

PM Browne: Tier 2 ‘a positive development’

Prime Minister Gaston Browne has expressed his delight over the recent Tier 2 grading that the country received from the United States Government on the issuing of trafficking persons and how engaged governments are in preventing this scourge from happening.

Speaking on the Browne and Browne show on Saturday, PM Browne said this is a good development as it marks an upgrade from the previous year’s report where the country was placed at Tier 2 - Watch List.

The prime minister is of the view that this development is commendable especially as it came against the backdrop of the Antigua Air-

ways- African migrants issue and opposition-inspired calls for a public inquiry into the matter.

“It’s a positive development that we have been upgraded. In the previous report, we were downgraded. So we have been upgraded to Tier 2 ...the top tier is Tier 1. What is most instructive about this report is, it also captured the African migrants who came here in December last year and January of this year. They acknowledged the fact that we treated them with dignity, and they also wanted to ensure that based on their vulnerability, they would not be subjected to trafficking. So the US itself did not make any observation, remotely or oth-



Prime Minister Gaston Browne

erwise, that what transpired was any form of trafficking,” the prime minister surmised.

According to PM Browne, the American government has expressed concerns that due to the vulnerability of the African migrants, the government had to be careful and put systems in place to ensure that they were not trafficked and become sex workers or placed in employment where they are exploited. Fortunately, he noted, to date there have not been such reports.

He explained that his government had introduced several measures to legitimize their presence in the country.

“Despite all this brouhaha, if the United States had believed there was even remotely any evidence of human trafficking, they would have downgraded us. We don’t have any control over

what report the US government puts out,” said a proud prime minister with a sense of vindication.

Last week, the Minister of Foreign Affairs reported that the United States Government had issued its annual report on trafficking persons and had upgraded Antigua and Barbuda to Tier 2. “The Trafficking In Persons Prevention Unit was responsible for investigating trafficking cases, including four full-time staff. The Trafficking In Persons Unit was the investigative arm of the Trafficking In Persons Prevention Committee (TIPPC), the national coordinating body.”

Tier 2 are countries whose governments do not fully meet the TVPA’s minimum standards but are making significant efforts to bring themselves into compliance with those standards,” the US report explained.

PROBATE FORM P7

Rule 15

THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA
(Probate)

In the Estate of Susan Ross late of Fitches Creek, St. George’s, Antigua,
Deceased.

ADVERTISEMENT OF APPLICATION FOR GRANT
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TAKE NOTICE that an application has been filed by Walter Berridge of Coolidge in the Parish of Saint John in the State of Antigua and Barbuda for a Grant of Probate of the will of the above named deceased who died on the 26th day of February, 2023 without revoking a will bearing the date of 10th day of May 2022 wherein the Applicant is Sole Executor named in the last Will and Testament of the Deceased.

Any person having an objection to the application for the grant of Probate shall file an objection within fourteen (14) days of the publication of this Notice.

Dated this 1st day of March 2023

DAMIEN BENJAMIN

Filed by Damien Benjamin, Esq., Attorneys-at-law whose address for service is Griffin House, Sonia King Building, Lower St. Mary’s Street or by the Walter Berridge, Applicant in Person whose address for service is Coolidge, St. John’s, Antigua.

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Director of the Social Security Scheme, David Matthias

Social Security Scheme pension payments on time for June

Pensioners receiving monthly payments from the Social Security Scheme have been assured that their payments are on time for the month of June.

According to the Director of the Scheme, David Matthias, last October, the scheme received a lump sum payment from the government, enabling it to make on-time payments to pensioners since then.

“With a lump sum payment from the government last year, we have remained on track with payments. That is, the monies are sent to the financial institutions on the last Monday of the month in which they are due.

“If you follow that trend, the June payments are due on Monday (today) and we expect to be sending out the payments on that date which keeps us current,” Mathias said during an appearance, on Saturday, on the Browne and Browne show on Point FM.

He, however, noted that there has been an issue with bringing newly qualified

persons into the scheme in a timely manner. He said there are several reasons for this.

“During the period of COVID, because we had limited staff and could not bring people in for face-to-face interviews, we built up quite a backlog and a delay in the processing. We currently have over two hundred persons who are waiting to be added to the scheme,” he reported.

He said the scheme has been working feverishly to resolve the outstanding issues and to have the backlog cleared this year.

Part of the challenges, he noted, has been a difficulty with the software system to make the adjustments based on the number of people who had opted for early retirement. This was compounded by insufficient staff to properly process the sheer number of people.

He gave further assurances that these matters are being attended to and pensioners can now expect the bottlenecks to be resolved by October, the latest.



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Police investigate apparent suicide

Police, on Saturday, reported what they have described as an apparent suicide that took place in All Saints village.

According to the report, the police are continuing investigations into the circumstances surrounding the death of a 31-year-old man of All Saints.

The man's body was reportedly found suspended from the ceiling of his home

in All Saints, by a piece of electrical wire. The discovery was made around 7:30 am on Saturday, June 24.

He was pronounced dead by a medical doctor around 9:08 am.

The Police Administration expresses condolences to the family as they mourn the loss of a family member.

Attempts to get further updates from police sources have been unsuccessful.

NOTICE

TO: Her Worship
Licensing Magistrate,
Magistrate Court,
High Street,
St. John's
Antigua

TO: The Commissioner of Police
Police Headquarters
American Road
St. John's
Antigua

Mr. Muhanad Bitar
Potters Village
St. John's
Antigua

I, **MUHANAD BITAR** of Potters Village, St. John's, in the island of Antigua **DO HEREBY GIVE YOU NOTICE** that it is my intention to apply at the next session to be held on the 6th July, 2023 at the Magistrate Court, St. John's for a **Bottle License** in respect of premises known as **"M.Bitar Restaurant"** situate at Newgate Street, in the Parish of St. John's Antigua and Barbuda pursuant to section (11) (5) of the Licensing (intoxicating Liquor) Act cap. 249 of the Laws of Antigua and Barbuda 1992 Revised Edition.

Sasks L Diamond
Attorney-at-law

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Festivals Commission names sponsors' list

One diamond sponsor Barbuda Government with and six platinum sponsors the Platinum sponsors; have been named as top APUA Inet, A.S Bryden's, sponsors thus far, committed to Antigua Carnival Cool and Smooth, Premier Beverages, the Citizens by 2023, according to an official list issued by the Festivals Commission. Investment Unit, and the Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Authority.

The lone Diamond The full list of sponsors sponsor is the Antigua and is as follows:

Tag Event Sponsorship

Mr. and Miss Teenage Pageant (The University of the West Indies Five Islands Campus/ Co-Sponsors Happy Kids, APUA Inet)

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T-Shirt Mas (English Harbour Rum/Caribbean-Airlines)

Jr. Carnival (OASIS Water)

Jr. Calypso (Smalta)

Jr. Party Monarch (Global Ports)

Melting Pot (Cool and Smooth)

Calypso Monarch (CARIB Beer)

Panorama (State Insurance)

Party Monarch (APUA Inet)

Carnival Monday (English Harbour Rum)

Carnival Tuesday (English Harbour Rum/ Caribbean-Airlines)

Queen of Carnival Sponsors

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- Cool and Smooth
- West Indies Oil Company Ltd
- Cedar Valley Golf Club
- Arton Capital
- Neverland
- Antigua and Barbuda Port Authority
- Happy Kids

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- Premier Beverages
- APUA INET
- Cool and Smooth
- Citizens by Investment (CIU)
- Antigua Barbuda Tourism Authority

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- State Insurance Company Ltd.

