions salariales, ce qui force les ménages à consommer moins. Cette chute de la



La Chine, à rebours du reste du monde, doit faire face à la déflation. P - Le Monde

consommation constitue une chute de la demande et, donc, une chute des prix, ce qui amplifie encore plus le phénomène déflationniste.

La spirale déflationniste est ainsi un cercle vicieux qui entraîne une chute de la production, une augmentation du chômage et un appauvrissement des ménages. Dans des situations extrêmes, elle peut également causer des pénuries puisque les entreprises baissent radicalement leur production afin de tenter de maintenir les prix, ce qui produit une raréfaction des produits sur le marché.

Ce scénario est particulièrement inquiétant si le gouvernement chinois ne redresse pas la barre dans les meilleurs délais. La Chine est aujourd'hui le leader mondial des exportations des biens et des services, et une spirale déflationniste venue de Chine est une extrêmement mauvaise nouvelle pour les pays dépendants des produits chinois.

Devrait-on donc s'alarmer?

Il faut tout d'abord préciser que cette déflation de 0,3% selon le «Consumer Price Index» de juillet fait suite à une année inflationniste importante, avec certains produits souffrant d'une inflation de plus de 25%. De ce point de vue, peut-être que nous verrons une stabilisation des prix avec certaines baisses qui sont bénéfiques pour les produits chinois. Mais le problème est que le «Consumer Price Index» n'est pas le seul indicateur démontrant un ralentissement de l'économie chinoise.

Plusieurs spécialistes en la matière avaient commencé à tirer la sonnette d'alarme au sortir de la pandémie de la Covid-19, en mettant l'accent sur le risque d'une contagion pour l'économie mondiale.

La Chine est aujourd'hui un pays structurellement inséparable de la mondialisation. Et la mondialisation ne peut pas se faire sans la Chine. Cela signifie qu'un ralentissement de l'économie chinoise pourrait plonger l'économie mondiale elle-même dans une situation très compliquée. Les pays les plus exposés à un ralentissement de l'économie chinoise sont bien évidemment les pays les plus dépendants de la circulation des biens et des services chinois. Nous pensons notamment aux pays signataires du «Belt and Road Initiative», ce sont eux qui sont les plus exposés.

☞ Suite en page 7



Anil Madan

Did Xi Jinping make a losing bet on Putin or a losing bet on China?

It has never been a good idea to bet against America. In the final analysis, when Xi bet against America, that may have been his worst bad bet yet

A recent article in *The Hill* by Will Marshall, CEO of the Progressive Policy Institute, a Washington, DC based think tank, titled 'Xi's Losing Bet on Putin is Backfiring' caught my eye.

Mr Marshall has marshaled an array of factual statements to make his case. It is not entirely clear that he has indeed made the case. It certainly appears that Putin is overall a loser when it comes to his lack of success in his invasion of Ukraine, his battlefield setbacks and enormous death toll Russia's forces have tallied to this point.

Some Western sideline cheerleaders, mostly media and politician types, marvel at the resilience of Ukrainian patriots repulsing Russian troops and missile attacks. Somewhat more sobering pronouncements from military types suggest the war is far from over and attrition continues to take its ugly toll on Ukraine as well. To what extent Ukraine can survive as a viable nation will be revealed in history books. Those chapters remain to be written.

First, there was Xi's declaration of a "no limits" partnership with Russia — essentially the fundamental bet on Putin. Mr Marshall writes that the announcement, coming as the Beijing Olympics got underway in February 2022, was mistimed. Whether Xi knew from Putin that his invasion of Ukraine was imminent or not, is beside the point. American intelligence anticipated and telegraphed the move. As I have written in the past, sadly, President Biden failed to call Putin's bluff and prevent it. Perhaps Xi ignored the reports by American intelligence and mistimed his declaration of a love fest with Putin.

That Xi was all-in with Putin became clear when China refused to support a UN resolution condemning Russia's unprovoked aggression. In Trumpian fashion, Xi's government parroted Putin's lie that NATO expansion posed a mortal threat to Russia's security.

But Russia's invasion didn't go as well as Putin and Xi expected. Russian forces did not blitz through its neighbour's territory. And President Zelensky proved a formidable and heroic opponent.

As Putin's inept war, labelled euphemistically, a special military operation eroded into a military debacle, Ukrainian morale soared, and a hitherto somewhat fragmented US-European-British alliance solidified. This was precisely what Xi's embrace of Putin did not contemplate, indeed, sought to fracture.

It certainly looks as if Xi's notion of forging a formidable Beijing-Moscow alliance to rival the US, and its European, British, Australian, and Japanese rivals came apart. Indeed, even India, ever recusant about condemning Russia's invasion, has become a member of the QUAD — America, Japan, Australia, and India. And now, US-India relations look ever stronger.

Did Xi get anything out of this embrace of Putin? Yes, of course. Beijing secured a long-term supply of cheap energy. And so did India. And, as the Ruble has collapsed in value, to the extent that the oil is not paid for in US dollars — I wrote about the de-dollarization move in a pre-

vious comment — Russia suffers even more. Regardless, China and India have reaped a bonanza.

Not only has NATO's decision to support Ukraine brought the European countries together, but NATO will have gained two new members as Sweden and Finland join. And, in defiance of Putin, NATO seems to be promising to admit Ukraine to membership.

French President Macron is less reluctant to criticize Beijing's "imperial" ambitions and Germany has declared a new China strategy that emphasizes de-risking by reducing reliance on Chinese investment and trade. The US has become more aggressive with strategic restrictions on exports to China while disavowing, through high-level visits from Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen, and Secretary of State Blinken, that the US seeks to decouple entirely, from China. China cannot contemplate decoupling without crippling its economy.

Xi's bet on China

Xi may have lost additional strategic advantages in Asia as its neighbours in the Pacific have heightened suspicions about China's designs for domination of the area and perhaps even encroachment on their territories, whether just mari-time or land as well. Certainly, Taiwan remains under ever-ratcheting threat from Beijing.

In one other sense, Xi's bet on Putin has been a bad one. There is little doubt that China's prestige and soft power have taken major hits and awe has been replaced by derision or even suspicion and loathing.

What about Xi's bet on China itself? William Galston writing in the *Wall Street Journal*, notes that over the long haul, China's population of 1.4 billion is projected to fall by almost 38%, down to 800 million, by 2080. Fifty-seven years is a long time away, but the impending decline is likely to demand ever-increasing attention from the CCP's leadership and put a damper on dreams of world domination.

Galston also points to the debacle facing China's housing sector as major developers have defaulted on bonds and sales of homes by China's 100 biggest developers have fallen by more than 80% since 2020.

There is seemingly a push by American companies to diversify their suppliers and supply chains. In the final analysis, whether Chinese dominance in this area



Russian President Vladimir Putin, right, and Chinese President Xi Jinping shake hands as they exchange documents during a signing ceremony in Moscow. (AP) - P - arabnews.com

“Did Xi get anything out of this embrace of Putin? Yes, of course. Beijing secured a long-term supply of cheap energy. And so did India. And, as the Ruble has collapsed in value, to the extent that the oil is not paid for in US dollars — I wrote about the de-dollarization move in a previous comment — Russia suffers even more. Regardless, China and India have reaped a bonanza. Not only has NATO's decision to support Ukraine brought the European countries together, but NATO will have gained two new members as Sweden and Finland join...”

decreases sharply or not depends on how low China can keep its prices. But the lesson is clear. China has lost leverage.

We cannot know what China will do in respect of Taiwan. Recent efforts by Yellen and Blinken at achieving some sort of rapprochement will certainly come to a screeching halt if China invades Taiwan.

Soft power — a losing bet

It seems that Xi's options are limited. The continued expansion of soft power seems like a losing bet whether on the Russian front or in the Pacific. Long-term demographics and the threat of economic stagnation caused by inability to service debt loom as large negative forces for Xi.

America is in political disarray. But the US economy is in relatively good shape compared to the rest of the world.

I have said in the past that it has never been a good idea to bet against America. In the final analysis, when Xi bet against America, that may have been his worst bad bet yet.

Cheer...
Bwana

Opinion

India's 76th Independence Day

Reflections on the Incredible Road travelled since 1947

Cont. from page 3

India's renaissance

But if much has been achieved on the economic development front against the internal and external punditry that seemed against India's growing clout and responsible status in the world, there remains the fundamental necessity to clean up the layers of colonial froth that still clog India's diverse veins and arteries.

The first is promoting a sense of national unity and pride in India's new-found economic opportunities and self-confidence, without any community being exposed to victimhood narratives that the BJP terms «appeasement» politics. It has been extraordinarily depicted in the unfolding tourism and infrastructure development taking place in Srinagar and Kashmir as the State, its borders now securely freed from the Abdullah and Mufti strangleholds through the repudiation of the temporary Article 370, is also largely free of Pakistan-fed militancy and victimhood narratives.

Every part, region and cultural entity of India should feel part of the development thrust and its driving commonalities. There will be occasional flare-ups and mishaps in the decentralised Indian democracy, as in Manipur or elsewhere, but the centrality of Indian development push should unite all political parties,



“Every part, region and cultural entity of India should feel part of the development thrust and its driving commonalities. There will be occasional flare-ups and mishaps in the decentralised Indian democracy, as in Manipur or elsewhere, but the centrality of Indian development push should unite all political parties, beyond vote-catching tactics, appeasement strategies or Modi-hate narratives”

beyond vote-catching tactics, appeasement strategies or Modi-hate narratives.

Secondly, from outside but an intensely Hindu-rooted humanistic worldview and perspective, India needs to rewrite its own history and legends for generations of children to understand,

without faux-semblants and political correctness, the complexities, nuances and diverse threads that weave through the Indianness they feel in today's renaissance.

Thirdly, to rid itself of the limited Western view of India's vast millennia-old

experiments with spirituality and religiosity that have deeply etched the Hindu worldview, the fundamentals of which have remained unwavering since its original Vedic roots, versed in Sanskritam, to its modern-day version grounded in the tri-murthy and the Puranic lore, best described to all Hindus as Sanatan Dharma.

English as a language, however unbeatable in the material world, is fabulously under-equipped to convey complex spiritual thoughts and planes of existence Sanskritam and Hindu masters evolved. To take simple illustrations, French has two words “Savoir” and “Connaissance” which reduce to the ubiquitous English term “knowledge”. Sanskritam has seven or more terms for God, European languages have only one. Sanatan Dharma is neither monotheist nor polytheist but profoundly monist since its inception in the visions of the mighty seers, ten thousand or more years ago.

A single overarching entity known as Brahman, with a minute atom (Atman) tucked away inside every human being and myriads of ways, according to each own's disposition, to quest for that divine spark. Hence the fundamental tolerance and compassion of Sanatan Dharma towards true seekers on their own paths and a resistance to those who claim ours is the true or only path. Neither India, nor Sanatan Dharma ever needed western concepts of secularism or «laïcité» so adapted to their contexts and worldviews.

Happy 76th anniversary to that great nation which has never ceased to surprise the world and may it long continue to enlighten our own worldviews with its inherently richer and more nuanced tapestry of thoughts and deeds.

Jan Arden

La Chine est officiellement en situation de déflation

Suite de la page 5

Mais les effets d'une spirale déflationniste dépasseront de très loin les pays évoluant dans la sphère d'influence chinoise et toucheront également des pays plus neutres comme Maurice.

Nous sommes encore loin d'un scénario catastrophe, et la «rationnelle» ou la logique stratégique voudrait que nous n'arrivions jamais à une situation grave. Mais le gouvernement chinois a déjà fait usage de plusieurs outils à sa disposition, notamment la baisse des taux d'intérêt et des facilités fiscales pour les entreprises. Toutefois, pour l'instant, ces mesures n'ont pas produit les effets escomptés et il devient de plus en plus clair que le gouvernement chinois est de plus en plus sur la défensive.

En effet, une situation économique morose prolongée risque de plonger la Chine dans une situation politico-économique complexe et turbulente, pouvant même aller jusqu'au questionnement du régime poli-



La Chine ne connaît presque pas l'inflation... Et c'est une mauvaise nouvelle... P - Pour l'Eco

tique. Plusieurs politistes chinois ne cessent de le clamer: le régime du PCC tient la route grâce à la pro-

messe de la croissance continue et du développement soutenu pour tous les Chinois. La population chinoise serait ainsi unie derrière le PCC, et accepterait les pratiques policières et parfois brutales du régime, parce que ce même régime garantit la croissance économique et le développement.

Mais si cette même croissance et ce développement se trouvent entravés, qu'adviendra-t-il du régime à parti unique? Un think-tank ou un panel d'experts européen réputé avait publié une étude très sérieuse sur l'avenir politique de la Chine il y a 7 ans. Cette étude prédisait la fin du régime à parti unique et l'apparition du bipartisme et de la culture de l'alternance politique en Chine avant 2035. Commençons-nous à en voir les prémisses? Difficile pour l'instant de l'affirmer. Mais il est certain que la Chine va faire face à tout un ensemble de problèmes qui risquent fort de transformer rapidement la culture politique du pays dans les prochaines décennies.

A. Bartleby



Madagascar president's chief of staff Romy Andrianarisoa remanded into custody. Pic - Studio Sifaka

Madagascar presidential aide charged with Bribery in UK

Britain's National Crime Agency (NCA) has arrested Romy Andrianarisoa, the Madagascar president's chief of staff, after allegedly soliciting a bribe from global gemstone supplier Gemfields, Reuters reports.

Andrianarisoa, along with her French associate Philippe Tabuteau, were summarily detained in London. The pair sought an upfront payment of US \$286,000, along with a 5% equity stake, the NCA said.

Andy Kelly, head of the NCA's international corruption unit, said in a statement: "I am grateful to Gemfields for bringing this matter to our attention and for their ongoing cooperation with the investigation. Their quick reactions to engage the NCA have been critical to our ability to pursue this case." Madagascar President Andry Rajoelina's office confirmed Andrianarisoa's dismissal with immediate effect, adding: "The President remains firmly devoted to ethics in the conduct of state affairs and to fight corruption in all its forms."

Based in the United Kingdom, Gemfields owns the coveted Fabergé jewellery brand and runs ruby and emerald mines across Southern Africa. It's also looking to open operations in Ethiopia and Madagascar, reports AllAfrica.

Andrianarisoa and Tabuteau appeared in court on Saturday, August 12 and have been remanded into custody. Their next hearing is scheduled in London on September 8.

China assures Sri Lanka help in addressing debt challenges before IMF's first review

Sri Lanka's largest bilateral creditor, China, has assured the island nation its help in effectively addressing the debt challenges as it has to finalise the external and domestic debt restructuring of a whopping USD 41 billion by September before the IMF's first review.

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) is set to conduct its first review of the USD 2.9 billion bailout granted to Sri Lanka in March this year from September 11-19.

A release from the Prime Minister's Office on Wednesday said Wang Yi, the Foreign Minister and Director of the Office of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the ruling Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee who met Sri Lanka Prime Minister Dinesh Gunawardena on the sidelines of the



Sri Lanka was hit by the most severe economic crisis in its history in 2022 when the country defaulted on its \$46 billion external debt. Pic - AFP

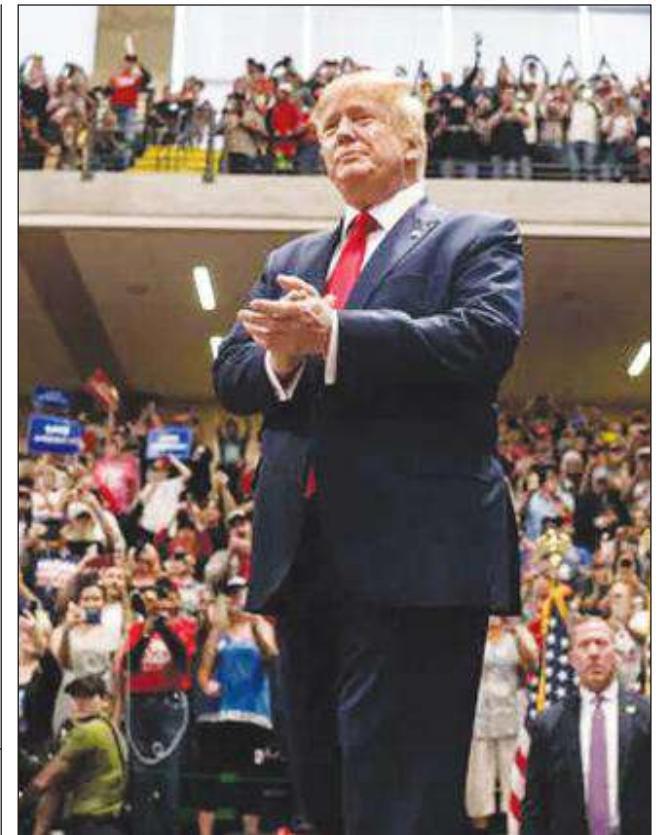
seventh China-South Asian Expo assured that it will help in effectively addressing the country's debt challenges, reports PTI.

Sri Lanka is currently negotiating with its external creditors in order to meet the IMF's condition for its first review since the bailout of USD 2.9 billion approved in March over the next 4 years.

The IMF has already announced its mission to Colombo for review between September 14 and 27. Sri Lanka should agree with all its external creditors by next month on the programme to restructure the debt of USD 41 billion.

