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Mauritian Overseas Gazette

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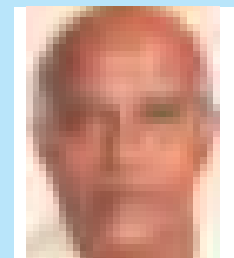
A few pages of this issue are devoted to articles received on the late Sir Anerood Jugnauth.

Typos / misprints spotted in our last issue, due to deadline rush, are much regretted.

Hommage posthume

En mémoire de Sir Anerood Jugnauth

par Breejan Burrun



Dans le sillage de la disparition de Sir Anerood Jugnauth, décédé dans la nuit du jeudi 3 juin et dont les funérailles ont eu lieu le samedi 5 juin, l'historien Breejan Burrun (qui écrivait sous le pseudonyme de Dodo dans l'ancien mensuel Mauritius News de Peter Chellen) reprend les grandes lignes de la vie et l'oeuvre de l'ancien Premier ministre et président de la République. A ce portrait, l'auteur joint deux textes, l'un en français et l'autre en anglais, qui évoquent le livre "Living Legends, Sir Anerood Jugnauth", écrit par Dr Ibrahim Alladin et édité par Osman Publishing Co. Ltd. Ce livre est disponible

Dans le texte-mémoire qui suit, Breejan Burrun fait l'analogie du parcours respectif des deux Premier ministres qui ont dirigé le pays depuis l'indépendance, à savoir Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam (SSR) et Sir Anerood Jugnauth

(SAJ). En effet, SSR et SAJ se partagent l'honneur d'avoir été les deux Premier ministres qui ont marqué durablement le mouvement d'émancipation politique et économique du pays, mis celui-ci sur la carte du monde et mené l'Etat-Providance à son summum dans la ligne de vision des lutteurs politico-syndicaux, tels le Dr Maurice Curé, Emmanuel Anquetil, Pandit Sahadeo, Guy Rozemont, Dr A.G. Jeetoo et autres. Ce retour 'down memory lane' se veut un rappel des humbles origines de ces deux hommes ainsi que leur parcours professionnel et politique jusqu'à leur accession au poste suprême, le 'prime ministership', fonction que SSR a occupé de 1968 à 1982 et SAJ de 1982 à 1995, puis de 2000 à 2003 et de 2014 à 2017.

P.C.

Belle Rive à l'est et Palma à l'ouest de Maurice

C'est dans ces deux localités aux antipodes que SSR et SAJ sont venus au monde. Le premier est né à Belle-Rive, Flacq, le 18 septembre 1900. Son successeur au poste premierministériel est, lui, né le 29 mars 1930 à Palma, Quatre-Bornes. Une différence d'âge de trente ans entre les deux hommes. A Belle-Rive où SSR a passé son enfance et à Palma où allait naître Anerood Jugnauth – la même simplicité, la



Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam

même atmosphère champêtre. «A Belle-Rive, l'appel des journaliers résonnait dans le petit matin, des charrettes grinçaient dans les chemins de terre, cent cases s'entouraient d'étables heureuses, de jardinets, d'arbres fruitiers.»(1) Palma vivait à un seul rythme, celui des charrettes de cannes. «On vivait paisiblement. On se levait tôt le matin et la nuit tombait très vite. Le soir venu, les lampes à pétrole étoilaient de leurs faibles lueurs le petit village.»(2)

Jeunesse éprouvante et apprentissage

londonien

L'école et les petites tâches ménagères occupaient leur jeunesse. «Ce petit Ramgoolam qui menait son boeuf à l'abreuvoir, qui ployait l'échine sous le bidon de lait»(1) et «le jeune Anerood devait mettre la main à la pâte et aider à la coupe et même charger la canne à sucre à être envoyée à l'usine».(2) Il s'occupait de trouver du fourrage pour les bêtes. Il cultivait le jardin familial. Parcours scolaire: le premier a été, tour à tour, à l'Etoile Roman Catholic Aided School, à Bel-Air Government School, à Curepipe Ecole Le Frère pour la petite et la grande bourse, puis au collège Royal; le second fréquentant l'école primaire du quartier, la Palma Church of England School, et poursuivant ses études secondaires au Regent College à Quatre-Bornes, devenant par la suite, en 1947, le premier 'senioré' du village. Une année plus tard, il décrochait avec brio son matriculation, "the first one to have passed the Matriculation in the district!"(3)

Puis l'un et l'autre se sont joints à la fonction publique avant de se rendre à Londres pour des études professionnelles – le premier pour des études de médecine, le second pour des études de droit. Celui qui allait devenir SSR quittait le pays en 1920 sur le Louksor. «Le voyage durera quarante-cinq jours, les machines ayant subi des avaries. A Londres, il connaîtra la vie difficile des étudiants coloniaux sans fortune ni bourse d'études. Asservis aux besognes les plus sordides, sujets aux pires humiliations. Mal nourris et mal logés. En septembre 1938, il regagnera le pays muni de potion et de seringue. Fort aussi de notions politiques forgées au contact de la Fabian Society et des étudiants venus des quatre coins du globe et, notamment, de cette Inde où Gandhi (qu'il rencontrera à Londres) secoue le joug britannique.»(1)

On ne peut rentrer que grandi, comme le signale

Sydney Selvon, après «pas moins de quatorze ans au sein de la société intellectuelle londonienne (1921 à 1935).»(4)

Quant au futur Me Anerood Jugnauth, il partait pour Londres en septembre 1951 à l'âge de 21 ans. «Il

étudie le droit au Lincoln's Inn et fut 'called to bar' en 1954. A Londres, il prend un vif intérêt pour la politique anglaise, assistant souvent à des conférences tournant autour de la vie politique, économique et sociale en Grande-Bretagne. En mai 1955, Me Anerood Jugnauth, une personnalité qui a déjà la trempe d'un leader, regagne son village natal, Palma.»(2) Sa rentrée est saluée comme il se doit. "In May 1955 Anerood returned to Mauritius and landed at Plaisance airport with cheers and joys. He was met by his family and friends from Palma. His father Ramlochun welcomed him and it was a proud moment for the family. Anerood, the village boy, was back home and this time as a lawyer. The village was in a festive mood. No one had ever thought that Palma would someday produce a future leader and a statesman."(3)



Sir Anerood Jugnauth

From Page 1

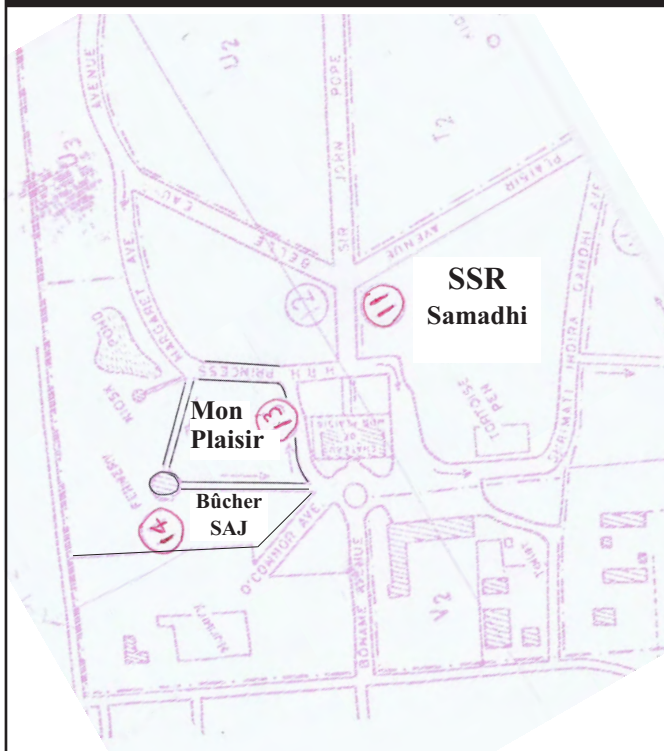


Deux personnalités mauriciennes commémorées sur les timbres postes du pays: SSR à gauche et SAJ à droite. L'un comme Père de l'Indépendance et l'autre comme Père de la République

Entrée dans l'arène politique du Dr Ramgoolam

Cinq mois après sa rentrée au pays, le Dr Ramgoolam était témoin de loin de la création du Parti Travailleurs par le Dr Maurice Curé, aidé au départ par la Pandit Sahadeo et d'autres, puis par Emmanuel Anquetil et Guy Rozemont. Vers la fin de 1936, le Dr Ramgoolam et les légistes Ramkhelawon Boodhun et Rampersad Neerunjun joignaient leurs efforts – dans l'ombre, il est vrai, - à ceux des pionniers du travaillisme mauricien. C'est ainsi, timidement, que le futur Premier ministre de l'île Maurice faisait son entrée sur la scène politique locale. Le 18 novembre 1940, il est nommé au Conseil législatif, et le 9 décembre il est élu conseiller municipal de Port-Louis et accédait même au fauteuil mairal.

