

# DATE SET FOR BOOBY ALLEY PROJECT GROUND-BREAKING

*Story on Page 2*



Governor-General Sir Rodney Williams (centre) and Foreign Affairs Minister E.P. Chet Greene (to his left) and other prominent local figures pictured with Minister of State for External Affairs and Textiles of India, Pabitra Margherita (front row, fifth from right) at a reception held in his honour at the Sandals Grande resort on Monday night. *Story on page 6.*

# Local News



## Date set for ground-breaking ceremony for Booby Alley Project

The date has been set for the ground-breaking ceremony for the first-of-its kind housing development project in Booby Alley, in the Point.

Ambassador of the People's Republic of China, H.E Zhang Yanling, revealed that the ground-breaking will take place on October 28 at the construction site where approximately 150 homes will be constructed for residents of the area.

She said a team of Chinese engineers and workers has already arrived on the island and the materials have been shipped from China and should arrive in St. John's by the end of the



Ambassador of the People's Republic of China, H.E Zhang Yanling

month. The project will be carried out by Chinese firm – China Civil Engineering

and Construction Company (CCECC) which was the same company that has been involved in many of

the Chinese-government financed projects in Antigua and Barbuda.

The project involves condominium-types homes, which will be the first for a public housing project in the country. It is anticipated that the project will take approximately 24 months to complete. The project has been a key campaign pledge made by Prime Minister Gaston Browne, the parliamentary representative for the area. The project has faced several delays in the past, but all the hurdles have now been overcome and the way is now clear for construction to commence as soon as the materials arrive.

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## PM Browne: India is an inspiration for us

Prime Minister Gaston Browne has congratulated the government and people of India for the huge strides they have made in terms of economic and social development.

Speaking during a courtesy call by the visiting Minister of State for External Affairs and Textiles, Pabitra Margherita, who is paying an official visit to Antigua and Barbuda, the final leg of a regional trip, PM Browne noted that India was one of the first countries to establish diplomatic

relations with Antigua and Barbuda following Independence in 1981. Over the years, he said has been able to develop a very good relationship with the current Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The prime minister added that he has observed that India's economy has recorded the highest growth of any developed country and that this serves as an inspiration for countries such as Antigua and Barbuda.

"India served as an inspiration for us in the Ca-



ribbean with our movement towards Independence and your most recent growth of about 7 percent, surpassed the highest growth of all major economies and that is an inspiration for us too. We inspire to achieve high growth rates as well and we have been successful in the last several years where we recorded growth of between 7 and 8 percent," he told the Minister of State.

PM Browne recalled for the benefit of his visitor that Antigua and Barbuda

took a serious hit during the COVID-19 pandemic mainly because its economy was largely dependent upon tourism, and during the pandemic travel and tourism grounded to a virtual halt.

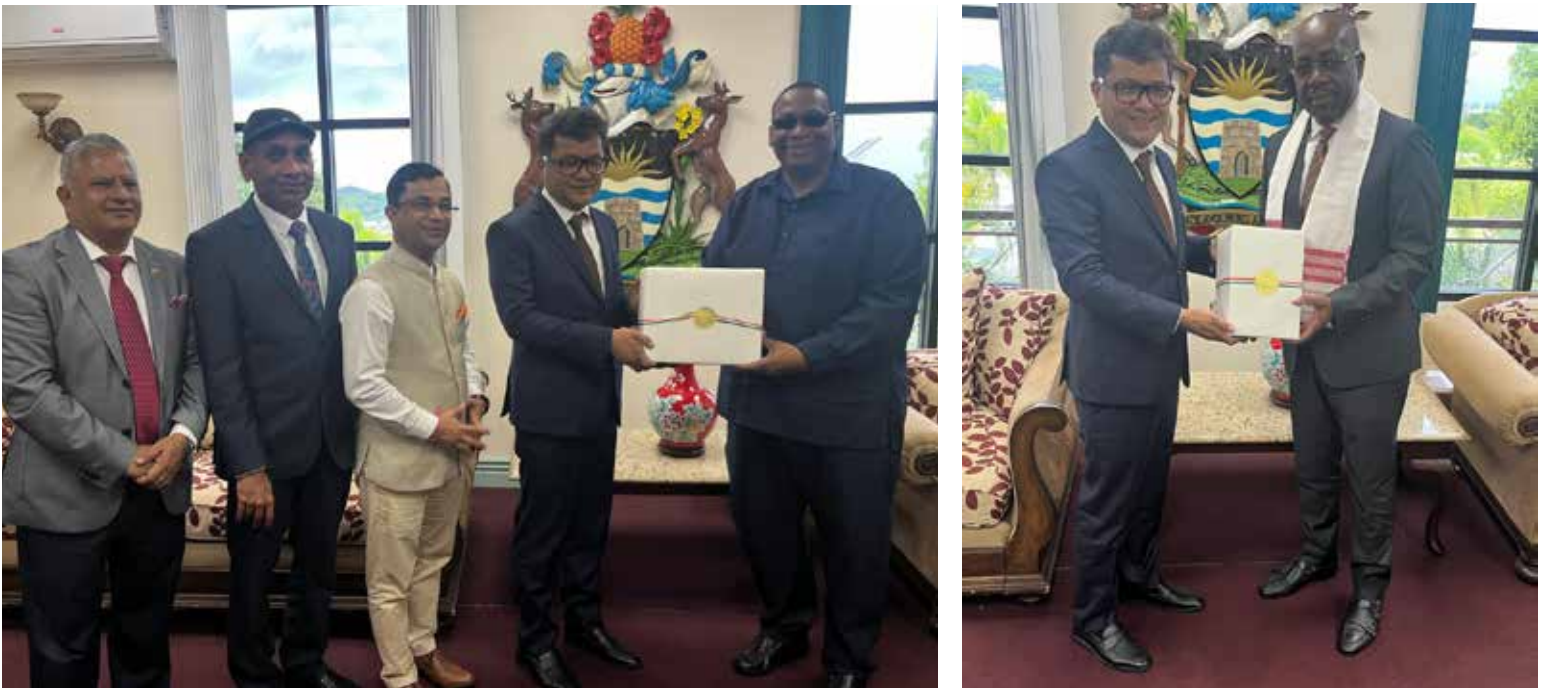
The nation's leader recalled too that India came to Antigua and Barbuda's rescue during the pandemic with donations of 40-thousand anti-COVID vaccines as well as US\$1 million worth of PPEs for health care workers.

