

MONDAY 20TH MARCH 2023 | VOLUME 4 ISSUE 55 | WWW.POINTVILLE.AG

# PM BROWNE PROPOSES REGIONAL APPROACH TO LIAT SEVERANCE ISSUE



## PM Browne proposes a regional approach to solve LIAT severance issue

Prime Minister Gaston Browne said he remains committed to bring an amicable solution to the issue where former workers of LIAT are owed millions of dollars in severance payment.

In parliament last week, the prime minister said he will no longer engage in bilateral discussions with the main union representing LIAT workers, the Antigua and Barbuda Workers Union (ABWU) because of the union's intransigence on the issue.

The ABWU has been insisting that the A&B government should pay the workers one hundred percent of the approximately \$100 million that are owed to the workers.

But, in light of an announcement from Bridgetown where Barbados Prime Minister Mia Mottley is proposing to pay up to \$10 million but only

to former LIAT workers who are Bajans, PM Browne said he is prepared to work with the union to convene a meeting of all the LIAT shareholder governments to discuss the issue.

"If the union (ABWU) is going to continue demanding one hundred percent of the payments (from the A&B Government) then there will be an impasse; that's not going to happen. I am not being insensitive here.

"We are prepared to work with the ABWU even to go to the government of Barbados to ask them to broaden its offer to include other workers," he declared.

The prime minister said he accepts that all LIAT workers ought to be 'made whole', it is unreasonable to expect that the Antigua and Barbuda government should be required to make that payment, while the govern-

ment owned only thirty-two percent of the shares in the airline. Barbados' shareholding was estimated at over fifty percent.

He reiterated that he stands 'fully committed' to work with the union for a regional solution to the severance issue. He rejects the notion that the Antigua and Barbuda taxpayers should be asked to foot the entire bill.

"While I am committed to help bring the other shareholders to the table to resolve the issue and I stand firmly behind that commitment, it is a dangerous precedent to set to do so," he remarked.

The Antigua and Barbuda leader even hinted that he might be prepared to make an offer to the workers directly and even to share with LIAT workers some of the proceeds from the sale of the super yacht, the Alfa Nero.



## The 2023 National Budget goes before the Senate today

The upper chamber of parliament – the Senate – is meeting today to begin debate on the 2023 National Budget for Antigua and Barbuda which was passed by the House of Representatives last Thursday.

“Reset, Recover, Revitalise” is the theme of the 2023 Budget as presented to parliament on March 02, 2023, by Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Gaston Browne. He said the estimates of revenue and expenditure in the budget reflect his administration’s intention to “reset” the government’s fiscal operations, with the purpose of achieving fiscal consolidation and fiscal resilience.

Thus, the thrust for Fiscal Year 2023 will be to increase revenue collections and ensure more efficient management of expenditure.

“Beginning on April 3rd, 2023, all concessions will be significantly reduced, and the discretionary waiver of duty on imports will be capped at 50 per cent. The Budget 2023 has a total resource requirement of \$1.8 billion. This represents a 12.5 per cent increase over the approved figure for Budget 2022,” he explained.

At today’s meeting of the Senate, Leader of Government’s Business in the Senate, Samantha Marshall will present the government’s budgetary



*Leader of Government's Business in the Senate, Samantha Marshall*

estimates to the senate for discussion and approval.

Prior to the debate on the budget, Sen. Marshall will ask leave of the Senate for discussion on a matter of urgent public importance, the sale of the super-yacht moored in the Falmouth Harbour, the Alfa Nero. The vessel has been moored in the harbour for over a year and there are a number of matters that need the government’s immediate and full attention in order to avoid a catastrophe.

The vessel is among dozens sanctioned around the world believed to be owned by a Russian Oligarch. The remaining crew members indicated that they are nearing the end of their food



*Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Gaston Browne*

supply and have already racked up huge costs for the supply of fuel. They advised that if something is not done immediately the government could likely face serious issues including a possible lawsuit.

When the prime minister introduced the bill to the House of Representatives on Thursday, the opposition members staged a walk-out claiming that they were not given the mandated 5-days’ notice as prescribed by the new Standing Orders. Despite the prime minister’s assurances that the Standing Orders can, under certain circumstances, be suspended to allow for debate deemed by the government to be of some urgency.

## Ten persons to contest March 29 Council Elections in Barbuda

Ten persons have been nominated to contest the Barbuda Local Government elections slated to take place on March 29, 2023.

A statement released by the Antigua and Barbu-

da Electoral Commission (ABEC) identified the individuals as; Sharima Deazle, Jermaine DeSouza, John Mussington, Ordrick Samuel, Devon Warner and Fitzroy Warner who represent the Barbuda People’s

Movement.

While Mackiesha DeSouza, Bentham Lewis, Orlando Morris and Zaria Nedd represent the Antigua and Barbuda Labour Party.

These are the two main political parties operating

on the sister isle.

The Council elections are to elect four members to serve on the local government authority to fill four seats made vacant by rotation, as required by the Local Government Act.



## NPA moves to regulate commercial activities in the park ahead of ASW

Roughly a month before the start of the annual Antigua Sailing Week (ASW) the National Park Authority (NPA) is re-emphasizing the need for prior permission from anyone wanting to hold any type of activity within the boundaries of the park.

In a statement, the NPA says it wishes to advise members of the public that regulations are in place that instruct the holding of events and major activities within the boundaries of the National Park.

“The regulations were introduced to ensure that the community spaces in the Park are respected and protected for not only their historic and cultural integrity but, recognising that they provide a peaceful and tranquil home to a wide and diverse residential population,” the statement noted.

The NPA is therefore requesting that anyone wishing to use the National Park for a commercial purpose, first consult the regulations to get an under-

standing of the conditions associated with hosting an activity or event and/or get in touch with the offices of the Parks Commissioner.

Under the National Parks General Regulations of 2012, a permit is required by anyone seeking to hold certain activities in the Park.

Under section 5 of the regulations “A person shall not, in any way, without the written permission of the Parks Commissioner, use the Park premises for any event (whether commercial, service/meeting, social gathering);”

The regulations further empower the Parks Commissioner to “remove or cause to be removed” any such person/s who are found to be in violation of the provisions of the regulations.

Offending parties are also subject to fines of up to \$5000.00 or to a term of imprisonment for a period not exceeding six months or both.

The conduct and operations of businesses in the Park are also protect-

ed under the National Parks (Trading) Regulations of 2014. The legislation makes it clear that a “person shall not carry on any business within the Park without a license obtained for that purpose from the Authority.”

The regulations spell out the requirements and conditions under which interested individuals or companies may qualify for a license. For arrangements and further information, anyone may contact the National Parks office, in the Antigua Naval Dockyard.

The NPA is therefore hoping that persons can continue to respect and adhere to the aforementioned regulations, and by so doing, ensure that both the needs and entitlements of the community are respected and access provided within reason, to those wishing to make use of the recreational space and facilities of the Park.

ASW is a major event for vending on the annual calendar of Antigua and Barbuda.

## A&B to participate on talks on migration policies

Three senior officials from Antigua and Barbuda are to attend a two-day workshop aimed at working on a common approach in disaster displacement and environmental migration policies in the Eastern Caribbean.

The workshop takes place from March 21 to 22 and is being held under the aegis of the United Nations International Office for Migration (IOM) and takes place in St. Lucia.

“Participants at the workshop will be working to validate preliminary assessments of the extent to which the Human Security Approach is

included in national policies on disaster displacement and environmental migration, and recommendations of ways to achieve greater integration of this people-centred approach,” a press statement from the IOM noted.

The Antigua and Barbuda team will comprise of the Director of the National Office of Disaster Services, Sherrod James; Senior Consular Affairs Officer in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Lance Browne; and President of the Barbuda Red Cross, Peter Cuffy. They will join other technical officers from across the region at this important



Senior Consular Affairs Officer in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Lance Browne

gathering in Saint Lucia.

“Recognizing that climate change is causing increasingly severe weather events, and that we live in a volcanic and seismically active region, participants will also discuss best practices related to the cross-border movement of people affected by disasters in the OECS. These practices consider how complex hazards threaten the survival, livelihood and dignity of community members, particularly those who are most vulnerable, when they are forced to move,” the statement continued.

It added that cross-border evacuation protocols will also be discussed to better plan for the possibility of an increase in international movements derived from disasters and the role that the different actors play in accompanying these processes to ensure more effective outcomes for the people affected.

