

MAURITIUS TIMES

• "People ask the difference between a leader and a boss. The leader leads, and the boss drives." – President Theodore Roosevelt

Interview: Rama Valayden - Linion Moris

“Les circonscriptions 1-20 veulent respirer de l’air frais...”



...les électeurs veulent une élimination du système politique basé sur des privilèges familiaux

● 'Il n'y a pas un seul village qui n'est pas touché par les "synthétiques" : 133 villages sur 133 villages y sont touchés'

P9

Breakfast with Bwana



The Health Costs of Plastic Pollution

Anil Madan P 7

Analyse

Election partielle: un piège pour qui?



Aditya Narayan P3

Eclairages

Réenregistrement des cartes SIM: réoccupations légitime



A. Bartleby P4

Public Health

Dengue fever: Emphasise shared responsibility, Cut sensationalism!



Dr R. Neerunjun Gopee P 6

Beyond Political Distractions

Following the recent, unexplained, and somewhat mysterious Sunday evening dismissal of the Minister of Agro-Industry, Vikram Hurdoyal, speculation and conjecture have swept through the political landscape, leaving behind a confusing mix of unknowns. The subsequent resignation of the ousted minister from the Legislative Assembly has not only raised questions about the government's internal dynamics but has also disrupted carefully laid plans by the MSM politburo for the upcoming general elections. With the present government's mandate set to expire in November 2024, the unplanned necessity for a by-election has thrust the political arena into disarray, and amidst this chaos, crucial issues demanding immediate attention risk being sidelined.

The lack of transparency surrounding the reasons behind the minister's removal and its curious timing (what was so urgent that could not wait a more civilised separation of ways on Monday morning when the two protagonists did indeed meet?) have created a vacuum filled with rumours and speculations. The Prime Minister's decision to keep the grounds for dismissal under wraps has fuelled mistrust among the public, leaving them in the dark about the inner workings of their government. Such opacity in governance not only undermines accountability but also erodes public confidence in the political machinery.

The resignation of Mr Hurdoyal, a prominent figure in No.10 constituency, whatever his motivations, cannot but highlight the political mores of those who chose to hang on to their seats even when embroiled in sombre affairs. It also removed a PM trump-card by setting deadlines for the by-election procedures and, if government decides after all to dissolve the Legislative Assembly, an outer limit on when those general elections have to take place, most probably before the end of this calendar year.

On the other hand, the timing of the by-election/general election within that circumscribed timeframe, is crucial, potentially overshadowing broader issues demanding immediate attention from both the government and the opposition. With the electorate's focus possibly swayed by the drama surrounding the next elections, there is a real risk of diverting attention from critical matters directly impacting the lives of the population.

Issues such as the relentless fight against drug trafficking, law and order maintenance free from political interference in police operations, nepotism

and the battle against corruption remain ongoing challenges. The perceived double standards of the Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) and its notorious snail-speed in investigating cases involving individuals close to power demand a thorough examination. These have now been superseded by new concerns over the Financial Crimes Commission, an urgently set-up apex body for all financial crimes, with extraordinary powers granted to its future CEO, look set for constitutional challenges, if only by proposing (as with the defunct Prosecution Commission Bill) to bypass the Office of the DPP or severely curtail its powers in those domains.

Beyond these immediate concerns, broader societal issues are clamouring for attention. The urgent need for a reform of our educational system to make it sustainable, durable and equitable for a majority of our students, to do away with elitism, grade barriers and an exam-orientation cannot be stressed more. Meantime, billions have been voted for drains infrastructure over the two last budget years and yet the Belal rains wrought havoc in the capital and many countryside areas. The high taxation on fuel, the rising cost of living, the soaring costs of even ordinary vegetables on market days, should be at the forefront of the political agenda. Unfortunately, amidst the political turmoil, these concerns risk being relegated to secondary status.

As the political drama unfolds, it is essential for both sides to rise above populism, freebies and short-term political gains and engage in a meaningful dialogue with the people about the future of the nation. The ruling alliance must resist the temptation of populist measures and focus on addressing the pressing issues facing the nation. Conversely, the opposition has a responsibility to articulate a clear and compelling vision for the future, outlining concrete plans to tackle the challenges confronting the nation in the public interest.

In the midst of what promises to be a hard and tough electoral battle, citizens must play an active role in demanding accountability from their leaders. A vigilant citizenry, armed with accurate information, can hold political leaders accountable and demand a focus on the substantive issues that truly matter. Citizens must demand more than mere political theatrics and insist on a return to substantive governance that addresses the pressing challenges faced by society. Only through a collective commitment to transparency, accountability, and genuine public service can the nation emerge stronger.

Socratic Dialogue

Monkey Business and Political Ripples

By Plutonix

In the heart of political intrigue, where the jungle of power dynamics and the forest of governance meet, a recent event has unleashed ripples of curiosity. The Minister of Agro-industry has left the populace in suspense. The abrupt revocation, akin to a magician's act with no divulged secrets, has set tongues wagging in the bazaar of political speculation. Socrates, the perennial seeker of wisdom, engages in a dialogue with his interlocutor, Cephalus, to unravel the enigma behind this agro-mystery. As they traverse the political underbrush, a peculiar twist in the tale emerges — whispers of a minister contemplating a leap across the political floor, akin to a monkey swinging unpredictably from tree to tree.

The narrative takes an unexpected turn as the duo explores the hinterlands of a licence apparently denied. This licence, a pivot point in the political seesaw, involves the export of monkeys for testing abroad.

The ex-minister, it is rumoured, stood as the guardian of a sacred monkey sanctuary, resisting the bestowal of his ministerial consent. The conversation delves into the curious realms of commerce, where monkeys become commodities fetching exorbitant prices. Meanwhile, a religious dimension unfurls, as monkeys, revered as deities in Taoism, Buddhism, and Hinduism, become unwitting participants in this web of profit and politics. Socrates and Cephalus, the spectators in this grand spectacle, ponder the consequences of exploiting revered creatures and whether divine wrath will rain down upon those involved.



Socrates: Greetings, Cephalus! Have you perchance heard of the recent political ripples caused by the Minister of Agro-industry?

Cephalus: Oh, you mean the agro-mystery! No one knows why he got the axe. It's like a political magician pulled a rabbit out of a hat, or in this case, a monkey. Anyway, the sudden revocation has set tongues wagging, much like a mischievous monkey in a bustling market.

Socrates: Intriguing analogy, my dear Cephalus. The similitude of political affairs to the capriciousness of monkeys is a topic ripe for contemplation. Pray, enlighten me on the details of this ministerial upheaval.

Cephalus: The Minister of Agro-mystery, without so much as a drumroll, has been relieved of his duties. The curious part is the dearth of official explanations from the Prime Minister, akin to a magician pulling off tricks with no intention of revealing the secrets behind his illusions.

Socrates: That's mystifying!

Cephalus: A mystifying act, indeed! However, rumour has it that the ex-minister contemplated crossing the political floor.

● Cont. on page 16

Mauritius Times

Founder/Editor: Beekrumsing Ramlallah - Aug 1954-Sept 2000
Editor-in-chief: M. Ramlallah / Senior Editor: Dr RN Gopee
This epaper has been produced with the assistance of
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Analyse

Election partielle: un piège pour qui?

Dans la politique, il y a des circonstances qui sont parfois en dehors du contrôle du gouvernement, aussi puissant soit-il. L'adage «A week is a long time in politics» a été très bien illustré dans la deuxième semaine de février

Aditya Narayan

Presque deux semaines après la démission de Vikram Hurdoyal comme député de l'Assemblée législative, à la suite de sa révocation du poste de ministre de l'Agro-industrie, tout le monde se demande s'il y aura une élection partielle et, le cas échéant, à quel moment celle-ci aura lieu. Les spéculations vont bon train quant à la date de cette élection partielle dans la circonscription no. 10 (Montagne Blanche/Grande Rivière Sud-Est). Certains, surtout dans le camp gouvernemental, disent qu'il y aura une élection partielle alors que d'autres excluent toute possibilité d'une partielle à quelques mois de la dissolution automatique du Parlement fin novembre, laquelle entrainera nécessairement des élections générales.

Cette incertitude au sujet de la partielle n'est pas saine dans une démocratie parlementaire car toute vacance d'un siège de député pour un temps anormalement long (six mois ou plus) va à l'encontre du principe de la représentation démocratique de l'électorat. Un député est élu pour siéger au Parlement afin d'être la voix de ses mandants dans le débat parlementaire et, lorsqu'il démissionne, il doit être remplacé dans un délai raisonnable (trois mois au minimum et six mois au maximum). C'est ainsi que se passent les choses dans les démocraties parlementaires dignes de ce nom où la tenue d'une élection générale ou partielle ne dépend pas de la volonté d'une seule personne, en l'occurrence le chef du gouvernement, mais des dispositions de la loi.

Dispositions légales

A Maurice, les élections législatives sont régies par la Constitution et la loi électorale, *The Representation of the People Act (RPA)* de 1958, comme amendée subséquentement. Sous la section 57 (1) de la Constitution, le Premier ministre a le pouvoir de dissoudre le Parlement n'importe quand avant l'expiration d'une mandature de cinq ans, ce qui lui permet d'appeler le pays aux urnes au moment propice pour son parti.

Toutefois, l'exercice de ce pouvoir discrétionnaire (appelé prérogative) ne va pas au-delà de cinq ans. Grâce à un amendement de la Constitution apporté par le gouvernement MMM en 1982, la section 57(2) de la Constitution stipule que le Parlement, s'il n'est pas dissout plus tôt, est automatiquement dissout cinq ans après la première séance suivant les dernières élections. Le présent Parlement, issu des élections générales du 7 novembre 2019, va donc mourir d'une mort naturelle le 21 novembre 2024.

Alors que le gouvernement voulait aller jusqu'au bout de son mandat et tenir les prochaines élections générales en avril 2025 au plus tard, la démission de Vikram Hurdoyal est venue chambouler son calendrier électoral. La situation est devenue d'autant plus compliquée pour lui que le scénario d'une élection partielle s'imbrique avec celui des élections générales. L'un dépend de



« Le Premier ministre a dit qu'il tiendra une partielle dans la circonscription no. 10 et il a même lancé un défi au leader du Parti travailliste de poser sa candidature de nouveau... Si Navin devait mordre à cet hameçon dans un élan d'orgueil, il s'exposerait à une campagne néfaste contre sa personne en raison de tous les moyens dont dispose le gouvernement pour l'attaquer (propagande de la MBC, mobilisation d'associations socio-culturelles sur le terrain, achat de consciences des électeurs par des moyens corrompus). Une défaite éventuelle de Navin à la partielle fragiliserait sa position comme leader de l'alliance de l'opposition parlementaire... »

l'autre. Aucun scénario de partielle ne peut faire abstraction des prochaines élections générales qui arrivent à échéance à moyen terme (10 à 12 mois).

Les options disponibles au gouvernement sont décrites dans le tableau ci-dessous (*Electoral Agenda after Resignation of Hurdoyal as Member of National Assembly*). Si le Gouvernement veut faire une partielle dans un délai de six mois, il devra suivre la chronologie suivante:

- émettre le «writ» pour cette élection au plus tard le 13 mai 2024 sous la section 35(3) de la Constitution (soit 90 jours à partir de la date de démission du député),
- fixer la date du dépôt des candidatures (*Nomination Day*) au 12 juin 2024 au plus tard, et
- tenir la partielle le 11 août 2024 au plus tard.

Cependant, la *Representation of the People Regulation* de 1987 permet au gouvernement de tenir la partielle dans un délai maximal de 240 jours suivant la chronologie suivante:

- émettre le «writ» pour cette élection au plus tard le 13 mai 2024 (soit 90 jours à partir de la date de démission du député),
- fixer la date du *Nomination Day* au 12 juillet 2024, soit 60 jours à partir de la date du «writ», et tenir la partielle dans le délai de 90 jours après le *Nomination Day*, soit le 10 octobre 2024.

Tenir une partielle le 10 octobre 2024, soit à 40 jours de la dissolution du Parlement survenant le 21 novembre 2024, n'est pas logique car le député élu ne siègera que pour 40 jours avant de briguer une nouvelle élection. Ce sera un gaspillage des fonds publics. Dans la meilleure hypothèse, la partielle devra donc avoir lieu le 11 août 2024 pour pouvoir tenir les élections générales en avril 2025. Autrement, le gouvernement devra esquiver la partielle et dissoudre le Parlement le 10 août 2024 afin

d'appeler le pays aux urnes le 9 septembre 2024 au plus tôt ou le 7 janvier 2025 au plus tard.

Défi à Navin

Le Premier ministre a dit qu'il tiendra une partielle dans la circonscription no. 10 et il a même lancé un défi au leader du Parti travailliste de poser sa candidature de nouveau. Est-ce qu'il y a une stratégie de piéger Navin Ramgoolam, leader de l'alliance PTr-MMM-PMMSD, en lui demandant de briguer la partielle dans une circonscription où il est sorti quatrième en 2019 après les trois élus du MSM? Si Navin devait mordre à cet hameçon dans un élan d'orgueil, il s'exposerait à une campagne néfaste contre sa personne en raison de tous les moyens dont dispose le gouvernement pour l'attaquer (propagande de la MBC, mobilisation d'associations socio-culturelles sur le terrain, achat de consciences des électeurs par des moyens corrompus).

☞ Suite en page 15

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Réenregistrement des cartes SIM: Préoccupations légitimes

Par A. Bartleby

En vertu d'une réglementation mise en œuvre le 31 octobre 2023 dans le cadre de la Loi sur les technologies de l'information et de la communication, tous les opérateurs mobiles de l'île sont désormais tenus de procéder au réenregistrement complet des cartes SIM. Cette mesure, visant à collecter, enregistrer et stocker les informations de tous les détenteurs actuels de cartes SIM, ne se limite pas aux nouvelles demandes, mais concerne également l'ensemble des utilisateurs existants.

Les exigences imposées aux détenteurs de cartes SIM incluent la fourniture d'une preuve d'adresse, de la carte d'identité nationale (CIN) ou d'une copie des informations du passeport, ainsi que la soumission d'une photo couleur ou d'un selfie. Ce processus complexe doit être achevé d'ici le 30 avril 2024, sous peine de désactivation de la carte SIM en question.

Cette réglementation soulève des questions cruciales sur la protection de la vie privée et les droits individuels, suscitant des inquiétudes au sein de la population mauricienne. Dans un contexte où la technologie et la sécurité se rencontrent, cette démarche gouvernementale a soulevé des préoccupations légitimes. Alors que la lutte contre le trafic de drogue est une cause noble, la ques-



Dans un climat politique où la confiance du public est cruciale, il est impératif que l'ICTA aborde de manière transparente les préoccupations soulevées concernant le réenregistrement des cartes SIM. P - Vista

tion cruciale réside dans l'équilibre entre la sécurité publique et le respect des droits individuels.

La comparaison qui est faite avec les précédentes initiatives de l'ICTA, comme la fusion avortée avec l'IBA et la proposition controversée de serveur proxy, souligne un schéma préoccupant de propositions qui suscitent des inquiétudes quant aux libertés civiles et à la vie privée. L'absence de clarté de la part des autorités sur la mise en

œuvre des recommandations du rapport Lam Shang Leen de 2018 soulève des questions sur la légitimité et l'urgence de cette réglementation.

Les actions en justice initiées par des personnalités telles que Me Rama Valayden et Ivor Tan Yan soulignent le sérieux des préoccupations entourant la constitutionnalité de cette réglementation. L'appel d'Arvin Boolell - de suspendre les procédures jusqu'à ce que ces questions soient débattues devant la Cour - semble raisonnable et pourrait contribuer à apaiser les inquiétudes du public.

Dans un climat politique où la confiance du public est cruciale, il est impératif que l'ICTA adresse de manière transparente et complète les préoccupations soulevées. Les garanties concernant l'utilisation des informations sensibles, telles que les selfies et les photos couleur, sont essentielles pour rétablir la confiance. En cette année électorale, il est d'autant plus crucial que le gouvernement rassure la population sur l'objectif réel de cette réglementation et sur la protection des droits fondamentaux des citoyens.

Il est essentiel que le débat sur cette réglementation se poursuive de manière ouverte et constructive, avec une attention particulière accordée à l'équilibre entre la sécurité publique et la protection des droits individuels. La Cour suprême jouera un rôle déterminant dans la clarification de la constitutionnalité de cette mesure, et il est important que toutes les parties prenantes collaborent pour trouver des solutions qui préservent à la fois la sécurité de la société et les droits fondamentaux des citoyens.

Julian Assange, fondateur de WikiLeaks, est actuellement au cœur de sa dernière bataille juridique au Royaume-Uni pour éviter son extradition vers les États-Unis, où il fait face à des accusations d'espionnage. Sa lutte, entamée il y a plus d'une décennie, prend finalement un tournant décisif, suscitant des manifestations bruyantes et des débats passionnés.

Assange, 52 ans, a débuté sa lutte contre l'extradition en 2010, lorsque des accusations de viol et d'agression sexuelle en Suède ont conduit à son arrestation à Londres. Depuis, il a passé sept ans en auto-exil à l'ambassade équatorienne à Londres et les cinq dernières années dans une prison de haute sécurité. La dernière semaine a marqué le début de sa dernière tentative légale au Royaume-Uni pour éviter l'extradition vers les États-Unis, où il est accusé d'avoir encouragé Chelsea Manning à voler des documents gouvernementaux et de mettre en danger des vies en publiant des informations classifiées.

Le contexte de cette dernière bataille juridique est complexe, avec Assange absent du tribunal en raison de sa santé déclinante. Ses partisans, clamant "Libérez Julian Assange", se sont rassemblés devant la Haute Cour de Londres, soulignant l'importance de cette affaire pour la liberté de la presse.

La femme d'Assange, Stella Assange, a exprimé des inquiétudes quant à la

La dernière bataille juridique de Julian Assange pour éviter l'extradition vers les États-Unis

Assange est-il un lanceur d'alerte courageux ou un fauteur de troubles?



Le fondateur de WikiLeaks, Assange, entame la dernière bataille juridique au Royaume-Uni pour éviter son extradition vers les États-Unis. P - NewsLooks

santé physique et mentale de son époux, affirmant que sa vie était en danger chaque jour qu'il passe en prison et qu'une extradition le condamnerait à la mort. Cependant, les autorités américaines maintiennent les accusations d'espionnage et d'abus informatique.

Les arguments juridiques

Les avocats d'Assange plaignent que son extradition représente une menace grave pour sa vie, tandis que les États-

Unis soutiennent que les actions d'Assange ont mis en danger des vies innocentes. Les procureurs américains allèguent qu'Assange a encouragé et aidé l'analyste du renseignement de l'armée américaine Chelsea Manning à voler des câbles diplomatiques et des fichiers militaires que WikiLeaks a publiés, mettant des vies en danger.

L'avocate Clair Dobbin a déclaré à la Haute Cour qu'Assange avait endom-

magé la sécurité et les services de renseignement américains et "créé un risque grave et imminent" en publiant des centaines de milliers de documents - des risques qui pourraient nuire et conduire à la détention arbitraire de personnes innocentes, dont beaucoup vivaient dans des zones de guerre ou sous des régimes répressifs. Dobbin a ajouté qu'en encourageant Manning et d'autres à pirater des ordinateurs gouvernementaux et à voler auprès d'eux, Assange allait "bien au-delà" d'un journaliste recueillant des informations.

Assange n'est pas "quelqu'un qui a simplement créé une boîte en ligne à laquelle les gens peuvent fournir des informations classifiées", a-t-elle déclaré. "Les allégations sont qu'il a cherché à encourager le vol et le piratage qui bénéficieraient à WikiLeaks."

Les avocats d'Assange ont plaidé lors du premier jour de l'audience mardi dernier que les autorités américaines cherchent à le punir pour "la divulgation de criminalité de la part du gouvernement américain à une échelle sans précédent", y compris la torture et les meurtres.

☞ **Suite en page 5**

La dernière bataille juridique de Julian Assange pour éviter l'extradition vers les États-Unis

☞ Suite de la page 4

L'avocat Edward Fitzgerald a déclaré qu'Assange pourrait "subir un déni flagrant de justice" s'il est envoyé aux États-Unis. Dobbin a rejeté les allégations selon lesquelles les charges sont un "outil d'oppression" destiné à punir Assange pour ses opinions politiques. Elle a déclaré que les poursuites sont basées sur le droit et les preuves, et sont restées constantes malgré les changements de gouvernement aux États-Unis pendant la bataille juridique. Elle a ajouté que le Premier Amendement n'accorde pas l'immunité aux journalistes enfreignant la loi. Les médias qui ont procédé à la rédaction des documents avant de les publier ne font pas l'objet de poursuites, a-t-elle dit.

Si les juges Victoria Sharp et Jeremy Johnson se prononcent contre Assange, ce dernier peut demander à la Cour européenne des droits de l'homme de bloquer son extradition - bien que ses partisans craignent qu'il ne soit envoyé aux



P - France 24

États-Unis avant que cela ne se produise, car le gouvernement britannique a déjà signé un ordre d'extradition.

