

# MAURITIUS **TIMES**

• Awareness of ignorance is the beginning of wisdom. -- Socrates

## Interview: Vinay Ancharaz, International Economic Consultant



### “We should stop playing with fire”

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‘Populist measures condemn all future governments since those measures become entrenched and difficult to remove without a political backlash’

### ‘Indeed, the business sector is doing very well.

There is little doubt that economic recovery has been fed by a weaker rupee and rising prices for consumers’

## Encounter: Prof Serge Rivière

### “How can our youths not know who the great men were?”

‘What we have achieved in our small “island in the sun” is due to great men leading by example’

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### Le tourisme se porte à merveille, mais le fameux ruissellement se fait attendre



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### Disinformation campaigns are undermining democracy



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# Coalition Politics

**M**auritius' success in overcoming the local constraints present at the time of Independence, and its gradual rise to the status of a "development superstar" when benchmarked against such indicators as stable democracy, social welfare and equity amongst others, have been the subject of numerous academic studies by independent research scholars as well as by the World Bank. In one such independent study - 'Coalition, Capitalists, and Credibility' - Deborah Brautigam of the School of International Service, American University, provided valuable insights into how Mauritius had proved to be the exception in most of the developing world by being able to solve the "puzzle of governing for broad-based prosperity".

Four factors, according to Brautigam, explain the "exceptionalism" of Mauritius and upon which the "coalition for development" that was painstakingly negotiated after the divisive elections of 1967 rested, because they fostered a sober realisation that the country needed to either unify, or sink. Those factors were: exceptionally well-educated leaders; societal support from a free media, new civic associations and the Catholic Church; transnational networks which provided the ideas (Fabianism socialism, export processing zones and resources) that created concrete hope for the future; systemic vulnerability or the absence of resources or geopolitical patrons, a price-volatile monocrop, and climatic conditions.

Other enabling factors have no doubt allowed the successive, mostly cross-societal, coalition governments to successfully overcome both local and external constraints and achieve broad-based prosperity. Brautigam points out in her study that there was also the willingness of the then political elites to be bound by the rules and not being inclined to tamper with the institutional or constitutional frameworks.

That coalition politics and power-sharing political dispensations (driven by a senior partner with a controlling majority to ensure stability and predictability) have worked relatively well for Mauritius down the years – mostly by easing potentially ethnic polarisation – and will likely remain a *sine qua non* for future political stability for many more years is undeniable, the ethnic divide is very much present in our political environment as electoral behaviour at the polls since 1967 has demonstrated. The communal – or 'communautariste' – undercurrent running through our politics has expressed itself more or less benignly through the ballot in past general elections, except for 1982.

Besides the extensive recourse to freebies and political outbidding that have followed consequently, it is the urban-rural divide in the electoral landscape that has been leveraged by political parties/alliances to swing the game in their favour in successive elec-

tions - more so in recent years - with Constituencies 4-14, on the one hand, and the others mostly urban constituencies, on the other, used as the trump cards. Whether superior electoral arithmetic produced by an assemblage of parties, mostly mainstream, in the Opposition (LP-MMM-PMSD) can alter or exploit that equation remains to be seen. On the other hand, what disruption will be wrought by the lesser parties that are coming together, the latest being Linion Moris with its "équipe nationale" constituted on the basis of an "accord à l'israélienne", and possibly other such alliances in the electoral battle ahead, especially in the swing constituencies in a First-Past-The-Post context cannot be gauged at this stage.

It may also be argued that beyond the durability of Resistans ek Alternativ (REA) or the penetration of the singular Bruneau Laurette in townships and coastal outposts, the other personalities vying for public attention (Sherry Singh, Patrick Belcourt, Dev Sunnasy and others) run on themes that may have appeal mostly in the urban electorate, while the resurgence of questions related to the unilateral and massively costly commercial contract termination of Betamax may weaken the Reform Party and its leader Roshi Bhadain. It is worth noting that both Bruneau Laurette and REA have not excluded the possibility of some cooperation with the tri-party alliance of Opposition to bring about what they see as an imperative: the end of the MSM regime in office.

Much remains to play for in the lead-up to the general elections scheduled for end 2024 and the governing dispensation may legitimately feel that it has still a couple of trump cards up its sleeves. One could well be related to the satisfactory conclusion of the ongoing discrete negotiations with the UK towards the return of Mauritius sovereignty over the Chagos and the simultaneous conclusion of a long-term lease agreement with the US/UK for the aeronaval base at Diego Garcia. The second, salary compensation and upcoming budget goodies, might be of more immediate interest for ordinary Mauritians, employees, and pensioners alike, who have felt the pinch with currency depreciation and as government continues to levy heavy taxes and VAT on fuel and economic activities.

Will these factors be sufficient to outweigh the long list of affairs and other scandals that, say the Opposition, have dogged the regime since its coming to office? And how the electorate will react to immediate monetary benefits as opposed to the larger interests of the country has yet to be tested as municipal elections, due this year, were further kicked down the road.

## The Conversation

### Daily global temperature records keep breaking. It's a sign we're on a rapidly warming planet

*In September we went past 1.5 degrees. In November, we tipped over 2 degrees for the first time. What's going on?*



Global warming: severe consequences for Africa. Pic - UN

**I**n September, the world passed 1.5°C of warming. Two months later, we hit 2°C of warming. It's fair to wonder what is going on.

What we're seeing is not runaway climate change. These are daily spikes, not the long-term pattern we would need to say the world is now 2 degrees hotter than it was in the pre-industrial period.

These first breaches of temperature limits are the loudest alarms yet. They come as the United Nations Environment Program warns the world is still on a path to a "hellish" 3°C of warming by the end of the century.

But they do not signal our failure. The sudden spike in warming in 2023 comes from a combination of factors – climate change, a strong El Niño, sea ice failing to reform after winter, reduced aerosol pollution and increased solar activity. There are also minor factors such as the aftermath of the volcanic eruption near Tonga.

How significant are these factors?

#### 1. Climate change

This is by far the biggest factor. What many of us don't recognise is how recent our intense period of emissions is. If you were born in 1983, fully 50% of all of humanity's emissions have gone into the atmosphere since your birth. Human emissions and other activities have so far contributed about 1.2°C of warming.

Greenhouse gases trap heat, which is why the Earth is not a snowball. But the 2 trillion tonnes of fossil carbon we've taken from underground and put back in the atmosphere are trapping more heat. And more heat. And will continue to do so until we stop burning fossil fuels for heat or power.

*Andrew King, Senior Lecturer in Climate Science,  
The University of Melbourne*

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# Disinformation campaigns are undermining democracy

*When people are pervasively disinformed, the very foundations of democracy can end up on shaky ground*

**M**isinformation is debated everywhere and has justifiably sparked concerns. It can polarise the public, reduce health-protective behaviours such as mask wearing and vaccination, and erode trust in science. Much of misinformation is spread not by accident but as part of organised political campaigns, in which case we refer to it as disinformation.

But there is a more fundamental, subversive damage arising from misinformation and disinformation that is discussed less often.

It undermines democracy itself. In a recent paper published in 'Current Opinion in Psychology', we highlight two important aspects of democracy that disinformation works to erode.

## The integrity of elections

The first of the two aspects is confidence in how power is distributed – the integrity of elections in particular.

In the United States, recent polls have shown nearly 70% of Republicans question the legitimacy of the 2020 presidential election. This is a direct result of disinformation from Donald Trump, the loser of that election.

Democracy depends on the people knowing that power will be transferred peacefully if an incumbent loses an election. The "big lie" that the 2020 US election was stolen undermines that confidence.

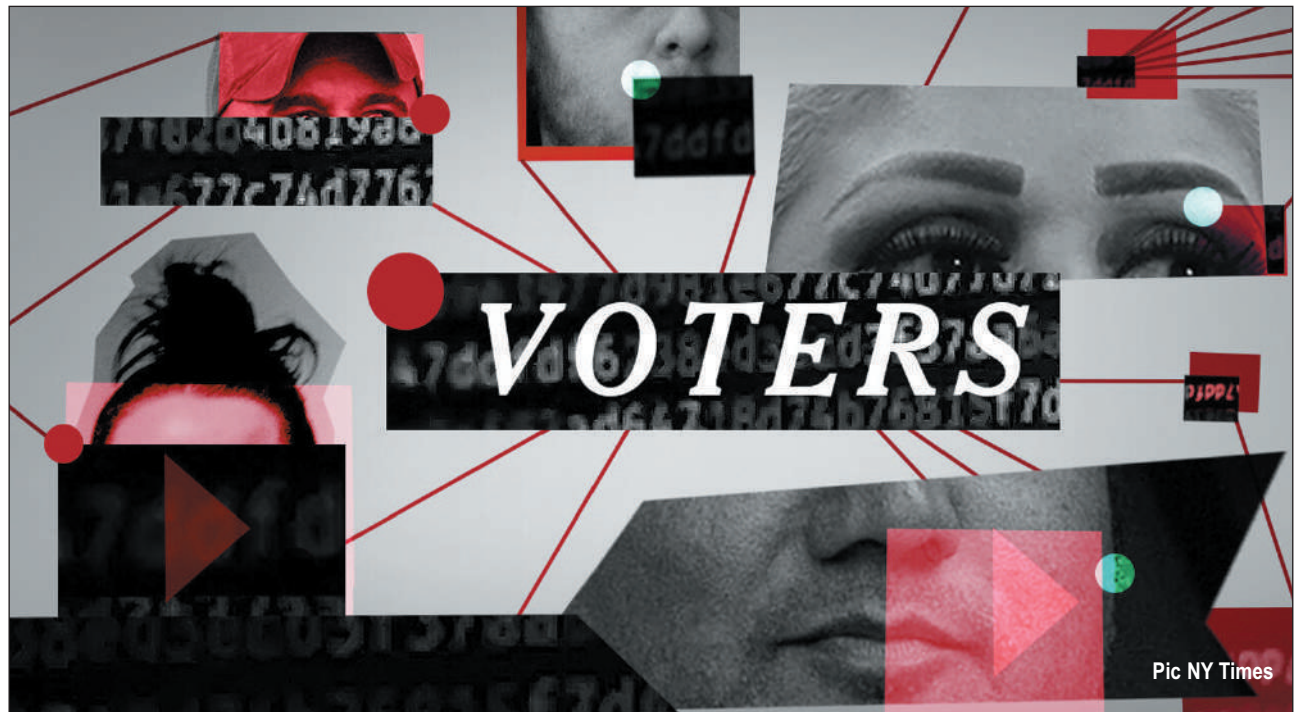
## Depending on reliable information

The second important aspect of democracy is this – it depends on reliable information about the evidence for various policy options.

One reason we trust democracy as a system of governance is the idea that it can deliver "better" decisions and outcomes than autocracy, because the "wisdom of crowds" outperforms any one individual. But the benefits of this wisdom vanish if people are pervasively disinformed.

Disinformation about climate change is a well-documented example. The fossil fuel industry understood the environmental consequences of burning fossil fuels at least as early as the 1960s. Yet they spent decades funding organisations that denied the reality of climate change. This disinformation campaign has delayed climate mitigation by several decades – a case of public policy being thwarted by false information.

We've seen a similar misinformation trajectory in the



Covid-19 pandemic, although it happened in just a few years rather than decades. Misinformation about Covid varied from claims that 5G towers rather than a virus caused the disease, to casting doubt on the effectiveness of lockdowns or the safety of vaccines.

The viral surge of misinformation led to the World Health Organisation introducing a new term – infodemic – to describe the abundance of low-quality information and conspiracy theories.

## A common denominator of misinformation

Strikingly, some of the same political operatives involved in denying climate change have also used their rhetorical playbook to promote Covid disinformation. What do these two issues have in common?

One common denominator is suspicion of government solutions to societal problems. Whether it's setting a price on carbon to mitigate climate change, or social distancing to slow the spread of Covid, contrarians fear the policies they consider to be an attack on personal liberties.

An ecosystem of conservative and free-market think tanks exists to deny any science that, if acted on, has the potential to infringe on "liberty" through regulations.

There is another common attribute that ties together all organised disinformation campaigns – whether about elections, climate change or vaccines. It's the use of personal attacks to compromise people's integrity and credibility.

Election workers in the US were falsely accused of committing fraud by those who fraudulently claimed the election had been "stolen" from Trump.

Climate scientists have been subject to harassment campaigns, ranging from hate mail to vexatious complaints and freedom-of-information requests. Public

health officials such as Anthony Fauci have been prominent targets of far-right attacks.

## The new frontier in attacks on scientists

It is perhaps unsurprising there is now a new frontier in the attacks on scientists and others who seek to uphold the evidence-based integrity of democracy. It involves attacks and allegations of bias against misinformation researchers.

Such attacks are largely driven by Republican politicians, in particular those who have endorsed Trump's baseless claims about the 2020 election.

The misinformers are seeking to neutralise research focused on their own conduct by borrowing from the climate denial and anti-vaccination playbook. Their campaign has had a chilling effect on research into misinformation.

## How do we move on from here?

Psychological research has contributed to legislative efforts by the European Union, such as the Digital Services Act or Code of Practice, which seek to make democracies more resilient against misinformation and disinformation.

Research has also investigated how to boost the public's resistance to misinformation. One such method is inoculation, which rests on the idea people can be protected against being misled if they learn about the rhetorical techniques used to mislead them.

In a recent inoculation campaign involving brief educational videos shown to 38 million citizens in Eastern Europe, people's ability to recognise misleading rhetoric about Ukrainian refugees was frequently improved.

**Stephan Lewandowsky, University of Bristol;  
John Cook, The University of Melbourne**



## Le tourisme se porte à merveille, mais le fameux ruissellement se fait attendre

Par A. Bartleby



Le secteur touristique se porte donc extrêmement bien à Maurice. Une telle santé du secteur devrait donc avoir un effet de ruissellement vers le bas important sur les ménages mauriciens. C'est là que les choses semblent mitigées.  
P - Business Mag

**A** lors que les Mauriciens semblent avoir du mal à se relever de la crise économique et de l'inflation qui ont suivi la pandémie de la Covid-19, certains secteurs de l'économie mauricienne, eux, se portent très bien.

C'est le cas, par exemple, du secteur touristique qui affiche des chiffres qui sont désormais alignés avec ceux d'avant la pandémie. En effet, le mois d'octobre a vu le nombre d'arrivées touristiques franchir la barre du million, permettant dans la foulée de dépasser le chiffre de deux millions de touristes depuis la réouverture et la fin de la pandémie.

Ces chiffres témoignent de la bonne santé d'un secteur qui a été forcément profondément affecté par les mesures prises pendant la pandémie. Il est même possible de constater une évolution de ce secteur avec le fait, par exemple, qu'il n'y a pas vraiment eu de haute ou de basse saison depuis deux ans. Le flux touristique est resté continuellement tendu même pendant les saisons habituellement creuses.

Ces changements affectent nécessairement certains fondamentaux du pays, comme la consommation d'énergie et l'accès à l'eau potable. En effet, les chiffres avancés témoignent du fait qu'il y a une moyenne de 100 000 personnes de plus sur l'île mensuellement, et ce, en excluant les expatriés et les travailleurs étrangers qui s'y ajoutent à la population locale.

Cette donnée démontre que la gestion des ressources et l'accroissement indispensable des infrastructures deviendra de plus en plus critique avec une possibilité que les flux de touristes et d'étrangers augmentent encore plus durant les prochaines années.

Le secteur touristique se porte donc extrêmement bien à Maurice. Il ne s'agit pas ici uniquement du secteur hôtelier mais de tout ce qui constitue de près ou de loin l'activité économique dépendante des arrivées tou-

ristiques, et qui concerne près de 120 000 emplois directs et indirects à Maurice.

Une telle santé du secteur devrait donc avoir un effet de ruissellement vers le bas important sur les ménages mauriciens. C'est là que les choses semblent mitigées. Les arrivées touristiques importantes boostent forcément les entrées de devises et de liquidités dans le circuit monétaire local, mais nous n'arrivons pas encore à en percevoir les bénéfices pour les classes ouvrières.

En d'autres termes, le secteur se porte à merveille et les différents acteurs du secteur réalisent des bénéfices importants, mais nous ne pouvons pas encore constater un "feel-good factor" remarquable au sein de la population qui, elle, souffre toujours des effets de l'inflation et de la cherté de la vie.

Est-ce que ce fameux ruissellement se fait attendre ou bien est-ce qu'il y a des blocages structurels qui font qu'il n'aura pas lieu pour certaines catégories de Mauriciens? Ne faudrait-il pas poser cette question de manière sérieuse?

\* \* \*

## Les Maldives vont faire appel de la décision du Tribunal international du droit de la mer

**Q**uelques semaines après son arrivée à la présidence des Maldives, le Dr Mohamed Muizzu a tenu cette semaine une conférence où il a expliqué que sa nouvelle administration fera appel de la décision du Tribunal international du droit de la mer (TIDM) concernant le différend territorial entre les Maldives et la République de Maurice.

Pour rappel, les eaux contestées entre les Maldives et Maurice couvrent une superficie de 95 000 km<sup>2</sup>. Le 28 avril de cette année, le TIDM a accordé 47 232 km<sup>2</sup>, soit la plus grande partie de la zone de chevauchement, aux Maldives, et 45 331 km<sup>2</sup> de la zone contestée à Maurice. Ce partage territorial était extrêmement important dans le cadre de la revendication de Maurice sur les Chagos. Et le gouvernement avait obtenu le soutien des Maldives dans ce contexte.



Le Dr Mohamed Muizzu a tenu cette semaine une conférence où il a expliqué que sa nouvelle administration fera appel de la décision du Tribunal international du droit de la mer - P - Rajje.mv

Mais les choses ont changé avec l'arrivée de Muizzu à la présidence des Maldives. Le gouvernement sortant avait à l'époque décrit la décision du TIDM comme une victoire pour les Maldives, mais l'opposition d'alors, devenu le gouvernement d'aujourd'hui, a une perspective différente.

En effet, Mohamed Muizzu a été élu grâce notamment à la promesse d'un éloignement des Maldives de l'Inde et d'un rapprochement avec les intérêts chinois. Et il est difficile de penser que l'appel que feront les Maldives auprès de la TIDM ne s'inscrit pas dans cette stratégie, pour ne pas dire que cet appel ne soit pas piloté depuis Pékin.

Quels sont les enjeux actuels dans cette partie de l'océan Indien? S'agit-il, comme certains intérêts opposés au retour des Chagos sous la souveraineté mauricienne, d'une manœuvre de la Chine pour obtenir une base militaire à proximité de Diego Garcia?

Difficile de dire pour le moment. Et nous verrons bien comment les choses évolueront dans les prochains mois. Mais il y a, en réalité, une autre hypothèse qui pourrait s'avérer bien plus crédible, celle d'une réserve d'hydrocarbures en milieu marin qui sera de facto partagé entre Maurice et les Maldives selon le partage territorial admis par le jugement du TIDM.

Est-ce que les Maldives, avec le soutien de la Chine, voudraient tenter d'approprier tout le territoire concerné? Cette hypothèse n'est pas à prendre à la légère.

\* \* \*



Israël-Hamas: accord pour une trêve de quatre jours à Gaza. P - France 24

## Israël et le Hamas concluent une trêve de quatre jours

**L**e gouvernement israélien a approuvé dans la nuit de mardi à mercredi un accord prévoyant la libération d'au moins cinquante otages détenus par le Hamas, en échange de la libération de prisonniers palestiniens et d'une trêve d'au moins quatre jours dans la bande de Gaza. Mais "la guerre continuera après le cessez-le-feu", a averti Benyamin Nétanyahou.

☞ Suite en page 5





Des affiches représentant les otages P - Ahmad Gharabli / AFP

## Israël et le Hamas concluent une trêve de quatre jours

☞ Suite de la page 4

Cette décision a été prise à l'issue d'une longue réunion tenue dans la nuit de mardi à mercredi. Au début de la réunion, le Premier ministre israélien, Benjamin Netanyahu, avait enjoint ses ministres à approuver l'accord, négocié par le Qatar avec l'aide de l'Égypte et des États-Unis, estimant que c'était "la bonne décision" à prendre. Il avait également précisé que le président américain Joe Biden avait contribué à "améliorer" l'accord, pour y inclure "plus d'otages, à un moindre coût", selon le quotidien israélien Ha'aretz.

Cet accord constitue la première avancée diplomatique depuis l'attaque du Hamas du 7 octobre dernier, et constituera aussi la première trêve d'envergure malgré le fait qu'elle ne durera que quatre jours. Mais ces quatre jours seront précieux diplomatiquement, notamment dans la mise en place d'un accord et dans le précédent qu'il pourrait constituer.

Dans les faits, le Jerusalem Post explique que 30 enfants, huit mères et 12 autres femmes – soit cinquante otages sur les quelques 240 détenus à Gaza – seront libérés par le Hamas "par petits groupes" au cours des quatre jours de trêve. Israël libérera en échange 150 femmes et mineurs palestiniens détenus dans ses prisons, n'étant pas directement impliqués dans des attaques terroristes ayant fait des morts.

Le Jerusalem Post croit également savoir que "30 otages supplémentaires" détenus par le Hamas pourraient être libérés "si la trêve est prolongée de quatre jours supplémentaires". Les médias israéliens affirmaient dans un premier temps que les 50 otages concernés par l'accord seraient tous de nationalité israélienne, mais la Maison-Blanche a assuré dans la soirée que trois d'entre eux seraient Américains.