Silver

- The University of the West Indies Five Islands Campus

Bronze

- ACB Caribbean
- Caribbean-Airlines

Carnival Baby

- Global Ports
- KFC Antigua
- ABS Television and Radio

Carnival Contributor

- Frank B. Armstrong
- SUBWAY Antigua
- LIAT 1974 Ltd
- FLAVA FM

NOTICE

TO: Her Worship
Licensing Magistrate,
Magistrate Court,
High Street,
St. John's
Antigua

TO: The Commissioner of Police
Police Headquarters
American Road
St. John's
Antigua

Mr. David
Lyons
St. Phillip's
Antigua

I, DAVID JOSEPH of Lyons, St. Phillip's, in the island of Antigua DO HEREBY GIVE YOU NOTICE that it is my intention to apply at the next session to be held on the 6th July, 2023 at the Magistrate Court, St. John's for a **Bottle License** in respect of premises known as "**Wadadli Animal Nature Park Inc.**", situate at Lower Lyons, in the Parish of St. Phillip's Pursuant to section (11) (5) of the Licensing (intoxicating Liquor) Act Cap. 249 of the Laws of Antigua and Barbuda 1992 Revised Edition.

Saska L Diamond
Attorney-at- Law

Hotels occupancy rates trend downwards for May

The month of May has seen a reduction in the occupancy levels at many of the nation's hotels.

While some properties are reporting very robust occupancy numbers, others are reporting a fall-off in their rates, thus forcing down the overall trend for the industry.

The latest report from the Antigua and Barbuda Hotels and Tourist Association (ABHTA) shows occupancy at 58.6 percent. This represents a marked decline from May of last year which stood at 70.8 percent or for 2019, the baseline year due to its record-setting achievements, which was at 63.5 percent.

The answer for the decline may be deduced from the figures for airlift, when compared with the May 2019 figures. This important sub-sector recorded an overall 9 percent decline in May when compared with the same month, four years ago.

The overall figure for arrivals was

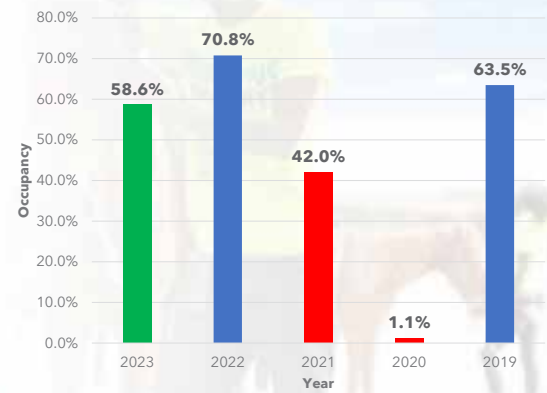


	2023	2022
Overall Occupancy	58.6%	70.8%
Large > 150 rooms	54.4%	75.0%
Mid size 50-150	63.2%	70.0%
Small < 50	69.5%	66.4%
Luxury	63.0%	70.6%
Mid Range	62.2%	72.2%
Budget	35.6%	58.8%

20,290 compared with 22,191 for 2019. Only the United States, with a total of 11,088, and the Caribbean 2,405 recorded increases.

There were 995 more visitors

Occupancy Comparison May 2019 - 2023



Key Points:

- **Approx 16,734 room nights** are closed in the destination (including Hawsbill)
- **April 2023** result, if equaled to the room nights available in 2019 will be **adjusted average to 55%**

from the US and 64 from the Caribbean, compared with the same month in 2019. All other markets – the UK, Canada, Italy, and others – recorded decreases.

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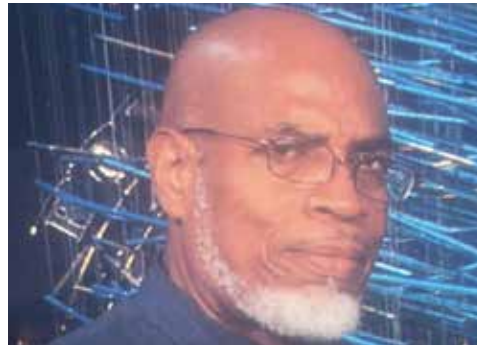
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Bishop Ewing Dorsett has died

A man who straddled the path of being a fiery preacher to that of an astute businessman – Bishop Ewing Dorsett – has died.

Bishop Dorsett operated one of the most successful local businesses on High Street for many years – Strings and Things and Schools Zone, carrying a variety of household and educational products, making it a must-visit for parents and students at the start of each school year. His first business was E Dorsett Corner Store on Corn Alley and later Sights Sounds and Times, which started on Popeshead Street and then moved twice, before finally settling on Market Street.

He would eventually become the owner of the High Street building from which he operated, and which is now occupied by a Chinese-run supermarket.



Bishop Ewing Dorsett

Bishop Dorsett also built up quite a reputation as a religious leader in the Church of Christ of Prophecy. He started preaching in his twenties and by age 28 he was made a Bishop. In 1971, he was named Overseer. In his more than fifty years in the ministry, he has worked in many Caribbean territories or has had administrative responsibilities for territories as far south as Trinidad and Tobago and Guyana and Suriname on the South American con-

continent.

Bishop Dorsett was also a trail-blazer in radio ministry with his weekly services which he started, whilst residing in Anguilla, and continued when he returned to Antigua and Barbuda with his Way of the Cross programme on both ZDK and ABS Radio.

His son noted attorney, Dr. David Dorsett described him as a ‘wonderful father,’ noting that he was able to achieve things that he (Dr. Dorsett) doesn’t think he will be able to do.

Bishop Dorsett was one of the founding members of the Antigua and Barbuda Electoral Commission and he was also instrumental in the formation of the Antigua and Barbuda Evangelical Association.

Bishop Ewing Dorsett died at the Sir Lester Bird Medical Centre on Sunday, at the age of 80.

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Local News



Antigua Cruise Port to host training sessions next month

Antigua Cruise Port (ACP) is stepping up its training of industry partners, as it prepares for what is likely to be another very good winter tourist season, starting later in the year.

ACP has launched the second edition of its community training series, Summer Cool II, which is a series of four one-day sessions, targeting different groups that operate within

the Heritage Quay complex.

“The four, one-day training event, focuses on preparing Antigua Cruise Port employees and external stakeholders for the upcoming cruise season. The complimentary sessions will be conducted by Antigua Cruise Port and Global Ports Holding staff,” a media release from the ACP stated.

The first course is called “The State of the Cruise Industry” and will be on July 11th. It will give attendees an update on the sector and projections for upcoming seasons. The next session will be July 13th and focuses on International Ship and Port Facility Code (ISPS) Awareness training.

“This is an essential course for those who operate within the port and



its surrounding areas, such as tour operators, agents, and taxi drivers. Business owners and other interested individuals can join the “Easy and Practical Maintenance Tips” session on July 18th,” according to the release.

Finally, the “How to Market Your Business” training will be on July 20th. All sessions will be held at Antigua Cruise Port’s Conference Room, located upstairs at Heritage Quay and they will start at 9:00 a.m. with a 90-minute duration. However, the ISPS Awareness training will be for 3 hours. The “How to Market Your Business” training will be online, via Zoom.

ACP General Manager Dona Regis-Prosper said, “We’re continuing to build on our social commitment. We want to share our knowledge with our partners and further develop the cruise sector. The upcoming season will be busy, and we want to ensure that people are prepared to operate optimally when that time comes.”

