

THURSDAY 21ST SEPTEMBER 2023 | VOLUME 4 ISSUE 182 | WWW.POINTVILLE.AG

# LARRY GONSALVES LOSES CASE AGAINST WIOC



Senator Dwayne George presented three schools in the St. Mary's South constituency with electric fans to help them to cope with the heat waves that have been affecting the country over the past several weeks. Story on page 6.

## **Local News**



### High Court denies an application from Larry Gonsalves against WIOC

The High Court has refused an application for injunctive relief brought by Larry Gonsalves, who operated the Friar's Hill Gas Station under contract with West Indies Oil Company (WIOC), the owners of the said service station.

According to the court records, Gonsalves sought to have the court order WIOC to continue to provide it with oil and other related products. Effectively, Gonsalves wanted the court to rule that he ought to continue operating the service station even

The High Court has reafter he was given notice to return the station to WIOC according to the agreement between both parties.

> "The First Applicant (Gonsalves) and the Respondent (WIOC) entered into a service station agreement for the Respondent to provide him with petroleum products which included motor gas, kerosene, and diesel, lubricating oils and greases and LGP gas.

> "The First Applicant and the Respondent had previously operated pursuant to an oral agreement but on 1st

September 2004 sought to formalise the same. Although the aforesaid parties signed the agreement there appeared to be some anomalies in that inter alia the seal of the Respondent was not affixed and the alleged wrong placement of the signature of the First Applicant. Notwithstanding the parties operated under the terms and conditions of that agreement for the past 19 years," the High Court Judge, Jan Drysdale revealed in her 6-page ruling.

The court heard that after receiving the letter of termi-



nation, Gonsalves petitioned the company on 28th February 2023 to provide him with one month's worth of petroleum products as well as severance for all 16 of his employees.

The company declined his request in a letter dated 26th April 2023 and both parties reached a verbal agreement to extend the lease until August 31, 2023. This was formalized in a letter of August 18, 2023.

Justice Drysdale has questioned the time that Gonsalves took in making his application before the court, noting that his concerns seemed more about compensation for his employees that for the extension of the lease. Neither, she added, did he raise an alarm over the termination of the lease.

After careful review of the arguments submitted by both parties, the judge made the final ruling;

IT IS HEREBY OR-DERED THAT:

1. The application for interim relief is refused.

2. The Applicant shall pay the Respondent costs in the sum of \$1,500.00.

3. The First Applicant shall have carriage of this order

Gonsalves was represented by Dr. David Dorsett and Jarid Hewlett while WIOC was represented by Dr. Errol Cort and Claneisha Gumbs. The case was heard in chambers.

### **Local News**



### Home owners receive keys to houses at Lighthouse Development

Six families received keys to their new homes that form part of the Lighthouse Housing Project near Bolans.

The presentation took place on Wednesday with the six home owners in attendance along with Housing Minister, the Honourable Maria Browne, as well as members of the board of Central Housing and Planning Authority (CHAPA) and staff of the statutory body, led by the Housing Executive Officer, Mark Richards.

Also in attendance were Senator the Honourable Dwayne George, the ABLP Candidate for the upcoming by-election in the St Mary's South constituency due by October 26. Former representative, Senator the Honourable Samantha Marshall, under whose tenure the project started also attended.

The project features two and three bedroom concrete houses built to withstand the climatic events such as hurricanes.

A spokesman for CHAPA said the agency will construct a total of 60 homes as part of the development.

The spokesman disclosed that



the Lighthouse Project is just one of several currently being undertaken by the government's housing agency.

The Housing Minister announced that more home owners will receive keys to their houses by the end of the week.

She said the project is one of several being undertaken by the government as part of what has been termed the 'housing revolution' it has initiated in the country.

Keys were also presented to respective owners at Oliver's (behind LICS ltd.) as a few new homes were handed over this week and there are many more new homes to distribute.

The Cabinet applauded National Housing and CHAPA for their vigilance in providing new homes at a discounted rate to citizens in need of housing.

Chairman of the Board at CHA-PA, Craig Christopher, congratulated the home owners who received their keys, noting that while there were challenges along the way, together every arrived at a happy ending.

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# Parts of re-piping project to be outsourced

**Local News** 

Utilities Minister the Honourable Melford Nicholas has acknowledged that the re-piping and repairs of underground water mains currently underway are a massive undertaking, the scale of which is unknown to the general public.

As such, Nicholas has revealed that the administration is considering outsourcing some of the work being carried out, in order to ensure a better outcome, especially for road users.

"How do we get to a better outcome where we are not damaging the road surfaces and leaving them in a state of disrepair? We have decided upon an outsource team between APUA and public works. So, I imagine in another couple of weeks we should in the first instance ensure as a trial option we know how it works, the real cost of doing it and the obligation is going to fall on APUA as it rightly should, so that we can move towards that situation in ultimum."

The repair of underground pipes and resurfaced roads is one of the hurdles standing in the way of the government's efforts to normalize daily supply of water





Utilities Minister Melford Nicholas to households and businesses across Antigua and Barbuda, but one which they intend to overcome.

The project is a joint initiative between the Antigua Public Utilities Authority and the Ministry of Works and according to Minister Nicholas, repairing just the roads that were dug up by APUA to facilitate underground pipe work is expected to cost several millions of dollars.

"At this stage it is a huge challenge! If I were to make an estimate as to what it will take to repair and resurface all of the roads that APUA has gone under in any one year, it will be in the hundreds of millions of dollars," Nicholas stated.

Corroded iron pipes and fragile PVCs are widespread within the APUA network and are responsible for breakages and leakages. If not replaced, the distribution of water to communities will be severely hampered, since the high pressure required to move it through the mains will be causing more damage.

"We have over five hundred of these faults every month. So, because of the high pressure it requires to get water to these far distances, and the fact that the pipelines are brittle, you will have frequent breakage and when you have these frequent breakage, you have to go into frequent repairs," the utilities minister explained.

Government has reiterated its commitment to solving the water issues being experienced by citizens and residents through its re-piping programme, repairing existing wells and the construction of Reverse Osmosis Plants (ROs), which are already bringing relief to consumers.



## **Local News**

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# Businessman accused of writing "bounced cheques"

The police are investigating a case of fraud that was perpetrated against Lingies Lights and Windows located at Utility Drive in Cassada Gardens.

Reports are that a Hispanic businessman of Skerritts Pasture wrote two Antigua Commercial Bank business cheques totalling more than fourteen thousand dollars to the business establishment Lingies Lights and Windows on two separate occasions, after purchasing building materials between 29th August and 6th September, 2023.

The business place was subsequently notified that

there were discrepancies with the two transactions, since there were insufficient funds in the customer's account.

The manager of Lingies Lights and Windoors reported to the Criminal Investigations Department that one cheque was written in the amount of \$5,225 and the second \$9,120.01.

