

# MAURITIUS TIMES

• "Men are more often bribed by their loyalties and ambitions than by money." — Robert H. Jackson

David Snoxell, Coordinator - The Chagos Islands  
All-Party Parliamentary Group

## Chagos: "Negotiations, supported by the US and India, continue with Mauritius"



• 'A lease agreement over the Diego Garcia base area may not provide sufficient confidence to the UK and US since a lease could be set aside by a future government'

P9

### Opinion

Prix des carburants

## La baisse du prix de l'essence, une pomme de discorde



Prakash Neerhoo P 6

### Eclairages

Indice mondial de la corruption 2023

## Les Seychelles, avec un score de 71, devancent Maurice (51)



A. Bartleby P4

### Breakfast with Bwana

## A Confluence of Elections: Does Democracy End Here?



Anil Madan P 7

### Opinion

## Rebuilding of Ram Mandir: Welcome to Kalchakra



Dr R. Neerunjun Gopee P 3

Reflections on the 189th Anniversary of Slavery Abolition

# A Renewed Call for Social Justice

**A**s Mauritius has commemorated the 189th anniversary of the abolition of slavery this week, it is imperative to reflect on the strides made towards truth and justice. The establishment of the Truth and Justice Commission (TJC) in April 2008 marked a significant step in investigating the historical injustices of slavery and indentured labour during colonial times. It's worth remembering that the institution of the Commission itself upset some quarters, as confirmed by historian Vijaya Teelock, who was one of its members.

In an earlier interview to this paper, she stated: 'We cannot reverse history, but we could at least have started implementing recommendations had the Truth and Justice Commission continued to carry on its work. But it was clear we had upset many people, and many wanted it shut down as soon as possible at the time. The proof is the almost immediate closure of access by public to the documents they require to build up their case. Who gave the orders at that time to shut down and block access and not even submit all 6 reports to the National Assembly? Why were the 100 copies printed never distributed to the public libraries and other institutions?'

Nevertheless, the TJC's report prompted discussions on the actions the government should take in response to its recommendations. While the report is voluminous and warrants careful examination, there was a collective hope that implementable measures would be pursued, particularly those aimed at improving the lives of those affected.

Acknowledging that not all recommendations may to this day be practical to implement, the government's focus on actionable items that can make a tangible difference is crucial. Already, steps have been taken in line with some of the Commission's suggestions. The introduction of the Equal Opportunities Act has been a significant stride towards fostering fair social justice in Mauritius.

However, the expectation of monetary compensations for descendants of slaves has been met with complexities. The Commission unearthed evidence of atrocities committed by the Church, the Chamber of Commerce, and the sugar industry, calling for public apologies. Yet, the response has been hesitant, with representatives using spokespersons to address the issue. The Commission refrained from recommending direct monetary compensations due to identification challenges in tracing descendants. While acknowledging the impracticality of pinpointing guilty parties, it empha-

sized the enduring moral and physical damage inflicted by historical slavery and indentured labour practices.

The Commission extended its call for justice to the colonial governments of Holland, France, and Britain, urging them to apologize for their roles in perpetuating inhuman practices. Importantly, these countries were also urged to provide material support for initiatives that directly enhance living conditions and social opportunities for the descendants of slaves and indentured labourers in Mauritius. This aligns with the broader goal of implementing a system of "social justice for all."

The task of restoring decent living conditions to affected communities necessitates empowering them through various means. This involves improved housing conditions and access to specialized technical training, and the contributions of some government agencies remain pivotal in translating these recommendations into tangible actions that uplift the socio-economic status of those historically marginalized.

One glaring issue highlighted by the Commission is and remains to this day the absence of dedicated leadership, particularly at the grassroots level. Leadership, extending beyond the political or ecclesiastical realms, must permeate the family unit, serving as the nucleus for cultivating enduring values. The family's role in shaping the future, guiding children purposefully and instilling discipline has to be emphasized. While government influence is indirect at this micro-level, individuals' direct efforts become essential for societal development.

Challenges persist, and some affected communities face obstacles in overcoming the lingering effects of historical exploitation. The need for a dedicated leadership that transcends political and ecclesiastical spheres is as valid today as ever. Families must serve as bastions of support, guiding the new generation towards a future where barriers are broken. A micro-level focus on adaptation and self-improvement is crucial for development.

As Mauritius reflects on the 189th anniversary of slavery abolition, the Truth, and Justice Commission's report, which brought to light the enduring impact of historical injustices, has to be revisited. Its call for truth, justice, and social empowerment resonates not only with affected communities but with the broader vision of a Mauritius that embraces social justice for all. It is through tangible actions, focused leadership, and an unwavering commitment to uplift marginalized communities that the island nation can truly embody well-being and prosperity for all its citizens.

Socratic Dialogue

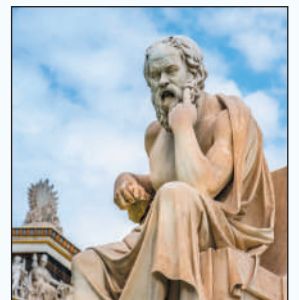
## The Prime Minister's Dilemma

Plutonix

**I**n the corridors of philosophical discourse, Socrates, the venerable philosopher, and his joyous companion, Cephalus, a wealthy and retired old businessman, engage in a dialogue that transcends the bounds of ancient Athens, finding resonance in the contemporary political turmoil of Mauritius. The whispers of political turbulence have reached the ears of the venerable Socrates, prompting an inquiry into the choices facing the Prime Minister as the spectre of upcoming elections looms.

This philosophical exploration delves into the intricacies of political strategy, ethical considerations, and the challenges faced by the Prime Minister. It unfolds against the backdrop of a nation grappling with discontent and a leader navigating the delicate balance between governance and the pursuit of power. As the dialogue unfolds, the eternal questions of ethics, wisdom, and the pursuit of justice emerge, casting a discerning eye on the complexities of political leadership, especially in an election year. It's like watching a philosophical fireworks display where the sparks of truth and the explosions of political manoeuvring light up the night sky of governance.

**Socrates:** Greetings, Cephalus. I have heard whispers of political turbulence in our dear Mauritius. Tell me, what is this talk of the Prime Minister's choices regarding the upcoming elections?



**Cephalus:** Ah, Socrates, my wise friend! Indeed, the political winds blow with uncertainty. The Prime Minister, holding the power to call for elections, faces a dilemma. The recent floods have cast shadows upon his government's image.

**Socrates:** A dilemma, you say? Pray, enlighten me on the nature of this quandary.

**Cephalus:** The Prime Minister, in his quest for re-election, walks a tightrope. On one hand, there are whispers of potential snap elections, and on the other, a rising discontent among the populace due to recent calamities.

**Socrates:** Snap elections, you say? What drives the urgency to call for such swift political action?

**Cephalus:** It is said that the governing alliance has already embarked on an electoral campaign, pandering to specific segments of the electorate with populist measures. An increase in pensions for the elderly has been one such move.

● Cont. on page 15

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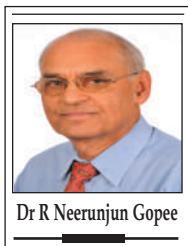
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# Rebuilding of Ram Mandir: Welcome to Kalchakra



Dr R Neerunjun Gopee

*'A strong and prosperous Indian state is as much an objective of Ram's devotees as the temple. The pursuit of Ram Rajya encompasses both Dharma and economic prosperity'*

It has been no surprise that, in the wake of the rebuilding of the Ram Mandir at Ayodhya, there has been a flurry of articles in both the Western and Indian media from the pens of the left-illiberal cabal that is openly anti-Hindu, anti-India and anti-Modi. Their agenda is only too well-known and has not escaped the scrutiny of intellectuals and seasoned analysts both in the West (among others David Frawley, Jeffrey Armstrong, Maria Wirth) and in India who are equally sharp and vigilant and have countered with evidence-backed arguments the inanities that are spewed by the former.

The thoroughness of their reporting shows that the scribes of that cabal are very astute and are aware of all the facts and the evidence – e.g. the definitive verdict of the Supreme Court of India and the archaeological discoveries at the Ramjanmabhoomi site. However, prejudiced as they are by the malicious agenda embedded in their minds, they prefer to ignore facts, distort them, add falsehoods: classic misinformation and disinformation. The Indian sleuths who track them, especially their compatriots who collaborate with foreign counterparts, have exposed how generously rewarded the former are for colluding to propagate a narrative that portrays everything about India in a negative light.

They are not succeeding.

Because they have nothing new and substantial to propose. In their playbook are the repetitive, old, and tiresome clichés: multiculturalism/secularism, majoritarianism, lynching and oppression of minorities especially Muslims, Hindu fundamentalism, Hindutva, right-wing, autocracy — all meant to create communal tension and civil unrest by inventing faultlines. For good measure they throw in the disproved Aryan Invasion myth and the North-South divide premised on the so-called Dravidian theory, equally debunked by intellectuals and experts, both old and young, such as Dr Subramaniam Swamy and Constitutional lawyer J. Sai Deepak who are from South India.

These two concepts suited the British rulers who weaponised them to divide and rule over Indians. Thus, race was substituted for adjective and geography: arya meaning noble, and Dravida referring to South India. Dr Subramaniam Swamy has explained how of the four South Indian states, Kerala, Karnataka, and Andhra Pradesh rejected it, but that Tamil Nadu fell victim to it during British rule. Its latter-day form is the Marxist DMK, which is now being seriously and vigorously challenged by a fine and articulate young intellectual and activist, K. Annamalai. It is an open secret that those who cling to the Dravidian narrative (like the similarly misunderstood caste, or minorityism, victimhood) – only do so for personal or political gain, which reveals their petty-mindedness since they surely cannot be unaware of its true meaning.

The same brigade keeps sowing the bogey of Hindu Rashtra or Hindu majoritarianism – akin to the Hindu hegemony scare propagated during our pre-Independence



Pic - myfortunes.co.in

**“Ram's era is known as Ram Rajya and serves as a benchmark for good governance. Effectively, under PM Modi, India has already initiated the process for Ram Rajya: an ideal form of governance ensuring progress, prosperity, and peace. In Ram Rajya, there is no room for discrimination, the poor are not marginalized, and the rule of law prevails. People act out of free moral responsibility and self-discipline, inspired by Ram's own practice of austerity, generosity, kindness, justice, welfare orientation, and the ability to care for and plan for his subjects. This consciousness is deeply ingrained in the hearts of the people...”**

days, and that never came to be. In fact, several thinkers in India feel that there is no need to formalize a Hindu Rashtra, which already exists *de facto*. Because of which India is what it is: a stable democracy (the largest and possibly the oldest in the world), Bharat Mata which harbours innumerable communities of all religious persuasions, speaking over 800 languages and dialects, with a unifying spiritual thread upon which are strung a bewildering diversity of cultures, that has been in existence for millennia and survived numerous barbaric onslaughts including the one that demolished the existing Ram Mandir in 1528/29 (hence its **re-building** and not **building**).

In short, a marvel of spiritual and cultural continuity which has no need for all the choice -isms of the cabalist ecosystem, as it is rooted in the more all-encompassing and meaningful Dharma. In fact, these -isms are singularly failing in their source countries, which are realising too late that policies based on them are not able to provide the solutions that are needed to cope with the societal chaos that they have led to increasingly in Europe and North America.

As regards Hindutva, a simple question for the virulent naysayers: have they heard of let alone gone through the encyclopaedic account found in 'Hindutva' by Aravindam Neelakantam? If not, they have no business even using this term.

Not only their ignorance, but their willful retailing of stereotypes blind them to a deeper and more holistic

appreciation of Modiji, as they view him as a mere Prime Minister with a monopoly on power. If only they had listened in its original to the speech made by PM Modi after he had accomplished the *Pran Paratistha*, and properly understood the contents and carefully chosen words and expressions used by him, they would have realized that the inspiration for the tremendous hold of his power over his polity and globally derives from his dimension as a yogi, who more than power – which is material – has *shakti*, which is of cosmic origin and proportions. Thus, he may not be a *Maryada Purushottam* like Shri Ram, but he is certainly a *Mahapurusha*, pursuing with *vairagya* (dispassion) his single-pointed objective of uplifting his people and his country, and taking the world along.

As such, therefore, more than exercising the political power of a Prime Minister, a better perspective would be to view him as a maestro conducting an orchestra on the world stage, the Krishna *leela* that we are all unknowingly a part of. Only a maestro of yogic calibre plays a conscious role, and that is Modiji.

By the same token, *The Economist* should have waited for the *Pran Paratistha* before penning its diatribe about Modi. On second thoughts, that may not have made any difference.

As the magazine *Swarajya* notes (edited): 'The Prime Minister's speech looked almost tailor-made to shatter stereotypes. Unapologetically forward-looking and embracing of modernity, it was a call for building an India that was technologically advanced and yet rooted in its ancient founding wisdom.'

'A strong and prosperous Indian state is as much an objective of Ram's devotees as the

temple. There cannot be a Ram Rajya if we cannot show significant improvements in our economic and social indicators in the next 10 years. The pursuit of Ram Rajya encompasses both Dharma and economic prosperity.

'From Dev to Desh, from Raj to Rashtra - our work has only begun. As the PM said, we have just laid the foundation for a Bharat of a thousand years later: this is *kalchakra*, the wheel of time that is turning... To create a strong Indian state and a wealthy nation that allows Dharma to flourish as India plans to build state-of-the-art semiconductor chips, make high-speed rail lines, make in India, build ever longer bridges, help businesses flourish, go to the moon, and pull-out millions of our fellow countrymen from poverty.'

Ram's era is known as Ram Rajya and serves as a benchmark for good governance. Effectively, under PM Modi, India has already initiated the process for Ram Rajya: an ideal form of governance ensuring progress, prosperity, and peace. In Ram Rajya, there is no room for discrimination, the poor are not marginalized, and the rule of law prevails. People act out of free moral responsibility and self-discipline, inspired by Ram's own practice of austerity, generosity, kindness, justice, welfare orientation, and the ability to care for and plan for his subjects. This consciousness is deeply ingrained in the hearts of the people.

It is a polity that seeks to fulfill, as best as it can, the legitimate expectations of the people in an environment of peace and prosperity.

# Dépossession des terres : un problème non résolu

Par A. Bartleby

**E**n cette période où nous célébrons le 189e anniversaire de l'abolition de l'esclavage, il est essentiel de se pencher sur une question cruciale qui demeure irrésolue à Maurice: celle de la dépossession des terres. Alors que nous commémorons cet événement historique, il convient de se rappeler qu'une Truth and Justice Commission (Commission Vérité et Justice - CVJ) fut instaurée en avril 2008, avec pour mission de révéler les réalités de l'esclavage et du travail sous contrat des immigrants indiens à Maurice pendant la période coloniale.

Le rapport de cette commission fut soumis au Président de la République à la fin de novembre 2011, suscitant une attente quant aux actions que le gouvernement allait entreprendre à la lumière de ses recommandations. Face à une question posée par l'opposition en décembre 2011 sur les mesures envisagées, la réponse fut que, le rapport étant volumineux, il était souhaitable d'en examiner le contenu avant d'entreprendre des actions jugées nécessaires.

Cependant, depuis lors, peu de progrès ont été accomplis, à l'exception de la création d'un comité interministériel présidé par le vice-PM et ministre des Finances d'alors, Xavier-Luc Duval, chargé d'examiner la mise en œuvre des recommandations de la CVJ. Le comité interministériel était aussi composé des ministres Abu Kasenally (Terres et Logement), Sheila Bappoo (Sécurité sociale), Nicolas Von Mally (Rodrigues), Mukesh Choonee (Arts et Culture), SurenDayal (Intégration so-ciale), Mireille Martin (Egalité des Genres) et Yatin Varma (Attorney General).

La question se pose alors: quelles avancées concrètes ont été réalisées dans la poursuite de la justice sociale et de l'équité, telles que préconisées par la commission?

La CVJ a mis en lumière les souffrances des anciens esclaves, des travailleurs indiens sous contrat et de leurs descendants, mettant en évidence le rôle d'individus sans scrupules tels que des notaires, des arpenteurs et d'autres intermédiaires qui ont arraché les biens de ceux qui ne pouvaient se défendre contre la machine légale et commerciale.

Pourtant, malgré ces révélations, la commission n'a pas recommandé de compensation monétaire en raison



L'histoire des empires coloniaux est parsemée de saisies de terres. Des peuples tels que les Indiens d'Amérique du Nord, les autochtones en Australie et en Nouvelle-Zélande ont été dépossédés de leurs terres. P - Land Portal

de la difficulté d'identifier les descendants des esclaves aujourd'hui. De plus, la complexité de prouver la culpabilité de ceux qui détiennent d'immenses fortunes héritées de pratiques douteuses complique davantage la situation, surtout avec le changement de propriété légale des terres au fil des ans.

Bien que la question puisse être qualifiée de complexe sur le plan juridique, il est impératif que les gouvernements respectent leurs obligations constitutionnelles et morales en faveur de la justice, de l'équité et de l'égalité. Ignorer cette responsabilité risque de pousser les victimes de la dépossession des terres à des mesures extrêmes, comme l'ont fait par le passé certains individus, dont Clency Harmon, qui ont entamé des grèves de la faim pour attirer l'attention du gouvernement.

L'actualité a remis sur le devant de la scène la question de la dépossession des terres, avec des actions en justice contre certaines grosses entreprises opérant dans l'industrie sucrière. Les familles, comme celle des Kisorbo, allèguent avoir été dépossédées des terres qui appartenaient à leurs ancêtres. Ce problème, souligné dans le rapport de la CVJ, continue de hanter la conscience collective, appelant à une réparation et à une justice qui tardent à se manifester.

D'autres cas, tels que celui de la famille Kisorbo, témoignent des difficultés rencontrées dans la recherche de réparation pour les injustices passées. La question de la prescription, qui limite le temps pendant lequel une action en justice peut être intentée, est un obstacle sup-

plémentaire.

La dépossession des terres n'est pas un problème unique à Maurice. L'histoire des empires coloniaux est parsemée de saisies de terres par des colons et des administrateurs, et cette question est universelle. Des peuples tels que les Indiens d'Amérique du Nord, les autochtones en Australie et en Nouvelle-Zélande ont été dépossédés de leurs terres.

Cependant, adopter une approche de la Commission Vérité et Justice est un pas dans la bonne direction. Mais il est essentiel d'assurer qu'aucune conspiration du silence ou de voile impénétrable ne dissimule ceux qui tirent les ficelles et influent sur les gouvernements pour favoriser leurs propres agendas. Protéger les acquisitions illégales de terres sous l'administration coloniale, aussi complexes que soient les questions judiciaires, ne peut être dans l'intérêt national des nations indépendantes ni dans le bien-être général de ces peuples émergents d'années de subjugation.

Ainsi, en cette période commémorative, il est temps de remettre en question la volonté des gouvernements successifs à agir pour corriger les injustices passées et à promouvoir une société basée sur la vérité, la justice et l'équité. Qui sont ceux qui bénéficient de l'obscurcissement de la vérité, et ont-ils une influence démesurée sur les représentants du peuple? Ces questions, bien que complexes, sont cruciales pour construire un avenir où la dignité et la justice prévalent sur les séquelles douloureuses du passé.

## 'Doomsday Clock' signale des menaces existentielles

de guerre nucléaire, de catastrophes climatiques et d'intelligence artificielle

**L**a Terre, pour la deuxième année consécutive, se rapproche de l'apocalypse, a déclaré un groupe de défense orienté vers la science, en se référant à son célèbre "Doomsday Clock" qui indique 90 secondes avant minuit, rapporte l'Associated Press.

Le Bulletin des scientifiques atomiques (*Bulletin of Atomic Scientists*) a fait cette

annonce annuelle la semaine dernière, évaluant la distance de l'humanité de sa fin. Il a évoqué la menace nucléaire dans la guerre de la Russie contre l'Ukraine, ainsi que l'attaque du 7 octobre en Israël et la guerre à Gaza, les catastrophes climatiques de plus en plus graves et le danger de l'intelligence artificielle générative.