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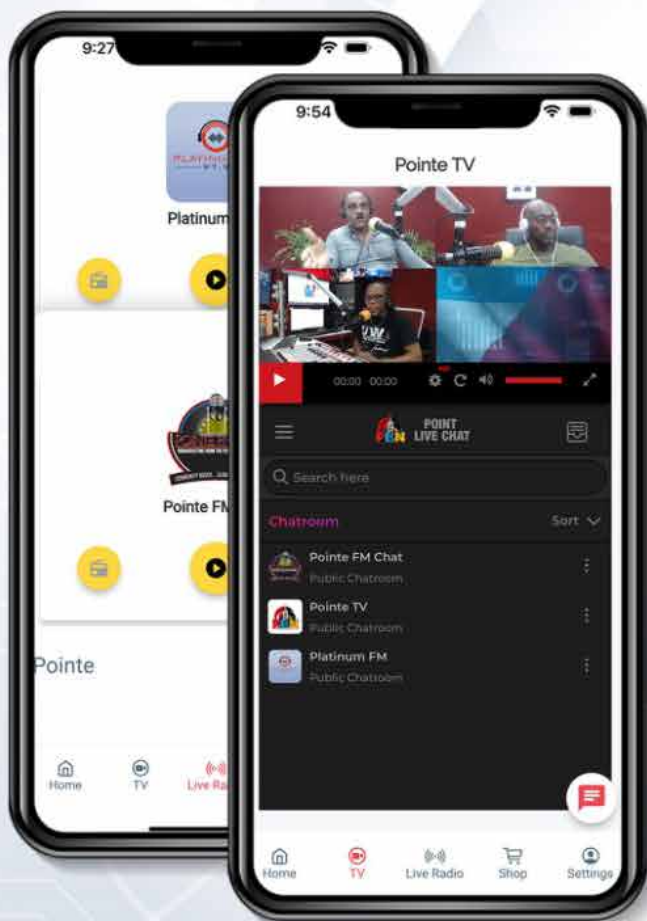


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Opinion



Who the Capp fits

By Tony Deyal

I live in a rented house and, like Andy Capp, I can hear the landlord shouting loudly, "Rent." Like Andy, the word 'spent' comes into my mind but instead of shouting it, I feel it. I am totally and completely spent, much of it from dealing for the past 11 months with a landlady. I have lived in about 30 OPHs (other people homes) in five countries – Canada, the US, Barbados, Belize, Antigua and, of course, Trinidad. I only owned two houses in the 30 years I was mostly on the road. The first one, I had to break down and sell the land. The second is one I have to build back up, a process that is now taking place at great cost, time, and prayer that the weather will improve and make Bret leave the Caribbean, head into the Atlantic, and become 'un-don' together with Emily and all the others.

My landlady, who is more a 'never-done' than a don, was upset that I kept demanding that she repair the air conditioners that were not working properly from the first day I entered the house. I emphasised my rights as a tenant that are set out in the agreement which we both signed. Who tell me to say so? Worse, I had sent pictures of the flood that had damaged my car and locked us up in the house while my son had to wait for hours in a nearby mall. She had assured me that there were no floods

in that street. Worse yet, I had sent her two articles on the 'Crime Spree' and 'Heinous Crime of Home Invasion' in our area. She fired back a rhetorical question, "Is this meant for me?" and followed it with some hard talk on the phone. When I replied, "As a tenant, I have my rights and you have no right to speak to me with threats...I am not a slave." She grabbed me in the short and curly, or at least thought she did with, "You are a writer and you obviously love to write!" She then added some other aggressive stuff. I replied very nicely, "I am a writer and I do love to write. Unlike you, I won't tell you what you are and what you might love to do."

Instead of keeping cool and quiet, she took a different approach. She wrote out what she wanted from me and then at the end put in questions demanding, "A simple yes or no to my questions will suffice for a start. We are not going to make any progress otherwise." She did that twice and I ignored her because I did not want to tell her my favourite 'Yes' and 'No' story that caused me to break down a courthouse. I was saving it for you, my readers. I am sure my landlady doesn't know or ever heard the calypso composed by Winsford Devine and sung by King Austin. If she did, she would have chosen another calypso like 'Mama Ban Youh Jaw'. Essentially, as she will find



Tony Deyal

out, 'The Price of Progress is High'. What is even higher is the hard talk I gave a lawyer when he was questioning me in a matter where I was a witness for the West Indies Players Association against the West Indies Cricket Board (WICB), where I was once the corporate secretary. I actually broke the house down, but fortunately for my landlady, not hers.

LAUGHING STOCK

While I regret making the lawyer the laughing stock of the people present, including a member of his family, the fact is that this lawyer had represented the WICB against me in a matter where I was fired for standing up to the president for trying to use the company's money for his own house. It was not so much the last straw as the last piece of concrete, steel and furniture, or what my aunty

Moon used to call 'funny chairs'. The lawyer was asking question after question, and I kept trying to answer each at the best of my ability. He did not want me to explain anything. He demanded, "You have to answer 'Yes' or 'No'." After the third time, I had more than enough. I told him nicely, "There are some questions that cannot be answered as 'Yes' or 'No'. For example, "Have you stopped beating your wife? Answer 'Yes' or 'No'." Then I raised my voice and thundered, "Have you stopped beating your wife? Answer 'Yes' or 'No'!" Almost everyone present was in tears of laughter. The judge looked me up, down and sideways and then, despite not having a shotgun, he made me shut up and sit down. So when my landlady asked me to say 'Yes' or

cont'd on pg 11

cont'd from pg 10

'No', she didn't know what she was letting herself in for. Fortunately for her, I have the greatest respect for her husband and said nothing. It was a payback to him, because when we once asked him how he dealt with his wife he admitted that he kept both his ears and mouth shut.

In the rest of the Caribbean, people, and not just their mouths, are being shut or kicked out of the places they're renting. Some of these are as costly as they are squalid. Right now, most of the Caribbean countries are losing the middle class mainly because the rich are getting richer and the poor, who will eventually become everybody else, are getting much poorer by the minute, faster even than the 'birth-fate' in Niger (47.28 per 1,000 people) or China, which has the world's biggest population. In Jamaica, according to one newspaper, there are 'Tenants from hell' and 'Landlords flouting laws by barring families with children as tenants'. In Barbados, a newspaper article on 'TO PROTECT RIGHTS OF EVERYONE' mentioned, "The relationship between landlords and tenants in Barbados has always been strained due to the fact that there are some unscrupulous persons who take advantage of the rules, to the detriment of others. This could lead to unnecessary homelessness, inability to pay bills, damage to property, along with verbal and physical altercations."

NOT MUCH LIKED

Generally, landlords and landladies are not much liked. Sociologist Matthew Desmond put it very clearly, "Poverty is a relationship that involves a lot of folks, rich and poor alike. I was looking for something that brought a lot of different people in a room. Eviction does that..." US Democrat Nydia Velazquez stressed, "Too often, the landlord-tenant relationship is unbalanced, with

all the power on the side of unscrupulous landlords." It is why there are so many landlord and landlady jokes, like "What do cuckolds and landlords have in common?" Neither of them wants to give you your deposit back. Or, "What's the difference between a landlady and a pit bull?" Lipstick. Then there is one that is for game players,

"What is a landlady's favourite game to play?" Monopoly. The toughest, roughest one of all is, "Do you know how to save a drowning landlord?" Take your foot off his head.

Tony Deyal was last heard responding to a question from his son, 'Daddy. What would you say when you're leaving this place you're renting?' Namaste.



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Facebook and Instagram to restrict news access in Canada

BBC - Meta has said it will begin to restrict news on its platforms to Canadian consumers after parliament passed a controversial online news bill.