The island nation was hit by its worst economic crisis in history last year when the country's foreign exchange reserves fell to a critical low and the public came out on the streets to protest the fuel, fertilisers, and essential commodities shortage.

Indian credit lines and other facilities worth more than USD 4 billion helped the island withstand the crisis as street protests marked the shortages of essentials and power needs.



63% of Republicans say they don't want the former president to run for office again. Pic - New York Times

64% of Americans will not vote for Trump in 2024: Poll Results

After every new allegation, Donald Trump, former U.S. President has boasted of his standing among the Republicans, indicating his improvement.

However, according to a new poll from the Associated Press-NORC Centre for Public Affairs Research, about 63% of Republicans say they don't want the former president to run for office again.

This percentage is slightly up from the earlier 55% who said the same in April when Trump began facing criminal charges.

The survey results clearly indicate that while Trump basks in Republican support, the real general elections arena might appear a tough fight for him, with many Americans standing strongly against him, reports Hindustan Times.

74% of Americans, mostly Republicans, say they would support him in November 2024. However, 53% of them would definitely NOT support him if he is the nominee. Another 11% say they would probably not support him in November 2024. These percentages amount to a whopping 64% of Americans who would not vote for Trump in 2024.

These findings reinforce the arguments of Trump's rivals who laud his tenure as president and are positive for the Republican nomination but warn that he can't win in a general election when he must compete for votes beyond the Republican base.

The social network posts seems to be agreeing with the AP poll.

In 2016, Trump lost the popular vote campaign, attaining the presidency by only winning a majority in the Electoral College. However, in 2020 he lost to Democrat Joe Biden by an even larger margin of 7 million votes. He falsely attributes the defeat to widespread voter fraud.

* Contd on page 9

Will 'Eris' Covid strain bring back face mask restriction in UK?

In a recent article for the British Medical Journal, Christina Pagel, a member of the Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies, highlighted a concerning trend in Covid-19 hospital admissions. Since the beginning of July 2023, daily hospital admissions related to Covid-19 have doubled, with a similar increase observed in the number of patients primarily hospitalised due to the virus. Pagel said, "So it is reasonably certain that we have entered another covid-19 wave."

Dr Trisha Greenhalgh, a healthcare expert from the University of Oxford, echoed these concerns, emphasising the importance of mask-wearing, reports Hindustan Times.

The World Health Organization (WHO) has designated the EG.5 coronavirus strain as a "variant of interest." However, it hasn't indicated that this strain poses a more



A man wearing a face mask to protect against the spread of coronavirus. Pic - AP

severe threat to public health than other variants.

Data from WHO revealed that the EG.5 lineage accounted for 17.4% of sequenced test samples globally in the week leading up to July 23. This represents a significant increase from 7.6% four weeks earlier.

Within this lineage, the subvariant EG.5.1 is prevalent, distinguished by an additional spike mutation.

Churches set on fire in Pakistan's Faisalabad over blasphemy allegations



Attack was triggered by a group of religious zealots. Pic - CNN

Several churches were set on fire by a rampaging mob in eastern Pakistan on Wednesday after a Christian family was accused of blasphemy, officials said.

Hundreds of people armed with sticks and rocks stormed the predominantly Christian area in Faisalabad city, police in the area said.

Images on social media showed smoke rising from the church buildings and people setting fire to furniture that had been dragged from them, reports AFP.

The attack was triggered by a group of religious zealots accusing a local Christian family of desecrating the Quran, according to a rescue official at the scene.

He said four churches had been set on fire, adding that there were no reports of injuries.

Pakistani bishop Azad Marshall, in the neighbouring city of Lahore, said the Christian community was "deeply pained and distressed".

Blasphemy is a sensitive issue in Pakistan, where anyone deemed to have insulted Islam or Islamic figures can face the death penalty.

Christians -- who make up around two percent of the population -- occupy one of the lowest rungs in Pakistani society.

* * *

'Kate still cares for Prince Harry', has been dialling him secretly

Prince Harry has been going through a difficult phase after distancing himself from his family and stepping down from his royal duties. Princess Diana's 38-year-



Britain's Prince Harry and Duchess of Cambridge Kate Middleton applaud as they view the closing ceremony of the London 2012 Olympic Games. Pic - Reuters

old son is solo-travelling across Asia amidst rumours of his marriage with Meghan Markle being on the edge.

Now, reports claim that even though his relationship with his brother has been strained after the revelations made in his book, Kate Middleton's ties with him 'have remained intact'. According to UK's *Closer Weekly*, as a 'kind gesture', she has been phoning Harry at night in an effort to mend the strained relationship, reports Hindustan Times.

The outlet claims that Kate has reached out to offer support during 'what has been a really difficult time for him.' She has been in touch with Harry to 'keep his chin up and not worry too much about these temporary setbacks.' She wants Harry to know that there are people who still care about him.

Harry and Meghan have been consistently criticized, with every move being scrutinized by the media, including a split from *Spotify* after signing an estimated \$20 million deal in 2020. Prince Harry frequently visits the UK to attend his trial against UK tabloids. He was in London in June to testify against the publisher of *Daily Mirror* as part of his ongoing claim that its journalists hacked his phone years ago.

Closer Weekly quotes sources claiming, "Kate's calls mean an awful lot to Harry. She continues to show support, especially during desperate times like this when the chips are down."

It is further reported that she feels very sorry for him right now, and seeing him go through all these setbacks is very difficult to witness. It tugs at her heartstrings, especially as his court trial is taking place so close to their home.

* * *

Miss Universe snaps Indonesia ties over alleged strip searches, harassment

The Miss Universe Organization terminated its relationship with its Indonesia franchise following sexual harassment allegations.



The Malaysia edition of Miss Universe will be canceled too. Pic - AFP

"In light of what we have learned took place at Miss Universe Indonesia, it has become clear that this franchise has not lived up to our brand standards," the organizer of the pageant wrote Saturday on X, formerly known as Twitter. The Malaysia edition, also hosted by Indonesia's PT Capella Swastika Karya, will be canceled too.

Capella Swastika's national director Poppy Capella denied involvement in any body checks in a statement on Instagram. She added that she objects to any form of violence or sexual harassment, reports Bloomberg.

It was reported Wednesday that six contestants of the Indonesia pageant filed complaints with the police, accusing organizers of sexual harassment and claimed they were subjected to topless "body checks."

What's driving divorce rates in US? No, it's not infidelity

As the divorce rate continues to climb across the United States, a recent study conducted by Forbes Advisor sheds light on the primary factors driving couples to split, highlighting the significance of compatibility, family support, and infidelity.



Divorce Representative Image. Pic - The Show Today

The vast majority of divorces (73%) are initiated by just one party, and only a mere 27% of respondents indicated that the decision to end their marriage was mutual.

A striking trend emerges as most divorces occur between the third and seventh years of marriage, with only a meagre 4% of couples parting ways after a decade together.

An overwhelming 92% of divorced individuals have acquaintances who have also experienced divorce, underscoring the extent of this pervasive societal issue, reports Hindustan Times.

More than half (63%) of those who had gone through a divorce believed that a better understanding of the commitments and responsibilities of marriage could have potentially helped them avoid the dissolution of their union.

Initial-year divorcees, who ended their marriages within the first year, cited a lack of compatibility as the top reason for their separation, with a staggering 59% of couples choosing this as their cause.

Infidelity, while still a significant issue, caused 34% of marriages to unravel among survey respondents, highlighting the enduring challenge of extramarital affairs.

Other prevalent triggers for divorce included insufficient family support, a lack of intimacy, excessive conflicts, and financial stress.

Understanding the warning signs of a marriage in crisis can be pivotal in averting divorce. The survey revealed that lack of interest in each other, poor conflict resolution, and avoiding one another were the most commonly cited red flags for impending divorce.

Contrary to popular beliefs, financial stress, hasty marriages, and marrying at a young age were found to be less significant indicators of marital turmoil.

Compiled by Doojesh Ramlallah

Interview: Jocelyn Chan Low, Historien

“Le MSM et ses alliés ont tout intérêt à casser la campagne de mobilisation et d’explication de l’alliance PTr-MMM-PMSD

pour éviter qu’une véritable synergie ne se développe entre les partisans de ces trois partis”

Mauritius Times: Les tracasseries que rencontre l’alliance PTr-MMM-PMSD pour trouver un lieu stratégique pour la tenue de leur congrès dissimulent-elles une réelle appréhension de l’alliance gouvernementale quant au challenge que représente cette nouvelle force réunie de l’opposition qui, faut-il reconnaître, a réussi sa démonstration de force à Mare d’Albert?

Jocelyn Chan Low: Que l’alliance de l’opposition rencontre des difficultés et des obstacles d’ordre administratif dans sa campagne de mobilisation, ce n’est guère surprenant. Le régime actuel, comme le précédent d’ailleurs, ont toujours utilisé le blocage administratif face à des tentatives de mobilisation à la fois des partis traditionnels ou extra parlementaires, ou même des ONGs non complaisants.

L’esprit de *fair play*, si essentiel à la culture démocratique, a encore beaucoup de chemin à faire au sein de la classe politique à Maurice. Il ne faut pas lire dans ces tracasseries, totalement prévisibles, autre chose que le fait qu’elles se situent dans la continuité d’une pratique qui dure depuis des années.

Il est vrai que le MSM et ses alliés ont tout intérêt à casser la campagne de mobilisation et d’explication de l’alliance PTr-MMM-PMSD pour éviter qu’une véritable synergie ne se développe entre les partisans de ces trois partis, et crée une dynamique qui pourrait les conduire à la victoire aux prochaines élections générales. Ils ne feront pas de cadeau à l’opposition et ils utiliseront tous les leviers pour y parvenir.

* **Ce coup réussi de l’opposition rouge-mauve-bleue à Mare d’Albert est peut-être significatif dans la mesure où il nous aura donné une indication de l’actuel rapport de force sur l’échiquier. Vous paraît-il plus équilibré et les deux forces majeures sur l’échiquier sont-elles à 50:50?**

“Le MSM et ses alliés ont tout intérêt à casser la campagne de mobilisation et d’explication de l’alliance PTr-MMM-PMSD pour éviter qu’une véritable synergie ne se développe entre les partisans de ces trois partis, et crée une dynamique qui pourrait les conduire à la victoire aux prochaines élections générales. Ils ne feront pas de cadeau à l’opposition et ils utiliseront tous les leviers pour y parvenir...”

Effectivement, d’un point de vue de la communication politique, l’alliance de l’opposition se devait de réussir son démarrage à Mare d’Albert. Le lieu était bien choisi et la mobilisation des *die hards* a été une réussite. Cependant, le MSM a lui aussi réussi son effet de foule à travers la mobilisation des jeunes, samedi dernier, bien qu’il y ait des allégations quant à la présence de jeunes ouvriers bangladeshis au congrès du parti.

En fait, ces rassemblements ne sont que des trompe-œil. Pour bien jauger la situation, il faudrait un sondage

La bataille des foules se serait-elle transformée en bataille des regroupements depuis la première sortie de l’alliance de l’opposition à Mare d’Albert? Pourtant, depuis quelques années, les élections générales montrent bien que la population ne s’appuie pas sur des effets visuels et sonores (réels, fictifs, dirigés, orientés et tant d’autres...) pour choisir le prochain gouvernement. Jocelyn Chan Low, historien, se penche sur la situation politique mauricienne et pose un certain nombre de questions qui pourraient éventuellement faire réfléchir la classe politique...

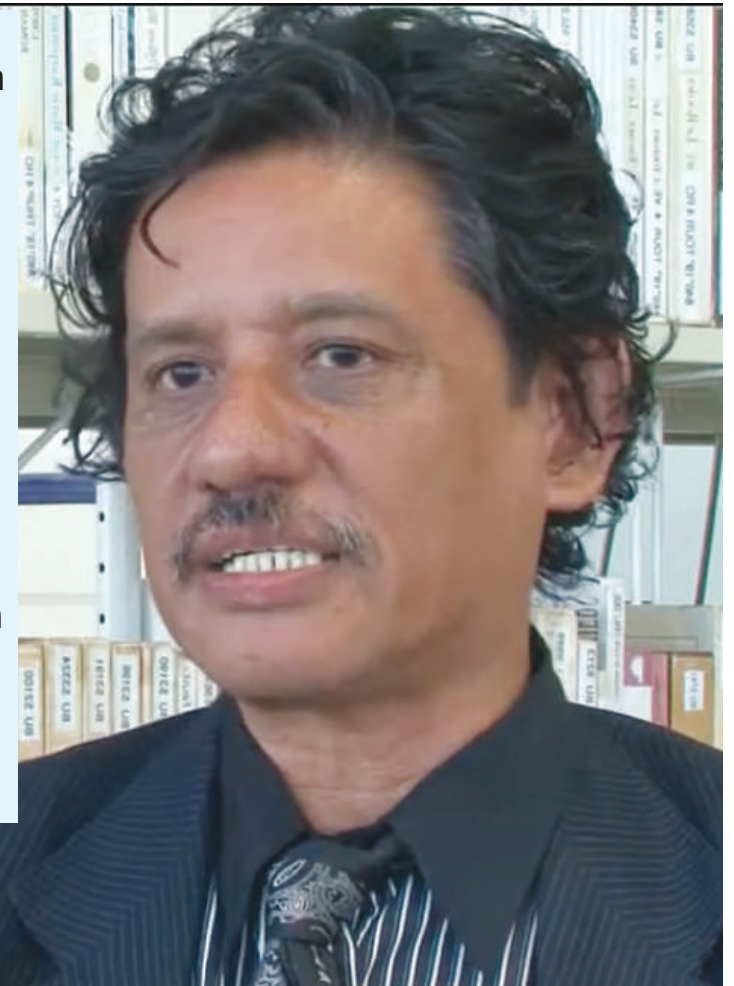
impartial, fait d’une manière rigoureuse. Sur papier, si l’on se fie aux chiffres des élections générales de 2019, l’électorat combiné des partis de l’opposition était beaucoup plus important que celui de MSM et de ses alliés qui ne récoltèrent que 37% des voix exprimés (28% de l’électorat).

Mais les quelques sondages effectués depuis ont révélé que la grosse majorité de l’électorat ne se retrouve plus dans les partis traditionnels ni dans les partis extra-parlementaires existants.

Cependant, parmi ceux qui soutiennent toujours ces partis, Pravind Jugnauth devance de loin Navin Ramgoolam en tant que Premier ministre préféré. Les autres sont hors de la course. A ce stade, il est donc très hasardeux de s’aventurer sur le terrain des prédictions.

* **Néanmoins tout reste à jouer. Le MSM dispose de l’appareil d’État et du budget national; de plus, il pratique une politique de proximité et surtout de ciblage de l’électorat avec une attention particulière aux vieux et aux jeunes. Voyez-vous cela comme une stratégie payante auprès d’un électorat plus opportuniste que par le passé?**

C’est dans la pure tradition du MSM qui a été fondée au pouvoir, alors que Sir Anerood Jugnauth était Premier ministre, d’utiliser à fond tous les leviers de l’appareil d’État pour consolider et étendre sa base électorale.



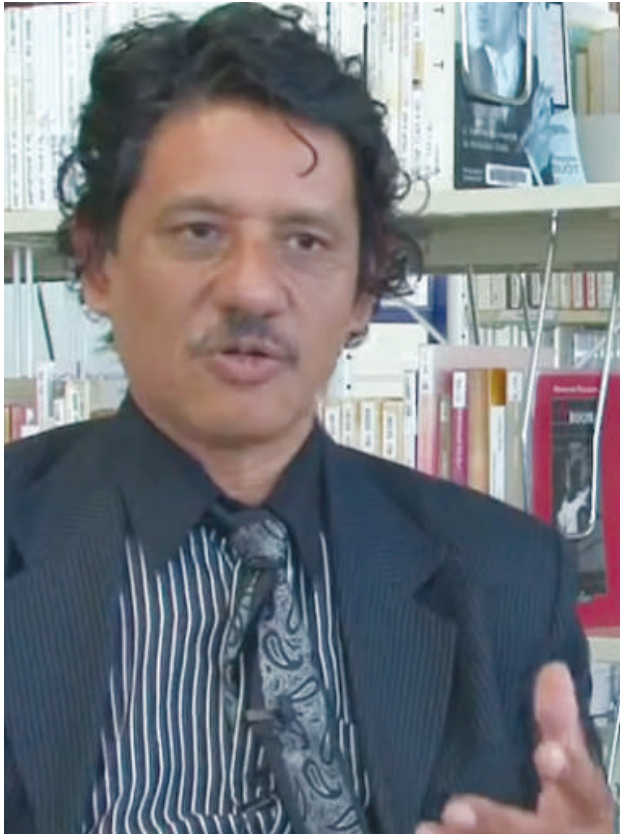
Le MSM est rompu à cet exercice et aux dérives pourvoiristes qui y sont très souvent associées. Tout y passe-le budget, le développement des infrastructures publiques, la politique du logement, etc. D’ailleurs, qui a créé le National Development Unit (NDU) en 1988, et les Parliamentary Private Secretaries (PPS)? Mais si tout cela contribue à améliorer la qualité de vie et le bien-être des citoyens et, plus particulièrement, de ceux au bas de l’échelle sociale, tant mieux.