The human security ap-

proach goes beyond quick responses and is prevention oriented. By drilling down to determine the real causes of complex challenges (economic, health, personal, community, and political threats) that might confront people who are displaced internally, or forced to migrate because of disasters, and by building solutions that protect and empower the most vulnerable community, the project aims to systematize solutions through which affected individuals can feel more secure to move on with their lives.

IOM is hosting the workshop in partnership with the donor - UN Trust Fund for Human Security (UNTFHS). Other contributing stakeholders include the OECS Commission, the UN Resident Coordinator Office for Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean, UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), and the Platform for Disaster Displacement (PDD).

IN THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT  
 IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE  
 ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA  
 (CIVIL DIVISION)  
 CLAIM NO: ANUHCV2021/0465

BETWEEN:  
 DACIA ERNEST  
 Claimant  
 and  
 CHARLES THOMAS  
 DWAYNE GORDON  
KODIE THOMAS  
 Defendants

TO: Mr. Kodie Thomas  
 Liberta Village  
 St. Paul's  
 Antigua

TAKE NOTICE that a legal proceeding for a claim of damages for personal injury has been commenced in the High Court of Justice by the Claimant, Dacia Ernest.

You may obtain copies of the **Form of Judgement for Amount to be Decided by the Court dated 20<sup>th</sup> May, 2022, Notice of Hearing dated 6<sup>th</sup> March, 2023 for the appearance in Court on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> May, 2023 and an Order dated 28<sup>th</sup> February, 2023**, at the High Court of Justice or at Cumberbatch & Associates, Upper Long Street, St. John's, Antigua.

These proceedings can be accessed through the Electronic Litigation Portal. You may contact the Electronic Litigation Portal through the Service Bureau at the High Court of Justice, Parliament Drive, St. John's, Antigua, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. from Mondays to Thursdays and 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Fridays.

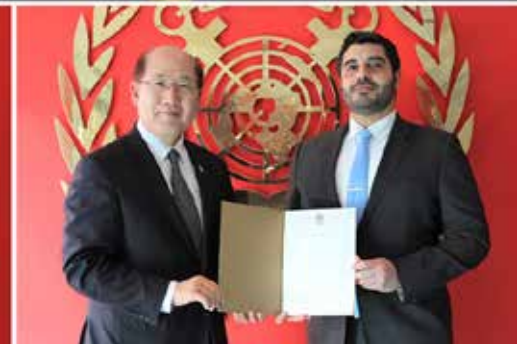
Dated this 17<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2023  
 Cumberbatch & Associates  
 Attorneys-at-Law for the Applicant

## Antigua and Barbuda accept 2021 IMO Convention amendments

Antigua and Barbuda and the United Arab Emirates have become the latest IMO Member States to accept amendments to the Convention on the International Maritime Organization, which will expand the size of the Council, extend the term of its members, and recognize three additional language texts as authentic versions of the Convention.

IMO Secretary-General Kitack Lim welcomed Ambassador Dwight Gardiner OBE, Permanent Representative of Antigua and Barbuda to IMO and Khalid Saud Al Qasimi, Deputy Head of Mission of the United Arab Emirates at IMO HQ, London to receive the instruments of acceptance.

*cont'd on pg 7*



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## PAHO donates supplies and equipment to Antigua and Barbuda

The Pan American Health Organization has donated essential supplies and equipment to the Antigua and Barbuda government.

The presentation was made to the Ministry of Health through the Minister, Sir Molwyn Joseph, Permanent Secretary, Ena Dalso Henry and Chief Medical Officer, Dr Rhon-

da Sealy-Thomas and other officials.

PAHO made the presentation in collaboration with the governments of Canada and the United States. Included in the donation is a vehicle in support of the vaccination programme, communications equipment to build the capacity of the public relations department, wheelchairs, ECG

machines and blood pressure monitors. The donation has been made in support of strengthening Antigua and Barbuda's health system.

PAHO/WHO Representative for Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean Countries, Dr. Amalia Del Reigo was in St. John's to participate in the handing over ceremony.

Meanwhile, Over sev-

enty healthcare workers have concluded an Epidemiological Surveillance Workshop at the Sandals Grande Resort.

Included as participants were doctors, nurses, and nurse's aides. The workshop was organized by the Pan American Health Organisation (PAHO). Multiple topics were covered including general informational epidemiological surveillance, roles and responsibilities, health information systems, reporting of death, non-communicable diseases, ESAVI surveillance and a review of the surveillance tools.

*cont'd from pg 6*

The amendments have now been accepted by eleven States: Antigua and Barbuda, Canada, Honduras, Malaysia, Malta, the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Norway, Singapore, Spain, Thailand, and the United Arab Emirates.

The amendments were adopted at the 32nd session of the IMO Assembly held in December 2021.

They require acceptance by two thirds of the IMO Membership (117 Member States based on the current number of 175 Member States) for entry into force.

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## Students of ABHTI engage in two-day management training

Twelve students of the Antigua and Barbuda Hospitality Training Institute (ABHTI) participated in a two-day leadership training coordinated by Sandals Grande Antigua.

This two-day “work experience”, was afforded to students from the Hos-

pitality and Tourism Management, Front Office and Restaurant Operations, Culinary Arts and Basic Cookery programmes, to experience some time in the life of a hospitality leader at Sandals.

The students were greeted by General Manager of Sandals Grande Matthew

Cornall and Public Relations Manager, Leon Norville. Norville said “We are excited to host the students as a part of our community outreach initiative for March 2023. Coming out of the COVID era, we understand the need for trained hospitality professionals and continue to make our contribution. Our aim is to see a seamless transition from the Hospitality Institute to the work world.”

From meeting the managers, to orientation, the students were thrilled to take on the day. The knowledge gained will serve as a part of their preparation, as second-year students who are

nearing completion of their studies and preparing for their upcoming internships.

After learning about the Sandals brand, a tour of the hotel facilities, lunch, and a question and answer session, it was time to get into work mode.

On Day two, students were coupled with leaders from various departments; Cost Control, Food and Beverage, Water Sports and Club Sandals to name a few.

Chair of the Antigua and Barbuda Hospitality Training Institute Board, Shirlene A. Nibbs expressed delight at the opportunity afforded to the students. Nibbs stated “Over the years, Stakeholder Partnerships have played an integral role in the professional development of our students. Opportunities like these are always welcomed and is consistent with the ABHTI brand of “Excellence” and we are grateful to the team at Sandals for engaging with the institute as a key private sector partner.”

### Pan classes at St. Paul Empowerment Centre

What are our little ones doing? Send your children to learn pan. Coming soon will be classes in guitar and piano. Every child in our community will, by the second half of 2024, have an opportunity to learn music, a sport, computers or be involved in some level of vocational training. Such is my commitment to their empowerment.

<p>Mon 20   Day</p> <p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">82°</p> <p>A few clouds from time to time. High 82F. Winds E at 10 to 20 mph.</p> <p>Humidity 70%      UV Index Extreme</p> <p>Sunrise 6:11 am      Sunset 6:18 pm</p>	<p>Mon 20   Night</p> <p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">74°</p> <p>Mostly clear skies. Low 74F. Winds E at 10 to 20 mph.</p> <p>Humidity 79%      UV Index 0 of 10</p> <p>Moonrise 5:28 am      Moonset 5:28 pm</p> <p style="text-align: center;">● Waning Crescent</p>
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## Finance experts present Caribbean-themed eLearning Initiative as part of Global Money Week

SamuelFields Consulting Group (SFCG), a consortium of finance and business experts has been selected as one of four organizations that will present an innovative youth initiative related to financial literacy, as part of Global Money Week. This annual global awareness-raising campaign organized by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), will celebrate its 11th edition during the week of March 20 – 26, 2023.

SFCG will participate in a webinar “Playing economics: innovative methods to spread financial literacy” that will showcase pioneering learning tools that are being deployed around the world.

The initiative is spearheaded by CeRP-Collegio Carlo, a research hub for Economics and Social Sciences, located in Torino Italy.

Through the PUSH program, they highlight the importance of financial literacy in helping young people build assets and achieve their life goals, using entertaining, pedagogical methods to enhance learning.

Positioned as a community eLearning partner, SFCG provides financial literacy training, using creative and innovative methods to engage learners.

