

Government Says Claims Regarding the Prime Minister's US Visa Are False

Story on page 2



Health Minister Sir Molwyn Joseph (left) and Chinese Ambassador Jaing Wei (extreme right) with Garth Simon of the Environment Division (second from right) and a Chinese official explaining details of the solar kits presented to the government by the PRC

Story on page 7 & 8

Local News



Government Says Claims Regarding the Prime Minister's US Visa Are False



Prime Minister Gaston Browne

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has taken note of a statement circulating in the public domain suggesting that the visa of Prime Minister of Antigua and Barbuda has been revoked by the Government of the United States of



Ministry of Foreign Affairs

America.

The Ministry wishes to state unequivocally that these claims are false and entirely without foundation.

The Embassy of the United States in Barbados, which has responsibility for Antigua and Barbuda, has indicated that there is no basis whatsoever for the suggestion that the Prime Minister's visa has been revoked.

The Ministry regards the circulation of this claim as political mischief, intended to mislead the public and to create unnecessary concern during the

current election period.

The Government of Antigua and Barbuda and the Government of the United States continue to maintain a constructive and collaborative working relationship, including on matters related to visas and consular affairs, as well as on broader issues of mutual interest.

The Ministry urges all concerned to exercise responsibility in public discourse and to refrain from disseminating unfounded and misleading information.

Midweek Deals

TUESDAYS / WEDNESDAYS



-Leg and Thigh
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UAE-Antigua direct flights announced for 2027

The Government of Antigua and Barbuda has established a national Working Committee to prepare for inaugural direct flights between the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Antigua, scheduled to begin in 2027, with onward connections to other Caribbean islands. The initiative marks a significant step in strengthening aviation and investment ties between the UAE and the Eastern Caribbean.

The Committee is chaired by Henry Charles Fernandez, Antigua's Minister of Tourism, Civil Aviation, Transportation and Investment. Theon Ali has been appointed as deputy chairman, responsible for coordination, stakeholder engagement, and alignment of aviation logistics with investment objectives.

"This direct corridor connects the UAE and the Gulf to the Eastern Caribbean, not through London or New York, but through shared ambition. We are cutting flight hours in half and removing the final barrier to investment, tourism, and synergy," said Theon Ali.

For travelers and investors based in the UAE, the proposed direct route would eliminate multi-leg journeys via European or North American hubs such as London, Paris, New York, or Toronto, which currently add four to twelve hours of travel time. A non-stop UAE-Antigua flight would reduce total journey time to approximately 13-14 hours, making the Caribbean far more accessible for Gulf-based travelers.

Currently, fewer than 30,000 Gulf visitors travel to the Caribbean annually—a fraction of potential demand. Industry analysts attribute this low figure directly to the absence of direct air links. The UAE-Antigua route therefore represents not merely a new flight, but a market expansion capable of unlocking high-spend tourism.

Beyond tourism, the route carries strategic economic weight. Antigua's



Citizenship by Investment Programme (CBI) already attracts UAE-based high-net-worth individuals, who value visa-free access to over 140 countries. However, the lack of direct connectivity has been cited by investment migration firms as a barrier to closing applications, as prospective citizens often wish to visit before committing. A direct flight would remove this obstacle, allowing investors to conduct due diligence in person with minimal disruption.

Additionally, Antigua is positioning itself as a hub for blockchain, fintech, and digital nomad initiatives — sectors where the UAE has established global leadership. Direct flights would facilitate business delegation exchanges and regulatory cooperation between both jurisdictions.

For travelers: A direct route from the UAE to Antigua home to 365 beaches, English Harbour, and the annual Sailing Week means a week-long Caribbean holiday without overnight layovers or complicated transit arrangements.

For investors: Enhanced access to Antigua's CBI programme (from \$100,000 donation or \$200,000 real

estate purchase), along with tax advantages including no capital gains, inheritance, or worldwide income tax. Direct flights would allow investors to inspect properties and meet local partners in person.

For UAE aviation: Potential partnerships with carriers such as Emirates, Etihad, or flydubai, using wide-body aircraft like the Boeing 777 or Airbus A380. Codeshare agreements with Caribbean airlines could offer onward connections to Barbados, St. Lucia, Grenada, and Trinidad.

Ambassador Theon Ali and minister Fernandez are expected to engage with UAE counterparts in the coming months to formalise bilateral air services agreements and explore airline partnerships. The 2027 target allows for regulatory approvals, airport readiness, and commercial negotiations to proceed systematically.

For UAE-based travelers and investors, the Antigua route represents a promising new connection between the Gulf and the Caribbean.

Reprinted from: Khaleej Times, The Voice of the UAE

PM Browne Signals Zero-Tolerance Crime Policy, Emphasises Youth Opportunity and Women's Protection

Prime Minister and political leader of the Antigua and Barbuda Labour Party (ABLP), Gaston Browne, has issued a strong warning against perpetrators of crime and violence, declaring that his administration will adopt a zero-tolerance approach as part of its broader national development agenda.

Speaking earlier this week at his party's manifesto launch, PM Browne made it clear that criminal activity—particularly among young people—will not be tolerated under what he described as a national “Renaissance.”

“Crime and violence, especially among young people, are clearly unacceptable. The Renaissance will have zero tolerance for criminals involved in gangs, narcotics trafficking, gun violence and domestic violence,” he said.

The Prime Minister underscored the government's commitment to strengthening national security, noting that additional investments are being made across multiple areas.

“We're investing heavily in policing, in border protection, surveillance and maritime security. Additional resources are being deployed and capabilities are being strengthened,” Mr. Browne stated, adding that national progress must be anchored not only in prosperity but also in safety and stability.

He also signaled plans to tighten leg-



islation aimed at deterring criminal behavior.

“The laws will be further strengthened and those who threaten our nation's stability and security will face the full force of the law,” he warned.

Beyond enforcement, Prime Minister Gaston Browne emphasised that expanded opportunities in education, skills training and employment will play a critical role in reducing crime.

“With a myriad of educational, skills training and employment opportunities available, there can be no excuse

to pursue a life of crime and violence,” he declared.

In a direct appeal to the nation's youth, the Prime Minister encouraged young people to make positive life choices.

“To our young people, there is a better road, and we will make that road wider—so choose wisely,” he urged.


The ABLP Political Leader also placed significant emphasis on the protection and empowerment of women, describing them as central to the country's future.

“We must protect our women and our girls,” he said, while calling for stronger societal respect and support for women.

“To the women of Antigua and Barbuda, you will be central to this Renaissance because no nation can rise if its women are left behind.”



He added a broader call to action, particularly directed at men: “Empower our women and treat them with respect.”

The Prime Minister's remarks form part of a wider policy narrative that seeks to balance economic development with law enforcement and social intervention. By combining stricter penalties with expanded opportunities, the government aims to address both the causes and consequences of crime.



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Political Analyst says General Elections Outcome Centres Around Three Key Seats

With general elections exactly one week away, political analyst **Arvil Grant** has identified three marginal constituencies as critical battlegrounds, which he believes will likely determine which party forms the next government.

In his estimation, City East, St. George, and St. Mary's North—stand at the centre of the electoral contest. According to Grant, their narrow results in the last general elections make them highly competitive and unpredictable.

“City East, St. George and St. Mary's North were all decided by less than three percent,” Grant noted. “That means neither the ABLP nor the UPP can be realistically confident of winning any of them going into 2026.”

Grant explained that the opposition United Progressive Party (UPP) must retain the six seats it secured in 2023, capture City East and St. Mary's North, and rely on its coalition partner, the Barbuda People's Movement (BPM), to hold its seat.

“That combination would give the UPP the numbers needed to form the government,” he said.

For the ruling Antigua and Barbuda Labour Party (ABLP), the pathway is somewhat more straightforward but still uncertain he noted. The party would need to hold onto its eight strongholds and secure at least one of the three swing constituencies.

“If Labour retains its base and picks up just one of those marginal seats, it crosses the line,” Grant added.

Beyond the headline swing constituencies, Grant pointed to Rural East, Rural North, and St. Paul's as additional areas of interest. While



these seats were won comfortably by the ABLP in 2023, their margins were not as commanding as others, he pointed out.

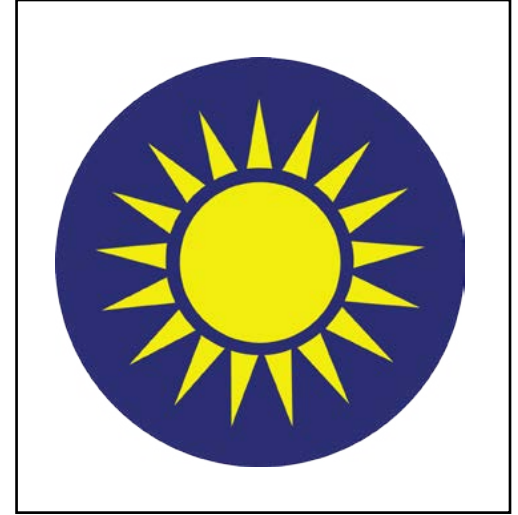
“In short, both ABLP and UPP may still have something to play for in Rural East, Rural North and St. Paul's,” Grant observed, noting that these constituencies have shown a capacity to shift allegiance in past elections, particularly in 2004.

He added that on the opposition side, the UPP is expected to remain competitive in All Saints West, All Saints East and St. Luke, Rural West, St. Mary's South, and St. Philip's South, assuming it replicates its previous performance.

Grant emphasised that the three key constituencies have a history of electoral volatility and were among several that moved away from Labour during the political shift of 2004.

“That kind of history tells you these are not fixed seats—they are responsive to national mood and local dynamics,” he declared.

He cautioned, however, that electoral outcomes are influenced by numerous variables, including con-



stituency-level campaigning, polling division trends, and voter turnout.

“There are many moving parts. At times like these, political parties almost need God to be a pollster for hire,” Arvil Grant remarked.

A critical factor heading into the election will be voter registration. Grant cautioned that fluctuations in registration levels could significantly impact the final outcome.

“High levels of re-registration can sometimes favour the opposition, while low turnout in registration could lead to unpredictable results,” he explained.

He stressed the need for both parties to mobilise their bases.

“Political parties must aim for maximum registration of their supporters to negate any advantage from the other side,” he said.

Ultimately, Grant believes the path to government will run through the three marginal seats.

