

PM Browne bemoans what he sees as a breakdown of the rules-based global order

Story on page 2



Prime Minister Gaston Browne made the point while speaking at the Plenary Session on the topic: "World on the Edge, Polycrisis, Chaos, Polarization & the Battle for Global Balance" at a high-level international forum organized by the Amadeus Institute of Medays, held Tangier, Morocco

PM Browne bemoans what he sees as a breakdown of the rules-based global order

Prime Minister Gaston Browne has observed that the once rules-based global order that hitherto provided protection, stability and predictability for vulnerable states in the global south, is now characterized by chaos and instability.

Prime Minister Gaston Browne made the point while speaking at the Plenary Session on the topic: “*World on the Edge: Polycrisis, Chaos, Polarization & the Battle for Global Balance*” at a high-level international forum organized by the Amadeus Institute of Medays, held Tangier, Morocco – 29 November 2025.

In his address, PM Browne noted that competition has intensified among emerging and established powers, weakening global cooperation and solidarity.

“This has resulted in realignments, resulting in the formation of new blocks, new alliances, new trade relations and increased insularity, which undermines multilateralism.

“Some refer to these realignments as a form of creative destruction to facilitate a new dispensation, that will give rise to new positive outcomes. This optimism is clearly unfounded and could be more accurately described as a world tethering on the edge of implosion,” he warned.

In the interim, he noted that lines between order and disorder are blurred where international norms are contested, and where global governance is fractured by polarization challenges, giving rise to uncertainty and insecurity.

“The question however is: will we as a human civilization allow the prevailing chaos, confusion, and instability to become the destiny of humanity?

“Or will we fight unrelentingly for a new global norm of peace, love, justice and unity?” he asked.



Prime Minister Gaston Browne speaking at the Plenary Session

He also posed the question of whether nations will allow any single mighty nation, or group of nations, to undermine global peace and prosperity, or will they stand together and fight for a more equitable, just and peaceful world?

“I say to each of us today, that chaos, confusion and instability cannot be our destiny and that it is within our power, to fight courageously with ideas, leadership, diplomacy; to successfully resolve the challenges and to shape a more equitable, just and peaceful world,” he declared.

Having identified some of the problems, the Antigua and Barbuda leader proposed a series of solutions noting that what is required is, among other things, social cohesion among nations.

“To achieve this requires social cohesion, therefore, let this Medays forum, serve as the catalyst to build social cohesion; solidarity among nations in all regions, to restore global balance in achieving an equitable just and peaceful world.

“An equitable, just and peaceful world that would result in shared global pros-

perity for all nations and their peoples; taking into consideration, that we all part of the same human family, with a common mitochondrial DNA, emanating from a common grandparent dating back 250,000 years ago,” he stated.

According to the prime minister, this global reset requires a balance between competition and cooperation.

“A more inclusive and equitable global governance framework, in which all nations and regions are fully integrated in the global financial and trade architectures. One in which all nations and regions have a seat at the global decision making table.

“One in which we fight in solidarity as a human civilization, to defeat the various existential threats in protection of our common humanity and our planet.

“This would require strengthening multilateralism and a pooling of sovereignty; thereby balancing national sovereignty with global responsibility,” he declared.

The Attorney General announces new measures to speed-up the delivery of justice in Antigua and Barbuda

The Antigua and Barbuda government will introduce a series of measures in the new year designed to speed up the delivery of justice within the country's justice system.

The announcement was made by the Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs, Sir Steadroy Benjamin, last Thursday night as he delivered the welcome remarks at a lecture delivered by Deputy Director of Public prosecution, Shannon Jones-Gitten, that addressed the topic of backlogs within the justice system.

"Tonight, also gives us the opportunity to make clear that this government, my government will not remain idle in the face of inefficiencies that impede justice. We have identified several decisive steps, including firm, targeted reforms, which we are preparing to advance as part of the government's justice sector modernization agenda in 2026," he revealed.

The Attorney General identified one of the steps as the introduction of the Voluntary Bill of Indictment Act. "This is a modern legislative tool already gaining traction across our Caribbean. This mechanism directly confronts procedural delays by empowering the DPP to advance appropriate matters straight to the High Court, bypassing outdated processes that too often obstruct justice. This reform



Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs, Sir Steadroy Benjamin

is designed to bring greater speed, certainty, and protection to vulnerable witnesses while ensuring that complex criminal matters move with the urgency they deserve," he explained.

Two other reform measures include the introduction of Plea-Bargaining legislation that will allow an accused to change his/her plea from 'not guilty' to 'guilty' with the expectation of a reduced sentence, and secondly, the establishment of a Public Defenders Department which will comprise of attorneys to defend accused persons at the Magistrates Court, High Court and the Appeal Court.

According to the AG, the government is also giving consideration to the ap-

pointment of a dedicated Criminal Master of Antigua and Barbuda. "This specialised judicial officer would serve as a critical engine of efficiency, tackling the procedural bottlenecks – bail applications, disclosure compliance and case-readiness hearings – these often delay the movement of cases to trial," Sir Steadroy further explained.

Additionally, Sir Steadroy indicated that over time one or two acting magistrates will be appointed who will be deployed specifically to assist with clearing whatever backlog, which may exist within the magistrate's court.



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Local News

Three attorneys represent Antigua and Barbuda at conference marking the 20th anniversary of the CCJ



Senior Magistrate Ngaio Emanuel (left) Zachary Phillips (centre) and Fanella Francis (right)

Three attorneys from the Antigua and Barbuda justice system were among regional legal representatives attending a three-day conference marking the 20th anniversary of the Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ) held in Trinidad.

The event was the 8th Biennial Conference of the CCJ Academy for Law that was held in Port of Spain from November 26-28 under the theme ‘*CCJ at 20: Reflections on Caribbean Jurisprudence*’.

In attendance were Senior Magistrate, Ngaio Emanuel, Family Court Registrar, Fanella Francis and Attorney in the Office of the Attorney General, Zachary Phillips.

“As the Caribbean Court of Jus-

tice (CCJ) marks two decades of service to the region, the conference aimed at reflecting on the seminal developments in the Caribbean Jurisprudence from the CCJ and other courts in the region and explored the role of the CCJ and other stakeholders in the future development of Caribbean Jurisprudence,” the conference note stated.

The organisers say the conference provided a dynamic platform for stakeholders across the Caribbean to engage on the evolving landscape of Caribbean Jurisprudence.

Phillips was part of panel that discussed the topic; *Structured conversation on law and sustainable development in the Caribbean: Issues for the future*.



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MANAGEMENT



Local News

The ABTHA's honours outstanding performances in the hotels sector for 2025



Winners and officials in group photo

The Antigua Hotels and Tourism Association held its annual Tourism Awards Gala at the Sandals Resort on Saturday night under the *'Mirror Ball Gala: A night to reflect and Shine'*.

The occasion was a night to celebrate those persons in the hotels sector whose exemplary service and

dedication to duty gained them recognition by their peers.

ABHTA's Chairman, Craig Marshall said the association has made a commitment to invest in employees in the hotel sector as they are the backbone of the industry.

"We invested in stronger

collaboration, working closely with government, unions, training partners, and the private sector. And in true Caribbean fashion, our meetings were honest, passionate, sometimes spirited — but always geared toward strengthening the industry we all love.

"We invested in fairness, standards, and opportunity, pushing forward conversations that protect workers, elevate guest experiences, and build a sustainable future for our sector," he observed.

Chief Executive Officer of the Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Authority, Colin



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C. James, reflected on the theme noting that when each person shines in his/her own way, collectively that lights up the entire room and as tourism professionals this lights up the entire industry. He added that both the ABTA and the Ministry of Tourism have developed strong ties with the hotels sector and the wider private sector.

“Our tripartite partnership is one of the greatest

strengths of Antigua and Barbuda’s tourism success. We share one vision, one mission, and as the saying goes, **“If you want to go far, go together.”** And tonight, we are celebrating how far we’ve gone together,” he remarked.

During the ceremony, 82 persons in the hotels and ancillary sectors were singled out for special recognition for outstanding performances in their re-

spective areas.