In the area of training, the prime minister noted that India has offered many scholarships for training of public sector personnel including members of the diplomatic services and he called on India to expand these opportunities.

Noting that there are many Indian students studying at medical schools in Antigua and Barbuda, PM Browne said he wishes to see the establishment of cooperation between UWI FIC and universities in India.







## Antigua and Barbuda, India celebrate strong bilateral ties

The governments of Antigua and Barbuda and India are celebrating the close ties that have existed between the two nations for over four decades.

The strengthening of the ties formed the center-piece of bilateral discussions held between senior officials of the Antigua and Barbuda government and the visiting Minister of State for External Affairs and Textiles, Pabitra Margherita.

The Minister of State is leaving St. John's Tuesday at the end of an official visit to Antigua and Barbuda as part of a tour of the region.

At a reception held in his honour at the Sandals Grande Resort on Monday evening, Foreign Affairs Minister, E.P Chet Greene noted that the relations have existed for over forty years.

"2024 marks 42 years of diplomatic relations and cooperation between our two countries. We have developed a strong friendship and alliance that will benefit our respective citizenry for generations to come.

"Over the years we have experienced great bilateral relations based on our shared Commonwealth heritage,



trade, people to people links and our passion for cricket," he remarked.

The foreign minister noted that as a sovereign republic, India has demonstrated a strong commitment to social and economic development of its citizens and have made significant progress as a world leader in the promotion and practice of successful democratic values and economic development.

FM Greene pointed to the time when India chaired the G20 nations forum and used the opportunity to promote matters of interest to countries such as Antigua and Barbuda.

"The leadership provided by Prime

Minister Narendra Modi to the G20 group was transformational, setting a framework for the reshaping of the global order in the decades to come.

"India's contribution and support to Antigua and Barbuda is testimony of your country's commitment towards embracing and supporting developing countries in the areas of technology, education and the environment.," Minister Greene observed.

The foreign affairs minister drew reference to Antigua and Barbuda and India's shared passion for cricket and their common history as being former colonies of the United Kingdom.





## Governor General joins in saying 'thanks' to India

Governor General, Sir Rodney Williams, has added his voice to the many expressions of thanks and appreciation to the government and people of India for the assistance extended to Antigua and Barbuda over the years.

Speaking at a reception Monday night held in honour of the visiting Indian Minister of State for External Affairs and Textiles, Pabitra Margherita, Sir Rodney said Antigua and Barbuda is 'particularly grateful' to India for the many ways in which it has extended a hand of friendship.

He noted that India has provided support in the areas of health, education and capacity building. "Your visit comes at a particular time when our bilateral ties are expanding into new and exciting areas, from health cooperation in traditional medicine to development initiatives supported by India's Quick Impact Projects," he stated.

The Governor general noted too, that India's generosity during the COVID-9 pandemic through the donations of medical supplies, PPEs,

and vaccines, significantly bolstered the nation's response efforts.

Sir Rodney said the visit by the Minister of State provided an opportunity

to affirm the commitment to further deepening the cooperation across a wide range of sectors, including trade, education and agriculture.

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## India commends Antigua and Barbuda for its support within the international community

The government of India has identified Antigua and Barbuda as a trusted friend for its unwavering support for many of the initiatives which India supports in the international community.

The sentiments were expressed by the visiting Minister of State for External Affairs and Textiles of India, Pabitra Margherita, in an address at a reception held in his honour at the Sandals Grande resort on Monday night.

He said working alongside Antigua and Barbuda in the successful hosting of the 4th Small Island Developing States (SIDS4) conference earlier this year was just one of the many initiatives upon which the two coun-

tries have collaborated.