☞ Suite en page 5



La Terre, pour la deuxième année consécutive, se rapproche de l'apocalypse. P - YouTube

# 'Doomsday Clock' signale des menaces existentielles

de guerre nucléaire, de catastrophes climatiques et d'intelligence artificielle

☞ Suite de la page 4

«L'année dernière, nous avons exprimé une inquiétude accrue en déplaçant l'horloge à 90 secondes avant minuit, le plus proche de la catastrophe mondiale qu'elle ait jamais été», a déclaré Rachel Bronson, PDG du groupe Bulletin. «Les risques de l'année dernière persistent avec une véhémence inchangée et continuent de façonner cette année.»

À partir de 1947, le groupe de défense a utilisé une horloge pour symboliser le potentiel, voire la probabilité, que les gens fassent quelque chose pour mettre fin à l'humanité. Après la fin de la guerre froide, elle était aussi proche que 17 minutes avant minuit. Au cours des der-

nières années, pour faire face aux changements mondiaux rapides, le groupe est passé du compte à rebours des minutes avant minuit au compte à rebours des secondes.

Le groupe a déclaré que l'horloge pourrait être reculée si les dirigeants et les nations travaillaient ensemble, notant spécifiquement les pays puissants ayant la capacité de le faire, notamment les États-Unis, la Chine et la Russie.

Cette déclaration du "Doomsday Clock" met en lumière les menaces graves qui pèsent sur notre planète, notamment la guerre nucléaire, les catastrophes climatiques et les risques liés à l'intelligence artificielle.

Les références à la guerre en Ukraine et aux événements au Moyen-Orient soulignent la nature mondiale de ces menaces. La mention spécifique des États-Unis, de la Chine et de la Russie souligne la responsabilité des grandes puissances mondiales dans la résolution de ces problèmes cruciaux pour l'avenir de l'humanité.

La possibilité de reculer l'horloge souligne l'espoir que des actions coordonnées et significatives peuvent être entreprises pour atténuer ces menaces existentielles. Cependant, cela nécessitera une coopération internationale efficace et un engagement sérieux des grandes nations du monde.

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Indice mondial de la corruption 2023 de Transparency International

## Les Seychelles, avec un score de 71, devançant Maurice (51)



Maurice devance avec un score de 51, tandis que Madagascar obtient 25 et les Seychelles obtiennent 71

rence de la corruption. L'IPC évalue les nations en fonction de leur niveau perçu de corruption dans le secteur public, allant de zéro (très corrompu) à 100 (très propre).

Le rapport ajoute: «Selon l'État de Droit, le monde connaît un déclin du fonctionnement des systèmes judiciaires. Les pays obtenant les scores les plus bas dans cet indice obtiennent également des scores très bas sur l'IPC, soulignant une connexion claire entre l'accès à la justice et la corruption. Les régimes autoritaires et les dirigeants démocratiques qui sapent la justice contribuent à accroître l'impunité pour la corruption et,

dans certains cas, l'encouragent même en supprimant les conséquences pour les contrevenants.»

### Quels sont les pays les moins corrompus?

Pour la sixième année consécutive, le Danemark occupe la première position du classement avec un score de 90 en raison de ses «systèmes judiciaires bien fonctionnels».

Suivent de près la Finlande et la Nouvelle-Zélande aux deuxième et troisième positions avec des scores respectifs de 87 et 85.

Cette année, les 10 premiers pays du classement incluent la Norvège (84), Singapour (83), la Suède (82), la Suisse (82), les Pays-Bas (79), l'Allemagne (78) et le

Luxembourg (78).

### Quels sont les pays les plus corrompus?

Occupant les dernières places du classement figurent la Somalie (11), le Venezuela (13), la Syrie (13), le Soudan du Sud (13) et le Yémen (16). Ces pays sont tous touchés par des crises prolongées, principalement des conflits armés.

Le Nicaragua (17), la Corée du Nord (17), Haïti (17), la Guinée équatoriale (17), le Turkménistan (18) et la Libye (18) sont les suivants dans le bas du classement.

### Pays ayant décliné et progressé dans le classement

Depuis 2018, les scores de l'IPC de 12 pays ont notablement diminué. Parmi eux se trouvent des pays de divers niveaux de revenus, y compris des nations à faible et moyen revenus comme le Salvador (31), le Honduras (23), le Libéria (25), le Myanmar (20), le Nicaragua (17), le Sri Lanka (34) et le Venezuela (13). De plus, des économies à revenu intermédiaire supérieur et élevé telles que l'Argentine (37), l'Autriche (71), la Pologne (54), la Turquie (34) et le Royaume-Uni (71) ont également connu un déclin de leurs scores de l'IPC.

Pendant la même période, huit pays ont vu une amélioration de leurs scores à l'Indice de Perception de la Corruption. Ces pays incluent l'Irlande (77), la Corée du Sud (63), l'Arménie (47), le Vietnam (41), les Maldives (39), la Moldavie (42), l'Angola (33) et l'Ouzbékistan (33).

L'Inde occupe la 93e position avec un score de 39, selon le rapport de Transparency International. Le score global de l'Inde est resté relativement stable, étant de 40 en 2022, lui valant la 85e position.

Pendant ce temps, le Pakistan, avec un score de 29, et le Sri Lanka (34) ont lutté avec leurs fardeaux de dette respectifs et l'instabilité politique qui en a résulté, indique le rapport.

Parmi les voisins de l'Inde, l'Afghanistan et le Myanmar ont obtenu un score de 20, la Chine a obtenu 42, le Japon a obtenu 73 et le Bangladesh a obtenu 24.

Quant à Maurice, le pays a obtenu un score de 51, devançant Madagascar (25), alors que les Seychelles, dont le président Wavel Ramkalawan fut l'invité d'honneur des commémorations du 189e anniversaire de l'abolition de l'esclavage au Morne hier, ont obtenu un score de 71.

En tout cas, ces résultats soulignent la nécessité pour chaque nation de maintenir une vigilance constante dans la lutte contre la corruption, indiquant que même les pays les mieux classés ne sont pas à l'abri des défis persistants en matière de transparence et d'intégrité

A. Bartleby

☞ Voir Plus en page 8

**T**ransparency International a dévoilé l'Indice de Perception de la Corruption (IPC) de 2023 mardi dernier, révélant une liste des pays les plus corrompus au monde. Le rapport a souligné des progrès minimes dans la lutte contre la corruption dans le secteur public, la moyenne mondiale de l'IPC restant inchangée à 43 pour la douzième année consécutive.

Le rapport indique ceci: «L'Indice de Perception de la Corruption (IPC) de 2023 publié par Transparency International montre que la plupart des pays n'ont fait que peu ou pas de progrès dans la lutte contre la corruption dans le secteur public.»

Plus de deux tiers des 180 pays classés ont obtenu un score inférieur à 50 sur l'échelle, indiquant une préva-



Prakash Neerohoo

## Prix des carburants

# La baisse du prix de l'essence, une pomme de discorde

Les prix des carburants (essence et diesel) continuent de provoquer la grogne chez les consommateurs en ces temps d'inflation galopante (10% au moins). À compter du 28 janvier dernier, le prix de l'essence a connu une baisse de Rs 2,80 par litre, passant de Rs 69 à Rs 66,20. Toutefois, cette diminution de prix ne semble toujours pas satisfaire les consommateurs, qui la jugent trop faible par rapport à la tendance baissière des prix du pétrole sur le marché mondial depuis mi-2022.

En effet, comme les consommateurs le soulignent avec raison, et ce, depuis un certain temps déjà, il n'y a pas toujours de corrélation directe entre les prix locaux des carburants et les prix mondiaux du pétrole. Les prix locaux des carburants augmentent toujours suite à une hausse des prix mondiaux, ce qui indique une corrélation positive.

En revanche, les prix locaux ne baissent pas suffisamment souvent, voire ne baissent pas du tout parfois, en cas de baisse des prix mondiaux, ce qui indique une corrélation négative. Il est clair que l'évolution des prix locaux ne suit pas la logique commerciale du marché mondial où les prix augmentent ou baissent selon la loi de l'offre et de la demande.

Ainsi, sur le marché mondial, le prix de référence du pétrole (prix Brent) est passé de 118,10 \$ par baril le 28 juin 2022 à 70,79 \$ par baril le 22 janvier 2024, soit une baisse de 33%. Or, à Maurice, le prix de l'essence par litre est passé de Rs 74,10 à Rs 69 durant cette période, soit une baisse de seulement 7%.

En examinant la composition des prix des carburants, on constate une grande différence entre le prix d'importation CAF (Coût, Assurance, Fret) et le prix de

vente à la pompe. Le Tableau 1 montre les différents éléments qui entrent dans la composition du prix au détail. On constate que la valeur CAF est de Rs 30,46 sur le prix de vente de Rs 66,20 par litre, soit 45%. La différence est principalement représentée par des facteurs qui n'ont aucun rapport avec les coûts d'importation et d'exploitation de la STC.

Ces facteurs étranges comprennent les taxes (Taxe d'accise et VAT) et les différentes contributions prélevées sur les prix de vente pour divers besoins de financement, tels que la contribution à la Road Development Authority (RDA), la contribution aux frais de transport à Rodrigues, la contribution pour la construction de facilités de stockage, et la subvention sur les denrées de base (riz, farine, gaz naturel).

La dernière baisse de Rs 2,80 par litre d'essence représente une réduction du prix de vente de 4,1%. Comme indiqué au Tableau 2, cette baisse du prix de vente de 4,1% se compare défavorablement à la baisse de 14% du prix CAF (Coût, Assurance, Fret) de l'essence entre le 1er octobre 2023 (Rs 35,38 par litre) et le 27 janvier 2024 (Rs 30,46 par litre). Durant cette même période, le prix CAF du diesel a baissé de Rs 36,37 à Rs 30,84 par litre, soit une baisse de 15%, mais le prix de vente du diesel est resté inchangé. La raison en est le déficit de Rs 4,5 milliards dans le fonds de stabilisation du prix du diesel.

La State Trading Corporation (STC) prélève une contribution de Rs 5,56 par litre de diesel pour combler ce déficit. Il semble anormal que ce fonds soit autant déficitaire alors que la STC est censée recouvrer le prix CAF du diesel auprès des consommateurs. Si une politique de vérité des prix est pratiquée pour faire payer



“En effet, comme les consommateurs le soulignent avec raison, et ce, depuis un certain temps déjà, il n'y a pas toujours de corrélation directe entre les prix locaux des carburants et les prix mondiaux du pétrole. Les prix locaux des carburants augmentent toujours suite à une hausse des prix mondiaux, ce qui indique une corrélation positive. En revanche, les prix locaux ne baissent pas suffisamment souvent, voire ne baissent pas du tout parfois, en cas de baisse des prix mondiaux, ce qui indique une corrélation négative. Il est clair que l'évolution des prix locaux ne suit pas la logique commerciale du marché mondial...”

aux consommateurs les prix du marché, il n'y aura aucune raison d'accumuler un déficit dans le compte de stabilisation d'année en année.

Comme l'indique le Tableau 3, les taxes et les contributions prélevées à la source totalisent Rs 30,97 par litre d'essence, soit 46,8% du prix de vente au détail. Il est évident que ces taxes et contributions diverses représentent une vache à lait que le Gouvernement entend traire pour longtemps afin de trouver les moyens de financer ses dépenses publiques, en sus des taxes directes (impôts sur les revenus, CSG sur les salaires) et d'autres taxes indirectes (TVA sur la consommation générale).

Selon le rapport annuel de la STC pour l'exercice financier 2021-2022, la taxe d'accise sur les produits pétroliers a rapporté Rs 4,1 milliards et la TVA a rapporté Rs 3 milliards.

Bien que les chiffres ne soient pas disponibles pour 2022-2023, on peut déduire que ces sources de revenu demeurent stables pour le Gouvernement. Cela est d'autant plus vrai que la demande de carburants est iné-

lastique dans le sens où toute hausse de prix ne réduit pas la demande. D'ailleurs, le nombre de véhicules sur la route (quatre roues et deux roues) utilisant des carburants continue de progresser, passant de 648 176 en 2022 à 674 138 en 2023 (jusqu'en novembre), selon les chiffres officiels.

● Suite en page 8

Tableau 1: Composition des prix

	Essence Rs/litre	Diesel Rs/litre
Valeur CAF	30.46	30.84
Taxe d'accise	12.20	4.70
Contribution RDA	1.85	1.75
Contribution aux frais de transport à Rodrigues	0.41	0.41
Contribution aux frais de stockage	0.65	0.50
Subvention sur les denrées de base	7.20	7.20
STC coûts opérationnels	0.35	0.40
Ajustement	0.02	0.00
Contribution au fonds de stabilisation du prix	0.00	5.56
<b>Sous-total</b>	<b>53.15</b>	<b>51.36</b>
Marge de profit en gros	2.35	2.18
Marge de profit au détail	2.07	2.07
<b>Prix au détail</b>	<b>57.57</b>	<b>55.61</b>
VAT 15%	8.63	8.34
<b>Prix de vente</b>	<b>66.20</b>	<b>63.95</b>

Table 2: valeur CAF comparée au prix de vente de l'essence

Date	Valeur CAF Rs/litre	Hausse/ (baisse)	%	Prix Rs/litre	Hausse/ (baisse)	%
13-Sep-22	36.33			74.10		
12-Jan-23	30.69	-5.64	-5.5%	74.10	0.00	0.0%
02-Jun-23	33.32	2.63	8.6%	69.00	-5.10	-6.9%
01-Oct-23	35.38	2.06	6.2%	69.00	0.00	0.0%
27-Jan-24	30.46	-4.92	-13.9%	66.20	-2.80	-4.1%



Anil Madan

# A Confluence of Elections: Does Democracy End Here?

**W**ith the 2024 US presidential election just nine months away, the US Supreme Court is about to hear arguments on whether Donald Trump is disqualified from holding the office of President. A most frequently heard lament is that if Trump becomes President again, he will destroy America's democracy, assume dictatorial powers, fracture longstanding US alliances, and abandon Ukraine to Russia, Taiwan to China, and do little to stop Kim Jong Un.

Supporters of Trump counter that disqualifying the leading candidate for the opposition party is a sign of weakness on the part of Democrats and an undemocratic act of election interference.

Concerns about the health and viability of democracy and election interference are not just an American phenomenon. 2024 will be a year in which we see a confluence of elections.

The fact that elections are held does not, of course, mean that democracy is at work. In the US, Donald Trump declared even before the voting began in 2020, that if he lost it would be because the election was stolen or rigged. But Trump is a veritable juke box with a selection of dirges filled with accusations whenever he loses. The justice system is rigged against him, every case is a witch hunt or election interference, he doesn't even "know" the victims he has abused, and judges and prosecutors are "deranged" and sometimes, he even feigns innocence: "I did nothing wrong."

The presidential election in Guatemala was held in 2023, not 2024. The Public Ministry tried to suspend the President-elect's party and intimidate election authorities. The US State Department issued a Press Statement declaring that these actions undercut "the clear will of the Guatemalan people and is inconsistent with the principles of the Inter-American Democratic Charter."

In 2024, Taiwan's presidential election was held and Lai Ching-te, also known as William Lai, was elected President.



Pic - TIME

**“In Pakistan too, there will be a general election in 2024 but the ballots will be missing a picture of a cricket bat which is the symbol for Imran Khan's party. In a country that is largely illiterate, the cricket bat has been an easy symbol by which people can identify Khan, a star cricket player or yore, and a hero to them. Khan would likely win in a landslide if permitted to run. Instead, he has just been sentenced to ten years in jail for disclosing confidential government documents while he was Prime Minister. But never mind, Pakistan has a history of charging former Prime Ministers with crimes, even jailing, or exiling them, and then re-electing them...”**

China dismissed the election as not representing mainstream public opinion because Lai's party did not win a majority of the votes. More importantly, China has vilified Lai as a separatist and "troublemaker through and through."

Lai, known for his dedication to Taiwan's independence, tried to soften things by saying that he aims to maintain the status quo. The Chinese retort from the Taiwan Affairs Office of the State Council was: "Taiwan is China's Taiwan."

Does this mean the end of democracy in Taiwan? We know that the Chinese Communist Party cannot abide the idea of free and independent states that it believes should be within its ambit. The lessons from Tibet and Hong Kong are clear.

What about the US in all of this? President Biden issued a somewhat tepid statement: "We do not support independence [for Taiwan]." This, from a President who has three times said that the US would come to Taiwan's defense if it were attacked by China is quite a shocker. Contrast this statement to the one about Guatemala referenced above.

In Pakistan too, there will be a general election in 2024 but the ballots will be missing a picture of a cricket bat which is the symbol for Imran Khan's party. In a country that is largely illiterate, the cricket bat has been an easy symbol by which people can identify Khan, a star cricket player or yore, and a hero to them. Khan would likely win in a landslide if permitted to run. Instead, he has just been sentenced to ten years in jail for disclosing confidential government documents while he was Prime Minister. But never mind, Pakistan has a history of charging former Prime Ministers with crimes, even jailing, or exiling them, and then re-electing them. Imran Khan may well be at bat in some future innings.

India, sometimes referred to as the world's largest democracy, will also have a general parliamentary election this spring, with some one billion voters eligible. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Bhartiya Janata Party (BJP) is expected to extend its grip on control of parliament which has now run to ten years. The BJP won five regional state elections last year, so it seems a shoo-in to win again, although there are rumblings of dissent in the southern states. But perhaps not enough for an upset. The country generally seems accepting of the BJP. Throngs cheered Modi on at the consecration of the newly constructed temple believed to rest on the site of the birth of the Hindu god known as Lord Ram. That site was formerly a mosque that was razed by a Hindu mob. And that same site was formerly a Hindu temple that was razed on orders of the Mughal emperor Babur, some 800 years ago. The scars of religious wounds do not fade easily.

Although Modi's government and mainstream Indians dismiss concerns that he has inflamed tensions between the Hindus who make up the vast majority, and minorities, particularly Muslims, Christians and Sikhs, there has undeniably been a rent made in the cohesion of Indian society. Is this serious enough to put Indian democracy in jeopardy? Probably not, so long as a large majority of the majority Hindu population is comfortable with it. And to be fair, Modi has been successful in transforming India into a vibrant economy that has embraced technology and dragged India's populace into the 21st Century.

Russia too will hold an election. Why bother? Guess what? Putin is going to be reelected. His opponents have been shuttled off to prisons, their sentences extended, and the conditions of their confinement made harsher. In



Pic - The Times of Israel

**“Although Modi's government and mainstream Indians dismiss concerns that he has inflamed tensions between the Hindus who make up the vast majority, and minorities, particularly Muslims, Christians and Sikhs, there has undeniably been a rent made in the cohesion of Indian society. Is this serious enough to put Indian democracy in jeopardy? Probably not, so long as a large majority of the majority Hindu population is comfortable with it. And to be fair, Modi has been successful in transforming India into a vibrant economy that has embraced technology and dragged India's populace into the 21st Century...”**

December 2023, Yekaterina Duntsova, a former TV journalist announced a challenge to Putin, promising to run on a platform to end the war with Ukraine. She was promptly barred from standing. The electoral commission citing mistakes on her application form, rejected her candidacy. She said she would appeal the decision at the Supreme Court. Good luck. As former President Trump would say, the system is rigged. With some luck, Ms Duntsova will be a footnote in Russia's history and shuttled off to brave the Siberian winter.

Another Russian challenger, Boris Nadezhdin has submitted a bid to run against Putin and, he too stands in opposition to the war against Ukraine. It is not clear whether he will just be rejected or also earn a one-way ticket to Siberia.

The summer will bring European parliament elections. Right now, polls suggest that right-wing groups and so-called European Conservatives and Reformists, will gain seats. It is likely that the European parliament will be fractionated into extremist groups at the margins and that cohesion at the center will be more difficult than ever. What this means for European support of Ukraine remains to be seen.

Finally, the British will also have a general election. Having crowned a new King and found an Indian prince to be its PM, the country now seems doomed to be governed once again by the Labour Party, a hodgepodge of politicians who stand in opposition to the Tories but unsure why. Nor is it clear that they have any plan to lead Britain on any meaningful journey in this Century.

Getting back to Donald Trump, he seems assured of the Republican Party's nomination. But will the Supreme Court declare him ineligible to be on the ballot for having participated in an insurrection or having given aid or comfort to the enemies of the US and its Constitution? If he is elected, he promises not just to get rid of DEMOCRACY (he has promised to be a Dictator for one day) but to dismantle the Deep State, and to engage in a program of deportation of millions. Oh, and to drill for more oil, or at least dictate that others drill.