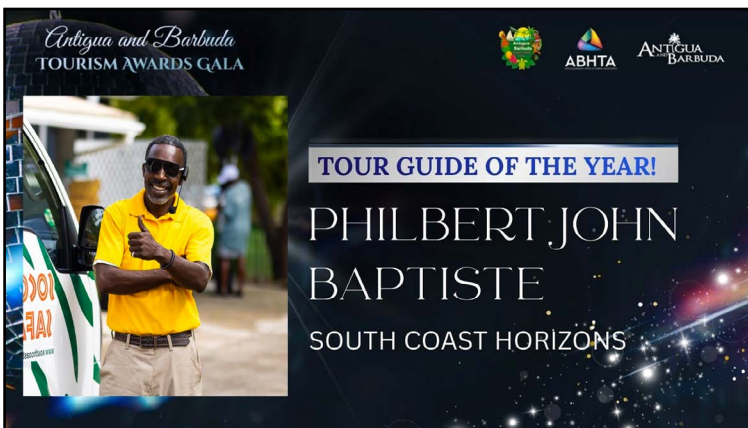
In the winners’ circle; there were thirteen nominees for **Employee of the Year**. The top three finalists were Albev Wade of Blue Waters Hotel, Tevin Johnnie of Keyonna Beach Resort and Joyette Pigott of Siboney Beach Club. Albev Wade was named overall winner.

For **Supervisor of the Year**, there were fourteen nominees with the three

finalists; Tamolla Joseph of Curtain Bluff Antigua, Sophia Welch of Mill Reef Club and Michelle Martin of Sandals Grande Antigua. Sophia Welch was named the winner of this category.

The Rising Star category saw nine nominees with the three finalists; Khari Shaw of Mill Reef Club, Shemaiah Gordon of Royalton Antigua and Masadie Isaac of Sandals Grande

Local News



Antigua. Shemaiah Gordon was named the winner.

The Young Hotelier of the Year category had six nominees with three finalists; Gishawn Whyte of Royalton Antigua, Leon Norville of Sandals Grande and Careena Eastwood of Trade Winds Hotel. Leon Norville was named winner.

The **Young Chef of the Year** category had eight nominees with the top

three being; Kahendi Jackson of Hermitage Bay, Unique Roberts of Jumby Bay Resort and Jaleel Edwards of Sandals Grande Antigua. Kahendi Jackson was named the winner.

Chef of the Year had six nominees with Jean-Pierre Tuitt of Jumby Bay Resort named the overall winner.

For **Customer Service Excellence** there were thirteen nominees with the top three; Solange

Benta of Hermitage Bay, Sandy Ransaran of Sandals Grande and Que Brathwaite of Siboney Beach Club. Sandy Ramsaran was named winner.

For **Port Frontline Employee of the Year** Jahlyn Turner of the Department of Immigration was named overall winner.

In the category, **Tour Guide of the Year**, Philbert John Baptiste was named the winner.

Ian Richards won the award for **Transportation Service Provider of the Year**, while @Antigua_inside_out won for **Social Media Excellence**.

During the ceremony, Former ABHTA Chairman, the late Alex De Brito was posthumously presented with the **Lifetime Achievement Award**. His family collected this award.

Antigua Barbuda
**FESTIVALS
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**10TH JAN
2026**
NIGHT ONE



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MASICKA - CAPLETON - BURNING FLAMES
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GRAMPS MORGAN - SHELLY & SIGNAL BAND

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Prime Minister Browne Writes to New and Former Leaders of St Vincent and the Grenadines

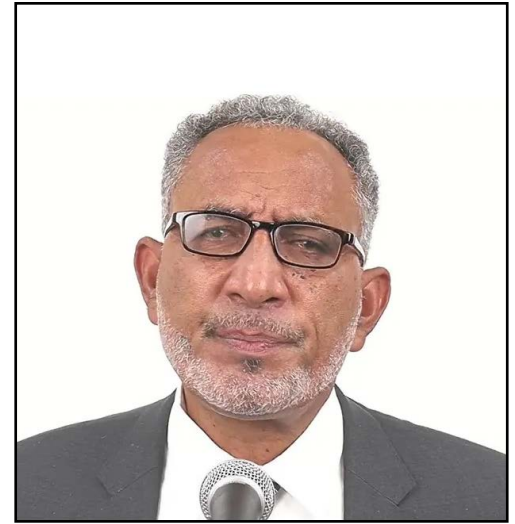
Prime Minister Gaston Browne has written to Dr. Godwin Friday, congratulating him on his election as Prime Minister of St Vincent and the Grenadines. In his letter, sent from Morocco on November 28 while attending an international conference, Prime Minister Browne affirmed his commitment to working closely with Dr. Friday to strengthen cooperation within the OECS and CARICOM and to advance shared regional priorities.

Prime Minister Browne also wrote to outgoing Prime Minister Dr. Ralph E. Gonsalves, acknowledging his 24 years of leadership and his significant contribution to Caribbean integration and public life. Browne expressed appreciation for Dr. Gon-



salves' friendship and counsel, noting that his legacy "endures and speaks for itself", and extended best wishes as he continues his service in Parliament.

Prime Minister Browne reiterated



Antigua and Barbuda's commitment to maintaining strong relations with St Vincent and the Grenadines and to deepening cooperation for the benefit of the peoples of both countries.

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Antigua and Barbuda trade unionists to attend CCL meeting in Trinidad



AT&LU President Bernard de Nully

The Antigua and Barbuda Trades and Labour Union (AT&LU) is among at least three local trade unions that will be attending the upcoming 22nd Triennial Delegates Conference (TDC) of the Caribbean Congress of Labour, scheduled to take place from December 2 – 5, 2025, in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago.

Delegates representing the AT&LU are; President Bernard de Nully, 1st Vice President Lisa-Ann Yearwood, and Executive Member Jaquis Browne.

The event themed *“One Caribbean, One Voice: Advancing Workers’ Rights through Governance and Solidarity”*, will focus on critical issues affecting workers across the region, including labour migration, capacity enhancement, and fostering collaboration among unions.

Sessions will be led by esteemed organizations such as the International Labour Organization (ILO), which will encourage meaningful dialogue on market resilience and related labour concerns.

President Bernard de Nully emphasized the significance of the conference, stating, “Our presence at this

event underscores our commitment to advocate for workers’ rights not only in Antigua and Barbuda but throughout the Caribbean. It is crucial that we come together as a region to address our challenges and strengthen our unity.”

The AT&LU is eager to engage with fellow delegates to share insights and strategies aimed at promoting solidarity among workers. The union seeks to represent the interests of its members

actively while contributing to discussions that will shape policies impacting the workforce across the Caribbean.

In addition to the AT&LU, the Antigua and Barbuda Public Service Association will be represented by its General Secretary, Janela Evanson, while the Antigua and Barbuda Workers Union will also be sending three delegates. The ABWU delegates have not been identified at the time of going to press.



**ST. JOHN'S
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NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The St. John's Cooperative Credit Union invites members to the reconvening of the 40th AGM and convening of the 41st AGM.



Thursday 11TH December



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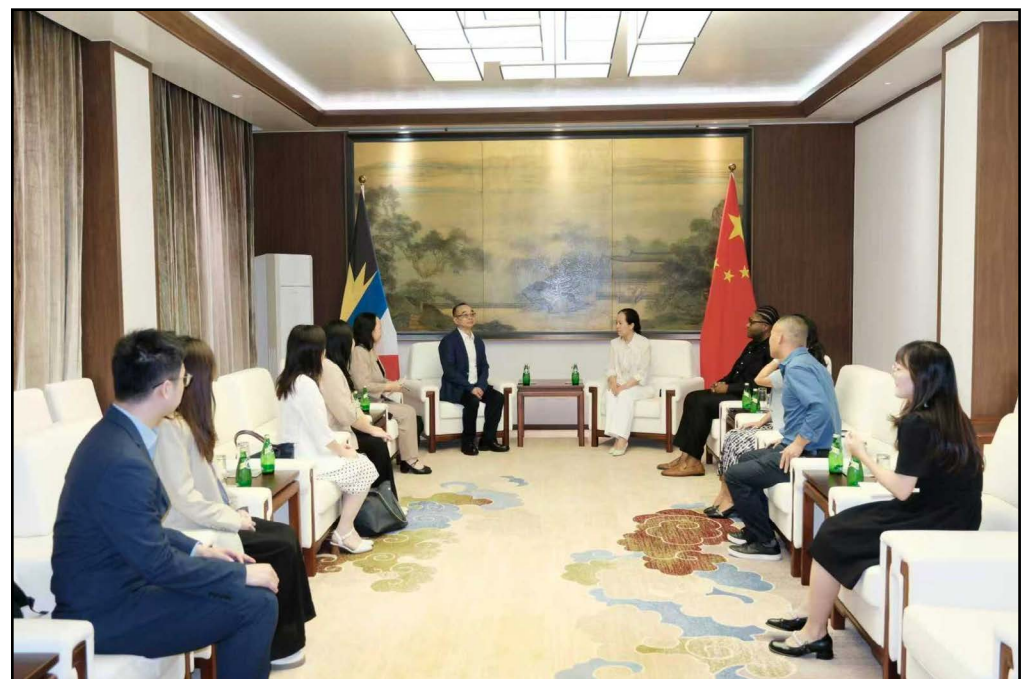

Delegation from the Center for Caribbean Studies, Hangzhou Normal University, Pays Courtesy Call on Chinese Ambassador to Antigua and Barbuda,

H.E. Jiang Wei

On November 30th, 2025, a delegation from the Center for Caribbean Studies at Hangzhou Normal University, led by Professor Zhang Xingwei, Director of the Affiliated Hospital and Dean of the School of Clinical Medicine of Hangzhou Normal University, and a renowned cardiovascular expert, visited the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Antigua and Barbuda and paid a courtesy call on H. E. Ambassador Jiang Wei.