The bill forces big platforms to compensate news publishers for content posted on their sites.

Meta and Google have both already been testing limiting access to news to some Canadians.

In 2021, Australian users were blocked from sharing or viewing news on Facebook in response to a similar law.

Canada's Online News Act, which cleared the senate on Thursday, lays out rules requiring platforms like Meta and Google to negotiate commercial deals and pay news organisations for their content.

Meta has called the law "fundamentally flawed legislation that ignores the realities of how our platforms work".

On Thursday, it said news availability will be ended on Facebook and Instagram for all users in Canada - before the bill takes effect.

"A legislative framework that compels us to pay for links or content that we do not post, and which are not the reason the vast majority of people use our platforms, is neither sustainable nor workable," a Meta spokesperson told Reuters.

The company said the changes to news would not have an impact on other services for Canadian users.

Google called the bill "unworkable" in its current form and said it was seeking to work with the gov-

ernment to find a "path forward".

The federal government says the online news bill is necessary "to enhance fairness in the Canadian digital news market" and to allow struggling news organisations to "secure fair compensation" for news and links shared on the platforms.

An analysis of the bill by an independent parliament budget watchdog estimated news businesses could receive about C\$329m (\$250m; £196m) per year from digital platforms.

Earlier this month, Canadian Heritage Minister Pablo Rodriguez told Reuters the tests being run by the tech platforms were "unacceptable" and a "threat".

In Australia, Facebook restored news content to its users after talks with the government led to amendments.

On Thursday, Mr Rodriguez's office said he had met both Google and Facebook this week and planned further discussions - but the government would move forward with the bill's implementation.

"If the government can't stand up for Canadians against tech giants, who will?" he said in a statement.

Media industry groups hailed the bill's passage as a step towards market fairness.

"Real journalism, created by real journalists, continues to be demanded by Canadians and is vital to our democracy, but it costs real money," said Paul Deegan, president and chief executive officer of News Media Canada, a media industry group, said in a statement

The Online News Act is expected to take effect in Canada in six months.



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Fentanyl: More people injecting drugs worldwide, says UN

BBC - More people are injecting illegal drugs than previously thought, says a United Nations report on worldwide drug use.

In all, 13.2 million people injected drugs in 2021, 18% more than previously estimated, said the Vienna-based UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).

Synthetic substances such as fentanyl and methamphetamine now dominate the illegal drug markets, the UN says.

Globally, drug users increased by 23% and drug-related disorders were up by 45% in a decade to nearly 40 million.

People with mental health disorders, those from lower socio-economic backgrounds and young people were most vulnerable, the report said.

Eastern Europe and North America were found to have a higher prevalence of people injecting drugs than in East and South-East Asia.

Fentanyl has altered the opioid



Fentanyl has altered the opioid market in North America with deadly consequences, the report found.

market in North America with deadly consequences, the report found.

On the basis of data from 18 countries, it said men were five times more likely than women to inject drugs and introduce their female partners to the habit.

Still, only one in five people can access treatment, says the UN, with women in particular facing barriers.

The reasons are many and intertwined: Covid-19, but also fear of legal sanctions, social stigma, lack of

childcare and fear of losing custody of their children.

Ghada Waly, head of the UNODC, said that in many instances, treatment was failing those who need it.

“We need to step up responses against drug-trafficking rings that are exploiting conflicts and global crises to expand illicit drug cultivation and production, especially of synthetic drugs, fuelling illicit markets and causing greater harm to people and communities,” Ms Waly said.

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Canada, CARICOM pledge to strengthen existing relationship

CMC - Canada and the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) countries have reaffirmed the “enduring value of the deep and dynamic partnership” strengthening their commitment to sustainability, resilience, climate action, access to finance, regional security, and shared values.

The Guyana-based CARICOM Secretariat Friday released the text of a joint communique issued following a meeting held earlier this week between Canada’s Foreign Affairs Minister Mélanie Joly and several CARICOM foreign affairs ministers and diplomats on the margins of the ongoing Organization of American States (OAS) General Assembly in Washington.

The CARICOM team was led by Jamaica’s Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade, Kamina Johnson Smith, who is also the chair of the CARICOM Council for Foreign and Community Relations (COFCOR).

The communique noted that Joly and Johnson Smith co-chaired the Canada-CARICOM Foreign Ministers’ Group meeting, where the delegates underscored the need for continued vigilance in mitigating the devastating impacts of climate change, pursuing concrete action to re-build



resilient and sustainable economies, cooperating on regional security, and increasing collaboration in multilateral forums among other matters.

The communique noted that the meeting reviewed the “concrete progress” on the Canada-CARICOM Roadmap for Action, with the ministers noting results in key areas such as climate resilience, trade, inclusive governance, and multilateral engagement.

“For example, as announced by Prime Minister Justin Trudeau in February 2023, Canada is now implementing CAD\$44.8 million (One Canadian dollar=US\$0.75 cents) in new initiatives to support CARICOM in addressing the climate crisis, and the Canada-CARICOM Expert Deployment Mechanism completed 48 capacity-building initiatives in 2022 alone.”

The communique noted that Canada re-committed to joint advocacy for the

needs of Caribbean Small Island Developing States (SIDS) within multilateral fora, including at the United Nations, the Commonwealth, and the OAS.

“Ministers look forward to the report of the United Nations High-Level Panel on the Multi-dimensional Vulnerability Index (MVI) and welcomed future consultations on potential uses of the MVI.”

The meeting also discussed further exploration of reforms to the global financial architecture, including the Bridgetown Initiative and to address the specific vulnerabilities of Caribbean SIDS.

“They welcomed the renewal of CARIBCAN and discussed additional ways to bolster trade and investment between Canada and the region, including for a clean and green transition,” the communique said adding that the ministers underscored the need for collective and urgent action

to combat climate change, including adequate climate financing for adaptation, mitigation, and resilience, and looked ahead to operationalising the new loss and damage funding arrangement and fund.

“Ministers called for new joint and innovative approaches to tackle food insecurity and escalating regional security challenges; highlighting the need to collectively address the challenge of migration in the region and the desire for improved mobility between CARICOM Member States and Canada.”

Regarding Haiti, the ministers acknowledged that the ongoing political and security crisis in the French-speaking Caribbean Community (CARICOM) country “is a humanitarian challenge and destabilising influence in the region and that it must be addressed through coordinated international action and Haitian-led solutions.

“They re-affirmed the need for a national, inclusive political dialogue to reduce tensions in Haiti and that collective efforts towards such a dialogue must continue. Ministers summarised the key priorities for Haiti, including strengthening the security sector, supporting inclusive political dialogue, imposing targeted sanctions, and ad-

cont'd on pg 16

Guyana: Pressure mounts as groups call for Minister to be charged

By Nazima Raghubir

As public pressure mounts on the Guyana government, the Guyana Police Force said it has completed its investigations into rape allegations levelled against Minister of Local Government and Regional Authority Nigel Dharamlall. The Police in a short statement on Thursday morning said that the file is now with the office of the Director of Public Prosecutions.

A 16 year-old girl has accused the minister of grooming her and sexually assaulting her at his home in Georgetown sometime in 2022. The allegations were detailed in a letter to President Mohamed Irfaan Ali and several government ministers as well as civil society groups. Since news broke about the allegations, the state intervened and the girl is said to be in the care of the state while the police conducted investigations.

However, the girl and her family were prevented from seeking private legal counsel even as the victim visited the alleged scene of the crime and gave and signed statements prepared by the police. This sparked additional calls for the government to ensure there is a “fair and impartial” investigation into the allegations.