“We collaborate at bilateral and multilateral levels in various organisations and under different frameworks such as CARICOM, UN, Commonwealth and the Voice of Global South initiative launched during India’s G20 Presidency. We greatly appreciate the valuable support received from the Government of Antigua and Barbuda during elections to various multilateral organizations as well as participation from the leadership of Antigua and Barbuda in the Voice of Global South initiative,” Minister Margherita stated.

He added that there is enormous untapped potential for cooperation in areas like capacity building, infrastruc-



ture, transport, healthcare, irrigation, solar energy, agriculture, aquaculture, fisheries, MSME, education and IT.

Recognising that India played an important role in helping countries such as Antigua and Barbuda fight against the COVID-19 pandemic, Minister Margherita said India is committed to working closely with countries of the Global South to provide cost-effective medicines for all.

“I would like to emphasize that India is committed to working closely with all our partners in the Global South and it will be our endeavour to provide cost-effective solutions including generic medicines and medical equipment to our partners to provide economical and effective healthcare,” he added.







Group photo at the Eco-Fit youth project launch

## Eco-Fit Youth Project launched in Antigua and Barbuda

Several government agencies have partnered to host the Eco-Fit Project, an initiative that focuses on

promoting physical fitness, nutrition and climate change awareness.

The initiative is an un-

dertaking of the Ministries of Health and Education, the Department of the Environment and the Ashley

Lashley Foundation.

The Ministry of Health said the project is composed of four main aspects; first, a summer camp was held earlier in the year, engaging children in activities that emphasized the importance of physical health and environmental responsibility. Additionally, the project includes a weekly radio show on ABS, airing every Thursday from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM starting on October 10th, 2024, sponsored by FLOW. The show will highlight various topics related to fitness, nutrition, and climate change.

A climate change com-  
*cont'd on pg 8*





# Local News



## Two years, 11 months for illegal weapons and other charges

Jeson Cedeno, 28, of Liberta, has been sentenced to a prison term of 2-years, eleven months and 23 days after he pleaded guilty to a charge of possession of illegal firearms.

Cedeno pleaded guilty when he appeared in District B of the Magistrate's Court last week, presided over by Senior Magistrate Ngaio Emanuel.

He was charged alongside a female companion, but after he pleaded guilty, the prosecution decided to withdraw the charges against her.

Magistrate Emanuel followed the sentencing

guidelines by deducting time spent on remand from the overall sentence. Thus seven days were deducted from his sentence.

He was sentenced to six months for the possession of illegal ammunition,

three months for the possession of 183 grams of cannabis and one month for the possession of 52 grams of cannabis. The sentences are to run concurrently.

Funds found on the premises during the time

of the arrest (EC\$1,956.80, US\$649.00 found in the house and a further EC\$787.50 found in the shop) and which were confiscated by the police, have been ordered to be returned to Cedeno.

*cont'd from pg 7*

petition for schools is also part of the initiative, with the winning schools receiving a beautification prize sponsored by Harris Paints.

Finally, the project includes a data collection and nutritional screening component aimed at assessing the health of the children. This program specifically targets children between the ages of 7 to 11 years old, with the goal of educating them on the importance of maintaining a healthy lifestyle while being aware of the environmental challenges posed by climate change.



PS Ministry of Health, Ena Dalso Henry

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## US judge orders Google to open app store to rivals

By Lily Jamali

A US federal judge has ruled that Google must allow Android apps made by rival technology firms onto its Google Play app store for three years starting next month.

The change was among several remedies ordered by Judge James Donato in a case brought against Google by Epic Games, the maker of the hit video game Fortnite.

Google says it will appeal against the decision and ask for a pause to the proposed remedies.

In December, a jury sided with Epic, which says Google stifled competitors by controlling the distribution of apps and payments on Android phones.

“The changes would put consumers’ privacy and security at risk, make it harder for developers to promote

their apps, and reduce competition on devices,” Google said in a statement.

Some legal experts have hailed the ruling as a meaningful challenge to the dominance of a handful of technology giants.

“It shows that courts are not necessarily opposed to asking dominant platforms to share access with rivals in the name of competition,” said Rebecca Haw Allensworth, a professor at Vanderbilt Law School.

Among other remedies, the ruling called for Google to make its catalogue of apps available to competing app stores.

“That isn’t something antitrust law would normally require,” said Mark Lemley, professor at Stanford Law School. “But the judge correctly noted that once you have violated the antitrust laws, courts can order you

to do affirmative things to undo the harm you caused, even though you didn’t have the obligation to do those things in the first place.”

Google had argued that its Play app store operates in a competitive landscape, citing competition with iPhone-maker Apple, which was also sued by Epic Games in 2020.

That case ended with an appeals court ruling that Apple does not have a monopoly in mobile games.

Monday’s order is the latest legal blow suffered by Google in recent years on competition grounds.

In August, US District Judge Amit Mehta sided with the US Department of Justice, which accused the company of operating an illegal monopoly in online search.

Last month, District Judge Leo-  
*cont’d on pg 11*



## Customers of failed crypto firm FTX set for refunds

By Natalie Sherman

Creditors of the collapsed cryptocurrency exchange FTX are poised to receive up to \$16.5bn (£12.6bn) under a bankruptcy plan approved in the US on Monday.