Section d'un plan du Jardin Botanique de Pamplémousses



Dans cette section du plan récent du jardin botanique de Pamplémousses, on peut situer par rapport au Château de Mon Plaisir (13) le Samadhi de SSR au sud (11) et le lieu d'incinération de SAJ au nord (14) où sera vraisemblablement aménagé son Samadhi

Le peuple entérinait son action politique aux législatives de 1948, 1953 et 1959. «Il devient le député d'une des plus importantes agglomérations de l'île, Triolet. Dès lors, écrit Marcel Cabon, toutes voiles dehors, il va mettre son pays sur la voie du socialisme, se dresser, mais sans sectarisme et avec une étonnante souplesse, contre la bourgeoisie décrépite et réactionnaire. Son vieux fonds de culture ancestrale, alliée à ce qu'il avait appris des Webb et des Laski, empêchant les changements trop rapides de devenir dangereux.»(1)

Quant à Me Anerood Jugnauth, c'est sur l'invitation, en 1953, de Sookdeo Bissoondoyal, le grand tribun de l'Independent Forward Bloc, qu'il se lançait – lui aussi timidement au début – dans l'arène politique mauricienne. «Mais Anerood Jugnauth hésite. Il faut vivre davantage la misère du peuple avant de s'aven-

turer dans cette sphère. Connaître avant de s'y mettre. Il va d'abord assister à des rassemblements politiques, se laisser guider par les frères Bissoondoyal, voir et comprendre les Mauriciens qui souffrent avant de se lancer. Il accepte d'animer des réunions privées.»(2)

Dix ans après l'invitation de Sookdeo Bissoondoyal à se lancer dans la politique, Anerood Jugnauth op- tait enfin pour une députation. «En 1963, ayant pris le temps de la réflexion et de l'expérience, Anerood Jugnauth, 33 ans, va faire son baptême du feu électoral contre Aunauth Beejadhur dans la circonscription de Rivière-du-Rempart. Il sortira vainqueur de cette joute, abattant un des géants de la politique de l'époque.» (Idem) Et au Conseil législatif, dans l'après-midi du 18 novembre 1963, il prononçait son 'maiden speech', un discours très révélateur de sa vocation de rassembleur:

“We must stop thinking about communities, we must



Crémation des restes de SSR au Jardin Botanique de Pamplémousses en 1985. On peut déciphre une partie du Château de Mon Plaisir en haut à droite, là où la photo est déchirée.

stop thinking in terms of Hindus, Muslims and General Population. We must think in terms of Mauritians because everyone born in this country, who is a citizen of this country, has got equal rights and we have got to see to it that with progress and independence those rights are respected, be it the right of a Creole, of a Muslim, of a member of the General Population or of a Hindu.”(3)

A la croisée des chemins

Son engagement constant sur le terrain politique à partir de 1940 a conduit le Dr Ramgoolam à entamer une fonction ministérielle (le système ministériel venait d'être introduit à Maurice), celle de ministre des Finances. Cette grande première a eu lieu le 7 avril 1959, soit après une vingtaine d'années d'engagement ininterrompu dans la vie politique du pays. Après la Conférence constitutionnelle de Londres (1961), il est fait 'Chief Minister' avec pouvoir de nommer le gouverneur de l'île. En ces fonctions, écrivait Cabon, il sera homme de rigueur. Ministre-chef, c'était pour le Dr Ramgoolam le tremplin vers un avenir encore plus prestigieux.

Après les élections générales de 1963, Dr Ramgoolam devenait le Premier (fonction prévue à la Conférence constitutionnelle de Londres) du nouveau gouvernement. C'était le 11 décembre 1963. Me Anerood Jugnauth, lui, assumera sa première charge ministérielle dans le gouvernement du Premier Ramgoolam à partir de novembre 1965 comme ministre du Développement, puis ministre du Travail. La période de 1965 à 1967 en était une de franche collaboration entre le ministre Jugnauth et le Premier Ramgoolam. Plus d'une fois, il a accompagné le Dr Ramgoolam, alors chef ministre, en mission. En tant que ministre d'Etat au Développement, il devait ap-



SSR et SAJ, deux atomes crochus qui, malgré leur cheminement aux antipodes pendant des années, se sont retrouvés dans certains combats cruciaux comme l'indépendance, la crise constitutionnelle de 1982, entre autres, avant de se rejoindre en ce mois de juin 2021, sur leur lieu d'inhumation au jardin de Pamplémousses.

poser sa signature au bas d'importants documents.



Le bûcher funéraire de SAJ (à droite) au Jardin Botanique de Pamplémousses avec toile de fond le Château de Mon Plaisir

Ou encore lorsqu'il s'agissait de discuter du financement de certains projets, le Dr Ramgoolam le consultait.

En avril 1967, pourtant, la franche collaboration entre les deux hommes arrivait à son terme. Anerood Jugnauth soumettait sa démission du gouvernement, et se retirait de la politique active. Mettrait-on sur le compte de l'anecdotique que le Dr Ramgoolam, qui devait faire face à des élections générales en août de la même année, aurait demandé à son bouillant ministre de rester à son poste car il serait son successeur à la tête d'un futur gouvernement? En tout cas, Dr Ramgoolam n'était pas chaud à laisser partir son ministre. “Ramgoolam promised him a senior post after the next elections if he stayed on.”(Idem) Mais le ministre Jugnauth ne mordit pas à l'hameçon. Il se retira avec dignité, sans fracas pour ne pas embarrasser le Dr Ramgoolam (pour qui il avait un grand respect) à la veille d'une consultation populaire qui allait être déterminante pour l'avenir constitutionnel du pays. “Jugnauth left quietly minimizing any controversy as the elections were looming... He left with integrity; even Ramgoolam could not tempt him with his offer.”(Idem)

Ainsi, deux hommes au destin remarquable arrivaient à la croisée des chemins. Ils se séparaient, et, pourtant, ces hommes, par la force des choses, allaient devenir, chacun à son tour, Premier ministre de leur pays. L'un, le Dr Ramgoolam, l'est devenu après les législatives du 7 août 1967 qui ont conduit le pays à l'indépendance. Me Anerood Jugnauth, lui, après un come-back remarqué dans l'arène politique en 1971, accédait à la fonction de Premier ministre après les inoubliables législatives de juin 1982 qui ont vu une victoire totale (60-0) de l'alliance de gauche Mouvement Militant Mauricien - Parti Socialiste Mauricien

From Page 2



12 March 1968 : Independence Day. Hissage du drapeau mauricien au Champ de Mars. Premier Ministre Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam serrant la main à Sir John Rennie qui devint le premier Gouverneur- Général de Maurice.

(MMM-PSM). En avril 1967, écrivons-nous plus haut, le Dr Ramgoolam et Me Jugnauth se séparaient. A la faveur d'un retour à la politique active en 1971, Anerood Jugnauth a conduit une opposition extra-parlementaire sans répit, et parlementaire à la suite des législatives de 1976 contre le gouvernement de SSR, qui a porté ses fruits en 1982.

Un Premier ministre s'en allait, un autre le succédait à l'Hôtel du Gouvernement. Ainsi en avait décidé la 'vox populi'. Le 15 juin, soit trois jours après la proclamation des résultats des législatives du 11 juin, Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam soumettait sa démission comme Premier ministre au gouverneur-général. Il avait occupé cette haute fonction pendant quatorze ans, sans oublier les années où il a été le Premier de Maurice, de 1961 à 1968. Le même jour, soit le 15 juin 1982, l'honorable Anerood Jugnauth prêtait serment au Réduit comme le nouveau Premier ministre de l'île Maurice. Ainsi, ces deux rivaux d'hier se retrouvaient dans la similitude de la fonction, le 'primeministership'. Les deux hommes ont été délogés de l'Hôtel du Gouvernement, SSR en juin 1982, SAJ en décembre 1995. Ce dernier s'est retiré volontairement en 2003 pour passer le flambeau premierministériel à Paul Bérenger. Outre les législatives de 1995, SAJ se faisait battre à une élection partielle à la circonscription No 9, Flacq-Bon Accueil, en avril 1998.