Police have since searched for the businessman, but his whereabouts are currently unknown.

The report was made to the police on 19th September, 2023.

Investigations are ongoing. TO: The Licensing Magistrate District "A" Grays Farm St. John`s Antigua

The Management Pointe FM 99.1 Radio Station Lower St. John`s Antigua

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2023

#### NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A BOTTLE LICENCE FOR BUSINESS RESGISTERED AS NATURAL MYSTIC VARIETY SHOP

I Stafan Robertson, DO HEREBY GIVE NOTICE, that it is my intention to apply at the next sitting of Liquor Licence Court to be held at the St. John Magistrate Court located at Grays Farm, Antigua on 6<sup>th</sup> day of October 2023 ensuing for a bottle license in respect of the premises known as "NATURAL MYSTIC VARIETY SHOP" located at All Saints Road, in the parish of St. John's, Antigua in the vicinity of Kennedy's Liquor world pursuant to Section 11 (5) of the Licensing (Intoxicating Liquor) Act Cap 249 of the Laws of Antigua and Barbuda, Revised Edition 1992.

NOTICE

For any Further information I can be contacted at 726-3858

Stafan Robertson



### **Local News**

### POINCEXPRESS

# Senator Dwayne George distributes fans to schools in St. Mary's South

Three schools in the St. Mary's South constituency were presented with electric fans to help them to cope with the several heat waves that have been affecting the country over the past several weeks.

The presentation started at the St. Mary's School for Excellence in Bolans where 20 fans were presented to the principal, Casey Phillip, who thanked Senator Dwayne George for his goodwill gesture noting that this is a timely donation given the current heat wave and the discomfort that this causes for students and teachers alike.

Senator George said he firmly believes that students learn better in an environment that is conducive to learning and the donation of electrical fans will go a long way to alleviate the heat thus making it easier for students to concentrate on learning.

12 fans each donated to





the S.R Olivia David Primary school (formerly Bolans Primary) and the Urlings Primary school.

At S.R Olivia David, Charlie Byers accepted the fans on behalf of principal, Joycelyn James, while principal, Denese Parker accepted the fans at the Urlings primary.

Senator George said ultimately there will come a time when the fans will have to be replaced by air conditioning units, and that he is prepared to assist where possible with that upgrade.



# **PORTONNAL OCCUPATION POV CAB makes donation to YEEP programme**

Youth and Education Empowerment Programme (YEEP) has received a donation of much needed appliances from PDV Caribe Antigua and Barbuda Ltd., (PDV CAB) as it continues to fulfill its mandate.

The YEEP Learning Centre, located on Hawkins Drive, Cassada Gardens, was established on 22nd February 2016 with the aim of assisting individuals to acquire the level of education required for matriculation to tertiary institutions.

YEEP primarily targets persons between the ages of 16 and 40 years but welcomes individuals beyond 40 years who are desirous of attaining CSEC level education. Due to a recent break in at the Centre, several items were stolen and YEEP's Director, Troy Allen, reached out to PDV CAB for assistance to replace the stolen items.

PDV CAB sees its mandate as including timely donations to advance educational development.

Speaking at the formal handing over ceremony, PDV CAB's Office Administrator, Jellette Ralph, noted that PDV CAB's motto is "to recognize our common humanity and serve others with courtesy and dignity" and that this initiative is worthwhile as education is the passport to the future.

The Board, management and staff of PDV CAB extend best wishes for success in all endeavors to the Director, management, staff and students of YEEP.





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# **Local News**



### **Antigua and Barbuda to benefit** from UK disaster insurance scheme

The UK is announcing a \$25 million investment to establish an affordable insurance scheme that will protect essential water and sanitation services in Caribbean countries at risk of natural disasters, like Antigua and Barbuda.

The Caribbean Water Utility Insurance Collective (CWUIC), which will be part of CCRIF SPC (formerly the Caribbean Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility) has launched with UK support. It will provide rapid payouts to repair services damaged by disasters such as hurricanes and floods.



UK Minister for the Americas and Caribbean David Rutley Early action to restore access to safe drinking water can help prevent spread of diseases.

All Caribbean water and sanitation utilities are

encouraged to join and will benefit from insurance at substantially below commercial prices and investments to build resilience to disasters.

UK grants will also enable utilities in Belize, Jamaica, Haiti, Dominican Republic, Guyana and Suriname to buy the insurance they need.

With the risk of extreme weather increasing due to climate change, disaster risk finance schemes such as CWUIC reduce costs for the most vulnerable countries and enable faster recovery.

The investment is part of the UK's wider commitment to supporting the Caribbean in disaster resilience. The flagship £350 million UK Caribbean Incont'd on pg 10





### **Press Release**

September 21, 2023

Dear Valued Customer,

We, at the Eastern Caribbean Amalgamated Bank Limited (ECAB), recognize that our service delivery has not always been in keeping with our high standards.

We have listened to your concerns and have been diligently working towards improving your experience. Whilst the Bank successfully completed the migration of customer accounts during the integration phase, there were necessary changes to be made and unexpected challenges encountered as part of the process to integrate operations and systems. We continue to impress on our vendors and other stakeholders the need to resolve all outstanding issues with urgency. The Bank has also hired additional staff to meet the demands of its operation and enhance overall customer satisfaction. We assure you that we are committed to delivering the value you deserve and expect from ECAB as we position your bank to better serve you.

As we continue with our previously planned upgrades and enhancements, these will be brought to you with thoughtful intent, care and understanding. Furthermore, our communication, outreach, and responsiveness will be improved to add support to our efforts to better serve you.

The Board of Directors, Management and Staff are committed to your satisfaction, and we sincerely appreciate the support and loyalty of all our customers.

To everyone who has been affected, we deeply apologize for the inconvenience caused and thank you for your understanding and the opportunity to work through these challenges as your Bank of Choice and Financial Partner for Life.

Sincerely,

Board and Management Eastern Caribbean Amalgamated Bank Limited (ECAB)

-END-

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### **Local News**





Antigua Cruise Port

### JOB OPPORTUNITIES

#### **The Security Manager**

### JOB SUMMARY

Antigua Cruise Port is seeking to recruit a highly trained and experienced Security Manager.

The Security Manager shall perform duties related to the security and safety requirements of GPH (Antigua) Ltd./Antigua Cruise Port under general direction of the General Manager and in collaboration with the Health and Safety Officer/PFSO.

The Security Manager is expected to establish and maintain security measures in compliance with local and international regulations while ensuring a positive guest experience at Antigua Cruise Port.

### **Essential Skills and Knowledge**

- 1. Bachelor's Degree or equivalent
- in Security Management or a closely related field.
- 2. 5 years' relevant work experience
- as a Security Manager, Security Supervisor, or another similar role.
- 3. Knowledge and understanding of people management.
- 4. Strong oral and writing communication skills
- 5. Ability to effectively train and
- implement training to team members.

