

MAURITIUS TIMES

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Interview : Dr Avinaash Munohur, Politologue

"Une crise peut constituer le point de départ d'une transformation, à condition que le gouvernement sache saisir cette opportunité"



● Riots 2026: 'Si l'implication de réseaux criminels organisés était établie, nous serions confrontés à une situation extrêmement préoccupante'

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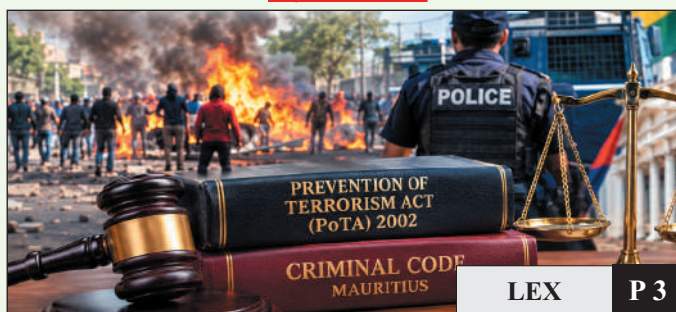


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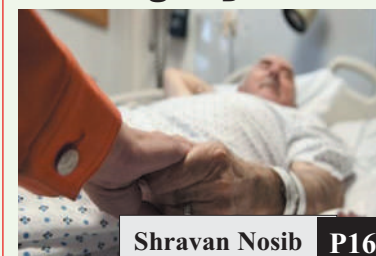
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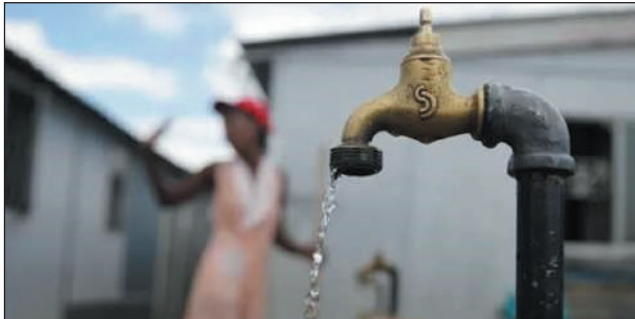
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Mauritius's Water Crisis: What Can We Learn from Singapore?



Climate change is making rainfall less predictable, while population needs, economic activity and the demand for reliable services continue to place pressure on our water resources. These are real challenges. But nature alone cannot explain why so much treated water is lost before reaching consumers, why essential infrastructure projects take so long to materialise, or why the country repeatedly appears unprepared when reservoirs fall to worrying levels.

Singapore offers valuable lessons. Despite its limited land area and scarce natural water resources, it has developed one of the world's most carefully planned water-management systems. Mauritius cannot simply reproduce the Singaporean model: the two countries differ in geography, population, economic structure and available resources. However, Singapore demonstrates that water security is not merely a question of rainfall. It is also a question of political vision, institutional coordination, investment, technology and public accountability.

A crisis that exposes deeper weaknesses

The current situation illustrates the scale of the challenge. On 8 October 2026, the Government reported that the country's main reservoirs were only 57.1% full, compared with 87.4% at the same time in 2025. Mare-aux-Vacoas, a critical source of supply for the Plaines Wilhems region, stood at just 35.7%. Production at the La Marie Water Treatment Plant had fallen from approximately 110,000 to 56,000 cubic metres a day. Emergency measures, including additional boreholes, river filtration units and water tankers, were being deployed to address the shortfall.

These interventions are necessary, but they are responses to an immediate emergency. The more important question is why a country with considerable water resources continues to face recurring shortages. Although drought is certainly a factor, it may not fully account for the entire situation.

The National Audit Office's December 2025 performance audit on sustainable water resources management provides a sobering assessment. In 2024, non-revenue water averaged around 60% nationally, with considerable variation between supply zones. This means that a substantial proportion of the water entering the distribution system generated no revenue for the Central Water Authority (CWA). The category includes physical leakage, as well as water that is delivered but not billed and other accounting losses; it should not be interpreted as meaning that every litre is leaking from a pipe.

Nevertheless, the figures are alarming. In the 2024–25 financial year, approximately 195 million cubic metres of water were classified as non-revenue water. The audit estimated that defective pipelines contributed to around Rs 3.6 billion in combined unrecovered production and distribution costs and notional revenue losses during that year. According to the audit report, ageing pipes, inadequate maintenance, delays in replacement programmes and weaknesses in implementation have all contributed to the problem. This is not merely a technical failure. It represents a failure to protect a valuable public resource. Every cubic

metre lost through a leaking pipe is water that has been treated, often at considerable cost, but may never reach a household, school, hospital or business.

The audit also raises concerns about the pace of infrastructure renewal and the effectiveness of capital spending. Mauritius has discussed water shortages and the need for better infrastructure for decades. Yet successive plans have not eliminated the underlying weaknesses. Announcing another committee, plan or emergency intervention will not be enough unless there is a clear timetable, adequate technical capacity and public reporting on results.

Singapore's Four National Taps

Singapore's experience, as documented in numerous research papers online, is instructive precisely because it began from a position of severe vulnerability. With limited land to collect and store rainwater, the city-state could not rely on natural resources alone. Instead, it developed a long-term strategy built around what it calls the "Four National Taps": water collected from local catchments, imported water, recycled water known as NEWater, and desalinated seawater.

Today, around two-thirds of Singapore's land surface serves as a water catchment. Rainwater is channelled through an extensive network of drains and canals into 17 reservoirs before being treated. The country has also invested in advanced wastewater treatment, operating five desalination plants alongside its NEWater factories — specialised water-reclamation facilities managed by Singapore's national water agency, PUB. These sources reduce its dependence on rainfall and provide greater resilience when dry conditions persist.

The lesson here is not that Mauritius should adopt Singapore's model wholesale. Singapore's dense urban landscape, industrial demand, financial resources and water constraints differ from ours. Nor is its system without challenges: desalination is energy-intensive, and growing demand requires continued investment. The deeper lesson is that Singapore treats water security as a national priority requiring sustained action across generations. It does not wait for reservoirs to fall before thinking about the next decade. Infrastructure, technology, conservation, research and public education form part of a continuing strategy rather than a series of disconnected emergency responses.

Mauritius needs that same discipline. Political leaders must recognise that water infrastructure cannot be planned around electoral cycles. Reservoirs, treatment plants and distribution networks take years to develop, and their benefits may be enjoyed by governments that did not initiate them. That should encourage continuity, not discourage investment.

Fix the leaks before chasing every new source

The first priority for Mauritius should be to reduce losses from the existing network. It makes little sense to invest heavily in producing additional water while a large proportion of treated supplies fails to generate revenue or reach intended users.

A national programme should establish measurable annual targets for reducing non-revenue water, supported by district-level data and independent verification. Singapore's reported non-revenue water level of around 4% in the 2018 international comparison cited by Mauritius's National Audit Office shows what disciplined network management can achieve, although differences in systems and measurement must be taken into account.

The second priority is to capture and store more of the rainfall that the country receives. Better catchment management, protection of watersheds, restoration of degraded areas and investment in storage could improve resilience.

The possibility of connecting reservoirs or transferring water between supply zones should also be assessed where technically, environmentally and financially feasible. Emergency planning must account for the fact that rainfall does not necessarily occur where and when it is most needed.

The third priority is to diversify supply. Singapore's experience with recycled water and desalination deserves serious study. Mauritius could expand the use of treated wastewater for irrigation, landscaping and suitable industrial purposes, reducing competition for drinking-quality water. Desalination could provide an additional source in locations where it is justified, particularly during prolonged droughts.

But neither technology should be presented as a magic solution. Desalination requires substantial energy and investment, while wastewater reuse demands rigorous treatment, monitoring and public confidence. Each proposal needs a transparent assessment of cost, environmental impact and long-term value. Experts are of the view that reducing leakage and improving efficiency may offer better returns than immediately committing to expensive new supply infrastructure.

Water security requires public accountability

Singapore also demonstrates the value of integrated management. Its national water agency, PUB, oversees water supply, used-water reclamation and stormwater management within a coordinated framework. Mauritius should examine whether its own institutional arrangements allow the CWA, the Wastewater Management Authority, the relevant ministries and other agencies to plan and act effectively together.

This does not automatically mean merging institutions. It means clarifying responsibilities, improving data-sharing and ensuring that one authority is accountable for delivering an agreed national water-security plan. Major projects should have published milestones, realistic budgets and explanations whenever deadlines are missed.

The public, too, has a role. Water conservation should become part of everyday life, supported by public education, efficient appliances, rainwater harvesting where appropriate and incentives for businesses to recycle water. But citizens cannot be expected to shoulder the burden alone. Appeals to save water ring hollow when households experience prolonged interruptions while basic infrastructure problems remain unresolved.

Tariffs and subsidies also require careful consideration. Water must be financially sustainable, but access to an essential resource must remain affordable. Any changes to pricing should be accompanied by clear service improvements and safeguards for vulnerable households.

From recurring crisis to lasting reform

Mauritius does not lack water alone; it lacks sufficient resilience in the way water is collected, stored, treated, distributed and managed. Climate change makes reform more urgent. Singapore's achievement was not built in a year, nor can Mauritius replicate it overnight. But the principles are transferable: plan for the long term, diversify supply, invest in technology, conserve resources, maintain infrastructure and measure performance openly. A country that aspires to higher living standards and a more productive economy cannot afford to treat reliable water supply as an occasional emergency.

The next rainy season may replenish our reservoirs. It will not, by itself, repair ageing pipes, resolve institutional weaknesses or guarantee that the next drought will be less disruptive. The real test for the Government is whether it can turn the present crisis into a sustained programme of reform—one that survives changes of administration and delivers measurable improvements.

Riot or Terrorism? Where Does Mauritian Law Draw the Line?

The arrest of dozens of people, including 17 minors, following recent civil unrest has raised questions about the government's intention to invoke the Prevention of Terrorism Act (PoTA) 2002 against those allegedly involved. While maintaining public order is essential, the use of anti-terrorism legislation to address civil disturbances warrants careful scrutiny. Where does Mauritian law draw the line between a violent riot and an act of terrorism? What additional powers does PoTA grant the police, and what safeguards exist against its misuse? This Q&A examines the legal implications, individual rights and potential consequences for the rule of law and Mauritius's international reputation.

LEX

*** There have been reservations in legal circles about the government's intention to use the Prevention of Terrorism Act (PoTA) 2002 to prosecute individuals involved in civil unrest and rioting, following the arrest of dozens of people, including 17 minors, since 13 October 2026. What is the legal distinction under Mauritian law between a violent riot and an act of terrorism?**

Under Mauritian criminal jurisprudence, the law draws a clear distinction between acts of terrorism and offences arising from public disorder, such as a riot.

Terrorism is governed by the Prevention of Terrorism Act, where Section 3(2) sets out a comprehensive definition of an "act of terrorism". Under Section 3(2), an act of terrorism is defined as an act which:

- "(a) may seriously damage a country or an international organisation; and"
- Additionally, the act must meet specific subjective intent or object criteria under paragraph (b). Namely, it must be an act that:
- "(b) is intended or can reasonably be regarded as having been intended to —
- (i) seriously intimidate a population;
- (ii) unduly compel a government or an international organisation to perform or abstain from performing any act;
- (iii) seriously destabilise or destroy the fundamental political, constitutional, economic or social structures of a country or an international organisation; or
- (iv) otherwise influence such government, or international organisation; and"
- Furthermore, to qualify as an act of terrorism, the act must physically involve or result in specific severe consequences. Under paragraph (c), it must involve or cause:
- "(c) (i) attacks upon a person's life which may cause death;
- (ii) attacks upon the physical integrity of a person;
- (iii) kidnapping of a person;
- (iv) extensive destruction to a government or public facility, a transport system, an infrastructure facility, including an information system, a fixed platform located on the continental shelf, a public place or private property, likely to endanger human life or result in major economic loss;
- (v) the seizure of an aircraft, a ship or other means of public or goods transport;
- (vi) the manufacture, possession, acquisition, transport, supply or use of weapons, explosives or of nuclear, biological or chemical weapons, as well as research into, and development of, biological and chemical weapons;
- (vii) the release of dangerous substances, or causing of fires, explosions or floods, the effect of which is to endanger human life; [or]
- (viii) interference with or disruption of the supply of water, power or any other fundamental natural resource, the effect of which is to endanger life."

Because of the severe nature of a terrorism charge, the evidentiary burden placed on the prosecution is particularly high. To establish an act of terrorism, the prosecution must prove beyond a reasonable doubt not merely that violent or destructive acts were committed, but that the ultimate objective behind those acts was to forcefully compel the Prime Minister or the Government to act, or to fundamentally frac-



ture the economic or constitutional stability of Mauritius.

In contrast to terrorism, public disorder involving collective violence or commotion falls under the law governing public order offences. Under Section 143 of the Criminal Code, a riot is defined as:

"...an unlawful assembly that has begun to execute the purpose for which it was assembled through a breach of the peace."

While a riot involves violent action or breach of the peace by an assembled group executing an unlawful common intent, it lacks the specific statutory requirement of intending to destabilize national governance structures, compel the executive authority, or inflict large-scale catastrophic harm as mandated under the Prevention of Terrorism Act.

*** The Criminal Code already covers treason, unlawful assembly and the destruction of property. Why would the authorities opt for PoTA rather than standard criminal law? Is it primarily intended to deter potential rioters from going too far and causing further disturbances?**

Offences like "unlawful assembly" or being a "rogue and vagabond" are relatively minor infractions for which an accused person would generally be entitled to bail. Under PoTA, however, strict bail restrictions apply. Working in tandem with specialised legal mechanisms, these provisions allow authorities to lawfully detain key organisers and active participants while a crisis is ongoing.

Moreover, under section 5(7) of the Constitution, a person arrested for terrorism can be kept in incommunicado detention—that is, without the possibility of having access to a lawyer or visitor for a specified period. The right to bail would also be rendered illusory. The section reads:

"Nothing contained in or done under the authority of any law shall be held to be inconsistent with or in contravention of subsection (3) to the extent that the law in question authorises a police officer not below the rank of superintendent of police to direct that any person arrested upon reasonable suspicion of having committed any offence related to terrorism or any drug dealing offence be detained in police custody for a period not exceeding 36 hours from his arrest without having access to any person other than a police officer not below the rank of Inspector or a Government Medical Officer."

*** In practice, how does lodging a provisional charge**

under PoTA affect the scope of police powers during preliminary investigations? How can the authorities ensure that these powers are exercised appropriately when responding to social unrest?

Beyond incommunicado detention for up to 36 hours, a provisional charge allows the police to bring an arrested individual under immediate judicial supervision. In practice, however, a provisional charge enables the police to justify continued detention based on "reasonable suspicion" and grants them the authority to detain suspects rapidly during ongoing operations. Once a provisional charge is lodged, the police face no strict statutory deadline to finalise their main case file.

*** It would seem that there have been multiple high-profile cases where provisional charges under PoTA were initially lodged by police, only to be entirely dropped later. What does this track record reveal about the risk of using provisional PoTA charges during sensitive investigations?**

The threshold of proof in a PoTA case is exceptionally high. In determining whether to proceed with a prosecution under PoTA, the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) must evaluate whether there is sufficient admissible evidence to provide a realistic prospect of conviction and satisfy the statutory definition of terrorism, as well as whether such a prosecution serves the public interest.

*** If a provisional charge under PoTA is eventually dismissed or reduced to a standard offence, what avenues for redress exist for individuals who spent months in custody under an improperly applied statute?**

Any individual who considers that they were unlawfully arrested may institute civil proceedings against the State for damages or constitutional redress. However, the prospects of success are generally low where the arrest was grounded on reasonable suspicion.

*** What safeguards are in place to ensure that PoTA is applied proportionately and that peaceful protesters or individuals who may have committed ordinary criminal offences are not inadvertently treated as suspected terrorists?**

Under PoTA, the offence requires specific intent to terrorise the public, destabilise government or constitutional structures, or compel a government or international organisation. The evidence establishing this intent must be clear and specific in light of the statutory definition of terrorism. In the absence of such evidence, the DPP will not initiate a prosecution for terrorism.

*** Given that 17 minors have reportedly been arrested in connection with the recent incidents, what additional legal protections apply to children investigated or charged under PoTA, and are their age and circumstances taken into account?**

Under Section 49 of the Children's Act 2020, children under the age of 14 lack criminal responsibility. They cannot be prosecuted for any criminal offence, including offences under PoTA. The law does not permit the police to keep children under 14 in detention. Instead, if suspected of a serious offence, they are referred to probation officers and psychologists for assessment and targeted support rather than facing the criminal justice system.

*** What implications could the use of anti-terrorism legislation to address localised civil unrest have for Mauritius's international reputation and its standing among investors and human rights organisations?**

Invoking PoTA to address civil unrest or economic protests risks damaging Mauritius's hard-earned reputation as a stable, democratic state committed to the rule of law. Furthermore, such measures are likely to draw severe criticism from international human rights organisations.



Sada Reddi

Beyond the Half-Truths: Appraising the 2026 October Riots

Adapting a famous saying attributed to Mark Twain to the October 2026 rioting in Mauritius, one can venture to say that half-truths circulated around the country while the truth was still putting on its shoes. This is inevitable during a major event or crisis in any country, where citizens refuse to remain in the dark and are anxious to find out what is happening — especially when it directly concerns them. Whether under an authoritarian regime bent on censoring information or in a democratic society, there is the same deeply felt and legitimate need for information to make sense of events. Government communiqués and mainstream news outlets are naturally supplemented by the traditional media and, increasingly nowadays, by social media.

In the midst of an event or crisis like the unrest that broke out in several localities in Mauritius last week, the press, radio, television, and social media platforms were caught in a race to provide as much coverage as possible. This included live broadcasts and footage of petrol bombs being thrown onto roads, buildings set ablaze, looting, and vandalism. In such situations, journalists, newscasters, bloggers, political commentators, and politicians serve the public with whatever information is readily available, laced with their own commentaries and interpretations. These are inevitably based on a partial and incomplete view of the causes and course of events.

While these facts and commentaries are valuable in explaining what transpired, it is important to stress that while facts may be accurate, interpretations are often built on unproven assumptions, personal perceptions, specific political or cultural frameworks, and even ideological bias — whether intentional or unintentional — depending on the angle from which the event is viewed.

It is quite normal for such commentaries to consist of half-truths — factual and incontrovertible details interspersed with value judgments. This varies depending on whether the source is the government, opposition parties, social activists, self-interested elites, or specific social groups, each often contradicting and refuting the other. Nevertheless, such public debate is a salutary exercise because it provides citizens with diverse viewpoints to critically examine, allowing them to draw their own conclusions — provided they remain aware that all these inferences rest on limited and partial data.

Over the past week, we have seen observers fretting and fuming about the rioting, offering a laundry list of underlying factors. Yet, as the saying goes, trying to explain everything with a long shopping list of factors ultimately explains nothing.

“Two critical issues require thorough investigation: the involvement of drug traffickers and the role of WhatsApp groups in provoking, inciting, and spreading violence. Anecdotal evidence of young people attempting unsuccessfully to buy petrol in containers on Sunday night, alongside media reports indicating the government was forewarned of a potential outbreak, suggests that this lawlessness was organised and prepared rather than purely spontaneous. Both aspects require further investigation to determine whether there is a connection between the vandalism of the police station and magistrate court and the recent seizure of Rs 1.3 billion worth of drugs, as well as the arrest of over 1,500 drug traffickers in 2026...”



“As for the minors involved — who may not even be aware of the 1999 events — they might have joined the unrest simply for the thrill of it, given that looting and vandalism are common features of rioting worldwide. Alternatively, they may have been incited to join, caught up in the social media contagion, or, as one confessed, paid to participate. These young individuals deserve special consideration and handling: they should be granted an amnesty and enrolled in a specialized rehabilitation programme at a recreation facility...”

ing. Others, displaying more caution, have ruled out the immediate water crisis to seek explanations in long-term structural causes. While looking at long-term causes is a valid approach to analysing any social phenomenon, it rarely explains why an outburst occurred at a specific moment or in particular localities. Nor does it explain why the size of crowds varied from just one or two individuals to a hundred, while the majority of residents in those same localities stayed away. Furthermore, it fails to explain why police stations and a magistrate court were targeted, whereas in other areas, tires were set on fire on roads by individuals from outside the neighbourhood.

It is true that the water shortages and the shooting served as key triggers for the outbreak — particularly the second trigger, which recalls a similar historical precedent. In both instances, a member of the Creole population was the victim, though ethnic targeting in the present case has yet to be proven. In the second instance, unofficial reports regarding a trigger-happy police officer highlight that individuals with such profiles should never be allowed to serve in the police force.

As for the minors involved — who may not even be aware of the 1999 events — they might have joined the unrest simply for the thrill of it, given that looting and vandalism are common features of rioting worldwide. Alternatively, they may have been incited to join, caught up in the social media contagion, or, as one confessed, paid to participate. These young individuals deserve special consideration and handling: they should be granted an amnesty and enrolled in a specialized rehabilitation programme at a recreation facility, such as Pointe Jérôme, or a senior citizen centre, supported by a dedicated team of educators and psychologists.

Until a sufficient body of information is gathered, we cannot fully understand what really prompted disorder in these areas. This information should be obtained not only by listening to the offenders themselves, but also by engaging with local residents and social workers. Initially, the offenders may not even be able to articulate their grievances clearly,

requiring us to interpret the rioting itself as their form of expression. Listening to them is essential, though it is a delicate task that can only be carried out by an empathetic, multidisciplinary team — not by police officers, whose primary role in these situations is enforcement rather than psychological understanding.

Finally, two critical issues require thorough investigation: the involvement of drug traffickers and the role of WhatsApp groups in provoking, inciting, and spreading violence. Anecdotal evidence of young people attempting unsuccessfully to buy petrol in containers on Sunday night, alongside media reports indicating the government was forewarned of a potential outbreak, suggests that this lawlessness was organised and prepared rather than purely spontaneous.

