

MAURITIUS TIMES

• *Strength does not come from physical capacity. It comes from an indomitable will. -- Mahatma Gandhi*

Interview: David Snoxell - Coordinator of the Chagos Islands
All-Party Parliamentary Group

**“By 2127, the US may no longer need
a military base in the Indian Ocean,
while rising sea levels could make
Diego Garcia inoperable”**



Editorial

The Chagos Impasse

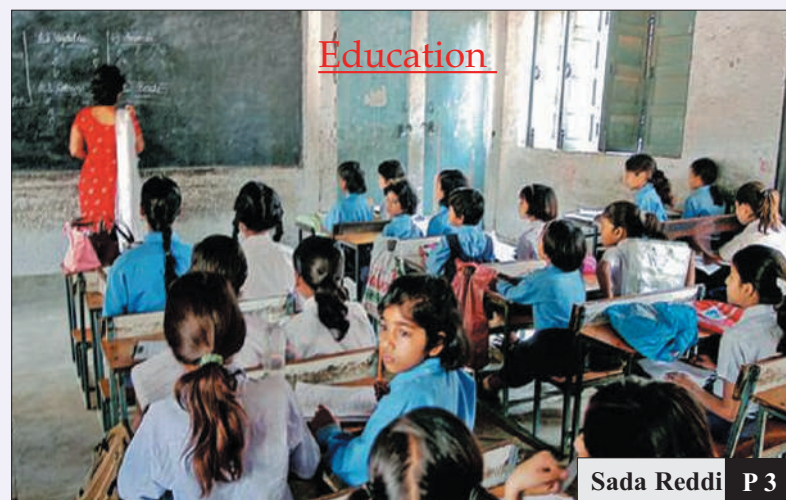


Eclairages



**Le “second boulot”
des fonctionnaires:
Nécessité économique ou
manquement au devoir?**

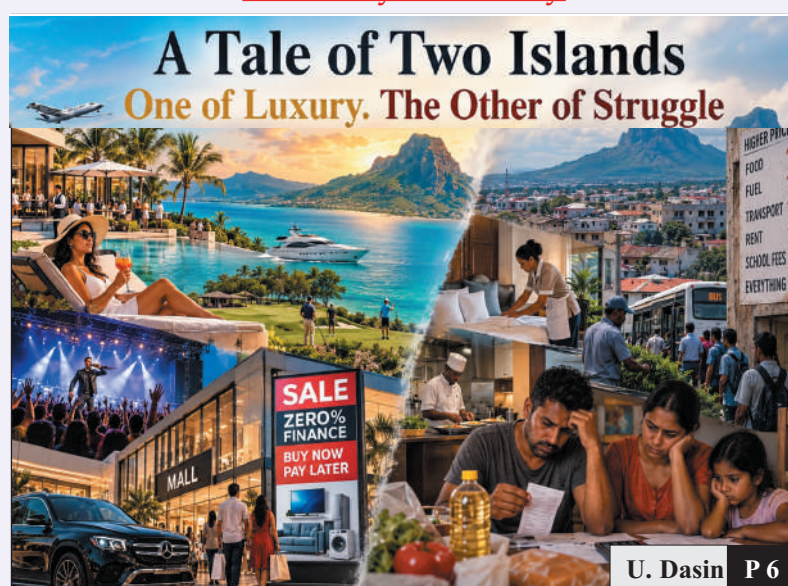
Education



Teaching & Learning

**Why Our Students Struggle: Uncovering
the Root Causes of Educational Decline**

Economy & Society



International Relations

**The United Nations:
Still Indispensable in an
Age of Circumvention**



The Chagos Impasse



Islanders protesting outside the British High Commission in Mauritius after the UK failed to meet a UN November 2019 deadline to withdraw from the Chagos Archipelago. Pic - Chagos Refugees Group

The long dispute over the Chagos Archipelago has reached a strange deadlock. In May 2025, after years of hard diplomatic work, the UK and Mauritius signed a historic agreement meant to end one of the last remnants of British colonial rule. Under this deal, London recognised Mauritian sovereignty over the islands, while Port Louis agreed to lease Diego Garcia back to the UK and US for 99 years to protect the key military base. It was celebrated as a practical success: international law was respected, Mauritian sovereignty was restored, Chagossian resettlement was advanced, and Western security interests in the Indian Ocean were preserved.

Today, however, that balanced agreement is frozen in political paralysis. The UK implementation bill was paused in the House of Lords in January 2026 and remains completely stuck. The main reason for this delay is not a quarrel between London and Port Louis, but sharp criticism from Washington, where US President Donald Trump again called the treaty a “terrible” deal.

As David Snoxell, former British High Commissioner and APPG Coordinator, notes in this week’s interview, this mess comes from missed opportunities and unnecessary political delays. What should have been a smooth approval process has turned into a heated debate, leaving the UK, Mauritius, and Chagossian-born Mauritians stuck in uncertainty.

The Cost of Delay and Domestic Politics

This crisis dates back to November 2022, when Britain and Mauritius first pledged to negotiate a treaty based on international law. If those talks had wrapped up quickly, the treaty likely would have been approved long before the 2024 elections brought new leaders and shifting priorities to London, Washington, and Port Louis.

Instead, a nearly four-year gap between the initial announcement by former Foreign Secretary James Cleverly and the final May 2025 signing allowed political opposition to grow strong. In the UK, conservative think

tanks, media figures, and some MPs attacked the deal as a surrender. Meanwhile, disagreements among Chagossian groups in the UK — some feeling left out of the process — made passing the law even harder.

These internal disagreements hurt the APPG as well, which lost several members after the 2024 UK election. Still, David Snoxell stresses that the main APPG leadership remains firmly committed to a negotiated deal and Chagossian resettlement. At its 104th meeting in June, the group expanded its mission to secure a fair return process for Chagossians. The key now is stopping election cycles from destroying that goal.

Dealing with Washington’s Ambivalence

The main challenge for London and Port Louis is balancing Mauritian sovereignty with opposition from the US President Trump. David Snoxell emphasizes a key point: Britain does not face opposition from the broader US government. The US military, State Department, and national security agencies support the treaty because the 99-year lease secures the Diego Garcia base. The pushback comes almost entirely from President Trump himself.

Yet, because the 1966 UK–US agreement requires Britain to keep control of the territory, London feels it cannot approve the treaty without the US President’s consent. This creates a major dilemma for British diplomats.

Mauritian Prime Minister Navin Ramgoolam has stated clearly that Mauritian sovereignty is non-negotiable and the treaty text cannot be reopened. With Port Louis standing firm, Britain has little room to manoeuvre. Waiting for the next US administration in January 2029 is very risky, as new governments and changing world events could destroy the consensus completely.

Reimagining the Framework: The Trilateral Path

If changing the treaty is impossible, how can this

deadlock be broken? One practical idea gaining support in London is a three-way side-agreement between the UK, US, and Mauritius.

This setup keeps the transfer of sovereignty intact while giving Washington extra guarantees about the base. A three-way agreement is likely to satisfy everyone’s interests: it lets Britain fulfil its 1965 promise to return Chagos to Mauritius, just as it returned the Aldabra Islands to Seychelles in 1976. It leaves the 56 Outer Islands under Mauritian rule for Chagossian resettlement and allows the Marine Protected Area to win international recognition.

For the US, a three-way deal guarantees full military use of Diego Garcia in exchange for lease payments to Mauritius, saving British taxpayers from funding a base they do not use. Some US critics argue that even a 99-year lease creates long-term uncertainty. But David Snoxell notes that looking past 2127 ignores tech and environmental realities. By 2127, long-range weapons may make distant military bases unnecessary — shown by recent direct US strikes launched from the American mainland. More urgently, rising sea levels could make the low-lying Diego Garcia base unusable well before the lease ends. Demanding terms beyond a century makes no sense.

The Imperative of International Law

If the UK gives in to Washington’s doubts and lets the treaty fail, its global reputation will suffer heavily. For years, Britain’s standing as a defender of international law has been damaged by ignoring the 2019 International Court of Justice (ICJ) opinion and UN resolutions calling for an end to its colonial rule. British control over the islands is already weakening fast. UK control over Chagos waters, fishing rights, and environmental rules is no longer respected. The territory cannot issue recognized stamps or coins, and the UK faces losing its coastal seat on the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission.

If the treaty stays stuck, Mauritius will surely take the fight back to the UN, the ICJ, and ITLOS. Britain would find its legal and diplomatic position impossible to defend. As Margaret Thatcher told Parliament in 1980, official UK policy has long been that when the islands are no longer needed for defence, they must return to Mauritius. The May 2025 treaty respects that principle while safeguarding military requirements. Given the growing militarisation of the Indian Ocean by various powers, US interest in the Diego Garcia base is unlikely to wane anytime soon — in fact, it may become even more vital than it is today. It is now up to the Mauritian government to explore whether three-way arrangements could help unlock the present stalemate, convince Washington of the deal’s strategic value, and close this colonial chapter for good.

Mauritius Times

Founder/Editor: Beekrumsing Ramlallah
Aug 1954–Sept 2000

Editor: M. Ramlallah

*This paper 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



Sada Reddi

Teaching & Learning

Why Our Students Struggle: Uncovering the Root Causes of Educational Decline

Let us restore to educators their voice and role in reform to truly improve educational standards

The Cambridge examination results have justifiably aroused concern in various quarters about a possible general decline in educational standards. This apprehension was further amplified by the PISA results for Mauritius when compared with Asian countries like China, Singapore, or Korea. The authorities, we are told, have responded with several measures to support schools, educators, and students; how these measures translate into practice remains to be seen. Nonetheless, it is appropriate to underline certain issues that require consideration.

Without going too far back into the primary cycle, it is necessary to highlight two critical factors among the many that impede learning acquisition at this level, both inside and outside the school system. First, when the curricular pace matches the learning ability of pupils, they are more likely to succeed in attaining curricular objectives. Educators who pay attention to their pupils' differing abilities are more successful in their teaching. Unfortunately, this is not always the case when educators face pressure to complete the syllabus ahead of the end-of-primary examination — an examination that is increasingly becoming irrelevant. Under examination pressure, pupils are left behind, partly explaining the poor pass rate that has dogged the authorities for the last fifty years.

Regarding the lower secondary curriculum, we often forget that it was originally crafted to suit the perceived average child and, as such, was a watered-down curriculum. While such a curriculum offers benefits by enabling almost all pupils to attain basic educational objectives, its implementation revealed serious drawbacks. In several schools with brighter students, the curriculum was not demanding at all and was completed by the middle of the second term — unless educators took the initiative to provide additional learning experiences or resources to beef it up. Where educators merely relied on MIE textbooks, many pupils were never given the opportunity to develop more complex skills.

There was also an important flaw in the design. It was generally a standalone curriculum with no connection to the Cambridge syllabus — for which most, if not all, students sit at the end of the secondary cycle — making the transition to upper forms difficult for many. Additionally, targeting the average student meant the lower secondary curriculum did not build adequate language skills across subjects. The texts often consisted of simple sentences and two- or three-line paragraphs, while assessments relied on multiple-choice questions offering little opportunity to write full sentences or para-



“An AI analysis based on the 2025 School Certificate results indicates that a credit in English is highly correlated with credits in subjects like English Literature, History, Sociology, Economics, Islamic Studies, Business Studies, and Hinduism, as these rely heavily on textual, conceptual, and essay-writing skills. However, students should not follow AI analysis blindly; they must also study subjects they enjoy alongside the core subjects of English, French, and Mathematics. Furthermore, those who take science subjects generally score highly across other disciplines. Therefore, optional subjects after Grade 9 should be thoroughly discussed with educators and parents to best fulfill student aspirations...” P - ekyschools.com

graphs. Later curriculum changes addressed some of these issues, but they were very limited.

These comments are not intended to cast aspersions on the MIE, its staff, or its textbooks; these weaknesses stem mainly from the UNESCO/UNDP report of 1974 and World Bank policies that the government accepted at the time. The authorities could hardly do otherwise. The University of Mauritius, with its three schools, has so far conducted very little research on the education system. Inevitably, curriculum design was shaped by models from Scotland, New Zealand, and the UK, as Cader Kalla reminded us in an article on the social studies curriculum. Moreover, the curriculum was not designed to prepare students for the School Certificate examination; the report considered that our system was producing too many unemployed certificate holders. It was intended to prepare students for factory work, with the Form 3 examination serving as the terminal point. The World Bank even financed junior technical schools and centralized laboratories.

Fortunately, the population rejected this educational paradigm, much to the displeasure of the elite class, which often removes the ladder after reaching the top.

The Form 3 examination was never held, junior technical schools were converted into State Secondary Schools, and students pursued their education into upper forms. Had we blindly followed UNESCO and World Bank prescriptions, the country would have faced disaster.

Over time, the factors shaping the lower secondary curriculum were forgotten, and we failed to review it with a fresh perspective. No great effort was made to link lower and upper secondary education. We fell into the curriculum trap of 1974, unwilling to embrace a new perspective, redesign textbooks, restore foundation subjects, foster critical thinking across the curriculum, or reinforce language learning. It is no surprise that many students struggle to secure more than three credits at School Certificate.

A wiser choice of subjects may be a better option for higher forms. An AI analysis based on the 2025 School Certificate results indicates that a credit in English is highly correlated with credits in subjects like English Literature, History, Sociology, Economics, Islamic Studies, Business Studies, and Hinduism, as these rely heavily on textual, conceptual, and essay-writing skills. However, students should not follow AI analysis blindly; they must also study sub-

jects they enjoy alongside the core subjects of English, French, and Mathematics. Furthermore, those who take science subjects generally score highly across other disciplines. Therefore, optional subjects after Grade 9 should be thoroughly discussed with educators and parents to best fulfill student aspirations.

One hopes the forthcoming report on education reform will give serious thought to reviewing the curriculum from pre-primary to upper secondary. Foundation skills and concepts must be developed sequentially, supported by adequate classroom resources. Equally important is ensuring that curricular pacing matches pupil ability so all students can acquire concepts at their own speed, physical activities become a core primary discipline, and moral and civic education receives a practical emphasis across all subjects.

Reviewing the curriculum requires collaborators from all fields, including parents, students, practitioners, and educators at all levels. For too long, we have assumed that a specialist in one field is equally expert in all others. A language specialist is not automatically a specialist in pedagogy, evaluation, or curriculum development. In my own field of history, there are distinct sub-disciplines; one may know a topic deeply for a short period yet remain ignorant of other areas as new research emerges. This applies universally. In a small island state like Mauritius, we cannot have super-specialists in every field, and we must humbly acknowledge this reality. In education, we are often compelled to be jacks-of-all-trades, but broad collaboration can minimize risks in decision-making. For instance, a language specialist recently brought to my attention how irrational it is for authorities to translate an examination paper from an Indo-European language into a Dravidian language — a highly agglutinative, diglossic language requiring distinct curricula and teaching methods.

Too often, educational reform has focused purely on administrative decisions made by officials cloistered in offices. It is time to address the hard questions of curriculum and pedagogy while giving educators a voice in decision-making.

As the saying goes, it is the one wearing the shoe who knows where it pinches, not the shoemaker. Let us restore to educators their voice and role in reform to truly improve educational standards. Root causes must not be ignored when preparing recommendations; thorough fieldwork, information gathering, and analysis are essential if we wish to address society's real problems rather than merely skimming the surface.

Le “second boulot” des fonctionnaires: Nécessité économique ou manquement au devoir?

Par A. Bartleby

La publication, le 17 août 2026, par le ministère de la Fonction publique, de la circulaire intitulée «Private Work for Reward» a suscité diverses réactions à Maurice. Ce document administratif rappelle une règle fondamentale: tout fonctionnaire désireux d'exercer une activité rémunérée dans le secteur privé, de siéger sur un conseil d'administration ou de réaliser des prestations extérieures doit impérativement obtenir l'autorisation écrite préalable de son “Responsible Officer”.

Si le gouvernement présente cette initiative comme un simple exercice de clarification réglementaire, la mesure a provoqué un tollé chez les syndicats. Elle met en lumière une fracture grandissante entre l'exigence de rigueur institutionnelle et les contraintes financières pesant sur les travailleurs du secteur public.

Un cadre juridique rigoureux pour prévenir les abus

Du côté de l'administration, la position s'appuie sur un cadre légal et éthique préexistant, fixé notamment par le “Human Resource Management Manual” (HRMM) et le “Code of Ethics for Public Officers”. Selon la section 2.11 du HRMM, le principe général demeure que «tout le temps d'un fonctionnaire est au service du gouvernement». L'exercice d'un emploi secondaire constitue donc une exception soumise à des critères stricts:

Un travail hors des heures de service: L'activité privée doit impérativement s'effectuer en dehors des heures officielles de travail.

L'absence de conflit d'intérêts: Le fonctionnaire ne peut fournir de services rémunérés à des entités qu'il est amené à réguler ou contrôler dans le cadre de ses fonctions publiques.

L'interdiction d'utiliser les ressources de



“Public Sector Reform Bill”: La réforme du secteur public ne doit pas se limiter à la numérisation. Elle doit aussi revoir la grille salariale et établir un cadre clair, simple et équitable pour les activités complémentaires

l'État: Aucun bien, équipement, adresse ou outil de communication gouvernemental ne doit être employé à des fins personnelles.

Une double autorisation selon le type d'activité: Si une simple prestation nécessite le feu vert du “Responsible Officer”, les activités commerciales ou l'occupation de postes de directeur (“directorships”) exigent également l'accord du Secrétaire au Cabinet.

Le Secrétaire de la Fonction publique, Devendre Gopaul, et le ministre Raj Pentiah ont précisé que cette démarche faisait suite à des plaintes transmises par l'Ombuds-person et à des signalements concernant des fonctionnaires exerçant des activités privées pendant leurs heures de service. Il ne s'agit donc pas, selon eux, d'une interdiction générale, mais d'un mécanisme nécessaire pour préserver l'efficacité et l'intégrité du service public.

La riposte syndicale: La réalité du coût de la vie

Pour les centrales syndicales, le “timing” et la fermeté de cette circulaire passe mal. Les représentants des travailleurs rappel-

lent que la détérioration du pouvoir d'achat contraint une grande partie des employés à chercher des sources de revenus complémentaires.

Des syndicalistes comme Radhakrishna Sadien (SOEF) et Deepak Benyadin (FPBOU) soulignent que les salaires perçus, notamment par les employés au bas de l'échelle (“general workers”), ne suffisent plus à couvrir l'augmentation constante du coût de la vie. Pour eux, un employé qui effectue des travaux manuels ou de petits services après ses heures de bureau ne devrait pas être pénalisé étant donné que c'est une nécessité économique.

Jane Ragoo, de la Confédération des travailleurs des secteurs public et privé, soulève une question d'équité en pointant du doigt une situation de deux poids, deux mesures. Alors que certains parlementaires ou hauts cadres conservent des activités parallèles (comme l'exercice de la profession d'avocat), il semble injuste d'imposer des démarches administratives lourdes aux salariés modestes cherchant simplement à

«joindre les deux bouts».

La question suscite également des inquiétudes dans le monde de l'enseignement. Les enseignants du primaire et du secondaire, représentés par la GTU et l'UPSEE, ont exprimé des craintes concernant le statut des leçons particulières dispensées en dehors des heures de classes.

Commentaires et analyses

Cette controverse met en exergue les défis de la modernisation de l'administration publique à Maurice. Il est possible d'en dégager plusieurs enseignements et réflexions.

Confusion de communication initiale: Les déclarations ambiguës du ministre affirmant qu'on ne peut pas travailler à plein temps pour l'État tout en demandant à exercer une autre activité ont créé une psychose inutile. Il a fallu une conférence de presse de clarification pour rappeler qu'il ne s'agissait pas d'un bannissement total (“blanket ban”), mais d'un système d'autorisation.

Légitimité du contrôle de l'État: Sur le principe, l'État est pleinement dans son rôle lorsqu'il exige que les heures payées par les contribuables soient consacrées exclusivement au service public. L'utilisation des ressources publiques à des fins privées ou les conflits d'intérêts constituent des fautes disciplinaires graves qui nuisent à la confiance des citoyens.

Décalage avec les réalités du marché du travail: Exiger une autorisation formelle pour la moindre activité secondaire, cela risque de créer une bureaucratie lourde et d'inciter au travail informel ou dissimulé. Dans un contexte où le pays fait face à une pénurie de main-d'œuvre, brider la productivité des travailleurs pendant leur temps libre semble contre-productif, à condition que leur rendement dans leur emploi principal n'en souffre pas.