Learn more at www.antiguacruiseport.com/careers

All applications are to be submitted by September 25, 2023 to veryssam@antiguacruiseport.com

#### cont'd from pg 8

frastructure Fund is also supporting the development of critical infrastructure including bridges, renewable energy, ports, water, and sea defences.

According to UK Minister for the Americas and Caribbean David Rutley "The people of the Caribbean are on the frontline of natural disasters, which are increasing in frequency due to climate change".

"This first-of-its-kind scheme will enable Caribbean countries to maintain essential services in the face of storms and floods, while greatly reducing the financial burden on individual governments". "The UK is determined to play its part in helping small island developing states build resilience to extreme weather events with access to fairer and reliable funding."

This investment into CWUIC is part of the UK's contribution to the G7/V20 Global Shield Against Climate Risk that was launched at COP27.

CWUIC will be co-funded by the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) and the Coca Cola Foundation.

It is hoped the scheme will soon expand to provide insurance cover for droughts and other hazards.





### NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

Notice is hereby given of the Annual General Meeting of shareholders of The West Indies Oil Company Limited to be held at the John E St. Luce Finance and Conference Centre on Factory Road, St. John's, Antigua; and virtually via live stream to all shareholders of record as of September 15th, 2023. The meeting will be held on Thursday September 28th, 2023, at 4:00 PM.

#### AGENDA

- 1. To receive the financial statements for the fiscal year ended December 31st, 2022.
- 2. To receive and consider the report of the directors on the financial statements.
- 3. To receive and consider the report of the auditors on the financial statements.
- 4. To elect directors.
- 5. To appoint BDO Chartered Accountants as auditors of the financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2023; and authorize the directors to fix their remuneration.
- 6. To discuss any other business that may be given consideration at an Annual General Meeting

#### BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

DATE	NAME AND TITLE	SIGNATURE	
September 20 <sup>th</sup> 2023	Carlton Bramble Corporate Secretary The West Indies Oil Company Limited	Bal	

# PAGE 12TechnologyBraverman and Facebook clash<br/>over private message plans

Facebook's owner Meta has hit back at a government campaign strongly critical of its plans to encrypt messages.

Protecting messages with end-to-end-encryption would mean that they could only be read by sender and recipient.

Home Secretary Suella Braverman said encryption could not come at the cost of children's safety, amid fears it can be used to conceal child abuse.

Meta argues that encryption protects users from invasion of privacy.

"We don't think people want us reading their private messages", the firm said.

"The overwhelming majority of Brits already rely on apps that use encryption to keep them safe from hackers, fraudsters and criminals", it added.

Ms Braverman set out her concerns to Meta in a letter co-signed by technology experts, law enforcement, survivors and leading child safety charities in July.

But on Wednesday she said: "Meta has failed to provide assurances that they will keep their platforms safe from sickening abusers. They must develop appropriate safeguards to sit alongside their plans for end-to-end encryption."

This is something Meta disputes. The BBC understands that the tech firm



Suella Braverman said Meta must develop safeguards alongside their end-to-end encryption plans.

maintains it supplied that information in July. Much of that information has now been published online.

Meta said that it had spent the last five years developing robust safety measures to prevent, detect and combat abuse while maintaining online security.

"As we roll out end-toend encryption, we expect to continue providing more reports to law enforcement than our peers due to our industry leading work on keeping people safe", it said.

But the plans mean hundreds of child abusers could escape punishment, according to the home secretary.

The National Crime Agency's (NCA) director of general threats, James Babbage, said if the platform introduces end-to-end encryption it will "massively reduce our collective ability" to protect children.

"We are not asking for new or additional law enforcement access, we simply ask that Meta retains the ability to keep working with us to identify and help prevent abuse," he said.

The new campaign was trailed in a speech by security minister Tom Tugendhat in May.

At the time he blamed Mark Zuckerberg for the plan - criticising what he called the "extraordinary moral choice" to expand encryption.

Meta - the American company of which Mr Zuckerberg is chief executive - has announced it will add end-to-end encryption, also known as E2EE, to all Facebook messenger chats, by default, by the end of the year.

The company already owns encrypted messaging app WhatsApp. Other platforms such as Signal and Apple's iMessage also use encryption. All these platforms have criticised measures in the recently passed Online Safety Bill that might undermine the privacy of encrypted messages. Meta writes: "When E2EE is default, we will also use a variety of tools, including artificial intelligence, subject to applicable law, to proactively detect accounts engaged in malicious patterns of behaviour instead of scanning private messages".

It also sets out measures the firm takes to protect children, such as restricting people over 19 from messaging teens who don't follow them.

But speaking to BBC Breakfast on Wednesday the Home Secretary said Facebook Messenger and Instagram direct messages were the platforms of choice for online paedophiles: "We are arresting in this country about 800 perpetrators a month, we are safeguarding about 1200 children a month from this evil crime.

She said there was an increasing trend of paedophiles "seeking out children online, grooming them gaining their trust and duping them into performing sexual acts, indecent acts, pornographic acts online."

Challenged as to why, given the powers in the online safety bill, it was necessary to ask Meta to stop the roll out of e2ee Ms Braverman said: "We now have wide ranging powers contained in this new legislation that enables us via Ofcom *cont'd on pg 13* 



# Entertainment

# Selena Gomez: Huge Instagram following is 'a big responsibility'

#### By Riyah Collins

Selena Gomez has said being the most-followed woman on Instagram is "a big responsibility".

The actress and singer says she's "never really cared" about numbers but that "it can be a little heavy".

Selena made the comments, reported in The Hollywood Reporter, at Universal Music Group and Thrive Global's Music and Health Conference.

Last year, she released a documentary about her health and mental wellbeing after being diagnosed with lupus.

Selena has 429 million followers on Instagram more than her bestie Taylor Swift who has 272 million and Kylie Jenner, the previous title holder, who is followed by 399 million people.

The 31-year-old says fans

#### cont'd from pg 12

the regulator to direct companies to take necessary steps in particular circumstances.

"But I'd far rather work constructively with these social media companies. They play a valuable part in our lives"

As part of its campaign against the move, the Home Office has joined the Internet Watch Foundation (IWF) to provide a guide for parents to "advise them how best to keep their children safe if Meta does implement end-toend encryption".

It has also supported the production of a film against Meta's plans, which includes testimony from a survivor of



Selena Gomez became the most-followed woman on Instagram earlier this year.

have reached out to her about their own struggles to tell her how her music has helped them through difficult times.

While grateful to feel she can help people, she added "it can be a little heavy".

"I feel for people, and I think that's what kind of keeps me in check, to be honest," she said.

"I think I can be a little reckless with my emotions and having conversations with young people, women who are going through divorces or going through chemo - it's not just about me, and I'm fully aware of that.

"I will just always cherish it. It's a big responsibility, though. It's a little scary."