“Whatever happens, the 2026 General Elections will likely be determined by City East, St. George or St. Mary's North,” he concluded.

Star-Studded Lineup Set for ABLP's Red & Reddy Concert

Antigua and Barbuda is set for a massive night of music, energy and Labour excitement this Saturday, April 25, as the Antigua and Barbuda Labour Party presents “Red & Reddy – The Concert” at the Rising Sun Grounds.

The highly anticipated event will feature an impressive lineup of international, regional and local stars, including *Masicka*, *Sizzla*, *Burning Flames*, *Destra*, *Asa Banton*, *Tian Winter* and *Claudette Peters*, along with a dynamic cast of home-grown talent such as *Menace*, *Soca Villain*, *Young Vice*, *Kid Fresh*, *Island Prince*, *Young Lyrics*, *Empress* and more.

More than just a concert, “Red & Reddy” is shaping up to be a powerful celebration of unity, culture and the growing momentum of the Antigua and Barbuda Labour Party. With supporters and music lovers expected to turn out in their numbers, the event will blend top-tier entertainment with the vibrant energy of a movement ready for victory.

Set to begin at 7:00 PM, the concert is free to the public, creating an open and exciting space for



**THIS SATURDAY
25
APRIL**

**Red & REDDY
THE CONCERT**

**MASICKA | SIZZLA | BURNING FLAMES | DESTRA
ASA BANTAN | CLAUDETTE PETERS | TIAN WINTER**

MENACE | SOCA VILLAN | YOUNG VICE | KID FRESH
ISLAND PRINCE | YOUNG LYRICS | EMPRESS

7:00PM **FREE** **RISING SUN GROUNDS**

patrons from across the island to come together in a show of celebration, solidarity and red spirit.

Organizers say the event is designed to bring people together through music, community and

culture, while building the kind of electric atmosphere that has become synonymous with the ABLP’s connection to the people.

With anticipation building and a lineup stacked

with crowd favourites, Saturday night is expected to be one of the most thrilling and talked-about events of the campaign season. Antigua and Barbuda, get ready. This is Red & Reddy.

Chinese Government Hands Over Solar Kits to Antigua and Barbuda



The Chinese government is again extending its generosity to the people of Antigua and Barbuda as it has presented the government with several solar kits that will be made available to vulnerable households in the country.

The Department of Environment hosted a handover ceremony for solar energy kits as this initiative forms part of the Government’s ongoing commitment to sustainable development, climate resilience, and improved quality of life for its citizens.

Delivering the feature address, Minister of Health, Sir Molwyn Joseph highlighted the importance of renewable energy solutions in strengthening community resilience and reducing energy insecurity.

He noted that the distribution of solar kits represents a tangible step toward integrating climate-smart technologies into national social support systems.

Minister Joseph also emphasized that the project also incorporates a technical training component aimed at building local capacity in the installation, maintenance, and management of solar energy systems, thereby ensuring the long-term sustainability and effectiveness of the initiative.

Wang Baolong, Representative of Hengtianyuan Lighting Group of China—the implementing agency for the

Climate Change Assistance Project—also addressed the ceremony. He reaffirmed the company’s commitment

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Local News



to supporting Antigua and Barbuda through the provision of reliable and sustainable energy solutions.

Ambassador of the People’s Republic of China to Antigua and Barbuda, Jiang Wei, emphasized the strong and enduring partnership between both countries. She noted that the donation reflects China’s continued support for Antigua and Barbuda’s climate adaptation efforts and broader sustainable

development agenda.

The ceremony culminated in the signing of the Handover Certificate by Ambassador Jiang Wei and Sir Mollwyn Joseph. The certificates formalize the transfer of the solar kits to the Government and people of Antigua and Barbuda.

The solar kits will provide clean, reliable energy to households that may

otherwise face challenges accessing consistent electricity, significantly improving living conditions while contributing to national efforts to reduce carbon emissions.

The Ministry extends sincere appreciation to the Government and people of the People’s Republic of China and Hengtianyuan Lighting Group for their valued partnership and generous contribution.

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V.C. Bird International safely manages emergency with arriving aircraft

The Antigua and Barbuda Airport Authority has issued a public statement detailing an incident that happened on Wednesday where its experienced staff averted what could have been a serious matter at the airport.

The ABAA statement reported that at around 0836 LT (1236 UTC) on Wednesday 22nd April, an arriving aircraft at the V.C. Bird International Airport experienced a communications-related emergency.

The situation was managed in accordance with the Airport's established safety protocols and was handled safely and efficiently by our team of experts in Air Traffic Control, resulting in the safe landing of the aircraft under the watchful eye of our emergency services.

"As a result, we are pleased to report that there were no significant disruptions to our operations and the VC Bird International was able to promptly return to facilitating scheduled arrivals and departures.

"The Authority wishes to commend our Air Traffic Control personnel for the professionalism and vigilance they demonstrated in ensuring swift and coordinated action and the involved

ADVISORY

V.C BIRD INTERNATIONAL SAFELY MANAGES EMERGENCY WITH ARRIVING AIRCRAFT

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Further updates will be provided should they be deemed necessary.

support provided by our entire Operations team in ensuring the safety of all involved," the statement noted.

It said further updates will be provided should they be deemed necessary.

ELECTION DAY Thursday, 30 April

"In times like these, let us keep strong, steady leadership."

Antigua Sailing Week announces new partnership with CIBC Caribbean

Antigua Sailing Week (ASW) has announced a brand-new partnership with CIBC Caribbean as the official exclusive banking sponsor of ASW, showcasing a commitment to fostering high-calibre events in the Caribbean.

This new collaboration emphasizes CIBC Caribbean's Platinum Banking Service, tailored for professionals, executives and international clients interested in investing or purchasing homes across the region.

"We are delighted to partner with Antigua Sailing Week, a prominent lifestyle brand that aligns perfectly with our vision for CIBC Caribbean's Platinum Banking Service, which offers a dedicated team that understands the financial goals of clients, and works collaboratively to deliver tailored solutions that drive long-term success. Platinum Banking offers personalised support, innovative financial strategies, and a commitment to building lasting relationships," said Priscilla Leonce, Head of Country, CIBC Caribbean. "This event presents a wonderful opportunity for networking and engaging with visiting sailors and clients on the island."

Antigua Sailing Week is honoured to welcome CIBC Caribbean as a vital regional banking brand. The collaboration not only enhances the prestige of the event but also recognizes the importance of building strong connections within the community.



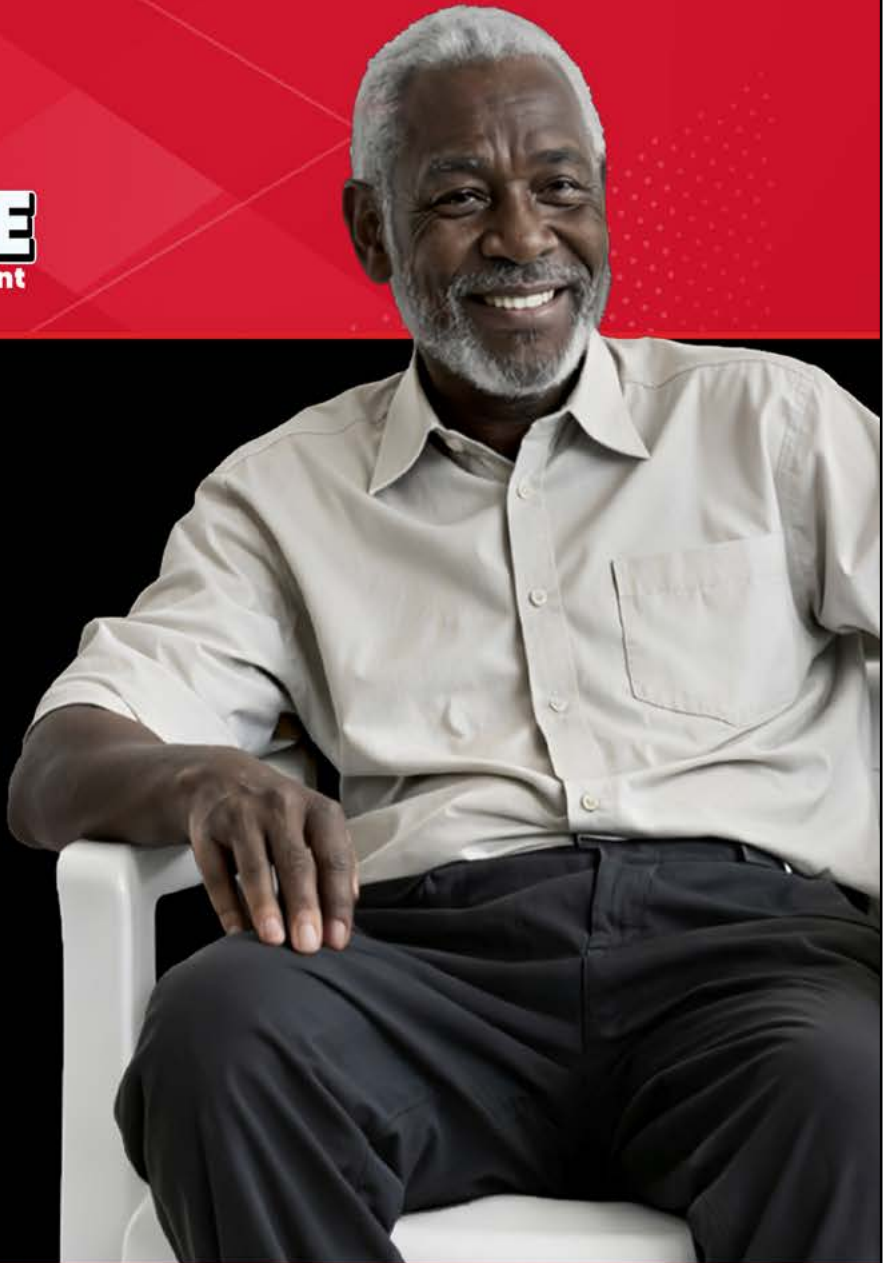
The CIBC Caribbean team will be on site, engaging with attendees at the opening party and throughout the week, providing insights on investment opportunities in Antigua. "By partnering with CIBC Caribbean, we are excited to elevate the experience of our event and create valuable connections for our participants," said Rana Lewis, Marketing Manager of

Antigua Sailing Week. "Together, we look forward to delivering an exceptional week filled with sailing, networking and exploration."