Mais malheureusement, c’est souvent accompagné d’allégations de passe-droits et d’une politique de victimisation vis-à-vis des opposants et de certaines localités, ce qui finit par générer des frustrations.

☞ Suite en page 11

“Le MMM n’est plus le parti ouvrieriste qui faisait rêver les jeunes de l’époque à travers son idéalisme et son projet d’une société plus juste et équitable. D’un parti révolutionnaire, il est devenu un parti ordinaire, bien intégré dans le système avec comme résultat que sa formidable machine de guerre n’existe plus. Les branches se sont asséchées, les militants se font rares et les *die hards* ont rétréci comme une peau de chagrin...”

'Pour l'opposition, il n'y a pas d'autre solution que le retrait de ces dirigeants en faveur d'une nouvelle direction - la victoire de l'opposition en serait garantie'



« Il est vrai que des 'palabres' répétées et interminables finissent par lasser... La dernière attaque sous la ceinture contre Ramgoolam a eu un effet boomerang. En outre, les allégations de scandales et autres abus à l'encontre des membres du gouvernement - à faire pâlir les 'travers' allégués de Ramgoolam - ne manquent pas. On aura droit à un festival des horreurs... »

☞ Suite de la page 10

Quant à l'opportunisme de certains électeurs, malheureusement, c'est aussi le fruit d'une certaine désillusion par rapport aux comportements et aux agissements du monde politique. L'opportunisme des électeurs est le reflet de l'opportunisme éhonté de certains dirigeants politiques, et du fait que le débat politique n'est plus imprégné de grands courants idéologiques mais a été réduit à une affreuse guerre de places.

*** Par ailleurs, qu'on le veuille ou non, la MBC-TV représente un outil de propagande très efficace dans le contexte local, et c'est à parier que les stratèges du MSM vont en faire usage surtout de l'antenne de la télévision nationale, comme c'est déjà le cas, pour contrer l'alliance PTr-MMM-PMSD. Qu'en pensez-vous?**

Jean Claude de l'Estrac a absolument raison quand il souligne la grande influence de la MBC sur l'électorat et que la propagande gouvernementale ne se fait pas seulement à travers le journal télévisé mais se retrouve dans toute la programmation. Tout cela est fait d'une manière très scientifique.

Certes, il y a les radios privées, les réseaux sociaux - Facebook et surtout TikTok qui commence à prendre de l'ampleur. Cependant, il reste une bonne partie de la popu-

lation qui ne se tient informée sur la politique locale et internationale qu'à travers la MBC.

Et, à l'approche des échéances électorales, on peut s'attendre à plus d'excès en termes de manipulations. En dépit des remarques pertinentes des magistrats ou de la Commission électorale, rien n'a changé jusqu'ici. Quant à l'Independent Broadcasting Authority (IBA), il vaut mieux ne pas en parler...

*** Il ne fait pas de doute non plus que la bataille va se focaliser sur les personnalités des différents leaders, du moins du côté du MSM. On ne sait pas à ce stade ce qu'il adviendra de la pétition électorale devant le 'Privy Council' dans l'affaire de Suren Dayal vs Pravind Jugnauth et donc imaginer ses conséquences politiques. Mais on peut s'attendre à ce que la diabolisation de Navin Ramgoolam sera accentuée dans les mois à venir...**

La candidature de Navin Ramgoolam au poste de Premier ministre est véritablement une aubaine pour les propagandistes du régime. L'ancien Premier ministre a effectivement un problème de crédibilité auprès de certaines sections de la population malgré le fait qu'il ait remporté la plupart des procès où il avait été mis en cause.

En outre, il y a toujours le risque que Navin Ramgoolam soit trouvé coupable dans le cas qui l'oppose au Financial Crime Division. Mais il est aussi vrai que des 'palabres' répétées et interminables finissent par lasser... La dernière attaque sous la ceinture contre Ramgoolam a eu un effet boomerang. En outre, les allégations de scandales et autres abus à l'encontre des membres du gouvernement - à faire pâlir les 'travers' allégués de Ramgoolam - ne manquent pas. On aura droit à un festival des horreurs...

*** En tant qu'historien et ayant suivi de près l'évolution des forces politiques à Maurice, avez-vous imaginé qu'une alliance des grands partis comme le PTr, le MMM ou même le PMSD soit nécessaire afin de mater le MSM qui, à ses débuts, ne pesait qu'autour de 7% en termes de force politique?**

Peut-être pas, car dans les années 90, quand il était au plus fort de sa popularité, le MSM ne récoltait pas plus de 20% de l'électorat. Son maintien au pouvoir reposait principalement sur les alliances avec des partis tels que le MMM et le PTr qui lui amenait le gros des troupes. Et, en 1996, quand le jeu des alliances se referma sur lui et qu'il dut aller aux élections générales avec l'unique soutien du RMM - un groupuscule sans ancrage dans l'électorat -, il fut balayé par un 60-0. Depuis, les choses ont bien changé.

En fait, ce n'est pas tellement le MSM qui s'est renforcé. On a assisté surtout au déclin du MMM et, dans une moindre mesure, celui du PTr. Le PTr a toujours un ancrage solide, qui dépasse de loin le soutien à Navin Ramgoolam, bien que son électorat et celui du MSM agissent en tant que vases communicants. Le déclin du MMM est le résultat d'un ensemble de facteurs qu'il serait fastidieux d'énumérer ici.

En gros, le MMM n'est plus le parti ouvrieriste qui faisait rêver les jeunes de l'époque à travers son idéalisme et son projet d'une société plus juste et équitable. D'un parti révolutionnaire, il est devenu un parti ordinaire, bien intégré dans le système avec comme résultat que sa formidable machine de guerre - c'est-à-dire un appareil de parti qui quadrille tous les coins et recoins des diverses circonscriptions à travers des branches animées par des militants

dévoués et enthousiastes - n'existe plus. Les branches se sont asséchées, les militants se font rares et les *die hards* ont rétréci comme une peau de chagrin. Aujourd'hui l'organisation des élections se fait avec des agents. Malheureusement qui dit agents dit aussi rémunération et autres "rodgers bouttes"...

Et, à ce jeu, le *money politics* pèse de tout son poids. Le MSM part donc avec des longueurs d'avance. On comprend alors la nécessité pour les partis de l'opposition de se fédérer pour affronter le MSM et ses alliés.

*** Faut-il mettre cette apparente désaffection à l'égard de ces grands partis sur le compte d'une alternance cyclique? Ou estimez-vous que le problème ne se situe pas tant au niveau des partis, mais plutôt au niveau du leadership de ces partis?**

Dans l'Histoire de Maurice, il y a eu un changement de personnel politique à chaque génération. Malheureusement, en ce moment, nous sommes à la fin d'un cycle qui dure depuis trop longtemps. Cela est dû en grande partie à la déchéance graduelle des partis politiques et leur transformation en des entités non démocratiques, non collectives... mais sous le contrôle d'un individu qui finit souvent par installer une dynastie.

En général, dans d'autres démocraties, la défaite aux élections générales entraîne le retrait du leader pour mieux faciliter le processus de "rebranding" si essentiel pour remporter les élections à venir... Mais, à Maurice, où les partis sont la propriété personnelle du leader, cela ne peut se faire, ce qui déjoue toute tentative de "rebranding" avec des effets délétères sur l'alternance.

Même le plus grand joueur de football sait qu'il arrive un temps où il doit quitter le terrain tout comme le plus grand danseur de ballet sait qu'il quittera la scène tôt ou tard. Malheureusement nos leaders ne ressentent pas le besoin de se retirer pour laisser la place à la relève. Au contraire, à l'approche des élections, on voit réapparaître des revenants qui ont fait leur premières armes en politique dans les années 70... c'est-à-dire il y a plus d'un demi-siècle...

« Dans les années 90, quand il était au plus fort de sa popularité, le MSM ne récoltait pas plus de 20% de l'électorat. Son maintien au pouvoir reposait principalement sur les alliances avec des partis tels que le MMM et le PTr qui lui amenait le gros des troupes. Et, en 1996, quand le jeu des alliances se referma sur lui et qu'il dut aller aux élections générales avec l'unique soutien du RMM - un groupuscule sans ancrage dans l'électorat -, il fut balayé par un 60-0... »

*** Il semble que la problématique est enregistrée chez les plus jeunes, ici et à l'étranger, et qui expriment un sentiment aigu de désaffection politique vis-à-vis des partis ou d'autres types d'organisations et d'institutions politiques. Qu'en pensez-vous?**

Le continent de la jeunesse, c'est l'Afrique de par sa structure démographique. Plus de la moitié de la population africaine est âgée de moins de 20 ans, ce qui explique la raison pour laquelle la Covid-19 l'a tout juste effleurée.

☞ Suite en page 12

'Les allégations de scandales à l'encontre des membres du gouvernement - à faire pâlir les 'travers' allégués de Ramgoolam - ne manquent pas. On aura droit à un festival des horreurs'

☞ Suite de la page 11

C'est cette jeunesse qui fait souffler en ce moment un vent de libération dans une partie du continent amenant le démantèlement de la Françafrique.

Consciente que l'Afrique est immensément riche en ressources naturelles et humaines, alors que sa population vit dans la pauvreté, la jeunesse africaine a décidé de chasser les pillards - à savoir certaines puissances étrangères et les dirigeants locaux corrompus qui sont leurs complices et se mobilisent derrière de nouveaux leaders-Ousmane Sonko au Sénégal, mais surtout des jeunes officiers de l'armée-Assimi Goïta du Mali, et Ibrahim Traoré du Burkina Faso qui est vénéré comme le nouveau Thomas Sankara - le 'Che' africain.

C'est bien cette jeunesse qui s'est mobilisée derrière les putschistes au Mali et qui rend impossible toute intervention occidentale, même par proxy, au Niger pour s'assurer qu'il n'y aura jamais une répétition des événements humiliants et catastrophiques pour l'Afrique comme ceux qui se sont déroulés en Libye en 2011.

Voilà une jeunesse qui a contraint de grandes puissances occidentales à capituler au risque de partir dans le déshonneur et l'humiliation et dont le symbole est le jeune Burkinabé Aliou Sawadogo, âgé de 14 ans seulement, qui a fait l'exploit d'abattre un drone militaire français à l'aide d'un lance-pierre au cours d'une manifestation contre la présence de l'armée française au Burkina Faso tenue en 2021.

A Maurice, la structure démographique est différente. Nous vivons dans une "ageing society". Néanmoins, les jeunes constituent quand même près de 25% de l'électorat et sont très critiques envers le personnel politique et les pratiques politiques en cours. Si certains s'engagent en faveur de certaines causes - le combat écologique, la cause animale, ou même dans certains partis encore crédibles à l'instar de Rezistans ek Alternativ, la majorité, par dégoût, reste éloignée de la politique. Les stratèges du MSM ont bien compris cela et ont lancé leur opération de séduction.

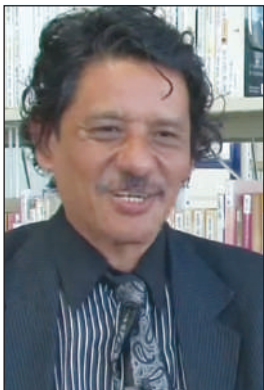
Pravind Jugnauth dispose de certains atouts - bien qu'il soit un "senior citizen" lui-même. Il est bien moins âgé que les trois leaders de l'alliance de l'opposition. En outre, les jeunes d'aujourd'hui veulent des résultats concrets et non des "vain talks" et de vaines promesses pour un futur lointain. On doit s'attendre à d'autres mesures en faveur des jeunes d'ici la fin du mandat du gouvernement.

Quant à l'alliance de l'opposition, elle est définitivement contrainte de trouver autre chose que la création d'ailes jeunes factices sans grand pouvoir de décision au sein de leurs partis respectifs...

*** Si l'alliance PTr-MMM-PMSD a réussi sa démonstration de force à Mare d'Albert, ce qui a rééquilibré les choses, il faut aussi reconnaître que la grande masse des différents électors de ces trois partis, et surtout celui du PTr, ne se sont pas manifestés jusqu'ici...**

En général, le Mauricien ne s'affiche pas dans les rassemblements politiques, sauf en cas de crise, comme, par exemple, dans le sillage de l'affaire Wakashio.

En outre, il y a la peur des représailles. Cela s'applique davantage à l'électorat du PTr au sein duquel on trouve beaucoup de fonctionnaires ou des personnes qui ont des proches travaillant dans le "Civil Service" ou la Fonction publique. En outre, malgré toute cette agitation, les élec-



de "rebranding" avec des effets délétères sur l'alternance..."

“Dans d'autres démocraties, la défaite aux élections générales entraîne le retrait du leader pour mieux faciliter le processus de "rebranding" si essentiel pour remporter les élections à venir... Mais, à Maurice, où les partis sont la propriété personnelle du leader, cela ne peut se faire, ce qui déjoue toute tentative

tions ne sont pas pour demain et le Mauricien moyen a d'autres chats à fouetter. Il ne faut surtout pas oublier que la grosse majorité de la population ne se retrouve plus dans les partis politiques existants, à la fois traditionnels et extra-parlementaires.

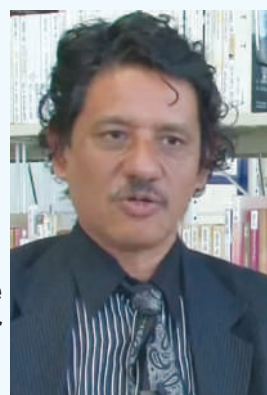
*** Mais il y a aussi environ 60% de l'électorat à prendre lors des prochaines élections, ceux qui n'ont pas voté en faveur du MSM et de ses alliés. La bataille promet donc d'être rude et dure et difficilement gagnable pour l'opposition, mais le MSM peut perdre, comme le disait Jean Claude de l'Estrac récemment?**

Tout est possible. Cependant, l'éloignement vis-à-vis des partis traditionnels est l'expression d'un profond dégoût vis-à-vis d'un système et des pratiques politiques qui favorisent la corruption, les passe-droits, le népotisme, le communalisme, les mensonges, le transfugisme, les dysfonctionnements institutionnels et toutes sortes d'abus.

L'opposition promet des réformes structurelles afin de mettre fin à ce système crapuleux. Mais le hic, c'est que pour beaucoup, à tort ou à raison, certains dirigeants de l'opposition sont la personnification même du mal auquel ils veulent mettre fin. Dans ce cas, pour l'opposition, il n'y a pas d'autre solution que le retrait de ces dirigeants en faveur d'une nouvelle direction- la victoire de l'opposition en serait garantie. Mais, dans l'état actuel des choses, c'est utopique de penser que les dirigeants du moment vont se mettre sur la touche pour agir en tant que mentors.

*** En fin de compte, il y a aussi des "lone wolves",**

“Pour beaucoup, à tort ou à raison, certains dirigeants de l'opposition sont la personnification même du mal auquel ils veulent mettre fin. Dans ce cas, pour l'opposition, il n'y a pas d'autre solution que le retrait de ces dirigeants en faveur d'une nouvelle direction - la victoire de l'opposition en serait garantie. Mais, dans l'état actuel des choses, c'est utopique de penser que les dirigeants du moment vont se mettre sur la touche pour agir en tant que mentors...”



également leaders des partis nouvellement créés sur l'échiquier. De par leurs positionnements politiques, ils sont perçus comme des alliés objectifs de l'alliance gouvernementale. Vont-ils peser lourd ou d'une manière déterminante, selon vous, dans la bataille électorale?

Il y a un énorme paradoxe à Maurice actuellement. L'existence d'une profonde inadéquation entre l'offre et la demande politique n'est plus à démontrer.

L'électorat des partis traditionnels s'étant effondré, on aurait pu s'attendre à l'émergence d'une troisième force qui deviendrait rapidement une alternative crédible. C'est loin d'être le cas.

Les sondages démontrent que le soutien à ces partis nouvellement créés reste marginal. Cela est sans doute dû au fait que l'électorat cherche une alternative nouvelle alors que les partis extra-parlementaires sont majoritairement constitués de l'ancienne garde - anciens députés, ministres, maires, etc., ayant été longtemps associés étroitement aux partis traditionnels et dont certains trainent toujours des casseroles et tentent, aujourd'hui, de se recycler en 'nouveautés'. Personne n'est dupe.

Quant aux "lone wolves", dans la vie politique, on voit de temps à autre émerger de tels personnages - mégalomaniaques, avec de grandes ambitions premier-ministérielles, qui veulent être au centre de tout, mais ils sont surtout incapables de travailler en groupe. S'ils arrivent à se faire élire au sein d'un parti ou du gouvernement, ils finissent par démissionner avec fracas. Dans l'opposition, ils se la jouent solo avec comme résultat inévitable qu'ils finissent toujours par se retrouver au centre... "dan karo kann"!

Il est vrai que l'exemple d'Emmanuel Macron a dû inspirer certains. Mais le contexte est totalement différent. Macron était le candidat de puissants lobbies financiers, pro-Atlantistes et globalistes disposant d'énormes leviers d'influence dans l'opinion. Ensuite, le système présidentiel à la française favorise l'individu alors qu'à Maurice, nous élisons un parti et des députés qui choisissent un Premier ministre...