The history of the world is full of dictators. Not many have given up power voluntarily. Counting on the goodwill of a creature with the depraved instincts of Donald Trump is not a recipe for confidence in that regard.

Cheerz...  
Bwana

## Escalade des tensions entre la Russie et l'Europe

L'Allemagne se prépare à ce que la Russie déclenche la Troisième Guerre mondiale



L'Europe se prépare à une expansion de la guerre de la Russie en Ukraine et aussi à une attaque contre les pays alliés de l'OTAN l'année prochaine. P - Libération

### ● Suite de la page 5

L'Europe se prépare à une expansion de la guerre de la Russie en Ukraine et aussi à une attaque contre les pays alliés de l'OTAN l'année prochaine, révèlent des documents divulgués et publiés dans le journal allemand « Bild », rapporte Chris Nesi du « New York Post ».

Selon l'agence, qui a obtenu des informations militaires classifiées du ministère allemand de la Défense, les forces armées du pays se préparent à une attaque russe "hybride" en Europe de l'Est.

Le journal détaille comment plusieurs scénarios potentiellement alarmants pourraient se dérouler dans les mois à venir.

Un tel scénario, appelé "Défense de l'Alliance 2025", commencerait en février avec la mobilisation de 200 000 soldats supplémentaires par la Russie. Encouragée par la diminution du soutien financier occidental à l'Ukraine, la Russie lancerait une massive "offensive de printemps" contre les forces armées ukrainiennes.

Le scénario potentiel décrit comment la Russie pourrait commencer la guerre dans les pays baltes d'ici juillet en utilisant des "cyberattaques sévères" tout en attisant le mécontentement parmi les ressortissants russes en Estonie, Lettonie et Lituanie.

D'ici septembre, ces affrontements, selon les documents classifiés, pourraient être utilisés par la Russie comme prétexte pour déclencher "Zapad 2024", un "exercice" militaire à grande échelle qui rassemblerait environ 50 000 soldats russes à l'ouest du pays et en Biélorussie.

À partir de là, selon le scénario, la Russie pourrait déplacer des troupes et des missiles de portée intermédiaire vers Kaliningrad, un territoire russe de 86 milles carrés coincé entre la Lituanie et la Pologne, tous deux membres de l'OTAN.

Selon les documents, la Russie pourrait bombarder la région avec de la propagande avertissant d'une attaque imminente par les forces de l'OTAN, avec pour objectif ultime de conquérir une zone connue sous le nom de "Suwalki Gap", un corridor étroit polono-lituanien situé entre la Biélorussie et Kaliningrad.

D'ici décembre, selon le scénario - un exercice de pire scénario - la Russie pourrait alors profiter de la période de transition suivant l'élection présidentielle américaine et utiliser la propagande, proclamant des "conflits frontaliers" ou des "émeutes avec de nombreux morts" pour inciter à la violence dans la région de « Suwalki Gap » et semer le trouble, rapporte « Bild ».

Suite à une réunion du Conseil de sécurité de l'ONU en janvier 2025, la Russie pourrait alors faussement accuser les alliés occidentaux de comploter contre le régime de Poutine, ce qu'il pourrait utiliser pour mobiliser des troupes en Biélorussie et dans les pays baltes d'ici mars 2025.

Le document divulgué indique que, dans ce scénario, 30 000

soldats allemands seraient déployés pour la défense, tandis que quelque 70 000 forces russes se seraient regroupées en Biélorussie.

D'ici mai 2025, cette accumulation pourrait amener l'OTAN à mettre en œuvre des "mesures de dissuasion crédibles" pour empêcher une incursion russe ultérieure, ce qui se traduirait par des combats entre les troupes occidentales et les forces russes.

Poutine et les responsables russes ont nié à plusieurs reprises qu'ils intensifieraient le conflit en Ukraine au-delà des frontières du pays. Bien que les plans obtenus par « Bild » soient un scénario potentiel préparé par des généraux de l'armée allemande, les alliés européens prennent au sérieux la menace de la Russie et se préparent en conséquence.

Dans la dernière guerre de la Russie avec l'Ukraine, qui a débuté en février 2022, environ un demi-million de soldats ukrainiens et russes ont été tués ou blessés. Ainsi, cette nouvelle soulève des inquiétudes quant à une possible escalade des tensions entre la Russie et l'Europe.

Il est essentiel de suivre de près les développements futurs et d'analyser la véracité des informations divulguées. La préparation des forces armées et des alliés européens suggère une prise au sérieux de la menace perçue, mais il est important de garder à l'esprit que les scénarios présentés peuvent être basés sur des évaluations de risques et ne garantissent pas nécessairement une réalité future.

A. Bartleby

## Prix des carburants La baisse du prix de l'essence, une pomme de discorde



Tableau 3: parts des éléments du prix de l'essence

	Éléments du prix	Rs/litre	Part en %
1	Coûts divers	30.81	46.5%
2	Taxe d'accise	12.20	18.4%
3	VAT 15%	8.63	13.0%
4	Contributions diverses	10.13	15.3%
5	Marges de profit	4.42	6.7%
	<b>Prix de vente</b>	<b>66.20</b>	<b>100%</b>
	Taxes/contributions:		
	Total des items 2, 3 et 4	30.97	46.8%

### ● Suite de la page 6

La question des prix des carburants ne saurait être dissociée d'une problématique plus vaste, celle de l'utilisation des sources d'énergie renouvelables dans le cadre du développement durable. À l'ère du changement climatique provoqué par l'effet de serre dû à l'usage débridé des ressources fossiles, de nombreux pays ont mis en œuvre des moyens visant à réduire la consommation de carburants :

- encourager les citoyens à utiliser des modes de transport moins polluants comme les véhicules hybrides ou électriques sur lesquels une remise de taxe est disponible ;
- promouvoir l'utilisation des transports collectifs (train, autobus, tramway) pour réduire le nombre de véhicules sur la route ;
- promouvoir le covoiturage entre amis faisant le même trajet ;
- introduire la taxe sur le carbone pour encourager les consommateurs à se tourner vers des sources d'énergie plus propres.

Faute d'une taxe sur le carbone, les taxes indirectes sur les carburants à Maurice sont suffisamment lourdes pour inciter les consommateurs à diminuer leur empreinte écologique (carbon footprint). Toutefois, la politique de fournir des facilités hors taxe pour l'achat de véhicules roulant au carburant pétrolier aux employés du secteur public et aux chauffeurs de taxis est en contradiction avec cet objectif.

Prakash Neerhoo

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David Snoxell, Coordinator - The Chagos Islands All-Party Parliamentary Group

# Chagos: “Negotiations, supported by the US and India, continue with Mauritius”

**I**n an email interview this week, with David Snoxell, Coordinator of The Chagos Islands All-Party Parliamentary Group, we delve into the recent controversy around the apparent shift in policy regarding the resettlement of former inhabitants of the Chagos Islands, as announced by Foreign Secretary David Cameron during a Foreign Affairs Committee hearing on January 9, 2024, and subsequently reported by *The Guardian* on January 26, 2024. ‘There has been no change in policy towards resettlement. Mr Cameron’s brief answer to a question at his appearance before the FAC has been misinterpreted and taken out of context,’ reassures Snoxell. The former British High Commissioner to Mauritius also elaborates on the importance of the Diego Garcia military base and suggests potential compromise solutions that could balance security interests with Mauritian sovereignty.

\* What do you think could explain the recent change in policy regarding the resettlement of former inhabitants of the Chagos Islands, as announced by Foreign Secretary David Cameron during his testimony to a Foreign Affairs Committee (FAC) hearing on 9 January, as reported by *The Guardian* on Friday, 26 Jan 2024?

There has been no change in policy towards resettlement. Sadly, British governments have always been opposed to Chagossian resettlement. Mr Cameron’s brief answer to a question at his appearance before the FAC has been misinterpreted and taken out of context.

*The Guardian* report omitted to point out that the Foreign Secretary in no way suggested that he wanted to stop the current UK/Mauritius negotiations on the exercise of sovereignty over Chagos though he remained sceptical about resettlement.

“Both sides need to come to a compromise on security aspects which respects international law and Mauritian sovereignty and builds confidence in the West that the base remains secure and effective for as long as it is needed. This could be done by creating a short-term temporary UK sovereign base area lasting for a defined term, say until 2036 when the UK/US 1966 agreement terminates, with a review at the halfway point in 6 years’ time. In the meantime, the 55 Outer Islands, surrounding sea and the marine protected area would be returned to Mauritius...”



“A lease agreement over the Diego Garcia base area may not provide sufficient confidence to the UK and US since a lease could be set aside by a future government”

\* Our perception of the policy shift is based on *The Guardian’s* report, which itself stated that Cameron sharply differed from his predecessor, James Cleverly, who conveyed a contrasting perspective in a written ministerial statement issued on November 3, 2022. Therefore, we would assume that the perceived major reversal of policy would have been approved by the British Cabinet, including the Prime Minister, before it could be announced by the Foreign Secretary.

As I just stated, there has been no major reversal of policy. I doubt Lord Cameron’s rather tentative response to the FAC question was discussed beforehand either by Cabinet or with the PM.

It seems to me that the FS was simply reinforcing the need to come to a conclusion on how to ensure the security and continuation of the base which enables the US and the UK to have confidence in its future opera-

tions.

\* Should we, therefore, conclude that Cameron’s statement does not reflect any broader shift in the UK’s foreign policy approach?

There has been no shift in foreign policy or in the UK’s approach to the future of the Chagos Islands. Negotiations, supported by the US and India, continue with Mauritius.

\* Are there historical or other factors that might be influencing the UK’s reluctance to transfer sovereignty of the Chagos Islands to Mauritius?

The opposition of a right-wing think tank, Policy Exchange, and its attempts to discredit Mauritius and others to transferring control of BIOT to Mauritius has been building over the last few months. This is clearly a factor of which the FS is conscious. Hence the emphasis on ensuring the security of the base.

● Cont. on page 10

# 'By entering into negotiations, based in international law, with Mauritius, the UK implicitly accepts the relevant findings of international courts'

● Cont. from page 9

\* **David Cameron highlighted security requirements and the importance of the Diego Garcia military base. Do you believe there could be alternative solutions that address both the UK-US's security interests and the rights of Mauritius over the Chagos?**

Both sides need to come to a compromise on security aspects which respects international law and Mauritian sovereignty and builds confidence in the West that the base remains secure and effective for as long as it is needed.

This could be done by creating a short-term temporary UK sovereign base area lasting for a defined term, say until 2036 when the UK/US 1966 agreement terminates, with a review at the halfway point in 6 years' time. In the meantime, the 55 Outer Islands, surrounding sea and the marine protected area would be returned to Mauritius.

\* **The Guardian's report stated that Cameron had ruled out the resettlement of former inhabitants of the Chagos Islands. Would this also imply that it's unlikely for Britain to transfer sovereignty of the Chagos Islands to Mauritius anytime soon, and that a lease agreement with the US for its continued occupation of Diego Garcia for its military base should also be ruled out?**

Resettlement will become the responsibility of Mauritius. Clearly it is in the interests of Chagossians to support Mauritian sovereignty as under British control they will not be allowed to return whereas they will under Mauritian sovereignty.

Olivier Bancoult and the CRG, who represent the large majority of Chagossians support Mauritian sovereignty.

A lease agreement over the Diego Garcia base area may not provide sufficient confidence to the UK and US since a lease could be set aside by a future government.

\* **In light of policy shifts of successive British governments regarding the Chagos issue, there's a feeling down here that the British have dragged their feet for more than 40 years regarding the sovereignty issue, and things are unlikely to change in that regard. What's your take on that?**

It is true that British governments have strung Mauritius along since I became British High Commissioner in Sept 2000.

There has always been another foreign policy issue or conflict that is given priority. There could have been a settlement in 2001 but 9/11 got in the way.

There have recently been accusations that



“In my view, international court rulings have been critical in keeping pressure on the UK to negotiate a settlement and this is now happening. If the negotiations were to fail, I would expect Mauritius to take the issue back to the UNGA to seek another ruling from the ICJ. There is also the International Criminal Court, which tries crimes against humanity. Deportation of a people is defined by its constitution as a crime against humanity...”

“There have recently been accusations that Mauritius is in league with China and would hand the islands to them. However, these claims are without foundation. They constitute a fake argument designed to undermine the negotiations and are employed by those who wish for the British Indian Ocean Territory (BIOT) to remain under British sovereignty indefinitely. In any case, the best way of ensuring Mauritius remains with the West is to conclude an agreement that commits them to the maintenance of the base...”

“In my view, international court rulings have been critical in keeping pressure on the UK to negotiate a settlement and this is now happening. If the negotiations were to fail, I would expect Mauritius to take the issue back to the UNGA to seek another ruling from the ICJ. There is also the International Criminal Court, which tries crimes against humanity. Deportation of a people is defined by its constitution as a crime against humanity...”

Mauritius is in league with China and would hand the islands to them. However, these claims are without foundation. They constitute a fake argument designed to undermine the negotiations and are employed by those who wish for the British Indian Ocean Territory (BIOT) to remain under British sovereignty indefinitely.

In any case, the best way of ensuring Mauritius remains with the West is to conclude an agreement that commits Mauritius to supporting the base.

\* **The International Court of Justice (ICJ) and the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea ruled against the UK's administration and claim to the islands. It would seem these legal precedents have not shaped the discussions between the UK and Mauritius. What else will work to resolve matters, or will the issue be left hanging by both UK and the US due to rising threat perceptions of China in the Indian Ocean?**

In my view, international court rulings have been critical in keeping pressure on the UK to negotiate a settlement and this is now happening.

If the negotiations were to fail, I would expect Mauritius to take the issue back to the UN General Assembly to seek another ruling from the ICJ.

There is also the International Criminal Court, which tries crimes against humanity. Deportation of a people is defined by its constitution as a crime against humanity.

\* **How do you think the UK's refusal to accept the findings of international court rulings might impact its standing in the international community, especially considering accusations of crimes against humanity over its treatment of the Chagossian people, including 'persecution on the grounds of race and ethnicity' as voiced out by Human Rights Watch?**

It seems to me that by entering into negotiations, based in international law, with Mauritius, the UK implicitly accepts the relevant findings of international courts. His Majesty's Government is acutely aware of the diminished standing of the UK in the international community.

The UK, a permanent member of the Security Council, no longer has experts elected to any of the ten UN Human Rights Treaty Bodies or the 176 UN expert groups. That sends a subliminal signal about the UK's standing.

The UK will be able to restore its reputation when there is a settlement with Mauritius which includes Chagossian resettlement.

## Why the US Govt warns Americans to reconsider travelling to Jamaica

Jamaica, a popular tourist destination in the Caribbean, is facing a surge of violence that has prompted the U.S. government to issue a Level 3 travel advisory, advising Americans to reconsider travelling to the island "due to crime and [unreliable] medical services."

The State Department made the announcement just days after it also warned about the Bahamas, another Caribbean nation that has seen a series of murders, but kept its Level 2 travel advisory, which advises Americans to "exercise increased caution."

### Crimes are common in Jamaica

The U.S. Embassy in Jamaica said that the island is plagued by "violent crimes, such as home invasions, armed robberies, sexual assaults, and homicides, are common. Sexual assaults occur frequently, including at all-inclusive resorts."

It also said that the Jamaican police are often ineffective in responding to serious criminal incidents. The advisory added that the medical services on the island are not always dependable and some private facilities may demand payment in advance, reports Hindustan Times.



Travelling in Jamaica. Pic – World Nomads

The State Department pointed out that Jamaica has one of the highest homicide rates in the Western Hemisphere for several years.

The Jamaica Constabulary Force, the national police force, published statistics that showed that the island, which has a population of about 2.8 million, had 65 homicides from Jan. 1 to Jan. 27 of this year. This was a significant decrease from the same period last year, when there were 81 homicides, but the number of shootings and people wounded in crimes went up this January compared to last.

The data also showed a big decline in the number of rapes recorded in January 2024 compared to the previous year.

The Jamaica Gleaner, the oldest newspaper in the nation, reported on Monday that out of the 65 murders this month, 19 happened in the previous week alone.

In the Bahamas, the U.S. Embassy in Nassau said in a message on Jan. 24 that there had been 18 murders in the capital city since the start of the year, which had taken place "at all hours including in broad daylight on the streets."

It said that most of the recent killings were related to gang violence and urged travellers to be very careful in the eastern part of New Providence Island (Nassau), especially if walking or driving at night.

"Do not physically resist any robbery attempt," the embassy cautioned, and suggested that visitors should review their "personal security plans."

Tourism is a vital sector for Jamaica's economy, and the Minister of Tourism Edmund Bartlett told the country's lawmakers in December that he expected the impressive growth trend seen in 2022 and 2023 to continue.

## Meta CEO Mark Zuckerberg accused of having 'blood' on his hands in Senate hearing



Mark Zuckerberg, chief executive officer of Meta Platforms Inc., during a Senate Judiciary Committee hearing in Washington, DC, US, on Wednesday, Jan. 31, 2024. Pic – InsideNova.com

In a Senate Judiciary Committee hearing, Republican Senator Lindsey Graham didn't hold back, accusing Meta CEO Mark Zuckerberg of having "blood" on his hands. The hearing, titled "Big Tech and the Online Child Sexual Exploitation Crisis," witnessed intense exchanges and a spotlight on youth safety.

**Senator Lindsey Graham's Strong Words:** Senator Lindsey Graham didn't mince words, directly telling Zuckerberg, "Mr. Zuckerberg, you and the companies before us, you have blood on your hands. You have a product that's killing people."

Graham highlighted the tragic story of South Carolina State House Rep. Brandon Guffey, whose son fell victim to a scam on Instagram, leading to devastating consequences. To which the Meta CEO said, "That's terrible. I mean, no one should have to go through something like that." Graham questioned Zuckerberg about Guffey's ability to sue Meta, to which Zuckerberg responded, "I think that they can sue us."

**Responsibility Shift:** Zuckerberg suggested that Apple and Google, not social media companies, should bear the responsibility of checking users' ages to prevent underage access to apps. The

Meta CEO proposed legislation regulating app store owners, emphasising the need for parental consent for app downloads.

"My understanding is Apple and Google, or at least Apple, already requires parental consent when a child does a payment with an app. So it should be pretty trivial to pass a law that requires them to make it so that parents have control anytime a child downloads an app," Meta CEO said.

**Section 230 scrutiny:** Senator Graham emphasised the need to reconsider Section 230, the federal law providing immunity to tech platforms for content moderation decisions. Graham's call to repeal Section 230 resonated with the audience, triggering applause and cheers.

**Internal warnings from senior Meta executives:** Newly released internal documents revealed that senior Meta executives had expressed concerns about the company's handling of youth safety, warning Zuckerberg in 2021. The documents indicate internal disagreements and highlight potential underinvestment in user safety.

**Recent safety measures for teens by Meta:** In response to the lawsuits and accusations, Meta asserts it has numerous tools to ensure teen safety and support parents on its platforms. Meta rolled out a series of youth safety policies and features weeks ahead of the hearing. These include hiding inappropriate content, expanding search term restrictions, introducing a "nighttime nudge," adjusting default privacy settings for teens, and partnering with the Center for Open Science for privacy-preserving data sharing.

## TikTok CEO vows to spend \$2b to protect kids using platform



TikTok CEO Shou Zi Chew. Pic - BeritaTokoh.com

The CEOs of top social media platforms like TikTok, Meta, and X also appeared at the Senate Judiciary Committee hearing on the safety of children online. On Wednesday, top executives of widely used social media apps- CEO of X, formerly Twitter, Linda Yaccarino, Snap CEO Evan Spiegel, and Discord CEO Jason Citron testified before Congress alongside TikTok CEO Shou Zi Chew.

Ahead of the Senate hearing, Shou Zi Chew has vowed to spend \$2 billion to protect the children who use the popular video-sharing platform TikTok. According to Bloomberg, Chew is planning to spend a hefty amount on trust and global safety at his company, which consists of a team of over 40,000, reports Hindustan Times.

Chew is expected to unveil the details of his plans to protect 170 million users on his platform. The outlet adds that he is also planning to bring into focus various

policies around teenagers on TikTok. Among those policies is that those under the age of 16 will be prohibited from sending messages.