Both aspects require further investigation to determine whether there is a connection between the vandalism of the police station and magistrate court and the recent seizure of Rs 1.3 billion worth of drugs, as well as the arrest of over 1,500 drug traffickers in 2026. Furthermore, authorities must not overlook the potential political dimensions of WhatsApp groups bearing evocative names like *“The Burning Paradise”* or *“Generation Z”* and their alleged role in disseminating hate and violence. The strange absence of volunteer lawyers coming forward to defend the offenders also warrants careful reflection.

Before a comprehensive and objective report on the 2026 riots can be drafted, we will have to make do with half-truths. However, we expect and hope that the government will appoint a multidisciplinary team to thoroughly investigate the root causes and recommend not only new policies, but also clear institutional procedures. Institutional procedures, in this context, mean a structured sequence of practical steps to address issues and monitor policy execution — including identification, preparation, appraisal, and supervision. Unless policy decisions are aligned with procedural congruence, effective implementation and monitoring will remain impossible. Otherwise, it will simply be business as usual, and no lasting solution will be found.

Transfugisme : Entre liberté de conscience, loyauté et dignité

Par A. Bartleby

L'actualité politique mauricienne a été marquée par un nouveau rebondissement. Le 16 octobre 2026, Sydney Pierre, député à l'Assemblée nationale, a officiellement quitté le Parti travailliste (PTTr) et la majorité gouvernementale. Ce basculement fait de lui le dernier transfuge marquant de la scène politique locale, relançant avec acuité le débat sur le transfugisme et l'éthique du mandat parlementaire.



Sydney Pierre: La valeur du transfugisme dépend de la sincérité des convictions, non du changement de camp. P - Défi

Un itinéraire politique sous tension

La rupture entre Sydney Pierre et sa formation politique s'est articulée en deux temps forts :

- **Juillet 2026:** Alors qu'il occupe le poste de *Junior Minister* du Tourisme, il est révoqué par le Premier ministre Navin Ramgoolam. Cette décision fait suite à son vote contre la réforme des pensions intégrée au *Finance Bill 2026*, marquant un désaccord stratégique majeur avec l'exécutif.
- **16 octobre 2026:** Invoquant d'importantes divergences d'opinions et la rupture de son alignement avec la ligne politique du PTTr, il officialise sa démission du parti.

Bien qu'il siège désormais aux côtés des députés du *Fron Militan Progresis* (FMP) mené par Paul Bérenger, le député a tenu à nuancer sa position. Dans un entretien accordé à *L'express* le 22 octobre 2026, il a précisé qu'il n'a pas formellement adhéré au FMP, tout en confirmant une collaboration étroite avec cette formation.

Cette situation illustre une particularité du système constitutionnel mauricien: un député peut changer d'allégeance en plein mandat sans que son siège ne devienne vacant, en l'absence de loi anti-transfugisme (*anti-defection law*).

Un phénomène historique ancré dans la vie politique mauricienne

Le cas de Sydney Pierre s'inscrit dans une longue tradition. Depuis l'indépendance en 1968, le transfugisme traverse l'histoire politique de l'île:

- **1968-1976:** 28 députés sur 70 ont changé d'allégeance. Quinze d'entre eux ont rejoint le Parti Travailliste, plusieurs obtenant par la suite des portefeuilles ministériels ou des postes de secrétaires parlementaires.
- **1976-1982:** Durant cette période, 18 parlementaires ont changé de camp, dont neuf membres du MMM ayant rejoint le PTTr.
- **1983:** La rupture de l'alliance MMM-PSM donne naissance au MSM, formé par des dissidents du MMM et des membres du PSM, démontrant qu'un mouvement individuel ou collectif de transfuges peut redessiner l'échiquier politique national.

2014-2019: Au moins six à sept députés ont traversé l'hémicycle (*crossed the floor*) au cours du mandat, illustrant la continuité du phénomène.

Transfugisme de conscience ou d'ambition?

Au-delà des chiffres, la perception du transfugisme varie fortement selon la culture démocratique et la motivation des acteurs. L'institut international IDEA distingue traditionnellement deux formes de transfugisme.

- Le transfugisme de conscience: le député s'oppose à une orientation politique, à une rupture d'engagement électoral ou à une dérive éthique, quittant souvent le pouvoir pour l'opposition ou le statut d'indépendant au prix de risques personnels ou politiques.
- Le transfugisme d'ambition: le changement d'allégeance vise un gain personnel, un accès aux responsabilités ministérielles ou la préservation d'un statut, soulevant des questions d'opportunisme aux yeux de l'opinion publique.

Dans les démocraties d'inspiration britannique (Westminster), la liberté d'opinion de l'élu est généralement protégée: le député n'est pas le simple délégué de son parti, mais un représentant guidé par son jugement. À l'inverse, des pays comme l'Inde ont instauré des lois anti-transfugisme strictes afin d'éviter le marchandage politique et préserver le mandat confié par les électeurs.

Comment quitter un parti avec dignité?

Changer de camp politique au cours d'un mandat électif exige une rigueur éthique pour préserver la confiance du public. Sept principes essentiels permettent de garantir une démarche empreinte de dignité :

1. **S'appuyer sur des motifs de fond:** Le désaccord doit porter sur des orientations politiques majeures, des valeurs ou des principes éthiques, et non sur de simples querelles de personnes.
2. **Expliquer clairement sa décision:** L'élu doit rendre compte publiquement et précisément des raisons de sa rupture devant ses électeurs.
3. **Respecter le mandat populaire:** L'élu doit prendre en considération les attentes des citoyens qui ont voté pour le programme initial.
4. **Refuser les compromis d'intérêt:** Le départ ne doit s'accompagner d'aucun avantage personnel indu ou marchandage politique.
5. **Faire preuve de transparence parlementaire:** L'élu doit clarifier rapidement son statut (indépendant, ralliement ou création d'un nouveau groupe).
6. **Accepter le jugement des électeurs:** Une démarche principielle implique d'assumer la critique des anciens alliés et la sanction éventuelle des urnes.
7. **Maintenir une cohérence dans le temps:** La légitimité du choix se mesure à la fidélité durable aux principes invoqués au moment du départ.

La question de savoir si un député transfuge doit démissionner de son siège pour solliciter un nouveau mandat reste débattue. Si une démission systématique peut paraître lourde, le besoin de transparence demeure indispensable. En intégrant l'examen de dispositions *anti-defection* dans les travaux de la *Constitutional Review Commission Act 2026*, Maurice ouvre une réflexion essentielle sur la modernisation de ses institutions.

En définitive, le transfugisme ne saurait être résumé à une trahison automatique ni à un simple exercice de liberté individuelle. La dignité de la démarche ne réside pas dans le fait de traverser l'hémicycle, mais dans la clarté des convictions qui l'inspirent, la transparence des explications données et la volonté de soumettre ce choix au jugement souverain du peuple.



Pour les mineurs de 14 à 17 ans, les poursuites sont possibles selon les faits, mais la justice privilégie la déjudiciarisation et la réhabilitation, la détention restant l'ultime recours. P - Sunday Times

Mineurs arrêtés après les émeutes: faut-il privilégier la clémence?

Les troubles survenus dans certaines localités de Maurice - à la suite des événements à Camp-Levieux, Élodie Thomas blessée par un policier et les *fake news* rapportées dans ce sillage -, ont relancé le débat sur le traitement judiciaire des mineurs impliqués dans les violences, les pillages et les dégradations.

Alors que plusieurs jeunes ont été arrêtés, l'avocat Me Siddhartha Hawoldar, Senior Counsel, a plaidé publiquement en faveur de la clémence, estimant que la pauvreté et les difficultés économiques contribuent au mécontentement d'une partie de la jeunesse.

Son appel à privilégier l'empathie, la compréhension et la réhabilitation plutôt que des sanctions exemplaires mérite réflexion. Mais comment concilier la nécessaire fermeté de l'État face aux infractions avec la prise en compte de l'âge, de la vulnérabilité et des perspectives d'avenir de ces jeunes? Et une forme d'amnistie serait-elle la réponse appropriée?

Amnistie, clémence et réhabilitation: des notions à distinguer

Le débat exige d'abord de distinguer plusieurs notions souvent confondues. L'amnistie constitue une mesure juridique générale qui efface, dans les limites fixées par la loi, les conséquences pénales de certaines infractions. La clémence renvoie plutôt à une réponse moins sévère, tandis que la déjudiciarisation permet, dans les cas prévus par la loi, de privilégier des mesures éducatives et réparatrices à la poursuite pénale classique.

Dans le contexte actuel, une amnistie générale accordée à tous les mineurs arrêtés, sans distinction de leur degré d'implication, soulèverait de sérieuses difficultés. La présence dans un rassemblement, la participation à des troubles, les jets de projectiles, les agressions et les pillages ne constituent pas des actes équivalents.

De plus, chaque situation doit être examinée individuellement, sur la base des preuves disponibles. Une arrestation ne constitue pas une déclaration de culpabilité. Faut-il donc privilégier une clémence encadrée et personnalisée, tenant compte des faits, de l'âge et des perspectives de réinsertion?

Que prévoit la législation mauricienne?

Le *Children's Act 2020*, entrée en vigueur en 2022, établit un cadre spécifique pour les enfants en conflit avec la loi. Son approche tient compte de leur âge et de leur développement, tout en permettant aux autorités d'intervenir lorsque des infractions sont soupçonnées.

☞ Suite en page 26



Anil Madan

France's Protests: : From School Funding Crisis to Democratic Reckoning

Democratic governments can no longer maintain political stability by expanding spending. France illustrates the trap: citizens demand investment, markets demand austerity, and governments cannot satisfy both

As autumn loomed, student protests in France seemed a minor dispute over education funding. The protests erupted into riots and have rapidly evolved into a broader national rebellion against economic hardship driven by the escalating cost of living, and political paralysis that leaves the government apparently unable to offer solutions. France has experienced declining faith in its political institutions and France is not alone. Nations across Europe, and as well, Britain and the US have the same experience. Recently, it seems that India, another large democracy has joined that club. What started as a local school strike became a test of the French state's capacity to govern amid fiscal constraints and a symbol of wider democratic stresses affecting much of Europe.

The crisis began on September 21, 2026, at Saint-Exupéry High School in a Paris suburb. Students and teachers supported each other's demands for additional staff and resources to cope with overcrowded classes and chronic understaffing. When the government met some of those demands, the strike ended.

But the underlying grievances were national rather than local.

For years, students had complained about overcrowded classrooms, teacher shortages, aging facilities, frequent class cancellations without replacement cover, and a general decline in educational quality despite rising enrollment.

This seemingly narrow education dispute, resonated with the public embittered by the feeling that as a state, France and its public institutions were failing in providing basic services. Weak job prospects and declining living standards with escalating inflation compounded these grievances.

The protest movement spread to cities across France as students in many cities blocked school entrances.

It did not take long for the protests to expand into nationwide unrest. Confrontations between demonstrators and police intensified. Scenes of burning barricades, clashes with police, damage to schools and other property, and forceful police action such as placing a young woman in a headlock (a banned restraint).

These developments evoked a sense of excessive police force. The riots escalated. More than 6,000 arrests involving minors have been made, at least 100 schools have been damaged, hundreds of students, teachers and police have been injured, and some injuries such as the loss of a hand and the loss of an eye are serious.

Student protest to national revolt

What was once a student movement has enrolled France's citizenry and the protests are about inflation, lack of affordable



"It seems that the French citizenry questions the very idea that a centrist government can solve social problems and maintain public order. The promises of the far right and far left beckon. No one stops to notice that the leaders of those fringe parties have no magic solutions. The French crisis resembles a broader European pattern. Related protests or unrest have recently occurred in Italy, Portugal, Belgium, and Albania: The common themes across countries are high housing costs, inflation, weak economic growth, youth frustrated with the lack of meaningful employment opportunities, rising public debt, and distrust of the entrenched political establishment personified by the centrist parties that have ruled for so long..." - Pic - Reuters

housing, youth unemployment, economic inequality, declining public services and falling living standards.

Now demonstrations have been drawing hundreds of thousands of people nationwide.

Just last week, the scale of the protests escalated. Some 3,000 shops were reportedly looted, public buildings were attacked and damaged, the Limoges city hall suffered serious fire damage including a spire burned and reminiscent of the fire at Notre Dame Cathedral. Vehicles were burned across the major cities, Marseille city hall was attacked and Paris saw widespread property destruction. Nearly 2,400 arrests were made.

The government's response has admittedly been too little, too late. France was simply not prepared for what has happened.

Some concessions and reforms have been made for students and schools, but these do not address the wider laments of French society.

Notably, President Emmanuel Macron acknowledged youth frustrations while calling for national dialogue. Prime Minister Sébastien Lecornu as well condemned violence while acknowledging that student grievances deserved consideration.

Macron's government lacks the fiscal wherewithal to initiate public spending on a massive scale to meet the legitimate complaints of its citizens.

Among other problems, France now faces: public debt near 119% of GDP, budget deficits exceeding 5% of GDP, rising interest rates and weak economic growth.

This financial reality creates a dilemma. France appears to be on the verge of fiscal collapse at a time when the escalating cost of living is causing people to question whether the country's government as presently constituted is capable of handling

the nation's affairs competently.

On the one hand, the protesters are demanding increased public investment in education and social services precisely when, on the other hand, markets and European fiscal rules are pushing the government toward spending restraint.

The result is that opposition parties, particularly the far right and far left parties, have sought to capitalize and gain political advantage from the crisis.

The Far Left

Jean-Luc Mélenchon, the leftist leader, embraced the students' cause, saying that they had raised legitimate concerns. Charging that the state is failing France's youth, he blames government neglect and heavy-handed policing for increasing tensions. Marine Le Pen, the right-wing politician, emphasizes the need for public order, anti-crime measures, restrictions on immigration, and the forceful exercise of state authority.

The upshot is that the biggest loser may be the political centre. Macron's centrist coalition has already been weakened by the lack of a legislative majority, fragmentation of the Parliament, and generalized public dissatisfaction.

It seems that the French citizenry questions the very idea that a centrist government can solve social problems and maintain public order.

The promises of the far right and far left beckon. No one stops to notice that the leaders of those fringe parties have no magic solutions.

The French crisis resembles a broader European pattern.

Related protests or unrest have recently occurred in Italy, Portugal, Belgium, and Albania:

The common themes across countries are high housing costs, inflation, weak economic growth, youth frustrated with the lack of meaningful employment opportunities, rising public debt, and distrust of the entrenched political establishment personified by the centrist parties that have ruled for so long.

With elections approaching in France, Spain, Italy and Poland, many Europeans increasingly doubt that traditional center-left and center-right parties can address their concerns.

Polling by Pew Research has found major dissatisfaction with democracy itself in several countries:

- France: 69% dissatisfied.
- Spain: 68%.
- Italy: 62%.
- Poland: 47%.

The rise of far-right and far-left parties across Europe reflects this growing disillusionment.

The deeper issue revealed by the French protests is not merely educational policy but a structural challenge facing modern democracies.

Many governments confront three simultaneous pressures:

- Rising Public Expectations: Citizens demand higher-quality public services.
- Economic Stagnation: Living standards are stagnating amidst rising living costs.
- Fiscal Constraints: Governments are carrying historically high debt loads.

For decades, democratic governments often maintained political stability by expanding spending. Today, many no longer possess that fiscal flexibility.

France illustrates the resulting trap as citizens demand investment; markets demand austerity and governments cannot satisfy both.

The danger is that voters increasingly abandon mainstream parties and turn toward movements offering simple solutions, whether from the far left or the far right.

The 2026 French student protests began with a seemingly modest demand: more teachers and resources at an underfunded suburban high school. Yet they exposed much deeper fractures within French society.

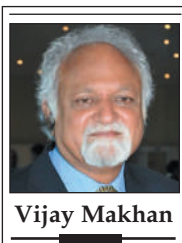
The movement expanded because many French citizens recognized their own frustrations in the students' complaints: declining public services, rising living costs, economic insecurity, and a sense that political leaders no longer listen.

The protests have thus become more than an education dispute. They have evolved into a referendum on Macron's legacy, a launchpad for presidential contenders on both the far left and far right, and a warning about the mounting tensions facing democracies across Europe.

The central question is not simply whether France can restore order, but whether democratic governments burdened by debt and low growth can still deliver enough prosperity and opportunity to maintain public trust. If they cannot, France's crisis may prove to be only the first chapter of a broader European political transformation.

Cheerz...

Bwana



Vijay Makhan

Chagos - When Propaganda Dresses as Journalism

A campaign of insinuation — from an unverified claim about a police shooting to proposals to bargain over Diego Garcia — is distorting the Chagos debate and testing the elementary duties of journalism

There comes a point when one must stop treating every loud assertion as a serious contribution to debate. The Chagos question is once again being used to confuse audiences, inflame opinion and dress political advocacy as journalism.

The latest example is deeply troubling. Elodie Thomas, a young Mauritian woman, was shot by a police officer in the wake of protests. She had nothing to do with the protests. She was being driven to her home from work. Available reporting says the protests began over water shortages and that the shooting intensified the unrest. The circumstances of the shooting remain under investigation.

The Great British Political Action Committee (Great British PAC) then placed the incident within its campaign against the UK-Mauritius agreement. Its article asks whether Thomas is Chagossian, while acknowledging that this has not been independently verified. But that qualification comes after a headline invoking “fears for Chagossian safety” and an opening that frames the incident around the future of Chagos. The article invites readers to connect a police shooting, the Chagos agreement and the safety of Chagossians before evidence has established that connection. It offers no evidence that Thomas was targeted because of her ancestry, or that the shooting had anything to do with Chagos.

GB News — a British free-to-air television and radio news channel — should be named in this discussion. The channel has given a platform to claims advanced by those campaigning against the agreement. If, as in its recent coverage, an unverified claim about Thomas’s heritage is presented in a way that blurs its uncertain status, that is not a minor lapse. A broadcaster has a duty to distinguish what is established from what remains speculation. The PAC is entitled to campaign; viewers are entitled to know when they are hearing a campaign’s case rather than verified reporting.

The PAC’s own website makes clear that it opposes the proposed transfer and supports legal proceedings concerning Chagos. That is its position, and it is entitled to advance it. But when a campaign’s claims are given the authority of a news studio without adequate testing, advocacy begins to pass as fact.

We have seen this method before. I wrote earlier about Senator John Kennedy of Louisiana, who portrayed Mauritius as closely tied to China and claimed that China would hack Mauritian security as soon as the Chagos agreement was made. His own office published those remarks.

Such claims are assertions, not evidence. They are designed to make a small state appear an imminent security threat without demonstrating how that threat would arise.

Now Nigel Farage offers his own transactional approach. He said he would guarantee the United States use of Diego Garcia in perpetuity in return for Donald Trump keeping quiet about the Falklands. Farage later insisted he meant use of the base, not a transfer of sovereignty over the islands to the United States. Kemi Badenoch called the proposal humiliating. She was right to object to treating territory and security arrangements as bargaining counters for political silence. Yet her own declaration that “the Chagos Islands are British” does not settle the matter.

The spectacle did not end there. On 19 October, Sir Edward Leigh — the Father of the House of Commons — asked why Britain should not simply sell the Diego Garcia base to President Trump for £6 billion, on territory the UK has no lawful right to retain, and use the proceeds to help fund higher defence spending. Now, is this not the extraordinary case of a squatter proposing to sell to its tenant a property that belongs to a third party?

Diego Garcia is not a piece of British real estate to be traded at Westminster’s convenience. The International Court of Justice (February 25, 2019) found that Mauritius’s decolonisation had not been lawfully completed following the archipelago’s separation, and the United Nations (May 22, 2019) subsequently called on Britain to end its administration within six months. The UK-Mauritius Agreement was signed (May 25, 2025) after protracted negotiations (13 rounds) initiated in November 2022. Ratification is paused. However, none of this is erased by declaring, in a partisan studio or in the UK Parliament, that the islands are British. The history and law should not have to compete with television or House theatrics.

There are, moreover, legitimate questions about the financial and political networks surrounding the Chagos campaign. Farage is subject to a parliamentary standards inquiry over a £5 million gift from Christopher Harborne. Farage says it was a personal gift and did not need to be declared; the inquiry is yet to deliver its findings. Separately, the *Financial Times* reported that Harborne paid for the boat



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used by the Chagossians who landed without permission on Île du Coin. The *Guardian* reported links between Harborne, and aircraft used to transport Farage to the Maldives and campaigners to Sri Lanka. These reports make transparency essential when the operation is presented as an unaided expression of Chagossian will.

There is room for rigorous debate about the agreement, the rights and aspirations of Chagossians, the future of Diego Garcia and Mauritius’s stewardship of the archipelago. There is **no** room for invented history, unsupported claims about Mauritius’s allegiance, or insinuations that turn an unresolved allegation into a geopolitical plot.

The public deserves to know what is established, what is contested and what remains unknown. When broadcasters fail to draw those lines—when they invite voices to repeat partisan claims without testing their premises and let suggestion do the work of proof—they abandon the discipline journalism demands.

I have spent much of my life in diplomacy, where facts matter precisely because emotion and political interest can so easily distort them. This campaign deserves a clear name — propaganda by insinuation. When that insinuation is packaged as news, it is gutter journalism.

21 October 2026

AAPRAVASI GHAT INDIAN INDENTURED IMMIGRANTS GIRMITYA ARRIVAL CELEBRATION COMMITTEE ANNUAL YAS CEREMONY

2 November 1834 – 2 November 2026

The Aapravasi Ghat Indian Indentured Immigrants Girmitya Arrival Celebration Committee invites the public to the Annual Yas Ceremony at Aapravasi Ghat to commemorate the 192nd anniversary of the arrival of Indian indentured immigrants in Mauritius.

Monday 2 November 2026 — 8.00 am – 8.45 am.