Les retrouvailles dans la vie-mort

Mais on ne peut parler de 'write-off' quand il s'agit des bêtes politiques de la trempe de SSR et de SAJ.

Battu à plate couture en juin 1982, SSR a connu un retour providentiel sur l'échiquier politique. En effet, profitant de la crise qui a secoué le gouvernement en MMM/PSM en mars 1983, SSR, en vrai opportuniste (lui et SAJ ont partagé cet opportunisme machiavélique qui a déstabilisé plus d'un de leurs adversaires politiques) volait au secours du Premier ministre Jugnauth. On connaît la suite – création du MSM, alliance MSM/PTr/PSMD pour de nouvelles élections générales que cette dernière remportait avec une majorité confortable. SSR et son ancien ministre Anerood Jugnauth renaissaient de leurs cendres tels le phénix.

A l'issue de la victoire de l'alliance bleu-blanc-rouge, SSR est installé au Réduit comme gouverneur-général. Le vaincu d'hier devenait le vainqueur du jour après un plus d'une année de la défaite historique de juin 1982. En s'installant au Réduit, SSR réalisait un rêve d'enfance. N'est-ce pas lui, enfant, qui disait, selon son biographe Marcel Cabon, «qu'il serait un jour le gouverneur de son pays»? (1) C'est au Réduit qu'il trépassait en 1985. Il est incinéré au jardin des Pamplemousses où se trouve son 'samadhi'. SAJ l'y a rejoint le 5 juin de cette année, ayant été incinéré dans ce même jardin historique, face au Château de Mon Plaisir. Surprenant destin que celui de ces deux hommes, unis un temps, désunis par la suite, réunis de nouveau sur l'échiquier politique et, maintenant, dans la mort.

Autant, sinon plus, que SSR, SAJ a fait la démonstration d'une longévité exceptionnelle sur l'échiquier politique. SSR a connu une seule défaite majeure, celle de juin 1982, pour se relever et conquérir le Réduit. SAJ a connu maintes crises (cassure du MMM, défaites aux législatives de 1995 et à la partielle de 1998) mais faisait un retentissant comeback en 2000, puis en 2014. D'autre part, si SSR a été gouverneur-général, SAJ, lui, a été président de la République durant neuf ans, du 9 octobre 2003 à mars 2012. Ajoutons à son palmarès de "Living Legend" son passage-éclair dans le gouvernement du Premier SSR, en 1965 et en 1966 comme ministre d'Etat au Développement, puis ministre du Travail, suivi, à partir de 1982, d'un long passage à l'Hôtel du Gouvernement – de 1982 à 1995, de 2000 à 2003 et de 2014 à 2017 - au cours duquel il a tenu le poste de Premier ministre à six reprises, totalisant 19 années de 'primeministership'.

Ainsi, SAJ aura été dans les coulisses du pouvoir



12 March 1992: Republic Day. Cérémonie de levée du drapeau au Champ de Mars. Premier Ministre Sir Anerood Jugnauth à côté de Sir Veerasamy Ringadoo qui devint le premier Président de la République de Maurice.

pendant 28 ans, années de 'primeministership' et de présidence de la République combinées. Des années qui'il a mis à profit pour faire de Maurice le tigre du sud-ouest de l'océan Indien, pour amener le pays plus loin sur la voie de la modernité et inaugurer l'ère digitale, pour instituer la république et infliger à l'arrogante Angleterre une cuisante défaite sur le dossier Chagos devant les instances onusiennes, consolidant ainsi la stratégie de son objectif d'une décolonisation totale de son territoire, et mieux encore, jeter les jalons pour le classement de Maurice au rang des pays à hauts revenus. Qui dit mieux? "When cometh such another?" pour reprendre les paroles élogieuses de Marc Antoine à l'égard de Jules César...

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Breejan Burrin

The article below by Raj Paneken appeared in Le Mauricien on March 29, 2019 on the occasion of the 89th birthday of Sir Anerood Jugnauth. Two years before the death of SAJ the author, already then, talked of his place in history for the excellent job for Mauritius, the motherland to whom he devoted all the energy of his working life and made an unpar-

SIR ANEROOD WILL GO DOWN IN HISTORY!

RAJ PANEKEN

On the occasion of the 89th birthday of Sir Anerood Jugnauth today, the SAJ Fan Club « fidèle à son habitude » will throw up a party to celebrate his birthday. This is a fitting tribute to a man who has marked history for what he has done for his country. No one can rub out history which usually stands as a reminder and landmark of past events and achievements.

History is here to remind us of what happened yesterday and to stand in the way of those who want to pigeon-hole what is insipid to them or that which pales their performance into significance. Navin Ramgoolam and his government have done everything they can to dwarf the performance of the primeministership of Sir Anerood and to portray his father as the man behind the development of the country. But he has lamentably failed. It is an ac-

knowledge fact, and no one with a modicum of rationality and fairness can deny that the economic take-off of the country started in 1982-83 after the rout of the Labour Party under Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam and the advent of a new government under the leadership and vision of Sir Anerood Jugnauth.

If today Mauritius is cited worldwide for its economic growth and development, it is thanks to the vision of that man, Sir Anerood who pulled the country out of its economic situation to set it rolling economically. Mauritius really took off economically in the mid-eighties. And Sir Anerood will go down in history as the brain behind the economic development of the country whether his political adversaries like it or not. It is similar to what Lee Kuan Yew did for Singapore for its economic devel-

oped success of it. It is now wondered who can match him in terms of his length of dedicated service to the country and his achievements. This article is so relevant today that we trust, Mr Paneken and Le Mauricien will excuse us for reproducing it in our columns to pay tribute to a great patriot. P.C.

opment.

Today Singapore owes its economic success to that great visionary. We can say without any false modesty that a parallel can be drawn between SAJ and Lee Kuan Yew for what they did to redress the economy of their country and to set it on a solid footing. If Mauritius has undergone an amazing metamorphosis on the socio-economic level, it is thanks to the avant-garde and visionary new team which ousted the Labour Party in 1982 to take over the management of the country which was down on its knees economically. Without that shift of power, Mauritius would have been a beggarly country utterly at the mercy of World Bank and IMF. The socio-economic development of the country was well under way with Sir Anerood as prime minister to grind to a halt in 1995-2000 under the regime of the Labour Party to re-start in September 2000-2005 with Sir Anerood again.

However more could have been achieved if he and his Party had not lost the elections in 1995. Unfortunately the thankless electorate wanted to try an adventure with Navin Ramgoolam and his government. They completely forgot all the good work of

Sir Anerood who had changed the economic landscape of the country. An adventure which stalled the economic development of the country and moved it into a period of stagnation. A period characterized by « tam-tam, dialsa, Macarena, etc. ».

The country definitely stepped back under the leadership of Navin Ramgoolam who had other fish to fry. Just imagine where the country would stand today if SAJ had been in office during those 14 years that Navin Ramgoolam had been at the helm of the state! Anyhow the vision and leadership of Sir Anerood will make history. He will go down in history as the father of the economic development of the country. This is an acknowledged fact. No one can usurp that paternity as everyone recognizes SSR as the father of the Independence of Mauritius. It is the vision of that man as head of the country for 19 years that has made Mauritius what it is today.

So let us wish Sir Anerood a very Happy Birthday plus many Happy Returns. May God bless him with Health and Longevity to continue guiding his country with this Sagacity.

Happy Birthday Sir Anerood and God Bless!

Rodrigues News

By Paul Draper,
Port Mathurin



SAJ's care for Rodrigues

A Tribute to Sir Anerood Jugnauth GCSK. KCMG. QC. PC

We were very sad to learn of the death of Sir Anerood Jugnauth

It is no secret the Sir Anerood had a special place in his heart for Rodrigues and its interests.

It was thanks to his initiative and insistence that Rodrigues got Regional Autonomy within the Republic.

He made regular and quite frequent visits to the Island, often accompanied by Lady Sarojini.



Paul Draper (left) showing to the visitors local craft done by disabled Rodriguesians. The honey of Rodrigues, in jars, attained international reputation

Here at Care-Co (formerly Craft-Aid Rodrigues) and the Gonzague Pierre Louis Special Learning Centre we were often privileged to conduct Sir Anerood and delegation on a tour of the premises for a glimpse into the work of Care-Co among the disabled, and children with disabilities with learning difficulties.

He was always very interested and supportive.

I had a unique reason for being privileged by his visits as I (and they) always reminisced on the first time we met.