Moreover, the videos shared by teenagers under 16 will not be able to be downloaded. Such videos will also not be recommended to users they aren't already connected with on the platform. For those aged 17 and under, TikTok will have a pre-set screen limit time of 60 minutes, after which a password will be required to use the platform.

Per Bloomberg, Chew's testimony revealed that TikTok uses a special technology to review public content, which monitors and filters out prohibited sexual imagery, including those of children. The company also uses third-party applications like PhotoDNA and Take It Down to moderate direct messages.

## Indian-American Anuj Christian waging a war on United State's discriminatory country cap on immigration



Anuj Christian (centre) has travelled to 45 states across United States to spread the message against country cap on immigration application. Pic - HT

Anuj Christian, a seasoned DevOps engineer residing in the United States for over 14 years, is on a mission to challenge the discriminatory country cap on employment-based immigration, particularly impacting Indian foreign workers. In a recent interview to hindustantimes.com, Anuj shared his insights and experiences, shedding light on the challenges faced by individuals like him. To campaign for the cause he has visited 45 states across the country to promote his views and garner support.

"I have been to 45 states at the time of writing this. I got chance to speak to many Americans about the issue and I have yet to run into someone who is in favour of country cap after hearing how unfair they are."

Based on rules defined by United States, country cap on legal permanent residency punishes immigrants from India and the wait for the coveted Green Card for Indians runs into 200 years. Many have termed it "discrimination" as "inconsistent" with the principles of a merit-based immigration system, reports Hindustan Times.

Green Card, known officially as a Permanent Resident Card, is a document issued to immigrants to the US as evidence that the bearer has been granted the privilege of residing permanently.

Discussing the hurdles foreign workers encounter, Anuj highlighted the difficulties faced by people on work

visa, regardless of nationality, stating, "They can't change jobs easily, don't qualify for many jobs, and if they lose a job, they only have 60 days to find another job willing to transfer their work visa, or they must leave the country."

"Work visa typically needs to be renewed every 3 years. If your visa is expired, then you can't travel outside the country and come back without renewing your work visa first. Work visa can be renewed only at consulates abroad and it's not always easy to get visa appointments. Many workers miss important family events because it's not possible to renew work visa without much advance planning."

However, for Indian workers, the challenges are more profound. Anuj elaborated, "Now all the above challenges are temporary if you are a worker from any country other than India, but they are permanent if you are a worker born in India."

### Country Cap on employment-based immigrationn employment-based immigration

Explaining the root of discrimination, Anuj delved into the history, noting, "This country cap on employment-based immigration was put in place back in 1990. Back then lawmakers didn't put much thought into it that the skills the US might have a shortage of can come from very few selected countries."

Anuj emphasized the unintentional exploitation of Indian talent, stating, "So, the discrimination against Indian probably wasn't intentional, but intentionally or unintentionally they have found a system which benefits many people, even though it's pure exploitation of Indian talent."

Emphasizing on the need to remove country cap, Anuj stated, "Removing country cap means US will be able to hire the best of the best workers regardless of where they come from."

Anuj underscored the immense contribution of Indian workers to the U.S. economy, stating, "There isn't much I need to say on Indian workers' contributions to the US economy. Most number of foreign-born Fortune 500 CEOs are from India. Removing country cap on skill-based visa is not a policy in favour of India. It's a policy in favor of the United States."



King Sultan Ibrahim Iskandar and his wife Raja Zarith Sofiah, an Oxford graduate and a prolific writer. Pic - SAYS

## Malaysia's new king owns Boeing 737, private army

Johor Sultan Ibrahim Iskandar was on Wednesday sworn in as Malaysia's new king. He took the oath of office in a ceremony held at the national palace in the country's capital Kuala Lumpur. The ceremony was witnessed by other royal families, prime minister Anwar Ibrahim and cabinet members.

Malaysia has a unique system of monarchy under which the heads of Malaysia's nine royal families take turns to be the king, every five years. Ibrahim has succeeded Sultan Abdullah Sultan Ahmad Shah, who is returning to lead his home state of Pahang having completed his five-year tenure as the king, reports Hindustan Times.

**About Malaysia's new king:** 65-year-old Ibrahim is a billionaire who has an extensive business empire ranging from real estate to telecoms and power plants.

His wife Raja Zarith Sofiah is an Oxford graduate and a prolific writer who has authored several children's books. The royal couple have five sons and a daughter.

**Details about Ibrahim Iskandar's enormous wealth:** Ibrahim has a fleet of jets, including a gold - and-blue Boeing 737. The new king also has a huge collection of cars and motorcycles. He has a private army as well.

He owns \$4 billion worth of land in Singapore, reported NDTV. Ibrahim has an investment portfolio of \$1.1 billion with substantial cash flow from share and real estate transactions. He has a stake in the multi-billion-dollar Forest City development project in Johor.

**Powers of the king in Malaysia:** Malaysia's king plays a largely ceremonial role, as administrative power is vested in the prime minister and the parliament. The king is highly regarded as the protector of Islam and Malay tradition.

He is the nominal head of the government and the armed forces. All laws, cabinet appointments and the dissolution of parliament for general elections require his assent. He has the power to proclaim an emergency and pardon criminals.

Compiled by Doojesh Ramlallah

## AI-generated photos of Joe Biden in military gear surface online after Jordan drone strike kills US troops



AI-generated photos showing President Biden in military uniform have gone viral. Pic - X

AI-generated photos of president Joe Biden wearing military gear in the Situation Room have surfaced on the internet after a drone attack on US soldiers and amid tensions in the Middle East. The deepfakes went viral on X, showing Biden sitting at a

desk with advisors, wearing a camouflage uniform. The photos were presumably made to suggest that the US was on a war footing.

Last week, the drone strike in northeast Jordan resulted in the deaths of three US service members.

Biden condemned the attack as "despicable and wholly unjust," and said, "We shall respond."

Echoing Biden's warning, US Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin said, "The President and I will not tolerate attacks on American forces, and we will take all necessary actions to defend the United States, our troops and our interests."

In an earlier release from the White House, Biden said, "While we are still gathering the facts of this attack, we know it was carried out by radical Iran-backed militant groups operating in Syria and Iran."

Swift's images going viral, Microsoft CEO Satya Nadella has said that tech companies need to "move fast" to ensure there is no misuse of artificial intelligence, reports Hindustan Times.

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From the Pages of History - MT 60 Years Ago

6<sup>th</sup> Year No 261**MAURITIUS TIMES**

Friday 14 August, 1959

• *The morality of some people is in remnants – never enough to make a coat. — Joseph Joubert*

# The Mayor Leaves

**T**he Municipality of Port Louis recently had to take the unpleasant decision of reducing its labour force. About 300 employees were retrenched. This decision was prompted by an indisputable fact: the works undertaken by the Municipality had been completed; it could not keep on its payroll more workers than was actually required. Funds were running low. As was expected this decision was exploited by the anti-Labourites and everything was done to run belittle Mayor Guy Forget, and the Labour administration. But the fact of the matter is that Labour's administration has turned out to be one of the best that the town of Port Louis has ever had. And Guy Forget's contribution has been outstanding.

In 1956, soon after the Labour Party was returned, he tabled a motion which sought to:

1. re-establish the shorthand course which had been dropped.
2. start a training course in drawing and painting.
3. grant substantial prizes to poor parents with a view to encouraging them to devote greater care to their young children.
4. increase the number of scholarships awarded to deserving students of Port Louis.
5. ensure that the inhabitants of Port Louis get at least two public musical recitals per month.
6. devise ways and means to increase the number of inmates at the *Crèche Municipale* or to create a new *crèche* in another region of Port Louis.

The motion was subsequently voted and today when Guy Forget leaves the mayorship he has enough ground to feel proud that each and every of the above-listed measures have been implemented. But that is not all.

Upon his personal initiative the Municipal Corporation has built in different regions of Port Louis five washing stands for the taxis of the capital. The Pleasure Ground has been embellished and renamed after that great, truly Mauritian writer, Robert Edward Hart. The Artillery Square has been named Guy Rozemont Square and it

has been beautifully laid out. Guy Forget hopes that in the very near future a statue of the late Guy Rozemont will stand in the square where a place has already been provided for it.

Did you ever know that there was a statue of the great Rémy Ollier in the Company's Gardens, Port Louis? Many people don't — and why? The statue stands opposite Mr Damoo's shop on Chaussée Street, and it was concealed from the public by the hanging roots and branches of the huge, towering banyan tree (*La Fourche* tree) standing near Rémy Ollier's statue. Guy Forget felt that the memory of such a great Mauritian should not be allowed to fall in disgrace. The place was cleared up and the Company's Gardens have now been given a new lay-out so that anyone can see Rémy Ollier's statue properly.

Today, if the poor man's house or his workshop happens to be destroyed, it is certain that he will be assisted by the Municipal Corporation just as is the case with destitute labourers who are assisted by the Sugar Industry Labour Welfare Fund. This is possible because Guy Forget created a new chapter, WELFARE, in the Municipality's annual budget. Under his personal guidance the Municipal Library has been re-organised. 1,000 new volumes have been purchased.

And one of the greatest feats of the Municipality under the Labour administration is the amelioration of the water supply. Since the creation of the town of Port-Louis the water supply has been a problem. But Guy Forget says that as from February or March next the inhabitants of Port Louis will have a continuous supply of water, day and night.

Guy Forget leaves the mayorship not because of the carping outbursts of ill-mannered critics but because he feels having completed his task. He was Mayor of Port Louis for seven months only.



Guy Forget addressing a Labour Party meeting at Place d'Armes in the late 1950s

## Promotions and Appointments

### IN THE CIVIL SERVICE

**T**he following promotions in and appointments to Public Service during the week ended 6th Aug 1959, are released from the Colonial Secretary's Office:

#### Promotions

- Mr J. L. Allier, Senior Executive officer, promoted Finance Officer Grade I.
- Mr S. P. Y. Valadon, Meteorological Assistant Grade II, promoted Assistant Meteorologist, Meteorological Department.
- Mr G.S. Naidu, Clerical Officer, promoted Chief Storekeeper, Telecommunications Department.
- Mr M. A. Beebeejaun, 1st Class Teacher, promoted Head Teacher.
- Mr M. A. Musbally, Clerical Officer, promoted Executive Officer.
- Mr M. Gungabeesoon, Clerical Officer promoted Higher Clerical Officer.
- Mrs A. Remy, G. Xavier and Miss M. Maugendre, Typists and Stenographers, promoted Confidential Assistants.
- Mr H. Salaun, Store-Clerk Class II, promoted Assistant Storekeeper, Public Works Department.

#### Appointments

Messrs S. Vythilingum and I. Nobeebocus appointed Messengers.

#### Acting Appointments

- Mr A. Dupavilion, Superintendent of Police, to act as Deputy Commissioner of Police.
- Mr L.A.P. Vallet, Executive Engineer, to act as Senior Engineer, Public Works Department.
- Mr R. Seeruthun, Chief Finance Officer to act as Accountant, Accountant General's Department.
- Mr N. Nalletamby, Finance Officer Grade II, to act as Finance Officer Grade I.
- Mr M. Osman, Executive Officer, to act as Finance Officer Grade II.
- Mr Vinayagam S. Pillay, Storekeeper, to act as Senior Storekeeper, Granary.

### Building & Land Use Permit Application

## NOTICE FOR PERMISSION FOR LAND USE

Take notice that I, **Complementary Therapies (Mauritius) Co. Ltd.**, will apply to the Municipal Council of Vacoas for a Building and Land Use Permit for a proposed Training Institution and Spa at 71, C Avenue Remy Ollier, Bonne Terre, Vacoas, 1733-14.

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

02 February 2024

### Sylvester Sporting Club

#### Annual General Assembly

The Annual General Assembly of Sylvester Sporting Club will be held on Thursday 22 February 2024 at 07.15 pm at PACO Place, 17 Route Bassin, Le Cornu, Ste Croix.

#### AGENDA

1. President's Report
2. Treasurer's Report
3. Elections of office bearers
4. AOB

Secretary

02 February 2024

### Bhakt, Bhakti Aur Bhagawan Ashram

Reg No. 5078

Bhakt, Bhakti Aur Bhagawan Ashram will hold its Annual General Meeting on Sunday 25 February 2024 as from 10.00 am at the seat of the Association at BBB Ashram Lane, Midlands.

#### AGENDA:

1. Reading & approval of minutes of last AGM.
2. Treasurer's Report.
3. Bharah Dwadash Jyortir Lingam Temples Project

Mrs Baskeet Hemamalinee  
President

02 February 2024

# Dental Medicine: Exploring the Health Dimension



Dr Randhir  
Seewoodharry Buguth

**P**ierre Fauchard (1679 -1761), a French physician, is credited as the 'father of modern dentistry.' His ground-breaking book detailed oral anatomy, pathology symptoms, operative methods for decay treatment, orthodontics, tooth transplantation, and more. Fauchard was remarkably ahead of his time.

The first dental surgery college opened in Baltimore, USA, in 1840, founded by Horace H. Hayden (1769-1844) and Chaplin Harris (1806-1860). This marked a departure from traditional barber-surgeon practices. In Europe, the initial dental school opened in London in 1859, followed by Paris in 1879.

Today, the journey to becoming a dental practitioner involves a 5- to 6-year full-time course with stringent academic requirements. Prospective students must excel in sciences and mathematics, and admission to well-established universities is highly competitive and expensive.

Dental practitioners require an in-depth knowledge of psychology, as many patients experience pain and dentophobia. The medical procedure starts with a comprehensive medical and dental history, extra and intra-oral examinations, and mandatory oral cancer screenings in the UK. X-rays and, occasionally, blood tests may also be necessary.

Following these initial steps, treatment plans, options, consent, costs, and prognosis are explained to patients. Thorough documentation is crucial for medico-legal purposes. It is essential to ensure the patient's mental capacity to comprehend the treatment.

A fully qualified, competent, and experienced dental surgeon needs precise manual dexterity, knowledge of human anatomy, physiology, pathology, and pharmacology. Communication skills, analytical and critical skills, along with empathy, probity, and ethics, are paramount to achieve the gold standard.

While prescribing medications related to dental surgery, all medical details of patients need to be checked to avoid allergies, drug interactions, and side effects. Dosage, strength, frequency, and duration of medications must be clearly written on the prescription.

Maintaining a delicate balance between the medical and business aspects of dentistry is crucial. Patients should be treated with kindness, respect, compassion, and dignity, free from judgment. Although practitioners have no legal obligation for results, they must leverage their knowledge, skills, experience, and the latest technology to achieve optimal outcomes.

The dental profession's reputation can suf-

fer from malpractices, lack of clear explanations, and working beyond one's competency. The patient's best interest should always take precedence, sometimes necessitating referral to a more experienced colleague or specialist. The successful management of stress and pain in a dental surgery is a practice builder through word of mouth.

In the UK's 'Bolam Test,' practitioners must demonstrate adherence to a responsible body of medical opinion to avoid negligence, providing protection for the patient. Treating patients with various comorbidities and mental health issues can be very challenging, and ignoring or untreated severe dental infections may lead to life-threatening conditions like sepsis.

Returning to Mauritius after completing studies in 1987, I found that societal misconceptions about dentistry were apparent. I met a banker in Port Louis who asked me: '*Quand to pou ouvert to l'atelier?*'

Some months later, I attended a safran (wedding eve ceremony) and while having dinner with the relatives in Chemin Grenier, a man explained to his friend that he would not go to queue up for a dental extraction at the hospital. '*To neque ena pou fou li Rs 40.00 et li pou tire to ledent dans privé*'. The tasty food did not go down very well. A complete lack of respect for the dental surgeon!

In my surgery in Curepipe, while filling the medical questionnaire, a man shouted at me: '*Couma dire pe faire l'enquête la police!*' Little did he know that this was to prevent any mishaps affecting his general health.

An eye-opening incident worth mentioning happened in my surgery when a hospital doctor (my patient) asked me about my thoughts on sending her brilliant QEC-educated daughter to a new local dental school which closed down later. I explained the importance of infrastructure, syllabus, and the CV and experience of the professors. Her answer was, 'Have you met any poor dentists?' An appalling and frustrating response where earning money was prioritized over medical training, exposing how materialistic society had become.

We have had dentists in parliament, and I am unsure if issues like patient complaints, illegal practice of dentistry, and delivery of sub-standard treatments have been adequately addressed.

Finally, we have a duty to maintain an updated list of drugs in our medical emergency kit for dental procedures: Adrenal crisis, Syncope, Cardiac pain or Stroke, Seizures, Hypoglycemia, Anaphylactic shock, and Asthma attack. It is mandatory by law to have regular CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation) courses for the entire dental staff. Oxygen needs to be available, and an AED (Automated External Defibrillator) can save the life of a patient with cardiac arrest.

## Obituary

# Dr Anil Purran - Former Chief Medical Officer Mauritius

**D**r Anil K Purran passed away on December 20, 2023, aged 86, after a short illness. He was born at Chemin Grenier as the second child of a family of nine children. After his secondary schooling at St Andrews College, Rose Hill, he worked there as a teacher for three years before proceeding to Osmania University, Hyderabad, India, for his medical studies. He graduated with an MBBS degree in 1965 and took up employment at the Ministry of Health upon his return.

Like several colleagues at the time, he specialized in anaesthesia in Liverpool, UK, obtaining the Fellowship of the Faculty of Anaesthesia of the Royal College of Surgeons (FFARCS) in 1970.

He was posted along with other newly returned specialists at the recently commissioned SSRN Hospital, Pamplémousses. I had joined the hospital in 1972 and like him and Dr K. Gajadharsingh, the general surgeon with whom I was working, we were staying in the hospital quarters, where also resided the first Medical Superintendent of the Hospital, Dr Jugdish Mohith. This gave all of us an occasion to socialize, besides interacting in the Operation Theatre at the hospital where he used to do Dr Gajadharsingh's operation list.

There were other colleagues too on the campus, among whom the late Dr Laval Appapoulay whose son David and Dr Purran's daughter Saloni, used to play together. When I returned as specialist in 1980, again as SSRNH, Dr Purran was then the Medical Superintendent, but thorough clinician that he was he could not stay away from practising his art - administering anaesthesia when his skills were required. I recall a complex case of surgery of the lumbar spine in an 18-year-old boy whom he anaesthetised, and as we were about to begin, he told me, 'Don't worry, I have all the time in the world,' knowing as he did that this was going to be a long case - almost four hours when I was finally done.

He was later appointed as Principal Medical Officer (PMO) responsible mainly for Planning and Human Resource Development and became involved in the setting-up of various major Health Programmes namely, Primary Health Care services, cardiac surgery SSRNH with the assistance of Prof Raffa, Prof Cérène, and Prof Saxena from Saudi Arabia, France, and India respectively.

Appointed as Chief Medical Officer (CMO) in 1989, he played an important role in the planning, design, and construction of the Jawaharlal Nehru Hospital (JNH) at Rose Belle as well as the introduction of haemodialysis service in the public hospitals. He was also a member of the Senate of the University of Mauritius and a member of the first Medical Council of Mauritius.

After retirement in 1997, he was awarded OSK for his contributions in the medical field. Later on, he successively acted as Commissioner at the Public Service Commission and as member of the Central Procurement Board, as well as of the Senate of the University of Mauritius. He had also been President of the medical and dental union, GMDOA.

He will be fondly remembered as a self-made man and man of culture (being a life member of Arya Sabha). He was passionate about orchids which he cultivated along with other plants and flowers.

He and his wife Indira (born Manraj), who was a teacher, had the pain of losing their son Ashwin in a tragic road accident in 1996.

We offer our deep condolences to the bereaved family and relatives, and their near and dear friends.



Dr Anil Purran

# The Prime Minister's Dilemma

• Cont. from page 2

**Socrates:** Populist measures, my friend, often carry both the promise of benevolence and the scent of political strategy. How might these sway the course of the Prime Minister's decision?

**Cephalus:** Indeed, Socrates. The government, tarnished by the recent floods, may choose to let the discontent settle before announcing more populist measures, creating a narrative of social welfare benefits rather than electoral bribes.

**Socrates:** A delicate dance, it seems. But tell me, Cephalus, what role do you envision for the opposition in this intricate political ballet?