Selena has become well known for speaking about mental wellbeing since the release of her documentary.

My Mind and Me, made by Apple TV, follows Selena

dealing with the impact of her childhood fame, her kidney transplant in 2017 and a high-profile break-up with Justin Bieber.

"I felt like I got to say things that I've been keeping in for years," she told her hosts Sir Lucian Grainge and Arianna Huffington about the documentary at the event on Tuesday.

"It's very hard for me to watch. I will never watch it again, but I'm very proud of it."

She revealed that she was initially "very against" the documentary.

"I didn't know if it would jeopardise things in my life," she said.

"And then the moment it was released... I had no choice at that point. And I was relieved. I felt like a huge weight was lifted."

child sexual exploitation online.

The IWF says its data shows prevalence of the most severe forms of online child sexual abuse have more than doubled since 2020.

Powers in the Online Safety Bill which was passed on Tuesday enable the regulator Ofcom to compel companies to deploy approved technology that would enable them to identify child sexual abuse material in encrypted messages.

Government experts say there is technology available which would allow end-to-end encryption to take place, whilst still alerting authorities to child sexual exploitation.

However many other experts argue

this is "magical thinking", and that allowing scanning for child abuse content would necessarily involve weakening the privacy of encrypted messages.

Ciaran Martin, the former head of the National Cyber Security Centre, has previously told the BBC that scanning for child abuse content in encrypted messaging apps would involve processes that could undermine privacy for all users.

"Essentially it's building a door that doesn't currently exist, not into the encrypted messaging app but into devices, which could be used or misused by people who aren't interested in protecting children for more nefarious purposes", he said.

# **Regional News**



### **Belize: Probe continues into** allegations against minister



Former Minister of Blue Economy and Civil Aviation, Andre Perez.

Sylvestre eral Anthony says the investigation into the allegations against the embattled former Minister of Blue Economy and Civil Aviation, Andre Perez, is ongoing and will be done "in a timely manner".

Last month. Prime Minister John Briceño accepted a request from Perez for a leave of absence from the Cabinet that would facilitate the probe and a government statement said then "at the conclusion of

PLATINUM FM 97.9 THURSDAYS - 2PM - 6PM SATURDAYS - 12PM - 4PM SUNDAYS - 1PM - 5PM

CMC - Attorney Gen- the investigation, the Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs will advise the Prime Minister on whether there has been any actionable wrongdoing".

> The Rural South Area representative is embroiled in a scandal involving a female attorney who has made allegations against the minister.

> Media reports said a demand is being made for a criminal investigation to be launched, given the graphic descriptions shared by the attorney in her account of what purportedly took place involving Perez.

> But speaking to reporters, the Attorney General said "unfortunately I will not be able to provide an update, suffice to say that it is ongoing.

> "But, we do appreciate that it has to be done in a timely manner. So, that is taken into account and it will be done within a timely manner," he added.

> A Cabinet statement had indicated that it "is confident that Minister Perez remains committed to and will continue to serve the interests of his constituents in Belize Rural South" and that "in the meantime, the Cabinet respects Minister Perez's privacy as he and his family work through this difficult situation."

POINCEXPRESS

# **Regional News**

Guyana says it will spare no effort to defend its territory

#### By Dillon De Shong

Guyana says it will not be taking threats against its sovereignty from Venezuela lightly.

In his address at the UN General Assembly today, President Dr Mohamed Irfaan Ali told world leaders that Venezuela is continuing to make illegal claims against Guyanese territory even though the International Court of Justice (ICJ) is currently hearing a case to determine the legality of the Geneva Agreement of 1966, which set the border of both states.

The latest attack on Guyana's sovereignty came in the form of a communique that was issued via the Venezuelan Foreign Affairs Ministry last evening.

Venezuela is claiming lands that account for two-thirds of its territory



President Dr Mohamed Irfaan Ali. Photo: United Nations.

The communique said: "Venezuela strongly rejects the illegal bidding round for oil blocks currently being carried out by the Government of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana in



maritime areas pending delimitation between both countries."

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"The Government of Guyana does not have sovereign rights over these maritime areas and consequently any action within their limits is a violation of International Law, as long as they are not carried out through an agreement with Venezuela."

Ali said Guyana considers the communique as "a threat to regional and international peace and security, as well as to Guyana's investment partners".

He continued: "We demand that Venezuela honours its obligation under the Charter to pursue only peaceful means to settle any disputes it may have with Guyana, including adjudication before the International Court of Justice. Allowing the Court to decide would ensure a resolution that is peaceful, equitable and in accordance with international law. Guyana will spare no effort in defending its sovereignty and territorial integrity".

Ali thanked Guyana's international partners for the support given on their pursuit to end the conflict with Venezuela in a peaceful manner.

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## **Regional News**

### Grenada government in talks with developers to resume major hotel project

CMC - Prime Minister Dickon Mitchell Tuesday gave the assurance that the investors of an approved Citizenship by Investment (CBI) project affected by the government's compulsory acquisition of the land and the property will be able to seek the necessary compensation.

"Anyone who has an interest in the property will have an opportunity to present any claims for an evaluation of their interest in the property, and will be compensated accordingly," Mitchell told a news conference.

Last month, the Grenada government and a group of United States investors, who had been working through True Blue Development to build the 146 room Kawana Bay resort jointly announced a resolution to their dispute that had been under arbitration since 2021 before the World Bank's International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes.

In 2016, the then government approved a proposal by True Blue Development for funding the Kimpton Kawana Bay Project under its CBI programme.

Under the CBI programme, Grenada granted citizenship to foreign investors in return for making a significant investment in the socio-economic development of the island.

However, in March-April 2021, Grenada stopped the approval of CBI applications for the project claiming certain financial discrepancies.

The developer then sued the state seeking US\$111 million in compensation.

Prime Minister Mitchell said upon assuming office in June last year that his administration decided that the matter should be resolved with a discussion led by a committee



Kimpton Kawana Bay hotel project (File photo from October 2020).

comprising of retired banker Richard Duncan; lawyer Leslie Ann Seon and businessmen Hassan Haddid and Henry Joseph.

Speaking at the news conference, Attorney General Claudette Joseph said that the acquisition of the property was not a financial burden to the state because the cost to settle was lower than what was requested in the arbitration documents.

"Just to clarify for the listening public, that the state of Grenada was sued for US\$111 million, and we settled the dispute for US\$22 million which is less than a third of what we were sued for," said Joseph, who is also the Minister for Legal Affairs.

"In the arbitration claim there was no claim to the property (the land) as such because the property was owned by the True-Blue developers. In the settlement we were able to get the property back for the people of Grenada and that settled the arbitration dispute," she added.

Prime Minister Mitchell told reporters that his administration has adopted a new policy going forward with regard to the property.