Dans la foulée de l'annonce de cet accord par le gouvernement israélien, le Hamas a également confirmé que l'accord a bel et bien été conclu. Par-delà la libération des 150 Palestiniens, cela permettra à l'aide humanitaire de se déployer dans les zones gravement touchées par les bombardements israéliens à Gaza.

Mais cela ne signifie aucunement la fin des hostilités entre les deux entités. La trêve pourrait être prolongée

de quatre jours supplémentaires mais les combats reprendront de plus belle dès que ce dernier aura expiré.

En fait, nous voyons deux choses se mettre en place. D'un côté, les frappes israéliennes sont en train de porter leurs fruits étant donné que le Hamas accepte la libération d'une partie des otages. Cela viendra sans doute conforter Benjamin Netanyahu dans le fait que sa stratégie donne des résultats concluants, et ce, malgré l'immense coût pour les civils palestiniens.

De l'autre côté, une trêve permettra de calmer un peu les esprits, même du côté israélien. En effet, l'union sacrée qui avait regroupé toutes les franges des sensibilités israéliennes s'est peu à peu érodée au fur et à mesure que Tsahal augmentait ses frappes et que le nombre de morts augmentait de manière exponentielle de Gaza.

Ainsi, Netanyahu était dans l'obligation de démontrer que sa stratégie d'une guerre quasi-totale portait des fruits et n'était pas qu'une stratégie de vengeance aveugle qui n'allait produire aucun résultat concret.

C'est ainsi, également, une petite victoire politique pour Netanyahu. Est-ce que nous allons voir une multiplication de ces trêves et un retour de tous les otages en Israël? C'est l'espoir légitime que nous pouvons entretenir. Ce qui est certain, c'est que les tractations diplomatiques semblent avancer, même si cela reste trop lent.

\* \* \*

## Vladimir Poutine fait son grand retour au G20

Deux réunions importantes ont eu lieu cette semaine. Tout d'abord celle des BRICS qui s'est tenue mardi et ensuite celle du G20 qui a eu lieu mercredi. Le fait marquant de ces deux réunions: la présence virtuelle de Vladimir Poutine, qui faisait son grand retour sur l'arène internationale.

Sous le coup d'un mandat d'arrêt de la Cour pénale internationale (CPI), Vladimir Poutine s'expose au risque d'une arrestation s'il se déplace dans les pays qui reconnaissent la CPI. Du coup, il est intervenu par visioconférence. Cela lui a d'ailleurs offert une formidable tribune pour faire passer ses messages, et notamment pour marteler son concept du nouvel ordre mondial qui émerge avec une place privilégiée de la Russie sur l'échiquier international.

Concrètement, cela se traduit sur des prises de position sur les enjeux actuels, avec notamment le fait de réaffirmer la position russe pour une solution à deux États comme la seule issue possible au conflit israélo-palestinien.

Il a dans la foulée également parlé de la guerre en Ukraine, déclarant que "l'action militaire est toujours une tragédie, [...] et évidemment nous devons réfléchir à la manière de mettre fin à cette tragédie. Par ailleurs, la Russie n'a jamais refusé le dialogue pour la paix avec l'Ukraine. Ce n'est pas la Russie mais l'Ukraine qui a annoncé publiquement avoir abandonné la table des négociations, et un décret présidentiel a été signé pour interdire la négociation".

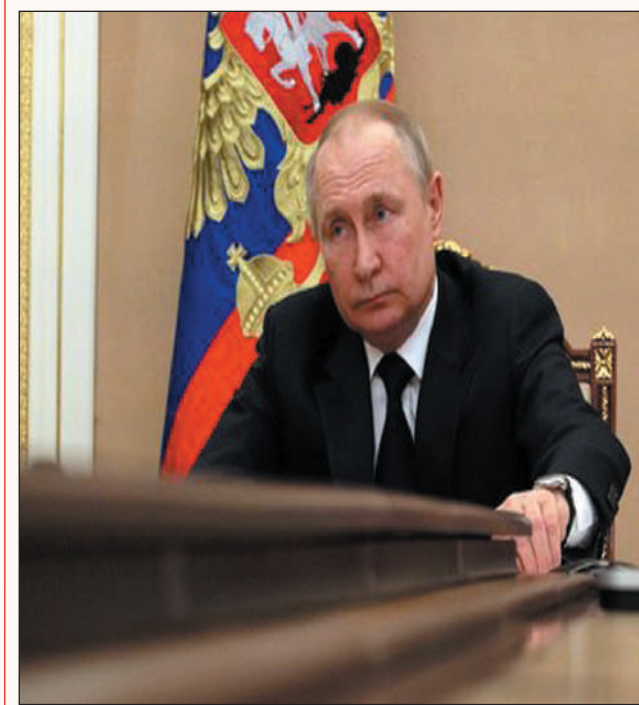
Poutine serait-il donc pour une résolution du conflit en Ukraine? Difficile à dire pour l'instant, mais ce qui est sûr c'est qu'il n'a pas fait cette déclaration pour rien.

Nous en parlons déjà il y a quelques semaines, et plusieurs experts et observateurs du conflit commencent

de plus en plus à l'affirmer: il se pourrait bien que la Russie ait déjà gagné la guerre en Ukraine, et que les opérations actuelles ne sont qu'une continuation du statut quo jusqu'à ce qu'une armistice soit signée.

En effet, les choses ont basculées en Ukraine depuis quelques mois. La résistance héroïque de l'armée ukrainienne à Marioupol et la contre offensive tentée par les forces ukrainiennes n'ont pas eu les résultats escomptés. Bien au contraire, Volodymyr Zelensky a jeté toutes ses forces dans la bataille en espérant repousser les forces russes en dehors de son territoire, mais celles-ci ont fait exactement ce qu'ils avaient fait face à Napoléon et face à Hitler.

Ils ont reculé en attendant que les forces ukrainiennes s'affaiblissent et épuisent leurs munitions et leur matériel, avant de repartir de l'avant et sécuriser la ligne qu'ils s'étaient fixés pour objectif. Parallèlement, le conflit à Gaza a fait que les alliés des Ukrainiens ont été forcés de concentrer leurs soutiens en armements et en munitions vers Israël, affaiblissant encore plus l'effort ukrainien.



Vladimir Poutine plaide pour un nouvel ordre mondial au G20. P - La Tribune

Ce n'est ainsi pas un hasard si les grands médias occidentaux parlent aujourd'hui déjà d'une victoire de la Russie en Ukraine. Les lignes ne bougeront plus beaucoup et les pertes territoriales ukrainiennes seront sans doute désormais des territoires annexés pour de bon par la Russie.

Il y a d'ailleurs même des scissions qui commencent à apparaître au sein des gouvernants ukrainiens, avec un clash ouvert et public entre Volodymyr Zelensky et le général Valeri Zaloujny (le commandant en chef des forces armées ukrainiennes). Zelensky a même dû jusqu'à aller mettre en garde Zaloujny que ce n'était pas l'armée mais le pouvoir politique qui prenait les décisions, tellement la relation entre les deux hommes s'est dégradée depuis quelques semaines, et certains médias occidentaux commencent même à parler d'un départ de Zelensky qui aurait perdu le soutien de ses alliés occidentaux.

Le retour de Poutine sur la scène internationale signifie-t-il donc un retour en grâce d'un tacticien victorieux face auquel l'Occident ne peut rien faire? Il y a sans doute aussi peut être un peu de cela qui s'est joué cette semaine.

A. Bartleby



# Kashmir - Heaven on earth!

Jan Arden

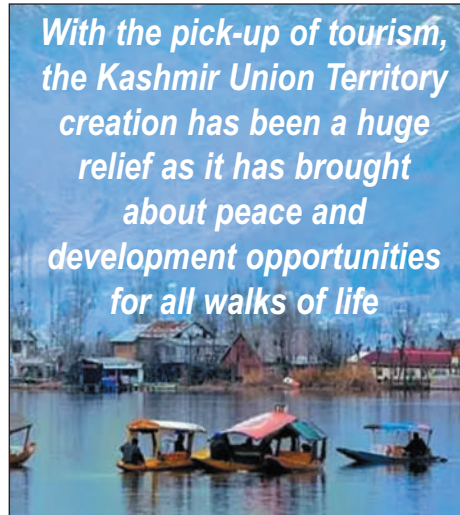
**T**his was not pre-planned, and I had neither appropriate woollies and jumpers nor any preconceived idea of what to expect for an autumn trek into Kashmir, as well-meaning friends had recommended Shimla or Mussoorie as hill stations near Delhi and away from the capital's tiring smog, wearisome bustle, and endless traffic din. Many of them back home thought Kashmir was a risky venture and their recurrent first question, was it safe? So, I thought it appropriate to share a few memories for their benefit and those who might wish to wander there.

First though some general thoughts on India's incredibly fast-paced developments. Terminal 3 at the Indira Gandhi International Airport is a far cry today from what IGIA was some 25 years ago. Spotlessly clean, running entirely on green energy (a combination of hydro and solar), with sufficient immigration booths and baggage security to make entrance or exit painlessly smooth with minimum queues. A huge relief also that the new Airport metro line three floors below, can whizz you to Delhi city center in 19min in uncrowded impeccably clean air-con coaches for a modest 60 INR, quite a feat, particularly when our own Metro Express after some Rs 40 billion investment is still far from our only airport.

Smog at some periods of the year has been a recurrent theme for Delhiites, due mostly to those innumerable diesel rickshaws and the widespread burning of agricultural wastes after harvest season. Seems odd that very competent Indian agricultural scientists have not over the decades evolved a masterplan to convert or compost those annual agricultural bundles of field left-overs, nor that a mass program to replace diesel by electric rickshaws has not materialised. The authorities reckon a day in Delhi is equivalent to smoking nearly twenty cigarettes a day. Fortunately, very few Indian citizens actually smoke either in Delhi, Rajasthan or Kashmir.

If we used to marvel how the mobile had percolated all strata of our society, India has already left us way behind in its applications of widespread use to facilitate life for ordinary citizens. Every local dhaba, every shop displays its plastified A4 QR code which pays for your INR 20 samoosa effortlessly in a click, while numerous mobile applications allow Indians to do their banking, shop for essentials or groceries, catch taxis, reserve, and buy train and airline tickets or their seat reservations/boarding passes without much fuss if you get yourself an indis-

*With the pick-up of tourism, the Kashmir Union Territory creation has been a huge relief as it has brought about peace and development opportunities for all walks of life*



Pic - That Trending

**“No trip would have been complete without its share of sightseeing of the magnificent scenic beauties of Pahalgam, Doodhpatri, Sonmarg and Gulmarg, the poney rides over sprawling greenery of pine forests, the ubiquitous walnuts and almond trees, the miles of tasty Kashmiri red apple orchards, laden with fruits in October, or the six-mile stretch of Zaffran farms, each with its specialty boutique, all very friendly and doing brisk business. To cap it all, a last night in a houseboat, soaking the evening prayers from a nearby mosque, followed by Vedic rhymes chanted by Hindu priests, reverberating over the peaceful Dal lake, all paying their homage to the same Eternal...”**

pensable Indian SIM card.

Gone are the older rickety, overcrowded trains or even station ticket booths as the fast, clean new generation fully air-con Shatabdi or Rajdhani Express and the even newer Vande Bharat and the Regional Namo Bharat trains all with mobile charger and many user-friendly features crisscross the sub-continent's main cities with superfast online bookings. As a corollary of this entrepreneurial Indian mobile and software industry (Huawei and Chinese applications were banned years ago after foiled Chinese military adventurism at the northern frontiers), most dhabas, shops and ordinary Indians do not carry much change, a factor that has certainly reduced petty theft, pickpockets, and criminality.

But back to my flight to Srinagar and the spectacular window views over the majestic snow-clad Himalayan chain below, a mesmerising sight in these autumn days spread over endless kilometres. Several local air-couriers make the flight daily from Delhi/Mumbai to Srinagar airport, where, by prior arrangement, a driver and his Honda private car were waiting, had made the necessary hotel bookings and was at my disposal daily for a Srinagar city tour and trekking out over a week to various sites of interest, including the most reputed nearby valleys. It bears reminding that Jammu is mostly Hindu; more northerly Ladakh (little Tibet) now a Union Territory, half Buddhist, is a barren but spectacular enclave dotted with many monasteries

and spiritual centers, while most Kashmiris are Muslims, and I was somewhat eager to interact and find out what they felt and whether old animosities and conflicts with non-Kashmiris, or Hindu minorities and their Kashmiri pandits were still a reality.

Along Srinagar's main thoroughfares, many posters for the 5th anniversary celebration of Kashmir as a Union Territory a few days before were still on prominent display. So were the giant posters of PM Modi and the G20 Tourism Summit held a few months back and which had propelled Kashmir as a tourist destination of excellence for high-level delegates from around the world who had marvelled at the peaceful serenity exuded by Srinagar, the capital, and its awesome surrounds. No doubt there were occasional reports of some cross-border firings from the usual culprits, but clearly, reports of discontent that had become so associated with the capital Srinagar, the territory and its inhabitants were no longer the order of the day in Kashmiri minds as far as I could gather. With the pick-up of tourism (some 80 % of Kashmir's economy and activities are tourism-related), the Kashmir Union Territory creation has been a huge relief as it has brought about peace and development opportunities for all walks of life.

There is also perhaps some subdued realisation that the billions of INR being poured into massive health, education, university, and infrastructure investments, making Srinagar a clean, green and a model smart city for all Kashmiris,

come from all Indian taxpayers. Hundreds of initiatives have and are considerably transforming Srinagar and its roads, connectivity, and beautiful surroundings, including a mammoth program to clean up the Dal Lake, where the picturesque old houseboats and shikaras ply their trade with renewed zest.

Armed security personnel and check points, although manifest along the main thoroughfares, were neither obtrusive nor unfriendly, living up to their displayed motto «We are here for your security and safety». There was certainly little desire for a return to the old administration where a few wily and wealthy politicians held sway and kept out all investors, without much concern for the livelihoods of ordinary Kashmiris. So said my Kashmiri hotel owner, his welcoming staff or any run-of-the-mill Muslim resident, as he outlined the region's history and culture over a cup of the ubiquitous Kashmiri Kahwa tea. Shrouded in the mysteries of time, he nonetheless confided that the most accepted derivation was from the legendary Kashyap rishi, one of the Saptarishis, who undertook the major civil works to empty the huge lake that was the valley then, hence the name Kash-mir (huge lake) and that the Kashmiri language was a derivative of Sanskrit.

As for my youthful Muslim driver, married with a daughter to raise, he too held no sympathy for any separatist narrative or infiltrated brewers of unrest and so busy was he and many others in the tourist trade. He took me to a fourteenth century Srinagar Mosque of indigenous design around peaceful courtyard gardens (no minaret or Middle-Eastern import features), its halls propped by hundreds of solid wood (walnut) pillars. He asked if I would be interested to participate in the October Amarnath congregation, plastered over town, or visit the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi or the old Adi Shankaracharya Temple overlooking Srinagar, all welcoming millions of pilgrims, and visitors.

No trip would have been complete without its share of sightseeing of the magnificent scenic beauties of Pahalgam, Doodhpatri, Sonmarg and Gulmarg, the poney rides over sprawling greenery of pine forests, the ubiquitous walnuts and almond trees, the miles of tasty Kashmiri red apple orchards, laden with fruits in October, or the six-mile stretch of Zaffran farms, each with its specialty boutique, all very friendly and doing brisk business. To cap it all, a last night in a houseboat, soaking the evening prayers from a nearby mosque, followed by Vedic rhymes chanted by Hindu priests, reverberating over the peaceful Dal lake, all paying their homage to the same Eternal, so close in these high mountainous abodes surrounded by the majestic snow-clad peaks and glaciers of what is undoubtedly close to heaven on earth!



Interview: Vinaye Ancharaz, International Economic Consultant

# “We should stop playing with fire”

‘Populist measures condemn all future governments since those measures become entrenched and difficult to remove without a political backlash’



**V**inaye Ancharaz, an international economic consultant, is familiar to MT readers as he has shared his independent views on the Mauritian economy a few times in the past. He broaches for us several topics of interest, most notably on the general state of the economy and its recovery post-Covid, with buoyant figures of Statistics Mauritius and MOF, at a time when many Mauritians feel the pinch in their pockets through the high VAT/fuel taxes and the steep depreciation of the rupee. He also comments on the opacity surrounding the MIC’s helicopter money, the MOF’s “empty” CSG coffers and the additional burden of government’s promised pension target of Rs 13,500 or the risks of “surenchère politique” that may have disastrous longer-term effects, at a time when the only FDI inflows have been to the real estate sector.

**Mauritius Times:** The time for political rhetoric and outbidding (“surenchère politique”) has come. We see that happening with regard to old-age pensions (Navin Ramgoolam has been saying lately that a future LP-MM-PMSD government will ensure that old-aged persons obtain a rise in their pensions even if CSG funds would have been wholly spent) or with respect to the payment of a 14th month end-of-year bonus to all employees (Xavier Duval argues that the Public Exchequer has pocketed more money from the petrol taxes, and the profitability of the Top 100 companies has improved, and even doing better than during the pre-Covid years). That makes for good politics, isn’t it?

**Vinaye Ancharaz:** Before the MSM’s promise, in October 2019, to double the basic retirement pension

(BRP) during their next term in office, the only other major political freebie I could think of was the 1976 promise by the Labour government to make secondary education free of charge. While there are other examples of political populism, these two examples stand out because they occurred on the eve of elections and their intent could hardly be disputed. In both cases, the party that made the promise was re-elected.

However, there is a major difference between the two episodes.

Free education at the secondary level since 1977, which extended also to the University of Mauritius, the only tertiary education institution at the time, played an undeniable role in the subsequent economic development of the country and led to the emergence and growth of a thriving middle class.

The promise of higher pensions, on the other hand, has drained government finances, led to exorbitant petroleum prices and an unending inflation-depreciation spiral as the initial hike in the BRP was financed by drawing down Rs 18 billion from the Bank of Mauritius’ reserves, which opened the floodgates to further plundering of the reserves. And the worst may be yet to come as the remaining Rs 2,500 that would take the BRP to the magical figure of Rs 13,500 could cost the government a whopping Rs 10 billion extra per year.

The danger with such populist measures is two-fold.

First, they create, what economists call, a game-theory scenario in which the party that under-promises risks losing the elections. Consequently, they all converge to-

wards the same bid, like in the 2019 election campaign where all political parties promised to match the initial MSM offer of pension at Rs 13,500.

However, the risk of ‘surenchère’ is real, leading to outrageous and unsustainable promises. And since history teaches us that the party that makes the initial bid carves out a strong first-mover advantage, there may be a very high degree of outbidding in future elections – unless a credible institution establishes and enforces some legally-binding parameters for the conduct of electoral campaigning. I was hoping that the Privy Council would do that, but they glaringly missed the target.

Second, populist measures condemn all future governments since those measures become entrenched and difficult to remove without a political backlash. They can therefore compromise the long-term economic and political stability of the country. We should stop playing with fire.

\* On the other hand, the contention of the Opposition with regard to the improved payment capacity of both blue-chip companies as well as the Public Exchequer to pay for a 14th month bonus to civil servants and to come in support of less profitable private companies for that same payment would paradoxically suggest that the economic situation of the country has considerably improved under this government. Isn’t it what the opposition would be unwittingly saying?

There is little doubt that the economic situation of the country has dramatically improved, and that is quite natural following the collapse in 2020. As I’ve repeatedly said, when you’ve hit the rock-bottom, the only way is up.

“The danger with such populist measures is two-fold. First, they create, what economists call, a game-theory scenario in which the party that under-promises risks losing the elections. Consequently, they all converge towards the same bid, like in the 2019 election campaign where all political parties promised to match the initial MSM offer of pension at Rs 13,500. However, the risk of ‘surenchère’ is real, leading to outrageous and unsustainable promises...”

“The promise of higher pensions, on the other hand, has drained government finances, led to exorbitant petroleum prices and an unending inflation-depreciation spiral as the initial hike in the BRP was financed by drawing down Rs 18 billion from the Bank of Mauritius’ reserves, which opened the floodgates to further plundering of the reserves. And the worst may be yet to come as the remaining Rs 2,500 that would take the BRP to the magical figure of Rs 13,500 could cost the government a whopping Rs 10 billion extra per year...”

I won’t deny that government policies did play a role in the economic recovery. The Wage Assistance Scheme, the generous fiscal stimulus package and handouts by the MIC... all helped companies to navigate their way out of the woods, and many have emerged stronger and more profitable.

But there is no such thing as a free lunch. The Covid-19 support package has come at huge cost to the economy for it was financed in large part by helicopter money, leading to the current stifling cost of living. Moreover, the economic outcomes would be better had it not been for hundreds of millions of rupees wasted in dodgy deals and defective equipment.

☞ Cont. on page 8



# 'Indeed, the business sector is doing very well.'

There is little doubt that economic recovery has been fed by a weaker rupee and rising prices for consumers'



☞ Cont. from page 7

\* The recent survey conducted by Business Mauritius adds credence to the claims of the government that the business and investment climate in the country has considerably improved: 83% of companies expect an improvement in their sales in 2023; 52% export-oriented firms have registered a rise in their export earnings in 2022 compared to the preceding year; 70% have been able to safeguard full employment, etc. Kevin Ramkalaon, its CEO, expressed satisfaction that "il y a un réel progrès dans le paysage économique...". How do you react to that?

