

45 Guns have been confiscated so far this year

Story on page 2



Left to right: Honorary Consul for India, Vijay Tewani, Director General for Foreign Affairs, Ann Marie Layne, Foreign Affairs Minister E.P Chet Greene. Acting Indian High Commissioner Manoj Kumar and Assistant to the High Commissioner based in Guyana

Police Have Removed 45 Firearms From The Streets This Year

The police have reported that they have confiscated some 45 firearms since the start of the year as law enforcement has stepped up the campaign to tackle the growing problem of illegal firearms in the country.

Assistant Commissioner Lisburn Michael, one of the force's chief investigators, said since the police launched Operation Restore Confidence in August, they have confiscated 6 firearms and one modified flare gun. In addition, they have confiscated some 43 rounds of ammunition over that period.

Overall said ACP Michael, the 45 firearms confiscated for the year were accompanied by 351 rounds of ammunition. The senior cop is expressing some success in ridding the streets of these firearms but noted that the problem is far from being solved.

He is calling for a redoubling of efforts by all law enforcement agencies in the country to tackle this problem.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Gaston Browne has announced that effective Monday September 7, the force will be joined by soldiers of the Antigua Defence Force as the government has announced an all-out campaign to fight the scourge of gun-violence head-on.

The Royal Police Force of Antigua and Barbuda continues to intensify its crime-fighting efforts under Operation Restore Confidence, resulting in the seizure of two firearms, several rounds of ammunition, and quantities of cannabis during separate operations.

Over the weekend, the police reported that in the early hours of Friday, September 4, police officers attached to the Criminal Investigations Department Task Force (CIDTF), Gang and Guns Suppression Unit (GAGSU), and K-9 Unit executed a search warrant at a property at Green Bay Hill.

During the search, police seized two firearms and several rounds of ammunition, along with a licence plate, quantities of Eastern Caribbean and United States currencies, several cel-



Assistant Commissioner Lisburn Michael,

lular phones, articles of clothing, a Nikon camera, and other items for further investigation.

Three persons who were present at the property were arrested on suspicion of

Unlawful Possession of Firearm and Ammunition and taken into custody at the St. John's Police Station.

Meanwhile, a team of officers from various departments conducted mobile patrols and stop-and-search exercises in several communities, including Briggins, Belmont, Bellevue Heights, and Bathlodge, as part of the ongoing Operation Restore Confidence.

During the operation, police searched a vehicle and discovered 55.2 grams of cannabis. A subsequent search warrant was executed at the residence of the driver, where police found an additional 1.4 pounds of cannabis and a flare gun.

The man was arrested on suspicion of possession of cannabis, and the items were seized pending further investigations. A motor vehicle was also impounded by the police for being unlicensed and uninsured.


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10-Thousand Dollar Reward

Prime Minister Gaston Browne has announced that a reward of \$10,000 is being offered for information leading to the arrest of any of the two men involved in the daring daylight armed robbery at the WIOC service station at Buckley Line on Friday.

The Prime Minister made the announcement on the Browne and Browne Show on Pointe Broadcasting Network on Saturday. He is of the view that the men involved can be recognized by the clothes that they wore or even by the manner in which they walked and he wants anyone who is able to identify one or both men to come forward and share that information with the law enforcement entities. Doing so would earn that person \$10,000.00.

Police say two masked men with guns targeted the service station around 4pm. One, who was brandishing a handgun, entered the service station and robbed the cashier of an undisclosed sum of money.

The other gunman, carrying a rifle, held a pump attendant at gunpoint and took a pouch containing cash from fuel sales.

The two then fled on foot, while reportedly firing one shot, before later escaping in a dark purple Toyota Ractis.

Investigators recovered a spent shell from the scene.

Surveillance video shows the traumatized workers cowering in fear as they were held up at gunpoint, with one person collapsing during the ordeal.

Meanwhile, the police are investigating the armed robbery at Buckley Line Gas Station on All Saints Road that occurred around 4:00 p.m. on Friday, September 4.

Police recovered one spent shell from the scene. Investigations into the matter are continuing.



Anyone with information that may assist the police is asked to contact the Criminal Investigations Department

at 462-3913 or 462-3914, or Crimestoppers at 800-TIPS (8477).



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PM Browne Wants To See Africa-CARICOM Relationship Going Beyond ‘Dollars and Cent’

Antigua and Barbuda Prime Minister Gaston Browne is reaffirming the country's full commitment to the ideals of the Africa-CARICOM arrangements calling for more trade and investments between the region and the African countries.

In prepared remarks to mark Africa-CARICOM Day 2026 today (September 7), PM Browne noted that he had lobbied for the designation of the date because he believed that the relationship between Africa and the Caribbean must be more than a historical connection. It must become a strategic partnership for the future.

“As Prime Minister of Antigua and Barbuda, I reaffirm my country's unwavering commitment to deepening the relationship between Africa and the Caribbean Community.

“We must move beyond declarations and translate our solidarity into trade, investment, technology, education, tourism, transportation, culture and people-to-people partnerships.

“The strengthening of air connectiv-



Prime Minister Gaston Browne

ity between Africa and the Caribbean represents an important step in this direction,” he emphasized.

In underscoring the value of air connectivity, PM Browne said the peoples of both regions must be able to travel, conduct business, exchange ideas, invest and build relationships with greater ease.

He said that is why Antigua and Barbuda has engaged the Africa Ex-

port-Import Bank. “We see this relationship as an important platform for expanding access to capital, increasing trade and investment, supporting entrepreneurship and creating new opportunities for our people.

“But our relationship with Africa cannot be measured only in dollars and cents,” he declared.

Africa, he noted, is not simply a market for the Caribbean, and the Caribbean is not simply a market for Africa.

“We are family. Strengthening Africa-CARICOM relations is also about reconnecting a people separated by the forces of history.

“It is about our children understanding where they came from. It is about celebrating African and Caribbean culture, music, food, language, spirituality, art and traditions. “It is about restoring pride in an African-Caribbean identity that has survived centuries of attempts to diminish it,” he observed.