"In summary, the government

made the decision to acquire the site so that we could in fact put ourselves in a position to have fresh negotiations with a new developer so that this project could in fact be completed successfully so that construction could resume so that Grenadians who were once working on the site and who became unemployed... could look forward to resumption of work.

"So the government has acquired the site at a cost of US\$22 million, we will be making the necessary payments between now and next year," he said, adding that the government is "currently engaged in significant and advanced discussions with potential developers to resume construction.

"At this stage, we have not yet concluded a definitive deal but we feel quite optimistic that we will be in a position to come back shortly to announce the conclusion of this definitive deal".

Mitchell said that the site would only be transferred by leasehold, saying "it will not be transferred by a freehold...as we protect the patrimony of Grenada". POINCEXPRESS

### International AROUND THE WORLD

# India warns citizens in Canada to be cautious

#### By Meryl Sebastian

India has urged its citizens travelling to or living in Canada to "exercise utmost caution".

The advisory comes a day after tensions escalated between the countries with each expelling a diplomat from the other side.

Canada said it was investigating "credible allegations" linking the Indian state with the killing of a Sikh separatist leader.

India strongly denied this, calling the allegations "absurd".

Analysts say relations between the countries, which have been strained for months, are now at an all-time low.

On Wednesday, India's foreign ministry said it issued the advisory "in view of growing anti-India activities and politically-condoned hate crimes and criminal violence in Canada".

The Indian government has often reacted sharply to demands by Sikh separatists in Western countries for Khalistan, or a separate Sikh homeland.

The Khalistan movement peaked in India in the 1980s with a violent insurgency centred in Sikh-majority Punjab state.

It was quelled by force and has little resonance in India now, but is still popular among some in the Sikh diaspora in countries such as Canada, Australia and the UK.

Canada has the highest number of Sikhs outside Punjab and has seen several pro-Khalistan protests and demonstrations. In June, reports said India had raised a "formal complaint" with Canada about the safety of its diplomats there.

In Wednesday's statement, Delhi said that some recent threats were directed at its diplomats and some Indians "who oppose the anti-India agenda".

"Indian nationals are, therefore, advised to avoid travelling to regions and potential venues in Canada that have seen such incidents," it said.

Prime Minister Justin

Trudeau said on Monday that intelligence agencies were investigating whether "agents of the government of India" were involved in the killing of Hardeep Singh Nijjar, a Canadian citizen - India had designated him a terrorist in 2020.

Nijjar was shot dead in his vehicle by two masked gunmen outside a Sikh temple on 18 June in British Columbia.

"Any involvement of a foreign government in the killing of a Canadian citizen on Canadian soil is an unacceptable violation of our sovereignty," Mr Trudeau told the Canadian parliament on Monday.

India reacted strongly, saying that Canada was trying to "shift the focus from Khalistani terrorists and extremists" who had been given shelter there.

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Some Indian media reports claimed the statement from Delhi followed a similar Canadian advisory for its citizens travelling to India.

Canada's government confirmed its travel advice for India had been updated on Monday but said it had been "as part of pre-scheduled and routine maintenance in the section on travel health information".

"No new risk information has been added to the India TAA [Travel Advice and Advisories] page," a spokesperson told the BBC. Ottawa's advisory asks its citizens to "exercise a high degree of caution" because of the "risk of terrorist attacks throughout" India.



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### International AROUND THE WORLD

### **Azerbaijan halts Karabakh offensive after** ceasefire deal with Armenian separatists

#### By Paul Kirby

Azerbaijan's president has declared that his country's sovereignty has been restored over Nagorno-Karabakh after a 24-hour military offensive ethnic-Armenian against forces.

Ilham Aliyev praised the heroism of Azerbaijan's army hours after Karabakh forces agreed to surrender.

Some 120.000 ethnic Armenians live in the South Caucasus enclave. recognised internationally as part of Azerbaijan.

Azerbaijan now intends to bring the breakaway region under full control.

Its military launched an "anti-terror" operation on Tuesday, demanding that Karabakh's forces raise a white flag and dissolve their "illegal regime". With no means of support from neighbouring Armenia. and after an effective ninemonth blockade, the ethnic Armenians soon gave in.

Armenian officials reported that at least 32 people were killed, including seven civilians, and another 200 wounded. However according to a separatist Armenian human rights official, at least 200 people were killed and more than 400 wounded. The BBC has not been able to verify any of the figures.

On Wednesday evening, Armenian officials accused Azerbaijan of opening fire

on troops near the town of Sotk on the border between the two countries after the ceasefire had been agreed, but Azerbaijan immediately denied the claims.

Earlier in the day, thousands of protesters took to the streets of Yerevan, the Armenian capital, to demand the resignation of Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan for his handling of the crisis.

Azerbaijan's army said it had captured more than 90 positions from the ethnic Armenians before both sides announced that a complete cessation of hostilities had been agreed through Russian peacekeepers, starting at 13:00 local time (09:00 GMT) on Wednesday.

Under the terms of the truce, outlined by Azerbaijan and Russia, which has peacekeepers on the ground, local Karabakh forces must

Russia said it had evacuated 2,000 ethnic Armenians from villages near the fighting. commit to being completely disbanded as well as disarmed.

There is also a commitment to Armenian forces pulling out, even though its government denies having any military presence there.

Azerbaijan's presidency said officials would meet Karabakh's Armenian representatives for talks on "issues of re-integration" in the Azerbaijani town of Yevlakh on Thursday. President Aliyev said Azerbaijanis had nothing against the population, only their "criminal junta".

Yevlakh is some 100km (60 miles) north of Karabakh's regional capital, Khankendi, known as Stepanakert by Armenians.

Marut Vanyan, a journalist in Karabakh, said many families had spent Tuesday night in basements: "I didn't sleep and I didn't eat. It's calm now but it's a strange feeling. Right now, what we need to do is stop this bloodshed and understand what to do next."

Russia said its peacekeepers had evacuated 2,000 people from Karabakh villages since the offensive had begun.

As the ceasefire was announced, Karabakh officials appealed to residents to remain in shelters and not to leave for the local airport, adjacent to a Russian peacekeeping base. However, a crowd of civilians had soon gathered close to the airport and as darkness fell hours later it was unclear what support they would have.

Caucasus specialist Thomas de Waal of Carnegie Europe said the terms of the ceasefire and the coming talks were very much on Azerbaijan's terms and left cont'd on pg 19





### International AROUND THE WORLD

# Ferromex: Mexican railway operator suspends routes amid migrant deaths

#### By Vanessa Buschschlüter

A company which operates some of Mexico's railways has suspended 60 of its routes after a surge of migrants hitching rides on freight trains.

Ferromex said services would be halted on the trains travelling towards Mexico's border with the US, in order to "avoid accidents or loss of life".

It added that the number of migrants trying to hitch rides on its freight trains was "unprecedented".

Hundreds of thousands clamber onto the roofs and cling to the sides each year.