Indeed, the business sector is doing very well. A major bank recently reported net profit of Rs 14 billion, a figure unheard of until now. Tourism is booming again, the real estate sector, including construction, is going full throttle, and exports across a wide range of sectors have increased. There is little doubt that this recovery has been fed by a weaker rupee and rising prices for consumers.

But if Mr Ramkalaon admits that business is flourishing and that prospects are positive, why would he claim that the private sector cannot afford to pay the initial salary compensation of Rs 1000 demanded by the trade unions – or the 14th month bonus proposed by the Leader of the Opposition?

Allow me to debunk a few myths about 'compensation salariale'. First, salary compensation is meant to restore workers' purchasing power, which has been eroded by inflation in the past year. It has nothing to do with productivity. Second, anyone with a basic knowledge of Economics can tell you that rising prices hurt consumers but benefit sellers and businesses.

Third, companies can pass any increase in wages to the consumer through higher prices. And finally, because the salary compensation is paid ex-post, it is less in real terms and is partial rather than full because the inflation rate is typically underestimated, and the quantum of the compensation is calculated on the lowest pay or 'salaire minimal'. So,

“The Wage Assistance Scheme, the generous fiscal stimulus package and handouts by the MIC... all helped companies to navigate their way out of the woods, and many have emerged stronger and more profitable. But there is no such thing as a free lunch. The Covid-19 support package has come at huge cost to the economy for it was financed in large part by helicopter money, leading to the current stifling cost of living...”

whichever way you look at it, the fact remains that businesses will still be better off even after paying a 'compensation salariale'.

Perhaps there is no better justification for 'compensation salariale' than the following realization: since the wage is the price of labour, why shouldn't it rise along with other prices?

\* If the business climate has improved, according to Business Mauritius, that may be due in a large measure to the MIC's assistance during the pandemic. The question we should be asking today is whether the "distressed companies" have played their part of the deal?

Indeed, that's the question many people are asking. Many of the companies that are now reporting handsome profits were the primary beneficiaries of the assistance provided by the MIC. They include a number of hotels as well as manufacturing firms and conglomerates in agro-industry. Banks did not receive any MIC funding, but they benefited immensely from the restructuring of debt, government-backed waivers on interest payments, and fiscal concessions as part of the Covid-19 stimulus package. There is no denying the fact that the assistance and resources provided by the State, whether directly or through the MIC, helped many of these companies to fight off the pandemic and prosper in the aftermath.

A side question, however, is whether all the companies that received MIC funding were truly in distress. We have heard of cases where companies that were set up during the lockdown bagged hundreds of millions from the MIC, but we can never be sure of the true scale of such dubious deals, given the opacity in which the MIC operates.

Relatedly, one also wonders if the beneficiary companies that are now showing big profits are paying back their loans or paying dividends proportional to the MIC's equity stake. Although the MIC itself reported a profit of Rs 2.3 billion in 2022, the major part of it (or Rs 1.9 billion) is due to gains in revaluation of assets, notably land, rather than interest income or dividends received.

\* To come back to the issue of an improved business climate, not to be outdone, Finance minister recently stated, in response to a PQ of MP Ritish Ramful on the World Bank's Country Report, that GDP has risen from by 44% from 2020 to 2023, the country has a growth rate of 8.9% in 2022, and is expecting 6.8% for 2023, FDI has outpaced the pre-pandemic levels, unemployment has fallen from 9.1% in 2021 to 6.4 in 2023, which would be the lowest in the last 25 years. The statistics speak of an improved economic situation, don't they?

The economy contracted by 14.5% in 2020, so the subsequent pick-up is natural. In fact, the 8.9% growth rate registered in 2022 is a mathematical outcome since the base on which GDP growth is calculated had shrunk drastically.

However, if we look beyond these hand-picked statistics, we may find that the bigger picture is not all that rosy. Growth this year, according to IMF projections, will be 5.1%, lower than the government's estimate of 6.8%, which itself was

revised upward from an earlier forecast of 5.3%. On this point, I'm afraid to say that official GDP figures are being manipulated to show a more positive economic outcome. The IMF has recently warned against such practice, calling on Statistics Mauritius to exercise greater integrity and independence in the publication of economic data.

Moreover, growth is projected to return to pre-pandemic levels next year. Finally, despite the recovery and the increase in GDP, real GDP at the end of this year will be just a shade higher than what it was in 2019!

Similarly, the unemployment rate of 6.4% in 2023 is not very different from that in 2019 (6.7%) and it conceals worrying trends. For example, more than one-third of the unemployed are youths and 80% of them have been looking for a job for more than one year, which suggests that the kind of jobs being churned out by the economy does not fit our job-seekers' skills. Unemployment over prolonged periods may encourage the jobless to seek opportunities beyond our shores, aggravating the brain drain the country is currently experiencing. The government, in the 2023-24 Budget, announced a series of measures to attract foreign talent, but nothing was proposed to retain our local talent!

As for FDI, gross inflows in the first semester of 2023 amounted to Rs 13.5 billion, about 34% higher than the corresponding period last year. However, since FDI is received in foreign currency and converted into rupees, a depreciation of the rupee has the effect of artificially inflating the value of inward FDI. Moreover, more than 75% of the FDI went into the real estate and hospitality sectors. Agriculture and manufacturing, together, attracted a measly 0.15% of FDI inflows. It is clear that FDI incentives have been distorted in favour of property development and at the expense of the productive sectors.

“Many of the companies that are now reporting handsome profits were the primary beneficiaries of the assistance provided by the MIC. They include a number of hotels as well as manufacturing firms and conglomerates in agro-industry. Banks did not receive any MIC funding, but they benefited immensely from the restructuring of debt, government-backed waivers on interest payments, and fiscal concessions as part of the Covid-19 stimulus package...”

So, yes, on the surface, the statistics show an improved economic situation but, as always, the devil lies in the details.

\* There may be dark clouds in the picture though: the empty coffers of the Contribution sociale généralisée (CSG) - another "Ponzi-like scheme" according to some commentators, or the fluctuations in interest rates which impact negatively import prices, as noted by Business Mauritius' survey, or the difficulties in recruiting local labour, etc. What's your take on these issues?

Indeed! The "caisse vide" of the CSG, as recently revealed by the Minister of Finance, has sent shock waves across the country. But I was not surprised – because the CSG, unlike its predecessor, the National Pensions Fund (NPF), is not a reserve fund, or a piggybank. CSG is paid directly into the Consolidated Fund and is not specifically earmarked for pension payments.

☞ Cont. on page 9



# 'Statistics show an improved economic situation but, as always, the devil lies in the details'

Cont. from page 8

The Consolidated Fund, contrary to its name, is not a fund; it is the government's savings account, in which it receives revenues and out of which it makes recurrent payments. So, it is hardly surprising that there is no CSG money left. This raises serious questions about the government's ability to honour its electoral promise of BRP at Rs 13,500 and to pay full pensions in the future – especially since the pension system is already under pressure from the ageing population.

The key (repo) rate has doubled in the past year-and-a-half. As the rupee continues to come under pressure, the Bank of Mauritius may be forced to raise interest rates again. That would hit large segments of the population since practically everyone in the country has some debt, whether a mortgage, personal loan, car lease, or hire purchase agreement. The paradox is that a hike in the interest rate, as an instrument of a restrictive monetary policy, is meant to combat inflation, but given the level of household debt in Mauritius, it could have the opposite effect.

I mentioned earlier the problem of labour shortage, which is likely to accentuate as the economy approaches full employment, the working population shrinks under the pres-



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sure of ageing, and Mauritians continue to leave for greener pastures abroad. The country needs a clear national policy on foreign labour and, indeed, a Foreign Workers' Act. In the short term, many people hope for a new government that would put an end to the entrenched and pervasive nepotism of the current regime and allow meritocracy to prevail.

**\* On the other hand, the Minister of Finance will be hard put in the present circumstances to convince consumers that this government is doing what is required to safeguard the living standard of consumers across the board, not just the vulnerable ones. But when you look at it objectively, is it really the worst we have known for a long time?**

There is little doubt that the inflation of today is the worst we've known in a long time. We ended 2022 with a headline inflation rate of 11%. The last time we registered an inflation rate that high or higher was back in 1990, when the inflation rate reached 13.5%. And we are not out of the woods yet.

The inflation rate was estimated at 8.4% in October 2023 and the trade unions are basing their claims for 'compensation salariale' on an inflation rate of 8% for the year. The Bank of Mauritius projects inflation at 7%, lower than the IMF's forecast of 7.8%. In all likelihood, the inflation rate will not be far from the trade unions' estimate, even though the government may be tempted to adopt the lower figure of 7% for the purpose of calculating the quantum of the salary compensation.

Be that as it may, the salary compensation will be grossly inadequate to offset the loss of purchasing power witnessed during the year. For this reason, I fully support the Opposition's demand for a 14th month bonus to be paid to all low-income earners.

**\* It seems however that the government does not have any worries about the political impact of the rising cost of living on the electorate. It has at its disposal what it takes in terms of budgetary manoeuvre to soften**

**“The salary compensation is paid ex-post, it is less in real terms and is partial rather than full because the inflation rate is typically underestimated, and the quantum of the compensation is calculated on the lowest pay or 'salaire minimal'. So, whichever way you look at it, the fact remains that businesses will still be better off even after paying a 'compensation salariale'...”**



**that impact in the months to come. What do you think?**

Celebrating the Privy Council verdict in the Dayal case, the PM very jubilantly remarked that his government had one last joker up its sleeve, referring to next year's Budget. He set the tone for another populist Budget, boosted by the precedent set by the Privy Council judgment.

The government has the financial capacity – in the short term – to offer relief against the rising cost of living. The taxes maintained on petroleum prices bring billions into the government's coffers in addition to inflation tax, that is, higher VAT revenues from rising prices. Direct taxes, including corporate and personal income tax revenues, are also likely to increase as the economy flourishes. Moreover, the government might again let the rupee slide to maximize on revaluation gains, or resort to massive injections of printed money as the general elections draw closer.

And finally, the government has at its disposal a war chest, which it will surely put to strategic use in the next Budget or thereafter. Such political manoeuvring may deliver short-term relief but will make things worse for the economy over the long run.

## Opinion

# L'intelligence mauricienne est-elle encore prisée?

Prakash Neerhoo

**L**a décision du gouvernement de faire un appel à candidatures pour le poste de Directeur de l'Agriculture en Inde uniquement est aberrante pour dire le moins. Elle suscite bien des commentaires dans les médias.

Objectivement, cette décision est discriminatoire parce qu'elle exclut des Mauriciens et des individus d'autres nationalités dans le processus de recrutement. L'opportunité de postuler pour un poste dans la fonction publique devrait, en principe, être ouverte à tous les Mauriciens. S'il n'y a pas de candidats locaux compétents, on peut alors recruter un étranger. Mais exclure d'avance des candidats mauriciens potentiels, cela relève d'une stratégie très curieuse. Cela indique que l'intelligence mauricienne n'est plus prisée à certains échelons de l'administration publique.

Le pays ne manque pas de compétences dans les sciences liées au domaine agricole. L'ancien Collège d'Agriculture d'abord et l'Université de Maurice ensuite ont formé beaucoup d'agronomes et d'autres spécialistes en matière d'agriculture et ces derniers ont brillé dans leur domaine respectif. En effet, en matière de recherche sucrière, le pays a une réputation d'excellence grâce au MSIRI dont les experts sont reconnus au niveau mondial.

La décision du gouvernement envoie un mauvais signal aux diplômés mauriciens qui ne cherchent qu'à servir le pays. Déjà l'absence apparente de méritocratie cause une fuite de cerveaux avec l'émigration croissante de jeunes talents. Là, on leur dit carrément que l'Etat n'a pas besoin d'eux, tout au moins au ministère de l'Agro-industrie.

Certes, on dira qu'il y a des experts étrangers qui occupent d'autres postes, notamment un Indien comme conseiller en sécurité nationale, un Pakistanais comme directeur de la Mauritius Revenue Authority, un Anglais à la tête de l'Integrity Reporting Services Agency ou encore une Anglaise comme directrice de la Financial Intelligence Unit. Alors pourquoi pas un étranger dans un autre poste, dirait-on?

Le problème, c'est que les conseillers étrangers recrutés sous un contrat déterminé sont serviles à leur employeur qui décide seul de leur sort à Maurice. S'ils n'obéissent pas aux diktats ministériels, ils peuvent être renvoyés. Or, un cadre mauricien, recruté après une procédure normale de la PSC, peut choisir d'être indépendant et objectif dans l'exercice de ses fonctions s'il le veut, sachant qu'il a une certaine sécurité d'emploi comme fonctionnaire.

Ce dont le gouvernement ne veut pas justement, c'est l'indépendance et la neutralité politique des cadres du sec-

teur public. Dans sa tentative de tout contrôler, de la conception d'une politique publique à son exécution, il veut avoir les mains libres. Le ministère de l'Agro-industrie est crucial dans la mesure où il contrôle l'usage des terres agricoles, détermine les paramètres de la politique de sécurité alimentaire, et a le mot final sur la conversion de terres agricoles en parcelles pour des besoins immobiliers. Il a aussi un rôle déterminant dans l'attribution de terres de l'Etat à bail à des entrepreneurs pour les besoins de l'élevage, comme on l'a vu récemment dans le cas d'un bail d'un terrain de chasse à Grand Bassin. Pour ces raisons, le directeur de l'Agriculture est un poste stratégique. Dans le passé, des cadres mauriciens ont occupé ce poste avec compétence.

Si aujourd'hui, on veut proposer un étranger comme directeur de l'Agriculture, demain on pourra en recruter un autre comme secrétaire financier ou gouverneur de la Banque centrale. Où s'arrêtera alors la demauricianisation du secteur public aux échelons supérieurs? Tout pays qui se dit indépendant privilégie le recrutement de cadres locaux.

Aux thuriféraires régimistes qui m'accuseraient d'India-bashing, je dirais que j'aurais pris la même position si on voulait recruter un Anglais ou un Français pour ce poste. Je crois que tous les étrangers en poste chez nous sont remplaçables par des Mauriciens pour peu qu'on veuille les trouver.



## IIT Madras opens offshore campus in Zanzibar, Tanzania

1st batch of 35 undergraduate and 15 postgraduate students have started classes in AI and Data Science

The Zanzibar campus of the Indian Institute of Technology Madras was formally launched on November 6. Currently around 50 students have been admitted in the institute - 35 for Bachelor of Science in Artificial Intelligence and Data Science course and 15 students for M. Tech in AI and DS courses.

Around 500 applications were received for the courses and students were selected through an eligibility test and interview.

Among the UG students around 15 are Indians and 8 from India have joined the PG programme. As many as 22 students in the UG programme are from Africa and around 40% of the students are women, reports The Hindu Bureau.

Zanzibar President and chairman of the Revolutionary Council Hussein Ali Mwinyi inaugurated the campus.

Adolf F. Mkenda, Minister for Education Science and Technology of the United Republic of Tanzania, Lela Mohamed Mussa, Minister of Education and Vocational Training in Zanzibar besides Binaya Srikanta Pradhan, the Indian High Commissioner to Tanzania, former IIT Madras directors M.S. Ananth and Bhaskar Ramamurthi and Dean



IIT Madras's Zanzibar Campus Inauguration Ceremony. Pic – Business Standard

of School of Engineering and Science and Director-in-charge of Zanzibar campus Preeti Aghalayam were present in person.

Prior to the inauguration, Institute director V. Kamakoti told media persons that the entire exercise of setting up the campus took around six months from the time discussion began with that government till the Indian Ministry of External Affairs signed the agreement.

In the next five years the institute has planned to start five new programmes, including PG and UG, in Electronic Sciences, a B.Tech or M.Tech in Ocean Engineering and a programme in mining.

The cost of UG education at the campus is around USD 12,000.

## 16 years in prison for stealing a bike and no hope of release – as 7 trapped in jail kill themselves

Seven inmates trapped in prison under indefinite jail terms have taken their own lives since the British government refused to resentence them, reports *The Independent*.

The prisons watchdog has launched investigations into a string of self-inflicted deaths amid a “worrying rise” in incidents among imprisonment for public protection (IPP) prisoners – with campaigners warning the “hopelessness” associated with the controversial sentences is having tragic consequences.

It comes after former justice secretary Dominic Raab refused cross-party recommendations to resentence IPP prisoners, despite the prison term – a form of indeterminate sentence in which offenders are given a minimum jail term but no maximum – being described as “the single greatest stain on our justice system”.

The sentences were scrapped in 2012, but not retrospectively, leaving almost 3,000 trapped in prison with no clear hope of release – nearly 700 of whom have served more than 10 years longer than the minimum term they were given, reports *The Independent*.

New Labour introduced the sentences in 2005 as part of new legislation to prove they were tough on crime. Anyone convicted with an IPP would have initially committed an



Representative image. Pic – Yahoo news

offence that was deemed a danger to the public and subsequently committed another of 153 listed crimes, including violent and non-violent offences.

After completing their minimum term tariff, inmates must then apply for release to the Parole Board and meet stringent criteria – including not suffering from mental health problems – to prove that they are no longer a risk to the public.

David Blunkett, who has admitted he regrets introducing the measures as home secretary, told *The Independent* there needs to be a change in the system that “gives hope” to inmates. “The longer they are in, the longer they are institutionalised, the more their mental health deteriorates. It’s a no-brainer that we need to provide people with that hope.”

Next month, it will be 11 years since IPP sentences were abolished in Britain after they were found to be “fundamentally unjust” by the

European Court of Human Rights.

Originally designed to protect the public from serious offenders whose crimes did not warrant a life sentence, they were widely overused and often imposed for low-level crimes before they were axed in 2012.

The latest figures show that 2,921 IPP prisoners were still incarcerated at the end of September. Of these, 1,269 have never been released, while 1,652 have been recalled to prison after being caught out by strict 10-year licence conditions.

One family member described the situation as the “biggest injustice that the country has seen since Hillsborough”. Clara White, whose brother Thomas has served more than 11 years for stealing a phone, revealed he has developed schizophrenia while in jail. A psychiatric assessment found his deteriorating mental health was caused by the hopelessness of his IPP sentence.

Wayne Bell’s mental health has also crumbled after he was jailed in 2007, aged 17, for stealing a bike. He spent several years in a secure hospital after he was found catatonic “like skin and bones” in his cell, before being returned to prison. “We are just waiting for that call to say Wayne is gone now,” his sister Alana said. “It’s destroyed him.”

## South Korea boosts surveillance after North Korea launches spy satellite

South Korea on Wednesday suspended part of a 2018 military agreement with North Korea after Pyongyang defied warnings from the United States and drew Western condemnation by launching a spy satellite.

The suspension of a clause in the agreement will see South Korea step up military surveillance along the heavily fortified border with North Korea, reports Reuters.

Pyongyang said it placed its first spy satellite in orbit on Tuesday. Photographs in state media showed leader Kim Jong Un watching the launch of a rocket from a base.

Kim was later briefed on the satellite’s operations at the control centre of the space agency in Pyongyang and viewed images taken above the US Pacific territory of Guam of US military installations, including the Andersen Air Force Base, North Korea’s KCNA state news agency said.



A rocket carrying a spy satellite Malligyong-1. Pic - Reuters

North Korea followed the satellite launch by firing an unspecified ballistic missile toward the sea east of the Korean peninsula late on Wednesday, but that appeared to have failed, South Korea’s Yonhap news agency reported, citing the South Korean military.

The launch came just over a week before South Korea plans to send its first spy satellite into space on a rocket operated by the US company SpaceX.

South Korea’s Defence Minister Shin Won-sik said North Korea had “exaggerated” by saying Kim had viewed images of US military installations at Guam.

Shin said it would take at least until the weekend to tell whether the satellite is functioning.

The suspended North-South pact, known as the Comprehensive Military Agreement and aimed at de-escalating tension between them, was signed at a 2018 summit between Kim and then South Korean President Moon Jae-in.

## UK committed to reducing legal migration, says Home Secretary James Cleverly

British Home Secretary James Cleverly said on Thursday the government was “completely committed to reducing levels of legal migration,” after net migration rose to 672,000 in year to the end of June, reports Reuters.

“We do need to reduce our overall numbers by eliminating the abuse and exploitation of our visa system by both companies and individuals,” Cleverly said in a statement.

“We are working across government on further measures to prevent exploitation and manipulation of our visa system, including clamping down on those that take advantage of the flexibility of the immigration system.”

\* Contd on page 11



## Arab nations say Israel-Hamas truce should be extended, aid ramped up

Arab foreign ministers welcomed an agreement for a temporary truce between Israel and Gaza militant group Hamas on Wednesday but said it should be extended and become a first step toward a full cessation of hostilities.

The foreign ministers of Saudi Arabia, Egypt and Jordan told a media briefing in London that the agreement, which includes hostage releases and stepped-up aid into the devastated Gaza Strip, should also ultimately lead to a resumption of talks for a two-state solution to the wider Israel-Palestinian conflict, reports Reuters.

Under Wednesday's temporary ceasefire deal, Israel and Hamas agreed to a four-day pause in fighting to allow the release of 50 hostages held in Gaza in exchange for 150 Palestinians imprisoned in Israel, and the



Workers unload humanitarian aid at Egypt's al-Arish Airport on November 22. Pic - AFP

entry of humanitarian aid into the enclave.

Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Faisal bin Farhan Al Saud said the humanitarian aid should be sustained and expanded, and it should not become contingent on further hostage releases.

This is not war, this is terrorism," he added, without specifying whether he was referring to the October 7 attack on Israel by Palestinian militant group Hamas or Israel's military operation in Gaza launched in response, or both.

The Vatican said last week the pope hoped to show his "spiritual closeness" during the private meetings, which it said would be "exclusively humanitarian in nature".

Each delegation told press conferences in Rome following the meetings that they believed Francis could use his moral influence to help them, reports AFP.

"Let us pray that the difficulties resolve themselves in dialogue and negotiation and not with a mountain of dead on each side," Francis said in a video message released on Wednesday.

Rachel Goldberg, whose 23-year-old son Hersh Goldberg-Polin was kidnapped by Hamas, told journalists the pope "has a lot of influence".

Palestinian Yousef Lalkhoury said the pope was capable of asking for a "just peace" for his people.

Short of freeing all the hostages, the Israeli delegation said it hoped Francis could push for the Red Cross to be allowed access to them.

The Palestinians present claimed the pope used the word "genocide" during their meeting to describe what was happening in Gaza.

The pope has never described it as genocide in public.

The Arab foreign ministers are leading a so-called contact group of mostly Muslim countries which are lobbying Israel's major allies and the UN Security Council to bring about an end to the Gaza war and move towards a permanent solution to the Israel-Palestinian conflict.

After trips to China and Russia, they visited Britain and France on Wednesday where they met the British and French foreign ministers and French President Emmanuel Macron as they seek to push for a UN Security Council resolution on humanitarian relief for Gaza.

"We intend to put the Security Council in front of a choice: are they going to be complicit in the starvation and deprivation of the people of Gaza or are they willing to enforce the basic principle that civilians must not be affected by military conflict," Prince Faisal said in his strongest comments on the war to date.



Pope Francis meets with Palestinians whose relatives are stranded in Gaza, amid conflict between Israel and the Palestinian Islamist group Hamas, at the Vatican. Pic - Reuters

## Pope Francis: "The ongoing conflict could result in 'a mountain of dead'"

Pope Francis on Wednesday met separately with Israeli relatives of Hamas hostages and Palestinians with family in Gaza, while warning the ongoing conflict could result in "a mountain of dead".

At the end of his weekly audience at the Vatican, the 86-year-old pontiff called for prayers for peace, saying of both groups: "They suffer so much and I heard how they both suffer."

"Wars do this, but here we have gone beyond wars.

## Kate Middleton wears rare 100-year-old tiara last worn by Queen Mother in 1930s

Prince William and Kate Middleton attended a state banquet at Buckingham Palace on Tuesday, November 21. The event was held in honour of South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol, who was on a 3-day trip to the UK along with First Lady Kim Keon Hee. Almost 170 guests were also present at the royal banquet.

Kate looked as elegant as ever, wearing a dazzling white gown with gold embellishments by one of her favourite designers, Jenny Pack-



Kate Middleton. Pic - Reuters

ham. However, the most striking element of her ensemble was the rare 100-year-old tiara Strathmore Rose Tiara. It once belonged to the Queen

Mother. Although the late Queen Elizabeth II inherited it, she never once wore it publicly throughout her lifetime. It was long speculated to adorn the head of a royal bride but it never reappeared until Kate decided to wear it last night, reports *Hindustan Times*.

The floral, diamond-encrusted diadem's worth is estimated to be about half a million pounds, according to Express. Kate's ensemble also included a pair of white opera gloves and diamond drop earrings, which belonged to Queen Elizabeth, and her honours- the Royal Family Order and her Grand Cross of the Royal Victorian Order sash and star.



Russian lawmakers attend a session at the State Duma, the Lower House of the Russian Parliament in Moscow. Pic - AP

## Russian parliament approves budget with record amount on defense spending

Russia's parliament approved a federal budget on Wednesday that increases spending by around 25 per cent in 2024-2026 and devotes a record amount to defence.

The budget was passed unanimously by the Federation Council — the upper chamber of the Russian parliament — and will be sent to President Vladimir Putin to sign it into law.

The budget for 2024-2026 was developed specifically to fund the Russian military and to mitigate the impact of "17,500 sanctions" on Russia, State Duma Chairman Vyacheslav Volodin said after the lower chamber approved it on November 17, reports AP.

Under the budget, the country's largest, defence expenditure is expected to overtake social spending next year for the first time in modern Russian history. It comes as the Kremlin is eager to shore up support for President Vladimir Putin before a March presidential election.

Record low unemployment, higher wages and targeted social spending should help the Kremlin ride out the domestic impact of pivoting the economy to a war footing but could pose a problem in the long term, analysts say.



Prof Serge Rivière

# “How can our youths not know who the great men were?”

**‘What we have achieved in our small “island in the sun” is due to great men leading by example’**

\* The launch of your latest book, *‘True Friendship knows no bounds’* brings to light the extensive correspondence of Matthew Flinders, celebrated navigator, hydrographer, and cartographer in the 1800s with Thomi Pitot during the time that Flinders was imprisoned here on orders of French Captain-General Decaen and after his release. Why is it important to tell that story and what’s its relevance in present times?

I have always been of the view - for the last fifty years since I first started researching the *Enlightenment and Voltaire Historian* for my doctorate - that we can learn valuable lessons from History. Lord Bolingbroke declared in an axiom oft repeated by Voltaire: “History is philosophy teaching by examples.” By looking back at the history of Humanity, given that human nature has not changed since times immemorial, we can shed light on the present and consequently on the future.

It was Dr Samuel Johnson who wrote: “The future is purchased by the present.” It is a source of great sadness to many that we have omitted History as a separate subject from the SC and HSC syllabus, and as a result there has been a significant loss of “cultural memory” and decline in “mores” in Mauritius. Therefore, my task as a Cultural Historian is from time to time to recall important landmarks of the past and show how we can learn from these lessons to improve our individual and common civic values.

The extensive correspondence of Matthew Flinders and Thomi Pitot demonstrates that true friendship can and should bypass national, communal, political, and military differences and prejudices. Imagine today if we were to discover letters exchanged by a Ukrainian and a Russian soldier, or for that matter a Palestinian from Gaza and an Israelite friend. Would this not fill us with a sense of optimism about the future, and inspire in us a sense of human nature being essentially “good” as opposed to our proneness to war and conflict?

Our world is a cruel one; news channels report that over 6000 children and nearly 4000 women have been killed in Gaza; we despair that since World War I (1914-1918), nations have been at each other’s throats for supremacy in Europe, not counting Vietnam and in Africa and Asia. What Voltaire named ironically through a masterly oxymoron a “boucherie héroïque” (heroic butchery) continues to plague humanity, and values and humanism are conveniently forgotten, mainly in the name of self-defence. But we are all accountable for this as we sit on the fence and let things be, as Austrians had watched helplessly as the tanks of Hitler

“On the world scene, there has recently been a proposal to release a number of hostages in Gaza and there are negotiations going on. But of course, one hears little of the Russia-Ukraine war in Mauritius, except perhaps on DSTV. Local politics reigns supreme on MBC’s JT; but to each man/woman his/her taste. I prefer to think of bigger issues through the perspective of History and thereby assess the progress made by nations. The UN does its best but are we not all accountable?”

Professor Serge Rivière has had a long and distinguished academic career, after his studies in Scotland, teaching French and Latin and researching several subjects before he came back to settle in Mauritius. He has been passionate about the French thinker Voltaire since his student days. Prof Rivière has just published his 39th book - *‘True Friendship knows no bounds’* (published by BM Book Centre) - a collection of the extensive correspondence of Matthew Flinders, celebrated navigator, hydrographer, and cartographer in the 1800s with Thomi Pitot during the time that Flinders was imprisoned here and thereafter. The letters exchanged between the two reveal a great deal about the culture and socio-economic activities of our society just before and just after the take-over by the British in December 1803 - an important era in the history of Mauritius.

rolled into Vienna or the Ukrainians when the soldiers of Putin invaded their fatherland.

Yet, as I said, there is hope if we trust in the cycles of History, but for that we must learn about the past, and the story of two a Frenchman and an English naval officer who overlooked all national and political differences in the name of friendship defined by Matthew Flinders as the “communion of mind, the similarity of sentiments and of taste, and that jumping together of the heart upon occasions that call forth the feeling of humanity” (Letter to Pitot of 20 September 1805 – Letter 12 in the book).

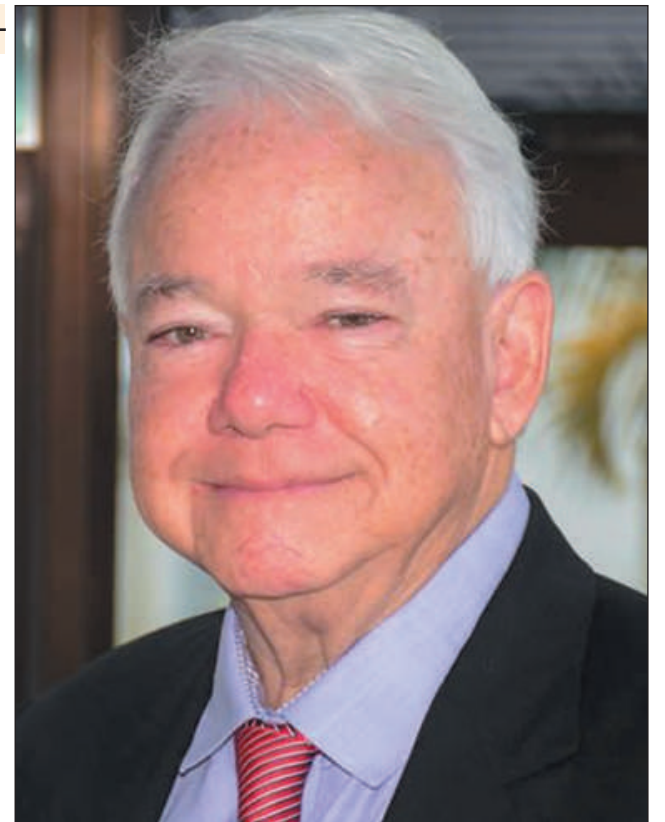
Is this not in the very spirit of being a “citizen of the world” rather than in the spirit of chauvinism, putting America, Russia, France, UK, EU first, as we have seen in Trumpism and Putinism and chauvinism?

Once again, Flinders is our guide here: “Oh, now I wish that all Frenchmen [and] Englishmen had the same feelings for one another as you and I, then, peace would prevail in Europe, and we would not have any debates other than on friendship, the Arts and Sciences.” (Letter in French under the guidance of Delphine D’Arifat, 4 February 1808, Letter 46).

\* Matthew Flinders was unfairly accused of being a British spy by Captain-General Decaen and was imprisoned for seven years. He was no doubt a celebrated navigator, hydrographer and cartographer and he gave Australia its name in his *‘Voyage to Terra Australis’* (1814), but there does not seem to be anything significant as regards Flinders’ enrichment of this country’s history. Isn’t that correct?

Mauritian History is like a rich tapestry of colonial and post-colonial history, which explains why we became the Rainbow Nation. The *‘Codes Noirs’*, (which I have published in 2009) and the history and impact of the arrival of indentured labourers, which I was so happy to help diffuse as editor in *‘Engage’* (3 vols. in 2013), are only part of the picture.

The first two decades of the 19th century are most important to understand the development of the society and eco-



nomy of Isle de France/Mauritius first under Decaen and then under Governor Farquhar. In my latest book, I try to present what Thomi Pitot and Flinders communicated to each other about the culture and socio-economic activities of our society just before and just after the take-over by the British in December 1803. First a Francophobe because of the “tyranny of Decaen” and then through a process of acculturation facilitated by Pitot, Chazal, Froberville, the d’Arifat family, and many others, Flinders is an astute observer of what was going on in the colony.

“The extensive correspondence of Matthew Flinders and Thomi Pitot demonstrates that true friendship can and should bypass national, communal, political, and military differences and prejudices. Imagine today if we were to discover letters exchanged by a Ukrainian and a Russian soldier, or for that matter a Palestinian from Gaza and an Israelite friend. Would this not fill us with a sense of optimism about the future, and inspire in us a sense of human nature being essentially “good” as opposed to our proneness to war and conflict?”

When Flinders eventually returned to London after being imprisoned seven years, Thomi Pitot kept him informed and updated on the Battle of Grand Port (September 1810) and the capture of Isle de France which Thomi witnessed on the ground having taken part in the defence under Decaen alongside Edouard, his brother, a celebrated artist. So, we find in two letters which shed light on highly significant historical tuning points in the History of Mauritius as observed at first hand and narrated in a style that would make a modern Mauritian reporter proud! (Letters 54 and 54).

Such comments, narrations and observations add considerably to our knowledge of the History of Mauritius. Pitot evokes the tense atmosphere as well as the mood of suspicion among “colons”, so that we can relive this crucial decade after the fall of Isle de France. Remember that the letters were not meant to be published; they are frank, factual, and complete accounts through the prism of two men: one a patriot and cultured citizen of Isle de France, and the other branded “a prisoner of the State”.

☞ Cont. on page 13



# “We must cultivate our garden, not mine, not yours but ours, that is our society”

‘Our world has certainly improved since the 18th century and even since I returned to my homeland in 2008, but what of our civic values?’

☞ Cont. from page 12

In the passage devoted to his departure from the island, Flinders eulogised the people of Mauritius in his ‘*Voyage to Terra Australis*’ (July 1814):

“On bidding adieu to Mauritius, it is but justice to declare that during my long residence in the island, as a marked object of suspicion to the government, the kind attention of the inhabitants who could have access to me was invariable; never, in any place, or amongst any people, have I seen more hospitality and attention to strangers - more sensibility to the misfortunes of others, of whatever nation, than here - than I have myself experienced in Mauritius.”

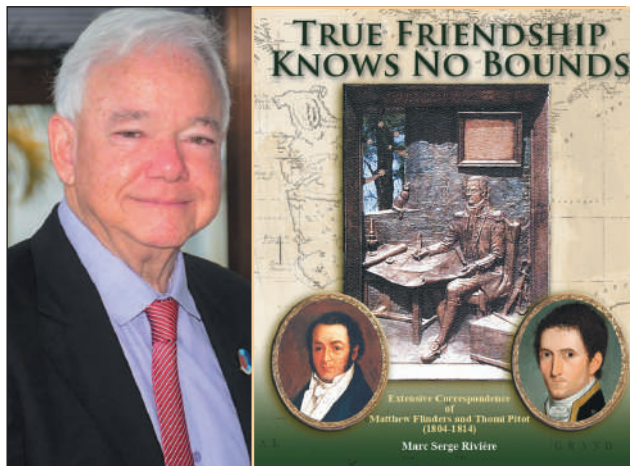
Alas, Flinders was never to go to sea again. Struggling with financial problems arising from the high costs of residing in London from 1810, onwards and coping with increasing physical pain, Flinders continued to devote all his physical and mental energy to the completion of his great narrative ‘*A Voyage to Terra Australis*’. We owe a debt of gratitude to Flinders for literally having put Mauritius on the map, for having given its name to Australia, for the invaluable scientific work and explorations of the Australian coasts in 1799-1803, for which I keep discovering new monuments.

**“We despair that since World War I (1914-1918), nations have been at each other’s throats for supremacy in Europe, not counting Vietnam and in Africa and Asia. What Voltaire named ironically through a masterly oxymoron a “boucherie héroïque” (heroic butchery) continues to plague humanity, and values and humanism are conveniently forgotten, mainly in the name of self-defence. But we are all accountable for this as we sit on the fence and let things be, as Austrians had watched helplessly as the tanks of Hitler rolled into Vienna or the Ukrainians when the soldiers of Putin invaded their fatherland...”**

In Mauritius, there are two monuments to Flinders: one at la Marie erected in 1942 (in a poor state of repair) and the other unveiled in 2003 as part of the wisely organized *Encounter Mauritius*. Because he was detained for seven years, Flinders’ brilliant career as a navigator and cartographer – the best in his day – came to an abrupt and a premature end. The book is, accordingly for me and perhaps a few Mauritians, I trust, a “devoir de mémoire”. It is by way of a gesture of “reconciliation” from a Mauritian to Flinders for his ill-deserved misfortunes and the injustice which he suffered here.

**\* You said at the launch of the book that “our teachers at RCC never spoke to us of Flinders - not even during our History classes when we used the ‘*Short History of Mauritius*’ written by Auguste Toussaint and PJ Barnwell. Our teachers focused instead on the French and the Industrial Revolutions, Napoleon I and Bismarck”. Those latter History topics and more contain teachable lessons for all of us. But isn’t it a pity that History is barely to be found in schools’ curriculum today?**

I have often said it in public before; I shall add merely that the omission of History from the syllabus is a serious error of judgement in Mauritius.



Of course, there is History as part of Social Studies and there are monuments all around us, for example the statues at the Place d’Armes. But we need to guide our youngsters in an appreciation of the past and great men of the past, just as in South Africa, Nelson Mandela is a role model of reconciliation and Gandhi is a light to guide us through a darkening universe.

Thomas Carlyle wrote that great men were the signposts to the future. We should explain to our youths how important SSR and Navin Ramgoolam, SAJ, the MMM of the 1970s and the leaders of the past Labour Party, notably Maurice Curé, Gaëtan Duval, Sookdeo Bissondoyal and Razack Mohamed, Guy Rozemont and Emmanuel Anquetil, in no particular order of importance, have been to the socio-economic and democratic development of our nation.

Being a good patriot is not incompatible with being a “citizen of the world”; I pride myself in being both, and what we have achieved in our small “island in the sun” is due to great men leading by example. I find particular affinities between Flinders and Nelson Mandela. How can our youths not know who the great men were?

**\* You also mentioned in your speech that “in a cruel world today, torn apart by military conflicts, for example in Ukraine and Gaza... it is reassuring to look back to History.” What does the rear-view mirror tell you about what’s happening in the world today?**

If I were a pessimist like Martin in ‘*Candide*’, I would say: Do you think that Man has changed? Or “plus ça change, plus c’est la même chose.” But I remain doggedly an optimist and a pragmatist who believes that “we must cultivate our garden”, not mine, not yours but ours, that is our society.

Our world has certainly improved since the 18th century and even since I returned to my homeland in 2008; technological progress and the metro are big improvements, but what of our civic values? Are these being taught enough in schools and tertiary establishments? Perhaps not.

On the world scene, there has recently been a proposal to release a number of hostages in Gaza and there are negotiations going on. But of course, one hears little of the Russia-Ukraine war in Mauritius, except perhaps on DSTV. Local politics reigns supreme on MBC’s JT; but to each man/woman his/her taste. I prefer to think of bigger issues through the perspective of History and thereby assess the progress made by nations. The UN does its best but are we not all accountable?

I heard a splendid speech recently from the National Winner of the English-Speaking Union’s Public Speaking Competition (from my old school RCC) who represented

Mauritius at the International Finals in London in May. My heart overflowed with pride and hope that our future was in good hands, if all our youths think like this young man.

As a laureate in 1966, I could never have made such a speech in English and I was far too Francophone and absorbed in Greek, Latin, French and English Literatures to take note of international affairs which we became acquainted with only through the BBC World Service. Here we now have a young generation able to argue for universal accountability à la Rousseau. So, since 1966, things have certainly moved on through exposure to social media and TV and growing knowledge. We are in good hands, but only so long as we continue to open their eyes and hearts to past role models such as Plato, Aristotle, Gandhi, and Mandela, Pitot and Flinders.

Where are the great men and women of today? This is a worrying void but then there are Greta Thunberg, and Nobel Prize winner for Peace, Narges Mohammadi. So perhaps a new generation of leaders is emerging, and so it will be in Mauritius. May be one day we shall have another Nobel Prize Winner for Literature to follow in the footsteps of Jean Marie Gustave Leclézio.

**\* Thomi Pitot, on the other hand, was nominated by General Decaen to form part of the island’s Conseil Colonial, and Secretary of the Conseil de Commune by Governor Farquhar when the island came under British rule. Wikipedia informs us that due to his collaborative approach, he was dubbed the “Béranger de l’île Maurice”. Any similarity with any character in today’s Mauritius may be purely coincidental, but would you know the justification for that nickname?**

In point of fact, the Béranger to whom Pitot was compared was the “chansonnier” Pierre Jean de Béranger, famous for his bucolic songs during the Napoleonic era (1780-1857). Thomi Pitot was himself a master at scripting songs and poems for special occasions such as birthdays, weddings, and anniversaries. I have included some examples of his poetry at the back of the book; Jacques Mallac, his colleague at the Table Ovale, wrote in his Obituary: “Thomi Pitot, rempli d’instruction, doué d’un jugement délicat, bon prosateur, poète agréable.” (*True Friendship*, p. 219)

It would be inappropriate and out of character for me who claims to be apolitical, to dare to compare our respected Paul Béranger to Thomi Pitot, but both are “bons prosateurs”, “bons discoureurs”, amateurs of local History and both have left their indelible mark on our country as leaders of the intelligentsia in their own right. Thomi was regarded by all Creoles, in the sense of being born on Isle de France, as their natural leader, and Governor Farquhar regarded him highly and worthy of being the Secretary of the “Conseil de Commune” from 1817 onwards.