Nécessité d'une approche équilibrée dans le “Public Sector Reform Bill”: Pour résoudre durablement ce conflit, la réforme du secteur public ne doit pas se limiter à la numérisation des processus (“Electronic Scheme of Service”, gestion électronique des documents). Elle devra impérativement aborder la grille salariale et proposer un cadre clair, simplifié et équitable pour l'exercice d'activités complémentaires.

Air Mauritius reprend de l'altitude: Un bond stratégique récompensé par Skytrax

La publication du classement annuel des “World Airline Awards 2026” de Skytrax marque une étape décisive pour la compagnie nationale mauricienne. Air Mauritius (MK) effectue une progression remarquable de 11 places, se hissant au 52^e rang mondial après avoir occupé la 63^e position en 2025. Cette avancée constitue la meilleure performance historique de la compagnie au sein de cette évaluation mondiale réputée. Sur le plan continental, MK décroche la deuxième place africaine pour la qualité de son personnel de cabine, s'intercalant entre EgyptAir et

Ethiopian Airlines.

Pour André Viljoen, directeur général d'Air Mauritius, cette montée en puissance n'est pas le fruit du hasard. Elle traduit le déploiement rigoureux de la stratégie institutionnelle intitulée «Building Remarkable Service Quality».

☞ Suite en page 5



Air Mauritius: Malgré ces résultats positifs, le chemin reste encore long pour atteindre l'objectif affiché d'intégrer le Top 20 mondial, Thai Airways occupant actuellement la 20^e place, soit un écart de 32 rangs. P - Facebook

Air Mauritius reprend de l'altitude: Un bond stratégique récompensé par Skytrax

Suite de la page 4

Ce programme vise à sublimer l'expérience client à chaque point de contact du parcours passager: de l'acte d'achat en agence jusqu'à l'accueil dans les salons aéroportuaires et les prestations à bord. La direction souligne également que l'écoute active des retours passagers et l'engagement direct du personnel en première ligne ont constitué le moteur principal de cette transformation.

Le retour en grâce d'Air Mauritius s'explique par une restructuration globale post-pandémique axée sur trois piliers majeurs. Premièrement, la rationalisation de la flotte avec la sortie des appareils anciens au profit d'une flotte moderne constituée d'Airbus A350-900 et d'A330neo permet une réduction drastique de la consommation de carburant et des coûts de maintenance sur les routes long-courriers.

Deuxièmement, le repositionnement géographique et de hub exploite la position charnière de l'île Maurice dans l'océan Indien pour renforcer les corridors reliant l'Afrique à l'Asie (notamment vers l'Inde et la Chine) tout en captant les flux touristiques internationaux à haut rendement. Enfin, le focus sur la qualité de service à travers la stratégie "Building Remarkable Service Quality" remet la culture d'accueil mauricienne au centre de l'expérience à bord pour se démarquer de la concurrence.

Une remontée encourageante mais un cap ambitieux vers le Top 20

Malgré ces résultats positifs, le chemin à parcourir reste important pour atteindre les ambitions fixées par la direction. L'objectif avoué d'intégrer le Top 20 mondial impose un écart encore significatif de 32 places, la 20^e position étant actuellement détenue par Thai Airways.

De plus, il convient de distinguer les catégories du palmarès: si MK brille par son personnel navigant commercial (2^e en Afrique), le prix du meilleur service global assuré par le personnel en Afrique a été attribué à RwandAir, une distinction incluant l'ensemble des prestations terrestres et aériennes. Sur le plan général continental, Ethiopian Airlines conserve son leadership incontesté pour la septième année consécutive.

Le baromètre Skytrax reposant exclusivement sur la perception et la satisfaction des passagers — et non sur la santé financière ou la ponctualité stricte des vols —, Air Mauritius devra consolider sa dynamique opérationnelle. La transformation devra s'étendre à la régularité des liaisons, la gestion des aléas climatiques ou techniques, et l'harmonisation de l'offre sur l'ensemble de son réseau long-courrier et régional pour transformer cet essai prometteur en succès pérenne.

Singapore Airlines au sommet d'un palmarès dominé par l'Asie et le Moyen-Orient

À l'échelle internationale, les "World Airline Awards 2026" réaffirment la suprématie des compagnies asiatiques et moyen-orientales. Singapore Airlines a repris la tête du classement mondial, occupant la 1^{re} place et détrônant Qatar Airways, désormais 2^e. Cathay Pacific

complète le podium à la 3^e place, suivie d'ANA All Nippon Airways en 4^e position et de Turkish Airlines au 5^e rang. Emirates se classe 6^e, suivie d'Air France à la 7^e place, de Hainan Airlines en 8^e position, de Japan Airlines au 9^e rang et de Korean Air qui clôture ce top dix à la 10^e place.

Dans ce paysage ultra-concurrentiel, Air France demeure la seule représentante de l'Europe occidentale parmi les dix premières places, tandis que les géants américains restent distancés dans les catégories supérieures de service.

L'ascension des compagnies émergentes d'Asie et d'Afrique face aux géants occidentaux

La domination marquée des compagnies asiatiques, moyen-orientales et de certains acteurs africains sur les grands transporteurs historiques d'Europe ("legacy carriers") et des États-Unis s'exprime clairement dans les classements internationaux.

Pour illustrer ce phénomène, plusieurs compagnies africaines et asiatiques devancent largement les grands noms américains (comme Delta, United ou American Airlines) et européens (tels que Lufthansa, British Airways ou KLM) dans les classements mondiaux Skytrax :

Compagnie Aérienne	Rang / Distinction (Skytrax 2026)
Singapore Airlines	1 ^{er} mondial
Cathay Pacific	3 ^e mondial
ANA All Nippon Airways	4 ^e mondial
Hainan Airlines	8 ^e mondial
Thai Airways	20 ^e mondial
Ethiopian Airlines	Meilleure compagnie africaine (1 ^{ère} continentale)
RwandAir	1 ^{ère} en Afrique pour le service au sol et à bord
EgyptAir	Compagnie ayant le plus progressé en 2026

En comparaison, les majors américaines restent historiquement absentes du Top 20 global en matière de qualité de service, tandis que des piliers européens comme Lufthansa ou British Airways ont reculé au fil des ans.



Facteurs clés d'explication

L'avantage concurrentiel de ces transporteurs repose sur plusieurs piliers structurels. Tout d'abord, une agilité financière et l'absence d'un passif social lourd jouent un rôle déterminant: alors que les compagnies américaines et européennes traînent d'importantes charges structurelles comme des conventions collectives anciennes, de lourds régimes de retraite et des coûts salariaux élevés, les transporteurs émergents bénéficient d'une structure de coûts opérationnels bien plus flexible.

De plus, la modernité des flottes et l'expérience cabine permettent aux compagnies d'Asie et du Moyen-Orient d'investir massivement dans des flottes récentes équipées des dernières technologies de confort, là où les flottes américaines souffrent d'un âge moyen plus élevé.

La culture d'hospitalité et la gestion des coûts du travail constituent un autre atout central, les ratios de personnel de cabine par passager étant souvent plus avantageux que dans le modèle hautement rationalisé des compagnies occidentales.

Enfin, la dynamique des marchés régionaux et l'essor de la classe moyenne en Asie du Sud-Est, en Inde et en Afrique génèrent une forte demande pour les voyages internationaux, offrant à ces compagnies des taux de remplissage solides et un potentiel d'expansion supérieur à celui des marchés saturés d'Europe ou d'Amérique du Nord.

A. Bartleby

Voir plus en page 17

A Tale of Two Islands – One of Luxury. The Other of Struggle

We have built malls, hotels, financial institutions and globally connected companies. But we have also created a society in which the imagery of abundance is constantly placed before people whose disposable incomes may not keep pace with the lifestyles being advertised

U. Dasin

There are moments when a country's advertisements tell us more about its political economy than its economic statistics do. Mauritius is experiencing one of those moments. One just has to look around. New shopping malls are appearing, existing ones are expanding, companies are constantly promoting sales and special offers, and consumer credit allows households to acquire increasingly expensive goods while postponing payment for one, two or even three years.

International performers are brought to the island for concerts where tickets can cost Rs 5,000, or more. Hotels, restaurants, property developers and retailers increasingly sell not simply products but experiences, lifestyles and status.

The message is unmistakable: Mauritius is prosperous, sophisticated, cosmopolitan and ready to consume. Yet another reality is increasingly visible in the testimony of ordinary households. People are comparing every price, removing items from supermarket baskets, eating out less often, reducing unnecessary journeys and thinking twice about leisure spending.

Some are using savings to cope with ordinary expenses. The contradiction is not that one of these Mauritius is real and the other imaginary. Both are real. The question is what connects them - and, more importantly, who captures the wealth created between them.

The Mauritius we sell

The international image of Mauritius is increasingly that of a premium destination: luxury hotels, villas, golf, spas, fine dining, yachts and exclusive experiences. The model is economically successful. In the first half of 2026, tourist arrivals increased by only 1.5%, to 668,471, yet tourism earnings rose by almost 18%, to Rs 55.9 billion. In other words, the island is extracting considerably more value from each visitor.

But a luxury destination does not create luxury by itself. Someone cleans the room. Someone prepares breakfast. Someone maintains the gardens and pools. Someone drives the visitor from the airport. Someone washes the dishes, guards the premises and works the late shift. The tourists see paradise. The worker produces it. That distinction should be at the centre of any serious discussion about the distribution of tourism wealth.

International research has long shown that tourism creates substantial numbers of



“Mauritius can become a kind of playground for capital: a place where new developments, new consumption models and new forms of luxury can be tested and commercialised. There is nothing inherently illegitimate about this. But an economy cannot be judged only by how attractive it is to investors. It must also be judged by what it offers the people who do not own the assets. If a hotel becomes more luxurious, who benefits? If a mall becomes more profitable, who benefits? If land prices rise, who benefits? If a company makes billions, who benefits?”

relatively low-skilled and lower-paid jobs. In Mauritius, tourism-related employment represents a significant share of total employment. So, when we celebrate tourism earnings, we should ask not only how much the industry earns, but how much of the value generated by that industry reaches the people whose labour makes the experience possible.

The recent corporate results are extraordinary. Major corporate entities – spanning banking and financial services, retail and logistics, textiles and healthcare, hospitality, and real estate and agriculture – earned profits ranging from Rs 1.5 billion to Rs 20 billion. These figures should not be misrepresented. Some of these groups earn substantial amounts outside Mauritius, and corporate profits also finance investment, taxation, wages and future growth. But they nevertheless tell us something important: Mauritius is generating very substantial private wealth.

At the same time, households are reporting that their purchasing power is under pressure. This is not proof that corporate profits cause household hardship. It is a reason to ask a more fundamental question: When an economy generates billions in profits, where does that money ultimately go? Into wages? Into taxes? Into investment? Into dividends? Into property? Into financial

assets? Into wealth accumulated by existing owners? And how much remains circulating in the wider economy in ways that materially improve the security of ordinary households? The GDP figure cannot answer those questions. Ownership and distribution can.

The advertising of abundance

This is where the contemporary advertising landscape becomes revealing. Mauritian consumers are constantly told: **Sale. Special Offer. Zero-Percent Finance. Buy Now, Pay Later.** The message is not simply that goods are available. It is that the inability to pay for them immediately need not prevent consumption. That is a significant shift. A household that cannot comfortably spend Rs 80,000 today can nevertheless be persuaded to think in terms of a monthly instalment. Consumer-credit providers advertise repayment periods extending to 48 months for ordinary household goods.

The result is that visible consumption can continue even when purchasing power is constrained. A new television, therefore, does not necessarily mean a household has become richer. It may mean that the household has converted today's desire into tomorrow's obligation. This helps explain an otherwise puzzling phenomenon: a society can display increasingly sophisticated consumption while many households simultaneously feel financially squeezed.

The society of aspiration

The poorer household is not outside this consumer culture. It is surrounded by it. It sees the same advertisements, the same malls, the same cars, the same restaurants, the same concerts and the same luxury lifestyles displayed on social media. The message is rarely that these things belong exclusively to another class. The message is: You too can have them. If you cannot afford them today, there is a sale. If the sale is still too expensive, there is credit.

This produces a society in which the visibility of prosperity can become much greater than the security of prosperity.

People may participate in the appearance of affluence without possessing the financial foundations of affluence. That distinction matters. A full shopping centre is not necessarily evidence of widespread prosperity. A sold-out concert is not evidence that household purchasing power is healthy. Strong retail sales do not tell us whether purchases were made from income, savings or borrowed money. We need to know what kind of money is financing the consumption.

A country rich in wealth, but unequal in ownership

This brings us to a question that is uncomfortable precisely because Mauritius has been so successful. The country has accumulated considerable private wealth. Historically, economic ownership was highly concentrated, particularly among the Franco-Mauritian economic elite, even as political power shifted after independence. Over subsequent decades, Sino-Mauritian and Indo-Mauritian business groups expanded their economic influence, while foreign capital became increasingly important.

The structure is therefore more diverse today, but the historical concentration of ownership remains part of the story.

The important issue is not the ethnicity of individual entrepreneurs. It is **concentration of economic power**. Who owns the major companies? Who owns the land? Who owns the hotels? Who owns the shopping centres? Who owns the shares? Who receives the dividends? Who benefits when property values rise? And who supplies the labour that allows these assets to generate their returns? Those questions take us beyond the comfortable language of national prosperity.

The private sector playground

Mauritius can be an extraordinarily attractive environment for people who already possess capital. It is small, connected, politically stable, geographically attractive and increasingly integrated into international flows of capital, tourism and finance. It offers opportunities to develop property, hotels, shopping centres, financial services, entertainment and consumer businesses.

Mauritius can therefore become a kind of playground for capital: a place where new developments, new consumption models and new forms of luxury can be tested and commercialised. There is nothing inherently illegitimate about this.

☞ Cont. on page 10



Vijay Makhan

The United Nations: Still Indispensable in an Age of Circumvention

The 81st General Assembly was a reminder that the world still needs the United Nations — and that its universality must not become hostage to the convenience of the powerful.

Each September, New York hosts what is too readily dismissed as a political jamboree. Presidents, prime ministers and ministers take the podium. Solemn declarations are made, familiar divisions are rehearsed, and the headlines soon move elsewhere. Yet the opening of the 81st General Assembly offered a more sobering lesson. For all its infirmities, the UN remains the one place where leaders who may be estranged, hostile or even at war can nevertheless come within diplomatic reach of one another.

That is why the growing tendency to circumvent this premier world organisation should concern us. Some of the week's more consequential exchanges were conducted elsewhere — in bilateral meetings, through intermediaries, or within selective groupings fashioned by the most powerful. The United States and China discussed artificial intelligence and strategic competition in Washington. Contacts concerning Iran proceeded through mediators. On Gaza, practical arrangements were explored outside the UN's established machinery. The Organisation supplied the setting and some measure of legitimacy; decisive influence was frequently exercised beyond its formal structures.

This is not to suggest that bilateral diplomacy is illegitimate. It is often necessary, sometimes indispensable. Nor should the UN be romanticised. Its Security Council has repeatedly been paralysed by rivalry and veto; its financial condition has been weakened by arrears; and its resolutions, however well intentioned, cannot substitute for political will. But to bypass it is to diminish the only universal forum in which states, whatever their power, possess an equal voice and where international law may still provide a measure of protection against sheer force.

The treatment of Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas, and reportedly of Sudan's General Abdel Fattah al-Burhan, illustrates an even more troubling problem. Both were denied entry visas by the host country. Remote participation was arranged for President Abbas, and the General

Assembly rightly acted to preserve Palestine's opportunity to be heard. But speaking through a screen is not the same as being present. A leader unable to enter New York cannot conduct bilateral consultations or participate fully in the diplomacy that makes the annual session consequential.

The issue is larger than the identity or policies of any individual concerned. A premier intergovernmental organisation, whose purpose is to bring together its members irrespective of their differences — and indeed despite the fact that some may be at war — should not be subjected to the whims or desiderata of the country in which it is headquartered. The

sibility of major powers; it is, however, the means by which they can ensure that their interests are neither ignored nor traded away in larger bargains.

Mauritius has every reason to draw that lesson from its own experience. Chagos remains a sharp reminder that legal principle may be acknowledged while implementation is delayed by geopolitical calculation. The international record on decolonisation is clear. Yet the practical completion of the agreed settlement is again being influenced by the views of a third power. This underscores why universal rules and multilateral institutions must retain their authority. Not

because they are perfect, but because the alternative is a world in which the strong decide when law is to be honoured and when it can be set aside.

The United Nations did not end the wars in the Middle East, resolve the rivalry between Washington and Beijing, or devise a global regime for artificial intelligence. Nor was it able to prevent the host-country restrictions, which diminished the quality of representation at its own annual gathering. But it provided a space in which channels on Iran could be reopened, gave small island states a genuine legal and political gain, and allowed the wider world to witness both the promise and the deficiencies of the present international order.

The task, therefore, is not to defend the UN uncritically. It is to restore its universality, defend its independence from host-country pressure, and make it more responsive to those who depend most upon a rules-based order.

For Mauritius and other small states, multilateralism is not a ceremonial attachment, to be invoked only when convenient. It remains an essential instrument of sovereignty, survival and dignity.

30 September 2026



Members of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) vote in favor of a draft resolution presented by Bahrain on behalf of the member states of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) regarding the current crisis in the Middle East at the UN headquarters in New York, March 11, 2026. P - EPA

UN Headquarters Agreement was meant to ensure that the forum would not become an extension of the host state's bilateral preferences. When access can be withheld selectively, universality becomes conditional. The loss is not only symbolic. A leader absent from New York is deprived of the informal diplomacy which is often the real substance of a high-level session.

There was, however, another side to the week — one that should not be overlooked, particularly in Mauritius. The General Assembly adopted by consensus its first common Declaration on Sea-Level Rise. Its affirmation that maritime zones established under the Law of the Sea should remain stable notwithstanding sea-level rise is a signal achievement for Small Island Developing States. It also reaffirmed the continuity of statehood and UN membership of affected countries and called for more accessible and predictable adaptation finance.

For island states, this is no abstract legal refinement. The sea is not merely the horizon around us; it is a domain of rights, resources, security and survival. Mauritius, with its extensive maritime jurisdiction, has a direct interest in the stability of its ocean entitlements. The declaration does not solve the climate crisis, nor does it automatically secure the finance that vulnerable states require. But it demonstrates that persistent, coordinated diplomacy can turn existential concern into an emerging international norm.

That achievement carries an important political lesson. Small states are not condemned to be spectators. They are most effective when they organise around principles, build coalitions and insist that the law serve practical purposes. Their collective agency is not a substitute for the respon-

“The Security Council has repeatedly been paralysed by rivalry and veto; its financial condition has been weakened by arrears; and its resolutions, however well intentioned, cannot substitute for political will. But to bypass it is to diminish the only universal forum in which states, whatever their power, possess an equal voice and where international law may still provide a measure of protection against sheer force...”



Invitation for Expression of Interest for Independent Medical Expert

The Competition Commission invites Expression of Interest (EOI) from suitably qualified professionals to act as an Independent Medical Expert (Consultant) for its Private Healthcare Market Inquiry.

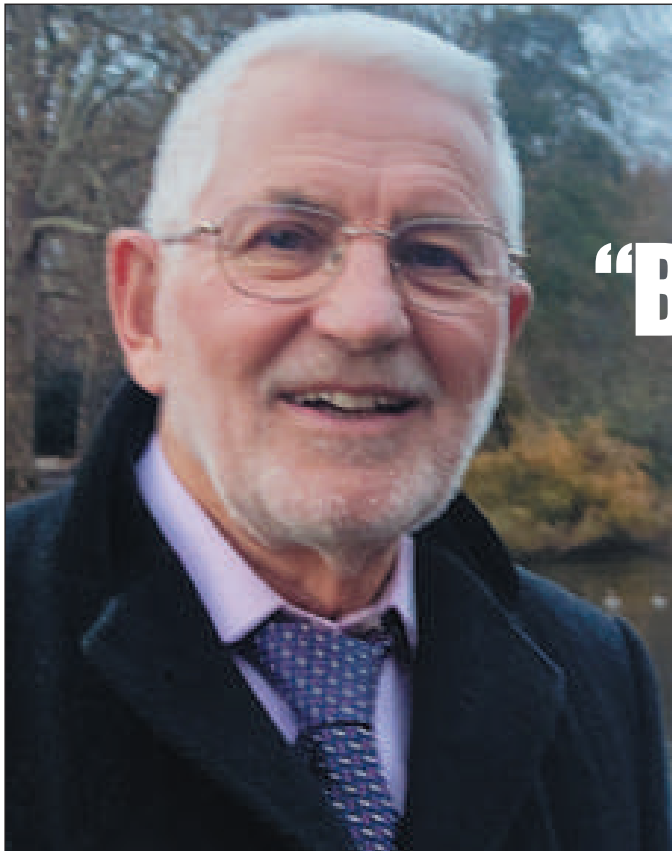
Interested parties are invited to consult the Competition Commission's website at www.competitioncommission.mu for more details.