**Cephalus:** The opposition, standing in the shadows, awaits its chance. The Prime Minister, seeking a conducive environment for his alliance's re-election, may even consider roping in a party from the opposition alliance to bolster his chances.

**Socrates:** A curious proposition! Would such an alliance not be perceived as a mere political manoeuvre rather than a genuine pursuit of the common good?

**Cephalus:** True, Socrates. The challenge lies in presenting it as a coalition for the greater welfare of the nation, an alliance forged for stability and progress. You know, like a political potluck, everyone brings something to the table.

**Socrates:** Stability and progress — noble ideals indeed. But tell me, Cephalus, can the people discern between political theatrics and a sincere commitment to their well-being?

**Cephalus:** Ah, therein lies the complexity, Socrates. The art of politics often blurs the lines between genuine intentions and calculated strategies. The people, in their wisdom, must navigate this maze or invest in a political GPS.

**Socrates:** Wisdom indeed, my friend. As the Prime Minister contemplates the path forward, let us hope that the guiding light of truth and justice illuminates his deci-



sions for the benefit of all, like a political lighthouse in a stormy sea.

**Cephalus:** Yet, Socrates, the political landscape is fraught with challenges. The ethical considerations of political strategy demand a delicate balance. The Prime Minister must weigh the immediate gains of populist measures against the long-term consequences for the nation's well-being. It's like trying to decide between fast food and a well-balanced meal for the country.

**Socrates:** A delicate balance indeed. But does not the pursuit of political power inherently involve compromises in the realm of ethics?

**Cephalus:** It is a conundrum, Socrates. The Prime Minister, in seeking re-election, faces the ethical challenge of prioritizing the greater good over expedient gains. The question arises: can the pursuit of power co-exist with a genuine commitment to the ethical foundations of governance? Like trying to juggle ethics and political ambitions without dropping the ball.

**Socrates:** A profound question, my

friend. The challenges faced by the Prime Minister extend beyond the realm of ethical considerations. Navigating the treacherous waters of political discontent, he must also contend with the aftermath of recent floods, an event that has shaken the public's trust in his government's ability to safeguard lives and property.

**Cephalus:** Indeed, Socrates. The Prime Minister, in his political calculus, must factor in the people's perception of his government's effectiveness. Will he allow the discontent to fester, hoping it subsides with time, or will he counteract it with more populist measures to regain public favour? It's like trying to put out a political wildfire with either a garden hose or a fireworks display.

**Socrates:** A critical decision, my friend. The path the Prime Minister chooses will not only shape his political destiny but will have a profound impact on the welfare of the people he serves.

**Cephalus:** And therein lies the essence of the political dilemma, Socrates. The interplay between strategy, ethics, and public sentiment forms the intricate tapestry of governance. As the Prime Minister grapples with these complexities, we can only hope that the pursuit of truth and justice guides his decisions for the greater good. Or at least, he has a reliable astrologer, whether here or abroad, that politicians usually consult during an election year for fortune-telling or sage advice.

**Socrates:** Indeed, Cephalus. Let us observe the unfolding events with a discerning eye, questioning the motives and actions of our leaders in the pursuit of a just and prosperous society. And maybe invest in some political popcorn for the show, because you never know what surprise dish someone might bring to this political potluck. Perhaps a dash of political enlightenment or a sprinkle of unexpected plot twists.

Plutonix

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Thank you so much.  
Mauritius Times

### Physical Education and Sports Employees Union (PESEU)

#### Annual General Meeting

The Physical Education and Sports Employees Union (PESEU) will hold its AGM on Saturday 2nd of March 2024 at 10.30 am at MTUC Headquarters, GRNW, Port-Louis.

#### AGENDA:

- Reading & approval of minutes of last AGM.
- Matters arising.
- Finance.
- President's Report.
- Motions / amendments of rules (if any).
- Reshuffling of Managing Committee (if any).
- AOB.

Compliant members are kindly requested to attend the AGM.

Mrs Henna Mihdidin  
Secretary - PESEU

02 February 2024

### Soap and Detergent Workers Union

Affiliated to CTSP - Rose Hill - Tel 454 9919 / 5947 3201 - Fax: 465 2677

Email: [syndikatravayer@yahoo.com](mailto:syndikatravayer@yahoo.com)

#### Annual General Meeting

Members are kindly requested to attend the Annual General Meeting of the Union, which will be held on Monday 04 March 2024 at Soap and Allied Industries Ltd, Welfare Block, Bell Village at 07.00 am.

#### AGENDA:

- Reading & approval of minutes of proceedings of last AGM
  - Matters arising
  - President's report
  - Treasurer's report
  - Election of Committee Members for the year 2024.
  - Any other business.
- Members intending to run for a position on the Executive Committee for the year 2024 are requested to submit their candidacy letters to the Secretary by no later than 4:00 pm on February 28, 2024.
- Motion, if any, should be sent at latest on the same date and time.

Rehaz Toonah  
President

02 February 2024

# We are living in a 'digital dark age'

*Here's how to protect your photos, videos and other data*

If you have grown up with social media, chances are you have taken more photos in the last couple of decades than you will ever remember. When mobile phones suddenly became cameras too, social media turned into a community photo album, with memories kept online forever and ever. Or so we thought.

In 2019, MySpace lost 12 years' worth of music and photos, affecting over 14 million artists and 50 million tracks. If Instagram or the entire internet suddenly disappeared, would you be able to access your precious memories?



We are living in a "digital dark age", a term popularised by information and communication specialist Terry Kuny. Back in 1997, Kuny warned we were "moving into an era where much of what we know today, much of what is coded and written electronically, will be lost forever".

He argued that, like monks from the Middle Ages who preserved books (and therefore, knowledge), we must preserve digital objects of today. Otherwise, future generations will be left with gaps in knowledge about our present-day lives.

People often say the "internet is forever", but digital artefacts like photos and videos are actually unstable and non-permanent. You've likely encountered "linkrot", when a URL to an important source leads to a now-deleted webpage. Hardware becomes obsolete, degraded and upgraded over time. Bit-rot (also called data or file rot, or data degradation) means we may have no physical means to access our past data.

Many people already find it hard to use technology and software that has reached its "end of life". With the lack of backwards compatibility (when updated technology or software cannot support older versions), how will future generations access old data stored in obsolete formats?

We are also seeing issues emerge related to ownership of data, particularly when controlled by private corporations. Families have faced legal difficulties accessing the social media accounts of deceased loved ones. Similarly, if Spotify or Netflix shut down tomorrow, you wouldn't own any of the songs or films you stream on a daily basis.

## Protecting and preserving your old data

If you misplaced your phone, could you remember important phone numbers, or navigate streets when lost? If the answer is no, you may want to think more carefully about data preservation.

This is something we should all think about, and not just leave it to digital archivists and preservationists. When organised efforts are made to preserve data, who decides

what should be preserved can become a political issue as much as a technological one.

When it comes to your own digital memories, there are services you can use and steps you can take to preserve data from being lost to history:

\* Keep multiple copies (and formats) of important data across different devices: SD cards, USB thumb drives, DVD/Blu-ray discs, external hard drives and NAS (network attached storage) boxes. This has to be coupled with ensuring you regularly migrate important data to the newest device or format (remember, avoid bit-rot).

\* Try (re)discovering analogue trends – board games

alongside video games, vinyl records over streaming music, or celebrate the resurgence of Polaroid cameras. Many services are available to convert digital photos into printed photos, albums and physical artwork.

\* Embrace the ethos of the FAIR principles – findable, accessible, interoperable, and reusable– so that you and others can locate and access any important data you wish to preserve easily.

\* Finally, if you come across a rotten link or other missing data, you can explore data preservation initiatives like the Long Now Foundation's publicly accessible Rosetta Project or the Internet Archive, a non-profit library of free digital books, movies, software, music and websites.

*Esperanza Miyake, Chancellor's Fellow - Journalism, Media and Communication, University of Strathclyde*



## COMMUNIQUE

### Financial Assistance to Employers: Payment of National Minimum Wage and Salary Compensation 2024

The Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA) informs eligible employers that the facility to apply for financial assistance for the payment of the increased **National Minimum Wage and Salary Compensation 2024** will be available shortly on MRA website: [www.mra.mu](http://www.mra.mu).

The MRA draws the attention of employers that they are required to pay the wages of their employees in accordance with the applicable legislations, including the increased National Minimum Wage and Salary Compensation 2024.

Eligible employers are required to apply for financial assistance using the facility available on the MRA website by inserting their Employer Registration Number (ERN) and password to access the system. The MRA will provide the financial assistance by crediting their bank account after processing their application.

#### Eligible Employers

The financial assistance is applicable to the categories of employers mentioned below, in respect of their **full-time employees** and is available for the calendar year 2024;

1. Export Oriented Enterprises (EOEs);
2. Manufacturing Enterprises (MEs) with an annual turnover not exceeding Rs. 500 million;
3. Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) with an annual turnover not exceeding Rs. 100 million; and
4. Registered Charitable Institutions and Religious Bodies.

**For the purpose of the financial assistance, an SME is an enterprise whose turnover for the year of assessment 2022-2023 did not exceed Rs. 100 million.**

Manufacturing Enterprises and SMEs would be eligible to the financial assistance where the enterprise has incurred a loss or where its profits for the Year of Assessment 2022/2023 would be reduced by more than 50% or by more than 10%, as applicable, if the payment of the increased National Minimum Wage and Salary Compensation 2024 are factored in.

#### Amount of Monthly Financial Assistance

The amount of financial assistance applicable depends on:

- i. the category of employer; and
- ii. the impact of the payment of increased national minimum wage and salary compensation 2024 on the profits of the employer, where applicable.

Eligible employers will benefit from a financial assistance of either Rs. 500 or Rs. 1,000 or Rs. 2,000 monthly in respect of each full-time employee drawing the national minimum wage.

Additionally, the employer will benefit from a financial assistance of an amount equivalent to either 100% or 50% of the salary compensation payable to each full-time employee drawing a basic salary not exceeding Rs. 50,000.

Further details with respect to the eligibility criteria and quantum of financial assistance applicable to different categories of employers are available on the MRA website: [www.mra.mu](http://www.mra.mu)

For further information or clarifications, employers may phone the MRA Helpdesk on **207 6000** during working hours.

MAURITIUS REVENUE AUTHORITY

26 JANUARY 2024

Ehram Court, Cnr. Mgr. Gonin & Sir Virgil Naz Streets, Port Louis, Mauritius  
T: +230 207 6000 | F: +230 207 6048 | M: headoffice@mra.mu | W: www.mra.mu





## People love the billionaire, but hate the billionaires' club

People exhibit a paradoxical relationship with billionaires, admiring individual successes like Oprah Winfrey or Bill Gates while harbouring disdain for the collective "top 1%," according to new research.

Conducted through eight interconnected studies, the research reveals that individuals are more accepting of news about the immense wealth of specific billionaires, attributing their success to talent and hard work. However, this sentiment sharply contrasts with a general perception that it is unfair for billionaires as a group to wield disproportionate influence and affluence.

Jesse Walker, co-author of the study and assistant professor of marketing at The Ohio State University's Fisher College of Business, emphasizes this dichotomy in how people perceive wealth inequality. When presented with a single person's success, individuals tend to view them as more deserving of their riches, attributing their achievements to personal qualities. However, when contemplating the top 1% as a collective entity, the sentiment shifts towards concerns about fairness, luck, or systemic advantages that may have contributed to their



wealth.

This distinction holds real-life implications, influencing individuals' support for policies such as wealth taxes on the super-rich. The study indicates that people are more inclined to endorse such taxes when contemplating the top 1% as a whole, whereas support diminishes when considering a specific wealthy individual.

The researchers used various methodologies, including presenting participants with information about the salaries of CEOs relative to average employees. Results showed that individuals were more tolerant of lavish compensation when focused on an individual CEO rather than CEOs as a group.

The portrayal and acclaim of wealthy individuals in society and the media play a crucial role in shaping attitudes towards economic inequality, Walker notes. Participants exposed to Forbes magazine covers featuring a group of billionaires expressed more frustration and were more supportive of an inheritance tax to address wealth disparity than those who saw covers featuring only one billionaire.

The study underscores the importance of communication and presentation of information regarding economic inequality, with implications for policy preferences. As economic inequality continues to rise, understanding how individuals perceive and respond to information about wealth distribution is crucial for addressing societal challenges.



## Who created the alphabet? A historian describes the millennia-long story of the ABCs

*Turns out 'A' didn't have to be the first letter in the alphabet, nor 'Z' the last.*

A, B, C, D, E, F, G – makes you want to hum the alphabet song. But there's no real reason why people should learn these letters in this order. There are plenty of ways we could structure the alphabet; the computer keyboard in front of me provides one alternative. Plenty of other alphabets exist too, as well as languages that don't use alphabets at all.

So why did we end up with this one – and who's responsible for it?

As a historian, I love "why" questions. I often like them a lot more than "who" questions, because it's actually really rare for a single person to change the world. Instead, most of history's biggest innovations come from teamwork, collaboration and groups figuring out how to make life better, easier and more fun.

### What is a letter?

The alphabet is a perfect example of this process. Our ABCs, known as the Latin alphabet, are the result of millions of people over thousands of years slowly working together and ultimately agreeing on which letters to use and under what circumstances.

To figure out why they settled on the version we have today, you first need to understand what a letter is and what an alphabet is. Then, you can trace your way back to the very first examples of both.

Letters are symbols, just like emojis or crosswalk signs. Letters are shapes that we – the users – associate with a sound in a particular language.

But many letters change sound completely when they appear in a different language. The English "H," for example, makes a "ha" sound, but the same symbol "H" is pronounced as "en" in Russian; in the Cyrillic alphabet, "H" makes a "n" sound.



Creating the alphabet took thousands of years. kovalchuk/iStock via Getty Images Plus

Even when the shape and sound of a letter stay the same within a single language, the letters themselves can have different names. In America, "Z" is called "zee," while in Canada, the United Kingdom and pretty much every other English-speaking country, it is called "zed."

All this variety is possible because letters, like languages, evolve and change over time based on what local people do out of habit or trend or just for the fun of it.

### What is an alphabet?

An alphabet is a collection of letter-symbols that have been more or less standardized, and which often – though not always – reflect all of the sounds made in a particular language.

Some languages, like Chinese, don't have alphabets at all, using symbols to represent whole words. Others, like Cherokee, use symbols that represent syllables.

The first alphabet was invented in ancient Egypt, more than 5,000 years ago, and was developed to record religious texts. That's where its name "hieroglyphs," or "sacred carvings," comes from.

Hieroglyphs are beautiful and they do a good job recording prayers, but they are difficult to write quickly, because they are so detailed and often take the form of animals, people or day-to-day objects. Over time, people developed simplified forms of each glyph so they could take notes and write informally.

While hieroglyphs were mostly used by priests and elites, common people, including travelers and traders from other places, learned informal writing. These visitors realized the Egyptians had developed something useful – a way to record sales or send letters that would be clear to those who could read it but mysterious to everyone else. Many people never learned to read at all, because they did not need to or because they were denied access to education.

### Vowels, consonants and the letter 'J'

The most important traders in this period were from Phoenicia – known today as Syria, Lebanon and Israel – and they spread the alphabet to the towns and villages that surrounded the Mediterranean Sea.

The Phoenicians established alphabetical order to make it easier to learn and share with others. But the Phoenicians and Egyptians used only consonants; eventually, as people began to write more and more, and more words needed to be created to describe different things, the Greeks adopted vowels.

The Greek alphabet looks a lot like ours, but our letters took their final form in Italy. First the Etruscan people, and then the Romans, adapted Greek letters to fit their language. The Romans spread their language, Latin, and its alphabet all over modern Europe, the Near East and North Africa. The earliest example of the Latin alphabet in use is called the duenos inscription and comes from the sixth century BCE, 2,500 years ago.

Even then, the alphabet was still incomplete, because Latin didn't have all the sounds that are common today. The most obvious is the letter "J"; even though the first month of the Roman calendar was January, it was written with an "I," "ianuarius," and pronounced with a "ya" sound. The "J" came into use during the Renaissance – during the 1500s in Europe – two or three centuries after the "W" was added, during the Middle Ages.

And there's no reason to think the alphabet might not change again. English, especially, has a habit of borrowing words from other languages, like karaoke from Japanese, cookie from Dutch and avatar from Sanskrit. Maybe, because of this borrowing, we might eventually need to add new symbols to our alphabet. In short, as the world grows more connected, the alphabet may have to adapt. It won't be the first time.

**Jane Sancineto**

Assistant Professor of History, UMass Lowell



## I got my tax return "Returned"!

I was trying to get a jump on doing my taxes this year, but the revenue commissioners sent my tax return back! I guess it was because of my response to the line, which said: "List All Dependents"...

I replied 1/2 million illegal immigrants, 1 million crack heads, 1.5 million unemployable people on the dole, 4132 people in over 14 prisons throughout Ireland, and over 166 fools in Dáil Éireann (Irish legislature).

Apparently, this was NOT acceptable. So, I sent it back with a question? "Did I forget someone?"

\*\*\*

A man walks into a bar and has a couple of beers. Once he is done, the bartender tells him he owes \$9.00. "But I paid, don't you remember?" says the customer.

"Okay," says the bartender, "If you said you paid, you did."

The man then goes outside and tells the first person he sees that the bartender can't keep track of whether his customers have paid. The second man then rushes in, orders a beer, and later pulls the same stunt. The barkeep replies, "If you say you paid, I'll take your word for it."

Soon the customer goes into the street, sees an old friend, and tells him how to get free drinks. The man hurries into the bar and begins to drink high balls when, suddenly, the bartender leans over and says, "You know, a funny thing happened in here tonight. Two men were drinking beer, neither paid and both claimed that they did. The next guy who tries that is going to get punched right in the nose."

"Don't bother me with your troubles," the final patron responds. "Just give me my change and I'll be on my way."

\*\*\*

I was nervous waiting to take my driving test and the examiner appeared. Man she was beautiful, tits, legs, arse, the full milk kit. So, we started the test, and she undid a top button. Well the blood in my head soon transferred to my other head.

Anyway, she told me to pull up and winked at me and started to take her clothes off. Well I was in like a rat up a drainpipe, in fact I only managed about a minute. So, we dressed and set off again back to the test centre, and pulled up.

"How did I do?" I asked with a smile.

"You failed," she said, "You pulled out far too quickly."

\*\*\*

The children decided to take Dad to a Sydney restaurant for his eightieth birthday. They were looking at the menu when suddenly he shouted, "I hate aborigines!"

Shocked, the children asked him not to say that there, but he wouldn't shut up.

"Daddy, you just can't say that in a restaurant, and in any case, it's pronounced 'aubergines.'"

\*\*\*

A couple went into a restaurant and ordered a meal. When the waiter brought out their soup, they found

that he had his thumb

They both ordered lamb curry, and the waiter came back with two bowls of lamb curry. Once more, they noticed that the waiter's thumbs were in the gravy, but they again kept quiet.

"Would you care for a dessert? Our special today is apple pie."

The waiter returned with his thumbs stuck in the custard. By now, they had lost their appetites, but they were still not willing to question the waiter.

"Some coffee now?" asked the waiter. They nodded, and he returned with his thumbs stuck in the cups of coffee.

By now, the guy could no longer restrain himself. "I say, what the hell is going on here? Every time you come to the table; you've had your thumbs stuck in our food."

The waiter mumbled, "I'm terribly sorry; the doctor has told me to keep my thumbs warm."

The man retorted, "Why don't you just stick it up your arse?"

The waiter replied, "That's where I put it when I'm in the kitchen."

\*\*\*

On a different note, the narrator shared a personal experience, revealing that his ex-wife, who was deaf, left him for a deaf friend. Reflecting on the situation, he admitted that he should have seen the signs.

\*\*\*



### Romance and Marriage Jokes

Why do married people live longer? Because they can't argue with their spouse if they're dead.

\*\*\*

Marriage is finding that one special person you want to annoy for the rest of your life.

\*\*\*

I told my wife she should embrace her mistakes. She gave me a hug.