The agreement will put an end to a saga that started when the firm went bankrupt in November 2022, leaving millions of customers around the world without access to their accounts.

Last year, former boss Sam Bankman-Fried was convicted of stealing customer funds ahead of the collapse and later sentenced to 25 years in prison.

The deal will allow former customers to recover a sum worth about 119% of what they had in their accounts at the time of bankruptcy, according to FTX.

Creditors are expected to receive their funds 60 days after the plan is declared effective. This date has yet to be agreed.

John J Ray III, the lawyer who was appointed to handle FTX's bankruptcy



process and its current chief executive, said the approval of the plan was a "significant milestone" in the firm's efforts to repay the money to people and firms in more than 200 jurisdictions around the world.

"Looking ahead, we are poised to return 100% of bankruptcy claim amounts plus interest for non-governmental creditors through

what will be the largest and most complex bankruptcy estate asset distribution in history," he said in a statement.

When FTX declared bankruptcy in late 2022, roughly \$8bn in customer funds were reported missing, not including debts to investors and others.

Mr Ray's team has since recovered assets

worth \$14.7-\$16.5bn, in part by selling off FTX's remaining assets, such as its investment in the artificial intelligence firm Anthropic.

The deal reached with the bankruptcy court allows the firm to repay customers ahead of the other unsecured creditors such as the government.

It has drawn a mixed reception from some former customers. Some have suggested the repayment in cash will not match the loss of crypto holdings that would be worth far more today had they not been stolen.

The value of bitcoin has more than tripled since November 2022.

*cont'd from pg 10*

nie Brinkema finished hearing arguments over similar government allegations that Google dominates the advertising technology market.

The company's critics say Google's fees of up to 30% on every payment made on its app store has meant higher prices for consumers.

"That is a rate they were able to

charge because they were a monopoly," said Lee Hepner, Senior Legal Counsel at the American Economic Liberties Project.

Mr Hepner said that the ruling is likely change that.

"There's going to be a lot more incentive for developers to enter this market, and prices should be lower for consumers," he said.



## St Kitts & Nevis: Government moving towards energy transition

CMC - The St Kitts and Nevis government has commissioned a six-megawatt (MW) rental power plant as the Twin Island Federation aims to provide temporary stability to the national grid while the sole provider and distributor of electricity undertakes critical infrastructure upgrades.

The government has secured a US\$40 million in concessional funding from the Saudi Fund for Development to support the procurement, construction, and operation of an 18MW dual-fuel power plant, coupled with a battery energy storage system.

“As we work toward that new 18-megawatt plant, plus the urgent need to service and overhaul our generators that have been overrun and are on the verge of collapse, plus the vulnerability of the aged generators and the fact that the solar farms are not intended to cover 24 hours of service, it is imperative to implement a reliable temporary supply in order for SKELEC (St Kitts Electricity Co. Ltd) to successfully achieve its goals,” said Energy and Public Infrastructure Minister, Konris Maynard.

“This new plant will not only provide a more reliable energy future but also would provide a bridge toward achieving the Sustainable Island State Agenda by coupling a clean-burning flexible generation platform with energy storage technol-



ogy designed to facilitate the proliferation of distributed renewable energy resources which are to be eminently incentivized through the rollout of a feed-in tariff,” he added.

Maynard said the rental power plant from global energy solutions provider, Aggreko, over the next 12 months in the first instance, will allow SKELEC to perform critical overhauls on its fixed generator fleet.

The authorities say this includes essential maintenance on the 25-year-old Mirrlees Blackstone MB430 6-megawatt generator, which is the largest single generator in the federation and is operating beyond its intended capacity.

Maynard said “SKELEC will perform much-needed critical overhauls on the bulk of its fixed generator fleet” during this rental period.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Dr Terrance Drew, said St Kitts and Nevis is in the transition towards reducing its dependence on fossil fuel through the careful implementation of renewable energy practices and projects.

This energy transition, one of the seven pillars upon which the government’s sustainable island state agenda hinges, is underpinned by the build-out of the dual-fuel power plant and battery energy storage plant in St Kitts, as well as the introduction of renewable energy-powered desalination plants.

“We have determined, through careful analysis, that if we were to transition St Kitts and Nevis to renewable energy it would transform St Kitts and Nevis in its totality,” Drew said.

“It will transform our fiscal situation because re-

newable energy would cost at least two-thirds less than it costs to generate from fossil fuel.

“Additionally, it will create a lot more new jobs in the green energy space, and with the decrease in the cost of generation it means, to do anything else in St Kitts and Nevis the cost of operations will go down,” he added.

The government said to further complement the energy transition, it has been in close collaboration with the Nevis Island Administration (NIA), making meaningful progress in geothermal exploration on Nevis to deliver cleaner, cheaper energy.

Drew said that if the energy transition the government envisions takes place then “St Kitts and Nevis will be in a different stratum of development.”

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## EU-Caribbean calls for proposals to enhance regional food security

CMC - The European Union-Caribbean Regional Food Security Programme, will on Tuesday launch a call for proposals aimed at enhancing food system resilience, focusing on improving the livelihoods and food security of vulnerable populations.

