

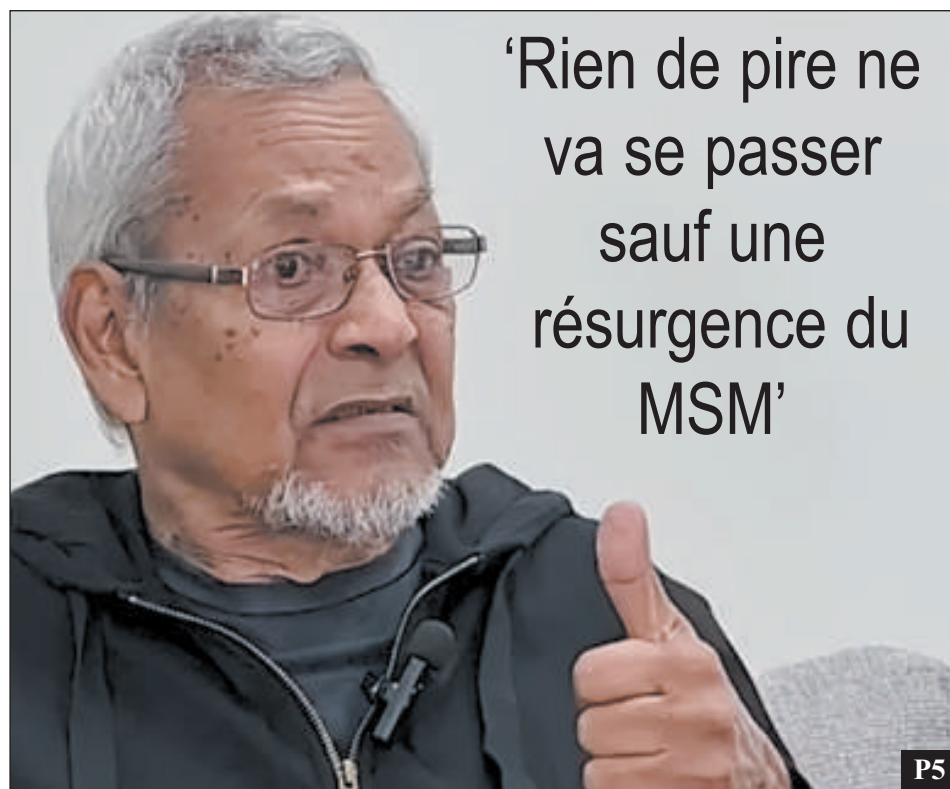
MAURITIUS TIMES

• To have long-term success as a coach or in any position of leadership, you have to be obsessed in some way. — Pat Riley

Interview: Jack Bizlall

Rupture et Réformes: Jack Bizlall Face à la Crise de l'Alliance du Changement

“Rien ne va se passer avec le départ probable du MMM du gouvernement”



‘Rien de pire ne va se passer sauf une résurgence du MSM’

P5

- ‘Bérenger n’a jamais voulu être le Premier ministre de la République de Maurice. Il a toujours eu peur d’être rejeté’

Breakfast with Bwana



Trumps nuclear order

news.com.au

P4

Trump Orders Nuclear Tests – Is this a New Nuclear Age?

Qs & As



Lex P3

The Rs 350 Million Network:

Unpacking Corruption, Jurisdiction, and Institutional Conflict in Mauritian Law

Editorial



P2

The Alliance du Changement Govt on Hold

Socratic Dialogue



Plutonix P8

The Sacred Sedan, the Forbidden Fruit, and the Irony of Et La Vie Continue

The Alliance du Changement Govt on Hold



The collective sigh of relief that greeted the MMM ministers' return to Cabinet last week proved, predictably, to be premature. The fragile truce, a victory for governmental stability secured more by internal MMM pragmatism than by genuine resolution between the two main parties, has now given way to what seems to be a profound, paralyzing deadlock. The Alliance du Changement (ADC) crisis, far from being resolved, has seems to have now become a silent war of attrition fought in the corridors of power.

The immediate trigger — the audacious list of demands by Deputy PM Paul Bérenger targeting key appointments — exposed the constitutional tension between the Prime Minister's vested prerogative and the inherent demands of coalition politics. However, the subsequent, prolonged paralysis confirms that the core of the conflict is neither administrative nor personal, but structural. It is a three-dimensional deadlock rooted in the MMM's existential demand for electoral reform, possibly deep anxieties over what the MMM leader perceives concerning the government's governance record, and the dramatic need for Paul Bérenger to re-establish absolute control over his own party. The failure to find a solution to this crisis now rests squarely on the irreconcilable nature of these three powerful fault lines.

An Existential Crisis for the MMM

The most fundamental obstacle preventing a durable solution is not a matter of personality, but the mechanics of Mauritian democracy itself. For Paul Bérenger, accelerating electoral reform is not merely a policy goal; it is the ultimate imperative for the continuing weight and relevance of the MMM. The central demand — to introduce an appropriate dose of Proportional Representation (PR) into the First Past The Post (FPTP) system — is a desperate attempt to correct the structural ailment that threatens to marginalize the party.

The Mauritian electoral system, famed for delivering robust majorities but infamous for its dramatic disproportionality, repeatedly fails to translate the popular will into equitable legislative power. The haunting spectre of past election sweeps, resulting in near-total legislative

monopolies (such as the 60-0 results), demonstrates a systemic dysfunction that renders hundreds of thousands of opposition votes effectively irrelevant. For a party like the MMM, which commands a significant percentage of the national vote but has seen its constituency performance fluctuate dramatically, the FPTP model is an existential imperative.

The introduction of a PR element is the mechanism Bérenger needs to guarantee his party a permanent, secure voice in the National Assembly, regardless of the unpredictable ebb and flow of constituency battles. It is the only guaranteed way to secure the MMM's future legacy beyond its current leadership. Bérenger, acutely aware of his political legacy and age, may have concluded that his ally, the Labour Party (PTR), and its leader are dragging their feet, ultimately unwilling to concede to a reform that inherently redistributes political power away from the established majority party.

The PTR's apparent foot-dragging, however, is perfectly rational from their own perspective. While they may endorse the idea of reform in principle, the reality of implementing a PR dose means voluntarily giving up the potential for a clean sweep — the ultimate prize of the FPTP system. Should the PTR fail to commit unequivocally to a timeline and a structure for reform that Bérenger can trust, then the political deadlock over the very structure of power is bound to continue.

The Trust Deficit

Adding to the structural tension is a pervasive and growing trust deficit concerning the government's record to date as regards the implementation of structural reforms in different sectors — a concern voiced by the MMM leader himself. More critically, the mounting allegations of wrongdoings involving certain people close to the pinnacle of power have poisoned the atmosphere. Such issues proved deadly for the previous government, and their resurgence now risks undermining the ADC's mandate for transparency and accountability. Whether these allegations form part of a strategy by certain quarters to run down the PTR and its leader is not yet known. In any case, the ADC's mandate rests on

avoiding the pitfalls and governance failures that characterized the previous MSM administration. From Bérenger's perspective, participation in a compromised administration would be a threat to his political legacy, providing a powerful secondary motive for his withdrawal.

Reclaiming the MMM

The final, decisive obstacle to an easy resolution is rooted in the internal dynamics of the MMM itself. The mini-revolt by the MMM ministers last week — who chose governmental stability over their leader's solitary, opposition-bound adventure — effectively forced Bérenger's hand in returning to Cabinet. This act of internal dissent, however, came at a heavy personal cost: it

exposed a fragility of leadership and a loss of absolute control over his parliamentary troupe.

In politics, the one who controls the party dictates its future, including political deals and alliances. Bérenger, having been publicly and effectively checkmated by his own ministers who prioritized their cabinet positions over party solidarity, now finds himself in an uncomfortable and untenable position. He cannot afford to be seen as a leader deserted by his followers.

The current deadlock, therefore, is not merely a waiting game for the Prime Minister to concede. It is a necessary pause for Bérenger to execute an internal political manoeuvre: he must decisively regain control and re-establish his authority within the MMM structure. Only once Bérenger has made sure that he is, once again, the undisputed master of his party can he make a clear, definitive, and strategic decision regarding the MMM's future. Any move to exit the alliance before this internal consolidation would risk further division, potentially splitting the MMM.

The Alliance du Changement is currently contending with constraints that limit its ability to govern smoothly. The path to a durable solution requires more than ministerial attendance at a Cabinet meeting.

Mauritius Times

Founder/Editor: Beekrumsing Ramlallah
Aug 1954-Sept 2000

Editor-in-chief: M. Ramlallah
Senior Editor: Dr RN Gopee

*This epaper has been produced with
the assistance of*

K.Ramlallah, Sultana Kurmally
& Kersley Ramsamy

28 Jawaharlal Street (formerly Wellington Street),
Port Louis - Tel: 5-29 29301 / Tel/Fax: 212 1313

mtimes@intnet.mu; www.mauritiustimes.com;

facebook.com/mauritius.times

The Rs 350 Million Network: Unpacking Corruption, Jurisdiction, and Institutional Conflict in Mauritian Law

When serious allegations of a Rs 350 million influence-peddling network emerge from a defendant in an ongoing case, they immediately test the foundations of the country's anti-corruption framework. This scenario raises crucial questions regarding the independence of investigative agencies (like the Police and FCC), the legal parameters of the crime of influence peddling, and the procedural mechanisms courts must employ when the integrity of an investigating officer or agency itself is called into question. Lex examines these issues in the following Qs & As.

LEX

*** We have witnessed lately one individual, Mr Nasser Bheeky, arrested as part of an FCC investigation linked to Malagasy businessman Mamy Ravatomanga, and who made allegations in court about an Rs 350 million influence-peddling network involving political and business circles. Given the seriousness of such claims, can the Police independently investigate them despite the case being before the court?**

Influence peddling (*traffic d'influence*) is a crime that involves paying someone, or being paid, to abuse their real or perceived influence over a public authority in order to obtain a favourable decision or advantage. It generally involves three parties: a person acting as an intermediary, a public authority that is influenced, and a beneficiary who hopes for a benefit.

In an ongoing case, these allegations are treated like any other claim and must be investigated and addressed through formal legal procedures and the submission of admissible evidence. Given the seriousness of the claims mentioned in the question, the Police or any other relevant investigative authority which typically investigates *traffic d'influence* can independently investigate them.

*** What are the essential legal elements that must be proven to secure a conviction for influence peddling under Mauritian law?**

Section 25(3) of the FCC Act provides: "Any person who gives, agrees to give or offers a gratification to a public official to cause that public official to use his influence, real or fictitious, to obtain any work, employment, contract or other benefit from a public body, shall commit an offence and shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine not exceeding 20 million rupees and to penal servitude for a term not exceeding 10 years."

The elements of the offense are explicitly stated in the section. In addition, criminal intention must be proved.

*** If a suspect were to allege that an FCC officer tried to silence him during questioning, and his lawyers have requested that another institution investigate the matter, citing a conflict of interest, how do courts generally handle such requests when the integrity of the investigating body is called into question?**

The precise reason and circumstances under which he was allegedly stopped from speaking remain unclear. If the intervention occurred because he was rambling, irrelevant, or uttering indecent matters, it was justified. Similarly, if he was incriminating himself without being formally warned about his rights, the action to stop him was necessary and proper. Conversely, if he was prevented from speaking sole-



ly because of the nature of the allegations he was making, then the intervention was improper. Regardless of the circumstances, he retains the right to file a formal declaration with the police concerning any matters on which his testimony was curtailed.

*** On what legal and procedural grounds can an independent entity be asked to take over an investigation from another investigative agency due to a potential conflict of interest?**

In a case involving a conflict of interest, the police do not automatically "take over" the case from the other investigative agency. Instead, the primary obligation is on the latter agency to recuse the involved personnel. To ensure an unbiased investigation and avoid the appearance of impropriety, it may then formally refer the entire investigation to the police for handling. This process maintains institutional integrity and ensures public trust in the investigation's fairness.

*** If a suspect were to alert a senior Cabinet member about the alleged Rs 350 million network and the role of a high official of the investigative agency, and if these claims prove to be unfounded, would it be fair to say that taking them seriously might expose the senior Cabinet member to criticism for poor judgment or political opportunism?**

The Cabinet minister act on mere unsubstantiated allegations. If the suspect simply made wild allegations to get off from a tight corner, he should not be taken seriously. At any rate whenever he is questioned he states he will talk later. Let us wait.

*** What concrete steps would be required to ensure that any subsequent investigation meets public expectations of transparency and rigour?**

A fraud investigation is a systematic process of examining and uncovering instances of deceit, dishonesty, or unethical behaviour that financially benefits the perpetrator. It involves gathering evidence, analyzing records, conducting

“By virtue of the concept of the separation of powers, the FCC investigates and has the power to prosecute financial crimes. However, once charges are formally filed and enter the judicial system, the court proceedings operate under their own rules and are overseen by an independent judiciary. The court's primary concern is the legal validity of the charges and the evidence presented, not the internal administrative environment of the FCC that brought them...”

interviews, and verifying information by honest and independent investigators to determine whether fraudulent activities have occurred.

The goal is to identify the perpetrator(s), assess the extent of the fraud, and take corrective or legal action to mitigate damage to the business. Fraud investigations are critical for protecting organizational integrity, assets, and reputation.

*** What is the burden of proof on the suspect to substantiate his claims of**

influence peddling, and could his statements offer him any form of legal protection as a potential whistleblower?

The suspect needs to produce solid credible evidence that will pass the test of proof beyond doubt in a court of law. If he is making wild allegations out of spite, he may be liable to prosecution for false and malicious denunciation in writing or criminal defamation.

*** If the court finds that the Agency's inquiry was compromised by internal conflicts, what would be the legal implications for the original charges against the suspect?**

Let's take the example of the FCC and the legal framework under which it operates: By virtue of the concept of the separation of powers, the FCC investigates and has the power to prosecute financial crimes. However, once charges are formally filed and enter the judicial system, the court proceedings operate under their own rules and are overseen by an independent judiciary.

The court's primary concern is the legal validity of the charges and the evidence presented, not the internal administrative environment of the FCC that brought them.

Internal conflicts at the FCC would not typically impact on the original charges against a culprit, as the prosecution of a case proceeds based on the evidence and legal process, largely independent of internal agency dynamics once the case reaches the courts.

*** Should allegations against, for example an FCC officer be proven, what institutional or disciplinary measures could be imposed on the FCC to restore public confidence and institutional integrity?**

Should allegations against an FCC officer be proven, a range of disciplinary and institutional measures would be imposed to restore public confidence and institutional integrity. These measures focus on individual accountability, systemic reform, and transparency.

The primary response to proven allegations involves the formal disciplinary process, which could include suspension from duty during the investigation and subsequent proceedings; termination of employment, particularly in cases involving gross misconduct like corruption; criminal prosecution, monetary penalties or forfeiture of funds acquired improperly; civil lawsuits brought by victims or the institution itself to recover damages.

Ultimately, the goal is to demonstrate that the FCC operates within the legal framework, holds its personnel to high ethical standards, and takes decisive action when those standards are breached, thereby safeguarding public confidence in its integrity and effectiveness.



Anil Madan

Trump Orders Nuclear Tests – Is this a New Nuclear Age?

Are we witnessing a return to the crazed world of the Cold War — wasting untold billions of dollars to prove what we already know: that we can destroy each other many times over?

It was almost too good to be true. Except for North Korea's occasional nuclear tests and the threat of Iran crossing the threshold and finally succeeding in producing a nuclear weapon, it seemed that the rest of the world might just have come upon a sense of sanity about nuclear weapons testing. This is not to say that disarmament was on the horizon. No, it was just a recognition that even the testing of nuclear weapons has unacceptable environmental and security risks so that nations seemed content to let them recede into oblivion.

At the end of October, while flying on a helicopter enroute to meeting President Xi Jinping in South Korea, President Trump posted on his Truth Social platform, the surprise announcement that he had directed the Pentagon to test the US nuclear arsenal on an "equal basis" with other nuclear powers. The White House promised a more detailed announcement would follow. We still await the details. What is not clear is whether President Trump was referring to the testing of nuclear bombs or just the missile and delivery systems. Since the 1990s, no nation other than North Korea has tested nuclear devices by explosion. Russia and China have tested missile and delivery systems. North Korea has tested missiles including what it claims are intercontinental ballistic missiles. The US, China, Russia, and India, have tested hypersonic missiles. Japan and France are reportedly working on such missiles.

To be sure, for the last several years, there was the ongoing buzz that China would increase the size of its nuclear arsenal if only to be in a better position to negotiate at future strategic arms limitation talks. This illogical reasoning failed to consider that China's negotiating leverage could come as much from threats to build an arsenal as from building new warheads and then agreeing to eliminate them. North Korea has clearly gained leverage as a nuclear state as shown by how the US deals with it, and Iran had commanded the attention of the US, Europe, Britain, and Russia as curbing its nuclear ambitions became their mission.

There was always the ongoing threat that hostilities between India and Pakistan could escalate to nuclear conflict, but that is borne out of an irrational Pakistani fear that India has a long-range ambition to reunite the two countries. There seems to be no rational basis on which India would proceed along those lines, so Pakistan is secure in that sense.

However, there has been the threat that if China were to embark on a mission to vastly increase its nuclear warheads, this would upset the balance for India's perception of its security and spark a nuclear arms race on the sub-continent as India tries to counter the Chinese threat. In turn, Pakistan would feel threatened by an ever-increasing Indian arsenal of warheads and feel the need to increase



Trump orders military to begin testing nuclear weapons for the first time in decades. Pic - MeidasTouch News

“China and Russia may have no purpose other than to cause the US to spend hundreds of billions of dollars on its weapons systems rather than on upgrading domestic infrastructure and building the nation of the future with modern technologies. A sensible approach by the US may well be to establish and maintain a level of nuclear capability to deter any aggressor nation from attacking. The alternative is a return to the crazed world of the Cold War and the waste of untold billions of dollars on proving what we already know: that we can destroy each other many times over...”

its nuclear arsenal.

This type of calculus should not surprise us. After all, Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman declared that if Iran got a nuclear weapon, his country would be compelled to follow suit. Saudi Arabia and Pakistan maintain strong ties so it takes little imagination to figure out how Saudi Arabia could go about fulfilling nuclear ambitions.

Recently, European countries have expressed grave concerns about Russia's nuclear threats, and there is talk of France and Britain providing a nuclear umbrella to account for the possibility that President Trump will disengage the US from the obligation to defend NATO countries.

Russia's war on Ukraine and the repeated threats and insinuations that nuclear weapons could and might be used against Ukraine or that intervention by NATO countries could lead to another world war — a veiled threat of nuclear conflict — changed the calculus. Never had the leader of a major nuclear armed state so openly threatened the use of such weapons.

In 2021, reports surfaced that China was constructing at least 250 new long-range missile silos. This rapid

nuclear buildup confirmed that China would substantially expand its nuclear arsenal. US Secretary of State Antony Blinken noted that a rapid buildout by China would mark a sharp deviation from Beijing's "decades-old nuclear strategy based on minimum deterrence."

The Arms Control Association reported that Admiral Charles Richard, commander of US Strategic Command, called the development a "strategic breakout" by China. "The explosive growth and modernization of its nuclear and conventional forces can only be what I describe as breathtaking, and frankly, the word 'breath-taking' may not be enough."

As I have previously written, the US and Russia each have roughly equal nuclear stockpiles of approximately 4,000 warheads. China, in contrast, is expected to quintuple its warheads to 300 over the next decade.

Vipin Narang is a Professor of Nuclear Security and Political Science and Director of the Center for Nuclear Security Policy at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and his colleague, Pranay Vaddi a Senior Fellow there have written in *Foreign Affairs* about how to survive a new nuclear age.

They write that the US now faces a Category 5 hurricane of nuclear threats, having to deter aggressors and protect itself and its allies from multiple nuclear-armed great power rivals at the same time. The threat exists that just as Russia has done with the Ukraine conflict, both China and North Korea may integrate nuclear weapons into offensive planning, seeking a nuclear shield to enable conventional aggression. Just a few years ago, such conduct would have been unthinkable.

Worse yet is the specter of possible collaboration and synchronized military aggression by a combination of two or more of such nuclear powers. This would stretch the US nuclear deterrent beyond its means.

Meanwhile, they write that the United States' antiquated nuclear arsenal has fallen into disrepair, with ongoing modernization efforts mired in delays and rampant cost overruns.

So, perhaps President Trump's directive is meant to ensure that the delivery systems and missiles are in good working order, rather than to go off on a spree of nuclear detonations.

China and Russia may have no purpose other than to cause the US to spend hundreds of billions of dollars on its weapons systems rather than on upgrading domestic infrastructure and building the nation of the future with modern technologies.