The EOI submissions should be sent by email with reference, Ref: CC/MI001/1 "Expression of Interest", on info@competitioncommission.mu by latest 14:00 hours local time on 08 October 2026.

23 September 2026



David Snoxell - Coordinator of the Chagos Islands All-Party Parliamentary Group



“By 2127, the US may no longer need a military base in the Indian Ocean, while rising sea levels could make Diego Garcia inoperable”

After decades of controversy, Mauritius and the United Kingdom reached a treaty in May 2025 aimed at settling the sovereignty issue while safeguarding the long-term operation of the strategically important US military base on Diego Garcia. Yet the agreement has become caught in a new political impasse following President Donald Trump's renewed criticism of the treaty. For Mauritius, sovereignty over the Chagos Archipelago is non-negotiable. For the UK, the challenge is to reconcile its commitment to the treaty and international law with its strategic relationship with Washington and the requirements of the Diego Garcia base. The treaty has also faced opposition from sections of the US political establishment, British conservative circles and some Chagossian groups, complicating its passage through the UK Parliament.

Against this background, *Mauritius Times* spoke to David Snoxell, former British High Commissioner to Mauritius and Coordinator of the Chagos Islands All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) in the UK Parliament. He discusses the APPG's position, the prospects for ratification, the options available to London and Port Louis, and the wider implications for international law, the future of Diego Garcia and the Chagossians.

Mauritius Times: The Chagos Islands All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) in the UK Parliament has historically supported an overall diplomatic settlement between the UK and Mauritius grounded in international law. What is the APPG's position in relation to recent developments surrounding the May 2025 UK-Mauritius Chagos Agreement, with US President Trump again publicly criticizing the treaty as a “terrible” and “ridiculous” arrangement?

David Snoxell: On 3 November 2022 Mauritius and the UK announced that negotiations to conclude a treaty in keeping with international law would be concluded by early in the new year of 2023. This was not achieved, partly because of the timing of the three national elections in the UK (4 July 2024), the US (5 November 2024), and Mauritius (10 November 2024), as well as the differing objectives of the three new governments.

The Mauritian Prime Minister and President Trump commissioned reviews of the draft treaty. It was signed by the two Prime Ministers on 22 May 2025. From July 2024, the UK Parliament debated a Bill to implement the treaty. The Bill was paused in the House of Lords on 27 January 2026, at its final stage.

Although the treaty was supported by the US Administration and Presidents Biden and Trump, the latter abruptly changed his position to oppose the treaty. The UK Government's view is that the treaty cannot be ratified without US agreement because the 1966 UK/US Exchange of Notes stipulates that the UK will remain sovereign over Chagos.

The media and conservative think tanks became heavily involved and critical of the treaty. Chagossian groups in the UK also opposed the UK-Mauritius Treaty. This had its impact on politicians with the result that some members of the APPG no longer supported the Bill and Treaty. It has become a highly charged political debate that could have been avoided had the treaty been concluded and ratified before the three elections.

Clearly, a delay of nearly four years since the Conservative Foreign Secretary, James Cleverly, announced the negotiations has been the cause of the difficult situation in which the two governments and the APPG now find themselves. Because of the 2024 election, the APPG lost several members. Most members, including the chairman and vice-chairs, still support resettlement and a negotiated settlement with Mauritius as represented by the treaty. At its 104th meeting in June, the APPG decided to expand its purpose, which now reads: “To help bring about a resolution of the issues concerning the future of the Chagos Islands and the Chagossians, including a just and lasting framework for the resettlement of Chagossians wishing to do so.”

“The UK's control of Chagos has been eroded by the decisions of the UNGA, ICJ and ITLOS. The Marine Protected Area is not currently recognised internationally amongst conservation organisations and the UN. It can no longer issue stamps and coins for the territory and will lose its position as a coastal state on the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission. A negotiated settlement becomes increasingly inevitable...”

*** Mauritian Prime Minister Navin Ramgoolam has firmly reaffirmed that Mauritian sovereignty over the Chagos Archipelago is strictly non-negotiable. Given Port Louis's refusal to reopen the core treaty text, how much diplomatic manoeuvring space does London actually have to satisfy Washington?**

The UK Government fully accepts that Chagos belongs to Mauritius. A way forward needs to be agreed between the UK and Mauritius if the treaty is to be ratified before President Trump leaves office on 20 January 2029. A further delay of two years and three months, until the next US administration takes office, would be difficult to manage.

By then, there could be three new governments, each with different ideas and policies, while the international situation may no longer be conducive to a final settlement.

☞ Cont. on page 9

“The UK-Mauritius Treaty has become a highly charged political debate that could have been avoided had the treaty been concluded and ratified before the three elections. Clearly a delay of nearly four years since the Conservative Foreign Secretary, James Cleverly announced the negotiations has been the cause of the difficult situation that the two governments and the APPG now find themselves in...”

The UK is not under US pressure over Chagos.

The US Administration broadly supports the treaty;
it is the President who opposes it'

☞ Cont. from page 8

Getting the US President on board for a third time looks unlikely, although both governments will continue their efforts to win his support.

*** The May 2025 treaty relies on separating formal legal title (Mauritius) from long-term military administration (through a UK-US lease of Diego Garcia). From a diplomatic standpoint, is this framework robust enough to withstand continued political scrutiny in Washington and Westminster?**

From a diplomatic standpoint, the best way forward would be to secure the US President's agreement to the UK ratifying the treaty without any changes to its text. Ratification could potentially be achieved through a minor amendment to the 1966 UK-US Exchange of Notes. If that proves impossible, the UK and Mauritius would need to consider what might persuade President Trump to change his position. There has been some discussion of Mauritius selling Diego Garcia to the US...

*** That does not appear plausible from the Mauritian perspective. However, critics in the US argue that even a 99-year lease leaves some long-term operational uncertainty. Do you foresee any willingness in Port Louis to modify the lease-extension arrangements or provide additional guarantees to address Washington's concerns about the long-term security of the base?**



“A way forward needs to be agreed between the UK and Mauritius if the treaty is to be ratified before President Trump leaves office on 20 January 2029. A further delay of two years and three months, until the next US administration takes office, would be difficult to manage. By then, there could be three new governments, each with different ideas and policies, while the international situation may no longer be conducive to a final settlement...”

I don't see any need at this stage to extend the 99-year lease. By 2127, the US may no longer need a military base in the Indian Ocean. Only last year they bombed Iran directly from the US. In any case, rising sea levels could make the base inoperable well before the end of the lease.

*** If the main treaty can't be reopened, could side-agreements or a joint UK-US-Mauritius security deal satisfy Washington?**

My letter published in *The Times* on 30 September stated: "Mathew Parris ('Trump can solve our Chagos problem' - 28 Sept) proposes a trilateral deal between the UK, US and Mauritius to resolve the current political impasse."

Such an idea deserves consideration. It would enable Britain to honour its 1965 Lancaster House commitment to "return" Chagos to Mauritius - the Aldabra islands were returned to Seychelles in 1976 with US agreement. It would also uphold international law. The 56 Outer Islands, as Mauritian territory, would be available for resettlement by Chagossians.

Moreover, the move would release the UK from the considerable cost of administering a base we do not use. It would allow the Marine Protected Area to become interna-

tionally recognised and would give the US unfettered use of their military base on Diego Garcia in exchange for payment to Mauritius.

Answering a PQ on 11 July 1980, Prime Minister Thatcher said: "In the event of the islands no longer being required for defence purposes, they should revert to Mauritius." This has been the policy of successive governments.

*** In balancing its "Special Relationship" with the US against its obligations under International Court of Justice (ICJ) and UN General Assembly rulings, isn't London effectively prioritizing American security demands over the international rules-based order?**

The "Special Relationship" is much less visible in today's world order, although the UK remains militarily dependent on the US and is bound by the 1966 Exchange of Notes with the US. However, that agreement will terminate in December 2036, just over a decade from now. I am sure neither side wants to wait that long for a settlement. The current British Government is also committed to respecting international law, UN General Assembly resolutions and ICJ rulings.

*** But if the UK yields to US pressure and delays or indefinitely abandons implementation, what damage could this do to London's credibility when it champions international law globally?**

The UK is not under US pressure over Chagos. The US Administration and its agencies are generally supportive of the treaty; it is the President who is opposed to it. It is therefore for the UK and Mauritius to find a way of addressing his concerns.

UK officials and ministers remain in close contact with their American counterparts. Prime Minister Burnham has raised the issue with the President, and perhaps Prime Minister Ramgoolam has done so as well. In the past, the UK's reputation for upholding international law and human rights has been damaged by its handling of the Chagos

“From a diplomatic standpoint, the best way forward would be to secure the US President's agreement to the UK ratifying the treaty without any changes to its text. Ratification could potentially be achieved through a minor amendment to the 1966 UK-US Exchange of Notes. If that proves impossible, the UK and Mauritius would need to consider what might persuade President Trump to change his position. There has been some discussion of Mauritius selling Diego Garcia to the US...”

issue and the treatment of Chagossians.

*** If the treaty stalls or falls apart, Mauritius will likely step up diplomatic pressure at the UN and ICJ, while using International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS) and the Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA) to challenge UK authority over Chagos maritime zones, fisheries, and environmental permits. How effective do you think these legal avenues would be in practice, and could they force the UK back to the table?**

No one will be surprised if Mauritius takes the issue back to the UNGA which in 2019 set a deadline of six months for the implementation of the ICJ Advisory Opinion or finds a way of going back to the ICJ and ITLOS. The only answer the UK can give is that it is doing all it can to persuade the US to enable the UK to ratify the treaty. The UK will remain at the table.

The UK's control of Chagos has been eroded by the decisions of the UNGA, ICJ and ITLOS. The Marine Protected Area is not currently recognised internationally amongst conservation organisations and the UN. It can no longer issue stamps and coins for the territory and will lose its position as a coastal state on the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission. A negotiated settlement becomes increasingly inevitable.



Central Electricity Board (CEB)

COMMUNIQUÉ

NON PAIEMENT DES FACTURES D'ÉLECTRICITÉ

Le Central Electricity Board (CEB) tient à rappeler à ses abonnés qu'une facture non réglée dans le délai de la date limite de paiement peut entraîner une interruption de la fourniture d'électricité à tout moment.

Après l'interruption, les abonnés concernés devront régler toutes les factures impayées, ainsi que les frais de reconnexion, avant que le service ne soit rétabli.

Le CEB se voit contraint de procéder régulièrement à des débranchements en cas de non-paiement des factures. Les abonnés sont priés de respecter les délais de paiement afin d'éviter ces désagréments.

La Direction

Borrowed Mindfulness: The White-Washing of Eastern Wisdom



Samad Ramoly

The modern West was built on the cult of pure reason. Since the Enlightenment, the Western elite has valued logic, measurement, and the technical mastery of the world,

relegating intuitive, bodily, or sacred forms of knowledge to the background. This choice produced undeniable material progress—but it also left a void: that of meaning, death, and existential anxiety, questions to which instrumental reason does not respond. From this vacuum, an inverse movement was born: the Western quest toward Buddhism, Sufism, and Hinduism, perceived as reservoirs of wisdom that rationalism had dried up at home.

This aspiration is sincere. However, it often remains a prisoner of the very mindset it seeks to escape. We find the same rationalist gesture within it: extracting the useful technique—meditation, breathing, posture—and abandoning everything that surrounds it: cosmology, community, life discipline, and transmission. This is what is known as spiritual appropriation, which is less the opposite of rationalism than its continuation, applied this time to an exotic material. Consumer capitalism is its most visible vehicle, transforming these wisdoms into detachable products; the individualism inherited from the Enlightenment and Protestantism is its underlying condition.

Yet, this mechanism was not born with 20th-century spiritual tourism. It is much older, and the classical West itself offers a striking example: the *Fables* of Jean de La Fontaine. The fabulist openly drew inspiration from

Aesop, but a portion of his work also tapped into the *Panchatantra*, a collection of Sanskrit fables that reached Europe through Arabic and Persian translations. Texts like *The Tortoise and the Two Ducks* or *The Rat and the Elephant* come directly from this Indian source.



However, this debt has long been downplayed: the French academic imagination remembered La Fontaine as the heir to Aesop, leaving the Indian lineage in the shadows. Furthermore, the Eastern content—often linked to concepts of karma or the cunning typical of Indian folk wisdom—was reframed into a typical classical rationalist and social morality: the fable became a tool to instruct the court and criticise social mores, not to transmit a cosmology.

The example is telling: keeping the useful narrative form and erasing the spiritual background is not a reflex unique to contemporary globalisation. It is a structural gesture, deeply rooted in the way the classical West has always digested what it borrowed from abroad. Today's spiritual appropriation, therefore, invents nothing new: it perpetuates, with different tools, a much older habit.

Economy & Society

A Tale of Two Islands – One of Luxury. The Other of Struggle

Cont. from page 6

But an economy cannot be judged only by how attractive it is to investors. It must also be judged by what it offers the people who do not own the assets. If a hotel becomes more luxurious, who benefits? If a mall becomes more profitable, who benefits? If land prices rise, who benefits? If a company makes billions, who benefits? If tourism revenue increases, who benefits?

Which Mauritius?

The dominant story tells us that Mauritius is a success. That is true. But it is not the whole story. The more important question is what kind of success we have created. We have built an economy capable of selling luxury to outsiders and increasingly sophisticated consumption to insiders. We have built malls, hotels, financial institutions and globally connected companies. We have created considerable private wealth. But we have also created a society in which the imagery of abundance is constantly placed before people whose disposable incomes

may not keep pace with the lifestyles being advertised. The result is a peculiar social arrangement. The tourist buys paradise. The investor owns part of it. The worker maintains it. The consumer aspires to it. And the household at the bottom counts the cost of living in it.

That is not an argument against wealth, business or tourism. It is an argument against equating the accumulation of wealth with the distribution of prosperity. As a country we should therefore ask a question more demanding than whether GDP is growing, whether tourist expenditure is rising or whether its companies are pro-fitable. We should ask: When we say that Mauritius is prosperous, whose prosperity are we talking about? And perhaps an even more uncomfortable question follows: If so much wealth is being created, why does so much of the population still experience prosperity as something they can see, advertise, aspire to, and sometimes borrow for — but cannot securely possess?

U. Dasin

Rodrigues Airport Project

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES



Airports of Mauritius Co. Ltd (AML) is the Implementing Agency for the Rodrigues Airport Project. This national project aims to improve air transport access, enhance climate resilience, and boost productivity in diverse sectors of the economy in Rodrigues. The primary component of this project which is funded by a loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) and a grant from the European Union, involves the development of a new Airport Runway and associated facilities.

To constitute the Project Implementation unit (PIU), AML is looking for the following professionals who will assume the role as follows:

- Project Coordinator: REF: PC 2026/01
- Gender-Based Violence (GBV) Specialist: REF: GBV 2026/02
- Procurement Assistant: REF: PA 2026/03

An attractive pay package will be provided to the successful candidate.

Should any of the post/s be of interest to you, kindly submit your application letter, C.V together with your copies of academic qualifications and any other relevant document to support your application on the email address rap.recruitment@aml.aero, at latest by **09 October 2026, 15H00 (Mauritian Time)**.

AML reserves the right not to proceed to any recruitment as a result of this advertisement.

25 September 2026

AML Corporate Office
SSR International Airport,
Plaine Magnien, MAURITIUS
Tel: (230) 603 6000
Web: aml.mru.aero

Please scan the QR Code
for additional information



COMMUNIQUÉ

TAUX DE REMPLISSAGE LE RÉSERVOIR DE MARE-AUX-VACOAS À 20% D'ICI FIN NOVEMBRE

Les prévisions calculées par la Water Resources Commission et communiquées ce jeudi 24 septembre 2026 indiquent que le taux de remplissage du réservoir de Mare-aux-Vacoas atteindra le seuil critique de **20%** vers la fin de novembre 2026.

Et si entretemps, les grosses averses n'arrivent pas dans cette partie du pays, la Central Water Authority (CWA) ne pourra plus puiser l'eau de ce réservoir pour alimenter les Plaines Wilhems, le district de Moka et une partie du district de Rivière Noire.

A ce jour, le taux de remplissage du principal réservoir du pays est à **38.5%**. Ce taux a pu être maintenu grâce aux restrictions en terme d'horaires de distribution qui sont entrées en vigueur depuis le 17 juin dernier pour les Plaines Wilhems, le district de Moka et une partie du district de Rivière Noire.

La CWA rappelle également à ses abonnés et le public en général que les horaires de distribution ont été réduits de deux heures pour les autres parties du pays à partir du 5 août 2026. D'autres restrictions au sujet de l'utilisation de l'eau potable sont entrées en vigueur depuis le 10 août 2026.

La CWA compte une nouvelle fois sur la compréhension et la collaboration des ses abonnés et du public en général et réitère son appel à ses consommateurs pour qu'ils continuent à utiliser l'eau de façon judicieuse.

Ce 26 Septembre 2026

Numéros utiles: 6015000 | 170 | 55000025 (What's App)



myt

myt everywhere

Your Plug & Play internet
anywhere you want



myt

5G

•
•
•
•
•
•

SIGNAL
NETWORK
WIFI
POWER

Conditions apply

Why you'll love it

🔌 Plug & play ✅ Hassle-Free ⚡ Fast 5G internet

Whether you're running a business or working remotely, myt everywhere keeps you connected wherever you are. Simply plug and play to enjoy the freedom of 5G internet wherever life takes you.

myt.mu



Shyam Bhatia

When Britain's Elderly Meet the Machinery of the State

Britain once exported its model of coercive colonial policing across the world.

Today's Britain presents itself very differently: committed to policing by consent, proportionality and the protection of individual rights.

Yet two recent cases involving very elderly people raise uncomfortable questions about how those principles operate when the state encounters vulnerability, confusion or dissent.

Donald Burgess was 92, had dementia, had lost a leg and was living in a care home in East Sussex. In June 2022, when he refused to surrender a small dinner knife, police used Pava spray, a baton and a Taser on him, according to evidence presented at a disciplinary hearing now under way. He was then handcuffed and taken to a police station.

The officers were acquitted of assault charges in 2025. They now face gross-misconduct proceedings and deny the allegations. The disciplinary hearing is ongoing.

The hearing was told that the officers had "acted hastily, harshly and lost control" and that Burgess posed no real or credible threat. Those are allegations being made in the disciplinary proceedings, not findings against the officers.

Burgess was taken to hospital after the incident. He contracted Covid and died 22 days later following a cardiac arrest. The current proceedings concern the officers' conduct; they do not establish that the police use of force caused his death.

His case raises a fundamental question about policing and extreme vulnerability: when an elderly person becomes confused or difficult to manage, does authority protect him — or overpower him?

And this question is not confined to dementia or care homes.

Last Sunday, Margaret Owen, a 94-year-old human-rights barrister, was among those arrested at a pro-Palestine protest outside the Labour conference in Liverpool. Merseyside Police said people were detained on suspicion of offences involving support for Palestine Action, which is proscribed under terrorism legislation. More than 160 people were either arrested or reported for summons.

The circumstances could hardly be more different.

Burgess was an extremely vulnerable man with dementia in residential care. Owen was an elderly woman participating in political protest. One case concerns the use of force against a vulnerable individual; the other concerns the enforcement of legislation against protesters.

They should not be conflated. But they do invite consideration of a common issue:

how does a modern state exercise coercive power when the person on the receiving end is exceptionally old?

Britain's own policing authorities provide a standard against which such questions can be considered. The College of Policing says police action should be proportionate and that policing rests on the principle of "policing by consent."

These are not merely words. They are the principles by which modern British policing says it operates.

And that brings us to Mauritius.

Britain's colonial experience provides an uncomfortable historical backdrop to any discussion of state power, order and dissent.

During the colonial period, Britain developed systems of policing and emergency administration across its empire. Public order was frequently presented as a prerequisite for good government, while political agitation could be treated as a threat to that order.

Mauritius was one of the societies in which those tensions played out.

During labour unrest in 1938, the colonial Governor, Sir Bede Clifford, wrote that "the orderly settlement of industrial disputes is one of the first essentials of good Government."

The language is revealing. Order, stability and good government are concepts that can be invoked both to protect citizens and to justify coercive authority.

The Chagos story provides an even more powerful example.