The first British Governor attended his funeral at Pamplémousses Cemetery personally. Thomi Pitot was mourned by the entire population of Mauritius in 1821; like Flinders, Thomi had been incarcerated in the Bastille in 1796 before his return to Isle de France in 1797. So, he sympathised with Flinders at the Jardin Despeaux. May be, all those incarcerated, including Mr Béranger, in the 1970s would discover that they have something in common with Pitot and Flinders. I can only recommend that they peruse the book before writing their memoirs or autobiographies.

The full text is available online.  
Please consult: [www.mauritiustimes.com](http://www.mauritiustimes.com)



From the Pages of History - MT 60 Years Ago

6<sup>th</sup> Year No 256

MAURITIUS TIMES

Friday 10 July, 1959

• *Liberty means responsibility. That's why most people dread it. — George Bernard Shaw*

# Sir Hilary on Mauritius

By PMS

**S**ir Hilary Blood, our ex-Governor, has written a very interesting article in the last issue of the *Times British Colonies Review*, which was published on the 11th of June last. He says that nearly five years ago he had written, in the same paper, about the two main problems: constitutional development and overpopulation, which our country was facing.

Since then both problems have had careful and devoted attention from Mauritians and the Colonial Office. The new Five-Year Plan, re-oriented and fortified by the Luce Report: the introduction of the ministerial system and the first general elections held recently on the basis of universal suffrage - present now an appropriate moment to measure the progress made towards the solution of the problems which five years ago "seemed to be perverted to the extent of intractability."

After the 1948 general elections great difficulties were faced both by the UK, represented by the Governor who had the responsibility of good government, and the local leaders of the popular assembly into whose hands power was passing largely.

The voting power of the Legislature was reproduced in the Executive and Liaison Officers, embryonic ministers with no departmental responsibilities, were appointed. Universal suffrage was supported by Indo-Mauritians, strongly opposed by Franco-Mauritians, and luke-

warmly accepted by the General Population. The experiment of dividing this island into 40 constituencies with a view to securing as wide a sectional representation as possible was a success. And now "the minorities are learning that they, not the UK Govt, must pull their chestnuts out of the fire."

"*Le Cernéen*, at one time the scourge of the Indo-Mauritians and indeed of anyone from the Governor downwards who was not an ultra conservative" has become more conciliatory and the right-wing cry of "le danger hindou" is muted.

Consciously or unconsciously an all-Mauritian front is in the making and is gathering momentum. But the economic problem now is the greatest to be faced. 500,000 to 600,000 tons of sugar produced in the island provide modest social services to about the same number of inhabitants. The rapid increase in the population is decreasing the income per capita. The rate of increase in the population is faster than any country in the world except Singapore and Venezuela, both far wealthier and economically stronger than our country. In the period 1950-54 the birthrate was 44 - higher than anywhere in the world except Singapore and El Salvador. In 1942 the percentage of the population under 14 years was 14%; today it is 44%. 2 persons out of three are wholly dependent upon others which "is the lowest economically active proportion of the population recorded in the civilized world." 25 out of 100 unemployed persons are under 21 years of age, compared with UK's approximate of 8.



Sir Hilary Blood - Pic - Wikipedia

Sir Hilary appreciates that a Five-Year Plan has already been prepared designed to increase the national income. But it is only a short term one; in the long run the population will have to be limited. Emigration may help but it cannot be a solution as it tends to draw skilled workers who can be ill spared.

Family planning is an answer. In Barbados the government has successfully moved it, but in Mauritius it cannot as it is a delicate and controversial matter. Fortunately, a start has been made. A Family Planning Association formed on a voluntary basis has interested some private medical practitioners and is opening some clinics. It is assisted by the International Planned Parenthood Federation.

In conclusion, Sir Hilary hoped that the Ministers who have power now will attack the combined political and economic problems and will be helped by those they serve "joining to the last man in a struggle for the island's survival".

We are very thankful to Sir Hilary Blood for the keen interest he still takes

in our problems.

It is high time now to ask the authorities concerned what they have done during the past ten years or so since the Population Committee was appointed to investigate and report upon our overpopulation and economic problems.

As early as in 1954 the findings and recommendations of that Committee were published in the form of a Sessional Paper which dealt with most of the important questions raised by Sir Hilary.

It is most unfortunate that by neglecting these important problems, either voluntarily or involuntarily, both the Government and our political leaders, have been doing to this country a harm that will not be easily remedied.

Those into whose hands the destiny of this island rests must, boldly and with a marked degree of firmness, give their full and urgent attention to solve these problems, if they want to keep want, hunger, misery and chaos away from us.

## In the Civil Service

The following appointments to the Public Service during the week ended 2nd July 1959, are released by the Colonial Secretary's Office:

### PROMOTIONS

Mr A. Curpen, Senior Messenger, promoted Head Messenger.  
Mr K. Seegoolam, Messenger, promoted Senior Messenger.

### APPOINTMENTS

Dr G.M. Noel appointed Medical Officer.  
Mr M.Y.C. Lapierre appointed Junior Laboratory Assistant, Health Department.

Messrs C. M. Rawat and P. A. How Hang Sang appointed Temporary Meteorological Assistants Grade II, Meteorological Department.

Mr R. Savrimootoo appointed Temporary Overseer, P.W.D.  
Mr A. Noormamode appointed Temporary Messenger.

### ACTING APPOINTMENTS

Mr R. Ramsaha, Deputy Assistance Commissioner, to act as Assistance Commissioner, Public Assistance Dept.  
Mr H. M. Catherine, Public Assistance Supervisor, to act as Deputy Assistance Commissioner.  
Mr L. A. Melotte, Adjudicating Officer, to act as Public Assistance Supervisor.

## Arya Sabha Mauritius

The Managing Committee of the Arya Sabha, Mauritius, for the year 1959-60 has been constituted as follows:

Hon. S. Boolell, *President*  
Mr K. Ghurburrun, Bar at Law, *Vice President*  
Mr R. Deelchand, *Secretary*  
Mr H. Chooroomoney, *Assistant Secretary*  
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# Daily global temperature records keep breaking. It's a sign we're on a rapidly warming planet

Cont. from page 2

## 2. El Niño

The El Niño-Southern Oscillation climate cycle in the Pacific has the biggest natural influence on climate. That's because the Pacific is huge, accounting for 30% of Earth's surface. When in the El Niño phase, the seas off South America heat up. This, in turn, usually makes average global temperatures hotter.

Right now, there's a dangerous heatwave in Brazil, where heat and humidity combined makes it feel like 60°C. The intense heat contributed to the death of a fan at Taylor Swift's Rio concert last week.

El Niño will likely peak in the next two months. But its effects may well persist throughout 2024, driving global average temperatures higher by perhaps 0.15°C.

## 3. Antarctic Sea ice isn't bouncing back

The declines in Arctic Sea ice are well known. But now Antarctic Sea ice, too, is failing to recover. Normally, the ring of frozen seawater around the ice continent reaches maximum extent in September. But this year's maximum is well below any previous year.

As we enter summer, that means more dark water will be exposed. And since dark surfaces absorb more heat while white ones reflect it, it means still more heat will go into the oceans rather than back out to space.

## 4. Increased solar activity

Our Sun runs on a roughly 11-year cycle, going between lower and higher output. The solar maximum was forecast for 2025 and a clear increase is occurring this year. This brings spectacular auroras – even in the Southern Hemisphere, where residents have seen auroras as far inland as Ballarat, in Victoria.

Solar maximums add extra heat. But not much – the effect is only around 0.05°C, about a third of an El Niño.

## 5. The volcanic hangover

Normally, volcanic eruptions cool the planet, as their vast plumes of aerosols block sunlight. But the largest volcanic eruption this century near Tonga in January 2022 did the opposite.

That's because the Hunga Tonga-Hunga Ha'apai volcano was under the sea. Its explosive force evaporated vast volumes of seawater – and water vapour is a greenhouse gas. While some sceptics like to point to this eruption as the root cause of our recent spike in warming, the

Tonga eruption is a blip – it will add an estimated 0.035°C for about five years.

## 6. Cutting aerosol pollution

In 2020, new international shipping rules came into force, mandating low-sulphur fuels. This cut sulphur dioxide emissions by about 10%. That's good for health. But aerosols in the atmosphere can actually block heat. Cutting pollution may have added to warming. But again, the effect seems small, adding an estimated 0.05°C of warming by 2050.

### What should we take from this?

The climate is enormously complex. We should see the first day 2°C warmer than the same day in the pre-industrial period as a stark warning – but not as a sign to give up.

In short, this isn't a step change. It's a combination of factors which has driven this surge. Some of those, like El Niño, are cyclical and will switch back.

But as negotiators prepare for next week's COP28 climate talks, it's yet another sign that we cannot relent.



The earth is warming faster than scientists previously thought scientists say, and the window is closing to avoid catastrophic outcomes. Pic - CNN

We are – at last – seeing signs of real progress in the clean energy and clean transport roll out. This year, we may even see emissions from power generation finally peak and then begin to fall.

So – we haven't failed, yet. But we are on a rapidly warming planet – and we can now clearly see the effect, even in these new daily temperature records.

Andrew King, Senior Lecturer in Climate Science,  
The University of Melbourne

## Mauritius Times

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Thank you so much.  
Mauritius Times

## Bhojpuri Speaking Union

(Under the aegis of the  
Ministry of Arts and Cultural Heritage)

### Geet Gawai Utsav 2023

The Bhojpuri Speaking Union, under the aegis of the Ministry of Arts and Cultural Heritage, is organising a Special Geet Gawai Utsav to celebrate the 7th Commemorative Anniversary of its Inscription at the UNESCO as Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.

**Friday 1st December 2023 at 1.30 pm**  
**IGCIC, Phoenix**

The Bhojpuri Folk Songs of Mauritius – Geet Gawai was listed as the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity at UNESCO in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on 1st December 2016.

**All are welcome.**



## Acknowledging royal women's political power

The narratives we tell about the past often feature a cast of familiar main characters: kings and rulers, warriors and diplomats -- men who made laws and fought wars, who held power over others in their own lands and beyond. When women enter our stories, we rarely afford them much agency. But across the globe in a variety of societies, royal women found ways to advance the issues they cared about and advocate for the people important to them.

In a recent paper published in the 'Journal of Archaeological Research', anthropologist Paula Sabloff analyzes the archeological and written records of eight premodern states separated by both time and space, detailing ways that queen rulers and main wives took political action. Her comparative analysis reveals similar patterns in the societies despite the fact that they were isolated from one another.

Sabloff's analysis includes three types of regions: independent states or city-states (including the Mari Kingdom of Old Babylonia, 2000-1600 BC, and Protohistoric Hawai'i, AD 1570-1788); empires (Old



Royal women's political power. Pic - PressReader

Kingdom Egypt, 2686-2181 BC, Late Shang China, 1250-1046 BC, the Aztec Empire, AD 1440-1520, and the Inca Empire, AD 1460-1532); and states in regions that contained both states and empires (Late Classic Maya, AD 600-800, and Postclassic Zapotec, AD 1050-1500).

As Sabloff described in another recent paper, women were often used as bargaining chips, used to form strategic alliances between states through marriage. "Here are examples of, even when women were pawns in marriage, they still ended up with a lot of power," she says. She found remarkable similarities in the types of power that royal women used.

"Queen rulers held nearly the same political power as kings," she explains. "Main wives were active players in determining succession, governing the polity, building inter- and intrapolity alliances, and expanding or defending territory." These women also exerted influence by obligating courtiers and tradesmen through patron-client relationships, interceded on behalf of their relatives, and sometimes spied on or conspired against their royal husbands.

"Political agency wasn't just about waging war," says Sabloff. "It was about being able to influence policy, to influence who is on the throne. There were levels of agency, but hers was right behind his."



## What are tummy rumbles?

*The process of digestion actually starts before you eat anything! Tummy rumbles can too.*

There are a few different reasons for "tummy rumbles" or the (sometimes weird) noises your stomach makes.

For the most part, these are part of the normal workings of not only your stomach, but also your intestines. These are parts of your digestive system, which kicks into gear when you eat. It breaks down (digests) food and then the nutrients are absorbed by the body. Whatever is left comes out as poo (also called faeces).

Your entire digestive system (starting at your mouth and ending at the anus, or back opening of your bottom) is one hollow tube. It's a bit similar to the water pipes in a house, that can be empty, or have water flowing through them. Sometimes your digestive system is empty and the organs are hollow and sometimes there is food moving through it.

### When eating really starts

The process of digestion actually starts before you eat anything! When you see or smell or think about food (particularly food you like), your brain activates nerves that stimulate your digestive system, so it can prepare itself for food arriving.

The first step involves increasing saliva in your mouth (that "mouth watering" feeling). This is mixed with food and make it easier to chew and swallow.

Next, the cells in your stomach and intestines produce and release chemicals called enzymes to break down the food when it gets there. Your stomach starts moving in "waves" to mix all of those chemicals together.

This is where you might hear some noises. Air in your stomach can get



Shutterstock

trapped against the wall. When a wave comes through it can sound like a bubble popping, or make a gurgling or rumbling sound that you can hear and sometimes



Picture your digestive system like a long tube from your mouth to your bottom. Shutterstock

feel. The medical name for these is borborygmi (pronounced BOR-BUH-RIG-MAI).

### An empty stomach can be a noisier stomach

When your stomach is pretty empty and then liquid arrives from swallowed saliva, acid and enzymes, you can imagine it's going to slosh around and create some noise that can echo in there.

When you are hungry (and thinking about food) your stomach might "growl". While your stomach is waiting for food it's moving liquid around to get ready for it and creating pockets of air that get squashed, creating noises.

Further down your digestive tract, in the intestine, muscular waves push everything down the tube, making sure there is space for new food to arrive. This can also create noises.

### Then you eat something (hopefully) delicious

The food you eat moves through your stomach and slowly into the intestine, where similar mixing movements happen break it down in the body. Air (also called gas) in the intestine makes noise when it moves, like it did in the stomach.

Even though this noise can sometimes be annoying or embarrassing, and you would like it to go away, the mixing that happens in the intestine is important. It's how you get all of the nutrients (things like carbohydrates, fats, proteins, vitamins, minerals and more) from food.

The mixing (and the noises) mean food is mixing with the chemicals and breaking everything you've eaten down into small units, called molecules. Once these are small enough, the cells that line your intestine can take them in, a process called absorption.

Once the nutrients get into your blood stream, organs like your heart, lungs, brains and kidneys can use them to do their jobs in the body from pumping blood to breathing in air to telling the body what to do next.

### Should you worry about tummy noises?

These are the most common causes of tummy rumbles, but they can happen after you swallow air when you talk, drink or eat and it travels into your stomach or intestines.

The noises made by your digestive system are important – they mean it is working properly. However, if the noises come with any pain or diarrhoea it could be a sign of a food intolerance or other digestive issue and you should get it checked out.

**Andrea Stringer**

Associate professor, University of South Australia





After retirement, Col Sahab married a young 25 year old woman. Now he was spending less time with his friends. His concerned friends enquired if there was a problem.

"I'm eager to pass time with you all, but my young wife gets lonely when I'm away."

His friends advised him: Keep a young tenant at home, your wife will be happy in the company of a younger person.

Col Sahab promptly acted on their advice and leased a room in his big house to a young tenant

Now the friends were meeting more often. One day the friends jokingly asked: "How is your wife now?"

Col Sahab: "She is not lonely at all, in fact she is happy and the good news is that she is pregnant."

The friends laughed, as they expected this. "And how is the tenant?" they asked.

Col Sahab replied very soberly, "She is also pregnant..."

*Never underestimate a veteran!*  
\* \* \*

An elderly gentleman had serious hearing problems for a number of years. He went to the doctor and the doctor was able to have him fitted with a set of hearing aids that allowed the gentleman to hear 100%. The elderly gentleman went back in a month to the doctor and the doctor said, 'Your hearing is perfect. Your family must be really pleased that you can hear again.'

The gentleman replied, 'Oh, I haven't told my family yet. I just sit around and listen to the conversations. I've changed my will three times!'

\* \* \*

Two elderly gentlemen from a retirement centre were sitting on a bench under a tree when one turns to the other and says: 'Slim, I'm 83 years old now and I'm just full of aches and

pains. I know you're about my age. How do you feel?'

Slim says, 'I feel just like a newborn baby.'

'Really!? Like a newborn baby?'

'Yep. No hair, no teeth, and I think I just wet my pants.'

\* \* \*

An elderly couple had dinner at another couple's house, and after eating, the wives left the table and went into the kitchen.

The two gentlemen were talking, and one said, 'Last night we went out to a new restaurant and it was really great... I would recommend it very highly.'

The other man said, 'What is the name of the restaurant?'

The first man thought and thought and finally said, 'What is the name of that flower you give to someone you love? You know.... The one that's red and has thorns.'

'Do you mean a rose?'

'Yes, that's the one,' replied the man. He then turned towards the kitchen and yelled, 'Rose, what's the name of that restaurant we went to last night?'

\* \* \*

Hospital regulations require a wheelchair for patients being discharged.

However, while working as a student nurse, I found one elderly gentleman already dressed and sitting on the bed with a suitcase at his feet, who insisted he didn't need my help to leave the hospital.

After a chat about rules being rules, he reluctantly let me wheel him to the elevator.

On the way down I asked him if his wife was meeting him.

'I don't know,' he said. 'She's still upstairs in the bathroom changing out of her hospital gown.'

\* \* \*

Morris, an 82-year-old man, went to the doctor to get a physical check-up.

A few days later, the doctor saw Morris walking down the street with a gorgeous young woman on his arm.

A couple of days later, the doctor spoke to Morris and said, 'You're really doing great, aren't you?'

Morris replied, 'Just doing what you said, Doc: 'Get a hot mamma and be cheerful.'

The doctor said, 'I didn't say that... I said, 'You've got a heart murmur, be careful.'

\* \* \*

A little old man shuffled slowly into an ice cream parlour and pulled himself slowly, painfully, up onto a stool. After catching his breath, he ordered a banana split.

The waitress asked kindly, 'Crushed nuts?'

Crime is getting more and more organized 😞😞



"No problem, count on us," said Obama.

"And one more favour, please."

Yes," said Obama.

"Can you supply the condoms red in colour and at least ten inches long and four inches in diameter?"

"Don't worry."

And with that, he hung up and called the CEO of Durex. "I need a favour; you've got to make one million condoms asp and despatch them to Russia."

"Consider it done," said the boss of Durex.

"Great now, listen, they have to be red in colour, ten inches long and four inches wide."

"Okay, anything else?"

"Yes, print 'Made in USA - Medium Size' on each one," said Obama.

\* \* \*

A guy walks into a chemist shop with his nine-year old son. As they walk past the condom display, the kid asks, "What are these dad?"

"Those are called condoms, son, men use them for safe sex."

"Oh, I see, I think I've heard about them at school." He looks at a pack of three and asks, "Why are there three in this pack?"

"Those are for teenagers, son, one for Friday, one for Saturday and one for Sunday."

"Cool," says the boy. He notices a six-pack and asks, "Then who are these for?"

"Those for single men, two for Friday, two for Saturday and two for Sunday."

"Wow! Then who uses these?" asks the boy picking a twelve-pack.

With a sigh, his dad replies, "Those are for married men - one for January, one for February one for..."

\* \* \*

For past 26 years, my wife has been complaining about my not putting the cap back on the toothpaste.

This anniversary, I decided to change this bad habit and make my wife happy.

For a week, I was diligent, always capping the toothpaste.

I was expecting my wife to thank me, but she never did it.

Finally, yesterday while taking dinner, she turned and looked at me and said: "Why have you stopped brushing your teeth?"

*Marriage is a difficult relationship, I tell you.*

"Welcome back, sir. Are you planning on being our guest for one night only, or will this be your usual extended stay?"





## Ideas for Better Conversations Every Day



- 1. Active Listening:** Practise active listening by fully engaging in the conversation and showing genuine interest in what the other person is saying.
- 2. Nonverbal Communication:** Pay attention to nonverbal cues such as body language, gestures, and facial expressions to understand the full context of a conversation.
- 3. Avoid Assumptions:** Be mindful of making assumptions about others' thoughts or feelings without seeking clarification.
- 4. Embrace Silence:** Don't fear silence; it can provide space for reflection and encourage others to share more.
- 5. Mind Your Tone:** Be aware of your tone of voice, as it can greatly affect the interpretation of your message.
- 6. Constructive Feedback:** Provide feedback in a constructive and considerate manner to promote growth and improvement.
- 7. Ask Open-Ended Questions:** Encourage meaningful conversations by asking open-ended questions that require more than a simple yes or no response.
- 8. Empathy:** Cultivate empathy by trying to understand and share in the feelings of others.
- 9. Perspective-Taking:** Put yourself in the other person's shoes to gain a better understanding of their viewpoint.
- 10. Clear and Concise Communication:** Strive for clarity and conciseness in your communication to avoid misunderstandings.
- 11. Storytelling:** Utilize the power of storytelling to convey your message effectively and engage your audience.
- 12. Managing Conflict:** Learn how to manage conflict constructively and find resolutions that benefit both parties.
- 13. Negotiation Skills:** Develop negotiation skills to reach mutually satisfactory agreements in various aspects of life.
- 14. Adapt to Your Audience:** Tailor your communication style to the needs and preferences of your audience.
- 15. Practice Gratitude:** Express appreciation and gratitude to strengthen relationships and foster positive interactions.