Le débat sur la sécurité de l'État et la liberté des médias

La balance entre la sécurité de l'État et la liberté des médias est une question cru-

ciale soulevée par cette affaire. Assange est-il un lanceur d'alerte courageux ou un fauteur de troubles mettant en danger des vies? Les partisans de la liberté de la presse soutiennent qu'Assange a exposé des actes répréhensibles et devrait bénéficier de protections journalistiques, tandis

que les autorités américaines insistent sur le préjudice causé à la sécurité nationale.

La nature délicate de cette équation souligne la nécessité de trouver un équilibre entre la nécessité de protéger les informations sensibles et le droit fondamental à la liberté d'expression. La question n'est pas seulement celle d'Assange, mais aussi celle de la manière dont les démocraties modernes peuvent naviguer entre la transparence nécessaire et la protection des intérêts nationaux.

Alors que se déroule la dernière bataille juridique d'Assange, la décision des juges de la Haute Cour du Royaume-Uni aura des répercussions significatives sur la liberté de la presse et la protection des secrets nationaux. Trouver un équilibre juste entre ces deux impératifs cruciaux reste un défi complexe et soulève des questions fondamentales sur la manière dont la société contemporaine concilie la transparence, la sécurité et la liberté d'expression.

Le bras de fer anglo-argentin sur les Îles Falkland: un sujet "non négociable" pour le Royaume-Uni



Cameron visite les Malouines, l'Argentine n'apprécie pas. P - AFP

La visite de Lord Cameron aux Îles Falkland cette semaine a été qualifiée de "provocation" par un gouverneur argentin. Le geste a été critiqué par le dirigeant de la région argentine. Gustavo Melella, le gouverneur de la Terre de Feu, Antarctique et Îles de l'Atlantique Sud, a publié sur X, (anciennement Twitter): "La présence de David Cameron sur nos îles Malouines constitue une nouvelle provocation britannique et vise à diminuer nos revendications légitimes de souveraineté sur nos territoires et à maintenir le colonialisme au XXIe siècle. Nous ne tolérerons pas cela."

Cette visite de David Cameron s'inscrit dans une démarche visant à souligner que la souveraineté britan-

nique n'est pas négociable et que les îles sont une "partie valorisée de la famille britannique". Le secrétaire d'État aux Affaires étrangères sera le premier membre du gouvernement britannique à visiter l'archipel depuis 2016. Cette visite fait suite à la promesse de James Cleverly de se rendre aux îles l'année dernière, et Lord Cameron, son successeur, confirme cette promesse.

Au cours de sa visite, Lord Cameron devrait rendre hommage aux soldats britanniques qui ont combattu dans la guerre des Falklands en 1982, ainsi qu'au personnel militaire actuellement en poste sur les îles. Il visitera également des projets environnementaux et observera certains des pingouins qui dépendent des habitats insulaires vitaux. Le secrétaire d'État aux Affaires étrangères a déclaré: "Les Îles Falkland sont une partie valorisée de la famille britannique, et nous sommes catégoriques: tant qu'elles souhaitent rester au sein de la famille, la question de la souveraineté ne sera pas sujette à discussion. Les habitants des Falkland devraient être fiers de la communauté moderne et prospère qu'ils ont construite."

Malgré le référendum de 2013 aux Îles Falkland, au cours duquel 99,8 % des résidents ont voté en faveur du maintien de leur statut de territoire britannique d'outre-mer, la question de la souveraineté reste une source de tension entre le Royaume-Uni et l'Argentine. Cette visite de David Cameron souligne la ferme position du Royaume-Uni sur la question de la souveraineté des Îles Falkland, considérée comme "régulée" par Downing Street. Cependant, cette affirmation unilatérale peut être

interprétée comme un défi direct à l'Argentine, ravivant ainsi les tensions persistantes. Alors que les relations entre le Royaume-Uni et l'Argentine restent tendues, la communauté internationale continuera à surveiller attentivement l'évolution de cette situation, sachant que la résolution de ce différend historique peut avoir des implications plus larges pour les principes de souveraineté et de droit international.

Le conflit persistant entre Maurice et le Royaume-Uni sur les Îles Chagos

Ce conflit opposant le Royaume-Uni à l'Argentine nous rappelle le différend opposant Maurice au Royaume-Uni sur la question de la souveraineté par rapport à Diego Garcia. Il est crucial de noter que ce conflit territorial remonte à plus de cinq décennies et persiste malgré le jugement de la Cour internationale de justice (CIJ) en 2019.

Les îles Chagos faisaient partie de la colonie de la Couronne de Maurice jusqu'en 1965, lorsque les Britanniques les ont séparées du reste de la colonie pour former le Territoire britannique de l'océan Indien (British Indian Ocean Territory). Même après l'indépendance de Maurice en 1968, l'archipel est resté sous domination britannique, et les habitants locaux ont été expulsés et déportés à Maurice et aux Seychelles du début des années 1960 au début des années 1970.

Le gouvernement mauricien critique depuis des décennies le contrôle britannique des îles Chagos et revendique leur souveraineté.

A. Bartleby

☞ Suite en page 8



Dr R Neerunjun Gopee

Dengue fever: Emphasise shared responsibility, Cut sensationalism!

According to official data, as at 18 February, out of just over 1300 cases of dengue recorded since mid-December 2023, 559 are active cases, and the distribution around the island is: Port Louis (the most affected region) 303 cases, North 174, Plaines-Wilhems 48, South 16, West 13 cases, and East 5.110 patients are hospitalized, and 457 are being treated at home as part of the 457 Domiciliary Medical Unit (DMU) scheme.

Based on these figures, the scenario works out at about 20 cases reported per day since onset and less than 15 patients per hospital in a total of 5 Regional Hospitals, and 3 District Hospitals (Long Mountain, Mahébourg, Souillac Hospitals) if they too are admitting dengue cases.

For a public health service which handles about 4-5 million outpatients and inpatients per year, by no stretch of the imagination can these dengue figures be considered as indicating a humongous epidemic beyond the capacity of the system to cope. Doctors and other health professionals are quite accustomed to dealing with large numbers of patients on a daily basis, and thus the current dengue situation is for them par for the game. Which doesn't mean that they are not concerned, in fact for our Public Health Division – one of the very best in the world – this is the kind of situation that they are always well prepared for.

Thus, for the current dengue wave there are, according to health officials, 'teams operating in different regions and hospitals on the island. Examinations are carried out on infected individuals, either directing them to hospitals or advising them to stay at home for treatment. Visits are organized over periods of two, five, and seven days.'

This is in addition to 'teams for fumigation and treatment, larviciding, following a well-established protocol. The (infected) person is entitled to ten days off, whether in the public or private sector, to avoid any risk of transmission.' By the same token, infected individuals are also advised to limit their movements.'

Dengue, the disease

A few simple technical facts about dengue may be of general interest. According to WHO, dengue is the most common and important arthropod or insect-borne viral (arboviral) illness in humans. It is transmitted by mosquitoes of the genus *Aedes*, which are widely distributed in subtropical and tropical areas of the world. The incidence of dengue has increased dramatically in recent decades, with estimates of 40-50% of the world's population at risk for the disease in tropical, subtropical, and, most recently, more temperate areas. Probably global warming resulting from climate change may be having an impact.

The disease has a seasonal pattern, with the majority of cases in the Southern hemisphere occurring during the first half of the year (as we are currently witnessing) and the majority of cases in the Northern hemisphere occurring during the second half of the year.

Typically, the most common type of dengue (Type 1) is a self-limited disease with a mortality rate of less than 1% when detected early and with access to proper me-

dical care, which is widely available locally.

It is to be noted that there is no specific antiviral medication for dengue; treatment is therefore to relieve symptoms and is supportive in nature. Bed rest with simple medication given for pain and fever are helpful in relieving lethargy, malaise, and the fever. However, because of the severity of the muscle spasms and joint pain in a number of cases, dengue is also known as breakbone fever.

Type 2 concerns a small percentage of persons who get severe dengue, with bleeding (dengue haemorrhagic fever or dengue shock syndrome) who obviously need more intensive treatment, despite which it has a mortality rate of 2-5%.

Prevention of mosquito bite is the key

As with other similar infectious diseases, the only way to truly prevent the dengue virus acquisition is to avoid being bitten by the vector mosquito. The measures are by now well-known: at individual level, use of mosquito repellent and indoor sprays, wearing protective clothing (e.g. long sleeves), remaining in well-screened or air-conditioned places.

Public Health measures target the larval phase with larvicides and cleaning up larvae habitats. Good sanitation and refuse control will prevent growth of mosquito larvae. As we are in cyclonic season, it is worth remembering that cyclones and other natural disasters increase the habitat for mosquito growth in urban areas by increasing rubble and garbage, which act as water reservoirs.

Importantly, breeding of vector mosquitoes can be reduced by eliminating small accumulations of stagnant water around human habitats. Disposing of old tyres, covering water receptacles such as drums, not leaving

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According to WHO, dengue is the most common and important arthropod or insect-borne viral (arboviral) illness in humans. Pic - OnlyMyHealth

used paint pails/ *lamoques* (tin cans) containing stagnant water about in the yard are simple precautions that all can take.

I am not surprised that Port Louis has the highest number. In fact, during a Public Health awareness/education campaign about twelve years ago when I was part of an MOH team going around in Port Louis, we were appalled to find all the unsanitary conditions favourable to mosquito proliferation mentioned above in many a household yard. Have no lessons been learnt?

Unfortunately, instead of pressing these points upon the public, which emphasise the shared responsibility between the authorities and public in controlling and avoiding bites by mosquitoes, the media has a tendency to harp on numbers without contextualisation, and heap inordinate amounts of abstruse technical data of no practical use to the public at large.

This kind of sensationalism can lead to panic and consequent overcrowding of hospitals, as happened during the AH1N1 epidemic. Worldwide in fact, leading to a comment later that the epidemic was spread as much by panic as by mosquitoes!

Fortunately for the country our Public Health experts have a robust handle on these matters, and have a track record the country can be proud of. Such as the elimination of malaria as far back as the early 1970s, officially recognized by WHO.

So let us cut sensationalism, at least where health matters are concerned, though it is the DNA of the media, according to a former president of the Media Trust. In a televised interview years ago, he declared that without sensationalism newspapers wouldn't sell.

Let us instead stick to the simple, direct messaging which focus the public's attention on the **low cost but effective** Public Health measures that are accessible to them and **which they should apply** for their own and the population's safety.

The Health Costs of Plastic Pollution



Anil Madan

The cost of doing nothing exceeds the benefits to be reaped from a sensible approach to curbing this pollution sooner rather than later

Two years ago, at the UN Environmental Assembly (UNEA-5) in Nairobi, Kenya, a gathering of Heads of State, Ministers of environment and other bureaucrats from UN Member States, endorsed a resolution to end plastic pollution and forge an internationally legally binding agreement by 2024.

The resolution itself is a tour de force of bureaucratise. It calls for the intergovernmental negotiating committee to consider a variety of factors in its deliberations to craft a Global Plastics Treaty and ends with the wonderful catchall paragraph authorizing/admonishing the committee to consider: "Any other aspects that the intergovernmental negotiating committee may consider relevant."

My attention was drawn to the UNEA-5 and the Global Plastics Treaty by a report that the Journal of the Endocrine Society (JES) had just published a paper on a survey of chemicals used in plastic materials and a resulting estimate of the attributable costs of the disease burden that such chemicals impose in the United States.

The JES survey begins with the acknowledgment that chemicals used in plastics contribute to disease and disability and sought to determine their impact because, according to the authors, without this information, "interventions proposed as part of the Global Plastics Treaty cannot be evaluated for potential benefits."

The authors analyzed existing literature to identify plastic-related fractions of disease and disability for specific polybrominated diphenylethers (PBDE), phthalates, bisphenols, and polyfluoroalkyl substances and perfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). They then updated previously published disease burden and cost estimates for these chemicals in the United States to 2018. By uniting these data, they computed estimates of attributable disease burden and costs due to plastics in the United States.

The authors note that plastics contribute substantially to disease and associated social costs in the United

“If 2040 is a realistic goal and we use the estimated cost of \$1 trillion a year without factoring in any increase, a dubious assumption, the healthcare burden due to plastics alone amounts to about \$16 trillion or two-thirds of current US GDP. A sobering thought. None of this takes into account the cost burden of plastics on the environment or the oceans. The Carleton College website notes that: “Over a few decades, humans have managed to dump tons upon tons of garbage into the ocean. Of the most devastating elements of this pollution is that plastics takes thousands of years to decay. As a result, fish and wildlife are becoming intoxicated. Consequently, the toxins from the plastics have entered the food chain...”



Plastic & Health: The Hidden Costs of a Plastic Planet - Center for International Environmental Law

States, accounting for 1.22% of the gross domestic product. They claim that the costs of plastic pollution will continue to accumulate if exposures continue at current levels. Conversely, they assert that actions through the Global Plastics Treaty and other policy initiatives will reduce these costs in proportion to the actual reductions in chemical exposures achieved. There is no proof offered for these assertions.

US healthcare costs run at a clip of about \$4.5 trillion annually. The authors state that the social costs of disease and disability in the United States due to PBDEs, phthalates, and bisphenols as well as PFAS, are very large, on the order of \$400 billion annually. They do mention a more recent study by the Minderoo-Monaco Commission, which suggests even higher costs, more than \$900 billion per year, but dismiss that number as being overstated. The controversy is not for us to resolve currently because the number, whether \$400 billion or \$900 billion, is immense.

One of the assumptions made by the authors is that disease burden is directly proportional to exposure. Whether that is true or not, the ultimate assessments are that the cost burden for the US alone are \$250-500 billion.

Healthcare costs in the US are about four times higher than in the next most expensive healthcare country. It is difficult to extrapolate from the US numbers, but clearly the total cost to the world is around \$1 trillion.

So, what are we going to do about this? The Global

Plastics Treaty has yet to be adopted and ratified. Will it be? Who knows?

As a reality check, I went looking. The Plastics Europe website had this cautious observation: "Our goal is to end plastic pollution by 2040 through a circular economy where all plastic applications are reused, recycled, and responsibly managed during and after use while enabling a lower greenhouse gas emissions plastic economy."

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None of this takes into account the cost burden of plastics on the environment or the oceans. The Carleton College website notes that: "Over a few decades, humans have managed to dump tons upon tons of garbage into the ocean. Of the most devastating elements of this pollution is that plastics takes thousands of years to decay. As a result, fish and wildlife are becoming intoxicated. Consequently, the toxins from the plastics have entered the food chain, threatening human health. In the most polluted places in the ocean, the mass of plastic exceeds the amount of plankton six times over."

They note the existence of the three great plastic islands, the Great Pacific Garbage Patch, also known as the Pacific Trash Vortex or gyre, is located in the central North Pacific Ocean and is larger than the state of Texas. And there are large garbage patches in the Indian and Atlantic Ocean. More patches of plastic waste are being discovered in the oceans.

Plastics waste gathers at spots in the ocean where currents meet. They estimate that in the Atlantic there are 580,000 pieces of plastic per square kilometer in these patches.

Plastic waste is dispersed across the oceans. Some plastics fragment and sink forming columns of pollution in the ocean waters. Other plastics can soak up surrounding toxins entering the ocean from other sources. Chemicals ingested by fish and other seafood consumed by humans, spread through the plastic waste, and increase the incidence of diseases and cancer.

The chemicals can be directly toxic as with lead, mercury, cadmium, and heavy metals. Some plastics ingested by fish are carcinogens for humans and cause tumors and other disorders in fish. Some chemicals are toxic to humans and cause cancers even when no seafood consumption is involved.

I have not seen any studies on the cost impact of ocean pollution on healthcare. At even 50% of the overall cost projected for general plastic waste in the environment, the numbers are staggering. Surely, the cost of doing nothing exceeds the benefits to be reaped from a sensible approach to curbing this pollution sooner rather than later. This is a problem to which scarcely any serious attention is being paid.

Cheerz...
Bwana

Le bras de fer anglo-argentin sur les Îles Falkland: un sujet "non négociable" pour le Royaume-Uni

☞ Suite de la page 5

La critique internationale du maintien du contrôle britannique s'est également intensifiée. En 2019, la Cour internationale de justice a statué contre le Royaume-Uni et a déclaré qu'il devait rendre les îles Chagos à Maurice, une décision également soutenue par l'Assemblée générale des Nations unies. Cependant, ces décisions étant non contraignantes, le gouvernement britannique n'a montré aucun signe de changement de position jus-

qu'à présent.

Ce qui retiendrait le Royaume-Uni de céder les îles Chagos à Maurice, ce seraient ses préoccupations géopolitiques, nous dit-on. La base navale de soutien Diego Garcia des États-Unis a joué un rôle clé dans les opérations militaires pendant la guerre du Golfe, la guerre en Afghanistan et la guerre en Irak. Les États-Unis considèrent également la base comme essentielle pour maintenir un équilibre militaire délicat dans la région Indo-

Pacifique face à la montée de la Chine et aux conflits intensifiés en mer de Chine méridionale, ainsi que pour garantir l'approvisionnement stable en pétrole du golfe Persique.

La réponse du gouvernement britannique concernant l'archipel de Chagos est donc qu'il le rendra à Maurice lorsque "ce ne sera plus nécessaire à des fins de défense". Il n'y a, à ce jour, aucune indication claire à propos de la date à laquelle cela pourrait être possible.

Grandeur présidentielle aux États-Unis: le bon, le mauvais et le laid

Donald Trump occupe la dernière place en tant que pire président

La grandeur présidentielle aux États-Unis est un sujet complexe et nuancé qui englobe une variété d'aspects, du leadership exceptionnel aux controverses et échecs notables. L'histoire des présidents américains est marquée par des moments de triomphe et des périodes de tumulte, formant un tableau riche et diversifié de la plus haute fonction du pays. Examinons de plus près ces éléments en distinguant le bon, le mauvais et le laid.

Un récent sondage a classé Donald Trump comme le pire de tous les 45 présidents, derrière même ceux qui ont échoué à prévenir la guerre civile. Pour aggraver les choses, le probable candidat républicain pour l'élection de cette année, Joe Biden, a fait ses débuts à la 14e place, selon une dépêche de TD Mahapatra du 'Hindustan Times'.

Les politologues qui ont mené l'enquête, Justin Vaughn et Brandon Rottinghaus, ont écrit dans le 'Los Angeles Times': "Les réalisations les plus importantes de Biden pourraient être qu'il a sauvé la présidence de Trump, repris un style plus traditionnel de leadership présidentiel et se prépare à maintenir le bureau hors des mains de son prédécesseur cet automne."

De 'George Washington à Joe Biden'

Vaughn, de l'Université de la Caroline du Sud, et Rottinghaus, de l'Université de Houston, ont interrogé 154 universitaires, principalement affiliés à l'American Political Science Association.

Ils ont expliqué leur objectif, indiquant que celui-ci "était de créer un classement de la grandeur présidentielle couvrant tous les présidents de George Washington à Joe Biden", suivant des listes similaires qu'ils ont réalisées en 2015 et 2018.

Ils ont demandé aux répondants de noter chaque président sur une échelle de 0 à 100 pour leur grandeur globale, avec 0=échec, 50=moyen, et 100=grand. Ils ont ensuite calculé la note moyenne de chaque président et ils les ont classés du plus élevé au plus bas.

Le haut de la liste n'a pas beaucoup changé par rapport aux enquêtes précédentes, sauf pour Trump, qui était également dernier lorsqu'il était en fonction.

• La première place est allée à Abraham Lincoln, qui



Donald Trump, le pire président américain. Joe Biden classé à la 14e place.
P - Tribune de Genève

a mis fin à l'esclavage et a guidé le pays à travers la guerre civile.

- Il est suivi de Franklin D. Roosevelt, qui a dirigé les États-Unis pendant la Grande Dépression et la Seconde Guerre mondiale.
- La troisième place appartient à George Washington, le premier président, qui a assuré l'indépendance vis-à-vis de la Grande-Bretagne.
- Les trois suivants sont Teddy Roosevelt, Thomas Jefferson et Harry Truman.
- Barack Obama, le premier président noir et vice-président de Biden de 2009 à 2017, a grimpé de neuf places pour se classer septième.
- Vaughn et Rottinghaus ont également observé l'effet des mouvements pour la justice raciale sur les classements d'Andrew Jackson (de neuvième en 2015 à 21e maintenant) et de Woodrow Wilson (de dixième à 15e)." Leur réputation a constamment souffert ces dernières années à mesure que la politique moderne amène les universitaires à évaluer de plus en plus sévèrement leur présidence du XIXe et du XXe siècles, surtout leur traitement inacceptable des personnes marginalisées", ont-ils écrit. Jackson était propriétaire d'esclaves et a perpétré un génocide contre les Amérindiens. Wilson était un chef victorieux de la Première Guerre mondiale et un fondateur de la Société des Nations, mais aussi un raciste obstiné qui a

ségrégué le gouvernement fédéral.