On Thursday, as the Caribbean Court of Justice held an itinerant sitting in Georgetown, more than 30 people gathered outside the Liliendaal site of the Arthur Chung Convention Centre calling for swift justice. There, Jean La Rose who heads the Amerindian Peoples Association called for the alleged victim to have access to “all means for legal redress” as she said the investigation must be free from any influence.

La Rose said too that her organisation have heard “stories” of similar alle-



Guyana: Groups protest outside the ACCC where the CCJ is holding its itinerant sitting.

gations levelled against Dharamlall, she, however, pointed out that none of these stories were officially reported to the body, “we have been interested in following up these stories,” La Rose said “but unfortunately alleged victims again, here, have been reluctant to bring any story forward, as it is being told, it is being recanted at the same time,” she said.

Activist Salima Hinds who was also at the protest

said there must be some level of accountability, “too often our culture, when it comes to sexual abuse, there is so much silence around it,” she said, “we have a culture where we are quicker to protect the accused and not enough support for women and girls and boys who are victims”.

Hinds said too that the allegations as well as the story point to the need for a better system to protect children, “there need to be systems where not everyone who has power should have access to children,” she said, “there need to be questions about what people are doing, you need to put better systems in place where children are not harmed”.

Joy Marcus of the NGO and women’s group Red Thread wants the DPP to advise charges against the minister as she said she is worried that the girl was already blocked from get-

cont’d from pg 15

dressing humanitarian needs.”

The communique said that the meeting commended Canada’s coordination role with the United Nations Integrated Office in Haiti and the Haitian National Police to facilitate international security assistance to Haiti.

“Canada welcomed CARICOM’s concrete action, including their efforts to support political dialogue, the recent appointment of an Eminent Persons Group, the extension of the Community’s good offices to the Government of Haiti and Haitian stakeholders, including the Kingston Talks

hosted in Jamaica, and the offers to train Haitian police and service personnel.

Ministers emphasised the need to maintain forward momentum and not lose sight of the daily impacts of the crisis on all Haitians.”

The meeting also agreed to continue working collaboratively towards the establishment of a permanent mechanism to deepen the strategic partnership between Canada and CARICOM, building on the Canada-CARICOM Roadmap for Action, and addressing the ongoing political and security crisis in Haiti, the communique added.

cont’d on pg 17

US Coast Guard returns illegal migrants to The Bahamas

Twenty illegal migrants were handed over to Bahamian immigration officials after they were intercepted on their way to the United States.

The US Coast Guard said it intercepted the migrants, who began their voyage in The Bahamas, over a four-day period.

The Coast Guard said it has stopped 761 Cubans and 4,613 Haitian migrants since October 1, 2022.

Missions to stop illegal migrants from entering the US via neighbouring islands continues as the Coast Guard said it will be deploying its air and sea assets to detect and deter smuggling operations.



Lieutenant Travis Poulos, Coast Guard District Seven, commented: “The Coast Guard, in close collaboration with our partners, successfully completed more interdictions this past week

resulting in a safe repatriation of migrants.

“These successful missions exemplify the importance of our strong cooperation and joint efforts in ensuring maritime security

and addressing the preservation of life at sea in the region.”

The migrants will be processed in The Bahamas and before their deportation to their homeland.

cont'd from pg 16

ting her own legal representation, “the child has a right to her own legal representation and if she choose not to have the DPP as her representative, we hope they would allow her to have that right to choose her own,” Marcus told reporters. Marcus said that many times sexual offenses are thrown out because of the lack of evidence and it is worrying that the state remains too involved in the matter that involves a government minister.

“We understand that this is not the first time that such complaints have been made against this individual,” Marcus said, “our question is why something has not been done before now,” Marcus demanded.

Over at the Office of the President on Vlissingen Road, a large crowd gathered as they picketed calling for the Minister’s removal. This was happening as the President held the week-

ly cabinet meeting with ministers of government. Among the protestors were some indigenous Guyanese who travelled from Region 7. Brian Wilson told Loop Caribbean that he “was very hurt” when he heard the allegations, “I have children, grandchild and great grand and leaders in this modern age, we are supposed to set examples,” Wilson said, “We must be strong and try to protect our children in every way,” Wilson pleaded.

A tearful Skeitha Sabanthoni Thomas demands justice for the victim, “as a parent, as an indigenous woman I think it is important for us to demand justice for this little girl,” she pointed out, “I am a mother and from the first message I read from this child, it hurt me, every day I come out and stand here to support her, there is just an anger in me I just cannot express,” the woman said.

On Thursday afternoon, Vice Pres-

ident Bharrat Jagdeo said the government and the ruling People’s Progressive Party Civic would not be speaking much on the issue for now, “the more we speak from the executive it is distorted by an industry out there,” Jagdeo told reporters. The Vice President said the government will not “tolerate abuse of women and children” and said if the allegations “prove true” Minister Dharamlall “must face the consequences”.

The Vice President chided the political opposition for what he said is politicizing the issue as he said the matter “cannot be tried by social media”. The Vice President said too that the Minister has not attended any party or official meetings adding that Minister Anand Persaud has assumed full responsibilities for the Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development. Minister Dharamlall is currently on administrative leave.

Rare Israeli drone strike kills Palestinian militants in West Bank

By David Gritten

Three Palestinian militants have been killed in a rare Israeli drone strike in the occupied West Bank, amid escalating violence in the territory.

The Israeli military said it targeted “a terrorist cell inside a suspicious vehicle” that carried out a shooting attack near Jalama on Wednesday night.

It was the first such strike in the West Bank since 2006, it added.

Palestinian first responders said they found three bodies in a burned-out car but soldiers prevented their removal.

Palestinian news agency Wafa identified them as Mohammed Bashar Uweis, 28, Suhayb Adnan al-Ghoul, 27, and Ashraf Murad Saadi, 17, and said they were all from the city of Jenin.

The militant group Palestinian Islamic Jihad (PIJ) said Ghoul and Saadi were its fighters, while Uweis was from the Al-Aqsa Martyrs’ Brigade, the armed wing of the Fatah movement.

PIJ warned Israel’s leaders that they would “bear responsibility for their stupid decision to strike these operatives with drones and... keep their bodies”.

Israeli Defence Minister Yoav Gallant tweeted: “We’ll take an attacking



A boy inspects a metal fragment left at the scene of the Israeli drone strike in the northern West Bank.

and proactive approach against terror, we’ll use all means at our disposal and exact the heaviest price from every terrorist.”

The Israel Defense Forces (IDF) said its soldiers identified a vehicle carrying gunmen who had carried out a shooting at a checkpoint near Jalama, a town about 3.5km (2 miles) north of Jenin.

“The terrorist cell [had] carried out a number of shooting attacks toward communities in Judea and Samaria lately,” it added, using the biblical term that Israel uses to refer to the West Bank.

“Following the identification of the terrorist cell, an IDF UAV [Unmanned Aerial Vehicle] fired to-

ward the cell and thwarted them.”

Witnesses said they heard gunfire shortly before the strike.

“After the sound of the bullets, I was sitting with my children and we decided to go inside because we thought there were clashes or something like that,” resident Nasser Torokman told Reuters news agency.

“Later on, we heard a sound of a strong explosion. The first rocket fell and I saw that there was fire in the area and a burning car.”

Video footage posted on social media showed what appeared to be several emergency vehicles near the burning wreck of the car targeted in the strike.