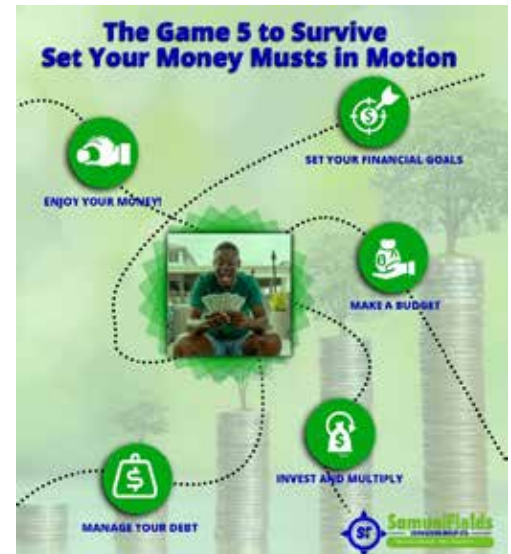
During their recent Financial Wellness -TLC Conference, SFCG launched the 5 to Survive Game: Set Your Money Musts in Motion, which provides key management tools that “turn learning into action.”

SFCG’s online interactive game features the main character Devon, a young Caribbean man who has inherited a large sum of money from his grandfather, Worth.

But before he can access the money, he must follow instructions about the “5 Money Musts”. The game takes Devon on a financial journey to learn from his elders, who deposit seeds of financial wisdom, through local sayings and life lessons, as well as sound teaching points — Caribbean style.

Players help Devon make the right decisions by answering 5 questions on a financial literacy quiz using Kahoot gamification software. The character Devon is played by promoter and influencer, Humroy Wright of Wright Productions.

He gets financial advice from several entrepreneurs and influencers who were guests on SFCG’s



weekly Likkle Byte Ideas Show: J. Valerie Hodge, Dr. Jillia Bird, Patrick Spencer, Dr. Jacqui Quinn and Miriam Samuel.

## DEWS

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DEWS
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# Tony Deyal and tools of the trade

**By Tony Deyal**

In his first book, published in 1994, the great Manchester United goalscorer Ryan Giggs shocked his readers, especially the younger ones, when they reached page 54 and found a double-page, black-and-white photo of his feet. Worse, despite his football feats, he feet were definitely not pleasant to behold. What many readers did not understand is the importance of the tools of our trade and, in the case of Giggs and all other footballers, their feet are what they use to reach any level of the game, especially the highest.

The ‘tools of the trade’ are items that we use to pursue our occupations. The first usage of the term goes back to 1825. Since then, it flourished in words and sentences like, “Giggs decided to put the penalty in the far corner of the goalpost. He nailed it.” In this context, the shovel was a ground-breaking instrument and, when my wife complains that I compulsively buy computer repair equipment, I explain, “It’s not a big deal. It’s my vice.” Or the captain who handed tools to his soldiers standing at attention and shouted, “This is not a drill.” Obviously, where there is language, there are puns like the one about drunken sailors who just landed and boasted, “We’re getting hammered tonight.” Or, when forced to carry huge bags of weap-

ons and ammunition on their backs, they dumped the load in anger with, “Screw this!” Worse was the man who explained, “I was so upset when my drinking buddy called me a tool that I got hammered and nailed his girlfriend.”

## PLOT THICKENS

This is where the plot thickens like a footballer’s feet after years of his opponents putting their heavy boots on his toes. The difference between science and the English language is that, in science, everything has a special name that identifies and distinguishes it from all the others. Not so the English language. We have more things than words and thereby hangs my tale today and the tails of many other people who will understand better when I go into detail.

One meaning of “tool” (which goes back to the 1550s) is “someone who lacks the mental capacity to know he or she is being used”. In other words, that tool is definitely not the sharpest tool in the shed and, in terms of his love life, caused me to write, “A tool and his honey are soon parted.” If you think that particular meaning of tool creates problems, consider that in English, ‘penis’ and ‘tool’ are semantically related. You can use ‘penis’ to mean ‘tool’ (and if you’re into this kind of stuff) or vice versa or just vice alone. Since the 1550s, long before tools were tools,



*Tony Deyal*

‘tool’ was a synonym for ‘penis’ as well as ‘prick’, ‘shaft’ and ‘wood’. For those who follow the language, that tore it! Additionally, guns are also called “tools”. In fact, the terms ‘tool’ and ‘toolie’ have been used by many rappers, including Eminem, Young Thug and Playboy Carti.

All this leads to really interesting interpretations. For example, why does Popeye’s tool never rust? Because he keeps it in Olive Oil. Before the additional meanings of tool came into wide circulation, we had the question “What’s the most effective tool a woman can use to keep away unwanted men?” The answer then was “detergent”. The answer now would be based on the idea that, when your only tool is a hammer, all problems start looking like nails and that includes getting and pounding

your pound of male flesh. The only thing that has not changed is that, whether in the old days or now, a new circumcision tool is cutting-edge technology.

English writer, Sir Phillip Pullman, writer of *The Subtle Knife*, actually showed the increasing subtlety of the word “tool” when he wrote, “The intentions of a tool are what it does. A hammer intends to strike, a vice intends to hold fast, a lever intends to lift. They are what it is made for. But sometimes a tool may have other uses that you don’t know ...” I have also got good advice, not just for me but also for my male and female friends, by American author Napoleon Hill, “Start where you stand, and work whatever tools you may have at your command and better tools will be found as you go

*cont’d on pg 11*

*cont'd from pg 10*

along.” I can’t say that it is the story of my life but, compared with Napoleon, the only Waterloos I’ve met so far are in Jamaica, Barbados (an alley near the hospital) and Trinidad, as well as the university in Canada.

The fact is that the different meanings of “tool” make it difficult to understand which tool is the subject or the object. One article said that the development of the first tools were in the Stone Age and were used for cutting, chopping and scraping. I disagreed. The originators had to be Adam and Eve. The birth of Cain did not stop Eve from being Abel bodied. Other articles were not just more relevant but also provided great advice for beginners like Adam. For example, Wallace D. Wattles showed his ‘wattlessness’ with, “It is essential to have good tools, but it is also essential that the tools should be used in the right way.” Jeff Bezos, the boss of Amazon, the company and

not the river, made a valid point, “We change our tools and then our tools change us.” And, going back to almost the dawn of time, Confucius was on the ball with, “The expectations of life depend upon diligence; the mechanic that would perfect his work must first sharpen his tools.” Ron Kaufman, the American customer service consultant and keynote speaker, put it in the right context, “Giving great service requires the right people and the right service tools.” However, the best comment on the subject is by Thomas Carlyle, the Scottish philosopher, “Man is a tool-using animal. Without tools he is nothing, with tools he is all.” For those who don’t have the wherewithal to prosper, Aristotle, the Greek philosopher, found out and preached from very early, “The hand is the tool of tools.”

This leads to the question, “Are women equivalent to tools?” Scientific American confirms that “men cognitively register women as objects

they can use or act on, like power tools.” But supermodel-actress Cara Delevingne claimed in Planet Sex, a book based on her travels throughout the world to explore gender, sexuality and bedroom fantasies, that men lack the “right tools” to satisfy women sexually. This leaves a lot for us to wonder about instead of wandering.

Fortunately, there is hope for all. American motivational author Louise Hay made it clear that, regardless of sex, size, shape, competence, quality, which side you’re on right now and where the tool of your trade is currently located, “Today is a new day. Today is a day for you to begin creating a joyous, fulfilling life. Today is a day to release all your limitations. Today is the day for you to learn the secrets of life. You can change your life for the better. You already have tools within you to do so.”

*Tony Deyal was last seen saying don’t wait until “tool late, tool late” will be your cry.*



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## UNCTAD: “Embrace green tech revolution or risk falling behind”

Many developing countries may miss out on the benefits of the “green tech” revolution unless governments and the international community take decisive action now, the head of the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) said in its latest report.

“We are at the beginning of a technological revolution based on green technologies,” UNCTAD Secretary-General Rebeca Grynspan said. “This new wave of technological change will have a formidable impact on the global economy.”

The 17 frontier technologies covered in UNCTAD’s Technology and Innovation Report 2023 have the potential to create market revenues of more than \$9.5 trillion by 2030, about three times the size of India’s economy today.

Used to produce goods and services with smaller carbon footprints, the new wave of green technologies spans artificial intelligence to electric vehicles.

The report calls for coherent policy action to enable developing countries to profit from green tech or risk facing growing economic inequalities, as developed countries reap most of the benefits.

“Developing countries must capture more of the value being created in this technological revolution to grow their economies,” Ms Grynspan said. “Missing this technological wave because of insufficient policy attention or lack of targeted investment in building capacities would have long-lasting negative implications.”