- Un autre changement notable était Ulysses S. Grant (de 26e en 2015 à 17e maintenant), dont la présidence a été entachée par la corruption mais dont les efforts pour protéger les droits des esclaves libérés dans le Sud, notamment en luttant contre le Ku Klux Klan, lui ont valu plus de respect. Grant a remplacé Andrew Johnson, qui a été destitué après avoir succédé à Lincoln. Johnson et James Buchanan, qui a précédé Lincoln et n'a pas réussi à éviter la guerre civile, ont tous deux été classés plus haut que Trump par Vaughn et Rottinghaus.

Trump se distingue en tant que personnalité très controversée, avec un maigre bilan législatif, un refus de concéder la défaite à Biden, ce qui a provoqué une attaque violente contre le Congrès, et une post-présidence marquée par 91 chefs d'accusation criminels découlant de ses actions pendant qu'il était en fonction ou pendant la campagne électorale.

Le classement de Donald Trump comme le pire président américain, même derrière ceux qui ont fait face aux défis de la guerre civile, souligne la polarisation entourant sa présidence. Cependant, il est important de noter que les évaluations de la grandeur présidentielle peuvent varier en fonction des critères et des perspectives. D'autres dirigeants mondiaux ont également été soumis à des évaluations subjectives, et ces classements peuvent refléter la diversité des opinions politiques et historiques.

Le leadership à Maurice

Le classement des présidents et Premiers ministres à travers le monde, y compris à Maurice, repose sur des critères variés et peut être sujet à des débats politiques. Dans le contexte mauricien, l'évaluation des dirigeants dépend généralement de leurs réalisations, de la gestion des affaires nationales et de leur impact sur le développement socio-économique du pays.

Les dirigeants mauriciens sont souvent évalués en fonction de leur capacité à stimuler la croissance économique, à maintenir la stabilité politique, à favoriser l'inclusion sociale et à relever les défis nationaux. Des facteurs tels que la gouvernance, la lutte contre la corruption, la promotion des droits de l'homme et la protection de l'environnement peuvent également influencer les évaluations. Les classements peuvent également être influencés par des événements spécifiques survenus pendant le mandat d'un leader.

En fin de compte, évaluer le leadership à Maurice, comme ailleurs dans le monde, nécessite une analyse approfondie, et une compréhension des contextes spécifiques et des enjeux auxquels chaque dirigeant est confronté au cours de son mandat.

A. Bartleby

Rama Valayden - Linion Moris

“Les circonscriptions 1-20 veulent respirer de l’air frais...”

...les électeurs veulent une élimination du système politique basé sur des privilèges familiaux”

Ces derniers temps, Rama Valayden, l’un des principaux dirigeants de Linion Moris, sillonne le pays pour mieux comprendre les attentes des Mauriciens. Dans un premier temps, il partage avec nos lecteurs son analyse du paysage politique national. Suite à ses observations de terrain, il constate que les critiques des citoyens sont acerbes envers le gouvernement et l’opposition, plus particulièrement envers les figures politiques les plus exposées, le Premier ministre Pravind Jugnauth et le leader de l’Alliance de l’opposition, Navin Ramgoolam. Il souligne aussi les implications d’une éventuelle élection partielle au numéro 10. Dans un deuxième temps, l’homme de loi nous parle ouvertement de la lutte contre la drogue et des raisons menant à l’échec du gouvernement dans le traitement de ce dossier. Il apporte des propositions percutantes pour réformer la police, combattre la corruption, et apporter des changements significatifs à l’échelle nationale.



Mauritius Times: Avant même d’aborder la question de l’imminence d’une éventuelle élection partielle au numéro 10, veuillez nous faire part de votre analyse des rapports de force actuels sur le terrain.

Rama Valayden: Notre présence assidue sur le terrain nous a permis de conclure qu’environ 70% des électeurs souhaitent un renouveau mais ils n’ont aucune allégerance politique ferme à ce jour.

Ramgoolam n’incarne pas cet espoir de renouveau auquel aspirent les Mauriciens. Pire, la perception que le Premier ministre, Pravind Jugnauth et son MSM affichent tous les symptômes d’un régime en fin de règne, usé jusqu’à la corde et qui patauge dans les scandales et la perception de la politisation à outrance des institutions est très forte.

Ce que nous avons observé dans la circonscription No 10, c’est un schéma qui se reproduit pratiquement partout à travers le pays. Que ce soit pour Ramgoolam ou pour Jugnauth, ils sont tous deux en fin de parcours. En un mot,

“Les circonscriptions 4 à 14 avaient sévèrement réglé son compte à Ramgoolam en 2014, et elles ont récidivé en 2019. Aujourd’hui, en 2024, nous constatons surtout que l’électorat rural est profondément aigri et désabusé. Il s’estime trahi par les leaders politiques qui ont géré le pays depuis plusieurs années. Il a le sentiment d’avoir été mené en bateau et sa frustration est grande. Les circonscriptions urbaines, elles, constatent que l’opposition traditionnelle est déconnectée des réalités d’aujourd’hui...”

leurs carottes sont cuites.

* **Quoi qu’il en soit, pensez-vous que la bataille électorale sera remportée dans les circonscriptions 4 à 14, ou êtes-vous d’avis que l’arithmétique électorale, surtout au niveau des circonscriptions urbaines, prendra le dessus, favorisant ainsi l’opposition?**

Je vous rappelle qu’aux dernières élections générales de 2019, sur les 11 circonscriptions du No 4 au No 14, le gouvernement a fait élire 31 députés et l’opposition 4, y compris les ‘best losers’. Dans les circonscriptions urbaines, le gouvernement avait fait élire 12 députés contre 21 pour l’opposition, y compris les ‘best losers’.

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Les circonscriptions urbaines, elles, constatent que l’opposition traditionnelle est déconnectée des réalités d’aujourd’hui; elle ne les a pas défendues quand il le fallait et leurs élus n’ont pas été à la hauteur de leurs responsabilités.

On observe aussi un phénomène de “elector fatigue”, c’est-à-dire que de nombreux électeurs sont fatigués de voir et de revoir les mêmes têtes pour lesquelles ils votent depuis plus d’un quart de siècle.

Dans tous les cas, le ras-le-bol est palpable, et cela, du No 1 au No 20. Les électeurs sont fatigués par les 10 ans du règne Jugnauth et les 14 ans de Ramgoolam fils. Les circonscriptions 1 à 20 veulent respirer de l’air frais.

Les électeurs veulent un renouvellement drastique de la classe politique, une élimination du système politique

basé sur des privilèges familiaux et, enfin, ils veulent la méritocratie. Ils ne veulent plus voir leurs enfants quitter le pays, ils veulent qu’il y ait plus de justice sociale ou encore que le trafic de drogue soit éradiqué et sévèrement puni.

* **Dans ces circonstances, pensez-vous que le Premier ministre aurait le moindre intérêt à organiser une élection partielle au numéro 10 après la démission de Vikram Hurdoyal, si ce n’est que pour déstabiliser l’opposition suite à une éventuelle défaite de celle-ci dans cette circonscription avant le scrutin national?**

Pravind Jugnauth clame haut et fort que le MSM présentera un candidat dans une éventuelle partielle au No 10. “Atan nou pou gueter”. En fait, il veut provoquer l’opposition et il sait déjà que le No 10 est un terrain miné et excessivement dangereux pour le MSM.

Pravind Jugnauth y sera en permanence sur la défensive dans une campagne électorale dans le No 10, car il devra passer le plus clair de son temps à expliquer aux électeurs de cette circonscription pourquoi il a licencié Vikram Hurdoyal dans les circonstances que l’on sait.

Jugnauth s’est auto déstabilisée en révoquant son ministre. Il n’y a pas pire posture pour un Premier ministre sortant que d’être contraint de venir de l’avant pour s’expliquer et se justifier.

* **L’enjeu crucial aujourd’hui réside-t-il davantage dans la formation d’un nouveau gouvernement, différemment de celui dirigé par le MSM, ou dans l’élection d’un nouveau Premier ministre issu de l’opposition... du Parti Travailleiste ou de quelque autre parti politique?**

Le chantier qui attend Linion Moris est immense parce que notre ambition à nous est d’initier des changements en profondeur de la société.

☞ Suite en page 10



☞ Suite de la page 9

Nous pensons qu'il est temps de fonder un État Nouveau en mobilisant et en fédérant les citoyens mauriciens autour de la rédaction d'une nouvelle Constitution. Celle-ci sera en faveur d'une véritable décentralisation des pouvoirs, d'une plus grande participation citoyenne aux affaires publiques ainsi que d'un mode de gestion plus transparent.

Nous devons rétablir et consolider les libertés fondamentales de chaque citoyen, réformer en profondeur le système judiciaire et la police pour recréer un lien de confiance avec les professionnels du droit, et réformer en profondeur le système électoral pour qu'il respecte le pluralisme et la diversité du peuple mauricien.

Seul un Premier ministre de Linion National peut apporter des changements de cette envergure.

*** Si Linion Moris et d'autres formations politiques ont réussi à se faire entendre sur l'échiquier politique grâce à leurs interventions ponctuelles sur certains dossiers d'intérêt public, et qu'elles ont réussi à envoyer le signal qu'il faudra composer avec elles pour les prochaines échéances électorales, il n'en demeure pas moins que leur «nuisance value» surtout au niveau des circonscriptions urbaines pourrait jouer en faveur du MSM. Êtes-vous conscient du poids de la responsabilité qui découle de votre positionnement dans le contexte électoral actuel?**

À ce jour, Linion Moris est l'alternative la plus crédible par rapport aux autres options disponibles aujourd'hui. C'est vers nous que doivent se tourner tous les Mauriciens

“ Pravin Jugnauth y sera en permanence sur la défensive dans une campagne électorale dans le No 10, car il devra passer le plus clair de son temps à expliquer aux électeurs de cette circonscription pourquoi il a licencié Vikram Hurdoyal dans les circonstances que l'on sait. Jugnauth s'est auto déstabilisée en révoquant son ministre. Il n'y a pas pire posture pour un Premier ministre sortant en fin de règne que d'être contraint de venir de l'avant pour s'expliquer et se justifier... ”

'Il n'y a pas un seul village qui n'est pas touché par les "synthétiques": 133 villages sur 133 villages y sont touchés'

qui souhaitent depuis longtemps un nouveau souffle, qui osent rêver d'une nouvelle île Maurice et qui attendent un changement en profondeur. Il est nécessaire d'initier un nouveau cycle politique en favorisant l'émergence d'une génération de politiciens novateurs.

*** Par ailleurs, le travail de démolition du gouvernement a été principalement orchestré par vous-même et votre équipe d'Avengers, non nécessairement pour des raisons strictement politiques. Cependant, depuis votre interpellation par la police en mai dernier, suite à vos allégations contre la Special Striking Team (SST) lors d'une émission d'une radio privée, on observe un certain ralentissement, voire une hésitation de votre part. Comment expliquez-vous cette apparente pause dans les actions des Avengers, et en quoi cela pourrait-il influencer votre approche politique à l'avenir?**

Vous avez raison de dire que le travail de démolition de ce gouvernement a été essentiellement orchestré par moi-même. Mais il faut aussi dire que j'ai eu un soutien indéfectible des membres de ce qui est devenu aujourd'hui Linion Moris. Et vous avez raison aussi de dire que ce n'était pas strictement pour des raisons politiques.

Pendant le *yatra* que nous sommes en train de faire à travers le pays, on me remercie. Cela me touche profondément, par exemple, quand une vieille dame de 93 ou 95 ans m'interpelle pour me dire que je porte avec raison le nom de Rama. Elle m'a donné toutes ses bénédictions. Quand on entend de tels propos, comment peut-on rester sans émotion?

Je répète, il y a toute une équipe autour de moi. Honnête, passionnée, dévouée, prête pour toutes formes de sacrifice. Là, je pense à Raouf (l'infatigable), Dev (la force tranquille), Jean Claude Barbier (le maestro), Jose Moir (celui qui «build» le network et qui continue à parler avec toutes les formations). Les femmes comme Dr Ramdenee, Madame Chauvin, et d'autres militants.

Aujourd'hui, nous avons un homme exceptionnel qui me fait penser à Michel Rocard... Un homme d'une grande profondeur: Nando Bodha et avec lui toute une équipe – Satish Rambarath – Akilesh, Dr Sita et combien d'autres. Il y a aussi Ivor TanYan... Au niveau des Avengers, le *core team* se compose de moi-même, l'infatigable Sanjeev Teeluckdharry et l'homme qui n'a pas froid aux yeux, Anoop Goodary...

Mais là où je ne suis pas d'accord, c'est quand vous supputez que je fonctionne au ralenti après l'interpellation de la Striking Team... C'est l'inverse, la Striking Team a cessé beaucoup de ses mauvaises pratiques... Sachez que depuis mon interpellation, j'ai organisé pas moins de 26 manifestations, 58 descentes des lieux, 115 visites (y compris après Belal).

- J'ai logé deux cas contre le gouvernement en mon nom – contre le renvoi des élections locales, contre la 'Registration of SIMs Regulations 2023'...
- J'ai écrit plusieurs lettres pour alerter la population, dont la dernière concerne le pont Soreze-Coromandel.

Vous voyez, on est loin de ralentir, au contraire... et je le fais au détriment de ma personne. Et j'ai oublié de dire que je représente presque la majorité des extraparlamentaires qui sont injustement arrêtés. Nous avons donné des mois entiers *pro bono*, et nous continuons à le faire.

*** Est-ce que tous les cas soulevés par les Avengers qui n'ont pas encore trouvé de résolution sont toujours**

“ Nous devons rétablir et consolider les libertés fondamentales de chaque citoyen, réformer en profondeur le système judiciaire et la police pour recréer un lien de confiance avec les professionnels du droit, et réformer en profondeur le système électoral pour qu'il respecte le pluralisme et la diversité du peuple mauricien. Seul un Premier ministre de Linion National peut apporter des changements de cette envergure... ”

à l'ordre du jour? Quelles sont vos perspectives quant à leur traitement futur?

Les Avengers continueront leur travail pour la justice et la vérité. Les cas sont innombrables.

On oublie... Shakespeare dans 'Julius Caesar' nous a démontré que le peuple a une mémoire très courte... *very short and also a short span of focus*.

Avec un futur Premier ministre comme Nando Bodha, on a convenu que toutes les enquêtes seront ouvertes dans la plus totale transparence. Le travail des Avengers ne sera pas vain, et demain, moi, Premier ministre après Nando, je serais sans pitié contre la corruption, la fraude et le trafic de drogue.

Le Père Souchon avait dit que je suis la voix des sans voix... Au pouvoir, j'aurais l'opportunité de porter cette voix avec force. Et quand je serai sur mon *samadhi*, on retiendra que j'étais honnête dans mes propos et dans mes actions.

Sincère, je le suis, et comme tout homme, on commet des bêtises car on n'est pas omniscient. L'erreur est humaine... Et même quand je commets des bêtises, je le fais avec sincérité.

*** L'une des récentes initiatives de Linion Moris concerne son opposition à l'obligation du réenregistrement des "SIM Cards". Au-delà de la question de la protection des libertés individuelles face aux pratiques de surveillance intrusives, percevez-vous un danger dans cette obligation, particulièrement dans un contexte électoral imminent?**

Ce gouvernement veut contrôler le peuple par le contrôle des « data » ou des données. Je suis tenté de dire que ce serait peut-être pour «truquer» les élections, sinon pourquoi y aurait-il tant d'empressement?

Il ne faut pas oublier les caméras de Safe City, les pouvoirs de la Financial Crimes Commission, les agissements de la police, la National Security Service (NSS) revigorée...

Linion Moris organisera bientôt un colloque sur la Financial Crimes Commission.

*** Cette recommandation concernant le réenregistrement des "SIM Cards" figure dans le rapport de la commission d'enquête sur le trafic de drogue présidée par le Juge Lam Sham Leen en 2018. Êtes-vous d'avis que le juge a peut-être négligé de prendre pleinement en compte les implications et les détails de cette proposition?**

Le Juge Lam Shang Leen ne maîtrise pas le dossier de la drogue. Cela me fait rire... puisque les grands trafiquants utilisent des téléphones enregistrés à l'étranger et des téléphones satellitaires ultra modernes.

☞ Suite en page 11

'Jugnauth s'est auto déstabilisée en révoquant son ministre...

... il n'y a pas pire posture pour un PM sortant que d'être contraint de venir de l'avant pour s'expliquer et se justifier'

☞ Suite de la page 10

*** Actuellement, pensez-vous que la lutte contre le trafic de drogue a été perdue malgré les initiatives et la bonne volonté des autorités policières?**

Le gouvernement n'a jamais eu une réelle volonté de combattre le trafic de drogue. Sur plus de 150 grosses saisies, il n'y a quelques-unes (qui peuvent se compter sur les doigts d'une seule main) qui ont pu être conclues.

Ce n'est pas de cette façon que nous allons gagner la bataille contre le trafic de drogue : on arrête certes de nombreux passeurs, cela fait des gros titres, mais la drogue continue de rentrer dans le pays et le trafic se poursuit. Et la drogue circule aussi facilement qu'avant, à la vue de tout le monde, à bas prix, ce qui crée une offre pléthorique et étend la consommation à tout le pays.

A l'inverse, les conclusions et les recommandations du rapport de la commission Rault sur la drogue en 1986 avaient permis de démanteler des réseaux mis en place par les mafias de la drogue de l'époque.

La lutte contre le trafic de drogue est un combat sans relâche contre des organisations mafieuses qui ont toujours une longueur d'avance sur ceux chargés de réprimer les trafics. Ils mettent toujours en place de nouvelles structures qui génèrent toujours plus d'argent.

Le rapport de Lam Shang Leen n'a pratiquement rien changé à ce jour. La manière dont l'État a traîné les pieds pour extradier Franklin est une démonstration du laxisme des autorités en la matière. Au contraire, on profite et on se sert de certaines recommandations du rapport pour renforcer les mesures de fichage et de surveillance du citoyen mauricien.

Dieu sait ce que dissimule cette vaste opération de réenregistrement des cartes SIM qui devrait nous inquiéter tous!

*** Pouvez-vous partager votre perspective sur la manière dont les propositions issues du rapport de la commission d'enquête sur le trafic de drogue pourraient être mises en œuvre de manière effective, tout en tenant compte des enjeux et des préoccupations éventuelles?**

Le combat contre le trafic de la drogue n'est pas tout blanc ou tout noir. C'est très complexe... la drogue brasse très large. Les ramifications dépassent nos frontières.

Mais il faut aussi savoir que le trafic de drogue prospère sur un vaste réseau de corruption. Combattez la corruption et vous faites reculer le trafic de drogue! C'est pour cela que Linion Moris préconise la peine double pour tout ministre, député ou conseiller politique condamné pour tra-

“Ce gouvernement veut contrôler le peuple par le contrôle des «data» ou des données. Je suis tenté de dire que ce serait peut-être pour «truquer» les élections, sinon pourquoi y aurait-il tant d'empressement? Il ne faut pas oublier les caméras de Safe City, les pouvoirs de la Financial Crimes Commission, les agissements de la police, la National Security Service (NSS) revigorée...”



“Le rapport de Lam Shang Leen n'a pratiquement rien changé à ce jour. La manière dont l'État a traîné les pieds pour extradier Franklin est une démonstration du laxisme des autorités en la matière. Au contraire, on profite et on se sert de certaines recommandations du rapport pour renforcer les mesures de fichage et de surveillance du citoyen mauricien. Dieu sait ce que dissimule cette vaste opération de réenregistrement des cartes SIM qui devrait nous inquiéter tous!”

fic de drogue. Et dans cette entreprise, la police doit devenir notre véritable alliée.

Comment? En réformant de fond en comble la police, elle doit être indépendante. Changez la structure même de la police. Fini le temps de l'organigramme triangulaire. Fini le temps où le Commissaire agit comme Staline! La police doit être démocratisée. Il faut donner les moyens au syndicat de la police de devenir un véritable contre-pouvoir.

Nous devons investir dans des mesures pour empêcher que les jeunes ne soient tentés par la consommation, surtout de drogues "synthétiques". Il n'y a pas un seul village qui n'est pas touché par les "synthétiques": 133 villages sur 133 villages y sont touchés. Est-ce que le gouvernement a construit des centres modernes pour que les jeunes puissent se désintoxiquer? Non!

Et pourtant, avec quelle ardeur Mauritius Telecom, sous l'impulsion du gouvernement, a loué des panneaux publicitaires pour l'enregistrement des cartes SIM! Et demandez à un jeune de votre entourage si l'ADSU a mis en place des programmes de prévention. *Niet!* Rien! Pourtant l'équation est simple: si on réduit la demande, on réduit le marché.

Pourquoi garde-t-on les étrangers dans nos prisons?

“Nous devons investir dans des mesures pour empêcher que les jeunes ne soient tentés par la consommation, surtout de drogues "synthétiques". Il n'y a pas un seul village qui n'est pas touché par les "synthétiques": 133 villages sur 133 villages y sont touchés. Est-ce que le gouvernement a construit des centres modernes pour que les jeunes puissent se désintoxiquer? Non! Et pourtant, avec quelle ardeur Mauritius Telecom, sous l'impulsion du gouvernement, a loué des panneaux publicitaires pour l'enregistrement des cartes SIM!”