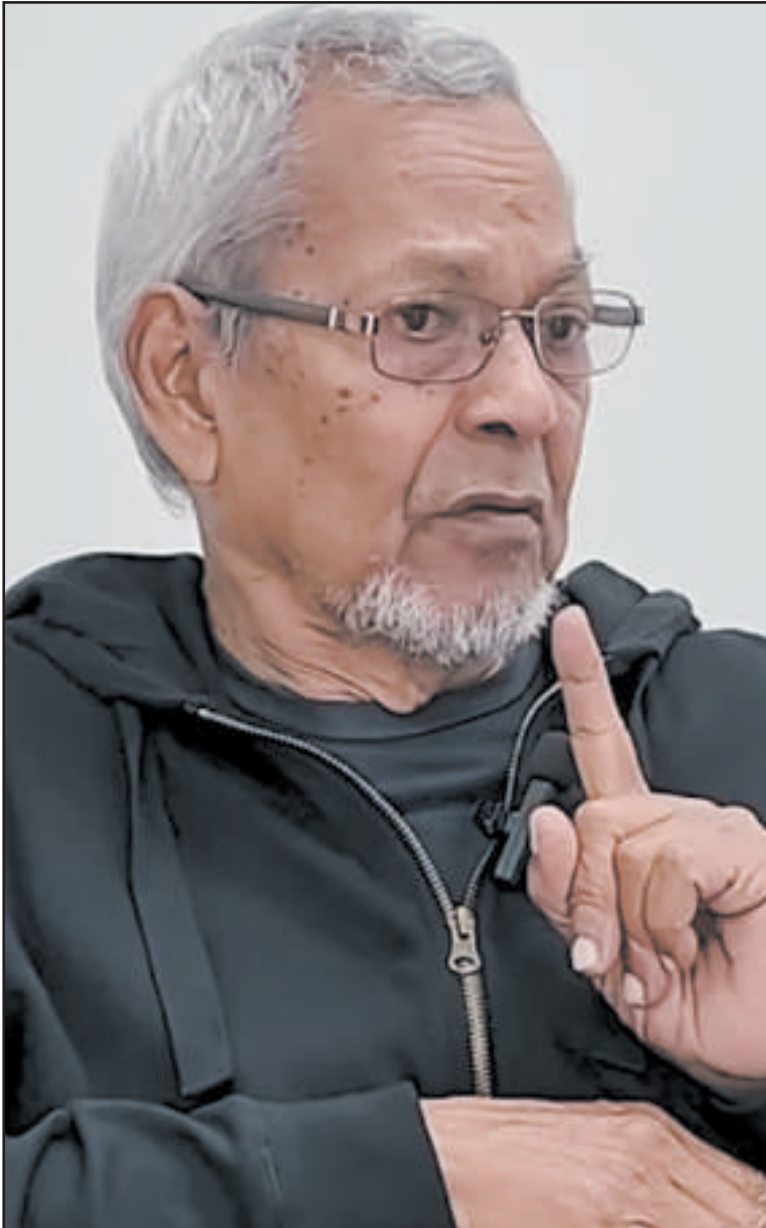
A sensible approach by the US may well be to establish and maintain a level of nuclear capability to deter any aggressor nation from attacking. After all, this country has nothing to gain by initiating nuclear conflict with any other nation.

The alternative is a return to the crazed world of the Cold War and the waste of untold billions of dollars on proving what we already know: that we can destroy each other many times over.

Cheerz...
Bwana

Jack Bizlall

Rupture et Réformes: Jack Bizlall Face à la Crise de l'Alliance du Changement

“Rien ne va se passer avec le départ probable du MMM du gouvernement”

La scène politique mauricienne est secouée par une crise majeure: le départ imminent de Paul Bérenger, leader du Mouvement Militant Mauricien (MMM), de l'Alliance du Changement. Cette rupture anticipée de la cohabitation avec le Parti Travailleiste (PTTr) soulève des questions fondamentales sur l'avenir de l'agenda de réformes du pays et sur les conséquences politiques qui en découlent.

Dans cet entretien sans concession (réalisé mercredi 12 novembre), le militant et observateur politique Jack Bizlall décrypte la situation, allant au-delà du simple théâtre politique. Il minimise l'impact immédiat du départ du MMM, affirmant que «rien ne va se passer», mais se montre alarmiste quant aux conséquences plus larges. Pour Jack Bizlall, le cœur du problème n'est pas la tactique politicienne de Paul Bérenger, mais le manquement du gouvernement à ses devoirs fondamentaux, notamment sur l'âge de la pension universelle et la nécessité d'une véritable Deuxième République.

Il dénonce le “tacticien” Bérenger, qui agit “pour et par sa personne”, et critique la paralysie structurelle du gouvernement face aux enjeux vitaux tels que la sécurité sociale et la réforme constitutionnelle. Jack Bizlall lance un vibrant appel à l'action, insistant sur le devoir de faire progresser la civilisation mauricienne au-delà des querelles partisans.

Notre fond commun de civilisation a primé lors des dernières élections par la défaite du MSM. C'est cela le plus important quand on analyse la situation actuelle. Tout mais pas le retour du MSM que j'ai qualifié de parti politique propriété de la famille Jugnauth et ainsi antirépublicain.

Quant à Bérenger, il va se retrouver, comme dans le passé — s'il décide de s'imposer sur les questions secondaires pour étouffer les questions touchant Diégo et l'âge de la retraite — Leader de l'Opposition à moins que cette fonction ne soit assumée par sa fille.

En tout cas, ce dont nous avons été amenés à être témoins ces derniers jours, tout cela n'est que du théâtre. Comme l'affirmait Shakespeare ‘le monde entier est un théâtre et tous, hommes et femmes, n'en sont que des acteurs.’

* Quoi qu'il en soit, il y a bien eu des contentieux: les nominations, la lenteur des réformes et l'affaire Ravatomanga ont soulevé des désaccords. Mais il paraît que la cause principale de la démarche de Paul Bérenger serait la réforme du système électoral. Ce serait le point de rupture qui aurait accéléré sa décision. Faites-vous une analyse différente?

Effectivement. Permettez-moi de poser la question autrement: Que retient le plus la population? L'âge de la retraite ou la baisse du prix de l'essence?

Le gouvernement doit absolument comprendre une chose: que l'on retourne vers l'âge de la pension universelle à 60 ans. Cela affecte toute la population. L'essence n'est la préoccupation que des propriétaires de voitures. Ces derniers suivent le cours du pétrole — de 125 dollars en 2008 le baril à 79 dollars en janvier 2025.

L'affaire de Madagascar. Il n'y avait qu'une décision à

prendre, celle d'arrêter toute personne ayant commis un crime pénal à Madagascar, saisir tout argent non déclaré ou qui aurait été obtenu illégalement; geler tout avoir que le gouvernement malgache peut réclamer et récupérer...

Quant à la protection du Président malgache, je tiens à faire rappeler l'assassinat du Président Richard Ratsiman-drava en 1975. La population mauricienne n'a pas de pulsions collectives mortifères. Le dernier Président a fui Madagascar pour protéger sa vie. Sous les gouvernements militaires, Madagascar a énormément souffert.

* Je dois reprendre la question de la réforme électorale: Si c'est effectivement cette réforme — enjeu sensible touchant à la structure du pouvoir — qui constitue le point de désaccord majeur entre les deux leaders, la question centrale est de savoir si Paul Bérenger cherche ainsi à obtenir l'introduction d'une part de représentation proportionnelle garantissant au MMM une position incontournable sur l'échiquier politique. Qu'en pensez-vous?

Cette approche ramène la “réforme constitutionnelle” à la seule question électorale (principalement), au détriment de l'essence d'une Deuxième République et d'un projet de société plus vaste.

● Suite en page 6

Mauritius Times: La tournure des événements de ces derniers jours semble, à l'heure où l'on parle, vers une rupture de la cohabitation entre le PTTr et le MMM au sein de l'Alliance du Changement — en raison du départ probable de Paul Bérenger, le leader du MMM, ainsi que certains fidèles qui devraient le suivre dans l'opposition. Jusqu'à preuve du contraire, cette rupture apparaît comme une conclusion inéluctable. Voyez-vous la situation autrement?

Jack Bizlall: Je peux affirmer, si cela est nécessaire, que rien ne va se passer avec le départ probable du MMM du gouvernement.

Personnellement je ne souhaite rien d'autre que le PTTr et le MMM, comme ce fut le cas dans le passé, ne s'associent plus après avec le MSM. Ils sont les responsables de la gestion du pays par le MSM.

Quant à Bérenger, il va se retrouver, comme dans le passé — s'il décide de s'imposer sur les questions secondaires pour étouffer les questions touchant Diégo et l'âge de la retraite — Leader de l'Opposition à moins que cette fonction ne soit assumée par sa fille. En tout cas, ce dont nous avons été amenés à être témoins ces derniers jours, tout cela n'est que du théâtre...

‘Rien de pire ne va se passer sauf une résurgence du MSM’

‘Si je dois décrire notre société sous le régime actuel, je dirai que c’est comme une maison pas encore libérée des rats’

Personnellement je ne souhaite rien d’autre que le PTR et le MMM, comme ce fut le cas dans le passé, ne s’associent plus après avec le MSM. Ils sont les responsables de la gestion du pays par le MSM. Notre fond commun de civilisation a primé lors des dernières élections par la défaite du MSM. C’est cela le plus important quand on analyse la situation actuelle. Tout mais pas le retour du MSM...

● Suite de la page 5

L’analyse de l’approche de Bérenger révèle une dimension purement tactique: il agit dans le cadre de conjonctures politiques qui lui sont défavorables. Il n’est qu’un tacticien (certes très talentueux) qui cherche avant tout à résoudre des problèmes liés à sa personne et à son parti, fonctionnant selon une logique du «pour et par sa personne». Sa démarche ne vise pas prioritairement l’intérêt général ni l’ensemble du pays.

Je lui suggérerais, en tant qu’ami, de retourner à son individualité (le pour-soi) et de rejeter l’individualisme (le «que pour soi»), qui l’anime depuis l’enfance — j’en ai parlé souvent avec Frappier, qui le connaît depuis son enfance — il devrait savoir qu’il y a de plus grandes choses à accomplir.

Nous avons le devoir et l’obligation de changer de Constitution pour faire progresser notre civilisation. Le simple terme de «réforme» (dans le sens d’ajustement partiel) risque de faire exploser ce pays par le populisme de tous les bords. Seul un changement constitutionnel profond, écartant l’idée de simples ajustements électoraux au profit d’une nouvelle architecture institutionnelle, permettra d’atteindre cet objectif.

* Mais, si la rupture se concrétise — à brève échéance ou ultérieurement —, envisagez-vous que Paul Bérenger assume la fonction de Leader de l’Opposition?

Comme je vous l’ai dit, rien de pire ne va se passer si ce n’est une résurgence du MSM en cas de cassure de l’alliance PTR-MMM. Si Bérenger reste au Gouvernement, qu’il assume son rôle à faire passer des décisions en faveur de la population mauricienne, rodriguaise, agaléenne et chagossienne.

Je parle ici de multiples sécurités sociales. De la Pension à Diego Garcia; de l’éducation d’assertion de la personne humaine au lieu de l’insertion dans le système capitaliste; de la Deuxième République. La liste est longue.

Je parle ici de multiples sécurités sociales. De la Pension à Diego Garcia, de l’éducation d’assertion de la personne humaine au lieu de l’insertion dans le système capitaliste, de la Deuxième République... La liste est longue.

S’il retourne à sa position de prédilection, qui est la fonction de Leader de l’Opposition, il se sentirait heureux. Il n’a jamais voulu être le Premier ministre de la République de Maurice. Il a toujours eu peur d’être rejeté. Il y a beaucoup de peurs inconscientes en lui. Question de savoir-être. Il aurait fallu qu’il développe un certain nombre de qualités

personnelles. Ce n’est pas une question de compétences seulement, mais c’est surtout des questions comportementales et relationnelles ici.

Comme Leader de l’Opposition, il pourra faire valoir son savoir essentiellement économique et réduire son savoir-être à émuler Raymond Poulidor.

* Au-delà du leadership de l’opposition, comme dans le cas du Parti Travailleuse, la question de la relève ou de la succession de leadership pourrait se poser avant la fin du second mandat — un sujet à propos duquel les leaders concernés vont probablement discuter en privé, puis éventuellement, ils en débattront au sein de leur parti respectif. Voyez-vous Johanna Bérenger jouer un rôle dans cette équation pour le MMM?

Il faut vous demander pourquoi certains de nos dirigeants ne veulent pas passer à la Deuxième République. Dans les faits il y a trois éléments qu’ils ne veulent pas changer.

Si Bérenger reste au Gouvernement, qu’il assume son rôle à faire passer des décisions en faveur de la population mauricienne, rodriguaise, agaléenne et chagossienne. Je parle ici de multiples sécurités sociales. De la Pension à Diego Garcia; de l’éducation d’assertion de la personne humaine au lieu de l’insertion dans le système capitaliste; de la Deuxième République. La liste est longue...

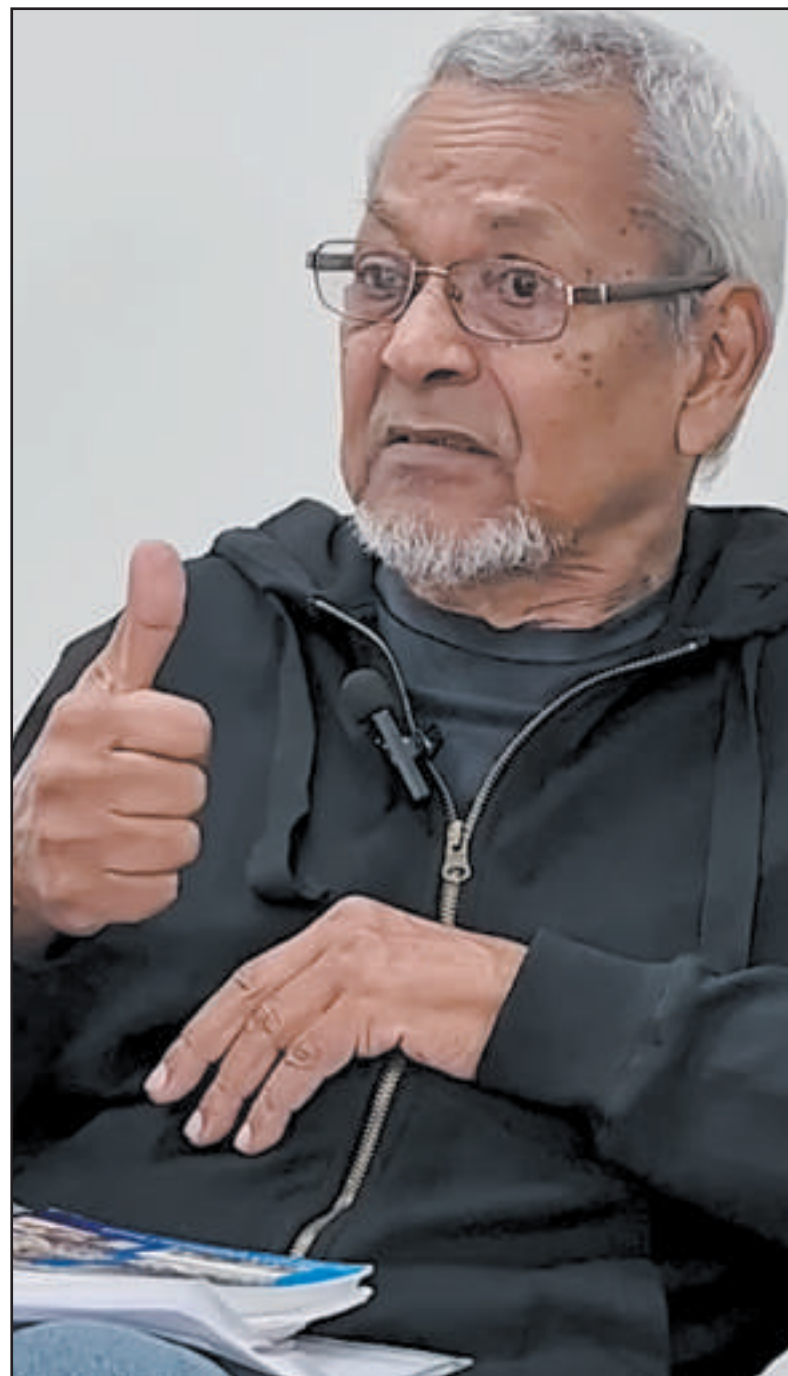
(1) Notre Constitution ne parle pas de partis politiques. Une modification de la Constitution permettra à la démocratie républicaine de prévaloir au sein de tous les partis politiques.

(2) La fonction de Leader est telle que la personne qui l’assume est susceptible de recevoir des dons en son nom. On parle des fonds malgaches dans nos banques. Pourquoi ne pas parler des fonds mauriciens à Madagascar, aux Seychelles, à Singapour et ailleurs?

(3) Le Premier ministre contrôle toutes les personnes qu’il nomme à la Présidence du pays, à la Banque de Maurice, comme à la FCC, à la Police, etc.

Déjà au sein du MMM, les membres de la famille de Bérenger se mettent de l’avant, comme paraît-il ce serait le cas de son gendre. Les autres partis politiques suivent la même logique, y compris pour Ramgoolam. Il y a sans doute un devoir paternel de leur part. Seul Ramgoolam père n’aurait pas exprimé le désir de voir son fils devenir Premier ministre.

● Suite en page 7



S’il retourne à sa position de prédilection, qui est la fonction de Leader de l’Opposition, il se sentirait heureux. Il n’a jamais voulu être le Premier ministre de la République de Maurice. Il a toujours eu peur d’être rejeté. Il y a beaucoup de peurs inconscientes en lui. Question de savoir-être. Il aurait fallu qu’il développe un certain nombre de qualités personnelles. Ce n’est pas une question de compétences seulement, mais c’est surtout des questions comportementales et relationnelles...

'Bérenger n'a jamais voulu être le Premier ministre de la République de Maurice.

Il a toujours eu peur d'être rejeté'

● Suite de la page 6

* La même question de la succession à la tête du Parti Travailliste se posera inéluctablement. Le choix de successeurs possibles semble assez restreint: le vivier de nouveaux leaders est-il vraiment si limité?

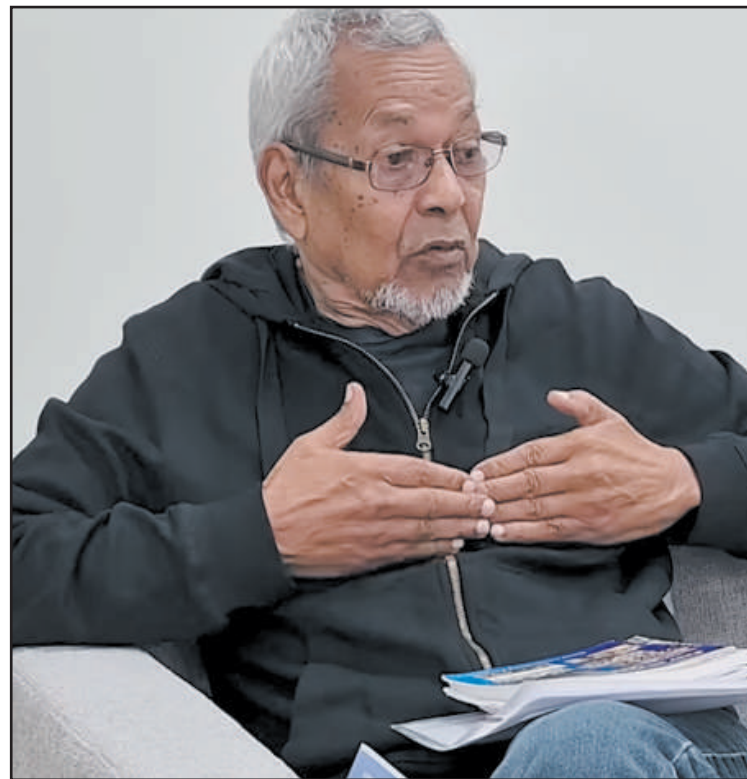
Au sein du Parti Travailliste on a complètement oublié le Travaillisme, concept politique importé de la Grand Bretagne et appliqué par les partis politiques progressistes dans toutes les colonies de l'Angleterre.

Or le Parti Travailliste à Maurice s'est complètement écarté des acquis du Travaillisme en s'attaquant à l'âge de la retraite et la pension universelle.

Pour l'instant, il n'y a personne qui se place comme héritier.

Le seul souhait est que ceux qui tournent autour de Ramgoolam sortent du Macronisme qui affecte doublement le gouvernement français. Les suiveurs de Ramgoolam sont dangereux pour la population.

Pour que l'on puisse se rapporter au travaillisme et au militantisme on érigea bientôt une stèle



“ Au sein du Parti Travailliste on a complètement oublié le Travaillisme, concept politique importé de la Grand Bretagne et appliqué par les partis politiques progressistes dans toutes les colonies de l'Angleterre. Or le Parti Travailliste à Maurice s'est complètement écarté des acquis du Travaillisme en s'attaquant à l'âge de la retraite et la pension universelle...”

au peuple? Ce pouvoir a été transmis aux députés de l'Assemblée nationale et à des membres de très importantes institutions constitutionnelles.

Suite à un constat de la situation, croyez-vous que si des élections se tiennent demain, ceux aux pouvoir seront en mesure d'obtenir une majorité? La réponse est définitivement non.

Il existe certes des partis politiques hors de l'Assemblée nationale. Il faudra sans tarder les prendre en considération. Trop de technocrates, d'étatistes et de populistes, dans leurs rangs. Certains vont retourner au bercail du pouvoir. Plusieurs ont été des ministres

“ Il y a des centaines de personnes licenciées. Qui s'en occupe? Il y a des milliers de sans-logis. Qui s'en occupe? Il y a des milliers de personnes dépendantes de drogues de synthèse. Qui s'en occupe? Si je dois décrire notre société sous le régime actuel, je dirai que c'est comme une maison pas encore libérée des rats, des toiles d'araignées, de la poussière accumulée, de l'odeur de moisi et surtout des souvenirs du passé, pas très heureux...”

aux Salines pour des rassemblements chaque 12 mars. Il faut parler des travaillistes jusqu'à 1958 pour évoquer un «Travaillisme revival».