While green tech exports from developing nations rose to \$75 billion from \$57 billion between 2018 and 2021, their share of the global market



fell to 33 per cent from 48 per cent. During the same period, green exports from developed countries jumped to \$156 billion from \$60 billion.

UNCTAD’s analysis shows that developing countries must act quickly and move to a development trajectory leading to more diversified, productive, and competitive economies. Previous technological revolutions have shown that early adopters can move ahead quickly and create lasting advantages.

Proactive industrial, innovation and energy policies targeting green technologies are needed in developing countries so they can benefit from the green tech revolution, said Shamika N. Sirimanne, director of UNCTAD’s technology and logistics division.

“Developing countries need agency and urgency in coming up with the right policy responses,” she said. “As developing countries respond to today’s urgent interconnected crises, they also need to take strategic, long-term action to build innovation and technological capacities to spur sustainable economic growth and increase their resilience to future crises.”

UNCTAD calls on governments in developing countries to align environmental, science, technology, in-

novation, and industrial policies and urges them to prioritize investment in greener and more complex sectors and provide incentives to shift consumer demand towards greener goods.

The report also calls for an international programme to guarantee purchases of tradable green items, coordinated green technology research at the multinational level, increased support for regional centres of excellence for green technologies and innovation, and a multilateral fund to stimulate green innovations and enhance cooperation between countries.

The report’s “frontier technology readiness index” shows that very few developing countries have the capacities needed to profit from such green tech as blockchain, drones, gene editing, nanotechnology, and solar power.

Ranking 166 countries based on ICT, skills, research and development, industrial capacity, and financial indicators, the index is dominated by such high-income economies as the Netherlands, Singapore, Sweden and the United States. It also shows that countries in Latin America, the Caribbean and sub-Saharan Africa are the least ready to harness frontier technologies and are at risk of missing current technological opportunities.

## Millions of dead fish wash up near Australian town

**By Antoinette Radford**

Residents in a regional Australian town have woken to find millions of dead fish in their river.

The large-scale fish deaths were first reported on Friday morning in the New South Wales' (NSW) town of Menindee.

The state's river authority said it was a result of an ongoing heatwave affecting the Darling-Baaka river.

Locals say it is the largest fish death event to hit the town, that experienced another significant mass death of fish just three years ago.

In a Facebook post, the NSW Department of Primary Industries (DPI) said the heatwave put «further stress on a system that has experienced extreme conditions from wide-scale flooding».

Heatwaves have become more frequent, more intense, and last longer because of human-induced climate change.

The world has already warmed by about 1.1C since the industrial era began and temperatures will keep rising unless governments around the world make steep cuts to emissions.

Speaking to the BBC, Menindee resident Graeme McCrabb described the



*"There's about 30 kilometres of dead fish," local resident Graeme McCrabb said.*

deaths as "surreal".

"It'll probably be a bit more confronting today," he said, as he warned that locals were anticipating that even more fish would die as the already decomposing fish sucked more oxygen from the water.

Around 500 people live in the town in far-west New South Wales. The Darling-Baaka river is a part of the Murray Darling Basin, Australia's largest river system.

The NSW DPI also said that the fish deaths were "distressing to the local community", a sentiment echoed by Mr McCrabb.

"You can just imagine leaving a fish in your kitchen to rot with all the doors shut and no air con-

ditioner, and we've got millions of them."

The temperature in Menindee was expected to reach 41C on Saturday.

He added that locals in the regional town rely on the Darling-Baaka for water supplies, "we use the river water for washing and showering in so people won't be able to use that water for those basic needs again," he said.

"Over time those people won't be able to access that water for domestic use which is just shameful".

This week's fish deaths throws a light on the troubles facing the Murray Darling Basin.

Drought and increased human use has impacted the health of the Murray Darling ecosystem.

The Murray Darling Basin authority said agriculture, industries and communities have used water from the river system which has resulted in less water flowing through the river.

It also said the Basin is prone to extreme weather events and has a highly variable climate that makes it vulnerable to both fires and droughts.

In 2012, a plan worth A\$13bn (£8.45bn at the time) was implemented to try and stop the river from drying up and returning it to a healthier level.

The NSW DPI said it will work with federal agencies to respond to the latest incident, and to find the underlying causes of the deaths.

## Grenada Prime Minister laments lack of regional social security fund

CMC - Grenada's Prime Minister, Dickon Mitchell is calling for the establishment of a regional social security fund, noting the number of social security schemes across the region.

Speaking to the business community here, Mitchell, the fund was necessary given that the schemes around the Caribbean are under strain.

Mitchell, who arrived here on Thursday as part of a series of promotional activities organised by the Grenada Tourism Authority (GTA) marking the Inter-Caribbean Airways' inaugural ATR 42-500 service on the Grenada to Barbados route, said it is important discussions are held on creating a regional social security net, with funds that can be utilized to create more employment opportunities for our people.

"I heard that Barbados' National Insurance Scheme has had significant challenges. It is not just Barbados, it is every single NIS fund within the region.

"In Antigua, if you go sometimes they tell you 'come back next week'. In Grenada, we are beginning to make significant adjustments to ensure the fund itself isn't bankrupt in 10 years' time. It amazes me that we have all these individual funds and we have not consolidated as a region so that we can get more



Grenada Prime Minister Dickon Mitchell addressing business leaders. Photo: CMC.

development Bank (CDB),

Dr Hyginus 'Gene' Leon, to discuss the social security fund, as well as on the US\$50 billion in liquidity sitting in regional banks. "It's not that there isn't cash or capital available, the question is how we unlock it and we can only unlock it by taking a regional approach to the challenges we face," he added.

Mitchell also spoke on the challenges of inter-regional travel and urged other CARICOM leaders to invest in Inter-Caribbean Airways. "This is the starting point for CARICOM coming out of coronavirus (COVID). We no doubt, as

small islands have challenges, but our success depends on us," he said.

He told the business leaders that the region's education system is not matching the reality of Caribbean islands since it does not even take into account our ocean space, he stressed that basic skills like swimming and diving should be taught as these can help create employment opportunities.

"A lot of scuba shops for example are not owned by Grenadians or Caribbean people but by people from North America and Europe and these jobs are taken because our education system is not geared to our reality," Mitchell said.

## Jamaica ministries to look at impact of COVID-19 on suicides, domestic violence

CMC - The Ministry of National Security will be partnering with the Ministry of Health and Wellness to look at the number of suicides and domestic violence cases that have occurred since the onset of the pandemic.

According to National Security Minister, Horace Chang, there has been an uptick in both domestic violence and suicides since COVID-19.

“We need to pull all the statistics together. [We are] collaborating with the Min-



National Security Minister, Horace Chang.

istry of Health and Wellness to look at what’s happening

there,” he said.

Chang was addressing a press briefing after visits to Cornwall Regional Hospital (CRH) and the Sangster International Airport (SIA) in the western parish of St James on Friday.

He noted that the pandemic also seems to have negatively impacted student behaviour.

“The tension in the schools; all that seems to have come out after two to three years of relative lack of socialisation in the communities, so it’s something that we are aware of. If you notice that when the new compensation package was put out, the Minister of Finance indicated that among the professionals that will benefit significantly are social workers and psychologists because we do need

professionals to deal with these issues,” Chang said.

He added that the Government is also ensuring that vulnerable communities benefit from social service interventions to address these problems.

Chang, who is also the Member of Parliament for St James Northwest, visited the CRH to observe the progress of the facility’s rehabilitation, and toured the SIA’s runway extension site.

He told journalists that he was pleased with the progression of work on both projects.

The Minister also visited areas earmarked for the construction of the Montego Bay bypass in the parish.

Accompanying Chang was Minister of Health and Wellness, Dr Christopher Tufton.

**KINGDOM ALLIANCE**

IRON SHARPENS IRON PAWI CHURCHes NAZARENE THE HOLY SPIRIT HOLINESS CHURCH

**Crusade**

UNDER THE THEME:  
**Kingdom People Stand Your Ground**

**6:30pm NIGHTLY** **Date: MARCH 26-31, 2023**

**Location: Union Estate, Hatton (West of Torturer's Gym)**

THE CHURCH OF GOD OF PROPHECY (COOKS HILL) IN CONJUNCTION WITH IRON SHARPENS IRON, KENTISH PENTECOSTAL CHURCH, FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE, WESLEYAN HOLINESS, GREENBAY MORAVIAN CHURCH WITH SEVERAL OF OUR INDEPENDENT CHURCHES WILL BE COMING TOGETHER FOR SIX NIGHTS OF REVIVAL.