The ceremony will include yaj, prayers, tributes, the lighting of lamps and Shradhanjali. Participants are kindly requested to bring garlands and flowers for the Shradhanjali.

Guests and participants are requested to be seated by **7.45 am sharp**.

Dr Mrs Sarita Boodhoo
President

Sadhna Ramlallah
Vice President

Rita Ramlallah
Secretary

Dr Avinaash Munohur, Politologue

“Une crise peut constituer le point de départ d’une transformation, à condition que le gouvernement sache saisir cette opportunité”

A lors que l’île Maurice fait face à des tensions sociales sur fond de hausse du coût de la vie et de difficultés d’accès à l’eau, etc., les récents événements suscitent des comparaisons avec les troubles de février 1999. Faut-il y voir la résurgence de fractures anciennes ou l’expression d’un malaise social plus large? Pour y répondre, nous donnons la parole au politologue et consultant en stratégies politiques Dr Avinaash Munohur. Dans cet entretien incisif, il analyse les limites du modèle de développement mauricien, l’essoufflement de l’ascenseur social et le «malaise des classes moyennes». Il aborde également sans détour la gestion gouvernementale de la crise, le défi de la jeunesse, la géographie des inégalités ainsi que les recompositions politiques en cours sur l’échiquier national.

Mauritius Times: Un climat de mécontentement et d’exaspération couvait déjà au sein d’une grande partie de la population, notamment autour de l’accès à l’eau et du coût de la vie. L’affaire Élodie Thomas est venue exacerber les tensions. Le parallèle avec les émeutes de février 1999 vous paraît-il pertinent?

Dr Avinaash Munohur: Le parallèle est pertinent, à condition de ne pas confondre les circonstances immédiates avec les dynamiques sociales profondes. En 1999, la mort de Kaya en détention policière avait agi comme un détonateur, révélant des frustrations accumulées et une profonde défiance envers les institutions.

Il faut rappeler ici la notion de «malaise créole», que le père Roger Cerveau utilisait pour décrire l’invisibilité des descendants d’esclaves au sein même de l’Église catholique, et dont le sens a évolué pour occuper une place importante dans les analyses sociologiques de l’époque. Elle renvoyait à une réalité historique particulière: celle de la marginalisation économique, sociale et culturelle d’une partie de la population dite créole, dont les racines plongent notamment dans l’héritage de l’esclavage et les mécanismes de reproduction des inégalités.

Mais je pense qu’il faut être extrêmement prudent avant de transposer cette grille de lecture aux événements de 2026. Nous ne disposons pas d’éléments permettant d’affirmer que nous assistons à une résurgence du malaise créole dans sa spécificité propre. Ce que nous observons semble plutôt relever d’une crise sociale plus transversale, qui dépasse les appartenances communautaires, et qui ne peut être réduite à une lecture identitaire, selon moi.

C’est précisément ce que je qualifie de «malaise des classes moyennes», c’est-à-dire le sentiment que le contrat social mauricien ne fonctionne plus, que le travail ne garantit plus la prospérité et que les perspectives d’ascension sociale se réduisent, notamment pour les classes ouvrières et les petites classes moyennes.

Cela ne signifie évidemment pas que les inégalités historiques et communautaires ont disparu. Il me semble plutôt qu’elles se superposent à ces nouvelles fractures économiques, ce qui rend le phénomène actuel plus complexe justement.

La grande leçon de 1999 demeure donc d’actualité, surtout si on élargit l’analyse: une société peut donner l’impression d’être stable alors même que des frustrations profondes s’y accumulent. Et lorsqu’un événement vient rompre cet équilibre, les conséquences peuvent être ressenties sur le long terme, voire le très long terme.

* Certains estiment que les enseignements de 1999

n’ont pas été tirés. Cela signifie-t-il que les gouvernements successifs n’ont pas su apporter des réponses durables aux problèmes sociaux?

Il faut distinguer les progrès réels accomplis par notre pays de l’incapacité progressive de notre classe politique à renouveler son projet de société.

Il serait intellectuellement malhonnête de prétendre que les gouvernements successifs n’ont rien accompli. Maurice a connu des transformations économiques et sociales considérables depuis l’indépendance. Notre État-providence, nos infrastructures et notre diversification économique résultent de plusieurs décennies de décisions politiques. D’ailleurs l’ouverture des secteurs liés au global business, à partir du début des années 2000, faisait justement partie d’un nouveau souffle économique que le gouvernement a su insuffler à la suite de février 99. Ces secteurs ont d’ailleurs permis la création d’emplois, de richesses et d’opportunités qui ont permis au PIB mauricien de passer de Rs 120 milliards en 2000 à Rs 694 milliards en 2024.

« Je pense qu’il faut être extrêmement prudent avant de transposer cette grille de lecture aux événements de 2026. Ce que nous observons semble plutôt relever d’une crise sociale plus transversale, qui dépasse les appartenances communautaires, et qui ne peut être réduite à une lecture identitaire. C’est précisément ce que je qualifie de « malaise des classes moyennes », c’est-à-dire le sentiment que le contrat social mauricien ne fonctionne plus... »

Mais nous avons progressivement confondu la gestion des acquis avec la construction de l’avenir, en assumant sans doute que la création de valeur allait de facto assurer ce que les économistes appellent le «trickle effect». De ce fait, depuis plusieurs décennies, nos gouvernements répondent aux frustrations sociales par une surenchère de promesses électorales et des mesures compensatoires, sans vraiment engager les transformations structurelles nécessaires afin de s’assurer que la croissance économique soit accessible à tous.

Nous célébrons la gratuité de l’éducation sans suffisamment interroger son efficacité. Nous défendons la santé publique tout en acceptant progressivement une médecine à deux vitesses. Nous parlons de démocratisation écono-



mique alors que l’accès à la propriété devient de plus en plus difficile, et que rien n’est réellement fait pour permettre l’essor des PME et pour faciliter la création d’entreprises.

Le problème dépasse donc les partis politiques en réalité. Nous sommes bien plutôt en face d’un système politique qui peine à produire une vision collective du développement. L’enseignement fondamental de 1999 aurait dû être que la paix sociale ne se décrète pas mais qu’elle se construit par la justice sociale, la confiance institutionnelle et la possibilité réelle, pour chaque génération, d’améliorer ses conditions d’existence. Est-ce que cette leçon a réellement été apprise?

* Le Premier ministre a annoncé des consultations avec les ONG. Ne faudrait-il pas également une réponse nationale impliquant les institutions religieuses et le secteur privé?

Je vais vous répondre par une question: comment expliquer que le Premier ministre, moins de deux ans après avoir remporté une victoire électorale historique sur la promesse de changer le système, nous annonce aujourd’hui qu’il doit consulter les ONG pour comprendre les causes du malaise social? Cela ne reviendrait-il pas à reconnaître que le gouvernement n’a pas véritablement compris les raisons profondes de la victoire de 2024?

☞ Suite en page 9

Riots 2026 : 'Si l'implication de réseaux criminels organisés était établie,

nous serions confrontés à une situation extrêmement préoccupante'

☞ Suite de la page 8

Plus troublant encore, le gouvernement dispose de tout l'appareil administratif de l'État, de statistiques publiques, de services de renseignement, de ministères et d'institutions censés connaître les réalités du pays. Que lui manque-t-il donc pour comprendre ce qui se passe?

Est-ce un problème de circulation de l'information? De capacité d'analyse? Ou simplement de volonté politique d'entendre ce que les Mauriciens expriment depuis des années? Je ne conteste évidemment pas l'utilité des ONG, mais je m'interroge sur le rôle qu'on souhaite leur faire jouer dans ce cas précis.

Une part importante du secteur associatif mauricien, notamment les ONG, est aujourd'hui financée par les mécanismes de *Corporate Social Responsibility* (CSR). Or, ce système soulève une question idéologique fondamentale: sommes-nous en train de transformer la lutte contre les inégalités en une activité philanthropique financée par ceux-là même qui bénéficient du modèle économique existant?

Allons-nous désormais demander au secteur privé de définir les causes et les solutions d'une crise sociale dont les mécanismes de production sont également économiques, et découlent directement de la division historique du capital à Maurice?

Le risque ici serait de privatiser progressivement la responsabilité politique de l'État en matière de justice sociale. Je ne prétends pas que telle soit l'intention du Premier ministre, mais il faudra observer attentivement la nature des consultations annoncées et les ONG concernées car les inégalités ne sont pas un problème de charité. Elles sont un problème de justice, de redistribution et d'organisation économique. L'État doit écouter la société civile afin de mieux construire ses politiques; il ne doit en aucun cas sous-traiter sa responsabilité politique à des intérêts privés.

*** Par ailleurs, notre système éducatif laisse chaque année de nombreux jeunes sans perspectives, tandis que le trafic de drogues de synthèse prend des proportions inquiétantes. Avons-nous les expertises nécessaires pour apporter des solutions efficaces plutôt que de reproduire les réflexes du passé?**

Maurice ne manque ni d'intelligence ni de compétences. Le problème réside dans notre incapacité institutionnelle à mobiliser ces compétences autour d'une vision cohérente. Ceci revient à dire que nous avons un manque flagrant d'intelligence collective. Nous voyons d'ailleurs cela dans le fait que nous continuons à traiter des problèmes interdépendants comme s'ils étaient indépendants les uns des autres.

Prenons l'exemple des drogues synthétiques. Nous les considérons principalement comme une question de répression policière dont la seule réponse semble être la dépénalisation du cannabis. Or, il s'agit également d'une problématique de santé publique, d'échec scolaire, de précarité et d'absence de perspectives économiques. Il s'agit également d'un phénomène lié à la culture des narcotrafiquants et des

gangs, dont les spécificités mériteraient d'être mieux prises en compte par les autorités. La police et le système judiciaire doivent aussi disposer de la formation et des moyens nécessaires pour y répondre plus efficacement.

Une politique antidrogue sérieuse exige donc une coordination entre l'éducation, la santé, les services sociaux, la police et la justice. Elle suppose également de s'attaquer aux circuits financiers permettant aux trafics de prospérer.

Il en va de même pour l'éducation. La question n'est pas uniquement de savoir combien d'élèves réussissent leurs examens ou combien de lauréats le pays produit chaque année, mais de ce que deviennent ceux qui échouent et comment préparer notre jeunesse aux transformations économiques et technologiques qui frappent à nos portes.

« Nous parlons de démocratisation économique alors que l'accès à la propriété devient de plus en plus difficile, et que rien n'est réellement fait pour permettre l'essor des PME et pour faciliter la création d'entreprises. Le problème dépasse donc les partis politiques en réalité. Nous sommes bien plutôt en face d'un système politique qui peine à produire une vision collective du développement... »

Nous avons besoin d'une modernisation de l'action publique fondée sur l'évaluation des politiques, la coordination interministérielle et la responsabilité des décideurs. L'expertise existe. Ce qui fait défaut, c'est l'architecture institutionnelle permettant de la transformer en action. Comme souvent, c'est l'implémentation qui pose problème à Maurice.

*** Qu'en est-il de notre modèle économique? Malgré plusieurs décennies de croissance, Maurice reste confrontée à d'importantes frustrations sociales. Notre modèle de développement a-t-il atteint ses limites?**

Il est essentiel de rappeler la fonction particulière de l'État-providence à Maurice. Notre modèle social ne répondait pas uniquement à une logique de redistribution économique. Il remplissait également une fonction réparatrice: créer les conditions de l'émancipation économique, sociale et culturelle d'une population profondément marquée par l'esclavage, l'engagisme et les inégalités héritées de notre histoire coloniale.

L'éducation gratuite, la santé publique et les politiques sociales ont contribué à produire une importante classe moyenne mauricienne, classe moyenne qui incarne la réussite de notre modèle et constitue la preuve que l'ascenseur social fonctionnait. Or, aujourd'hui, cet ascenseur semble se bloquer, ce qui explique que les classes moyennes étouffent.

Le travail ne garantit plus nécessairement la prospérité. Les diplômes ne garantissent plus l'ascension sociale. L'accès au logement devient difficile, tandis que les dépenses essentielles absorbent une part croissante des revenus, ne permettant plus à l'épargne de fonctionner comme levier d'avancement.

C'est ce que j'appelle justement le malaise des classes moyennes: le sentiment que le contrat social ne fonctionne plus pour ceux qui travaillent, paient leurs impôts et respectent les règles. Le jeu semble complètement faussé.

*** Plus fondamentalement, entre le développement des complexes hôteliers, des parcours de golf et des**



Smart Cities, d'une part, et le délabrement de certains centres urbains, d'autre part, ne sommes-nous pas en train d'assister à l'émergence de deux "Île Maurice", aux réalités et aux perspectives de plus en plus contrastées?

C'est une dimension fondamentale, trop souvent absente de nos analyses économiques et sociales à Maurice. Et c'est une dimension qui permet justement de ne pas basculer dans une lecture identitaire qui n'explique pas tout.

Il suffit de regarder notre territoire pour comprendre l'organisation même des inégalités aujourd'hui. D'un côté, nous avons développé des complexes touristiques, des résidences de luxe, des golfs et des *Smart Cities*, avec des infrastructures modernes et des espaces parfaitement entretenus et beaux. De l'autre, nous avons des centres urbains historiques dont le cadre bâti se dégrade, des infrastructures vieillissantes et des quartiers confrontés à des difficultés croissantes – comme l'approvisionnement en eau par exemple.

Il existe une véritable géographie des inégalités à Maurice. Et nous ne pouvons plus faire comme si ce n'était pas le cas car cette géographie n'est pas neutre.

L'aménagement du territoire traduit toujours des choix économiques et politiques. Il détermine où nous investissons, quelles populations bénéficient des infrastructures et comment nous organisons l'accès aux ressources. L'espace n'est pas simplement le décor des rapports sociaux. Son organisation participe pleinement à la production et à la reproduction des dominations, et donc des inégalités.

La question de l'eau rend ce phénomène particulièrement visible. Comment comprendre que des familles puissent rester plusieurs jours sans approvisionnement régulier alors que les golfs, les piscines et les ensembles résidentiels ne semblent pas souffrir de ces pénuries?

Il y a clairement un problème de territoires. Mais pas que ce fait.

Il existe également, par exemple, des lois qu'il faut revoir, comme la *Rivers and Canals Act* de 1863 qui reconnaît notamment des droits d'usage et des concessions sur l'eau des rivières – dont certains trouvent leur origine dans l'économie de plantation coloniale.

Je ne prétends pas ici que les complexes privés soient directement responsables des pénuries. Malgré une réduction de la pluviométrie, nous avons énormément d'eau à Maurice. Le problème est le captage, la gestion et la distribution de l'eau ainsi que le mode de fonctionnement de la CWA. Une autre stratégie territoriale de captage et de distribution doit être développée.

☞ Suite en page 10

« Allons-nous désormais demander au secteur privé de définir les causes et les solutions d'une crise sociale dont les mécanismes de production sont également économiques, et découlent directement de la division historique du capital à Maurice? Le risque ici serait de privatiser progressivement la responsabilité politique de l'État en matière de justice sociale... »

Regroupement Bérenger-Valayden-Bodha

“La simple addition de personnalités ne suffit pas à créer une véritable alternative politique”

☞ Suite de la page 9

Mais la question dépasse celle de l'accès à l'eau. La question que nous devons nous poser est la suivante: sommes-nous en train de construire une île Maurice où la prospérité se concentre dans des enclaves privilégiées, pendant que les espaces historiques de la vie collective continuent de se dégrader?

Si la réponse à cette question est positive, alors il devient également urgent de développer un vaste projet de régénération des villes et des espaces publics. C'est là une piste extrêmement importante à explorer dans la lutte contre les inégalités.

*** Les jeunes semblent se reconnaître de moins en moins dans les partis traditionnels et perdre confiance dans l'ascension sociale. Comment interprétez-vous cette désaffection, notamment après les violences récentes?**

Je me méfie des généralisations associant la jeunesse à la violence. Il est impératif de distinguer ceux qui expriment des frustrations légitimes de ceux qui commettent des actes criminels gratuits.

Ceci dit, la désaffection envers les institutions politiques traditionnelles constitue un problème réel. Nos partis politiques fonctionnent encore largement selon des structures hiérarchiques héritées d'une autre époque, reposant sur des dynasties bien établies, des fidélités historiques et des réseaux clientélistes. Or, les nouvelles générations évoluent dans un univers où les idées circulent horizontalement, où l'autorité est constamment questionnée et où les mobilisations peuvent se construire sans organisations centralisées.

Il existe donc un décalage croissant entre les formes traditionnelles de la mobilisation politique et les nouvelles formes d'expression citoyenne. Et la réponse ne peut pas se limiter à demander aux jeunes de rejoindre les partis existants. Ce sont aussi les partis qui doivent se transformer pour redevenir des espaces de participation démocratique, de production intellectuelle et de renouvellement des idées et des élites – tout en devenant transparent quant à leur financement, en donnant des garanties claires sur la question de la démocratisation du leadership.

*** D'autre part, le Premier ministre a évoqué l'implication éventuelle de gangs et de réseaux criminels dans les violences. Il a également annoncé au Parlement l'interpellation d'un baron de la drogue. Si ces soupçons se confirment, quelles seraient les conséquences pour notre démocratie?**

Si l'implication de réseaux criminels organisés était établie, nous serions confrontés à une situation extrêmement préoccupante. Il ne s'agirait plus uniquement d'un problème de maintien de l'ordre, mais d'une remise en cause potentielle de l'autorité de l'État sur certaines parties de son territoire. Encore une fois, la question du territoire surgit.

Les organisations criminelles ne recherchent pas seulement des profits. Lorsqu'elles deviennent suffisamment puissantes, elles peuvent chercher à contrôler des territoires, influencer les comportements sociaux et pénétrer les institutions publiques.

Mais nous devons être

rigoureux, l'arrestation d'un seul baron ne constitue pas la preuve que les barons ont tenté de déstabiliser l'État. Les déclarations du Premier ministre devront être étayées par des enquêtes sérieuses et la mise à nu de ces réseaux mafieux.

Mais si ces soupçons se confirment, il faudra revoir nos capacités de renseignement, nos méthodes d'investigation financière et nos mécanismes de lutte contre la corruption. Il faudra également comprendre les conditions sociales permettant à ces réseaux de recruter et de s'implanter durablement dans certains territoires.

L'État doit faire preuve de fermeté absolue face aux organisations criminelles. Mais cette fermeté ne doit jamais servir à criminaliser indistinctement la contestation sociale et les victimes de la précarité. Il faut ici tenir simultanément deux exigences: protéger l'ordre démocratique et préserver le droit légitime des citoyens à exprimer leur colère.

*** Sydney Pierre a quitté le PTr et rejoindrait apparemment le Fron Militan Progresis de Paul Bérenger dans les prochains jours. Si cela venait à se confirmer, une telle recombinaison pourrait-elle constituer une alternative crédible?**

Sur le plan strictement parlementaire, le départ de Sydney Pierre ne modifie aucunement le rapport de forces, car le gouvernement conserve une majorité absolue. Mais cette défection s'inscrit dans une dynamique d'effritement politique qui mérite notre attention.

Je trouve personnellement regrettable que Sydney Pierre ait quitté le PTr, surtout de la manière dont il l'a fait. Il avait été présenté comme un jeune professionnel ayant fait ses preuves dans le secteur hôtelier et qui disposait, au sein du Parti travailliste, d'une véritable occasion de participer au renouvellement générationnel au sein d'un parti véritablement national et historique.

Au lieu de cela, s'il confirme son choix, il s'orienterait vers ce que je considère davantage comme un regroupement de personnalités politiques que comme un véritable parti porteur d'un projet idéologique cohérent.

J'y vois surtout un possible calcul électoral de sa part: miser sur sa réélection en accrochant sa bannière à Paul Bérenger dans son bastion historique, plutôt que de s'engager dans le travail de transformation et de renouvellement d'un parti de l'intérieur.

Si tel est bien son calcul, il pourrait un jour le regretter, car les recompositions poli-

tiques sont incertaines et les alliances de circonstances ne constituent pas nécessairement des projets durables. Paul Bérenger n'a d'ailleurs eu de cesse de le démontrer.

Mais cette décision soulève également une question pour le Parti travailliste: quelle place réelle accorde-t-il aux jeunes générations et à leur capacité d'influencer ses orientations?

Quant au regroupement autour de Paul Bérenger, Rama Valayden et éventuellement Nando Bodha, la simple addition de personnalités ne suffit pas à créer une véritable alternative politique. Ce qui compte, c'est le projet. Or, le malaise actuel traduit précisément une lassitude envers cette manière de faire de la politique, où les alliances se font et se défont au gré des circonstances et des opportunités.

Notre pays a besoin d'un renouvellement des idées, pas simplement d'une redistribution des ambitions individuelles.

*** Moins de deux ans après l'alternance de 2024, le gouvernement traverse sa première crise majeure. Ces événements marquent-ils un tournant décisif sur la scène politique mauricienne?**

Nous sommes effectivement à un moment charnière du mandat gouvernemental.

La victoire de 2024 avait suscité une attente extraordinaire. Les électeurs n'avaient pas simplement voté pour une alternance. Ils avaient exprimé une volonté profonde de rupture avec certaines pratiques politiques et institutionnelles. C'est précisément cette attente qui rend la désillusion actuelle particulièrement préoccupante.

pante.

Les événements récents ont révélé les limites de notre modèle social, les fragilités de nos institutions de sécurité et les difficultés du gouvernement à comprendre les frustrations qui traversent la société. Une crise peut toutefois constituer le point de départ d'une transformation, à condition que le gouvernement sache saisir cette opportunité.

Le Premier ministre dispose encore d'une majorité parlementaire lui permettant des réformes d'envergure; encore faudrait-il revoir la culture de gouvernance, restaurer la confiance institutionnelle et démontrer que les sacrifices demandés à la population s'appliquent également aux dirigeants.