* En attendant, si la rupture se concrétise, estimez-vous que le programme de réforme – déjà très ambitieux – sera compromis dans une large mesure ou le blocage et la lenteur dans la mise en œuvre de certaines réformes étaient-ils déjà dûs à cette alliance de deux partis aux idéologies et aux intérêts distincts dans certains secteurs spécifiques? Parlons justement des réformes présentes comme une finalité par les tenants du pouvoir.

Comment porter notre attention aux réformes budgétaires quand:

(1) Sur le plan mondial il n'y a aucune politique dégagée face aux inepties de Trump, à l'alternative du Brexit, la démilitarisation de l'océan Indien, notre silence face à la guerre entre Israël et des organisations palestiniennes irresponsables, notre silence face à la guerre entre la Russie et l'Ukraine... Le silence du régime peut-il être interprété comme un signe positif?

(2) Sur le plan du pays dans son ensemble, comment allons-nous satisfaire les populations mauriciennes, rodriguaises, chagossiennes et agaléennes sans une politique cohérente de la sécurité sociale qui concerne chaque ministère, et ainsi tous les ministres.

(3) Sur le plan des classes sociales et des catégories sociales de notre République et de son ensemble, jusqu'à quand maintiendrons-nous la Constitution actuelle qui est au service des pouvoirs de toutes sortes?

(4) Sur le plan individuel, c'est l'abandon généralisé. Il y a des centaines de personnes licenciées. Qui s'en occupe? Il y a des milliers de sans-logis. Qui s'en occupe? Il y a des milliers de personnes dépendantes de drogues de synthèse. Qui s'en occupe?

Si je dois décrire notre société sous le régime actuel, je dirai que c'est comme une maison pas encore libérée des rats, des toiles d'araignées, de la poussière accumulée, de l'odeur de moisi et surtout des souvenirs du passé, pas très heureux.

* Il y a sans doute une amélioration du climat démocratique depuis l'arrivée au pouvoir du gouvernement de l'Alliance pour le Changement, mais quelles seraient les répercussions directes d'une cassure de cette alliance sur la société mauricienne?

Il ne fait aucun doute que nous tous attendions un changement sur le plan de la démocratie.

Je dois vous dire que rien au fond n'a changé jusqu'à l'heure. Avec des nominations incestueuses. Certains ont été les vecteurs de la déchéance de MK par exemple, ils ont été retournés sans discernement.

Parlons-en des pratiques au sein de la police, de l'exploitation des banques touchant principalement les salaires, des accaparements qui continuent, etc.

La démocratie, qu'est-ce que c'est, sinon le pouvoir

“ Je dois vous dire que rien au fond n'a changé jusqu'à l'heure. Avec des nominations incestueuses. Certains ont été les vecteurs de la déchéance de MK par exemple, ils ont été retournés sans discernement. Parlons-en des pratiques au sein de la police, de l'exploitation des banques touchant principalement les salaires, des accaparements qui continuent, etc...”

du MSM.

* Avec une grande partie de la population déjà sensibilisée par la réforme de la pension de vieillesse, la question des affaires de l'État ne risque-t-elle pas de devenir encore plus problématique en cas de rupture de l'alliance gouvernementale, notamment en termes de soutien populaire aux futures réformes?

Je partage totalement ce point de vue. Le risque ici, comme cela existe en Angleterre et en France surtout, c'est une polarisation des extrêmes motivés par les considérations populistes.

Quand j'écoute Marine Le Pen et Jean-Luc Mélenchon, je me dis que la France est dans la merde. C'est dans ce contexte que j'ai écrit d'ailleurs au Président de la République française, pour lui proposer de passer à la Sixième République et surtout qu'il se débarrasse de ses pouvoirs régaliens.

Mon action se poursuivra sans relâche. Je m'adresserai aux détenteurs du pouvoir dans leurs fonctions respectives, comme je l'ai fait par le passé. Mon objectif est de construire plusieurs proto-alternatives dans tous les champs où je milite.

The Sacred Sedan, the Forbidden Fruit, and the Irony of *Et La Vie Continue*

Plutonix

Scene: A small, highly polished table on Cephalus's veranda. Cephalus is examining an editorial clipping with the fury of a man who just discovered a massive tax audit. Socrates sips tepid water.

Socrates: Cephalus, my friend, you promised me a discussion on the art of political defection, and yet, here you are, chewing on a piece of newsprint as if it contained the secret to perpetual youth. What calamity has the city witnessed this time? Has the market for shipbuilding collapsed, or have your political friends finally managed to break something truly important?

Cephalus: Socrates, they have broken logic! And they have made a mockery of leadership! Look here, at the saga of the Alliance du Changement. The long-standing, occasionally temperamental, leader of our allied party, Polo, made a dramatic play. He demanded a new stack of high-stakes appointments — the Police Commissioner, the Commissioner of Prisons, the Air Mauritius Chairman, even the acting head of the FCC! He challenged the Prime Minister's very authority, a magnificent, bold move!

Socrates: Ah, a list of demands. Like a child at the market demanding a specific basket of the choicest olives and figs...

Cephalus: Precisely! Political observers correctly state this was a direct challenge to the Prime Minister's constitutional prerogative. No self-respecting PM, they say, could accept such an encroachment! The PM holds the constitutional authority, the *title deed* to the executive branch, as it were.

Socrates: Let us clarify this constitutional prerogative. When two men form an alliance to govern, one is declared the Prime Minister — the Pilot of the Ship of State — by the law, is he not?

Cephalus: He is. The PTR leader holds the helm.

Socrates: And the other, Polo, is the leader of the allied, but subordinate, party, correct?

Cephalus: Correct. He brings the necessary seats to maintain the majority, but the helm is not his.

Socrates: Then, if Polo, standing merely as a partner, demands the removal of the Pilot's chosen crew — the Commissioner, the Chairman — is he not asking the Pilot to surrender his constitutional tools and the very skill for which he was appointed? Is he demanding to steer the ship from the passenger deck?

In the shaded calm of his veranda, the usually composed Cephalus, a wealthy and increasingly cynical businessman, finds himself undone not by market chaos, but by the absurd theatre of his political allies. He rages to Socrates — the relentless interrogator of men's motives — about the great crisis of the Alliance du Changement: the formidable leader, Polo, dared to challenge the Prime Minister's constitutional authority for a matter of principle, only to be forcibly restrained by his own parliamentary cohort. Socrates, ever the pragmatist, forces Cephalus to examine this moment of mutiny. Is the minister's ultimate loyalty to the ideal, or to the indispensable perks of office? Their dialogue strips away the grand rhetoric to reveal the ugly truth: when power is threatened, the ministers will defend the Sacred Sedan and the Forbidden Fruit of Power at all costs, forcing their leader to accept the cynical reality of *Et La Vie Continue* (And life goes on).



Cephalus: He is! And that is why the Prime Minister could never accept it! It would be to declare, "My authority is merely temporary, and yours is absolute."

Socrates: Very well. So, the initial action — Polo's *audacious challenge* — was an act of political self-sabotage, since it violated the established rules of the partnership.

Cephalus: But that is not the part that truly upsets me, Socrates. The shocking part is the consequence! Polo suddenly threatened to resign, to pull his party out of the alliance! To sacrifice everything for principle!

Socrates: A tragic, yet noble, end to the play! The leader martyrs himself for the higher ideal.

Cephalus: Not so! His own ministers and members of Parliament staged a mass internal *revolt*! They refused to go! They opened direct lines to the PTR — the opposing faction — and effectively held their own leader captive, forcing him to declare, "Demain, on sera au Conseil des ministres. *Et la vie continue.*" The revolt was against their own shepherd, Socrates, to protect the very pasture he threatened to burn down!

Socrates: Ah, the "mass internal revolt." We spoke before of the Treasures of the State — the Sacred Sedan, the Ministerial Portfolio, the power of the official rubber stamp. When Polo demanded the list of appointments, he was asking the Prime Minister to *open* the Treasure Chest wider. But when he threatened to resign, what was he threatening to do to his own followers?

Cephalus: To shut the chest entirely! To send them back to the Political Wilderness, where the Sedan turns into a private bicycle and the portfolio into a pamphlet!

Socrates: Exactly! The follower's ultimate value, as we agreed, is the acquisition and preservation of the material perk. The Minister's loyalty is not to the man named Polo, but to the *office* named Minister. Let us imagine the Minister's soul as a vast counting house.

Cephalus: A fine analogy. Filled with invoices and expense reports.

Socrates: In one ledger, titled "Loyalty to the Leader," the Minister sees a decade of dutiful service, the rhetoric of revolution, and the promise of future glory. This is a debt, but an abstract one.

Cephalus: A paper asset.

Socrates: In the other ledger, titled "The Ministerial Portfolio," the Minister sees the present value: the salary deposited this month, the chauffeur awaiting outside the gate, the power to sign documents that actually *change things* — even if only the decor of his own office. This is tangible, immediate, and fungible.

Cephalus: He can see the gold, Socrates.

Socrates: When Polo threatens resignation, he forces the Minister to choose which ledger to destroy. The choice is between preserving the abstract debt (loyalty) and preserving the immediate gold (perks).

Which choice ensures the Minister's political and financial survival?

Cephalus: To save the gold! They saw Polo's move as a "solitary, opposition-bound adventure" — a flight from power. The Minister's loyalty, it appears, is primarily to the *continuity* of the government that employs him.

Socrates: Precisely. This is not disloyalty; it is pragmatic self-preservation. It confirms our previous finding: The Ministers' loyalty is secondary to the primary political good, which is the holding of office. Their action — opening direct channels with the PTR — was not *treachery* against their party, but loyalty to their own self-interest. They effectively declared, "The alliance is greater than the leader's whim, because the alliance is where the Sedans are parked."

Cephalus: So, the ministers — having apparently been too long in the opposition before this alliance — are merely terrified of returning to that barren land. They tasted the forbidden fruit of power, and now they will not let their leader take it away.

Socrates: Indeed. Polo, in that moment, became a threat to the established order of his own group. He was no longer a distributor of power, but a potential destructor of portfolios. What happens to the value of a leader when he threatens to destroy the very assets he is supposed to be guarding?

Cephalus: He is utterly devalued. His ability to command is annihilated.

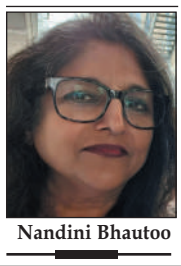
Socrates: A military general commands troops by promising victory and survival. If the general, in a fit of rage, threatens to firebomb his own camp rather than retreat, the troops are entirely justified in seizing his sword. Polo, in threatening to take the whole party into the wilderness, forced his followers to view him not as a leader, but as a liability.

Cephalus: And his public retreat — the quiet, almost dismissive declaration "*et la vie continue*" — is the clear signal that he is now constrained by the pragmatism of his own parliamentary group. He is a general who was disarmed by his own lieutenants.

Socrates: You have grasped the ugly essence of it, Cephalus. In modern democracy, the Minister's mandate, once he has achieved office, is to remain in office. Any leader, even a revered one, who threatens that stability, is instantly transformed into a political pariah by his own people. Loyalty is a commodity bought by the promise of the next paycheck; when the leader threatens to shred the paycheck, the commodity is instantly withdrawn.

Cephalus: It is a pathetic, yet entirely rational, conclusion. Polo must have realised that his authority was not derived from his history, nor his principles, but from his capacity to keep the Sacred Sedans on the road. And when he threatened to turn them all into private bicycles, the party revolt saved the day — not for the Prime Minister, but for their own expense accounts.

Socrates: A brilliant summation, Cephalus. *Et la vie continue*, indeed, but now we know *who* dictates the terms of that continuation: the Minister, desperately clinging to his well-padded seat of power.



Nandini Bhautoo

Embracing the Unfinished Story: Reclaiming History through Word and Image

In the week following the celebration of Aapravasi Day on November 2nd, two cultural events stood out as direct responses to the legacy of this dolorous history.

The first was the launch of Geeanduth Gopee's book on Adolphe de Plevitz, held at the Mahatma Gandhi Institute on Saturday, November 8th, 2025. More than a mere biography, this publication is the fruit of extensive archival research into documents from a pivotal period of Mauritian history - one that saw a foreigner rise against the entrenched injustices inflicted upon Indian indentured workers. These men and women, shipped from India like commodities, were subjected to a rigid colonial discipline that curtailed their basic human rights.

The author spent four years in the archives uncovering little-known documentary evidence from this era. Representatives from the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund also presented cutting-edge research in both history and architecture, revealing unexpected details about the diverse human lives shaped and scarred by the indenture system. The full title of the book is "*Fighting Injustice for Indian Indentured Immigrants: A Tribute to Adolphe de Plevitz (1837-1893)*."

Adolphe de Plevitz was not from an indentured background; he held French nationality, though his family was originally of German/Westphalian origin. But he was a man of conscience who became deeply troubled by the abuses of the indenture system that replaced slavery after its abolition in 1835. Educated and well-placed within the colonial hierarchy, he used his social standing to speak out where others remained silent. In 1871, de Plevitz helped organize and present a petition signed by over 9,000 Indian indentured labourers to the British Governor, Sir Arthur Gordon.

The petition denounced the harsh conditions on sugar estates, particularly:

- Low wages and exploitative contracts
- Physical abuse by overseers
- Lack of medical care
- Systemic injustice in the magistrates' courts, which often sided with planters

This was the first major collective protest by Indian labourers in Mauritius and one of the earliest examples of organized working-class activism in the British Empire. The petition prompted the British authorities to launch the 1872 Royal Commission of Inquiry into labour conditions in Mauritius. Its report confirmed most of the abuses De Plevitz and the petitioners had described. Some reforms followed -- particularly in estate administration and medical care -- though the system of indenture itself persisted for decades.

Today, Adolphe de Plevitz is remembered as a rare moral voice who stood with the oppressed. His name stands alongside those of early reformers who shaped the island's difficult transition from slavery to a colonial plantation society. A street and a primary school in Mauritius now bear his name, honouring his stand for justice.

A bust of Adolphe de Plevitz has also been put up in the precincts of the Mahatma Gandhi Institute (MGI), near the Folk Museum of Indian Immigration. It was commissioned by Beekrumsing Ramlallah, a key figure in the preservation and conservation of the Aapravasi Ghat. It was sculpted by Mala Chummun. The *Mauritius Times* had previously serialised the book "*Restless Energy: A Biography of Adolphe de Plevitz*" by Loretta de Plevitz, which was published by the Mahatma Gandhi Institute in 1987.

* * *

Later that same evening, the Mauritian film *Girmitya: The Unsung Hero* was screened at MCiné Trianon. Produced by Varun Nunkoo with generous support from both the public and private sectors, the film dramatizes historical events through the genre of *docufiction* - a creative fusion of documentation and narrative imagination.



Geeanduth Gopee, author of *Fighting Injustice for Indian Indentured Immigrants: A Tribute to Adolphe de Plevitz (1837-1893)*

The simultaneity of these two events suggests a growing thirst to engage with history beyond the ritual commemoration of dates. Yet, to truly transform this impulse into an enduring cultural practice, we must give greater attention to the act of writing. Historical narrative cannot simply substitute for screenwriting, which is itself a complex and evolving art form -- one whose classical paradigms we are far from mastering, let alone the new narrative architectures emerging through *mise en abyme* and experimental storytelling.

We must take a deeper look at the nature of creativity itself - how we can not only acknowledge history but also use it textually, philosophically, and conceptually to reimagine the relationship between the individual and society in contemporary Mauritius. At present, there remains a disjunction between the historical-artistic world and the lived realities of people. This is an unfinished project, one that demands our full attention in the coming decade, especially as other societies present seemingly complete narratives of "successful decolonization" that may not reflect our own.

Art remains the space where society confronts both its light and its darkness. No one truly believes that Mauritian multiculturalism is flawless, or that the wrongs of history have been entirely levelled out through economic redistribution. These goals, however idealistic, can still guide policy and artistic practice -- not through binaries or nostalgia, but through an integration of the multiple inheritances that shape us.

Even as I write these lines, I am aware that they sound more idealistic on paper than in reality. Yet, like Arjuna aiming at the fish's eye, we must keep our focus steady on the target. Only then can we align our creative and cultural resources with purpose - so that our technologies, narratives, and imaginations evolve together rather than apart.



Dharam Gokhool, President of the Republic, paying tribute to Adolphe de Plevitz at the Mahatma Gandhi Institute

COP30 report reveals how climate change is spreading infectious diseases to new regions

Rising temperatures, changing rainfall patterns and extreme weather events create ideal conditions for pathogens and their vectors – such as mosquitoes, midges and ticks – to thrive.

This is confirmed by a recent report for the global climate change conference, COP30. The report was produced by a team of global south scientists from the Climate Amplified Diseases and Epidemics consortium, which studies and figures out ways of responding to infectious diseases that climate change is making worse. It sets out how deadly diseases like West Nile virus, dengue and chikungunya are now spreading to new regions in Africa and Europe because of the changing climate.

Some of the authors of the report, Tulio de Oliveira, Cheryl Baxter and PhD candidate Maambele Khosa, explain what needs to be done to keep people at risk of infection safe and prevent infectious disease from multiplying.

What makes disease risks worse under climate change?

There are several compounding factors. First, pathogens (such as a virus or bacterium that can cause disease) can adapt to new vectors and climates. This was recently seen with chikungunya virus mutations that made it easier for *Aedes albopictus* – a mosquito species now widespread in Asia, Europe and North America – to spread the virus.

Second, extreme weather events like droughts and floods disrupt ecosystems and human settlements. The disruptions allow waterborne pathogens such as *Vibrio cholera*, which causes cholera, to thrive. Flooding can also enhance breeding sites for vectors and delay public health responses.

Third, climate-driven migration forces millions of people into overcrowded areas without enough water or toilets. This increases their exposure to endemic diseases (diseases that are consistently present within a specific geographic area or population group at an expected and predictable rate). It also sparks the spread of new pathogens.

This problem is especially severe in Africa, where health systems are often under-resourced and populations are highly vulnerable.

What new technology can be used to respond to climate-related epidemics?

Surveillance and genomic tracking are critical tools for early detection and response. Genomic surveillance allows scientists to take samples of the first cases of an outbreak to identify emerging viruses before they cause widespread outbreaks. In other words, genomic surveillance monitors how viruses are evolving in real time. The COVID-19 pandemic system, where genomics were used widely to identify and characterise variants of the virus, can now be used to monitor other pathogens. This approach was effectively used in the recent Marburg outbreak in Rwanda.



Public health officials spray the streets in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, in 2023 to eliminate mosquitoes that cause dengue fever. Sia Kambou/AFP/Getty Images

Epidemiological and ecological data is used to understand where vectors of disease are situated. Integrating this data with climate and genomic data into early warning systems can help predict where and when outbreaks might occur. For instance, a recent modelling analysis pinpointed the location of midges that transmit the Oropouche virus, then combined this with environmental data (like climate, soil and land use), and was able to predict Oropouche virus resurgence in the Amazon.

Integrating sampling from the environment, animals and humans is known as the One Health approach. Over the last decade, this approach has been used to respond to Rift Valley Fever virus in Kenya.

If nothing is done, what might happen?

In Africa, climate-driven migration is projected to displace up to 113 million people internally by 2050. Without robust preparedness, African health systems will come under significant strain. This is because climate migrants, who have often lost everything, usually settle in areas with limited healthcare infrastructure, poor sanitation, and a high prevalence of infectious disease. This makes outbreaks more likely.

The movement of people can also spread pathogens to new regions. Different countries need to co-ordinate a response as regions, and invest in preparing their health systems for climate-related disease outbreaks. If they don't, these pressures could lead to frequent epidemics. Climate migrants who have less access to care will suffer most.

What needs to happen next?

Governments must prioritise building healthcare systems that can withstand and respond to climate-related

shocks such as floods, wildfires and extreme heat.

Governments must also make sure that everyone has equal access to vaccines and diagnostics. They need to invest in community-based surveillance. This is where local people notice and report outbreaks so that quick action can be taken.

It is very important that low-cost disease diagnosis be available at all local healthcare centres or clinics, even in rural areas, and not just in bigger hospitals. For example, during the COVID-19 pandemic, people could test themselves for the virus at minimal cost.

Sustainable, ongoing funding is essential to support research, capacity building and public health interventions. Regional cooperation is also key in sharing data, coordinating responses and managing migration flows. This can help contain outbreaks and support adaptation.

On 13 November 2025, the COP30 Health Day will promote regional co-operation by presenting the Belém Health Action Plan. This plan supports the implementation of our report's recommendations. This includes the increase of surveillance and monitoring, evidence-based policies, strategies, capacity-building and innovation. We urge governments to use COP30 to advance the climate and health agenda.

Addressing climate-amplified diseases is important not just for health but as a matter of climate justice. The global south, despite contributing the least to climate change, bears the greatest burden. Governments and private industries that contribute the most to climate change should be held accountable. They must contribute their fair share to the response to climate diseases.