The four-year programme will invest EUR 19 million, implemented through key regional partners, including the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB), International Trade Centre (ITC), Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA), and EU member state agencies (FIIAPP and CPVA).

A key highlight of the Caribbean Week of Agriculture (CWA) in St Vincent and the Grenadines this week, will be the launch of the EU-CDB call for proposals under three funding windows: increasing access to finance for smallholder agricultural and fisheries producers focusing on women and youth, financing scalable aquatic/agri-tech solutions, and developing sustainable food distribution channels at the regional level.

Speakers at the ceremony will include Felipe De La Mota of the EU Caribbean Partnership for Economic Resilience and Trade, L. O'Reilly Lewis, the CDB's acting Director of Projects,



Teodora Diamantopoulos Fernandez, coordinator for EU-CaN Facility.

William Castro Rodriguez, Programme Manager, International Trade Centre, and IICA representatives will also address the ceremony.

The CDB said that the programme's general objective is to enhance the sustainability and resilience of food systems in the Caribbean, promoting food and nutrition security, particularly for vulnerable groups.

It said specific goals include improving food production systems with a focus on gender sensitivity, enhancing food processing and distribution, expanding social protection systems

for agricultural actors, and ensuring equitable access to nutritious diets across the region.

The Value Chains project, led by ITC, seeks to support agri-Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), cooperatives and producers to become more competitive and resilient through value addition, diversification, and commercial alliances at the local and regional level.

The SPS Project, implemented by IICA, aims to increase regional production and distribution of fresh and processed products by addressing sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) barriers to intra-regional trade. This project will work toward

harmonizing the legislative framework for regional commodities and improving food safety compliance.

The EU-CDB Regional Food Security Programme, led by CDB, will support agri-MSMEs and producers by providing access to finance, fostering innovation, and improving distribution systems to enhance competitiveness and resilience.

Additionally, the Social Protection and Nutrition Project, led by the EU Member State agencies FIIAPP and CPVA, will strengthen the inclusion of food system actors by promoting social insurance schemes and supporting agricultural producers' access to national social protection systems.



## Hurricane Milton rapidly intensifies to category five strength

Hurricane Milton has rapidly intensified into a category five storm as it tears its way towards the US Gulf Coast, the US National Hurricane Center (NHC) has said.

Ferocious winds of up to 180mph (290km/h) have been recorded as Milton heads towards Florida, where it is expected to make landfall on Wednesday night or early Thursday morning, the NHC said.

Floridians have been told to prepare for the state's largest evacuation effort in years, with Governor Ron DeSantis warning that time for people to evacuate is quickly running out.

"We have to assume this is going to be a monster," Governor DeSantis said at press conference on Monday afternoon.

Warnings over Hurricane Milton come just 10 days after Hurricane Helene - the deadliest mainland storm since Katrina in 2005 - pummeled the US south-east, killing at least 225 people. Hundreds more are missing.

At least 14 of those deaths were in Florida, where 51 of 67 counties are now under emergency warnings as Milton approaches.

"Unfortunately, some of the Helene victims are in the path of this storm," DeSantis said.

"I would imagine that [Milton] would be more life threatening... as a result of the strength of this storm and where it may end up hitting."

He urged residents to begin storm preparations and heed evacuation warnings early.

Ken Graham, director of the National Weather Service [NWS], said Milton became a category five hurricane at record-breaking speed - with wind speeds intensifying by 80 knots (148km/h) over 24 hours.

"That's the third highest we have



on record," he said.

Hurricanes are separated into five categories based on their wind speed.

Those reaching category three and higher are considered major hurricanes because of their potential for significant loss of life and damage, according to the NWS.

Hurricane Milton is expected to weaken on Tuesday as it travels over the Gulf of Mexico, dropping to a category three storm by the time it makes landfall in Florida's Tampa Bay on Wednesday evening or early on Thursday, CBS News, the BBC's US news partner, reported.

Milton is then forecast to continue tracking north-east, cutting across the Florida peninsula as it heads for the

Atlantic Ocean.

On Monday ahead of Milton's landfall, long lines at petrol stations began forming in south Florida, with some reports of stations running out of fuel.

Traffic congestion in some areas has increased by as much as 90% above average, DeSantis said.

The state has opened additional lanes on some interstates to improve the flow of traffic.

School closures in several counties begin on Tuesday.

Keith Turi, a spokesperson for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (Fema), said: "I'm encouraged by the amount of evacuation

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## Mexican mayor murdered days after starting job

By Graeme Baker

The mayor of a Mexican city plagued by drug violence has been murdered less than a week after taking office.

Alejandro Arcos was found dead on Sunday in Chilpancingo, a city of around 280,000 people in the southwestern state of Guerrero. He had been mayor for six days.

Evelyn Salgado, the state governor, said the city was in mourning over a murder that “fills us with indignation”. His death came three days after the city government’s new secretary, Francisco Tapia, was shot dead.

Authorities have not released details of the investigation, or suspects. However, Guerrero is one of the worst-affected states for drug violence and drug cartels have murdered dozens of politicians across the



Alejandro Arcos speaks to a crowd in a picture posted on Facebook on Sunday, hours before his murder.

country.