These lessons from 'The Communication Book: 44 Ideas for Better Conversations Every Day' by Mikael Krogerus and Roman Tschäppeler emphasize the importance of effective communication skills, active listening, empathy, and adaptability in various aspects of life, from personal relationships to professional success.

**B**eing in a relationship with a hard-working man is not for everyone. This is why some women these days are interested in men with no life perspective.

Having a relationship with a hard-working man is to understand that he might not always be available for you.

You may think, there are times where he will not always seem invested in the relationship, but it's not the case at all, it's quite the opposite, he wakes up every morning and works hard every chance he can to create a stable future for you.

You need to understand there will be days where he will most likely be tired and he'll barely have time to take a shower and give you a kiss and head to bed to get some much-needed sleep to start it all over again the first thing in the morning.

Do not take this kind of man for granted.



## Do not take this kind of man for granted

He might come off a little rough around the edges because of his dirty callused hands and greased stained shirt, but this man will love you with a type of love you have never experienced before.

So here is to the hardworking men that are married to the woman of their dreams that get up every morning and work hard every day for their families in order to live a life they have always dreamed of.

## Thoughts to Live by

### We live with mysteries

**T**ruly, we live with mysteries too marvellous to be understood.

How grass can be nourishing in the mouths of the lambs. How rivers and stones are forever in allegiance with gravity while we ourselves dream of rising. How two hands touch, and the bonds will never be broken. How people come, from delight or the scars of damage, to the comfort of a poem.

Let me keep my distance, always, from those who think they have the answers.

Let me keep company always with those who say "Look!" and laugh in astonishment and bow their heads."

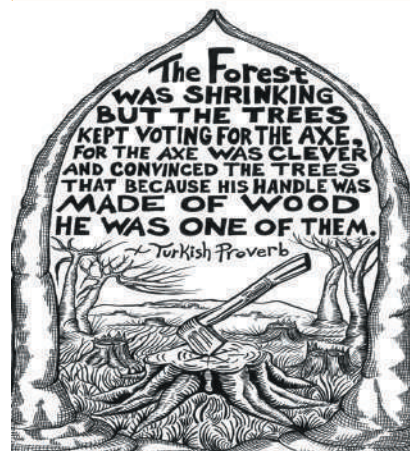
By Mary Oliver

\* \* \*

### "Auguries of Innocence"

To see a World in a Grain of Sand  
And a Heaven in a Wild Flower,  
Hold Infinity in the palm of your hand  
And Eternity in an hour.

A Robin Red breast in a Cage



Puts all Heaven in a Rage.  
A dove house fill'd with doves and pigeons  
Shudders Hell thro' all its regions.  
A Dog starv'd at his Master's Gate  
Predicts the ruin of the State.  
A Horse misus'd upon the Road  
Calls to Heaven for Human blood.  
Each outcry of the hunted Hare  
A fiber from the Brain does tear.

He who shall train the Horse to War  
Shall never pass the Polar Bar.  
The Beggar's Dog and Widow's Cat,  
Feed them and thou wilt grow fat.

The Gnat that sings his summer song  
Poison gets from Slander's tongue.  
The poison of the Snake and Newt  
Is the sweat of Envy's Foot.

A truth that's told with bad intent  
Beats all the Lies you can invent.  
It is right it should be so.

Man was made for Joy and Woe.  
And when this we rightly know  
Thro' the World we safely go.

Every Night and every Morn



Some to Misery are Born.  
Every Morn and every Night  
Some are Born to sweet delight.  
Some are Born to sweet delight,  
Some are Born to Endless Night.

By William Blake,  
Selected poems

\* \* \*

**B**oth light and shadow are the dance of Love.

Love has no cause; it is the astrolabe of God's secrets.

Lover and loving are inseparable and timeless.

Although I may try to describe love, when I experience it, I am speechless.

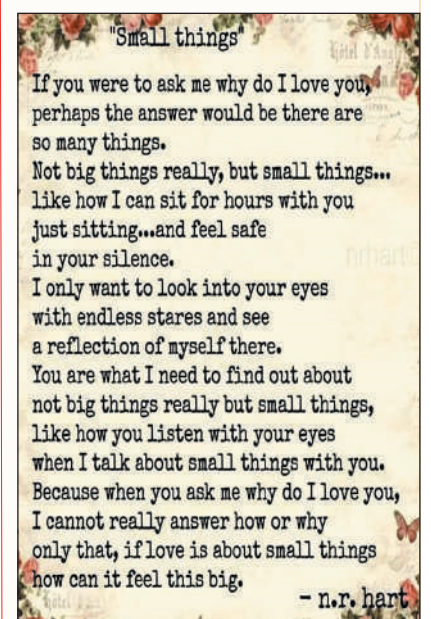
Although I may try to write about love, I am rendered helpless.

My pen breaks, and the paper slips away.

at the ineffable place where lover loving and loved are one.

By Rumi

Natalia Drepina Photography





## Health &amp; Balance

## Habits That Only Seem Healthy

Are these practices really good for you, or are they just myths? Carol DerSarkissian, MD, of WebMD shows you what's healthy and what's hype

**Cleanses:** Cleanses, sometimes called detoxes, involve fasting, drinking or eating only certain foods or drinks, or taking supplements or herbs in order to remove toxins from your body or lose weight. But they're more likely to cause harm than do good. There isn't much scientific evidence to back up their claims, and some programs can even be unsafe.

**Calorie Counting:** It seems to make sense: Eat fewer calories, and you'll lose weight. But not all calories are equal. Your body burns them differently, depending on the kind of food you eat, your metabolism, and even the type of organisms living in your gut. A more sustainable plan for a healthy weight: quality foods, exercise, good sleep, and a doctor's guidance.



**Daily Showers:** Turns out you can overclean your body. Washing with soap every day can strip your skin of protective oils, leaving it dry and more prone to infection. And if you're using antibacterial soap, that risk goes up further -- you can kill off the "good" bacteria on your skin and lower your immunity. Switch to three to four showers a week instead.

**Low-Fat Foods:** Low-fat doesn't always mean healthy. Often when you

subtract fat, you also cut fiber, protein, or amino acids from your diet while adding a lot of carbs. A better plan is to cut trans fats and saturated fats while keeping good fats from foods such as avocados, nuts and seeds, olive oil, and salmon in your diet.

**Vitamin C for Colds:** There's no doubt vitamin C is great for you. It's an antioxidant; builds skin, blood vessels, and bone; and helps wounds heal. But when it

comes to treating colds, there's no proof it cures symptoms. Keep it in your diet, but take it off your cold remedy list.

**Brushing After a Meal:** Healthy teeth and gums are vital to overall good health. But when it comes to brushing, be smart about timing. Wait at least an hour after eating -- especially if you eat acidic foods or drink soda. That gives your enamel time to harden back up before you brush.

**Taking a Daily Multivitamin:** While multivitamins aren't bad for you, they won't provide protection from heart disease, cancer, or mental decline. You'll get the same (or even better) nutritional benefit from a diet rich in fruits, vegetables, whole grains, and low-fat dairy.

**Antioxidant Supplements:** Your body needs antioxidants like vitamin C, vitamin E, and beta carotene to help fight off free radicals -- chemicals that can damage cells and genes. But antioxidants in supplements aren't the same as the ones you get from food. To do their best, these free-radical fighters need to work along with nutrients, plant chemicals, and other antioxidants.

## Subtle things women notice that men often overlook

Let's talk about first impressions. Specifically the kind you make on us ladies when we first meet you. Women size you up as soon as you say "hello." Yes -- it does go both ways. The funny thing is she might not even realize the mental checklist forming in her head. But make no mistake; she's ticking off good and bad boxes. And you know what they say about first impressions -- you only get to make one. So make yours count. This is a guest post from Megan over at Style Girlfriend -- visit her blog for more men's style advice from a woman's perspective.

Below are some visual and audio cues a woman immediately notices in man and how you can get it right.

### Your Shoes

**Why it matters:** If eyes are the window to the soul, then shoes are the window to your style. Wear the wrong ones, and you'll telegraph a less-than-ideal message. If they look flimsy, she'll suspect you're a cheapskate. If they're ratty and worn-down, she'll think you don't care about your appearance (and will wonder what else you don't care about)

**How to get it right:** Consider shoes an investment. Spend what you can on a few good pairs -- dress shoes in both black and brown, and a loafer or driving moccasin for more casual outfits. And be sure your shoes are outfit-appropriate -- that means no sneakers or sandals with a suit.

### Your Greeting

**Why it matters:** Why do you think it's so nerve-racking when contestants first get out of the limo on The Bachelor? And guys, don't pretend you haven't watched this addictive reality series at least once. It's because they only get a few words and gestures to make a good first impression. A greeting is the first opportunity to present yourself the way you want to be seen. Your handshake, smile and "hello" all contribute.



**How to get it right:** Be confident, but friendly. Don't look past us, or up and down our frame before you reach our face. Of course, if you can barely make eye contact from nerves, that's not very appealing either. Look us in the eye, smile warmly, and repeat our name (to help you remember it). And never underestimate the power of a firm handshake.

### Your Hands

**Why it matters:** Since we're already talking about handshakes, let's discuss the state of your skin. I know that "Moisturize" probably isn't high on your list of daily "To Do's." But rough hands are not something we ladies want to put up with. No one wants to touch scaly skin. Even if you think moisturizing isn't "manly," it's in your best interest to keep your skin smooth.

**How to get it right:** Keep a hand cream at your desk at work and use it when you're brainstorming your fantasy football lineup or trying to decide what to eat for lunch.

### Your "Look"

**Why it matters:** There are, of course, big fashion deal breakers guys (hopefully) know not to make. Showing up to a date in an "I'm with Stupid" t-shirt, for instance. Or walking into a business meeting wearing a Confederate flag biker jacket.

But usually, it's smaller things that can trip you up with a first impression. A sloppy, untucked shirt -- pants that

clearly haven't been pressed -- muddy, grass-stained shoes.

**How to get it right:** Do a full-mirror scan before you leave your house. Do you look put together? Is your hair combed? Your shoelaces tied? Does your belt match your shoes? A quick once-over will save you from little mistakes in a first impression.

### Your Watch

**Why it matters:** Women don't expect every man to flex a Rolex, but we do expect you to wear a man's -- not a kid's -- watch. No Mickey Mouse faces. No calculator watches. And nothing made of rubber if you're not running a marathon.

**How to get it right:** If it's time to upgrade your wrist wear, do a reconnaissance mission at your local department store's watch counter to see what strikes your fancy. You can't go wrong with a metal bracelet with a dark face, or a simple-yet-classic leather band with white face. Nothing showy, but nothing that suggests you won it in a carnival game either.

### Your Grammar

**Why it matters:** Even in the first exchange of "Hello's" and "Hi my name is" pleasantries, ladies are making judgments. We notice if you're using big words or not, if you say "umm," call us "dude" or "babe," and if your vocabulary is riddled with curses.

**How to get it right:** Read more books? We're not asking for ten-dollar words dropped into every sentence, but we want to feel confident that you can hold up your end of a conversation if we introduce you to our friends or family without fear of you embarrassing us.

### Your Hair

**Why it matters:** The way you wear your hair says a lot about you. A comb-over trying to cover up a bald patch -- you'll seem insecure. Greasy locks that look like they haven't been washed in days -- a total turn-off.

**How to get it right:** Women have different opinions on the "right" length of hair. What's more important is how it's styled. Or really, if it's styled at all. If you wear your hair longer, make sure it's in check when you walk out the door. A little -- not a lot -- of product is best. If you're going bald, just shave it off and rock a bare scalp without shame.





## Kareena Kapoor reveals why she lasted this long in Bollywood: 'I'm still hot'

KK made her Bollywood debut with *Refugee* in 2000. She was last seen in *Jaane Jaan*

In an interview with *The Dirty Magazine*, Kareena said that unlike other actors she can't "keep saying something or the other". She added that a person has to find their individuality.

Kareena said, "Now especially, actors have to keep saying something or the other. I can't. I just cut off. Otherwise, I wouldn't have lasted this long, I would have just wilted in this competition, this pressure, the comparison of this look and that look, now so-and-so's on the rise and I have to look young, so-and-so is doing this or that brand or is a global face. I can't. I'm done."

### Kareena says she's 'still hot'

"You have to find yourself, you know, find your individuality. Find that one thing you want to own about yourself and never lose it. Y'all are still saying that I should be on the cover of *Dirty*, na? That means there has to be something that's kept this chick going. I've still got it, I'm still hot," she added.

### About her Bollywood journey

Kareena made her Bollywood debut with *Refugee* in 2000. She also starred in *Kabhi Khushi Kabhie Gham*, *Chameli*, *Omkara*, *Jab We Met*, *Talaash*, *Udta Punjab*, *3 Idiots*, *Bodyguard*, *Bajrangi Bhaijaan*, *Veere Di Wedding* and *Laal Singh Chaddha*.

Kareena will be seen in *The Buckingham Murders* helmed by Hansal Mehta. It was recently premiered at the BFI London Film Festival. She will also be seen in *The Crew* alongside Tabu, Diljit Dosanjh and Kriti Sanon. It is all set to hit theatres on March 22, 2024.

Kareena made her OTT debut with filmmaker Sujoy Ghosh's *Jaane Jaan*, an adaptation of the Japanese novel 'Devotion of Suspect X'. It was released on Netflix on September 21. The film also features Vijay Varma and Jaideep Ahlawat.

## Bipasha Basu-John Abraham to Katrina Kaif-Ranbir Kapoor

5 Bollywood couples who broke up after living together

Many Bollywood couples have lived together before their wedding. In today's world, many couples prefer to live together before marriage and see how it is working before taking the plunge. Recently, Kareena Kapoor revealed that she was living-in with her now-husband Saif Ali Khan for five years and only tied the knot because they wanted to have kids.

Not all live-in relationships end up in marriage. Many Tinsel Town actors including Ranbir Kapoor-Katrina Kaif, Bipasha Basu-John Abraham, Saif Ali Khan-Rozza Catalano, split up after spending months and years in a live-in relationship.

Wondering which of your favorite celebs stayed with their partner but broke up? Read on!

### 1. Bipasha Basu & John Abraham

Bipasha Basu and John were one of the first couples who accepted that they were living together. The duo was reportedly in a live-in relationship for 9 years before they parted ways. On several occasions, Bipasha hinted that John Abraham's infidelity was the reason behind their breakup. However, John had turned down all rumours.

### 2. Saif Ali Khan & Rozza Catalano

Saif Ali Khan and Rozza Catalano were dating just after the *Phantom* actor parted ways with Amrita Singh and before he met Kareena Kapoor. Saif was living with Rozza and unlike Kareena, this relationship ended and the duo parted ways.

### 3. Lara Dutta & Kelly Dorji

While there are no confirmed reports, rumours were rife that Lara Dutta and Kelly Dorji were living together during Lara's modelling days. The relationship ended and the couple went their own paths after they dated for eight years.



### 4. Katrina Kaif & Ranbir Kapoor

Ranbir and Katrina dated after the former's breakup with Deepika Padukone. The *Tiger 3* actress lived with Ranbir and the duo shared an apartment in Bandra, according to reports. They broke up a few years later. Both are currently married, Ranbir tied the knot with Alia Bhatt, and Katrina is married to Vicky Kaushal.

### 5. Abhay Deol & Preeti Desai

Abhay Deol & Preeti Desai dated for a long time. They were in a live-in relationship and Abhay revealed the same on the talk show *India's Most Desirable*. However, they went their own ways and had a breakup.

Abhay had once spoken about his opinion of marriage and said, "Marriage, in my opinion, is a cultural phenomenon; nature does not command someone to marry. I may or may not marry, but I will settle down in a live-in relationship."

## Deepika Padukone opens up about navigating Bollywood's nepotism landscape

Looking back at her earlier days, the actress expressed pride in her well-travelled journey

In a recent interview with *Vogue* magazine, Deepika Padukone opened up about her journey in the film industry, reflecting on the challenges she faced as an outsider. Since her debut in Farah Khan's *"Om Shanti Om"* alongside Shah Rukh Khan, Padukone has taken bold steps to carve her niche in the industry.

Addressing the ongoing debate on nepotism in Bollywood, Padukone acknowledged that dealing with the pressures of being an outsider was an uphill task. "When you were an outsider 15 or 20 years ago, there was no other option," she shared. The actress highlighted the enduring nature of nepotism, emphasizing that it existed in the past, continues to exist, and will persist in the future. "That was my reality," she added.

Recalling her early days in the



industry, Padukone spoke about the myriad challenges she faced, not only professionally but also personally. As a teenager relocating to a new city without family or friends, she had to navigate the complexities of the

industry independently. Despite the difficulties, Padukone emphasized that she never perceived it as a burden at the time.

Looking back at her earlier days, the actress expressed pride in her well-travelled journey. In 2023, Deepika Padukone achieved significant success with two major films, *"Pathaan"* and *"Jawan."* While her role in the latter was brief, playing the wife and mother to Shah Rukh Khan's characters, she left a lasting impression in the Atlee directorial.

In 2024, Padukone is set to commence the year with Nag Ashwin's sci-fi thriller *"Kalki 2898 AD,"* featuring Amitabh Bachchan, Kamal Haasan, Prabhas, and Disha Patani. Additionally, she will join Rohit Shetty's cop-universe in *"Singham Again,"* portraying a fierce and intense cop named Shakti Shetty.



## New Serial: 'Pyar Ka Pehla Naam Radha Mohan'

# A Love Story that Dwells Big in Emotions and Intrigue



Zee TV's new launch *Pyar Ka Pehla Naam Radha Mohan* follows the path traversed by the channel's recent launches *Aggar Tum Na Hote* and *Tere Bina Jiya Jaye Naa* with respect to its intriguing concepts. The story plot which has a good dose of drama, has a driving edge of mystery and intrigue that pushes the viewers to keep glued to the show. In the case of the Prateek Sharma produced *Pyar Ka Pehla Naam Radha Mohan*, it is the presence of the spirit of the dead wife that keeps the intrigue angle open, reports IWMBuzz.com.

Again, this is totally not a concept that has never been seen in the entertainment field before. However, the treatment of the story plot deserves special mention. The modern-day love of Vrindavan's Radha Mohan seems to have gotten an intriguing twist with this plot.

Shabir Ahluwalia's return to TV in a new role after being the lead face of *Kumkum Bhagya* for years, should be a gratifying feeling for his fans!! The role too is quite complex wherein he plays a heartbroken husband and father, who has lost his wife and is forced to keep away from his daughter as she hates him. In this complicated life of Mohan enters Radha, who has accepted the fact that it was Mohan who resurrected her life post her mother's death, and that she belongs only to him. His words of wisdom and gift in the form of Bhagavad Gita given to her years back, have been inspirational in Radha's pious love for Mohan.

Neeharika Roy whose first big break as lead is with this show, is surely a talent to watch out for. Her sincere rendition of Radha has been engaging. She emotes well and the initial episodes have already proved that she can carry the role ably well on her shoulders. Neeharika has the innocence and spark that is needed to play Radha.

Another engaging and interesting angle to look forward to in the show is the father and daughter angle. Mohan can get rude at times, an emotion

that stems out of the frustration and humiliation that he is subjected to. Having said this, he is a very loving father who longs to lead a happy and normal life with his daughter.

The narrative has shown the presence of love between Mohan and his first wife Tulsi (Keerti Nagpure). However, there have also been scenes where they had parted ways owing to a problem, which was followed by the tragedy wherein Tulsi died amid the fire breakout. The daughter Gungun believes that her father killed her

mother. This will be where Radha will be the catalyst in ironing out the differences between father and daughter and bringing them closer.

Mohan has another girl in his life right now, that is Damini (Sambhabana Mohanty) who has been his business partner and is now going to become his life partner. However, the girl has always carried negative vibes for Mohan and Tulsi when they were together. We will not be surprised if she turns out to be the one who had ignited their problems.

The show carries the emotional chords of Mohan's agony, his love for the daughter and the selfless devotion of Radha towards Mohan, which will surely work well with the audiences. However, the big problem with the intrigue-based concepts of Zee TV in the recent past has been that the narrative is not able to flow continuously, keeping the intrigue element alive. After a period of time, the element of intrigue seems to have vanished in the earlier launches, which has given rise to a very predictable way of storytelling. We hope *Pyar Ka Pehla Naam Radha Mohan* has the curiosity element running for long, to keep the viewers glued to it.

The first few episodes of *Pyar Ka Pehla Naam Radha Mohan* have been high on emotions. The screenplay has been effectively good, complimenting the fast-paced story. The makers have come up with some great visuals of Govardhan, Vrindavan and Mathura, the very places which kindle the unique love of Radha and Krishna in a big way.

The show is certainly a decent watch, with good performances coming from the lead cast. Even though the concept and story plot is nothing new, the show dwells big on emotions and intriguing element.

IWMBuzz.com credit *Pyar Ka Pehla Naam Radha Mohan* with 3 stars out of 5.

## YOUR STARS

### Sagittarius: Nov 22 - Dec 21

Dive into some new reading, some research, or some studying. Your original ideas will be warmly appreciated throughout your career, but you need to make sure that you follow through on them. When it comes to understanding your own requirements and preferences, just a little amount of self-reflection can go a long way.