Across the Globe

U.K. PM Starmer under fire

British Prime Minister Keir Starmer faces a likely leadership challenge driven by the ruling Labour Party's fears over his poll ratings. Starmer took office just last year, winning a landslide against a Conservative Party worn out by 14 years in office. But slow economic growth, high levels of immigration, and a

populist surge have left him the least popular British premier on record.

Leadership talk has coalesced around Health Secretary Wes Streeting, with rumors that key government ministers could resign if the upcoming budget goes badly. The country faces a major political upheaval: Labour is unpopular, but so is the Conservative opposition, with the upstart right-wing Reform Party and the Greens hoping to do well in May local elections.

Al-Sharaa makes historic DC trip

Syrian President Ahmed al-Sharaa visited the White House on Monday, capping a remarkable turnaround for a man the US once considered a wanted terrorist. The US lifted some restrictions on al-Sharaa before his meeting with President Donald Trump, which marked the first-ever visit by a Syrian president to Washington. But the new government, led by former rebels who toppled Bashar al-Assad, is urging US lawmakers to repeal the most punishing sanctions isolating Syria from the world economy. Critics oppose removing all restrictions at



Trump hosts Syria's Sharaa at White House. Pic - France24

once without retaining the ability to easily reimpose them; supporters say doing so is the only way to give investors certainty. Al-Sharaa has been on a recent diplomatic blitz, with stops in Moscow and Saudi Arabia.

India, Pakistan blasts test stability

Blasts in the capitals of India and Pakistan raised tensions between the neighboring rivals. A day after a car explosion killed eight people in New Delhi, authorities said they are investigating it as a possible terrorist attack, and the Indian prime minister warned the perpetrators "will not be spared."

Without offering evidence, Pakistan blamed India for a suicide bombing in Islamabad that killed at least 12 people on Tuesday. The two countries' relationship is "already on tenterhooks," after



Pakistan tests missile, India orders drills amid Kashmir standoff. Pic - Reuters

their brief armed conflict earlier this year, an expert noted, pointing to growing "stability risks... across a wide expanse of South Asia." Pakistan has also been involved in border clashes with Afghan militants.

US Congress to vote on Epstein files

The US Congress will vote next week on whether to release more files related to the sex offender Jeffrey Epstein, reports. All 214 Democratic representatives were joined by four Republicans in signing a petition over the issue, and the speaker must now bring the measure to the floor. Washington is already in turmoil over the

Epstein files after Democrats in the House of Representatives this week released thousands of emails in which Epstein repeatedly mentioned President Donald Trump. The broader files contain more than 33,000 pages amassed in a federal investigation; Trump has called them a "hoax." Congressional Republicans are under pressure from their base, and the vote will force them to go on record supporting or blocking their release.

Ukraine corruption crackdown

Ukrainian authorities suspended the country's justice minister in connection to an energy-related corruption

crackdown that has underscored the vulnerability of the sector. Officials have also charged seven people over what they allege is a \$100 million kickback and money-laundering scheme, part of

efforts to address EU concerns over graft in Ukraine.

Yet the latest moves also spotlight the myriad issues facing the country's energy system, which over the weekend

was once again subjected to intense aerial attacks by Russia ahead of winter in an effort to trigger heating outages: Moscow has hit Ukrainian energy infrastructure nine times in the past two months.

Longest government shutdown in US history ends, House passes key funding bill

The House of Representatives on Wednesday passed a temporary funding bill to end the longest government shutdown in the history of the United States, leaving it for President Donald Trump to sign. The Republican-controlled House voted 222 in favour and 209 against the bill to end the shutdown that paralysed Washington for 43 days.

Trump is expected to sign the bill later on Wednesday evening, which aims to provide funding for military construction, veterans' affairs, the Department of Agriculture and Congress until next autumn, and for the rest of the government until the end of January. The White House said the president plans to sign the bill in a ceremony at the Oval Office at 9:45 pm local time.

The total financial impact of the shutdown is not yet known, but the Congressional Budget Office has estimated losses of about \$14 billion in economic growth, reports Hindustan Times.

What happens next?

The bill reverses the firing of federal employees car-



Trump signs bill ending record-breaking 43-day US government shutdown. Pic - France24

ried out by the Trump administration since the start of the shutdown. It also protects federal workers from any more layoffs until January and guarantees payment for all affected workers once operations resume.

Funding for the Agriculture Department means those

depending on major food assistance programmes will continue to receive benefits for the rest of the financial year without interruption.

Approximately 670,000 furloughed government employees are expected to return to work. Another similar number who continued working without pay, including more than 60,000 air traffic controllers and airport security staff, will receive back pay.

The package includes \$203.5 million to strengthen security for lawmakers and \$28 million for the protection of Supreme Court justices. It will extend funding until January 30, keeping the federal government on course to add about \$1.8 trillion a year to its \$38 trillion debt.

The vote came eight days after Democrats won several key elections, which they believe improved their chances of securing an extension of health insurance subsidies that are due to expire at the end of the year. While the deal allows for a Senate vote on the subsidies in December, Speaker Mike Johnson has not made a similar promise in the House yet.

Afghanistan have been strained in recent years, with Islamabad accusing militants sheltering across the border of staging attacks inside Pakistan. Kabul denies giving safe haven to militants to attack Pakistan.

Dozens of soldiers were killed in border clashes between the two countries last month.

Afghan nationals carried out two suicide bombings in Pakistan, says minister

Afghan nationals carried out two suicide bombings in Pakistan this week, including one in the capital Islamabad, Pakistan's Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi said on Thursday.

Both the bombers involved in the attacks have been identified as Afghans, he told parliament in a session carried live on television. There was no immediate

response from Kabul.

Naqvi was speaking after a suicide bomber blew himself up close to a police patrol outside a lower court in Islamabad on Tuesday, killing 12 people and wounding 27.

Another bomber had rammed an explosive-laden vehicle into the main gate of a military school in South Waziristan

district, near the Afghan border, on Monday, killing three people, reports Reuters.

Militants then entered the school, which is run by the military but educates civilians, triggering a fight with Pakistani soldiers that continued for more than 24 hours until all of the attackers were killed.

Relations between Pakistan and

* Contd on page 12

Bangladesh tense ahead of Sheikh Hasina verdict amid nationwide "lockdown"

Bangladesh is bracing for a new surge of political unrest as a special tribunal is set to deliver its verdict on Monday, November 17th, against ousted Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on charges of crimes against humanity. The political temperature escalated sharply on Thursday with her now-banned Awami League party calling for a nationwide "lockdown" in protest, seriously disrupting life across the country.

The former ruling party has vehemently rejected the legitimacy of the proceedings, labeling the tribunal a "kangaroo court."

The Awami League's call for a lockdown led to major disruptions on Thursday. Schools in Dhaka and other major cities switched to online classes and examinations. Public transportation was severely disrupted as authorities heightened security measures across the nation. Dhaka's usually congested streets remained largely empty, punctuated by reports of recent vandalism.

Incidents of violence have been reported, pointing to continued political chaos in a country with a history of such strife. A government office in Hasina's ancestral stronghold of Gopalganj district was hit by a fire bomb. Separately, an office of Grameen Bank, founded by current interim leader Muhammad Yunus, was torched in eastern Bangladesh on Wednesday. In Dhaka, crude bombs have exploded, including one earlier this week on the Dhaka University campus, and arson attacks have been reported on a train and a bus.

The trial and charges

Sheikh Hasina faces charges of crimes against humanity connected to the crackdown on the student-led uprising in August 2024 that ended her 15-year rule and left hundreds dead.

- Prosecution Stance: Chief prosecutor Tajul Islam sought the death penalty for Hasina last month, calling her the "mastermind and principal architect" behind the alleged crimes.



Activists of Bangladesh's Jamaat-e-Islami party stage a protest rally against a nationwide "lockdown" called by ousted Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and her former ruling Awami League party, in Dhaka, Bangladesh. Pic - AP

- Defence Stance: Hasina, who has been in exile in India since her ouster, is being tried in absentia. She has not appointed a lawyer and has denounced the state's appointment of a representative for her.

- State Witness: The case also involves former Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan and former Police Chief Chowdhury Abdullah Al-Mamun. Al-Mamun has become an "approver," pleading guilty and turning state witness against Hasina.

Soldiers and other security agencies were deployed on Thursday morning to guard the premises of the special tribunal, highlighting the volatility of the situation.

Interim leader Muhammad Yunus, a Nobel Peace Prize laureate who took over three days after Hasina's fall, has publicly vowed to punish her.

The interim government has banned the Awami League's activities and continues to face challenges from the party, which is campaigning on social media against the upcoming election if it is not allowed to participate. The Awami League claims thousands of its supporters have been arrested nationwide.

Diplomatic strain with India

The political tension has even caused a diplomatic rift with India. Bangladesh's Ministry of Foreign Affairs summoned the Indian Deputy High Commissioner in Dhaka on Wednesday to convey its concerns over India allowing "fugitive" Hasina to interact with mainstream Indian media via email interviews.

In these interviews, Hasina accused Yunus of backing Islamists and violating human and political rights, particularly against her party's supporters. Hasina's son, Sajeeb Wazed, stated that only an inclusive election could stabilize the country.

Tanzania's President Samia Suluhu Hassan names a new prime minister after a disputed election

Tanzania's leader chose a longtime loyalist as prime minister on Thursday, after a disputed presidential election in the East African country prompted clashes in which rights groups say hundreds of protesters were killed.

The parliament backed the appointment of former finance minister Mwigulu Nchemba in a near-unanimous vote, as expected given that President Samia Suluhu Hassan was declared the landslide winner of the October 29 vote.

Nchemba, who also served in the cabinet of Hassan's predecessor John Magufuli, said he would work diligently in his new post, reports Reuters.

Tanzania has predicted that the economy will grow 6% this year, partly driven by infrastructure projects such as roads, railways and power generation. Budget spending is expected to rise about 12% this fiscal year to fund the projects amid cuts in aid from international partners including the United States.

Opponents say Hassan's government rigged last month's election, which triggered unrest over the exclusion of her main challengers.

Hassan, in office since 2021 when Magufuli died, has rejected criticism of her human rights record and defended the fairness of the election.

The U.N. Human Rights Office has said it believes hundreds of people were killed in protests, while the main opposition party and some human rights activists have said security forces killed more than 1,000 people.

The government has said the opposition's death toll is exaggerated but has not put forward its own figure for the number of dead.

Nchemba has been a member of parliament since 2010 and also previously held the post of deputy secretary-general of Hassan's Chama Cha Mapinduzi (CCM) party.

Across the Globe

UK takes aim at animal testing

The UK unveiled plans to reduce animal testing in research. Science Minister Patrick Vallance said the government hopes to end some test types this year and reduce the use of dogs and monkeys in testing by 35% by 2030, replacing animal experimentation with computer modelling and in-vitro testing. The number of animals used in UK research is already down 30% from its 2015 peak of 4.14 million. The US this year dropped some animal testing requirements, and the EU revealed a "roadmap" toward ending the practice. But scientists foresee difficulties: Vallance himself said we can't "eliminate animal use in the foreseeable future," and another scientist told the BBC that alternatives will "never replace the complexity" of animal testing.



UK animal testing. Pic - European Parliament

Promising new malaria treatments

Scientists have unveiled two new treatments to help combat malaria's growing resistance to existing drugs, a promising advance in fighting the deadly disease. Swiss drugmaker Novartis said a trial of its next-generation treatment in 12 African countries had performed well, though the drug is a year away from being publicly available.

Researchers in Gabon, meanwhile, said a single-dose mixture of four anti-malarial medications led to 93% of patients being parasite-free within 28 days. More than 600,000 people -- mostly children -- die from malaria every year, with 95% of those deaths occurring in Africa. Besides averting hundreds of thousands of fatalities, reducing malaria by 90% on the continent could boost its GDP by \$16 billion a year, the World Health Organization said.

Silicon Valley adopts Chinese AI

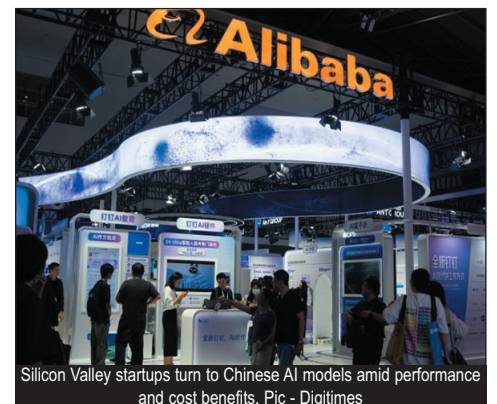
Silicon Valley is increasingly running on Chinese AI, raising the stakes of the US and China's battle for technological supremacy. Airbnb's CEO recently said the company prefers Alibaba's Qwen over OpenAI's ChatGPT for its customer service chatbot, and hot startups like Cognition AI and Thinking Machines Lab are similarly embracing Chinese tech, with the country's low-cost, open-source models outweighing US security and geopolitical concerns, Bloomberg wrote. The shift comes as Nvidia's CEO said last week that China was "nanoseconds behind" the US in AI; the superpowers are locked in an AI cold war driven "as much by fear as by hope of progress," The Wall Street Journal wrote, and the outcome will "redefine everything."

Gaza peace plan progress falters

Efforts to advance a US peace plan for Gaza appear to be faltering over reconstruction and security challenges. Israel still controls just over half of the enclave, and Hamas the rest, with territorial divides marked by yellow concrete blocks. Without a timeline for further Israeli withdrawals, and with Hamas' refusal to disarm, this de facto partition could last years, Reuters reported, with reconstruction likely limited to the Israeli-controlled side.

The US' plan to build "communities of vetted Gazans" on the Israeli side "risks creating an enduring divide down the middle of Gaza," The Atlantic wrote. Private US government documents have also raised questions about the feasibility of deploying a multinational peacekeeping initiative in the territory, according to Politico.

Compiled by K. Ramlallah



Silicon Valley startups turn to Chinese AI models amid performance and cost benefits. Pic - Digitimes

From the Pages of History - MT 71 Years Ago

7th Year No 321

MAURITIUS TIMES

Friday 21 October 1960

• Men of science should leave controversy to the little world below them. — Oliver Goldsmith

By Nina McKenzie

The period between 1953 and 1960 in Mauritius was marked by a growing, yet often deferred, realization that the island's rapid population increase was severely undermining its economic future.

Initially spurred by a 1953 Governor-appointed committee, a 1955 report recommended providing family planning facilities within social services. However, the government delayed action. The urgency was dramatically highlighted by the sensational Luce report of 1958, which cited a 20% population increase in six years and a world-leading birth rate. This led the government to finally state the need to arrest population growth and propose an Information Department to promote family limitation.

Despite a new Labour majority elected in 1959, which included advocates for family planning like the new Minister of Health, Hon. Guy Forget, and Dr L. Teeluck (President of the Family Planning Association of Mauritius), initial hopes for positive government action were dashed. Dr Teeluck repeatedly and courageously pressed the Legislative Council, stressing that development plans would be futile given the high birth rate and subsequent population doubling. The government remained hesitant, primarily due to a "barrage of opposition from certain religious groups," leaving the Family Planning Association to struggle alone.

This deadlock was finally broken in April 1960. Following devastating cyclones and amid new economic and social surveys, the government, through the Financial Secretary's Budget speech, announced a firm decision to provide a free, government-sponsored "ante natal and post-natal family planning service" across the island. This positive action included removing import duties on contraceptives and launching a massive educational programme aimed at popularizing a three-child family to stabilize the population.

This summary sets the stage for the second part of the article, which will detail the implementation of this new government policy and the immediate aftermath of this major legislative shift.

After giving facts and figures of what could be afforded in the social security measure before the Council he proposed to introduce benefits which would be non-contributory. The most controversial one was the "family benefit". So that small healthy families could be a blessing and a security for the future it was proposed to pay 15 rupees a month to all parents with no more than three children under the age of 14 years, except to those who paid income tax — a revolutionary idea indeed and one which had not been attempted by any government before.

So, at last the government had decided to face the problem and in order not to anti-

Mauritius - A Time of Decision - Second Part

An Allowance for Smaller Families



cipate the opposition which they knew would come from all sections of the community they elected to deal with it administratively. The news of such legislation came as a bomb-shell and the whole island was stunned for a day and then the uproar started. Seething with indignation and religious fanaticism, articles and letters appeared in the press. Mgr. Jean Margeot, Vicaire-General of the Roman Catholic Church, preached a devastating sermon on the evils of birth control, the Muslim Imam proclaimed his opposition and finally the Hindu community joined in the general dissent, seemingly for political reasons only. On all occasions when population problems are discussed the Mauritius press plunges into the controversy with much vigour and the religious opposition expressed in their papers seems to be out of all proportions to the local feeling. The main opposition comes from the Roman Catholics who are mostly French Mauritians and Creoles, a vociferous minority group, and there is one section of the Muslim community who are against birth control on religious and moral grounds whilst another section is outspokenly in favour of it. It seems that the controversy is more about the method to be used than on the principle of birth control itself but no doubt much ink will flow before the principle will be accepted.

A Fight Deferred

With every chance of the motion being defeated in the legislature by the opposition of a solid block of members, government has postponed the debate sine die. They now await the publication of the Meade and Titmuss reports, but the time will come when a vote on the motion will have to be taken. When it is finally debated perhaps sweet reason will have a better chance after the

emotional aspect of the problem has time to die. In the meantime, three Ministers are exploring the possibility of emigration. British Honduras is said to need 300,000 new people and with Mr Ringadoo as their leader the Mauritian Ministers are making an effort to solve the problem in a different way.

Meanwhile the Family Planning Association of Mauritius has been trying to assess the damage done to their cause. They feel that the government has been too precipitate in their policy and that they gave no opportunity to those who have been in opposition to family limitation to "save face". In such a mixed community where "prestige" and "face-saving" are so important this apparent disregard of their feelings has augmented the opposition. Perhaps the Government was tired of the

controversy, which had been raging for over six years, and felt that the time for a decision had come. Their idea of stabilising a population by "family allowances" is surely unique. Such allowances have been used by France to increase their population and the Fascist law of Italy forbidding birth control, and the sale of contraceptives and the giving of family allowances is still on the statute book there. The idea of taxing the large family has been canvassed in the Indian Parliament and in its press, but it would be a measure quite inapplicable to the poor Mauritian labourer whose daily wage is little more than 4 rupees.

Other islands in the Commonwealth, such as Ceylon, Singapore and Hong Kong, might be very interested in this attempt at population control by family allowance legislation, as they are conscious of being unable to create a welfare state because of overpopulation. Yet it has been remarkable to note that the national newspapers of this country have largely ignored the Mauritius controversy and only small mention was made of it when members of the legislature there announced opposition to the bill.

Perhaps one should not feel too despondent! After six years' labour, the government has given birth to a tiger but it is a tiger which cannot be still-born.

Mauritius Times

Even if you are receiving a free copy of the paper from your contacts or WhatsApp/Email groups

YOUR SUPPORT MATTERS

As a reader-funded newspaper, the Mauritius Times relies on the support of those who are in a position to help. We know that you are fully conscious of the important role of an independent media, so even if you are receiving a free copy of the paper from your contacts or WhatsApp/Email groups, your support in the form of a subscription or patronage will allow us to pursue our mission and protect our editorial independence. That is why we would kindly request you to consider becoming a regular subscriber by sending us your contribution.

Our Annual Subs Rate amounts to Rs 1500.
Your support, however much you can contribute will be greatly appreciated.

Payment Options - Any one of the following

1. By cheque drawn to the order of The Prakash Ramlallah Foundation. Kindly post the cheque to our postal address as above.
2. Via MCB Juice to the following Phone No **5 782 9861**.
3. Bank transfer, paid to **The Prakash Ramlallah Foundation**, to any one of the following bank accounts:

Bank	Account No	Swift Code	IBAN
MCB	000448214277	MCBLMUMU	MU71MCBL0901000448214277000MUR
SBM	50300000703075	STCBMUMU	MU17STCB1101000000703075000MUR
SBI	156000504401	INILMUMU	MU47INIL0801156000504401000MUR

Please send us your personal details - Name, Postal Address, Email and Telephone / Mobile number by email or WhatsApps for immediate processing of your subscription.

Another option is to subscribe by going to our Google Form by clicking on the link below:

[SUBSCRIBE NOW](#)

Please know that we are at your disposal for any clarification and assistance that you may require. You may please contact us on:

Tel - 5 2929 301 - 5 782 9861 - 212 1313 -- Email: mtimes@intnet.mu
28 Jawaharlal Street (formerly Wellington Street) -- Port Louis

Thank you so much.
Mauritius Times



Dr Michael Atchia

The Fall of the Berlin Wall

When I joined UNEP in 1986 as Chief of Education and Training I inherited amongst other programmes the Dresden Course, a joint UNEP-UNESCO-GDR effort to teach what was called at the time ecosystems management, i.e. freshwater, land and air management. So twice a year I was in East Germany (GDR) always landing in East Berlin then, after meeting the required officials, travelling to the old historic city of Dresden by road.