Between 1968 and 1973, Britain removed an estimated 1,400 to 1,700 Chagossians from the Chagos Archipelago to make way for the US-UK military base on



94-year-old human-rights barrister Margaret Owen was among those arrested outside Liverpool's Labour conference on suspicion of supporting Palestine Action, a banned terrorist group. Pic - The Trolling Society

Diego Garcia. Laws subsequently made it illegal to remain or return without permission.

For decades, the Chagos dispute remained one of the unresolved legacies of British colonial rule.

In 2025, Britain and Mauritius signed a treaty providing for Mauritius to exercise sovereignty over the Chagos Archipelago, while Britain would retain extensive rights concerning the Diego Garcia military base.

The House of Commons Library records the agreement as part of what the Mauritian government regards as the completion of the decolonisation process. Prime Minister Navin Ramgoolam said: "We have gained recognition of our sovereignty [...] which completes the process of decolonisation which began in 1968."

The history is not being invoked here to suggest that Chagos, Burgess and Owen are equivalent. They plainly are not.

The circumstances, laws and consequences are radically different. But there is a common historical question: what happens when the power of the state meets people who have very little power of their own?

In Chagos, the issue involved an entire displaced population.

In Burgess's case, it involved a 92-year-old man with dementia and profound physical vulnerability.

In Owen's case, it involves a 94-year-old woman exercising political dissent.

Different circumstances. Different laws. Different forms of state authority.

Yet all three cases raise the question of how power should be exercised when those on the receiving end are vulnerable, politi-

cally marginal or simply unable to match the power of the state.

Age does not place anyone above the law. An elderly person can commit an offence, and the police cannot simply disregard the law because someone is 90 or 94.

But democratic policing is not simply about possessing legal powers. It is also about judgement, necessity and proportionality.

That distinction has particular resonance in Britain because of its history.

The country that once ruled an empire now presents itself as a liberal democracy based on the rule of law, civil liberties and policing by consent.

It is therefore legitimate to ask whether those principles are being applied with equal care when the state encounters an elderly person with dementia, an elderly political protester, or any other citizen who is unusually vulnerable.

There is an important distinction between protecting the vulnerable and controlling the troublesome.

In Burgess's case, the central question before the disciplinary panel is whether the officers used excessive force and failed to respond appropriately to a vulnerable man. The officers deny the allegations.

In Owen's case, the question is different: whether enforcement against an elderly protester is proportionate to the circumstances and consistent with the protection of legitimate political dissent.

Neither case, on its own, demonstrates that Britain has abandoned the principles of liberal democracy. Nor does the history of Chagos permit such a simple conclusion. But together they provide an opportunity to examine what those principles mean in practice.

Britain once governed much of the world through institutions whose overriding concern was often the preservation of order.

The former colonies eventually demanded something more: the right to determine their own political futures, to dissent and to challenge authority without being treated automatically as a threat to public order.

Mauritius's long struggle over Chagos is part of that history.

Britain now judges itself by many of the democratic standards that its former colonies fought to establish for themselves.

A civilised society is not defined simply by the efficiency with which it can exercise authority. It is also defined by the restraint with which it uses that authority — particularly when confronted by someone who is exceptionally vulnerable, exceptionally old, or simply unwilling to remain silent.

That is a question with resonance far beyond Britain.

September 29, 2026

“There is an important distinction between protecting the vulnerable and controlling the troublesome. In Burgess's case, the central question before the disciplinary panel is whether the officers used excessive force and failed to respond appropriately to a vulnerable man. The officers deny the allegations. In Owen's case, the question is different: whether enforcement against an elderly protester is proportionate to the circumstances and consistent with the protection of legitimate political dissent...”

Brent hits \$97: Why oil prices keep rising

Oil prices pivoted upward once again on Wednesday, rebounding from a sharp selloff as persistent geopolitical anxiety stemming from the ongoing U.S.-Iran conflict eclipsed signs of recovering Middle East crude exports.

Brent crude's December contract climbed 1.6% to \$97.10 a barrel, while U.S. West Texas Intermediate (WTI) rose 0.9% to \$90.20. The recovery follows a brief drop on Tuesday, when traders temporarily focused on the resumption of Gulf oil shipments. However, the market quickly recalibrated, prioritizing the persistent threat of supply shocks over incremental export gains.



Brent crude prices rise as Saudi Arabia restores oil exports amid Hormuz tensions. Pic - NDTV Profit

The Conflict Risk Premium Remains Intact

The market's primary engine remains the lack of diplomatic progress between Washington and Tehran. Despite mediation efforts led by Qatar, President Donald Trump rejected reports suggesting the U.S. was preparing to ease sanctions or unlock frozen Iranian funds in exchange for nuclear concessions.

With no clear diplomatic breakthrough in sight, traders continue to price in significant risk premiums, particularly regarding potential disruptions along the vital Strait of Hormuz transit route.

Rising Exports vs. Depleted Buffers

Middle East exports are undeniably returning to the market. Goldman Sachs estimates that Gulf crude shipments reached 23.3 million barrels per day over the past

week—aligning closely with 2025 averages. A key driver of this recovery is Saudi Arabia, which restarted tanker loadings from its Yanbu port on the Red Sea after bringing its crucial East-West Pipeline back online.

Yet, this influx of crude has failed to calm energy markets for two structural reasons:

Severely Depleted Global Inventories:

According to the International Energy Agency (IEA), global observed oil stocks have plunged by 507 million barrels since the outbreak of the war. This sharp drawdown has left global supply chains without a safety cushion against future operational shocks.

Refined Product Shortages: Severe disruptions to refining capacity in both the Middle East and Russia have starved markets of finished fuels, particularly diesel. While raw crude supply is expanding, refined fuel inventories remain dangerously constrained.

Emergency Interventions and the Long-Term Outlook

To counter these pressures, the U.S. Energy Department announced plans to release up to 40 million barrels from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR) as part of a coordinated international effort to unleash 400 million barrels into global supply

channels.

Despite these interventions, market fundamentals remain tightly stretched. Brent crude is on track for a 14% surge in September — its strongest monthly performance since July — while WTI is set for a 4% monthly gain. Reflecting this prolonged tightness, a recent Reuters survey revealed that analysts have raised their 2026 price forecasts, now projecting Brent to average \$89.05 per barrel and WTI to average \$83.90 per barrel.

While restored export routes like Saudi Arabia's Yanbu terminal offer critical relief, they are currently acting as a temporary dam against a broader tide of geopolitical risk, depleted reserves, and refined product deficits. Until a definitive diplomatic solution emerges, energy markets will remain caught in a volatile tug-of-war.

Is TikTok down? Thousands report severe glitches and 'zero likes' bug across US

Thousands of TikTok users in the United States reported technical glitches and severe performance issues on Wednesday night, causing speculation about a widespread platform outage. According to DownDetector, a platform that tracks service interruptions via user submissions, complaints spiked past 2,500 during the peak of the disruption.

The vast majority of reported issues pertained to the mobile app itself, with 77% of affected users reporting app-wide issues, 11% struggling with their feeds, and 7% experiencing login failures.

Users reported severe lagging while scrolling through their For You Page (FYP), with many noting a visual bug where post

metrics — including likes, comments, and reposts — displayed as "0."

"Is everyone's TikTok down? Something is wrong with mine," one user posted on X (formerly Twitter). Another added, "TikTok is glitching and showing that every video on my FYP has zero likes, and I don't know why."

By 8:55 PM EDT, outage reports on DownDetector had begun to decline to around 2,500. TikTok has not yet issued an official statement regarding the cause of the technical disruption.

With an estimated 170 million monthly active users in the U.S., even brief technical disruptions on the platform trigger widespread social media reactions.

Across the Globe

Asia faces graduate job crisis

Asia's most populous countries are grappling with a graduate employment crisis, with huge numbers of young people entering job markets that lack roles to absorb them. In Indonesia, job creation has largely stalled in high-skilled sectors; India has seen college graduate numbers far outpace new, available jobs, and China's record number of university leavers has driven youth unemployment up to 18.9%.



Asia faces graduate job crisis. Pic - scmp.com

The issue creates both short-term political challenges — India, for example, has seen student protests over the summer — and long-term economic ones: "When the middle class feels insecure, governments grow cautious about policies that impose visible costs," a former Indonesian finance minister wrote for an IMF magazine. "Reform becomes hardest precisely when it is most needed."

China gains ground in AI race

Chinese tech giants DeepSeek and Huawei announced a partnership to develop semiconductor software, part of an array of efforts to reduce China's reliance on US chipmakers and challenge American AI dominance. Though US firms are widely seen as leading the hardware and software race surrounding AI, the scales are tipping: China's Alibaba recently unveiled what it said was the country's most powerful chip ever, a major memory chipmaker said it was mass-producing new designs to challenge industry heavyweights, and Chinese researchers said they were making progress in building highly advanced semiconductors, despite US restrictions on access to cutting-edge chipmaking equipment. "We cannot accept a destiny where we cannot control our fate," Huawei's chairman said at a company conference last month.

A Texas eatery is world's busiest

An Indian-Pakistani eatery in Houston may be the world's busiest restaurant, reflecting Texas' growing South Asian population, as well as the popularity of global cuisines in the US. Family-owned Aga's generates more Uber Eats deliveries than any other single-location business in the world, The New York Times reported.



Meals are prepared in the kitchen at Aga's, an Indian-Pakistani restaurant in Houston on Sept. 12. Pic - The New York Times

"Unless I am sick or take a day off, I am here," a delivery driver said.

South Asians now make up 17% of the residents of Sugar Land, just south of Houston. The joint's success is also explained by Americans' growing appetite for ethnic food, a market estimated to double to almost \$17.5 billion by 2033. At the same time, South Asians in Texas are increasingly facing racism.

The limits of plane diplomacy

Israel and the UAE launched investigations into the alarming episode on a Dubai-Tel Aviv flight in which the co-pilot attempted to crash the plane, but analysts played down the long-term diplomatic impact of the incident. Though Israel and the UAE have maintained formal relations since the Abraham Accords were signed, the plane's emergency landing in Saudi Arabia raised the prospect of a window also opening for the normalisation of ties between the kingdom and Israel. The countries were on a path to establishing relations years ago, but Hamas' Oct. 7, 2023, attack on Israel derailed that effort and, as *The New York Times'* Gulf bureau chief noted, "most of the [Saudi] public continues to oppose ties with Israel."

Beyond Brexit: UK considers EU Return as European leaders warm to reset



British PM Andy Burnham applauds on stage at the Labour Party Conference, in Liverpool. Pic - AP

European leaders have signalled a warm reception to the prospect of the United Kingdom rejoining the European Union, following comments by Prime Minister Andy Burnham suggesting Britain could reset its post-Brexit relationship with the bloc.

Speaking in Madrid, French President Emmanuel Macron said in English, "Welcome back," adding that Burnham's approach represents "very good news both for his country and for the Europeans." Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez echoed the sentiment, describing Brexit as a "huge loss" and

stating that Spain would "open its arms once again to a brotherly people."

Burnham, who took office in July following Keir Starmer's resignation, reopened the domestic debate by addressing Labour's annual conference in Manchester. He argued that leaving the EU had done "more harm than good" and contributed to "a decade of low growth." In a BBC interview, Burnham outlined potential avenues for closer integration—ranging from joining the single market or customs union to pursuing full EU membership, stating Britain could "go all the way."

The European Commission maintained a receptive stance. Spokesperson Balazs Ujvari noted that the UK remains a "close and valued partner" and emphasized that "it is for the UK government to set out how it wishes to develop its relationship," while affirming the bloc's openness to future proposals.

Despite improved diplomatic relations since Labour came to power in 2024, challenges remain. Brussels has consistently reminded London that post-Brexit rules prevent non-members from participating in EU decision-making. Burnham's proposals have already drawn criticism from right-wing opponents at home. Further details on Britain's proposed strategy are expected ahead of an upcoming UK-EU summit in Brussels, where leaders are slated to discuss key areas such as youth mobility, energy cooperation, and agricultural trade.

Russia threatens nuclear response over alleged NATO blockade of Kaliningrad



Russia has warned NATO it may use nuclear weapons if Kaliningrad is cut off from Russia. Pic - TOI

Russia has warned NATO that it is prepared to use nuclear weapons to defend Kaliningrad if member states attempt to cut off or isolate the strategically vital Baltic enclave.

In formal diplomatic messages sent to the military alliance and shared by several Russian embassies across Europe, Moscow claimed to have information that NATO is planning an air and naval blockade of the territory. The warnings accused European leaders of "playing a dangerous game" by escalating tensions and alleging Russian hybrid warfare in the region.

"There should be no mistake — Russia would be ready to use all its arsenal, including nuclear weapons, to defend its territory if NATO countries try to isolate Kaliningrad region," read a statement issued by the Russian Embassy in Ireland.

NATO spokesperson Allison Hart confirmed receipt of the written message, strongly denouncing Moscow's "irresponsible nuclear rhetoric." Hart reiterated that NATO is a defensive alliance whose exercises pose no threat to Russian territory, adding that the alliance would not be deterred from supporting Ukraine.

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov defended the warning, citing "rampant statements" from Poland and other European nations regarding the exclave, which is entirely surrounded by NATO allies Poland and Lithuania. Kaliningrad serves as the home base for Russia's Baltic Fleet and hosts nuclear-capable Iskander missile systems.

The warning comes as Western intelligence services report an uptick in Russian hybrid attacks, including drone disruptions and sabotage across Europe, as the war in Ukraine enters its fifth year.

Across the Globe



Matchmaking in Japan how to find a partner more easily. Pic - marriagematching.love

Japanese singles hire matchmakers

Japanese singles are hiring matchmakers in droves as they seek a partner, a shift underscoring the country's dire demographic crisis. Omiai — the custom of matchmaking by family or friends — was popular in Japan for centuries, but young people, exhausted after years of fruitless pursuits on dating apps and sites, are now embracing a corporate reinvention of matchmaking and its promise of a fast track to marriage.

"Better one omiai than 100 swipes," one advertisement in Tokyo reads. Countries elsewhere in Asia, where fertility has fallen below the replacement rate, are also trying novel approaches to encourage marriages and boost births: Singapore launched a government-run dat-

ing app that helps users pay some of the cost of meeting their match.

Brazil candidates neck and neck

Brazil's moribund economy could hurt its president's bid for re-election this weekend — and will present an array of challenges for whoever wins the upcoming vote. Polls show incumbent Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva is effectively tied with rightist challenger Flávio Bolsonaro ahead of Sunday's first-round vote.

Lula is saddled with slowing growth, accelerating inflation, and high interest rates, though unemployment is near record lows. His saving grace is that voters detest his opponent and "fear the Bolsonaro's family return to power more than another Lula administration," one analyst wrote in *Americas Quarterly*. The in-tray for the eventual winner is daunting: "Large fiscal deficits, high and rising public debt ... and weak potential growth," Goldman Sachs economists noted.

Canada, EU to finalize partnership

The EU and Canada will consummate their expansive new partnership at a Montreal summit next month, Politico reported, furthering Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney's efforts to shore up cooperation between the world's "middle powers." Brussels and Ottawa plan to

reduce trade barriers and collaborate on supply chains and minerals projects. Standing up to US President Donald Trump has won Carney carte blanche to significantly increase military spending, streamline industrial and infrastructure projects, and diversify Canadian trade away from Washington, The Wall Street Journal reported: "I cannot remember, in my adult life, a prime minister having this good an 18 months," the head of polling firm Ipsos said. "There has been very little pushback against any of the things that he's proposed."

Europe contends with housing crisis

Protesters across the EU have been demonstrating against a growing housing crisis in recent weeks, making the issue a political priority for the bloc ahead of major elections next year. In Spain, which must elect a new prime minister before August, the temporary eviction of an 87-year-old pensioner galvanized days-long protests in Madrid and forced the government to enact emergency measures to tame the crisis. In Berlin, an anti-capitalist who recently won the local election is proposing seizing corporate housing portfolios in a bid to quell discontent, sending German real estate stocks plunging. France's housing crisis, too, will likely dominate its presidential election. Across Europe, "the housing shortage has become an explosive social issue," DW wrote.

Compiled by K. Ramlallah



Get a chance to win up to
Rs 1 Million*

...while enjoying your moments.

Every little moment in your day could turn into something so much bigger.

From 1 October 2026 to 31 December 2026, every Rs 500 you spend on your SBM Card (Visa, Mastercard or UnionPay, Debit or Credit) brings you closer to sharing in MUR 1,000,000.

***10 cash prizes of MUR 100,000 !**

T : (230) 207 0111 | E : sbm@sbggroup.mu | www.sbmбанк.com

Terms & Conditions Apply. Excludes prepaid and corporate cards. SBM Bank (Mauritius) Ltd is licensed by the Bank of Mauritius.

SCAN FOR DETAILS



From Our Archives -- A Glimpse into 1961

8th Year No 346

MAURITIUS TIMES

Friday 21 April, 1961

• "Truth is to be loved purely and solely because it is true." — Thomas Carlyle



Peter Ibbotson

A Suggested Party Constitution

As promised (in last week's edition), here is an outline of a suggested constitution for a popularly based Labour Party with local organisations in every constituency. But first, a few comments.

The first thing that any constitution must do is to state the name and objects of the organisation whose constitution it is. A Labour or Socialist

party will, however, have two sets of objects — national and international. If the party is to be popularly based, clearly its membership must be based on individual affiliation, and the membership fee must be within the ability to pay of all who wish to join. Safeguards must obviously exist to prevent the infiltration of people who are antagonistic to the party's aims and objects. But there are always other organisations whose aims are broadly in sympathy with the aims of the political party, and the constitution must therefore provide the opportunity for such organisations to affiliate on a group basis.

The popular basis of membership must be reflected in the method of choosing the party's national executive committee or other governing body, and in provisions for annual conferences at which members are represented on a constituency basis, with affiliated organisations also represented.

Party discipline must also be established and observed, and the constitution should also contain provision for this.

Bearing in mind the foregoing remarks, I tentatively put forward the following as a possible draft constitution for a popularly based Labour Party — one whose organisation on a constituency basis could do for the Mauritius Labour Party what similar careful organisation has done for the People's Progressive Party (British Guiana), the People's United Party (British Honduras), the Barbados Labour Party, the People's National Party (Jamaica), the Convention People's Party (Ghana), and so on. For the benefit of those who don't know what organisation has done for these parties, I will repeat what I have said in these columns several times in the past — it has firmly secured these parties in the political life of the various colonies, giving them virtually unassailable majorities in the territorial Legislative Councils, and ensuring for them the overwhelming and understanding support of the people. It is because the *Mauritius Times* wishes to see the continued parliamentary success of the Mauritius Labour Party that it puts forward for public discussion these suggestions of mine:

Name

The Party shall be known as and called the Mauritius Labour Party.

Aims and Objects (National)

Independence and the development of Mauritius on the basis of Socialism.

- To serve as the vigorous conscious political vanguard for the establishment of a democratic socialist society and the removal of all forms of oppression.
- To work with, and in the interest of, the trade union movement and other kindred organisations in joint political actions.
- To promote the political, social and economic emancipation of the people, especially those who depend on their own work (either by hand or by brain) for their means of life.
- To provide equality of opportunity for all and the abolition of capitalist exploitation.

Aims and Objects (International)

To work with other democratic socialist and nationalist

movements all over the world with a view to abolishing colonialism, racialism, tribalism, and all forms of social and racial oppression and discrimination. To seek to abolish economic inequality among nations. To work for world peace. To affiliate to the Socialist International.

Membership

There shall be two classes of membership, individual and affiliated. Individual members shall be aged 16 or over and must accept the aims and objects of the Party. They shall be ineligible for Party membership, however, if they support racialism, or are members of any other political party, or of any other organisation whose aims are inconsistent with those of the Labour Party. Application for membership shall be made on the duly prescribed form for consideration by the appropriate constituency committee. On enrolment, every member receives a membership and dues card. Enrolment fee shall be R. 1.00; dues shall be Rs 4.00 a year (if paid in one lump sum) or 35 cents a month if paid monthly.

Affiliated members shall consist of organisations whose aims are compatible with those of the Party, and shall include such organisations as trade unions, planters' organisations, co-operative societies and associations, youth and sports organisations, women's organisations, etc. They must be, in the opinion of the National Executive of the Party, *bona fide* organisations, and if they wish to affiliate must send to the National Executive a resolution to that effect signed by their President and General Secretary. Affiliated organisations shall pay an annual affiliation fee of Rs 20 for affiliation to the national Labour Party; branches wishing to affiliate with particular constituency organisations shall pay local affiliations fees out of their branch funds.

Funds

These to be derived from affiliation fees, donations, appeals, bequests, profits on sale of literature, proceeds of social functions, monthly and annual dues, etc. Income from affiliation fees and dues shall be divided between the national and the local organisation in the proportion 60 : 40. All other income shall accrue to the branch receiving the income. All funds to be banked, withdrawable only on the joint signatures of the Chairman and Secretary or Treasurer.