Grupo México, which owns Mexico's biggest rail operator, Ferromex, said in a statement published [in Spanish] on Tuesday that there had been "half a dozen cases of injuries or death in recent days".

The network of freight trains is referred to by migrants as La Bestia (The Beast) and many risk jumping on board to speed up their 3,000km-journey (1,860 miles) from Mexico's south-

#### cont'd from pg 18

ethnic Armenians looking unprotected.

"This looks like the end of a 35-yearold project, some would say a century-old project, of the Armenians of Karabakh to secede from Azerbaijan," he told the BBC.

"We're probably, unfortunately, seeing a project whereby the Azerbaijanis offer so little to the Karabakh Armenians that most if not all of them will leave."

Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pash-



Clambering up and down the wagons is very risky, and many migrants have been maimed or killed.

ern to its northern border.

As the wagons are usually filled with freight, most ride on the train roof or hang from its sides.

If they fall, they risk losing life and limb. The trains are also targeted by gangs who rob, rape and extort migrants.

Ferromex said more than 1,500 people had gathered on top of a train and inside a train depot in Torreón, from where freight services depart for a number of Mexican cities on the US border.

The company said hundreds more had gathered at other key points of the railroad, with more than 1,000 on the roofs of wagons on the route between Chihuahua and Ciudad Juárez.

Ferromex said families with children were among those boarding their freight trains.

The statement by Ferromex comes amid warnings by international organisations about the increasing

inyan made clear his government was not involved in the ceasefire text and demanded that Russian peacekeepers take full responsibility for the safety of the local population. On Tuesday he accused Azerbaijan of "ethnic cleansing" in Karabakh.

Azerbaijan's presidential envoy Elchin Amirbekov told the BBC that Russian peacekeepers had helped facilitate the ceasefire: "I think they have to be counted on for the implementation part." number of children embarking on the land route through Mexico to the US.

The United Nations Children's Fund, Unicef, says that the number of children migrating through Latin America and the Caribbean has reached record numbers.

"Gang violence, instability, poverty and climate-related events are, alarmingly, gripping the region and pushing more children from their homes," Gary Conville, Unicef's Latin America and Caribbean director, said.

United States Customs and Border Protection said that more than 83,000 children had crossed the US's southern border in the first seven months of 2023.

At some crossing points, nine out of 10 children are below the age of 11, Unicef figures suggest.

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#### Position of the Dominican government regarding the construction of a canal on the Haitian side of the Dajabón or Masacre River.

#### 1. Timeline of events

**On April 27, 2021,** when the Ministry of Foreign Affairs learned about the construction of a canal on the Dajabón or Masacre River, it sent diplomatic note No. DM-11284 to the Haitian government, demanding the "immediate cessation of any work or construction that could affect the natural flow of the Masacre River," in accordance with Article 10 of the 1929 Treaty of Peace, Friendship, and Arbitration, which states: "Due to the fact that rivers and other watercourses originate in the territory of one State, both High Contracting Parties undertake not to carry out or allow any work capable of changing the course of such rivers or altering the sources' output." As a result of this note, a technical meeting of the Bilateral Joint Dominican-Haitian Commission was convened and held on May 27, 2021.

In his opening remarks at that meeting, Minister Roberto Álvarez stated, "...the Dominican government's expectation is that work on the irrigation channels will not resume." At the end of the meeting, the technicians of the Commission agreed to "continue sharing information regarding all hydraulic projects carried out and to be carried out in the border area" and to establish a technical working group to enhance understanding of the work conducted in the border region.

On **May 31, 2021**, upon receiving information that the Haitian side had not halted the canal construction and had not been transparent about the true intentions of the project, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Roberto Álvarez, made a statement from the National Palace, announcing that the Dominican government would not return to dialogue with Haiti regarding the construction of the canal on the Dajabón/Masacre River until Haiti publicly declared that it had halted the project.

On **June 18, 2021**, the then Minister of Foreign Affairs of Haiti, Claude Joseph, sent a note to his Dominican counterpart in which he asked to resume dialogue and defended the Haitian position. On July 6, 2021, the Dominican Foreign Minister responded to his Haitian counterpart, reiterating emphatically and with legal and technical arguments, that the Haitian Government should immediately stop the construction of the canal and urged him to open a dialogue in order to explore the use of alternative water resources. This communication further included the following:

- 1. The Dominican Government was never officially notified of the construction of a canal whose intention was to connect it to the Dajabón/Masacre River.
- 2. A document that was informally delivered by a Haitian official during the meeting of the technical commission on May 27, 2021, containing some technical aspects of the work, showed that there was a lack of transparency on the Haitian side about the intention and characteristics of the work started unilaterally in 2018.
- 3. It was not an irrigation canal as had been reported to the Joint Bilateral Commission, but rather a diversion canal, which violates international law and the Treaty of Peace and Perpetual Friendship and Arbitration of 1929, which prohibits works that change the current of the river without prior agreement.
- Despite the meager documentation, it was concluded that the height of the canal was at least
  2.5 meters higher than the river level, which would require the construction of a diversion dike that would increase the risk of flooding on the border between both countries.



- 5. The construction of the canal could affect the flow of the river in the lower area, harming about 14 thousand field tasks of arable land in Dominican territory and about 10 thousand field tasks in Haitian territory that benefit 266 Dominican farmers and 125 Haitian farmers on one side and another from the border.
- 6. It could also cause ecological damage to the vital freshwater lake ecosystem of Saladilla Lagoon, one of the most important wetlands in the Dominican Republic.
- 7. It was unknown who the primary beneficiaries of the project were and who was financing it.
- 8. The project also violates the principle of equitable use of transboundary waters, the principle of environmental precaution, and the balance of interests due to its unilateral nature.
- 9. The position of the Dominican government has always been that the Haitian government must immediately halt the construction of the canal and initiate a dialogue with the objective of exploring alternatives for the management of water resources that benefit both nations.

On **August 30**, **2023**, a group of Haitian nationals were seen carrying out work to continue the construction of the canal in the course of the Masacre River in the vicinity of pyramids 13 and 14 of the border line, which, according to a study carried out, would have a pernicious impact for the Dominican Republic once the project is completed.

On **September 11, 2023**, the National Security Council convened on instructions from His Excellency President of the Republic, Luis Abinader, whose only topic of discussion at the meeting was the situation that has arisen on the Dominican-Haitian border.