Every year we selected 25 young cadres from the nascent Ministries of Environment of developing countries (including from Mauritius) for a nine-month post graduate training. I did two things for this course, firstly expanding its scope and renaming it *Environmental Management*; then succeeded a first behind the Iron Curtain, to convince the course director Pr. Seidel (which meant in fact convincing the Government of East Germany, one of the harshest in the world) to drop the module Marxism-Leninism from this United Nations sponsored course! This was no easy achievement, after which the secret police of East Germany, the Stasi, promptly opened a file on me, following and recording all my movements and utterances at each subsequent visit (I was to hear later!).

In the early eighties at home in Mauritius especially after two years as President of Action Civique, I was also followed by the local Stasi (equivalent the NIU) but that was a much more benign affair, a reflection on the humanism of our successive Prime Ministers, starting from SSR.

From 1986 to 89, at every visit to Berlin I perceived a slow but perceptible series of changes in East German society. Winners of over 100 gold and silver medals at the Olympics but at what cost: parents dreaded that their sons and daughters reveal sporting talent which would result in the child being immediately removed from the family for special training.

In 1989 in Berlin, one evening one of my official guides took me for a walk in the garden (away from microphones of the Stasi!) and confessed that she had been all along the Stasi appointed a person to keep a close watch on me, lest I came up with more reform proposals (which in fact I did). Late night meetings were taking place particularly in Churches (which unlike in USSR, had not been turned into museums) to discuss the future or plan escapes to the West. As a foreign UN official, I was a good source of information and at times of advice, though being careful to keep professional neutrality, so dear and important to the United Nations. In March 1989, I gave a long interview to an East German paper (Neue Zeit published in German) about the need for precise statistics about air, land and water quality in the German Democratic Republic, democratic only in name of course! The official figures gave these as being very clean, whereas in reality the city water was so polluted with heavy metals and organics that it was not safe to drink, and bottled water was distributed to all citizens! This type of article would have been unthinkable just three years earlier, but it was helped by Gorbachev's bold Glasnost (transparency) policy.



Pic - cnn.com

On a cold November evening some of my German colleagues Kathrin, Sabena and others said they were going to the *Unter den Linden*, the broad avenue leading to the Brandenburg Gate; something was brewing. Would I wish to come? I changed my suit and tie for a black leather blouson and a thick scarf (it was a cold night as often in Berlin). Hundreds of thousands of people were milling around in tense expectancy, but true to the German character and especially in East Germany, there was no chaos. In relative order people approached the wall at different locations. The crowd was composed of Germans from all age groups and all professions, with, I recall, the notable absence of the older state officials and as far as I could tell no foreigners (except me!) and no onlookers.

There was a sense of commitment in the air. The armed, green-uniformed guards did not know what to do; they could not shoot at such a crowd. Apparently, the

crumbling regime had not, for once, issued orders as to what to do. So gradually the guards laid down their arms, some I remember distinctly removed their uniforms, so the no man's land surrounding the Berlin Wall was free of access. Using a variety of tools, the crowd began to break the wall. I felt suddenly that I was Citizen Michael, not the Herr Doctor, the UN Official on mission to GDR. So, with Kathrin and friends, I joined forces with this innumerable crowd for this work of demolition, which we were not aware at the time, was a work of immense construction!

Next day the demolition continued. Those East Germans who went through the breaches to visit the West mostly came back later to the quietness of their homes; the first impression gathered from those who had gone across and then came back was yes to freedom, but no to the over-rich, materialistic lifestyle of the West.

The wall was made up of a variety of concrete material and of bricks. I even kept one of the bricks that I had helped remove as a souvenir. But the real achievement of these days was not to be measured in terms of concrete and bricks; it was in the hearts of man, as always. The political experiment of totalitarian communism, keeping millions restricted behind an Iron Curtain was over. It was the end of an era, almost the end of the 20th century, which has seen 100 million people massacred in 50 wars, two of them World Wars. May be this year should be the last year when we commemorate the Armistice of the two World Wars, now best forgotten, as indeed Germany itself has done: rebuilding itself after the War and reunified after the Wall was opened.

UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY MAURITIUS

Your Blood, Their Hope.

November 14, 2025, 10:00am
UTM Campus, administrative block

The University of Technology, Mauritius is inviting all stakeholders to participate in the upcoming blood donation campaign in an effort to contribute sustainably and civically to this noble cause. Your active involvement can make a real difference in a life saving situation.

This health initiative will also be complemented with a screening campaign against HIV and venereal diseases.

Let's build a healthier society together!

Publish Your Notices in Mauritius Times Digital Editions

- Annual General Meeting (AGM)
- General Assembly
- Applications for Building and Land Use Permits
- Corporate - Company Notices

Send Your Notices + Proof of ID by Email or WhatsApp No - 5 2929301

Payment: Bank Transfer or by Juice No. 5782 9861

Contact us: Tel: 212 1313 -- 5 2929301
Email: mntimes@intnet.mu

JSS Academy Celebrates Academic Excellence at 2nd Landmark Convocation

The JSS Academy of Higher Education and Research, Mauritius (JSSAHERM), marked a significant milestone on November 8, 2025, by successfully hosting its 2nd Convocation Ceremony. Held at the MITD Lecture Theatre in Phoenix, the event served to celebrate the hard-earned academic achievements of its graduating students.

Hon Anil Kumar Bachoo, Minister of Health and Wellness, attended as the Chief Guest. He was accompanied by the Hon Anishta Babooram, Junior Minister of Health and Wellness, along with JSSAHERM's leadership, including Professor (Dr) Praveen Mohadeb, CEO and Vice Chancellor. Also present were key figures from the Indian High Commission, the Pharmacy Council of Mauritius, the Dental Council of Mauritius, and the Rajiv Gandhi Science Centre.

In his address, Minister Bachoo paid tribute to the institution's founding, noting that His Holiness Swamiji established the JSS Academy in 2002 at the request of the late Indian PM Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee. He commended the academy for its notable contribution in producing highly skilled engineers and pharmacists. Furthermore, the Junior Minister expressed deep gratitude for JSSAHERM's continuous collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Wellness, particularly through training, research initiatives, health camps, and community outreach.



CEO & Vice Chancellor Dr Mohadeb highlighted the academy's rapid expansion and impact on the nation's healthcare sector. He announced the soon-to-be-launched MBBS programme, which joins a portfolio of 16 programmes now on offer.

Degrees were formally conferred upon students across two faculties — the Faculty of Health Sciences and the Faculty of Management Studies — for programmes including the Bachelor of Pharmacy and the Masters of Business Administration (Hospital Administration). Ms Wahidna Salvi

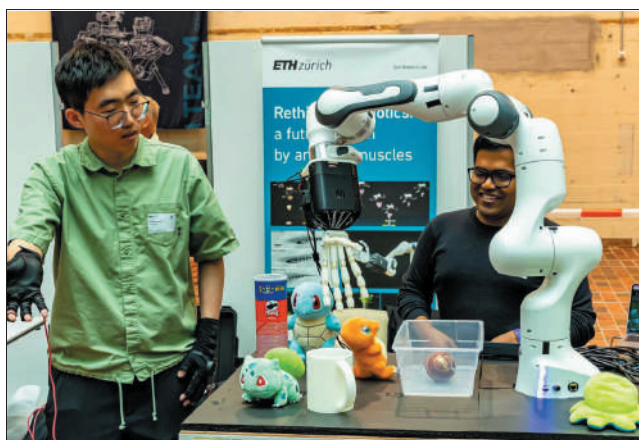
Fatimah was honoured with the Academic Excellence Award for her remarkable accomplishments.

JSSAHERM, established in 2018 and granted degree-awarding powers in 2020, has achieved remarkable growth in just five years, with all 16 programmes fully approved and accredited by the Higher Education Commission (HEC) of Mauritius. Notably, its B Pharm and Pharm D programmes have secured pre-accreditation from the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE) of the USA, guaranteeing international standards of quality.

A Rajiv Gandhi Science Centre Initiative

Mauritius to host the “Robotics and Innovation Days”

The Rajiv Gandhi Science Centre (RGSC), in close collaboration with the Embassy of the Russian Federation in the Republic of Mauritius, will be launching next week the “Days for Robotics and Innovative Educational Technologies.” This immersive three-day program is scheduled to run from 17 to 19 November 2025 at the RGSC premises in Bell Village.



The event aims to introduce students, educators, and the wider public to the fascinating world of emerging technologies through a series of interactive, hands-on, and educational activities focusing on robotics, virtual reality (VR), and innovative learning tools.

The opening ceremony on 17 November 2025 will be graced by the presence of Hon K. S. Sukon, Minister of Tertiary Education, Science and Research, and Ms Irada Zeynalova, Ambassador of the Russian Federation to the

Republic of Mauritius.

This initiative is a core part of the ongoing collaboration between RGSC and the Russian Embassy, designed to significantly enhance science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) learning in Mauritius. The partnership reflects a shared commitment to strengthening youth participation in science and technology and promoting advanced digital literacy, which is fully aligned with the country's national development priorities.

The “Days for Robotics and Innovative Educational Technologies” offers a rich and diverse schedule tailored to inspire the next generation of innovators, featuring:

Interactive Career-Discovery Quiz – “Return of the Tesseract”, designed to help students explore promising career pathways in IT, game development, and emerging digital fields.

Master Classes in Robotics and Immersive Technologies, comprising three parallel, hands-on workshops, giving participants direct experience with cutting-edge tools aimed at – Developing a Game in Virtual Reality; VR Master Class: Interactive Geometric Modelling; Assembling a Lunar Rover Robotics Kit.

Full-Day Exhibition on Scientific and Technical Creativity, to showcase a range of technological advancements, including robotics platforms, VR educational environments, and innovative demonstrations from both Russian and Mauritian teams.

These activities are expected to engage more than 300 students and educators, providing them with a platform to interact with cutting-edge technologies and discover opportunities for further studies and careers in fields like robotics,

mechatronics, and digital design.

Advancing the National STEM Agenda

The entire initiative strongly supports the Ministry of Tertiary Education, Science and Research's vision to transform Mauritius into a Knowledge Hub and to empower young people with the essential skills for the digital economy. Secondary and tertiary institutions were invited to register students and educators for the various sessions. Participation is free of charge.

For further details, please contact Mr Hemraj Ramsurrun, Manager/Curator, Rajiv Gandhi Science Centre, via phone at 213 2773 or 59204145, or by email at manager_elec@rgscf.org.



SANSKRITI SANSTHAN MAURITIUS
presents

1-Minute Sanskrit Shlok Competition 2025

PRIZES

1ST PRIZE: RS 10,000

2ND PRIZE: RS 5,000

3RD PRIZE: RS 3,000

Deadline for submission:
1st December 2025

How to Submit a Video

1. Record a video.
2. First introduce yourself by telling your name and age.
3. Recite a shlok.
4. Send the video by WhatsApp on 59488859 or email to bharatmauritiuspost@gmail.com

Top 10 winners will receive exciting prizes.

All participants will receive a certificate of participation.



Tree of Knowledge

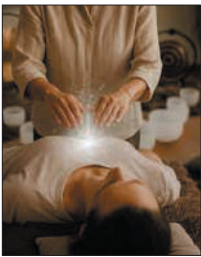
Clearing Up Space

Tn clearing away what no longer serves us, we create space for profound healing and renewal.

Sometimes things happen in life that leave a lasting impact — so much so, that we find ourselves thinking about it, even years later. It might be the loss of a loved one, an unexpected revelation, or a split-second change that alters everything. These defining moments can weigh on us,

anchoring us in reality and reminding us of what truly matters. Sometimes though, we try to set aside these memories, pushing them down as we trudge forward without looking back.

Yet when we keep these feelings locked inside, they can resurface in unexpected ways, like a messy home, mental exhaustion, or a sudden burst of emotion that catches us by surprise. What we bury has a habit of seeking the light. That's why it's vital to carve out space — both mentally and physically — to clear away what no longer serves us. In doing



so, we create profound healing and renewal.

To begin, try this simple practice: Sit comfortably, placing one hand on your belly, and take a deep, slow breath in, feeling your belly rise as you inhale. As you exhale, imagine tension releasing from your body, inviting a sense of calm and balance. Keep going until you feel lighter and more at ease. This sacred practice not only nurtures your spirit but also opens the doorway to transformation — each breath is a tender invitation to heal, starting from within.

Daily Om

YOUR STARS

Sagittarius (22 November – 21 December)

Adventure calls, and your curiosity leads you toward inspiring new paths. Career growth is possible through bold communication or networking. In love, a deeper emotional understanding strengthens bonds. Stay flexible—unexpected turns bring hidden blessings.
Lucky numbers: 4, 8, 16, 21, 27, 35

Capricorn (22 December – 19 January)

Steady determination drives you forward. Professional advancement is likely if you show adaptability. Family support strengthens your resolve. Take time to celebrate small wins.
Lucky numbers: 4, 10, 15, 22, 28, 33

Aquarius (20 January – 18 February)

Innovation defines your week. A bold idea could attract attention or funding. Friendships play a vital role — collaborate freely. Guard against overwork or neglecting rest.
Lucky numbers: 1, 7, 14, 20, 29, 37

Pisces (19 February – 20 March)

Spiritual insight deepens. Dreams or symbols may carry clear messages. Financial decisions should be based on intuition and practicality. Relationships flourish through empathy and understanding.
Lucky numbers: 2, 6, 11, 18, 25, 30

Aries (21 March – 19 April)

A surge of energy pushes you toward new beginnings. Career prospects brighten, and teamwork brings results. Avoid impulsive spending midweek. In love, passion is strong—listen before reacting.
Lucky numbers: 3, 8, 14, 19, 28, 34

Taurus (20 April – 20 May)

Practical choices lead to long-term rewards. Financial stability grows through steady effort. Relationships benefit from patience and compromise. A family issue finds resolution by weekend.
Lucky numbers: 2, 6, 13, 21, 27, 32

Gemini (21 May – 20 June)

Your charm opens doors in both work and social circles. A communication breakthrough clears old misunderstandings. Take care not to overextend yourself. Good news may arrive Friday.
Lucky numbers: 4, 10, 15, 22, 30, 37

Cancer (21 June – 22 July)

Focus turns to home and emotional balance. Someone close needs your reassurance. Career progress comes quietly behind the scenes. Rest and self-care boost your intuition.
Lucky numbers: 1, 9, 12, 18, 25, 33

Leo (23 July – 22 August)

This week favors bold presentations and leadership. Recognition is near—trust your instincts. A social event could spark romance or partnership. Avoid pride-driven disputes midweek.
Lucky numbers: 5, 11, 17, 20, 29, 38

Virgo (23 August – 22 September)

You're in planning mode, refining routines and goals. Financial organization pays off quickly. Health matters improve with consistency. Stay open to unexpected collaboration.
Lucky numbers: 3, 7, 14, 18, 26, 35

Libra (23 September – 22 October)

Harmony returns after recent tension. A creative project takes shape, drawing attention from key people. A romantic surprise could lift your mood. Keep balance between work and pleasure.
Lucky numbers: 2, 9, 13, 21, 27, 39

Scorpio (23 October – 21 November)

Transformation continues. A career shift or new strategy gains traction. Emotionally, clarity replaces confusion. Financial rewards come from persistence. Trust your instincts—they're spot on.
Lucky numbers: 6, 8, 12, 19, 24, 31



Wastewater Management Authority

INVITATION FOR PROPOSALS

(Authorised under Section 16 of the Public Procurement Act 2006)

Procurement Reference No.: OAB/17/2025

e-Procurement Reference No.: WMA/IFB/2025/1720

OPEN ADVERTISED BIDDING

Contract WW 570C - Procurement for the Consultancy Services for Feasibility Study, Detailed Design and Preparation of Bidding Document for Automation and Centralised SCADA System for Wastewater Pumping Stations and Treatment Plants

1. The Wastewater Management Authority (WMA) is inviting proposals from suitably qualified Consultancy Firms, through the Government E-Procurement System for Consultancy Services for Feasibility Study, Detailed Design and Preparation of Bidding Document for Automation and Centralised SCADA System for Wastewater Pumping Stations and Treatment Plants, as more fully described in the bidding document.
2. Request for Proposal document may be downloaded from the E-Procurement System <https://eproc.publicprocurement.govmu.org>. Reference Number on the system: **WMA/IFB/2025/1720**
3. **Pre – Proposal Conference**
Consultants are invited to attend a pre-proposal conference that will be held through online video conference on **Thursday 27 November 2025 at 13.00 hrs Mauritian time (GMT+4)**.
The Link will be provided through an Addendum at least three (3) days from the scheduled date.
4. Proposals must be submitted online on the e-procurement System at latest by **Wednesday 17 December 2025 up to 13.29 hrs (Mauritian time)**.
5. Consultants who have submitted bids online by the closing date and time shall **decrypt and re-encrypt** their bids from **Wednesday 17 December 2025 from 14.31 hrs till Friday 19 December 2025 up to 14.00 hrs (Mauritian time)**.
6. Proposals will be opened online in the presence of the bidder's representatives who choose to attend at the address given hereunder on **Friday 19 December 2025 as from 14.01 hrs (Mauritian time)**.

The Wastewater Management Authority,
3rd Floor, Conference Room
Jerningham Street,
Curepipe
Mauritius

7. The **Wastewater Management Authority** reserves the right to accept or reject any proposal and to annul the bidding process and reject all proposals at any time prior to award of the Contract, without thereby incurring any liability to any Bidder.

10 November 2025

The tiny mineral that could revolutionize rice farming

Rice is the staple food for over 3.5 billion people, but its cultivation is a massive environmental burden, with high resource consumption and significant greenhouse gas emissions. A groundbreaking study led by scientists at the University of Massachusetts Amherst and China's Jiangnan University may have found a sustainable solution in an unexpected place: nanoscale selenium.

Researchers discovered that applying a suspension of nanoscale selenium directly to rice foliage via an aerial drone dramatically improves the plant's efficiency and health. This technique addresses a major flaw in modern agriculture -- the poor Nitrogen Use Efficiency (NUE) of crops, which can be as low as 30% for rice, meaning 70% of expensive nitrogen fertilizer is wasted.

A Cascade of Sustainable Benefits

The nano-selenium application triggered a cascade of benefits, improving NUE from 30% to a much more



efficient 48.3%. This was achieved not by direct fertilization, but by stimulating the plant's natural processes:

1. Increased Photosynthesis: Photosynthesis

jumped by over 40%, meaning the plant absorbed more CO₂ and produced more carbohydrates.

2. Healthier Roots and Microbes: These carbohydrates flowed to the roots, causing them to grow larger and healthier. The robust roots then released organic compounds that cultivated beneficial soil microbes.

3. Enhanced Nitrogen Absorption: These microbes worked symbiotically with the rice to pull more nitrogen from the soil, directly increasing the NUE.

The results are transformative: the technique reduced the negative environmental impacts of nitrogen fertilization by 41%, cut nitrogen fertilizer application by 30%, and slashed the release of potent greenhouse gases like nitrous oxide and ammonia. Furthermore, it boosted the economic benefits by 38.2% per ton of rice.

In addition to being more efficient, the resulting rice was also more nutritious, with higher levels of protein, critical amino acids, and selenium. This simple, targeted application of a vital mineral holds real promise for meeting the challenges of a growing population and climate change, potentially marking a new path forward for sustainable global food production.



Why can't every country get along with each other? It comes down to resources, inequality and perception

Even countries with similar values and goals can end up in conflict with each other due to forces they cannot fully control.

Countries often share similar goals, such as peace and prosperity for their citizens, so it might seem strange that they find it hard to get along. Cultural differences may sometimes cause countries such as China and the United States to compete for global influence, but even countries sharing similar values or cultures still find reasons to clash.

So why do countries compete or even go to war? As a political science scholar researching some of the most conflict-prone regions in the world, I find that the answer often comes down to three factors: scarcity, uneven distribution and perception.



The Nile River may be long, but its resources are limited. Eythar Gubara/Wikimedia Commons, CC BY-SA

Scarcity leads to hard choices

Scarcity is the reality that there are not enough resources -- such as food, oil, water and land -- to go around. While countries would prefer to pursue all the resources they need, they are forced to prioritize the resources that will make them most secure.

For instance, the Nile River serves as a water resource for more than 300 million people in 11 countries in Africa. However, because water is a scarce resource used for drinking, irrigation farming and hydro-electric power, countries such as Egypt and Ethiopia have often fought about using the river.

Uneven distribution means relying on others

Uneven distribution means that not everyone starts off with the same resources. Nations have different levels of power and capabilities, and this shapes how they calculate risk and opportunity when dealing with each other.

For instance, countries concerned about the United States' dominant power joined together in a rival international organization known as BRICS+ in 2009. Its founding members include Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa, and several other countries have joined over the years.

Perception can lead to misunderstanding

Perception is how countries view each other's actions. A nation can build up its weapons to be safe from potential attacks, but another nation might view this move as threatening rather than defensive.

For instance, India developed nuclear capability in the 1970s to protect itself, but neighboring Pakistan perceived this as a threat and soon developed its own nuclear weapons. The two countries have since engaged in occasional conflict.

Classroom international relations

Countries have leaders with different personal experiences and backgrounds. To understand how countries interact, it is useful to draw an analogy to a classroom simulation I use in my courses.

Annabelle and Morgan are two good friends who are taking a course in international relations. For a simulation game, their teacher assigns Annabelle and Morgan to lead two different groups. Their classmates are also assigned to be leaders of a handful of other groups. Each

group must decide how to spend its resources, build its industries and form partnerships.