Authorities confirmed Arcos’s murder after unverified social media images showed what appeared to be his remains.

Arcos’s social media posts show that he had spent his days in office supervising disaster relief efforts following Hurricane John last month, which caused severe flooding.

Pictures were posted to his Facebook account in the

hours before his death of meetings with relief workers and residents.

Alejandro Moreno, a Mexican senator, said Arcos and Tapia were “young and honest officials who sought progress for their community”. He called on federal authorities to take charge of the investigation given Guerrero’s “ungovernability”.

Arcos’s Institutional Revolutionary Party called

for justice. “Enough of violence and impunity! The people of Guerrero do not deserve to live in fear,” it said on Twitter/X.

Politicians, particularly at the local level, frequently fall victim to bloodshed connected to corruption and the multibillion-dollar drugs trade.

Guerrero is one of the worst affected states due to its location on the Pacific coast smuggling routes and Chilpancingo has long been the scene of turf battles between two drug gangs, the Arditos and the Tlacos.

At least six candidates for public office were killed in the state in the run-up to Mexico’s 2 June elections.

More than 450,000 people have been murdered and tens of thousands have gone missing across Mexico since the government deployed the army to combat drug trafficking in 2006.

*cont’d from pg 14*

that’s going on right now.”

“This is actually a good sign.”

The NHC warned torrential rain and flash-flooding can be expected across parts of Florida from Monday.

It added that life-threatening storm surges and damaging winds along portions of Florida’s west coast were possible from late Tuesday or early Wednesday.

Rainfall totals could reach localised highs of 15in (38cm), and coastal areas could see storm surges of of

5-10ft (1.5-3.5m).

DeSantis warned residents in the storm’s path, specifically in areas that have potential for storm surge, to leave as soon as possible.

“Time is going to start running out very, very soon,” he said.

Counties began issuing evacuation orders on Monday, and tolls will be suspended on roads in western and central Florida.

DeSantis also warned Floridians it is possible the storm will be powerful as it crosses the state.

“It’s going to remain a hurricane at some level all the way through exiting the east coast of Florida,” he said.

“This will produce major damage, whatever ends up happening,” he added.

Parts of Pinellas County, where at least a dozen people were killed by Helene, were placed under evacuation orders on Monday.

Tampa International Airport announced it would be suspending flight operations from Tuesday because of the storm.





The St. Lucia Kings celebrate with their trophy after beating defending champions the Guyana Amazon Warriors to win their first-ever Caribbean Premier League (CPL) in the final at the National Stadium in Providence, Guyana, on Sunday, October 6, 2024. (Getty Images)

## St. Lucia Kings beat Warriors to win maiden CPL title

The St. Lucia Kings claimed their first-ever Caribbean Premier League (CPL) title in emphatic fashion, defeating the defending champions Guyana Amazon Warriors by six wickets in a thrilling final at Providence Stadium in Guyana on Sunday night.

Aaron Jones, who hit an unbeaten 48 off 31 balls, and Roston Chase struck 39 not out off 22 balls to lead a remarkable recovery after a shaky start to secure the Kings' maiden title.

Jones struck four sixes and two fours in delivering a match-winning performance under intense pressure as the Kings achieve their victory target of 139 for four in 18.1 overs.

Chasing a modest target of 139 on a slow, two-paced surface, the Kings appeared in trouble at 51 for four, with the Warriors' spinners dominating proceedings.

The Guyana crowd had reached a fever pitch as the Kings struggled to score, going nine overs without a boundary.

Roston Chase, battling illness, and Aaron Jones, who was on the verge of being retired out by captain Daren Sammy, faced a relentless attack from Guyana's four-pronged spin bowling unit.

However, the match swung dramatically in the 16th over when Jones, who had crawled to 10 off 19 balls, unleashed a furious assault on Moeen Ali, smashing 27 runs off the over with a series of sixes and fours.

His explosive batting ignited the Kings' chase, turning the tide of the game in their favour. Jones shared an unbroken 88-run partnership with Chase, who played a measured innings to guide the Kings to victory with 11

balls to spare.

The Kings had been rattled early in their chase when Romario Shepherd removed Johnson Charles for seven. Faf du Plessis for 21, Ackeem Auguste for 13, and Tim Seifert for three soon followed, leaving the Kings teetering at 51 for four, with the required run rate climbing.

However, Jones and Chase stayed calm, absorbing the pressure before unleashing their onslaught. Jones smashed Dwaine Pretorius for 20 runs in the 17th over, leaving the Kings needing just one run from the final two overs. Imran Tahir's wide down the leg side sealed the Warriors' fate, handing the Kings a memorable victory.

Reflecting on the win, Chase, who has been with the Kings for five seasons, said, "It means a lot. I've been

*cont'd on pg 17*

## Four clubs to compete for 2024 Warriors Cup

Newly-promoted Premier Division contenders, Attacking Saints, Earthquake, Young Lions, and host club Young Warriors will be competing for the prestigious Warriors Cup 2024.