The first Africa-CARICOM Summit was held back in 2021.

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ABRSC CALLS FOR STRONGER AFRICA-CARICOM UNITY

- Africa-CARICOM Day 2026 Message



The Antigua and Barbuda Reparations Support Committee (ABRSC) joins the people of Antigua and Barbuda, the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), the African Union (AU) and the African Diaspora in commemorating Africa-CARICOM Day 2026 on September 7.

The ABRSC recalls the historic inaugural Africa-CARICOM Summit of September 7, 2021, when then Chairman of CARICOM and Prime Minister of Antigua and Barbuda, the Honourable Gaston Browne, proposed that September 7 be observed annually as Africa-CARICOM Day. He called for deeper cooperation in areas including trade, investment, transportation, diplomacy and development, while emphasizing the considerable global bargaining power that Africa and CARICOM can exercise through greater unity.

ABRSC regards this day as an important affirmation of our shared ancestry, cultural identity and collective aspirations. It provides an opportunity to renew our commitment to building a more strategic partnership between Africa and the Caribbean nations endowed with immense human, cultural and natural resources. Our collective strength encompasses agriculture, energy, minerals, the blue economy,

tourism, technology, creative industries, education, financial services and a young and increasingly connected population.

The greatest resource shared by Africa and the Caribbean is our people and

our collective capacity to determine our own future. Africa-CARICOM unity is inseparable from the pursuit of reparatory justice. ABRSC however emphasizes that this vision must move from aspiration to measurable action and tangible outcomes.

ABRSC calls upon governments, regional institutions, civil society organizations and citizens throughout Africa and the Caribbean to deepen this partnership, advance advocacy and action for reparatory justice, and to ensure that the bonds of ancestry are transformed into bonds of cooperation, economic opportunity, cultural renewal and collective advancement.

Happy Africa-CARICOM Day 2026!

One People. Shared History. Common Purpose. A United Future.



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New Indian Acting High Commissioner Meets With Senior Government Officials



Acting High Commissioner Manoj Kumar visited Antigua and Barbuda and held a series of productive meetings with senior members of the Government and leadership of the Antigua and Barbuda Defence Force.

During the visit, he met Hon. E.P. Chet Greene, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Immigration, Hon. Charles Max Fernandez, Minister of Tourism, Civil Aviation, Transportation and Investment and Brigadier General Telbert Benjamin, Chief of Defence Staff of the Antigua and Barbuda Defence Force.

The discussions focused particularly on preparations for the participation of the Indian delegation in the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) 2026, to be hosted by Antigua and Barbuda in St. John's from 1–4 November 2026.

The meetings reviewed various logistical, protocol, transportation and security arrangements relating to the participation of the Indian delegation. The Acting High Commissioner also discussed the Government of India's assistance and support to Antigua and Barbuda for the successful hosting of CHOGM 2026, reflecting India's commitment to supporting the country in this important Commonwealth en-



deavour.

Discussions with the Chief of Defence Staff also explored opportunities for enhancing India–Antigua and Barbuda defence and security cooperation, including capacity building, training and greater institutional engagement. India has already been supporting Antigua and Barbuda through training opportunities under the ITEC programme.

The meetings also provided an opportunity to review a range of bilateral issues and areas of mutual interest, including tourism, trade, development partnership, capacity building and people-to-people ties.

India deeply values its longstanding friendship with Antigua and Barbuda and remains committed to working

closely with the Government of Antigua and Barbuda towards a successful CHOGM 2026, while further strengthening the multifaceted bilateral partnership.

As part of the visit, Acting High Commissioner also interacted with members of the Indian community and Indian diaspora in Antigua and Barbuda. The interaction provided an opportunity to hear directly from community members, understand their experiences and concerns, and take stock of the challenges faced in accessing consular services due to distance constraints. The Mission remains committed to strengthening its engagement with the Indian community and diaspora and to facilitating responsive and accessible consular services.

Government to Publicise The Names of Its Diplomats



The Antigua and Barbuda government says it will publicise the names of all those persons who are serving in foreign capitals in its diplomatic service.

Following discussions on the matter at the level of the Cabinet, the government will move to formally file in the Parliament of Antigua and Barbuda the list of persons serving in diplomatic appointments on behalf of the State.

This development is one in a series of measures that have been approved by the Cabinet aimed at further strengthening the country's governance framework, enhancing transparency and ensuring greater public accountability in the conduct of Government affairs. It resulted from a proposal advanced by Prime Minister Gaston Browne.

Cabinet considers the measure an important addition to the country's governance framework. The filing of the list in Parliament will provide a formal and transparent public record of the persons entrusted with representing Antigua and Barbuda in diplomatic capacities.

The Prime Minister indicated that the initiative forms part of the Government's continuing efforts to strengthen accountability and ensure that appointments carrying significant public responsibilities are subject to an appropriate level of transparency.

Cabinet also agreed that senior positions within the Government will be publicly advertised when they become vacant.

The new approach is intended to broaden opportunities for suitably qualified persons to offer themselves for senior public service and Government positions and to promote a competitive and transparent process for identifying individuals with the appropriate qualifications, experience and leadership capabilities.

Cabinet determined that the measure should take effect immediately and will apply as senior Government vacancies arise.

The Government believes that openly inviting applications for senior positions will help to strengthen public confidence in the appointments process while allowing the State to draw

from the widest possible pool of qualified and experienced candidates.

Consistent with the newly approved approach, the Cabinet of Antigua and Barbuda is inviting applications for the position of Executive Chairman of the Citizenship by Investment Unit (CIU).

Cabinet is seeking suitably qualified and experienced candidates capable of providing strong executive leadership and oversight of the Unit and ensuring that its operations continue to be conducted with the highest standards of professionalism, accountability, integrity and regulatory compliance.

The decision to openly invite applications for the position reflects the Government's commitment to ensuring that appointments to senior and strategically important positions are supported by transparent and competitive selection processes.

Prime Minister Browne emphasized that Government institutions must continue to evolve and embrace measures that reinforce transparency, accountability, merit and public confidence.