## US ships mega generators to ease outages in Puerto Rico

Loop - Puerto Rico's governor announced Friday that the U.S. government has shipped three mega generators to the island to help stabilize the U.S. territory's rickety electric grid and minimize continuing outages.

The generators will add 150 megawatts of power, and additional generators that the US is expected to ship soon will supply another 250 megawatts, Governor Pedro Pierluisi said.

Officials said crews will install the generators before the start of the Atlantic hurricane season on June 1.

"It's the first step in a very, very complex process," said Nancy Casper, a coordinator with the US Federal Emergency Management Agency.

FEMA is paying for 90 per cent of the project and Puerto Rico's government the remaining 10 per cent as part of a deal reached last year, but both Casper and Pierluisi said the total cost was not yet available because it would depend in part on how long the generators will operate.

Puerto Rico only recently started permanent repairs on an aging power grid razed by Hurricane Maria, a Category 4 storm that struck the island in September 2017. Since then, power outages have become a common occurrence, disrupting daily life on the island of 3.2 million people.

The federal government has allocated some \$12 billion — most of it for the grid reconstruction — but only 18 permanent projects totalling \$88 million have been completed as of early March, according to the nonpartisan think tank Centre for a New Economy.

"At this pace, it would take over



*Deteriorated US and Puerto Rico flags fly on a roof eight months after the passing of Hurricane Maria in the Barrio Jacana Piedra Blanca area of Yabucoa, a town where many continue without power in Puerto Rico, May 16, 2018. (AP Photo/Carlos Giusti, File)*

100 years to complete the reconstruction of the Puerto Rico electric grid," the centre said in an analysis published Thursday.

The power grid was further weakened by Hurricane Fiona, a Category 1 storm that hit Puerto Rico's southwest region in September 2022. It sparked an island-wide blackout and caused more than \$3 billion in damage to the crumbling electric system.

"The temporary generation is critical," Casper said of the new generators.

The temporary power boost will allow crews to take substations, transformers and breakers offline for repairs that could take anywhere from 12 to 18 months.

Puerto Rico's power grid was already shaky before Hurricane Ma-

ria struck, with officials blaming decades of mismanagement and neglect. Its generation units are on average 45 years old, twice those of the US mainland.

The grid's ongoing problems come as Puerto Rico's Electric Power Authority struggles to restructure more than \$9 billion in debt, the largest of any government agency. A majority of creditors have yet to reach a deal with a federal control board overseeing the island's finances despite six years of acrimonious negotiations.

In June 2020, the island's power company privatised transmission and distribution operations, and in January, it announced that it had selected a private company to operate and maintain its generation units.



## Fear, grief follow deadly quake on Ecuador's southwest coast

QUITO, Ecuador (AP) — Some affectionally call Machala the “Banana Capital of the World.” This port community on Ecuador’s Pacific coast is home to about a quarter million people and normally bustles with commercial activity. But not this weekend, not after the deadly quake.

Grief hung in the air on Sunday, a day after a powerful temblor rocked this city, toppling homes and buildings along the coast and as far off as the Ecuadorian highlands and even parts of Peru.

Rubble covered some streets of Machala. Neighbors held simple funerals to bury the dead. A pier was no more. And a day after the quake that killed nine residents alone along this hard-hit coast, many in Machala were feeling anguished and uneasy.

“The city is quiet, fear and mourning are felt,” resident Luis Becerra said. “You feel the pain, the drama, wherever you go. Everyone is alert, with great fear in case there is a replica.”

The quake, which the U.S. Geological Survey measured at magnitude 6.8, shook parts of Ecuador and Peru on Saturday, killing at least 15 people and injuring more than 445 others. Fourteen of the victims died in Ecuador and one in Peru.

The quake damaged and brought down hundreds of homes and buildings in vastly different communities, both in coastal areas and the highlands. But in Ecuador, regardless of geography, many of the homes that crumbled had much in common: many were old, many did not meet modern building code standards in such a quake-prone country and many of their inhabitants were poor.

Yajaira Albarracín, Graciela Chi-



A man takes a photo of a building that collapsed after an earthquake shook Machala, Ecuador, Saturday, March 18, 2023. The U.S. Geological Survey reported an earthquake with a magnitude of about 6.8 that was centered just off the Pacific Coast, about 50 miles (80 kilometers) south of Guayaquil. (AP Photo/Jhonny Crespo)

la, Silvina Zambrano Chila and two children died under the rubble of their home in a low-income neighborhood of Machala. On Sunday, a few neighbors stopped by a tent where the caskets of the women were set out with some floral arrangements and a standing crucifix. Some relatives said rescuers found the bodies of the women and children as if they had been clutching one another when the disaster struck.

The earthquake was centered just off the Pacific Coast, about 50 miles (80 kilometers) south of Guayaquil, Ecuador’s second-largest city. Of the country’s 14 victims, 12 died in the southwest coastal state of El Oro, which includes Machala, and two died in the highlands state of Azuay.

Ecuador is particularly vulnerable to earthquakes. In 2016, a quake centered farther north on the Pacific Coast in a more sparsely populated area of the country killed more than 600 people.

Machala resident Hamilton Cedillo said Sunday that he and his family barely slept in the hours afterward, fearful of deadly aftershocks. They have come up with an evacuation plan and watched videos on how to protect themselves should another quake strike.

“I am afraid of leaving and that my family will be left here alone at home,” Cedillo said.

Pope Francis offered prayers for the victims during his weekly Sunday noon blessing.

“I’m close to the Ecuadorean people and assure them of my prayers for the dead and suffering,” Francis said.

Ecuador’s government issued an emergency declaration covering the roads in Azuay, where the quake debris cut off several roads and worsened already poor conditions attributed to the winter’s rainstorms. One of the victims in that state was a passenger in a

*cont’d on page 18*

# Miami Beach sets spring break curfew after two fatal shootings

MIAMI BEACH, Fla. (AP) — Miami Beach officials imposed a curfew beginning Sunday night during spring break after two fatal shootings and rowdy, chaotic crowds that police have had difficulty controlling.

The city said in a news release the curfew would be from 11:59 p.m. Sunday until 6 a.m. Monday, with an additional curfew likely to be put in place Thursday through next Monday, March 27. The curfew mainly affects South Beach, the most popular party location for spring breakers.

The release said the two separate shootings Friday night and early Sunday that left two people dead and “excessively large and unruly crowds” led to the decision. The city commission plans a meeting Monday to discuss potential further restrictions next week.

Miami Beach Mayor Dan Gelber said in a video message posted Sunday that the crowds and presence of numerous firearms has “created a peril that cannot go unchecked” despite massive police presence



Crowds gather at Ocean Drive and 8th during spring break on Saturday, March 18, 2023, in Miami Beach, Fla. Miami Beach officials imposed a curfew beginning Sunday night, March 19, after two fatal shootings and rowdy, chaotic crowds that police have had difficulty controlling. (D.A. Varela/Miami Herald via AP)

and many city-sponsored activities meant to keep people busy.

“We don’t ask for spring break in our city. We don’t want spring break in our city. It’s too rowdy, it’s too much disorder and it’s too difficult to police,” Gelber said.

The latest shooting happened about 3:30 a.m. Sunday on Ocean Drive in South Beach, according to Miami Beach police. A male was shot and died later at a hospital, and officers chased down a suspect on

foot, police said on Twitter. Their identities were not released, nor were any possible charges.

In the Friday night shooting, one male victim was killed and another seriously injured, sending crowds scrambling in fear from restaurants and clubs into the streets as gunshots rang out. Police detained one person at the scene and found four firearms, but no other details have been made available.

Under the curfew, people must leave businesses

before midnight, although hotels can operate later only in service to their guests. The city release said restaurants can stay open only for delivery and the curfew won’t apply to residents, people going to and from work, emergency services and hotel guests. Some roads will be closed off and arriving hotel guests may have to show proof of their reservations.

Last year, the city imposed a midnight curfew following two shootings, also on Ocean Drive. The year before that, there were about 1,000 arrests and dozens of guns confiscated during a rowdy spring break that led Miami Beach officials to take steps aimed at calming the situation.

*cont’d from pg 17*

vehicle crushed by rubble from a house in the community of Cuenca.

In El Oro, according to the Risk Management Secretariat, Ecuador’s emergency response agency, several people were trapped under rubble or in damaged buildings, unable to immediately escape.

Quito-based architect Germán Narváez said houses hardest-hit by quakes tend to be poorly built, lacking solid foundations, and deficient in structure and technical design. He added that the houses most vulnerable are often old and built with materials such as adobe, once frequently used in Andean communities.