The drone strike came hours after a Palestinian man was shot dead during a rampage by hundreds of Israeli settlers who torched homes and cars in the town of Turmusaya, about 50km to the south.

The Palestinian health ministry said the man was shot dead by Israeli forces “while confronting the settlers”. Israel’s paramilitary border police said its forces were securing firefighters when residents “rioted” and troops fired at a man who shot at them.

The attack on Turmusaya followed the funeral in a nearby settlement a 17-year-old boy who was among four Israelis shot dead by two Palestinian gunmen from Hamas at a

cont’d on pg 19

Honduras prison violence: Dozens killed in women's jail riot

BBC - At least 46 women have been killed in a riot at a women's prison in Honduras on Tuesday.

It is understood that a fight broke out between rival gangs, after which one gang set a cell alight.

Officials say most of those who died were killed in the fire but others were shot, stabbed or beaten to death.

An investigation is under way to determine how the inmates managed to smuggle automatic weapons and machetes into the jail.

President Xiomara Castro, who last year launched a crackdown on gangs, said on social media that she was "shocked by the monstrous murder of women" and would take "drastic measures" in response.

She has dismissed Security Minister Ramón Sabillón and replaced him with the head of the national police force, Gustavo Sánchez.

Survivors of the deadly incident told local media that it was triggered by rivalries between two of Central America's most notorious criminal organisations: the 18th Street Gang



Relatives gathered outside the jail desperate for news of their loved ones.

and MS-13.

They said members of one gang had been taunting their rivals, who then set fire to the mattresses in the cell holding those taunting them.

Videos posted on social media showed a huge cloud of grey smoke rising from the women's prison, which is located about 25km north of the capital, Tegucigalpa, and holds approximately 900 inmates.

While the warring factions are locked up in different parts of the jail, the wings are located close to each other.

The unrest broke out

early in the morning local time on Tuesday.

Survivors said that many of those who died had been seeking refuge from the flames in a bathroom. Their burnt bodies were found piled on top of each other.

Others were shot dead and stabbed by gang members in the corridors and a prison courtyard.

Some of the victims are not thought to have been linked to either of the two gangs but were caught up in the incident.

Among them is a former police cadet who was serving a 15-year prison

sentence after confessing to killing a fellow police officer.

Another of those killed was only days away from being released after serving her sentence for kidnapping.

Honduras is known for corruption and gang violence, which have infiltrated government institutions and seen the homicide rate soar.

Along with neighbours El Salvador and Guatemala, the country is a major transit route for cocaine coming from South America to the United States.

It also has a history of deadly prison riots, which are often linked to organised crime.

At least 18 people were killed in gang violence at a prison in the northern port city of Tela in 2019.

cont'd from pg 18

It saw the IDF's first use of an

petrol station and restaurant on Tuesday. Hamas, in turn, said that shooting was a response to an Israeli military raid in Jenin on Monday during which seven Palestinians were killed.

Apache attack helicopter in the West Bank in years. The helicopter fired missiles at militants who had targeted troop carriers with explosives, wounding seven soldiers.

Russia: Wagner chief Yevgeny Prigozhin calls halt to Moscow advance

BBC - Troops from Russia's Wagner mercenary group have reportedly started leaving the city of Rostov-on-Don, less than 24 hours after attempting a rebellion.

Earlier, the group's chief said he had told his fighters to return to Ukraine to avoid bloodshed.

Yevgeny Prigozhin will now move to neighbouring Belarus and charges against him and his troops will be dropped, Russian state media reports.

It signals the end of a chaotic and extraordinary day in Russia.

The Wagner Group is a private army of mercenaries that has been fighting alongside the regular Russian army in Ukraine.

Tension had been growing between them over how the war has been fought, with Prigozhin launching vocal criticisms of Russia's military leadership in recent months.

It came to a head on Saturday morning, when Wagner mercenaries crossed the border from their field camps in Ukraine and entered the southern city of Rostov-on-Don.

In developments that were breathlessly fast, they reportedly took over the regional military command and seized military facilities in Voronezh, another city further north, towards Moscow.



Yevgeny Prigozhin was pictured leaving Rostov-on-Don, where some took photos and shook his hand.

The fighters started to march toward the capital, prompting the Kremlin to introduce tighter security in many regions, including Moscow, where the mayor of the capital city had told residents to avoid travelling.

There were also warnings that thousands of elite Chechen troops were heading to Moscow to fight off the Wagner soldiers, if needed.

In response, President Vladimir Putin had pledged to punish those who had "betrayed" Russia.

The agreement to suddenly de-escalate the situation came on Saturday evening, after Belarusian leader Alexander Lukashenko

held talks with Prigozhin, according to Russian TV channel Rossiya 24.

Hours later, video emerged purportedly showing Wagner troops leaving Rostov, and their leader being driven away to the cheers and handshakes of supporters.

Commenting on the day's events, Ukraine's President, Volodymyr Zelenskyy said the situation was "complete chaos".

"The man from the Kremlin is obviously very afraid and probably hiding somewhere, not showing himself. I am sure that he is no longer in Moscow," he said in a statement.

"He knows what he is afraid of, because he him-

self created this threat. All evil, all losses, all hatred - it is he who spreads it."

There were rumours that Mr Putin had fled Moscow, after flight tracking showed that two presidential planes had left the city on Saturday.

However his press secretary, Dmitry Peskov, said the president was still in the Kremlin.

Mr Peskov added that the arrest warrant for Prigozhin would be dropped and criminal case against him and his troops would be closed.

Wagner mercenaries who wish to sign a contract with the Russian Ministry of Defence can still do so, the press secretary said.

Zimbabwe stun West Indies in World Cup qualifier

Harare, Zimbabwe – Zimbabwe have one foot in the Super Six stage after a dramatic 35 run win over West Indies on Saturday.

Zimbabwe stunned two-time world champions West Indies to top Group A of the World Cup qualifiers to virtually book a place in the Super 6. Zimbabwe defended a target of 266 despite the opposition cruising at 110/2 in the 21st over.

With this win, Zimbabwe are at the top of Group A with three wins in three matches, a total of six points. On the other hand, the West Indies are third with two wins and a loss, a total of four points.

Despite a few notable efforts with bat and ball, the West Indies failed to overcome hosts Zimbabwe in what was a thrilling encounter in front of a packed crowd at the Harare Sports



Club in Zimbabwe.

After winning their first toss of the competition, the West Indies asked the Zimbabweans to bat first. However, the home team was very calculated in their initial approach

and navigated the morning period quite effectively, getting to 61 runs in 15.3 overs before losing their first wicket.

They continued to fall at regular

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cont' d from pg 21

intervals thereafter, until an 87-run fifth-wicket partnership between Sikandar Raza (68 from 58 balls) and Ryan Burl (50 from 57 balls).

The Zimbabwean lower order put up a bit of resistance and were able to get their team to the respectable total of 268 before they were bowled out with one ball left in the innings. West Indies missed several vital chances which let Zimbabwe off the hook and allowed them to post the challenging target.

Seamer Keemo Paul was the standout bowler, taking three for 61 in his

full allotment of overs, and left-arm spinner Akeal Hosein (2-45) was also effective. Fast bowler Alzarri Joseph was again impressive and ended with two for 42 – to move to 99 career wickets in his 59th ODI.

The West Indies came out to bat with a clear task at hand. Opener Kyle Mayers (56 from 72 balls) stroked a well-played half century. This was followed up by solid contributions in the middle from captain Shai Hope (30 from 39 runs), Nicholas Pooran (34 from 36 runs) and Roston Chase (44 from 53 runs).