L'austérité doit commencer au sommet de l'État: rationalisation du nombre de ministres, réduction des dépenses de fonctionnement, révision des avantages et du train de vie gouvernemental... Ce serait un bon début pour au moins montrer que la colère du peuple a été entendue. Le gouvernement pourrait également revenir sur certaines mesures prises, comme baisser le prix de l'essence et le retour de certaines allocations sociales qui aidaient grandement les familles les plus démunies.

Mais il faudra surtout reconstruire un projet collectif capable de répondre aux fractures économiques, territoriales et générationnelles que cette crise a révélées, car rétablir l'ordre dans les rues ne signifie pas nécessairement rétablir la paix sociale. On peut mettre fin à une émeute par la force, mais cela ne signifie aucunement que les frustrations sociales ont disparu.

La véritable question n'est donc pas uniquement de savoir si le Gouvernement survivra politiquement à cette crise. Elle est de savoir si notre classe politique saura enfin comprendre que ce qui s'épuise aujourd'hui, ce n'est pas simplement la confiance dans une majorité parlementaire, mais un modèle de développement et un contrat social dont nous devons collectivement repenser les fondements.

Pour le texte complet, veuillez consulter notre site web:
www.mauritiustimes.com



« Sommes-nous en train de construire une île Maurice où la prospérité se concentre dans des enclaves privilégiées, pendant que les espaces historiques de la vie collective continuent de se dégrader ? Si la réponse à cette question est positive, alors il devient également urgent de développer un vaste projet de régénération des villes et des espaces publics. C'est là une piste extrêmement importante à explorer dans la lutte contre les inégalités... »



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Beyond the Victim Narrative: How Mauritius Can Reclaim Its Future

"The question is not simply whether our grievances are justified; many are. It is whether we are converting them into knowledge, organisation, practical competence and lasting improvements in our lives"

U. Dasin

The convergence of youth and Gen Z protests worldwide reflects a perception that states are failing to deliver fairness, equality and equitable distribution. It points to transformations reshaping society and the psychology of the contemporary citizen. Technology's immediacy and the speed with which outrage circulates can foster an expectation that change should happen at the click of a button. However, societies do not transform at the speed of a social media post.

stances and improve life outcomes despite systemic limitations.

Structural inequality is real, and determination cannot overcome every obstacle. But recognising constraints must not replace identifying what we can do. Commentators often exploit grievance for attention, amplifying anger without practical direction. Denunciation becomes an end in itself while solutions are neglected. Anger is legitimate; without direction, it can create the impression of action while conditions remain unchanged. The challenge is to recover agency.

the Asian middle class were able to step into roles that had previously been less accessible to them — a transition comparable to how women entered the workforce in greater numbers during the Second World War.

For Indo-Mauritians, entry into these positions provided opportunities to build professional experience and participate more fully in institutional life, establishing clear avenues for upward mobility. Education and public service became practical routes to advancement. At the same time, the departure of established middle-class professionals may have altered community leadership structures within the Creole population, contributing to long-term challenges in social cohesion and representation that are still discussed today.

The Inheritance of Expectations

These divergent experiences shaped expectations about what society owes individuals and how recognition is secured. Some young people grow up within a cocoon of religious reassurance and social validation, reinforced by social-media approval. They may expect acceptance, including employment, to follow naturally from identities and recognition within their circles. Labour markets do not operate according to social media's logic: online applause does not translate necessarily into qualifications, competence, independence or employability. Meanwhile, often without fanfare, many invisible students work through school, examinations and higher education, supported by families that transmit diligence, discipline, delayed gratification and the value of education.

Yet even these diligent young people face a growing mismatch between expectations and economic reality. Those who have followed the prescribed educational route and worked diligently may find that a changing labour market cannot recognise their credentials or absorb enough graduates within a small society. It is also a fact that the work-space, like everything else, is significantly affected by capitalist takeover of all aspects of our lives. The logic of profit is on exponential increase for companies, while the ordinary citizen, often the employees of those who declare astoundingly huge profit margins, is struggling with surviving on a day to day basis. And yet the portion of blame is rarely directed towards these private companies whether in our public debates despite the ginormous profit figures being publicly advertised as a sign of pride and achievement for the private sector.

The experiences of small farmers and entrepreneurs reflect a similar disconnect.

Many small planters work up to fourteen hours a day while struggling to support their families, illustrating the tension between the ideal of self-reliance and the harsh economic constraints faced by small-scale producers. Public debate often reduces these complex issues to competing explanations. Those who achieve economic mobility are sometimes dismissed as beneficiaries of nepotism or favor, while those who do not are viewed solely as evidence of systemic exclusion. Both interpretations can be misleading when applied indiscriminately. While privilege and connections certainly play a role for some, others succeed through effort, competence, and opportunity. Likewise, while genuine discrimination exists, many individuals simply face broader economic constraints, inadequate preparation, or circumstances that require different approaches.

When it comes to the question of Education, it begs repeating the same questions we have all been asking for a long time now, and more assiduously since the recent social disturbances and what they unveiled about the long-term impact of school dropouts. Why has our education system failed to meet the needs of children who cannot thrive within conventional models? Experiments in vocational education and alternative learning have taken place, yet the system's basic structure has not changed enough to engage every student's curiosity, interests and potential.

Our reliance on established teaching methods, examinations and standardised expectations ignores how differently children learn. Difficulty may reflect a disengaging environment rather than a lack of intelligence or willingness. Visual resources improve comprehension, yet teachers - already inadequately rewarded - cannot be expected to fund their own teaching collections. Are classrooms equipped to use visual aids consistently? Are libraries stocked with age-appropriate material? Do teachers receive training in alternative methods, particularly language learning? Vocabulary can be taught through visual aids, props, translation, repetition and practical activities. These methods are neither especially complicated nor prohibitively expensive, yet they are not consistently used.

Project-based learning, differentiated instruction, demonstrations, collaboration and flexible assessment could help within mainstream education. This is not about lowering standards, but recognising different routes to learning: difficulty with one method should not become a lifelong verdict on ability. This needs national debate, since better resources and flexibility would benefit all students.

Teachers cannot transform classrooms without adequate resources, preparation and institutional support.

The Classroom as a Space Where Inequality Is Reproduced

Even before classroom discipline became a major issue, teachers worked in environments shaped by social prejudice and unequal expectations.



“Our reliance on established teaching methods, examinations and standardised expectations ignores how differently children learn. Difficulty may reflect a disengaging environment rather than a lack of intelligence or willingness. Visual resources improve comprehension, yet teachers — already inadequately rewarded — cannot be expected to fund their own teaching collections. Are classrooms equipped to use visual aids consistently? Are libraries stocked with age-appropriate material? Do teachers receive training in alternative methods, particularly language learning?” Pic - percolate.net.in

Mauritius has inherited colonial structures, compounded by administrations struggling to reform institutions that can become obsolete faster than they can be understood. The State remains responsible for improving living conditions and equity, but public debate must also examine the citizen's state of mind. Are we doing enough to improve our circumstances, or have we become accustomed to reproducing a narrative of victimhood while expecting help, recognition and transformation to come from elsewhere?

The victim narrative can expose injustice, give voice to the silenced and create solidarity. The danger arises when it becomes a permanent framework for understanding ourselves. An identity structured around victimhood often fosters powerlessness and diminishes individual agency — the capacity to act upon one's circum-

The Historical Inheritance of Disempowerment

To understand current Mauritian frustrations, it is helpful to examine an often overlooked historical dimension. In the period leading up to independence, political tensions and campaign rhetoric — including editorial commentaries published under the pen name NMu — raised concerns about the island's future political balance.

The consequences of this climate extended beyond political debate. A number of Creole middle-class families chose to emigrate, particularly to Australia, a movement documented in works such as those by Monique Dinan. This shift naturally influenced the island's social structure. As positions in the civil service and public institutions were vacated, qualified members of



Samad Ramoly

Lost in Words: The Mauritian Reality

In Mauritius, language is a two-way mirror. On a daily basis, our archipelago-state uses legal, economic, and social concepts whose official meanings — often inherited from abroad — clash head-on with our lived experiences. This gap between theory and practice creates deep confusions that distort public debate, mask power struggles, and perpetuate historical, geopolitical, and cultural misunderstandings.



The Semantic Illusion: The Rule of Law Sacrificed on the Altar of “Law and Order”

The greatest misunderstanding in our democratic debate lies in the permanent conflation of the *État de droit*, the Rule of Law, and Law and Order. Our legal system is a unique hybrid model, born out of French civil law and British common law. Yet, in the political and media arenas, these concepts collide in total confusion:

- **The Rule of Law** (British concept): It finds its historical roots in the Magna Carta of 1215, where English barons forced King John to accept that even the sovereign is subject to the law, banning arbitrary imprisonment. It is a shield that enshrines the absolute supremacy of the law, equality before justice for all, and the protection of the individual against arbitrary power.
- **L’État de droit** (French concept): This is a structural model based on the hierarchy of norms (the pyramid of laws). The State chooses to limit itself by subjecting its entire administration and its leaders to rigorous compliance with the Constitution and written laws.
- **Law and Order** (Security-focused concept): This simply relates to the management of public order, discipline, and police enforcement on the streets.

The Mauritian trap consists of wrongfully brandishing respect for the rule of law or the *État de droit* to legitimise measures that are purely about law and order (such as arbitrary arrests or displays of police force). By confusing the protection of fundamental freedoms with the exercise of repressive force, we invert democratic logic: law no longer serves to limit power, but becomes the instrument of its display.

Disguised Economic Realities: From the “private sector (*secteur privé*)” to “big business”

This distortion of language also spreads into our reading of the economy. Take the expression “private sector.” Universally, it encompasses any economic activity not owned by the State. In Mauritius, this term has taken on a considerable historical and emotional weight. In the collective imagination, it does not evoke the local small business or the corner shop, but refers almost exclusively to the large, historical conglomerates originating from the former sugar industry.

To clean up the debate and purge this term of its obsolete political and communal connotations, it would be appropriate to adopt more accurate expressions.

Speaking of “big business” would finally allow us to decouple legitimate economic criticism from any ethnic dimension, bringing the subject back to what it truly is: an

issue of financial power and market control.

Conversely, the *marchand ambulant* (hawker/street vendor) suffers from the opposite confusion. While the dictionary defines it as a mobile vendor moving goods from street to street, Mauritian reality shows us traders permanently set up on specific pavements or relocated into fixed urban structures. Behind this ill-suited label hides, in truth, the social struggle of an informal economy seeking its legitimacy and place in the public space.

Culture and Education: Embracing

“Morisyen” on Its Own

On the cultural front, Kreol morisyen still suffers from the stigmas of the past. Although it is recognised as the national language shared by the vast majority of the population, two confusions persist. On one hand, an archaic view sometimes reduces it to a mere “patois” in comparison to French or

English. On the other hand, a persistent linguistic conflation associates the language with ethnic belonging to the Creole community.

To move past this division and enshrine the purely civic dimension of our national idiom, two proposals are necessary: officially adopting the designation kreol morisyen or, better yet, “morisyen” on its own. By detaching the name of the language from any specific ethnic reference, morisyen is consecrated as the language of all Mauritians, unifying the nation under a common and shared linguistic identity.

Finally, the Mauritian education system has also distorted the meaning of words through the institutionalisation of *leçons particulières* (private tuition). What should describe targeted, voluntary, or occasional academic support for a struggling student has become a gigantic parallel industry. Virtually mandatory and paid for by everyone, this system has substituted itself for the official curriculum to the point of reversing roles: core educational content is sometimes pushed to afternoon classes, turning the morning school into little more than a luxury daycare and widening social inequalities.

From Colony to Archipelago: The Trap of “Lil Moris”

Semantic confusion begins with the very way we name our own territory. Mechanically translating L’île Maurice into Lil Moris poses a double problem. On one hand, this formulation perpetuates a strictly colonial vision, modelled on the perspective of the former coloniser who only conceived of the country through its main island. On the other hand, it dangerously reduces our status as an archipelago-state, erasing Rodrigues, Agalega, Saint Brandon, and the Chagos Archipelago with the stroke of a pen.

Yet, not so long ago, popular usage and mainstream media preferred “Moris” on its own, and not Lil Moris. Returning to Moris to designate the State and the nation is an essential act of mental decolonisation: it allows us to encompass our entire archipelago-state in its geographical diversity, without excluding any of its island components.

Naming Things Right to Have an Honest Debate

As long as we allow these expressions to float in the vagueness of their approximations, national dialogue will remain biased. Saying Moris instead of Lil Moris, replacing “private sector” with “big business”, or designating our common language as morisyen is not just playing with words: it is an act of public health to depoliticise, de-ethnicise, and decolonise our debates. To build the future of our archipelago-state, it is urgent to give concepts back their proper definitions, because to misname things is to add to the misfortune — and the confusion — of our nation.

Opinion

Beyond the Victim Narrative How Mauritius Can Reclaim Its Future

☞ Cont. from page 11

Are all students encouraged to participate equally, or are some favored over others? Prejudice is rarely as straightforward or vocal as recent public debate might suggest. Instead, it operates in far more complex ways through subtle cultural conditioning. As a result, vulnerable students can be unconsciously targeted not just because of their ethnicity, but also because of their class, gender, and economic status. Have we truly overcome our inherited colonial biases, or have we simply added new layers of capitalist prejudice on top of them?

Looking at this thoroughly is important because education transmits more than information: it shapes children’s perception of their abilities, their relationship with authority and their place in society. Repeated humiliation or exclusion can lead to silence, disengagement or defiance; some may learn that disruption is the only way to gain attention. Without constructive intervention, both responses can become self-reinforcing. Teachers often begin their careers with limited practical experience of managing such situations and learn on the job. Is enough being done at the level of their training to help them deal with such cases, and what kind of support do they receive from school management in real terms, beyond official rhetoric?

The argument this article is trying to make is not that the State should be absolved of responsibility, or that disadvantaged people should simply work harder and stop complaining. That would be unjust and intellectually inadequate. The State must address inequality, improve public services, reform outdated institutions and create conditions in which citizens can develop their capacities. Economic structures must be scrutinised, educational opportunities expanded and barriers preventing effort from translating into achievement confronted directly. However, citizens also have responsibilities. Families, schools, community organisations and public commentators shape the expectations through which the next generation understands the world. We must not transmit grievance without also transmitting the means of overcoming it.

Young people need not only to identify the forces constraining them, but to develop the skills, knowledge, discipline, and capacity for cooperation required to challenge them. Everyday civic behaviour matters: respect for public spaces, neighbours and shared resources helps build the civic capacity needed to shape a common future. Individual effort alone cannot transform society, but neither can society change if every citizen waits for someone else to begin. Mauritius faces a twofold task: reforming structures that reproduce disadvantage and cultivating a culture of agency that enables citizens to participate meaningfully in that reform. We must acknowledge historical injustice without remaining imprisoned by it, demand accountability without surrendering personal responsibility, and recognise economic constraints without abandoning practical solutions.

The purpose of remembering the past is not to remain defined by its injuries, but to understand what we have inherited so we can decide collectively and intelligently what must change. The question is not simply whether our grievances are justified; many are. It is whether we are converting them into knowledge, organisation, practical competence and lasting improvements in our lives.

For a society that wants to move forward, recognising injustice is only the beginning. The harder task is developing the capacity to do something about it.

U. Dasin



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Barclays to cut 5,000 jobs amid AI Push and mixed third-quarter earnings



Barclays plans to cut 5,000 jobs as part of its AI-led cost-cutting drive. Pic - The Guardian

Barclays is expanding its global cost-cutting initiative with plans to eliminate approximately 5,000 jobs. Around 60% of these reductions will target support functions, including software developers. Having already cut roughly 1,000 positions in the first half of 2026, the British lender expects to complete the remaining layoffs by the end of the year across its global workforce of 93,000.

Chief Executive Officer CS Venkatakrishnan emphasized that while Barclays intends to deploy artificial intelligence extensively, the technology is only a component of a larger efficiency drive. "We will employ AI at scale," Venkatakrishnan stated, noting that "AI is the icing on the cake, not the cake."

The restructuring announcement accompanied Barclays' third-quarter financial results, which presented a mixed

picture and missed several analyst estimates. Group income rose to £7.4 billion — short of the £7.61 billion projected by analysts — while pre-tax profit grew 12% year-on-year to match expectations at £2.3 billion. Net interest income held steady at £3.91 billion.

The bank's investment banking division faced notable headwinds, primarily driven by a 19% drop in fixed-income, currency, and commodities (FICC) trading revenue, which fell to £1.01 billion due to lower client activity in interest-rate and credit markets.

Similar fixed-income pressures hit rival Wall Street institutions, including JPMorgan Chase and Goldman Sachs.

In contrast, Barclays' equities trading unit delivered an exceptional quarter, surging 47% year-on-year to £1.01 billion — marking its strongest performance since at least 2009.

To improve operating efficiency, Barclays reduced costs by £201 million during the third quarter and targets an additional £300 million in reductions for the final quarter of 2026. Despite the headwinds, Venkatakrishnan reaffirmed confidence in the bank's financial roadmap, stating that Barclays remains on track to achieve its 2026 group targets and long-term 2028 objectives. Investors reacted cautiously to the mixed earnings report, sending Barclays shares down by as much as 2.4% during early trading in London.

Polish women protest restricted abortion access, accusing government of inaction

Women across Poland organised street demonstrations in more than 20 cities and towns on Thursday to protest the lack of free and legal abortion access, accusing Prime Minister Donald Tusk's liberal government of reneging on key campaign promises.

Despite Parliament passing two bills on Tuesday aimed at easing restrictions, activists dismiss the legislation as a "token gesture" designed to win female voters ahead of next year's parliamentary election. The measures are widely expected to be vetoed by conservative President Karol Nawrocki. Zofia Marcinek of the Warsaw-based activist group Abortion Dream Team criticized the government for creating a false impression of progress while knowing the draft laws stand little chance of taking effect.

Since 1993, legal abortions in predominantly Catholic Poland have been strictly limited to cases of severe fetal abnormality, life-threatening maternal health risks, or pregnancies resulting from rape or incest. Under the former Law and Justice (PiS) government in 2020, restrictions tightened further to ban abortions for congenital defects, leaving Poland with

some of Europe's most restrictive laws alongside Malta.

Although Tusk's pro-European coalition came to power in 2023 promising liberalized reproductive healthcare, activists argue his administration's claims of improved access function as "disinformation." While official hospital-performed abortions rose to 573 in the first half of 2026, activists note that tens of thousands of procedures still occur outside formal medical channels each year.

Although women themselves face no criminal penalties for undergoing an abortion, individuals who assist them — including family members or medical staff — can face prosecution. To bypass legal obstacles, reproductive rights campaigners opened an "abortion clinic" near Parliament in 2025 and launched a medicine dispenser called the "Abortomat" in September. Operated with the international non-profit Women Help Women, the parcel locker allows women to pick up abortion pills within 24 hours using a PIN code, providing a faster and safer alternative for those in unsupportive or abusive environments.

Across the Globe

Roche unveils breast cancer pill

Swiss healthcare giant Roche is hoping a new breast cancer pill will help it regain its lead in oncology treatments after years of losing market share. Having transformed breast cancer treatment once before with its targeted Herceptin therapy, Roche slipped to fifth place last year as competitors such as AstraZeneca beat it to market.

Roche is now betting that a daily pill, which can prevent breast cancer from growing or returning without the severe side effects of older treatments, will help it reclaim its position in an expanding market. Breast tumours remain the leading cause of cancer deaths among women. "Taking the pill is just like wearing my bike helmet. I wouldn't stop doing that either," a former cancer patient who now cycles to work told Bloomberg.



Breast cancer prevention in high-risk patients. Pic - Rocky Mountain Cancer Centers

AI can predict cancer deaths

New AI technology could help predict a cancer patient's risk of death using a single photograph of their face.

Researchers fed thousands of images of cancer patients into a model that analysed them using a technique known as "attention mapping". The system examined specific facial features to estimate biological age and the risk of dying within 90 days. Smokers and heavy drinkers were particularly likely to show signs of ageing.

The model is not yet ready for widespread use, as it has not been trained on a sufficiently diverse range of faces. However, one of the project's lead researchers told Scientific American that the technology could eventually help doctors detect warning signs that a disease is spreading.

China's AI leader raises \$15B

Chinese AI champion DeepSeek raised around \$15 billion in one of the country's biggest-ever financing rounds as it seeks to keep pace with Western frontier firms. The Hangzhou-based company, which shocked markets last year by unveiling a model capable of competing with Silicon Valley's leaders at a fraction of the cost, twice increased its financing target ahead of the latest funding round. Analysts said the fundraising set the stage for an imminent public listing. Although DeepSeek hopes the fresh capital will support its international expansion, governments and regulators worldwide have recently stepped up scrutiny of its security and privacy policies, with some, including US agencies, banning its technology entirely from government devices.

Nigeria's financial hub plans



Nigeria's financial hub. Pic - Facebook

Nigeria is accelerating efforts to become a regional financial hub, seeking to build on momentum surrounding the continent's biggest-ever public listing. Abuja is rolling out a plan to attract more investors and companies from elsewhere in Africa to its capital markets, using the same global depository receipts framework as the recent Dangote refinery IPO. Nigerian businessman Aliko Dangote, Africa's richest man, deliberately priced shares in his Lagos refinery cheaply to attract retail investors.

Foreign giants are also optimistic about the country's prospects. This week, JPMorgan made a deposit with Nigeria's central bank, a step towards obtaining a licence in the country.

* More on page 15

Pentagon authorizes testing of non-lethal "Heat Ray" for US-Mexico border operations

The Pentagon has authorized the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to test a military-grade non-lethal weapon—known as the Active Denial System (ADS)—for potential deployment along the US-Mexico border. According to a memo signed last month by US Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth, the Department of War approved a seven-month loan of one ADS unit to DHS starting in September.