National Annual Conference

To be held annually (in an intercrop month, say March) at a date and place to be decided by the National Executive. Its composition to be as follows: delegates from each affiliated organisation, 2 for the first thousand members, plus 1 for every 500 additional members or part of 500 members where the part exceeds 250; with a minimum of 2 delegates in any case. 8 delegates from every constituency. *Ex officio* members who shall include all Party Members of the Legislative Council who shall not be allowed to vote unless they are also accredited members of a constituency or affiliated organisation.

Qualification of Conference Delegates

All must accept the Party's constitution and aims. They must be *bona fide* members of their organisation, or paid officials in the case of affiliated organisations. No one to be a delegate from more than one organisation. No one shall be a delegate whose dues have not been paid up-to-date at the time of the conference.

Powers of Conference

To lay down the basic programme and policy of the Party for the ensuing year. Decisions of Conference to be binding on all members of affiliated organisations. To receive and consider the Treasurer's financial report. To elect members of the National Executive Committee: deputy chairman, one representative from each constituency, two youth representatives



(aged under 21), two women representatives and five representatives from affiliated organisations. Other members may be co-opted. *Ex officio* members shall be the Party's general secretary, treasurer, propaganda secretary, and Central Committee.

National Executive Committee

Shall carry out the policy and programme as laid down at Conference. Shall organise constituency parties and supervise their work. Shall enforce the constitution and rules of the Party and take disciplinary action (including expulsion) against members or affiliated organisations if deemed necessary. (Such action to be reported to the next annual conference to which appeals shall lie from the member(s) or organisation(s) concerned. To maintain accounts and present annual report of accounts to Conference. To approve candidates for Legislative, Municipal and Town Council elections from names submitted by constituency party committees. Meetings shall be held at least once a month and decisions taken shall be reported without delay to constituency party secretary.

Central Committee

The Central Committee of the National Executive shall consist of the Party Leader (who shall be elected from among the Labour MLC's by his Parliamentary colleagues) and 8 members chosen by him in his absolute discretion, with 4 members elected by Annual Conference. The Central Committee shall see that decisions of the National Executive are carried out, shall meet once a week, and shall supervise the organisation and administrative machinery of the Party at all levels.

Constituency Party Organisation

The Constituency Party is the basic organisation of the Party but may establish branch sub-parties where necessary or desirable. Each Constituency Party shall be administered by a Constituency Executive Committee which shall be elected annually at a general meeting of the Constituency Party. Each Constituency Party shall hold an annual conference open to all members (to be called the general meeting) as early as possible in January. The Constituency Executive, to be elected at these annual meetings, shall consist of not less than 10 elected members plus a Chairman, Secretary-Treasurer, and Propaganda Secretary, all of whom shall be selected by the National Executive and shall be known as the Officers of the Constituency Party. The Committee to meet fortnightly and a member meeting to be held at least once every month. The Committee and members shall carry out specific duties allotted by the National Executive. In addition to their basic task of propaganda and organisational work among the community in order to promote the standing of the Party and the implementation of its policy and programme.

Party Organ

There shall be a monthly paper called the *Mauritius Labour News* to be issued free of charge to paid-up members. With a constitution and organization, such as I have outlined, the Labour Party should go from strength to strength. The next step is up to Labour supporters themselves.

L'école internationale au quotidien: La vision de Séoul pour réinventer l'éducation publique



D'ici cinq à dix ans, le chef de l'éducation de Séoul souhaite que les élèves discutent régulièrement du changement climatique avec des camarades de classe en France, travaillent sur des problèmes urbains avec des pairs en Indonésie et réalisent des projets d'IA avec des élèves aux États-Unis — sans quitter leurs propres salles de classe. P - Facebook

Face aux mutations démographiques, à l'essor technologique et à la mondialisation des enjeux sociétaux, le chef de l'éducation de Séoul, Jeong Geun-sik, propose une transformation radicale du système éducatif sud-coréen. Sa vision ne consiste plus à envoyer une minorité d'élèves à l'étranger, mais à «faire entrer le monde directement dans la classe».

Dans un contexte où les salles de classe coréennes accueillent un nombre croissant d'élèves issus de l'immigration et où la baisse de la natalité exige une prise en charge personnalisée, Séoul ambitionne de façonner des citoyens globaux armés de compétences interculturelles et de pensée critique.

Un nouveau paradigme: L'internationalisation sans frontières physique

L'objectif affiché par Jeong Geun-sik d'ici cinq à dix ans est clair: permettre aux élèves de Séoul de collaborer quotidiennement avec des pairs en France sur le changement climatique, en Indonésie sur l'urbanisme, ou aux États-Unis sur l'intelligence artificielle, sans quitter leur établissement.

Cette ouverture internationale s'appuie sur quatre axes stratégiques majeurs:

- **L'apprentissage connecté:** L'expansion rapide des cours conjoints en ligne (passés de 193 écoles en 2023 à 358 en 2025) privilégie la résolution collective de problèmes complexes (IA, environnement, sciences) plutôt que le simple échange culturel superficiel.
- **La diversité comme atout pédagogique:** Les élèves issus de l'immigration — dont le nombre a augmenté de 50 % depuis 2017 pour atteindre 3,5 % de l'effectif à Séoul —

ne sont plus perçus comme une contrainte d'assimilation, mais comme une richesse interculturelle et linguistique (via des festivals bilingues ou des projets de livres multilingues).

- **Des classes à effectifs réduits:** Pour offrir un soutien sur mesure et favoriser l'intégration, le nombre d'élèves par classe est plafonné (jusqu'à 18 élèves dans les établissements où plus de 60 % des jeunes sont issus de l'immigration).
- **Vers un «Baccalauréat Coréen» (KB):** Inspiré du cadre de l'International Baccalaureate (IB), Séoul prépare la création du KB d'ici 2030, axé sur l'évaluation par dissertation et le développement de la pensée critique, prévoyant une transition progressive vers l'abolition de l'examen ultra-standardisé du Suneung d'ici 2040.

Ce que Maurice peut apprendre du modèle de Séoul

L'expérience menée à Séoul offre des enseignements précieux pour la République de Maurice, une nation insulaire, multiculturelle et résolument tournée vers l'économie de la connaissance.

Transformer le plurilinguisme mauricien en ressource pédagogique - Si Séoul s'efforce d'intégrer de nouvelles langues régionales apportées par la migration, Maurice possède déjà un patrimoine linguistique exceptionnel (Anglais, Français, Langues orientales et Créole). Le modèle coréen démontre que le multiculturalisme ne doit pas être géré comme un défi d'égalisation, mais comme un capital éducatif. Maurice pourrait structurer davantage ses projets scolaires autour de créations multimédias ou d'échanges internationaux en valorisant la flexibilité linguistique naturelle de ses élèves.

Démocratiser l'espace international via le numérique - Maurice souffre parfois de son isolement géographique. Plutôt que de réserver l'exposition internationale aux voyages d'études ou aux écoles privées coûteuses, l'Éducation Nationale mauricienne pourrait institutionnaliser des classes jumelées virtuelles. Connecter des collèges de Port-Louis ou de Rodrigues avec des classes en Afrique de l'Est, en Inde, en Europe ou en Asie du Sud-Est permettrait aux jeunes Mauriciens de développer une réelle «compétence globale» tout en restant dans leurs salles de classe.

Réformer l'évaluation pour valoriser la pensée critique - Tout comme le Suneung en Corée, le système mauricien (notamment au niveau du Primary School Achievement Certificate - PSAC ou des examens du Cambridge SC/HSC) reste très axé sur la mémorisation et la compéti-

tion académique rigide. S'inspirer de la transition coréenne vers le modèle IB/KB — avec davantage de travaux de recherche, d'essais et d'évaluations par compétences — aiderait Maurice à former des esprits plus créatifs, adaptables et prêts pour les métiers de demain.

Adapter les ratios enseignants-élèves selon les besoins réels — La politique de Séoul consistant à réduire la taille des classes dans les zones à forte diversité ou à besoins spécifiques est un modèle d'équité. À Maurice, appliquer une telle flexibilité budgétaire et humaine dans les écoles des zones défavorisées (ZEP) permettrait d'offrir un accompagnement véritablement personnalisé et de réduire le décrochage scolaire.

En somme, l'initiative de Séoul montre que la modernisation de l'éducation ne réside pas uniquement dans les infrastructures, mais dans la capacité à interconnecter les élèves avec le monde tout en adaptant l'école aux réalités humaines et sociales de son territoire.

A. Bartleby

MTUC Annual Delegates Meeting

The Annual Delegates Meeting of MTUC will be held on Thursday 29 October 2026 at 9.00 am at Moka District Council Multi-complex Hall, Dagotiere.

AGENDA

1. Approval of minutes of last ADM & matters arising.
2. Finance.
3. President's Report.
4. Report from CSTOI Representative.
5. Report from CDS Representative.
6. Report from ITUC-Africa Regional Coordinator.
7. National/ International Activities.
8. Report from Affiliates.
9. Renewal of bureau/ executive council/ youth/ women representatives (if any) & reshufflements.
10. AOB
11. Mini Workshop - 10.30 am to 11.30 am - Pension reforms/Price increases/ Road Traffic Acts amendments (by resource persons).
12. 11.30 am — 12.15 pm - Protocol Sessions with addresses by VIPS- Hon. Junior Minister of Finance & Chairman of District Council.
13. LUNCH. 1.30 pm CLOSE DOWN. Appointed delegates of compliant affiliates are invited to attend.

Adeel Moniaruch
General Secretary (MTUC)

NOTICE FOR BUILDING AND LAND USE PERMIT APPLICATION

NOTICE FOR PERMISSION FOR LAND USE

Take notice that I, **Mr MADHOWE INDRADEO**, will apply to the District Council of Flacq for a Building and Land Use Permit for the Conversion of existing residential building into a Training Institution at Railway Road Lallmatie.

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

Date: 02 October 2026

US consumers prefer weed

For the first time, more Americans now use marijuana regularly than alcohol or tobacco, reflecting a significant shift in patterns of drug consumption. A new US government report found that more than 21 million Americans used cannabis regularly in 2025, compared with 17 million who drank alcohol on most days.

The rise in marijuana use has been fuelled by

legalization across much of the country, while growing health concerns and changing attitudes toward alcohol -- particularly among Generation Z -- have contributed to declining alcohol sales. A recent Gallup survey found that the share of Americans who say they consume alcohol has fallen to its lowest level since polling began nearly 90 years ago.



Takaichi 3 hour-sleep claim sparks work reckoning

Japanese Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi's claim that she sleeps three hours or less each night has reignited debate over Japan's work culture. An opposition lawmaker compared severe sleep deprivation to "being intoxicated" and argued it could impair judgment during a crisis, while others said the remarks reinforced the country's demanding corporate culture. Tokyo introduced a four-day workweek last year in an effort to reduce record levels of *karōshi*, or death from overwork.



Although Takaichi has pledged to accelerate economic growth, analysts argue that Japan's challenge lies less in the number of hours worked than in stagnant productivity, which has shown little improvement since 2000. In February, Germany's chancellor also urged citizens to work harder, saying a four-day workweek would not sustain the country's current level of prosperity.

* * *

AI in politics is underrated

Analysts believe AI may be one of the most underestimated issues in politics. While it currently ranks low among US voters' priorities, apart from local opposition to data centres, growing concerns over jobs and the economy are increasingly linked to expectations of AI-driven disruption. Political observers believe artificial intelligence could become a major campaign issue by the 2028 elections.

Debate continues over AI's impact on employment, with business leaders and policymakers proposing measures to ease the transition. Elon Musk and OpenAI CEO Sam Altman have suggested that universal basic income may eventually become necessary, while Anthropic CEO Dario Amodei has advocated wage insurance, training grants and, ultimately, UBI.



Central Electricity Board (CEB)

COMMUNIQUE

Hausse des Prix du Fioul Lourd et Impact sur les Coûts de Production de l'Électricité

Le **Central Electricity Board (CEB)** informe ses abonnés et le public qu'il suit avec une attention particulière l'évolution des prix des produits pétroliers sur le marché international.

Depuis le début de l'année, les marchés énergétiques internationaux connaissent une forte volatilité, marquée notamment par une hausse significative des cours du pétrole ainsi que par des tensions affectant les conditions d'approvisionnement. Cette situation exerce une pression croissante sur le coût du fioul lourd utilisé pour la production d'électricité.

Le CEB, dont une part importante de la production d'électricité repose sur le fioul lourd importé, est directement exposé à ces fluctuations. Entre janvier et septembre 2026, le prix CIF du HFO 180 cSt est passé de USD 405,34 à USD 638,54 la tonne métrique, soit une hausse de 57,5 %. Sur la même période, le prix CIF du HFO 380 cSt est passé de USD 402,64 à USD 633,65 la tonne métrique, représentant une hausse de 57,4 %.

Cette évolution a des répercussions importantes sur les coûts de production de l'électricité du CEB. De janvier à septembre 2026, les dépenses consacrées à l'achat de fioul lourd se sont élevées à environ Rs 6,87 milliards, contre Rs 5,88 milliards pour la période correspondante en 2025. Cela représente une augmentation d'environ Rs 994 millions.

Compte tenu de l'évolution actuelle du marché international et des conditions d'approvisionnement, les prix du fioul lourd pourraient connaître de nouvelles hausses au cours des prochaines semaines. Cette situation va aggraver l'écart entre le coût réel de fourniture de l'électricité et les tarifs actuellement appliqués aux consommateurs.

Le CEB suit attentivement la situation et poursuit ses efforts en vue d'une gestion rigoureuse de ses coûts, tout en veillant à assurer la sécurité, la fiabilité et la continuité de l'approvisionnement en électricité à travers le pays.

Dans ce contexte, le CEB rappelle également l'importance de maintenir les efforts en matière d'économie d'énergie et de faire un usage judicieux de l'électricité. Cette démarche revêt une importance particulière à l'approche de la saison estivale, durant laquelle une augmentation de la demande d'électricité est attendue.

Le CEB remercie ses clients et le public pour leur compréhension et leur collaboration.

La Direction
30 septembre 2026

Cave discovery suggests Neanderthals and modern humans may have shared culture

Neanderthals and modern humans may have shared more than territory, tools and genes. They may also have exchanged cultural ideas, according to new evidence from a cave in southern Türkiye.

The discovery at Üçağızlı II Cave was made by an international research team involving scientists from Türkiye, France, Japan and Kyoto University. The excavations, carried out over five years, indicate that Neanderthals and modern humans occupied the site at different times over a period exceeding 20,000 years.

The cave lies close to the Levant, one of the most important migration corridors between Africa and Eurasia. This region was a potential meeting point between Homo sapiens moving out of Africa and Neanderthal populations living farther north.

Researchers found that both groups produced similar stone tools and adapted to the same environ-



ment. But it was the discovery of marine shells that may provide the most intriguing evidence of cultural interaction.

Both populations deliberately collected the same type of shell despite the fact that it offered virtually no nutritional value. The shells may have been worn, displayed or exchanged, although their precise purpose remains uncertain.

Naoki Morimoto of Kyoto University, the study's corresponding author, says the findings point towards a deeper level of cultural interaction. The evidence raises the

possibility that Neanderthals and modern humans shared symbolic preferences or that cultural practices spread between the two populations.

The cave also yielded modern human fossils dating to approximately 50,000–60,000 years ago, a crucial period in the expansion of Homo sapiens beyond Africa.

The discovery adds another dimension to our understanding of Neanderthals. Their encounters with modern humans were not necessarily limited to competition or interbreeding. They may also have involved observation, learning and cultural exchange.

Üçağızlı II Cave therefore offers a glimpse into a prehistoric world in which different human populations may have influenced one another — and suggests that symbolic culture may have crossed the boundaries between them.

Rewiring the mind in seven days: Meditation's fast biological impact

Just seven days of intensive meditation can trigger measurable, whole-body biological changes, according to a recent study from the University of California San Diego published in *Communications Biology*. Researchers discovered that a week-long residential program produced striking shifts in brain connectivity, immune activity, cellular metabolism, and natural pain relief systems.

The multi-disciplinary study evaluated 20 healthy adults who underwent an immersive seven-day retreat led by Dr Joe Dispenza, featuring 33 hours of guided meditation, educational lectures, and open-label placebo healing practices. By analyzing participants' brain activity via functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) alongside blood samples collected before and after the retreat, scientists documented rapid physiological adaptation.



Laboratory tests showed that neurons exposed to post-retreat blood plasma developed longer branches and formed more connections, indicating elevated neuroplasticity—the brain's ability to adapt and rewire. Metabolic activity in cells shifted toward energy-efficient glycolysis, while endogenous opioids (the body's natural painkillers) increased significantly. Immune signaling also underwent complex adaptive responses, and brain regions responsible for internal mental chatter showed quieter, more efficient processing.

Strikingly, fMRI scans revealed brain connectivity patterns similar to those induced by psilocybin, suggesting that deep altered states and mystical experiences can be achieved without psychedelic drugs. Participants reported significant increases on the Mystical Experience Questionnaire (MEQ-30), with higher scores correlating directly with greater cross-network brain integration.

"We're seeing the same mystical experiences and neural connectivity patterns that typically require psilocybin, now achieved through meditation practice alone," explained senior author Dr. Hemal H. Patel, professor of anesthesiology at UC San Diego School of Medicine. "This isn't about just stress relief or relaxation; this is about fundamentally changing how the brain engages with reality and quantifying these changes biologically."

First author Alex Jinich-Diamant, a doctoral student at UC San Diego, added that the findings demonstrate how attention and conscious practice leave "measurable fingerprints on our biology," paving the way for non-drug interventions in chronic pain and mental health.



The Science of Sleepwalking: Why We Speak in Our Sleep

Have you ever been told you were muttering nonsense in the middle of the night, or overheard a roommate carrying on a full conversation with an invisible companion? If so, you are in good company. More than two-thirds of people experience somniloquy, or sleepwalking, at least once in their lives. While it can seem bizarre — and occasionally hilarious — sleep psychologists view it as a fascinating window into how our brains navigate the complex world of sleep.

What happens to the brain during sleep?

Sleep is not a uniform state where the brain simply powers off. Instead, a typical night consists of repeating 90-minute cycles divided into distinct stages, collectively known as our sleep architecture:

Non-REM Sleep: Making up 75% to 80% of our night, non-REM sleep includes the deep, slow-wave stages where the body throttles down, repairs tissue, strengthens immunity, and consolidates memories.

REM (Rapid Eye Movement) Sleep: Comprising roughly a quarter of our night, REM is the stage where most vivid dreams occur.

Different parts of the brain are active at different points throughout these stages. Scientists believe sleepwalking occurs because the brain does not fall asleep all at once.



When the language and speech centers remain active while the mechanisms meant to keep your body still and quiet fall asleep, spoken words slip out.

What are sleepwalkers actually saying?

Contrary to popular belief, sleepwalking rarely involves clear, secret-revealing confessions. Most of the time, somniloquy consists of simple mumbles, laughs, whispers, or emotional outbursts.

The Most Common Word: The single most frequently uttered word in sleep studies is "no," accounting for roughly 5% of all spoken sleep words.

Tone and Structure: Sleepwalkers often sound argumentative or defensive, infrequently using polite language. They may speak in questions or pause during a monologue to allow an imaginary participant to reply.

Dream Alignment: When sleep-

talking occurs during REM sleep, what the person says out loud matches their actual dream content about 80% of the time.

Interestingly, about half the time, a sleepwalker will respond if you speak to them. However, researchers emphasize that you cannot use this to extract hidden truths — there is no scientific evidence that people reveal secrets in their sleep.

Who talks in their sleep and why?

Sleepwalking is classified as a parasomnia — an unexpected physical or mental event during sleep. It can occur across any sleep stage and is particularly common in children. Young people have a higher proportion of slow-wave non-REM sleep, which naturally decreases as we age, likely explaining why adult sleepwalking is less frequent.

While generally harmless, studies reveal that frequent sleepwalkers often experience subtle differences in sleep quality, averaging roughly 1.5 hours less sleep per night and significantly less REM sleep than non-sleepwalkers.

Ultimately, sleepwalking is completely normal and rarely a cause for concern. However, because parasomnias are frequently triggered or intensified by sleep deprivation, muttering in the night is often your body's subtle way of telling you to catch up on some well-deserved rest.

Laughter is the Best Medicine Perspective

At the scene of an accident, a man was crying, "Oh, God! I have lost my hand!"

Sardar: Control yourself. Don't cry. Look at that man over there -- he has lost his head. Is he crying?

False Advertising

Sardar: You cheated me!