However, the men from the Caribbean were unable

to cross the line, running out of wickets on 233, with 5.2 overs still left to bat.

Seamer Tendai Chatara (three for 52) took crucial wickets at important times, including the final one of the day's play. Blessing Muzarabani (two for 33), Richard Ngarava (two for 25) and player-of-the-match Sikandar Raza (2-36) also had extremely valuable contributions.

Speaking in the post-match press conference, West Indies head coach Daren Sammy expressed his disappointment.

“We have spoken about it for the past few games. If you keep giving the oppo-

sitions best batters chances, eventually the Cricket God's will catch up to you.

“Considering the direction that we want this team going in, today was really poor. It's about taking responsibility and we didn't do that today. Hence, we did not deserve to win at all,” he said.

The West Indies will look to bounce back today (Monday) against the Netherlands in their fourth and final Group A match. While they, along with Zimbabwe and Netherlands have already qualified for the ‘Super Six’ stage of the tournament, that match is crucial, for points allocation.

All points won in the group stage will be carried over to the Super Six stage apart from those gained against the bottom two from each group. Therefore, Zimbabwe will carry forward four points (from the two wins over West Indies and Netherlands). West Indies will aim to defeat Netherlands and carry forward two points.

The Super Six stage will be played from Thursday 29th June to Friday 7th July. The teams will each play three Super Six matches against the sides that progressed from the opposite group.

The final will be played at Harare Sports Club on Sunday, 9th July. Both finalists will progress to the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2023, to be played in India.

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Antiguan basketballers suffer losses at FIBA AmeriCup 2025 Pre-Qualifiers

The national senior men's basketball team, the Antigua and Barbuda Wadadli Bulldogs, lost for the second time in as many games when they were trounced 97-53 by Cuba in the second round of the FIBA AmeriCup 2025 Pre-Qualifiers in Managua, Nicaragua, on Saturday.

Antigua and Barbuda were out-matched and out-played by the more efficient Cubans from start to finish. The Cubans, who led 47-30 at halftime, had balanced scores throughout the game.

The Cubans were led by Jasiel Rivero with 15 points and five rebounds and Yoel Cubilla with 13 points and six rebounds.

Team-mate Michel Espinosa converted 12 points; Karel Guzman had 12 points, seven assists, and six rebounds; and Yoanki Mensia chipped in with 10 points, seven rebounds, and five assists.

The Wadadli Bulldogs' leading scorers against the Cubans were Alexis Jackson with 14 points and 12 rebounds, and Cohen Desouza with 13 points.

Point guard Jaden Andrew had his second poor shooting display and ended with just three points in almost 29 minutes on 10 percent shooting, in which he converted just one of his 10 field goal attempts.

It was a continuation of a poor shooting display by Andrew and a few other key



Antigua and Barbuda's Xavier Spencer attempts a shot during their second round encounter against Nicaragua in the FIBA AmeriCup 2025 Pre-Qualifiers in Managua, Nicaragua, on Friday, 23rd June, 2023. (Photo courtesy ABBA)

players for the Wadadli Bulldogs from Friday's opening game, which they lost 71-79 against host Nicaragua.

Andrew, who played the most minutes (35), had a poor shooting night, converting four of his 15 attempts on 26 percent shooting to finish with 11 points and five rebounds.

Selassie Braithwaite led the Wadadli Bulldogs with 16 points, and Kareem Edwards, the only Antiguan player to shoot above 50 percent in the opening game, scored 12 points in just 12 and a half minutes.

Edwards had a 57 percent conversion on four of seven shots in which he converted four of his six

three-pointers.

Jamine Charles also scored 11 points in 28 minutes and Xavier Spencer chipped in with 10 points in 24 minutes. But Cohen Desouza failed to score a point in just over 15 minutes of play in which he failed to converted any of his six field goal attempts.

But the Wadadli Bulldogs were still able to match the Nicaraguans toe to toe in the first half and trailed the host 33-34 at the halfway stage of the encounter.

However, the home-side were eventually able to break the shackles by producing a more dominant display in the third quarter in which they outscored the

Antiguans 30-18 to take total control of the match to secure their eight-point victory over the Wadadli Bulldogs.

Jared Ruiz was an unstoppable force for the home side and he led all scorers by producing a game-high 41 points with eight rebounds and five assists for the Nicaraguans.

Ruiz shot the ball at an impressive 60 percent by converting 15 of his 25 field goal attempts, including six of his nine three-point shots.

The next best performers for Nicaragua were Bartel Lopes with eight points and 13 rebounds, and Francisco Garth, who also scored eight points.

Samuels appointed interim head coach for Windies women's team

Cricket West Indies (CWI) has announced the appointment of Robert Samuels as the Interim Head Coach for the West Indies Women's team for the upcoming CG United One Day International (ODI) Series and West Indies T20 International (T20I) series against Ireland in St. Lucia.

Samuels, a former Jamaica captain and West Indies batsman, played six Test matches and eight ODIs in addition to 106 first-class matches and 77 List A matches. His most recent role was as an assistant coach with the West Indies Women team.

Speaking on Samuels' appointment, CWI's High Performance Manager



Cricket West Indies has announced the appointment of Robert Samuels, right, as the Interim Head Coach for the West Indies Women's team. (CWI Media)

Graeme West said, "Robert brings continuity and stability to get the team through this period."

"He has great knowledge of the players and the women's game in general and strong knowledge of the support staff, so it's almost a seamless transition with Robert coming in as

interim head coach."

The interim assistant coaches are former West Indies spin bowler, Ryan Austin and Steve Liburd, the former Leeward Islands batsman and captain. Liburd is the head coach of the West Indies Women's Under-19 Rising Stars.

The West Indies

18-member squad is presently at a training camp at the Daren Sammy Cricket Ground in St. Lucia where they are preparing to face Ireland Women in the three-match CG United ODI Series, which starts on Monday, June 26th. This will be followed by the three-match T20 International Series from July 4th to 8th.

The matches are the West Indies Women's only home fixture in 2023. The three CG United ODIs comprise West Indies' third fixture in the ICC Women's Championship where they are pushing to win points to achieve a top five position to qualify automatically for the 2025 ICC Women's Cricket World Cup.

West Indies name provisional squad for first two ODIs against Ireland

GROS ISLET, St. Lucia – Cricket West Indies (CWI) Women's Selection Panel has announced the West Indies Women's provisional squad for the first and second CG United One Day Internationals (ODIs) against Ireland Women, to be played at the Daren Sammy Cricket Ground on 26th and 28th June.

The provisional squad includes some exciting new talent, with right-arm off-spinner Ashmini Munisar and wicketkeeper-batter Shunelle Sawh being named for the first time.

Both players have shown their potential with the West Indies Rising Stars Under-19 team and have now
cont'd on pg 25



Players of the West Indies women's team in celebration on the field of play. (CWI Media)

West Indies v Ireland to be first-ever televised Women's Series in the Caribbean

Cricket West Indies (CWI) has announced that the West Indies versus Ireland will be the first ever televised Women's Series in the Caribbean.

Starting in St. Lucia today, the full six-match series will be broadcast exclusively live on Flow Sports, FanCode, BT Sport, ESPN, SuperSport and Sky New Zealand.

This groundbreaking broadcast is the result of CWI's strategy to continue to increase investment into women's cricket development and expanding the audience for the women's game.

The enhanced multi-camera coverage with commentary and graphics will be produced by our host broadcast partners, Whisper TV.