For more information about CIBC Caribbean and its Platinum Banking Services, or to learn more about Antigua Sailing Week, please visit www.cibccaribbean.com or www.sailingweek.com



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A New Era of Progress and Development



**“After a
lifetime
of work,
seniors
deserve
respect.**

That’s why we

INCREASED PENSIONS |

for our seniors.”



University of Guyana Receives 27 Applications for Vice-Chancellor Position

The Chancellor of the University of Guyana, Sir Ronald Sanders, announced Wednesday that the University Council has received twenty-seven applications for the position of Vice-Chancellor and Principal.

The applications follow an extensive and widely circulated international search conducted by a Council-appointed Search Committee, which invited submissions up to the closing date of April 18, 2026. The Committee will now proceed to the next stage of the process, involving the careful review of applications and the shortlisting of candidates.

The current Vice-Chancellor's tenure will conclude in July 2026, after seven years of service.

The Chancellor confirmed that the Search Committee is applying the same procedures that were used in the selection of the present Vice-Chancellor, ensuring continuity, fairness, and adherence to established standards of governance.

In commenting on the significance of the appointment, Sir Ronald noted that the University is operating within a national context of profound transformation. Guyana is undergoing one of the most dynamic periods of economic growth and structural change in the Caribbean and Latin America. Expansion in energy production, infrastructure modernisation, economic



Outgoing Vice Chancellor Professor Paloma Mohamed Martin [left] and Chancellor Sir Ronald Sanders [right]

diversification, and increasing global engagement are reshaping national priorities and workforce demands.

"In these circumstances," the Chancellor stated, "the University of Guyana must play a leading role in developing advanced human capital, strengthening research capacity, fostering innovation, and contributing independent expertise to national and regional development."

He added that the Council is seeking a transformational academic leader

who can position the University as a centre of research excellence, professional training, and regional influence in a rapidly evolving economy.

The Chancellor further advised that the Council is committed to transparency in the process and will keep the public informed of key developments. This will include announcements regarding shortlisted candidates and the scheduling of public lectures, which will form an important part of the assessment process.



ELECTION DAY
Thursday,
30 April

"In times like these, let us keep strong, steady leadership."

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RHYME AND RESOLVE: CLIMATE CALLS

Good Humans
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The Landfill Fire Is OUR Doing

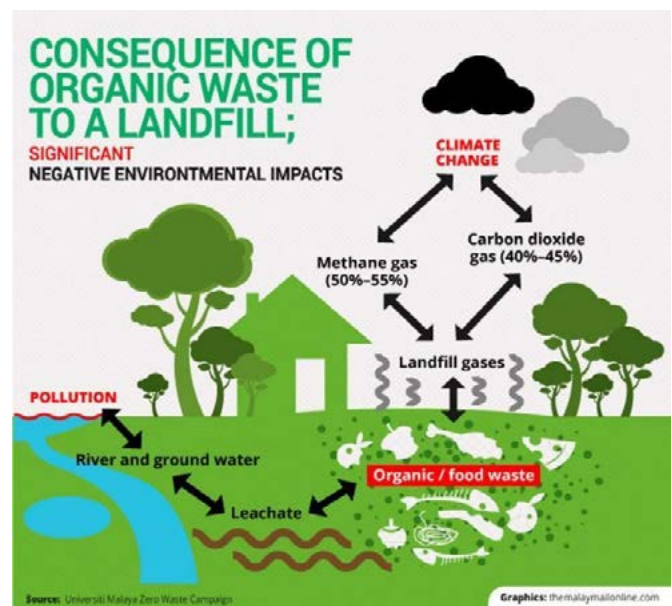
A landfill fire begins where waste meets
flame,
Where neglect and habit quietly stake their
claim.
Deep in the piles where the forgotten reside,
Methane builds up with nowhere to hide.
From food scraps rotting to bottles
compressed tight,
A spark finds its moment—and then comes
the fight.



But this is no accident, no twist of fate,
This fire was built by the choices we make.
Every tossed bottle, each careless throw,
Feeds the fire more than we know.
So let's speak truth, let's draw the line—
That landfill fire? It's yours and mine.

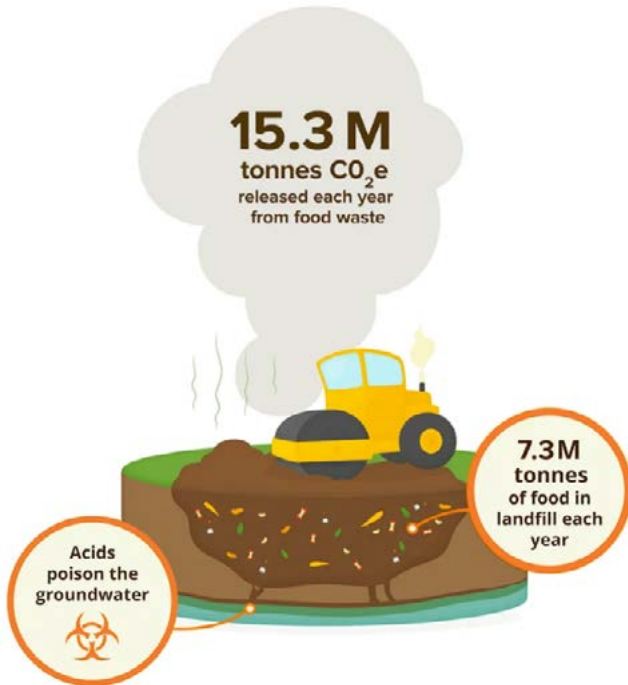
At events we gather, we laugh, we cheer,
But leave behind waste that lingers for
years.
Plates and plastics all thrown in one,
No separation when the day is done.
No bins labeled, no systems in place,
Just mountains of waste we choose not to
face.
But celebration should not come at this cost,

Because in that moment, responsibility is
lost.



Businesses operate day by day,
But where does their daily waste all stay?
Behind the scenes or out of sight,
Bins overflow both day and night.
Staff untrained, systems unclear,
Yet the impact grows year after year.
But leadership means more than gain—
It means reducing environmental strain.

In households quiet, the pattern repeats,
Waste is mixed in kitchens and streets.
Food with plastic, glass with cans,
All bundled together by careless hands.
It feels so small, it seems so slight,
But multiplied daily—it fuels the fight.
Because when waste is not set apart,
It builds a fire we helped to start.



And what of schools, where futures grow?
Are we teaching what they should know?
Bins may sit in corners blue,
But without direction, what do they do?
Students must learn, must understand,
That waste segregation is in their hands.
Not just a lesson, not just a rule—
But a lifelong practice taught in school.

The fire we see is more than flame,
It carries with it a deeper blame.
Toxic smoke fills the air we breathe,
A cost too heavy for us to leave.
It speaks of systems that need repair,
And habits formed without due care.

But if our actions lit the spark,
Then we can choose to change the dark.
We can sort, we can train, we can lead,
We can plant a far better seed.
From events to homes, from schools to trade,
Better choices can all be made.

So train your staff, let knowledge grow,
Educate guests so they too know.
Place the bins and label them right,
Turn awareness into daily sight.

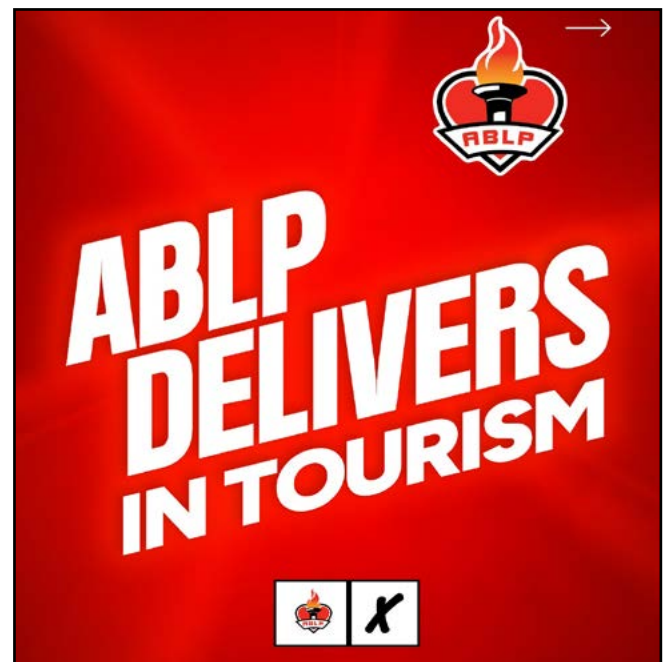
Because change begins with what we do,
Not someday later—but now, with you.

Let this be more than words we say,
Let action guide us every day.
For the fire we see is not just there—
It's a mirror of how we care.



So stand up now, take your part,
Change the system, shift the start.
Because the truth is clear, and it won't wait—

We built the fire... but we can change its fate.





SENIORS ARE FOR LABOUR!



THE ANTIGUA &
BARBUDA TRADES
AND LABOUR UNION
(AT&LU) PRESENTS

FRIDAY 1ST MAY 2026



THE ULTIMATE DJ COMPETITION DE-LABOUR MIX

8 PM - 12 AM



HOSTED BY: JESSE FYAH & DJ KAVITY

PARTICIPANTS (LEFT TO RIGHT)

- DJ ACE (BARNES HILL & NEW WINTHROPES SECTION) | DJ SHADY (JENNINGS & EBENEZER SECTION)
- DJ KYLE (CMC) | DJ TREBLEBEATZ (APUA) | DJ STRANGER (JENNINGS & EBENEZER SECTION)
- DJ SPARK (CLARE HALL & CASSADA GARDENS SECTION) | DJ STUEY (LIBERTA SECTION)

PRIZES: 1ST \$1000.00
2ND \$750.00 - 3RD \$500.00



AT&LU HEADQUARTERS
46 NORTH STREET

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BETWEEN THE ROUNDS

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MEN ARE FOR LABOUR!



RENAISSANCE
A New Era of Progress and Development





WOMEN ARE FOR LABOUR!