Shopkeeper: No, I sold you a good radio.

Sardar: The label says "Made in Japan", but the radio keeps saying, "This is All India Radio!"

Museum Tour

Tourist: Whose skeleton is that?

Sardar: That is an old king's skeleton.

Tourist: And who is that smaller skeleton next to it?

Sardar: That was the same king's skeleton when he was a child!

Vintage Animal

Teacher: Which is the oldest animal in the world?

Sardar: Zebra!

Teacher: How?

Sardar: Because it's black and white!

Finding the Location

A Sardarji attends an interview at a software company.

Manager: Do you know MS Office?

Sardar: If you give me the address, Sir, I will go there.

Quick Trip

A Sardarji called the airport.

Sardarji: How long is the flight from India to America?



Agent: One second, Sir...

Sardarji: Thanks!

(He hangs up.)

ATM Security

Jandhar Singh laughs behind Mandhar Singh at an ATM counter.

Jandhar: Haha! I saw your password!

Mandhar: What is it then?

Jandhar: It's four stars (****)!

Mandhar: Haha, wrong! It's 3384!

The Real Mystery

Teacher: How does a chick come out of an egg?

Sardarji: Oh, that's not a big question, Madam. The real question is: how did the chick get inside the egg in the first place?

Past Tense

Friend: Sardarji, how was your exam?

Sardarji: It was OK, but I couldn't remember the past tense of "THINK". I thought and thought and thought... and finally wrote "THUNK"!

Local History

Tourist (from USA): Was any great man born in this village?

Sardarji: No, Sir, only small babies!

Outsmarting the Wildlife

A Sardarji was driving a jeep in a jungle.

Tourist: If a lion comes at us, how can we escape?

Sardarji: Simple! Turn on the RIGHT indicator and turn LEFT!

Match Night

Sardar: Doctor, in my dreams, rats play football every night!

Doctor: OK, no problem. Take these

tablets starting tonight.

Sardarji: Can I start tomorrow instead?

Doctor: Why?

Sardarji: Because tonight is the FINAL match!

A Lot of Faith

A journalist visits a priest in a very secluded town.

Journalist: "Father, this place is so secluded, and there seems to be nothing to do here. How do you pass the time?"

Priest: "A lot of coffee and a whole lot of Faith."

Journalist: "Wow! That's all it takes to keep you from getting bored?"

Priest: "Oh, yes. My Faith keeps me very busy. By the way, would you like some coffee?"

Journalist: "Yes, please."

Priest: "Faith, can you bring us two cups of coffee?"

The Dinner Disaster

A woman goes to her boyfriend's parents' house for dinner. It's her first time meeting the family, and she's so nervous you'd think she were meeting royalty.

They sit down to a wonderful meal of roast chicken, mashed potatoes and green beans. Everything is going perfectly. His mother is polite, his father is friendly, and her boyfriend hasn't embarrassed her yet.

Just as she starts to relax, she feels a little rumble in her stomach.

No big deal, she thinks. Probably just nerves.

But then it happens again, louder this time.

She panics. *Oh no! Not here. Not during my first dinner with his parents!*

She crosses her legs, changes position and does everything she can to keep quiet. Nothing helps.

Then the family dog walks under the table.

Perfect! she thinks. Thank you, furry little hero.

She quietly lets out a tiny toot.

Pfffft!

The sound is small, but the smell is powerful.

The father wrinkles his nose.

Dad: "Rex! Get out from under the table!"

The woman smiles awkwardly, relieved that the blame has landed on the dog.

A few minutes later, her stomach rumbles again. She shifts slightly and lets out another little toot.

Pfffft!

Dad: "Rex! Go lie down!"

The dog looks up as if to say, *It wasn't me!*

Now the woman is sweating and praying for dessert — or a meteor strike — whichever ends dinner first.

Then disaster strikes.

BRRRRRT!

The entire table goes silent.

The father jumps up.

Dad: "REX! Get out of here before you clear the whole room!"

The woman, bright red with embarrassment, quickly joins in.

Woman: "Yeah, bad dog! What has he been eating?!"

Her boyfriend leans over and whispers:

Boyfriend: "We don't even have a dog."

The woman freezes.

The father looks around in confusion.

Dad: "Wait... then who's Rex?"

Everyone goes silent.

The woman nervously grabs her



purse.

Woman: "Well, this has been lovely. I think I left my car running... in another state."

She rushes out the door, taking what remains of her dignity with her.

Later, her boyfriend calls.

Boyfriend: "Hey... Mom loved you. She said you were the most down-to-earth girl I've ever dated."

Woman: "Really?"

Boyfriend: "Yeah. Dad said you left an impression too."

Woman: "Oh? What kind?"

Boyfriend: "Let's just say the dining room still has a little bit of your... presence."

Moral: *If you're meeting the family for the first time, maybe eat light — or bring your own dog!*

Inspiration

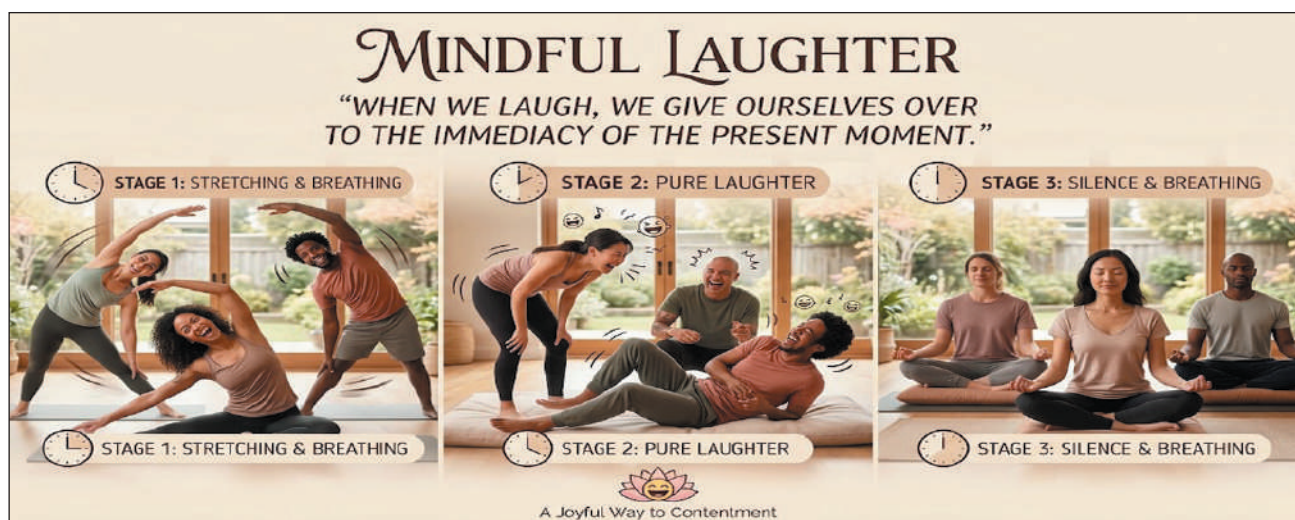
Mindful Laughter

"When we laugh, we give ourselves over to the immediacy of the present moment."

Many people might be surprised to think of laughter as a form of meditation. Yet not only is laughing meditation one of the simplest forms of meditation; it also is a very powerful one. The physical act of laughing is one of the few actions involving the body, emotions, and the soul. When we laugh, we give ourselves over to the immediacy of the present moment. We also are able to momentarily transcend minor physical and mental stresses. Practiced in the morning, laughing meditation can lend a joyful quality to the entire day. Practiced in the evening, laughing meditation is a potent relaxant that has been known to inspire pleasant dreams. Laughter helps open our eyes to previously unnoticed absurdities that can make life seem less serious.

There are three stages to mindful laughter, with each stage lasting anywhere from five to 20 minutes:

1. The First Stage: Involves stretching your body like a cat and breathing deeply. Your stretch should start at the hands and feet before you move through the rest of



your body. Stretch out the muscles in your face by yawning and making silly faces.

2. The Second Stage: Pure laughter. Imagine a humorous situation, remember funny jokes, or think about how odd it is to be laughing by yourself. When the giggles start to rise, let them. Let the laughter ripple through your belly and down into the soles of your feet. Let the laughter lead to physical movement -- roll on the floor if you have to -- and keep on laughing until you stop.

3. The Final Stage: One of silence. Sit with your eyes closed and focus on your breath.

Laughter brings a host of positive effects that operate on both the physical and mental levels. It is also fun, expressive, and a wonderful way to release tension. Learn to laugh in the present moment, and you'll find that joy is always there.

Daily Om



A Thought to Treasure: In our endless race for wealth, success and comfort, we often forget the true "tools" of life -- honesty, hard work, gratitude and contentment. When these qualities remain intact, even broken tools can accomplish remarkable things. But when they are missing, no amount of wealth can fix the leaks within us.

Life's Lessons

The Right Tools for Life

The kitchen tap was leaking again. With a sigh, I called a plumber.

A few minutes later, a middle-aged man walked in -- calm and steady, carrying a faded toolkit.

I watched him at work. He pulled out a wrench, but the handle was cracked.

"How will he fix anything with that?" I wondered silently.

He didn't seem bothered. With quiet focus, he began loosening the pipe. A rusted section needed to be cut off, so he reached into his bag and pulled out a small saw -- half of it was missing!

Now I was convinced I had called the wrong man for the job.

But within ten minutes, the leak was gone. The tap was shining, and not a single drop of water escaped.

When I handed him Rs 200, he shook his head.

"No, Madam. Half of this is enough."

I stared at him in surprise. "Who refuses extra money these days?"

He smiled -- a calm, grounded smile.

"Madam, every job has a fair value. If I take more today, I'll expect more tomorrow. And when that doesn't come, I'll be unhappy. So I prefer to take only what is fair. It

keeps me content."

I nodded slowly.

"At least buy yourself a new wrench and saw. They'll make your work easier."

He chuckled softly.

"Ah, Madam... tools are meant to wear out. That's their destiny. But even when they are chipped or cracked, they can still do their job. Just like senior people -- a few scars don't make us useless."

He paused, then added:

"When you write in your office, does it matter which pen you use? Expensive or ordinary, if you know how to write, you'll write well with anything. But if you don't know how to write, even the costliest pen won't help. The skill lies in the hands, not in the tool."

I stood there speechless. His words sank deep.

The quiet satisfaction on his weathered face was something rare -- something money cannot buy.

A Thought to Treasure

In our endless race for wealth, success and comfort, we often forget the true "tools" of life -- honesty, hard work, gratitude and contentment.

When these qualities remain intact, even broken tools can accomplish remarkable things.

But when they are missing, no amount of wealth can fix the leaks within us.

The Short Story

Forgiveness drops your burden

An old man, sensing his time on Earth was drawing to a close, wanted to teach his impatient grandson a lesson about emotional baggage. He handed the boy an empty wooden box and a bag full of heavy, jagged stones.

"Every time you feel offended, angry, or hold a grudge against someone this week, I want you to find a stone, write what happened on it, and place it in this box," the grandfather instructed.

By the end of the week, the box was heavy, awkward, and difficult to carry. The grandson complained about how exhausting it was to haul around.

Growth requires an empty cup

An eager young student visited a wise old philosopher, hoping to learn all the secrets of wisdom, success, and peace. He talked rapidly, explaining all his theories and what he already knew.

Instead of answering, the philosopher placed an empty teacup on the



The grandfather nodded and said, "That is what holding onto bitterness feels like every single day. The person who hurt you has moved on, yet you are the one carrying the heavy box."

The Lesson: Forgiveness and letting go aren't about letting someone else off the hook; they are about dropping your own heavy burden so you can move forward.

table and began pouring tea into it. The cup filled to the brim, but the philosopher kept pouring. Tea spilled over the rim, running across the table and onto the floor.

Horried, the student shouted, "Stop! The cup is full! No more will go in!"

The philosopher stopped pouring, looked at the student calmly, and said, "Like this cup, your mind is so full of your own opinions, past programming, and anxieties that there is no room for anything new. Empty your cup first."

The Lesson: True growth requires the humility to unlearn old habits and clear space for transformation.



Men, Women and the Complexities of Relationships

Intimacy and attraction are about more than appearance, technique or performance. Trust, communication, affection, confidence and mutual respect all play an important role in building meaningful relationships.

What Many Men Value in Intimacy

Men, like women, may sometimes find it difficult to express their emotional needs. Feeling wanted, appreciated and accepted can strengthen both confidence and emotional connection.

Intimacy is easier when both partners feel comfortable being themselves, without pressure to perform or meet unrealistic expectations. Open communication about preferences, boundaries and feelings can prevent misunderstandings and strengthen trust.

Affection also extends beyond the bedroom. A warm conversation, thoughtful gesture, touch, shared laugh or simply spending time together can contribute to closeness.

Ultimately, good intimacy is less about following a formula and more about paying attention to the person beside you.



Men, Women and Relationships. Pic - Pinterest

Possible Signs of Romantic Interest

Attraction is rarely communicated through one unmistakable signal, and body language can easily be misunderstood. Some behaviours may suggest interest, including maintaining eye contact, enjoying your company, laughing easily, asking personal questions, remembering details, initiating conversations, giving personal compliments, sharing personal experiences and appearing relaxed around you.

Other possible signs include playful teasing, giving you full attention, discussing relationships, mirroring your behaviour and being comfortable with silence.

None of these signs, however, is definite proof of attraction. Clear and respectful communication remains the best way to understand what another person actually feels.

When Emotional Boundaries Begin to Shift

People in committed relationships can some-

times develop attractions or emotional connections outside their relationship. A passing attraction is not necessarily evidence of betrayal; what matters is how a person responds to it.

Concern may arise when an attraction develops into secrecy, emotional dependence, deception or behaviour that violates the couple's understanding of fidelity. Becoming emotionally distant from one's partner, increased secrecy around messages or social media, or repeatedly comparing one's partner with another person may also signal that emotional boundaries are becoming less clear.

Honesty and communication are generally more constructive than relying on assumptions or interpreting every gesture.

Five Quiet Qualities That Can Make a Man Attractive

Attractiveness is not simply about appearance, money or status. Personality, confidence and the way a person treats others also matter.

A man who is comfortable with silence, pays attention, listens carefully and does not constantly feel the need to prove himself can project confidence. The ability to say no respectfully demonstrates self-respect and maturity, while having a sense of purpose can reflect confidence and stability.

True attractiveness is less about perfection and more about being comfortable with who you are while respecting and appreciating others.

Age-Gap Relationships

Age-gap relationships can work well, just as relationships between people of similar ages can face difficulties. What matters is compatibility in expectations, priorities and plans for the future.

Differences in life experience may affect decision-making, while couples at different stages of life may face questions about children, careers, retirement, finances and family responsibilities.

Social circles and previous relationships can also influence the relationship. If children are involved, their needs and wellbeing should naturally be considered.

Age alone does not determine the quality of a relationship. Compatibility, communication, respect and trust matter considerably more.

Approaching Someone You Find Attractive

Flirting is not about "winning" someone. It is about showing interest and discovering whether that interest is mutual.

Natural eye contact, a smile, light humour and genuine compliments can help create a relaxed interaction. Listening, showing interest in the other person's opinions and respecting personal space are equally important.

There is no need to create jealousy, manipulate emotions or play games. Physical contact should never be assumed, and boundaries must always be respected.

Most importantly, attraction has to be mutual. If the other person is interested, allow the connection to develop naturally. If not, accept the response gracefully.

The aim is not to "win" someone, but to discover whether two people genuinely enjoy each other's company.

Health & Life's Hacks

The "10-Minute Post-Meal Walk": Blunting Glucose Spikes

Consuming meals rich in carbohydrates leads to rapid increases in blood glucose, prompting the pancreas to secrete high levels of insulin. Over time, frequent insulin spikes can contribute to energy crashes, systemic inflammation, and metabolic fatigue. Studies in exercise physiology demonstrate that taking a brisk 10-minute walk within 30 minutes of eating significantly flattens these glucose spikes. When your skeletal muscles contract during walking, they absorb glucose directly from the bloodstream for energy — independently of insulin. This simple habit smooths out your blood sugar curve, preventing afternoon slumps and supporting long-term metabolic health.



* * *

Morning Sun & Evening Darkness: Master Your Circadian Clock

Your body's internal 24-hour clock is governed by intrinsically photosensitive retinal ganglion cells (ipRGCs) in your eyes. Getting 10 to 15 minutes of natural sunlight within an hour of waking up stimulates these cells to release cortisol (for daytime alertness) and sets a timer for melatonin production later that night. Conversely, exposure to artificial blue light from screens (wavelengths around 450–480 nm) within two hours of bedtime tricks your ipRGCs into thinking it is daytime, suppressing nocturnal melatonin release by up to 50%. Dimming lights and avoiding screens before sleep preserves melatonin, allowing for deeper, more restorative REM and slow-wave sleep cycles.

* * *

The "Physiological Sigh": Immediate Stress Relief in Seconds

When you experience sudden stress or anxiety, your lungs' tiny air sacs (alveoli) collapse, causing carbon dioxide (CO₂) to build up in your bloodstream. This triggers your sympathetic nervous system's fight-or-flight response. To reverse this state instantly, use the Physiological Sigh — a technique studied by neuroscientists at Stanford University. Take two quick inhales through your nose (one deep inhale followed immediately by a short top-off inhale), then execute a long, slow exhale through your mouth. The double inhale reinflates the alveoli, while the extended exhale slows your heart rate via the vagus nerve and activates the parasympathetic "rest-and-digest" response, lowering stress within two to three breaths.

* * *

The "Spacing Effect": Maximizing Long-Term Knowledge

If you want to master a new skill or retain complex information, cramming is one of the most inefficient methods available. Cognitive psychology highlights the Spacing Effect, which proves that information is far better retained when learning sessions are distributed over time rather than concentrated into a single block. Each time you start to forget information and then force your brain to retrieve it, neural pathways are strengthened through a process called synaptic plasticity. Spacing your review sessions across increasing intervals (e.g., 1 day, 3 days, 1 week) shifts information from short-term memory to permanent long-term storage with significantly less total effort.

BollyBytes

Beyond Martin and Chander: The Constant Reinvention of Vikrant Massey

In an industry where actors often settle into proven formulas, National Award winner Vikrant Massey continues to forge a path defined by reinvention. Over the course of a single month, Massey showcased his artistic dynamic by stepping into two vastly different worlds: as the intense, deeply introspective Martin in *Pritam Pedro*, and as the warm, relatable Chander in *Musafir Café*. Rather than allowing success to fix him into a comfortable archetype, Massey's recent work demonstrates an actor actively pushing the boundaries of his craft.

Intense Realism vs. Natural Romance

What makes Massey's trajectory particularly compelling is the stark contrast between his roles — and how seamlessly he transitions between them without relying on artificial performance tropes.

- **Martin (*Pritam Pedro*):** Embracing a performance driven by emotional restraint, subtlety, and internal conflict, Massey relies on micro-expressions to convey depth. His portrayal grounds the character in stark realism, demonstrating an ability to let silent moments carry as much weight as dialogue.

- **Chander (*Musafir Café*):** Shifting gears entirely, Massey brings a gentle warmth, vulnerability, and intimate romantic charm to the screen. His performance feels effortlessly lived-in, proving that his emotional



resonance works as naturally in lighter, affectionate narratives as it does in heavy dramatic territory.

Stepping Behind the Lens

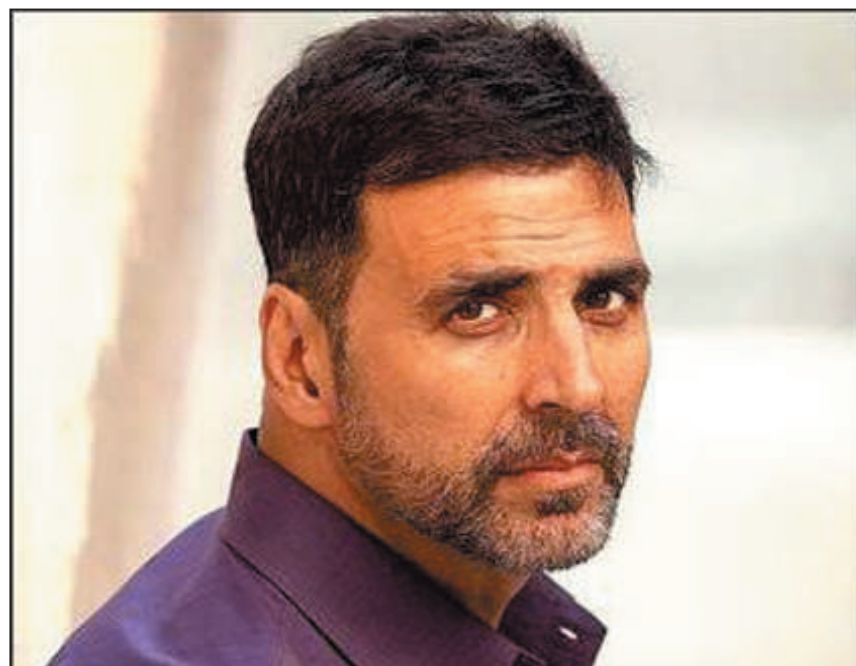
Massey's artistic growth isn't limited to his on-screen roles. He is expanding his influence in Indian cinema by taking on broader creative responsibility as a producer. Through his banner, Homemade Stories, Massey's involvement in projects like *Musafir Café* marks a pivotal shift toward telling deeply personal, intent-driven stories. By taking direct ownership of the development process, he is building a platform to support nuanced storytelling from the ground up.