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ELECTRICITY CUSTOMER SERVICES ENGINEER

The Antigua Public Utilities Authority (APUA) invites applications for the position of Customer Services Engineer within the Electricity Business Unit. The successful candidate will be responsible for coordinating all Transmission & Distribution Customer Services issues with an aim at increasing collections and reducing revenue losses. Resolve customers' complaints and contributes to debt reduction and conserve resources.

Key duties include:

1. Resolve and clarify complaints of customers, products and services.
2. Analyze customer services issues, determine cause of problems, select, explain and expedite correction or adjustment using the best solutions to customer service issues.
3. Follow up to ensure that customer services issues are resolved.
4. Lead a team of individuals in adherence with the Authority's Performance Management System.
5. Contributes to debt collection and reduce losses:
 - (a) Ensure that the electricity service accounts of customers in arrears are disconnected in a timely fashion in keeping with the Authority's policy.
 - (b) Ensure that the electricity service accounts of customers whose arrears have been cleared following disconnection for non-payment of services are reconnected in a timely fashion in keeping with the Authority's policy.
 - (c) Monitor and observe the legality of electrical installation and connection at customers' premises.
 - (d) Report abuse and illegal use of company property and equipment.
6. Ensure that service of a high quality is delivered:
 - (a) Conduct training, sourcing training, mentoring and coaching of all staff members under command.
 - (b) Administer and provide technical guidance to Electrical Installation and maintenance teams.
 - (c) Review electrical drawings submitted by Applicants to ensure they comply with APUA's standard and the National Electric Code (NEC).
 - (d) Collaborate with the Inspectors to ensure that electrical drawings meet the required standards before approval
 - (e) Adequately respond to faults on the Network and addressing same in a timely and safe manner.
7. Install, record, service, repair and keep street lights operational.
8. Manage the installation, maintenance and change out of revenue meters, both single and three phase meters. This include AMI meters and associated systems.
9. Manage the maintenance of secondary distribution system.
10. Manage vegetation on the distribution system to minimize faults.
11. Prepare and submit reports on a monthly basis and an annual budget of Electricity Customer Services Department.
12. Conserves the Authority's resources, develop and implement programs geared at reducing non-technical losses.

The successful candidate **MUST** possess the following:

- A bachelor's degree or equivalent in electrical engineering or related field from a reputable tertiary institution.
- Experience in Electrical Engineering and Customer Services a plus.
- Excellent interpersonal and human relations skills.
- The ability to effectively lead a team of skilled workers and to perform optimally in a team environment or individually.
- Excellent analytical, customer service, verbal, written, report writing, and computer skills.

Interested persons are asked

to apply in writing to:

Human Resources Manager
Antigua Public Utilities Authority
Cnr. High Street & Independence Avenue
St. Johns, Antigua
OR Email: hr@apua.ag

Deadline for application is Thursday, 17th September, 2026

**** Only suitable applicants will be acknowledged ****

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The Director of Education Affirms that The Education System Is Not Daunted By Its Challenges

As the 2026-27 School Opens in Antigua and Barbuda today (Monday 7 September), Director of Education Clare Browne is acknowledging that the system faces several challenges, yet it remains undaunted and resolute.

Director Browne made the observation during his annual address to mark the start of the school year. Noting that during the school year, Antigua and Barbuda will host the Commonwealth Heads of Government Conference (CHOGM) in the wake of national, regional and international events which he said evoked a palette of emotions, and which forced those in education to re-examine their priorities.

“Although, we are confronted at every level of the education system with seemingly insurmountable challenges, we are not daunted. We refuse to be immobilized. We are beginning this school year with a clearer vision, renewed purpose and a deeper conviction that we must continue to colour outside the lines to achieve higher levels of student engagement, more meaningful student outcomes, focused and effective classroom instruction, equity, inclusion and sound leadership,” he stated.



Director of Education Clare Browne

He revealed that the new academic year will see a number of what he termed ‘exciting developments’.

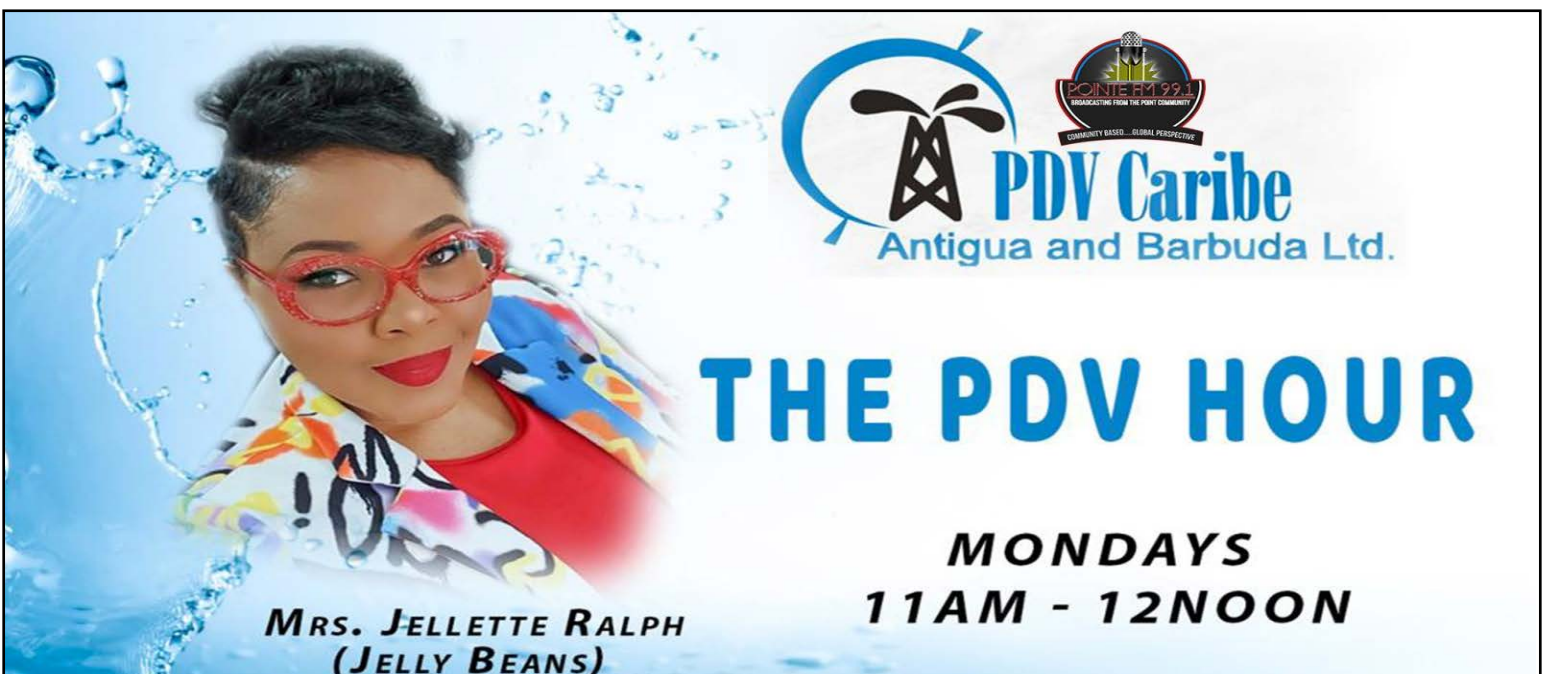
“In this school year, more children in two additional communities will be benefiting from public early childhood programmes because, in the Ministry of Education, we are committed to ensuring that every child in Antigua and Barbuda has access to a solid educational foundation. In January of 2027 the Jennings Early Childhood Centre will throw its doors. Sometime later in 2027 we will be opening an early childhood educational facility in New