## Russia's Putin makes surprise trip to occupied Mariupol

KYIV, Ukraine (AP) — Russian President Vladimir Putin visited the occupied port city of Mariupol, his first trip to Ukrainian territory that Moscow illegally annexed in September and a show of defiance after the International Criminal Court issued a warrant for his arrest on war crimes charges.

Putin arrived in Mariupol late Saturday after visiting Crimea, southwest of Mariupol, to mark the ninth anniversary of the Black Sea peninsula's annexation from Ukraine, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said Sunday. He was shown chatting with Mariupol residents and visiting an art school and a children's center in Sevastopol, Crimea.

Mariupol became a worldwide symbol of resistance after outgunned and outmanned Ukrainian forces held out in a steel mill there for nearly three months before Moscow finally took control of it in May. Much of the city was pounded to rubble by Russian shelling.

Putin has not commented on the arrest warrant, which deepened his international isolation despite the unlikelihood of him facing trial anytime soon. The Kremlin, which does not recognize the authority of the ICC, has rejected its move as “legally null and void.”



The surprise trip also came ahead of a planned visit to Moscow by Chinese President Xi Jinping this week, expected to provide a major diplomatic boost to Putin in his confrontation with the West.

In an essay published Monday in the People's Daily, the newspaper of the Chinese Communist Party's Central Committee, Putin said: “We are grateful for the balanced line (of China) in connection with the events taking place in Ukraine, for understanding their background and true causes. We welcome China's willingness to play a constructive role in resolving the crisis.”

China in February released a position paper calling for an end to fighting in Ukraine and for upholding all countries' sovereignty and territorial integrity. It did not address how to resolve Russia's illegal claim

to have annexed four regions of Ukraine.

White House National Security Council spokesman John Kirby told “Fox News Sunday” that any call for a cease-fire in Ukraine coming out of the Putin-Xi meeting would be unacceptable to the U.S. because it would only “ratify Russian's conquest to date,” and give Moscow “time to refit, retrain, re-man and try to plan for a renewed offensive.”

Putin arrived in Mariupol by helicopter and then drove himself around the city's “memorial sites,” concert hall and coastline, Russian news reports said. The state Rossiya 24 channel on Sunday showed Putin chatting with locals outside what looked like a newly built residential complex, and being shown around one of the apartments.

Following his trip to

Mariupol, Putin met with Russian military leaders and troops at a command post in Rostov-on-Don, a southern Russian city some 180 kilometers (about 112 miles) farther east, and conferred with Gen. Valery Gerasimov, who is in charge of the Russian military operations in Ukraine. Peskov said.

Peskov said the trip had been unannounced, and that Putin intended to “inspect the work of the (command) post in its ordinary mode of operation.”

Speaking to the state RIA-Novosti agency, Deputy Prime Minister Marat Khusnullin made clear that Russia was in Mariupol to stay. He said the government hoped to finish the reconstruction of its blasted downtown by the end of the year.

“People have started to return. When they saw that

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# International

AROUND THE WORLD



*cont'd from pg 19*

reconstruction is underway, people started actively returning,” Khusnullin told RIA.

Mykhailo Podolyak, chief of staff for Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, heaped scorn on Putin’s trip to Mariupol.

“The criminal is always drawn to the crime scene,” he said. “While the countries of the civilized world are announcing the arrest of the ‘war director’ in the event of crossing the border, the organizer of the murders of thousands of Mariupol families came to admire the ruins of the city and mass graves.”

When Moscow fully captured the city in May, an estimated 100,000 people remained, out of a pre-

war population of 450,000. Many were trapped without food, water, heat or electricity. Relentless bombardment left rows of shattered or hollowed-out buildings.

Mariupol’s plight first came into international focus with a Russian airstrike on a maternity hospital on March 9, 2022, less than two weeks after the invasion of Ukraine began. A week later, about 300 people were reported killed in the bombing of a theater being used as the city’s largest bomb shelter. Evidence obtained by The Associated Press suggested the real death toll could be closer to 600.

A small group of Ukrainian fighters held out for 83 days in the sprawling Azovstal steel works in

eastern Mariupol before surrendering, their dogged defense tying down Russian forces and coming to symbolize Ukrainian tenacity in the face of Moscow’s aggression.

Russia annexed Crimea from Ukraine in 2014, a move that most of the world denounced as illegal, and moved in September to officially claim four regions in Ukraine’s south and east as Russian territory, following referendums that Kyiv and the West described as a sham.

The ICC on Friday accused Putin of bearing personal responsibility for the abductions of children from Ukraine. U.N. investigators also said there was evidence for the forced transfer of “hundreds” of Ukrainian children to Russia. According to Ukrainian government figures, over 16,000 children have been deported to Russian-controlled territories or Russia itself, many of them from Mariupol.

While the ICC’s move was welcomed by Kyiv, the chances of Putin facing trial are slim because Moscow does not recognize the court’s jurisdiction or extradite its nationals.

Ukrainian officials reported Sunday that at least three civilians had been killed and 19 wounded by Russian shelling in the previous 24 hours. The deaths were in the eastern Donetsk region, amid fierce battles for control of the city of Bakhmut, according to

Gov. Pavlo Kyrylenko on Ukrainian TV.

Kharkiv regional Gov. Oleh Syniehubov said in a Telegram update that a 51-year-old woman was “fighting for her life” after being hit by shrapnel as Russian troops fired on the border town of Dvorichna.

Top Ukrainian presidential aide Andriy Yermak said Ukrainian troops were holding the line near Bakhmut, a key target of a long, grinding Russian offensive, adding that the enemy’s plan to occupy the city “are now foundering.”

The spokesman for Ukraine’s eastern forces said Russian troops are “tactically unable to complete” Bakhmut’s capture.

“Yes, there are very active battles, (the Russians) continue to carry out several dozen attacks by inertia, but they suffer huge losses,” Serhii Cherevaty said on Ukrainian TV, adding that Ukrainian defenses are “bleeding the enemy, breaking his fighting spirit.”

Taking Bakhmut would give the Kremlin a battlefield victory after months of setbacks, and could pave the way for Russia to threaten other Ukrainian strongholds in the region, including Sloviansk and Kramatorsk.

Russian forces shelled a house in Bilozerka, a suburb west of the southern city of Kherson, and a woman who was pulled from the rubble was hospitalized, according to the Kherson regional military administration, writing on Telegram.



## Powell hundred gives Hurricanes nervy win over Pride

PORT OF SPAIN, Trinidad (CMC) - Seasoned international opener Kieran Powell carved out a ninth first class hundred as Leeward Islands suffered a late slide before holding on to edge Barbados Pride by two wickets in the third round of the West Indies Championship.

Resuming the third morning at Queen's Park Oval on 13 without loss in pursuit of 247 for victory, Hurricanes were lifted by the left-handed Powell's 104 and Captain Jahmar Hamilton's 55, to get over the line 23 minutes before tea on Friday.

The result was not without drama, however. Powell and Hamilton posted 120 for the fifth wicket, which appeared to have put the game beyond Pride's reach, but both perished in successive overs, leading to a swift middle-order collapse which saw three wickets tumble for no runs in the space of 18 balls, and leaving Hurricanes tottering on 223 for seven.

Kofi James (14) then added 20 for the eighth wicket with Rahkeem Cornwall (10 not out), a partnership which again gave Hurricanes the upper hand.

The pendulum swung again when James tried to end the game but managed only to drive left-arm pacer



*Leeward Islands opening batsman Kieran Powell (CWI Media)*

Dominic Drakes uppishly to cover where Zachary McCaskie pouched the chance, with four runs to get for victory.

In the next over Cornwall was dramatically put down at third slip by Shamar Springer off fast bowler Jair McAllister (two for 47), before the burly West Indies all-rounder thumped the next delivery to the ropes at long off to carry Hurricanes to their first win of the campaign following draws in the opening two rounds.

Powell was the architect of the run chase, the 33-year-old facing 109

balls in just under three and a quarter hours and counting 11 fours and three sixes in a dominant innings.

Unbeaten at the start, he engineered an opening stand of 69 with Montcin Hodge who converted his overnight nine into 34 off 44 deliveries, with half-dozen fours.

When off-spinner Chaim Holder (three for 38) tore through the top order as Hurricanes lost four wickets for 34 runs, Powell combined with Hamilton to stabilize the run chase.

Together, they took their side to 147 for four at lunch and Hamilton, un-

beaten on 15 at the interval, played positively to reach his fifty, 45 minutes following the resumption, while Powell reached triple figures moments later.