It was at a Reception at Westminster House in Floreal (Mauritius) in 1974 where H.E. Henry Brind, the British High Commissioner of the time had invited guests.

I had only just arrived in Mauritius a month or two earlier and was very much feeling my way in Mauritian Society.

I spent the whole evening more or less with Sir Anerood and Lady Sarojini, who I think, were quite bemused by this Englishman who was speaking quite good Creole and had big ideas about what he wanted to do in Mauritius.

I had no idea at all then, who this kind and friendly couple were, who took me under their wing on that occasion. We remained in touch afterwards.

I followed the political career of Sir Anerood from a distance,



Paul Bérenger, Sir Anerood, Jugnauth and Paul Draper (Care-co founder for local disabled people) met at a Care-co shop in Port Mathurin

offering my support as much as possible by my praise and descriptions of the Economic and Industrial developments in Mauritius under Sir Anerood, as I travelled to International gatherings for the Disabled, such as Workability International and the like.

In turn Sir Anerood and Lady Sarojini told me that they also had followed my various activities on MBC Radio and TV and in the Disability and also Arts and Crafts sector at Craft-Aid Rose Hill.



Lady Sarojini & Sir Anerood Jugnauth, Paul Bérenger, and Joe Lesjongard at Port Mathurin with Paul Draper (in profile on far left)

I last met with Sir Anerood at Cotton Bay Hotel two years ago. It was to be the last time we met.

Paul Draper

Outing for Rodriguan Special-need Children

Children of the Gonzague Pierre Louis Special Learning Centre (Trevor Huddleston Association, Rodrigues) were treated to a day's excursion on Thursday June 24th.

This was part of the Rodrigues Regional Assembly's Commission for Education programme to support children in Schools, and to provide activities for some of the island's Tourist and Hospitality sector which is facing such difficulties at the moment of closed borders.



Children from the GPL Centre and their parents were invited for lunch at the Cotton Bay Hotel-Rodrigues

Continued from previous column

Over 100 children with special needs and their parents were taken in two hired buses to two sites of interest on the island. The first was the monument and garden commemorating freedom from slavery and the burial place of Philibert Maragon and his wife Marie-Jeanne Elisabeth, at Union. They were the first colonial settlers on the island in the late 1700's.



Children from the GPL Centre on the Verandah of the Cotton Bay Hotel – with Paul Draper.

Then after a visit to a seedling and plant nursery at Petit Gabriel they all were treated to a lunch at the Cotton Bay Hotel and Spa Resort at Cotton Bay.

The weather stayed fine for an hour on the beach there before returning home. It was a great day out for the kids of the GPL Centre organized by the Director Mr. Orlando Auguste.

Paul Draper and Susan Auguste who founded the centre were also invited along. Thank given to the Rodrigues Regional Assembly Education Commission.

Rodriguans stranded in Mauritius

The situation of the Rodriguans stranded in Mauritius after the lock-down and border closures in March 2021.

After the government U turn on the repatriation scheme reported in last month's issue, two more batches of Rodriguans were repatriated, but then the scheme was apparently suspended and no more repatriation flights were organized.

This was a big expense for the government in providing altogether 21 days of quarantine – and additional expense for Air Mauritius to fly a more or less empty plane back to Mauritius from Rodrigues each time.

At the time of writing there are still nearly 100 Rodriguans who are reported to be desperately waiting to get back to their homes and families, their jobs and in some cases their schools and colleges.

It has now been announced that a new protocol is proposed involving the re-opening of the airport in Rodrigues for incoming flights. This, it is stated will involve strict quarantine procedure, although precise details were not immediately announced nor who will pay for it.

Presumably it will be similar to that announced for Mauritius from July 15th when arriving travellers will need to spend some days in a Covid safe residence or hotel and undergo PCR tests.

It is hoped that soon 'collective immunity' will be reached in Rodrigues to allow a second phase of re-opening and non-restricted travel to take place in the future, and which will, it is hoped, prevent at all costs for the virus to be transmitted to Rodrigues, which is and has always been Covid free.

At the time of writing 3822 person in Rodrigues have had two doses of anti-Covid vaccine and a further 2017 have had their first dose and are awaiting their second one.

Sir Anerood Jugnauth, a Mauritian Legend

Sir Anerood Jugnauth (SAJ) has now become part of the history of Mauritius on which he has left his permanent mark. His life and works will be probed and examined by posterity to understand the complexity of his personality and gauge his achievements at the helm of the affairs of Mauritius.

What sort of character was he, a character who at times could look distant and even unapproachable? Many contemporaries who have known him, spoken with him and even interviewed him on a

one-to-one basis are still unable to pierce through the enigmatic personality of SAJ.

It is to be wondered whether even those who have been with him for considerable periods of time can without fear of contradiction portray the man whose delivery is unquestionable to this day. Dr Ibrahim Aladdin in his biography 'Living Legends — Sir Anerood Jugnauth' gives us an appreciation of the man and his performance at the head of the country and the Government.

Reproduced below is an interview with Dr Ibrahim Alladin conducted by Breejan Burrun and which appeared in Mauritius News following the publication in 2012 of his book 'Living Legends – Sir Anerood Jugnauth'

Alladin1. How did the idea of writing a book on SAJ crop up?

I was on a flight from Dubai to Toronto, returning from one of my many trips to Mauritius. On the plane I picked up the New York Times dated March 26, 2012. One of the headlines read "Mauritius: The Glittering New Gateway to Africa And Asia". I read it with a great deal of interest.

A few hours earlier I was in Mauritius and had seen the signs of economic growth and prosperity that the article was referring to. As I put the newspaper away it reminded me of a similar newspaper article on the Globe and Mail almost two decades earlier that prompted me to write *Economic Miracle in the Indian Ocean: Can Mauritius Show the Way?* (EOI, 1993).

The Globe and Mail had described Mauritius as the "miracle" economy following the footsteps of the giant tigers of Asia, for example Singapore. What happened in Mauritius in the last two decades that is catching international attention? This led me to start a new analysis and in the process I decided to examine the contributions of one man, who perhaps shaped the destiny of modern Mauritius. He had just resigned as the President of the Republic of Mauritius, and decided to enter the political arena to "save" the nation from economic calamity.

This is the story of one man: Sir Anerood Jugnauth. I believe his destiny is to serve the people. While he may not be called the "father" of the nation, he is certainly the "saviour" of the nation. Some leaders are born to lead, and in his eighties Sir Anerood is back at the political helm to take Mauritius to new heights.

But what kind of legacy will he leave behind and how shall history depict him? The book is much about Jugnauth as it is about contemporary Mauritius. Two decades ago I described Sir Anerood Jugnauth as the architect of the economic revolution that made Mauritius "take off".

The island has gone through a revolution and twenty years later I find myself having to re-examine its prospects and those associated with it. It is a daunting task but an inevitable one. This is not a biography of Anerood Jugnauth, but rather an examination of his political career and his rise to political fame.

Recently someone described him as a geriatric with dyed hair who made a political comeback to save his family's name and fortune. But is that so? Or did he make a comeback as Navin Ramgoolam's government was showing signs of weakness? Some say Ramgoolam has left the country in decline and yet again it seems Jugnauth is coming to the rescue. Is history repeating itself? The book is very revealing and answers these questions.

2. I presume this was indeed a challenging task. How did you manage?

Writing about a personality like SAJ is always challenging. He has been in politics for almost 50 years and been involved in so many other things. It is an incredible journey. So to organize it into a book is not an easy task. I developed the book in stages and planned it that way. Many people helped with the research and gave me guidance to understand SAJ as a person.

In my endeavour I always start with a theme and try to keep it

throughout the book. I usually have a plan of what I want to cover, so it keeps me focused and gives me the direction. There is so much material, it can be overwhelming.

3. In your interesting speech at the launching ceremony you stated that SAJ's career can be summarized in a nutshell "Saviour of the Nation". How have you justified this in your book? By the way, one of the chapters of the book is precisely "The Return of the Saviour of the Nation".

I have done an analysis of his political career and no doubt he is the most experienced politician in the country, five times as Prime Minister and served two terms as President. His contributions have been immense. His political career has also been marked by controversy and he has faced criticisms on many fronts.

The book has examined some of these controversies. But he remains a Statesman with a Mission, that's why he is back and I describe him as the "Saviour of the Nation". I believe history will remember him as such.

4. After "A President of the People" in 1997 where you depict former President Cassam Uteem's life and works, you delineate the exceptional political career of former President SAJ. Any other former President in your sight?