Pour que le commerce puisse continuer! Savez-vous que 73 officiers de l'ADSU sont fichés? Pourquoi n'y a-t-il aucune action concrète à ce niveau? Serait-ce pour des raisons politiques? J'aurais honte de dire, comme le font certains, qu'ils combattent la mafia. Faux!

J'ai défié Pravind Jugnauth à plusieurs reprises. J'attends un débat entre lui et moi sur ce sujet. Je vous donne un seul exemple. Le téléphone portable est crucial dans le trafic de la drogue car la rapidité d'exécution en est la clé.

Aujourd'hui, pour obtenir les SMS/les appels entrants et sortants des trafiquants, la police doit suivre les procédures suivantes :

- (a) jurer un affidavit
- (b) l'affidavit est préparé par un officier du procureur général
- (c) la demande est présentée devant un juge en chambre qui prend son temps
- (d) quand le juge accède à la demande, la police transfère la demande aux opérateurs téléphoniques qui prennent leur temps pour envoyer leurs relevés à la police, et
- (e) la police étudie, et ce, sans l'aide de l'intelligence artificielle, les centaines de pages comportant une base de données de plus d'un millier de communications.

Vous l'avez compris - c'est un travail de Titan et, bien sûr, cela demande un certain temps...

Pendant ce laps de temps, les trafiquants ont tout leur temps pour effacer l'ensemble des preuves.

Linion Moris propose que:

- (a) une réunion de haut niveau entre le bureau du chef juge et le Premier ministre pour qu'un juge soit accessible sept jours sur sept et 24 heures sur 24 heures
- (b) un avocat et deux avoués soient attachés à l'ADSU pour déposer une demande devant le juge en chambre dans les plus brefs délais
- (c) les opérateurs téléphoniques doivent répondre dans les deux heures et c'est possible en un clic
- (d) l'ADSU doit disposer d'un spécialiste de l'intelligence artificielle pour analyser les données par des spécialistes des données.

J'ai déjà proposé ce plan à Pravind Jugnauth. Pourquoi le refuse-t-il ? Nous le ferons dans les heures qui suivront la prise du pouvoir.

Et pourquoi malgré l'affaire Kistnen et les milliards qui ont été dépensés, la Safe City Camera conserve les données pendant seulement 15 jours alors qu'on demande aux hôtels et aux maisons d'hôtes de le faire pendant un an?

Avec Linion Moris, le combat sera véridique et pas cosmétique comme le proposent les partis d'opposition dépassés eux aussi...

Quand on aime son peuple, on se sacrifie. Romain Gary a dit: «Le patriotisme, c'est l'amour des siens.»

Honduran ex-president accused of running his country as a 'narco-state' stands trial in NYC

Former Honduran President Juan Orlando Hernández was once touted by U.S. authorities as a key ally in the war on drugs. Now, federal prosecutors say the political leader ran his Central American nation as a "narco-state," collecting millions of dollars from violent cartels to fuel his rise to power.

Nearly two years after his arrest and extradition to the U.S., Hernández went on trial Tuesday in Manhattan federal court on drug trafficking and weapons charges. A jury was chosen and opening statements were scheduled for Wednesday at a trial Judge P. Kevin Castel projected would last two to three weeks.

It's a stunning fall from grace for a political leader long viewed — by Democratic and Republican administrations alike — as beneficial to American interests in the region, including combatting the illegal drug trade and helping slow the waves of migrants crossing the southern U.S. border, reports AP.

That Hernández is being tried in the U.S. rather than his native country underscores Honduras' institutional weakness, says Raúl Pineda Alvarado, a Honduran political analyst and former three-term congressman from Hernández's National Party.

"For Hondurans it signifies how weak our democracy is in terms of the separation of powers," he said. "Politicians are not subject to any control."

Federal authorities say that for nearly two decades, Hernández profited from drug trades that brought



Honduran ex-president. Pic – The New York Times

hundreds of thousands of kilos of cocaine into the U.S., even at times working with the powerful Sinaloa cartel in Mexico.

The millions of dollars in drug money that began flowing to Hernández starting around 2004, in turn, powered his rise from a congressman representing his rural home province in western Honduras to president of the National Congress and then two consecutive presidential terms from 2014 to 2022, prosecutors say.

In exchange for bribes that propped up his political aspirations, U.S. prosecutors say, drug traffickers were allowed to operate in the country with near impunity, receiving information to evade authorities and even law enforcement escorts for their shipments.

During his first winning presidential campaign, Hernández solicited \$1.6 million from a drug trafficker to support his run and those of other politicians in his conservative political party, federal prosecutors say.

His brother also received a \$1 million campaign donation from notorious Sinaloa boss Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzmán on the promise the cartel's drug shipments would find safe passage through Honduras if Hernández was elected.

Federal prosecutors in New York spent years working their way up through Honduran drug trafficking organizations before reaching the person many believed was at the very pinnacle — Hernández.

He was arrested at his home in Tegucigalpa, the Honduran capital, in February 2022, just three months after leaving office, and was extradited to the U.S. in April that year.

The former president, who earned a master's degree from the State University of New York at Albany, has steadfastly maintained his innocence, saying the allegations are revenge from drug traffickers he had extradited to the U.S.

Meanwhile his co-defendants — the former head of the Honduran national police, Juan Carlos Bonilla, and Hernández's cousin, Mauricio Hernández Pineda — both pleaded guilty in recent weeks to drug trafficking charges in the same Manhattan courthouse where his trial is occurring.

Brazil calls for reform of United Nations as it starts its G20 presidency

Brazil's foreign minister called for reforms of the United Nations and other multilateral institutions Wednesday while criticizing their inability to prevent global conflicts, as his country kicked off its presidency of the Group of 20 nations.

Mauro Vieira told fellow foreign ministers during opening remarks for a G20 meeting in Rio de Janeiro that the U.N. Security Council has been unable to prevent or halt conflicts such as those playing out in Ukraine and the Gaza Strip, reports AP.

Foreign ministers of the 20 leading rich and developing nations are gathering this week to discuss poverty, climate change and heightened global tensions, setting a roadmap for work to accomplish ahead of a Nov. 18-19 summit in Rio.

One of Brazil's key proposals, set by President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, is a reform of global governance institutions such as the United Nations, the World Trade Organization and multilateral banks, where he wants to push for stronger representation of developing nations.

The leftist leader reiterated on Feb. 18 his interest in expanding the U.N.'s Security Council, contemplating the entry of more countries from Africa, Latin America, as well as India, Germany or Japan.

Whether Lula's push will be successful remains to be seen, as permanent members of the Security Council have in the past been dismissive of attempts at reform



Brazil's foreign minister called for reforms. Pic – WSB Radio

that would result in a loss of their power.

Vieira said Brazil was "deeply worried" by the proliferation of conflicts around the world - not just in Ukraine and Gaza, but in more than 170 locations, according to some studies, he said.

Vieira said more than \$2 trillion a year is spent on military budgets globally and that more of that money should go toward development aid programs.

Speaking to reporters on Sunday at the African Union summit in Ethiopia, Lula said that "what is happening in the Gaza Strip and to the Palestinian people hasn't been seen in any other moment in history. Actually, it did when Hitler decided to kill the Jews."

In response, Israel declared Lula a "persona non grata", summoned Brazil's ambassador to Israel and demanded an apology. In retaliation, Lula recalled Brazil's ambassador for consultations.

After years of diplomatic isolation under former President Jair Bolsonaro, Lula has sought to reinsert Brazil on the center stage of global diplomacy since returning to power in January of 2023.

No foreign interference behind the attack on residence of Nijjar associate: Canada

Canadian law enforcement has said they have not established any links to foreign interference as they charged two teenagers for a shooting that targeted the residence of Simranjeet Singh, an associate of pro-Khalistan figure Hardeep Singh Nijjar, who was killed in Surrey, British Columbia, on June 18.

In a release on Tuesday, the Surrey detachment of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) said, "At the time of this incident, there was speculation circulating that this was connected to foreign interference. Investigators have not established any links to foreign interference in relation to this matter."

Pro-Khalistan groups, including Sikhs for Justice (SFJ) had alleged that India was responsible for the firing at the home of Simranjeet Singh in the early hours of February 1. They had connected the attack with the fact that Singh had helped organise a protest outside the Indian consulate in Vancouver on January 26.

Moninder Singh, spokesperson for the British Columbia Gurdwaras Council and also a prominent separatist in Canada, told the outlet CBC News at the time that he believed Simranjeet Singh's connection to Nijjar could have been a factor, reports Anirudh Bhattacharyya of Hindustan Times.

The two 16-year-olds have not been named as they are minors. Surrey RCMP spokesperson Cpl Sarbjit K Sangha said that they were arrested on February 12 and the British Columbia Prosecution Service approved charges against them of Discharging a Firearm into a place and Possessing a Loaded Prohibited Firearm. "The youths are currently being held in custody awaiting their next court appearance," she added.



A protest outside India's consulate, a week after Canada's PM Justin Trudeau raised the prospect of New Delhi's involvement in the murder of Sikh separatist leader Hardeep Singh Nijjar, in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. Pic - Reuters

Relations between India and Canada cratered last year when Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau stated in the House of Commons on September 18 that there were "credible allegations" of a potential link between Indian agents and Nijjar's killing. That case is being probed by the Integrated Homicide Investigation Team (IHIT).

Queen Camilla wants King Charles to abdicate the throne?



Camilla Parker with King Charles III. Pic – Musical Mundial

There's a huge possibility that the royal family matters may be passed down to Prince William 'much sooner' than expected. The crowned family has been entangled in 'medical' complications for some time now. From King Charles' cancer diagnosis to Kate Middleton's abdominal surgery, things haven't been easy for the princely lot. On top of that, the emotional side of things is just as messed up, reports Hindustan Times.

With Prince Harry's return to the family reportedly blocked, all chaos

clouds hover above the big brother's head. The crown being passed on to the Prince of Wales will inevitably follow soon. However, it seems that things may be rushed exponentially, given the current scene of familial tensions.

A source close to the family opened up to In Touch Weekly about Queen Camilla's pride in how well Prince William has "compartmentalised everything to prioritise his duties to the crown". King Charles is equally "impressed by how easily William has filled his shoes". Here's

what the source further divulged on King Charles possibly stepping down in the near future.

Royal family news: Queen Camilla - King Charles III discuss abdicating the throne

Despite the King's vows to return to his duties soon, In Touch detailed the source's claims: "Charles can't help but consider stepping down". Although King Charles waited all his life to gain this stature, the unforgiving circumstances demand a smooth transfer of power at the earliest.

The bittersweet inevitability of this has been emphasised by the Queen, too. Even if this switch-up means that King Charles III won't get the chance to leave his mark on the monarchy map Camilla hopes for him to retire soon.

"She's urged him to let it go and enjoy their golden years," added the anonymous source. Despite it all being a "hard pill to swallow" for him, the King has unwavering confidence in William and Kate, who are likely to go for a religious ceremony for their future ascension instead of the over-the-top ceremonial display King Charles opted for.



Nawaz Sharif's PML-N won 75 seats while Bilawal Bhutto's PPP came third with 54 seats in Pakistan polls. Pic - AFP

Nawaz Sharif, Bilawal Bhutto's parties strike deal to form coalition govt in Pak

Former Pakistan Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari said on Tuesday that his party had reached an agreement with the largest party in the country's national assembly to form a coalition government, reports Reuters.

The agreement between Bhutto Zardari's Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) and the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) of three-time Premier Nawaz Sharif ends days of uncertainty and negotiations after the Feb. 8 elections produced a hung national assembly.

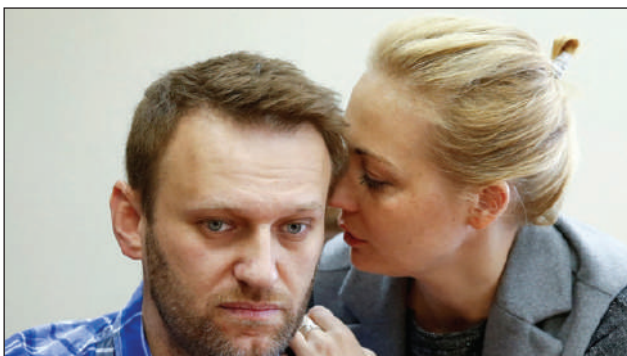
Bhutto Zardari confirmed at a late night press conference that former Premier Shehbaz Sharif, the younger brother of Nawaz, will be the coalition's candidate for prime minister, and his father Asif Ali Zardari will be their candidate for the country's president.

'Will continue my husband's work': Alexei Navalny's wife

Navalnaya accused the Russian authorities of hiding Navalny's body and of waiting for traces of the Novichok nerve agent to disappear from his body.

Yulia Navalnaya, widow of Russian opposition leader Alexei Navalny, said in a video message on Monday that she would continue the work of her husband and fight for a free Russia, reports Reuters.

"I want to live in a free Russia, I want to build a free



Russian opposition leader Alexei Navalny and his wife Yulia. Pic - Reuters

Russia," Navalnaya said in a video message entitled "I will continue the work of Alexei Navalny".

"Vladimir Putin killed my husband," Navalnaya said, adding that she would work with the Russian people to battle with the Kremlin to create a new Russia.

The Kremlin has denied involvement in his death.

Navalnaya accused the Russian authorities of hiding Navalny's body and of waiting for traces of the Novichok nerve agent to disappear from his body.

Navalny's allies know why her husband was killed and would soon reveal the details, including the names of the people involved in his murder.

Trump reveals why wife Melania not appearing at his campaign rallies

Former US President Donald Trump has revealed why his wife Melania is not participating in his 2024 presidential campaign rallies, similar to how First Lady Jill Biden has done for her husband at the moment.

Melania Trump has mostly refrained from participating in public events or making remarks regarding the White House race. However, she played a more crucial role during the 2016 presidential campaign.

Speaking with Fox News host Laura Ingraham during his town hall in South Carolina this week, Trump was asked if his wife would be active on the campaign trail.

Ingraham further mentioned that Melania is "wonderful with children" but a lot of people want to see more of her.

In a response, the GOP frontrunner said: "They love her, I'll tell you. And you



President Donald Trump walks with former first lady Melania. Pic - Vox

know her. She's a very brilliant person. She speaks many languages, the whole thing."

He went on to explain how his wife is paying much of her attention to their 17-year-old son, Barron Trump.

"Her life revolves around that boy, [he's] so important to her," Trump said. "At the same time, it also revolves around our country and the success of our country. She's raised a lot of money for charity."

Calling Melania a "private person" who loves her country, the onetime real estate mogul said: "[The people] love the fact that she's not out there so much. You know, a lot of first ladies will go out. They want to be everywhere. They get angry at their husband because he's not introducing them."

"If I didn't introduce Melania she'd be very happy about it. She's just a different kind of a person. And she loves the country," he added.

Melania Trump absent from Mar-a-Lago New Year's Eve celebration

Many people have wondered about Melania's disappearance, asking why she seems to have distanced herself from the public eye. The former model's conspicuous absence from a Trump family Christmas card that included her husband,

all of his children, and her father fuelled further speculations.

At a speech at his Mar-a-Lago estate, Trump disclosed the reason behind his wife's absence from his New Year's Eve celebration. He said her mother, Amalija Knavs, had been "very ill." He went on to say that his wife spending time with her mother in a Miami hospital, calling the circumstance "a very tough one." Knavs passed away last month at the age of 78.

According to an average provided by the website FiveThirtyEight, Trump is the Republican front-runner and is now polling at 77.7 percent nationwide. In a poll of 6,321 registered voters conducted between February 17 and 19, Morning Consult reports that President Joe Biden, a Democrat, is leading the pack at 41%, while the Republican Party leads at 45%.

• *We are never so easily deceived as when we imagine we are deceiving others.* — François de La Rochefoucauld

By B. Ramlallah

This article is the first of a series which Mr B. Ramlallah proposes to write to cover the activities of the Mauritian Press Delegates now touring the United Kingdom.

After a 40-minute flight from Plaisance, we reached St Denis Airport, where we were greeted by the Press of Réunion. The meeting was arranged by Mr Fanchette of the Central Office of Information. For an hour, we talked about various matters ranging from the overpopulation problem to the economic situation of both islands. The journalists were very cordial. It was our first contact with our colleagues outside Mauritius. Though we did not know each other, we felt we had a lot in common. They expressed pleasant surprise when they learned that we were going to the UK at the Home Government's expense. They said the Press of Réunion was not as fortunate as that of Mauritius. We were taken aback to learn that, although the population of Réunion is about half of ours, and there are several dailies, and the circulation of their papers is much higher than ours. For example, the circulation of the daily, *Le Journal de la Réunion*, is approximately 17,000. It publishes an illustrated monthly magazine that is sold by the hundreds. I bet we won't be able to sell half of what they are selling.

* * *

I am writing from the air—*en plein ciel!* in an Air France plane. The plane left Tananarive Airport at 2 pm. We were flying above the sea somewhere between the mainland of Madagascar and Zanzibar on our journey to Nairobi. The weather is wonderful. Below, the sea looks like a light blue carpet spread to an infinite distance, where it seems to melt into nothingness.

We just received from the air hostess a Government of Kenya Entry Declaration Form to be filled by all those entering Kenya, even by passengers on transit, even if one doesn't leave the airport at all. It should be filled in conformity with Immigration Regulations made by the Kenya Government in 1957. The very wording of the Entry Form fills one with disgust. I could feel the segregation oppressing me. I had the temptation not to fill it, but the thought that I might not be allowed to land to change the plane made me change my mind.

The entrant into the Kenya Colony, if

En Route For London



Beekrumsing Ramlallah

he happens to be a non-European, should write down his father's and grandfather's names, or if the passenger is a woman, she must write the name of her husband's father. Besides his nationality, he should declare to what race he belongs. The entrant also has to declare whether he has ever been convicted in any country of a crime punishable by imprisonment and whether he has been refused permission to enter Kenya, Uganda, Tanganyika, or Zanzibar or has been expelled from any of these countries.

All the members of the Mauritian Press Delegation were invited by the captain of the plane to visit the pilot and radio operators' room. We were shown around, and very kindly the pilot explained to us how the different abstruse mechanisms operate. We were told that we were flying at an altitude of 12,440 feet above sea level and at a speed of 480 kilometers per hour.

At Nairobi, we changed planes and boarded a giant B.O.A.C. plane, where I wrote this letter. It was very comfortable, probably more so than the Air France Super-Constellation. The plane stopped at Entebbe, an airport close to Lake Victoria in the Uganda Protectorate. After a 45-minute rest, the plane flew to Khartoum, Sudan. That airport is very large and beautiful, with several planes coming and going. Another 45-minute rest followed, and then we proceeded directly to Rome. That was our most tiresome and dangerous flight, starting at 2 am. By then, the moon had appeared, looking unusual from a height of 20,500 feet above sea level. We were informed that we were expected to fly at 31,000 feet above sea level — flying 2,000 feet above

Everest itself!

* * *

The appearance of the sun was heralded by a long crimson line. The day was splendid with the sun shining gloriously, but the most amazing scene was the sky and the clouds below us. We are used to seeing them above us, but from above, the clouds look small. There was not a single cloud above because we were flying high in the stratosphere, where no cloud ever reaches. We had a chart from the captain showing us the flight's position. At 4:55 am, we were flying over Benghazi at 20,500 feet above sea level, with an outside temperature of 9°C and a speed of 345 miles per hour.

We flew above the mainland of Italy, moving fast north towards Rome. Below, we noticed the beautiful landscapes of the Italian countryside. For some time, we flew very low, travelling above hilly terrain. We could see houses, trees, and plantations as if a stone's throw from the plane. The woods looked like those of Mauritius, and we could see cars rushing on the roads. The vine plantations near Rome Airport, which we could see up close, were magnificent.

We landed at Ciampino Airport in Rome at 8:30 am. We walked to the airport restaurant for refreshment, feeling the change in atmosphere — it was unmistakably Europe. At other airports, the police and customs officers were coloured. In Nairobi or Khartoum, waiters were either Africans or Arabs wearing long, white robes, tailed fez, and bare-footed. At this airport, passengers were served by waiters wearing white coats and black ties. Several souvenir shops were present with Italian girls behind the

counters.

After 45 minutes, our plane took off directly to London — a 3-hour flight. At 10 am, the plane was flying above Elbe Island at a height of 22,550 feet and a speed of 325 miles per hour. The sight while flying over the Alps was magnificent. Between 10:35 and 11 am, the plane hovered over the Alps, at times coming close to the peaks. The sun shone brilliantly, and all the peaks of the Alps looked like finely chiselled blue basalt stones on a green carpet coated with fine white sugar. The white sugar-like thing surrounding the peaks is snow; year in and year out, the peaks are partly covered with snow. The most thrilling sight was Mont Blanc — a huge lump of snow rising majestically above all the other peaks, awe-inspiring and worth the travel itself.