Director Zhang outlined the development of the Center for Caribbean Studies at Hangzhou Normal University and its achievements in interdisciplinary cooperation. He emphasized that during this visit to Antigua and Barbuda, the delegation would focus on advancing concrete medical cooperation projects, including the establishment of a Chest Pain Center, a cardiovascular interventional training program, and the development of an Internet hospital platform. He expressed the hope that through technology transfer and capacity building, these initiatives would meaningfully enhance Antigua and Barbuda's capabilities in the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of cardiovascular and cerebrovascular diseases.

Ambassador Jiang welcomed the delegation and stressed that medical and health cooperation is an important component of bilateral relations. She encouraged the Center for Caribbean Studies to continue playing an active role as a bridge



in promoting China–Antigua and China–Caribbean friendship. The ambassador noted that healthcare is directly linked to the lives and well-being of the people of Antigua and Barbuda, and underscored the need to adopt a long-term perspective and strengthening communication, conducting solid feasibil-

ity studies, and ensuring thorough preparation so that relevant projects can deliver tangible results and benefit the local population.

Senator Clement Antonio of Antigua and Barbuda attended the meeting.

Rotary Club of Antigua's "Meals on Wheels" Project Expands Reach Thanks to Mark Raab and WIOC

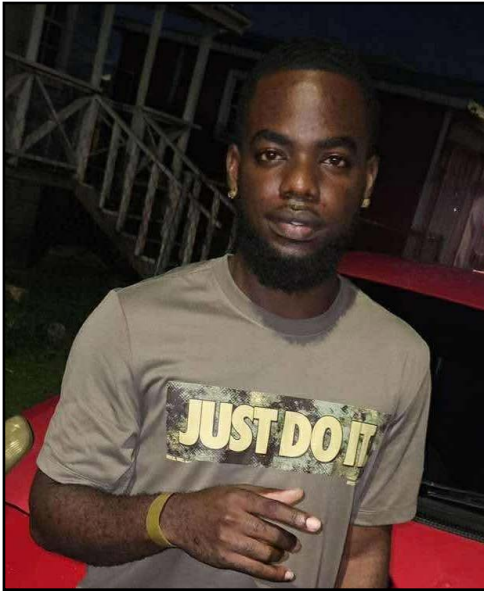
The Rotary Club of Antigua is significantly amplifying its long-running "Meals on Wheels" project this month, thanks to generous support from dedicated patron Mark Raab and the West Indies Oil Company (WIOC). This initiative, which has been in continuous operation since 1985, typically sees the club distribute on average 100 bags of dried groceries monthly to vulnerable persons, primarily funded by monies raised from the annual Colours Fete.

For the third consecutive year, Mark Raab has provided funding for a single month, ensuring a massive temporary boost to the program. With this support and the additional contribution from WIOC, Rotarians have packed an additional 191 bags of dried groceries this November, totaling 285. This expanded effort has nearly triple the club's reach, ensuring that significantly more families receive much-needed essential groceries.

The Rotary Club of Antigua invites the public to learn more about its projects and consider getting involved. Donations and volunteer efforts help sustain this legacy of support.



23-year old is the country's latest road fatality



Police are investigating a fatal traffic collision that occurred around 2:00 a.m. on Sunday, November 30, on Popeshead Street in the vicinity of Pita Pocket.

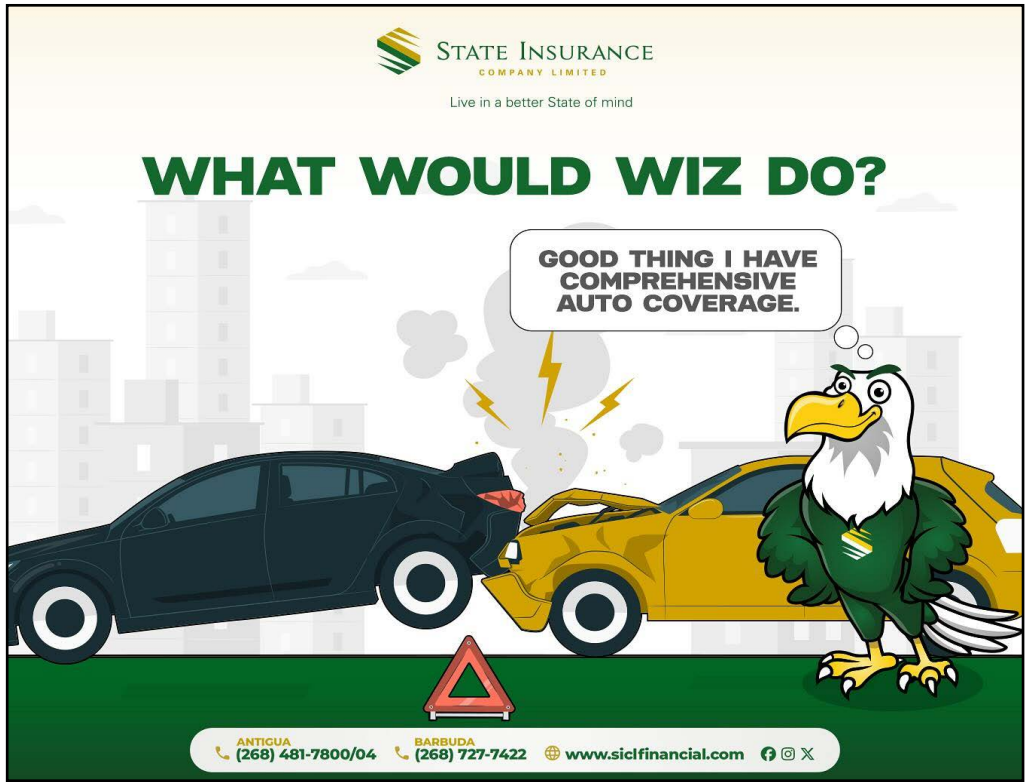
The deceased has been identified as 23-year-old Joshua Alexander of Light Foot, who was the rider of a black scooter.

Preliminary reports indicate that Alexander was travelling from north to south along Popeshead Street at a high speed, when he apparently lost control of the scooter and collided with a wall and sidewalk on the eastern side of the road.

He sustained multiple injuries to his body as a result of the impact.

Emergency Medical Services arrived on the scene and conducted an assessment, during which no signs of life were detected. A medical doctor officially pronounced him dead at 3:16 a.m.

The police extend condolences to the family and loved ones of the deceased during this difficult time. The investigation is ongoing.



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**11TH JAN
2026
NIGHT TWO**



ONE PEOPLE ONE LOVE



TASHA COBBS LEONARD

NAOMI RAINE - SAMUEL MEDAS - JOHNMARK WIGGAN

RASHID WALKER - MINISTER BEVERLEY DANVERS - RICHIE PELLE

PSALMIST ROBYN - MADELYN & DUNAMIS WORSHIP - MELONNIE SADLER

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THE LARDER | QUINTESSENCE VARIETY PLUS
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ACB Caribbean Supports Halo's Charitable Initiatives

ACB Caribbean has reaffirmed its commitment to community development with a generous donation of \$3,500.00 towards the Halo Foundation's ongoing charitable initiatives. The contribution was presented by ACB Caribbean's Senior Marketing and Communications Manager, Ms. Marita Laurent, as a demonstration of the institution's continued support for the Foundation's mission to uplift needy causes.

Last year, ACB Caribbean proudly joined the Halo Foundation as a Platinum Sponsor for its annual fundraising concert, Music for a Cause. Although the event was postponed this year, the financial institution maintained its support by contributing to one of the Foundation's most impactful initiatives.

The donation was accepted by the Halo Foundation's Public Relations Officer, Mr. Cuthbert Forbes, who expressed heartfelt gratitude on behalf of the organisation. "ACB Caribbean's unwavering support amplifies our ability to deliver essential services and assist more individuals and groups in need," said Mr. Forbes.