THE ANTIGUA &
BARBUDA TRADES
AND LABOUR UNION
(AT&LU) PRESENTS

FRIDAY 1ST MAY 2026



THE ULTIMATE DJ COMPETITION DE-LABOUR MIX

8 PM - 12 AM



REPRESENTING:
BARNES HILL AND
NEW WINTHROPES
SECTION

DJ ACE

7

5

HOSTED BY: JESSE FYAH & DJ KAVITY

PARTICIPANTS

DJ ACE (BARNES HILL & NEW WINTHROPES SECTION) | DJ SHADY (JENNINGS & EBENEZER SECTION)
DJ KYLE (CMC) | DJ TREBLEBEATZ (APUA) | DJ STRANGER (JENNINGS & EBENEZER SECTION)
DJ SPARK (CLARE HALL & CASSADA GARDENS SECTION) | DJ STUEY (LIBERTA SECTION)

PRIZES: 1ST \$1000.00
2ND \$750.00 - 3RD \$500.00



AT&LU HEADQUARTERS
46 NORTH STREET

BINGO WILL BE PLAYED
BETWEEN THE ROUNDS



PARENTS ARE FOR LABOUR!



WE'RE BACK... STILL DANCING THE LINE

*The rhythm never stopped.
The passion never faded.
And now... we're back.*

Join us for an unforgettable evening of **movement, music, and magic** as we return to the stage – stronger, sharper, and still dancing the line between grace and power.



Date: Saturday 16th May 2026



Time: 7:00 PM



Venue: St Anthony's Secondary School, Langfords



Admission: \$50

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Secure your tickets now from any LDC Antigua member—
and let's dance the line together! ✨



Echoes of the Past

RHYTHM • SOUL • SPIRIT



Jessica Serena Tracey proudly represents St. John's Rural North, carrying with her the vibrant spirit of McKinnons Village and the resilience that defines her journey.

A dynamic entrepreneur, dancer, and youth advocate, Jessica has used every chapter of her life to grow in purpose, leadership, and service. From excelling as a student leader to building businesses and mentoring through dance, she embodies determination, creativity, and faith.

Her passion for youth development, entrepreneurship, and community upliftment continues to inspire those around her. Grounded in service and guided by purpose, Jessica stands as a confident, compassionate, and empowered ambassador for the proud people of St. John's Rural North.



Jessica Tracey
ST. JOHN'S RURAL NORTH

Echoes of the Past

RHYTHM • SOUL • SPIRIT



Julissa Stoute proudly represents St. Paul as a vibrant 20-year-old university student whose poise, passion, and purpose set her apart.

She is currently pursuing a Bachelor's degree in Business Management at The University of the West Indies, Five Islands Campus, specializing in Tourism and Hospitality Management. A past student of Old Road Primary School and Antigua Girls' High School, Julissa built a strong foundation in leadership, discipline, and creativity.

Her love for the performing arts earned her a Grade One in dramatic presentation. Ambitious and driven, she aspires to make a meaningful impact in tourism and hospitality while proudly showcasing Caribbean culture on the global stage.

Julissa Stoute
ST. PAUL



Echoes of the Past

RHYTHM ◦ SOUL ◦ SPIRIT



Aliyah Andrew, a proud resident of St. John's Rural East and first-year Law student at the University of London, is driven by a passion for justice and national development.

As a Junior Paralegal and active member of JCI Antigua, she is committed to advocacy, youth empowerment, and nation-building. Representing her constituency and the Honourable Maria Browne in the Antigua and Barbuda Labour Queen Pageant 2026, Aliyah returns to the stage with confidence and purpose.

Her platform addresses absentee fatherhood and its impact on child development, as she champions stronger families and brighter futures for every child.

✦ A voice for change. A vision for impact.

Aliyah Andrew
ST. JOHN'S RURAL EAST



Echoes of the Past

RHYTHM ◦ SOUL ◦ SPIRIT

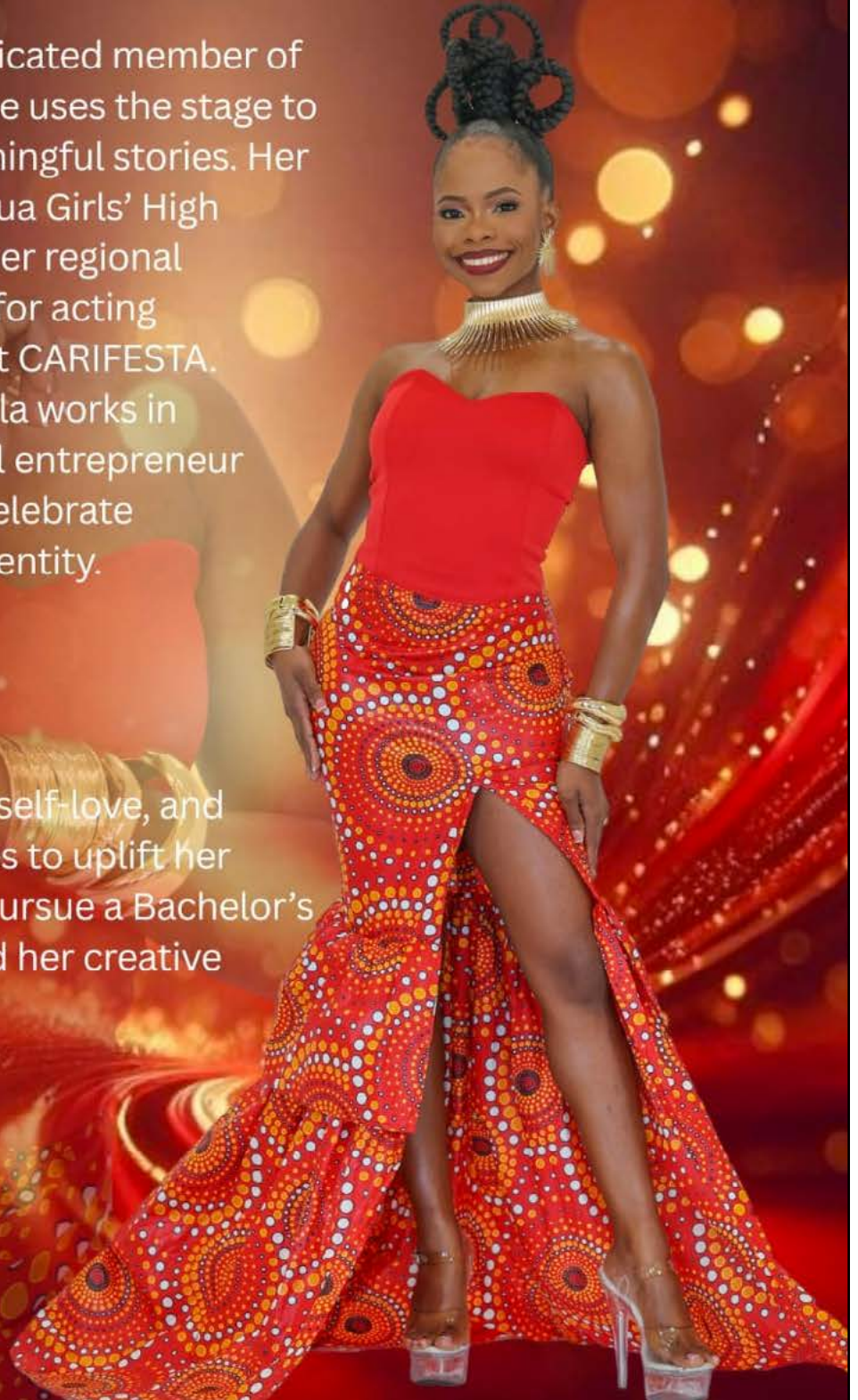


Queenela Williams proudly represents St. Mary's South with creativity, confidence, and cultural pride.

A dynamic performer and dedicated member of the National Youth Theatre, she uses the stage to connect, inspire, and tell meaningful stories. Her artistic journey began at Antigua Girls' High School and has since earned her regional recognition, including awards for acting excellence and appearances at CARIFESTA. Beyond performance, Queenela works in customer service and is a local entrepreneur whose handcrafted earrings celebrate individuality and Caribbean identity.

Deeply committed to service, self-love, and personal growth, she continues to uplift her community while aspiring to pursue a Bachelor's degree in Fine Arts and expand her creative impact.

Queenela Williams
ST. MARY'S SOUTH



Echoes of the Past

RHYTHM • SOUL • SPIRIT

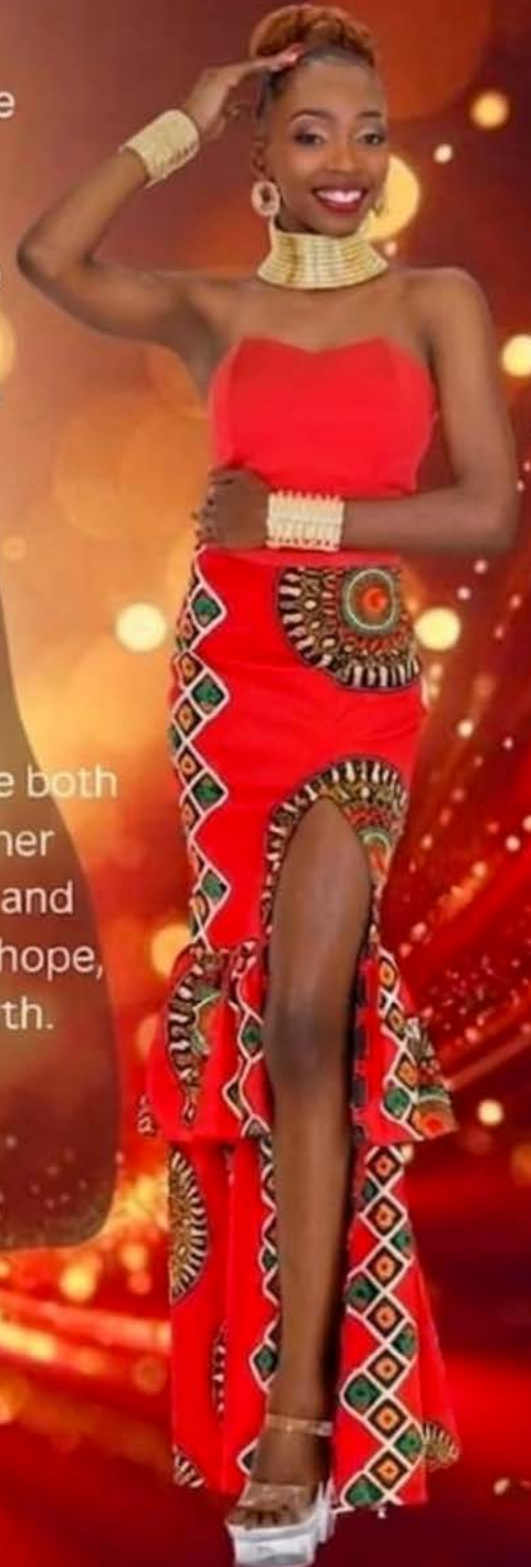


Iszarea Lloyd proudly represents St. Phillip's North as a young woman of purpose, resilience, and quiet strength.