In the game, scarcity was represented by a set number of points both groups could use to purchase resources. Since there were not enough points to provide everyone with everything they desired, each group had to prioritize needs. Should they invest more points in defense, social goods or industry?



Military spending means war is always on the horizon. AP Photo/Kin Cheung

Annabelle's team started with 100 points and Morgan's team started with 30. That uneven distribution mattered. Annabelle's group could comfortably invest in industry, while Morgan's had to focus on survival. Morgan's group had to decide whether to trust more resource-rich groups and grow their industry points through trade, or find allies among groups with lots of military resources to prepare for potential conflict.

Perception came in when Morgan's team was not sure how Annabelle's team was spending its points. If they were spending many points on military, they could attack another group and steal its points. To protect her group, Morgan decided to form an alliance with two other groups. In return, Annabelle's group perceived the alliance as a threat and started spending more points on military.

In the final round of the game, Morgan's new alliance invaded Annabelle's group and took most of their resource points. Annabelle felt betrayed, since she assumed her friendship with Morgan would allow their groups to work together. Morgan felt uneasy but also justified. She did not know how other members of Annabelle's group would decide to act, so she prioritized her own group's safety.

By the end of the game, Annabelle and Morgan were angry and frustrated with each other and their friendship was strained.

Cooperation turns into conflict

Even countries that share common goals or values sometimes compete, and the motivations are rarely simple.

Nations cooperate because it helps them grow, but they also take actions to protect themselves. When two countries compete over similar resources, and when their power balance is not clear, they can get the wrong idea about each other's actions and engage in conflict. At the extreme, they may even go to war.

Competition and mistrust can arise even among friends who share similar goals. Similarly, while every country might want peace and stability, the forces of scarcity, uneven distribution and perception make it impossible for everyone to get along all the time.

Still, understanding these realities can help countries to build trust and work toward a shared respect that makes peace more likely.

Kaleb Demerew

Assistant Professor of Political Science,
West Texas A&M University;
Institute for Humane Studies



*Laughter is the
Best Medicine*

3 Golf Balls

A man lay in a hospital bed, his wife by his side.

He looked at her and said, "Honey, the doctor says I'm on my last leg. I won't make it through the night."

She wept, holding his hand.

"Is there anything I need to do?" she asked.

"When I die," he whispered, "In my desk drawer, you'll find a black bag with \$15,000 in small bills. It's yours. It will also have 3 golf balls. You can throw them away."

"I'm touched," she said. "But why 3 golf balls? You've never played in your life."

He sighed, "The 3 golf balls represent the times I cheated on you."

She paused, holding back her tears.

"Three times in 40 years of marriage isn't too bad. But... where did the money come from?"

"Every time I got a dozen balls together," he said, "I sold them to a driving range."

A Pint for the Brothers

An Irishman walks into a bar in Dublin, orders three pints of Guinness, and sits in the back of the room, sipping from each one in turn.

When he finishes, he returns to the bar and orders three more.

The bartender, curious, says,

"You know, a pint goes flat after I draw it. It'd taste better if you ordered one at a time."

The Irishman replies,

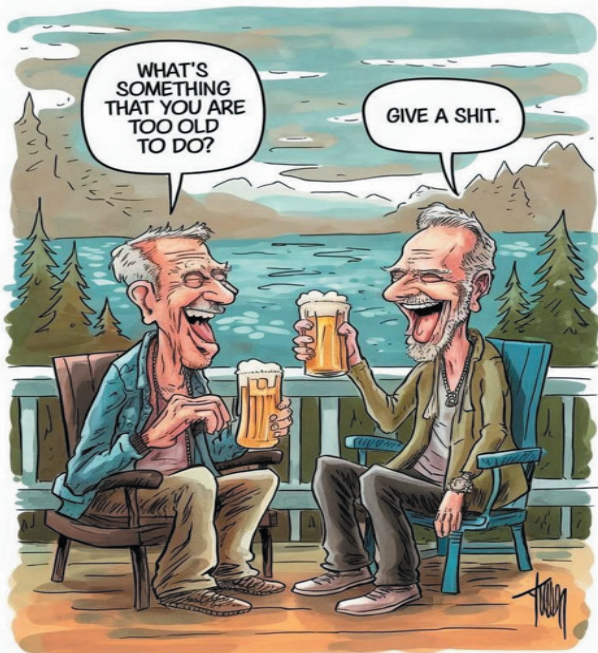
"Well, you see, I have two brothers -- one in America, the other in Australia. I'm here in Dublin. When we all left home, we promised we'd always drink this way to remember the times we drank together. So, I have one for each of my brothers and one for myself."

The bartender smiles and says,

"That's a lovely tradition."

From then on, the Irishman becomes a regular, always ordering three pints and drinking them in turn.

One day, he comes in and orders only two pints. The entire pub goes silent. A few glances are exchanged. When he returns to the bar for his second round, the



bartender gently says,

"I don't mean to intrude, but I just wanted to say how sorry I am for your loss."

The Irishman looks confused for a moment, then laughs and says,

"Oh no, everyone's just fine. It's just that me wife made us join that Baptist Church... and I had to give up drinking'."

He grins, "But it hasn't affected me brothers though!"

Disorder in the Courts

Here's a collection of real pearls from American courtrooms, taken from the book 'Disorder in the Courts'

Attorney: What was the first thing your husband said to you that morning?

Witness: He said, 'Where am I, Cathy?'

Attorney: And why did that upset you?

Witness: My name is Susan!!

Attorney: What gear were you in at the moment of the impact?

Witness: Gucci sweats and Reeboks!

Attorney: Are you sexually active?

Witness: No, I just lie there.

Attorney: What is your date of birth?

Witness: July 18th.

Attorney: What year?

Witness: Every year.

Attorney: How old is your son, the one living with you?

Witness: Thirty-eight or thirty-five, I can't remember which.

Attorney: How long has he lived with you?

Witness: Forty-five years.

Attorney: This myasthenia gravis, does it affect your memory at all?

Witness: Yes.

Attorney: And in what ways does it affect your memory?

Witness: I forget...

Attorney: You forget? Can you give us an example of something you forgot?

Attorney: Now doctor, isn't it true that when a person dies in his sleep, he doesn't know about it until the next morning?

Witness: Did you actually pass the bar exam?

Attorney: The youngest son, the 20-year-old, how old is he?

Witness: He's 20, much like your IQ.

Attorney: So the date of conception (of the baby) was August 8th?

Witness: Yes.

Attorney: And what were you doing at that time?

Witness: Getting laid.

Attorney: She had three children, right?

Witness: Yes.

Attorney: How many were boys?

Witness: None.

Attorney: Were there any girls?

Witness: Your Honour, I think I need a different attorney. Can I get a new attorney?

Attorney: How was your first marriage terminated?

Witness: By death...

Attorney: And by whose death was it terminated?

Witness: Take a guess.



Attorney: Can you describe the individual?

Witness: He was about medium height and had a beard.

Attorney: Was this a male or a female?

Witness: Unless the circus was in town, I'm going with male.

Attorney: Doctor, how many of your autopsies have you performed on dead people?

Witness: All of them. The live ones put up too much of a fight.

Attorney: ALL your responses MUST be oral, OK? What school did you go to?

Witness: Oral...

Attorney: Do you recall the time that you examined the body?

Witness: The autopsy started around 8:30 PM.

Attorney: And Mr Denton was dead at the time?

Witness: If not, he was by the time I finished.

10 Timeless Lessons from the Private Letters of John D. Rockefeller

John D. Rockefeller, one of history's wealthiest figures, was defined not just by his industrial empire but by his guiding principles. In his private correspondence with his son, he distilled timeless wisdom on wealth management, discipline, faith, and purpose -- lessons that remain crucial blueprints for every visionary, leader, and entrepreneur today.

Here are 10 essential takeaways from those private letters:

1. Wealth Is a Responsibility, Not a Privilege

Rockefeller taught that money is not a tool for pride or power -- it's an instrument for impact. He often stressed: "The man who starts out simply with the idea of getting rich won't succeed; you must have a larger ambition." He reminded his son that true wealth is measured by lasting impact, not temporary possessions.

Lesson: Use wealth to build, serve, and uplift -- not merely to impress.

2. Character Is More Valuable Than Fortune

Rockefeller fundamentally believed that integrity was worth more than gold. He told his son to keep his word, honour every deal, and never compromise honesty for immediate gain.

Lesson: Protect your reputation -- once lost, its true value can never be bought back.

3. Simplicity and Discipline Forge Stability

Despite his vast riches, Rockefeller consistently modelled modesty. He rigorously prioritized discipline, savings, and simplicity over frivolous luxury.

Lesson: Live below your means -- control money so that money doesn't control you.

4. Work with Vision, Not Just Effort

Rockefeller reminded his son that hard work without direction leads to exhaustion, not success. He constantly encouraged focus, strategy, and purpose in every task undertaken.

Lesson: Don't just work hard -- work strategically toward a vision that truly matters.

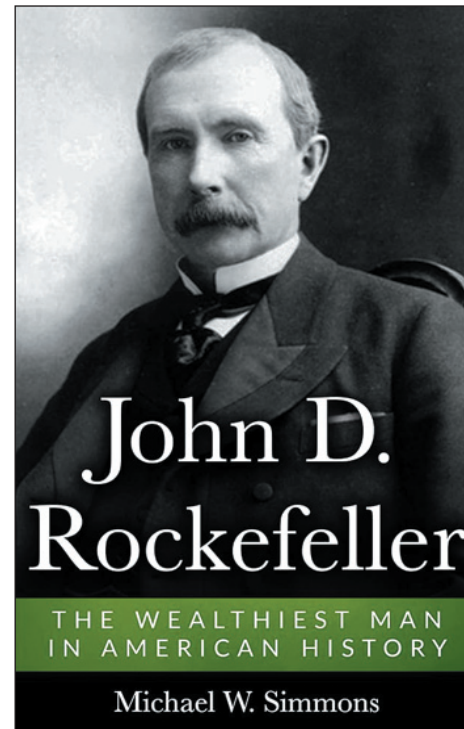
5. Generosity Multiplies Prosperity

He viewed giving as both a profound duty and a source of joy. Through his philanthropic foundations, Rockefeller transformed lives globally in education, health, and opportunity.

Lesson: What you give doesn't leave your life -- it amplifies your legacy.

6. Keep Learning, Keep Growing

Rockefeller urged his son to read daily, persistently ask questions, and surround himself with wise mentors. He was convinced that continuous learning compounds faster than compound inter-



est.

Lesson: Knowledge is the indispensable seed of every great fortune.

7. Patience Is the Secret Ingredient of Greatness

He built his empire over decades -- not overnight. He taught that the best opportunities are reserved for those who prepare diligently and persist through chal-

lenges.

Lesson: Don't rush the process. Success ultimately rewards consistency and patience.

8. Respect Everyone, From Labourers to Partners

Rockefeller demanded that every person be treated with dignity, from labourers to executives. He viewed leadership as service and responsibility, not superiority.

Lesson: People will remember how you treated them far more than what you achieved.

9. Faith Anchors Everything

His letters were deeply infused with faith, gratitude, and moral guidance. He believed that spiritual grounding was essential to successfully navigate both the peaks of success and the valleys of failure.

Lesson: Keep God and fundamental good values at the center of your ambition.

10. Peace Is the Real Profit

Rockefeller warned that wealth without inner peace or purpose is poverty in disguise. He emphasized the crucial balance between work, family, and necessary rest.

Lesson: True success is achieved when you prosper while preserving your peace of mind.

Life's Lessons

The Joy of Giving

"Can I eat with you?" asked a homeless little girl named An to a millionaire -- and his answer changed both their lives forever.

Her voice trembled yet carried hope. A man in a tailored suit froze, seeing her small, dirty figure with eyes full of longing.

It was a warm October afternoon in Ho Chi Minh City. Mr Lam, a wealthy real estate magnate, dined alone when an, barefoot and ragged, approached. Staff moved to remove her, but Lam stopped them.

"What's your name?" he asked.

"An. I haven't eaten in two days."

Lam pointed to the empty chair across from him. "Bring her the same dish as mine. And a glass of warm milk."

An devoured the meal, hunger overpowering manners. Lam watched silently, memories of his own childhood -- sleeping

on streets, abandoned, hungry -- surfacing.

"Would you like to come live with me?" he asked.

An's eyes widened. "Yes."

In Lam's home, she discovered warmth, school, and safety. Terrified of losing it, she once hid bread, crying: "I just don't want to ever be hungry again."

"You will never go hungry again. I promise you," Lam said.

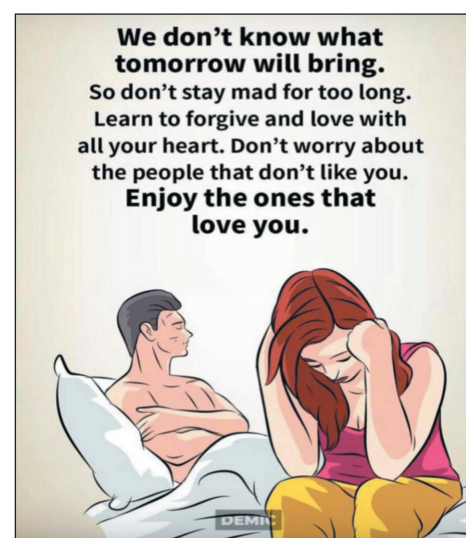
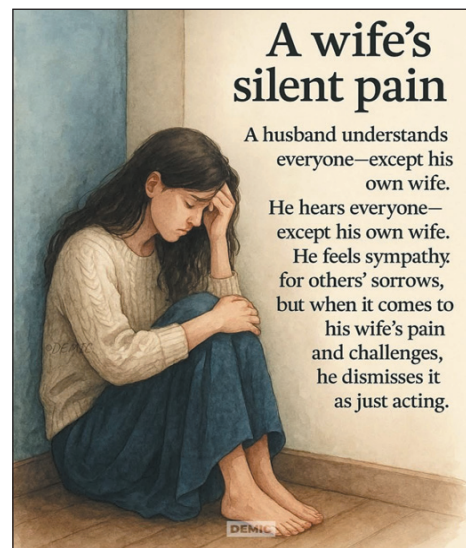
Years later, An became a top graduate abroad. Before leaving, she asked: "Who were you before all this?"

"Someone very much like you," Lam replied. "I promised myself that if I met a child like me, I wouldn't look away."

A returned home to launch the 'Can I Eat with You?' Foundation, with Lam donating 30% of his fortune. Every October 15, they return to serve meals to children on the sidewalk.

Because one small question -- "Can I eat with you?" -- once shared, changed everything.

Reflections: No one has ever become poor by giving. We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.



Stray Thoughts

Reservations Destroy a Nation

This famous statement of Nelson Mandela is displayed at the entrance of the University of South Africa as follows...

"Destroying any nation does not require the use of atomic bombs or the use of long-range missiles. It only requires lowering the quality of education and allowing cheating in the examinations by the students.

Patients die at the hands of such doctors.

Buildings collapse at the hands of such engineers.

Money is lost in the hands of such economists and accountants.

Humanity dies at the hands of such religious scholars.

Justice is lost at the hands of such judges.

The collapse of education is the collapse of a nation."

Inspiration Take a Deep Breath

Brothers and sisters, take a deep breath. Everything will be fine. Even if the road feels heavy, know this: we are stronger than the storms we face. The light has not gone anywhere; it is still shining, even if the clouds try to hide it.

All is good. Struggles carry meaning. Setbacks carry lessons. Silence carries peace. We are not alone. Together, we rise. Together, we heal.

So hold steady. Keep your heart open. Better days are not just coming -- they are already here, one step at a time.

Leadership

Training for Excellence: Four Leadership Lessons from the Navy SEALs

Almost every world-class organisation invests heavily in the education of its leaders, yet few commit to the relentless level of training seen in elite groups like the Navy SEALs. The difference, according to SEALs, is stark: "Under pressure, you don't rise to the occasion, you sink to the level of your training."

This philosophy suggests that many talented businesses and highly-educated leaders are overeducated and undertrained, prioritizing knowledge over the skills necessary to adapt and innovate under duress. To gain perspective, the author consulted Brandon Webb, an innovative SEAL trainer and CEO of Force12 Media, who radically redesigned the SEAL Sniper Course curriculum. Webb's insights reveal four transformational themes that distinguish SEAL training and offer powerful lessons for corporate leadership and executive education.

1. Produce Excellence, Not "Above Average"

For most organizations, training is designed to ensure competence—to be comfortably above average. Webb asserts that this standard is a failure.

"Training programs shouldn't be designed to deliver competence; they must be dedicated to producing excellence."

If the goal is simply compliance or "box ticking," the training is not a genuine human capital investment. Webb's hardcore perspective demands leaders ask themselves: Does our training genuinely aim to empower and bring out the absolute best in our people, or is everyone tacitly expected to just be a bit better? Training



divorced from the expectation of excellence is just mediocrity management.

2. Incentivize Excellence, Not Competence

World-class training must be paired with the right incentives. Webb emphasizes the need for recognition and reward systems (financial, personal growth, promotion) that explicitly acknowledge and promote excellence.

Webb redesigned the sniper course to include a mentor program, making instructors accountable for their students' performance. This alignment through incentives made a "huge difference," radically improving teaching, boosting morale, and facilitating accountability across the organization. By switching to a positive style of teaching, the course saw its graduation rate rocket from 70% to 98%, proving that incentives can champion both skills enhancement and the building of better team bonds.

3. Incorporate New Ideas from the Ground

Successful training must be dynamic, open, and innovative. Incremental improvement isn't enough;

ongoing transformation is vital for both trainers and trainees.

Webb passionately asserts that instructors must be rigorous about constantly being open to new ideas, especially from those on the front lines. The SEALs actively sought knowledge from snipers returning from combat zones like Iraq and Afghanistan and incorporated their real-world mission briefs into the curriculum, sometimes making changes within weeks. This fluid, adaptive approach — where the trainees become a "wealth of information" — gives the organization a life-saving edge in rapidly adopting and putting good ideas into practice.

4. Lead by Example

Webb's most passionate theme is one that reflects his battlefield experience: The most important training behavior a leader can demonstrate is leading by example.

"Leading by example means never asking your team to do something you aren't willing to do yourself."

This cannot be faked. In high-stakes environments, leaders who actively participate and embody the standards they set earn the respect and loyalty of their teams. This behavior is what truly empowers small teams to become self-motivators who "just get the job done at all costs." While the extreme self-sacrifice of the SEALs is not applicable to business, the leadership template — where the leader demonstrates the required behavior before demanding it — remains a powerful catalyst for achieving incredible accomplishments.

A Final Call for Commitment

The Navy SEALs' obsessive dedication to preparation is a challenge to every CEO, board, and business school. While corporate life doesn't demand battlefield dedication, the core principle remains: true world-class excellence requires a serious, uncompromising commitment to training that prioritizes skills, integrity, and producing excellence above all else.

Living Better

Simple Ways To Save Money On Groceries

The grocery store/supermarket is strategically designed to make you spend more, but adopting smarter shopping habits can significantly reduce your food bill and food waste. The following list of tips generally falls into four strategic categories that maximize savings and sustainability:

1. Navigate the Store Strategically

- **Stay away from the inner aisles:** Most staples (produce, dairy) are on the perimeter. Skipping the middle aisles helps you avoid unnecessary, high-margin processed goods.

- **Look up and look down:** Supermarkets stock the priciest items at eye level. Look at the higher and lower shelves for cheaper, generic alternatives.

- **Don't go to the store hungry:** Hunger leads to impulse buying. Shop on a full stomach, preferably on the weekends.

2. Avoid Paying for Convenience

- **Pre-washed, pre-cut, and pre-grated foods cost extra:** Pre-washed salad, pre-cut fruit, and grated cheese



cost significantly more because you are paying for labour you could easily do at home.

- **Stay away from the pre-prepared foods:** Buying pre-made meals is much more expensive than buying the ingredients and cooking it fresh.

3. Smart Substitutions and Planning

- **Don't be tempted by brand names:** Generic options are often identical or very similar to brand-name products but are offered at a lower price. Always check the ingredients.

- **Consider dried beans:** Dried beans are cheaper and tastier than canned beans, saving money over time.

- **Take the time to make a grocery list:** A list is your single

best defense against impulse buying.

- **Eat with the seasons:** In-season produce tastes better and costs less because it hasn't travelled far.

4. Leverage Tools and Resources

- **Don't waste big bucks on a few sprigs of fresh herbs:** Start a small herb garden — you can often buy an entire plant for the price of a few sprigs.

- **Reconsider buying bottled water:** Tap water is virtually free; buying bottled water is an expensive and unnecessary habit.

Health Tips

Healthy Ways to Satisfy Your Sweet Tooth

Tired of the sugar rush and crash? Instead of processed sugar, try these healthier, natural alternatives that offer flavor and nutrients without the negative side effects.

Raw Honey: A nutritious swap for sugar, it's rich in antioxidants and vitamins. Use a little less than you would with sugar and enjoy it in tea, yogurt, or granola.

Pure Maple Syrup: More than a pancake topping, this syrup provides minerals and a distinct earthy sweetness. It has a lower glycemic index and is great for baking, marinades, or oatmeal.

Date Syrup/Sugar: Made from whole dates, this sweetener contains fiber, which helps regulate sugar absorption. The syrup is ideal for smoothies, while date sugar adds a rich, caramel flavor to baked goods.