ONE PEOPLE ONE LOVE

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MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SPORTS AND CREATIVE INDUSTRIES

**THE DEPARTMENT OF CREATIVE INDUSTRIES REMINDS EVERYONE THAT THE
CHRISTMAS HOME AND BUSINESS LIGHTING COMPETITION 2025 REGISTRATION IS
STILL ONGOING.**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – Monday, 17th November 2025 – *St. John's, Antigua and Barbuda.....*
The Department of Creative Industries is reminding the public that registration for the Christmas Home and Business Lighting Competition 2025 is still ongoing.

The competition aims to evoke the spirit of the season through the creative, dazzling lighting displays of our 2025 competitors. The Department encourages all interested Home and Business owners to register for the competition by Wednesday, December 17, 2025.

Registration Forms are available Mondays to Fridays, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., at the Department of Creative Industries Headquarters on Old Parham Road, upstairs in INET, or at the National Festivals Office, 1st Floor, Cecil George-John Building, Redcliffe Street and Corn Alley.

Pre-judging will commence on December 20th and 21st, 2025, while the final displays will be judged on December 28, 2025. Winners will be announced via Good Morning Antigua, Barbuda on Friday, January 5th, 2026.

Home entries will be categorized and judged according to the zones – East, West, North, and South. All Home participants will receive a 100% waiver on electricity service from December 15th, 2025, to January 15th, 2026, Duty-Free concessions on Christmas Lights and/or Decorations, and a Cash component for the top three winners in each zone, as outlined below.

- **First Place - \$ 3,000.00 XCD**
- **Second Place - \$ 2,000.00 XCD**
- **Third Place - \$ 1,000.00 XCD**

Business entries will receive a 50% waiver on electricity service for December 2025, DutyFree concessions on Christmas Lights and or Decorations and a Cash component for the top three winners as outlined below.

- **First Place - \$ 3,000.00 XCD**
- **Second Place - \$ 2,000.00 XCD**
- **Third Place - \$ 1,000.00 XCD**

Register now to be a part of the joy and splendor of Christmas 2025.

END.

16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM

Orange Fire, Orange Frame, Orange Strength, Orange Rhymes.

On the **#WorldAIDSDay** we remember and stand for
all the women and girls who contracted HIV as a
result of Gender-Based Violence.

Sixteen Days, One Phrase: Protect Her All Ways.**Day Seven — December 1st : World AIDS Day — Where Health Meets the Heart**

Day Seven rises with the ocean breeze and the weight of unfinished stories. It is World AIDS Day, where health meets the heart and gender meets justice. We pause to ask the questions that ripple through our communities: How safe is a woman when inequality shapes her choices? How healthy can anyone be when shame blocks the path to help? How do we heal illness when violence still lives at home?

In the world today, nearly half of all persons living with HIV are women and girls. In the Caribbean, the virus continues to stalk young women most fiercely — not because they lack intelligence, but because they lack power. A woman cannot always refuse a violent partner. A girl cannot always protect herself in a relationship shaped by coercion. And when fear silences negotiation, health becomes risk. The UN says it plainly: “Ending AIDS means dismantling inequality.”

Stigma moves faster than the virus. It writes judgment across faces. It locks medication behind shame. It turns diagnosis into isolation. And it keeps women quiet when they most need to speak.

Some smile while swallowing fear. Some hide pills like secrets. Some endure blame for sickness they did not choose.

UNESCO warns us that “discrimina-

tion remains one of the greatest barriers to HIV prevention and treatment.” Without education, myths grow roots. Without compassion, women retreat into silence. Without inclusion, healing stalls.

Violence and HIV walk together more often than we admit. Forced or unsafe



sex. Partners refusing protection. Fear of seeking help. Financial dependence blocking escape. The cycle is cruel and efficient. Abuse increases vulnerability. Vulnerability increases infection. Infection deepens stigma. And stigma returns women to silence.

But Antigua and Barbuda is learning to interrupt that cycle. Our healthcare providers have improved access to testing and treatment. Youth groups have expanded outreach. Community partners have built bridges of empathy. But stigma remains — and stigma needs dismantling.

Education lights the path forward. Languages of kindness must replace

shame.

Truth must replace fear.

Support must replace silence.

Imagine a nation where a woman walks into a clinic without dread. Where a girl receives education before danger finds her.

Where a mother never fears losing love because of her health status.

Where every diagnosis meets compassion, not condemnation.

Sixteen Days, one vow: protect her health by protecting her dignity.

Day Seven teaches that healing begins with acceptance.

It teaches that medicine treats bodies — but justice heals lives.

So today, let us speak louder than stigma.

Let us replace judgment with knowledge.

Let us wrap women in safety as tightly as in care.

Because when Antigua and Barbuda defends health and dignity together, women rise — and the nation heals with them.

Joshuanette Francis

Founder and President, Good Humans 268 Inc.

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The Lone Ranger



By Aneka Lee

The recent general elections in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines not only shifted the political landscape, but upheaved it. This election marked a pivotal moment in the nation's political history. With an overwhelmingly decisive victory by the New Democratic Party (NDP) under the leadership of Dr. Godwin Friday, it brought an end to an almost 25 year-long reign of the Unity Labour Party (ULP) and its long-time leader the Dr. the Honourable Ralph Gonsalves.

The numbers are undeniable. The NDP was able to secure 14 of the 15 contested constituencies, leaving the ULP with a solitary seat, held by none other than the outgoing Prime Minister Dr. Gonsalves. This resounding defeat for the ULP is not a mere shift in party fortunes, it is a realignment of power with significant magnitude that forces an end to a political era, and ushers in a new chapter under the NDP.

For Dr. Godwin Friday and the NDP this victory is nothing short of monumental. The NDP secured a commanding mandate as their party returns to power after a protracted more than two decades in opposition. To many of the electorate and regional onlookers, it is a powerful statement, and a collective expression of an urgent and necessary demand for change, a new direction, and renewed hope that fresh leadership can address the needs of the people.

With that in mind we must not fail to acknowledge the remarkable political journey and contributions of Dr. Gonsalves. Having assumed the leadership of the ULP in 1998 and having been duly elected to serve as prime minister since 2001, Gonsalves is among the longest serving democratically-elected leaders within the region.

His ability to convincingly retain his seat, even as the ULP structure collapsed around him, is a testament to his enduring political acumen and long-standing grassroots connections. His dedication to public service has left an indelible mark on the political landscape in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.

An experienced statesman and influential CARICOM head, Dr. Gonsalves remained a proponent of regional integration. Whether one agreed with his stance or not, the former Prime Minister commanded respect both regionally and internationally. He spoke with historical awareness, precision, and a confidence rooted in years of political and diplomatic experience.

Yet, his solitary survival also highlights a harsh political reality. There is no "I" in team and sometimes the greatest act of leadership is knowing when to pass the baton.

History and politics are undoubtedly unforgiving of complacency. When a once-dominant party, immersed in a legacy that is long accustomed to power, is reduced to a single seat, it speaks to a broader truth: longevity does not guarantee future success.

The career politicians within the region, view this result as a wake-up call. When one relies too heavily on tradition, party reputation, or legacy alone, one risks losing sight of the evolving needs of the electorate.

Power should never be viewed as permanent, as no man is irreplaceable. One's tenure rests on the trust, hopes, and faith of the people for whom one is called to serve. For those who see themselves as unbeatable, this election

should be a sobering reminder that complacency strips influence and confidence until they fade altogether.

This fateful result is a testament to this truth. It begs the question: how many leaders across the region are drifting, secured by past glories, yet unaware of their growing distance from the people whom they were elected to serve?

To Dr. Godwin Friday and the NDP: CONGRATULATIONS! The voters have entrusted you with a clear mandate, a call for refreshed leadership, renewed energy, and an alternate course for Saint Vincent and the Grenadines. In this moment, honour that trust with action, with humility, and with an unwavering commitment to the needs of every Vincentian despite political persuasion.

To the citizens, your vote reaffirmed that democracy is alive, that change is possible, and that no political dynasty, however enduring, is permanent when the people demand it.

In the end, Dr. Gonsalves aptly becomes the "Lone Ranger". A solitary seat in the opposition has become a symbol of an almost 25-year era that has come to an end. His political career remains distinguished and his legacy noteworthy. However, this election stands as a cautionary tale that established reputations and past glories do not absolve one from perceived inadequate performance, nor does it guarantee future success. It presents the ULP with the opportunity to reflect, reset, and chart a fresh direction for its future.

Those called to serve should heed this unassailable result. Be reminded to continuously engage with your constituents. Listen, evolve, adapt. Do not allow the idea of "political strongholds" to render you complacent. Because, sooner or later, even the "most secure candidate or party" can be ousted not by force, but by the quiet, powerful determination of a people demanding change.