Winthorpes.”

Secondly, during this school year, the ministry will heighten its curricular alignment with the rest of the OECS region by adopting the D-OHPC CURRICULUM from Kindergarten to Grade Two at all primary institutions, both private and public. “Though this change comes with understandable concerns, we assure you that the resources that are embedded in the curriculum will draw students and teachers into new and exciting learning experiences,” Director Browne remarked.

Thirdly, through the efforts of the Board of Education dozens of students and teachers will experience better learning environments. During the weeks of the summer vacation, there were expansions and renovations taking place at various public schools around the island.

Additionally, students pursuing tertiary level education at either the Antigua and Barbuda College of Advanced Studies (ABCAS) or the University of the West Indies Five Islands Campus will do so free of charge as the government has decided to waive all fees for attending these institutions.



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Rotary Club of Antigua Marks Start of 54th Anniversary Week with Call to Service and Lasting Impact



The Rotary Club of Antigua is observing its 54th Anniversary with a Week of Activities that is refocusing emphasis on service to the community.

On Sunday, 6 September, Rotarians attended a special church service at Ebenezer Methodist Church, where they gathered in thanksgiving and reflection on more than five decades of service to Antigua and Barbuda. Delivering remarks on behalf of the Club, President Anastasia Wilson reflected on the generations of Rotarians whose service, fellowship and commitment have shaped the Club's legacy, while calling on members to continue making a meaningful and sustainable difference in the community.

The service marked the beginning of a week of activities from 6–12 September under the theme, "54 Years of Service Above Self – Creating Lasting Impact." Anniversary activities continue with Media Day on Monday, 7 September,

followed by Peace Literacy Reading Sessions at primary schools on Tuesday, 8 September and the Club's 54th Anniversary Dinner Meeting on Wednesday, 9 September. On Thursday, 10 September, Rotarians will participate in a Volunteer Day at the Fiennes Institute, while on Friday, 11 September, the Club will extend its service to Barbuda through an Eye Screening initiative for residents.

The week culminates on Saturday, 12 September, with the Caribbean Wellness Day Glow Walk 2026, bringing together the Rotary Club of Antigua, Rotary Club of Antigua Sundown, Rotaract Club of Antigua and Interact Clubs. Members of the public are encouraged to participate in the Glow Walk, held under the theme "Engage, Empower, Elevate: Working Together to Improve Health and Wellbeing for All." Registration is \$20, with participants also eligible to win raffle prizes including a fruit basket, blood pressure

monitor and finger pulse oximeter.

Looking ahead to the Club's 55th year, President Wilson shared a message of

continued service and humility:

"As we look ahead, may we continue to serve with humility, may our Club continue to be a light in the community, a source of encouragement to those in need and a reminder that small acts of service can bring great blessings as we strive to create lasting impact."

The Rotary Club of Antigua encourages residents to follow its platforms throughout the week for updates and opportunities to participate.

54 Years. One Legacy. Lasting Impact.






CARIBBEAN WELLNESS Day 2026

SATURDAY
SEPTEMBER
12
2026

Caribbean Wellness Day will be recognized under the regional theme:
"ENGAGE, EMPOWER, ELEVATE: WORKING TOGETHER TO IMPROVE HEALTH AND WELLBEING FOR ALL"

LIGHT UP YOUR HEALTH WITH A GLOW WALK

Even Better Than 2025!

REGISTRATION
A Google Form will be created for prior registration.



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Let's walk, glow and inspire wellness
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CARIBBEAN WELLNESS DAY
12 SEPTEMBER 2026

Rotary
Club of Antigua



54th ANNIVERSARY *Celebration*



54 YEARS OF SERVICE ABOVE SELF – *Creating Lasting Impact*



Join us as we celebrate 54 years of Service Above Self and honour our legacy of service, fellowship and lasting impact in Antigua and Barbuda.