Coconut Sugar: A less-processed option with a caramel taste and minerals like iron. Use it as a one-for-one substitute for refined sugar in moderation.

Blackstrap Molasses & Jaggery: These are rich in iron and other minerals and offer a bold, complex flavor. Use them sparingly as a flavor accent in recipes like gingerbread.

Monk Fruit: An excellent choice for low-sugar diets, monk fruit extract is 150-300 times sweeter than sugar with zero calories and no effect on blood glucose.

Yacon Syrup & Allulose: Yacon syrup is a prebiotic that supports gut health with half the calories of sugar. Allulose is a "rare sugar" that tastes like sugar but has almost no calories and won't cause an insulin spike.

BollyBytes

Hema Malini Shares Emotional Toll of Dharmendra's Health Scare

Veteran Bollywood actor Dharmendra has been discharged from Mumbai's Breach Candy Hospital and is continuing his recovery at home, much to the relief of his family and fans. However, actor and parliamentarian Hema Malini has opened up about the immense emotional strain the health scare has placed on the entire family.

In a heartfelt statement, Malini revealed that the actor's children have been "sleepless" with worry during the anxious time of his hospitalization.

Home-based recovery confirmed

Dharmendra, 89, was admitted to the hospital for a series of routine tests and medical monitoring. He was discharged early Wednesday morning, with his



attending physician, Dr Pratit Samdani, confirming that his "treatment and management with recovery will continue at home." The family, the Deols, opted for home care to ensure the beloved star remains in a

comfortable and familiar environment.

In a reassuring statement, the family requested privacy and continued prayers from well-wishers, signing off with Dharmendra's familiar Instagram phrase: "He loves you."

Hema Malini on the emotional strain

Hema Malini described the past few days as "emotionally draining," noting the high level of concern felt by everyone close to the veteran star.

"It has not been an easy time for me. Dharamji's health is a matter of great concern for us. His children are sleepless. I can't afford to be weak, too many responsibilities," she said.

Expressing her relief that her husband is now home, she added, "He needs to be among the people he loves. Baki toh sab oopar wale ke haath mein hai. Please pray for us."

From Unintentional Flirt to Life Partner: Vicky Kaushal Recalls Proposing to Katrina Kaif



Grover and Katrina were friends after working together on *Bharat*.

• **The Hosting Tutorial:** The introduction quickly turned into an unexpected lesson. "During the first five minutes of meeting Katrina, she taught me how to host the show and what was left of the show was that I just had to go on the stage and say 'good night to everyone.' I had hosted the entire show by then; it was all done."

• **The Takeaway:** Despite the comical timing, Vicky highlighted that he received a "full-blown tutorial about how to host an award show" moments before wrapping it up.

The viral proposal that was a gag

Vicky then addressed the moment that arguably sparked the initial dating rumours: his on-stage proposal to Katrina at the SCREEN awards show.

The now-famous clip shows Vicky asking Katrina, "Why don't you get married to a nice guy like Vicky?" in front of a live audience. However, Vicky revealed that the proposal was entirely unintentional flirtation.

"The truth is that that was a gag on stage in that show and that no matter which heroine shows up, I had to ask this question to them. So during that night of the show, I didn't just ask Katrina, I had asked many actresses that same question, but it was just the clip of me and Katrina that went viral," he clarified.

Despite the gag, the two eventually fell in love and tied the knot after keeping their relationship private. Even now, Vicky remains deeply respectful of his wife's star status, concluding, "She is a superstar, a much bigger star, and she will always be."

Vicky Kaushal, who recently welcomed a baby boy with his wife Katrina Kaif, has opened up about the serendipitous beginnings of their relationship — including their awkward first meeting and the famous, on-stage proposal that went viral.

Speaking on the show *Too Much With Twinkle* and *Kajol*, Vicky shared the amusing details of how he and Katrina were first introduced by actor Sunil Grover.

The awkward first meeting, courtesy of Sunil Grover

Vicky recalled that his initial meeting with Katrina took place backstage at an awards show he was hosting.

• **The Introduction:** "The first time I met her was at an award show which I was hosting... and then we went backstage with Sunil Grover," Vicky shared, noting that

Raveena Tandon to Portray Heeraben Modi in Multilingual Biopic *Maa Vande*



Veteran actor Raveena Tandon has been officially confirmed for an intriguing and significant role: portraying Heeraben Modi, the mother of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in the upcoming multilingual biopic titled *Maa Vande*.

The announcement of Tandon's casting comes shortly after the film was officially unveiled on PM Modi's birthday, September 17.

A Focus on the Mother-Son Bond

The film, directed by Kranthi Kumar Ch and produced by Veer Reddy under Silver Cast Creations, is set to explore a different angle within the biopic genre. *Maa Vande* will predominantly focus on the mother-son relationship, chronicling Heeraben's sacrifices, resilience, and the pivotal contributions she made in shaping the life of a national leader.

According to sources close to the production, Tandon was deeply moved by the character of Heeraben. Her personal journey, including the challenge of "losing her mother early in her childhood" and her strength in holding "the family together with calm and fortitude," strongly resonated with the actress, motivating her to sign on for the role.

The Team and Production Scale

• **Cast:** Raveena Tandon as

Heeraben Modi and Unni Mukundan stepping into the role of Narendra Modi.

• **Director:** Kranthi Kumar Ch

• **Producer:** Veer Reddy (Silver Cast Creations)

The film is anticipated to be mounted on a grand scale, utilizing advanced VFX technology to enhance the storytelling. Raveena Tandon is also expected to undergo a complete physical transformation to authentically portray the layered character of Heeraben Modi.

With Tandon's powerful presence and the film's focus on an emotionally grounded, less-trodden path of familial roots, *Maa Vande* promises to be a compelling addition to the biopic genre.

DASAUTO CO LTD
Tel: 248 3693 / 5850 1922 / 5256 4837

BMW SPECIALIST GARAGE

Servicing & General Repairs
Mechanical & Electrical Problems
Diagnosis & Coding & Programming
Engine Overhaul/Oil &
Water Leakages/Suspension



Vendredi 14 Novembre - 20.15



Samedi 15 Novembre - 20.15



Dimanche 16 Novembre - 20.35



Programme TV



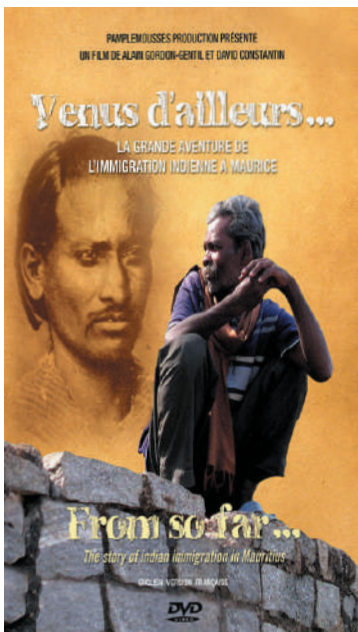
SERIAL



	MBC 1	MBC 2	MBC 3	Cine 12	Bollywood TV
vendredi 14 novembre	05.17 Serial: Seref Meselesi 08.20 Tele: L'Heritiere 09.00 Tele: Le Temps D'Aimer 09.29 Film: Le Déserteur De Fort Alamo 11.30 Tele: Lying Heart 12.00 Le Journal 12.35 Tele: Le Roman De La Vie 13.19 Tele: Les Riches Pleurent 13.45 Tele: La Desalmada 15.00 Live: Samachar 15.30 Film: The Boat 17.21 Doc: Not About Music 17.30 Tele: Lying Heart 18.30 Serial: Shiv Shakti 19.00 Serial: 19 Minutes 19.30 Le Journal 20.15 Film: Triple Alliance 22.24 Tele: Le Roman De La Vie 23.09 Tele: Lying Heart 23.30 Le Journal	09.35 Serial: Le Mag 10.32 Rodrig: A Nou Kwi 11.30 Local: Couleur Marine 12.00 Rodrig - Klip Seleksion 13.00 Le Journee Sous Le Regard 13.35 Rodrig: Feminin Pluriel 14.20 Moments Forts De L'Histoire 14.31 Local: Les Grandes Lignes 15.00 Local: Emotion En Avant... 15.21 Local: En Forme 15.35 Rodrig Prog: A Nou Kwi 18.30 Local: Sérapré Par L'Amour 19.00 Zournal Kreol 19.20 Local: Sur Prise 19.57 Local: Animalia 20.30 Local: Fashion FX & Lifestyle 21.30 Local: La Sosiete 22.00 Local: En Toute Intimite 23.00 Zournal Kreol 23.30 Local: En Forme 32.34 Mon Jardin Ma Maison	07.00 Local: Amrit Vani 07.31 Local: Hunarbaaz 08.00 D.Anime: Guru Aur Bhole 09.00 Aaj Ki Charcha 10.05 Local: Ramayan 11.30 Serial: Shiv Shakti 12.00 Film: Rivaaj Starring: Farida Jalal, Sanjeev Kumar, Mehmood Jr., Mala Sinha 15.00 Live: Samachar 15.21 Serial: Mithai 17.30 Serial: Shiv Shakti 18.00 Samachar 19.54 Serial: Khel Khiladi 20.30 Serial: Porus 21.22 Serial: Crime Patrol 22.16 Serial: Mere Sai 23.05 Wagle Ki Duniya 23.27 Local: Mati Ke Mol 00.44 Khel Khiladi 01.10 Mati Ke Mol	06.25 Doc: Let's Make It Tasty 07.57 D.Anime: Sonic Boom 08.32 D.Anime: Jungle Book 09.38 D.Anime: Slugterra 10.08 D.Anime: The Avatars 10.30 Mag: Eco India 11.01 Vegetarian Delights 12.54 The True Story Of Pirates 14.28 Doc: Environmental Crime 15.00 D.Anime: Early Learning 15.05 D.Anime: Fireman Sam 15.35 Charlotte Aux Fraises 16.06 D.Anime: Spacepop 16.40 D.Anime: Dragonero 17.03 D.Anime: The Avatars 17.25 Serial: Penny Sur M.A.R.S. 17.49 Doc: Japan Video Topics 18.26 Doc: Vegetarian Delights 19.00 Mag: Eco Africa 19.30 Mag: Euromaxx 20.01 Tele: L'Heritiere	14.25 Radha Mohan 14.55 Jijaji Chhat Par Hain 15.14 Film: Sindoor Cast: Shashi Kapoor, Govinda Ravi, Neelam Kothari, Lalita Kapoor, Jaya Prada 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.31 Kundali Bhagya 19.01 Udaariyaan 19.32 Dil Ko Tumse Pyaar Hua 20.01 Na Umra Ki Seema Ho 20.25 Shrimad Ramayan 20.55 Anupamaa 21.25 Mere Sai 21.57 Serial: Dhruv Tara 22.30 Wagle Ki Duniya 23.00 Serial: Mahabharat 23.23 Film: Sindoor Cast: Shashi Kapoor, Govinda Ravi, Neelam Kothari, Lalita Kapoor, Jaya Prada
samedi 15 novembre	03.49 Serial: Heartland 04.53 Tele: Seref Meselesi 05.46 Tele: L'Heritiere 06.03 Serial: Columbo 07.40 Serial: Nelle Tue Mani 08.34 Serial: Elementary 09.17 Serial: Heartland 09.57 Serial: Hawaii 10.40 Your Love Is My Fortune 11.32 Tele: L'Heritiere 12.00 Le Journal 12.30 Tele: All The Flowers 15.00 Live: Samachar 15.21 Film: Triple Alliance 17.32 Doc: Not About Music 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.30 Serial: Radha Krishna 19.30 Le Journal 20.15 Film: Spiderman 22.34 Doc: Nelle Tue Mani 00.05 Serial: Terra Nostra	06.00 Local: Mon Jardin Ma Maison 06.25 Local: Tous Egaux 06.41 Rodrig: 13 Minit Natir Rodrig 08.00 Local: Sur Prise 09.00 Local: En Toute Intimite 09.25 Local: La Sosiete 11.04 Local: Fashion FX & Lifestyle 12.00 Local: Memwar Dan Ros 13.32 Local: Sur Prise 14.30 Local: En Toute Intimite 18.00 Entre Justice Et Vengeance 19.00 Zournal Kreol 19.33 Local: Les Petits Genies 20.30 Local: Music Tour 2025 21.30 Local: Glwar Dantan 22.25 Local: Lavi Zoli An XXL 23.03 Zournal Kreol 23.23 Local: Tous Egaux 23.32 Local: Saver Kiltirel 23.57 Local: Arsiv MBC 00.24 Local: Metie	05.00 Mag: Aastha TV 08.00 Local: Hamar Fitness 08.30 Local: Mati Ke Mol 09.00 Aaj Ki Charcha 10.00 Bade Acche Lagte Hai 2 12.00 Dikri Vahalno Dariyo 12.26 Mati Ke Mol 13.38 Local: Khel Khiladi 14.34 Mere Dad Ki Dulhan 15.00 Samachar 15.30 Film: Hum Dono Cast: Rajesh Khanna, Hema Malinee 18.10 Live: Samachar 18.37 Puranya Pakwan 18.57 Duniya Mein Iss Saptah 19.57 Local: Desi Beats 21.00 Film: Deewar 23.40 Puranya Pakwan 00.06 Duniya Mein Iss Saptah 00.21 Geet Nritya Aur Parampara 01.06 Local: Desi Beats	06.00 D.Anime: Rockabye Island 08.03 Dex And The Humanimals... 08.26 D.Anime: Robin Des Bois 08.52 D.Anime: Ubongo Kids 09.18 Momolu Et Ses Amis 09.50 D.Anime: The Avatars 13.33 Doc: Plastic Fantastic 15.00 D.Anime: Fireman Sam 15.19 D.Anime: Word Party 15.41 D.Anime: Magic Wonderland 16.03 D.Anime: Spacepop 16.37 D.Anime: Dragonero 17.24 Mag: Animal DNA 18.00 Mag: In Good Shape 18.30 Doc: Country Dreams 19.00 Mag: Business Africa 19.30 Mag: Afrimaxx 20.01 Tele: L'Heritiere 20.53 Doc: Legacy Of Ancestors 21.40 Tele: Laura Una Vida Extraordinaria 22.27 Film: Alien, Le Retour	08.00 Dil Ko Tumse Pyaar Hua 10.02 Na Umra Ki Seema Ho 12.10 Udaariyaan 14.02 Anupamaa 16.10 Shaurya Aur Anokhi Ki Kahani 17.30 Vidrohi 18.30 Film: Khoobsurat With: Sanjay Dutt, Urmila Matondkar, Om Puri, Farida Jalal 21.00 Keh Doon Tumhein 21.22 Crime Patrol 22.13 Porus
dimanche 16 novembre	02.11 Film: Alien, Le Retour 04.25 Tele: The Lazarus Project 05.56 Tele: L'Heritiere 06.18 Film: Spiderman 08.38 Serial: Hawaii 09.20 Film: Monolith 10.38 Your Love Is My Fortune 11.30 Serial: L'Heritiere 12.34 Film: Aliens, Le Retour 14.46 Doc: Not About Music 15.00 Live: Samachar 15.30 Film: Spiderman 18.00 Samachar 18.30 Sayings Radha Krishna 18.36 Dance Deewane 19.30 Le Journal 20.35 Film: Last Knights 22.20 Serial: Chucky 23.05 Tele: Terra Nostra 23.30 Le Journal	07.23 Local: Rodrig Prog: Kot 08.06 Local: Les Petits Genies 11.29 Local: Nu Rasinn 12.54 Local: Lavi Zoli An XXL 13.56 La Journee Sous Le Regard 15.00 Mon Jardin Ma Maison 16.30 Local: Nos Aines 16.53 La Journee Sous Le Regard 17.05 Local: Les Petits Genies 17.37 Local: Glwar Dantan 18.13 Entre Justice Et Vengeance 19.00 Zournal Kreol 19.40 Local: En Toute Intimite 20.00 Local: Les Klips 21.00 Local: Nos Aines 22.36 Local: Clin D'Oeil 23.00 Zournal Kreol Rediffusion 23.23 Local: Coin Jardin 23.33 Local: Inspiration 23.58 Rodrig: Zenn Aktif	06.59 Mag: Aastha TV 08.00 Local: Hamar Fitness 08.26 Puranya Pakwan 09.10 Geet Nritya Aur Parampara 10.30 Mahabharat 12.00 Film: Housefull 3 15.00 Live: Samachar 15.21 Puranya Pakwan 16.03 Geet Nritya Aur Parampara 18.30 Sayings Radha Krishna 18.57 Tohar Rashi 20.30 Serial: Porus 21.00 Keh Doon Tumhein 21.22 Serial: Crime Patrol 22.04 Sajjanwa Bairi Ho Gaile Hamar 23.17 MBC Prod 23.35 Tohar Rashi 23.49 Udhahan Ki Kahani 00.39 MBC Prod 04.58 Film: Housefull 3	06.00 D.Anime: Rockabye Island 07.29 D.Anime: Baby Einstein 2 08.31 D.Anime: Robin Des Bois 09.42 D.Anime: Slugterra 09.52 D.Anime: The Avatars 10.43 Doc: Country Dreams 11.01 Doc: Vegetarian Delights 12.27 Doc: Legendary Giants 14.01 Doc: Smart Insects 15.05 D.Anime: Fireman Sam 15.19 D.Anime: Word Party 15.31 Charlotte Aux Fraises 15.41 D.Anime: Magic Wonderland 16.03 D.Anime: Spacepop 16.14 D.Anime: Madagascar 16.59 Serial: So Awkward 18.27 Doc: Vegetarian Delights 19.30 Mag: Arts Unveiled 20.00 Tele: L'Heritiere 20.50 Doc: Legacy Of Ancestors 21.43 Film: Pyewacket	00.28 Na Umra Ki Seema Ho 02.37 Udaariyaan 04.32 Anupamaa 06.52 Shaurya Aur Anokhi Ki Kahani 08.00 Dhruv Tara 10.00 Kundali Bhagya 12.10 Sa Re Ga Ma Pa 14.00 Doree 16.00 Wagle Ki Duniya 18.30 Film: U Me Aur Hum Cast: Ajay Devgn, Kajol, Sumet Raghavan 21.00 Mahabharat 21.50 Sa Re Ga Ma Pa L'il Champs 22.40 Dhruv Tara
lundi 17 novembre	04.32 Tele: L'Heritiere 05.20 Tele: Seref Meselesi 06.06 Tele: Passion And Power 07.35 Serial: The Lazarus Project 08.16 Serial: L'Heritiere 08.43 Tele: Séparé Par L'Amour 09.35 Film: Last Knights 11.30 Tele: Lying Heart 12.00 Le Journal 12.25 Tele: Le Roman De La Vie 13.15 Tele: Les Riches Pleurent 13.44 Tele: La Desalmada 15.00 Samachar 15.35 Serial: Columbo 17.30 Tele: Lying Heart 18.00 Samachar 18.31 Serial: Shiv Shakti 19.00 Live: Grand Titre 20.10 Serial: Quantico 21.00 Serial: Elementary 22.00 Tele: Le Roman De La Vie	09.24 Local: En Toute Intimite 10.05 Local: Clin D'Oeil 10.42 Rodrig Prog: Plat Du Chef 11.14 Local: Les Klips 12.06 Local: Nu Rasinn 12.58 La Journee Sous Le Regard 15.26 Rodrig: Plat Du Chef 17.03 Local: Morisien Konn Ou La Sante 17.34 Local: Couleur Marine 18.05 Tele: La Desalmada 18.30 Tele: Séparé Par L'Amour 19.00 Zournal Kreol 19.36 Rodrig: Feminin Pluriel 20.45 Local: Tous Egaux 21.00 Morisien Konn Ou La Sante 21.29 Local: 19 Minutes 22.55 La Journee Sous Le Regard 23.00 Zournal Kreol 23.20 Local: Metie 23.33 MBC Production 00.15 Local: En Forme	05.00 Mag: Aastha 07.00 Local: Tohar Rashi 08.00 D.Anime: Guru Aur Bhole 09.00 Aaj Ki Charcha 10.00 Local: Sajjanwa Bairi Ho Gaile Hamar 12.00 Film: Bandhan 15.00 Samachar 15.21 Kundali Bhagya 17.30 Shiv Shakti 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.30 Saying Radha Krishna 19.37 Excerpts From Shiv Abhishek 20.06 Local: Hamara Swasthya 21.00 Film: Pakhandee Cast: Shashi Kapoor, Zeenat Aman 23.18 Mere Sai 00.07 Wagle Ki Duniya 00.29 Local: Ved Ki Shikshahein	06.30 Doc: Japan Video Topics 07.30 D.Anime: The Jungle Book 07.52 D.Anime: Sonic Boom 08.53 D.Anime: Luna, Chip & Inkie 10.00 D.Anime: The Avatars 11.52 Doc: Vegetarian Delights 12.26 Doc: Legacy Of Ancestors 14.06 Doc: Taiwan's Fight For... 15.00 D.Anime: Fireman Sam 15.19 D.Anime: Word Party 15.32 Charlotte Aux Fraises 15.41 D.Anime: Magic Wonderland 15.58 D.Anime: Spacepop 16.32 D.Anime: Dragonero 16.56 Serial: So Awkward 17.35 Mag: Animal DNA 18.00 Mag: Eye On SADC 18.30 Mag: The 77 Percent 19.00 Doc: Top Dive Sites 20.51 Doc: Legacy Of Ancestors 21.00 Film: Twilight	14.25 Radha Mohan 14.51 Jijaji Chhat Par Hain 15.30 Film: Udhaar Ki Zindagi 18.00 Samachar 18.31 Kundali Bhagya 19.00 Udaariyaan 19.30 Dil Ko Tumse Pyaar Hua 20.05 Na Umra Ki Seema Ho 20.30 Shrimad Ramayan 21.00 Anupamaa