Regional News

Godwin Friday sworn in as St. Vincent and Grenadines' 5th PM, Gonsalves to become Opposition Leader



"I am humbled by the trust and the honor that has been given to me to serve in the capacity of Prime Minister of this country," declared Dr. Godwin Friday as he was sworn in on Friday, November 28, 2025, becoming St. Vincent and the Grenadines' fifth Prime Minister.

Dr. Friday, leader of the New Democratic Party (NDP), pledged to govern "as a Prime Minister for all the people of this country," vowing to uplift living standards, moral values, and the hopes of Vincentians. He emphasized unity, urging citizens to embrace one

another as "fellow Vincentians" and to pool their resources and intellect to ensure collective progress.

The swearing-in followed the NDP's historic landslide victory in the November 27 general election, where the party captured 14 of the 15 parliamentary seats. Friday described the outcome as a clear mandate for "major, transformational changes" and promised to work with "every sinew in our body" to deliver on campaign pledges. He said his cabinet will be announced next week, but encouraged citizens in the meantime to contribute more within their communities, stressing that "there are brighter days ahead for this country."

Meanwhile, former Prime Minister Dr. Ralph Gonsalves, who led the Unity Labour Party (ULP) for 25 years, confirmed that he will assume the role of Opposition Leader. Gonsalves, the only ULP candidate to retain a seat, acknowledged the party's defeat but insisted that "Labour is strong and alive." He announced plans to meet with the ULP executive to select two senators to join him on the opposition benches.

Notably, Dr. Gonsalves has not yet issued a public congratulatory message to the NDP on their victory, marking a quiet close to his long tenure at the helm of government. (Dominica News Online)



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CARPHA and Guyana's Ministry of Health Launch its 70th Annual Health Research Conference: A Historic Milestone for Regional Public Health



The Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA), in partnership with the Government of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana (Guyana), through the Ministry of Health is proud to announce the official launch of the 70th Annual Health Research Conference (AHRC) set to take place from April 22-24, 2026, at the Arthur Chung Convention Centre in Georgetown, Guyana.

Under the theme “Innovations in Health”, this landmark year marks seven decades of advancing scientific inquiry, strengthening regional health systems, and shaping public health policy through evidence-driven research. Recognised as the longest-running health research conference in the English-speaking Caribbean, this year’s milestone conference carries special significance as CARPHA highlights the legacy and future of regional collaboration and the contributions of researchers, practitioners, and partnerships across the Caribbean.

Executive Director of CARPHA, Dr. Lisa Indar, emphasised the historic nature of the moment:

“The 70th Annual Health Research Conference is not only a celebration of our past but a bold step into the future



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Regional News



of Caribbean public health. Innovations in public health are the engines of modern well-being, transforming entire societies by pushing the boundaries of what is possible in disease prevention, diagnosis, and community care. They turn once-deadly outbreaks into manageable obstacles, extend life expectancy, and bring high-quality health services to the world's most remote corners". Dr. Indar added, "From AI-powered tools that predict epidemics before they start, to smart vaccines that save millions of lives, public health innovations do not just improve life—they redefine it, creating healthier, more resilient, and more equitable futures for all".

As host country, Guyana's role is especially impactful given its growing investments in health systems, infrastructure, and scientific development; it offers significant benefits including expanding research capacity and a cultural and ecological environment ideal for discussions on health equity, climate resilience and emerging diseases.

Delivering remarks at the official launch, the Honourable Dr. Frank Anthony, Minister of Health, Guyana welcomed the partnership opportunity, underscoring national pride in hosting this milestone event:

"We believe in the future of health and the new ideas that are developing and thought that this conference would help to showcase some of the emerging technologies. By hosting it in here Guyana, we can share some of our experiences and lessons learned in health. For example, we've done quite a lot of work in the elimination of some infectious diseases; Guyana is on target to eliminate five (5) neglected infections by the year 2030. Sharing this type of experience will help countries the Region to learn what is being done and use the techniques should they have such challenges".

The Honourable Dr. Anthony added, "Guyana is pioneering a lot of work in digital health: with an extensive telemedicine network, the use of drone technology for the delivery of med-

icine, the use of AI for interpretation of x-rays and CT scans, and at this conference we will be able to share showcase some of these innovations to countries that will be visiting".

The 70th AHRC will highlight how novel, digital and/or technological advancements are reshaping health and strengthening our collective preparedness. Each year, the Conference brings together hundreds of Caribbean researchers and global experts, medical and public-health professionals, students and young investigators, regional and international health institutions and policymakers and development partners.

The CARPHA Annual Health Re-

search Conference is the largest health research conference in the English-speaking Caribbean and the longest-running health research Conference in Latin America and the Caribbean region. The goal of the Conference is to facilitate and promote communication and sharing of scientific outputs among health scientists, policymakers, and related professionals in the wider Caribbean Region.

For more information on the 70th Annual Health Research Conference, abstract submission details or sponsorship & exhibitor partnership opportunities, visit the conference website – www.conference.carpha.org (Dominica News Online)

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Gonsalves says Unity Labour Party very much alive despite election defeat

St Vincent former Prime Minister Dr Ralph Gonsalves, whose Unity Labour Party (ULP) was defeated in Thursday's general election after 25 years in office, says the party is very much alive and that he will return to Parliament as Leader of the Opposition.

Gonsalves conceded defeat in an address on Saturday but offered no specific congratulations to the new Prime Minister Dr Godwin Friday or the New Democratic Party (NDP), which won 14 of the 15 seats in the unicameral Parliament.

He spoke in ominous terms about the new NDP administration, even as only the prime minister has been sworn in, with the Cabinet expected to be sworn in next week.

"Believe me this: at this very height of the NDP's triumphalism, it is the moment of the start of their descent. And descend they will," Gonsalves said.

"The unravelling usually commences imperceptibly and then becomes a flood of disarray, as the centre cannot hold and things fall apart. History and experience so teach, and in our fast-changing world, the clock of their demise is already ticking," he said.

"I shall with dignity, duty



and love assume the role of Leader of the Opposition until propitious circumstances determine otherwise," said Gonsalves, who was Opposition Leader from 1998 to 2001.

"I have trod this road before. It is not unfamiliar to me. Please be assured that the menace of the years finds and shall find me unafraid; it is my lot to accept, indeed prefer, a strenuous life to one of ignoble ease. There remain in me no personal vanities or demons to overcome. I accept, after prayerful consideration, that I have been set apart and blessed for a time like this."

He said he will convene a meeting of the collective

leadership of the ULP on Sunday to receive advice on the two individuals to be appointed as senators.

"Clearly, given the lopsided majority of the new regime in the Parliament, we in the Opposition will be routinely out-voted, but the people of St Vincent and the Grenadines will judge us on the basis of the quality of our work, which I assure you will be of the highest standard. And across our country, outside of Parliament, by our works you will know us even better and more assuredly," Gonsalves said.

"Labour is very much alive. We shall rendezvous with the electorate formally again in 2030 or before, as the circumstances de-

mand or admit."

He said the line of march provided by the leadership of the ULP is, first, to help supporters understand "that our political setback is temporary and must be altered into a permanent advance.

"Thus, let us turn this setback into an advance," Gonsalves said, adding that there must also be renewal.

"Renewal, rebuilding, is sweet. Indeed, it is the sweetest of life's experiences. And within and outside the Labour family, there is abundant material, some even hidden or submerged, which is available for renewal." (CMC)

Regional News

Tourists safe despite leptospirosis outbreak, says Tufton

Minister of Health & Wellness Dr Christopher Tufton has sought to assure that the current leptospirosis outbreak poses no great risk to tourists coming to Jamaica.

Tufton said health authorities are managing the outbreak and there is no need to issue an advisory discouraging visitors.

“We have discerned no great risk as it relates to facilities that cater to tourists, including hotels and attractions. There is a certification process that is required for these facilities, and this is done collaboratively with the local health and tourism authorities. We are not giving an advisory to discourage visitors, but to alert the vulnerable communities, which



have been identified,” he said.

Tufton was speaking at a press conference held by the health ministry on Thursday.

“We are managing the outbreak, and our discussion is intended to protect Jamaicans and heighten alertness. This can be easily misunder-

stood as panic; however, we are discouraging that,” said Tufton.

The Minister noted that the Ministry, regional health authorities, and parish health departments will continue to work with all tourism interests to ensure that tourists are safe and can access health services when they visit Jamaica.

He reminded the public that leptospirosis is preventable, treatable, and survivable if detected early and taken seriously.

There has been an increase in cases and deaths of leptospirosis since the passage of Hurricane Melissa.