**Lucky Numbers:** 19, 20, 25, 31, 36, 39

### Capricorn: Dec 22 - Jan 19

Your work ethic and level of self-discipline are two of your most valuable attributes. However, do not let your aspirations to interfere with the quality of your personal life. Spend time with your loved ones. It is an excellent time to make investments from a financial perspective. When it comes to your health, you should prioritize activities that reduce stress.

**Lucky Numbers:** 2, 19, 24, 26, 33, 34

### Aquarius: Jan 20 - Feb 18

Never be hesitant to challenge the status quo in your professional life and think creatively. In intimate interactions, your authenticity and uniqueness will be valued, but it is important to remember to be attentive to the emotions of others around you. On a social level, you might discover that you're drawn to causes that benefit humanity.

**Lucky Numbers:** 1, 9, 14, 17, 25, 30

### Pisces: Feb 19 - Mar 20

Your creative mindset will help you find solutions to a lot of professional challenges. Be forthright and sincere about your emotions when it comes to love. Additionally, it's a great time to pursue artistic endeavours. Be careful not to become lost in daydreams; it is necessary to keep your feet on the ground.

**Lucky Numbers:** 2, 3, 7, 18, 20, 36

### Aries: Mar 21 - Apr 19

Your impulsive tendency can cause you to make decisions too quickly. Especially when you're dealing with matters on a professional level, exercise patience and think things through. Your energy and excitement will be contagious in personal interactions; yet it is important to remember to make room for the thoughts and emotions of the people you care about.

**Lucky Numbers:** 3, 25, 29, 36, 39, 40

### Taurus: Apr 20 - May 20

You are strongly urged to do an audit of both your financial plan and your typical spending patterns. At this point in time, it would be wise to do some long-term financial planning. You might find solace in the things that are already familiar to you in your private life; nevertheless, you shouldn't be afraid to open yourself up to new experiences.

**Lucky Numbers:** 1, 2, 5, 12, 14, 30

### Gemini: May 21 - June 20

You'll find that you have to bridge gaps not only in your business life but also in your personal life. Watch out for misunderstandings; maintaining clarity in your discourse is of the utmost importance. It's a perfect time to take up some new hobbies or skills because there are so many opportunities.

**Lucky Numbers:** 7, 9, 14, 28, 31, 36

### Cancer: June 21 - July 22

You should focus on striking a balance between your personal life and the professional goals you have set for yourself. There is a possibility that you will feel more emotional than normal; therefore, it is essential that you locate constructive ways to release your feelings. You should make an effort to spend quality time with close friends and family members.

**Lucky Numbers:** 4, 7, 15, 23, 26, 30

### Leo: July 23 - Aug 22

Your charisma is shining brighter than it ever has before. Utilize this to your advantage in your working life, since you are likely to make a fantastic impression on individuals who are important to you as a result of this. When you are in love, your romantic side is at its peak, and as a result, this is an excellent moment for you to make spectacular gestures.

**Lucky Numbers:** 8, 12, 16, 20, 31, 34

### Virgo: Aug 23 - Sept 22

Take action to improve oneself, whether it is through personal growth or professional advancement. At work, your attention to detail will be valued, but you shouldn't let yourself become preoccupied with the smallest of details all the time. Strive for open and honest communication in the context of your relationships.

**Lucky Numbers:** 9, 14, 15, 36, 37, 39

### Libra: Sept 23 - Oct 22

It's possible that you'll find yourself acting as a peacemaker in both your personal and professional relationships at some point. Always work to maintain a sense of equilibrium and fairness in all your interactions. You have a magnetic pull on the person you love, but in new relationships, it's important to delve deeper than what meets the eye.

**Lucky Numbers:** 7, 12, 15, 17, 20, 30

### Scorpion: 23 Oct - 21 Nov

You'll find that, in both your personal and professional lives, you're hungry for meaningful contacts with other people. Put your faith in your gut instinct but be careful not to let feelings of possessiveness or jealousy cloud your judgment. At work, you are very likely to make substantial headway on tasks that will take a long time.

**Lucky Numbers:** 1, 2, 13, 21, 23, 27

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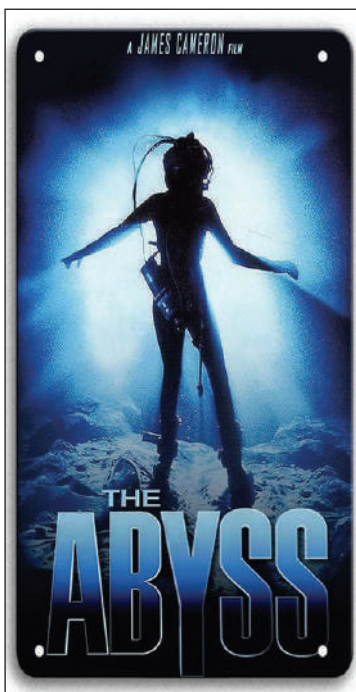




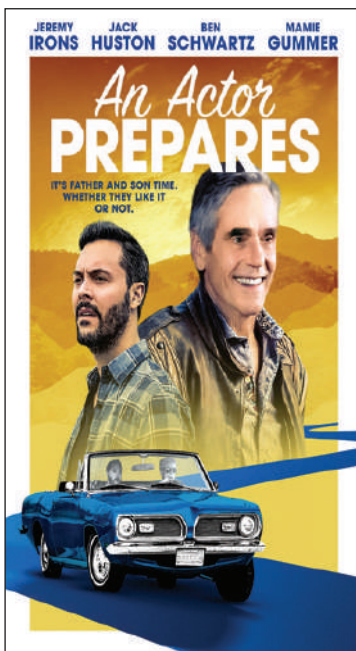
Vendredi 24 novembre - 21.22



Samedi 25 novembre - 20.30



dimanche 26 novembre - 20.30



# Programme TV



SERIAL



vendredi 24 novembre

## MBC 1

05.32 Tele: Imperio De Mentiras  
06.01 Serial: New Amsterdam  
07.00 Film: Borrowed Time  
09.30 Tele: Le Chemin Du Destin  
10.05 Tele: Amour Secret  
10.30 The Gardener's Daughter  
10.52 Tele: Marimar  
11.15 Tele: La Reina Del Flow  
12.00 Le Journal  
12.35 Tele: Barbarita  
13.25 Tele: Fierce Angel  
13.50 Tele: Imperio De Mentiras  
14.15 The Baker And The Beauty  
15.21 Film: Les Dents De La Mer  
17.30 The Gardener's Daughter  
18.31 Serial: Wagle Ki Duniya  
18.55 Serial: Mere Dad Ki Dulhan  
21.30 Film: Born To Be Blue  
23.03 Tele: Barbartia  
00.31 Tele: The Gardener's Daugh...  
00.53 Serial: Billions

## MBC 2

06.15 Local: Les Grandes Lignes  
07.45 Local: ONG An Eta Dalert  
09.33 Local: Radio Vision  
10.27 Local: J'ai Faim  
10.56 Local: Groove'in  
12.00 Rodrig: Li Bon Ou Konnin  
12.15 Local: Les Grandes Lignes  
14.31 Local: Nou Later Nou Lamer  
15.21 Local: Generations J  
15.45 Local: Groove'in Mama Jazz  
16.53 Local: La Sosiete  
18.04 Tele: Imperio De Mentiras  
18.29 Tele: Amour Secret  
19.47 Enn Semenn Dan Lafrik  
20.04 Local: Animalia Nos Amis...  
21.00 Local: Come On Let's Dance  
22.00 Local: La Sosiete  
23.00 Zournal Kreol  
23.20 Local: Voyage Au Feminin  
23.52 Local: Rodrig: Nou La Ter

## MBC 3

07.00 Serial: Gadget Guru Ganesha  
08.00 Local: Amrit Vaani  
08.14 Local: Bhajan Sandhya  
09.52 Serial: Agniphera  
11.30 Serial: Radha Krishna  
12.00 Film: Chakkar  
15.00 Live: Samachar  
15.30 Serial: Dulhin Uhe Jo Nanad Man Bhave  
16.00 Serial: Ishaaron Ishaaron...  
16.44 Serial: Bhakharwadi  
18.00 Live: Samachar  
18.30 Local: Mati Ke Mol  
19.02 Local: Khel Khiladi  
20.31 Serial: Vidrohi  
21.03 Film: Dil  
23.15 Serial: Jijaji Chhat Par Hain  
23.46 Serial: Yeh Teri Galiyan  
00.39 Local: Mati Ke Mol  
01.06 Local: Khel Khiladi

## Cine 12

06.03 Mag: SADC  
06.52 Mag: Japan Video Topics  
07.21 D.Anime: The Story Of Book  
09.32 Mag: Lab 360  
09.35 Film: Sissi  
11.16 Mag: Sand Tales  
12.18 Doc: Secret Des Plantes  
14.00 Mag: Tomorrow Today  
14.30 Mag: Kids' Planet  
14.52 D.Anime: Baby Einstein  
15.06 D.Anime: Petit Pingouin  
15.10 Idefix Et Les Irreductibles  
15.29 D.Anime: Go Astro Boy Go!  
15.34 D.Anime: Les Schtroumpfs  
15.46 D.Anime: Miraculous  
16.08 D.Anime: Rainbow Rangers  
16.30 D.Anime: Hunter X Hunter  
16.56 Serial: Sept Nains Et Moi  
17.15 Mag: Recipes For Kids  
17.20 Serial: Superstore  
17.39 Doc: World Capitals

## Bollywood TV

14.25 Serial: Radha Mohan  
15.00 Bade Acche Lagte Hai 2  
15.30 Film: Eena Meena Deeka  
Starring: Vinod Khanna, Rishi Kapoor, Juhi Chawla  
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  
21.01 Anupamaa  
21.30 Mere Sai  
22.01 Kismat Ki Lakiron Se  
22.31 Kabhi Kabhie Ittefaq Sey  
22.59 Serial: Shaurya Aur Anokhi Ki Kahani  
23.30 Film: Eena Meena Deeka  
Starring: Vinod Khanna, Rishi Kapoor, Juhi Chawla

samedi 25 novembre

04.13 Serial: The Inbetween  
04.59 Tele: La Beaute Du Diable  
06.30 Tele: Le Chemin Du Destin  
07.00 Serial: Pearson  
07.45 Serial: Seal Team  
08.30 Serial: Absentia  
09.15 Serial: Riviera  
09.59 Serial: S.W.A.T  
10.45 Serial: The Inbetween  
11.30 Tele: Le Chemin Du Destin  
12.00 Le Journal  
12.25 Serial: Madam Secretary  
13.15 Tele: Sublime Mensonge  
15.21 Film: Extortion  
18.00 Live: Samachar  
18.31 Dance India Dance Little Masters  
19.30 Le Journal  
20.30 Film: Abyss  
22.50 Serial: Under Pressure  
00.25 Tele: Missing Bride

06.17 Enn Semenn Dan Lafrik  
08.16 Local: Animalia Nos Amis...  
10.59 Local: Come On Let's Dance  
12.04 Rodrig: 13 Minit Natir Rodrig  
12.32 Local: Lir - Ekri Kreol  
13.00 Local: Voyage Au Feminin  
13.57 Local: Zanford Nou Pei  
15.00 Local: La Sosiete  
16.46 Local: Come On Let's Dance  
18.00 Tele: Gout De L'Amour  
19.00 Zournal Kreol  
19.20 Magazine De L'emploi  
21.40 Local: Glwar Dantan  
22.04 Rodrig - Klip Seleksion  
23.00 Zournal Kreol  
23.26 Local: Lavi Zoli An XXL  
23.46 Local: Saver Kiltirel  
00.24 Local: Rodrig Prog: Rod'Art  
00.47 Local: Son Ladan Mem  
01.05 Local: Mon Jardin Ma Maison  
01.51 Local: Les Petits Genies

07.00 Gadget Guru Ganesha  
08.00 Local: Hamar Fitness...  
10.10 Mag: DDI Mag  
10.55 Bade Acche Lagte Hai  
12.00 Serial: Dikri Vahalno Dariyo  
15.00 Live: Samachar  
15.30 Film: Aur Pappu Pass Ho Gaya  
Starring Krishna Abhishek, Narendra Bedi and K.K. Goswami  
18.00 Live: Samachar  
18.30 Local: Satrangi  
19.02 Duniya Mein Is Saptah  
19.17 Local Prod  
20.00 Local: Gata Rahe Mera Dil  
21.08 Film: Ram Shastra  
Starring Jackie Shroff, Manisha Koirala, Deepti Bhatnagar  
22.53 Local: Satrangi  
23.23 Local: Duniya Mein Is Saptah

06.24 D.Anime: Rainbow Rangers  
06.46 D.Anime: Sam Le Pompier  
07.05 D.Anime: Inspecteur Gadget  
09.35 D.Anime: Les Schtroumpfs  
09.59 Serial: Monster Hunt  
10.38 Mag: Sand Tales  
13.00 Doc: Cholitas  
14.30 D.Anime: Kids' Planet  
14.56 D.Anime: Baby Einstein  
15.07 D.Anime: Petit Pingouin  
15.10 Idefix Et Les Irreductibles  
15.37 D.Anime: Les Schtroumpfs  
16.11 D.Anime: Rainbow Rangers  
16.33 D.Anime: Hunter X Hunter  
17.18 Mag: Recipes For Kids  
17.20 Serial: Superstore  
17.41 Doc: World Capitals  
18.00 Mag: In Good Shape  
20.01 Tele: Le Chemin Du Destin  
20.30 Live: News  
20.50 Tele: La Reina Del Flow  
21.40 Film: Lost Highway

08.00 Kabhi Kabhie Ittefaq Sey  
10.00 Gadget Guru Ganesha  
10.18 Sasural Simar Ka 2  
12.15 Udaariyaan  
14.05 Anupamaa  
16.10 Kuch Rang Pyar Ke Aise..



18.31 Film: Hum Tumhare Hain Sanam  
Starring: Salman Khan, Shahrukh Khan, Madhuri Dixit  
21.20 Gadget Guru Ganesha  
21.32 Serial: Porus  
21.54 Serial: Crime Patrol

dimanche 26 novembre

02.10 Film: The Purge  
04.05 Tele: La Beaute Du Diable  
05.26 Tele: Le Chemin Du Destin  
05.55 Film: Abyss  
09.00 Film: Extortion  
10.50 Serial: F.B.I  
11.35 Tele: Le Chemin Du Destin  
12.00 Le Journal  
12.40 Film: Ride Lonesome  
14.05 Mag: Top 100 Famous...  
14.15 Serial: Scorpion  
15.00 Live: Samachar  
15.25 Film: Le Pic De Dante  
17.30 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: An Actor Prepares  
22.04 Serial: Under Pressure  
22.47 Tele: Missing Bride

06.00 Rodrig: D'Jam  
06.39 Local: Rodrig: Kot Nou  
07.05 Local: Saver Kiltirel  
07.28 Local: Pran Kont Ou Lasante  
08.54 Local: Les Petits Genies  
09.31 Local: Zanford Nou Zil  
11.06 Local: Nu Rasinn  
12.00 Local: Rodrig Prog: Rod'Art  
14.15 Local: Elle  
14.41 Local Prod: Lavi Zoli An XXL  
15.03 Local: Pause Cuisine  
17.34 Local: Glwar Dantan  
18.00 Tele: Gout De L'Amour  
19.00 Zournal Kreol  
19.20 Local: Elle  
20.00 Local: Tipa Tipa Nu Avance  
20.45 Local: Le Challenge  
21.56 Local: Rodrig: Sa Lavi-La  
22.55 La Journnee Sous Le Regard  
23.20 Local: Arsiv MBC - Fer Roule  
23.45 Rodrigues: Mangeons Veg

07.12 Film: Bal Ganesh 3  
07.58 Local: Hamar Fitness...  
12.02 Film: The Great Gambler  
Starring Amitabh Bachchan, Zeenat Aman, Neetu Singh  
14.59 Live: Samachar  
15.22 Local: Satrangi  
16.00 Special Programme  
17.00 Local: Ekta  
18.00 Live: Samachar  
18.29 Sayings Radha Krishna  
19.00 Local: Tohar Rashi  
19.29 Local: Tohar Farmaish  
20.28 Sayings Radha Krishna  
20.30 Serial: Porus  
21.10 Serial: Crime Patrol  
22.24 Serial: Bahubali  
23.03 Serial: Bhaag Na Bachhe Koi  
00.01 Local: Planet Bollywood  
00.27 Local: Tohar Rashi

06.46 D.Anime: Sam Le Pompier  
07.05 D.Anime: Inspecteur Gadget  
09.13 D.Anime: Miraculous  
09.53 Serial: Monster Hunt  
10.28 Mag: Sand Tales  
11.18 Doc: Dead Sea Guardians  
12.14 Doc: Les Mysteres Du Nil  
13.06 Doc: Albania's Last Trains  
14.57 D.Anime: Baby Einstein  
15.02 D.Anime: Tut! Tut!  
15.39 D.Anime: Les Schtroumpfs  
15.51 D.Anime: Miroculous  
16.12 D.Anime: Rainbow Rangers  
16.35 D.Anime: Hunter X Hunter  
17.22 Serial: Superstore  
17.43 Doc: World Capitals  
18.26 Foodland: Veggie Feasts  
18.35 Serial: Airwolf  
19.30 Mag: Arts Unveiled  
20.02 Tele: Le Chemin Du Destin  
21.42 Film: Pur-Sang

00.00 Sasural Simar Ka 2  
02.05 Udaariyaan  
04.00 Anupamaa  
06.06 Kuch Rang Pyar Ka Aise...  
07.46 Tenali Rama  
08.11 Patiala Babes  
10.02 Kundali Bhagya  
12.00 Bade Acche Lagte Hai 2  
14.00 Kismat Ki Lakiron Se  
16.00 Wagle Ki Duniya  
18.31 Film: Laddla  
Starring Sridevi Anil Kapoor, Raveena Tandon, Anupam Kher, Farida Jalal  
21.02 Serial: Tenali Rama  
21.20 Enter: Dance India Dance Little Masters  
22.15 Bade Acche Lagte Hai 2  
00.07 Serial: Patiala Babes  
02.07 Serial: Kundali Bhagya

lundi 27 novembre

06.00 Serial: New Amsterdam  
07.00 Film: Three Doors From Paradise  
08.55 Serial: Airwolf  
09.35 Tele: Le Chemin Du Destin  
10.00 Tele: Amour Secret  
10.30 The Gardener's Daughter  
10.48 Tele: Marimar  
11.16 Serial: La Reina Del Flow  
12.00 Le Journal  
12.25 Tele: Barbarita, Les Couleurs..  
13.15 Tele: Fierce Angel  
13.40 Tele: Imperio De Mentiras  
14.15 Serial: Airwolf  
15.20 Film: Secrets De Guerre  
17.30 The Gardener's Daughter  
18.30 Serial: Wagle Ki Duniya  
18.55 Serial: Mere Dad Ki Dulhan  
19.30 Le Journal  
20.25 Serial: Pearson  
21.15 Serial: Seal Team  
22.00 Serial: Treadstone

07.10 Local: Tipa Tipa Nu Avance  
09.37 Local: Elle  
10.45 Local: Le Challenge  
11.00 Local Prod: Les Klips  
12.02 Local: Nu Rasinn  
13.07 La Journnee Sous Legard...  
14.01 Local: Elle  
14.31 Arsiv MBC - Fer Roule  
15.18 Local: Tipa Tipa Nu Avance  
15.49 Local: En Forme  
16.03 Local: Les Klips  
17.10 Local: Radio Vision  
18.04 Tele: Imperio De Mentiras  
18.30 Tele: Amour Secret  
19.00 Zournal Kreol  
19.45 Local: Feminin Pluriel  
20.00 Local: Bricolo Ecolo  
21.19 Local: Radio Vision  
22.41 Local: Itinerer Moris  
22.55 La Journnee Sous Le Regard  
23.00 Zournal Kreol

07.00 Gadget Guru Ganesha  
08.04 Local: Planet Bollywood  
08.42 Local: Tohar Farmaish  
09.31 Local: MBC Prod  
10.00 Serial: Bahubali  
10.38 Bhaag Na Bachhe Koi  
11.36 Radha Krishna  
12.00 Film: Shiv Ganga  
Starring: Biswajeet, Ahalya, Dara Singh  
15.30 Dulhin Uhe Jo Nanad Man...  
16.00 Serial: Kundali Bhagya  
18.00 Live: Samachar  
18.35 Ved Ki Shikshayen  
19.04 Local: Ayush  
19.26 Local: Excerpts From Shiv Abhishek  
20.13 Local: Charcha  
20.37 Film: Ganga Dham  
Starring: Nameeta Chandra, Arun Govil, Shakti Kapoor

06.02 Mag: SADC  
07.21 D.Anime: The Story Of Book..  
09.30 Mag: Lab 360  
09.39 D.Anime: How To Train Your...  
09.59 Film: Raggie  
12.00 Doc: Guardians Of Nature  
13.45 Doc: Glacier Express  
14.30 D.Anime: Kid's Planet  
15.00 D.Anime: Tut! Tut!  
15.07 Les Aventures Du Petit...  
15.13 Idefix Et Les Irreductibles  
15.25 D.Anime: Go Astro Boy Go!  
15.37 D.Anime: Les Schtroumpfs  
15.49 D.Anime: Miraculous  
16.11 D.Anime: Rainbow Rangers  
16.37 D.Anime: Hunter X Hunter  
17.28 Mag: Recipes For Kids  
18.30 Mag: The 77 Percent  
19.02 Mag: Africa 54  
19.32 Mag: In Good Shape  
20.01 Tele: Le Chemin Du Destin  
21.41 Film: Chatter