The Active Denial System fires an invisible beam of high-frequency electromagnetic energy up to half a mile away. The energy penetrates the top layer of skin, heating water molecules to create an intense burning sensation — similar to opening a hot oven — that triggers an immediate, instinctive urge to flee. The system's physical effects typically last between 10 and 15 minutes without causing permanent physical contact or injury when used as intended.

Under the agreement, DHS will operate the equipment and develop specific tactics and procedures; Department of War personnel will not be involved in



Pentagon allows DHS to test heat ray weapon for possible use at US border. Pic - CNN

operational tests. While the DHS request did not specify exact testing sites, border authorities have previously evaluated using the technology in high-density crossing

corridors, such as California's El Centro sector, to disperse crowds and deter irregular entries.

The proposed border deployment marks an unprecedented application of the military technology, which was briefly sent to Afghanistan nearly two decades ago but never used in active combat operations. A similar proposal to use the device against migrants was considered in 2018 under then-Homeland Security Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen but was ultimately rejected.

Safety, legal, and operational concerns continue to surround the weapon's potential use. Critics and former Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officials warn that dispersing crowds with intense heat could cause panic, leading individuals to flee into treacherous terrain or nearby rivers, ultimately increasing the need for emergency rescues. At the end of the initial seven-month trial, DHS will assess whether to request an extension or formal deployment along the southern border.

Soviet space dogs Veterok and Ugolyok: 22 Days in Orbit

On February 22, 1966, the Soviet Union launched the Cosmos 110 spacecraft carrying two dogs, Veterok and Ugolyok, on a landmark mission to study the long-term biological effects of space-flight. The spacecraft completed 330 orbits over 22 days before returning safely to Earth on March 16. The flight provided critical data on extended weightlessness

and exposure to high-altitude radiation within the Van Allen belts.

To monitor the animals' health, the spacecraft was equipped with continuous telemetry that recorded blood pressure, pulse, and respiration. One dog was subjected to cardiovascular testing while the other served as a control. Both animals were secured in harnesses and fed via a pneumatic device that delivered food paste directly to their stomachs. Researchers observed early signs of motor coordination difficulty, including head rocking, as the dogs struggled to adapt to weightlessness.

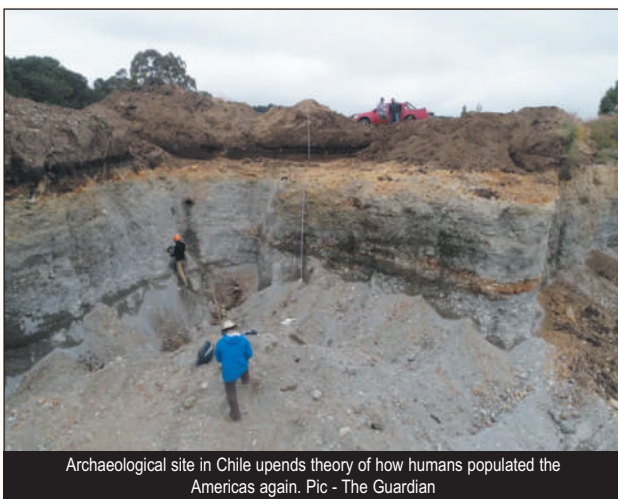
Beyond physiological tracking, the mission prioritized radiation research. Cosmos 110 carried 300 thermoluminescent dosimeters and 10 nuclear emulsion sets to measure radiation exposure relative to spacecraft shielding as it repeatedly passed through trapped charged particles in the Earth's magnetic field.

Post-flight medical examinations, documented in NASA's historical publication *Astronautics and Aeronautics*, 1966, revealed that survival alone did not indicate complete health. Upon landing, both dogs exhibited severe dehydration, elevated pulse rates, and significant calcium

loss in their skeletal systems. Recovery proved challenging: the dogs required eight to ten days for their motor systems to normalize under Earth's gravity. Soviet physicians also observed spikes in white blood cell counts and elevated red blood cell sedimentation rates four to five days post-landing—key markers of the body adjusting back to gravity.

Veterok and Ugolyok's 22-day journey yielded essential insights into cardiovascular strain, bone density loss, and radiation hazards, helping lay the groundwork for understanding human endurance during prolonged space missions.

Across the Globe



Archaeological site in Chile upends theory of how humans populated the Americas again. Pic - The Guardian

Archaeologists spar over Chile site

Work at an archaeological site in Chile has sparked a debate among experts over when the Americas were first populated. Archaeologists working at Monte Verde contend that the site may be only 4,200 years old, about 10,000 years younger than originally thought. This challenges the theory that people reached the continents before the end of the last ice age and has fuelled an occasionally heated debate among experts.

Major historical dates are also being challenged elsewhere in South America. New radiocarbon dates indicate that the Inca, by far the largest of South America's pre-Columbian empires, lasted much longer than previously

thought. Evidence suggests that some findings may be decades older than initially assessed, Science reported.

AI finds bug threatening 70% of sites

France, Denmark, Finland and the Netherlands took government websites offline on Wednesday after web developers used AI to identify a bug affecting up to 70% of the world's websites. The exploit is "the most severe AI vulnerability... ever found," the co-founder of Google's Wiz cybersecurity team told The Wall Street Journal, adding that humans probably could not have discovered it without AI.

Japan's prime minister also urged "everyone to take action tonight" to apply the newly released fixes. But AI will enable hackers to reverse-engineer the bug in a "race to exploit" the public fix, a cybersecurity researcher told Reuters, with their next step being the "mass compromise of every vulnerable web server on the internet."

Netanyahu pushing US to bomb Iran

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is pushing US President Donald Trump to resume strikes against Iran as both leaders contend with worrying poll results ahead of critical elections. Netanyahu, who is trailing in the polls, was preparing to bomb Iranian civilian infrastructure and nuclear facilities earlier this month, the

Financial Times reported. But Trump, whose approval rating has slumped to all-time lows as Americans struggle with surging fuel prices, ruled out the plan until after the US midterm elections on November 3. Iranian officials told Drop Site they believe the US and Israel could resume large-scale bombing before Israel's elections on Tuesday. Washington must accept that "it has no military options," Iran's foreign minister warned, or prepare for an "infinitely more painful outcome."

Lula warns of election interference

Brazilian President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva warned that his country's sovereignty depended on the result of Sunday's closely contested presidential runoff, which he claims has been targeted by foreign meddling. Lula has alleged that his right-wing challenger, Flávio Bolsonaro, and his family pressured Washington to impose tariffs on Brazil in response to the prosecution of former president Jair Bolsonaro.

The family has denied the allegations. Brasília also accused Argentine leader Javier Milei, an ally of US President Donald Trump and Bolsonaro, of an "unacceptable attempt at foreign interference" after Milei suggested on Tuesday that Lula would try to steal the election. The accusations come as Washington seeks to play a more assertive role across Latin America, as part of the Trump administration's "Donroe Doctrine."



Dr Shravan Nosib

End of Life Care: The Death with Dignity Debate

Discussing death is not a taboo, but a essential standard of care that preserves patient dignity and autonomy

"Place me in that immortal, imperishable world, where light is unceasing, and heaven itself is set." — Rig Veda, 9.113.7

The loss of a loved one is always painful, but particularly so when there is a sense that more could have been done to ease their suffering in their final hours. On a recent trip to Mauritius, I learnt about the painful death of a relative with advanced metastatic cancer; she was being treated in a private clinic until one doctor finally told her to go home, as nothing more could be done. She promptly did so for a few hours until she became delirious and very agitated with severe pain and discomfort. She died a few days later in a hospital bed. A former colleague with terminal cancer died recently and had his surgical drains removed without prior analgesia. Distressing scenarios dominated by pain and suffering in a setting with practically non-existent palliative care. There are many more.

Few questions in modern medicine are as intimate, morally difficult and politically consequential as the question of how we should care for a human being who is approaching death. This article focuses on "death with dignity" and its medical, social, religious, and, of course, political ramifications. The Swiss and Canadian models of medical assistance in dying (MAiD), as well as palliative care outside the MAiD framework will be discussed.

Death

For many patients, death is not a gentle passage from the physical to the metaphysical. It can be a terrifying experience dominated by severe pain that outpaces every analgesic dose, visual hallucinations that crowd the room with figures no one else can see, and breathlessness so severe that each breath feels like drowning in air. The body betrays its owner while the mind, still lucid enough to be afraid, watches it happen.

Medical intervention then becomes a necessity, offering a dignified end to a dying that has become a torment.

Death with Dignity Act

"Death with dignity" as a legal term originated in Oregon, and voters passed the Act on November 8, 1994. It was the first law anywhere to use that name and the first in the US (and the world) to legalise physician-assisted death for the terminally ill. It took effect in 1997 after a legal injunction was lifted and voters rejected a repeal attempt. The bill traces back to Oregon state senator Frank Roberts, who introduced physician-assisted dying bills in the late 1980s/early 1990s while dying of prostate cancer himself.

Advocates chose "Death with Dignity" specifically to distinguish the model from "euthanasia" - the Oregon law requires self-administration by the patient, not a doctor, as in the Canadian model of MAiD.

MAiD: Medical Assistance in Dying

Just over a decade ago, MAiD was confined to a handful of small, wealthy democracies. Today it is spreading across Europe and North America even as pioneer countries grapple with unsettling questions about who ends up using it. Within a single month this summer, France's parliament approved a national right to assisted dying and the UK's House of Commons returned to debate its own version for a second time. Both moves have reopened a decades-old argument: is medically assisted death a compassionate expansion of patient autonomy, or a policy whose "strict safeguards" quietly erode over time, merging into euthanasia?

Switzerland got there first and is now well established in "suicide-tourism", offering MAiD to terminally ill patients from all over the world, at a price. Through a loophole in Swiss jurisprudence, two non-profit organisations, Exit and Dignitas, have built MAiD into a durable practice: doctors confirm a patient's capacity to consent and an incurable illness or unbearable disability, but the patient takes the final, fatal action themselves. Euthanasia -- a physician-administered lethal cocktail -- remains illegal.

Canada's law did not arrive by accident. In 2015, the Supreme Court struck down the blanket ban on assisted dying in *Carter v Canada*, reasoning that prohibition forcing some suffering people to endure their illness violated their Charter rights to life, liberty and security of the person. Parliament responded in 2016 with legislation limited to people whose deaths were reasonably foreseeable. In 2021, after a Quebec court ruled that limit unconstitutional, Parliament removed it, creating a second track for people who are suffering but not near death. Thus, a "narrow exception" widens once courts and legislators apply the logic of equality and autonomy consistently.

Cont. on page 17

“Just over a decade ago, Medical Assistance in Dying was confined to a handful of small, wealthy democracies. Today it is spreading across Europe and North America even as pioneer countries grapple with unsettling questions about who ends up using it. Within a single month this summer, France’s parliament approved a national right to assisted dying and the UK’s House of Commons returned to debate its own version for a second time. Both moves have reopened a decades-old argument: is medically assisted death a compassionate expansion of patient autonomy, or a policy whose “strict safeguards” quietly erode over time, merging into euthanasia?”



Wastewater Management Authority

WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY (WMA)

Invitation for bids

(Authorised under Section 17 of the Public Procurement Act 2006)

Procurement of Contract WW588W – A FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT FOR SEWER EXTENSION WORKS

Procurement Reference: WMA/ONB/12/2026

OPEN NATIONAL BIDDING

The **Wastewater Management Authority** is inviting bids from eligible and qualified bidders of Mauritian nationals or entities incorporated in Mauritius through the Government E-Procurement System for the **Procurement of Contract WW588W – A FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT FOR SEWER EXTENSION WORKS**.

Bidding documents may be downloaded from the E-Procurement System <https://eproc.publicprocurement.govmu.org>. Reference Number on the system: **WMA/IFB/2026/1925**.

Bids must be submitted online on the E-Procurement System at latest by **Tuesday 17 November 2026 up to 13.00 (Local Time)**.

Bidders who have submitted bids online by the closing date and time shall **decrypt** and **re-encrypt** their bids from **Tuesday 17 November 2026 from 14.01 till Thursday 19 November 2026 up to 13.00**.

Bids will be opened online in the presence of the bidders or their representatives who choose to attend at the address given hereunder on **Thursday 19 November 2026 up to 16.00**.

The Wastewater Management Authority
2nd Floor, Head Office
Jerningham Street
Curepipe
Mauritius

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

16 October 2026

End of Life Care: The Death with Dignity Debate

Cont. from page 16

Supporters call it principled, while critics call it a gradual slide towards euthanasia. A UN human rights committee said this year it was “extremely concerned” by the 2021 expansion to non-terminal conditions, citing poverty, inadequate housing and lack of disability supports as factors pushing people toward MAiD rather than treatment.

The next legal frontier is approaching rapidly. Under current law, patients with a mental disorder as their sole underlying diagnosis become eligible on March 17, 2027, unless Parliament intervenes. Politico-legal debates around this statute are bound to be intense. In 2024, MAiD deaths accounted for 5.1% of all deaths in Canada — a non-negligible figure. Patients must be cognitively intact to consent to MAiD; proxies cannot do so on their behalf. Only Canadian citizens can access MAiD, and the lethal cocktail must be administered by a physician.

Religious Doctrine of Dissent

Religious traditions supply much of the moral vocabulary on both sides, and the lines rarely fall where political tribes expect. The Catholic Church, the most organised opponent worldwide, teaches that life is a gift from God that humans have no authority to end it deliberately, though it permits refusing futile care that only prolongs dying. Hindu teaching is divided over whether the principle of ahimsa, or non-violence, bars assisted death or instead condemns prolonging suffering artificially. Islamic scholars treat deliberate hastening of death as forbidden regardless of suffering. Orthodox Judaism holds a similarly strict line. Anglican and mainline Protestant bodies are the most internally split, some synods opposing legalisation and others declaring neutrality or support — a divide that shaped recent votes in Westminster and Paris.

Compassionate Terminal Care outside MAiD Framework

What about countries where MAiD does not exist? There is an important misconception that countries without assisted dying simply leave terminally ill people to suffer to death. That is not necessarily true, as many countries do provide hospice and palliative care to such patients. The crucial problem is access. The WHO estimates that approximately 57 million people worldwide require palliative care each year, while only around 14% receive it.

The disparity is particularly severe in low- and middle-income countries. The imbalance is starkest in pain relief: a fifth of the world's population consumes the vast majority of the global morphine supply, and Human Rights Watch has documented countries across Sub-Saharan Africa, South Asia, the Middle East and Central America where fewer than one in a hundred severe-pain patients can obtain needed medication. This creates one of the great inequalities of global medicine.

Thus, wealthy patients may have access



“A fifth of the world's population consumes the vast majority of the global morphine supply, and Human Rights Watch has documented countries across Sub-Saharan Africa, South Asia, the Middle East and Central America where fewer than one in a hundred severe-pain patients can obtain needed medication. This creates one of the great inequalities of global medicine. Thus, wealthy patients may have access to specialist palliative medicine, hospice beds, home nursing, modern analgesics, psychological care and spiritual support, while poor patients in other parts of the world may die from the same disease without adequate analgesia...”

to specialist palliative medicine, hospice beds, home nursing, modern analgesics, psychological care and spiritual support, while poor patients in other parts of the world may die from the same disease without adequate analgesia. In such scenarios, critics have warned against MAiD becoming the only available option rather than an informed and free decision.

Death Conference

Open conversations about death are not an optional extra in palliative care; they are central to it. When patients and families are given honest, compassionate space to discuss prognosis, fears, and what matters most, they can make informed choices about treatment, set realistic goals, and ensure their final wishes are known and respected. Avoiding the subject rarely protects anyone and may cause deep distress and unresolved grief. I am aware of one case where a terminally ill patient chose not to tell his partner about his impending death but did inform his children.

Since palliative care aims to relieve suffering in all its forms (physical, emotional, social, and spiritual), it cannot fulfill that purpose without addressing mortality directly. Talking about death honours the patient's dignity and autonomy, and it must be a standard, skillfully delivered component of care rather than an afterthought. The subject can no longer be taboo.

Mauritian Context

Palliative care and compassionate terminal care are practically non-existent in Mauritius, even though the Ministry of Health boasts of a robust network of primary health care centred around primary care physicians, nurses, community workers and

social workers. I was pleasantly surprised to learn that community physicians regularly visit elderly family members for at-home check-ups to address ongoing health issues. But I was equally surprised when I could not buy a very common medication used to dry secretions in terminally ill patients, and I had to plan to get it from Mumbai for a loved one who was dying.

With an ageing population, higher life expectancy and lower birth rates, local demographics resemble that of developed countries and the incidence of all cancers and other killers is expected to rise. The need for palliative care/ compassionate terminal care will become more pressing, and hopefully all stakeholders will join hands to deliver the goods.

Until we become a mature citizenry able to discuss MAiD freely and dispassionately, I believe there is significant room for improvement in palliative care — particularly given how distressing sub-optimal pain control is for terminally ill patients and their loved ones. Effective palliative care is simple to implement at the community level, especially for

patients who wish to die at home surrounded by family. Alternatively, patients can receive care in a formal hospital setting within a dedicated private room. Both approaches focus on compassionate end-of-life care: maintaining comfort, managing pain, reducing secretions, and providing spiritual support.

A minimum of freely available drugs, including oxygen, narcotics and non-narcotic painkillers, sedatives and anti-secretory agents, form the backbone of this strategy and go a long way to keeping patients and relatives comfortable. Care should not end when cure ends.

Conclusion

An ancient French folk saying dating back to the 15th century: “Guérir quelque-fois, soulager souvent, consoler toujours” captures the essence if not the quintessence of medicine. It is widely attributed in spirit to Hippocrates and ancient Greek medicine for its ethicality and patient-centred care. “Soulager” and “consoler” form two important components of this triad, and sadly it is lacking in modern medicine with its dehumanising technologies.

Being human and humane should be spontaneous and effortless.

Shravan Nosib



Wastewater Management Authority

WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY (WMA)

Invitation for bids

(Authorised under Section 17 of the Public Procurement Act 2006)

Procurement of Contract WW559W –FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT FOR HIGHLANDS

Procurement Reference: WMA/ONB/06/2025

OPEN NATIONAL BIDDING

The Wastewater Management Authority is inviting bids from eligible and qualified bidders of Mauritian nationals or entities incorporated in Mauritius through the Government E-Procurement System for the **Procurement of Contract WW559W – FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT FOR HIGHLANDS**.

Bidding documents may be downloaded from the E-Procurement System <https://eproc.publicprocurement.govmu.org>. Reference Number on the system: **WMA/IFB/2026/1926**.

Bids must be submitted online on the E-Procurement System at latest by **Wednesday 18 November 2026 up to 13.00 (Local Time)**.

Bidders who have submitted bids online by the closing date and time shall **decrypt** and **re-encrypt** their bids from **Wednesday 18 November 2026 from 14.01 till Friday 20 November 2026 up to 13.00**.

Bids will be opened online in the presence of the bidders or their representatives who choose to attend at the address given hereunder on **Friday 20 November 2026 up to 16.00**.

The Wastewater Management Authority
2nd Floor, Head Office
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16 October 2026

- "When the actualities of everyday things get the better of man, then is Truth lost sight of and freedom missed." — Rabindranath Tagore

Editorial

Tagore in Mauritius

As from Friday last, Mauritius has started the Tagore centenary celebrations, which will last for over two months. Celebrations will be held almost all over the world, and little Mauritius decided not to stay out.

Why celebrate the birth anniversary of Tagore in Mauritius? Not because Tagore was "un poète hindou," as has been subtly suggested in the reactionary section of the local press. Although Rabindranath Tagore was born in a Hindu family, he was first of all a man of the world; although his background was Eastern, he died a citizen of the world. Paris does not honour Tagore for his religion, nor do great European cities celebrate him as a Hindu. They pay tribute because, in a world fractured by hatred and facing self-destruction, Tagore's message offers a vital ray of hope.

India and Indians may justly take pride in the great honour which Tagore earned for his country, but Tagore is not the property of any country or race: Tagore belongs to the heritage of mankind, just as Shakespeare is not the private property of the English people. In Mauritius too, Tagore is being celebrated because it is felt that the ideas and ideals of Tagore, if rightly understood and properly practised, will go a long way towards reducing the difficulties existing between various sections of the population.

* * *

Representatives of various communities have come together to pay their homage to the great world figure. People from all walks of life and from all areas are participating in a grand festival to offer their tribute in many languages and in many ways to the universality of a great soul. The Central Committee of the centenary celebrations, in conjunction with a large number of Regional Committees, has planned a wonderful programme.

In the preparation of the whole programme, the organisers have laid special emphasis on creative work. Talking on Tagore has been avoided to the extent possible, and all has been done to present the ideas of Tagore in creative activity, namely in painting, poetry, music, songs, and on the stage. The opportunity has therefore been seized to give an impetus to the diffusion of Indian culture. That is why the cultural programme presented by the Central Committee on Friday last at the Plaza Theatre will go down in the history of Mauritius as a landmark in its cultural evolution.

It does also open a new era in the history of Indian culture in Mauritius. As from Friday last, Mauritius has been a richer

country culturally. And we find it difficult to resist the temptation of briefly reviewing that cultural programme, although we are aware that it has already received a chorus of praise from all quarters.

* * *

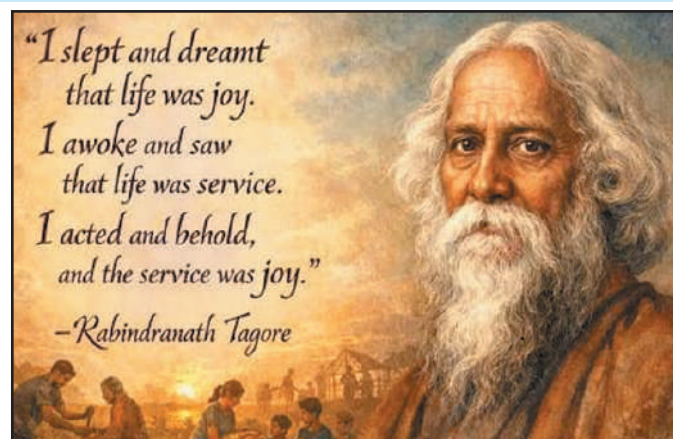
The programme consisted of three sets of items: (a) songs, (b) musical performances, and (c) dances. It was evident that much effort had been put in to give the choruses the high standard they had, although it is clear that they could be improved. It is difficult for amateurs to reach perfection at one go, and we do commend the singers and their teachers for their good performance.