Evidemment, en divisant le "protest vote", les partis extra-parlementaires profitent au MSM. Cependant, il faut relativiser leur influence. Il a été établi depuis longtemps que le système électoral influence directement le comportement de l'électeur. Ainsi, dans un système de "First Past The Post", l'électeur choisira le candidat ou le parti le plus apte à remporter la victoire et à diriger le prochain gouvernement, quitte à laisser tomber les candidats envers lesquels il éprouverait une certaine sympathie.

C'est le vote utile qui prédomine. Et le MMM en a fait les frais aux élections de 2019 vu le très mauvais score que le parti a récolté dans certaines circonscriptions. Si tel est le cas, on peut s'attendre à ce que l'impact des partis extra-parlementaires soit négligeable aux prochaines élections générales.

Cependant, certains individus vont récolter personnellement quelques votes de sympathie de nature communale, entre autres. Cela risque d'avoir un certain effet en cas de lutte serrée dans certaines circonscriptions. Mais, en général, à Maurice, malgré l'existence des «3-member constituencies», c'est le bloc vote en faveur des partis qui prédomine, le "vote coupé" - communal, castéiste ou épidermique d'une certaine petite bourgeoisie - étant l'exception.

From the Pages of History - MT 60 Years Ago

6th Year No 241**MAURITIUS TIMES**

Friday 27 March, 1959

• *Unless a man works he cannot find out what he is able to do. — Philip Gilbert Hamerton*

A Dangerous, Demoded London Agreement



Jay Narain Roy

The Constitution of Mauritius is in two parts: the Letters-Patent and the London Agreement. There are three main items that form the basis of the new Constitution: The Universal Suffrage, the single-member forty constituencies and the composition of the Executive Council.

Whatever silly stuff the disgruntled leaders of the Parti Mauricien may have

to say, Universal Suffrage has stood the test in a convincing manner. The Parti Mauricien was the Conservative Party, and one of the candidates by publicly quoting how many Conservative votes he had obtained has confirmed our belief. The people rated it at its intrinsic value. Only two Franco-Mauritians and one upper-class Coloured man were elected. The other Coloured and Muslim candidates of that Party were all eliminated and some lost very badly. All the non-Hindu candidates of the Forward Bloc lost their deposits.

The single-member constituencies too have been a resounding success. The Labour Party and Allies elected 18 Hindus, 8 Coloured and 5 Muslims. We lost 5 Hindu, 3 Coloured and 1 Franco-Mauritian seats and all were narrowly contested. The Labour electorate responded wonderfully and I challenge anyone to prove that 91% voting so well giving such large majorities to Labourites do not constitute a high standard of political acumen. If the sectional balance has been upset slightly, it is just because, as the results show, the Forward Bloc had put up too many Hindu and the Parti Mauricien too many Franco-Mauritian candidates. In fact, judging by the results their respective focus was on these sections alone.

Which were the communal parties, and who sowed money and exploited caste, section, and communities in the political fight? Instead of accepting the verdict of the polls with good grace, the leaderettes of the Parti Mauricien are talking the language of war to side-track the real issue. What are the new issues? Nomination and the Executive. According to the spirit of the Constitution, apart from the Muslim best losers no defeated candidate can be nominated. Nomination should be through consultations with the majority Party, and it should in no wise frustrate the result of the polls. Nomination should follow certain interests and not communities.

But where the Constitution goes against the spirit of democracy is in the London Agreement. The latter document was made with the idea of introducing an apprenticeship in the ministerial system, and it cannot be said to become a permanent feature of the Constitution. We went to the polls with a comprehensive programme covering 16 points and these points covered most of the burning problems of this country. We have to implement our programme or most of it during

the next five years because that is what the electorate expected when they voted for us and gave us such large majorities.

What chances have we to implement our programme? The London Agreement is today one of the most reactionary documents known to history. It is so because it is the very opposite of what the electorate has willed. With five Muslims and two trade unionists, the Labour Party can reckon with 31 members out of a maximum total of 55 members. Which is an absolute majority. By all canons of democracy, we should be called upon to form a government. But this reactionary Constitution has powers to sabotage the will of the people in an unholy attempt to perpetuate the sway of the Conservatives in the teeth of the results of the polls. It is a very unhappy situation, and so it is incumbent upon us to redress matters so that we can do what is expected of us.

According to the London Agreement, the representative not of the people but of Whitehall is the *de facto* Prime Minister with plenary power of appointing Nominees and Ministers. He can say to us: "I want Mr X to be a Nominee and a Minister" although the 31 members may be dead against this and although, as everyone knows, he himself did not have the courage to face the electorate. He can say: "Last time when you had 13 out of 35, I gave you 6 Ministers and now that you have elected 31 out of 40, I cannot give you more than six." He can put three of our worst opponents in the Executive. More than that. He can say: You have put up the names of Messrs A, B, C, D, E and F to be Ministers. I want to have A, C, F, G, H, I because I consider B, D and E to be too extremist, and not quite handy."

The London Agreement has made him the master of our destiny, one who is able to ride over the decision of the electorate. His main concern is to keep power into the hands of the officials, and he might give his first choice to people who can easily be handled by the Principal Assistants so that while there is a semblance of a Ministerial System the real powers will continue to remain in the hands of the officials. I understand that the Conservatives have been making representations to the Governor expressing their objection against certain intelligent and knowledgeable people of the Labour Party.

The Parti Mauricien is clearly a Conservative Party, and we cannot accept double representation in the Ministry of the same thing under two labels. We want conditions for us to implement some of our

major economic measures. There is absolutely no justification for any Ministry worth the name if there are no visible changes to enable us to deliver the goods.

Whether our Party should tamely accept to soft-pedal things or whether we should assert and fight out the issue will have to be decided.

Dans *Le Malade imaginaire* de Molière, un père autoritaire, Argan, qui se dit malade, a décidé que sa fille Angélique, qui s'est promise à un autre, épousera un médecin qui le soignera de toutes ses maladies imaginaires. L'économie mauricienne a aussi ses faux malades, ces firmes profitables qui, qu'il pleuve ou qu'il fasse beau, réclament toujours plus d'aides de l'État, dont les institutions n'en demandent pas moins pour jouer aux médecins de Molière. Comme Argan, les patrons ont une obsession pour la maladie, qui est ici économique. Comment les amener à se ranger du côté de l'amour vrai, celui des principes économiques ? Ce livre y travaille, mais la pilule est dure à avaler. En définitive, Argan lui-même sera médecin. Et si le secteur privé aussi, poumon de l'économie, se fait médecin à la place de l'État ?



ERIC NG PING CHEUN

Eric Ng Ping Cheun est économiste, dirige sa propre boîte de conseil, PluriConseil, commente l'actualité économique et a publié plusieurs livres sur l'économie.

Un malade imaginaire

Au chevet de l'économie mauricienne



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EAST, CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN AFRICA HEALTH COMMUNITY (ECSA-HC)

Request For Proposal Individual Consultant

for

Provision of Consultancy Services on Development of The Strategic Plan (2023-2028) for East, Central, and Southern Africa-Health Community (ECSA-HC)

Tender No. ECSAHC/209/CS/INDV

15th August, 2023

1. The East Central and Southern Africa Health Community (ECSA-HC) is a regional Intergovernmental organization whose membership comprises Eswatini, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, the United Republic of Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. Founded in 1974 by the Convention of the ECSA-Health Community, the organization exists to foster regional cooperation in health.

The Vision of ECSA-HC is to be the leader in health in East, Central, and Southern Africa, contributing towards the attainment of the highest standard of physical, mental, and social well-being of the people in the region.

ECSA Health Community recognizes health as a fundamental human right. As an inter-governmental organization, ECSA promotes the highest standards of health for individuals, families, and communities through advocacy, capacity building, brokerage, coordination, inter-sectoral collaboration, and harmonization of health policies and programs.
2. The East, Central and Southern Africa Health Community (ECSA-HC) has set aside funds for its operations in the financial year 2023/2024. It is intended that part of the proceeds will be used to cover eligible payment under the contract for **“Provision of Consultancy Services on Development of the Strategic Plan (2023-2028) for East, Central, and Southern Africa-Health Community (ECSA-HC)”**
3. ECSA-HC now invites interested eligible Individual Consultants now invites interested eligible Individual Consultants from Its Member States as indicated above to submit the proposals in providing the required consultancy services.
4. Interested Individual Consultants must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services by submitting updated Technical Proposals/CV's in responding to TORs with description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions and relevant skills, Cover submission describing the approach, methodology and work plan for the performing the assignment. Individual Consultants must also submit their Financial Proposals in writing. The shortlisting criteria are:
 - Masters in public health or health policy, business management/ development or Health Economics or Equivalent of any of the listed. Ph. D in health discipline will be an added advantage;
 - Professional qualifications in strategic management, monitoring and evaluation, strategic planning and development or other relevant qualifications;
 - Evidence of having knowledge on Donor Funded Projects and
- Experience in similar assignments
5. More details on the assignment are provided in the Section II (Terms of Reference) of the RFP document
6. A consultant will be selected in accordance with the procedures set out in the ECSAHC Procurement Manual November, 2011
7. You are requested to submit your Proposals (Detailed CV, Technical and Financial Proposals through the address indicated below by Monday 30th August, 2023 at 10:00 hours local time through regsec@ecsahc.org, doid@ecsahc.org and copy s_sibandze@ecsahc.org
8. Prospective Individual Consultants are required to access the Request for Proposal through ECSAHC's Website: www.ecsahc.org
9. Technical Proposal/CV's shall be evaluated on the basis of the criteria shown in the Terms of Reference (Section II) and in the instructions to Consultants (Section I). Only Individual Consultant with the highest score in the ranking above 70 points shall be engaged (depending on their availability) to carry out the assignments during the financial year 2023/2024.
10. Any request for clarification with regard to this assignment shall be addressed to the undersigned not less than seven days before deadline for submission. The Client shall respond to clarifications received within three working days from the date of receipt of query.
11. Please submit your proposals as described in no. 7 above by **30th August, 2023** to the email addresses indicated above with a title **“Provision of Consultancy Services on Development of the Strategic Plan (2023-2028) for East, Central, and Southern Africa-Health Community (ECSA-HC)”**
12. Late Expressions of Interest shall not be accepted for evaluation irrespective of the circumstances.

Director General

East Central and Southern Africa Health Community (ECSA-HC)

Address: Plot 157, Oloirien, Niro Road,

P.O. Box 1009 Arusha, Tanzania

Tel: 255-27-2549362; 2549365/6

Fax: 255-27-2549392

Email: regsec@ecsahc.org, doid@ecsahc.org

Website: www.ecsahc.org

West Africa has experienced a wave of coups - superficial democracy is to blame

● Cont. from page 2

Barrow gave Jammeh a soft landing before going on to renege on his agreement to resign and transfer power. He is now relying on support from the old order to stay in power, knowing that his popularity with the people has diminished.

A toothless regional bloc

The return of civil rule to Nigeria in 1999 ushered in a sense that military coups and autocratic regimes in the region would end.

The presidency of Olusegun Obasanjo and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) were diplomatically active against military coups. But more recently it appears that the regional bloc is relatively weak and individual countries are challenged by economic, social, political and security issues.

Citizens are dissatisfied with multilateral institutions – such as ECOWAS and the African Union. These bodies may be quick to condemn military takeovers, but they are slow to express concern about poor governance, such as altering of constitutions for regime survival.

Governments have failed to deliver on the promises that got them elected. This failure has led to growing dissatisfaction and a quest for alternatives. In some cases, citizens welcome the military, as witnessed in Burkina Faso.

Common to most of the military takeovers in the sub-region is the failure of the civilian regimes to deliver. Rising insecurity and worsening living conditions remain the fate of the people. These factors have acted as incubators for the return of the military.

In the last 24 months, governments in Mali, Guinea and Burkina Faso were toppled in quick succession.

In Mali, outrage over the erstwhile president Ibrahim Keita's ineffective leadership in the face of rising insecurity and corruption led to his ousting.

In Guinea, the attempt to stay in power by altering the constitution, even in the face of rising inequality, corruption, gross under-performance and human rights violations, led to the ousting of President Alpha Conde.

In Burkina Faso, civilian president Roch Marc Christian Kabore was removed because of rising internal displacement, widespread poverty, inequality and insecurity. Security forces were also discontented over his failure to adequately support them against militants linked to Al-Qaeda and the Islamic State.

Democracy is not necessarily good governance

Although the region has made some headway with efforts to propagate democracy, it remains superficial. Its dividends, in the form of good governance, remain elusive.

Periodic elections are held, which legitimises civilians in power. But the critical fundamentals that foster democracy are missing:

- informed and active participation
- separation of powers
- respect for the rule of law
- fundamental human rights
- accountability.

As insecurity rises and living conditions worsen, will the region experience more military takeovers?

Democracy appears to have come to stay in parts of the region, such as Nigeria, Ghana and Cote d'Ivoire.



Others still have work to do in getting the military back to the barracks permanently.

Even governments in the rather more stable nations cannot afford to be complacent. They will have to intensify efforts to deliver the dividends of democracy, if they are to avoid civil unrest or military incursion.

What will shape the future of democracy in the region

Nigeria still exhibits fault lines of religion and ethnicity, as well as abuse of privilege by the elites over the rest of the citizens.

Failure to protect the lives, property and rights of citizens fuelled the "EndSARS" protest, which is fast crystallising into a social movement with potential to make a strong political statement in the February 2023 elections.

In Ghana, local lobby groups have staged street protests amid growing anxiety over economic conditions in the country and rising allegations of corruption and government lethargy.

The future of democracy in the region will depend on the level of development in democratic institutions, level of military sophistication and professionalism, level of literacy, and presence of a broad based elite class that is not self-serving.

Elected civilians need to respect their social contracts with citizens. Citizens need to feel better off with civilians in power.

Nepotism, graft, outright theft of public funds and constitutional manipulations create grounds for military coups.

By Temitope J. Laniran, Research Associate, University of Bradford

Mauritius Times

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Thank you so much.
Mauritius Times

Women now seen as equally as or more competent than men

« Challenging traditional claims that stereotypes of women and men are fixed or rigid, our study joins others in finding stereotypes to be flexible to changes in social roles," said Alice Eagly, PhD, of Northwestern University and lead author on the study. "As the roles of women and men have changed since the mid-20th century, so have beliefs about their attributes."

The research was published in *American Psychologist*, APA's flagship journal.

Eagly and her coauthors conducted a meta-analysis of 16 nationally representative public opinion polls involving more than 30,000 U.S. adults from 1946 to 2018. They looked at three types of traits - communion (i.e., compassion, sensitivity), agency (i.e., ambition, aggression), and competence (i.e., intelligence, creativity) -- and whether participants thought each trait was truer of women or men or equally true of both.

Competence stereotypes changed dramatically over time. For example, in one 1946 poll, only 35% of those surveyed thought men and women were equally intelligent, and of those who believed there was a difference, more thought men



were the more competent sex. In contrast, in one 2018 poll, 86% believed men and women were equally intelligent, 9% believed women were more intelligent and only 5% believed men were more intelligent.

Communal stereotypes viewing women as more compassionate and sensitive than men strengthened over time. In contrast, agency stereotypes viewing men

as more ambitious and aggressive than women did not significantly change over time.

"These current stereotypes should favour women's employment because competence is, of course, a job requirement for virtually all positions. Also, jobs increasingly reward social skills, making women's greater communion an additional advantage," said Eagly. "On a less

positive note, most leadership roles require more agency than communion. Therefore, the lesser agency ascribed to women than men is a disadvantage in relation to leadership positions."

Eagly theorized that the considerable change in competence beliefs derives, in part, from the changing roles of men and women. Women's labour force participation has increased from 32% in 1950 to 57% in 2018, while men's participation has fallen from 82% to 69%. Women also now earn more bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees than do men, unlike decades ago.

As women entered paid employment in large numbers, their jobs remained concentrated in occupations that reward social skills or offer contribution to society. Women also spend approximately twice as much time on domestic work and child care as men on average, according to Eagly. In contrast, men are concentrated in leadership roles and in occupations that require physical strength, competition, interaction with things, and analytical, mathematical and technical skills.



How do black holes pull in light? Black holes are known for pulling in all kinds of stuff – including light. Here's how that actually works.

What an excellent question, Will! I too wondered about this when I started to learn the wonders of physics.

To answer this, we must first explain three things: 1) what is light, 2) what is gravity, and 3) what is a black hole?

1) What is light?

Light is just a type of energy, travelling through space. There are many different types of light we can't physically see, but can detect and even use. For example, ultraviolet light that comes from our Sun is why you have to wear sunscreen – so the light doesn't hurt your skin.

It's important for us to remember that just because light doesn't have mass, it still is very much a physical thing in our universe, following physical laws.

The neat thing is, no matter what type of light, it all follows the same physical laws in the universe. One rule is that light always wants to travel in a straight line through space.

This is where we now need to break down gravity, and what space is made of.

2) What is gravity?

Gravity is the force that keeps us safe here on Earth. It also keeps Earth circling around (orbiting) our Sun. But what causes gravity?

Many scientists in history pondered this question, and came up with all sorts of theories. But when Albert Einstein presented his theory on general relativity in 1915, we started to really understand exactly what gravity was, and how it affects our universe.