Not at the moment, but who knows in the future perhaps.

5. It seems that you favour political figures of the 'militant' stock in your endeavour to portray Mauritian public figures. A deliberate choice?

Not really. I look for characters that are unique and interesting to write and people would enjoy reading. So it really does not matter who that person is or what is the background. I am always searching for some uniqueness.

6. When writing on political figures one admires, can one be objective and neutral? How do you avoid being bias in such a case?

It is not always easy to be objective, but one tries. I am more interested about the person and I try to present the character in the most objective way. I avoid getting into the personal or private life of an individual. However, I do not discard controversies and criticisms. I make sure that these are addressed in the most objective manner.

Breejan Burrun



Sir Anerood Jugnauth

Copy of book given to Breejan Burrun with an autograph to Mauritius News by Sir Anerood Jugnauth

Harish Boodhoo commente sur la mort de Sir Anerood Jugnauth comme relaté dans Le Défi

"Quand meurt une personnalité importante ou dominante, il y a beaucoup de louanges, écrit Harish Boodhoo sur sa page Facebook suite au décès de Sir Anerood Jugnauth.

Cependant, il souligne que lorsqu'une haute personnalité meurt, il y a beaucoup

de louanges ou d'éloges funèbres hypocrites, trompeurs ou à double-face. Cela, dans le but d'attirer l'attention sur soi. « Certaines personnes ont aussi tendance à exagérer en allant dans certains extrêmes. », fait ressortir Harish Boodhoo. Qualifiant la mort de Sir Anerood Jugnauth de « tragique », Harish Boodhoo fait ressortir que tôt ou tard, tout le monde doit traverser la phase finale de la vie."

N de la R: Le livre de Ismail Alladdin, cité en haut de cette page, parut 9 ans avant la mort de Sir Anerood et l'article de Raj Paneken reproduit au bas de la page 3 de ce numéro fut publié dans Le Mauricien 2 ans avant la mort de SAJ. De ce fait le louange de ces deux auteurs n'ont pas l'intention de flatterie comme on peut le penser.

Sir Anerood Jugnauth - Former Prime Minister & President of the Republic of Mauritius

The Man Who Made History

Prime Minister Pravind Jugnauth in his eulogy in the National Assembly on June 9 outlined the life, the work and the qualities of SAJ. His tribute is reproduced hereunder in toto for the benefit of students who may wish to have an understanding of why the Mauritian nation expressed great grief at the passing of SAJ on June 3, 2021.

It may be borne in mind that history is studied by those who are for and by those who are against any party.

P.C

It is with a heavy heart and profound sadness, that I address the House and the nation to pay tribute to the memory of Sir Anerood Jugnauth, GCSK, KCMG, QC, PC, former President of the Republic and former Prime Minister, who passed away on Thursday, 3 June 2021, at the age of 91.

With the demise of Sir Anerood, the country has lost one of its most illustrious sons, a remarkable and highly respected statesman, who devoted himself to the service of his motherland and, in his own unique way, touched the hearts of his people.

It is indeed a difficult task to do full justice to the memory of such an outstanding and inspirational leader who leaves such a huge legacy.

Sir Anerood was born on 29 March 1930 at Palma, Quatre Bornes. He attended the Palma Church of England School for his primary education, and later the Regent College for his secondary education.

Humble Beginnings

Destined to become the architect of modern Mauritius, Sir Anerood had very humble beginnings, but those early days of poverty, tribulations and hardships had their own compensation in that they built his ethical and moral foundation. The first lessons came from his father, the second from Professor Basdeo Bissoondoyal, and the third from his school. He, as a youth, naturally imbibed these priceless ethical and moral values and principles to which he was exposed. These forged his character and shaped and guided his life and actions, helping him to withstand all the demanding trials and temptations which came in his way ever since.

In 1948, Sir Anerood took up employment at the New Eton College, where he taught history and geography for about a year. In 1949, he joined the Civil Service as clerk, at the then Poor Law Department, where he served for about eight months before being transferred to the Judiciary. He was first attached to the Industrial Court, from where he was later transferred to the District Court of Rose Hill.

His service at the Judiciary had certainly influenced his choice of career. In 1951, he left for the United Kingdom to pursue his tertiary education in law and in 1954 he was called to the Bar at Lincoln’s Inn.

This was also the period during which he developed his passion for English football. He was known to be a die-hard fan of Manchester United Football Club, and he would not, if he could, miss any of its matches.

After his studies, Sir Anerood returned to Mauritius in May 1955 and his passion for politics propelled him in the political arena. In 1957, he contested the Village Council Elections in Palma and became a Village Councillor and President of the village. Thereafter, he joined the Independent Forward Bloc and, in 1963, he contested the Legislative Council Elections in the then Constituency No. 14, Riviere du Rempart, and was elected to serve the then Legislative Council. In 1964, he participated in the Municipal Council Elections for Vacoas/Phoenix and was returned as Councillor to serve the Council.

London Constitutional Conference

His participation in the London Constitutional Conference in 1965, held at the Lancaster House, was another momentous occasion in his rich political career. He was part of the Mauritian delegation, led by Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam, to that crucial and decisive Constitutional Conference which was to decide on the ultimate status of the colony of Mauritius. Sir Anerood had made considerable efforts to convince Sookdeo Bissoondoyal, his then Leader, to support the pro-independence group at the Lancaster House Conference.

Kevin Shillington writes, in a biography of Sir Anerood, and I quote – “On the final day of conference it was thus left to Jugnauth to put the IFB’s case, and in a very vigorous speech he gave his Party’s unqualified support for Ramgoolam’s formal call for independence. The submissions of Ramgoolam and Jugnauth were the only two speeches made that day in favour of independence. Together, however, the speeches were of sufficient power to create the right impression on

the attendant British officials

The contribution of Sir Anerood, therefore, helped tilt the balance in favour of Independence. This also paved the way for the formation of an alliance of parties, which regrouped the Mauritius Labour Party, the IFB and the Comité D’action Musulman, and registered under the name of Independence Party, which won the 1967 General Election and ushered Mauritius into the post-independent era.

In November 1965, Sir Anerood was entrusted with the portfolio of Minister of State, a post which he occupied until 8 November 1966. Thereafter, he was appointed Minister of Labour. In April 1967, following political and ideological differences with Sir Seewoosagur, then Premier and Minister of Finance, Sir Anerood resigned both as Minister of Labour and Member of the then Legislative Assembly. He subsequently joined the Judiciary as District Magistrate. In 1969, he was posted to the then Crown Law Office and two years later, in 1971, he was promoted to the status of Senior Crown Counsel.

On 30 September 1971, Sir Anerood resigned as Senior Crown Counsel to engage himself in active politics. Thus, on 7 December 1971, he joined the Mouvement Militant Mauricien, and two years later, in 1973, he became the President of the Party.

1976 General Election

In 1976, Sir Anerood contested the General Election in Constituency No. 7, Piton and Riviere du Rempart, under the banner of the MMM and was returned as Third Member to serve the said Constituency. There was a hung Parliament with the MMM winning 34 seats, the Labour Party 28 seats and the PMSD 8 seats. Following a coalition between the Labour Party and the PMSD, the post-electoral alliance became the ruling Party. Sir Anerood was thus appointed as Leader of the Opposition.

On 11 June 1982, Sir Anerood again contested the General Election in Constituency No. 7 under the banner of the MMM/PSM Alliance and was returned as First Member to serve the then Legislative Assembly. The 60-0 result of the poll was a historical first. The MMM/PSM Alliance Party had won every contested seat across the country - a score that was unique worldwide in a freely contested multi-party democracy. Thus, Sir Anerood assumed his first Prime Ministership.

However, following certain ideological differences within the Alliance, Sir Anerood founded his own Party, the Mouvement Socialiste Militant, the MSM, on 8 April 1983 with the Sun as its evocative symbol. He contested the General Election of 21 August 1983 in Constituency No. 7 under the banner of the MSM/Labour Party Alliance and was returned as Second Member. The Alliance won the election and Sir Anerood was, once again, appointed Prime Minister, a post which he would occupy for the next 12 years.

Sir Anerood contested the two successive General Elections of 1987 and 1991, in his usual Constituency under the Banner of the MSM/Labour Party Alliance and MSM/MMM Alliance respectively, and was returned First Member in both elections. Sir Anerood remained at the helm of the Government as Prime Minister until December 1995.