The annual pre-season football tournament will kick off on Tuesday, October 8, and conclude on Sunday, October 13, at the Buckley's Primary School playing field.

The quartet of clubs will be using the tournament to fine-tune their preparations ahead of the start of the Antigua and Barbuda Football Association's (ABFA) domestic season later this month.

Attacking Saints, who earned promotion to the top flight division for the first time in their relatively short three-year introduction to the ABFA league, will be fancied to win this year's Warriors Cup.

However, Earthquake, Young Lions, and home-team Young Warriors will be eager to show their mettle in the round-robin competition.

The Young Warriors will face Earthquake in the opening fixture on Tuesday before the Attacking Saints and Young Lions meet on Thursday,



both games starting at 5pm at Buckley's.

The Warriors Cup continues on Saturday with a double-header at the same venue, followed by the last round of matches on Sunday.

Trophies will be awarded to the champions, runners-up, and third-place finishers, while individual prizes will be presented to the best goalkeeper, defender, and midfielder, as well as the golden boot to the top goal scorer

and best young player (16 years and under).

Organizers say they are delighted to be staging the tournament once again, which was introduced in 2006 and has played an integral role in the development of the sport with overseas teams from other Caribbean islands taking part in the past.

Garden Stars won last year's Warriors Cup, which was played at the Radio Range playing field in Ottos.

### cont'd from pg 16

in two finals before, and I made up my mind this morning that I wasn't going to lose this one."

Meanwhile, Jones, who delivered when it mattered most, added, "We knew playing in the final would be a challenge, but we came out on top. I think of myself as a match-winner."

Earlier, the Warriors struggled to build momentum after being asked to bat first. They could only muster 27 runs in the powerplay,

losing Rahmanullah Gurbaz for a duck in the opening over.

The St Lucia Kings' bowlers applied consistent pressure, with Khary Pierre delivering a superb spell to claim one wicket for six runs in two overs during the powerplay.

Antiguan pacer Alzarri Joseph also tied down the batters with wide lines, while Noor Ahmad captured three for 19, taking the key wickets of Moeen Ali for 14 and Shimron Hetmyer for

11.

Chase also chipped in with the wicket of Shai Hope for 22 as the Warriors stumbled to 102 for seven after 18 overs.

Despite a late surge from Romario Shepherd with 19 not out off nine balls and Dwaine Pretorius with 25 off 12 balls in adding 36 runs in the final two overs to push the Warriors to 138 for eight, the total proved insufficient.

Noor Ahmad's 22 wickets this season placed him

just behind CPL legend Dwayne Bravo's record of most wickets in a single CPL season.

The Kings' victory marks a significant moment in their CPL journey, as they lifted their first title in franchise history.

The triumph was a testament to their resilience and belief, with Aaron Jones' match-winning innings set to be remembered as one of the most remarkable moments of the 2024 CPL season.



# Sports News



## Sandals still unbeaten in Business Basketball League

Sandals maintained their unbeaten run in the Antigua and Barbuda Basketball Association's (ABBA) Cool and Smooth Business Basketball League on Sunday.

Sandals claimed their eighth win in as many games with a 63-51 victory against defending champions Antigua and Barbuda Transport Board during

a triple header at the JSC Sports Complex.

Keroi Lee sank 15 points and grabbed 20 rebounds; T-Shawn Lewis converted 15 points; and Selassie Brathwaite chipped in with 12 points, seven rebounds, and six steals for Sandals.

Devorn Benjamin had 19 points and four steals, and Raymond Dicken-

son scored 12 points and grabbed 20 rebounds for the Antigua and Barbuda Transport Board, which suffered their fourth loss in seven encounters.

Richie's Shooterz recorded their fifth win in six matches with a 100-52 victory against Christos Supermarket United in Sunday's second game.

Ariel Quallis produced

32 points, 15 steals, and five rebounds; Yannick Samuel had 23 points and six assists; Tavarus Benta contributed 17 points, nine assists, and eight rebounds; Darnell Azille provided 17 points, 14 rebounds, 11 steals, and nine assists; and Kwame Brathwaite chipped in with 16 points, 15 rebounds, and six assists for Richie's Shooterz.

David Mensah converted 26 points and grabbed seven rebounds for Christos Supermarket United, which suffered their seventh loss in as many games.

The Antigua Power Company notched up their fourth win in seven matches after snatching a 47-40 victory against the Fearless Crew.

Judah Ferris converted 16 points and grabbed 16 rebounds for the Antigua Power Company. Takeem Martin sank 12 points and claimed 19 rebounds for the Fearless Crew, who slumped to their seventh loss in eight games.

The business basketball league will continue with a double header at the JSC Sports Complex on Tuesday.

Richie's Shooterz will face the Sledge O'Ballerz at 7 pm, and the Board of Education will tackle Christos Supermarket United at 8 pm.

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## VIP and Buckley's 3J's claim wins in Tape Ball Classic

Pelican Safari/The Nest Beach Bar & Restaurant VIP and Buckley's 3J's recorded wins in the latest round of matches in the LL Supply Limited and Total Imports Island Boys Sports Club (IBSC) 20 over Tape Ball Classic.