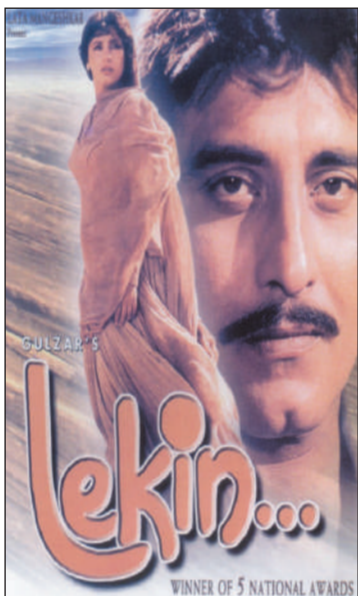
Mardi 18 Novembre - 20.10



Mercredi 19 Novembre - 21.00



Mercredi 19 Novembre - 15.00



Programme TV



MBC 1	MBC 2	MBC 3	MBC 5	Bollywood TV
04.26 Tele: L'Heritiere 06.01 Serial: Passion And Power 08.29 Tele: Séparé Par L'Amour 09.27 Film: Venom 11.25 Tele: Lying Heart 12.00 Le Journal 12.25 Tele: Le Roman De La Vie 13.15 Tele: Les Riches Pleurent 13.40 Tele: La Desalmada 14.10 Tele: Quantico 15.30 Film: Breaking 17.30 Tele: Lying Heart 18.00 Samachar 18.31 Serial: Shiv Shakti 18.55 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi 19.30 Le Journal 20.10 Film: Venus D'Ailleurs... La Grande Aventure De... 21.15 Film: Cirque Du Freak 22.59 Tele: Le Roman De La Vie 23.41 Tele: Lying Heart	09.10 Local: Encounter 09.50 Morisien Konn Ou La Sante 10.48 Local: Mangeons Veg 11.22 Local: 19 Minutes 12.02 Entrepreneuriat Au Feminin 12.55 La Journee Sous Le Regard 13.51 Local: Encounter 15.04 Local: Sur Prise 16.49 La Journee Sous Le Regard 17.10 Local: Le Mag 18.00 Tele: La Desalmada 18.30 Tele: Séparé Par L'Amour 19.25 Local: Itinerer Rodrig 19.45 Local: Son Ladan Mem 20.00 Local: Anou Kombat Ladrog 20.41 Local: Priorite Sante 21.08 Local: Le Mag 22.36 Local: Profil 23.00 Local: Zournal Rediffusion 23.24 Local: Arsiv 263 23.34 Local: Music Tour 2025	06.59 Local: Ved Ki Shikshahein 08.00 D.Anime: Guru Aur Bhole 08.22 D.Anime: Paap O Meter 09.00 Aaj Ki Charcha 10.00 Serial: Kundali Bhagya 11.31 Serial: Shiv Shakti 12.01 Film: Sunghursh Cast: Dilip Kumar, Vyjayanthimala 15.00 Live: Samachar 15.30 Sajjanwa Bairei Ho Gaile... 16.00 Serial: Dharam Patni 16.30 Aaj Ki Charcha 17.10 Dharam Patni 17.30 Serial: Shiv Shakti 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.31 Sayings Radha Krishna 19.36 Local: Abhyas Yog 21.00 Film: Sabse Bada Rupaiya Cast: Moushmi Chatterji, Vinod Mehra	07.00 D.Anime: Nuzo And Zamia 08.47 D.Anime: Jungle Book 09.11 D.Anime: Les Quiquois 12.00 Mag: In Good Shape 12.30 Doc: Eastern Germany In... 13.15 Doc: Legacy Of Ancestors 14.03 Mag: The 77 Percent 14.29 Doc: Top Dive Sites 15.00 Brewster The Rooster 15.15 D.Anime: Word Party 15.27 Charlotte Aux Fraises 15.59 D.Anime: Spacepop 16.10 D.Anime: Madagascar 16.33 D.Anime: Dragonero 16.55 Serial: So Awkward 17.35 Mag: Animal DNA 18.00 Mag: REV 18.45 Mag: Mapped Out 19.00 Mag: Made In Germany 20.01 Tele: L'Heritiere 20.50 Doc: Legacy Of Ancestors	14.25 Radha Mohan 14.55 Jijaji Chhat Par Hain 15.25 Film: Khiladi 786 Starring: Akshay Kumar, Asin, Mithun Chakraborty Rawal 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.30 Kundali Bhagya 19.03 Udaariyaan 19.33 Dil Ko Tumse Pyaar Hua 20.06 Na Umra Ki Seema Ho 20.29 Shrimad Ramayan 21.07 Anupama 21.29 Mere Sai 22.04 Dhruv Tara 22.34 Wagle Ki Duniya 23.04 Mahabharat 23.30 Film: Khiladi Starring: Akshay Kumar, Asin, Mithun Chakraborty
06.46 Serial: Columbo 07.56 Tele: L'Heritiere 08.19 Tele: Séparé Par L'Amour 09.12 Film: First Man: Le Premier... 11.35 Tele: Lying Heart 12.00 Le Journal 12.25 Tele: Le Roman De La Vie 13.09 Tele: Les Riches Pleurent... 13.35 Tele: La Desalmada 14.01 Serial: Nelle Tue Mani 15.00 Live: Samachar 15.25 Film: The Quake 17.30 Tele: Lying Heart 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.31 Serial: Shiv Shakti 18.55 Live: Grand Titre 19.30 Journal & La Meteo 20.30 Serial: Nelle Tue Mani 22.23 Serial: Chucky 23.11 Tele: Le Roman De La Vie 23.58 Tele: Lying Heart	09.35 Local: Le Mag 10.27 Rodrig Prog: Plat Du Chef 10.40 Rodrig Prog: Saver Lokal 11.52 Local: Couleur Marine 12.18 Local: Itinerer Rodrig 12.51 La Journee Sous Le Regard 14.30 Local: Nu Rasinn 16.12 Local: Glwar Dantan 17.00 La Journee Sous Le Regard 17.03 Local: Music Tour 2025 18.00 Tele: La Desalmada 18.30 Tele: Séparé Par L'Amour 19.30 Rodrig Spor 20.00 Mon Jardin Ma Maison 20.27 Local: Toc Toc Doc 21.00 Local: Agir Ensemble 21.21 Local: Les Klips 22.40 Local: Grand Titre 23.20 La Journee Sous Le Regard Du Seigneur 23.22 Local: Clin D'Oeil 23.35 Fashion FX & Lifestyle	06.59 Geet Nriya Aur Parampara 08.00 D.Anime: Guru Aur Bhole 08.23 D.Anime: Paap O Meter 09.00 Aaj Ki Charcha 10.00 Serial: Dharam Patni 11.31 Serial: Shiv Shakti 12.00 Film: Aadmi Aur Insaan 15.00 Live: Samachar 15.21 Sayings Radha Krishna 15.21 Radha Mohan 16.27 Local: Aaj Ki Charcha 17.07 Radha Mohan 17.30 Serial: Shiv Shakti 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.30 Local: Yatra 21.00 Film: Aashiqui Cast: Khesari Lal Yadav, Amrapali Dubey 23.10 Serial: Mere Sai 23.57 Wagle Ki Duniya 00.19 Local: Yatra 00.46 Local: Kala	08.38 D.Anime: Jungle Book 09.40 D.Anime: Drole De Bocal 10.45 Mag: REV 11.30 Mag: Made In Germany 12.15 Mag: Global US 13.15 Doc: Une Femme A La Tete... 14.15 Doc: Heat Waves 15.00 Brewster The Rooster 15.14 D.Anime: Word Party 15.26 Charlotte Aux Fraises 15.58 D.Anime: Spacepop 16.32 D.Anime: Dragonero 17.00 Serial: So Awkward 17.35 Mag: Animal DNA 18.00 Mag: Afrimaxx 18.30 Mag: Business Beyond 18.45 Mag: Planet A 19.00 Mag: Arts Unveiled 19.30 Doc: Ageless Gardens 20.01 Tele: L'Heritiere 21.00 Film: The Twilight Saga Cast: Kristen Stewart, Robert Pattinson	14.25 Radha Mohan 14.50 Jijaji Chhat Par Hain 15.16 Film: Lekin Starring: Vinod Khanna 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.31 Kundali Bhagya 19.02 Udaariyaan 19.33 Dil Ko Tumse Pyaar Hua 20.00 Na umra Ki Seema Ho 20.31 Shrimad Ramayan 21.00 Anupamaa 21.28 Mere Sai 22.05 Dhruv Tara 22.30 Wagle Ki Duniya 23.00 Mahabharat 23.30 Film: Lekin Starring: Vinod Khanna 02.13 Kundali Bhagya 02.34 Udaariyaan 03.00 Dil Ko Tumse Pyaar Hua 03.30 Na Umra Ki Seema Ho
06.01 Tele: Passion And Power 08.03 Serial: L'Heritiere 08.26 Tele: Séparé Par L'Amour 09.18 Film: Spiderman 11.37 Tele: Lying Heart 12.00 Le Journal 12.25 Tele: Le Roman De La Vie 13.11 Tele: Les Riches Pleurent... 13.39 Tele: La Desalmada 14.10 Serial: Les Têtes Brûlées 15.30 Film: The Last Sunset 17.12 Tele: Lyng Heart 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.31 Serial: Shiv Shakti 19.00 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu 19.30 Le Journal 20.10 Film: Excuse Me Stars: Sharmen Joshi, Sahil Khan 22.39 Tele: Le Roman De La Vie 23.23 Tele: Lying Heart	09.10 Local: Metie 09.25 Fashion FX & Lifestyle 10.54 Local: Les Klips 11.52 Local: Grand Titre 12.12 Local: Passerelles 13.06 La Journee Sous Le Regard 14.00 Local: Toc Toc Toc 15.29 Local: Saveurs Plus 16.01 Fashion FX & Lifestyle 17.02 Local: Le Mag 18.00 Tele: L'Amour Invincible 18.30 Tele: Séparé Par L'Amour 19.30 Rodrig: Komanter 20.00 Local: Les Grandes Lignes 20.30 Local: Paroles Agricoles 21.00 Local: Le Mag 23.20 La Journee Sous Le Regard 23.00 Zournal Kreol Rediffusion 00.28 Local: Son Ladan Mem 00.45 Local: Nou Later Nou Lamer Nou Rises	07.00 Local: Yatra 08.00 D.Anime: Guru Aur Bhole 09.00 Aaj Ki Charcha 10.00 Serial: Radha Mohan 12.00 Film: Dhool Ka Phool Cast: Mala Sinha, Rajendra Kumar, Nanda 15.22 Sajjanwa Bairei Ho Gaile... 16.30 Aaj Ki Charcha 17.30 Serial: Shiv Shakti 18.00 Samachar 18.30 Local: Amrit Vani 18.43 Local: Bhajan Sandhya 21.30 Yashomati Maiyya Ke Nandlala 21.52 Serial: Mere Sai 22.40 Wagle Ki Duniya 22.58 Local: Amrit Vani 23.10 Bhajan Sandhya 23.30 Rangmanch Ki Awaaz	07.00 D.Anime: Nuzo And Zamia 08.35 D.Anime: Jungle Book 09.33 Momolu Et Ses Amis 10.45 Mag: Close Up 12.00 Mag: Afrimaxx 12.30 Blood, Sweat And Greens 13.22 Doc: Japan Video Topics 13.45 Mag: Planet A 14.00 Mag: Arts Unveiled 15.00 Brewster The Rooster 15.14 D.Anime: Word Party 15.26 Charlotte Aux Fraises 15.56 D.Anime: Spacepop 16.30 D.Anime: Dragonero 17.00 Serial: So Awkward 17.35 Mag: Animal DNA 18.00 Mag: Eco Africa 18.45 Mag: Rev Special 19.00 Ammunition From The Sea 20.01 Tele: L'Heritiere 20.50 Film: The Twilight Saga	14.25 Radha Mohan 15.00 Jijaji Chhat Par Hain 15.31 Film: Always Kabhi Kabhi Stars: Ali Fazal, Giselli Monteiro, Harsh Nagar, Zoa Morani, and Satyajeet Dubey 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.30 Kundali Bhagya 19.00 Udaariyaan 19.30 Dil Ko Tumse Pyaar Hua 20.00 Na Umra Ki Seema Ho 20.30 Shrimad Ramayan 21.02 Anupamaa 21.34 Mere Sai 22.01 Dhruv Tara 22.29 Wagle Ki Duniya 23.05 Serial: Mahabharat 23.31 Film: Always Kabhi Kabhi Stars: Ali Fazal, Giselli Monteiro, Harsh Nagar, Zoa Morani, and Satyajeet Dubey



Jeudi 20 Novembre - 15.30

Stars: Ali Fazal, Giselli Monteiro, Harsh Nagar, Zoa Morani, and Satyajeet Dubey



Jeudi 20 Novembre - 20.10

Stars: Sharmen Joshi, Sahil Khan





Nita Chicooree-Mercier

Au secours des plages

Depuis le début de l'année, une scène insolite se déroule devant nos yeux ébahis. Des engins de construction s'activent à combler une petite plage publique, menacée par la montée des eaux, à Grand Baie. Cette mesure, pour refouler l'avancée de la mer si d'aventure l'envie lui prenait de traverser la route, est contredite de la manière la plus outrancière : juste à côté, à peine à dix mètres de la plage, il y a une construction d'une résidence de luxe avec appartements haut de gamme offrant une vue magnifique sur la baie. La construction en bord de mer est strictement interdite dans n'importe quel pays soucieux de préserver l'environnement et, surtout, dans les petits États insulaires menacés de disparaître à long terme...

Une des grosses compagnies locales, associée à des partenaires étrangers et soutenue par un fonds d'investissement important d'une banque commerciale est certainement à l'origine de ce projet. Les ONG, si bruyantes à manifester leur indignation à la moindre atteinte à l'environnement, brillent par leur silence. Et pourtant, cette verue sortie du sable avec insolence aurait dû apporter du grain à moudre aux plus agressifs défenseurs de l'environnement. Même silence du côté de la presse et des médias qui n'ont pas pipé mot.

Étonnant? Non... On les a connus très remontés lorsqu'un *pandit* de Triolet fit construire un petit local en béton pour ouvrir un snack sur la plage publique de Trou aux Biches en 2012. ONG et médias sortirent becs et griffes en faisant monter l'adrénaline du public mouton par l'intermédiaire des radios tonitrueuses et réussirent à faire capoter le projet de construction d'un snack. Cette crise épidermique força le *pandit* à plier bagage. L'indignation se mesure selon l'identité du promoteur, de sa faiblesse de petit poisson ou de son statut de requin de l'immobilier. Mais là, il s'agit de grosses pointures du secteur privé qui assurent la fiche de paie de quelques plumitifs des médias qui veillent au grain, promettent des rentes foncières à l'État et empochent d'énormes profits pour eux-mêmes, paraît-il...

Dans ce contexte, les dés sont-ils pipés d'avance? Le soi-disant quatrième pouvoir, si prompt à s'enorgueillir de faire tomber un gouvernement en joignant ses forces dans l'arène politique, détourne-t-il le regard volontairement et garde-t-il l'œil uniquement sur son fonds de commerce?

Quant au ministère de l'Environnement, certains estiment qu'il peine à jouer pleinement son rôle. L'impression demeure que les mêmes influences continuent de prévaloir, tandis que les représentants du peuple élus démocratiquement ont du mal à faire entendre leur voix ou continuent de jouer les fidèles serveurs.

Au ministère du Tourisme, on pourrait croire qu'en bétonnant à tout-va l'île maintiendra son atout touristique. C'est cependant une vision à courte vue. Un environnement naturel et sain est en effet de plus en plus prisé par les voyageurs d'aujourd'hui, et sa préservation est un atout essentiel pour le tourisme durable.

Sempiternelle rengaine: Qui dispose réellement des Crown Lands?

Nous avons attiré l'attention sur deux terrains du *Crown Land* situés sur le front de mer de la Pointe aux Canonnières à deux reprises l'an dernier. Ces terrains pourraient être aménagés en jardin d'enfants et mis à la disposition du public, principalement des habitants de la localité. En fait, un jardin d'enfants est indispensable dans chaque localité du pays. C'est un endroit où les parents emmènent leurs enfants en bas âge se défouler sur balançoire, tobog-



gan, etc., après une journée de travail. Un endroit en plein air où il fait bon de prendre l'air.

Un de ces terrains était fermé par un portail cadenassé, installé par le propriétaire d'un bungalow. De l'autre côté du terrain se trouve un autre campement. Il semble que des tentatives de construction sur cet espace aient eu lieu par le passé, mais auraient été abandonnées suite à des protestations des résidents du quartier.

En octobre 2024, des discussions ont eu lieu pour lancer une pétition afin d'alerter les autorités sur la possibilité de transformer cet espace en un petit parc. Quelques mois plus tard, en janvier 2025, le propriétaire a entrepris la construction d'un deuxième bungalow. Cette construction aurait été réalisée avec l'approbation des autorités concernées (les élus). Ce second bungalow est destiné à des proches qui bénéficient déjà d'une résidence au bord de la mer.

Cette utilisation de l'espace vacant soulève des questions sur l'appropriation du domaine public et les processus d'obtention de permis de construire.

Il y a bel et bien un ministère des Terres et du Logement qui est censé répertorier la disponibilité des terrains et de veiller à leur bon usage dans les quartiers spécifiques. Est-ce que le ministère de la Femme et de la Famille prend l'initiative de coordonner ses efforts avec celui des Terres dans le but de créer des espaces récréatifs afin d'améliorer le bien-être des familles? Si telle est leur fonction, est-ce qu'il nous incombe d'alerter et de monter au créneau pour les conscientiser à ce sujet?

Par conséquent, ne serait-il pas urgent de signaler aux autorités concernées qu'il reste un deuxième terrain vague dans ce quartier qu'il convient de préserver d'urgence pour l'intérêt public et éviter ainsi un accaparement prédateur? D'autres endroits similaires à travers l'île nécessitent une intervention urgente des autorités dans le même but de promouvoir le bien-être du public.

Depuis plus de deux ans, le front de mer de Mont Choisy a été joliment aménagé avec coins parking, kiosques et bancs pour pique-nique, et un espace pour sportifs avec barres pour étirement, etc. Il faut rappeler aux concepteurs de ce type de projet que le coin sport ne doit pas être orienté qu'à l'avantage de la gent masculine; il faut aussi penser aux femmes et aux jeunes. Un espace de 60 mètres carrés réservé aux enfants en bas âge et aux jeunes parents, avec l'équipement nécessaire, aurait été parfait. On se demande parfois s'il ne manquerait pas une

présence féminine dans certaines prises de décision au niveau du *District Council* et des ministères...

Si dès 2015 un parc boisé a été créé pour éviter l'érosion de la plage - initiative qui a embelli la page -- il faudrait signaler aux autorités que la mer avance inéluctablement et grignote de plus en plus d'espace, dénudant les racines des filaos qui s'accrochent au sable. La chute de ces arbres n'est qu'une question de temps. Et le temps n'attend pas. L'hôtel du coin, soutenu par ses actionnaires politiques, a réussi à fermer la voie publique en 2012 et la transformer en plage pour l'usage unique des clients de l'établissement hôtelier.

Pour conclure

Le ministère des Terres et du Logement gagnerait beaucoup à travailler en synergie avec d'autres ministères comme le ministère de la Femme et de la Famille et le ministère de l'Environnement. Une collaboration avec le «Ministry of Local Government» pourrait-elle aider?

Selon les informations disponibles sur son site web, ce ministère administre la Loi de 2011 sur les Collectivités locales : il élabore des règlements nécessaires à sa bonne mise en œuvre et fournit des orientations politiques générales aux autorités locales. ("The Ministry administers the Local Government Act 2011 and makes such regulations for the smooth implementation thereof and provides general policy guidance to Local Authorities.") De plus, ce ministère est responsable du nettoyage, de l'aménagement paysager et de l'embellissement des lieux publics ("Cleaning, landscaping and embellishment of public places").

Et qu'en est-il des liens avec le ministère du Tourisme? Cette institution pense-t-elle que la stratégie de bétonner à tout-va l'île maintiendra son atout touristique? Pourtant, c'est un environnement naturel et sain qui est de plus en plus prisé par les voyageurs aujourd'hui!

Par ailleurs, les filaos lancent un appel au secours mais où sont ses défenseurs? Admettons que personne n'était au courant de la situation mais y aura-t-il un écho rapidement auprès des ONG militantes et des autorités responsables maintenant? L'avenir nous le dira.

Aujourd'hui, force est de constater que la phase de l'implémentation des règlements et des stratégies pour le développement durable continue de faire défaut... ou tout simplement, y aurait-il une disparition progressive d'hommes et de femmes engagés pour le bien commun et le bien-être des citoyens?