Leaving the Alps behind, we flew over Lake Geneva and the town on the lake's border. It was a splendid sight. The fields close to the lake were green, intersected by straight roads, and meticulously traced. Switzerland is covered with green and dense forests, in stark contrast to Italy, which appears to be a dry country. We flew over the northeastern side of Paris, the Channel, the wondrous English landscapes, and fields, finally reaching London Airport — one of the gateways to a world I have been looking forward to re-entering.

Northern Gahlot Rajput Federation

Reg no 6482

Delegate member kindly requested to attend the Annual Delegates Meeting to be held on **Wednesday 20 March 2024 at 7.00 pm** at Ramkissoon Hall, Fond du Sac.

AGENDA:

1. Reading and Approval of minutes of the last AGM
2. Matters arising
3. President's Report
4. Treasurer's Report
5. Consideration and Approval of Financial Statements for the year 2023
6. Consideration and Approval of proposed estimates for the year 2024
7. Any motion to be presented
8. AOB

As per Article 5.2 of the Northern Gahlot Rajput Federation, every motion purported to on the agenda should be given in writing to the Secretary on or before 13 March 2024.

Also note that as per Article 7.6 of the Northern Gahlot Rajput Federation, in case there is no quorum the meeting will be held on 03 April 2024.

Mr Ramduth Luchoo
Secretary

Madame Azor, Goodlands

04 March 2024

Analyse

Election partielle: un piège pour qui?

Suite de la page 3

Une défaite éventuelle de Navin à la partielle fragiliserait sa position comme leader de l'alliance de l'opposition parlementaire et pousserait celle-ci dans le désarroi à la veille des élections générales.

A moins que le défi du Premier ministre ne soit un bluff destiné à confondre l'opposition dans son ensemble, certains observateurs ont avancé la thèse d'une stratégie politique visant à provoquer une partielle pour coincer le leader du PTr dans le contexte de l'opacité sur les épisodes de révocation et de démission.

Le manque de transparence entourant les motifs de la révocation de Vikram Hurdoyal comme ministre donne lieu à toutes sortes de conjectures. A-t-il fauté vraiment quelque part ou a-t-il été puni pour avoir apparemment refusé de livrer un nouveau permis pour le commerce des singes? S'il n'en est rien, pourquoi ya-t-il un accord entre Hurdoyal et le Premier ministre pour ne rien dire sur les raisons de la révocation, suivie de la démission du député ?

Jusqu'ici, il y avait une certaine transparence sur les raisons menant à la révocation de certains ministre. Par

exemple, la révocation du leader du Muvman Liberater (ML) en 2020 avait été officiellement liée à son implication alléguée dans une affaire d'attribution de contrat par le CEB. Toute l'opacité dans le cas de Hurdoyal est donc intrigante.

Histoire des partielles

Navin Ramgoolam est sans doute trop intelligent pour tomber dans quelque piège que lui tendrait le gouvernement. Comme leader d'une alliance nationale, il devrait choisir un autre candidat du PTr pour briguer une éventuelle partielle dans la circonscription no. 10 et concentrer son énergie sur la campagne nationale.

L'histoire des partielles à Maurice démontre qu'aucun parti n'a la garantie de remporter une partielle peu importe la popularité du gouvernement ou le calibre du candidat de l'opposition. Voici quelques exemples:

- En juin 1989, le novice Cyril Curé, candidat du MSM, avait battu le « géant » Ivan Collendavelloo, candidat de l'opposition MMM, lors d'une partielle dans la circonscription no. 15 (La Caverne/Phoenix) par une faible marge de 351 voix.
- En avril 1998, le novice Satish Faugoo, candidat du PTr, avait battu le « géant » SAJ, candidat de l'opposition MSM, lors d'une partielle dans la circonscription no. 9 (Flacq/Bon Accueil) par une marge de 1 474 voix.
- En décembre 2003, le candidat travailliste Rajesh Jeetah avait battu le candidat du gouvernement MSM, Prakash Maunthrooa, lors d'une partielle dans la circonscription no. 7 (Piton/Rivière du Rempart) par une marge de 2 608 voix.

Si le gouvernement ne tient pas une partielle le 11 août 2024, cela indiquera qu'il s'est piégé lui-même avec l'épisode de la révocation de Hurdoyal au lieu de piéger le leader du PTr. Il ne pourra pas tenir une partielle avec le risque probable de la perdre dans le contexte de l'impopularité du pouvoir. Il n'aura d'autre choix que de tenir des élections anticipées avant la fin de l'année après avoir présenté un budget populiste en juin 2024.

Dans la politique, il y a des circonstances qui sont parfois en dehors du contrôle d'un gouvernement, aussi puissant soit-il. L'adage « A week is a long time in politics » a été très bien illustré dans la deuxième semaine de février.

Aditya Narayan

Digital Economy

Fintech: Emtel's blink Voted Top Choice by Users



Jackie Demetriou, CEO of MBN, organizer of the People's Choice Award, and Caleb J. Samy, Product Manager FinTech at Emtel (R)

Blink, the mobile payment application that enables users to make instant mobile payments regardless of their bank account and mobile network, continues to strengthen its strategic position in Mauritius. The application secured the first place in the Fintech category at the People's Choice Awards 2023 through popular vote.

Launched in May 2022, the blink application quickly found its place among Mauritian users with over 50,000 downloads to date, demonstrating the growing appeal of the public for digital payment solutions. As a driving force in the Fintech world, Emtel has once again revolutionized the telecommunications sector with its user-friendly interface that provides a seamless and secure user experience. In the blink of an eye, users can pay their bills, make bank transfers, or even pay their merchants without any fees from their mobile devices.

Commenting on this key milestone in transforming Mauritius into a 'digital economy,' Kresh Goomany, Chief Executive Officer of Emtel, stated, "Blink's recognition in the Fintech category through popular vote demonstrates that we have succeeded in changing how individuals and small and medium-sized businesses conduct their transactions. As a staunch advocate of financial inclusion, we have paved the way for a new era of financial services to enable all our customers to manage their finances more easily and securely."

Emtel celebrated the first anniversary of the blink application last year through its blinkcredible campaign, giving users the chance to win cash prizes totalling Rs 2 million, as well as 178 daily, weekly, and monthly gift vouchers. Following its victory at the People's Choice Awards 2023, Emtel organized a 'Blink & Win' draw to thank the loyal customers of the application.

Electoral Agenda after Resignation of Hurdoyal as Member of National Assembly

Date of Resignation of Hurdoyal		13 February 2024
Writ of by-election	Sec 35 Constitution ≤ 90 Days from Vacancy	13 May 2024
Nomination Day (ND) for by-election earliest date	Sec 41 RPA ≤ 15 days after Writ	28 May 2024
Nomination Day (ND) for by election latest date	Sec 41 RPA ≤ 30 days after Writ	12 June 2024
Polling Day of by-election, earliest date	Sec 41 RPA ≥ 15 days after ND	12 June 2024
Polling Day of by-election latest date	Sec 41 RPA ≤ 60 days after ND	11 August 2024
Latest date to dissolve National Assembly (NA) to avoid by election		10 August 2024
Writ of General Election	Constitution 56(4) ≤ 60days	9 October 2024
Nomination Day (ND) – General Election – earliest date, if NA dissolved on 10 August	Sec 41 RPA ≥ 15 days after writ	25 August 2024
Nomination Day (ND) – General Election, - latest date	Sec 41 RPA ≤ 30 days after writ	8 November 2024
Polling Day of General Election – earliest date, if NA dissolve on 10 August	Sec 41 RPA ≥ 15 days after ND	9 September 2024
Polling Day of General Election – latest date	Sec 41 RPA ≤ 60 days after ND	7 January 2025

YOUR STARS

SAGITTARIUS: NOV 22 - DEC 21

Sagittarius, embrace adventure and learning. Expand your horizons through travel or education. In relationships, be open and honest about your feelings. Financially, avoid impulsive decisions; take a measured approach.

Lucky Numbers: 3, 9, 16, 23, 30, 37

CAPRICORN: DEC 22 - JAN 19

Focus on deepening your connections with loved ones. Embrace vulnerability in relationships. Professionally, your hard work will be acknowledged. Financially, plan for the long term and prioritize savings.

Lucky Numbers: 2, 8, 15, 22, 29, 35

AQUARIUS: JAN 20 - FEB 18

Aquarius, this week encourages innovative thinking. Embrace your unique perspective and share your ideas. In relationships, be open to new experiences with your partner. Financially, explore unconventional opportunities. Stay true to your values, and success will follow.

Lucky Numbers: 1, 7, 14, 21, 28, 36

PISCES: FEB 19 - MAR 20

Pisces, focus on emotional well-being this week. Take time for self-care and reflection. In relationships, be attentive to your partner's needs. Professionally, your creativity will shine, leading to new opportunities.

Financially, be mindful of spending. Trust your intuition and pursue your passions.

Lucky Numbers: 5, 12, 19, 26, 33, 40

ARIES: MARCH 21 - APRIL 19

It's an excellent time to express yourself through art or a personal project. Pay attention to your intuition; it could lead you to unexpected opportunities. In relationships, open communication will strengthen bonds.

Lucky Numbers: 7, 14, 21, 25, 32, 38

TAURUS: APR 20 - MAY 20

Create a harmonious environment by addressing any unresolved issues. Your practical nature will help you find solutions. Financially, it's a good time to budget and plan for future goals. Remember to take breaks for self-care; balance is key.

Lucky Numbers: 1, 15, 20, 33, 36, 39

GEMINI: MAY 21 - JUNE 20

Express your thoughts and ideas clearly to avoid misunderstandings. Socialize and network; new connections may bring exciting opportunities. Don't shy away from intellectual challenges. Stay adaptable, and you'll navigate the week successfully.

Lucky Numbers: 3, 9, 15, 23, 30, 37

CANCER: JUNE 21 - JULY 22

Cancer, focus on self-care and well-being this coming week. Pay attention to your emotional needs and seek balance. Professionally, your dedication will be recognized, leading to potential advancements. In relationships, express your feelings openly.

Lucky Numbers: 2, 8, 16, 20, 28, 36

LEO: JULY 23 - AUG 22

This week, Leo, your natural charisma is heightened. Use it to your advantage in both personal and professional settings. Financially, consider long-term investments. Balancing responsibilities will be crucial. Listen to your intuition and be open to collaboration. Teamwork can lead to success.

Lucky Numbers: 1, 10, 17, 24, 31, 39

VIRGO: AUG 23 - SEPT 22

Virgo, focus on personal development this week. Set goals and create a plan for self-improvement. In relationships, be patient and understanding. Financially, be cautious with expenditures. Your attention to detail will be appreciated at work. Don't hesitate to delegate tasks for a smoother week.

Lucky Numbers: 6, 12, 19, 26, 33, 40

LIBRA: SEPT 23 - OCT 22

Connect with friends and make time for enjoyable activities. Career-wise, your diplomatic skills will be valuable. Take a balanced approach to work and personal life. Financially, assess your budget and make necessary adjustments for long-term stability.

Lucky Numbers: 5, 13, 21, 27, 34, 35

SCORPIO: 23 OCT - 21 NOV

Scorpio, the coming week emphasizes your career and ambitions. Focus on long-term goals and showcase your skills. In relationships, be open to compromise and communication. Financially, plan for the future and consider wise investments.

Lucky Numbers: 4, 11, 18, 25, 32, 39

Monkey Business and Political Ripples

● Cont. from page 2

A move that, like a monkey swinging from tree to tree, added an element of unpredictability to the narrative.

Socrates: Politics is a jungle, my friend, and in this case, maybe a jungle with monkeys. But why would he switch sides?

Cephalus: Ah, that's the million-dollar question. Or should I say, the ten-thousand-dollar monkey question?

Socrates: Ten thousand dollars? For a monkey? Is this a zoo or a black-market primate bazaar?

Cephalus: Turns out, it's a bit of both. The ex-minister supposedly blocked a licence that would've let a cyno breeder export monkeys for testing abroad. This peculiar licence is the fulcrum upon which this political seesaw teeters. The ex-minister, it is said, resisted bestowing his ministerial consent, as if guarding the gates to a sacred monkey sanctuary.

Socrates: Monkeys for testing? What are they testing? Banana peeling techniques?

Cephalus: (Laughs) If only! It's some



serious business. They claim it's for scientific research,

Socrates: But monkeys for testing? A most curious endeavour. Pray, what tests require the presence of our simian companions?

Cephalus: The specifics elude me, Socrates. It seems a lucrative business has sprouted, akin to a banana tree in the rainy season. Monkeys, it is rumoured, now fetch a hefty price as I hinted earlier - \$10,000 each, it would seem -, as if they

were rare jewels rather than the mischievous denizens of our forests.

Socrates: Avarice knows no bounds, my friend. But I am curious about the breeder's claim of ethical practices. Does it sound like a clever monkey feigning innocence after pilfering a basket of fruits?

Cephalus: An astute observation, Socrates! It is possible that breeders could be adhering to strict regulations and the highest standards of monkey welfare. However, like a wise sage once said, "The proof of the pudding is in the eating." But I hear that NGOs, armed with cameras, have cast doubt upon this virtuous proclamation.

Socrates: A play of shadows and light, much like Plato's allegory of the cave. Now, tell me of the religious dimension entwined in this monkey business.

Cephalus: Monkeys, as revered deities in Taoism, Buddhism, and Hinduism, find themselves entangled in this web of profit and politics. The export of these sacred beings in apparently questionable conditions has, unsurprisingly, ruffled the feathers of religious sentiments.

Socrates: Indeed, my dear Cephalus.

The gods, it seems, are now participants in this drama, observing the affairs of men and monkeys with divine bemusement.

Cephalus: As the plot thickens, Socrates, one cannot help but ponder the consequences. Will divine wrath rain down on those who exploit these revered creatures?

Socrates: That, my friend, remains to be seen. The interplay of politics, profit, and piety creates a tapestry intricate enough to rival the finest weavings of our artisans.

Cephalus: As we watch this drama unfold, Socrates, one can't help but think that we are but spectators in a cosmic theatre, where monkeys and men dance to a tune composed by the fates.

Socrates: And what a peculiar dance it is, Cephalus. The dance of politics and primates, a spectacle that continues to mystify and amuse.

Cephalus: Maybe next, we'll see a monkey running for office. At least they can't be accused of monkeying around...

Socrates: True and imagine the election debates: 'Bananas for all citizens!'

Plutonix

Madame Azor Gahlot Rajput Sabha

Reg no 6507

Members are kindly requested to attend the Annual General Meeting to be held on **Wednesday 13 March 2024 at 7.00 pm** at the residence Mr Ramduth Luchoo, Madame Azor, Goodlands.

AGENDA:

1. Reading and Approval of minutes of the last AGM
2. Matters arising
3. President's Report
4. Treasurer's Report
5. Consideration and Approval of Financial Statements for the year 2023
6. Consideration and Approval of proposed estimates for the year 2024
7. Any motion to be presented
8. AOB

Please note that as per Article 7.5a in case there is no quorum the meeting will be held on 27 march 2024. Every motion purported to be on the agenda shall be given in writing to the President/Secretary on or before Wednesday 06 March 2024.

Mr Ramduth Luchoo
(President)

Madame Azor - Goodlands

26 February 2024

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Thank you so much.
Mauritius Times

Hiring the most qualified candidate might be unfair

Hiring the most qualified candidate may be perceived as unfair, according to a study by the American Psychological Association. The research, led by Daniela Goya-Tocchetto, PhD, an assistant professor of organization and human resources at the University at Buffalo-State University of New York, found that both liberals and conservatives viewed merit-based hiring as less fair after learning about socioeconomic disparities. The study, involving over 3,300 participants in five online experiments, revealed increased support for programs promoting socioeconomic diversity.

"Socioeconomic disadvantages early in life can undermine educational achievement, test scores, and work experiences. In this way, inequality can undermine equal opportunity," said Goya-Tocchetto. However, when evaluating the fairness of merit-based processes, people often overlook this broader context and the effects of inequality.

The researchers conducted five online experiments, involving a total of more than 3,300 participants. In two experiments, participants read about a merit-based hiring or promotion process where the most qualified candidate would be



selected. Half of the participants weren't given any additional information, while the other half were informed about the past socioeconomic disadvantages for one candidate and the advantages for another candidate. Both liberal and conservative participants who received background information perceived the merit-based process as less fair with less equal opportunity.

In two additional experiments, participants found merit-based hiring or promo-

tions to be less fair after learning how low income can hinder educational opportunities and career advancement. A final experiment found that knowledge about socioeconomic disparities increased support for hiring programs fostering social class diversity, such as removing prestigious names from resumes and making internships a lesser requirement.

The experiments didn't include race as a factor, so findings may differ if race had been the focus instead of socioeconomic

disadvantages, Goya-Tocchetto noted. Prior research has shown that learning about racial inequity can lead to defensiveness among white conservatives. Conservative participants in the current research were more likely to believe that merit-based hiring and promotion were fair in general, but they adjusted their fairness perceptions after learning about socioeconomic disparities.

While programs addressing racial diversity have been polarizing, focusing on socioeconomic disadvantages in workforce diversity programs may avoid political backlash and still help increase racial diversity, Goya-Tocchetto suggested. Members of marginalized racial groups often experience socioeconomic disadvantages more frequently than privileged racial groups, and the negative consequences can be worse for racial minorities. "Focusing on socioeconomic considerations could garner more support and still help address racial inequality."

Hiring managers should learn about the effects of socioeconomic inequalities on access to opportunities and consider a broader range of work experience when evaluating different candidates, Goya-Tocchetto recommended.



Why does a leap year have 366 days?

Humans have synced their calendars to the sun and moon for centuries, but every so often, these systems need a little correction.

You may be used to hearing that it takes the Earth 365 days to make a full lap, but that journey actually lasts about 365 and a quarter days. Leap years help to keep the 12-month calendar matched up with Earth's movement around the Sun.

After four years, those leftover hours add up to a whole day. In a leap year, we add this extra day to the month of February, making it 29 days long instead of the usual 28.

The idea of an annual catch-up dates back to ancient Rome, where people had a calendar with 355 days instead of 365 because it was based on cycles and phases of the Moon. They noticed that their calendar was getting out of sync with the seasons, so they began adding an extra month, which they called Mercedonius, every two years to catch up with the missing days.

In the year 45 B.C.E., Roman emperor Julius Caesar introduced a solar calendar, based on one developed in Egypt. Every four years, February received an extra day to keep the calendar in line with the Earth's journey around the Sun. In honor of Caesar, this system is still known as the Julian calendar.

But that wasn't the last tweak. As time went on, people realized that the Earth's journey wasn't exactly 365.25 days – it actually took 365.24219 days, which is about 11 minutes less. So adding a whole day every four years was actually a little



more correction than was needed.

In 1582, Pope Gregory XIII signed an order that made a small adjustment. There would still be a leap year every four years, except in "century" years – years divisible by 100, like 1700 or 2100 – unless they were also divisible by 400. It might sound a bit like a puzzle, but this adjustment made the calendar even more accurate – and from that point on, it was known as the Gregorian calendar.

What if we didn't have leap years?

If the calendar didn't make that small correction every four years, it would gradually fall out of alignment with the seasons. Over centuries, this could lead to the solstices and equinoxes occurring at different times than expected. Winter

weather might develop in what the calendar showed as summer, and farmers could become confused about when to plant their seeds.

Other calendars around the world have their own ways of keeping time. The Jewish calendar, which is regulated by both the Moon and the Sun, is like a big puzzle with a 19-year cycle. Every now and then, it adds a leap month to make sure that special celebrations happen at just the right time.

The Islamic calendar is even more unique. It follows the phases of the Moon and doesn't add extra days. Since a lunar year is only about 355 days long, key dates on the Islamic calendar move 10 to 11 days earlier each year on the solar calendar.

For example, Ramadan, the Islamic month of fasting, falls in the ninth month of the Islamic calendar. In 2024, it will run from March 11 to April 9; in 2025, it will occur from March 1-29; and in 2026, it will be celebrated from Feb. 18 to March 19.

Learning from the planets

Astronomy originated as a way to make sense of our daily lives, linking the events around us to celestial phenomena. The concept of leap years exemplifies how, from early ages, humans found order in conditions that seemed chaotic.

Simple, unsophisticated but effective tools, born from creative ideas of ancient astronomers and visionaries, provided the first glimpses into understanding the nature that envelops us. Some ancient methods, such as astrometry and lists of astronomical objects, persist even today, revealing the timeless essence of our quest to understand nature.

People who do research in physics and astronomy, the field that I study, are inherently curious about the workings of the universe and our origins. This work is exciting, and also extremely humbling; it constantly shows that in the grand scheme, our lives occupy a mere second in the vast expanse of space and time – even in leap years when we add that extra day.

Bhagya Subrayan

PhD Student in Physics and Astronomy,
Purdue University



The Smaller Crocodile

Two crocodiles were sitting at the side of the river. After a few hours of just lying about, the smaller one turned to the bigger one and said, 'I can't understand how you can be so much bigger than me. We're the same age, we were the same size as kids - I just don't get it.'

'Well,' said the big croc, 'What have you been eating?'