Mr Ishwardut Nundlall, who contributed the musical items, needless to say, earned unanimous applause. His skill cannot be questioned, and his mastery of Indian music is a fact. So far, his is the last word in Indian music in Mauritius. But the *pièce de résistance* of the whole programme was the dance items. And we hasten to add that the dance items enthralled the entire audience. Never before has the Mauritian stage offered such marvellous items of Indian classical dance.

It was always believed that Indian classical dance was impossible in Mauritius, but on Friday last, the young performers achieved a momentous cultural breakthrough. Believe it or not, we witnessed a superb performance of Bharatnatyam. The essential thing now is not to allow the enthusiasm to die down. It must be kept up.

We feel that it must be mentioned here that the credit for those wonderful dance items goes to Mrs P. Ghurburrun, Mrs R. Ram Prakash, and also to Prof Ram Prakash himself. Mrs Ghurburrun has shown that she is a perfect artist and therefore a great cultural asset to her country. So has Mrs Ram Prakash done. The star performers, Miss Sarita Prakash and Miss Usha Ramdoyal, are good and very promising performers. They all deserve to be warmly congratulated. They have made history in the field of culture in Mauritius.

It is also widely felt that a special tribute must be paid to Prof Ram Prakash, who has made a sterling contribution to the revival of Indian culture in Mauritius. More than anyone else, in his own unassuming way, Prof Ram Prakash has, with remarkable self-effacement, popularised the works of Tagore in Mauritius. Legion are the ex-students of the Teachers' Training College who will never forget that they came to know of Tagore's works in the classes of Indian culture admirably conducted by Prof Ram



"Tagore is not the property of any country or race: Tagore belongs to the heritage of mankind, just as Shakespeare is not the private property of the English people..."

Prakash. Much of the present widespread enthusiasm about Tagore and his works derives its inspiration from Prof Ram Prakash himself. And the success of Friday last is but the just reward for his patient efforts.

When all is said and done, one cannot escape the conclusion that Indian culture has now been put on a different level. The more difficult task is to ensure its steady progress.



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NOTICE OF VACANCIES

The CWA, invites applications from qualified candidates for the following post:

1. Executive Engineer/Senior Executive Engineer (Civil) - On Establishment

The permanent and pensionable post carries salary in scale: Rs 43990 x 970 - 46900 x 1050 - 49000 x 1100 - 54500 x 1450 - 58850 x 1750 - 62350 x 1850 - 67900 x 1900 - 75500 x 2250 - 86750 (CWA 61-PRB 2026), a month.

However, for the year 2026, the discounted initial salary would be Rs. 41,735.

DUTIES AND CONDITIONS:

For information on duties, responsibilities, experience and conditions for the post, interested candidates may visit our website on <https://cwa.govmu.org> under "News and Communiqués"/ "vacancy".

NOTE TO APPLICANTS:

1. **AGE LIMIT:** Candidates unless already employed in the public service or in parastatal organisations should not have reached their 45th birthday by the closing date for the submission of applications and should be medically fit.
2. Prospective candidates not holding the appropriate qualifications are kindly advised NOT to apply.
3. Public Officers who have retired in the interest of the public service or on medical grounds will not be considered.
4. Applicant should possess and submit all certificates /qualifications/testimonials at the time of application.
5. The onus for the submission of equivalence of qualification (if applicable) from the relevant authorities rests on the candidate.
6. The title of the post applied should be clearly marked on the top left hand corner of the envelope.
7. Application letters received after the closing date and time will not be accepted.
8. Selected candidates will be required to submit a Certificate of Character to the CWA within 3 months of joining office.
9. Non-submission of information/documents at time of application may entail disqualification of the applicant.
10. Incomplete, inadequate or inaccurate filling of the Application Form may entail elimination of the applicant.

CLOSING DATE:

Applications should reach the CWA not later than 16.00 hrs on 5th November 2026.

MODE OF APPLICATION:

All applications should be made on the prescribed form with copies of academic and professional certificates together with documentary evidence of working experience claimed.

Application forms may be downloaded from our website on <https://cwa.govmu.org> under 'Vacancy' or collected at the Reception Counter of the Head Office from 09.00hrs to 15.00hrs on weekdays and sent to:

The HR Manager
Central Water Authority
Head Office
ST PAUL

The CWA reserves the right:

- (i) to call for interview only the best qualified candidates
 - (ii) not to make any appointment following this advertisement, nor to assign any reason whatsoever for its decision
- The CWA is an equal opportunity employer.

Why grandparents may matter more than ever for children's mental health

As concerns about children's and teenagers' mental health continue to grow, grandparents may have an increasingly important role to play in helping young people develop emotional resilience.

That is the argument of Kenneth Barish, PhD, clinical professor of psychology at Weill Cornell Medicine, who draws on four decades of clinical experience and research in his book *The Art and Science of Parenting and Grandparenting*.

Barish argues that modern families often raise children with less extended-family and community support than in the past. Grandparents can help fill that gap by providing children with something that is increasingly valuable: time, attention, encouragement and a listening ear.

He also questions the emphasis placed on individual achievement. Excessive pressure to succeed can contribute to anxiety and stress, while helping others and developing a sense of purpose can support emotional



Monkey Business Images / USU Extension

well-being.

According to Barish, grandparents need not perform a formal therapeutic role. Simple activities — talking, listening, playing, showing interest in a child's concerns and sharing enjoyable experiences — can strengthen a

child's sense of belonging and security.

He also warns against excessive criticism. In his clinical experience, frequent criticism does not necessarily motivate children to perform better. Instead, it can encourage resentment, defiance and reduced initiative.

Praise, meanwhile, is most useful when it focuses on effort and learning rather than simply telling children they are naturally intelligent or talented. This approach reflects psychologist Carol Dweck's concept of a growth mindset.

Barish also encourages families to involve children in conversations about kindness, empathy and helping others. Volunteering together, for example, can give children a stronger sense of purpose and connection.

His broader message is that raising emotionally healthy children is not simply about correcting behaviour or improving academic performance.

Strong relationships, meaningful conversations and the confidence that someone will listen may be among the most important resources adults can give a child.



Why haven't farm animals evolved against humans?

From domesticated foxes to tuskless elephants, humans have directly and indirectly influenced the evolution of a wide range of animals.

Have you ever wondered why dogs get the zoomies or wag their tails? One answer comes from a rather unexpected source: foxes.

A team of scientists bred captured silver foxes for tameness, choosing the least fearful and aggressive animals to become parents. They repeated this process with each litter of pups, avoiding any training and limiting their exposure to people.

Within six generations, the foxes began to show some familiar, doglike behaviors. Some wagged their tails as people approached, licked their hands and even liked to be petted.

These silver foxes are a remarkable example of selective breeding, where people choose animals with particular traits to produce the next generation of animals.

Selective breeding is the driving force behind domestication: the process through which animal populations adapted to life alongside people over many generations. Dogs are considered the first animals that humans domesticated, originally descending from wolves.

Domestication and evolution

Another team of scientists studied the genes of ancient animals to understand how domestication has shaped farm animals over time. They examined the genetics of a wide range of traits, from coat color in goats and horses to aggression and egg production in chickens.

Farmers might selectively breed chickens for more eggs, or cows for more milk. They may also favor



What will it take for the chickens on the farm to stage a revolt? Finn Mund/Unsplash, CC BY-SA

calmer animals because they are easier to handle. Because animals with these traits are chosen more frequently by farmers for breeding, their genes have a better chance of reaching the next generation.

This process is domestication in action: Inherited traits such as tameness, producing more food or having a coat color preferred by people become common over generations.

Farm animals that are aggressive or don't produce much food may be less useful to humans, thereby "protecting" themselves from being used by people. But with people in charge, these animals will also likely be excluded from breeding and have less of a chance of passing their genes on.

On the farm, people hold all the power. Because of the process of domestication through selective breeding, farm animals cannot evolve to protect themselves from humans.

Human influence in the wild

People can influence evolution in

the wild even without deciding which animals to breed.

Animals with traits that help them evade humans who are trying to hunt or capture them will tend to pass on their genes to the next generation. This means that, in the wild, animal populations may evolve more protective characteristics, since people aren't directly involved in selecting which animals will breed and pass on their genes.

Consider the elephants of Gorongosa National Park in Mozambique, a species I study in my work as an evolutionary biologist. During the country's civil war, poachers hunted large numbers of elephants for their ivory tusks.

Some females were naturally tuskless, making them less likely to be targeted. As a result, these tuskless females had a better chance of surviving, reproducing and passing on the genes associated with tusklessness. Over generations, tusklessness became more common in the population.

While these elephants did not deliberately evolve a defense against hunters, tusklessness provided a survival benefit. Therefore, evolution favored an existing trait that offered some protection.

From friendly foxes to tuskless elephants, human choices can shape how animal populations evolve. Sometimes people do this deliberately, by breeding animals for desired traits. Other times, human impact on the environment alone can change which animals survive and reproduce, and therefore shape how species evolve.

Next time your dog snuggles up, remember those foxes!

Junsu Kang

Associate Professor of Cell and Regenerative Biology, University of Wisconsin-Madison

MAURITIUS ESTATE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (EOI)

The Mauritius Estate Development Corporation Limited (Medcor Ltd) is enlisting eligible suppliers who wish to be considered in a tender exercise for the supply of building materials on an 'as and when required' basis.

Eligibility Criteria

- Valid Business Registration and Incorporation Documents
- Evidence of experience in the supply of building materials

For Clarification/Information

For any further clarification or information, Medcor Ltd can be contacted on 2114446 or by email on admin@medcor.mu

The Expression of Interest must be submitted in sealed envelope on or before 15:00 hrs on 30th October 2026 with reference MED/EOI/BM/202610 to:

Office CEO
Airport Holdings Ltd
Level 19
Air Mauritius Centre,
Port Louis

N.B. Medcor Ltd reserves the right not to proceed with the tender exercise.

Mauritius Times

Founder/Editor: Beekrumsing Ramlallah
Aug 1954-Sept 2000

Editor: M. Ramlallah

This paper has been produced with the assistance of

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A Police Officer Asks a Thief

A police officer stopped a suspicious-looking man who had just been caught carrying an expensive watch belonging to someone else.

The officer held up the watch and asked, "Where did you get this? Did you steal it from that man?"

The suspect immediately shook his head.

"No, officer! I didn't steal anything. He gave the watch to me."

The officer looked surprised. "He gave it to you? Why would a complete stranger simply give you his expensive watch?"

The man shrugged and replied, "Well, it wasn't exactly a gift. But technically, he handed it over."

The officer became suspicious. "All right, then. Tell me exactly when he gave it to you."

The man smiled and casually replied: "He gave it to me when I showed him the gun!"

* * *

An Escaped Convict

A man escapes from prison after serving 15 years.

He breaks into a house, hoping to find money and guns, but instead finds a young couple in bed.

He orders the husband out of bed and ties him to a chair. Then, as he ties the woman to the bed, he gets on top of her and kisses her neck before getting up and going into the bathroom.

While the man is in the bathroom, the husband whispers to his wife:

"Listen, honey, this guy is an escaped

convict. Look at his clothes! He's probably spent years in prison and hasn't seen a woman in ages.

"I saw him kissing your neck. If he wants sex, don't resist or complain. Just do whatever he tells you. Satisfy him, no matter how much it disgusts you. He's probably very dangerous. If he gets angry, he could kill us. Be strong, honey. I love you."

His wife replies:

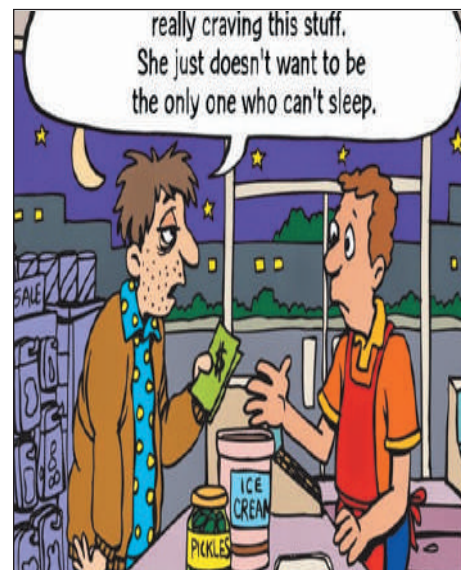
"He wasn't kissing my neck. He was whispering in my ear. He told me he was gay, thought you were cute, and asked if we had any cream. I told him it was in the bathroom. Be strong, honey. I love you too!"

* * *

Two Bachelors Are Talking

Two bachelors are talking, and their conversation drifts from politics to cooking.

"I got a cookbook last Christmas," says the first, "but I was never able to do anything with it."



"Too much fancy cooking in it, eh?" asks the second.

"You said it! Every one of the recipes began the same way: 'Take a clean dish and...'"

* * *

Bonus Joke: The Brave Pig

A farmer is in the pub, bragging about his pig.

"That animal has saved my life twice," he says.

"Once, I fell into the river, and he jumped in and dragged me to the bank.

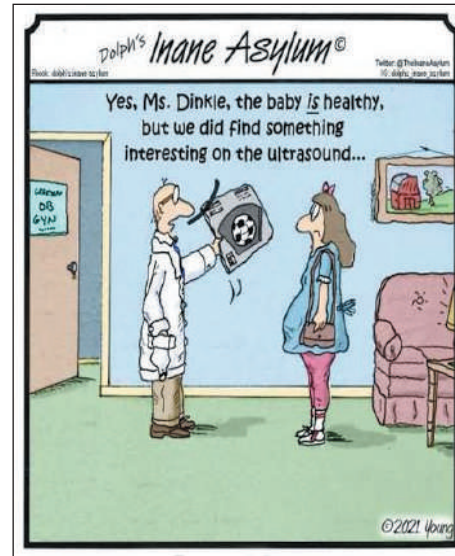
"Another time, my house caught fire, and he ran in and saved me, my wife and the kids."

The farmer passes around a picture of the miraculous animal.

One of the men notices that the pig is missing a leg.

"Which accident did the pig lose its leg in?" he asks.

"Neither," replies the farmer. "An



animal like that, you don't eat all at once!"

* * *

How big are the cats?

A Scot went on his first trip to Canada.

One evening, he had a few drinks in a local bar. Just as he was about to leave, he noticed a huge stuffed animal head with enormous antlers attached to the wall.

"What the hell is that?" he asked.

"It's a moose," replied the barman.

"Bugger me! How big are the cats around here?" exclaimed the Scot.

* * *

The Bread Trap

Wife texts her husband at work: "Don't forget the bread. Oh, and your girlfriend Elizabeth says hi."

Husband: "Who's Elizabeth?"

Wife: "Nobody. Just making sure you read my text."

Husband: "Phew! I'm with Elizabeth right now. I thought you caught us!"

Wife: "What?! Where are you?"

Husband: "Near the bakery."

Wife: "Stay there! I'm coming!"

Five minutes later...

Wife: "I'm here. Where are you?"

Husband: "At work. Since you're there, grab the bread."

* * *

The Missing Parachute

A plane is about to crash. There are four passengers on board, but only three parachutes.

Ryan Reynolds grabs the first parachute and says, "My fans need me!" Then he jumps.

Donald Trump takes the second parachute and says, "I'm the smartest president!" Then he jumps, leaving only one parachute.

The Pope looks at the boy and says, "My child, my life is almost over, while yours has just begun. Take the last parachute."

The boy smiles and replies, "Don't worry, Your Holiness. Donald Trump took my backpack!"

* * *

A Married Couple at the Doctor's

A married couple went to their doctor for a routine checkup.

"How are things at home?" the doctor asked.

"Wonderful!" said the wife.

"Perfect!" added the husband.

"What's your secret?" asked the doctor.

"We divide responsibilities," said the husband. "My wife makes the small decisions, and I make the big ones."

"Such as?" asked the doctor.

"Which car to buy, where to travel, and what house to live in."

"And who decides whether those decisions actually happen?" the wife interrupted.

The doctor burst out laughing.

The husband smiled. "I make the decisions. She approves them."

The wife nodded. "Exactly! Our marriage works perfectly because he makes the big decisions, and I make sure they're the right ones."



* * *

Twelve Years of Marriage and Still Learning!

The relationship quiz declared them highly compatible. Emma was delighted, while David breathed a sigh of relief.

Then Emma asked, "So, what have you learned from this quiz?"

David smiled and replied, "That after twelve years of marriage, I finally know the secret to a happy marriage."

"And what is it?" Emma asked.

"Letting you win every argument!"

Emma smiled. "Wrong answer!"

David sighed. "See? I still have a lot to learn!"



Echoes of the Soul**The Hand Pump of Life**

Once, a man lost his way in the desert. The little food and water he had with him ran out, and for two days he desperately searched for even a drop of water. He knew that if he didn't find water soon, he would die. Still, a small spark of hope remained inside him, so he kept searching. He refused to give up. Then he saw a hut.

At first, he couldn't believe his eyes. He had already been deceived by mirages in the desert. But he had no other choice but to follow the hope that the hut might be real. He gathered his remaining strength and walked towards it. As he got closer, his hope grew. This time, luck was on his side. The hut was real.

But when he reached it, he discovered that it was deserted. It looked as though no one had lived there for years. Still, he went inside, hoping to find water. To his surprise, there was a hand pump. Filled with new energy, he hurried to it and began pumping. But the pump was dry. It seemed that it had not been used for a very long time.

Disappointed and exhausted, he fell to the ground. He thought he would surely die there. Then he noticed a bottle tied to the roof. Somehow, he managed to reach it. He was about to open the bottle and



drink the water when he saw a note attached to it. It read: "Use this water to start the pump. And don't forget to fill the bottle again for the next person."

The man was confused. Should he drink the water and save himself? Or should he pour it into the pump and hope that the pump would work? What if the pump failed? What if the note was wrong and there was no water underground? But what if the pump worked and gave him all the water he needed?

He hesitated. Finally, he decided to trust the note. With trembling hands, he poured the water into the pump. Then he began pumping, filled with hope. After a few tries, water

began to flow. Cool, fresh water! He drank as much as he needed, filled his own containers and allowed himself to recover.

He then refilled the bottle and tied it back to the roof, just as the note had instructed. As he prepared to leave, he noticed another glass bottle. Inside it was a pencil and a map showing the way out of the desert. He studied the map carefully, memorised the route and put it back. Then he stopped. He looked back at the hut. After a moment's thought, he returned and wrote on the note: "Believe me, this hand pump works."

This story is really about life. It teaches us never to lose hope, even in the worst of times. It also reminds us that before receiving something of great value, we often have to give something of ourselves first — just as the man had to pour the only water he possessed into the pump.

The water can represent the precious things in our lives: knowledge, love, generosity, time or even money. To receive something greater, we must first be willing to make an effort and take a risk. And sometimes, what we give comes back to us in far greater measure.

Most importantly, the story reminds us that kindness can travel from one person to another, each person leaving something behind for the next. Sometimes, the greatest legacy we leave is not what we take with us, but what we leave behind for someone we may never meet.

True Stories**Cher: Unstoppable Courage and Constant Reinvention**

At sixteen, Cherilyn Sarkisian left home with very little money and no connections, carrying only a promise to herself that she would become somebody. Raised in financial hardship by her mother, Georgia Holt, Cher faced early setbacks in traditional education due to undiagnosed dyslexia. Yet, while classrooms made her feel misunderstood, she possessed an extraordinary memory for music and an innate sense of identity that set her apart.

Arriving in Los Angeles, she met Sonny Bono, who recognized the distinct power of her voice. Together as Sonny & Cher, they skyrocketed to international fame in 1965 with "I Got You Babe." However, stardom did not grant her control over her own life.

Sonny managed their career with little input from Cher, leading to a painful divorce in 1974. Stepping out on her own, many in the industry written her off, assuming her peak was behind her.

Instead, Cher proved to be an unstoppable force of self-definition. She launched a celebrated solo music career and conquered Hollywood, earning an Oscar nomination for Silkwood and winning the Best Actress Academy Award for Moonstruck in 1988. Standing on that stage, she demonstrated that the doubts of others need not define a person's limits.

When the music industry shifted decades later, Cher defied expectations once again. At 52 -- an age when the pop world rarely welcomed women -- she released "Believe" in 1998. The song pioneered the use of Auto-Tune, hit number one worldwide, and cemented her legacy as a master of reinvention.

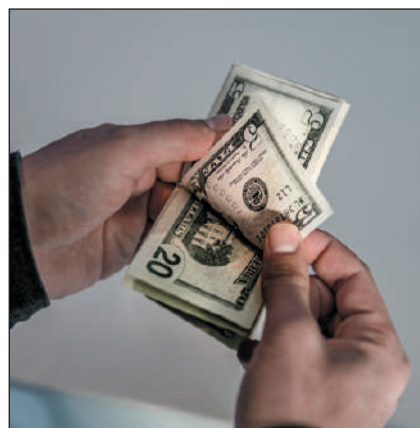
Cher's journey is a powerful reminder that where you begin does not determine where you end. By turning rejection into determination, she showed that the very qualities that make you different are often the ones that make you

The Short Story**The Value of a Dollar Bill**

A popular speaker held up a twenty-dollar bill to a crowd of two hundred people and asked, "Who wants this twenty dollars?" Hands went up.

He crumpled the bill up tightly and asked, "Who still wants it?" Hands stayed up.