It was the visionary, bold and disciplined leadership of Sir Anerood that saved the sinking economy which he inherited in 1982 and rekindled the waning hope of a whole nation. By creating the right environment of economic leadership, law and order, and discipline, Sir Anerood gave the confidence to all Mauritian entrepreneurs, large and small, that they could take the country forward. And this confidence, projected to the world, attracted international investors who came and participated to make it happen.

Economic Miracle

Under his able stewardship, Mauritius made huge strides in its economic development, lifting hundreds of thousands of people out of poverty and restoring the economic fundamentals which had been in the red zone for a long time. The post-1983 period saw the beginning of an era when Mauritius evolved from a poor, mono crop agricultural- baLondon Constitutional Conference sed

economy, into one of Africa’s relatively richest countries. The success of the Government policies was recognised and acknowledged, not only by the local population but also by international organisations and financial institutions, so much so that it earned Sir Anerood the highly deserved and merited attribute of ‘*Father of the Mauritian economic miracle*’.

One of the strongest characteristics of Sir Anerood was his passionate belief in his country, in Mauritius as an independent nation State, freeing itself from colonial reins and taking charge of its own destiny. He translated this passion into leading the process which made Mauritius into a Republic. Thus, he will also be remembered as the architect of the accession of the country to the status of a Republic by championing the enactment of the Constitution of Mauritius (Amendment) Act 1991, which paved the way for Mauritius to become a Republic with the President as the Head of the State. It was indeed another milestone in the constitutional development of our country when, on 12 March 1992, Mauritius acceded to the status of a Republic - a historic transition that bears the indelible imprint of Sir Anerood.

Sir Anerood also stood as candidate for the 1995 General Elections in Constituency No. 7, under the Banner of the MSM/RMM Alliance but was not returned. However, despite the heavy electoral defeat, the only one at any General Election, Sir Anerood, as a true democrat, conceded the defeat promptly and elegantly while maintaining his poise, dignity and composure. He was magnanimous in victory and gracious in defeat - and this is the hallmark of a great statesman.

In the year 2000, he contested the General Election under the Banner of the MSM/MMM Alliance and was returned First Member for Constituency No. 7 to serve the National Assembly. He was, once again, appointed Prime Minister.

It is no secret that Sir Anerood had a soft spot for Rodrigues and it is under his Prime Ministership that in 2001, the Island made a democratic leap by acceding to an autonomous status within the Republic, with its own Regional Assembly and an Executive Council.

Sir Anerood a toujours défendu ses idées et ses convictions avec détermination. Son courage restera gravé dans nos memoires.

L'architecte de la République

On se souviendra de Sir Anerood comme l'architecte de la Republique de Maurice, et c’est lui, encore une fois, en tant que bâtisseur, qui fonda la Cybercité d’Ebène en 2001.

Grâce à cette infrastructure qui a marqué le début de l’ère du numérique à Maurice, il laissera, aux futures generations, un héritage qui leur permettra d’exploiter au mieux les opportunités créées par les nouvelles technologies.

Il faut se rappeler que durant les années 80, Sir Anerood s’attellera à la diversification et à la démocratisation de l’économie tout en lançant deux autres piliers économiques que sont le secteur des services financiers et le port franc qui ont contribué significativement au développement socio-économique du pays. Il a propulsé la modernisation des infrastructures publiques à travers le pays et initié la création de la National Development Unit, qui aidera à réduire la disparité entre les villes et les villages, sans oublier sa contribution en faveur de l’émancipation de la femme et l’amélioration de la condition féminine en général.

On 30 September 2003, Sir Anerood resigned as Prime Minister to pass on the reign of power to his alliance partner, Hon. Paul Bérenger, so as to honour his electoral pledge. In so doing, he amply demonstrated that he was “*un homme de parole*” and that, in public life, some values and principles transcend politics and party. Being true to himself, and his beliefs, he considered it his duty to uphold and promote these values and principles. He was convinced that, the best way for one to leave one’s mark on the world, is to work for lofty ideals and to strive for something bigger than oneself. The outpour of sympathy here and from across the world, following his demise, proved him so right.

From Page 6

President of the Republic

On 7 October 2003, he was elected by the National Assembly to serve as President of the Republic and was conferred the title of Grand Commander of the Order of the Star and Key of the Indian Ocean (GCOSK). By virtue of his strength of character and upholder of values and principles, he fitted admirably for the role of President and Champion of the Constitution. He greatly enhanced the prestige and stature of the Office by serving with his usual distinction, selfless devotion and his utmost commitment to constitutional values and norms.

On 19 September 2008, he was again elected President of the Republic. However, on 30 March 2012, Sir Anerood resigned from the Office of President of the Republic, in the best interest of the country, to once again, engage himself in active politics.

And in 2014, despite his advanced age of 84, he did not hesitate to put himself anew at the service of the nation. He contested the 2014 General Election in Constituency No.7 under the Banner of l'Alliance Lepep and was elected First Member. He became Prime Minister for a sixth mandate.

Throughout his long political career, spanning over seven decades, Sir Anerood showed deep respect for the Constitution of the country, for the institutions of the State, for separation of powers and above all, for the rule of law and human rights. As a matter of fact, one of his most enduring legacies, which still arouses the admiration and respect of one and all, is his relentless and epic struggle for the complete decolonisation of Mauritius and for the cause of the Chagossian community. Many thought it a lost cause. Nevertheless, Sir Anerood, in a striking testimony of his dogged determination and tenacity, decided to bring our legitimate claim of sovereignty over the Chagos Archipelago to the United Nations General Assembly in 2017, requesting a vote on a resolution to seek an advisory opinion from the International Court of Justice.

The vote gave him and the country an overwhelming and historic victory. Driven by his unflinching faith, he subsequently decided, at the age of 88, to once again wear his Barrister's gown and make a powerful, convincing and memorable submission at the International Court of Justice for the complete decolonisation of Mauritius and the legitimate rights of the Chagossians. This, as we all know, resulted in the landmark pronouncement in favour of Mauritius. That was the last successful battle of Sir Anerood for his motherland.

Sir Anerood will also be remembered for his contribution to Law and Order and above all, for his ruthless battle against the drug mafia, as evidenced by the two Commissions of Inquiry which he instituted on drug trafficking and the numerous decisive and bold measures he took to tackle the drug scourge in Mauritius, even at the risk of his life.

On 23 January 2017, when he considered that the time was right for him to call it a day, Sir Anerood resigned as Prime Minister, and on the same day, he was appointed Minister Mentor, Minister of Defence, Minister for Rodrigues, a portfolio which he held until November 2019. Thereafter, he retired from active politics. The achievements and contribution of Sir Anerood in the course of his long and rich political career have been recognised both in Mauritius and abroad.

Decorations

- In 1980, he was conferred with the title of Queen's Counsel by Her Majesty, The Queen.
- In 1984, he was conferred the 'Grand Croix de l'Ordre de la Pléiade', an honorary order of the Organisation internationale de la Francophonie in recognition of his distinguished role in the promotion of the ideals of the organisation.
- In 1985, he was awarded the title of Doctor Honoris Causa by the University of Aix-en-Provence and that of Doctor Honoris Causa in Civil Law, by the University of Mauritius.
- In 1987, he was elevated to the rank of Privy Councillor by Her Majesty, The Queen. This is a distinguished award which conferred upon him the title of "The Right Honourable" for life.
- In January 1988, he was awarded the First Class Grand Cordon of the Order of the Rising Sun by the Japanese Government.
- Later, in the same year, he was elevated to the rank of Knight Commander of the Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George (K.C.M.G) by Her Majesty, The Queen.
- In 1990, France conferred upon Sir Anerood the title of the Grand Officier de l'Ordre de la Legion d'Honneur.
- In 2009, the title of Honorary Doctorate from the Middlesex University was conferred upon him.
- In 2020, the Padma Vibhushan Award, which is the second highest civilian award in the field of public affairs, was conferred upon Sir Anerood by the Republic of India, for his continuous efforts towards deepening friendship between India and Mauritius.

As the House is also aware, following the demise of Sir Anerood, the Government of India, as a mark of respect to him, declared the 5th of June, a day of National Mourning throughout India. The whole Mauritian nation was deeply touched by this very telling and significant gesture of sympathy by the Government of India towards Sir Anerood and the people of Mauritius.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi Ji, his Government and the people of India for this tremendous tribute to the memory of Sir Anerood. It is a profound example of the very special relationship between our two countries. I would also like to thank all the foreign dignitaries and all the people from all over the world who expressed their sympathy to Lady Sarojini and my family and to the whole nation, on the demise of Sir Anerood.