ANNIVERSARY WEEK OF ACTIVITIES

**SUNDAY
SEPTEMBER
6**



CHURCH SERVICE
EBENEZER METHODIST CHURCH
⌚ 8:30 AM



**MONDAY
SEPTEMBER
7**



MEDIA DAY
Celebrating 54 Years
of Rotary Service



**TUESDAY
SEPTEMBER
8**



PEACE LITERACY READING SESSIONS
at several primary schools
*Promoting literacy, peace
and positive change*



**WEDNESDAY
SEPTEMBER
9**



54TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER MEETING (PM)
An evening of celebration,
fellowship and recognition



**THURSDAY
SEPTEMBER
10**



VOLUNTEER DAY AT FIENNES INSTITUTE
A day of fellowship,
service and giving back
PUBLIC HOLIDAY



**FRIDAY
SEPTEMBER
11**



EYE SCREENING IN BARBUDA
Extending the gift of service
to our sister isle.



**SATURDAY
SEPTEMBER
12**



CARIBBEAN WELLNESS DAY – GLOW WALK
Light up your health!
*Promoting health, wellness
and collaboration.*



*Service
Above Self*



**TOGETHER,
WE CONTINUE TO
CREATE LASTING IMPACT!**



FELLOWSHIP



SERVICE



LITERACY



HEALTH



COMMUNITY



COLLABORATION



BACK-TO-SCHOOL MESSAGE



BARBUDA

*Brighter Students
A Stronger Barbuda*



**To All Students of Barbuda —
Preschool to Secondary School**

*Small Island
Big Dreams*



Dear Students of Barbuda,

As you begin a new school year, I would like to extend my warmest wishes to every student—from preschool to secondary school. This is a time of new opportunities, new friendships, and new experiences that will help shape your future.

Always believe in yourself and your ability to succeed. Think positively, work hard, stay focused, and never be afraid to dream big. Remember that every great achievement begins with a single step, and every challenge you face is an opportunity to learn and grow stronger.

Let your light shine wherever you go. Be kind to one another, respect your teachers, support your classmates, and strive to be the very best version of yourself each day.

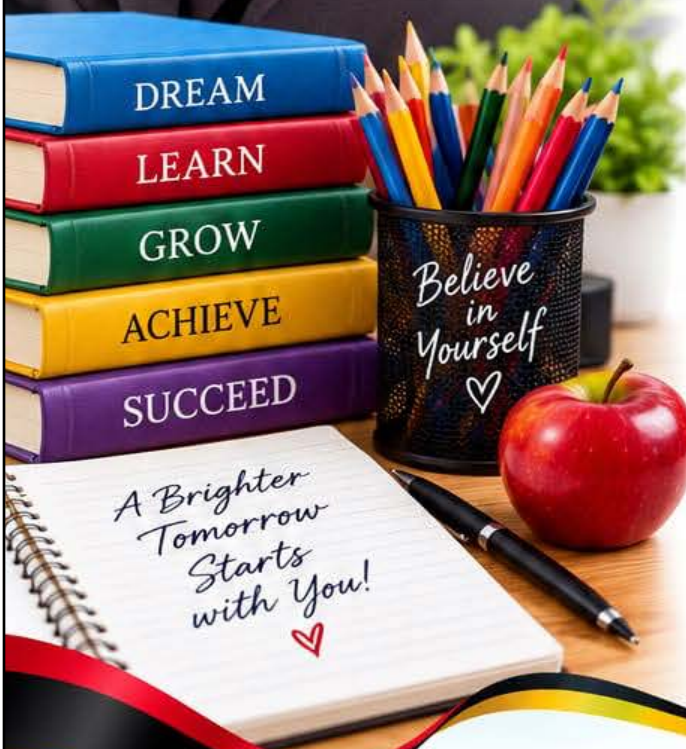
Most importantly, keep God at the center of your life. Seek His guidance in all that you do, trust His plan for your future, and remember that with faith, perseverance, and dedication, all things are possible.

May this school year be filled with success, growth, happiness, and many wonderful accomplishments. Believe in yourself, stay motivated, and never give up on your goals.

Wishing all students of Barbuda a safe, productive, and successful school year.

Sincerely,

Bonnietha John Desuza



DREAM
LEARN
GROW
ACHIEVE
SUCCEED

Believe in Yourself

A Brighter Tomorrow Starts with You!



FAITH
GUIDES US



EDUCATION
EMPOWERS US



STRONGER
TOGETHER



BRIGHTER
TOMORROWS

BARBUDA
OUR HOME
OUR FUTURE



India Makes A Push For Markets In Latin America



India is making a concerted effort to create new or expand markets for its goods and service in Latin America and the Caribbean as part of its drive to expand economic output.

With an annual economic output of US\$4 trillion and ranked as the fourth largest economy in the world, India sees Latin America with more than half a billion people as a potentially lucrative market for its industrial and other outputs.

To this end, India invited thirty-nine journalists from Latin America and the Caribbean on familiarization tour of the country in late August to expose them to the range of goods and services that are being produced in the country.

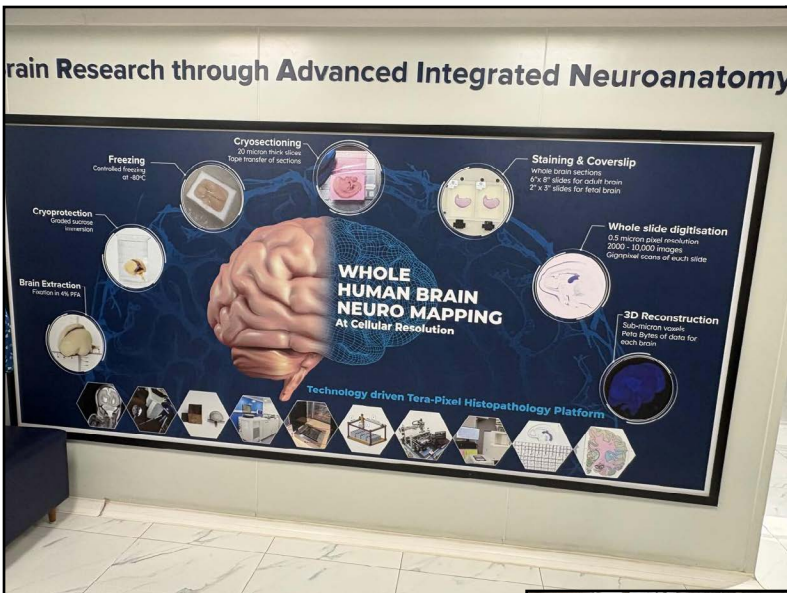
Among the journalists were five from the Eastern Caribbean; three



from Antigua and Barbuda – Ercil Charles and Terry Andrew of ABS and Everton Barnes of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs/Point Express Newspaper – and two from St Kitts and Nevis – Ebony Brandon and Nathan Johnson of ZIZ Television.