Born on August 30, 2005, she is a proud graduate of Glanvilles Secondary School, where she emerged as Valedictorian, and is currently pursuing Social Sciences at The University of the West Indies Five Islands Campus. Though naturally quiet and observant, Iszarea possesses a vibrant spirit and a heart deeply committed to service.

Passionate about cooking, singing, sports, photography, and reading, she aspires to become both an interior designer and photographer. Through her platform, she advocates for youth development and mental health awareness, determined to inspire hope, healing, and a stronger future for St. Phillip's North.

Iszarea Lloyd
ST. PHILLIPS NORTH



Regional News



Barefoot beginnings to city honours Bounty Killer to get Keys to City of Kingston; street in Seaview Gardens to be named after him

Long before the titles, the global recognition, and the commanding presence of one of dancehall's most influential voices, Bounty Killer was just a youngster navigating life in a community that shaped both his struggles and his strength.

Now, decades later, those same streets are calling his name in a different way. In a deeply symbolic gesture, it has been decided that the dancehall icon will be awarded the Keys to the City of Kingston, while the very road he once walked as a young boy in Seaview Gardens will be renamed in his honour.

Speaking with the Jamaica Observer, the entertainer expressed that the full-circle moment has stirred up a period of reflection that has left him bursting with pride.

"It's an incredible feeling to be honoured by your own people who knew you as a little boy and witnessed your growth into this remarkable individual. It's an overwhelming sense of gratitude and appreciation," he said.

For the dancehall icon born Rodney Pryce the moment is more than recognition, it is deeply personal, extending far beyond the formalities of council chambers and official endorsements.

"This honour holds special significance for me. As a child, I would spend my days playing my favourite



childhood games on the same street in torn pants and no shoes, drenched in sweat. I would play all day long with my friends until the street lights came on. The fact that the same street is now named after me is a monumental achievement," said Pryce.

The announcement was made during a meeting of the Kingston and St Andrew Municipal Corporation (KSAMC) last Tuesday. At that session, several councillors rose in support of the resolution, citing Bounty Killer's enduring contribution to Jamaican music and culture.

Among those who spoke were Hazel Anderson, councillor for the Seaview Gardens Division; Michelle Thomas Nelson of the Duhaney Park Division; Patrick Roberts of Molyne's Garden; Kelvin Hall of Tower Hill; and Andrew Harris of Hughenden.

Their collective support underscored what many already know — Bounty Killer's influence stretches far beyond music, shaping generations of artistes and impacting the cultural landscape.

Dancehall artiste Razor B, who was present at the council meeting, also paid tribute, thanking the KSAMC for recognising what he described Pryce's impact, while noting the role the veteran played in influencing his own career.

Still, for the man at the centre of it all, the honour carries a meaning that no accolade can fully capture.

"As a man being honoured with the key to the same city where I was born and raised, it is a dream come true, especially when I already call myself the King of Kingston. This is an absolute honour," he said. "I never imagined that this day would come. Thank you for this amazing honour. Thanks as always to my manager and brother Paul Bankey Giscome, who has been a huge part of this journey from day one. I know that he is extremely proud and happy for me and this great achievement." (Jamaica Observer)

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Chang: J'cans to reap 'peace dividend' after major crime drop

Minister of National Security and Peace Dr Horace Chang says that after a massive slash in major crimes last year, Jamaicans are now set to reap a "peace dividend", putting the benefits of safer communities at the forefront of the country's progress.

He explained that this "peace dividend" refers to the tangible social, economic, and developmental gains flowing directly to communities as crime declines, including safer streets, stronger families, expanded opportunities for young people, and an overall improved quality of life.

Chang underscored the important role Jamaican citizens have played in reducing crime, noting that the 2025 murder tally of 673 was the first time the figure fell below 700 since 1993.

Part of this impact has involved citizens providing tips to the police about criminal activities. While the number of tips has increased nearly tenfold over the past decade, most tipsters – 94 per cent – have not collected the promised reward.

Chang, who was making his contribution to the 2026 Sectoral Debate in Parliament on Tuesday, cited reasons for this non-collection of reward monies.

"This shows that it is not about money. It is about patriotism. It is about trust. It is about citizens taking a stand for their communities. This is something we must celebrate," said Chang, who is also the deputy prime minister.

"This partnership between citizens and law enforcement is one of the strongest signals that Jamaica is not only becoming safer, but that Jamaicans themselves are leading that change," he added.

The 673 murders recorded in 2025 represented a 40 per cent decline from the 1,139 recorded the previous year. This meant the homicide rate fell from



40 per 100,000 residents to 23.7 per 100,000.

Jamaica also recorded reduced figures for rapes and shootings in 2025.

Contributing to the improved crime statistics, Chang said, were government measures aimed at strengthening the island's borders to curb illicit importation, particularly of guns and ammunition.

He added that modernising the management of the movement of people and goods, through enhanced intelligence, advanced cargo scanning and risk-based targeting systems, has also had an impact by disrupting transnational criminal networks.

According to Chang: "At the same time, we are improving the experience for legitimate travellers. Through the Passport, Immigration and Citizenship Agency (PICA), we have advanced the ease and efficiency of processing at our airports, reducing wait times and streamlining entry procedures. In close partnership with Jamaica Customs, we are strengthening coordination across our ports of entry, ensuring that our borders are both secure and efficient. We are moving to introduce new tech-

nologies that will further modernise our airport systems, enhancing both security and service delivery. This is how we protect our frontiers while facilitating safe and seamless travel."

The reduced crime figures, Chang said, will deliver tangible benefits to Jamaicans, which he described as a "peace dividend."

"But you may ask, what is the peace dividend? Simply put, the peace dividend is the tangible social, economic, and developmental benefits delivered directly to communities that achieve and sustain measurable reductions in crime and violence," he explained.

"It is safer streets, stronger families, more opportunities for our young people, and a better quality of life for our citizens. This is not just an idea. It is grounded in evidence," he added.

The minister also cited recent research by Professor Nicholas Wright and Dr Aubrey Stewart, currently under revision for the Journal of Law and Economics, which shows that interventions such as states of emergency have produced measurable reductions in violent crime. (Jamaica Gleaner)

Regional News

Dominica revokes citizenship of second son of Iranian political adviser



Dominica has revoked the citizenship of Abolfazl Shamkhani, the younger son of slain Iranian political adviser Ali Shamkhani, marking the second time in eight months that the Caribbean nation has stripped a member of the Shamkhani family of a Dominican passport.

According to a letter obtained by the Organized Crime and Corruption Reporting Project (OCCRP), the revocation was signed on March 27, 2026, by State Minister Daren Pinard. Authorities accused Shamkhani of concealing material facts when he acquired citizenship through Dominica's Citizenship by Investment (CBI) program in 2020 under the alias "Sami Hayek." He has 25 days to request a formal inquiry into the order.

Abolfazl's older brother, Hossein, lost his Dominican passport in August 2025. As reported then by Dominica News Online, he had obtained citizenship under the name "Hugo Hayek."

Western governments had already sanctioned Hossein weeks earlier, alleging he ran a multibillion-dollar oil-smuggling network benefiting Iran and Russia.

The U.S. Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) described the family's pattern as acquiring foreign passports through investment to obscure ties to Iran while conducting international business.

An OCCRP investigation in March revealed that the brothers owned at least four luxury villas in Dubai worth nearly US\$29 million, registered under their Dominican aliases. Corporate records also tied "Sami Hayek" to a Cyprus-based investment fund and both brothers to a Turkish chemical firm later sanctioned by OFAC.

On March 6, 2026, the U.S. Department of Justice filed civil forfeiture complaints targeting more than US\$15.3 million linked to the Shamkhani network. Prosecutors alleged

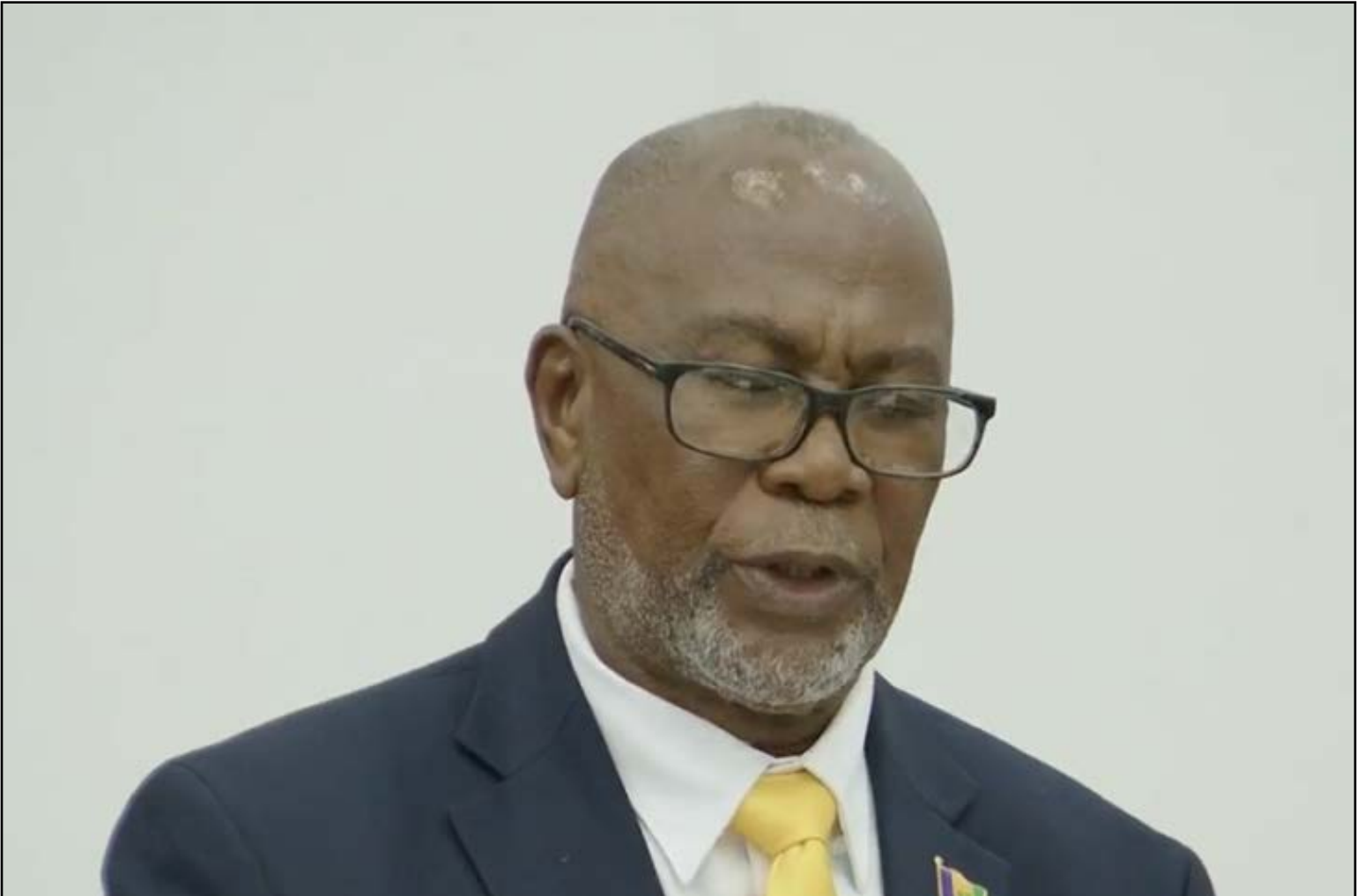
that Abolfazl managed firms connected to his brother's operations, though he has not been personally sanctioned or charged.