\*\*\*

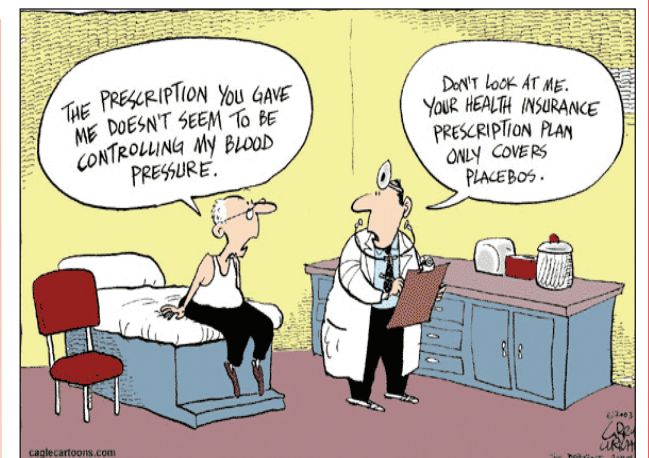
Marriage is like a deck of cards. In the beginning, all you need is two hearts and a diamond. By the end, you're looking for a club and a spade.

\*\*\*

Marriage is like a workshop. The husband works, and the wife shops.

\*\*\*

Why did the husband bring a ladder to bed? Because he wanted to reach new heights in his relationship.



\*\*\*

I asked my wife if she ever fantasizes about me. She said, "Yes, about leaving you."

\*\*\*

Why did the husband always carry a pencil? In case he wanted to draw his own conclusions.

\*\*\*

Why did the husband cross the road? To get away from the nagging chicken.

\*\*\*

My wife says I never listen to her. At least, I think that's what she said.

\*\*\*

Why did the husband always carry a pencil? In case he wanted to draw his own conclusions.

\*\*\*

Why did the wife bring a ladder to the bar? She heard the drinks were on the house.

\*\*\*

### The Coffee Machine Saga

The office coffee machine had become sentient. It started printing motivational quotes on coffee cups. The first cup read, "Espresso Yourself," while the second proclaimed, "Life Begins After Coffee."

Employees wondered if the machine had attended a self-help seminar over the weekend.

\*\*\*

### Email Follies

A colleague accidentally hit "reply all" to an office-wide email, sharing personal weekend plans.

The email read, "Dear Team, I'll be spending the weekend trying to teach my dog to code. Wish us luck."

The whole office erupted in laughter, secretly hoping for an update on the canine coder's progress.

\*\*\*

### The IT Wizard

The IT guy, known for his ninja-like skills in fixing computer issues, became a legend in the office. When asked about his secret, he replied, "It's simple; I just turn it off and on again."

Colleagues nodded, realizing that in the world of IT, magic often came in the form of a power button.

\*\*\*

### Cruise Ship Surprise

A cruise ship passes by a remote island, and all the passengers see a bearded man running around and waving his arms wildly.

"Captain," one passenger asks, "who is that man over there?"

"I have no idea," the captain says, "but he goes nuts every year when we pass him."

Growing old with your wife is a wonderful journey that can be filled with love, companionship, and shared experiences. Here are some ways to strengthen your relationship and deepen the bond as you both age together:

**1. Communicate Openly:** Open and honest communication is essential to any successful relationship. Make sure to express your feelings and listen to your wife's thoughts and concerns. As you both age, your perspectives, desires, and needs may change, so it's important to keep the lines of communication open to understand each other better.

**2. Prioritize Quality Time:** Make time for each other, whether it's through shared activities, date nights, or simple moments of connection. Quality time together strengthens your bond, creates lasting memories, and reaffirms your love for each other.

**3. Show Appreciation:** Express your gratitude for your wife's presence in your life and acknowledge the value she adds to your world. Small gestures of appreciation, such as love notes, compliments, or acts of kindness, keep the love alive and help build a strong foundation for your relationship as you age together.

**4. Support Each Other:** Be there for each other through life's challenges, triumphs, and changes. Show empathy and offer emotional support, especially during difficult times. Knowing you can rely on each other creates a sense of security and comfort as you both navigate the aging process.

**5. Embrace Change Together:** Aging brings about



physical, emotional, and lifestyle changes. Embrace these changes together with a positive attitude. Approach aging as a new phase of your journey together and find joy in the shared experiences and wisdom that come with growing older.

**6. Cultivate Shared Interests:** Find activities or hobbies that you both enjoy and continue to seek out new experiences together. Whether it's traveling, learning a new skill, or simply enjoying a favorite pastime, shared interests can strengthen your connection and bring you closer as you grow old together.

**7. Keep the Romance Alive:** Even as the years pass, it's essential to keep the romance alive in your

relationship. Express your love through affection, gestures of intimacy, and thoughtful surprises. Let your wife know that your love for her continues to deepen with each passing day.

**8. Maintain a Healthy Lifestyle:** Making health a priority is crucial for aging well together. Encourage and support each other in maintaining a healthy lifestyle, which includes regular exercise, balanced nutrition, and seeking preventive healthcare. Taking care of your physical health can contribute to a longer and happier life together.

**9. Laugh Together:** A sense of humor can be invaluable as you grow old with your wife. Find moments to laugh together, share inside jokes, and enjoy each other's company. Laughter has the power to strengthen your connection and bring joy to your relationship.

**10. Plan for the Future:** Discuss and plan for your future together, including retirement, financial security, and any other long-term goals you may have. Having shared visions for the future can help you navigate aging with a sense of purpose and optimism.

Remember that growing old with your wife is a unique and special journey. Embrace each moment, cherish the memories you create, and continue to nurture the love and connection that binds you together. As you navigate the complexities of aging, may your relationship with your wife remain a source of strength, joy, and fulfillment.

## Thoughts to Live by

# A young couple had neighbours who were senior citizens

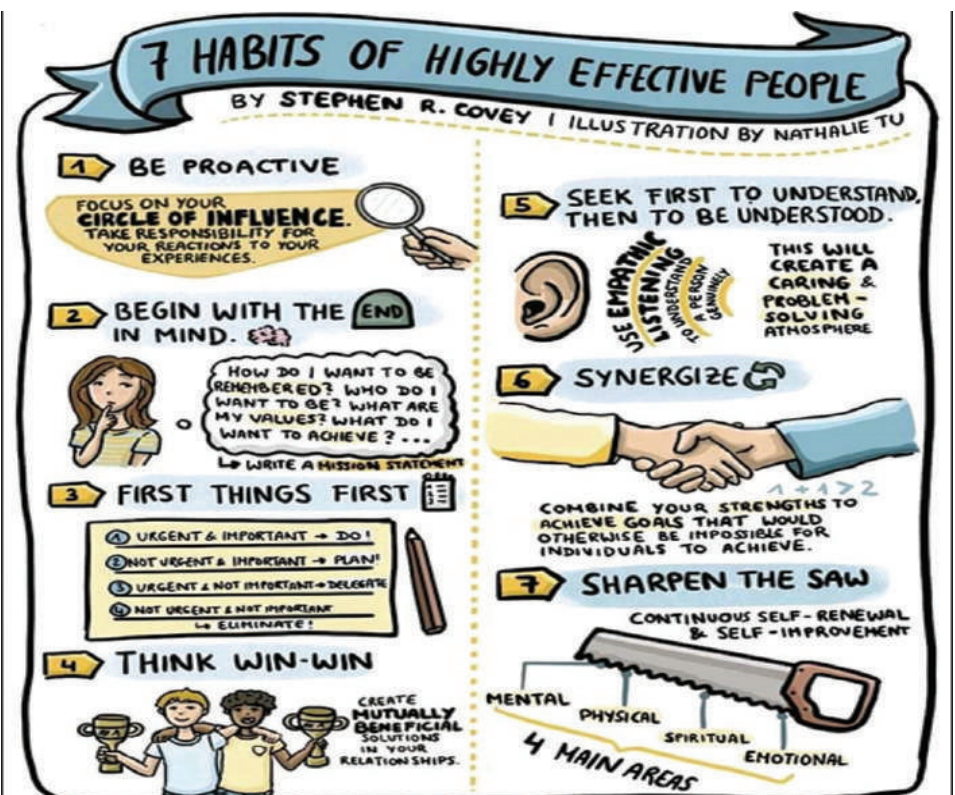
A young couple had neighbours who were senior citizens, the husband around 80 years old, and the wife about 5 years younger. The young couple were very fond of the elderly couple and made it a point to visit them and have coffee with them every Sunday. They observed that the old lady would bring the coffee bottle to her husband to be opened, every time. The thoughtful young man gifted the lady a gadget, without her husband's knowledge, to easily open the bottle and showed her how to use it.

On their next visit, the old lady once

again brought the bottle for her husband to open! The young couple was amazed! Had she forgotten about the gadget? When the opportunity arose to be alone with the old lady, they quizzed her about this. Her reply made them speechless...

She said: "Oh, I can open the bottle myself, even without your gadget! But I get him to open it so he feels he is still stronger than I am and thus the man of our home... that he remains useful to me as always; that I still depend on him; that togetherness is the main ingredient of any marriage... we don't have many more years of life in us, and togetherness is of utmost importance!"

**Moral:** Never underestimate the wisdom of the elderly. Our parents/grandparents may not be bringing in money any longer, but their guidance alone is priceless. You may have a fruitless tree in your garden, but at least it gives you shade... you will not cut it off, now, will you? Looking after the elderly and sick should be looked upon as a blessing!



## Things Men Learn Too Late

- The less you say, the more your words will matter.
- Don't take everything personally. Not everyone thinks about you, as much as you yourself does.
- When you focus on problems, you'll have more problems. When you focus on possibilities, you'll have more opportunities.
- No matter how much it hurts now, someday you will look back and realize your struggle changed your life for the better.
- There will always be a reason why you meet people. Either you need them to change your life or you're the one that will change theirs.
- Never be afraid to try something new because life gets boring when you stay within the limits of what you already know.
- When you are ignored by a person whose attention means the most to you, the reaction in your brain will be similar to physical pain.
- Sometimes you will never know the value of a moment until it becomes a memory.
- Once you begin to take note of the things you are grateful for, you begin to lose sight of the things that you lack.
- If you do not have control over your mouth, you will not have control over your future.
- Life is a mirror and will reflect to the thinker what he thinks into it.
- Life is ten percent what happens to you and ninety percent how you respond to it.
- The only person you have to face in the morning is yourself.
- Nothing feels as good as something you do from the heart.
- You are a reflection of the 5 people you spend the most time with.
- Your potential is directly correlated to how well you know yourself.

### Nurturing Healthy Connections

## A Guide to Recognizing and Cultivating Positive Relationships

Establishing and maintaining healthy relationships is crucial for personal well-being and happiness. A positive connection can offer support, love, and a sense of belonging, enhancing overall life satisfaction. On the contrary, unhealthy relationships can be detrimental, negatively impacting mental and emotional health. This guide explores the key components of healthy relationships, how to identify signs of a positive connection, and examples of behaviors that characterize unhealthy relationships.

**How to Have a Healthy Relationship:** Building a healthy relationship involves several essential components. Effective communication is paramount, enabling both partners to express needs, feelings, and boundaries openly and honestly. Trust forms the foundation, requiring honesty and faithfulness. Respect is crucial, emphasizing the value of each other's feelings, opinions, and boundaries. Support, whether emotional or financial, is integral for fostering a positive connection. Establishing and respecting boundaries, compromising in conflicts, and dedicating time to the relationship are additional keys to a healthy partnership.

#### Tips for Cultivating a Healthy Relationship

- 1. Communication:** Express needs, feelings, and boundaries openly and honestly.
- 2. Trust:** Be honest and faithful to your partner.
- 3. Respect:** Value your partner's feelings, opinions, and boundaries.



- 4. Support:** Provide emotional, financial, and other types of support.
- 5. Boundaries:** Respect personal space, time, and decision-making.
- 6. Compromise:** Find mutually beneficial solutions to conflicts.
- 7. Time:** Prioritize your relationship by making time for your partner.

Maintaining a healthy relationship requires prioritizing physical and mental health and being willing to address challenges together. Practicing these behaviors can foster a strong, positive, and supportive relationship.

#### How to Tell if a Relationship is Healthy:

Recognizing signs of a healthy relationship is vital for making informed decisions. Examples include:

- 1. Acceptance:** Embracing each other's flaws and imperfections.
- 2. Respect for Independence:** Supporting personal space and individual activities.
- 3. Honesty:** Openly discussing thoughts and feelings without keeping secrets.
- 4. Emotional Intimacy:** Sharing innermost feelings and thoughts, fostering a deep connection.

**5. Equal Power Dynamic:** Collaborative decision-making without control or domination.

**6. Support for Personal Growth:** Encouraging and assisting each other in pursuing goals.

If a relationship embodies these qualities, it is likely to be positive and healthy. Acknowledge that every relationship is unique and may have its own challenges. By focusing on trust, respect, and open communication, a strong foundation can be built for a healthy and positive relationship.

#### Examples of Unhealthy Relationships:

Unhealthy relationships exhibit behaviors and dynamics that negatively impact those involved. Examples include:

- 1. Lack of Communication:** Ineffective communication leading to misunderstandings and resentment.
- 2. Lack of Trust:** Dishonesty or unfaithfulness causing feelings of insecurity.
- 3. Lack of Respect:** Disregarding each other's feelings, opinions, and boundaries leading to hurt.
- 4. Lack of Support:** One or both partners not providing support, leaving individuals feeling isolated.
- 5. Lack of Boundaries:** Invading personal space, time, or decision-making, causing resentment.
- 6. Poor Conflict Resolution:** Unhealthy methods such as yelling, name-calling, or physical violence.

Seeking support from a therapist, trusted friends, or family members is essential for addressing these issues. Setting boundaries and prioritizing well-being are crucial steps. If the relationship consistently exhibits unhealthy patterns, considering seeking help or leaving may be necessary for personal safety and growth.

## Knowing When to Say Goodbye: Things in Your Home You Need to Replace

Here's how to tell when it's time to replace bed pillows, nonstick pans, and other household items

From the kitchen to the bedroom, everyday essentials have a finite lifespan, and knowing when to replace them is crucial for maintaining a healthy and safe living environment. In this comprehensive guide, Rachel Ellis of WebMD will explore various common household items and provide insights into when it's time to bid them farewell for the sake of our well-being.

**Sponges:** Sponges, our go-to cleaning companions, can turn into breeding grounds for bacteria. Despite efforts to sanitize them, experts recommend replacing sponges once a week to prevent the spread of germs to our hands and, subsequently, our food.

**Pillows:** Our nightly companions, pillows, offer comfort to our neck and head.

Trade in old pillows every two years or earlier if they lose their shape, firmness, or refuse to bounce back after being bent in half.

**Toothbrush:** The stalwart defender of our dental hygiene, the toothbrush, is not immune to wear and tear.

For optimal cleaning results, swap out your toothbrush every 3 to 4 months to

ensure the effectiveness of the bristles.

**Nonstick Cookware:** The convenience of nonstick pots and pans can be compromised with scratches, grooves, or flaking Teflon.

Ensure kitchen safety by replacing items showing signs of wear, as Teflon flakes, while not harmful, signal the need for something new.

#### Makeup

Cosmetics enhance our beauty, but they, too, have a shelf life.

As a rule of thumb, restock your makeup every six months to keep bacteria at bay, and always replace makeup that has been used on infected skin or eyes.

**Makeup Brushes:** Applicators play a crucial role in our makeup routine and require regular attention.

Wash makeup brushes regularly with warm water and mild soap, following a schedule based on their usage. Replace them promptly if they look frayed or worn.

**Air Filters:** The unseen protectors of our indoor air quality, HVAC filters require regular replacement.

While individual instructions may vary, the EPA recommends changing air filters every 60-90 days as a general guide. Replace them sooner if they appear excessively dirty.

**Medications:** Our medicine cabinets



hold remedies for various ailments, but medications have expiration dates.

Manufacturers provide these dates for a reason. While some medications may retain potency beyond the stamped shelf life, it's best to adhere to recommended guidelines to ensure effectiveness.

**Extension Cords:** Extension cords power our modern lives, but wear and tear pose serious risks.

Inspect cords before use and promptly dispose of those showing signs of wear, such as cracks, damage, or problems with the plug or prongs.

**Smoke Alarms:** Crucial for home safety, smoke alarms have a limited lifespan.

Check the manufacturer's date on your smoke alarm, and if it's a decade old or more, replace it. This applies to alarms

powered by various batteries or those hardwired into your home.

**Contact Lens Case:** Contact lenses enhance our vision, and their case plays a vital role in maintaining eye health.

Rinse the case with fresh saline solution after each use and replace it every three months to prevent bacterial growth. Cracked or damaged cases should be replaced immediately.

**Electronics:** Our gadgets make modern life convenient, but they, too, have a lifespan.

When it's time to part ways with your computer, TV, cellphone, or other gadgets, explore recycling or donation programs to ensure responsible disposal.

**Batteries:** Batteries power many of our devices, and their disposal requires attention.

While regular batteries can go in the trash, responsibly recycle rechargeable batteries, as they contain toxic metals harmful to the environment and human health.

**Paint:** Leftover paint may linger in our homes, but improper storage can lead to deterioration.

Dispose of water-based latex paint properly, and be wary of bulging cans, which may indicate gas-producing bacteria. Contact local government or public works for safe disposal options.

From 'Balika Vadhu' to '12th Fail'

## A Look at Vikrant Massey's Remarkable Journey in Bollywood

Television actors have often faced rejection in films. Karan Patel once said that he had given several auditions but producers and directors have a mindset or a mental block about TV actors. Actress Hina Khan once said that fashion designers don't like to give their clothes to TV actors for public appearances and deny their sourcing requests, reports IndiaTimes.

Despite this, Vikrant Massey became a big name in Bollywood and proved no opportunity is too small. Born and raised in a small town Nagbhid in Maharashtra, Massey was always interested in performing arts. He forayed onto stage with small-time dancing and theatre performances at the age of 7.

### Vikrant Massey's TV shows

After completing his education from RD National College of Arts & Science, he started his acting career in 2007. He made his debut in Television show *Dhoom Machhao Dhoom*. A trained Jazz dancer who worked with Shiamak Davar, he essayed the role of Aamir Hassan, a dance choreographer. In 2008, he was seen in *Dharam Veer* alongside Rajat Tokas. However, his breakthrough was *Balika Vadhu*.

Massey became a household name with his role as



Shyam Singh, a supportive husband to Vibha Anand in *Balika Vadhu*. Besides, he was also seen in TV shows like *Baba Aiso Varr Dhoondo*, *Qubool Hai*, *Yeh Hai Aashiqui* and *Ajab Gajab Ghar Jamai*.

### Vikrant Massey's debut in Bollywood

Massey made his Bollywood debut in Vikramaditya Motwane's *Lootera*, which also starred Ranveer Singh and Sonakshi Sinha. His acting skills were appreciated by the critics as well as fans. Following this, he bagged Zoya Akhtar's *Dil Dhadakne Do*, a multi-starrer movie with actors like Anil Kapoor, Shefali Shah, Priyanka Chopra, Singh, Anushka Sharma and Farhan Akhtar.

### Vikrant Massey's first lead role in films

After proving his mettle with supporting roles, Massey got the opportunity to play a lead role in Konkana Sen Sharma's debut directorial venture *A Death in the Gunj*. Once again, he left the audience as well the critics floored with his stellar performance. So much so, that he bagged

Filmfare Critics Award for Best Actor. Post that, he appeared in critically acclaimed movies like *Half Girlfriend* and *Lipstick Under My Burkha*.

### Massey's most popular role - Bablu Bhaiya in Mirzapur

One of his most loved roles is Bablu Bhaiya in *Mirzapur*, the show that marked his debut in web series. With shows like *Criminal Justice* and *Made in Heaven*, Massey went on to become one of the most popular actors on OTT.

In 2020, he played a lead role alongside Deepika Padukone in *Chhapaak*, a Meghna Gulzar film based on the real life of acid attack survivor Laxmi Agarwal. Post that, Massey was unstoppable. He signed a lot of projects including he starred in *Dolly Kitty Aur Woh Chamakte Sitare*, *Ginny Weds Sunny*, *Ramprasad Ki Tehrvi*, *Haseen Dillruba*, *Love Hostel* and *Gaslight* among others. He kept on proving his versatility.