Tufton reiterated his appeal to persons doing clean-up to wear protective gear, avoid flood water, secure food and water supplies, and keep the environment clean.

“It is to be noted that there are no other communicable diseases that are of concern at this time, with dengue and influenza remaining below the threshold and below the normal numbers for this time of year,” he said. (Jamaica Gleaner)

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Death toll from Indonesia flooding rises to 442

The death toll from flooding and landslides on Indonesia's Sumatra island has risen dramatically to 442, officials say.

The total passed 300 earlier on Sunday, with evacuation efforts under way, major roads cut off, and internet and electricity only partially restored.

Monsoons exacerbated by tropical storms have caused some of the worst flooding in years across South East Asia. Hundreds are dead and missing in Malaysia and Thailand as well, with millions affected across the region.

The official death toll in Thailand currently sits at 170, with two deaths reported in Malaysia's northern Perlis state.

Elsewhere, there have been nearly 160 deaths in Sri Lanka due to a bout of particularly extreme weather that has caused flooding and mudslides.

An exceptionally rare tropical storm, named Cyclone Senyar, caused catastrophic landslides and flooding in Indonesia, with homes swept away and thousands of buildings submerged.

"The current was very fast, in a matter of seconds it reached the streets, entered the houses," a resident in Indonesia's Aceh Province, Arini Amalia, told the BBC.

She and her grandmother raced to a relative's house on higher terrain. On returning the following day to retrieve some belongings, she



said the flood had completely swallowed the house: "It's already sunk."

After waters rapidly rose in West Sumatra and submerged his home, Meri Osman said he was "swept away by the current" and clung onto a clothesline until he was rescued.

"During the flood, everything was gone," a resident of Bireuen in Sumatra's Aceh province told news agency Reuters. "I wanted to save my clothes, but my house came down."

The bad weather has hampered rescue operations, and while tens of thousands of people have been evacuated, hundreds are still stranded, the Indonesian disaster agency said.

In Tapanuli, the worst-affected area, residents have reportedly ransacked shops in search of food.

Pressure is mounting on Jakarta to declare a national disaster in Sumatra to enable a faster and more co-ordinated response.

In Thailand's southern Songkhla province, water rose 3m (10ft) and at least 145 people died in one of the worst floods in a decade.

Across the 10 provinces hit by flooding, more than 3.8 million people have been affected, the government said on Saturday.

The city of Hat Yai experienced 335mm of rainfall in a single day last week - the heaviest in 300 years. As waters receded, officials recorded a sharp rise in the death toll.

At one hospital in Hat Yai, workers were forced to move bodies to refrigerated trucks after the morgue became overwhelmed, news agency AFP reported.

"We were stuck in the water for seven days and no agency came to help," Hat Yai resident Thanita Khiawhom told BBC Thai.

The government has promised relief measures, including compensation of up to two million baht (\$62,000) for households that had lost family members.

In neighbouring Malaysia, the death toll is far lower, but the damage is just as devastating.

Flooding has wreaked havoc and left parts of Perlis state underwater, with tens of thousands forced into shelters.

Elsewhere in Asia, Sri Lanka has been battered by Cyclone Ditwah, with at least 193 people killed and more than 200 missing, according to the Disaster Management Centre.

Sri Lanka is also grappling with one of its worst weather disasters of recent years, and the government has declared a state of emergency.

More than 15,000 homes have been destroyed and some 78,000 people forced into temporary shelters, officials said. They added that about a third of the country was without electricity or running water.

Meteorologists have said the extreme weather in South East Asia may have been caused by the interaction of Typhoon Koto - which has crossed over the Philippines and is now heading towards Vietnam - and the rare formation of Cyclone Senyar in the Malacca Strait.

Three people have already been killed and another is missing in Vietnam due to the effects of the approaching Typhoon Koto, news agency AFP reports.

The region's annual monsoon season, typically between June and September, often brings heavy rain.

While it is hard to link individual extreme weather events to climate change, scientists say it is making storms more frequent and intense, resulting in heavier rainfall, flash flooding and stronger winds. (BBC)

Trump says Venezuelan airspace should be viewed as closed, Maduro gov't slams 'colonial threat'



President Donald Trump on Saturday said that the airspace "above and surrounding" Venezuela should be considered as "closed in its entirety," an assertion that raised more questions about the US pressure on Venezuelan leader Nicolás Maduro.

His government accused Trump of making a "colonial threat" and seeking to undermine the South American country's sovereignty.

The White House did not respond to questions about what Trump posted on his Truth Social platform, and it was unclear whether he was announcing a new policy or simply reinforcing the messaging around his campaign against Maduro, which has involved multiple strikes in the Caribbean Sea and eastern Pacific Ocean on small boats accused of ferrying drugs as well as a build-up of naval forces in the region.

More than 80 people have

been killed in such strikes since early September.

The Republican president addressed his call for an aerial blockade to "Airlines, Pilots, Drug Dealers, and Human Traffickers," rather than to Maduro.

Venezuela's government said it "forcefully rejects" Trump's claim about closing the airspace and that it was a "colonial threat" intended to undermine the country's "territorial integrity, aeronautical security and full sovereignty."

The Foreign Ministry said "such declarations constitute a hostile, unilateral and arbitrary act."

The statement also said that US immigration authorities had unilaterally suspended biweekly deportation flights of Venezuelan migrants. Following negotiations between the two governments, more than 13,000 Venezuelans have been deported to Venezuela this year on dozens of

chartered flights, the latest of which arrived late Friday in Caracas, the capital, according to flight-tracking data.

International airlines last week began to cancel flights to Venezuela after the Federal Aviation Administration told pilots to be cautious flying around the country because of heightened military activity.

The FAA's jurisdiction is generally limited to the United States and its territories. The agency does routinely warn pilots about the dangers of flying over areas with ongoing conflicts or military activity around the globe, as it did earlier this month with Venezuela. The FAA works with other countries and the International Civil Aviation Organization on international issues. The FAA and ICAO did not immediately respond to requests for comment Saturday.

Trump's administration has sought to ratchet up pressure on Maduro.

The US government does not view Maduro as the legitimate leader of the oil-rich but increasingly impoverished South American nation and he faces charges of narcoterrorism in the US. US forces have conducted bomber flights near Venezuela and the USS Gerald R. Ford, America's most

advanced aircraft carrier, was sent to the area. The Ford rounds off the largest build-up of US firepower in the region in generations. With its arrival, the "Operation Southern Spear" mission includes nearly a dozen Navy ships and about 12,000 sailors and Marines. There are bipartisan calls for greater oversight of the U.S. military strikes against vessels in the region after The Washington Post reported that Defence Secretary Pete Hegseth issued a verbal order for all crew members to be killed as part of the Sept. 2 attack on suspected drug smugglers.

Republican Sen. Roger Wicker of Mississippi, chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, and its top Democrat, Rhode Island Senator Jack Reed, said in a joint statement late Friday that the committee "will be conducting vigorous oversight to determine the facts related to these circumstances."

Trump's team has weighed both military and non-military options with Venezuela, including covert action by the CIA.

Trump has publicly floated the idea of talking to Maduro. The New York Times reported Friday that Trump and Maduro had spoken. The White House declined to answer questions about the conversation. (AP)

Hong Kong fire death toll rises to 146 as thousands pay respects

At least 146 people are now known to have died in the devastating fire that tore through high-rise buildings in Hong Kong on Wednesday.

Police announced the new death toll on Sunday, cautioning that they “cannot rule out the possibility of further fatalities”. There still 150 people missing, and the blaze left 79 injured.

Seven of eight tower blocks at the Wang Fuk Court housing complex in the northerly Tai Po district rapidly went up in flames. Accusations that the fire was spread by flammable construction materials have sparked widespread anger.

Three days of national mourning started on Saturday, and thousands have gathered at the scene to mourn the victims.

There have been queues stretching a long as 2km (1.2 miles), as people wait to lay flowers and handwritten notes.

Indonesian worker Romlah Rosidah said she was “very surprised” at how many people had turned up to pray for the victims.

“This event was only spread on social media, but [it] turned out their hearts moved,” she told news agency Reuters.

A Filipino worker said they had joined the prayers to “show the Hong Kong community that we are one in this situation”.

Officials observed three



minutes’ silence to begin the mourning period, and the flags of China and Hong Kong are flying at half-staff. The fire is Hong Kong’s deadliest in more than 70 years, and the death toll has been rising each day, as officials work to recover and identify bodies.

The exact cause of the blaze has yet to be determined. Eight people have been arrested on suspicion of corruption over the renovations that had been taking place on the towers, while three others were detained on manslaughter charges.