Exceptional Qualities

Sir Anerood was a man of exceptional qualities who rose from humble beginnings to become one of the country's most accomplished and acclaimed leaders. His life journey is a perfect illustration of the triumph of perseverance, courage and determination and is a source of great inspiration to our people, especially our youth. In him, we see a true patriot, endowed with an indomitable spirit, who earned his rightful place in history through the dint of hard work, struggle and faith in selfless service to the nation.

He was a man of great vision, driven by the grand and noble ideals to make his country a better place for everybody, just as he made this House a better place with his distinguished presence and valuable contributions. His leadership qualities percolated from the House into Government as he led

successive teams of Ministers and other Parliamentarians by allowing them to deliver results to which he held them accountable.

He had earned himself a reputation of being a no-nonsense person. He was known for his franc-parler, for being truthful, candid and straightforward – qualities that aroused the admiration and respect of his collaborators and opponents alike.

But he will be remembered specially for his simplicity and humility. He had deep faith in the universality of man, and believed in the eternal values of the brotherhood of men, all of which made of him a beacon of peace and harmony. He would never treat anybody differently because of his colour, creed or gender. He professed and practised a patriotism that transcended religion and politics. He indeed personified the wisdom of humanism.

A Living Legend

Throughout his life, he remained connected with the masses, and he will be sorely missed. The scope of his accomplishments and the admiration that he so rightly earned made of him a living legend. A man of boundless energy, he showed us the power of action. We were simply amazed by what he was capable of doing, even at his advanced age, and he discharged all his responsibilities with honour, dignity, grit and determination. Even when out of office, he retained his sharpness of mind and remained an inspiring personality to whom we would look for as a source of wisdom and enlightened guidance.

Sir Anerood won the hearts of all Mauritians by his simplicity and warmth. He could walk with kings and yet keep the common touch of simplicity and humility. His noble feelings and his abiding concern for the well-being of his people and his country will continue to be a source of inspiration for generations to come. Mahatma Gandhi rightly said that "great men never die; it is up to us to keep them immortal by continuing the work they have commenced".

Sir Anerood was respected across the House and I am sure you will all join me in paying a tribute to this great statesman, who took a tryst with destiny to shape a better future for our country and our people.

Lady Sarojni and my family have lost a pillar. I have lost a much loved father who was my source of inspiration. The nation has lost a son who dedicated almost 60 years of his life serving his country and his fellow citizens.

We can say that from his new abode in heaven, he will continue to bless us all.

As said André Malraux: "la tombe des héros est le cœur des vivants"

The country bows to his memory. We shall miss him deeply.

May his soul rest in peace.

Source: Hansards 2021 No 11

P.C.

SAJ, a Prime Minister for the People



SAJ Presenting Championship Cup to Sunrise FC



SAJ attending a Pooja in London at the Highgate Murugan Temple



SAJ at Mauritius High Commission reception in London with members of the community

Notes from Japan

by Mylene



Japan: From Green to Amber *The experience of travelling to the UK*

Japan: I was going to write about capsule hotels in Japan and the slowness of their vaccination programme when I saw on the news that Portugal had joined the amber list. Naturally there was a big kerfuffle by those holidaying in Portugal as they must now quarantine for ten days on their return.

Although there is a plethora of information out there about the traffic light signal rules to enter into England Red, Amber, Green. I would like to write about my personal experience coming from an amber list country, Japan.

It all begins even before you step foot out of the country.

Before you leave:

A) A negative COVID-19 Test is required

It doesn't matter if you've been vaccinated, it doesn't matter if you are a UK citizen or even if you are coming from a country on the green list. Everyone has to show a negative COVID-19 test to board the plane to the UK.

The test needs to be taken three days before you start your travel.

NOTE: If you arrive in England without a negative test, the fine is £500.

B) Complete a Passenger Locator Form

You can complete your passenger locator form anytime, but you need to submit the completed form online 48 hours before your arrival. Make a copy of this form as you will have to show it at the check-in counter and at border control in England.

NOTE: You need this form even if you are transiting through the UK.

C) Buy Two COVID-19 Tests

You need to buy two tests from a private provider before you leave. You can choose from a list on gov.uk. Prices vary depending on location and type of test. I bought mine from Randox Health as there was a discount if you flew with BA. I paid £175 per test. You take the test on the second day and the eighth day.

NOTE: The day you arrive is 0. If you arrive on Monday, day 2 test is taken on Wednesday. You will receive a daily call from gov.uk to remind you, just in case you forget.

Test to release - optional

For an additional fee you can pay for a Test to Release. This test is taken on day 5 and if you are negative, your quarantine can end.

NOTE: You still have to take day-2 and day-8 test even if day-5 is negative.

During Self-isolation

You will get a daily phone call from gov.uk. They will ask you to confirm that you understand the rules of self-isolation and that you will remain for ten days at the address on your locator form

and the penalty if you do not. You will be asked if you've taken your test and what to do if the test is negative.

You are not to go out for shopping. There is a NHS volunteer number you can call to collect your medication. I had food delivered to the house and did not leave the house except to post my test.

I made a mistake filling out my locator form. I cancelled and started again. As I had completed two forms (even though I cancelled one) I received two calls a day from gov.uk.

NOTE: If you receive more than one call a day from gov.uk dial 119 they can set the record straight.

Take a COVID-19 test on day two and day eight. You swab your tonsils (or the area where your tonsils used to be) then swab inside both nostrils.

Randox Health: My COVID-19 test provider

I felt this company was overwhelmed. I had to call them many times. Each time the minimum waiting time was over 25 minutes. It's disheartening to hear you are the 50th person in line, but there's no choice but to wait.

Unacceptable. Sometimes I received mixed messages and had to call to ensure I was doing things correctly.

For example day-2 test did not arrive, but the next day, day-8 arrived. I was told to go ahead and do the test and post it. As there are different numbers and references associated with each day, before posting I rang again. (More wasteful time).

This time they emailed me a different set of numbers and asked me to open the package and replace all the numbers with the new one before posting. The test swab is sealed in two tubes and three form of packaging which I had to carefully open in order to change the numbers.

Although it stated that the test would be collected by DX, the package didn't have the correct DX code which meant it was not collected so I had to walk 15 mins to the drop off point on both day 2 and 8 even though I phoned after day 2 to ask for a courier for day 8 but was told I had to post it myself.

NOTE: Many test providers use couriers to collect your sample. Randox Health did not provide the correct DX code for a pick-up service. They couldn't give a reason why?

Remember this Number: 119

For help or advice this is the number to call. I found them polite and professional at all times.

All this information and more can be found on gov.uk

Tackling unemployment

Mauritius Minister of Industrial Development, SMEs and Cooperatives, Sunil Bholah, wants more people to become Entrepreneurs



by Ahmad Macky

Mauritius is doing its best in its strategy to encourage the proliferation the Small and Medium-scale Enterprises (SMEs) not only to enable the solution of the problem of unemployment and underemployment of people living in rural areas but also to give a boost to their purchasing power. The additional demand created could push the country's entire economy to grow at a faster pace.



Hon. S. Bholah

SMEs may be created in the agriculture, industry or service sectors with a possible investment of less than a billion rupees on fixed assets and employing less than 500 persons.

Minister Bholah wishes to target the nearly 54,000 unemployed and the few thousands entering the labour market every year. There are also some 5,000 unemployed university graduates used as cats' paws in the hands of scheming politicians.

One of the present approaches to cope with the unemployment problem is for government to offer incentives for the setting up of enterprises to produce goods and services, and for the removal of disincentives faced by existing ones. A new legislation may be required for SMEs.

The rural/peasant farming areas of this country are often neglected, where high unemployment and underemployment are endemic. The Minister of Co-operative has found a way that new enterprise developments whether small or medium are brought to these deprived areas as part of our industrial revolution. The plan is to give incentives to people of the rural areas to show their hidden talents to create their own designs and inventions.

Most of the farms in Mauritius are uneconomic units as fragmentation has been acute. The farmer is compelled to sell whatever he produces to the local trader because the financial inputs may have been obtained from him on credit, usually granted on usurious terms. Since the farmer is just one among numerous similar creditors, as there is very little secondary processing/ differentiation and the quantum produced is invariably low. The return is rarely sufficient for the upkeep of his family.

Because returns are low, the farmer has to resort to off-farm work which is available only if a few medium or large-scale enterprises happen to be located in the area. The village craftsmen also eke out a miserable existence, as the demand for their goods and services is quite low due to the low purchasing power of the farmers.