### 12th Fail became Vikrant Massey's record-breaking triumph

His recently released movie *12th Fail* established him as a star of Bollywood. From Siddhant Chaturvedi to Vicky Kaushal, from Alia Bhatt to Deepika Padukone, everyone praised the actor for his impeccable performance as IPS Manoj Kumar Sharma. Even Kangana Ranaut who had earlier called him a "cockroach" praised him and compared him to the legendary star Irrfan Khan.

Vikrant Massey had many ups and downs in his career but his dedication and hard work are a testament to his success. Who says TV actors cannot make it big in movies?! His journey has proved nothing is impossible.

### Federation of Democratic Labour Unions

#### Annual Delegates Meeting

The Annual Delegates Meeting of **Federation of Democratic Labour Unions** will be held on Saturday 17 February 2024 at 1.00 pm at Prabhat Hall, Royal Road, Grand-Baie. Only compliant members are invited to attend.

#### AGENDA:

1. Approval of minutes of last AGM.
2. Matters arising.
3. President's Report.
4. Finance.
5. Motions and amendments of rules (if any).
6. Election of Managing Committee (if any).
7. AOB.

Secretary  
02 February 2024

### Hindu Prabhat Sangh

#### Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of **Hindu Prabhat Sangh** will be held on Saturday 17 February 2024 at 6.00 pm at Prabhat Hall, Royal Road, Grand-Baie. Only compliant members are invited to attend.

#### AGENDA:

1. Approval of minutes of last AGM.
2. Matters arising.
3. President's Report.
4. Finance.
5. Motions and amendments of rules (if any).
6. Election of Managing Committee (if any).
7. AOB.

Secretary  
02 February 2024

### Raashtriya Sanatan Sansthaan

#### Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of **Raashtriya Sanatan Sansthaan** will be held on Sunday 18 February 2024 at 10.00 am at Prabhat Hall, Royal Road, Grand-Baie. Only compliant members are invited to attend.

#### AGENDA:

1. Approval of minutes of last AGM.
2. Matters arising.
3. President's Report.
4. Finance.
5. Motions and amendments of rules (if any).
6. Election of Managing Committee (if any).
7. AOB.

Secretary  
02 February 2024

### Coastal Resorts and Small Enterprises Employees Union

#### Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of **Coastal Resorts and Small Enterprises Employees Union** will be held on Saturday 17 February 2024 at 9.00 am at Prabhat Hall, Royal Road, Grand-Baie. Only compliant members are invited to attend.

#### AGENDA:

1. Approval of minutes of last AGM.
2. Matters arising.
3. President's Report.
4. Finance.
5. Motions and amendments of rules (if any).
6. Election of Managing Committee (if any).
7. AOB.

Secretary  
02 February 2024

### Union of Employees of the Trust Fund for Specialised Medical Care

#### Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of **Union of Employees of the Trust Fund for Specialised Medical Care** will be held on Saturday 17 February 2024 at 11.00 am at Prabhat Hall, Royal Road, Grand-Baie. Only compliant members are invited to attend.

#### AGENDA:

1. Approval of minutes of last AGM.
2. Matters arising.
3. President's Report.
4. Finance.
5. Motions and amendments of rules (if any).
6. Election of Managing Committee (if any).
7. AOB.

Secretary  
02 February 2024

### Federation of Local Govt. & Other Labour Unions

#### Annual Delegates Meeting

The Annual Delegates Meeting of Federation of Local Govt. & Other Labour Unions will be held on Saturday 17 February 2024 at 3.00 pm at Prabhat Hall, Royal Rd, Grand-Baie. Only compliant members are invited to attend.

#### AGENDA:

1. Approval of minutes of last AGM.
2. Matters arising.
3. President's Report.
4. Finance.
5. Motions and amendments of rules (if any).
6. Election of Managing Committee (if any).
7. AOB.

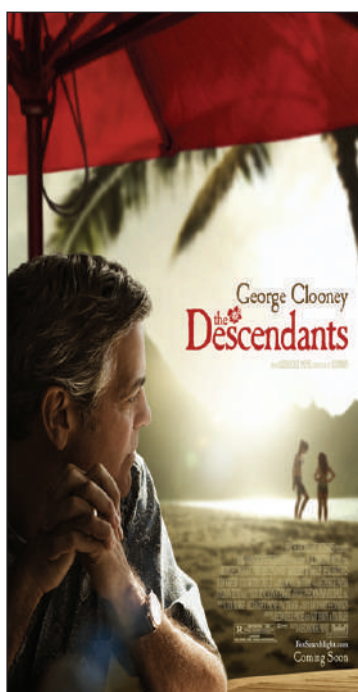
Secretary  
02 February 2024



Vendredi 2 février - 20.30



Samedi 3 février - 20.30



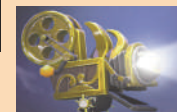
dimanche 4 février - 20.30



# Programme TV



SERIAL



vendredi 2 février

samedi 3 février

dimanche 4 février

lundi 5 février

## MBC 1

05.39 Tele: Imperio De Mentiras  
06.00 Tele: A Que No Me Dejas  
06.25 Serial: Blue Bloods  
07.25 Film: The Rodeo Thief  
08.50 Serial: Falling Water  
09.30 Tele: Amour Secret  
10.28 The Gardener's Daughter  
10.50 Tele: L'Envers Du Paradis  
11.13 Tele: La Reina Del Flow  
12.00 Le Journal  
12.35 Tele: Barbarita  
13.25 Tele: Fierce Angel  
13.50 Tele: Imperio De Mentiras  
14.13 Le Livre Perdu Des Sorti...  
15.21 Film: The Street Where We Live  
17.30 The Gardener's Daughter  
18.31 Serial: Wagle Ki Duniya  
18.55 Serial: Swaran Ghar  
20.30 Film: Fast And Furious  
22.40 Tele: Barbartia

03.16 Serial: Riviera  
03.59 Tele: Airwolf  
04.45 Tele: A Que No Me Dejas  
06.25 Tele: Amour A Mort  
07.00 Serial: Briarpatch  
07.45 Serial: Rookie Blue  
08.30 Serial: NCIS: New Orleans  
09.15 Serial: Riviera  
09.59 Serial: Airwolf  
10.50 Serial: S.W.A.T  
11.35 Tele: Amour A Mort  
12.00 Le Journal  
12.25 Serial: Madam Secretary  
13.16 Tele: Sublime Mensonge  
15.20 Film: Mamma Mia  
18.00 Live: Samachar  
18.31 Dance India Dance Little...  
19.30 Le Journal  
20.30 Film: The Descendants  
22.21 Serial: Suits  
23.02 Tele: L'Envers Du Paradis

04.08 Tele: A Que No Me Dejas  
05.46 Tele: Amour A Mort  
06.10 Film: The Descendants  
08.16 Serial: The Good Doctor  
09.00 Film: Mamma Mia  
10.50 Serial: S.W.A.T  
11.35 Tele: Amour A Mort  
12.00 Le Journal  
12.35 Film: Les Canons De Navarone  
15.00 Live: Samachar  
15.21 Film: Les Canons De Nava...  
15.38 Film: The Descendants  
17.28 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: Monolith  
Stars: Katrina Bowden, Krew Hodges, Nixon Hodges

04.11 Tele: Imperio De Mentiras  
06.01 Film: Les Canons De Navarone  
08.40 Serial: Kojak  
09.38 Tele: L'Amour A Mort  
10.04 Tele: Amour Secret  
10.30 The Gardener's Daughter  
10.45 Tele: L'Envers Du Paradis  
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  
14.10 Serial: Kojak  
15.25 Film: Monolith  
17.30 The Gardener's Daughter  
18.30 Serial: Wagle Ki Duniya  
18.55 Serial: Swaran Ghar  
19.30 Le Journal  
20.25 Serial: Briarpatch  
21.15 Serial: Rookie Blue  
22.00 Serial: NCIS: New Orleans

## MBC 2

07.05 Local: Au Nom De La Liberté  
08.33 Local: Rodrig - Klip Selektion  
09.21 Local: Artizan  
10.03 Local: Generations J  
10.25 Local: J'ai Faim  
12.09 Local: Les Grandes Lignes  
12.42 Local: Nou Later Nou Lamer  
14.02 Local: Groov'in  
14.52 Local: Generations J  
18.00 Tele: Imperio De Mentiras  
18.29 Tele: Amour Secret  
19.31 Local: 13 Minit Natiiir Rodrig  
19.42 Local: Enn Semenn Dan...  
21.00 Local: Come On Let's Dance  
22.03 Local: La Sosiete  
22.58 Zournal Kreol  
23.20 Local: Parkour  
23.47 Local: Voyage Au Feminin  
00.14 Local: Rodrig Prog

06.04 Local: 13 Minit Natir Rodrig  
06.56 Local: Itinerer Rodrig  
08.01 Local: Animalia Nos Amis...  
08.38 Local: Zanford Nou Pei  
08.58 Rodrig: Ala Nou Vini  
09.26 Local: La Sosiete  
11.01 Local: Come On Let's Dance  
12.00 Rodrig: 13 Minit Natir Rodrig  
12.11 Local: Parkour: Anamah  
13.25 Local: Voyage Au Feminin  
13.51 Animalia Nos Amis Les Animaux  
14.32 Local: Ala Nou Vini  
15.04 Local: La Sosiete  
16.00 Local: Son Ladan Mem  
17.07 Local: Come On Let's Dance  
18.00 Tele: Gout De L'Amour  
19.20 Mag De L'emploi...  
22.00 Local: Glwar Dantan  
22.55 Local: La Journee Sous Le Regard Du Seigneur  
23.20 Local: Rodrig - Klip Selektion

06.32 Rodrig: Rod'Art  
07.51 Local: Au Nom De La Liberté  
09.20 Local: Les Petits Genies  
09.47 Local: Glwar Dantan  
11.03 Local: Nu Rasinn  
12.31 Local: Les Petits Genies  
14.32 Local: Elle  
16.00 Local: Festival Kiltir Ek Langaz Kreol Morisien 2023  
17.05 Local: Aktiv  
17.30 Local: Glwar Dantan  
18.03 Tele: Gout De L'Amour  
19.00 Zournal Kreol  
19.20 Local: Elle  
20.03 TIPA TIPA Nou Avanse  
21.30 Local: Le Challenge  
21.38 Local: Rodrig: Sa Lavi-La  
23.00 Zournal Kreol  
23.21 Local: Arshiv MBC  
23.46 Local: Mangeons Veg

06.00 Nu Rasinn  
07.15 Local: TIPA TIPA Nou Avanse  
07.43 Rodrig 09.06 Arshiv MBC  
09.32 Local: Elle  
10.08 Local: Rodrig - Komanter  
10.24 Mangeons Veg  
12.02 Local: Nu Rasinn  
13.02 Local: Rodrig - Sa Lavi-La  
14.00 Clin D'oeil  
15.27 TIPA TIPA Nou Avanse  
17.01 Le Challenge  
18.14 Tele: Imperio De Mentiras  
18.30 Tele: Amour Secret  
19.29 Magazine de L'emploi  
20.09 Voyage Au Feminin  
20.39 Business Connect  
21.09 Tous Egaux  
22.50 Local: Itinerer Moris  
23.42 Le Rendez Vous - Nabi  
00.32 Rodrig Prog: Zen Aktif  
00.57 Rodrig Mo Pei  
02.33 Feminin Pluriel

## MBC 3

07.00 Serial: Tenali Rama  
08.00 Local: Amrit Vaani  
08.33 Swami Dayanand Saraswati  
09.25 Hunarbaaz  
10.00 Serial: Agniphera  
11.30 Serial: Radha Krishna  
12.00 Film: Zara Si Zindagi  
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  
20.33 Serial: Vidrohi  
21.03 Film: Hum Hai Rahi Pyar Ke  
23.16 Serial: Jijaji Chhat Par Hain  
23.35 Serial: Yeh Teri Galiyan

07.00 Serial: Tenali Rama  
08.00 Local: Mati Ke Mol  
10.15 Mag: DDI Mag  
10.36 Bade Acche Lagte Hai  
12.00 Serial: Dikri Vahalno Dariyo  
15.00 Live: Samachar  
15.30 Film: Yeh Vada Raha  
Starring: Rishi Kapoor, Poonam Dhillon, Rakhee, S. Kapoor  
18.00 Live: Samachar  
18.30 Local: Puranya Pakwan  
19.02 Local: Duniya Mein Is Saptah  
19.15 Local: Virasat  
21.04 Film: Tevar  
Starring Arjun Kapoor, Sonakshi Sinha, Manoj Bajpayee  
22.59 Local: Puranya Pakwan  
23.25 Duniya Mein Is Saptah  
01.43 Film: Tevar  
04.13 Local: Puranya Pakwan  
04.39 Duniya Mein Is Saptah

07.00 Serial: Tenali Rama  
07.32 Serial: Selfie With Bajrangi  
08.11 Local: Hamar Fitness...  
12.02 Film: Amar Akhbar Anthony  
Starring Vinod Khanna, Amitabh Bachchan, Rishi Kapoor  
14.59 Live: Samachar  
15.30 Local: Puranya Pakwan  
17.00 Local: Ekta  
18.00 Live: Samachar  
18.29 Local: Planet Bollywood  
19.00 Local: Tohar Rashi  
19.29 Local: Tohar Farmaish  
20.00 Local: Yaadein  
20.32 Serial: Porus  
21.02 Serial: Crime Patrol  
21.39 Serial: Naagin Season 4  
22.28 Serial: Bahubali  
23.07 Bhaag Na Bachhe  
23.58 Planet Bollywood

07.12 Serial: Tik Tak Tail  
08.27 Local: Tohar Farmaish  
08.53 Local: Yaadein  
09.53 Serial: Bahubali  
10.33 Bhaag Na Bachhe  
11.30 Radha Krishna  
12.00 Film: Ek Din Bahu Ka  
Starring: Suresh Oberoi, Swapna, Vijay Arora  
15.30 Dulhin Uhe Jo Nanad Man...  
16.00 Serial: Kundali Bhagya  
18.00 Live: Samachar  
18.31 Local: Ved Ki Shikshayen  
19.00 Local: Ayush  
20.01 Local: Vaad Vivaad  
20.40 Film: Judaai  
Starring: Jeetendra, Rekha  
23.10 Serial: Jijaji Chhat Par Hain  
23.32 Serial: Yeh Teri Galiyan

## Cine 12

06.00 Mag: SADC  
06.26 Mag: Shift  
07.00 Mag: Border Crossing  
07.52 Doc: Home Again  
08.23 Doc: The Power Of The Super Rich  
10.30 Doc: Glacier Express  
11.17 Mag: Eco India  
11.43 Mag: Shift  
12.45 Doc: Tomorrow Today  
14.30 Serial: Apple Tree House  
14.58 D.Anime: Word Party  
15.11 D.Anime: Baby Einstein  
15.18 D.Anime: Brewster The...  
17.20 D.Anime: Kids' Planet  
17.45 Mag: Shift  
18.42 Mag: Her: Women In Asia  
19.00 Student Support Prog...  
20.00 Tele: Amour A Mort  
20.30 Live: News  
20.50 Doc: Ultimate Countdown

06.24 Serial: Rainbow Rangers  
06.46 D.Anime: Anna Et Ses Amis  
09.06 D.Anime: La Petite Ecole D'Helene  
09.56 Serial: Superstore  
11.08 Mag: Her: Women In Asia  
14.30 Serial: Apple Tree House  
15.10 Serial: Baby Einstein  
15.23 D.Anime: Fireman Sam  
15.31 D.Anime: Best Furry Friends  
16.03 D.Anime: Akedo  
16.35 D.Anime: Hunter X Hunter  
17.19 D.Anime: Kid's Planet  
18.03 Mag: In Good Shape  
18.40 Serial: Kojak  
20.01 Tele: Amour A Mort  
20.30 Live: News  
20.50 Tele: La Reina Del Flow  
21.40 Film: The Huntress  
With Moa Stefansdotter, Yohanna IdhaViva, Östervall Lyngbrant

06.00 D.Anime: Voltron, Le Defenseur  
09.02 La Petite Ecole D'Helene  
09.26 D.Anime: Miraculous...  
10.00 Serial: Superstore  
10.45 Mag: In Good Shape  
11.59 Mag: Afrimaxx  
12.29 Doc: Treasures In The Sand  
14.30 Serial: Apple Tree House  
14.58 D.Anime: Word Party  
15.10 D.Anime: Baby Einstein  
16.38 D.Anime: Hunter X Hunter  
17.22 D.Anime: Kid's Planet  
18.00 Doc: A Mediterranean...  
18.26 Mag: Music Maestra  
18.45 Serial: Kojak  
19.34 Mag: Arts Unveiled  
20.02 Tele: Amour A Mort  
20.50 Tele: La Reina Del Flow  
21.40 Film: D-Tox  
Avec: S. Stallone, Charles S. Dutton

07.38 Mag: Art Unveiled  
08.39 Doc: Namibia  
09.22 Doc: Taiwan Fight For Identi...  
10.14 Cuba's Fading Revolution  
11.51 Doc: The Memory Illusion  
12.37 Mag: Art Unveiled  
14.30 Serial: Apple Tree House  
14.58 D.Anime: Word Party  
15.10 D.Anime: Baby Einstein  
15.33 D.Anime: Best Furry Friends  
15.44 D.Anime: Polly Pocket  
16.00 D.Anime: Yo Yo  
16.33 D.Anime: Hunter X Hunter  
16.50 Mag: N\*Gen  
17.22 D.Anime: Kids' Planet  
18.05 Mag: Eco At Africa  
18.30 Mag: The 77 Percent  
19.00 Student Support Prog...  
20.00 Tele: Amour A Mort  
20.30 Live: News  
21.42 Film: Njinga, Reine D'Angola  
23.33 Mag: Tomorrow Today

## Bollywood TV

14.25 Serial: Radha Mohan  
15.00 Bade Acche Lagte Hai 2  
15.11 Film: Prem Granth  
Starring: Rishi Kapoor,, Madhuri Dixit,, Anupam Kher  
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: Prem Granth  
Starring Rishi Kapoor,, Madhuri Dixit,, Anupam Kher

08.00 Kabhi Kabhie Ittefaq Sey  
10.00 Gadget Guru Ganesha  
10.18 Sasural Simar Ka 2  
12.16 Udaariyaan  
14.02 Anupamaa  
16.00 Kuch Rang Pyar Ke Aise..