Hamilton, who faced 70 balls and lashed seven fours, gifted his wicket to a brilliant catch at cover by Drakes off left-arm spinner Camarie Boyce (two for 59) on the stroke of the hour and Powell followed in the very next over, holing out to deep square hooking at McAllister.

Louis and James then perished cheaply to leave the game on a knife's edge right down to the end.

## Bravo misses out on hundred as Harpy Eagles take win

TAROUBA – Captain Darren Bravo missed out on a third straight hundred as stellar left-arm spinner Veerasammy Permaul spearheaded Guyana Harpy Eagles' charge to a 143-run win over Trinidad and Tobago Red Force on Saturday.

Resuming Saturday's final day of the third round match at the Brian Lara Cricket Academy in Tarouba, San Fernando, on 106 for three with their target of 412 of academic importance only, Red Force put up strong resistance before finally surrendering for 268 in their second innings on the stroke of tea.

Bravo, resuming the morning on 63, was dismissed for 95, an innings that required 170 balls, 249 balls and included 11 fours.

In the second round last month, the 34-year-old scored a hundred in each innings against Leeward Islands Hurricanes at the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium in Antigua.

Wicketkeeper Amir Jangoo provided the resistance once Bravo was dismissed, finishing with an unbeaten 50 from 128 deliveries in three hours at the crease, while counting five fours and a six.

Tail-enders Uthman Muhammad (25) and Justin Mannick (22) frustrated Harpy Eagles in the second



T&T Red Force batsman Amir Jangoo, left, plays a cut shot while Guyana Harpy Eagles wicketkeeper Anthony Bramble looks on during the West Indies Regional Championship round three match at the Brian Lara Cricket Academy in Tarouba, San Fernando, Trinidad, Saturday, 18th March, 2023.

session, each providing support for Jangoo.

Permaul claimed three for 58 while Rosford Beaton (2-53) and Keemo Paul (2-73) finished with a brace of wickets to their credit.

The left-handed Bravo extended his overnight stand with Jyd Goolie (18) to 49 before the pair were separated when Goolie was run out after failing to regain his ground at the striker's end, sent back by Bravo over a sharp single.

Bravo then stitched together small stands with Tion Webster (16) and Jangoo before finally de-

parting with triple figures in sight, loosely driving Permaul high to straightish cover.

On 166 for eight at lunch, Red Force rallied in the second session through Jangoo who added 37 for the ninth wicket with Uthman and 57 for the last wicket with Mannick, before Harpy Eagles' persistence paid off in the final over before the interval.

Scores: GUYANA HARPY EAGLES 324 (Kevin Sinclair 69, Leon Johnson 62, Anthony Bramble 56, Keemo Paul 46, Kemol Savory 44;

Imran Khan 4-86, Bryan Charles 3-85, Uthman Muhammad 2-31) and 247 for six declared (Kemol Savory 101 not out, Leon Johnson 74, Matthew Nandu 33; Darren Bravo 2-23, Bryan Charles 2-60).

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO RED FORCE 160 (Jason Mohammed 50, Jyd Goolie 22; Ronsford Beaton 4-31, Veerasammy Permaul 3-36, Keemo Paul 3-37) and 268 (Darren Bravo 95, Amir Jangoo 50 not out, Uthman Muhammad 25; Veerasammy Permaul 3-58, Ronsford Beaton 2-53, Keemo Paul 2-73).

# PIGOTTS SPORT'S CLUB 7 A-SIDE TOURNAMENT



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## AGS record third innings victory in schools' cricket competition

A century by allrounder Matthew Miller propelled the Antigua Grammar School (AGS) to their third consecutive victory in the two-day competition of the Under-19 Boys' Division of the Inter-Schools' Cricket Championship.

The Antigua Grammar School defeated Clare Hall Secondary by an innings and 91 runs in the latest round of two-day matches, having trounced Pares by an innings and 164 runs in their opening encounter and crushed All Saints Secondary by an innings and 133 runs in their second match.

Miller hammered 102 not out and Glen Williams struck 42 to propel Antigua Grammar School to 203 for five declared in response to Clare Hall's meagre first innings total of 34 all out.

Akil Rawlins captured two wickets for 30 runs and Jordan Castello picked up two wickets for 53 runs in the Grammar School first innings.



Antigua Grammar School allrounder Matthew Miller. (File photo)

Anthony Pierre and off-spinner Shamar Pereira each grabbed three wickets for six runs, Miller had two wickets for five runs and Williams took two wickets for 13 runs in the Clare Hall Secondary's first innings.

Facing a deficit of 169 runs, Clare Hall could only muster 70 all out in their second innings.

Jewel Andrew snapped up four wickets for 10 runs and Paul Fairweather also picked up four wickets.

The Jennings Second-

ary pulled off an innings and 12-run victory against the Ottos Comprehensive School in their two-day encounter.

Leg-spinner Micah McKenzie grabbed five wickets for three runs, Dale Johashen picked up two wickets for two runs and Malinga Bruney captured two wickets for 18 runs to dismiss Ottos Comprehensive School for their first innings total of 53 in 18 overs. Noah Knight scored 18.

In reply, Jennings Secondary made 140 all out in 24 overs.

McKenzie topscored with 43 and Tanez Francis chipped in with 25.

Facing a deficit of 87 runs, Ottos Comprehensive could only muster 75 all out in 29 overs in their second innings. Xaveek Toppin got a topscore of 44.

The diminutive Francis snapped up six wickets for 27 runs and Ondre Peters grabbed three wickets for three runs.

## Ottos Coolers and Fearless Crew1 take 1-0 lead in playoff series

Ottos Coolers and Caribbean Pharmaceuticals Fearless Crew1 made winning starts to their campaigns in their respective first round series in the Antigua and Barbuda Basketball Association's (ABBA) Second Division Playoffs Championship.

Coolers, who finished as run-

ners-up in the league, prevailed 78-66 against Cuties Ovals Young Guns in the opening game of their best of three first round playoff series at the Ovals basketball court on Saturday.

Javon Simon shot a game-high 25 points, distributed seven assists and claimed six rebounds; Lincoln Weekes

sank 22 points and grabbed nine rebounds; Ismael Palemo converted 13 points and snatched 15 rebounds; and Michael Barton snapped up 20 rebounds and scored 10 points for Coolers.

Amare Browne sank 21 points and claimed six rebounds and six steals;

*cont'd on pg 25*





Clare Hall Secondary's player Kevin Pimental, right, dribbles the ball during his team's game against Sir Novelle Richards Academy in the Inter-schools' Basketball Championship at the YMCA Sports Complex on Friday, 17th March, 2023. (Photo courtesy Schools Basketball League)

## CHSS beat SNRA in schools' basketball competition

Clare Hall Secondary School (CHSS) pulled off a 13-point win over the Sir Novelle Richards Academy (SNRA) in the Cool and Smooth Inter-Schools' Basketball Championship at the YMCA Sports Complex on Friday.

Clare Hall Secondary defeated the Sir Novelle Richards Academy 52-39

in their Junior Boys Division encounter. Aiden Christian shot a game-high 28 points and Kevin Pimental sank 10 points for Clare Hall while Shaquan Bishop scored 10 points for Sir Novelle Richards Academy.

Princess Margaret School trounced the St. Anthony's Secondary

School 59-23 in another Junior Boys Division affair.

Craig Massiah converted 31 points and Malinga Bruney scored eight points for Princess Margaret School while Cahorn Jeffers sank six points for St. Anthony's Secondary.

Combine snatched a narrow 15-14 victory over

the Princess Margaret School in the Senior Girls Division. Jenah Andrew scored six points for Combine while Melissa Haywood sank 10 points for Princess Margaret School.

Clare Hall Secondary School prevailed 38-32 against the Antigua Grammar School in the Senior Boys Division.

Aiden Christian converted 13 points, Azandy Thomas sank 10 points and Orion Seraphine scored eight points for Clare Hall Secondary.

Raheem Sawyer scored nine points and Naem Joseph sank eight points for the Antigua Grammar School.

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Jayleyle Joseph scored 18 points; and Judah Ferris converted 14 points and grabbed 15 rebounds and six steals for Ovals Young Guns.

Fearless Crew1 snatched a 64-61 victory against New Generation Slam, who had finished third in the league.

Rafiki Harris sank 23 points and claimed seven rebounds and Ralph Spoon-

er scored 17 points and grabbed 12 rebounds and six steals for Fearless Crew1.