The frightening thing about this is the fact, that nearly 40% of the labour force and 70% of the people of the country are locked into this situation. It is no wonder then that most of Mauritius is poor. Some 42% of the total population living in rural areas earn around Rs 3,000 per person per month. Hence the exodus of young people to town, especially to Port-Louis, (and to affluent countries) in search of jobs, creating serious social problems.

What this brief analysis reveals is that Minister Bholah is tackling the challenge of creating job opportunities in rural areas. There should be the foundation of small villages of SMEs in both rural and coastal areas of this country.

AHMAD MACKY

International Headlines

Google the headlines below to read the article

- **Apple paid woman millions after repair techs posted explicit pictures from her iPhone**
- Michael Douglas, 76, was confused for 18-year-old daughter’s grandfather at her graduation
- **Noel Gallagher calls Prince Harry a ‘woke snowflake’**
- High risk of autumn Covid surge in Europe despite drop in infections, says WHO
- **Police officer who spied on woman in shower claimed he was looking for his razor**
- Secondary school head bans skirts because girls were wearing uniforms that were too 'revealing'
- **Only Fools and Horses stars Nicholas Lyndhurst and Sir David Jason talk reunion**
- Watergate’s John Dean: New Donald Trump Scandal Is ‘Nixon On Stilts And Steroids’
- **Passengers stranded as Aer Lingus regional carrier Stobart Air enters liquidation**
- Workers found a plane at the bottom of a California lake, potentially solving a 56-year-old mystery
- **Legal action launched over Boris Johnson award of peerage to Tory donor**
- Russian President Vladimir Putin laughs at a reporter who asked if he was a 'killer'
- **Gang kick their way into house to attack man with knives and garden shears before stealing cannabis grow**
- Daniel Morgan report could link Rupert Murdoch empire to ‘criminality’
- **Demographic time bombs: 10 countries that are faced with low fertility rates**
- Pelosi Says Trump DOJ’s Secret Data Seizures Go ‘Beyond Richard Nixon’
- **China's children may be next in line for COVID-19 vaccines**
- UK domestic delay could postpone foreign holiday destinations moving to green list until August
- **PM delays end of Covid restrictions by up to four weeks over Delta variant fears**
- India: Head of 'world's largest family' Ziona Chana dies - leaving behind 39 wives and 94 children
- **Father murdered teenage daughter over abuse claims, court told**
- Covid lockdown: Scientists warn of 40,000 summer wave deaths as Boris Johnson confirms four-week delay to lifting restrictions
- **Microsoft will end support for ‘the last version of Windows’ in October 2025**
- Toddler ‘died of starvation in car seat after his mother fatally overdosed’
- **Indian tribal woman accused of extramarital affair paraded naked after trial by kangaroo court**
- UK now has highest rate of new COVID cases in Europe
- **'Devastated' firefighter called to fatal car crash found his daughter in wreckage**
- Britain being 'held to ransom' by people refusing to take vaccine
- **Piers Morgan says he was surprised he was asked to apologize to Meghan Markle over his comments on 'Good Morning Britain' - and not given an award**
- Why the Tories should be worried by LibDems' shock by-election win - and why it's not all bad news for Labour
- **A second space rock hit Earth after the one that doomed the dinosaurs - a nail in the coffin of the mass extinction**
- Royal British Legion to ‘stop selling poppies in the EU due to Brexit’
- **Rumours swirl that China’s top spycatcher has defected to the US**
- Brexit, borders and bedlam: The political crisis in Northern Ireland is far from over
- **Is Keir Starmer's time as Labour leader about to come to an early end?**
- John Bercow quits Tories to join Labour, saying: 'This government needs to be replaced'
- **Annoyed by mispronunciations? These ‘pacifist’ words will ‘proably’ leave you fuming**
- Israel says it's facing a new COVID-19 outbreak fueled by the Delta variant, despite having the world's most vaccinated population
- **Israel says the Delta variant is infecting vaccinated people - as many as 50% of cases. But they are less severe.**
- Vulnerable teen lesbian raped by her pastor to ‘heal’ her of being gay
- **Derek Chauvin Sentenced to 22.5 Years in Prison for Murder of George Floyd**
- Dragon man’ replaces Neanderthal as nearest relative of humans, discovers Natural History Museum
- **An Australian scientist who was the only foreigner at the Wuhan virus lab says she never got COVID-19 and doesn't believe the center leaked it**
- South Africa proposes legalising women marrying multiple husbands
- **New laws would give Scottish Parliament ‘unparalleled powers’, court told**

Air Mauritius

Reprise des vols à partir du 15 juillet 2021

Réouverture du pays à partir du 1er Juillet

La police procédera à des verifications dans les commerces et autres secteurs de façon régulière.

Activités interdites / fermées

- Cinémas, casinos, bars et discothèques

Activités autorisées / ouvertes (avec conditions)

- Cours de justice (selon les directives du Judiciaire).

Activités autorisées / ouvertes (avec conditions)

- Activités socio-culturelles autorisées (Un maximum de 50 personnes / Respect des règles sanitaires).

Activités autorisées / ouvertes (avec conditions)

- Les restaurants, food courts et fast foods peuvent réouvrir (2 mètres de distance entres les tables et aération appropriée nécessaires).

Activités autorisées / ouvertes (avec conditions)

- Plages ouvertes (Pas de pique-niques).
- Jardins d'enfants, Jardins publics et Parcs ouverts.

Activités autorisées / ouvertes (avec conditions)

- Les centres communautaires, village halls et CAB peuvent réouvrir (par ordre alphabétique - personnes de moins de 18 ans interdites).

Activités autorisées / ouvertes (avec conditions)

- Les salles de sport et gymnases seront autorisés à opérer avec un maximum de 50 personnes, et doivent respecter les règles sanitaires. (Les personnes de moins de 18 ans ne seront pas autorisées).

Activités autorisées / ouvertes (avec conditions)

- Aucune restriction sur les déplacements des personnes âgées et les moins de 18 ans. Il leur est cependant fortement recommandé d'éviter les endroits publics tels que les gymnases et centres de jeunesse.

A Joke from Tommy Cooper



My wife dislocated her jaw and couldn't talk so I phoned the doctor and told him to drop round anytime, in a few weeks or a few months

Une Bonne Pensée de Cate Blanchett

‘Si vous savez, que vous allez perdre, perdez la tête haute’

MOG Cuisine

Crab Fancy Cakes (Hakien)

Ingredients

2 large crabs
½ kg of roasted fresh pork
1 bunch of Chinese garlic
1/3 tin of bamboo shoots
1 bunch of ‘Tong Ku’ and 2 of Chinese mushrooms
75 cl of oil

Preparation

Kill the crab the Chinese way
Steam it this way:
Place the meat on a fire-proof plate, boil some water in a very large pan, and as soon as the water starts boiling, put in an empty cheese tin without its top and bottom. Place over it the plate which must never touch the water. (You can use a steamer)

While the crab is being steamed, mince the meat. Chop into pieces of 1cm the Chinese garlic, chop in match sticks the bamboo shoots, the ‘Tong Ku’ and the mushrooms. After 20 minutes remove the crab meat.

Pour 2 measures of oil into a pan on a fierce heat, add 1 pinch of salt and the crab, stir 60 seconds.
Add in the meat and stir for 30 seconds. Remove and place in large plate.

Add some more oil and fry the mushrooms and the ‘Tong Ku’.

In a large bowl, put the crab meat, the Chinese garlic, the bamboo shoots, 1 spoonful of salt, 1 spoonful of ajinomoto, 6 spoonfuls of starch. Mix well to make the farce meat.

The Dough

For ½ kg of sleeved flour, 125 gms of dripping, ½ teaspoonful of table salt and ¾ cup of water. Knead and divide into five parts.
Take one part and shape in a long piece of 24cm. Fold it in the ‘stick’ to obtain a rectangle of pastry of 45 x 12 cm.

Put the meat in the middle and make a roll of about 45cm diameter. Stick with some water the two ends. Repeat the operation for the other four parts.

Cooking

Pour out the oil and slide in a roll. Fry, turning the roll from time to time until golden. Repeat for the others.

Serve hot with hot pepper garlic sauce.

From the Genuine Cuisine of Mauritius by Guy Felix. Editions Eol.

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off Radar Street near the big Mango Tree roundabout, 10 mins Walk to Public Beach and Jumbo shop etc.



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