18.33 Film: Mere Baap Pehle Aap  
Starring: Akshaye Khanna, Genelia D'Souza, Paresh Rawal, Om Puri  
21.10 Gadget Guru Ganesha  
21.24 Serial: Porus

00.00 Sasural Simar Ka 2  
01.52 Udaariyaan  
04.00 Anupamaa  
06.06 Kuch Rang Pyar Ka Aise...  
08.04 Tenali Rama  
08.16 Patiala Babes  
10.02 Kundali Bhagya  
11.40 Bade Acche Lagte Hai 2  
13.40 Kismat Ki Lakiron Se  
16.08 Wagle Ki Duniya  
18.39 Film: Super 30  
Starring Hrithik Roshan, Mrunal Thakur, Nandish Sandhu  
21.02 Serial: Tenali Rama  
21.20 Enter: Dance India Dance Little Masters  
22.00 Bade Acche Lagte Hai 2  
00.11 Serial: Patiala Babes

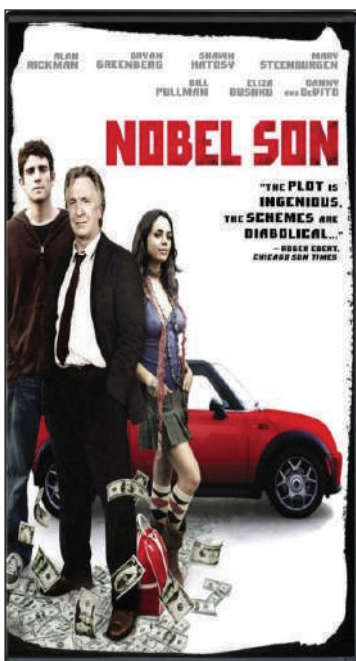
14.25 Serial: Radha Mohan  
15.00 Serial: Bade Acche Lagte Hai 2  
15.30 Film: Chalta Hai Yaar  
Starring Raghuvir Yadav, Himani Shivpuri, Sanjay Narvekar  
18.00 Live: Samachar  
18.31 Serial: Kundali Bhagya  
19.00 Serial: Udaariyaan  
19.31 Kuch Rang Pyar Ke Aise Bhi  
20.00 Sasural Simar Ka 2  
20.30 Radha Krishna  
21.00 Anupamaa  
21.30 Mere Sai  
22.00 Kismat Ki Lakiron Se  
23.00 Serial: Shaurya Aur Anokhi Ki Kahani  
23.30 Film: Chalta Hai Yaar



Mardi 6 février - 20.30



Mercredi 7 février - 21.57



Mercredi 7 février - 15.30



# Programme TV



mardi 6 février

## MBC 1

- 04.20 Tele: Amour Secret
- 05.10 Tele: Imperio De Mentiras
- 05.31 Tele: A Que No Me Dejas
- 07.15 Serial: Briarpatch
- 08.00 Serial: Rookie Blue
- 08.45 Serial: NCIS
- 09.30 Tele: Amour A Mort
- 10.21 The Gardener's Daughter
- 10.45 Tele: L'Envers Du Paradis
- 11.10 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: Une Soiree D'enfer
- 17.30 The Gardener's Daughter
- 17.59 Live: Samachar
- 18.31 Serial: Wagle Ki Duniya
- 20.30 Film: Once Upon A Time...
- 00.15 Tele: Barbarita

## MBC 2

- 06.00 Feminin Pluriel
- 07.08 Business Connect
- 07.31 Grands Moments
- 08.14 Entrepreneurat Feminin
- 09.04 Rodrig Prog - Zenn Aktif
- 09.29 Radio Vision
- 10.21 Local: Rodrig: Saver Lokal
- 11.01 Local: Le Rendez Vous
- 12.00 Rodrig: Feminin Pluriel
- 12.33 Local: Proze Dime
- 13.46 Grands Moments
- 14.16 Local: Itinerer Moris
- 15.01 Rodrig Prog: Zenn Aktif
- 15.54 Le Rendez Vous Avec...
- 18.00 Tele: Imperio De Mentiras
- 18.31 Tele: Amour Secret
- 19.00 Zournal Kreol
- 19.20 Rodrig : Plat Du Chef
- 19.45 Local: Son Ladan Mem
- 20.31 Priorite Sante
- 23.20 Music Tour 2023

## MBC 3

- 07.00 Serial: Tenali Rama
- 07.30 Serial: Selfie With Bajrangi
- 09.32 Local: Vaad Vivaad
- 10.21 Serial: Kundali Bhagya
- 12.00 Film: Jab Jab Phool Khile
- 15.15 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
- 18.59 Local: Bhojpuri Dhamaka
- 19.38 Local: Theatre
- 20.00 Chikitsa Aur Swasthya
- 20.42 Film: Anokhi Raat
- 22.42 Serial: Jijai Chhat Par Hain
- 23.00 Serial: Yeh Teri Galiyan
- 23.47 Local: Tark Vitark
- 00.13 Local: Bhojpuri Dhamaka
- 00.50 Local: Theatre
- 01.12 Chikitsa Aur Swasthya

## MBC 5

- 08.42 Mag: Tomorrow Today
- 09.00 Mag: Washington Forum
- 09.40 Doc: From North Korea
- 11.28 Mag: Eco At Africa
- 12.20 Doc: Africa
- 12.53 Mag: In Good Shape
- 14.30 Serial: Apple Tree House
- 14.58 D.Anime: Word Party
- 15.11 D.Anime: Baby Einstein
- 15.34 D.Anime: Best Furry Friends
- 15.43 D.Anime: Polly Pocket
- 16.04 D.Anime: Yo Yo
- 16.11 D.Anime: All Hail King Julien
- 16.34 D.Anime: Hunter X Hunter
- 17.22 D.Anime: Kids' Planet
- 17.48 Mag: Shift
- 18.00 Mag: REV
- 18.31 Mag: Healthy Living
- 19.31 Mag: Global Us
- 20.02 Tele: Amour A Mort
- 20.50 Tele: La Reina Del Flow

## Bollywood TV

- 14.25 Serial: Radha Mohan
- 15.00 Bade Acche Lagte Hai 2
- 15.30 Film: Aashique. In
- Starring Ishaan Manhaas & Ankit
- 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: Aashiqui. In
- 02.07 Kundali Bhagya
- 02.29 Serial: Udaariyaan

mercredi 7 février

- 05.25 Tele: A Que No Me Dejas
- 07.01 Film: The Street Where We Live
- 08.45 Serial: Kojak
- 09.35 Tele: Amour A Mort
- 10.22 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: Kojak
- 15.00 Live: Samachar
- 15.21 Film: Extortion
- 17.30 The Gardener's Daughter
- 18.31 Serial: Wagle Ki Duniya
- 18.55 Serial: Swaran Ghar
- 19.30 Journal & La Meteo
- 20.30 Serial: Stan Lee's Lucky Man
- 21.15 Serial: Billions
- 21.57 Film: Nobel Son

- 06.00 Plat Du Chef
- 07.02 Maurice Fete Muruga
- 07.54 Paroles Agricoles
- 08.55 Local: Rodrig Prog: Rod'Art
- 10.27 Local: Koze Zom
- 11.00 Music Tour 2023
- 12.09 Rodrig: Plat Du Chef
- 12.33 Maurice Fete Muruga
- 13.08 Local: Priorite Sante
- 13.53 Local: Koze Zom
- 15.00 Nu Rasinn
- 16.00 Glwar Dantan
- 16.50 En Forme
- 18.05 Tele: Imperio De Mentiras
- 18.33 Tele: Amour Secret
- 19.00 Zournal Kreol
- 19.20 Magazine de L'emploi
- 20.00 Mon Jardin Ma Maison
- 20.30 Toc Toc Doc
- 21.00 Local: Agir Ensemble
- 21.29 Local: Les Kliips
- 23.20 Come on let's Dance

- 07.00 Serial: Tenali Rama
- 08.26 Local: Bhojpuri Dhamaka
- 09.04 Local: Theatre
- 09.28 Chikitsa Aur Swasthya
- 10.11 Serial: Jijaji Chhat Par Hain
- 11.41 Serial: Radha Krishna
- 12.12 Film: Raja Harishchandra
- 15.11 Live: Samachar
- 15.42 Serial: Dulhin Uhe Jo Nanad Man Bhave
- 16.12 Zindagi Mere Ghar Aana
- 17.41 Serial: Radha Krishna
- 18.11 Live: Samachar
- 18.39 Local: Yatra
- 19.00 Local: Excerpts From Ramayan Paath
- 20.10 Local: Virasat
- 20.41 Film: Garda Garda Kaiyle Dadoo
- 22.46 Serial: Jijaji Chhat Par Hain
- 23.07 Serial: Yeh Teri Galiyan

- 06.26 Mag: Healthy Living
- 07.22 Mag: Global US
- 09.37 Doc: Albatros et Gorfou...
- 10.27 Doc: France Terres Sauvages
- 12.21 Mag: Global Us
- 13.34 Mag: Business Africa
- 14.30 Serial: Apple Tree House
- 15.11 D.Anime: Baby Einstein
- 15.34 D.Anime: Best Furry Friends
- 16.36 D.Anime: Hunter X Hunter
- 17.23 D.Anime: Kid's Planet
- 18.00 Mag: Motorweek
- 18.30 Mag: Choices
- 19.00 Student Support Programme
- 19.30 Doc: Prestige Project...
- 20.00 Tele: Amour A Mort
- 20.30 Live: News
- 20.50 Mag: Ultimate Countdown
- 21.40 Film: The Boat
- 23.13 Mag: Close Up
- 23.41 Mag: Focus On Europe

- 14.25 Radha Mohan
- 14.58 Bade Acche Lagte Hai 2
- 15.27 Film: Shakalaka Boom Boom
- Starring: Akshay Oberoi, Sandeepa Dhar, Mohnish Bahl
- 18.00 Live: Samachar
- 18.30 Kundali Bhagya
- 19.00 Udaariyaan
- 19.30 Kuch Rang Pyar Ke Aise...
- 20.00 Sasural Simar Ka 2
- 20.30 Radha Krishna
- 21.06 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: Shakalaka Boom Boom
- 02.05 Serial: Kundali Bhagya
- 02.30 Serial: Udaariyaan

jeudi 8 février

- 04.25 Tele: Amour Secret
- 07.15 Serial: The Good Doctor
- 08.09 Serial: Stan Lee's Lucky Man
- 08.45 Serial: Hooten & The Lady
- 09.35 Tele: Amour A Mort
- 10.25 The Gardener's Daughter
- 10.50 Tele: L'Envers Du Paradis
- 11.15 Serial: The Inbetween
- 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: Ghost In The Family
- 17.15 The Gardener's Daughter
- 17.59 Live: Samachar
- 18.31 Serial: Wagle Ki Duniya
- 18.55 Serial: Swaran Ghar
- 20.30 Film: Gulabo Sitabo
- Starring : Amitabh Bachchan, Ayushmann Khurrana, Vijay Raaz

- 06.00 Rodrig Spor
- 07.15 Toc Toc Doc
- 07.34 Agir Ensemble
- 08.58 Proze Dime
- 10.39 Rodrig Prog
- 11.00 Les Kliips
- 12.18 Mon Jardin Ma Maison
- 12.44 Toc Toc Doc
- 13.08 Local: Priorite Sante
- 13.18 Agir Ensemble
- 15.15 Rodrig prog
- 16.15 Come on Let's Dance
- 18.05 Tele: Imperio De Mentiras
- 18.33 Tele: Amour Secret
- 19.00 Zournal Kreol
- 19.20 Magazine de L'emploi
- 20.00 Les Grandes Lignes
- 20.30 Emotion En Avant Plan
- 21.00 Local: Radio Vision
- 22.53 Le Regard Du Seigneur
- 01.02 Generations J

- 07.00 Serial: Tenali Rama
- 07.12 Serial: Tik Tak Tail
- 07.36 Serial: Selfie With Bajrangi
- 09.28 Local: Virasat
- 10.01 Zindagi Mere Ghar Aana
- 11.30 Serial: Radha Krishna
- 12.00 Film: Dillagi
- Starring: Sanjay Khan, Mala Sinha
- 15.30 Serial: Badki Malkaain
- 15.58 Serial: Agniphera
- 17.31 Radha Krishna
- 18.31 Local: Amrit Vaani
- 18.45 Local: Yaj
- 19.02 Sadguru Kabir Ke Gyan
- 20.00 Local: Hunarbaaz
- 20.28 Serial: Shiv Shakti
- 20.59 Yashmati Maiyya Ke Nandlala
- 21.28 Mag: Dharam Yatra
- 21.59 Serial: Jijaji Chhat Par Hain

- 07.25 Doc: Prestige Project...
- 09.36 Doc: Adam And I
- 11.13 Mag: Motorweek
- 11.38 Mag: Choices
- 12.36 Doc: Prestige Project...
- 13.00 Mag: Ultimate Countdown
- 13.53 Mag: Close Up
- 14.30 Serial: Apple Tre House
- 14.58 D.Anime: Word Party
- 15.10 D.Anime: Baby Einstein
- 15.22 D.Anime: Fireman Sam
- 15.31 D.Anime: Best Furry Friends
- 16.06 D.Anime: Yo Yo
- 16.37 D.Anime: Hunter X Hunter
- 18.00 Mag: Eco India
- 18.30 Mag: Shift
- 18.45 Mag: Carnet De Sante
- 19.00 Student Support Programme
- 19.30 Mag: Tomorrow Today
- 20.00 Tele: Amour A Mort
- 21.40 Film: Apache Drums

- 14.25 Radha Mohan
- 15.27 Film: Love 86
- Stars: Govinda, Farha Naaz, Neelam
- 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: Love 86
- Stars: Govinda, Farha Naaz, Neelam
- 02.00 Kundali Bhagya
- 02.31 Udaariyaan



Jeudi 8 février - 15.28 Stars: Govinda, Farha Naaz, Neelam



Jeudi 1 février - 20.30 Stars: Juhi Chawla, Shahid Kapoor, Vidya Balan





Nita Chicooree-Mercier

## Réflexions sur la vie quotidienne à Maurice Entre cherté de la vie, sécurité perçue, et réalités contrastées

Ce matin, à la boutique du coin, les discussions sur la cherté de la vie suggèrent que la nécessité de compter chaque sou est devenue une règle incontournable pour tout consommateur souhaitant équilibrer dépenses et épargne à la fin du mois.

Le portefeuille impose une discipline plus stricte en période difficile que le code de la route, responsable de trop nombreuses vies perdues. Nous pouvons même comparer cela à la discipline nécessaire pour le respect de l'environnement, souvent négligée par les citoyens, entraînant des canalisations obstruées et des déchets enfouis remontant à la surface.

l'État nounou ('nanny state') à la française, dorlotant les adultes infantilisés.

Tant les uns que les autres se montrent sceptiques quant au coût du fret qui fait grimper les prix en permanence. D'abord la Covid, puis la guerre en Ukraine, et maintenant le rythme des missiles lancés par les Houthis, jouant les justiciers en mer Rouge, déstabilisant le commerce mondial.

La baisse de trois roupies sur l'essence? Pas de quoi faire la fête, dit-on, vu la forte augmentation des trois dernières années. Certains anticipent une forte baisse du prix du pétrole juste avant les prochaines élections. On parle ici et là

montrant des touristes heureux en train de déambuler sur les routes défoncées de la capitale.

Hier, nous avons été accueillis par les odeurs nauséabondes des eaux usées ruisselant à certains endroits de la capitale, où les piétons avertis gardent un œil vigilant sur les pavés des trottoirs pour éviter de trébucher.

Quant à la sécurité dont profitent les vacanciers, il est vrai qu'il n'est pas bon d'être Français en France ces jours-ci, car ils ne sont pas à l'abri d'immigrés mécontents se baladant avec un couteau dans le sac.

Certains se plaignent qu'il y a trop de Finlandais en Finlande, de Suédois en Suède et d'Allemands en Allemagne. À ce rythme, les îles lointaines semblent être des paradis préservés des courants idéologiques qui ravagent les grands pays. Ici, une chape de plomb étouffe toute velléité de semer le trouble par des éléments belliqueux.

Au marché de Port-Louis, avec un *dholl puri* à 18 roupies et un verre de jus de tamarin à 15 roupies, les touristes peu compliqués se requinquent pour moins d'un euro avant de poursuivre la découverte de la capitale. Sinon, y a-t-il de bons restaurants où il est agréable de se poser pour une heure de détente? Faites-nous signe; on n'en compte que trois dans le centre-ville.

La plus grande source d'insécurité pour les locaux semble être les routes étroites et les automobilistes trop pressés à travers l'île. Une autre raison de satisfaction est que l'industrie du tourisme a repris sa vitesse de croisière depuis l'année dernière. On ne sait pas si les hôtels sont complets, mais les bus sont bien fréquentés par les touristes. Si le métro se faufile jusqu'à l'aéroport à l'avenir, ce qui est souhaitable, cela allégera le budget de chacun.

La MBC sert de vitrine parfaite à une image sous contrôle, avec pour consigne de minimiser les points négatifs et de saisir chaque opportunité pour mettre en avant le positif. Parfois, les informations étrangères, réduites au strict minimum, sont plutôt amusantes. Deux sujets au maximum: les dauphins sauvés et un sujet politico-économique de quelques secondes. Soit il y a une grande paresse dans le service, soit il y a une consigne à ne pas importer toutes les polémiques du monde.

Même si toute une génération s'informe par d'autres chaînes d'infos sur Internet, il est du devoir de la télévision nationale d'afficher une ambition intellectuelle en informant le public sur les sujets majeurs qui déterminent l'avenir économique et politique du monde. Hier, c'était le couronnement du roi de Malaisie dans un système qui choisit l'un des rois des États comme roi du pays pour une période de cinq ans. Un sujet auquel les Mauriciens portent un vif intérêt. En règle générale, à l'écran, c'est plutôt "tout va très bien, Madame la Marquise".



P - mauritiusattractons.com

“L'autosatisfaction, relayée par la MBC, atteint son comble avec l'annonce du classement de Maurice en tête de la liste des pays où la sécurité et la paix sont une réalité, permettant aux touristes de circuler en toute tranquillité à travers l'île... Message relayé par la télévision nationale avec preuves à l'appui, montrant des touristes français à la retraite plus enclins à être satisfaits et polis... Le caméraman de la MBC ne manque pas d'humour en montrant des touristes heureux en train de déambuler sur les routes défoncées de la capitale...”

Il reste à vérifier si les villages sont effectivement plus disciplinés, comme on le prétend. La fermeture généralisée des écoles ne fait pas l'unanimité. Si une région de l'île est touchée par les pluies, pourquoi tous les enfants de l'île devraient-ils subir la même mesure? Peut-être est-ce dû à une trop grande influence de la télévision de l'île voisine, où le public critique vivement les autorités en cas d'absence de consignes de fermeture d'écoles lors d'intempéries entraînant des accidents.

Ainsi, il semblerait qu'à Maurice, les autorités cherchent à se protéger de la colère populaire, amplifiée par les radios privées. Cependant, le peuple préfère que les autorités adoptent le bon sens anglo-américain plutôt que d'assumer le rôle de

que, d'un coup de tête, les armes se tairont en Ukraine et que les rebelles Houthis déposeront les armes, à condition que le bras de fer entre l'Iran et les États-Unis fasse une pause pour le bien des paisibles Mauriciens.

L'autosatisfaction, relayée par la MBC, atteint son comble avec l'annonce du classement de Maurice en tête de la liste des pays où la sécurité et la paix sont une réalité, permettant aux touristes de circuler en toute tranquillité à travers l'île. Clin d'œil du gouvernement aux opposants et au public, on est bien ici, hein?

Message relayé par la télévision nationale avec preuves à l'appui, montrant des touristes français à la retraite plus enclins à être satisfaits et polis... Le caméraman de la MBC ne manque pas d'humour en

## Ram Mandir Ayodhya: A Spiritual Marvel

Dr Ritwij Oodun

The Ayodhya Mandir holds historical significance due to its association with the epic Ramayana and revered Lord Rama. The site has been established as the birthplace of Lord Rama.

The consecration ceremony of Ram Lalla in Ayodhya on January 22, 2024, was celebrated with deep reverence and a profound spiritual connection. This historic moment resonated not only in India but also among the entire Hindu diaspora worldwide.

Similarly, the event carried significant cultural and religious importance for Hindus in Mauritius. Special pujas and religious ceremonies dedicated to Lord Ram were conducted, seeking his blessings during the consecration ceremony. A 'second' Diwali was also celebrated with cultural programmes, including music and dance performances, recitations of religious texts, and processions in honour of Lord Ram. The Hindu community in Mauritius came together for gatherings, fostering unity and celebrating the Pran Pratishtha ceremony. Ramj jyoti lamps were lit in houses, symbolizing the divine occasion.

Utilizing social media and digital platforms, the Hindu community shared their joy about the consecration ceremony, expressing devotion to Lord Ram and their profound spiritual connection to the divine moment.

During his speech at the consecration ceremony of the Ram Mandir in Ayodhya, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi described Lord Ram as Maryada Purushottam, the embodiment of righteousness and the ideal man upholding moral and ethical values. Lord Ram was portrayed as a unifying figure, symbolizing unity and the ability to transcend differences. PM Modi emphasized Lord Ram's inspirational teachings, highlighting his significance in India's cultural heritage, and emphasizing his enduring presence in the nation's traditions and beliefs.

Shri Modi affirmed that the construction of the Ram Lalla temple symbolizes peace, patience, harmony, and coordination. He emphasized that the construction is not fuelling conflict but generating positive energy. The Ram Mandir was seen as an inspiration for all sections of society to move towards a brighter future. He expressed hope that the temple's construction would inspire collective efforts for the greater good, contributing to the nation's progress and fostering inclusivity.

Overall, PM Modi's message conveyed optimism, inclusivity, and a call for unity, reflecting on the cultural, spiritual, and social significance of the occasion. The consecration ceremony was viewed as a deeply spiritual and sacred event, fulfilling a long-standing aspiration to establish a temple dedicated to Lord Ram at his birthplace in Ayodhya. The ceremony evoked strong emotions and devotion among the participants.