Days before Abolfazl's citizenship was revoked, Dominica suspended all new Iranian applications to its CBI program, effective March 24. Iranians may now apply only if they have not lived in Iran for at least a decade, hold no assets there, and have conducted no business with the country.

Dominica has revoked 68 CBI passports since June 2024 for fraud or misrepresentation, with Iranians accounting for 6 percent of those cases.

Dominica's CBI program is under heightened scrutiny from the United States and the European Union. Washington has imposed visa restrictions on Dominican nationals, while the EU has warned that operating such programs could lead to suspension of visa-free travel. (Dominica News Online)

\$12M dollar drug bust off St. Vincent's leeward coast



Authorities in St. Vincent intercepted a vessel carrying 396 kilos of cocaine off the island's Leeward coast on Monday, April 20.

The shipment, has an estimated street value of \$12 million.

Following the interception, sources told St Vincent Times that police took two individuals into custody to assist with the investigation.

The suspects, identified as a Grenadian and a Venezuelan national, are currently being questioned as authorities work to uncover the scale of the trafficking network involved.

Minister of National Security St. Clair Leacock officially confirmed the details of the bust during a session of parliament on Tuesday evening. The Minister's statement corroborated ear-

lier reports by St Vincent Times regarding the scale of the seizure.

Leacock revealed that he had been briefed on the operation early Tuesday morning and immediately moved to bolster the nation's defensive posture.

Citing concerns that the implications of such a large-scale seizure could present challenges "bigger than what we can take care of" through local resources alone, the Minister instructed the Commissioner of Police to notify the Regional Security System (RSS). The RSS has been placed on alert and standby to support local law enforcement if necessary.

Minister Leacock emphasized that the decision to involve regional partners was a strategic move to ensure citizen safety was "enhanced and secured at all times," rather than an indictment of

local police capabilities.

The Minister said on Tuesday evening that the seizure underscores the urgent need to modernize what he described as a "ramshackle security apparatus". According to Leacock, new legislation is vital to providing law enforcement with the technological and legal tools required to combat evolving criminal threats.

Reaffirming the government's stance on crime, the Minister pledged to refine any necessary regulations to protect the nation, stating his current philosophy is to "speak a little less and do a little bit more" to demonstrate a firm commitment to national security. (St Vincent Times)

Florida student arrested for group chat ‘joke’ about Netanyahu containing alleged bomb threats

MSN reports that Gabriela Saldana, a 23-year-old student at Florida International University in the United States, was taken into custody on April 16 for allegedly posting bomb threats within a WhatsApp group and referencing the name Netanyahu.

These messages specifically mentioned the Ocean Bank Convocation Center and referenced controversial political imagery regarding the Capstone program.

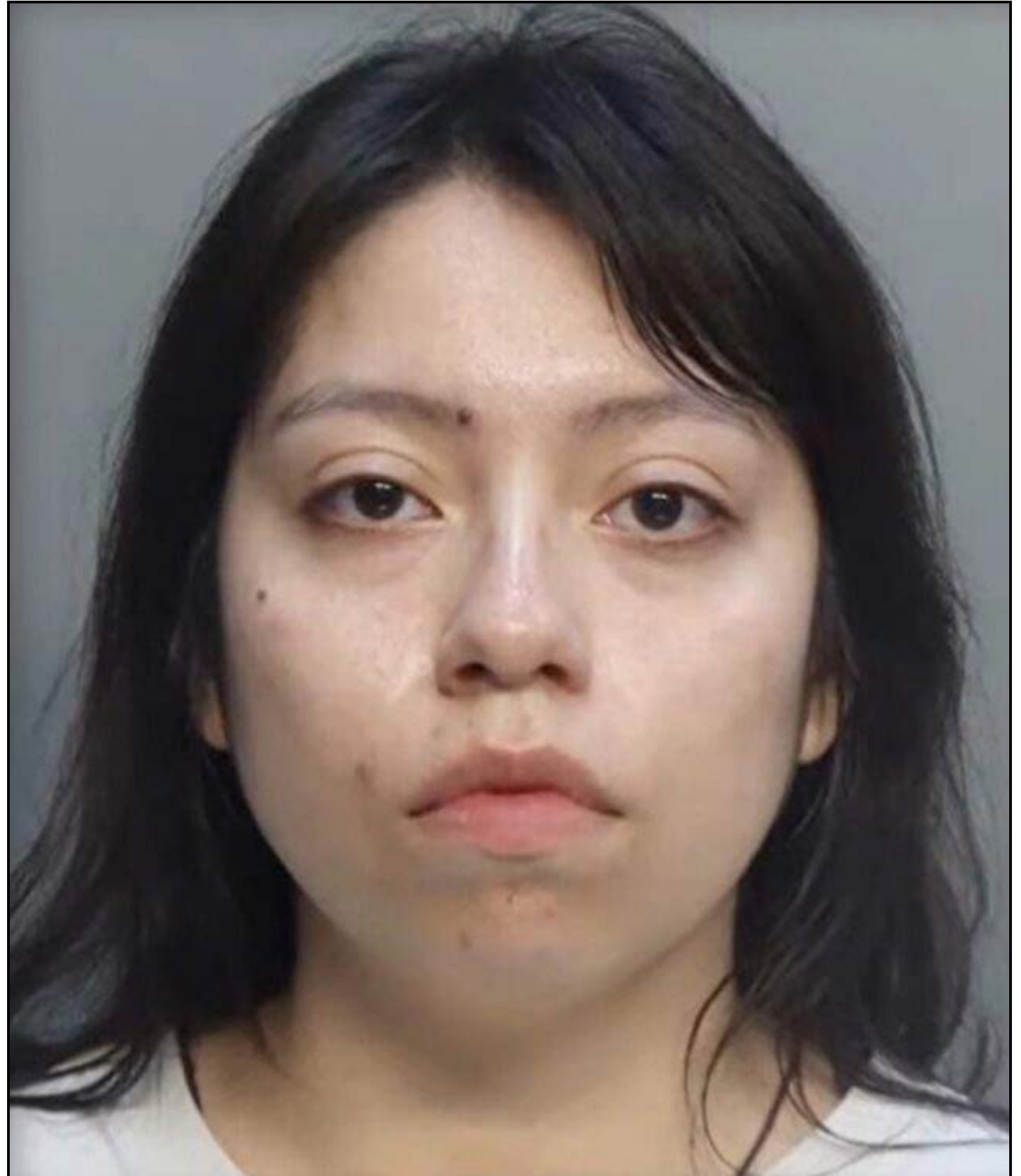
Officers believed she was referring to Benjamin Netanyahu Prime Minister of Israel. In one of her messages she referenced ‘bonbons’ (among other insinuating remarks) which was taken as code for bombs.

The group was discussing an event to be held at the Ocean Bank Convocation Center on April 10 when Saldana made the provocative remarks.

Her messages alarmed members of the group chat, which has about 215 members, to the point that they quickly alerted the authorities.

At a bond court hearing on 16 April Saldana claimed it was all a dumb joke according to a WSVN-TV report.

The presiding judge Mindy S. Glazer acknowledged Saldana’s position but stated that: “...to an objective person it is not a joke.” (Dominica News Online)



**ELECTION DAY
Thursday,
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South Korean fighter jets collided due to pilots taking pictures, report finds



South Korean authorities have found that two fighter jets collided mid-air in 2021 because the pilots were taking pictures and videos.

The incident took place while the jets were on a flight mission in the central city of Daegu, according to Seoul's Board of Audit and Inspection.

The pilots survived with no injuries, but the collision damaged the planes, costing the military 880 million won (\$596,000; £440,500) in repairs.

One of the pilots, who has since left the military, was made to pay a fine of 88 million won.

The incident took place because that pilot had wanted to take photos to commemorate his last flight with his military unit.

Taking photos of significant flights was "a widespread practice among pilots at the time", the audit board said in a report published on Wednesday.

The pilot had declared his intent to do so in a briefing before the flight, according to the report.

He was flying the wingman aircraft and was following the lead aircraft during the mission. While flying back to their base, he started taking pictures using his personal mobile phone.

Upon noticing this, the pilot of the lead aircraft then asked another pilot on his plane to film a video of the wingman aircraft.

The wingman pilot then abruptly flew his jet up higher and flipped it so that it could be better captured on camera. This manoeuvre brought the two planes very close to each other.

To avoid a crash, the lead aircraft tried to rapidly descend. But the two F-15K jets eventually collided, damaging the lead aircraft's left wing and the wingman aircraft's tail stabiliser.