“It was a well-organised tour that exposed us to the range of goods and

services that are available in India and how countries in Latin America could look towards India as a new source for some of their imports. The intention is that the journalists would report on the trip to their individual countries through their medium of television, radio or newspaper,” Barnes reported.



The tour also included a meeting with leadership of the Chamber of Commerce in Delhi, the Indian capital, as well as holding discussions with senior representatives of the Ministry of External Affairs. Along the way there were visits to historical sites such as the Taj Mahal and the religious ruins in Chennai.

“There were three places that we visited which I personally found to be very interesting. One was the Royal Enfield factory where they produce thousands of motorcycles annually both for export and for local consumption. (Motorcycles are a popular form of transportation in India). The second was a visit to the Indian Institute of Technology at Madras where they are conducting brain research among a host of other very important research work,” he recalled.

According to the journalist IITM is currently mapping the human brain to understand the causes of diseases such as dementia and other similar diseases that affect many persons in Antigua and Barbuda and the Caribbean.

“I had a personal interest in this research as my mother was affected by dementia before she died, so I went to have a private conversation with the director who advised me that



he expects that within seven to ten years, they will likely come up with ways to treat the disease,” Barnes added.

He also explored the possibility of local students doing specialized courses at IITM and was told that this is possible.

The third place of most interest was a visit to Caplin Point, a company that produces a range of medicines for export. This visit provided a glimpse into India’s role of the ‘pharmacy to the world’.

India has set a goal of reaching full development status by 2047, the 100th anniversary of its Independence.



Turner Hails PM's Response to His Call for Public Sex Offenders Registry



Minister of Social and Urban Transformation Rawdon Turner has hailed Prime Minister Gaston Browne's swift response to his call for Antigua and Barbuda's Sex Offenders Registry to be opened to the public.

Turner made the call during the recent National Child Protection Town Hall Meeting, insisting that the names and photographs of convicted sex offenders should be publicly disclosed to help families protect their children.

Prime Minister Browne announced on Saturday that he had instructed Attorney General Sir Steadroy Benjamin to take the legal and administrative steps necessary to make the registry publicly accessible.

Turner described the Prime Minister's intervention as a decisive and important step in the national fight against child sexual abuse.

He argued that parents, schools, churches, sporting organisations and community groups must have access to information that could help them identify convicted offenders and prevent children from being placed at risk.

The move comes amid disturbing

child-protection figures. Director of Family and Social Services Feona Charles-Richards disclosed that 287 cases had been reported so far in 2026, including 30 allegations of sexual abuse.

Turner has warned that the true number could be much higher, estimating that for every reported case, as many as three others may remain hidden.

Antigua and Barbuda's Sex Offenders

Registry came into effect in November 2022 but has never been freely available to the public. At present, eligible individuals must apply through the Commissioner of Police for access.

The Government has not yet announced what information will be published or when the public-access system will begin. Further details are expected from the Office of the Attorney General.



VACANCY

ELECTRICITY CUSTOMER SERVICES ENGINEER

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4. Lead a team of individuals in adherence with the Authority's Performance Management System.
5. Contributes to debt collection and reduce losses:
 - (a) Ensure that the electricity service accounts of customers in arrears are disconnected in a timely fashion in keeping with the Authority's policy.
 - (b) Ensure that the electricity service accounts of customers whose arrears have been cleared following disconnection for non-payment of services are reconnected in a timely fashion in keeping with the Authority's policy.
 - (c) Monitor and observe the legality of electrical installation and connection at customers' premises.
 - (d) Report abuse and illegal use of company property and equipment.
6. Ensure that service of a high quality is delivered:
 - (a) Conduct training, sourcing training, mentoring and coaching of all staff members under command.
 - (b) Administer and provide technical guidance to Electrical Installation and maintenance teams.
 - (c) Review electrical drawings submitted by Applicants to ensure they comply with APUA's standard and the National Electric Code (NEC).
 - (d) Collaborate with the Inspectors to ensure that electrical drawings meet the required standards before approval
 - (e) Adequately respond to faults on the Network and addressing same in a timely and safe manner.
7. Install, record, service, repair and keep street lights operational.
8. Manage the installation, maintenance and change out of revenue meters, both single and three phase meters. This include AMI meters and associated systems.
9. Manage the maintenance of secondary distribution system.
10. Manage vegetation on the distribution system to minimize faults.
11. Prepare and submit reports on a monthly basis and an annual budget of Electricity Customer Services Department.
12. Conserves the Authority's resources, develop and implement programs geared at reducing non-technical losses.

The successful candidate **MUST** possess the following:

- A bachelor's degree or equivalent in electrical engineering or related field from a reputable tertiary institution.
- Experience in Electrical Engineering and Customer Services a plus.
- Excellent interpersonal and human relations skills.
- The ability to effectively lead a team of skilled workers and to perform optimally in a team environment or individually.
- Excellent analytical, customer service, verbal, written, report writing, and computer skills.

Interested persons are asked

to apply in writing to:

Human Resources Manager
 Antigua Public Utilities Authority
 Cnr. High Street & Independence Avenue
 St. Johns, Antigua
OR Email: hr@apua.ag

Deadline for application is Thursday, 17th September, 2026

**** Only suitable applicants will be acknowledged ****

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MESSAGE BY THE HONOURABLE GASTON BROWNE PRIME MINISTER OF ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA ON THE OCCASION OF AFRICA-CARICOM DAY 2026 SEPTEMBER 7, 2026

Fellow citizens of Antigua and Barbuda, Citizens of the Caribbean Community, Brothers and sisters of Africa,

Today, September 7, we celebrate Africa-CARICOM Day—a day born out of a historic commitment to strengthen the bonds between two regions separated by geography, but united by history, ancestry, culture, resilience and a shared determination to shape a more just and prosperous future.