#### 2. Links that detail the measures adopted by the Dominican Government

 President Abinader decides in the National Security Council to begin the construction of the Don Miguel dam on the Dajabón river to protect the water: <u>https://presidencia.gob.do/noticias/presidente-abinader-decide-en-el-consejo-de-seguridad-nacional-iniciar-la-construccion-de</u>

President Abinader announces total closure of the border with Haiti starting this Friday at 6:00 in the morning: <u>https://www.presidencia.gob.do/noticias/presidente-abinader-anuncia-cierre-total-de-la-frontera-con-haiti-desde-este-viernes-las</u>

 President Abinader prohibits nine Haitian citizens from entering the country: https://presidencia.gob.do/noticias/presidente-abinader-prohibe-entrada-al-pais-de-nueveciudadanos haitianos#:~:text=Santo%20Domingo.%2D%20El%20presidente%20Luis,el%20ingreso%20de%2 Onueve%20ciudadanos

### **Sports News Tallawahs beat Kings to** advance to second CPL qualifier

The Jamaica Tallawahs will head to Qualifier 2 of the Republic Bank Caribbean Premier League (CPL) following a comprehensive five-wicket defeat of the St. Lucia Kings at Providence in Guyana on Tuesday night.

The Tallawahs won the toss and opted to field first and that proved to be an inspired decision as they ripped through the Kings batting to restrict them to 125 for nine. Roston Chase top-scored with 40.

The Kings never adapted to the slow track and this was made harder when they ran into a Fabian Allen playoff masterclass, as the all-rounder led the way for the Tallawahs by taking four for 25.

The Kings were always up against it from that moment and the Tallawahs duly wrapped up victory inside 18 overs, having been given a great foundation by Brandon King and Alex Hales.

The Kings had their moments with the ball while trying to defend a modest 125-run target. Matthew Forde took a career best four for 22 but that was as good as it got for the Kings.

Earlier, the Tallawahs had suffered an initial setback when they lost Mohammed Amir to injury three balls into the match,



Jamaica Tallawahs Fabian Allen, left, celebrates after dismissing a St. Lucia Kings batsman during their Qualifier 1 of the Republic Bank Caribbean Premier League at Providence in Guyana on Tuesday, September 19, 2023. (CPLT20/Getty Images)

but the remaining Tallawahs bowling attack made light of the absence of their talisman.

Both Colin Munro and Johnson Charles fell inside the Power-Play as the Kings inning struggled to get going with wickets falling outside the Power-Play.

Green picked up his second wicket to remove Bhanuka Rajapasa before Nicholson Gordon got in on the act.

The fast bowler removed Shadrack Descarte for four to leave the Kings in trouble at 59 for four at the half-way stage of the innings.

Wickets continued to fall at regular intervals and when Fabian Allen removed Sikander Raza for 19 and Roston Chase in the 16th over, the Kings were all at sea. Allen added two more wickets in the 18th over to end his brilliant spell.

Just when it appeared the Kings were on the brink of being bowled out, Khary Pierre and Peter Hatzoglou got them up to 125 to give them something to bowl at.

In reply, the Tallawahs all but confirmed victory when King and Hales raced

to 43 in the first four overs. King eventually fell for 30 and Hales for 24, but the damage was done.

The honour of seeing the Tallawahs home fell to Raymon Reifer, who took the drama out of the chase with a sensibly constructed 30 not out. The Tallawahs victory now means that they head to Qualifier 2 on Friday night.

Scores: Jamaica Tallawahs 126-5 (King 30, Reifer 30 not out; Forde 4-23, Pierre 1-26) beat Saint Lucia Kings 125-9 (Chase 40, Raza 19; Allen 4-25, Green 2-19) by five wickets.



## **Sports News**

# Eye Mobile Vision Care get first win in business basketball league

Defending league champions Eye Mobile Vision Care have recorded their first win in the annual Antigua and Barbuda Basketball Association's (ABBA) Cool and Smooth Business League competition.

Eye Mobile Vision Care, who got off to a poor start in defense of their title by suffering a 66-69 loss in overtime against Trimming Trucking Enterprises in the league's opening game on Sunday, rebounded to snatch a nine-point win over the Sir Lester Bird Medical Center (SLBMC) on Tuesday night.

Davique Osbourne scored 15 points to lead Eye Mobile Vision Care to their 48-39 victory over SLBMC in the second game of Tuesday night's triple-header at the JSC Sports Complex.

Delornje Jules sank 18 points, and Baldwin Anthony Jr. converted 12 points for SLBMC.

In a battle between the two newcomers, Callan Shooters overpowered H. Wright Promotions 75-59 to mark their debut in the competition with a win in the first game on Tuesday night.

Marlon Davis produced 22 points, Akeem Davis sank 12 points, and Eric Joseph scored 11 points for

the Callan Shooters.

Devorn Benjamin converted 22 points, and Anthony Greer scored 15 points for H. Wright Promotions, which lost for the second time in as many games.

Following their impressive win against Eye Mobile Vision Care, Trimming Trucking Enterprises were unable to sustain their winning form as they suffered their first defeat, losing 49-66 against Sandals in the third game on Tuesday night.

Keroi Lee produced a game-high 22 points, and Keaddy Martin chipped in with 19 points for the Sandals. Javonte Daley sank 18 points, and Donte Trimmingham had 12 points for Trimming Trucking Enterprises.

The business basket-

ball league will continue with another triple header at the JSC Sports Complex this evening (Thursday).

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Health First Pharmacy Fearless Crew will face Callan Shooters at 6:30 pm, Sledge O Ballers will oppose H. Wright Promotions at 7:30 pm, and the Antigua and Barbuda Transport Board will clash with Eye Mobile Vision Care at 8:30 pm.



### **Sports News ABFA member clubs agree to** host extraordinary congress

Over 20 clubs affiliated with the Antigua and Barbuda Football Association (ABFA) have agreed to host an extraordinary congress without the support of the current executive that was elected to administer the affairs of the ABFA.

Twenty-eight member clubs have decided to proceed with the meeting after their request to the ABFA's executive to convene the constitutionally due gathering was reportedly ignored.

The ABFA's executive body has failed to respond to a letter it received from the member clubs in June. The clubs had made a request for the meeting in the letter.

The clubs have agreed to proceed with the meeting, with or without the ABFA's executive, at the Multipurpose and Exhibition Cultural Centre at Perry Bay on October 1.

In their letter to the AB-FA's executive in June, the clubs pointed to Article 28.2 of the body's constitution, which they believe gives them the authority to convene the meeting.

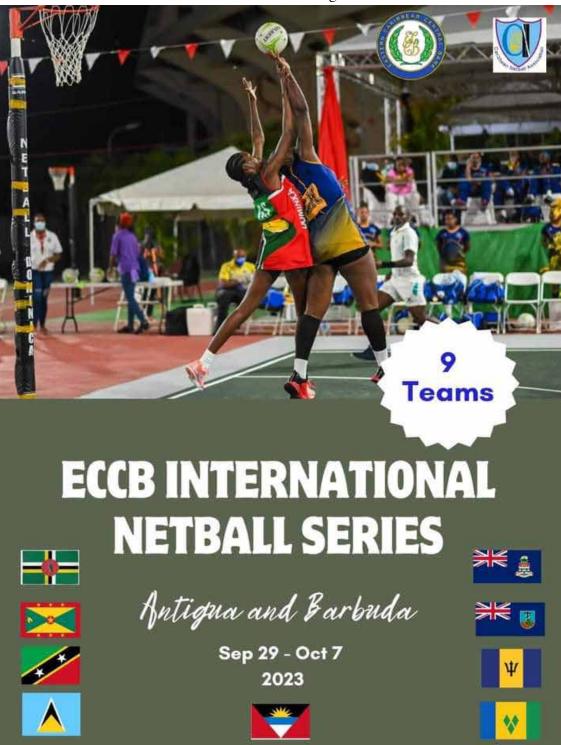
Article 28.2 states, "If an extraordinary congress is not convened, the members who requested it may convene the congress themselves."