Einstein had mathematically worked out that we exist



in something called "spacetime". You can picture this as the fabric of our universe. Like a fabric, it can bend and stretch. I like to picture space like a trampoline. When you put something heavy (like a bowling ball) in the middle of a trampoline, the fabric underneath it bends and sinks down.

Now imagine a universe-sized trampoline, and we place our Sun on it. The dip in that trampoline represents the gravity of the Sun. And we can do this with every object that has mass.

When spacetime is bent by that mass, the lines that would normally be straight become slightly curved – you can see that in the picture below. This is most extreme around the really massive objects we call black holes.

3) What is a black hole?

Black holes are, in my opinion, one of the coolest things we've ever discovered in the universe. Black holes are regions of space so dense, nothing can escape.

They are usually formed when very large stars get too heavy and collapse (implode) on themselves. Astronomers think all the mass in the black hole is actually squished into a single point in the middle.

Black holes get a bad reputation for eating "anything that is near them", which is just not true. Black holes do have a distance from their centre, which we mark as the point of no return. This is called the event horizon.

But farther away from this point, light and matter can circle around a black hole for a very long time.

So how can a black hole pull in light?

Now we've broken down those three key things, we can answer the great question asked by Will: how can a black hole pull in light?

When light is travelling near a black hole, it is still trying to travel in a straight line. As it gets closer to the black hole where spacetime is bent, the light will follow those bends.

When light gets very close to the black hole, it can be trapped circling around and around it. That's because the fabric of spacetime is bent to the extreme. As you'll remember, light is indeed a physical thing and is affected by spacetime.

Possibly my favourite part about this fact is it doesn't just apply to black holes.

Anything with enough mass can make light bend around it, even our Sun. This was how scientists first confirmed Einstein's theory of gravity was likely correct in 1919.

Something really heavy, like a whole group of galaxies clumped together, can bend space so much, it works like a magnifying glass and shows zoomed-in pictures of the stars behind it.

Sara Webb

Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Centre for Astrophysics and Supercomputing, Swinburne University of Technology



Facebook Friend Request

Yesterday I received a friend request from a young attractive guy. About 19-20 years old... I was curious.

I wanted to know why someone that young wanted to be my FB friend.

So, I accepted it. Then he started sending me private messages.

He called me beautiful. He asked my age. I'm not a liar so I told him and reminded him I'm quite a bit his senior. Within a short time, he asked if we could talk about 'adult things'. I said OK. Then he replied with a face like. He said 'Thank you babe, you start'...

So, I did! I told him adult things like I have arthritis and my knees hurt badly. My back acts up when it is cold outside. I explained that I have crazy insomnia. Didn't forget to tell him about my asthma inhaler. Can't forget that. I told him sometimes I wake up with horrible neck pain and that sometimes my back cracks when I'm getting out of bed. Not to forget my restless leg pain during night.

I was as honest as I could be about **adult things**, but I don't understand why he blocked me.

Kevin gets a new secretary...

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

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

Kevin: "Didn't quite notice."

Emma: "What colour are her eyes?"

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

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



Kevin: "Not a clue in the world."

Emma: "Does she have a local accent?"

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

Emma: "How does she dress?"

Kevin: "Very quickly."

Kevin's funeral will be held on Tuesday!

Four older women are sitting around playing bridge...

The first lady says, "You know girls, I have known you all a long time and there is something I must get off my chest. I am a kleptomaniac. But don't worry, I have never stolen from you, and I never will; we have been friends for too long."

The second lady says, "Well, since we are having true confessions here, I must get something off my chest too. I am a nymphomaniac. But don't worry, I have never made a play for your husbands. They don't interest me and never will; we have been friends for too long."

"Well," says the third lady, "I, too, must confess something. I am a lesbian. But do not worry, I will not bother you. You are not my type. We have been friends too long for me to ruin our friendship."

The fourth lady stands up, says, "I have a confession to make also. I am an uncontrollable gossip, and I have some phone calls to make!"

My Crush called me yesterday

"Hello handsome, am so hungry right now, please can you come to my house and when coming please buy a big chicken so that I can prepare something delicious for us to eat."

Though I was very broke, I looked for where they were selling chicken and bought a big one and went to her house.

She then slaughtered it, cooked only 4 pieces for us to eat and she put the rest inside the fridge.

Just 10 minutes into her cooking, someone called her and she went outside to answer the call.

After receiving the call, she told me that her brother is on the way and she will not like her brother to meet me in the house and that if he meets me, he won't be happy.

So she said I should go, that she will call me when her brother leaves.

I peacefully went to the saucepan of food, picked the 4 pieces of chicken, opened the fridge, took the rest and went to my house.

Since yesterday I have been calling her to know if her brother has left so I can go back but she is not picking up my calls.

My people, did I do anything wrong?

Boy: Hi.

Girl: Hello.

Boy: Where are you, darling...?

Girl: I am in my car with my dad. Dad's BMW has gone for servicing so I am using the Mercedes today to go around. We are going to the club. From there, we will go to the jewellery shop. They called me yesterday saying that they received a new collection of gold and diamond jewellery and have blocked a few updated designer sets for me to purchase. I will drop dad at home after that. I will call you at that time. We can meet after I drop dad. Where are you?

Boy: I am in the town bus sitting just behind you. Don't purchase the ticket. I have purchased it for you!

A woman approaches a man and says. "Excuse me, sir, I'm doing a little survey. Can I ask you a few questions?"

The man says: "Yeah sure."

Woman: "If you're travelling on a bus and a female gets on it and she's got no available seat, would you give up your seat for her?"

Man: "No."

Woman: "What if the lady that got on the bus was pregnant, would you give up your seat then?"

Man: "No."

Woman: "What if the lady was a senior lady, would you give your seat then?"

Man: "No."

Woman: "You are one selfish man, you have no manners, you men are all the same."

Man: "No Madam, I'm a bus driver."

Doctor: Your liver is enlarged

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

(This is called "Positive Thinking")

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

Doc: How come?

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

(Now this is called "Positive Attitude")

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

(This is self confidence in its peak)

This one is classic!

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

Always be positive even in difficult situations!

Reflection

That night I understood what true love is



« My parents were married for 55 years. One morning, my mom was going downstairs to make dad's breakfast, she had a heart attack and fell. My father picked her up as best he could and almost dragged her into the truck. At full speed, without respecting traffic lights, he drove her to the hospital.

When he arrived, unfortunately she was no longer with us.

During the funeral, my father did not speak; his gaze was lost. He hardly cried.

That night, his children joined him. In an atmosphere of pain and nostalgia, we remembered beautiful anecdotes and he asked my brother, a theologian, to tell

him where Mom would be at that moment. My brother began to talk about life after death and guesses as to how and where she would be.

My father listened carefully. Suddenly he asked us to take him to the cemetery.

"Dad!" we replied, "it's 11 at night, we can't go to the cemetery right now!"

He raised his voice, and with a glazed look he said: "Don't argue with me, please don't argue with the man who just lost his wife of 55 years."

There was a moment of respectful silence, we didn't argue anymore. We went to the cemetery; we asked the night watchman for permission. With a flashlight we reached the tomb. My father caressed her, prayed, and told his children, who watched the scene moved:

"It was 55 years... you know? No one can talk about true love if they have no idea what it's like to share life with a woman."

He paused and wiped his face. "She and I, we were together in that crisis. I changed jobs..." he continued. "We packed up when we sold the house and moved out of town. We shared the joy of seeing our children finish their careers, we mourned the departure of loved ones' side by side, we prayed together in the waiting room of some hospitals, we support each other in pain, we hug each Christmas, and we forgive our mistakes... Children, now it's gone, and I'm happy, do you know why?"

"Because she left before me. She didn't have to go through the agony and pain of burying me, of being left alone after my departure. I will be the one to go through that, and I thank God. I love her so much that I wouldn't have liked her to suffer..."

When my father finished speaking, my brothers and I had tears streaming down our faces. We hugged him, and he comforted us, "It's okay, we can go home, it's been a good day."

That night I understood what true love is; it is far from romanticism, it does not have much to do with eroticism, or with sex, rather it is linked to work, to complement, to care and, above all, to the true love that two really committed people profess."

Peace in your hearts.

-- Unknown

"The dark night of the soul comes just before revelation. When everything is lost, and all seems darkness, then comes the new life and all that is needed."

Joseph Campbell



That's Life

The love of your fate

-- Joseph Campbell

Nietzsche was the one who did the job for me. At a certain moment in his life, the idea came to him of what he called 'the love of your fate.'

Whatever your fate is, whatever the hell happens, you say, 'This is what I need.' It may look like a wreck, but go at it as though it were an opportunity, a challenge. If you bring love to that moment -- not discouragement -- you will find the strength is there.

Any disaster you can survive is an improvement in your character, your stature, and your life. What a privilege! This is when the spontaneity of your own nature will have a chance to flow.

Then, when looking back at your life, you will see that the moments which seemed to be great failures followed by wreckage were the incidents that shaped the life you have now. You'll see that this is really true. Nothing can happen to you that is not positive. Even though it looks and feels at the moment like a negative crisis, it is not. The crisis throws you back, and when you are required to exhibit strength, it comes.

From: Reflections on the Art of Living by Joseph Campbell.

Joseph was an American writer and a professor of literature at Sarah Lawrence College.

How to Survive and Thrive in the Workplace

-- Thomas Erikson

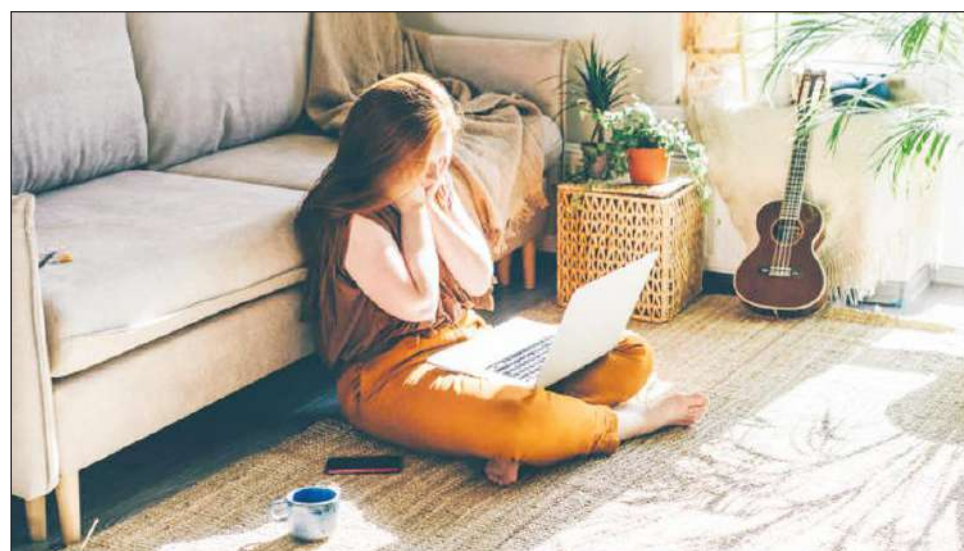
1. Don't take it personally. When you're surrounded by bad bosses and lazy employees, it's easy to take it personally. But it's important to remember that it's not about you. It's about them.

2. Set boundaries. It's important to set boundaries with your boss and your coworkers. Don't be afraid to say no when you're asked to do something that's not in your job description or that you don't have time for.

3. Take care of yourself. When you're surrounded by negative people, it's important to take care of yourself. Make sure you're getting enough sleep, eating healthy foods, and exercising regularly.

4. Find a support system. It's important to have a support system of people who you can talk to about what you're going through. This could be friends, family, or a therapist.

5. Don't be afraid to speak up. If you're not happy with the way things are going, don't be afraid to speak up. Talk to your boss or HR department about your concerns.



6. Look for a new job. If things are really bad, you may need to look for a new job. This can be a daunting task, but it may be the best thing for you in the long run.

7. Don't give up. It's important to remember that you're not alone. There are other people who have been through what you're going through. And you can get through this.

8. Stay positive. It's easy to get negative when you're

surrounded by bad bosses and lazy employees. But it's important to stay positive. Focus on the things you can control and don't let the negative people get you down.

9. Learn from experience. Every experience, good or bad, can teach us something. Take the time to reflect on what you've learned from this experience and how you can use it to improve your life in the future.

10. Be grateful. No matter how bad things are there's always something to

be grateful for. Make a list of the things you're grateful for and read it whenever you're feeling down.

I hope these lessons help you to survive and thrive in the workplace, even if you're surrounded by bad bosses and lazy employees.

Ten lessons from 'Surrounded by Bad Bosses and Lazy Employees'

He & She

5 marital issues that are even worse than cheating

Cheating is definitely one quick, big way to absolutely annihilate a relationship, but in fact there are plenty of other things that are much more potent when it comes to ruining even the strongest of bonds. In this article, timelesslife.info will tell you some things to watch out for.

1. Holding in feelings

While heavy conflict is exhausting in a relationship, none is usually a sign of distance and disengagement.

Where partners choose to not express and discuss their issues, the end of that relationship might just be getting closer than they thought. Where partners choose to not express and discuss their issues, the end of that relationship might just be getting closer than they thought.

2. Contacting exes

Well, we aren't saying it is completely a bad thing, but there are partners who become extremely secretive about this and doing it a lot too often isn't healthy for an ongoing relationship or marriage. Sometimes, this could even count as actively cheating on your present partner.

This situation is one that many people face in modern society. Keeping in touch with an ex is a big issue and most times causes hitches among couples. So to keep the marriage or relationship going, it is best to stay away from exes no matter what your reason for keeping in touch is.



While heavy conflict is exhausting in a relationship, none is usually a sign of distance and disengagement. Pic - Marriage.com

3. Too much concentration on tv and phones

When partners choose always to watch TV or stay fixated with their phones at times when they should be talking or enjoying each other's company, this could have a long-term damaging effect on the relationship. It is very important that shared time is really shared.

4. Alcoholism

In any relationship where a partner suffers this, there could be trouble because a drunk person isn't ever in his right senses and could do or say stuff with really damaging effects.

Now imagine that happening every day. Imagine the destructive effect it could have on your relationship. A person who engages in heavy drinking on a regular basis is prone to be faced with many emotional, physical, and psychological challenges, which tend to be most fully expressed in their intimate relationships.

People with an alcohol problem usually have a very hard time maintaining healthy relationships because of their excessive alcohol intake.

5. Being married to a job

When your partner never calls, doesn't reply to calls or messages, is always away at work and seems always absorbed in work even when he's at home with you, this poses a difficulty especially if you are married.

It could be that partner's nature. But it is a problem that has to be addressed.

More than nine in 10 older adults have some type of chronic disease, and almost eight in 10 have more than one. So, chances are, you'll have one sooner or later. But there are things you can do to live a healthier life.

High blood pressure: As you age, your blood vessels get less flexible, and that puts pressure on the system that carries blood through your body. That might explain why about two out of three adults over 60 have high blood pressure. But there are other causes you can control. To do so, watch your weight, exercise, stop smoking, find ways to deal with stress, reduce your salt intake, and eat healthily.

Diabetes: Your chances of getting the disease go up as you get older. Diabetes can lead to heart disease, kidney disease, blindness, and other problems. Talk with your doctor about having your blood sugar checked.

Heart Disease: Plaque build-up in your arteries is a major cause of heart disease. It starts in childhood and gets worse as you age. In the 40-to-59 age group in the U.S., 6.3% of men and 5.6% of women have heart disease. Between ages 60 and 79, heart disease cases go up to nearly 20% of men and 9.7% of women.

Obesity: If you weigh a lot more than is healthy for your height, you could be considered obese — it's not having just a few extra pounds. It's linked to at least 20 chronic diseases, including heart disease, stroke, diabetes, cancer, high blood pressure, and arthritis. Nearly 45% of Americans ages 40 to 59 are obese.

Osteoarthritis: At one time, doctors chalked up this disease of the joints to the wear and tear of age, and that is a factor. But genetics and lifestyle probably have something to do with it as well. And previous joint injuries, a lack of physical activity, diabetes, and being overweight can all play a part, too.

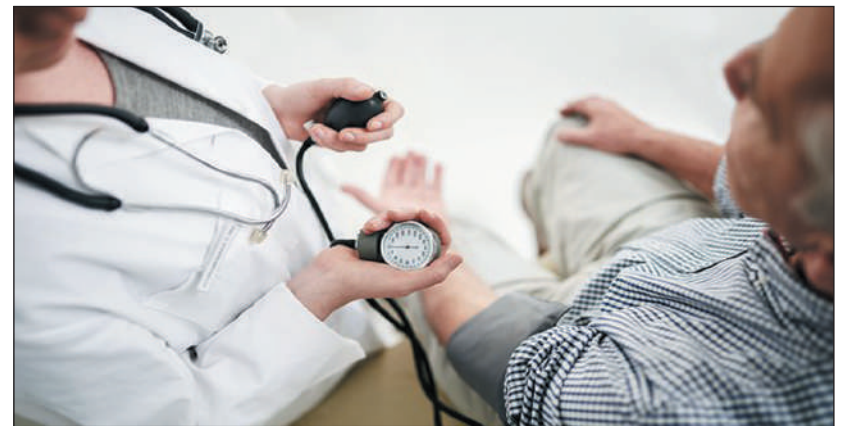
Osteoporosis: Osteoporosis causes your bones to become weak and could lead to fractures. A couple of things that can help: a healthy diet rich in calcium and vitamin D (you need both for strong bones) and regular weight-bearing exercise, like dancing, jogging, or climbing stairs.

Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD): This causes inflammation and blocks air from your lungs. It's a slow-moving disease that you could have for years without knowing it — symptoms usually show up in your 40s or 50s. It can make you have trouble breathing, and you may cough, wheeze, and spit up mucus. Exercise, a

Healthy Aging

Over 50? These Problems Can Sneak Up on You

From back pain to diabetes, see which health troubles tend to catch up to you after enough decades — and find out what helps keep them at bay



As you age, your blood vessels get less flexible, and that puts pressure on the system that carries blood through your body. Pic - Cheapism

healthy diet, and avoiding smoke and pollution can help.

Hearing Loss: Maybe nothing says, "You're getting older" more than having to ask, "What did you say?" Loud noise, disease, and your genes all play a part. Some medications can cause hearing problems, too. See your doctor if you're not able to hear as well as you used to.

Vision Problems: That annoying blurriness when you try to read the small type on labels or menus isn't the only threat to your vision as you age. Cataracts (which cloud the lens of your eye) and glaucoma (a group of eye conditions that damage your optic nerve) can harm your eyesight. See your eye doctor for regular exams.

Bladder Problems: Whether you can't go when you need to or you have to go too often, problems with bladder control tend to happen as we get older. They can be caused by nerve problems, muscle weakness, thickening tissue, or an enlarged prostate. Exercises and lifestyle changes — drinking less caffeine or not lifting heavy things, for example — often help.

Cancer: Age is the biggest risk factor for cancer. The disease affects

young people, too, but your odds of having it more than double between ages 45 and 54. You can't control your age or your genes, but you do have a say in things like smoking or spending too much time in the sun.

Depression: Depression is one of the most common mental disorders among people 18 and over. Some people get down as they age, when health problems crop up, loved ones are lost or move away, and other life changes happen.

Back Pain: The older you get, the more common this is. Lots of things can make you more likely to have it: being overweight, smoking, not getting enough exercise, or diseases like arthritis and cancer. Watch your weight, exercise, and get plenty of vitamin D and calcium to keep your bones strong. And strengthen those back muscles — you'll need them.

Dementia: Alzheimer's, a form of dementia, usually doesn't pop up until 65 or so. Some risk factors (like age and heredity) are things you can't control. But evidence suggests that a heart-healthy diet and watching your blood pressure and blood sugar might help.

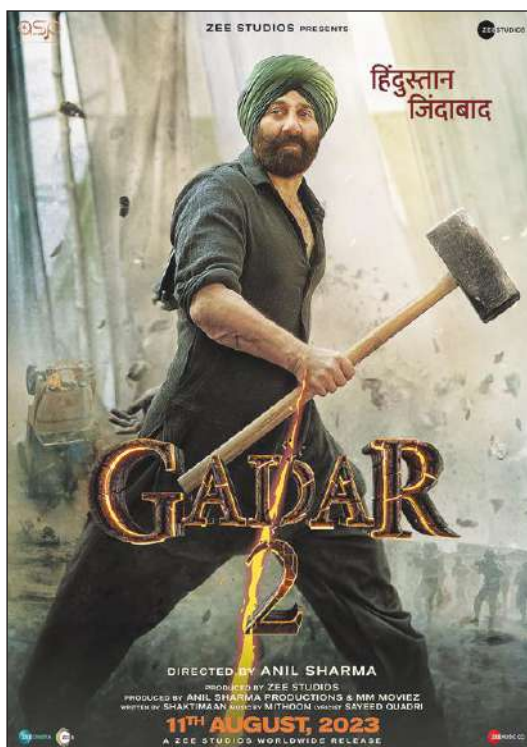
Reviewed by Sabrina Felson, MD, WebMD

Building and Land Use Permit Application NOTICE FOR PERMISSION FOR LAND USE

Take notice that I, **Mrs Bhoomika Rujkoomar** will apply to the Municipal of Curepipe for a Building and Land Use Permit for a proposed Day Care Centre at Suffren Lane Floreal.

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.

18 August 2023



Gadar 2: Sunny Deol's film is breaking box office records

Trade experts and film industry expected *Gadar 2* to be a hit at the box office. The Sunny Deol film, however, has surpassed all expectations and is now inching towards becoming the highest grosser of the year for an Indian film.

Directed by Anil Sharma, *Gadar 2* is a sequel to the 2001 blockbuster in which Sunny essayed the role of Tara Singh, a truck driver, while Ameesha Patel played Sakina. Anil's son Utkarsh Sharma also revives his role of their son, Jeete in the film.

As the film crosses Rs 2 Bn in India, Sweta Kaushal of Hindustan Times list

down five factors that may have really worked in the favour of the film that features Sunny alongside Ameesha Patel and Utkarsh Sharma.

The nostalgia factor: *Gadar 2* is as much a new film, as it is an ode to his 2001 hit *Gadar Ek Prem Katha*. The story continues 22 years after the events of the first part. Sakeena and Tara were a big hit with the audiences, as were the beautiful songs and action.

Ameesha and Sunny's chemistry reminded fans of what they saw all those years ago.

Timing of the release: The producers of *Gadar 2* timed the release well - ahead of the Independence Day and turned the film's release into a five-day long holiday.

Revival of single screens: The single screens have performed exceptionally well with *Gadar 2*. Right from the advance bookings, to the collective five day-collections, the single screens from the heartland of India have contributed majorly to the film's earnings.

Paisa-vasool entertainment: *Gadar 2* has not received great reviews, but the film offers the right entertainment quotient for people who have been rooting for Sunny and the movie. Girish insisted that apart from nostalgia, the star power and entertainment quotient have worked hugely for the film.

"Audience had been waiting for Sunny Deol's roar in cinemas. *Gadar 2* is clearly riding on nostalgia, the mood of the nation and entertainment. Public got whatever was promised during promotions and media and social media interactions of the team prior to the release. Public feels they got paisa vasool, worth of their money," Girish said.



Bollywood Best Friends: 5 Pairs Who Are Actually Close

Along with the spectacular movies, Bollywood actors have gained a significant fan base over the years for various reasons like their on-point style and just sheer curiosity over their personal lives. These personalities are inevitably just like us, going through life's highs and lows, but netizens can't help but wonder more about their friendships and relationships.

Here, Bazaar Arabia compiles a list of the ultimate Bollywood best friends...

The Kapoor-Arora Squad

It's no surprise that the Kapoor sisters (Kareena and Karisma) are super tight with the Arora duo (Amrita and Malaika) as the crew are often seen spending quality time together in Mumbai and abroad.

The Gen Z Crew

Suhana, Ananya and Shanaya have been best friends since childhood. While

their families have practically evolved and grown up together, these three have stuck together through life's highs and lows. As seen on Netflix's *Bollywood Wives* series, their friendship seems quite genuine.

Iconic: Karan Johar and Kajol

Director-actor duo Karan Johar and Kajol have been working together for decades now. After the release of several hit films in the 90s and early 2000s, the two are often seen together attending parties and events around town. After a known dispute between the two, Karan and Kajol are stronger than ever.

Brothers for life: Ranveer Singh and Arjun Kapoor

Ranveer Singh and Arjun Kapoor are honestly best friend goals. Ever since they worked together on the film *Gunday* with Priyanka Chopra, the duo are often seen spending quality time in town.

Alia and Akansha: Childhood Besties

Alia and Akansha have been inseparable since school days. The duo have even tested this friendship on Alia's YouTube channel where the two played the 'How Well Do You Know Each Other,' game.

Deepika Padukone admits: 'I haven't gone to college'

An old video of Deepika Padukone talking about her education and how she had to sacrifice college for her career is doing the rounds on social media.

Deepika Padukone is one of Bollywood's biggest movie stars, endorses international brands and is also a producer. However, the actor in the past admitted that to achieve these, she also had to make sacrifices, one of them being not being able to go to college. An old video of the same has now gone viral on social media where the actor spoke about her education qualification and how she is 'just 12th pass'.

The video is reportedly from the book launch of Hema Malini's biography 'Beyond The Dream Girl' in 2017. Dressed in a red banarsi saree, Deepika looks resplendent in her gorgeous traditional look. The actor spoke about the secret to success and shared that it always requires 'sacrifices and extreme dedication'. She then confessed that she hasn't gone to college and that's the price she had to pay to go ahead in her career.

"You know like I said there are sacrifices. You have to be extremely dedicated. For example, I haven't gone to college," she shared. Deepika added that she was climbing the ladder of success as a model and it was



tough to keep up with her education. She said, "I finished my 11th and 12th. And even during my 11th and 12th, I just about managed to finish because I was already a very successful model by that time and I was based in Bangalore. But I used to keep travelling to Mumbai and Delhi for work. And I couldn't keep up."

The *Pathaan* actor also shared that she tried distance education but couldn't manage it. Deepika admitted that her parents were not comfortable with that idea as they

wanted her to get a basic degree. "I tried to do one year of my degree through college. I couldn't do that. Then I tried to do distance education. I couldn't complete that as well. So, I am just a 12th pass. My parents had a big issue with that 'they always wanted me to start working only after a basic degree. But along the way they realised how passionate I was about what I wanted to do. And I think I wouldn't have been able to achieve what I did without their support," she shared with a smile.

Before entering Bollywood, Deepika Padukone was also a student at Anupam Kher's acting school, called 'Anupam Kher's Actor Prepares'. The actor underwent a diploma course before she began filming Farah Khan's *Om Shanti Om* with Shah Rukh Khan.

On the work front, Deepika Padukone has two big releases early next year — *Project K* with Prabhas and Amitabh and *Fighter* with Hrithik Roshan and Anil Kapoor.

From Divyanka Tripathi to Ankit Gupta: These celebs faced casting couch

'Casting couch' is not a new term and several celebs in the television industry opened up about their experience as well. From untoward advances to false promises, these celebs recalled their horrid tales and how they escaped before falling prey to it.

Divyanka Tripathi

TV's one of leading *bahus*, Divyanka Tripathi, too had to face such ordeal. She faced an inappropriate request and while speaking to a digital portal, Divyanka said, "There was a period when money was limited. I had to pay my expenses, EMIs, and so on. There was a great deal of pressure. Then an offer comes, 'You have to be with this director, and you'll have a big break'. But why should I? 'You are incredibly intelligent, this and that,' they said. Selling it off as if it will make my life, and everyone else is doing it." Divyanka also revealed an incident where a jilted production assistant sought revenge after she turned down his advances. He resorted to spreading false information about her as an act of retaliation.



casting agent in Oshiwara, who said the director wanted to speak to me. So, I met the director at a nearby cafe along with a friend of mine. I was offered a soft drink, which I refused to have, but they persuaded me and I took a few sips. I left from there and within a few minutes, I got a call for a second round of auditions. I went for it immediately, taking my rakhi brother along. The office where I had to give an audition had a few people, but it seemed a little fishy, so I left. An hour later, I started feeling dizzy and had no control over my body. I was sure that something was mixed in the soft drink. Luckily, I had reached home by that time."

Ankit Gupta

Udaariyaan fame Ankit Gupta recalled an experience on the casting couch from his early days in the industry. He described the entire episode as one of the "worst experiences of his life." He even said that he was astonished as he tried to tell the individual that he couldn't do all of this, that he wasn't that type of guy, but the person



Ratan Raajputh

While speaking to BT, Ratan Raajputh recalled the incident which happened in 2008. She said, "I auditioned for a



Madalsa Sharma

Madalsa Sharma, known for her role in *Anupamaa*, encountered inappropriate favours, but she firmly declined and chose to leave. In an interview with ETimes TV, Madalsa emphasised that both genders face challenges, especially when people show undue interest in things the person is not willing to offer. She asserted that maintaining personal choice is crucial, and if ever uncomfortable, she simply walks away from such situations without hesitation.

Sneha Jain

Saath Nibhana Saathiya 2's Sneha Jain spoke to ETimes TV about her horri-fying experience, when she was asked to accept to all of the demands of the director. She stated, "Once I got a call from a South's casting director. He offered me a film which was



about college going students. I sent them my profile and photographs and the next day I got a call from him saying that I will have to travel to Hyderabad to meet the director and the producer. I agreed to travel but asked him to give me the details of the film. I informed him that I would travel with my mother. Then he told me that there is one condition that I have to compromise with him. I was shocked. He told me that the day I reach Hyderabad, I will be given hotel details where I will meet the director and after I sign the contract papers, he will give me half the amount. He further told me that the entire day I will have to spend with the director and do whatever he says."

Aradhana Sharma

Reality TV show *R*fame Aradhana Sharma, who was also seen in *Tarak Mehta Ka Ooltah Chashmah*, recalled an incident, when a man tried to touch her in the name of script reading. Sharing this incident with ETimes TV, Aradhana had said, "An incident did happen to me, and I can never forget it in my entire life. I was studying in Pune then. It happened in my hometown Ranchi. There was a person, who was doing casting in Mumbai. I was doing modelling assignments in Pune and hence was a bit known. I went to Ranchi as he said he is casting for some role. We were doing script reading in a room and he was trying to touch me. I couldn't figure out what was happening. I just remember pushing me, opening the door and run away. I couldn't share this to anyway for a few days. It was a love scene reading script. It was very bad."



SAGITTARIUS: NOV 22 - DEC 21

You have a call to adventure! The universe wants you to push yourself beyond of your comfort zone and discover new things about the world around you.

Whether it's an impromptu trip or starting a new activity, don't be afraid to dive headfirst into the unknown. Your upbeat and cheerful attitude will draw in constructive energy and interesting prospects.

Lucky Numbers: 18, 20, 33, 36, 37, 39

CAPRICORN: DEC 22 - JAN 19

You have an unrivalled level of dedication and drive.

You'll find that you've made tremendous progress toward achieving both your professional and personal goals. Keep your concentration, and do not take your eyes off the prize. On the other hand, do not forget to value the journey itself and the education it provides.

Lucky Numbers: 2, 9, 14, 16, 23, 28

AQUARIUS: JAN 20 - FEB 18

The levels of originality and inventiveness have never been higher. You will find that you are filled with original thoughts and creative plans for the future. Make them available to everyone, and work together with those who have similar interests. Your unusual way of approaching things will be praised.

Lucky Numbers: 12, 17, 21, 26, 29, 33

PISCES: FEB 19 - MAR 20

Let your empathic and intuitive side serve as your compass as you navigate the waters ahead. You'll

YOUR STARS

have a profound connection with individuals around you, allowing you to offer solace and comprehension.

Now is a good moment for self-reflection and developing your spirituality. A dream or a vision will provide you with profound insights regarding the path that lies ahead of you.

Lucky Numbers: 5, 20, 26, 30, 33, 40

ARIES: MAR 21 - APR 19

You will find yourself at a crossroads this week, and the choice you make will have a significant impact on your future. Accept the ferocious force that resides within you and allow it to direct your behaviour. At the end of the week, an unexpected meeting will serve as a timely reminder of the significance of remaining authentic in all that you do.

Lucky Numbers: 14, 18, 20, 29, 31, 36

TAURUS: APR 20 - MAY 20

The present moment is perfect for centering one's attention on one's own projects and goals. Be mindful, however, of becoming overly dogmatic in your mental processes. Your greatest assets will be your flexibility and adaptation to new situations. It's possible that an old buddy will come back into your life, bringing with them invaluable experience and insight.

Lucky Numbers: 4, 18, 20, 29, 30, 31

GEMINI: MAY 21 - JUNE 20

You'll feel pressure from a number of different quarters, but here is when your capacity to adapt will come through. Accept the new reality and move forward without resistance. Because communication is so important, it is vital that you are honest about your emotions and opinions. Always keep an open mind and heart, as you never know what great opportunities can arise from a chance encounter.

Lucky Numbers: 1, 3, 4, 9, 25, 26

CANCER: JUNE 21 - JULY 22

It's possible that you'll find yourself thinking about previous experiences and relationships. Make the most of this time to reflect on yourself in order to heal and advance. Your ability to care for others will be put to the test, and you will play a vital part in the process of bringing solace to a loved one. Don't forget to schedule in some time for yourself to relax and recharge.

Lucky Numbers: 14, 15, 21, 23, 27, 31

LEO: JULY 23 - AUG 22

Your charismatic energy is shining brighter than ever. The present moment is ideal for taking on leadership roles and being in charge of group projects. However, keep an eye on your sense of pride. You will benefit greatly from practicing humility, especially in your relationships with other people. You can expect a romantic gesture from me at the end of the week.

Lucky Numbers: 8, 10, 18, 27, 30, 34

VIRGO: AUG 23 - SEPT 22

You excel at paying close attention to the little things, and that skill will pay off in a big way this week. Your attention to detail will bring you success in all of your endeavours, whether they are professional or personal. Nevertheless, it is important to take a step back and look at the wider picture. A healthy equilibrium is essential.