This day carries particular significance for Antigua and Barbuda.

On September 7, 2021, Caribbean and African leaders gathered for the historic inaugural CARICOM-Africa Summit, marking a new chapter in relations between our two regions. I was proud to advocate for the recognition of September 7 as Africa-CARICOM Day, because I believe that the relationship between Africa and the Caribbean must be more than a historical connection. It must become a strategic partnership for the future.

The recognition of this day is therefore not merely ceremonial. It is a declaration of our shared identity, our shared interests and our shared responsibility to future generations.

For centuries, our peoples have endured the consequences of slavery, colonialism, exploitation and exclusion from the structures that shaped the global economic and political order. Yet from that painful history emerged people of extraordinary resilience, creativity and determination.

Today, we have an opportunity—and indeed an obligation—to transform that shared history into shared prosperity.

As Prime Minister of Antigua and Barbuda, I reaffirm my country's unwavering commitment to deepening the relationship between Africa and



Prime Minister Gaston Browne

the Caribbean Community.

We must move beyond declarations and translate our solidarity into trade, investment, technology, education, tourism, transportation, culture and people-to-people partnerships.

The strengthening of air connectivity between Africa and the Caribbean represents an important step in this direction.

The partnership involving Air Peace and LIAT Air demonstrates what is possible when we replace distance with connectivity and intention with action.

Our people must be able to travel, conduct business, exchange ideas, invest and build relationships with greater ease.

Antigua and Barbuda has also demonstrated its commitment through our engagement with the African Export-Import Bank—Afreximbank. We see this relationship as an important platform for expanding access to capital, increasing trade and investment, supporting entrepreneurship and creating new opportunities for our people.

But our relationship with Africa cannot be measured only in dollars and cents.

Africa is not simply a market for the Caribbean, and the Caribbean is not simply a market for Africa. We are family.

Strengthening Africa-CARICOM relations is also about reconnecting a people separated by the forces of history.

It is about our children understanding where they came from. It is about celebrating African and Caribbean culture, music, food, language, spirituality, art and traditions. It is about restoring pride in an African-Caribbean identity that has survived centuries of attempts to diminish it.

This is why Antigua and Barbuda has consistently sought to strengthen its diplomatic engagement with Africa. Since 2014, we have taken important steps to deepen our diplomatic relations with the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and the African Union. These initiatives reflected our conviction that the Caribbean must have a stronger voice and presence on the African continent.

We must now build upon that foundation.

I reiterate Antigua and Barbuda's call for the establishment of a CARICOM-Africa Joint Commission to provide a sustained institutional mechanism for advancing our common agenda.

We must also strengthen cooperation in mass media, information sharing, education and public diplomacy. Our people cannot build a strong partnership if they remain unfamiliar with one another.

We must tell our own story, share our own narratives and create greater spaces for Africans and Caribbean people to see, understand and appreciate each other.

As we look ahead, I believe that 2026 must be a year of renewed action.

First, we must intensify our collaboration in the global movement for Reparatory Justice.

The struggle for reparatory justice is not about seeking to reverse history. It is about confronting the consequences of history and addressing the enduring inequalities created by slavery and colonialism.

CARICOM has demonstrated remarkable leadership in this global movement, and Antigua and Barbuda remains firmly committed to that cause.

The Third CARICOM Regional Conference on Reparations, to be held in Bridgetown, Barbados, from September 17 to 19, provides an important opportunity to advance this work and to build upon the commitments made at the first and second CARICOM Reparations Conferences, held in St. Vincent and the Grenadines in 2013 and Antigua and Barbuda in 2014.

We must continue to advance the CARICOM Reparations Commission's work and the principles articulated in our revised Ten-Point Plan for Reparatory Justice, now presented as "A Manifesto for the Coming of Enlightenment."

Reparatory justice must remain firmly connected to development, economic empowerment, education, technology, health, cultural restoration and the right of our people to determine their own future.

Second, we must expand Africa-CARICOM trade and investment.

The time has come to significantly increase the volume of goods, services, capital, knowledge and expertise moving between our regions. We must encourage our private sectors to engage each other, our financial institutions to create new opportunities, and our governments to remove unnecessary barriers to commerce.

Third, we must make connectivity a central pillar of our partnership.



Geographical distance must no longer be allowed to define the strength of our relationship. Better air and maritime links, digital connectivity and greater mobility between Africa and the Caribbean are essential to building a modern partnership.

Fourth, we must place culture and education at the centre of our relationship.

Our schools, universities, cultural institutions, media organisations and community organisations should become active bridges between Africa and the Caribbean.

Africa-CARICOM Day should therefore not be confined to one day of speeches and ceremonies.

It should inspire exhibitions, lectures, cultural performances, educational programmes, documentaries, exchanges and opportunities for our young people to discover and celebrate our shared heritage.

Our young people must inherit not only the memory of our past, but the confidence to shape our common future.

Fellow citizens,

The world is changing rapidly. New centers of economic power are emerging. Global alliances are being reshaped. The developing world is demanding a greater voice in international decision-making.

Africa and the Caribbean cannot afford to remain on the margins of these

transformations.

Together, we represent peoples with enormous human potential, abundant natural resources, creative industries, cultural influence and strategic importance.

Our challenge is not whether Africa and CARICOM have the capacity to become stronger partners. Our challenge is whether we have the political will to act together.

I believe we do.

And Antigua and Barbuda will continue to provide leadership in transforming that belief into action.

Let us therefore use Africa-CARICOM Day 2026 to renew our commitment to unity over division, partnership over isolation, development over dependency, and justice over historical injustice.

Let us build bridges across the Atlantic.

Let us strengthen the bonds between our peoples.

Let us turn our shared history into shared opportunity.

And let us ensure that the next generation inherits an Africa and Caribbean partnership that is stronger, more prosperous, more connected and more influential in the global community.