Anjis Anthony scored 17 points and snatched 11 rebounds; Kim Casey scored 13 points and claimed six assists; and Keaddy Martin converted 12 points and grabbed eight rebounds for Slam.

Both series will continue with game two at the same venue in Ovals this evening (Monday).



Players of Blackburn Palace (green and white shirts) compete against Young Warriors (red and black uniform) during their second division football league match at the Fort Road playing field on Friday, 17th March, 2023. (Photo by Elwin Francis)

## Palace edge past Young Warriors in second division

Blackburn Palace snatched a 2-1 win over Young Warriors in a battle of two teams just above the cellar position in the Antigua and Barbuda Football Association's (ABFA) Second Division League at the Fort Road playing field on Friday.

Sadiki Roberts scored in the third minute and Tarique Gomes had a 24th minute conversion to give Blackburn Palace a 2-0 halftime lead. Dejuan Francis scored a goal in the 51st minute for Young Warriors.

Their second win in 14 matches carries Blackburn Palace to six points but they remain second from bottom of the standings. Young Warriors remain just one place above Palace on eight points after suffering their 10th loss in 14 matches.

However, West Ham and JSC Progressors fought to a 2-2 draw in their bottom of the table First Division clash at the St Johnstone's Village playing field.

Catchet Harris put Progressors ahead with a goal in the 37th minute, but one minute later, West Ham equalized via an Orel Edwards' conversion.

Progressors took the lead for the second time in the match when Samique Edwards scored in the 57th minute, but once again their advantage

was short-lived as West Ham equalized in the 69th minute with a Jahmarley Barzy's conversion.

The result left both teams in the same positions in which they started the match. Their third draw in 14 matches carries West Ham to nine points but they remain second from bottom of the standings.

It was the second draw in 15 outings for JSC Progressors to advance to five points, but they remain firmly rooted in the cellar position of the 12-team competition.

Meanwhile, Sea View Farm have re-claimed second place on goal difference ahead of Attacking Saints in the second division league.

They did so by beating Belmont FC 3-0 in their encounter at the St Johnston's playing field on Thursday.

The goals were scored by Junior Carr in the 13th minute, Ikah Codrington in the 18th minute and Morgan Smith in the 69th minute.

Their 10th win in 14 matches carries Sea View Farm level with Attacking Saints on 31 points, five adrift of unbeaten leaders Jennings United. However, Sea View Farm currently hold a superior goal difference, hence Attacking Saints will move down into third place.

Belmont will remain on 19 points and in 10th place after suffering their seventh loss in 14 outings.

Green City secured their third place position in the ABFA's First Division with a 1-0 win over Potters Tigers at the Potters playing field.

A Sylvester Fenton's 54th minute conversion gave Green City their 8th win in 14 matches to advance to 26 points, one behind John Hughes in second place.

Potters Tigers remain on 15 points and third from bottom of the 12-team competition after succumbing to their 8th loss in 15 matches.

Two late goals by Conrad Willock in the 70th minute and Tavin Crump in the 88th minute enabled Young Lions to snatch a 2-1 victory over John Hughes at the Old Road playing field.

Following a goalless first half, Deno Bryan had given John Hughes a 1-0 lead with a 63rd minute conversion.

Their 8th win in 15 matches carries Young Lions to 24 points and overtake Lion Hill into fourth place while John Hughes remain on 27 points and second in the standings despite slumping to their fourth loss in 15 appearances.

Alva Guishard scored twice to propel Bendals to a 3-0 win against

*cont'd on pg 27*

## Da Squad secure another win in defense of female volleyball crown

Reigning champions Caribbean Alliance Da Squad notched up their second win in as many games in defense of their female division title in the Antigua and Barbuda Amateur Volleyball Association's (ABAVA) Local League on Saturday night.

Da Squad Followed up their 3-0 straight-set win against Royal Cruisers in their opening game with another comfortable 3-0 victory against North Coast Hardware Starz Juniors at the indoor stadium at the YMCA Sports Complex.

The cup-holders produced another dominant display to dispatch the young Starz 25-11, 25-9, 25-18 in the first game of a double-header.

Reigning men's division champions Stoneville returned to winning form, easing their way to a comprehensive 3-0 straight-set victory against Sharks in the second game of Saturday night's double header.

Stoneville got their title defense back on track by coasting to their convincing 25-18, 25-11, 25-8 victory over Sharks in their third game of the competition.

Following their opening night's victory over newcomers Pytonz, Stoneville were beaten 3-1 by Caribbean Alliance Insurance Storming Lions in their second encounter.

North Coast Hardware Starz Seniors claimed their second win in the



Reigning national female volleyball club champions Caribbean Alliance Da Squad. (Photo courtesy ABAVA)

female division on Thursday night.

After coasting to a straight-set 3-0 win over Stoneville in their opening encounter the previous week, Starz Senior came from behind to prevail 3-1 against Jets in the opening game of Thursday's double header.

Jet, who finished third in last year's league competition, took the opening set 25-22. But Starz Seniors rebounded to win the next three sets and the match, prevailing 25-18, 25-17, 26-24.

High Flyers recorded their first win by coming from behind to secure a 3-1 victory over Renegades in their men's division affair.

Renegades, who had won their

opening encounter 3-0 against Sharks, took the opening set 25-22.

But they were unable to sustain their impressive start to the game and went on to lose the next three sets and the match as High Flyers prevailed 25-18, 25-19, 25-22.

High Flyers had lost their opening encounter to Caribbean Alliance Insurance Storming Lions 3-0.

The national volleyball league will resume with another double header at the same venue on Wednesday evening. Royal Cruisers will face Stoneville in a female encounter at 6:30 pm and Renegades will clash with the Storming Lions in a men's division affair at 7:30 pm.

*cont'd from pg 26*

Bolans at the Bolans playing field. Guishard had conversions in the 27th and the 35th minute while the other goal was scored by Peirson Vidal in the 73rd minute.

Bendals have now overtaken Lion Hill into fifth place on goal difference.

Bendals joined Lion Hill on 23 points, but have a superior goal difference after recording their seventh win in 15 matches.

Bolans remain on 18 points and move down to ninth place after losing a match for the seventh time in 15 outings.

Renato Archibald score twice as Police claimed a 2-1 win against Lion Hill at the Golden Grove playing field.

Archibald scored in the 15th and 32nd minute while Renford Harris scored for Lion Hill by converting a penalty kick in the 23rd

minute.

Their fifth win in 15 matches carries Police to 19 points and up to 8th place in the standings. Lion Hill slipped from fourth to 6th place on goal difference after slumping to their fourth loss in 15 matches to remain on 23 points.

## Hope's ton lifts West Indies to win over South Africa in second ODI

EAST LONDON, South Africa (Reuters) - New captain Shai Hope scored an unbeaten century as West Indies defeated hosts South Africa by 48 runs in the second one-day international on Saturday.

After winning the toss and electing to bat at Buffalo Park in East London, Hope's superb 128 not out anchored the West Indies score of 335 for eight in their 50 overs as he struck five fours and seven sixes in his 115-ball innings.

South Africa's captain Temba Bavuma struck a career best 144 from 118 balls in the home side's reply, but they were bowled out for 287 in 41.4 overs in their attempt to keep up with the required run rate.

The first game at the same venue was washed out without a ball being bowled on Thursday. The final match of the three-game series will be played in Potchefstroom tomorrow (Tuesday).

"I thought it (the pitch) was a difficult to start on," Hope said at the post-match presentation. "Once you get



West Indies captain Shai Hope, right, plays an attacking shot during the Second One Day International against South Africa at Buffalo Park, East London, South Africa, Saturday, 18th March, 2023. (CWI Media)

in, you've got to go big. You have to play the situation. Credit must go to the batting partners to make it easy for me."

West Indies made a fast start to their innings on a good batting track and managed to maintain the momentum as Hope found willing partners in Nicholas Pooran (39) and Rovman Powell (46).

South Africa handed ODI debuts to four players, batsmen Ryan Rickelton, Tony de Zorzi and Tristan Stubbs, and seamer Gerald Coetzee, and the latter proved the pick of the bowlers with figures of three for 57.

The home side went hard at the target from the start as Quinton de Kock (48 from 26 balls) and Bavuma flayed the bowling, but when the

former was out none of the batters to follow could match his quality.

Bavuma was the ninth man out and with him went South Africa's chances.

"If we had restricted them to around 300, considering we had got early wickets (they might have won)," Bavuma said. "There is nowhere else to learn, this is valuable experience."