Then, he dropped the bill on the ground, stepped on it, ground it into the dirt, picked it up, and asked, "What about now? Do you



still want it?" Hands still went up.

He smiled and said, "My friends, no matter what I did to this money, you still wanted it because it never lost its value. It was still worth twenty dollars."

The Lesson: Life often drops, crushes, and beats us into the dirt. We can feel worthless due to failures or rejections. But no matter what happens, your core worth never changes.

Inspiration**Changing Others**

"If your tendency is to try and change other people, take some time to explore why you feel the need to do so."

Our perception of humanity as a whole is, to a large extent, dualistic. We paint people with a broad brush -- some are like us, sharing our opinions and our attitudes, while others are different. Our commitment to the values we have chosen to embrace is often so strong that we are easily convinced that our way is the right way. We may find ourselves frustrated by those who

view the world from an alternate vantage point. However ardently we believe that these people would be happier and more satisfied following our lead, we should resist the temptation to try to change them. Every human being has been blessed with a unique nature that cannot be altered by outside forces. We are who we are at any one point in our lives for a reason, and no one person can say for certain what another should be like.

The reasons we try to change one another are numerous. When we have learned to flourish in the life we have built, we may come to believe that we are qualified to speak on behalf of the greater source. The sum total of our knowledge will never compare to what we do not know, and our understanding of others' lives is limited. The potential we see in the people who are a

part of our lives will never be precisely the same as our own, so we do these individuals a disservice when we make assumptions about their intentions, preferences, and goals. Our power lies in our ability to accept others for all their quirks and differences and to let go of the need to control every element. We can love people for who they are, embracing their uniqueness, or we can love them as human beings from afar.

Your ability to influence people may grow more sophisticated because others sense that you respect their right to be themselves, but you will likely spend more time gazing inward into the one person you can change: yourself.

Daily Om

Relationships

Leading the Unleashable: Managing Difficult Personalities



Most leadership books focus on motivating willing participants. *Leading the Unleashable* tackles a different challenge: how do you lead talented people whose personalities or behaviour make them difficult to manage?

In *Leading the Unleashable: How to Manage Mavericks, Cynics, Divas, and Other Difficult People*, Alan Willett argues that leadership requires more than inspiration. Some high performers resist authority, challenge decisions or disrupt team cohesion. The key is to manage their behaviour without wasting their talent.

Here are seven key lessons from the book:

1. Difficult Behaviour Can Mask Strengths -

Mavericks challenge assumptions, cynics spot risks, and divas often have high standards. The challenge is to channel these strengths without tolerating disruptive behaviour.

2. Don't Take It Personally - Difficult employees may be reacting to workplace systems, incentives or restrictions on their autonomy rather than to you personally. Remaining objective helps leaders respond more effectively.

3. Understand Before You Act - Not all difficult personalities are alike. Some seek control, others recognition or independence. Identifying the underlying motivation helps determine the appropriate response.

4. Clarity Prevents Conflict - Clear expectations, measurable objectives and accountability reduce misunderstandings and leave less room for conflicting interpretations.

5. Allow Freedom Within Boundaries - Talented individuals often value independence. Rather than micromanaging them, define the expected results and give them reasonable freedom in how they achieve them.

6. Enforce Consequences Consistently - Boundaries lose their meaning when they are not enforced. Fair, proportionate and predictable consequences help maintain credibility and authority.

7. Leadership Requires Behavioural Adjustment - Managing strong personalities is less about charisma than about aligning incentives, feedback and expectations to encourage productive behaviour.

The central lesson is that difficult people are not necessarily impossible to lead. The challenge is to align their strengths and ambitions with the team's objectives. Effective leaders neither dominate nor appease them; they create conditions in which talent contributes rather than undermines the organisation.

Willett's approach presents leadership as a practical discipline that balances empathy with authority, flexibility with standards, and individual performance with team cohesion.

By Alan Willett

The prostate is a small gland that plays an important role in the male reproductive system. About the size and shape of a walnut, it is located below the bladder and in front of the rectum. It surrounds part of the urethra, the tube that carries urine from the bladder through the penis.

One of the prostate's main functions is to produce some of the fluid that makes up semen. This fluid helps carry sperm from the testicles when a man ejaculates. Although the prostate is small, changes in its size or condition can affect urination, sexual function and, in some cases, overall health.

An Enlarged Prostate

As men age, the prostate normally becomes larger. This enlargement can begin around age 25, although symptoms usually do not appear before the age of 40. By age 60, about half of men may experience symptoms, while the proportion rises considerably among men over 80.

The condition is known as benign prostatic hyperplasia (BPH). The word "benign" is important: BPH is not cancer and does not increase the risk of developing prostate cancer.

However, an enlarged prostate can press against the urethra and interfere with the normal flow of urine. Symptoms may include difficulty starting urination, a weak or interrupted urine stream, frequent urination, particularly at night, and a feeling that the bladder has not emptied completely. Some men may also need to strain to urinate.

The severity of symptoms does not necessarily correspond to the size of the prostate. Some men with very large prostates have few symptoms, while

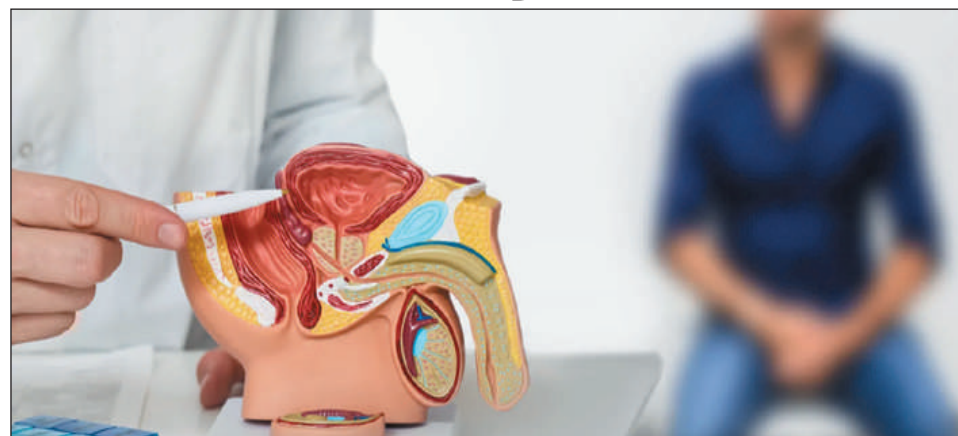
others with smaller enlargements may experience considerable difficulty.

In severe cases, an enlarged prostate can completely block the flow of urine. This is a medical emergency and requires prompt treatment. Complications can include urinary tract infections, bladder stones, bladder damage and blood in the urine.

Treatment depends on the severity of the symptoms. Men with mild symptoms may simply be monitored regularly. Lifestyle changes, such as reducing alcohol and caffeine intake and limiting fluids before bedtime, may also help. Medications, including alpha-blockers and 5-alpha reductase inhibitors, can relieve symptoms or reduce the size of the prostate. Surgery may be considered when symptoms are severe or other treatments have not worked.

Men's Health

Understanding the Prostate: What It Does and Why It Matters



Prostatitis

Another condition affecting the prostate is prostatitis, or inflammation of the prostate. It is sometimes caused by a bacterial infection and is different from BPH.

There are several types of prostatitis. Acute bacterial prostatitis develops suddenly and may cause fever, chills, body aches, painful or frequent urination and difficulty urinating. Chronic bacterial prostatitis can be more difficult to treat and may last for years.

The most common form is chronic prostatitis/chronic pelvic pain syndrome (CPPS). It can cause pain or discomfort lasting three months or longer, including pain in the lower abdomen, lower back, penis, scrotum or the area between the scrotum and anus. Painful ejaculation and urinary problems may also occur.

Treatment depends on the type. Bacterial prostatitis is generally treated with antibiotics, while CPPS may require a combination of treatments, including medication and physical therapy.

Prostate Tests and Cancer Screening

Doctors have several ways to examine the prostate. A digital rectal examination allows the doctor to assess its size, shape and firmness. A prostate-specific antigen (PSA) blood test measures a protein produced by prostate cells. A high PSA level can occur with prostate cancer, but it can also result from BPH or prostatitis. A low PSA level does not completely rule out cancer.

If cancer is suspected, a prostate biopsy may be recommended to examine tissue samples for cancerous cells.

There is no single recommendation for when every man should undergo prostate cancer screening. Organisations such as the American Cancer Society, American Urological Association and U.S. Preventive Services Task Force recommend discussing the potential benefits and risks of PSA testing with a doctor, taking age, family history and individual risk into account.

The Bottom Line

Changes in the prostate are common as men grow older, but urinary symptoms should not simply be dismissed as a normal part of ageing. BPH is not cancer, while prostatitis is a separate condition that can cause significant discomfort. Early discussion with a doctor can help identify the cause of symptoms and determine whether monitoring, lifestyle changes, medication or other treatment is appropriate.

Ranveer Singh and Deepika Padukone announce name of second daughter

Bollywood stars Ranveer Singh and Deepika Padukone shared a joyful announcement with their fans during Dussehra celebrations, revealing the name of their second daughter: Devi Padukone Singh.

The couple posted a heartwarming family photograph across social media featuring their two daughters dressed in matching golden traditional attire. In the photo, their elder daughter Dua, born in September 2024, is seen giving a gentle kiss to her younger sister Devi while their parents look on. The post was captioned simply: "Of Love & Abundance... Devi Padukone Singh."

Devi was born on September 19, 2026, following the couple's pregnancy announcement in April. Ranveer and Deepika, who tied the knot in November 2018 in Lake Como, Italy, received an overwhelming outpouring of love and congratulations from industry colleagues and fans worldwide.



Salman Khan opens up on Marriage, Fatherhood, and Privacy on *Koffee With Karan*

Bollywood superstar Salman Khan opened the highly anticipated ninth and final season of *Koffee With Karan*, engaging in a candid, heartwarming conversation with host Karan Johar. According to a coverage report by *Screen*, the 60-year-old actor addressed long-standing public curiosity regarding his single status, shared his strong desire to become a father someday, and explained his strict boundaries regarding personal privacy.

Addressing his viral "I'm a virgin" remark from Season 4 during his appearance on *Screen*, Salman explained that the statement was simply his way of deflecting intrusive questions about his romantic life. He emphasized to *Screen* that he learned the importance of keeping personal matters private from his father, veteran screenwriter Salim Khan, from a very young age. "The bedroom is the bedroom, while the living room is the entire country," Salman remarked, adding that he avoids discussing relationships publicly out of respect for the individuals involved, who may eventually marry someone else.

When the discussion shifted to fatherhood, Salman warmly shared his aspirations with *Screen*, expressing admiration for Karan Johar's journey as a single parent to two children. The actor stated firmly that he intends to have children in the future, calling it one of the most incredible aspects of life. While acknowledging that he enjoys his life and feels content, he clarified that remaining unmarried was entirely his own deliberate choice. "Nobody stopped me from getting married; I stopped



myself," Salman explained to *Screen*, taking full accountability for his life path while confirming that "kids will come into the picture one day."

On the professional front, the iconic superstar continues to remain busy with high-profile film projects, including director Apoorva Lakhia's upcoming feature *Maatrubhumi: May War Rest in Peace*. His reassuring demeanor on the show offered fans a rare, grounded glimpse into his perspective on family, independence, and long-term fulfillment.

Sara Ali Khan and Ayushmann Khurrana visit Golden Temple ahead of *Udta Teer*

Co-stars Sara Ali Khan and Ayushmann Khurrana visited the iconic Golden Temple in Amritsar as part of promotional activities for their upcoming film *Udta Teer*.

The duo shared pictures on Instagram dressed in matching traditional white attire, standing with folded hands before the shrine to extend Dussehra greetings to their fans. Ayushmann reflected on the visit, describing the spiritual atmosphere of the temple as deeply peaceful. Throughout their promotional tour in Punjab, both actors have engaged with local culture, sharing videos enjoying authentic lassi and traditional farm life in Chandigarh.



Directed by Aakash Kaushik, *Udta Teer* features a strong ensemble cast including Rahul Bose, Ram Kapoor, Gulshan Grover, and Supriya Pilgaonkar. The film is scheduled to hit theaters on October 23.

How Vivek Oberoi built a business empire beyond Bollywood

While Vivek Oberoi first gained fame through acclaimed performances in films such as *Company*, *Saathiya*, *Yuva* and *Omkaara*, his greatest financial success has come away from the silver screen. Today, the actor is widely regarded as one of India's most successful celebrity entrepreneurs.

According to published reports, Vivek's estimated net worth stands at around ₹1,200 crore, equivalent to approximately MUR 6 billion. His wealth has been built through investments spanning real estate, technology, education, artificial intelligence, jewellery and premium beverages, reports News18.

Vivek credits his entrepreneurial instincts to his father, veteran actor



Suresh Oberoi, who encouraged him from childhood to think like a businessman rather than rely solely on acting. By the age of 19, he had already raised US\$3 million for his first company, later selling it successfully while still in his early

twenties.

More recently, he has invested in Solitario, a lab-grown diamond company operating across several countries, and acquired a significant stake in a premium Scottish spirits brand. He has also expanded into Dubai's booming property market through BNW Developments, whose projects are reportedly valued at around US\$7 billion.

Vivek often remarks that cinema is his passion, while business provides his financial independence. By diversifying his investments across multiple industries, he has demonstrated how celebrities can build lasting wealth beyond entertainment.



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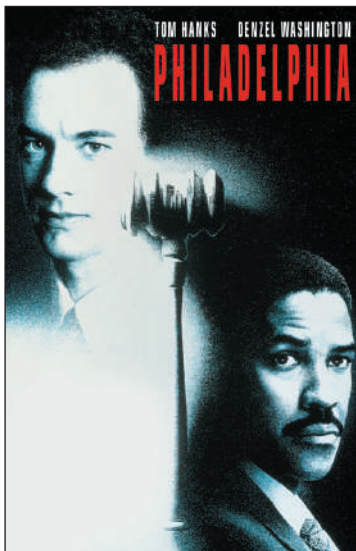


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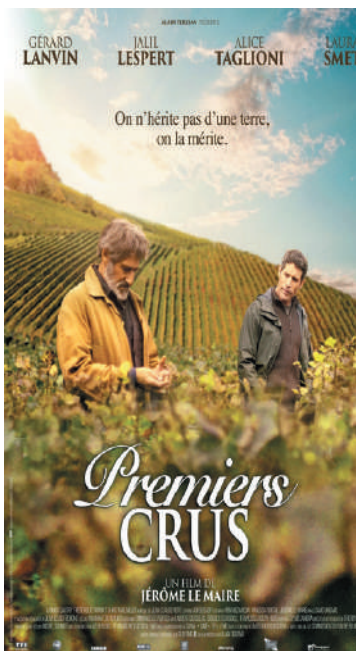
Vendredi 23 Octobre -20.30



Samedi 24 Octobre - 21.00



Dimanche 25 Octobre - 20.20



Programme TV



SERIAL



vendredi 23 octobre

MBC 1

06.11 Serial: L'Heritiere
07.06 L'homme Qui Valait Trois...
08.39 Tele: Terre D'Esperance
09.02 L'Amour N'a Pas De Recette
09.30 Film: St Vincent
11.35 Tele: Happily Ever After
12.00 Le Journal
12.35 Tele: Le Cercle De Feu
13.25 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
20.20 Film: Philadelphia
22.25 Tele: Le Cercle De Feu

MBC 2

11.00 Local: Glwar Dantan
13.07 La Journee Sous Le Regard
14.08 Local: Nou Later Nou Lamer
14.34 Les Grandes Lignes
15.55 Local: Paroles Agricoles
17.01 Local: La Sosiete
18.00 Une Famille Pas Si Parfaite
19.30 Local: Parlons Sante Senior
19.45 Local: Evasion
20.15 Local: Sekirite Lor Larout
22.00 Local: La Sosiete
22.11 Upclose And Personal
22.54 La Journee Sous Le Regard
23.03 Zournal Kreol
23.28 Entrepreneuriat Au Feminin
00.19 Local: Metie
00.38 Local: Moutons Veg
01.05 Les Grandes Lignes
01.27 Local: Parlons Sante Senior
01.40 Local: Evasion
01.50 Local: Sekirite Lor Larout

MBC 3

05.00 Mag: Aastha TV
08.00 Local: Amrit Vani
09.00 Aaj Ki Charcha
10.00 Na Umra Ki Seema Ho
11.32 Serial: Shiv Shakti
12.00 Film: Jurmana (old)
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 Geet Gawai Ki Naya Peheloo
19.56 Khel Khiladi
20.30 Tenali Rama
21.15 Beyhadh 2
21.33 Shrimad Ramayan
21.57 Wagle Ki Duniya
22.18 Aaj Aur Kal Bollywood
23.55 Local: Mati Ke Mol

MBC 5

06.40 Mag: Arts Unveiled Special
07.21 Mag: Tomorrow Today
07.49 Doc: Through Kazakhstan
10.00 Doc: Hasankeyf
11.22 Mag: Eco India
11.48 Mag: Choices
12.46 Mag: Tomorrow Today
14.41 Mag: Her - Women In Asia
15.00 D.Anime: Berry And Dolly
15.10 D.Anime: Les Petits Carnets
17.30 D.Anime: Eco India
17.30 Mag: Eco India
18.43 Mag: Business Beyond
19.00 Student Support Programme
19.28 Mag: Euromaxx
20.01 Tele: Terre D'Esperance
20.30 News
20.50 Tele: Eclats De Vie
21.31 Doc: Food Up!
23.09 Barbie-The Perfect Woman?
23.52 Doc: Going Beyond

MBC 4

14.25 Serial: Radha Mohan
14.55 Serial: Tenali Rama
15.27 Film: Masti
Cast: Ajay Devgn, Vivek Oberoi, Aftab Shivdasani
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: Masti
Cast: Ajay Devgn, Vivek Oberoi, Aftab Shivdasani

samedi 24 octobre

06.16 Tele: Terre D'Esperance
06.40 Serial: La Brea
07.40 Serial: L'Incroyable Hulk
08.26 Serial: New Amsterdam
09.10 Serial: L'Homme Qui Valait Trois Milliards
09.50 Serial: Nautilus
10.50 Serial: Belgravia
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: Philadelphia
18.00 Live: Samachar
18.31 Dance Deewane Juniors
19.30 Le Journal
21.00 Film: No Escape
22.48 Serial: L'Incroyable Hulk
23.35 Le Journal
00.10 Serial: Berlin Station

06.00 Local: Mon Jardin Ma Maison
06.30 Local: Tous Egaux
06.45 Local: Point Culture
07.35 Local: Les Grandes Lignes
08.00 Local: Parlons Sante Senior
09.15 Local: La Sosiete
12.45 Mon Jardin Ma Maison
13.20 Local: Les Grandes Lignes
13.45 Local: Parlons Sante Senior
14.00 Local: Evasion
14.00 Local: Sekirite Lor Larout
14.55 Local: Point Culture
15.00 Local: Tous Egaux
16.20 Urgence Energetique
19.00 Zournal Kreol
19.20 Zero Stress Avek Miselaine
19.45 Local: Metie
20.15 Local: Les Petits Genies
20.45 Music Tour 2026
21.45 Glwar Dantan
22.37 Local: Mots & Ecrits
23.00 Zournal Kreol

05.00 Mag: Aastha TV
08.26 Local: Abhyas Yog
09.00 Aaj Ki Charcha
10.00 Bade Acche Lagte Hai 2
11.03 Mati Ke Mol
11.29 Geet Gawai Ki Naya Peheloo
13.07 Mere Dad Ki Dulhan
15.20 Film: Khoya Khoya
18.00 Live: Samachar
18.30 Radha Krishna
18.57 Local: Sangeet Sarita
19.39 Duniya Mein Iss Saptah
19.53 Bhojpuri Geet
20.59 Film: Yodha
Cast: Sidharth Malhotra, Raashi Khanna
23.35 Local: Puranya Pakwan
23.58 Sangeet Sarita
00.28 Local: Gyan Vigyan
00.44 Local: Duniya Mein Saptah
01.59 Film: Yodha

06.00 D.Anime: Samsam
06.54 D.Anime: Bestioles Motel
07.57 D.Anime: Jurassic World
08.43 D.Anime: Polly Pocket
09.05 D.Anime: Slugterra
09.29 Les Nouvelles Aventures...
10.34 Doc: Going Beyond
11.38 Les Femmes Du Rwanda
13.08 Doc: Barbie-The Perfect...
15.05 D.Anime: Berry And Dolly
15.08 D.Anime: Les Petits Carnets...
15.32 D.Anime: Sam Le Pompier
15.51 D.Anime: Madagascar
16.36 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
22.34 Doc: Museums
00.04 Mag: In Good Shape
00.30 Doc: Our Innate Rhythm

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: Veer
With: Salman Khan, Zayed Khan
21.30 Beyhadh 2



dimanche 25 octobre

06.30 Tele: Terre D'esperance
06.55 Film: The Three Musketeers
08.45 Serial: Nautilus
09.35 Serial: Columbo
10.45 Serial: Belgravia
11.30 Tele: Terre D'esperance
12.35 Film: Marry Me
14.20 Doc: China Farm
15.00 Live: Samachar
15.30 Film: The Three Musketeers
17.30 Doc: Healing Gardens
18.00 Samachar
18.30 Serial: Laughter Chefs
19.30 Le Journal
20.20 Film: Premiers Crus
Cast: Gérard Lanvin, Jalil Lespert, Alice Taglioni
22.03 Tele: Laura, Una Vida Extraordinaria
22.45 Serial: Berlin Station
23.30 Le Journal Televisé