Lucky Numbers: 3, 7, 11, 24, 31, 34

LIBRA: SEPT 23 - OCT 22

You'll find yourself acting as a peacemaker and bringing people together to resolve their differences. Your ability to maintain a diplomatic stance will be highly valued. Nevertheless, you must remember to establish boundaries and put your own health and well-being first. The pursuit of artistic endeavours will result in happiness and pleasure.

Lucky Numbers: 2, 3, 7, 19, 27, 31

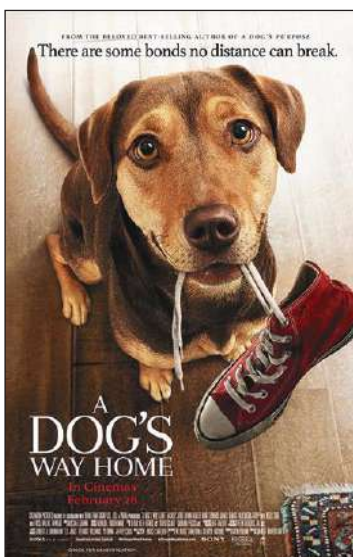
SCORPION: 23 OCT - 21 NOV

You will delve deeply into your interests and aspirations, thereby unearthing previously unknown truths about yourself. This moment of transition will ultimately lead to the growth and empowerment of the individual. Put your faith in your gut instinct and allow it to direct your actions. An unexpected revelation will come to light, shedding light on important details and providing guidance.

Lucky Numbers: 8, 17, 20, 29, 31, 36



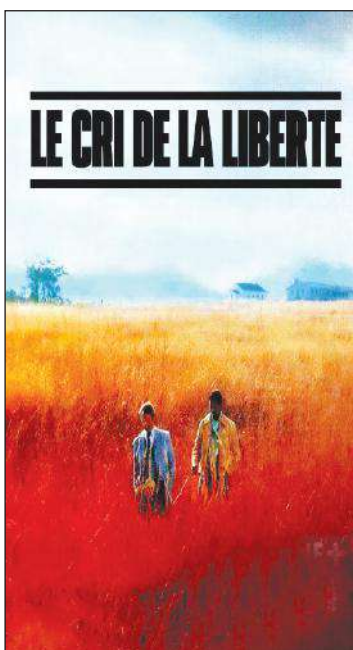
Vendredi 18 Août - 20.30



Samedi 19 Août - 20.30



Dimanche 20 Août - 20.30



Programme TV



SERIAL



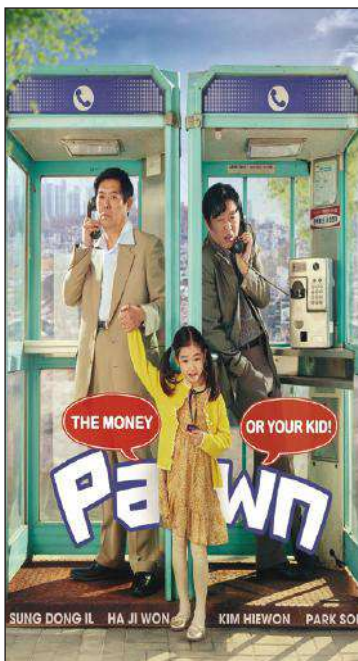
	MBC 1	MBC 2	MBC 3	Cine 12	Bollywood TV
vendredi 18 août	06.01 Serial: Seal Team 06.35 Film: The Missing 08.50 Serial: Suits 09.35 Tele: Le Chemin Du Destin 10.06 Tele: A Que No Me Dejas 10.25 The Gardener's Daughter 10.50 Tele: Marimar 11.15 Serial: Killjoys 12.00 Le Journal 12.35 Tele: Sublime Mensonge 13.25 Tele: Fierce Angel 13.50 Tele: Imperio De Mentiras 14.15 Serial: Burden Of Truth 15.21 Film: The Big Gundown 17.30 The Gardener's Daughter 18.31 Serial: Wagle Ki Duniya 18.55 Serial: Mere Dad Ki Dulhan 20.35 Film: A Dog's Way Home 22.36 Tele: Sublime Mensonge 23.30 Le Journal Televise 00.15 Serial: Lincoln Rhyme	06.19 Local: Les Grandes Lignes 08.24 Local: An Eta Dalert 10.24 Local: J'ai Faim 11.02 Local: Groov'in 12.02 Rodrig: Li Bon Ou Konnin 12.15 Local: Les Grandes Lignes 13.20 MBC Prod 15.05 Local: An Eta Dalert 15.22 Local: Generations J 15.50 Local: Groov'in 17.03 Local: La Societe 18.00 Tele: Imperio De Mentiras 18.28 Tele: A Que No Me Dejas 19.30 Rodrig: 13 Minit Natir Rodrig 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 00.12 Local: Itinerer Rodrig 00.25 Rodrig: 13 Minit Natir Rodrig	07.00 Serial: Chacha Bhatija 08.00 Local: Amrit Vaani 10.00 Serial: Agniphera 11.30 Serial: Radha Krishna 12.00 Film: Rani Aur Lalpari Starring: Jeetendra, Asha Parekh, Rajendra Kumar 15.00 Live: Samachar 15.30 Dulhin Uhe Jo Nanad Man Bhave 16.00 Serial: Ishaaron Ishaaron Mein 16.21 Serial: Bhakharwadi 17.31 Serial: Radha Krishna 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.30 Local: Mati Ke Mol 19.02 Local: Khel Khiladi 20.30 Serial: Vidrohi 20.54 Film: Ye Kahani Hai Laila Majnu Ki 23.35 Jijaji Chhat Par Hain	06.03 Doc: Smoothie Mania 06.45 Mag: Carnet De Sante 07.28 Mag: Tomorrow Today 08.24 Doc: A Postcard From Pyongyang 08.57 Doc: Fine Arts Sculptures 09.52 Doc: Girls For Future 10.39 Doc: Smoothie Mania 11.24 Mag: Carnet De Sante 12.03 Mag: Tomorrow Today 12.35 Doc: Nomads Of Benin 13.00 Doc: A Postcard From... 13.43 Thank You For The Rain 14.30 Mag: Human Nature 14.55 D.Animes: Kids Songs 14.59 D.Anime: Anna Et Ses Amis 15.13 D.Anime: Early Learning 15.51 Volttron, Le Defenseur 16.14 D.Anime: Kika Et Bob 16.41 D.Anime: Hunter X Hunter 17.05 Mag: D.I.Y. Discover...	14.25 Serial: Zindagi Mere Ghar Aana 15.00 Bade Acche Lagte Hai 2 15.30 Film: Sapnay Starring: Arvind Swamy, Prabhu Deva, 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 21.00 Anupamaa 21.30 Mere Sai 22.01 Kismet Ki Lakiron Se 22.31 Kabhi Kabhie Ittefaq Sey 22.59 Patiala Babes 23.29 Film: Sapnay Stars : Arvind Swamy, Prabhu Deva, Kajol
samedi 19 août	01.45 Film: A Dog's Way Home 03.25 Serial: Wanted 05.02 Tele: La Beaute Du Diable 06.30 Tele: Le Chemin Du Destin 07.00 Le Livre Perdu Des Sortileges 07.45 Serial: Newton's Law 08.31 Serial: Blue Bloods 09.15 Serial: Wanted 09.59 Serial: S.W.A.T 10.40 Serial: Kojak 11.35 Tele: Le Chemin Du Destin 12.00 Le Journal 12.25 Serial: Lincoln Rhyme 13.15 Tele: Sublime Mensonge 15.21 Film: A Tail Of Love 16.44 Tele: Tour De Babel 18.00 Live: Samachar 20.30 Film: Death And The Maiden 22.03 Film: Warning: Do Not Play 23.33 Le Journal Televise 00.15 Serial: Chicago PD	06.14 Local: Enn Semenn Dan Lafrik 08.30 Local: Animalia Nos Amis... 10.25 Local: Rodrig: It's My Day 12.02 Rodrig: 13 Minit Natir Rodrig 12.31 Local: Lir Ekir Kreol 13.00 Local: Voyage Au Feminin 14.17 Local: Rodrig Prog 15.09 Local: La Societe 16.28 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 22.05 Local: Rodrig: Klip Seleksion 23.00 Zournal Kreol 23.23 Local: Lavi Zoli An XXL 23.54 Local: Rodrig - Saver Kil Tirel 00.27 Rodrig: Pran Kont Ou Lasante 00.47 Rodrig Prog: Rod'Art	07.00 Serial: Chacha Bhatija 08.26 Shrawan Maas Sandesh 10.36 Serial: Bade Acche Lagte Hai 11.39 Serial: Dikri Vahalno Dariyo 12.16 Local: Mati Ke Mol 12.37 Local: Khel Khiladi 14.00 Taare Zameen Par 15.00 Live: Samachar 15.21 Film: Khud-Daar Starring: Amitabh Bachchan, Vinod Mehra, Sanjeev Kumar, Parveen Babi 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.36 Local: Satrangi 19.22 Local: Khoobsurat 19.37 Local: Hindi Sahitya 20.00 Local: Yeh Shaam Mastani 21.01 Film: Roohi Starring: Rajkummar Rao, Varun Sharma, Janhvi Kapoor	06.29 D.Anime: Akili And Me 06.54 D.Anime: Sam Le Pompier 09.56 Mag: Recipes For Kids 09.58 Serial: N*Gen 10.24 Serial: Apple Tree House 12.48 Doc: Dead Sea Guardians 14.56 D.Anime: Kids Songs 15.00 D.Anime: Anna Et Ses Amis 15.12 D.Anime: Early Learning 15.13 D.Anime: Robin Des Bois 15.25 D.Anime: All Hail King Julien 15.48 D.Anime: Volttron 16.11 D.Anime: Kika Et Bob 16.37 D.Anime: Hunter X Hunter 17.01 Mag: D.I.Y. 17.26 Mag: National Anthem 17.35 Doc: A Mediterranean... 20.01 Tele: Le Chemin Du Destin 20.30 Live: News 21.40 Film: Pawn 23.11 Doc: Persons	08.00 Kabhi Kabhie Ittefaq Sey 10.00 Kalari Kids 10.14 Sasural Simar Ka 2 12.12 Udaariyaan 14.05 Anupamaa 16.00 Kuch Rang Pyar Ke Aise... 18.31 Film: Roop Ki Rani Choron Ka Raja Starring: Anil Kapoor, Sridevi, Anupam Kher, Paresh Rawal, Jackie Shroff, Ram Sethi 21.36 Serial: Kalari Kids 21.45 Serial: Porus 22.08 Naagin Seasn 05
dimanche 20 août	03.30 Film: Pawn 04.49 Tele: La Beaute Du Diable 06.30 Tele: Le Chemin Du Destin 07.00 Film: Death And The Maiden 08.40 Serial: Le Livre Perdu Des Sortileges 09.30 Film: A Tail Of Love 10.50 Serial: Under Pressure 11.30 Tele: Le Chemin Du Destin 12.00 Le Journal 12.40 Film: The Big Gundown 14.10 Serial: The Good Doctor 15.00 Live: Samachar 15.25 Film: Off Piste 17.00 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: Le Cri De La Liberté	06.00 Rodrig: D'Jam 06.26 Rodrig Prog: Kot Nou 06.45 Local: Aktiv 07.35 Rodrig: Pran Kont Ou Lasante 08.47 Local: Les Petits Genies 10.00 Local: Glwar Dantan 11.00 Local: Nu Rasinn 12.26 Local: Les Petits Genies 12.52 La Journee Sous Le Regard 13.45 En Direct De Marie Reine De La Paix 17.01 La Journee Sous Le Regard 18.00 Serial: The Equalizer 19.00 Zournal Kreol 20.00 Local: Tipa Tipa Nu Avance 20.45 Local: Les Klips 21.37 A Glimpse With Jinghui Symphony Orchestra Monks 23.20 Local: Rodrig: Sa Lavi-La 00.28 Local: Nu Lakwizin	07.10 Serial: Tik Tak Tail 09.23 Local: Khoobsurat 12.02 Film: Yeh Teraa Ghar Yeh Meraa Ghar 14.59 Live: Samachar 15.22 Shrawan Maas Sandesh 15.58 Excerpts From Shiv Abhishek 17.00 Local: Ekta 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 22.26 Serial: Crime Patrol 22.44 Serial: Chhotki Dulhin 23.03 Serial: Bhaag Na Bachhe Koi 00.26 Shrawan Maas Sandesh 00.53 Local: Tohar Rashi	06.24 D.Anime: Akili And Me 06.51 D.Anime: Sam Le Pompier 07.13 D.Anime: Cleopatra In Space 09.28 D.Anime: Miraculous 10.31 Serial: Apple Tree House 10.50 Doc: World Capitals 11.51 Mag: Check In 12.21 Doc: Les Mysteres Du Nil 13.46 Doc: Glacier Express 15.12 D.Anime: Early Learning 15.15 D.Anime: Robin Des Bois 15.27 D.Anime: All Hail King Julien 15.50 D.Anime: Volttron 16.13 D.Anime: Kika Et Bob 16.39 D.Anime: Hunter X Hunter 17.08 Serial: Hank Zipzer 18.10 Doc: La Route De La Soie 18.30 Mag: Global US 19.16 Mag: Carnet De Sante 20.02 Tele: Le Chemin Du Destin 21.42 Film: Esme My Love	00.00 Sasural Simar Ka 2 02.05 Udaariyaan 04.00 Anupamaa 05.53 Kuch Rang Pyar Ka Aise... 08.00 Kalari Kids 08.12 Patiala Babes 10.02 Kundali Bhagya 12.00 Bade Acche Lagte Hai 2 13.43 Kismet Ki Lakiron Se 15.39 Jijaji Chhat Par Hain 18.32 Film: Henna Starring: Rishi Kapoor, Zeba Bakhtiar, Ashwini Bhawe 21.27 Serial: Kalari Kids 21.40 Serial: Naagin Season 22.30 Serial: Bade Acche Lagte Hai 2 00.29 Serial: Patiala Babes 02.19 Serial: Kundali Bhagya
lundi 21 août	06.34 Serial: Seal Team 07.15 Film: Borrowed Time 08.50 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 14.10 Serial: The Bionic Woman 15.20 Film: Esme My Love 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 Le Livre Perdu Des Sortileges 21.15 Serial: Newton's Law 22.07 Serial: Blue Bloods	07.12 Local: Ti Diams 09.32 Local: Elle 09.59 Local: All Day Music Day 11.00 Local: Les Klips 12.00 Local: Nu Rasinn 12.51 Rodrig: Komanter 13.15 Zourne Internasional Nelson Mandela 2023 13.58 Local: Clin D'oeil 14.41 Local: Ti Diams 15.07 Local: Tipa Tipa Nu Avance 16.00 Local: Les Klips 17.06 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 20.00 Local: Nos Aines 21.20 Local: Radio Vision 22.14 Local: Lir - Ekir Kreol 22.50 La Journee Sous Le Regard 23.00 Zournal Kreol	07.00 Serial: Chacha Bhatija 09.40 Serial: Chhotki Dulhin 10.30 Serial: Bhaag Na Bachhe Koi 12.02 Film: Chori Mera Kaam 14.40 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 18.36 Shrawan Maas Sandesh 19.00 Local: Hindi Sahitya 2023 19.30 Local: Excerpts From Shiv... 20.10 Local: Charcha 20.39 Film: Suraj 22.55 Serial: Jijaji Chhat Par Hain 23.47 Serial: Yeh Teri Galiyan 00.26 Shrawan Maas Sandesh 00.30 Local: Ved Ki Shikshayen 01.25 Local: Excerpts From Shiv Abhishek 02.06 Local: Charcha	06.00 Doc: Eye On SADC 08.00 Doc: Hotels 09.41 Doc: Adam And I: Almost A... 10.42 Doc: Germany 11.24 Doc: World Capitals 11.50 Doc: Foodland 12.26 Doc: World Famous Writers 13.03 Mag: Arts Unveiled 13.29 Doc: Hotels 14.30 Mag: Human Nature 14.55 D.Anime: Kids Songs 15.05 D.Anime: Anna Et Ses Amis 15.13 D.Anime: Early Learning 15.16 D.Anime: Robin Des Bois 15.50 D.Anime: Volttron 16.14 D.Anime: Kika Et Bob 16.38 D.Anime: Hunter X Hunter 17.07 Serial: Hank Zipzer 18.30 Mag: The 77 Percent 19.02 Student Support Programme 19.32 Mag: In Good Shape 21.36 Film: The Curse Of Humpty...	14.25 Serial: Zindagi Mere Ghar... 15.00 Serial: Bade Acche Lagte Hai 2 15.26 Film: Love Story Starring: Kumar Gaurav, Vijayata Pandit, Danny Denzongpa 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.30 Kundali Bhagya 19.00 Udaariyaan 19.31 Kuch Rang Pyar Ke Aise... 20.08 Sasural Simar Ka 2 20.28 Radha Krishna 21.06 Anupamaa 21.32 Mere Sai 22.04 Kismet Ki Lakiron Se 22.29 Kabhi Kabhie Ittefaq Sey 22.53 Patiala Babes 23.30 Film: Love Story Starring: Kumar Gaurav, Vijayata Pandit, Danny Denzongpa