South Korea's air force suspended the wingman pilot, who has since left the military to work for a commercial airline.

Subsequently, the air force sought to fine the wingman pilot 880 million won to cover the full amount of the

repair costs. When the pilot appealed against the fine, it prompted an investigation by the audit board.

The wingman pilot acknowledged his sudden manoeuvre led to the collision, but argued that the lead aircraft's pilot had "tacitly consented" to the manoeuvre since he was aware that filming was taking place.

The audit board eventually ruled that the wingman pilot should only pay a tenth of what the air force sought.

It said that the air force should bear some responsibility for not properly regulating pilots' personal use of cameras.

The board also took into account that the wingman pilot had a good track record prior to the incident, and that he had managed to prevent further damage by promptly commandeering a safe return of his aircraft to the base.

The report did not mention whether any action was taken against the other pilots involved in the incident. (BBC)

EU approves €90bn loan for Ukraine as pipeline is turned on ending deadlock

Ukraine says it has resumed pumping Russian oil through a pipeline into Hungary and Slovakia, bringing to an end months of deadlock over a €90bn (£78bn) loan seen as vital European Union support for Kyiv.

Soon afterwards, EU ambassadors meeting in Brussels gave preliminary approval to the loan, as well as a 20th package of sanctions on Russia, officials said.

It is now expected to be signed off on Thursday.

Although the funding was agreed last December, Hungary's Viktor Orbán slapped a veto on the payment in February after Ukraine said damage caused by a Russian attack had brought supplies to a halt.

Ukrainian oil and government sources told officials in Hungary and Slovakia that pumping had restarted, hours after the EU ambassadors began discussing the loan.

Orbán had demanded the oil start flowing again before the loan could be paid out, and Ukraine confirmed the repairs had been completed on Tuesday.

His election defeat last Sunday also cleared the air for the EU, bringing to an end his 16-year era as prime minister. Hungary's next leader, Péter Magyar, has prioritised a reset in Budapest's poor relations with Brussels.

"Ukraine really needs this loan and it's also a sign that Russia cannot outlast



Ukraine," EU foreign policy chief Kaja Kallas said ahead of the ambassadors' meeting.

The EU funding has been described by Ukrainian Deputy Prime Minister Taras Kachka as "a matter of life and death" for Kyiv, and two-thirds of it will be spent on bolstering Ukraine's defence needs while the rest will go on broader financial assistance.

Slovak Economy Minister Denisa Sakova said she had been told by energy operator Ukrtransnaft, which looks after the Druzhba pipeline in Ukraine, that pressurising of the pipeline had begun on Wednesday morning and crude oil would start flowing into Slovakia on Thursday, for the first time since 27 January.

The volume of pumping was not yet clear, but a Ukrainian government source was quoted as saying that the transit of oil had begun at 12:35 local time (09:35 GMT).

Hungarian energy firm Mol said it expected the first supplies by Thursday at the lat-

est.

Map showing two strands of a pipeline from Russia into Europe in red. One strand goes through Hungary into Ukraine before connecting to another strand going into Russia.

Orbán, who is acting as caretaker leader until early next month, made clear at the weekend that as soon as oil deliveries through the pipeline were restored "we will no longer stand in the way of approving the loan".

In the run-up to Hungary's bitterly contested election this month which Orbán lost, he had accused Ukraine of imposing an "oil blockade" on his country and neighbouring Slovakia, claiming that the EU was working with Kyiv against him.

Satellite images at the time suggested substantial damage to a major oil tank at Brody in western Ukraine in late January and Kyiv had insisted that repairs would take some time, adding that its engineers had come under Russian attack.

Meanwhile, Ukraine has also targeted oil facilities

inside Russia, including a pumping station in Samara region linked to the Druzhba pipeline this week.

Orbán's decision to renege on last December's agreement to provide Ukraine with a €90bn loan had infuriated EU leaders, who had agreed to give Hungary, Slovakia and the Czech Republic an opt-out from the scheme.

The Hungarian leader, long seen as the EU's closest partner to Russia's Vladimir Putin, made hostility towards both Ukraine's Volodymyr Zelensky and the EU central to his failed election campaign. Campaign posters across Hungary portrayed Zelensky alongside Magyar with the message: "They are dangerous!"

Zelensky said late on Tuesday he had discussed how the loan would be unblocked with European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen and the head of the European Council, António Costa, who represents the 27 member states.

"There can be no grounds for blocking it any more," Zelensky said. "The EU asked Ukraine to repair the Druzhba oil pipeline, which had been destroyed by Russia. We have repaired it. We hope the EU will also deliver on the agreed commitments."

It could still take weeks before funding arrives in Kyiv, Ukrainian media report. (BBC)



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AGS and PMS to clash in schools' cricket T20 final

The Antigua Grammar School (AGS) and Princess Margaret School (PMS) will clash in the final of the Ministry of Sports Inter-School Under-19 T20 Competition at the Antigua Recreation Grounds (ARG) on Thursday (today) at 1 pm.

Both teams booked their spots in today's final by recording commanding wins in the recent semi-finals.

The Antigua Grammar School crushed All Saints Secondary School by 183 runs at the Antigua Grammar School.

Opener Leonardo Ducreay slammed a half-century to help propel Antigua Grammar School to 215 for two off their allotted 20 overs after being sent in to bat.

Ducreay slammed 51 off 46 balls, including five fours and two sixes. He shared an 86-run opening stand with captain Hosea Roberts, who struck 43 off 22 balls, including six fours and two

sixes.

Ducreay was also involved in a 64-run second-wicket partnership with Shane Walsh, who cracked an unbeaten 38 off 42 balls, which included five fours.

Walsh shared an unbroken 65-run third-wicket partnership with Isaiah Harris, who hammered 32 off 17 balls, with six fours. The Antigua Grammar School's total was boosted by the contribution of 51 extras, which included 42 wides.

In reply, All Saints Secondary School was bundled out for just 32 in 11.1 overs. Captain Nasri Brooks was the only batsman to reach double figures, with a knock of 18 off 17 balls.

Mark Crawford grabbed five for 12, while Dante Odlum took two wickets for three runs, and Dejaunte Spencer claimed two wickets for nine runs.

The Princess Margaret School recorded a seven-wicket victory over Pares

Secondary School in their semi-final affair at the Factory Grounds.

Pares Secondary School was dismissed for 79 in 18.5 overs after being sent in to bat. Kadeem George was the only batsman to reach double figures, hitting a top-score of 30 off 39 balls.

Elijah Miller grabbed two wickets for five runs, **Janiel Henry** claimed two for 10, and **Tyran Francis** captured two for 15.

Princess Margaret School achieved victory by scoring 81 for three in 9.1 overs. JQuan Athanaze slammed 33 off 19 balls, including six fours and a six.

Athanaze shared a 48-run second-wicket partnership with Tyran Francis, who scored 13. Kerique Mentore also hit 13 not out for PMS.

Kyan Goodwin, Tyari Tonge, and captain William Pitman each picked up a wicket for Pares Secondary School.

Guyana Harpy Eagles crush Winwards Volcanoes

Guyana Harpy Eagles secured their second consecutive victory over the Windward Islands Volcanoes, cruising to an emphatic innings and 141-run win on the third day of their West Indies Four-Day Championship clash at the Antigua Recreation Ground (ARG) on Tuesday.

Resuming on 361 for eight, Guyana piled on the runs to post a commanding 491, with Veerasammy Permaul leading the charge with an unbeaten 82.

He found support throughout the lower order as the Harpy Eagles built a total that ultimately proved far beyond the reach of the Volcanoes.

The Windwards faltered again in their second innings, bowled out for 199 in just under 49 overs. Ackeem Au-



Veerasammy Permaul

guste offered resistance with a well-played 91, but lacked sustained support as wickets fell steadily.

Permaul capped a fine all-

round performance by returning with the ball to claim four for 20, while Gudakesh Motie led the attack with five for 51 to seal a dominant re-

sult.

The victory follows Guyana's four-wicket win in the opening match of the three-game series, underlining their dominance in the series.

Summarised Scores: Windward Islands Volcanoes 151 and 199 in 48.3 overs (Ackeem Auguste 91, Kavem Hodge 27, Stephan Pascal 16, Sunil Ambris 15, Johann Jeremiah 11, Kenneth Dember 10 not out; Gudakesh Motie 5-51, Veerasammy Permaul 4-20).

Guyana Harpy Eagles 491 in 157.1 overs (Veerasammy Permaul 82 not out, Kemol Savory 72, Keemo Paul 56, Matthew Nandu 54, Shamar Joseph 46, Richie Looknauth 42, Kevlon Anderson 41, Nial Smith 37, Tagenarine Chanderpaul 35; Kenneth Dember 4-113, Shadrack Descarte 2-67).

Cornwall questions pitch preparation at SVRS

Leeward Islands Hurricanes assistant coach Wilden Cornwall did not hold back in his assessment of the playing surface at Sir Vivian Richards Stadium (SVRS) in Antigua that was used in the second match of the Leeward Islands vs Trinidad and Tobago bilateral series in the 2026 West Indies Four-Day Championship.

He suggests concerns were evident from the outset of their second-round West Indies Four-Day Championship match, which commenced on Sunday and was abandoned as a draw due to a dangerous pitch on the penultimate day on Tuesday.

“From day one when I turned up to the venue, I really had my doubts about the condition and the nature of the pitch,” Cornwall said. “The result tells for itself.”

He believes the surface was not prepared to the standard required for four-day cricket. “To me, it wasn’t given the preparation for what a four-day wicket should look like, and hence, we see so many players get damaged.”

Cornwall pointed to multiple incidents across both teams, including the blow to Jeremiah Louis in the fourth over of play on Tuesday, which triggered discussions and the eventual abandonment of the match.

Cornwall noted a delivery that reared up at Rahkeem Cornwall earlier on Tuesday, and the earlier injury to Jyd Goolie on the first day of the match.

“The pitch has been misbehaving



Wilden Cornwall

throughout the entire three days. Look at what’s dominating so far... not taking anything away from the fast bowlers, but the pitch contributes to a lot of that.”

He confirmed that Louis had been taken to hospital after suffering a “really nasty delivery” but expressed hope that there was no serious damage.

Despite the setback, Cornwall stressed the importance of proper playing conditions, especially with players preparing for upcoming international cricket.