The clubs will discuss several matters at the October 1 meeting, including the president's absence since being elected on April 25, 2022; the absence of the 2022 Congress; the failure to release the second tranche of the COVID-19 Relief Funds to clubs; the awards and prize monies for the 2022-2023

domestic season; and the al body since being elected revision and reform of the ABFA constitution as directed by FIFA.

The ABFA's executive has not met with the gener-

during an election of officers meeting in 2022. Any decisions taken at the extra-ordinary congress in October will stand.



The Netball action will take center stage at the YMCA Sports Complex.



# **Sports News**

### ABNDA to resume domestic season with three-hand pullarama

Three players were declared joint winners of the three-hand pullarama, which was hosted by the Antigua and Barbuda National Domino Association (ABNDA) recently.

Dale Henry, Desiree Parker, and Irwin Richard were declared joint winners after the competition ended prematurely due to a power outage at the association's headquarters in Ottos.

All three players had advanced to the finals, which were cancelled due to the power failure. The organizers decided to declare the trio joint winners and share the prize money.

A total of 75 players participated in the three-hand pullorama, which was open to the general public.

Forty (40) players were eliminated after the first round of matches in the competition, which took place over two-day period. Eleven (11) players advanced to the quarter-finals.

Nine players qualified

#### cont'd from pg 26

CG United Super50 Cup as the perfect platform to establish and incentivize a West Indies brand of play in the 50over format, and for the emergence of new talent.

"The introduction of the round robin format will provide players with more 'playing time' in the middle as well as a balanced way of gauging individual and team performances.

"We are pleased to again have CCC and the West Indies Academy

Players compete in the ABNDA three-hand pullarama domino competition at the Antigua and Barbuda National Domino Association's headquarters in Ottos on Thursday, September 14, 2023. (Photo courtesy the ABNDA)

for the semi-finals, with Henry, Parker, and Richards advancing to the final that was forced to be abandoned.

The three-hand pullorama marked the resumption of domestic competition by the Antigua and Barbuda National Domino Association following a break to allow the national team, the Wadadli Warriors, to participate in the 19th World Council of Domino Federation (WCDF) Championship in Guyana last month.

The ABNDA will continue its domestic competition by staging a four-hand pullarama competition at its headquarters in Ottos Newtown tonight (Thursday).

It's an open competition; hence, players from the general public are allowed to compete alongside players from all clubs affiliated with the ABNDA.

The clubs affiliated with the ABNDA include the AS Bryden & Stingray City Bolans Revellers, the Everyday Service Station Double Six Diamonds, the Willikies Super Stars, Dominatrixx, and Moise Eagle Warriors.

The others are Rising Stars, Legacy, Ramplers, Parham Strikers, Triple Dynamite, Bravo, and Unstoppables.

participating at the senior level as they join the other six franchise teams as we look to widen the pool of players."

Dominic Warne, CWI's Commercial Director said, "The move to an eight-team league in the CG United Super50 Cup provides fans with an exciting tournament schedule with 31 matches scheduled in 26 days.

"Every game will be available from first ball to last either live on ESPN Caribbean or streamed live on the Windies Cricket YouTube channel. "The new windiescricket.com Live Match Centre will also give fans full match analysis plus live ball-byball scoring and commentary for all 31 matches giving the widest access and coverage to the CG United Super50 Cup than ever before.

"We again welcome and thank our title sponsor and CWI Official insurance partners CG United for their fifth consecutive year of support which provides significant investment in cricket throughout the West Indies."

# Sports DEWS THURSDAY 21ST SEPTEMBER 2023 No Super50 Cup matches for Antigua in 2023

After hosting matches in the regional one-day domestic competition for the past two seasons (2021 and 2022), Antigua and Barbuda will not be hosting any games in the 2023 CG United Super50 Cup.

According to the CG United Super50 Cup schedule and venues, which were released by Cricket West Indies (CWI) on Wednesday, this year's competition will be hosted in its entirety in Trinidad and Tobago.

The region's premier List A 50-over tournament will bowl off on Tuesday, October 17, and conclude on Saturday, November 11, in Trinidad, with a new eight-team league format followed by semi-finals and finals to determine the champions.

The event will feature 31 matches to be played at three venues: the Brian Lara Cricket Academy (BLCA), the Queen's Park Oval (QPO) and the Sir Frank Worrell Cricket Grounds of the University of the West Indies Sport and Physical Education Centre (UWI SPEC) at the St. Augustine Campus.

All 13 matches at the same



The Jamaica Scorpions celebrate after winning the 2022 CG United Super50 Cup by beating Trinidad and Tobago Red Force by three wickets in the final at the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium in North Sound, Antigua, on Saturday, November 19, 2022. (CWI Media)

Brian Lara Academy, including the semi-finals and final, will be televised live on ESPN Caribbean, with 12 of those matches being day/night game.

This year's CG United Super50 Cup will feature a new eight-team league with each of the teams facing each other once. The top four in the league will qualify for the "final four."

First place will play fourth place, with second place playing third place in the two semi-finals, which are slated for the BLCA on Wednesday, November 8, and Thursday, November 9. The final will be at the

The final will be at the same venue on Saturday,

November 11, where the winners will be become the CG United Super50 Cup Champions and lift the Sir Clive Lloyd Trophy.

The West Indies Academy and Combined Campuses & Colleges (CCC) will again join the traditional six franchises – defending champions Jamaica Scorpions, Barbados Pride, Guyana Harpy Eagles, the Leeward Islands Hurricanes, Trinidad & Tobago Red Force and the Windward Islands Volcanoes.

Home side Trinidad & Tobago Red Force will open this year's tournament when they take on the CCC at the Queen's Park Oval on October 17 at 9 am.

Later on that day, the Guyana Harpy Eagles will face the Windward Islands Volcanoes at the BLCA at 1 pm in the first televised contest.

The Leeward Islands Hurricanes will start their campaign against champions Jamaica Scorpions at the BLCA on October 18 at 1 pm.

Miles Bascombe, CWI's Director of Cricket said, "This is a crucial stage in our planning as we look to build towards the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2027.

"We see the upcoming cont'd on pg 25

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