The West Indies, led by all-rounder Hayley Matthews, face Ireland in three CG United One Day Internationals, West Indies' third ICC Women's Championship fixture, as the team



West Indies skipper Hayley Matthews, right, bats during the 2023 ICC Women's T20 World Cup match against Ireland in South Africa. (ICC Rodger Bosch/AFP)

seek to win points towards automatic qualification for the ICC Women's World Cup in 2025.

The Daren Sammy Cricket Ground will host the CG United ODI Series and the three-match T20 Internationals (T20I) Series to follow.

West Indies' experienced captain, Hayley Matthews welcomed the

news of the live broadcast. She said, "It's a huge step for us in the West Indies."

Dominic Warne, CWI Commercial Director said, "It will be an historic moment when a full West Indies Women's home series is broadcast live for the first time in the Caribbean.

Fans in the UK and Ireland can watch the six match series exclusively

live on BT Sport. The Series will also be broadcast live in India on FanCode and in New Zealand with Sky Sport.

SuperSport will broadcast the matches in sub-Saharan Africa, with ESPN streaming live in the USA. For all other countries, fans can watch exclusively on the WindiesCricket YouTube channel.

cont'd from pg 24

been called up to the senior West Indies Women's squad.

They will be joining their Rising Stars teammates Zaida James and Djenaba Joseph, who have already gained valuable experience representing the senior team in the Tri-Series against India and South Africa and the ICC Women's T20 World Cup earlier this year.

The squad is boosted by Chinelle Henry, the experienced all-rounder,

who is selected having fully recovered from the injury which kept her out of the recent CG United Super50 Cup and CWI T20 Blaze tournaments.

The squad is led by captain Hayley Matthews and vice-captain Shemaine Campbelle. The official squad of 13 players will be named ahead of each match.

CWI's Lead Selector for Women's Cricket, Ann Browne-John, said, "The CG United ODI series against Ireland gives a good oppor-

tunity for batters to focus and to stay longer at the crease and build an innings.

West Indies Women Provisional Squad: Hayley Matthews (captain), Shemaine Campbelle (vice-captain), Aaliyah Alleyne, Shamilia Connell, Chinelle Henry, Afy Fletcher, Cherry Ann Fraser, Shabika Gajnabi, Zaida James, Djenaba Joseph, Qiana Joseph, Ashmini Munisar, Karishma Ramharack, Shunelle Sawh, Stafanie Taylor, and Rashada Williams.



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Sea View Farm get first win in Dave Joseph one-day contest

Dreams 2 Reality Sea View Farm snatched a four-run victory against National Parks/Cool & Smooth Masters to record their first win in the Antigua Commercial Bank Parish League Dave Joseph Limited Overs Championship on Saturday.

Sea View Farm batted first and made 109 for five in their encounter at the Sea View Farm playing field. Rolston "Triss" Phillip top-scored with 40, while Jelani Mussington and Demari Benta each made 22. Kadeem Henry claimed two for 18 and Frankie Francis captured two for 39.

Benta then snapped up five for 11 and Tassilo Allen grabbed three for 11 as Masters crashed to 105 all out. Henry top-scored with 40 and Dean Williams made 19.

The defending champions Police snatched a narrow two-wicket win over

Old Road at the Old Road playing field.

Set 174 to win, Police achieved victory by scoring 176 for eight in 27 overs. Captain Derek Mourillon hit an unbeaten 53, Vincent Shadrach Jr. made 25 and James Cornelius chipped in with 23.

Cornelius, bowling right-arm off-spin, picked up four for 33, Malique Gerald snapped up three wickets for one run and Lashorn Barnarde captured two for 46 to help dismissed Old Road for 173 off 29.1 overs.

Dravid Richardson hit a top score of 64, Cameron Miller made 26 and Malique Jacobs chipped in with 20.

Freetown beat Mahico by 29 runs at the Freetown playing field. Freetown were all out for 147 in 31.4 overs. Hughan Tonge smashed 62 and Shacoy Floyd struck 33. Daren Dunnah grabbed four for 19 and Omarley Heylig-



Captain Derek Mourillon hits an unbeaten half century to lead Police to victory over Old Road in the Dave Joseph Parish League one-day contest on Saturday.

er picked up three for 24. tributed 29. Jarel Phillip

In reply, Mahico crashed took three for 16 and Kief Baltimore claimed two for 23. made 36 and Dunnah con-

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all-rounder Wilden Cornwall Jr. and batsman Tarrique Charles of Antigua and Ronald Williams of St Kitts. The other reservists are Zavio Henry of Montserrat and Randell Longville of St. Maarten.

The Leeward Islands Cricket Board has also retained former Anguilla batsman Terry Adams as the head coach and Pernel "Roxie" Joseph of Antigua as the manager.

The squad was selected following a brief training camp that included a few practice matches in Antigua last week.

This year's regional Under-19

championship will involve 50-over one-day and three-day tournaments. Matches in the competitions will be contested at four venues, the Arnos Vale Cricket Ground, Park Hill, Sion Hill and Cumberland Playing Fields, while Stubs will also be used as a practice ground.

The one-day tournament will begin with three first round matches on Tuesday July 4th and the games will be played from 9:30 am to 4:40 pm daily.

The Leewards will begin their campaign against the Windward Islands at Arnos Vale. Trinidad & Tobago will face off against Barbados at Sion Hill and Guyana will clash with Jamaica at

Cumberland.

St Vincent and the Grenadines also hosted the CWI Under-19 men's championship in 2019, the last time the competition was held before it was cancelled in 2020 and 2021 due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Leeward Islands Under-19 (Full Squad): Carlton Bowen-Tuckett (captain), Michael Greaves, Nathan Edwards, Jewel Andrew, Yannique Watley, Michael Palmer, Chamiqueko Landefort, Amarius Harris, Micah McKenzie, Kimani Nisbett, Tyanick Honore, Malique Walsh, Onaje Amory and DeAntre Drew.

Five Antiguanans in Leewards Under-19 squad



Jewel Andrew



Onaje Amory

Five Antiguanans have been selected in a 14-member Leeward Islands Squad to defend their title in the Cricket West Indies (CWI) Future Stars Under-19 Championship in St. Vincent and the Grenadines from July 2nd to August 2nd.

Among them is the Pigotts Crushers middle-order batsman Jewel Andrew, who has been named as vice-captain of the team.

Andrew and the other four Antiguanans selected were all members of the Leeward Islands team that won last year's regional Under-19 championship that was also held in St Vincent and the Grenadines.

They include the PIC Insurance

Liberta Blackhawks middle-order batsman Michael Greaves, who was vice-captain of the team in last year's competition.

The other Antiguanans are Freetown's left-arm seamer Yannique Watley, Empire Nation's leg-spinner Micah McKenzie and Liberta Black Hawks opener Malique Walsh.

The 16-year-old McKenzie was the fourth leading wicket-taker in last year's tournament with 13 scalps.

The squad, which will once again be captained by wicketkeeper Carlton Bowen-Tuckett of Nevis, also retains St Maarten's left arm pacer Nathan Edwards, who has captained the Leeward Islands Under-17 side during last year's

regional tournament in Trinidad & Tobago.

Also included is St Maarten's Michael Palmer, who was also a member of this year's Leeward Islands Under-19 and Under-17 sides.

Also retaining their places in the Leeward Islands Under-19 squad are off-spinner Onaje Amory, Chamiqueko Landefort, Amarius Harris and DeAntre Drew.

The squad is completed by two newcomers, Tyanick Honore of St. Maarten and Kimani Nisbett of Nevis.

Three players, who were members of last year's winning team, have been named among five reserves. They are

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