A Major Biographical Challenge

The trajectory of constant transformation shows no sign of slowing down. In his upcoming venture, Massey is set to headline **White**, a biographical film centered on the life of spiritual leader Sri Sri Ravi Shankar.

Transitioning from fictional dramatic roles to portraying a real-world spiritual figure presents a fresh set of challenges. It demands a deliberate shift in posture, vocal modulation, and philosophical understanding. Yet for an actor whose career is built on curiosity rather than comfort, it marks another natural step in an ever-evolving journey.

The Making of Bollywood's Khiladi: Akshay Kumar Turns 59



As Akshay Kumar marks his 59th birthday on September 9, 2026, he stands as one of Indian cinema's most resilient and versatile icons. Across a career spanning over three decades, the actor — born Rajiv Hari Om Bhatia — has continually redefined his craft, evolving from a martial arts stuntman into a comedic powerhouse, dramatic actor, and box-office force.

From Bangkok Waiter to Action Pioneer

Akshay Kumar's journey to stardom was anything but direct. Starting from modest beginnings, he worked a variety of odd jobs before entering the film industry, including a stint as a

waiter and dishwasher in Bangkok while training in martial arts. Modelling eventually opened the door to acting, leading to his feature debut in *Saugandh* (1991).

His major turning point arrived in 1992 with *Khiladi*, a breakout success that granted him the enduring screen persona of Bollywood's "Khiladi." Combining real-world martial arts discipline with daring stunts, he established himself as Hindi cinema's premier action star throughout the 1990s.

Reinvention Across Genres

Refusing to be typecast, Akshay engineered a series of artistic pivots in the 2000s:

- **Comedy:** His role as Raju in *Hera Pheri* unlocked a natural talent for comedic timing, followed by hits like *Bhool Bhulaiyaa*.

- **Socially Driven Cinema:** He expanded into message-led stories like *Special 26*, *Pad Man*, *Toilet: Ek Prem Katha*, *Gold*, *Kesari*, and *Mission Mangal*.

- **Critical Acclaim:** Nuanced performances in *Airlift* and *Rustom* earned him national recognition, including the National Film Award for Best Actor.

Business Empire and Personal Discipline

Beyond acting, Akshay has built a business footprint estimated at ₹2,500 crore, driven by film production, endorsements, equity investments, and real estate. His portfolio includes a luxury Juhu duplex, properties in Canada, a beachside bungalow in Mauritius, and a Portuguese-style villa in Goa, alongside a fleet featuring a Rolls-Royce Phantom and Porsche Cayenne.

Off-screen, his longevity stems from strict personal discipline: early morning routines, consistent martial arts and yoga practice, and controlled eating habits.

Entering his 59th year, Akshay takes on another ambitious turn in Priyadarshan's *Haiwaan* (releasing September 11, 2026), starring as a ruthless antagonist opposite Saif Ali Khan. From action star to dark villain, his career remains a masterclass in constant reinvention.



Queens in Khaki: Bollywood's New Cop Era

Female-led police dramas have become a major draw across Indian cinema and streaming platforms in 2026. Moving past secondary roles or decorative appearances, leading actresses are taking on complex, authoritative roles in uniform that command both critical acclaim and box-office returns.

Kareena Kapoor leads this wave in *Daayra* as DCP Ajooni Kohli, navigating a morally complex investigation into a controversial encounter. Following her performance in *The Buckingham Murders*, the role continues her focus on grounded procedural dramas. Similarly, Rani Mukerji's *Mardaani* franchise continues to set a benchmark for female-driven action, focusing on intense police work over traditional commercial tropes.

Tabu's role as IG Meera Deshmukh in the *Drishyam* series remains a central driving force behind the franchise's commercial success, demonstrating how antagonist-leaning authority roles can elevate a narrative. On streaming, Bhumi Pednekar tackles psychological drama in *Daldal* as Mumbai's youngest female Crime Branch head. Alongside upcoming projects featuring Fatima Sana Shaikh, these portrayals reflect a steady industry pivot toward complex female protagonists in uniform.



Vendredi 2 Octobre -20.30



Samedi 3 Octobre - 20.20



Dimanche 4 Octobre - 20.20



Programme TV



SERIAL



vendredi 2 octobre

MBC 1

06.15 Serial: Séparé Par L'Amour
07.03 L'homme Qui Valait Trois...
08.34 Tele: Terre D'Esperance
09.00 L'Amour N'a Pas De Recette
09.30 Film: Missing
11.35 Tele: Happily Ever After
12.00 Le Journal
12.35 Tele: Rosalinda
13.20 Tele: Lying Heart
13.45 Une Famille Pas Si Parfaite
14.10 Tele: Eclats De Vie
15.00 Live: Samachar
15.30 Tele: Love Of My Life
17.00 Doc: China Farm
17.30 Tele: Happily Ever After
18.00 Samachar
18.30 Serial: Shiv Shakti
19.30 Le Journal
20.14 Zero Stress Avek Miselaine
20.30 Film: Potins De Femmes
22.20 Tele: Rosalinda

MBC 2

11.30 Local: Glwar Dantan
13.11 La Journee Sous Le Regard
14.10 Local: Nou Later Nou Lamer
14.40 Local: Les Grandes Lignes
15.18 Entrepreneuriat Au Feminin
17.01 Local: La Sosiete
19.30 Local: Parlons Sante Senior
19.45 Local: Evasion
20.15 Local: Sekirite Lor Larout
21.45 Local: La Sosiete
22.11 Local: Utilisation Inquietante
23.36 La Journee Sous Le Regard
23.16 Zournal Kreol
23.41 Entrepreneuriat Au Feminin
00.50 Local: Metie
01.03 Local: Saveurs Plus
01.29 Les Grandes Lignes
01.59 Local: Parlons Sante Senior
02.12 Local: Evasion
02.24 Local: Sekirite Lor Larout

MBC 3

05.00 Mag: Aastha TV
08.00 Local: Amrit Vani
09.00 Aaj Ki Charcha
10.14 Na Umra Ki Seema Ho
11.32 Serial: Shiv Shakti
12.00 Film: Swarg Narak
15.00 Live: Samachar
15.20 Sayings Radha Krishna
15.48 Dil Ko Tumse Pyaar Hua
16.03 Aaj Ki Charcha
17.30 Serial: Shiv Shakti
18.00 Samachar
18.31 Local: Mati Ke Mol
18.57 Geeta Gawai Ke Naya Pehaloo
19.56 Khel Khiladi
20.30 Tenali Rama
21.12 Beyhadh 2
21.33 Shrimad Ramayan
21.57 Wagle Ki Duniya
22.18 Mag: Nayi Sahar
22.43 Local: Mati Ke Mol

MBC 5

06.40 Mag: Asia 2050
07.21 Mag: Tomorrow Today
08.29 Doc: Our Memory
10.51 Doc: Urban Foraging
11.21 Mag: Eco India
11.59 Mag: Asia 2050
12.42 Mag: Tomorrow Today
14.37 Mag: Travel
15.00 Piper's Pony Tales
15.10 D.Anime: Berry And Dolly
17.24 D.Anime: Action Kidz
17.33 Mag: Eco India
18.30 Doc: Greatest Love Stories
19.00 Student Support Programme
19.28 Mag: Euromaxx
20.01 Tele: Terre D'Esperance
20.30 News
20.50 Tele: Eclats De Vie
21.35 Doc: Food Up!
21.41 Doc: Panoramas
22.34 Doc: Ways Of Hate

MBC 4

14.25 Serial: Radha Mohan
14.55 Serial: Tenali Rama
15.27 Film: Gandhi, My Father
Cast: Dinkar Joshi, Chandulal Dalal, Neelamben Parikh
18.00 Samachar
18.30 Uдне Ki Aasha
19.00 Do Chutki Sindoor
19.32 Pandya Store
20.01 Mannat - Har Khushi Paane Ki
20.30 Saavi Ki Savaari
20.55 Anupamaa
21.30 Pyaar Ka Pehla Adhyaya
21.57 Serial: Dhruv Tara
22.30 Wagle Ki Duniya
23.00 Serial: Aladdin
23.30 Film: Gandhi, My Father
Cast: Dinkar Joshi, Chandulal Dalal, Neelamben Parikh

samedi 3 octobre

06.16 Tele: Terre D'Esperance
06.40 Serial: La Brea
07.25 Serial: L'Incroyable Hulk
08.15 Serial: New Amsterdam
09.10 Serial: L'Homme Qui Valait Trois Millions
09.50 Serial: Nautilus
10.50 Serial: Heartland
11.32 Tele: Terre D'Esperance
12.00 Le Journal
12.30 Serial: Asintado
14.52 Doc: Quotes By Famous...
15.00 Live: Samachar
15.20 Doc: Japan Video Topics
15.30 Film: Potins De Femmes
18.00 Live: Samachar
18.31 Dance Deewane Juniors
19.30 Le Journal
20.20 Film: Bad Boys
22.12 Serial: L'Incroyable Hulk
23.47 Le Journal
00.22 Quotes By Famous People

06.00 Local: Mon Jardin Ma Maison
06.25 Local: Tous Egaux
06.45 Local: Point Culture
07.40 Local: Les Grandes Lignes
08.15 Local: Parlons Sante Senior
09.00 Local: La Sosiete
12.15 Mon Jardin Ma Maison
12.50 Local: Les Grandes Lignes
13.25 Local: Parlons Sante Senior
13.38 Local: Evasion
13.50 Local: Sekirite Lor Larout
15.10 Local: Point Culture
15.21 Local: Tous Egaux
16.10 Local: Eclairage
19.00 Journal Kreol
19.20 Zero Stress Avek Miselaine
19.45 Local: Metie
20.15 Local: Les Petits Genies
20.45 Local: Music Tour 2026
21.40 Local: En Toute Intimite
22.06 Celebrons La Fete De La...
23.00 Journal Kreol

05.00 Mag: Aastha TV
08.26 Local: Abhyas Yog
09.00 Aaj Ki Charcha
10.00 Bade Acche Lagte Hai 2
12.00 Dikri Vahalno Dariyo
12.30 Local: Mati Ke Mol
14.00 Mere Dad Ki Dulhan
15.20 Film: Daddy Cool
18.00 Live: Samachar
18.31 Puranya Pakwan
18.57 Local: Sangeet Sarita
19.42 Duniya Mein Iss Saptah
19.57 Local: Bhojpuri Geet
20.59 Film: Bhoot
Cast: Ajay Devgn, Urmila Matondkar, Nana Patekar, Rekha, Fardeen Khan, Tanuja
22.46 Mag: Eco India
23.11 Sangeet Sarita
00.03 Gyan Vigyan
00.16 Duniya Mein Iss Saptah

06.00 D.Anime: Samsam
06.54 D.Anime: Carmen Sandiego
08.07 D.Anime: Ice Hockey Storm
08.51 D.Anime: Polly Pocket
09.13 D.Anime: Yetili
09.43 D.Anime: The Treflik Family
10.14 Serial: Les Fabuleuses Mésaventures De Renard
13.08 Doc: Ways Of Hate
15.05 D. Anime: Piper's Pony Tales
15.08 D.Anime: Berry And Dolly
15.35 Growing Up With Tiantian
16.12 D.Anime: Abominable...
16.35 La Famille Blaireau Renard
18.00 Mag: In Good Shape
19.28 Mag: Afrimaxx
20.01 Tele: Terre D'Esperance
20.50 Tele: Love Of My Life
22.23 Doc: Museums
23.11 Doc: Canada
23.57 Doc: Holy Surf!
00.49 Mag: In Good Shape

08.00 Pandya Store
10.02 Mannat - Har Khushi Panne Ki
12.08 Udaariyaan
14.02 Anupamaa
16.21 Shrimad Ramayan
17.30 Vidrohi
18.00 Samachar
18.30 Film: Chalo Dilli
With: Lara Dutta, Akshay Kumar, Rahul Singh...
21.30 Beyhadh 2
21.51 Crime Patrol



dimanche 4 octobre

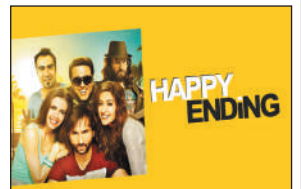
06.06 Tele: Terre D'esperance
06.28 Film: Bad Boys
08.24 Serial: Nautilus
09.15 Serial: Columbo
10.49 Serial: Heartland
11.30 Tele: Terre D'esperance
12.35 Film: The Blind
14.20 Doc: China Farm
15.00 Live: Samachar
15.30 Film: Bad Boys
17.30 Doc: Country Dreams
18.00 Samachar
18.30 Serial: Laughter Chefs
19.30 Le Journal
20.20 Film: 24 Hours To Live
Cast: Ethan Hawke, Qing Xu, Paul Anderson
21.55 Tele: Laura, Una Vida Extraordinaria
22.40 Serial: Berlin Station
23.30 Le Journal Televisé

08.21 Local: Fam Model
09.02 Local: Les Petits Genies
10.35 Rodrigues: Nu Lakwizin
11.00 Local: Nu Rasinn
12.00 Local: Mots Et Ecrits
12.55 La Journee Sous Le Regard
14.00 Local: Paroles Agricoles
14.30 Mon Jardin Ma Maison
15.00 Messe Du Tourisme...
16.30 Parlons Sante Senior
16.45 Local: Tous Egaux
17.11 Local: Les Petits Genies
17.40 Local: En Toute Intimite
18.10 Tele: Wildflower
19.20 Zero Stress Avek Miselaine
20.15 Local: Les Klips
22.00 Le Cri De La Crecerelle
22.55 La Journee Sous Le Regard
23.00 Zournal Kreol
23.20 Local: Coin Jardin
23.34 Local: Nos Aines

05.00 Mag: Aastha TV
08.00 Puranya Pakwan
08.26 Sangeet Sarita
10.30 Mahabharat
12.00 Film: Duplicate
15.00 Samachar
15.22 Puranya Pakwan
15.48 Sangeet Sarita
16.14 Gyan Vigyan
16.27 Duniya Mein Iss Saptah
16.42 Bhojpuri Geet
18.00 Samachar
18.48 Sayings Radha Krishna
18.32 Beauty With A Noble Purpose 12th Edition
20.47 Tenali Rama
21.08 Serial: Sa Re Ga Ma Pa L'il...
21.58 Senhur
23.00 Film: Duplicate
04.56 Mag: Eco India

06.00 D.Anime: Samsam
07.27 D.Anime: Les Quiquois
07.55 Les Enquetes De Maelys
08.52 D.Anime: Polly Pocket
09.14 D.Anime: Yetili
09.42 D.Anime: The Treflik Family
09.52 Serial: Les Nouvelles Aventures De Caillou
13.08 Doc: Canada
15.05 D.Anime: Piper's Pony Tales
15.08 D.Anime: Berry And Dolly
15.35 Growing Up With Tiantian
16.11 D.Anime: Big-Headed Son and Small-Headed
16.34 La Famille Blaireaux Renard
18.25 Doc: Metro World Tour
19.21 Doc: Japan Video Topics
20.01 Tele: Terre D'Esperance
20.50 Chelsea's Greatest Gardens
21.40 Film: The Tragedy Of Macbeth

08.00 Dhruv Tara
10.05 Kundali Bhagya
12.00 Serial: Laughter Chefs
12.38 Dance Deewane Juniors
14.00 Pyaar Ka Pehla Adhyaya
16.00 Wagle Ki Duniya
18.30 Film: Happy Ending
Cast: Saif Ali Khan, Ashley Lopez, Ileana D'Cruz
21.30 Beyhadh 2
21.50 Mahabharat



lundi 5 octobre

07.03 Tele: S.W.A.T.
08.23 Tele: Terre D'Esperance
08.45 L'Amour N'a Pas De Recette
09.25 Film: The Tragedy Of Macbeth
11.30 Tele: Happily Ever After
12.00 Le Journal
12.25 Tele: Rosalinda
13.15 Tele: Lying Heart
13.45 Une Famille Pas Si Parfaite
14.10 Tele: Eclats De Vie
15.00 Samachar
15.30 Film: 24 Hours To Live
17.28 Tele: Happily Ever After
18.00 Samachar
18.31 Serial: Shiv Shakti
19.07 Live: Grand Titre
19.30 Le Journal
20.14 Zero Stress Avek Miselaine
20.20 Film: Once Upon A Time In The Bronx
22.19 Tele: Rosalinda

09.15 Local: Metie
09.25 Local: En Forme
10.30 Rodrig: Plat Du Chef
11.00 Local: Les Klips
12.00 Local: Nu Rasinn
13.00 La Journee Sous Le Regard
13.05 Upclose And Personal
15.40 Rodrig: Plat Du Chef
16.01 Local: Les Klips
16.55 La Journee Sous Le Regard
17.00 Morisien Konn Ou La Sante
18.00 Une Famille Pas Si Parfaite
18.30 L'Amour N'a Pas De Recette
19.00 Zournal Kreol
19.30 Rodrig: Feminin Pluriel
20.00 Zournal Rodrig
21.30 Morisien Konn Ou La Sante
22.00 Local: 19 Minutes - Le Point
22.36 Local: Grand Titre
22.56 La Journee Sous Le Regard
23.00 Zournal Kreol

05.00 Mag: Aastha TV
09.00 Aaj Ki Charcha
10.00 Senhur
12.00 Film: Bazaar
Cast: Farooq Shaikh, Smita Patil, Naseeruddin Shah
15.00 Samachar
15.48 Kundali Bhagya
16.30 Local: Aaj Ke Charcha
17.30 Shiv Shakti
18.00 Live: Samachar
18.31 Local: Ved Ki Shikshahein
19.24 Excerpts From Shiv Abhishek
20.09 Local: Charcha
20.30 Dharm Yoddha Garud
21.00 Film: Dastaan
Cast: Dilip Kumar, Sharmila Tagore
23.42 Shrimad Ramayan
00.05 Wagle Ki Duniya

07.33 D.Anime: Handico
09.05 Film: Kidnapped!
10.15 Mag: Travel
11.27 Doc: Table Mountain's...
12.11 Doc: On Wild Trails
13.45 Film: Pororo, L'île Aus Tresors
15.00 D.Anime: Piper's Pony Tales
15.13 D.Anime: Les Petits Carnets...
15.36 D.Anime: Growing Up With...
16.01 D.Anime: Big-Headed Son...
16.14 D.Anime: Abominable Et La...
16.34 La Famille Blaireau Renard
17.17 D.Anime: Action Kidz
16.49 Teen Serial: H20: Just Add...
19.00 Students Support Program...
19.30 Mag: In Good Shape
20.01 Tele: Terre D'Esperance
20.50 Tele: Eclats De Vie
21.37 Doc: Cheap But Deadly
23.16 Mag: Tomorrow Today
00.34 Mag: Eco Africa

14.25 Radha Mohan
14.47 Dharm Yoddha Garud
15.12 Film: Safari
Cast: Sanjay Dutt, Juhi Chawla
18.00 Samachar
18.30 Uдне Ki Aasha
19.00 Do Chutki Sindoor
19.30 Pandya Store
20.00 Mannat
20.30 Saavi Ki Savaari