08.15 Local: Fam Model
09.10 Local: Les Petits Genies
09.30 En Direct De L'immaculee Conception, Port Louis
11.45 Local: Nu Rasinn
12.41 Emotion En Avant Plan
14.15 Local: La Sosiete
14.45 Local: Saver Kiltirel
15.15 Local: Priorite Sante
16.30 Parlons Sante Senior
16.40 Local: Tous Egaux
17.15 Local: Les Petits Genies
17.40 Local: Glwar Dantan
18.10 Tele: Wildflower
19.20 Zero Stress Avek Miselaine
20.15 Local: Les Klips
23.00 Zournal Kreol
23.20 Local: Coin Jardin
23.32 Local: Nos Aines
00.12 Local: Toc Toc Doc
00.22 Local: Nu Lakwizin

05.00 Mag: Aastha TV
06.59 Mag: Indradhanush
08.00 Puranya Pakwan
08.56 Local: Gyan Vigyan
10.30 Mahabharat
12.00 Film: Raja
15.00 Samachar
15.47 Sangeet Sarita
16.13 Local: Gyan Vigyan
16.30 Local: Bhojpuri Geet
18.00 Samachar
18.30 Sayings Radha Krishna
18.31 MBC Prod
20.30 Serial: Tenali Rama
21.00 Serial: Sa Re Ga Ma Pa Lil...
21.45 Senhur
23.03 MBC Production
00.36 Mag: Indradhanush
04.56 Film: Raja
Cast: Aamir Khan, Karishma Kapoor

06.00 D.Anime: Samsam
07.16 D.Anime: Zig's Space Ranger
07.41 D.Anime: Les Quiquoi
08.43 D.Anime: Polly Pocket
09.05 D.Anime: Slugterra
09.30 D.Anime: Les Nouvelles Aventures De Caillou
09.43 Serial: The Wonder Gang
10.45 Doc: The Kiel Canal
15.05 D.Anime: Berry And Dolly
15.10 D.Anime: Les Petits Carnets...
15.32 D.Anime: Sam Le Pompier
15.52 D.Anime: Madagascar
16.15 D.Anime: Peanuts
16.44 La Famille Blaireaux Renard
17.08 Serial: Just Add Water
18.25 Doc: Metro World Tour
19.12 Mag: Planet A
20.01 Tele: Terre D'Esperance
20.50 Doc: Great Barrier Reef
21.40 Film: The Cabin In The Wood

08.00 Dhruv Tara
10.05 Kundali Bhagya
12.00 Serial: Laughter Chefs
13.00 Dance Deewane Juniors
14.00 Pyaar Ka Pehla Adhyaya
16.00 Wagle Ki Duniya
18.30 Film: Cash
Cast: Ajay Devgn, Suniel Shetty, Zayed Khan, Diya Mirza
21.30 Beyhadh 2
21.50 Mahabharat



lundi 26 octobre

06.15 Tele: L'Heritiere
07.05 Serial: S.W.A.T.
08.35 Tele: Terre D'Esperance
09.00 L'Amour N'a Pas De Recette
09.30 Film: Tout Sauf Toi
11.30 Tele: Happily Ever After
12.00 Le Journal
12.25 Tele: Le Cercle De Feu
13.15 Tele: Lying Heart
13.45 Une Famille Pas Si Parfaite
14.10 Tele: Eclats De Vie
15.00 Samachar
15.30 Film: Premiers Crus
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: Une Chanson Pour Ma Mere

09.27 Local: Metie
09.38 Local: En Forme
10.40 Rodrig: Plat Du Chef
11.00 Local: Les Klips
12.00 Local: Nu Rasinn
13.00 La Journee Sous Le Regard
14.15 Rodrig: Promnad
15.35 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
23.00 Zournal Kreol
23.20 Local: Metie

05.00 Mag: Aastha TV
09.00 Aaj Ki Charcha
10.00 Senhur
12.00 Film: Sunghursh
Cast: Dilip Kumar, Vyjayanthimala
15.00 Samachar
15.48 Kundali Bhagya
16.30 Local: Aaj Ke Charcha
17.10 Kundali Bhagya
17.30 Shiv Shakti
18.00 Live: Samachar
18.31 Local: Ved Ki Shikshahein
18.59 Local: Darshan Guest
20.30 Dharm Yoddha Garud
21.00 Film: Bhala Manus
Cast: Randhir Kapoor, Neetu Singh
23.25 Shrimad Ramayan
23.49 Wagle Ki Duniya
00.29 Local: Ved Ki Shikshahein

07.12 Mag: Arts Unveiled
09.07 Doc: Cobalt Rush
11.35 Mag: Travel
11.47 Doc: San Michele
12.30 Doc: Arts Unveiled
13.45 Doc: Collecting, Storing...
14.30 Doc: Italy's New Farmers
15.00 D.Anime: Berry And Dolly
15.13 Les Petits Carnets Des Perles
15.32 D.Anime: Sam Le Pompier
15.51 D.Anime: Madagascar
16.14 D.Anime: Peanuts
16.37 La Famille Blaireau Renard
17.01 Serial: H2O: Just Add Water
18.00 Mag: Eye On SADC
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: Little Gourmet
23.29 Mag: Tomorrow Today
00.38 Mag: Eco Africa

14.25 Radha Mohan
14.47 Dharm Yoddha Garud
15.12 Film: Takkar
Cast: Naseeruddin Shah, Suniel Shetty, Sonali Bendre
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 27 Octobre - 20.25



Mercredi 28 Octobre - 21.00



Mercredi 28 Octobre - 15.22



Programme TV



MBC 1	MBC 2	MBC 3	MBC 5	MBC 4
05.36 Tele: L'heritiere 07.11 Serial: The Lazarus Project 08.42 Tele: Terre D'Esperance 09.05 L'Amour N'a Pas De Recette 09.30 Une Chanson Pour Ma Mere 11.30 Tele: Happily ever After 12.00 Le Journal 12.25 Tele: Le Cercle De Feu 13.15 Tele: Lying Heart 13.45 Une Famille Pas Si Parfaite 14.10 Tele: Eclats De Vie 14.59 Samachar 15.30 Film: The Three Musketeers 17.20 Doc: Vegetarian Delights 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: Karaté Kid	10.10 Morisien Konn Ou La Sante 11.35 Local: Grand Titre 12.00 Local: Clin D'oeil 13.03 La Journee Sous Le Regard 14.00 Rodrig: Feminin Pluriel 14.30 Local: Coin Jardin 15.30 Local: Mangeons Veg 16.00 Local: Mise A Jour Theme 17.15 Upclose And Personal 18.00 Une Famille Pas Si Parfaite 18.30 L'Amour N'a Pas De Recette 19.00 Zournal Kreol 19.30 Local: Itinerer Rodrig 20.00 Zournal Rodrig 20.30 Local: Priorite Sante 21.30 Parliamentary Question.... 22.30 Local: Point Culture 23.00 Zournal Kreol 23.25 Local: Fam Model 23.38 Local: Music Tour 2026 00.30 Local: Parlons Sante Senior	05.00 Mag: Aastha TV 08.00 Local: Ved Ki Shikshahein 09.00 Aaj Ki Charcha 10.00 Serial: Kundali Bhagya 11.31 Serial: Shiv Shakti 12.01 Film: Dharam Karam Cast: Raj Kapoor, Randhir 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 Local: Mati Ke Mol 18.55 Local: Natya Kala 19.54 Local: Prakriti 20.30 Dharm Yoddha Garud 21.00 Film: Agneepath Cast: Amitabh B, Mithun C 23.54 Shrimad Ramayan	06.00 Mag: Eco Africa 06.52 Mag: The 77 Percent 07.46 Doc: Life On The Spectrum 08.38 Doc: Empowering The Future 09.25 Mag: Tomorrow Today 11.29 Mag: Eco Africa 11.55 Doc: Destination Mars 12.47 Mag: In Good Shape 13.20 Doc: Life On The Spectrum 14.05 Doc: Nikola Tesla 15.04 Les Petits Carnets Des Perles 15.34 D.Anime: Sam Le Pompier 15.51 D.Anime: Madagascar 16.14 D.Anime: Peanuts 16.36 La Famille Blaireau Renard 17.00 Serial: H20: Just Add Water 17.30 Mag: Eco Africa 18.00 Mag: REV: The Global Auto... 18.30 Mag: Shift 19.00 Student Support Programme 20.01 Tele: Terre D'Esperance	14.25 Radha Mohan 14.55 Dharm Yoddha Garud 15.30 Film: Hello Starring: Sharman Joshi, Isha Kopikar 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.30 Uadne 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: Hello Starring: Sharman Joshi, Isha Kopikar
05.22 Tele: L'heritiere 08.30 Tele: Terre D'Esperance 09.04 L'Amour N'a Pas De Recette 09.30 Film: Philadelphia 11.30 Tele: Happily Ever After 12.00 Le Journal 12.25 Tele: Le Cercle De Feu 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: Karaté Kid 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 21.00 Film: Hope Springs 22.50 Tele: Le Cercle De Feu 23.30 Le Journal 00.05 Happily Ever After	09.10 Local Production 10.35 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 15.35 Local: Saveurs Plus 16.00 Local: Glwar Dantan 16.26 Rodrig - Coin Zen 16.55 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 Zournal 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 Zournal Kreol	08.00 Local: Natya Kala 09.00 Aaj Ki Charcha 2025 10.00 Pyaar Ka Pehla Adhyaya 11.31 Serial: Shiv Shakti 12.01 Film: Shakka Cast: Jeetendra, Simple Kapadia 15.00 Live: Samachar 17.11 Radha Mohan 17.31 Shiv Shakti 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.30 Local: Yatra 19.01 Local: Ayush 19.48 Local: Virasat 20.13 Serial: Kaam Daam 20.30 Dharm Yoddha Garud 21.01 Film: Tabadala 23.15 Shrimad Ramayan 23.46 Wagle Ki Duniya 00.27 Yatra 00.53 Darshan The Importance Of Kartik Maas	06.00 Mag: REV: The Global Auto... 06.51 Mag: Made In Germany 11.32 Mag: Shift 11.59 Mag: Made In Germany 13.11 Mag: Business Africa 14.24 Mag: Euromaxx 15.00 D.Anime: Berry And Dolly 15.10 Les Petits Carnets Des... 15.35 D.Anime: Sam Le Pompier 16.14 D.Anime: Peanuts 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: A Place To Feel Safe 20.03 Tele: Terre D'Esperance 20.50 Tele: Eclats De Vie 21.40 Doc: La Chine Du Futur 22.33 Mag: Close Up 23.07 Mag: Focus On Europe	14.25 Radha Mohan 14.50 Dharm Yoddha Garud 15.22 Film: Mumbai Se Aaya Mera Dost Starring: Abhishek B, Lara Dutta 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.31 Uadne 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 Anupamaa 21.28 Pyaar Ka Pehla Abhyaya 22.00 Dhruv Tara 22.24 Wagle Ki Duniya 22.54 Aladdin 23.30 Film: Mumbai Se Aaya Mera Dost Starring: Abhishek B, Lara Dutta
05.33 Tele: L'Heritiere 07.11 Serial: Nelle Tue Mani 08.38 Tele: Terre D'Esperance 09.01 L'Amour N'a Pas De Recette 09.30 Serial: Columbo 11.30 Tele: Happily Ever After 12.00 Le Journal 12.25 Tele: Le Cercle De Feu 13.15 Tele: Lying Heart 13.45 Une Famille Pas Si Parfaite 14.10 Tele: Eclats De Vie 15.25 Film: Tout Sauf Toi 17.16 Tele: Happily Ever After 18.00 Samachar 18.31 Serial: Shiv Shakti 19.00 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu 19.30 Le Journal 20.20 Film: Raanjhanana Cast: Dhanush, Sonam Kapoor, Mohd. Zeeshan Ayyub, Abhay Deol	10.30 Rodrig: Plat Du Chef 11.35 Local: Grand Titre 12.29 Local: Glwar Dantan 12.54 La Journee Sous Le Regard 13.25 Mon Jardin Ma Maison 14.25 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 Zournal Kreol 19.25 Nou Later Nou Lamer... 20.00 Zournal Rodrig 20.16 Emotion En Avant Plan 20.45 Local: Paroles Agricoles 21.15 Local: Saver Kiltirel 21.41 Local: Music Tour 2025 22.54 La Journee Sous Le Regard 23.00 Zournal Kreol 23.34 Local: La Sosiete 23.58 Rodrig: Feminin Pluriel 00.28 Local: Tous Egaux	05.00 Mag: Aastha TV 06.59 Mag: Kuch Lamhe Fursat... 08.03 Local: Yatra 08.26 Local: Ayush 09.00 Aaj Ki Charcha 2025 10.00 Serial: Radha Mohan 11.31 Serial: Shiv Shakti 12.01 Film: Aadmi Aur Insaan Cast: Dharmendra, Saira Banu, Feroz Khan 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 D.Anime: Berry And Dolly 15.33 D.Anime: Sam Le Pompier 15.52 D.Anime: Madagascar 16.37 La Famille Blaireau Renard 16.48 Serial: H20: Just Add Water 18.00 Mag: Eco India 18.30 Mag: Choices 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 Doc: 9/11 - The Day That... 23.07 Doc: The Plant Wonders...	14.25 Radha Mohan 15.00 Tenali Rama 15.30 Film: Mera Pati Sirf Mera Hai Cast: Jeetendra, Rekha 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.30 Uadne 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 Anupamaa 21.34 Pyaar Ka Phela Adhyaya 22.01 Dhruv Tara 22.29 Wagle Ki Duniya 23.05 Aladdin 23.31 Film: Mera Pati Sirf Mera Hai Cast: Jeetendra, Rekha



Jeudi 29 Octobre - 15.30

Stars: Jeetendra, Rekha



Jeudi 29 Octobre - 20.20

Stars: Dhanush, Sonam Kapoor, Mohd. Zeeshan Ayyub, Abhay Deol



Mineurs arrêtés après les émeutes: faut-il privilégier la clémence?

Suite de la page 5

L'article 49 prévoit qu'un enfant de moins de 14 ans ne peut être poursuivi pénalement pour une infraction. L'article 50 prévoit une procédure distincte pour les enfants de cet âge, notamment des démarches d'évaluation et d'orientation vers des interventions appropriées.

Pour les jeunes âgés de 14 à 17 ans, des poursuites peuvent être engagées selon la nature des faits et les circonstances. Néanmoins, le cadre de justice pour mineurs prévoit des possibilités de déjudiciarisation et de réhabilitation, la détention devant rester une mesure de dernier recours lorsque cela est possible.

Il importe également de ne pas confondre la prérogative présidentielle de clémence, prévue par la Constitution, avec une amnistie générale applicable à des personnes simplement arrêtées ou faisant l'objet de procédures en cours. Une telle amnistie nécessiterait un examen juridique spécifique de sa base légale, de son champ d'application et de ses conséquences.

Abaissier l'âge de la responsabilité pénale: une réponse contestable

Le débat prend une dimension supplémentaire avec l'intention annoncée du gouvernement d'abaisser de 14 à 12 ans l'âge de la responsabilité pénale. Cette proposition suscite des inquiétudes, notamment au regard des recommandations internationales relatives aux droits de l'enfant.

Dans son Observation générale no 24, le Comité des droits de l'enfant des Nations unies recommande un âge



minimum de responsabilité pénale d'au moins 14 ans et déconseille aux États d'abaisser un seuil déjà supérieur.

Certes, la population est en droit d'attendre des autorités qu'elles réagissent aux violences et aux destructions de biens. Mais sanctionner plus tôt ne signifie pas nécessairement prévenir plus efficacement la délinquance. Une telle réforme risque d'exposer des enfants encore très jeunes au système pénal sans s'attaquer aux facteurs qui favorisent certains comportements.

Avant d'abaisser cet âge, il conviendrait donc de démontrer, sur la base de données fiables, qu'une telle mesure améliorerait réellement la sécurité publique et qu'aucune solution moins contraignante ne permettrait d'atteindre le même objectif.

La responsabilité ne doit pas exclure la compassion

L'appel de Me Hawoldar invite aussi à regarder au-delà des actes reprochés. La précarité, les difficultés quotidiennes et la perte de confiance dans les institutions peuvent alimenter la frustration sociale. Ils ne justifient pas

automatiquement les violences ou les pillages, mais ils méritent d'être pris au sérieux.

Une réponse adaptée pourrait reposer sur l'évaluation individuelle des dossiers, le recours à des mesures éducatives, l'accompagnement psychologique, le soutien aux familles, la formation et, lorsque cela est approprié, des mécanismes de justice réparatrice. Les jeunes devraient pouvoir comprendre les conséquences de leurs actes, réparer les torts causés dans la mesure du possible et retrouver progressivement leur place dans la société.

Pour les faits les plus graves, notamment les violences ayant causé des blessures ou des destructions importantes, une réponse judiciaire proportionnée demeure nécessaire. La réhabilitation ne signifie ni l'impunité ni l'indifférence envers les victimes.

La confiance dans les institutions dépend aussi de la capacité de l'État à enquêter de manière impartiale lorsque des actes imputés à ses propres agents sont en cause.

Restaurer l'ordre sans sacrifier la dignité humaine

La voie la plus équilibrée consiste à appliquer la loi avec rigueur et discernement, à privilégier la déjudiciarisation lorsqu'elle est appropriée et à réserver la détention aux situations où elle est véritablement nécessaire. Elle suppose également de s'attaquer aux difficultés sociales et économiques qui nourrissent le sentiment d'exclusion.

La véritable responsabilité de l'État ne consiste pas seulement à rétablir l'ordre. Elle consiste aussi à préserver la justice, la dignité humaine et la possibilité, pour chaque jeune, de reconstruire son avenir.

Manifestations de la jeunesse en Europe: Une contestation qui dépasse la simple réforme de l'éducation

Partout en Europe, la jeunesse descend dans la rue. Si les réformes de l'éducation ou la hausse des frais de scolarité servent fréquemment de déclencheurs immédiats, réduire ces mobilisations à de simples revendications scolaires serait une erreur de lecture. Comme le souligne Alina Cosma, professeure assistante en psychologie au Trinity College de Dublin, la contestation actuelle de la « Génération Z » (les personnes nées entre 1997 et 2012) est le symptôme de crises multiples et imbriquées qui façonnent un avenir perçu comme profondément incertain.

Une pression scolaire et sociale en constante augmentation

Bien que l'adolescence soit traditionnellement considérée comme une période de transition complexe, les contraintes imposées à la jeunesse d'aujourd'hui s'avèrent d'une intensité inédite.

Les données de l'étude *Health Behaviour in School-aged Children* de l'Organisation mondiale de la santé (OMS) révèlent une hausse constante de la pression liée au travail scolaire entre 2002 et 2022. En 2022, près de deux tiers des jeunes filles de 15 ans déclaraient subir une forte pression scolaire, contre un peu moins de la moitié des garçons. Parallèlement, le soutien perçu de la part de la famille et des pairs s'est érodé, laissant les jeunes face à des exigences accrues avec des ressources relationnelles amoindries.

Cette quête de performance est accentuée par une culture d'hyper-compétition, un perfectionnisme parental accru et l'exposition permanente aux réseaux sociaux, qui soumettent l'apparence et la réussite des adolescents à un examen public continu.

Inquiétudes économiques et crise du coût de la vie

Au-delà de la sphère académique, les incertitudes



Face aux crises globales qu'expriment les manifestations de la jeunesse européenne, le défi consiste à transformer la société pour lui offrir un avenir plus juste. P -- Instagram

matérielles pèsent lourdement sur la transition vers l'âge adulte. Au sein de l'Union européenne, 40 % des jeunes se disent vivement préoccupés par la hausse des prix et le coût de la vie.

- **En Irlande**, les enquêtes nationales de 2026 indiquent qu'environ 70 % des adolescents envisagent l'émigration pour espérer de meilleures conditions de vie.
- **Aux Pays-Bas**, plus de 20 % des élèves du secondaire doutent de leur capacité à devenir un jour propriétaires de leur logement.

Ces perspectives économiques restreintes alimentent un sentiment d'insécurité structurelle que les seules politiques éducatives ne sauraient résoudre.

Éco-anxiété et sentiment d'injustice intergénérationnelle

La contestation de la Génération Z s'enracine également dans la crise climatique. Conscient d'être de façon disproportionnée la victime des dégradations environnementales à venir, ce public développe des formes rationnelles d'anxiété, de colère et d'impuissance face à l'inaction politique.

Ce désarroi est amplifié par l'impression que les décisions majeures engageant leur avenir sont prises sans consultation réelle. Cette perception d'une injustice intergénérationnelle nourrit une frustration légitime lorsque les leviers d'action démocratiques traditionnels semblent inaccessibles.

Une détresse psychologique liée à des facteurs systémiques

Les études à grande échelle confirment une dégradation générale de la santé mentale chez les jeunes par rapport aux générations précédentes. Si le débat public incrimine souvent le temps d'écran ou un manque supposé de résilience individuelle, Alina Cosma rappelle que la santé mentale résulte d'interactions complexes entre l'individu et son environnement socio-économique. La détresse psychologique observée ne constitue pas une faiblesse personnelle, mais une réaction logique à un environnement perçu comme instable.

Du malaise à l'engagement: la jeunesse comme force d'action

Malgré ces difficultés, les mouvements de protestation prouvent que la Génération Z ne se résigne pas. Les rassemblements autour du logement, du climat, de l'éducation ou des inégalités témoignent d'une volonté affirmée d'infléchir les décisions politiques.

Cela étant dit, l'attachement aux institutions demeure réel: une enquête menée en 2025 auprès de 6 703 jeunes Européens révèle que 80 % des sondés en Allemagne considèrent l'appartenance à l'UE comme une bonne chose (contre 65 % en 2024), un chiffre atteignant 60 % en France (contre 53 % auparavant).

Les manifestations de la jeunesse européenne dépassent largement le cadre des réformes éducatives. Elles expriment une réaction globale face à la convergence des crises économique, climatique, sociale et mentale. Plutôt que de s'interroger sur la capacité de résistance des jeunes, le défi collectif consiste à transformer les conditions sociales dans lesquelles ils évoluent afin de leur offrir un avenir plus juste, plus stable et plus porteur d'espoir.

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