The fire - which spread quickly both upwards and between the blocks - was only fully doused by Friday morning, some 40 hours after it started, and took more than 2,000 firefighters to bring under control.

The same day, police began entering the buildings to gather evidence. Authorities say the investigation could take three to four weeks.

Police official Tsang Shuk-yin said on Sunday that officers had so far completed searches of four of the tower blocks.

Indonesia’s consulate in Hong Kong said at least seven of its nationals had died from the fire, while the Philippines’ consulate said one of its citizens had died.

Firefighter Ho Wai-ho, 37, has been identified as among those killed. He was found collapsed at the scene on Wednesday, about 30 minutes after contact with him was lost.

The fire department said the blaze had reached a peak temperature of 500C (932F), and 12 firefighters were injured.

The flames spread quickly across the separate tower blocks on plastic netting and other flammable materials on the outside of the buildings, officials have said.

The buildings were also covered in bamboo scaffolding, which is commonly used for construction work in Hong Kong. The fire has renewed a debate about whether it should still be used.

Several residents have said they did not hear a fire alarm when the blaze broke out. Hong Kong’s fire service found that alarms in all eight blocks were not work-

ing effectively.

The Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) said that those arrested in the corruption investigation included directors at an engineering company and scaffolding subcontractors.

A police spokesperson previously said they had reason to believe “those in charge at the company were grossly negligent”, which led to the fire and caused it to “spread uncontrollably”.

Hong Kong’s buildings department has temporarily suspended works on 30 private projects.

Separately, police reportedly detained a 24-year-old man on suspicion of sedition on Saturday. He was part of a group petitioning for an independent inquiry into the fire.

Wang Fuk Court was built in 1983 and had provided 1,984 apartments for some 4,600 residents, according to a 2021 government census.

Nearly 40% of its residents are estimated to be at least 65 years old. Some have lived in the subsidised housing estate since it was built.

Hong Kong’s second-deadliest fire on record killed 176 people in 1948 and was caused by a ground-floor explosion at a five-storey warehouse. The most deadly was at Happy Valley Racecourse in 1918, when more than 600 people died. (BBC)

Benjamin Netanyahu seeks pardon from Israel's president

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has asked the country's President, Isaac Herzog, for a pardon over corruption cases he has been battling.

The president's office said Herzog would receive opinions from justice officials before considering the request "which carries with it significant implications".

Netanyahu has been standing trial for the past five years on charges of bribery, fraud and breach of trust in connection with three separate cases. He denies wrongdoing.

He said in a video message that he would have preferred to see the process to the end but national interest "demanded otherwise".

The Israeli opposition says he should admit guilt before seeking a pardon.

Early this month, US President Donald Trump urged Herzog to "fully pardon" Netanyahu.

At the time, Herzog made it clear that anyone seeking a pardon had to submit a formal request.

On Sunday, his office released the request and a letter by Netanyahu himself, in light of "the importance of this extraordinary request and its implications".

It offered no indication of when the president might reach a decision.

In 2020, Benjamin Netanyahu became the first serving Israeli prime minister to stand trial:

In the first case, prosecutors alleged that he had received gifts - mainly cigars and bottles of champagne - from powerful businessmen in exchange for favours

He is accused in a second case of offering to help improve the circulation of an Israeli newspaper in exchange for positive coverage

And in a third, prosecutors have alleged that he promoted regulatory de-



cisions favourable to the controlling shareholder of an Israeli telecoms company in exchange for positive coverage by a news website.

Netanyahu has pleaded not guilty to all the charges and branded the trial as a "witch hunt" by political opponents.

In Sunday's defiant video message, he claimed that the cases against him were collapsing, but that the process was tearing Israel apart from within.

"I am certain, as are many others in the nation, that an immediate end to the trial would greatly help lower the flames and promote broad reconciliation - something our country desperately needs," the prime minister added.

Netanyahu said he was being required to testify before court three times a week, describing that as "an impossible demand."

A pardon, he insisted, would help Israel fend off threats and seize opportunities by fostering "national unity".

His political opponents have accused Netanyahu of attempting to conflate his interests with those of the state.

Opposition leader Yair Lapid said there could be no pardon without an admission of guilt, an expression of remorse and Netanyahu's immediate retirement from political life.

Yair Golan, a left-wing politician and former deputy commander of Israeli forces, said "only the guilty" sought

pardon.

According to Israel's Basic Law, the president "has the power to pardon criminals and reduce or transmute [alter] their sentence".

However, Israel's High Court of Justice has previously ruled that the president can pardon an individual before they are convicted if it is in the public interest or if there are extreme personal circumstances.

Netanyahu's right-wing Likud party and his supporters have always supported a pardon for their leader.

But for many in Israel - especially on the left - it would be seen as another move away from the country's sense of itself as a robust democracy with a strong legal system.

Public concerns over the government's plans for judicial reform brought hundreds of thousands out on to the streets in protest for many months before the Hamas-led attacks of 7 October 2023 which triggered the most recent Gaza war.

In a separate case, the International Criminal Court issued an arrest warrant last year for Netanyahu and former Israeli defence minister Yoav Gallant over war crimes and crimes against humanity that have allegedly been committed during the war between Israel and Hamas.

Netanyahu has condemned the move as "antisemitic". (BBC)

Guydadli Jets and Sea View Farm stay perfect in Second Division



The Guydadli Jets football team

Guydadli Jets and Sea View Farm maintained their perfect winning starts to their campaigns in the Antigua and Barbuda Football Association's (ABFA) Second Division during the latest round of matches.

Samuel Brazier scored twice with goals in the 32nd and 39th minutes as Guydadli notched up their third win in as many games with a 4-1 victory against Herberts FC at the St. Johnstone's Village Stadium.

The other goals for Guydadli were scored by Jaiden Wray in the eighth minute and Terroy Allen Ponde in the 49th minute. Cosmore Jno Baptiste had a 19th-minute conversion for Herberts FC in their first match this season.

Sea View Farm FC recorded their third win in as many games with a 3-0 victory over Urlings Golden Stars at the Sea View Farm playing field.

The goals for Sea View Farm were scored by Justin Hilaire in the 22nd minute, Nigel Graham in the 33rd,

and Devin Christopher in the 53rd minute.

It was the first defeat in two matches for the Urlings Golden Stars, who claimed an 8-0 win against the Young Warriors in their opening game.

After losing their first two games, Glanvilles FC recorded their first win by snatching a 3-2 victory against JSC Progressors at the Glanvilles playing field.

Jayquanie Nanton scored twice, converting a penalty kick in the 21st minute and a strike in the 23rd minute to give Glanvilles a two-nil lead. But JSC Progressors scored twice to draw level 2-2 at halftime.

Jahmaya Gilkes converted a penalty kick in the 36th minute to cut the deficit in half, and Egan Samuel snatched the equalizer for JSC Progressors with a 40th-minute conversion.

However, Felipe Revera scored a third goal in the 72nd minute to snatch the match-winner for Glanvilles FC, which advanced to three

points from three matches. JSC Progressors remain on one point after slumping to their second defeat in three matches.

After losing their first two matches, Fort Road FC also claimed their first win with a 4-1 victory against the Liberta Blackhawks at the Fort Road playing field.

Alren Lewis and Deon Lavonn each scored twice for Fort Road FC, which moved on to three points from three matches. Tony Gomes scored an own goal in the 74th minute for the Liberta Blackhawks, who remain on one point after suffering their second defeat in three matches.

The Young Lions and Real Blizzard battled to a 1-1 draw at the Old Road playing field. Amos Christian put Real Blizzard ahead with a fifth-minute conversion, and Antonio Daniel scored the equalizer for the Young Lions in the 13th minute.

Both teams advanced to seven points after recording their first draw in three matches. Both sides had won their first two matches.

The CPTSA Wings are still searching for their first win after battling to a 1-1 draw with West Ham at the PMS playing field. Jonte Wyre's 33rd-minute conversion gave West Ham a one-nil lead at halftime. Joshua Lake scored a penalty kick in the 64th minute to snatch the equalizer for Wings.

The CPTSA Wings moved on to three points after salvaging their third draw in as many games. West Ham FC, which lost their first two matches, gained their first point in three games.

ABCAS remains top of Under-20 Boys Division League

The Antigua and Barbuda College of Advance Studies (ABCAS) has maintained their position at the top of the Under-20 Boys Division in the Ministry of Sports, Cool and Smooth, and Joma Patrick C. Whyte Cup Secondary Schools' Football Competition.

ABCAS extended their unbeaten run by recording their sixth win in seven matches with a 5-1 victory against Harrison Center Antigua and Barbuda School of Continuing Education (HCABSCE) at the ABFA Technical Center on Friday.