'Well, mostly politicians that come here with their mistresses, same as you!' replied the small croc.

'Hmm. Well, where do you catch them?'

'On the other side of the river near the car park.'

'Same here. Hmm... Tell me your method. How do you catch them?' asked the big croc.

'Well, I crawl up under one of their big Lexus, BMW, or Mercedes cars and wait for one to unlock the car door. Then I jump out, grab them by the leg, shake the c*ap out of them, and eat 'em!'

'Ah!' says the big crocodile, 'I think I see your problem. You're not getting any real nourishment. See, by the time you finish shaking the c*ap out of a politician, there's nothing much left but an a**hole with a briefcase.'

John was window shopping when he bumped into Jonathan, whom he had not seen for years. As they started chatting, they realized they had a lot of catching up to do, so John invited Jonathan to visit him at his apartment.

'I have a wife and three kids, and it would be great if you came to see us,' said John.

'Yes, why not? Where do you stay?' said Jonathan.

'The address is 75 Riverside Mansions. There's plenty of parking space behind the apartment. Park there and come round to the front door, kick it open with your foot, go to the elevator, and press the button with your left elbow, then enter. When you reach the seventh floor, go down the hall until you see number 75, then press the doorbell with your right elbow, and I'll let you in.'

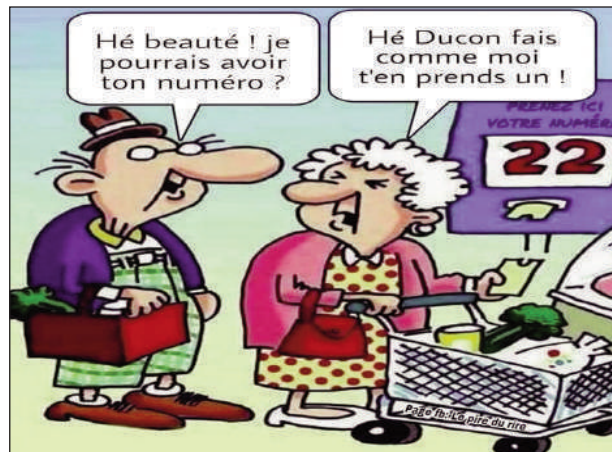
'Right, that's fine, but tell me what's this business of kicking the door and using my elbows?'

'Well, surely you're not coming empty-handed.'

Tried in a hostile town, a guy didn't think he had any chance of escaping a murder charge, so shortly before the jury retired, he bribed one of the jurors to find him guilty of a lesser crime of manslaughter.

The jury was out for over three days before eventually returning a verdict of manslaughter. The relieved defendant sought out the bribed juror and thanked him. He asked him: "How did you succeed?"

"It wasn't easy; all the jurors wanted to acquit you,"



admitted the juror.

Four retired old men are walking down a street in Cooktown.

They turned a corner and saw a sign that said, 'Old Timer's Bar - all drinks 10 cents!' They look at each other, then go in, thinking this is too good to be true.

The old bartender says in a voice that carries across the room, 'Come on in and let me pour one for you! What'll it be, gentlemen?'

There seemed to be a fully-stocked bar, so each of the men asks for a Martini... In short order, the bartender serves up four iced Martinis... shaken, not stirred, and says, 'That'll be 10 cents each, please.'

The four men stare at the bartender for a moment. Then look at each other... they can't believe their good luck.

They pay the 40 cents, finish their Martinis, and order another round. Again, four excellent Martinis are produced, and the bartender again says, 'That's 40 cents, please.'

They pay the 40 cents, but their curiosity is more than they can stand. They have each had two Martinis and so far, they've spent less than a dollar.

Finally, one of the men says, 'How can you afford to serve Martinis as good as these for 10 cents each?'

'I'm a retired tailor from Sydney,' the bartender said, 'and I always wanted to own a bar. Last year I hit the Lottery for \$25 million and decided to open this place. Every drink costs ten cents - wine, liquor, beer, it's all the same.'

'Wow!!!! That's quite a story,' says one of the men.

The four of them sipped at their Martinis and couldn't help but notice seven other people at the end of the bar who didn't have drinks in front of them and hadn't ordered anything the whole time they were there.

One man gestures at the seven at the end of the bar

MINISTRY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES UNION

Reg No 95

Annual General Meeting 2023/2024

All members of the above-named union are kindly invited to attend the AGM for the year 2023-2024 on Wednesday, 20 March 2024 at 12.30 hr at the Field Services Unit, Mgr Leen Street, La Butte.

AGENDA:

- Welcome address and report of President.
 - Reading and approval of the last minute of proceedings.
 - Treasurer's Report and approval of the final accounts for the year ending December 2023.
 - Election of office bearers to sit on the Managing Committee for the year 2024.
 - Appointment of Auditors for 2024.
 - AOB
- Members willing to stand as candidates for election of office bearers must inform in writing to the Secretary, Mr B. Mohun, c/o FSU La Butte Port Louis by latest Monday, 18 March 2024. In case of lack of members, the AGM will be held on Wednesday, 27 March 2024.

23 February 2024

B. Mohun
Secretary

without drinks and asks the bartender, 'What's with them?' The bartender says, 'Oh, they're all grey nomads from the caravan park, waiting for happy hour when drinks are half price.'

An old farmer died leaving his 17 horses to his 3 sons. When his sons opened up the will, it read:

'My eldest son should get 1/2 (half) of the total horses.'

'My middle son should be given 1/3rd (one-third) of the total horses.'

'My youngest son should be given 1/9th (one-ninth) of the total horses.'

As it's impossible to divide 17 into half or 17 by 3 or 17 by 9, the three sons started to fight with each other. So, they decided to go to a farmer friend who they considered quite smart, to see if he could work it out for them.

The farmer friend read the will patiently, and after giving due thought, brought one of his own horses over and added it to the 17. That increased the total to 18 horses.

Now, he divided the horses according to their father's will. Half of 18 = 9. So, he gave the eldest son 9 horses. 1/3rd of 18 = 6. So, he gave the middle son 6 horses. 1/9th of 18 = 2. So, he gave the youngest son 2 horses.

Now add up how many horses they have:

Eldest son: 9
Middle son: 6
Youngest son: 2
TOTAL = 17

This leaves one horse over, so the farmer friend takes his horse back to his farm...

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MAHATMA GANDHI SECONDARY SCHOOL (FLACQ) PTA

REG No: 7630

RE: Annual General Meeting

All compliant members of the Mahatma Gandhi Secondary School (MGSS) Flacq Parent Teacher Association (PTA) are kindly requested to attend the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the above-mentioned Association on **Thursday 14 March 2024 at 1:00 pm** at the seat of the school.

AGENDA:

- Welcome Address by the President of MGSS Flacq PTA, Mr D. Badal
- Welcome Address by the Head of School of MGSS Flacq, Rector, Mr S. Ramful
- Reading & Approval of Minutes of AGM 2023 (23 February 2023)
- Matters Arising
- President's Report
- Treasurer's Report
- Private Motion(s)
- A.O.B.

NOTE: If there is **NO QUORUM** on Thursday 14 March 2024, the AGM will be adjourned for **Thursday 28 March 2024 at 1:00 pm** at the same venue, with the same agenda.

Mahatma Gandhi Secondary School Flacq,
François Mitterrand Street, Central Flacq

February 19, 2024

Miss P. Auree
Secretary



Of Man & Mortality Key lessons for all those who shall die

By Sadhguru

In the profound exploration of human existence, Sadhguru's "Death; An Inside Story" transcends the conventional narratives surrounding mortality. This insightful book challenges the innate fear of death that often lingers in the corners of our minds, offering a perspective that beckons readers to reconsider their relationship with life's ultimate certainty.

The seven key lessons derived from the book serve as a roadmap for navigating the intricate terrain of mortality. Sadhguru invites us to embrace death as an intrinsic aspect of life, dispelling the apprehension that surrounds it. Living consciously also emerges as a central theme, urging individuals to seize each moment and pursue meaningful experiences.

To grasp the full depth of Sadhguru's teachings, a direct engagement with the book is recommended, allowing each reader to uncover lessons that resonate uniquely with their own perspectives and experiences.

Key Lessons

1. Embrace death as a natural part of life: The book challenges the fear of death, arguing that it's an

inevitable and natural transition like any other biological process. Accepting death helps us live life more fully and authentically.

2. Understanding the nature of existence and non-existence: Sadhguru emphasizes that death isn't an end but a transformation of consciousness. Exploring the concepts of life and death beyond their physical manifestations offers a deeper understanding of our existence.

3. Living a conscious life: By acknowledging death's inevitability, we are encouraged to live more consciously, appreciating each moment and pursuing fulfilling experiences. Procrastination and fear lose their grip when we recognize the limited time we have.

4. Overcoming the fear of death: The book offers insights into the psychological and physiological experiences surrounding death, demystifying the process and reducing fear. Meditation and breathing exercises are highlighted as tools to confront and overcome these anxieties.

5. Preparing for death, not fearing it: Sadhguru encourages proactive preparation for death, not with morbid fascination, but to ensure a smooth transition and minimize emotional burden on loved ones. This may include discussing wishes, writing a will, and exploring spiritual practices.

6. Death and the afterlife: While not prescribing specific beliefs, Sadhguru acknowledges various traditional and personal perspectives on the afterlife. The focus is on accepting the unknown without clinging to rigid expectations about what lies beyond.

7. Grief and compassion: Recognizing the pain of losing loved ones, the book offers guidance on processing grief and supporting others through their losses. Cultivating compassion for ourselves and others during this difficult passage is emphasized.

Remember, these are just some key takeaways based on the book's themes. Different readers may find additional lessons resonating with them based on their individual perspectives and experiences.

Thoughts to Live by

Try to matter. Try to care

I don't know what to tell you. A statement is easy, and here it is:

Be yourself. Try to matter. Be a good friend. Love freely, even if you are likely, almost guaranteed, to be hurt, betrayed...

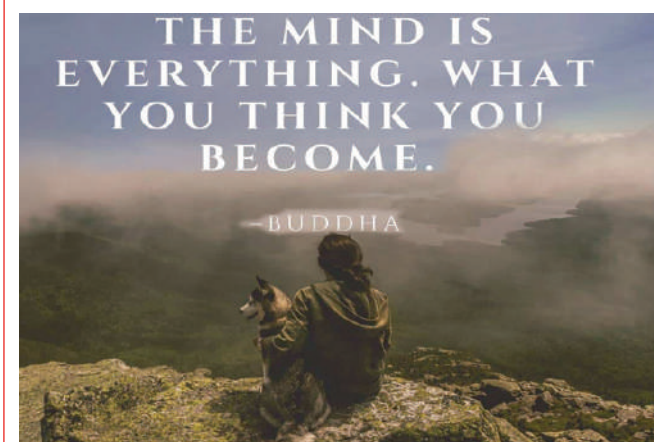
Do what you were created to do. You'll know what this is, because it is what you keep creeping up to, peering at, dreaming of. Do it. If you don't, you'll be punching clocks and eating time doing precisely what you shouldn't, and you'll become mean and you'll seek to punish any and all who appear the slightest bit happy, the slightest bit comfortable in their own skin, the slightest bit smart.

Cruelty is a drug, as well, and it's all around us. Don't imbibe.

Try to matter. Try to care. And never be afraid to admit that you just don't know, you just don't know how you're going to make it. That's when the help shows up.

Tennessee Williams

From the book 'A Streetcar Named Desire'



Life's challenges Don't Give the Enemy a Seat at Your Table

In the relentless journey of life, our minds serve as both battlefield and sanctuary, influencing our thoughts, emotions, and ultimately shaping our reality. Louie Giglio, in his transformative book "Don't Give the Enemy a Seat at Your Table: It's Time to Win the Battle of Your Mind," offers a profound guide to fortifying the citadel of our minds against adversarial forces. The following seven powerful lessons extracted from the book illuminate the path to mental resilience and well-being, providing invaluable insights for anyone seeking to conquer the internal struggles that often accompany life's challenges.

Mind Management: Giglio introduces the concept of mind management, emphasizing the pivotal role of taking control of our thoughts and emotions. Acknowledging the mind as a battleground, he advocates for effective



management to enhance personal well-being and foster a positive mindset.

Identify Negative Influences: The book encourages readers to identify and confront negative influences that undermine confidence and self-worth. By refusing to cede power to these detrimental forces, individuals can reclaim control over their minds and emotions.

Choose Empowering Thoughts: Giglio guides us to cultivate a mindset of positivity and empowerment. Selecting

thoughts aligned with our values, goals, and aspirations allows us to reject negativity and self-doubt, fostering a mental environment conducive to growth.

Guard Your Mental Space: A call to vigilance resonates throughout the book, urging readers to be mindful of what enters their mental space. Surrounding oneself with uplifting and encouraging influences becomes crucial in fostering resilience and inspiring personal development.

Practice Self-Compassion: Louie Giglio advocates for self-compassion, urging readers to extend the same kindness and understanding to themselves that they would offer to a friend facing challenges. This lesson emphasizes the importance of self-care in nurturing mental well-being.

Cultivate Gratitude: The book encourages the cultivation of gratitude as a powerful tool for navigating life's difficulties. By fostering an attitude of appreciation, individuals can recognize the abundance and goodness even in the midst of adversity.

Anchor Yourself in Faith: Louie Giglio underscores the significance of faith and spiritual beliefs as anchors in times of turmoil. Drawing upon the wisdom and guidance of one's spiritual practice becomes a source of strength and inner peace amid life's challenges.

As we delve into these powerful lessons, Giglio's insights offer a roadmap for those seeking to fortify their mental fortresses and emerge victorious in the battle of the mind. Each lesson serves as a beacon, guiding readers toward a resilient and empowered state of being.

Better Health**Moringa: A nutritional powerhouse with diverse benefits***People in ancient times consumed it for longevity and strength*

Moringa or drumstick, more common in Southern parts of India, is among the ancient superfoods fast gaining popularity in the west due to its incredible health benefits. The history of this powerful plant goes 7000 years back and it is mentioned in various yesteryear texts, writes Parmita Uniyal for the Hindustan Times. The herbal plant as per Ayurveda can cure more than 300 diseases.

From leaves, stem, to flowers, different parts of moringa plant have diverse benefits. Moringa leaves and powder are easy to incorporate in tea and other culinary delights, while flower part of the herbal plant can be prepared as drumsticks curry. Moringa was consumed by Maurya warriors in ancient India to challenge King Alexander's armies. No wonder, it worked for them as Agasthya Rishi mentioned once that those who consumed this herb would remain strong and healthy even in their 90s.

Benefits of Moringa

Moringa has a rich nutritional profile and can provide seven times more Vitamin C than oranges, 10 times more Vitamin A than carrots, 17 times more calcium than milk, nine times more protein than yoghurt, 15 times more potassium than bananas and 25 times more iron than spinach, as per a mygov.in report. Moringa leaves are recommended for children as well as pregnant and nursing women. Today moringa is being trusted by many countries across the globe for its amazing healing



properties.

"Moringa is a fascinating and versatile plant with multiple applications. While its leaves are the most commonly used part, other components like flowers, fruits, and pods serve various purposes. Beyond its nutritional richness, Moringa is employed to combat malnutrition and can even purify water. Remarkably, it boasts more protein than eggs, more iron than spinach, more vitamin A than carrots, and more calcium than milk, making it a nutritional powerhouse with diverse benefits," says Swagatika Das, Ayurveda expert and Co-Founder, Nat Habit.

Moringa leaf and powder can be used in a variety of dishes to improve immunity and strength in children and boost their brain growth. Moringa leaf soup is one healthy option for the young children while the powder can be added to roti, and dosa mix. The herb is very effective in getting rid of fatigue and boosting energy levels.

"Rich in antioxidants such as quercetin and chlorogenic acid, moringa plays a pivotal role in preventing

aging by reducing oxidative stress, thereby enhancing cell longevity. Its rich vitamin C content makes it particularly beneficial for promoting ageless radiance, especially for the skin. Widely embraced in various countries as an affordable and accessible nutrition source, it provides essential proteins, vitamins C and B-complex, as well as iron and magnesium.

"Beyond its nutritional prowess, moringa acts as a potent anti-inflammatory agent, courtesy of isothiocyanates, effectively averting chronic health issues, dermal problems, and scalp issues. Additionally, moringa serves as a natural detoxifier, reversing liver damage, boosting immunity, and enhancing energy levels," says Swagatika Das.

How to add moringa to the diet

Incorporating Moringa into your diet is easy and versatile. Swagatika Das' suggestions:

* Enhance your morning routine by adding a sprinkle of moringa powder to your regular smoothie for a powerful nutritional boost.

* Alternatively, moringa juice leaves for a dose of nutrition and antioxidants or indulge in the detoxifying benefits of moringa tea.

* For a tasty twist, go the East Indian way - consider preparing a dish using moringa leaves like you would make a 'palak or methi saag' dish.

* You can also add moringa fruit or drumsticks to sambar, veggie dals or make a delicious mustard-based curry out of it.

* Moringa leaves can improve breast milk production and increase its quantity and quality.

Who shouldn't have moringa?

"Avoid moringa if you're on anti-diabetic medication, as it can lower blood sugar further. It may also reduce blood pressure, making it unsuitable for individuals with low blood pressure.

Those with thyroid conditions should be cautious, and pregnant women should consult their doctor before including moringa in their diet," says Das.

Talking To Women: Conversation Tips for Men

Knowing how to talk to women might just be the single most important skill a man can learn. Not every man is born with the gift of the gab. It takes practice to know how to approach a woman and engage her in stimulating conversation. Here are some surefire conversation tips to help you navigate that all-important first conversation!

1. Compliment her!

Starting off a date with a great compliment immediately makes you seem kind, attentive, and considerate. It can lead to a great conversation and set up a whole evening for success. Rather than focusing on physical appearance, compliment something related to her personality. Praise personal qualities instead of acquired talents to show appreciation for who she is as a person.

2. Tell a joke

Breaking the ice with a joke is an easy way to create a comfortable, light-hearted atmosphere. Laughter releases oxytocin, the 'bonding hormone.' Keep jokes light and avoid ones that are overtly political, vulgar, or crass, as they may not make a good first impression on a stranger or casual acquaintance.

3. Find common ground

Use what you have in common as a springboard for conversation. Utilize the setting to your advantage by asking about shared connections or experiences. For example, at a party, ask, "How do you know the host?"



He & She

This establishes common ground and provides a solid foundation for further conversation.

4. Notice details

Compliment a woman's clothing or accessories as you would with a well-dressed man. Clothing choices, sports logos, movie references, or unique accessories can be excellent conversation starters. Asking about these details shows attentiveness without coming across as creepy.

Remember, these tips are meant to guide you in creating engaging and respectful conversations. Adjust your approach based on the context and individual preferences, always prioritizing genuine interest and respect.

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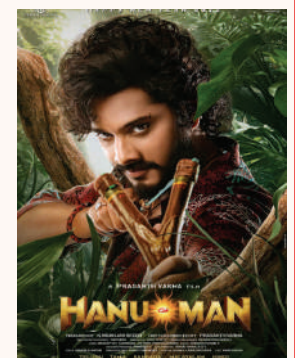
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Rakul Preet Singh and Jackky Bhagnani's wedding blends cinematic charm with timeless traditions

In a blend of cinematic charm and timeless traditions, Rakul Preet Singh and Jackky Bhagnani said 'I do' in a picturesque setting at the ITC Grand in South Goa yesterday. The prelude to their nuptials was nothing short of a Bollywood blockbuster, featuring a spectacular sangeet ceremony that paid homage to the cinematic legacies intertwined with their journey.

Hosted by the dynamic duo of Riteish Deshmukh and Bhumi Pednekar, the sangeet ceremony was a tribute to the actor-producer duo of David Dhawan and Vashu Bhagnani. Varun Dhawan, David's son, stole the show



with a dance performance from 'Coolie No 1', a film that embodies the collaborative spirit of David and Vashu Bhagnani. The highlight of the evening, however, was

the bride and groom's performance on a song from 'Animal', symbolizing their own cinematic journey and shared passions. The night was a testament to the power of cinema, bringing together stories, emotions, and people in a celebration of love.

The wedding day featured two ceremonies, honouring the cultural backgrounds of Rakul and Jackky. An Anand Karaj, a Sikh wedding ceremony known for its simplicity and grace, merged with the vibrant and elaborate rituals of a Sindhi ceremony. This fusion not only celebrates the couple's heritage but also their commitment to embracing each other's cultures. The choice of a dual ceremony in the serene backdrop of Goa speaks volumes about their desire for a marriage that is rooted in tradition yet modern in its outlook. With guests like Ayushmann Khurrana, Arjun Kapoor, and Shilpa Shetty, the wedding was meant to be a confluence of Bollywood's finest.