14.25 Serial: Radha Mohan  
15.00 Serial: Bade Acche Lagte Hai 2  
15.30 Film: Amit Sahni Ki List  
Starring: Vir Das, Vega Tamotia, Anindita Nayar  
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  
21.32 Mere Sai  
22.04 Kismat Ki Lakiron Se  
22.29 Kabhi Kabhie Ittefaq Sey  
23.00 Serial: Shaurya Aur Anokhi Ki Kahani  
23.30 Film: Amit Sahni Ki List  
Starring: Vir Das, Vega Tamotia, Anindita Nayar





Mardi 28 novembre - 20.30



Mercredi 29 novembre - 21.15



Mercredi 29 novembre - 15.30



# Programme TV



	MBC 1	MBC 2	MBC 3	MBC 5	Bollywood TV
<b>mardi 28 novembre</b>	04.55 Tele: Amour Secret 05.18 Tele: Le Chemin Du Destin 07.15 Serial: Pearson 08.09 Serial: Seal Team 08.45 Serial: Absentia 09.30 Tele: Le Chemin Du Destin 10.05 Tele: Amour Secret 10.30 The Gardener's Daughter 10.50 Tele: L'Envers Du Paradis 11.15 Tele: La Reina Del Flow 12.00 Le Journal 12.25 Tele: Barbarita 13.15 Tele: Fierce Angel 13.45 Tele: Imperio De Mentiras 14.10 Serial: Gout De L'Amour 15.25 Film: An Actor Prepares 17.30 The Gardener's Daughter 17.59 Live: Samachar 18.31 Serial: Wagle Ki Duniya 20.30 Film: Chocolat 22.15 Tele: Barbarita	07.10 Business Connect 09.02 Rodrig Prog - Zenn Aktif 10.23 Local: Rodrig: Saver Lokal 11.07 Local: Le Rendez Vous 12.00 Rodrig: Feminin Pluriel 12.31 Local: Bricolo Ecolo 13.47 Rodrig Mo Pei - Kafe Rodrig 14.31 Local: Itinerer Moris 15.12 Rodrig Prog: Zenn Aktif 15.52 Le Rendez Vous Avec... 16.48 Local: Aktiv 18.08 Tele: Imperio De Mentiras 18.29 Tele: Amour Secret 19.00 Zournal Kreol 19.20 Le Magazine De L'Emploi... 19.48 Local: Son Ladan Mem 20.03 Local: ONG An Eta Dalert 21.30 Local: Radio Vision 22.27 Local: Mots & Ecrits 22.45 La Journee Sous Le Regard 23.20 Zournal Kreol	07.00 Serial: Gadget Guru Ganesha 09.39 Local: Charcha 10.03 Serial: Kundali Bhagya 12.02 Film: Tarana 14.59 Live: Samachar 15.30 Badki Malkaain 16.00 Jijaji Chhat Par Hain 17.28 Radha Krishna 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.36 Local: Tark Vitark 19.00 Local: Bhojpuri Dhamaka 19.30 Local: Hindi Sahitya... 20.00 Chikitsa Aur Swasthya 20.27 Film: Zinda Dil 22.38 Serial: Jijaji Chhat Par Hain 23.00 Serial: Yeh Teri Galiyan 23.47 Local: Tark Vitark 00.13 Local: Bhojpuri Dhamaka 01.35 Serial: Badki Malkaain 01.55 Local: Tark Vitark	06.03 Mag: Eco At Africa 08.46 D.Anime: Croco Doc 09.15 D.Anime: Wonder Grove 09.35 Film: The Christmas Trade 11.11 Mag: Sand Tales 13.00 Doc: Africa 54 13.29 Mag: In Good Shape 14.30 D.Anime: Kid's Planet 14.52 D.Anime: Baby Einstein 15.07 D.Anime: Petit Pingouin 15.25 D.Anime: Go Astro Boy Go! 15.40 D.Anime: Les Schtroumpfs 15.49 D.Anime: Miraculous... 16.10 D.Anime: Raindow Rangers 16.37 D.Anime: Hunter X Hunter 17.18 Mag: Recipes For Kids 17.41 Doc: World Capitals 18.05 Doc: Smoothie Mania 18.31 Mag: Healthy Living 19.31 Mag: Global Us 20.02 Tele: Le Chemin Du Destin	14.25 Serial: Radha Mohan 15.00 Bade Acche Lagte Hai 2 15.30 Film: Tere Naam Starring Salman Khan, Bhoomika Chawla, Mahima Chaudhry 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 21.30 Mere Sai 22.08 Kismat Ki Lakiron Se 22.29 Kabhi Kabhie Ittefaq Sey 22.55 Serial: Shaurya Aur Anokhi Ki Kahani 23.30 Film: Tere Naam 02.07 Kundali Bhagya
<b>mercredi 29 novembre</b>	06.01 Serial: New Amsterdam 07.00 Film: Chocolat 08.45 Serial: Airwolf 09.35 Tele: Le Chemin Du Destin 10.05 Tele: Amour Secret 10.25 The Gardener's Daughter 10.50 Tele: L'Envers Du Paradis 11.15 Tele: La Reina Del Flow 12.00 Le Journal 12.25 Tele: Barbarita 13.15 Tele: Fierce Angel 13.40 Tele: Imperio De Mentiras 14.15 Serial: Airwolf 15.30 Film: Ride Lonesome 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: Under Pressure 21.15 Film: La Momie 23.00 Tele: Barbarita	07.05 Local: ONG An Eta Dalert 09.00 Local: Rodrig Prog: Rod'Art 10.22 Local: Koze Zom 11.16 Local: Music Tour 2023 12.12 Rodrig: Plat Du Chef 12.42 Local: La Journee Sous Le... 13.06 Local: Priorite Sante 13.53 Local: Koze Zom 15.46 Local Glwar Dantan 16.25 Local: Mots & Ecrits 17.05 Local: Music Tour 2023 18.01 Tele: Imperio De Mentiras 18.28 Tele: Amour Secret 19.00 Zournal Kreol 19.20 Le Magazine De L'Emploi... 20.00 Mon Jardin Ma Maison 20.30 Local: Toc Toc Doc 21.11 Local: Agir Ensemble 21.26 Local: Les Klips 22.50 La Journee Sous Le Regard 00.12 Rodrig: Pran Kont Ou Lasante	07.00 Serial: Gadget Guru Ganesha 08.26 Local: Bhojpuri Dhamaka 08.56 Prakriti Ki God Mein 09.23 Chikitsa Aur Swasthya 10.00 Serial: Jijaji Chhat Par Hain 11.15 Serial: Radha Krishna 12.00 Film: Taqdeer Starring: Bharat Bhushan, Shalini, Farida Jalal 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 18.39 Local: Yatra South 19.00 Local: Kala 19.37 Local: Zindagi Ka Safar 20.02 Local: Virasat 20.32 Film: Gawanwa Leja Rajaji 22.35 Serial: Jijaji Chhat Par Hain 22.57 Serial: Yeh Teri Galiyan	06.26 Mag: Made In Germany 07.22 D.Anime: The Story Of Book... 09.32 Mag: Lab 360 09.57 Film: Dragon 11.38 Mag: Sad Tales 13.34 Mag: Made In Germany 14.30 D.Anime: Kid's Planet 16.36 D.Anime: Hunter X Hunter 16.55 Serial: Sept Nains Et Moi 17.28 Mag: Recipes For Kids 17.30 Serial: Superstore 18.12 Doc: World Capitals 18.20 Doc: Smoothie Mania 18.30 Doc: Urdan Forests 18.58 Doc: Fine Arts Sculptures 19.00 Mag: Arts Unveiled 19.30 Mag: The Inside Story 20.00 Tele: Le Chemin Du Destin 20.30 Live: News 21.45 Film: Lost Highway 23.57 Mag: Close Up	14.25 Radha Mohan 14.58 Bade Acche Lagte Hai 2 15.15 Film: Himmat Starring: Sunny Deol, Tabu, Shilpa Shetty 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 23.00 Serial: Shaurya Aur Anokhi Ki Kahani 23.26 Film: Himmat 02.11 Serial: Kundali Bhagya 02.33 Serial: Udaariyaan
<b>jeudi 30 novembre</b>	04.50 The Gardener's Daughter 05.12 Tele: Amour Secret 07.15 Serial: The Good Doctor 08.09 Serial: Under Pressure 08.45 Serial: Riviera 09.30 Tele: Le Chemin Du Destin 10.05 Tele: Amour Secret 10.30 The Gardener's Daughter 10.50 Tele: L'Envers Du Paradis 11.15 Serial: Timeless 12.00 Le Journal 12.25 Tele: Barbarita 13.15 Tele: Fierce Angel 13.40 Tele: Imperio De Mentiras 14.05 Tele: Gout De L'Amour 15.25 Film: Almost Christmas 17.15 The Gardener's Daughter 17.59 Live: Samachar 18.31 Serial: Wagle Ki Duniya 18.55 Serial: Mere Dad Ki Dulhan 20.30 Film: Milenge Milenge Starring : Shahid Kapoor, K. Kapoor	08.04 Rodrig Prog: Kot Nou 08.54 Local: Proze Dime 10.29 Rodrig Prog: Komanter 12.00 Local: Rodrig Spor 15.00 Rodrig: Pran Kont Ou Lasante 15.19 Local: Rodrig - Komanter 16.30 Le Journee Sous Le Regard 16.36 Local: Aktiv 18.00 Tele: Imperio De Mentiras 18.33 Tele: Amour Secret 19.00 Zournal Kreol 19.30 Rodrig: Li Bon OU Konin 20.00 Local: Les Grandes Lignes 20.30 Emotion En Avant Plan 21.00 Local: Radio Vision 23.20 La Journee Sous Le Regard 23.25 Rodrig: Sa Lavi-La 00.17 Local: ONG An Eta Dalert 00.31 Rodrig: Klip Seleksion 01.22 Local: Generations J	07.00 Gadget Guru Ganesha 07.12 Serial: Kisna 07.36 Serial: Lambu G Tingu G 09.35 Local: Gyan Vigyan 10.01 Serial: Suhani Si Ek Ladki 11.14 Serial: Radha Krishna 12.00 Film: Sun Meri Laila Starring: Birbal Deepika, Chikhalia Iftekhar 15.30 Serial: Badki Malkaain 15.58 Serial: Agniphera 17.31 Radha Krishna 18.45 Talk By Mahamandleshwar 19.02 Satguru Kabir Ke Gyan 20.00 Local: Hunarbaaz 20.28 Mag: Dharam Yatra 21.28 Mag: Dev Bhumi 21.59 Serial: Jijaji Chhat Par Hain 22.20 Serial: Yeh Teri Galiyan 23.07 Local: Amrit Vaani 23.31 Satguru Kabir Ke Gyan	07.27 D.Anime: The Story Of Bookworm Gogo 09.41 Film: An Elf's Story 10.00 Film: Nicolas Noël 11.25 Doc: Smoothie Mania 12.00 Doc: Urban Forests 13.53 Doc: SOS Amazon 14.40 D.Anime: Kid's Planet 15.05 D.Anime: Tut! Tut! 15.12 D.Anime: Petit Pingouin 16.41 D.Anime: Hunter X Hunter 17.28 Mag: Recipes For Kids 17.30 Serial: Superstore 18.12 Doc: World Capitals 18.20 Doc: Smoothie Mania 18.30 Mag: Shift 19.00 Mag: Border Crossing 19.30 Mag: Tomorrow Today 20.00 Tele: Le Chemin Du Destin 21.40 Film: Dr Strange Love Avec Peter Sellers, George C. Scott	14.25 Radha Mohan 15.14 Film: Kaalia Stars: Amitabh Bachchan, Parveen Babi, Asha Parekh 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 Shaurya Aur Anokhi Ki Kahani 23.30 Film: Kaalia Stars: Amitabh Bachchan, Parveen Babi, Asha Parekh 02.12 Kundali Bhagya

**BTV** Jeudi 30 novembre - 15.28 Stars: Amitabh Bachchan, Parveen Babi, Asha Parekh

**MBC 1** Jeudi 30 novembre - 20.30 Stars: Shahid Kapoor, K. Kapoor







Nita Chicooree-Mercier

C'est au moment de la disparition d'une personnalité qui a eu une influence importante dans le cercle intellectuel et qui a laissé ses empreintes dans le paysage culturel et linguistique que nous nous rendons compte du vide

qu'il laisse derrière lui, et que chaque époque traduit les aspirations et un courant de pensée qui traverse la société à travers une ou des personnalités.

C'est par voie de presse que nous découvrons une interview de Dev Virahsawmy peu avant sa disparition.

*Zeneral Makbef*, jouée sur la scène du Plaza à Rose-Hill, fut une première rencontre avec une pièce de Shakespeare traduite en kreol et rendue accessible au public dans son ensemble. De passage dans l'île, l'auteur de ces lignes profita de l'occasion pour assister à la représentation.

C'est un travail immense de traduction que le chanteur du kreol avait entrepris pour réaliser une telle œuvre, et que les artistes locaux ont, ensuite, porté sur scène avec talent. Dès la première scène des sorcières, la version kreol ponctuée de mots en bhojpuri fut un délice. C'est sans doute l'aboutissement d'un courant culturel et linguistique initié par certaines figures de gauche, des décennies plus tôt, comme Asgarally et d'autres qui gravitaient dans le giron du MMM.

Prose poétique en kreol? D'après l'interview, Dev semble en déplorer l'absence dans les textes des chansons locales, où les paroles reflètent la langue parlée de tous les jours. Certes, on n'y trouve pas une pléthore de métaphores ni de rimes, d'assonances et d'allitérations qui pourraient produire une sonorité plus harmonieuse et musicale à l'exception de quelques textes, comme ceux de Cassiya. On ne sait si le kreol s'y prête vraiment à une expression poétique. Ou alors, il faut laisser du temps au kreol de s'affiner dans d'autres formes d'expression artistique et, aux gens aussi, le temps d'apprécier.

De nombreuses personnes sont surtout réceptives à la poésie que les chansons en hindi offrent en abondance. Fidèle à ses convictions, Dev, quant à lui, ne s'est pas privé de produire des textes en kreol que les lecteurs ont découvert au fur et à mesure dans la presse. Plus tard, lorsque la fièvre du consumérisme et le désir du paraître se mettront en retrait et que la culture prendra une place qu'elle mérite dans la vie des gens, les textes de Dev Virahsawmy seront étudiés et appréciés à leur juste valeur.

Tout libre penseur s'intéresse à un éventail de sujets d'intérêt public. Même si, dans cette colonne, une certaine divergence de vues s'est exprimée quant aux points de vue de Dev, notamment sur la politique en Inde et le Premier ministre indien, il convient de saluer la liberté de s'exprimer et son engagement dans le domaine culturel et linguistique. Nous ne le remercierons jamais assez pour avoir mis Macbeth aux couleurs locales. Dev est désormais libéré de ses souffrances

# Parole en liberté



Ancien politicien, enseignant, poète et défenseur du kreol morisien: Dev Virahsawmy avec Gérard Sullivan. P - 5-Plus Dimanche

scrutin d'une élection partielle se déroula selon les attentes d'un public qui trouvait longue la traversée d'un tunnel dans les années 70. Un vote sanction contre le gouvernement de l'époque contre lequel le public déversa toute sa frustration d'une économie au ralenti.

La jeune génération des adolescents s'identifia à ces nouveaux venus dans le paysage politique. Rebelles, adeptes de changement, ils se retrouvaient dans le dynamisme et le discours défiant de ces jeunes politiciens venus des villes. Les drapeaux mauves flottaient partout.

Si le parti rouge récupéra la loyauté de ses partisans plus tard, une partie de son électorat traditionnel lui a tourné le dos pour de bon, et cela bien que le symbole même de ce coup d'épée dans le bassin électoral prit ses distances avec la politique.

\* \* \*

La production des chansons en kreol à Maurice a été très dynamique comparée à d'autres îles marquées par une évolution socioculturelle similaire. De même, le système éducatif était bien en avance sur d'autres petites contrées et les pays du continent africain. C'est un facteur non négligeable qui a favorisé l'embauche des Mauriciens à l'étranger.

Il faut reconnaître que l'indépendance politique de Maurice laissa libre cours à l'expression artistique et la créativité en kreol ne se fit pas prier pour se manifester contrairement à l'île voisine où l'assimilation à la française voyait d'un œil malveillant toute expression soupçonnée d'être subversive, tandis qu'aux Seychelles un régime communiste mit une chape de plomb sur l'expression libre et Madagascar lui emboîta le pas.

Ce n'était guère brillant dans le domaine de la chanson dans les îles britanniques postcoloniales aux Antilles. Cependant, la Barbade et Trinidad ont produit des écrivains en langue anglaise de renommée internationale, ce que Maurice n'a pas réussi jusqu'à présent. Haïti se démarqua à une époque par une production abondante et de qualité des œuvres en français, et que le kreol haïtien, similaire à celui de Maurice, s'est libéré dans la création artistique malgré les malheurs infinis qui freinent le développement de l'île.

manière de traduire la réalité et le vécu des gens ordinaires. Dans les milieux qui peinaient à joindre les deux bouts, il n'est pas surprenant que la recherche d'une expression plus poétique n'a pas été une priorité. La production en bhojpuri a fait florès à travers l'île, et le Geet Gawai continue à être créatif et s'ajoute à l'énorme production en hindi venant de l'Inde et continue à enchanter par ses mélodies de nombreux Mauriciens.

La production des œuvres littéraires en français à Maurice est remarquable aussi. Plus axé sur les ouvrages de réflexion et l'histoire, l'anglais est moins présent dans le paysage purement littéraire. Cependant, c'est en anglais, que ce soit roman, best-sellers et autres, que la plupart des Mauriciens continuent à lire, et ce, malgré une production locale abondante en français.

Saluons au passage la rencontre littéraire organisée à Trou d'Eau Douce récemment, qui a réuni des écrivains d'autres pays et d'autres langues. C'est tout à l'honneur de l'écrivain qui prit l'initiative d'organiser un tel événement.

C'est dans les milieux aisés, aristocrates et haute bourgeoisie, que les inventions scientifiques et les grandes créations littéraires ont lieu dans de nombreux pays. Ces milieux ont le privilège d'avoir eu une génération de parents qui leur ont assuré un niveau de vie élevé à la naissance, ce qui permet de consacrer du temps aux choses de l'esprit.

D'autres, surtout dans les îles, ont consacré plus d'énergie à faire bouillir la marmite dans les chaumières, à assurer une éducation pour leurs enfants et économiser pour s'acheter un lopin de terre tant bien que mal.

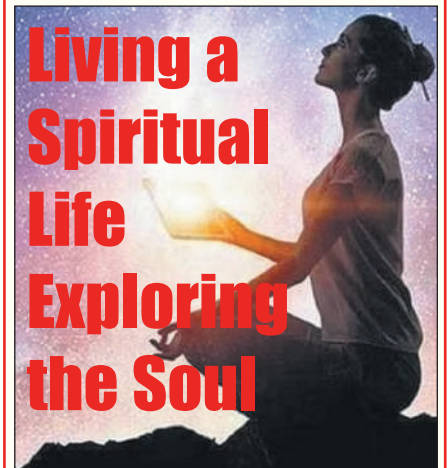
Les considérations matérielles restent un frein au loisir de laisser épanouir un potentiel créatif et inventif. Néanmoins, nous constatons que le pays regorge de talents qui méritent d'être exploités localement et à l'étranger, dans divers domaines, dans la science, le monde des entreprises, l'art, le théâtre, la chanson et l'expression littéraire.

Un pays dans son ensemble ne peut évoluer que si les figures prééminentes dans ces domaines sont portées à la connaissance du public à travers la télévision nationale, ce qui n'est pas le cas actuellement où la rengaine politique conserve jalousement ce monopole.



Tree of Knowledge

Madisyn Taylor



Remembering who we really are is the first step in awakening to our spiritual path.

Throughout the journey from birth to death, many people choose to question life, strive for improvement, seek out knowledge, and search for the divine. Simply put, this is the essence of spirituality. One's spiritual practice can take on many forms, because embracing the spiritual is a very personal pursuit. While many people do relate their spirituality to a God or Goddess, this quest for the divine, or oneness with the universe, always springs from within. It doesn't matter where you find your spiritual path. We are all fundamentally spiritual beings and the essence of that lies in knowing one's true self and finding a peace that comes from within rather than the outside world. It is in remembering this that we awaken to our personal path.

The spiritual path springs forth from a daily routine that reaffirms our personal connection with a purpose or a way of life. Practicing compassion, gratitude, appreciation, forgiveness, generosity, meditation, and taking care of one's wellbeing can all be a part of one's spiritual life. If you are new to exploring your personal spirituality, remember that this is a process. You may want to spend a few moments each day giving yourself a spiritual gift. Try a new form of meditation, visit a sanctuary, or explore a specific deity.

Accepting the importance of spirituality can be a healthy decision, because a spiritual practice tends to include habits that promote healthy living. Take the time to carefully determine the action, thought, and ritual that most speaks to your soul. Remember that your most profound spiritual experiences may also come from the simple intricacies that make up your life. See the interconnectedness of all things. As you explore your "inner work," you will be walking your spiritual path and feeling your oneness with the universe.