The goals for ABCAS were scored by Javere Joseph in the 13th minute,

Joshua Roache in the 57th, Ezekiel Clarke in the 63rd, Je'taime Barrett in the 76th, and Cody Richardson in the 78th minute.

The result allows ABCAS to remain at the top of the standings by advancing to 19 points.

The Harrison Center Antigua and Barbuda School of Continuing Education remains on 12 points by suffering their first defeat after winning their previous four matches.

The HCABSCE also remains in third place, while defending champions Princess Margaret School are currently in second place

with 15 points from six matches.

Defending champions PMS opened up a three-point lead at the top of the Under-20 Girls Division. Princess Margaret School maintained their perfect unbeaten run by snatching a 1-0 victory against Jennings Secondary in a top-of-the-table clash.

Kavita Cordice struck the winner by scoring the only goal of the match in the 16th minute as Princess Margaret School advanced to 12 points after recording their fourth win in as many games.

Jennings Secondary

School remains on nine points after suffering their second defeat in five matches. The Antigua Girls High School also has nine points from four matches.

Clare Hall Secondary School claimed their second win in five matches after being awarded victory via default against Ottos Comprehensive School, which failed to show up for their encounter.

The result allows Clare Hall Secondary to advance to six points, while Ottos Comprehensive School remains in the cellar without any points after succumbing to their fourth loss in as many games.



Dorne's century helps West Indies secure series against England

ST. GEORGE'S – West Indies Under-19 captain, Joshua Dorne, cracked a scintillating, unbeaten century to lead his side to an impressive four-wicket victory over England Under-19s in the sixth Youth One Day International in Grenada on Saturday.

With the Windies in dire straits at 89 for five in pursuit of England's total of 221, Dorne scored 102 not out off just 101 balls to pilot them to 222 for six off 38.1 overs at the National Cricket Stadium and give them an unassailable 4-2 lead in the seven-match series.

The home side got off to a horrible start when Zachary Carter was caught behind off the bowling of James Minto without a run on the board in the second over of their chase.

Minto struck again by dismissing fellow opener Tanez Francis in the same fashion to leave the score six for two. Kunal Tilokani and Dorne brought stability to the innings during a 79-run partnership that left the match in the balance.

But when Manny Lumsden claimed the wicket of Tilokani for an attacking 49 off 29 balls, the Windies lost the wickets of Shamar Apple for one and Jonathan van Lange for a first-ball duck, to see them slump to 89 for five.

With England in the ascendant,



Players of the West Indies Under-19 cricket team

cy, Dorne found a worthy partner in Matthew Miller, with their 92-run partnership for the sixth wicket transforming the complexion of the match.

By the time the latter was run out for a well-played 43 off 48 balls, the West Indies had recovered to 181 for six and installed themselves as favourites to win the match.

Shaquan Belle then scored a patient, unbeaten 14 off 34 balls, and together with his captain shared an unbroken partnership of 41 to complete the recovery.

Dorne reached his century in the 37th over by hitting Minto for two boundaries and then scampering two runs, before Belle eventually hit the winning runs.

Earlier, van Lange took four wickets to restrict England, who were bolstered by efforts from

their lower order. England too found themselves in trouble at 82 for four, but skipper Farhan Ahmed scored a fighting 54 and Joe Moores made 42 to help them bolster their total.

The pair added 92 runs for the sixth wicket that saw the visitors recover to 198 for five in the 43rd over.

When medium pacer Miller dismissed Ahmed, van Lange cleaned up the lower order by accounting for the wickets of Ralphie Albert, Lumsden and Alex Green in quick succession to bring an end to the innings.

Van Lange ended with figures of four for 17, Miller took two for 15, and Vitel Lawes claimed two for 38. The seventh and final Youth ODI is scheduled for the same venue on Monday.



Antigua Barbuda Chess Federation

ANNUAL WINTER CHESS TOURNAMENT

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28

DECEMBER
2025

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Barbados Pride wins Super50 title in dominant fashion



The Barbados Pride were crowned the CG United Super50 Cup champions after defeating the T&T Red Force by nine wickets at the Brian Lara Cricket Academy in Tarouba, Trinidad, on Saturday, November 29, 2025. (CWI Media)

Skipper Kyle Mayers and Leniko Boucher both blasted half-centuries as Barbados Pride romped to a dominant nine-wicket victory over Trinidad and Tobago Red Force in a lopsided CG United Super50 Cup final at Brian Lara Cricket Academy in Tarouba, Trinidad, on Saturday.

The Pride's easy win was setup by left-arm bowlers Joshua Bishop and Dominic Drakes, with both snaring four wickets to lead the demolition of the home side's batting, with them being eventually bowled out for a paltry 168 in 42.3 overs.

Mayers then hit an unbeaten 89 off 79 balls, inclusive of seven sixes and six fours, while Boucher hit a run-a-ball 50 with nine fours and one six in a savage attack on T&T's bowlers, as the visitors wasted little time in speeding to victory at 169 for one in only 29.3 overs.

Facing a straightforward run chase,

Mayers and Boucher started slowly by scoring just four runs in the first two overs.

But after being dropped at midwicket by Bidaisee of the bowling of Hinds, Boucher drove the next ball straight into the hands of James at midoff, to give T&T their first breakthrough at 122 for one.

Following a brief rain interruption, Mayers and Zachary McCaskie, who scored an unbeaten 19 off 48 balls, then guided the Pride to victory without any further alarms, to set off wild celebrations among their camp.

The efforts of Bishop and Drakes had earlier set the foundation, with T&T's batters having no answer for the duo.

The decision to open the bowling with Bishop's left-arm spin paid dividends when he had Cephas Cooper stumped for a first-ball duck with just nine runs on the board.

Amir Jangoo played a couple of lovely shots in his 20 off 27 balls, before his attempted paddle off spinner Kemar Smith ballooned in the air to give wicketkeeper Boucher an easy catch, to leave the score at 46 for two.

From a comfortable position of 75 for two, Bishop dismissed Jason Mohammed for 12 and bowled opener Tion Webster for 43 to leave the Red Force in a spot of bother at 84 for four.

Drakes then held on to a spectacular return catch, diving to his right to account for Red Force captain Joshua Da Silva, and trapped Bidaisee and Goolie lbw to put the Pride in firm control of the contest with the Red Force struggling at 130 for seven.

The end came swiftly thereafter, with Bishop finishing with four for 27 and Drakes bagging four for 34.

Grenades remain unbeaten in Premier Division League



The Starting XI of the Jennings Grenades

Sandals and Inet Jennings Grenades maintained their unbeaten run in the Antigua and Barbuda Football Association's (ABFA) Premier Division League on Saturday.

The Grenades recorded their fourth win in five matches by snatching a 3-2 victory against Old Road FC in the last match of a triple-header at the ABFA Technical Center.

Goals by Clinton Griffith in the 37th minute, Troy Jules in the 44th, and Stanley Province in the 51st minute propelled the Grenades to a three-nil lead.

However, Old Road scored two late goals via Kevon Lucas in the 70th minute and Shackwon Simon in the third minute of added time to reduce the deficit but could not stave off defeat, hence succumbing to their first loss of the season.

The result carries the Jennings Grenades to 13 points, while Old Road FC remains on seven points after suffering their first loss in four matches.

After suffering their first defeat in a 5-1 loss to Old Road in their previous outing, Garden Stars rebounded by returning to

winning form with a 4-1 victory over the Attacking Saints in Saturday's second match.

Tarek Charles struck twice with conversions in the 12th and 52nd minutes, while the other two goals for Garden Stars were scored by Ngozie Harvey in the 47th minute and Kemoi Walsh in the 67th minute.

Shafeeq Joseph scored a consolation goal in the 62nd minute for the Attacking Saints, who remain on six points after crashing to their third defeat in five matches.

Garden Stars advanced to nine points after securing their third win in four matches.

The Aston Villa Lions also returned to winning form in the Premier League on Saturday.

After suffering their first loss in a 2-1 defeat to Jennings Grenades in their previous outing, the Villa Lions hit back by surging to a 4-0 victory against Sir Molwyn Joseph's Jennings United in the opening game of Saturday's triple-header.

Orel Edwards produced a 29th-minute conversion to give the Villa Lions a one-nil lead at halftime. The Villa Lions pressed home their advantage by scoring three more goals in the second half.

Jahlanie Barzey scored the final goal after conversions by Steve Saint-Duc in the 54th minute and Eroy Gonsalves in the 80th minute as the Villa Lions advanced to nine points by recording their third win in four matches.

Jennings United remain without any points after suffering their fifth defeat in as many games.