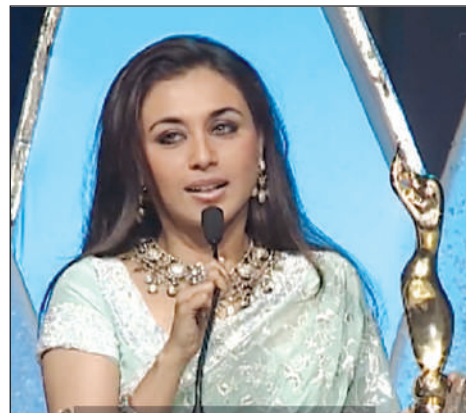
Dadasaheb Phalke awards 2024

Rani Mukerji wins Best Actress, SR Khan Best Actor

The Dadasaheb Phalke International Film Festival Awards 2024 was held in Mumbai on Tuesday evening. The grand awards ceremony was attended by many celebrities including Shah Rukh Khan, Rani Mukerji, Kareena Kapoor, Vikrant Massey, Nayanthara, Shahid Kapoor, Aditya Roy Kapur, and Sandeep Reddy Vanga, among others.

Full list of winners

- Best Film: Jawan
- Best Film (Critics): 12th Fail
- Best Actor: Shah Rukh Khan (Jawan)
- Best Actress (Critics): Kareena Kapoor (Jaane Jaan)
- Best Actress: Rani Mukerji (Mrs Chatterjee vs Norway)
- Best Director (Critics): Atlee (Jawan)
- Best Director: Sandeep Reddy Vanga (Animal)
- Best Actor (Critics): Vicky Kaushal (Sam Bahadur)
- Best Playback Singer (Male): Varun Jain and Sachin Jigar (Tere Vaste from Zara Hatke Zara Bachke)
- Best Playback Singer (Female): Shilpa Rao (Besharam Rang from Pathaan)
- Best Actor in a Negative Role: Bobby Deol (Animal)
- Best Actor in a Comic Role: Ayushmann Khurrana (Dream Girl 2)
- Best Actress in a Comic Role: Sanya Malhotra (Kathal)
- Best Actor in a Supporting Role: Anil Kapoor (Animal)
- Best Actress in a Supporting Role: Dimple Kapadia (Pathaan)
- Most Promising Actor: Vikrant Massey (12th Fail)
- Most Promising Actress: Adah Sharma (The Kerala Story)
- Most Versatile Actress: Nayanthara
- Best Lyricist: Javed Akhtar (Nikle The Kabhi Hum Ghar Se from Dunki)
- Best Short Film: Good morning
- Best International Feature Film: Oppenheimer
- Best Actress in a Television Series:



Rupali Ganguly (Anupamaa)

Best Actor in a Television Series: Neil Bhatt (Ghum Hai Kisikey Pyaar Meiin)

Television Series of the Year: Ghum Hai Kisikey Pyaar Meiin

Best Web Series: Farzi

Best Actor in a Web Series: Shahid Kapoor (Farzi)

Best Actress in a Web Series: Sushmita Sen (Aarya Season 3)

Best Web Series (Critics): The Railway Men

More about the event

Jawan director Atlee, Shahid Kapoor, and director duo Raj & DK were also honoured with awards for their work last year.

About Jawan: Jawan hit the theatres last year in September and minted over ₹1000 crore at the worldwide box office. Helmed by Atlee, the film starred Shah Rukh, Nayanthara, Sanya Malhotra, Priyamani, Deepika Padukone and Sanjay Dutt (in extended cameo roles).

About Animal: Animal, helmed by Sandeep Reddy Vanga, was one of the biggest blockbusters of 2023. However, it was also criticised for its depiction of misogyny. The film starred Ranbir Kapoor, Rashmika Mandanna, Anil Kapoor, and Bobby Deol in the lead roles.

Animal revolves around a troubled father-son relationship and has Ranbir in the role of Rannvijay Singh, who goes on to exact revenge after there's an assassination attempt on his father.

5 times Deepika Padukone and Ranveer Singh talked about becoming parents

Deepika Padukone recently made news for presenting an award in a stunning saree at the BAFTA Awards. According to *The Week*, the actor is pregnant and in her second trimester. While the actor or Ranveer Singh's teams are yet to confirm or deny this, here's looking back at five times the actors spoke about parenthood. (Also Read: Deepika Padukone and Ranveer Singh expecting their first child: Report)

'I hope for a happy family'

In 2013, in a round table with Rajeev Masand, Deepika was asked what she would be doing if not for acting. She replied, "If I was not an actor, I don't know what I would've been doing. But hopefully with some children around. Three little kids scuttling about. Hopefully, be working enough to take them to shoots, have a happy family. And at the same time, still doing what I'm doing."

'It's Deepika's call'

Deepika and Ranveer met on the sets of *Goliyon Ki Rasleela Ram-Leela* in 2013 and got married in Italy in 2018. Soon after their marriage, Ranveer attended the India Economic Conclave where he was asked about having children. He said, "It's not my call really. Partly yes, it's my call but mostly it's just her and I allow her that. I allow her to make most of the decisions because she is better at everything. I have no qualms in admitting that she is a much more mature, much more evolved person than me."

'We're focused on our careers'

In 2019 there were rumours that Deepika was pregnant and the actor spoke to *Hindustan Times* about how 'sad' it is that society puts such pressure on people. "I think it's sad that society kind of puts itself and people in this rut that okay you are dating for so long *toh shaadi kab hogi, shaadi ke baad bacche* (when will you marry, after marriage it's kids) and then grandchildren. I'm not surprised (by the rumours), we're not surprised by it at all," she said, adding, "Do we intent on having children? Of course we do, we



both love kids. But do we intend to have children anytime soon? Absolutely not! We're too selfishly focused on our careers, and I don't think having kids at this point would be fair. We're not even thinking about kids."

'I'll have kids in 2-3 years'

Two years after Deepika's statement though it looked like the couple was ready for kids because Ranveer shared his excitement in 2021 on his TV show *The Big Picture*. He said, "As you guys know I am married and may have kids in next two or three years. Bro, your sister-in-law (Deepika) was such a cute baby. I see her baby photos every day and tell her, give me one baby like this one, my life will be set."

'We look forward to it'

Deepika spoke to *Vogue Singapore* in January this year about how it's easy to get carried away with the fame and money in the film industry. "In this industry, it's easy to get carried away by fame and money. But no one treats me like a celebrity at home. I am a daughter and a sister first. I don't want that to change. My family keeps me grounded and Ranveer and I hope to inculcate the same values in our children."

When asked if this means they'll be parents soon, she added, "Absolutely. Ranveer and I love children. We look forward to the day we will start our own family."

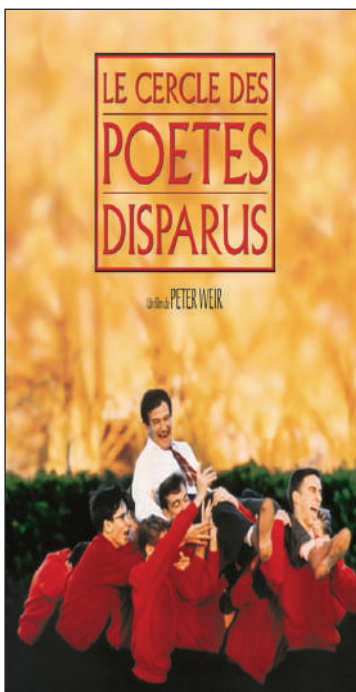


Vendredi 23 février - 20.30

Somewhere, somehow, someone's going to pay.



Samedi 24 février - 20.30



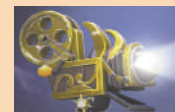
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Programme TV



SERIAL



	MBC 1	MBC 2	MBC 3	Cine 12	Bollywood TV
vendredi 23 février	05.30 Tele: A Que No Me Dejas 06.00 Serial: Seal Team 07.00 Film: The Grey 08.50 Serial: Falling Water 09.30 Tele: Amour A Mort 10.28 The Gardener's Daughter 10.50 Tele: L'Envers Du Paradis 11.13 Tele: La Reina Del Flow 12.00 Le Journal 12.35 Tele: Barbarita 13.25 Tele: Fierce Angel 13.50 Tele: Imperio De Mentiras 14.13 Le Livre Perdu Des Sorti... 15.21 Film: Monolith 17.30 The Gardener's Daughter 18.31 Serial: Wagle Ki Duniya 18.55 Serial: Swaran Ghar 20.30 Film: Commando 22.20 Tele: Barbartia 22.58 Tele: The Gardener's Daughter	07.05 Local: Emotion En Avant... 08.36 Local: Nou Later Nou Lamer 09.05 Local: Generations J 10.29 Local: J'ai Faim 12.08 Local: Les Grandes Lignes 12.43 Local: Emotion En Avant... 13.00 La Jorunee Sous Le Regard 14.10 Local: Nou Later Nou Lamer 14.36 Local: J'ai Faim 15.00 Local: Groov'in 18.00 Tele: Pasion Y Poder 18.29 Tele: Amour Secret 19.25 MFDC Intercollege 20.00 Local: Animalia Nos Amis... 21.00 Local: Come On Let's Dance 22.00 Local: La Sosiete 22.58 Journal Kreol 23.20 Local: Voyage Au Feminin 23.48 Local: Rodrig - Nou La Ter 00.12 Local: Itinerer Rodrig	07.00 Serial: Tenali Rama 08.00 Local: Amrit Vaani 08.33 Swami Dayanand Saraswati 09.25 Hunarbaaz 10.00 Serial: Agniphera 11.30 Serial: Radha Krishna 12.00 Film: Mome Ki Gudiya 15.00 Live: Samachar 15.30 Serial: Dulhin Uhe Jo Nanad Man Bhave 16.00 Serial: Ishaaron Ishaaron... 16.44 Serial: Bhakharwadi 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.30 Local: Mati Ke Mol 19.02 Local: Khel Khiladi 19.30 Local: Gammat Ke Bawchaar 20.33 Serial: Vidrohi 21.03 Film: Farz 23.26 Serial: Mere Sai 00.14 Serial: Wagle Ki Duniya	06.00 Mag: SADC 06.26 Mag: Shift 07.00 Mag: Border Crossing 07.32 Mag: Tomorrow Today 08.19 Doc: The Bitter Sweet Deal 10.30 Doc: No Simple Way Home 11.12 Mag: Eco India 11.38 Mag: Shift 12.38 Doc: Tomorrow Today 14.16 Doc: Bhutan 14.58 D.Anime: Tut! Tut! 15.12 D.Anime: Baby Einstein 15.23 D.Anime: La Petite Ecole... 15.47 D.Anime: The Treasure... 17.36 Mag: Kid's Planet 18.00 MFDC Intercollege 18.52 Student Support Prog 19.30 Mag: Vous Et Nous 20.00 Tele: Amour A Mort 20.30 Live: News 20.50 Doc: Ultimate Countdown	14.25 Serial: Radha Mohan 15.00 Bade Acche Lagte Hai 2 15.26 Film: Albel Starring: Govinda, Aishwarya Rai and Jackie Shroff 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.31 Kundali Bhagya 19.01 Udaariyaan 19.31 Serial: Fanaa 20.01 Sasural Simar Ka 2 20.30 Radha Krishna 21.01 Anupamaa 21.30 Mere Sai 22.01 Kismat Ki Lakiron Se 22.31 Kabhi Kabhie Ittefaq Sey 22.59 Serial: Shaurya Aur Anokhi Ki Kahani 23.30 Film: Albel Starring Govinda, Aishwarya Rai and Jackie Shroff
samedi 24 février	04.16 Tele: Airwolf 05.01 Tele: A Que No Me Dejas 06.40 Tele: Amour A Mort 07.05 Serial: Briarpatch 07.50 Serial: Rookie Blue 08.30 Serial: NCIS: New Orleans 09.15 Serial: Hooten & The Lady 09.59 Serial: Airwolf 10.50 Serial: S.W.A.T 11.35 Tele: Amour A Mort 12.00 Le Journal 12.25 Serial: Madam Secretary 13.16 Tele: Sublime Mensonge 15.20 Film: The Grey 17.15 Tele: Tour De Babel 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.31 Dance India Dance Little... 19.30 Le Journal 20.30 Film: Le Cercle Des Poetes Disparus 22.38 Serial: The Bionic Woman 00.15 Tele: L'Envers Du Paradis	06.04 Local: 13 Minit Natir Rodrig 06.56 Local: Itinerer Rodrig 08.16 Local: Animalia Nos Amis... 08.47 Local: Zanafan Nou Pei 09.04 Rodrig: Ala Nou Vini 09.32 Local: La Sosiete 11.01 Local: Come On Let's Dance 12.16 Local: Lir - Ekriir Kreol 13.10 Local: Voyage Au Feminin 13.38 Animalia Nos Amis Les Animaux 14.04 Local: Zanafan Nou Pei 14.37 Local: La Sosiete 15.40 Magazine de L'emploi 16.00 MFDC Intercollege Short Film 16.33 Local: Aktiv 18.00 Tele: Gout De L'Amour 19.25 MFDC Intercollege Short Film 21.36 Local: Glwar Dantan 22.47 Local: La Journee Sous Le Regard Du Seigneur 23.20 Local: Lavi Zoli An XXL	07.00 Serial: Tenali Rama 08.26 Local: Mati Ke Mol 10.35 Bade Acche Lagte Hai 12.00 Serial: Dikri Vahalno Dariyo 15.00 Live: Samachar 15.30 Film: Razia Sultan Starring: Hema Malini, Dharmendra, Parveen Babi 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.30 Local: Puranya Pakwan 19.02 Local: Duniya Mein Is Saptah 19.15 Local: Virasat 21.04 Film: Deadline: Sif 24 Ghante 22.37 Local: Puranya Pakwan 23.03 Duniya Mein Is Saptah 23.18 Local: Virasat 23.35 Local: Hunarbaaz 00.04 Local: Yeh Shaam Mastani 00.56 Film: Deadline: Sif 24 Ghante	06.24 Serial: Rainbow Rangers 06.46 D.Anime: Anna Et Ses Amis 09.06 D.Anime: Sam Le Pompier 09.39 Mag: Lab 360 11.00 Doc: Marvel 13.30 Doc: Stolen Soul 15.12 D.Anime: Tut! Tut! D'Helene 15.17 D.Anime: La Petite Ecole 15.40 The Treasure Island 16.07 D.Anime: Yo Yo 16.21 D.Anime: Shezow 16.45 D.Anime: The Adventure of Puss In Boots 17.10 D.Anime: Akili And Me 17.36 Mag: Kids' Planet 18.03 MFDC Intercollege Short... 18.48 Serial: Kojak 20.05 Tele: L'Amour A Mort 20.30 Live: News 20.50 Tele: La Reina Del Flow 21.40 Film: Dark Blue	08.00 Kabhi Kabhie Ittefaq Sey 10.00 Gadget Guru Ganesha 10.18 Sasural Simar Ka 2 12.16 Udaariyaan 14.02 Anupamaa 16.00 Kuch Rang Pyar Ke Aise... 18.33 Film: English Vinglish Starring: Sridevi, Adil Hussain, Mehdi Nebbou 20.40 Gadget Guru Ganesha 20.53 Serial: Porus
dimanche 25 février	04.07 Tele: A Que No Me Dejas 05.45 Tele: Amour A Mort 06.11 Film: Le Cercle Des Poetes Disparus 08.19 Serial: The Good Doctor 08.55 Film: Les Dents De La Mer 2 10.50 Serial: S.W.A.T 11.35 Tele: Amour A Mort 12.00 Le Journal 12.35 Film: L'Homme De Nulle Part 15.00 Live: Samachar 15.21 Film: The Secrets Of Bella Vista 16.55 Tele: Tour De Babel 18.31 Enter: Sa Re Ga Ma Pa 19.16 Sayings Radha Krishna 19.30 Le Journal 20.30 Film: Assault On Va-33 Stars: Sean Patrick Flanery, Michael Jai White, Mark Dacascos	06.23 Rodrig: Rod'Art 07.33 Pran Kont Ou Lasante 08.50 Local: Les Petits Genies 10.28 Local: Glwar Dantan 11.03 Local: Nu Rasinn 12.28 Local: Les Petits Genies 13.59 Local: Elle 15.01 Local: Saver Kiltirel 15.31 Local: C'est La Fete Du Printemps 17.17 Local: Rodrig - Komanter 17.34 Local: Glwar Dantan 18.03 Tele: Gout De L'Amour 19.00 Journal Kreol 19.25 MFDC Intercollege Short Film Competition 2024 20.41 Tipa Tipa Nou Avanse 21.59 Local: Le Challenge 22.14 Local: Clin D'Oeil 23.00 Journal Kreol 23.31 Local: Rodrig - Sa Lavi-La	07.00 Serial: Tenali Rama 07.32 Serial: Selfie With Bajrangi 08.11 Local: Hamar Fitness... 09.00 Live From Divine Museum, Ganga Talao 12.00 Film: Abhimanyu 14.59 Live: Samachar 15.30 Live From Kashi Vishwanath Temple 17.30 Radha Krishna 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.29 Local: Planet Bollywood 19.00 Local: Tohar Rashi 19.29 Local: Tohar Farmaish 20.00 Local: Yaadein 20.32 Serial: Porus 21.02 Serial: Crime Patrol 21.39 Serial: Naagin Season 4 22.28 Serial: Bahubali 23.07 Bhaag Na Bachhe	07.40 D.Anime: Les Aventures Du Petit Pingouin 09.06 D.Anime: Sam Le Pompier 09.35 Mag: Lab 360 11.47 Mag: Ultimate Countdown 14.05 Doc: So Long, Superstores 15.29 D.Anime: La Petite Ecole... 15.41 D.Anime: The Treasure Island 16.07 D.Anime: Yo Yo 16.21 D.Anime: Shezow 16.45 D.Anime: The Adventure of Puss In Boots 17.10 D.Anime: Akili And Me 17.36 Mag: Kids' Planet 18.03 MFDC Intercollege 18.40 Serial: Kojak 20.05 Tele: Amour A Mort 20.30 Live: News 20.50 Tele: La Reina Del Flow 21.40 Film: Don't Breathe	00.00 Sasural Simar Ka 2 02.11 Udaariyaan 04.01 Anupamaa 06.00 Kuch Rang Pyar Ka Aise... 08.04 Tenali Rama 08.16 Patiala Babes 10.10 Kundali Bhagya 12.00 Bade Acche Lagte Hai 2 14.00 Kismat Ki Lakiron Se 16.08 Wagle Ki Duniya 18.39 Film: Chehre Starring Amitabh Bachchan, Emraan Hashmi, Krystle D'Souza 20.47 Serial: Tenali Rama 21.02 Enter: Dance India Dance Little Masters 21.50 Bade Acche Lagte Hai 2 23.37 Serial: Patiala Babes
lundi 26 février	04.31 Serial: Seal Team 05.16 Film: Das Boot 08.45 Serial: Kojak 09.35 Tele: L'Amour A Mort 10.04 Tele: Amour Secret 10.23 The Gardener's Daughter 10.45 Tele: L'Envers Du Paradis 11.10 Serial: La Reina Del Flow 12.00 Le Journal 12.25 Tele: Barbarita, Les Couleurs... 13.15 Tele: Fierce Angel 13.45 Tele: Pasion Y Poder 14.10 Serial: Kojak 15.21 Film: A Star Is Born 17.30 The Gardener's Daughter 18.30 Serial: Wagle Ki Duniya 18.55 Serial: Swaran Ghar 19.30 Le Journal 20.25 Serial: Briarpatch 21.15 Serial: Rookie Blue 22.00 Serial: NCIS: New Orleans	07.21 Local: Tipa Tipa Nu Avanse 09.32 Local: Elle 10.43 Local: Le Challenge 12.02 Local: Nu Rasinn 13.07 Local: Rodrig - Sa Lavi-La 13.43 Local: Rodrig - Komanter 14.25 Tipa Tipa Nou Avanse 15.11 Local: Les Klips 18.00 Tele: Pasion Y Poder 18.30 Tele: Amour Secret 19.25 Rodrig - Feminin Pluriel 20.00 Local: Bricolo Ecolo 20.30 Eclairage Economique 21.00 Local: Radio Vision 22.30 Local: Itinerer Moris 23.20 Le Rendez Vous Avec Kiltir... 01.14 Entrepreneurait Au Feminin 00.51 Local: Rodrig - Saver Lokal 01.44 Local: Feminin Pluriel 02.09 Local: Bricolo Ecolo	07.12 Serial: Tik Tak Tail 08.26 Local: Tohar Rashi 08.40 Local: Tohar Farmaish 09.20 Local: Yaadein 09.57 Serial: Bahubali 10.33 Koshish Se Kamyabi Tak 11.30 Radha Krishna 12.00 Film: Do Waqt Ki Roti Starring: Feroz Khan, Sanjeev Kumar, Reena Roy 15.30 Dulhin Uhe Jo Nanad Man... 16.00 Serial: Kundali Bhagya 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.31 Local: Ved Ki Shikshayen 19.00 Local: Ayush 20.01 Local: Vaad Vivaad 20.40 Film: Swami Starring: Shabana Azmi, Vikram, Girish Karnad 22.45 Serial: Mere Sai 23.33 Serial: Wagle Ki Duniya	07.13 Mag: Art Unveiled 08.07 Doc: Papa! How Becoming... 09.49 Doc: Northern Lights 10.32 Doc: An Adventure In... 11.30 Mag: Ultima Countdown 12.19 Mag: Art Unveiled 15.01 D.Anime: Tut! Tut! 15.12 D.Anime: Baby Einstein 15.17 D.Anime: La Petite Ecole... 16.00 D.Anime: Yo Yo 16.21 D.Anime: Shezow 16.45 D.Anime: The Adventure Of Puss In Boots 17.37 D.Anime: Kids' Planet 18.00 MFDC Intercollege 19.00 Student Support Prog... 20.00 Tele: Amour A Mort 20.30 Live: News 20.50 Mag: Ultimate Countdown 21.42 Film: Palm Beach 23.20 Mag: Tomorrow Today	14.25 Serial: Radha Mohan 15.00 Bade Acche Lagte Hai 2 15.21 Ek Hi Raasta - Hindi Film - Ajay Devgn 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.31 Serial: Kundali Bhagya 18.59 Serial: Udaariyaan 19.28 Serial: Fanaa - Ishq Mein Marjawan 19.58 Sasural Simar Ka 2 20.30 Radha Krishna 20.59 Anupamaa 21.28 Mere Sai 21.57 Kismat Ki Lakiron Se 22.28 Kabhi Kabhie Ittefaq Sey 22.58 Serial: Shaurya Aur Anokhi Ki Kahani 23.24 Ek Hi Raasta - Hindi Film - Ajay Devgn 01.59 Serial: Kundali Bhagya 02.23 Serial: Udaariyaan 02.59 Fanaa - Ishq Mein