The VIP defeated Pete's Landscaping 300 by 7 wickets at the Potters playing field.

300 were dismissed for 89 in 15.4 overs after winning the toss and electing to bat. Zach Thomas hit 22, Glenton Williams made 17, and Jared Roberts scored 14.



Kenrick Scott

Elroy Francis Jr., Ahmal Nathaniel, Kofi James and Akeem Blackman each captured a wicket.

In reply, VIP achieved victory by scoring 92 for three in 5.5 overs. Ahmal Nathaniel struck 39 not out, and Kofi James scored 35. Vernal Isidore picked up two for 14.

Buckley's 3J's romped to a 10-wicket win against PMS at the same venue. PMS were dismissed for 89 in 14.2 overs. Michael Harilall hit 20, Junior Henry made 18, and Melique Jacobs got 12.

Demari Benta took two wickets for eight runs, and Rodney Williams claimed two for 27.

Buckley's 3J's secured

victory, scoring 94 without losing a wicket in 6.4 overs. Kenrick Scott, who won the player of the match award, hammered 70 not out, and Uri Smiths struck 24 not out.

But there was not play in the other two matches at Powells due to rain. The showers forced the abandonment of the match between Mix Up Stars and PEL Desi Boys.

The encounter between Dredgers and Bryson's Shipping and Insurance Bullets was also abandoned due to a wet pitch and outfield.

*cont'd from pg 20*

third place. The Antigua and Barbuda Super Seniors team also claimed a third-place finish in gross. Martinique won the Super Seniors Men's Gross title, with St. Kitts and Nevis finishing in second place.

Saint-Aime Gerard of Martinique won the super seniors men's individual gross title with a total of 155. Zeke Percival of St. Kitts came in second with a total of 155, and Wesley Dyer of Antigua and Barbuda finished in third place with a total of 156.

Eighty-six golfers from nine territories participated in the Eastern Caribbean Golf Championships, which was hosted by the Antigua and Barbuda Golf Association (ABGA).

The ABGA received support from several sponsors in hosting the two-day event last weekend. Among the sponsors are State Insurance, Falmouth Harbour Marina, Cool and Smooth, Antigua and Barbuda Tour-



The Antigua and Barbuda ladies team that won both gross and net titles at the Eastern Caribbean Golf Championships at the Cedar Valley Golf Course in Antigua on October 5-6, 2024. From left: Akevia Warne, left, and Lexi Hunte. (Photos courtesy ABGA)

ism Authority, Eighteen Plus Restaurant, Paperclips, and Paradiso Water.

The other sponsors are Cedar Valley Gold Club, American University

of Antigua, Ice Cream Kingdom, Piggott's Mall, Food Brokerage Services, FLOW, Beyond the Décor, and the Department of Culture.



# Sports

TUESDAY 8TH OCTOBER 2024



## Antiguans win ECGC title

Hosts Antigua and Barbuda captured the overall title at the Eastern Caribbean Golf Championships (ECGC) at the Cedar Valley Golf Course over the weekend.

It was a sweet victory for Antiguan golfers in reclaiming the title after finishing third in last year's tournament that was won by St. Lucia, with hosts St. Kitts claiming the runners-up position.

Antigua and Barbuda, which won the overall title in St. Lucia in 2022, dominated the 2024 tournament to reclaim title honours, winning the overall title with a combined team total of 658 gross.

Antigua and Barbuda's men's team, comprising Tedson Weatherill, Marquise George, Marlon George, and Sylvester "Bouncing" Joseph, won both net and gross titles.

St. Kitts and Nevis finished second behind the Antigua and Barbuda men's team in both gross and net competitions. Barbados came in third in gross, while St. Maarten finished third in net.

Adrian Norford of St. Kitts won the men's individual gross title with a total of



The Antigua and Barbuda team celebrates after winning the 2024 Eastern Caribbean Golf Championships at the Cedar Valley Golf Course in Antigua on October 6, 2024.

137. Marlon George of Antigua came in second with a total of 142, and Xavier Wiggins of Barbados was third with a total of 149.

The Antigua and Barbuda ladies team of Alexandria "Lexi" Hunte and Akevia Warner also won both gross and net competitions.

St. Croix captured second place, and St. Lucia came in third in both ladies gross and net competitions.

Antigua's Akevia Warner won the ladies individual gross title with a total of

155, and compatriot Alexandria Hunte came second with a total of 161.

Antigua and Barbuda's senior men's team of Marcus Franker, Eldine "Soca" Baptiste, and Wilston Charles finished second in both gross and net competitions.

St. Lucia won the senior men's gross title, with St. Kitts and Nevis finishing third. The St. Lucians also captured the senior men's net title, with St. Maarten finishing third.

Antigua and Barbuda's Wilston Charles won the senior men's individual gross title with a total of 149. Eugene Edwin of St. Lucia came in second with a total of 149, and Timothy Mangal of St. Lucia finished third with a total of 153.

Antigua and Barbuda's Super Seniors team of Wesley Dyer and Vere Ambrose finished second in net. St. Croix won the Super Seniors Men net title, with St. Kitts and Nevis finishing in

*cont'd on pg 19*