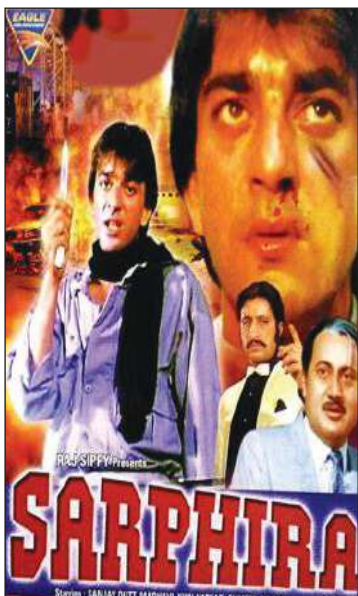
Mardi 22 Août - 20.30



Mercredi 23 Août - 21.15



Mercredi 23 Août - 15.30



Programme TV



	MBC 1	MBC 2	MBC 3	MBC 5	Bollywood TV
mardi 22 août	06.00 Serial: Seal Team 07.15 Serial: Le Livre Perdu Des... 08.09 Serial: Newton's Law 08.52 Serial: Blue Bloods 09.40 Tele: Le Chemin Du Destin 10.05 Local: A Que No Me Dejas 10.30 The Gardener's Daughter 10.50 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: Galactica 15.21 Film: Bull Shark 17.30 The Gardener's Daughter 17.59 Live: Samachar 18.31 Serial: Wagle Ki Duniya 18.55 Serial: Mere Dad Ki Dulhan 20.30 Film: Secrets De Guerre Avec: Maas Bronkhuyzen, Joes Brauers	07.12 Local: Business Connect 09.32 Local: Radio Vision 10.27 Rodrig: Saver Lokal 11.00 Local: Le Rendez Vous 12.00 Rodrig: Feminin Pluriel 13.07 Local: Business Connect 13.45 Local: Tous Egaux 13.58 Rodrig Mo Pei 14.41 Local: Itinerer Moris 15.13 Rodrig Prog: Zenn Aktif 16.00 Local: Le Rendez Vous... 17.06 Local: Radio Vision 18.04 Tele: Imperio De Mentiras 18.30 Tele: A Que No Me Dejas 19.00 Zournal Kreol 19.30 Rodrig: Plat Du Chef 19.45 Local: Son Ladan Mem 21.31 Local: Radio Vision 22.28 Local: Mots & Ecrits 22.54 La Journee Sous Le Regard 23.00 Journal Kreol	07.00 Serial: Chacha Bhatija 07.33 Serial: Selfie With Bajrangi 08.04 Shrawan Maas Sandesh 08.30 Local: Hindi Sahitya 2023 08.56 Excerpts From Shiv Abhishek 09.40 Local: Charcha 10.05 Serial: Kundali Bhagya 12.00 Film: Daata Starring: Mithun Chakraborty, Padmini Kolhapure 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: Padosan 23.27 Serial: Jijaji Chhat Par Hain 23.50 Serial: Yeh Teri Galiyan	06.03 Mag: Eco At Africa 08.47 Mag: Tomorrow Today 09.16 Doc: SOS Amazon 10.41 Doc: Beneath The Waves 11.11 Mag: Eco At Africa 13.10 Doc: Cuisine Sauvage 13.56 Mag: Tomorrow Today 15.12 D.Anime: Early Learning 15.26 D.Anime: All Hail King Julien 15.48 D.Anime: Voltron 16.11 D.Anime: Kika Et Bob 16.38 D.Anime: Hunter X Hunter 17.02 Mag: D.I.Y. Discover 16.55 Serial: Hank Zipzer 17.28 Mag: National Anthem 17.35 Doc: Beneath The Waves 18.05 Mag: Rev 18.31 Mag: Healthy Living 19.31 Mag: Check In 20.02 Tele: Le Chemin Du Destin	14.25 Zindagi Mere Ghar Aana 15.30 Film: Dancer Starring Akshay Kumar And Kirti Singh 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 22.29 Kabhi Kabhie Ittefaq Sey 23.06 Patiala Babes 23.30 Film: Dancer Starring Akshay Kumar And Kirti Singh 02.00 Kundali Bhagya
mercredi 23 août	06.30 Serial: Seal Team 07.15 Film: Ghost In The Family 08.55 Serial: The Equalizer 09.40 Tele: Le Chemin Du Destin 10.05 Tele: A Que No Me Dejas 10.30 The Gardener's Daughter 10.50 Tele: Marimar 11.15 Serial: Killjoys 12.00 Le Journal 12.25 Tele: Sublime Mensonge 13.15 Tele: Fierce Angel 13.45 Tele: Imperio De Mentiras 14.15 Serial: The Equalizer 15.21 Film: Secrets De Guerre 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 Serial: Chicago Med 21.15 Film: Pawn 22.36 Tele: Sublime Mensonge	07.38 Local: Priorite Sante 09.02 Local: Zeness Dime 09.30 Local: Radio Vision 11.00 Local: Music Tour 2022 12.03 Rodrig: Plat Du Chef 12.30 Sur La Piste De La Crecerelle 13.09 Local: Priorite Sante 14.30 Local: Rodrig Prog 14.56 Prod: Nu Rasinn 15.53 Local: Glwar Dantan 17.12 Local: Music Tour 2022 18.00 Tele: Imperio De Mentiras 18.32 Tele: A Que No Me Dejas 19.00 Zournal Kreol 19.30 Rodrig Spor 20.00 Mon Jardin Ma Maison 21.31 Local: Les Kliips 22.28 Local: Proze Dime 22.51 La Journee Sous Le Regard 23.20 Local: Come On Let's Dance 00.12 Local: Rodrig: Sa Lavi-La	07.00 Serial: Chacha Bhatija 08.30 Local: Bhojpuri Dhamaka 08.56 Prakriti Ki God Mein 09.37 Chikitsa Aur Swasthya 10.00 Serial: Jijaji Chhat Par Hain 11.32 Serial: Radha Krishna 12.00 Film: Payal Ki Jhankaar Starring: Alankar Joshi, Roobini, Surinder Kaur 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 Local: Shrawan Maas Sandesh 19.39 Local: Anjoria 20.00 Local: Virasat 20.35 Film: Aaye Hum Barati Leke 23.43 Serial: Jijaji Chhat Par Hain 23.43 Serial: Yeh Teri Galiyan	06.30 Mag: Healthy Living 08.01 Doc: Global Food 08.52 Mag: Euromaxx 09.48 Doc: Fine Arts Sculptures 10.33 Doc: Shaking Up The Art... 11.18 Doc: Smoothe Mania 11.47 Mag: Healthy Living 12.47 Mag: Check In 14.30 Mag: Human Nature 14.58 D.Anime: Anna Et Ses Amis 15.12 D.Anime: Early Learning 15.14 D.Anime: Robin Des Bois 15.48 D.Anime: Voltron 16.12 D.Anime: Kika Et Bob 16.38 D.Anime: Hunter X Hunter 17.02 Mag: D.I.Y. Discover 17.07 Serial: Hank Zipzer 17.31 Mag: National Anthem 17.40 Mag: Healthy Living 19.30 Mag: The Inside Story 20.00 Tele: Le Chemin Du Destin	14.25 Zindagi Mere Ghar Aana 15.30 Film: Sarpheera Starring: Vinod Mehra, Sanjay Dutt 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 Patiala Babes 23.26 Film: Sarpheera Starring: Vinod Mehra, Sanjay Dutt 02.09 Serial: Kundali Bhagya
jeudi 24 août	06.35 Serial: Seal Team 07.20 Serial: Le Livre Perdu Des Sortilèges 08.05 Serial: Chicago Med 09.35 Tele: Le Chemin Du Destin 09.55 Tele: 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: Galactica 15.22 Film: Death And The Maiden 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: The Zoya Factor Stars: Sonam Kapoor, Dulquer Salmaan, Sanjay Kapoor	07.09 Local: Toc Toc Doc 09.01 Local: Proze Dime 11.00 Local: Les Kliips 12.03 Local: Rodrig Spor 12.31 Mon Jardin Ma Maison 13.08 Local: Toc Toc Doc 13.23 Local: En Forme 13.42 Local: Agir Ensemble 14.09 Rodrig: Klip Seleccion 15.40 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 Le Mag De L'Emploi 19.41 Rodrig: Li Bon Ou Konnin 19.48 Local: Les Grandes Lignes 20.30 Local: Meshiagare 21.00 Local Radio Vision 23.00 Le Journal 23.20 Local: Groov'in	07.00 Serial: Chacha Bhatija 08.04 Local: Shrawan Maas Sandesh 08.31 Local: Tirth Yatra 09.05 Local: Anjoria 09.35 Local: Virasat 09.50 Local: Gyan Vigyan 10.06 Serial: Suhani Si Ek Ladki 11.27 Radha Krishna 12.00 Film: Do Phool 15.30 Serial: Badki Malkaain 16.00 Serial: Agniphera 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.30 Other: Radha Krishna 19.06 Shrawani 20.03 Local: Hunarbaaz 20.30 Serial: Surya Puran 22.02 Serial: Jag Jaanani Maa 22.47 Jijaji Chhat Par Hain 23.30 Serial: Yeh Teri Galiyan	06.03 Mag: Motorweek 07.34 Mag: The Inside Story 10.32 Doc: The Dirty Business Of... 11.21 Mag: Motorweek 11.47 Mag: Vous Et Nous 12.24 Mag: Arts Unveiled 13.20 Doc: Nos Cinq Sens 14.30 Mag: Human Nature 15.13 D.Anime: Early Learning 15.15 D.Anime: Robin Des Bois 15.28 D.Anime: All Hail King Julien 15.51 D.Anime: Voltron 16.14 D.Anime: Kika Et Bob 16.41 D.Anime: Hunter X Hunter 16.57 Mag: D.I.Y. Discover 17.28 Mag: National Anthem 18.43 Mag: Carnet De Sante 19.00 Student Support Programme 19.30 Mag: Tomorrow Today 20.01 Tele: Le Chemin Du Destin 20.50 Film: A Dog's Way Home	14.25 Zindagi Mere Ghar Aana 15.30 Film: Isi Life Mein Stars: Akshay Oberoi, Sandeepa Dhar, Mohnish Bahl 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: Isi Life Mein Stars: Akshay Oberoi, Sandeepa Dhar, Mohnish Bahl 02.00 Kundali Bhagya 02.30 Serial: Udaariyaan

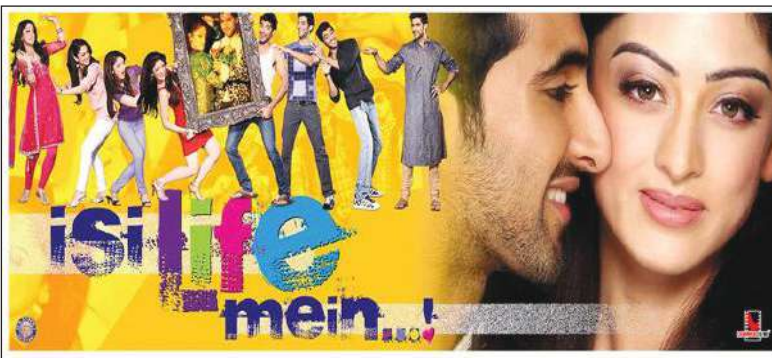
BTV Jeudi 24 août - 15.30

Stars: Akshay Oberoi, Sandeepa Dhar, Mohnish Bahl



Jeudi 24 août - 20.30

Stars: Sonam Kapoor, Dulquer Salmaan, Sanjay Kapoor





Lauren A. Siegel
Lecturer, University of Greenwich

Instagram is making you a worse tourist

Here's how to travel respectfully

Popular destinations have seen an uptick in incidents involving tourists in recent years. Reports of a man defacing the Colosseum in Rome shows that behaviour has deteriorated even in places that rarely had problems in the past.

What's behind these abhorrent acts? One answer, my research shows, is social media. Instagram and TikTok have made it easy to find "hidden gem" restaurants and discover new destinations to add to your bucket list. But this democratisation of travel has had other consequences.

Because people now see their social media connections from their home environment travelling in an exotic location, they assume (consciously or not) that behaviour they ordinarily carry out at home is also acceptable in that holiday destination.

This is known as social proof, when we look to the behaviours of others to inform our own actions. People are likely to act more hedonistically while on holiday. Now, travellers also look to social media for proof of how others behave. If their peers from home are throwing caution to the wind while on holiday, this can cause a domino effect of bad behaviour.

I've identified other bad travel attitudes and habits that have emerged as a result of social media-driven tourism.

For example, the identifiable victim effect, which explains how people are more likely to sympathise with victims of tragedies when they know who those victims are. Because tourists are often sheltered in hotels and resorts away from local communities, they might (wrongly) think that travelling to a place far from home is an opportunity for consequence-free bad behaviour. They underestimate or ignore the effect their actions can have on locals or the economy.

The Instagram effect

When people travel to a beautiful place, the temptation to post photos and videos to social media is high. But, as I have argued, this creates a cycle that contributes to more self-indulgent travel.

First, tourists see their friends post photos from a place (revealed through geotags). They then want to visit the same places and take the same sorts of photos



of themselves there. Eventually they post them on the same social networks where they saw the initial photos.

Being able to travel to and post about visiting the same places as one's social group or online connections can be a form of social status. But it means that, in some cases, travellers will put more energy into creating content than they will to exploration, discovery or being respectful to local customs.

Hotspots respond

Bali is one destination with a reputation for social media-induced tourism. The photogenic island, replete with yoga retreats, is a huge draw for influencers.

In response to tourist misbehaviour, Bali introduced new guidelines for visitors in June 2023. These include rules about proper behaviour in the sacred temples, around the island and with locals, and respecting the natural environment.

Tourists now need a licence for motorbike rentals, and may not set foot on any mountain or volcano in Bali due to their sacred nature. Travellers must only stay in registered hotels and villas (which will impact a number of Airbnb properties). Bali has introduced a "tourist task force" to enforce the restrictions, through raids and investigations if necessary.

One new guideline is to not act aggressively or use harsh words towards locals, government officials or other tourists both while in Bali, or, notably, online. This speaks to the role of social media as part of the problem when it comes to bad tourist behaviour.

Other destinations have taken similar steps. Iceland, Hawaii, Palau, New Zealand, Costa Rica and others have adopted pledges for visitors to abide by local laws and customs. Campaigns like Switzerland's No Drama, Austria's See Vienna – not #Vienna, Finland's Be more

like a Finn and the Netherlands' How to Amsterdam are aimed at attracting well-behaved tourists.

Where such efforts aren't successful, some places such as Thailand's famous Maya Bay have taken it further and fully closed to tourists, at least temporarily.

Travel respectfully

Remember you are a guest of the host communities when you travel. Here are some ways to ensure that you will be asked back.

Do your research

Even if you're a seasoned traveller, you may not realise the impact your actions have on local communities. But a bit of information – from your own research or provided by local governments – might be enough to help you act more appropriately. Before you go, look up guidelines or background information on local cultural or safety norms.

Whether you agree with the customs or not is irrelevant. If it is a more conservative place than you are used to, you should be mindful of that – unlike the two influencers who were arrested for explicit behaviour in a temple in Bali.

Put down your phone...

Research shows that when travelling, people can become alienated from their surroundings if they are more focused on their devices than the destination.

Often the most memorable travel experiences will be when you have a meaningful connection with someone or learn something new that you've never experienced before. That becomes harder if you're constantly looking at your phone.

...or use your influence for good

In popular "Instagram v reality" posts, influencers are revealing the huge crowds and queues behind the most Instagrammable locations.

Showing the less-than-glamorous conditions behind those iconic shots could influence your own social media connections to rethink their personal travel motivations – are they just going somewhere to get the perfect selfie? Having more evidence of these conditions circulating online could lead to a larger societal shift away from social media-induced tourism.

If you have the urge to post, try to promote smaller businesses and make sure you are demonstrating proper (and legal) etiquette on your holiday.



Tree of Knowledge

Madisyn Taylor

One Day at a Time

Taking one step at a time makes life much easier to navigate, rather than always looking at the big picture.

The years of our life do not arrive all at once; they greet us day by day. With the descent of each setting sun, we are able to rest our heads and let the world take care of itself for a while. We may rest

assured throughout the night, knowing that the dawn will bring with it a chance to meet our lives anew, donning fresh perspectives and dream-inspired hopes. The hours that follow, before we return to sleep once more, are for us to decide how we want to live and learn, laugh and grow. Our lives are sweeter and more manageable because we must experience them this way: one day at a time.

Imagine the future stretching out

before you and try to notice if you feel any tension or overwhelm at the prospect of the journey still to come. Perhaps you have recently made a lifestyle change, like beginning a new diet or quitting smoking, and the idea of continuing this healthy new behaviour for years seems daunting. Maybe you have started a new job or are newly married and can feel an undercurrent of anxiety about your ability to succeed. If you can shift your focus from what may happen years down the line and return it to the day that is before you right now, you may find a measure of

calm and renewed confidence in your capabilities. You may also discover an inner faith that the future will take care of itself.

The way we show up for our lives today and tomorrow has an enormous affect on who we will be and what we will be experiencing years from now. If we can remain fully engaged in the day at hand, enjoying all it has to offer and putting our energy into making the most of it, we will find that we are perfectly ready and capable to handle any future when it arrives.