Mardi 27 février - 20.30



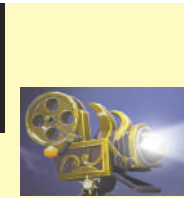
Mercredi 28 février - 21.57



Mercredi 29 février - 12.00



Programme TV



	MBC 1	MBC 2	MBC 3	MBC 5	Bollywood TV
mardi 27 février	04.23 Tele: Amour Secret 05.10 Tele: Pasion Y Poder 05.33 Tele: A Que No Me Dejas 06.00 Serial: Seal Team 07.15 Serial: Briarpatch 08.45 Serial: NCIS 09.30 Tele: Amour A Mort 10.21 The Gardener's Daughter 10.45 Tele: L'Envers Du Paradis 11.10 Tele: La Reina Del Flow 12.00 Le Journal 12.25 Tele: Barbarita 13.15 Tele: Fierce Angel 13.45 Tele: Pasion Y Poder 14.10 Serial: Gout De L'Amour 15.25 Film: L'Homme De Nulle Part 17.30 The Gardener's Daughter 17.59 Live: Samachar 18.31 Serial: Wagle Ki Duniya 20.30 Film: Le Pont De La Riviere kwai	07.33 Local: Rodrig Mo Pei 08.45 Local: Itinerer Moris 10.36 Local: Rodrig: Saver Lokai 11.04 Local: Le Rendez Vous 12.00 Rodrig: Feminin Pluriel 12.31 Local: Bricolo Ecolo 14.16 Local: Itinerer Moris 15.06 Local: Rodrig: Zenn Aktif 15.38 Local: Saver Lokai 15.53 Le Rendez Vous Avec... 17.55 Tele: Pasion Y Poder 18.29 Tele: Amour Secret 19.00 Zournal Kreol 19.20 Le Magazine De L'Emploi... 19.25 Local: Plat Du Chef 20.15 Local: Les Grands Moments 20.30 Local: Priorite Sante 22.17 Local: Mots & Ecrits 22.44 La Journee Sous Le Regard 23.00 Zournal Kreol	07.00 Serial: Tenali Rama 07.30 Serial: Selfie With Bajrangi 09.32 Local: Vaad Vivaad 10.21 Serial: Kundali Bhagya 12.00 Film: Humse Na Jeeta Koi 15.00 Live: Samachar 15.30 Badki Malkaain 16.00 Jijaji Chhat Par Hain 17.28 Radha Krishna 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.36 Local: Tark Vitark 18.59 Local: Bhojpuri Dhamaka 19.38 Local: Theatre 20.00 Chikitsa Aur Swasthya 20.40 Film: Anupama 22.42 Serial: Mere Sai 23.20 Serial: Wagle Ki Duniya 23.47 Local: Tark Vitark 00.28 Local: Bhojpuri Dhamaka 00.58 Local: Theatre 01.26 Chikitsa Aur Swasthya	08.33 Mag: Tomorrow Today 09.03 Mag: Washington Forum 09.32 Doc: Arctic Blue 11.00 Mag: Eco At Africa 11.52 Doc: Africa 12.22 Mag: In Good Shape 13.33 Mag: Tomorrow Today 15.00 D.Anime: Tut! Tut! 15.12 D.Anime: Baby Einstein 15.29 D.Anime: The Treasure Island 15.58 D.Anime: Yo Yo 16.13 D.Anime: Shezow 16.37 The Adventures Of Puss In Boots 17.00 D.Anime: Akili And Me 18.30 Mag: Healthy Living 19.00 Student Support Prog... 19.31 Mag: Global Us 20.02 Tele: Amour A Mort 20.50 Tele: La Reina Del Flow	14.25 Serial: Radha Mohan 15.00 Bade Acche Lagte Hai 2 15.21 Film: Saurabh Shukla (2010) 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.31 Serial: Kundali Bhagya 18.59 Serial: Udaariyaan 19.29 Serial: Fanaa - Ishq Mein Marjawan 19.59 Sasural Simar Ka 2 20.29 Radha Krishna 21.00 Anupamaa 21.28 Mere Sai 21.57 Kismat Ki Lakiron Se 22.28 Kabhi Kabhie Ittefaq Sey 22.58 Serial: Shaurya Aur Anokhi Ki Kahani 23.24 Hindi Film: I Am 24 01.58 Serial: Kundali Bhagya 02.27 Serial: Udaariyaan 02.26 Fanaa - Ishq Mein
mercredi 28 février	05.15 Tele: A Que No Me Dejas 06.55 Film: It Happened One Night 08.50 Serial: Kojak 09.30 Tele: Amour A Mort 10.20 The Gardener's Daughter 10.45 Tele: L'Envers Du Paradis 11.15 Tele: La Reina Del Flow 12.00 Le Journal 12.25 Tele: Barbarita 13.15 Tele: Fierce Angel 13.45 Tele: Pasion Y Poder 14.10 Serial: Kojak 15.00 Live: Samachar 15.21 Film: Secrets De Guerre 17.30 The Gardener's Daughter 18.31 Serial: Wagle Ki Duniya 18.55 Serial: Swaran Ghar 19.30 Journal & La Meteo 20.30 Serial: Stan Lee's Lucky Man 21.15 Serial: Billions 21.57 Film: Blanche Neige Avec Sigourney Weaver, Sam Neill	07.11 Local: Ong An Eta Dalert 09.00 Local: Profil 10.20 Local: Koze Zom 10.50 Local: Music Tour 2022 12.22 Rodrig: Plat Du Chef 12.36 Local: Son Ladan Mem 13.23 Local: Priorite Sante 13.45 Local: Paroles Agricoles 15.56 Local Glwar Dantan 16.33 La Journee Sous Le Regard 16.53 Local: Music Tour 2022 18.01 Tele: Pasion Y Poder 18.33 Tele: Amour Secret 19.00 Zournal Kreol 19.20 Le Magazine De L'Emploi... 20.32 Local: Toc Toc Doc 20.47 Local: En Forme 21.00 Local: Agir Ensemble 21.26 Local: Les Klips 22.46 La Journee Sous Le Regard 23.20 Local: Come On Let's Dance	07.00 Serial: Tenali Rama 08.26 Local: Bhojpuri Dhamaka 09.04 Local: Theatre 09.28 Chikitsa Aur Swasthya 10.11 Serial: Jijaji Chhat Par Hain 11.41 Serial: Radha Krishna 12.00 Film: Yaaron Ka Yaar 15.11 Live: Samachar 15.42 Serial: Dulhin Uhe Jo Nanad Man Bhawe 16.12 Zindagi Mere Ghar Aana 17.41 Serial: Radha Krishna 18.11 Live: Samachar 18.39 Local: Yatra 19.00 Local: Excerpts From Ramayan Paath 20.02 Local: Virasat 21.03 Film: Jwala - Khesari Lal Yadav, Tanu Shree Chatterjee 23.36 Serial: Mere Sai 00.24 Serial: Wagle Ki Duniya	06.26 Mag: Healthy Living 07.23 Mag: Global US 09.44 Doc: Asteroids 10.25 Doc: Siblings: Love, Hate... 12.32 Mag: Global Us 13.45 Mag: Initiative Africa 14.11 Doc: Multi Tasking 15.00 D.Anime: Les Nouvelles Aventures De Caillou 15.17 D.Anime: La Petite Ecole... 16.21 D.Anime: Shezow 17.07 D.Anime: Akili And Me 18.00 Mag: Motorweek 19.00 Student Support Programme 19.30 Doc: A Mediterranean... 20.00 Tele: Amour A Mort 20.30 Live: News 20.50 Mag: Ultimate Countdown 21.40 Film: Assault On Va-33 23.05 Mag: Close Up 23.33 Mag: Focus On Europe	14.25 Serial: Radha Mohan 15.00 Bade Acche Lagte Hai 2 15.21 Film: Aur Pyar Ho Gaya B.Deol, Aishwarya Rai 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.31 Serial: Kundali Bhagya 18.59 Serial: Udaariyaan 19.29 Serial: Fanaa - Ishq Mein Marjawan 19.59 Sasural Simar Ka 2 20.30 Radha Krishna 21.00 Anupamaa 21.28 Mere Sai 21.57 Kismat Ki Lakiron Se 22.28 Kabhi Kabhie Ittefaq Sey 22.58 Serial: Shaurya Aur Anokhi Ki Kahani 23.31 Film: Aur Pyar Ho Gaya B.Deol, Aishwarya Rai 02.01 Serial: Kundali Bhagya 02.29 Serial: Udaariyaan
jeudi 29 février	04.49 Tele: Amour Secret 07.34 Serial: The Good Doctor 08.09 Serial: Stan Lee's Lucky Man 08.58 Serial: Hooten & The Lady 09.41 Tele: Amour A Mort 10.25 The Gardener's Daughter 10.50 Tele: L'Envers Du Paradis 11.15 Serial: The Inbetween 12.00 Le Journal 12.25 Tele: Barbarita 13.15 Tele: Fierce Angel 13.40 Tele: Pasion Y Poder 14.05 Tele: Gout De L'Amour 15.25 Film: Assault On Va-33 17.15 The Gardener's Daughter 17.59 Live: Samachar 18.31 Serial: Wagle Ki Duniya 18.55 Serial: Swaran Ghar 20.30 Film: Sarkar Starring : Amitabh Bachchan, Abhishek Bachchan, Kay Kay Menon	08.00 Local: Kot Nou 09.32 Local: Come On Let's Dance 10.35 Rodrig Prog: Komanter 12.00 Local: Rodrig Spor 15.25 Local: Kot Nou 16.51 Local: En Forme 18.06 Tele: Pasion Y Poder 18.33 Tele: Amour Secret 19.20 Le Magazine De L'emploi... 19.25 Local: Li Bon Ou Konnin 20.00 Local: Les Grandes Lignes 21.15 Local: Le Mag 23.00 Zournal Kreol 22.55 La Journee Sous Le Regard 23.20 Local: Groov'in 00.10 Local: Klip Seleksion 00.55 Local: Generations J 01.21 Local: Nou Later Nou Lamer Nou Rises 01.47 Local: J'ai Faim	05.00 Mag: Prog Aastha TV 07.00 Serial: Tenali Rama 07.12 Serial: Tik Tak Tail 07.32 Serial: Selfie With Bajrangi 09.26 Local: Virasat 10.00 Zindagi Mere Ghar Aana 11.30 Serial: Radha Krishna 12.00 Film: Daal Mein Kuch Kaala Hai - V. Malik, J.Shroff 15.30 Serial: Badki Malkaain 16.19 Serial: Agniphera 17.31 Radha Krishna 18.31 Local: Amrit Vaani 18.43 Special Sandesh 19.00 Shiv Bhajans - Maha Shivratri Special 20.00 Local: Hunarbaaz 20.30 Serial: Shiv Shakti 20.59 Yashmati Maiyya Ke Nandlala 21.28 Mag 22.03 Serial: Mere Sai	07.25 Doc: A Mediterranean... 09.29 Doc: Northern Lights 11.02 Mag: Motorweek 11.28 Mag: Urban Forests 12.24 Doc: A Mediterranean 13.00 Mag: Ultimate Countdown 13.37 Mag: Close Up 14.05 Doc: Northern Lights 15.00 D.Anime: Tut! Tut! 15.11 D.Anime: Baby Einstein 15.28 D.Anime: La Petite Ecole... 15.39 D.Anime: The Treasure... 16.06 D.Anime: Yo Yo 17.07 D.Anime: Akili And Me 18.00 Mag: Eco India 18.30 Mag: Shift 18.45 Mag: Carnet De Sante 19.00 Student Support Programme 19.30 Mag: Tomorrow Today 20.00 Tele: Amour A Mort 21.40 Film: Retour Vers Le Futur 2	14.25 Serial: Radha Mohan 15.00 Bade Acche Lagte Hai 2 15.25 Film: Lal Baadshah - Amitabh Bachchan, Manisha Koirala, 18.00 Live: Samachar 18.31 Serial: Kundali Bhagya 19.00 Serial: Udaariyaan 19.29 Fanaa - Ishq Mein Marjawan 20.00 Sasural Simar Ka 2 20.30 Radha Krishna 21.00 Anupamaa 21.31 Mere Sai 21.57 Kismat Ki Lakiron Se 22.28 Kabhi Kabhie Ittefaq Sey 22.58 Serial: Shaurya Aur Anokhi Ki Kahani 23.31 Film: Lal Baadshah 02.01 Serial: Kundali Bhagya 02.29 Serial: Udaariyaan 03.00 Fanaa - Ishq Mein Marjawan



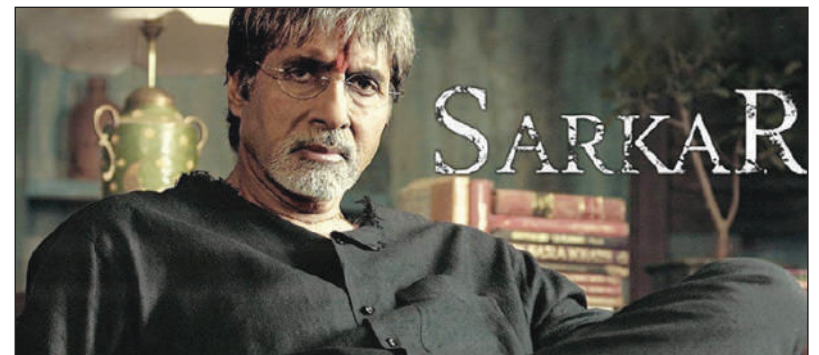
Jeudi 29 février - 15.25

Stars: Sean Patrick Flanery, Michael Jai White, Mark Dacascos



Jeudi 29 février - 20.30

Stars: Amitabh Bachchan, Abhishek Bachchan, Kay Kay Menon



Time for Philosophy



Nita Chicooree-Mercier

About two weeks ago, the good news delivered by the MBC was the introduction of a new program, with the first 60 issues freely gifted by the Indian public channel. An Indian production centering on philosophy with the participation of non-Indian guests to reach out to

an international audience. Excellent!

Why do we heartily welcome such an initiative?

First and foremost, philosophy is a matter of thought and point of view, a way of looking at the universe, life, humanity, and all existence on earth. The difference between man and man is Thought - this was the conclusion we came to through reasoning during Indian Culture classes under the guidance of Swami Venkatesananda at the QEC. Thoughts or the absence of thoughts determine our action. The local audio-visual landscape will be enriched by the inclusion of philosophical content that is accessible to a wider public. Due to their cultural background, a good number of our folks are attuned to questioning and arguing.

In an era when time-consuming jobs gear most energy towards achieving the goals of material pursuits, and the internet opens windows on a world simmering with tension and fury every time we log in to online news, it is quite challenging to fully comprehend the causes that send countries at one another's throat. Not to mention that in violence-prone societies, nerves are frayed for any futile reason and youngsters impulsively resort to blows to settle scores.

A specific program focusing on a philosophical approach to private life and life in society among other topics can only be highly beneficial to one and all. This is an excellent idea to actively stimulate the grey matter and the emotional intelligence of all and sundry.

Why should it matter that the series is



In an Indian cultural background, philosophy runs through every aspect of life and is accessible to common folks in different ways

an Indian production with the participation of foreign guests? Indeed, it is of utmost importance because in an Indian cultural background, philosophy runs through every aspect of life and is accessible to common folks in different ways, regardless of them having received formal education or not. Indian supervision on philosophy with a profound encompassing vision spares us from Western-style hair-splitting debates over the most trivial topics that give the illusion of being learned.

* * *

Authority and Order

The hallmark of good governance when it comes to public order is to take necessary measures without concern for the potential noise they may stir among political opponents or in the columns of the press. The former are inclined to seize any opportunity to justify their relevance. As for the latter,

they see themselves as the guardians of democracy, ready to cry wolf at every turn.

In the neighborhood shop and casual conversations, the political chatter that occupies the pundits and weekly press conferences boils down to "One Seat for Five" (Un fauteuil pour Cinq), meaning seasoned contenders vying for the prime ministerial seat. The concerns that occupy the minds of the people are the same as elsewhere. The Mauritian public is well-connected to the world, understanding the deep-rooted causes of the high cost of living without succumbing to demagoguery. This global phenomenon leaves little room for manoeuvre for the government of any country.

However, it would be desirable for the authorities in Mauritius not to skimp on means to maintain public order, unlike in large democratic countries where not only the standard of living is declining, but the authorities hesitate to take action against those who unleash violence on the police and have made the vandalizing of public property a favourite sport. Sometimes strikes invade public spaces, sometimes mass protests take hostage the functioning of major cities, and sometimes young people, often of foreign origin, turn violently against the police.

The laxity of major democracies is condemnable as it reflects the abdication of the leaders in ensuring public safety. A resignation that goes by the name of the influence of woke ideology, which categorizes aggressors in all directions as victims while sticking the labels of racist and fascist on the foreheads of their targets and anyone who dares to denounce them. It's fortunate for Mauritius that certain highly volatile groups hesitate to take that step because the public won't play along.

Remembrance

Robin Greedharry



We are deeply saddened to announce the death of Robin (Rabin) Greedharry on February 8, 2024, in London, England. Robin was the youngest son of Dunbeea and Shanti Greedharry, brother to Sakountala (Sally) Greedharry (d. 2022) and Drone Greedharry (d. 1993).

Robin was born in Mauritius in 1949 and migrated with the family to London in the 1960s where he made his home for the rest of his life. When his father died soon after the family moved to London, teenage Robin's studies were interrupted, and he began working full time to help support his mother and sister.

He worked conscientiously for local authorities across London, studying in his spare time as a mature student to obtain his degree from the University of Westminster. He had lifelong interests in art and antiques, current events, and football, and was always ready to have a chat about the state of the world or to share a joke to brighten your day.

He is remembered with great love and affection by the family, friends, and neighbours he leaves behind. He was an especially beloved uncle to Mrinalini and Praveen.

Remembrance of Robin's life will be held in London. If you would like to attend the funeral or send a note to the family, please visit the website robingreedharry.uk

SHREE VISHWANATH MANDIR OF VALLÉE DES PRÊTRES

Reg. No. 184 – Founded 1924

Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby being given to all members to attend the Annual General Meeting (AGM) to be held on Sunday 24 March 2024 at 09:30 hrs at the seat of the Mandir.

AGENDA:

1. Reading and approval of the minutes of proceedings of last AGM.
2. Matters arising.
3. President's report.
4. Treasurer's report for the financial year 2023.
5. Approval of budgetary estimates for the year 2024.
6. Auditors' report and approval of statement of accounts for the financial year 2023.
7. Selection/Election of fifteen Executive Members.

8. Appointment of two Auditors.

Compliant members, wishing to stand as candidates for the selection/election of the Executive Committee 2024-2025, should send their application in writing to the Secretary of the Mandir on the address mentioned below, at latest by 18:00 hrs on Wednesday 20 March 2024. Candidates wishing to use any emblem individually or in group for the election, should mention same in the application. In case no quorum is reached, the annual general meeting will be postponed to Sunday 07 April 2024 at the same time and place and with the same agenda.

Mr Thakooranund Bohorun

Secretary

Tilockram Lane, Vallée Des Prêtres

23 Feb 2024

LAND USE PERMIT APPLICATION

NOTICE FOR PERMISSION FOR LAND USE

Take notice that I **KAYBEE HEIGHTS LTD** will apply to the District Council of Moka or a Building and Land Use Permit for a proposed Construction of a Commercial Building consisting of a ground floor for showroom and meeting room, a first floor for store and offices and a Second Floor for Training Room at Lot No 31(n), lotissement Bagatelle Precint, Bagatelle

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

22 February 2024