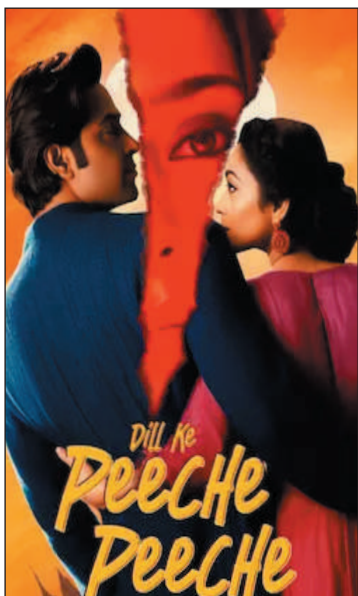
Mardi 6 Octobre - 20.25



Mercredi 7 Octobre - 20.20



Mercredi 7 Octobre - 15.00



Programme TV



mardi 6 octobre

MBC 1

05.09 Tele: Séparé Par L'Amour
06.48 Serial: The Lazarus Project
08.20 Tele: Terre D'Esperance
08.43 L'Amour N'a Pas De Recette
09.10 Film: Papillon
11.35 Tele: Happily ever After
12.00 Le Journal
12.25 Tele: Rosalinda
13.15 Tele: Lying Heart
13.45 Une Famille Pas Si Parfaite
14.10 Tele: Eclats De Vie
14.59 Samachar
15.30 Film: Once Upon A Time In The Bronx
17.30 Tele: Happily Ever After
18.00 Samachar
18.31 Serial: Shiv Shakti
18.55 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi
19.30 Le Journal
20.14 Zero Stress Avek Miselaine
20.25 Film: Anatomy Of A Murder

MBC 2

09.48 Morisien Konn Ou La Sante
11.35 Local: Grand Titre
12.00 Rodrig: Komanter
13.11 La Journee Sous Le Regard
14.30 Local: Coin Jardin
14.45 Local: Tous Egaux
15.30 Local: Mangeons Veg
15.56 Local: Koze Fam
18.00 Une Famille Pas Si Parfaite
18.30 L'Amour N'a Pas De Recette
19.00 Journal Kreol
19.30 Local: Itinerer Rodrig
20.00 Journal Rodrig
20.30 Local: Priorite Sante
21.15 Local: Saving Our Rarest...
22.55 La Journee Sous Le Regard
23.00 Journal Kreol
23.20 Local: Fam Model
23.32 Local: Music Tour 2026
00.26 Local: Parlons Sante Senior

MBC 3

05.00 Mag: Aastha TV
08.00 Local: Ved Ki Shikshahein
08.29 Local: Ayush
10.00 Serial: Kundali Bhagya
11.31 Serial: Shiv Shakti
12.01 Film: Basera
Cast: Shashi Kapoor, Rekha
15.00 Live: Samachar
15.20 Saying Radha Krishna
15.55 Pyaar Ka Pehla Adhyaya
17.36 Serial: Shiv Shakti
18.00 Live: Samachar
18.31 Workshop On Drama
18.58 Local: Natya Kala
19.54 Local: Prakriti
20.30 Dharm Yoddha Garud
21.00 Film: Pyar Ka Sapna
Cast: Ashok Kumar, Mala Sinha
23.15 Shrimad Ramayan
23.43 Wagle Ki Duniya

MBC 5

06.00 Mag: Eco Africa
06.52 Mag: The 77 Percent
07.46 Doc: Cheap But Deadly
08.38 Doc: Mongolia
09.25 Mag: Tomorrow Today
11.20 Mag: Eco Africa
11.57 Mag: Choices
12.54 Mag: In Good Shape
13.20 Doc: Cheap But Deadly
14.12 Doc: Mongolia
15.04 Snoopy Dans L'espace
15.34 D.Anime: Growing Up With...
15.48 D.Anime: Big-Headed Son And Small-Headed Dad
16.14 D.Anime: Abominable Et La Cité Invisible
17.14 D.Anime: Action Kidz
18.00 Mag: REV: The Global Auto...
18.30 Mag: Shift
19.00 Student Support Programme
20.01 Tele: Terre D'Esperance

MBC 4

14.25 Radha Mohan
14.55 Dharm Yoddha Garud
15.30 Film: Lal Baadshah
Starring: Amitabh . B, Shilpa Shetty
18.00 Live: Samachar
18.30 Uдне Ki Aasha
19.03 Do Chutki Sindoor
19.33 Pandya Store
20.06 Mannat - Har Khushi...
20.29 Saavi Ki Savaari
21.07 Anupama
21.29 Pyaar Ka Pehla Adhyaya
22.04 Dhruv Tara
22.34 Wagle Ki Duniya
23.04 Serial: Aladdin
23.30 Film: Lal Baadshah
Starring: Amitabh . B, Shilpa Shetty

mercredi 7 octobre

05.04 Tele: Séparé Par L'Amour
08.28 L'Amour N'a Pas De Recette
08.55 Film: Anatomy Of A Murder
11.35 Tele: Happily Ever After
12.00 Le Journal
12.25 Tele: Rosalinda
13.15 Tele: Lying Heart
13.45 Une Famille Pas Si Parfaite
14.15 Tele: Eclats De Vie
15.00 Live: Samachar
15.30 Film: Rescue Dawn
17.30 Tele: Happily Ever After
18.00 Live: Samachar
18.31 Serial: Shiv Shakti
18.55 Live: Grand Titre
19.30 Journal & La Meteo
20.15 Zero Stress Avek Miselaine
20.20 Film: Black Butterfly
21.50 Tele: Rosalinda
22.35 Happily Ever After
23.30 Le Journal

09.10 Local: En Toute Intimite
10.30 Local: Saveurs Plus
11.30 Local: Les Petits Genies
12.01 Local: Nos Aines
12.30 Rodrig: Itinerer Rodrig
13.02 Local: Anou Kombat Ladrog
13.15 Local: Metie
14.30 Local: Nu Rasinn
15.15 Local: Saveurs Plus
15.45 Local: Glwar Dantan
16.26 Rodrig - Zenn Aktif
16.50 La Journee Sous Le Regard
18.00 Une Famille Pas Si Parfaite
18.30 L'Amour N'a Pas De Recette
19.30 Rodrig Spor
20.00 Journal Rodrig
20.45 Drogue Une Urgence...
21.15 Local: Parlons Sante Senior
21.30 Local: Agir Ensemble
21.56 Local: Les Klips
22.47 Local: Grand Titre
23.08 Journal Kreol

08.00 Local: Natya Kala
09.00 Aaj Ki Charcha 2025
10.00 Pyaar Ka Pehla Abhyaya
11.31 Serial: Shiv Shakti
12.01 Film: Gaban
Cast: Sunil Dutt, Sadhana
15.00 Live: Samachar
15.47 Radha Mohan
17.31 Shiv Shakti
18.00 Live: Samachar
18.30 Local: Yatra
19.01 Local: Swadharma
19.48 Local: Virasat
20.13 Serial: Kaam Daam
20.30 Dharm Yoddha Garud
21.01 Film: Mohabbat Ki Jung
23.15 Shrimad Ramayan
23.46 Wagle Ki Duniya
00.08 Mag: Zarkash
00.32 Yatra

06.00 Mag: REV: The Global Auto...
06.35 Mag: Made In Germany
11.32 Mag: Shift
11.59 Mag: Made In Germany
13.21 Doc: Table Mountain's Magic
14.17 Doc: Eastern Germany....
15.00 D.Anime: Snoopy Dans...
15.09 D.Anime: Berry And Dolly
15.35 D.Anime: Growing Up....
16.14 Abominable Et La Cité...
16.37 La Famille Blaireau Renard
17.30 Mag: Rev: The Global Auto...
18.00 Mag: Afrimaxx
18.31 Mag: Planet A
19.00 Student Support Programme
19.30 Doc: Letters Across...
20.03 Tele: Terre D'Esperance
20.50 Tele: Eclats De Vie
21.42 Doc: La Chine Du Futur
22.40 Mag: Close Up
23.07 Mag: Focus On Europe

14.25 Radha Mohan
14.50 Dharm Yoddha Garud
15.22 Film: Dil Ke Peech Peeche
Starring: Ashuosh Rana, Divya Dutta
18.00 Live: Samachar
18.31 Uдне Ki Aasha
19.02 Do Chutki Sindoor
19.33 Pandya Store
20.00 Mannat - Har Khushi Paane Ki
20.31 Saavi Ki Savaari
21.00 Anupama
21.28 Pyaar Ka Pehla Abhyaya
22.00 Dhruv Tara
22.24 Wagle Ki Duniya
22.54 Aladdin
23.30 Film: Dil Ke Peech Peeche
Starring: Ashuosh Rana, Divya Dutta

jeudi 8 octobre

05.44 Tele: Séparé Par L'Amour
07.03 Serial: Nelle Tue Mani
08.48 Tele: Terre D'Esperance
09.13 L'Amour N'a Pas De Recette
09.40 Serial: Columbo
11.30 Tele: Happily Ever After
12.00 Le Journal
12.25 Tele: Rosalinda
13.15 Tele: Lying Heart
13.45 Une Famille Pas Si Parfaite
14.10 Tele: Eclats De Vie
15.25 Film: Black Butterfly
16.56 Doc: Let's Make It Tasty
17.16 Tele: Happily Ever After
18.31 Serial: Shiv Shakti
19.00 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu
19.30 Le Journal
20.20 Film: Fatso!
Cast: Ranvir Shorey, Gul Panag, Purab Kohli, Neil Bhoopalam

10.25 Rodrig: Plat Du Chef
11.38 Local: Grand Titre
12.30 Local: Glwar Dantan
13.00 La Journee Sous Le Regard
13.32 Local: Saver Kiltirel
14.30 Local: Parlons Sante Senior
14.45 Local: Agir Ensemble
18.00 Une Famille Pas Si Parfaite
18.30 L'Amour N'a Pas De Recette
19.00 Journal Kreol
19.25 Viens Decouvrir Musee...
20.00 Journal Rodrig
20.45 Local: Paroles Agricoles
21.15 La Cuisine Rodriguaise
21.45 Local: Music Tour 2025
22.54 La Journee Sous Le Regard
23.00 Journal Kreol
23.32 Local: La Sosiete
23.58 Rodrig: Feminin Pluriel
00.23 Local: Tous Egaux

05.00 Mag: Aastha TV
06.59 Mag: AI Impact Summit...
08.03 Local: Yatra
08.26 Local: Swadharma
09.00 Aaj Ki Charcha 2025
10.00 Serial: Radha Mohan
11.31 Serial: Shiv Shakti
12.01 Film: Haathi Mere Saathi
Cast: Rajesh Khanna, Tanuja Samarth
15.00 Live: Samachar
15.20 Sayings Radha Krishna
15.49 Na Umra Ki Seema Ho
16.30 Aaj Ki Charcha
17.10 Na Umra Ki Seema Ho
17.30 Serial: Shiv Shakti
18.00 Live: Samachar
18.31 Local: Amrit Vani
18.42 Bhajan Sandhya
19.57 Local: Hunarbaaz
20.30 Serial Tenali Rama

06.25 Mag: Planet A
08.43 Mag: Close Up
09.15 Mag: Focus On Europe
11.17 Mag: Afrimaxx
14.01 Mag: Close Up
14.31 Doc: Focus On Europe
15.01 Snoopy Dans L'Espace
15.33 Growing Up With Tiantian
15.48 D.Anime: Big-Headed Son...
16.37 La Famille Blaireau Renard
16.48 Serial: H2O: Just Add Water
18.00 Mag: Eco India
18.26 Doc: Vegetarian Delights
19.00 Student Support Programme
19.30 Mag: Tomorrow Today
20.01 Tele: Terre D'Esperance
20.30 Live: New
20.50 Tele: Eclat De Vie
21.30 Doc: Food Up!
22.25 Women As Commodities
23.07 Doc: Hospitals At Breaking

14.25 Radha Mohan
15.00 Tenali Rama
15.30 Film: Mere Jeevan Saathi
Cast: Akshay Kumar, Karishma Kapoor
18.00 Live: Samachar
18.30 Uдне Ki Aasha
19.00 Do Chutki Sindoor
19.30 Pandya Store
20.00 Mannat - Har Khushi Paane Ki
20.30 Saavi Ki Savaari
21.02 Anupama
21.34 Pyaar Ka Phela Adhyaya
22.01 Dhruv Tara
22.29 Wagle Ki Duniya
23.05 Aladdin
23.31 Film: Mere Jeevan Saathi
Cast: Akshay Kumar, Karishma Kapoor



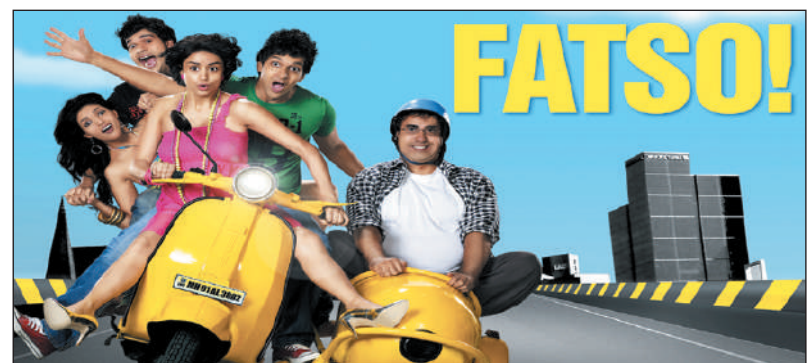
Jeudi 8 Octobre - 15.30

Stars: Akshay Kumar, Karishma Kapoor



Jeudi 8 Octobre - 20.20

Stars: Ranvir Shorey, Gul Panag, Purab Kohli, Neil Bhoopalam

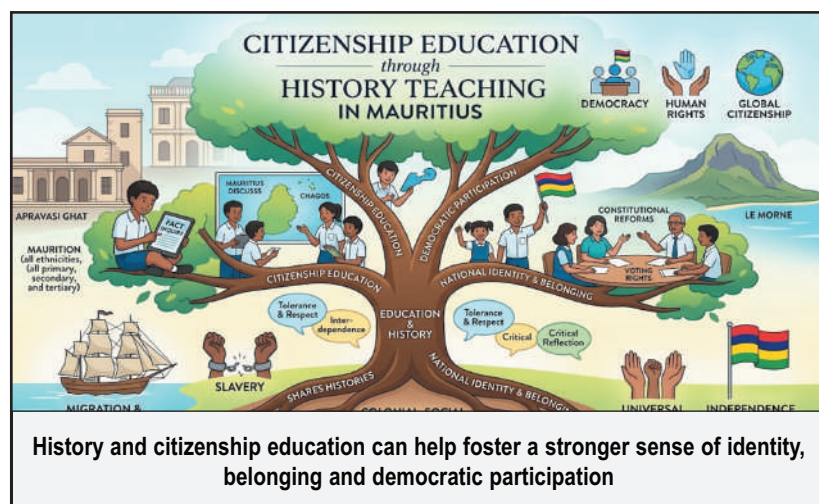


Citizenship Education through History Teaching in Mauritius

By Sheetal Sheena Sookrajowa, University of Mauritius,
Marie Sophie Caroline Lafleur-Yallappa &
Ellen Vea Rosnes, VID Specialized University, Norway

Mauritius recognises an urgent need to revitalise citizenship education. As everywhere, the quality of a democracy is closely linked to its citizens' participation in democratic processes, which in turn shapes its democratic outcomes. Recent examples of conflicts, migration crisis, protests and democratic backsliding around the world demonstrate that in diverse, unequal and fast-changing societies, the nexus between citizenship, identity, belonging, and democracy is under strain. Hence, in today's globalised world, major concerns about learning how to 'live together' have also become increasingly pressing.¹

Basically, citizenship encompasses important concepts such as 'patriotic loyalty to a state... human rights, tolerance and respect for diversity... inter-dependence, development and sustainability.'² According to Elizabeth Matto *et al.* 'a thriving and peaceful democracy requires an informed and engaged citizenry, but such citizenship must be learned.'³



In an article about the Transloyalties in Citizenship Education (TranCit) project, published in the European Research magazine, we argue that 'if you don't feel included as a citizen then there is a risk that you will distance yourself and feel that there is no room for you in society, that you don't fit in... history is an important subject in this respect, as it can help shape how people see their nation and themselves.'

In a similar vein, as Gary Clemmitshaw pertinently questions, can we have 'citizenship without history?'⁴ History and citizenship are undeniably interdependent: together, they foster a sense of national identity and belonging, promote civic values, and encourage respect for human rights.⁵ Even scholars as James Arthur *et al.* acknowledge that 'history teaching is at the vanguard of citizenship education; the past is the springboard from which citizens learn to think and act.'⁶

Mauritius's rich colonial and political history provides distinctive opportunities to explore citizenship education and foster a more engaged citizenry both locally and at international level. Important subjects include the history of migration, slavery, indenture, constitutional developments, the universal suffrage, the historical understanding of the electoral system and the method of voting, the discussions towards independence, the importance of independence celebration and the national flag.

Learning about Mauritius's colonial, social and political

history lays the foundation for 'shared histories' and more active citizen participation in the democratic process. Such foundation will subsequently allow for deeper understanding about the current society including the discussions about the decolonisation of the Chagos islands, the political system and current attempts towards constitutional and electoral reforms.

However, history teaching must invite learners, educators, curriculum developers, and even policymakers to critically reflect on the continuities and discontinuities that influence today's society. History also predicts tomorrow's society. We have seen it recently with the British's publication of a registry of the enslaved across its former colonies. This initiative has received tremendous attention from descendants of the enslaved. The bigger question is how we can utilise this initiative to solve the questions that surround identity, belonging and citizenship.

As pointed out by historian Satyendra Peerthum in a recent interview, the enslaved had identities and histories. This initiative changes how schooling must engage with history. History teaching must go beyond its current format. Instead, history must centre on fact inquiry. Fact inquiry is

understood as engaging educators and learners into solving the present's mysteries by exploring questions they deem are important. Furthermore, what this initiative tells us is that approaches towards history as a discipline are changing. Where globalisation and technologies come in, these approaches are almost instant. Mauritius is in dire need of following closely.

Hence, to ensure a thriving democracy, citizenship education through history teaching should however not be restricted to primary and early secondary levels. In fact, citizenship education through history teaching should be offered at primary, secondary and tertiary levels as an independent compulsory subject. A collaborative effort between historians, political scientists, citizenship educators, curriculum developers,

policy makers, practitioners, the civil society and the educational institutions will thus help to achieve an informed and engaged citizenry in Mauritius's democracy.

References

- Deardoff, D. (2023, 19. May). Learning to Live Together as Key to Our Future. UNESCO. <https://www.unesco.org/en/articles/learning-live-together-key-our-future>.
- Clemmitshaw, G. (2008). Citizenship without history? Knowledge, skills and values in citizenship education. *Ethics and Education*, 3(2), 135-147.
- Matto, E. C., McCartney, A. R. M., Bennion, E. A., Blair, A., Sun, T., & Whitehead, D. M. (Eds.). (2021). Teaching Civic Engagement Globally. American Political Science Association.
- Clemmitshaw, G. (2008). Citizenship without history? Knowledge, skills and values in citizenship education. *Ethics and Education*, 3(2), 135-147.
- Ibid.
- Arthur, J., Davies, I., Kerr, D., & Wrenn, A. (2003). *Citizenship through secondary history*. Routledge.

Remembrance

Vinesh Y. Hookoomsing: Scholar, Educator, and Public Intellectual



Professor Vinesh Y. Hookoomsing, an academic, linguist, and writer whose career spanned higher education, public service, and cultural advocacy, passed away this week. His work made lasting contributions to language policy, education, and cultural identity in Mauritius and the wider Indian Ocean region.

After earning his PhD in Linguistics from Université Laval in Quebec, Canada, Dr Hookoomsing joined the University of Mauritius as an Associate Professor on 3 September 1990. He was promoted to Professor on 1 July 1995. During his tenure, he held key administrative roles, serving as Dean of the Faculty of Social Studies and Humanities from September 1994 to August 1997, and later as Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Research and Consultancy from February 2001 to February 2006. In these positions, he supported institutional research and mentored students and junior colleagues across multiple disciplines.

A central focus of Dr Hookoomsing's career was the study, development, and formal recognition of Kreol. He was closely involved in the efforts that led to Grafi-larmoni in 2004, the harmonized writing system that provided a standardized orthography for the language. As the founding President of the Akademi Kreol Morisien, he advocated for the structured integration of Mauritian Creole into the education system and public discourse, viewing language recognition as an important element of social cohesion.

Beyond his university appointments, Dr Hookoomsing engaged regularly with the broader public. For many years, he contributed articles to the *Mauritius Times*, writing on language, education, history, and social affairs. His work frequently examined Mauritius's position within the Indian Ocean, exploring cultural and historical connections across the region. In recognition of his service to education, he was appointed Grand Officer of the Order of the Star and Key of the Indian Ocean (GOSK) in 2023.

Colleagues and students noted his measured approach to public debate, his intellectual curiosity, and his willingness to share knowledge. He maintained a calm, reflective style in both academic and public discussions.

Prof Hookoomsing retired from the University of Mauritius on 25 May 2008. His contributions to Mauritian linguistics, education, and public commentary remain a significant part of the island's intellectual record.

Through his commitment to dialogue and scholarship, Prof Hookoomsing leaves behind a profound legacy. He will be remembered by all whose lives and intellects he touched.