“If we’re playing our best tournament, we’ve got to give the players the

best (opportunity) to prepare themselves,” he argued.

An update from Cricket West Indies (CWI) on Wednesday said Jeremiah Louis was discharged from hospital on Tuesday evening after his CT scan returned clear results.

CWI also reported that the Leeward Islands Hurricanes’ medical team, who have been in ongoing communication with Cricket West Indies, will monitor Louis closely over the next 48 hours.

It says a further assessment will be carried out before the LI Hurricanes squad is announced for the next match against the Trinidad and Tobago Red Force at the Antigua Recreation Grounds (ARG) on Sunday.

Turning to the Hurricanes’ performance thus far this season, Cornwall admitted improvements are needed, particularly with the bat.

Across the two matches do far, the Leewards have had scores of 131, 140 for seven, 138 and 98.

“We have to fix it... the players have to hold themselves accountable. I think we can do better,” said Cornwall.

However, he remains optimistic heading into their next fixture at the Antigua Recreation Ground, noting the team’s familiarity with conditions there.

He said he is expecting to see “vast improvements” in the final-round encounter that will commence on Sunday.



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Chelsea sack Rosenior amid worst scoring drought in 114 years



Liam Rosenior

LONDON (Reuters) - Chelsea sacked manager Liam Rosenior on Wednesday following a catastrophic run of form that has left the London club's Champions League hopes hanging by a thread while they also endured their worst goalscoring drought in over a century.

Rosenior lasted less than four months in the role after his January appointment following Enzo Maresca's departure, becoming the latest casualty of Chelsea's turbulent season after seven defeats in their last eight matches across all competitions.

Rosenior's dismissal came a day after a humiliating 3-0 loss at Brighton & Hove Albion, which saw the south-coast club leapfrog Chelsea into sixth place in the table. Chelsea are now seven points behind fifth-placed Liverpool, who have a game in hand.

"Chelsea Football Club has today parted company with Head Coach

Liam Rosenior," the club said in a statement.

"On behalf of everyone at Chelsea FC, we would like to place on record our gratitude to Liam and his staff for all their efforts during their time with the Club.

"This has not been a decision the Club has taken lightly, however recent results and performances have fallen below the necessary standards with still so much more to play for this season."

The club said Calum McFarlane, who stepped in as caretaker when Maresca left, would take charge of the team as interim head coach until the end of the season.

The 41-year-old had been brought in from owners BlueCo's sister club Racing Strasbourg on a contract until 2032, tasked with "getting the season back on track" following Italian Maresca's departure on New Year's Day.

Rosenior had guided Strasbourg to

European qualification in his debut season. Yet after an encouraging start that included an unbeaten Premier League run with four straight wins and two draws, Chelsea's season spectacularly unravelled in March.

They crashed out of the Champions League to Paris St. Germain after an 8-2 aggregate defeat, a bitter pill to swallow given they had beaten the French side in last year's Club World Cup final.

Chelsea have now lost five league games in a row without scoring a single goal -- their worst run since 1912 -- while their only victory in the past eight matches was a 7-0 thrashing of third-tier Port Vale in the FA Cup.

Chelsea fans turned on Rosenior during the second half at Brighton, calling for his dismissal, and the manager apologised to the travelling supporters after the final whistle.

Rosenior later said he could not defend his team's performance, saying he was "numb" and "angry" as he asked the players to look at themselves in the mirror.

However, Chelsea defender Trevoh Chalobah said the team had "run their socks off" and the loss had "nothing to do with effort."

The defeat appeared to be the final straw for the Chelsea hierarchy, who pulled the trigger despite an upcoming FA Cup semi-final against a resurgent Leeds United on Sunday.

"As the Club works to bring stability to the head coach position, we will undertake a process of self-reflection to make the right long-term appointment," Chelsea added.

Hurricane Power Athletics Club announces record turnout for 5th Annual 10K/5K Run & Walk and 2K Kids Competition

The Hurricane Power Athletics Club reports a record number of entries for its 5th Annual 10K/5K Run & Walk and 2K Kids competition, set for Sunday, 26 April 2026. The event starts at 6:30 a.m from the YASCO Grounds.

Course

- Start/finish: YASCO Grounds
- Route: Up Old Parham Road → right onto Sir Sibley Wallen Highway → left onto Factory Road → return via the same route.

Registration fees

- Ages 16 and up: \$30
- Under 16: \$20
- Age 12 and under: \$15

Prizes

- Awards for overall winners and multiple age groups
- Special prizes for largest group, and top Club, School and Business entries

Who should participate

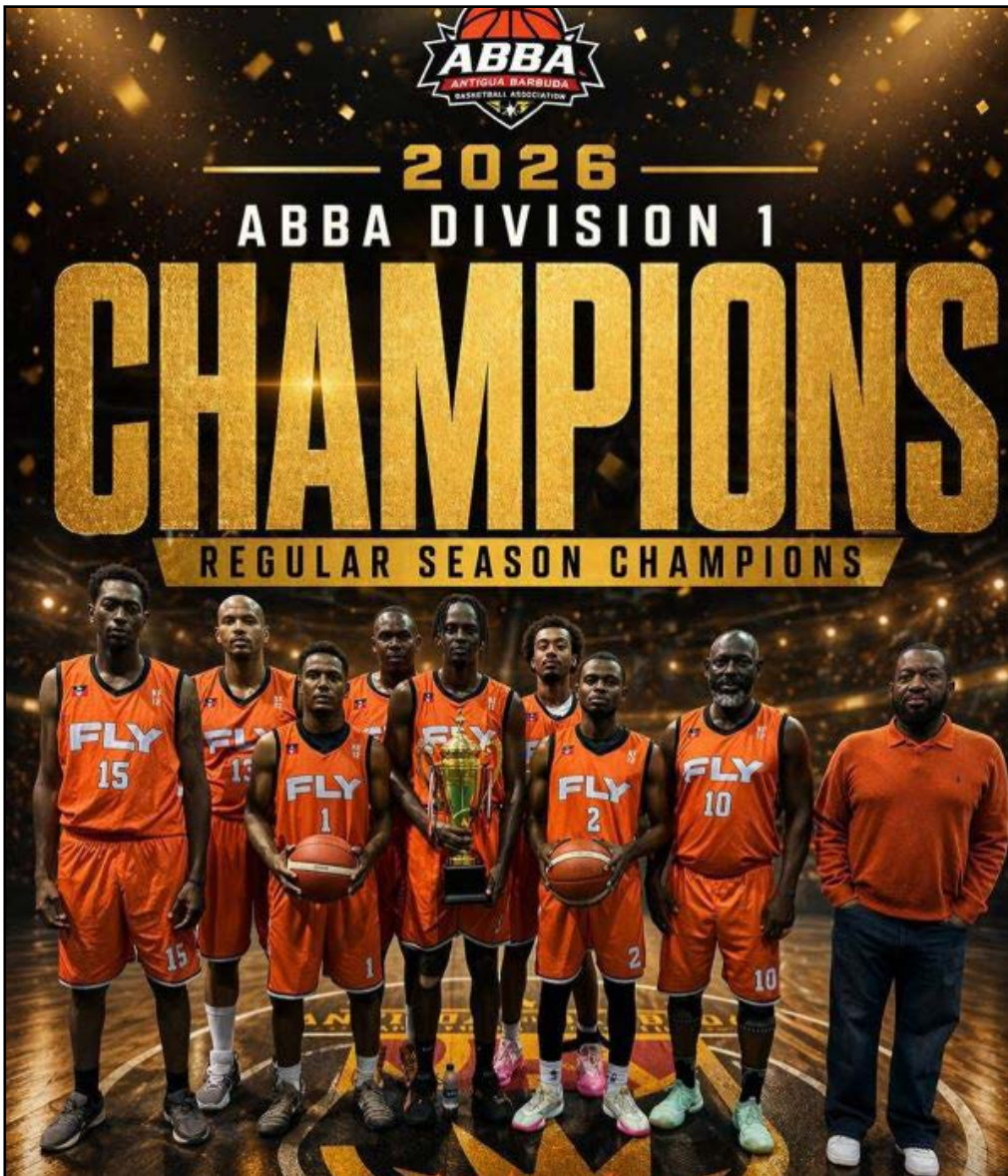
- Professional and recreational distance runners
- Hiking and sporting clubs
- Schools, businesses and fitness enthusiasts
- Families and walkers

For more information or to register, contact:

- Phone: 728-0433 / 773-2089 / 725-8011
- Email: hurricanepowcl@gmail.com

Come out and join us for a healthier you and a fitter nation.

Flyers retain ABBA's Division 1 League title



The EZ Fit Flyers retained the Division 1 League title for the third consecutive year in the Antigua and Barbuda Basketball Association's (ABBA) domestic season at the JSC Sports Complex on Tuesday evening.

The Flyers, who are also the reigning three-peat Division 1 playoff champions, clinched the title in the

eight-team round-robin league competition by recording their 11th win in their quota of 14 games with a 128-36 drubbing of the bottom team, the Navigators, in the final game at the JSC Sports Complex.

Daniel Perez produced 34 points, seven assists, and six rebounds, and TJ Williams produced 25 points, 11 rebounds, eight assists, and six

steals as the main performers for the Flyers.

In support, Nicholas Moore provided 23 points, 13 rebounds, and five assists; Javonte Daley contributed 17 points, eight assists, and six rebounds; and Kwame Brathwaite chipped in with 10 points, 11 rebounds, and five assists for the Flyers.

Raheem Sawyer sank 12 points, and Tyreke Lewis scored nine points for the Navigators, who finished their league campaign winless and at the bottom of the eight-team standings by virtue of losing all 14 matches.

The result also means that Da Project finished in second place, having completed their quota of 14 round-robin league matches with a record of 10 wins and four losses.

All eight teams will now switch their focus to the ABBA Division 1 playoffs, which are slated to commence at the JSC Sports Complex on Wednesday, May 5.

Meanwhile, Ramco Pharmacy Fearless Crew claimed their seventh win in 13 games after being awarded victory via default against Square One Construction Cristos United, who failed to show up for their encounter at the JSC Sports Complex on Tuesday evening.

The result means that Cristos United finished their campaign winless and at the bottom of the nine-team round-robin Division 2 league standings by virtue of suffering defeat in their quota of 16 games.