The recognition of September 7 as Africa-CARICOM Day was a powerful statement of where we have come from.

What we do with this day—and with this relationship—will determine where we go next.

May Africa and the Caribbean continue to rise together.

May our partnership grow stronger.

And may the bonds between our peoples endure for generations to come.

Happy Africa-CARICOM Day 2026!

Long live Africa-CARICOM solidarity. Long live the enduring bonds between our peoples.



The poster features a vibrant background image of three Antigua Carnival dancers in elaborate costumes with large, colorful feathered headdresses. The dancers are smiling and holding maces. The background is a mix of bright colors and abstract geometric shapes.

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POLICE WEEK OF **ACTIVITIES**

"United in Duty, with Technology to Serve our Community"

SEPTEMBER 2026



SUNDAY

06

SEPTEMBER

CHURCH SERVICE

📍 Spring Garden Moravian
St. John's Street

🕒 8am



WEDNESDAY

09

SEPTEMBER

SICK AND SHUT IN

📍 Police Head Quarters

🕒 10am



FRIDAY

11

SEPTEMBER

CULTURAL FOOD FAIR

📍 Rising Sun

🕒 10 am Until



SATURDAY

12

SEPTEMBER

COMMUNITY DAY

📍 Most Villages

🕒 10am



*One Force. One Community.
Stronger Together.*



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES FIVE ISLANDS CAMPUS

The Endurance Economy: A Three-Part Series

Part 1: The Economies We Endure

By Professor C. Justin Robinson

Pro Vice-Chancellor and Principal, The UWI Five Islands Campus



Keisha drags herself out of bed at 4:30 AM because water is finally running from the taps, she must get some washing done and fill the buckets before it suddenly takes its leave again. She hollers to her partner, Rhaj, “when we getting that tank again, you know my mom has one, right.” Rhaj is leaving home at 6:10 AM because he has to get to work for 8:00 AM, which is only 20 minutes away, but the bus cannot be relied upon and the traffic can. He says “Keisha girl, we need a tank and a little car like the one Moses just got.” Keisha says, “if we get the little car, we can drop the kids to some private lessons after school because that government school not really working out”. Rhaj replies, “you mean we need to get them into one of them private schools.”

At half past eight Keisha and her friend Lasonta join a line to apply for passports for their daughters, they tried

to be early, but the line is already spilling outside the office. Two hours later they are still in line. The clerk is doing her best inside a process designed for control in the post-emancipation era where administration was itself a system of passes, registrations and documentary hurdles for controlling formerly enslaved people. Lasonta says “Keisha we will be here whole day unless we see someone we know”. That evening the electricity goes, Keisha calculates how long the goods in the fridge will last and hollers to Rhaj, “boy we really need we own generator like Lasonta.”

This is the Endurance Economy. Nothing in that day is unique to Rhaj, Keisha and Lasonta or to that day. It happens to thousands of people across our beautiful and beloved Caribbean every single day. Nothing in that or the other days is a disaster and that is the point. None of these daily inconveniences will make the local newspapers. No minister will call an emergency meeting, no national statistic will record the hours lost, or the sheer irritation of everyday life. It is just part of the normal pattern of the inconveniences that define everyday life in the Endurance Economy.

In the article, “No One Is Coming to Save Us,” I wrote that we have built economies our people endure rather than choose and in this series I want to define and dissect the Endurance

Economy and propose simple solutions.

Rhaj, Keisha, Lasonta and our brothers and sisters across our beautiful and beloved Caribbean are participants in and victims of an institutional structure I call an Endurance Economy. The queue to apply for a passport. The fact that when you apply for a new government document, they require another document generated by the same government. The vehicle sitting in a yard for four months while a replacement part travels from Asia.

I disagree with those who argue that the Endurance Economy is a cultural phenomenon and the notion that “Caribbean people are just that way.” This lazy and easy explanation is an excuse for unacceptable levels of institutional failure. The same Caribbean people accused of indifference at the University of the West Indies, Passport Office or Water Authority deliver world class service at hotels, call centres, Accounting Firms or export businesses. What changes in these entities is not the nationality of the people but the institutional structures around them, the expectations, supervision, incentives and critically, the customer’s ability to walk away.

If we look under the hood of the Endurance Economy, we will find some mechanisms that run the machine and have made it unusually durable in the Caribbean setting.

Lloyd Best argued that the Plantation Economy was organized around the needs of an external enterprise, while the domestic economy received what remained. The Plantation Economy leads to the Endurance Economy as the locals are after thoughts, appearing at the end of the process, served after the institution has protected its procedures, hierarchy, revenue and convenience.

The Endurance Economy persists because its costs are invisible, a series of private insults and suffering rather than a public catastrophe. A Category 4 hurricane demands action, a hospital roof collapsing can force a commission of inquiry, but the series of daily nuisances that define the Endurance Economy produce a series of sighs or even blame assigned to the victim. The Endurance Economy is death by a thousand cuts.

The American journalist Annie Lowrey has a name for the hours her fellow citizens lose to forms, queues and repeat visits. She calls it the time tax, a levy nobody voted for, which appears in no budget and is collected from citizens trying to obtain what is already theirs. Keisha and Lasonta paid the time tax in the passport line and that Rhaj pays every morning at 6:10 for a twenty-minute journey.

Both are collected on top of the official taxes. Both fall hardest on the people least able to pay them, because the well-connected and the well-off can buy their way out, and neither never appear when the Minister of Finance rises to present the budget. The Endurance Account I propose below is a ledger for both.

Those in the wider society best placed to demand accountability and reform are often the ones resourceful enough to purchase an exit. Rhaj and Keisha buy a tank and stop noticing the water outages. Keisha's mom installs a generator and stops calling the electricity company while Keisha and Lasonta send their kids to the private school and stop complaining about the government school. None of these choices are morally wrong. The Families are protecting themselves, but every private escape removes a strong voice from the constituency needed to advocate for public repair.

We must dismantle the Endurance Economy by making its invisible burden visible.

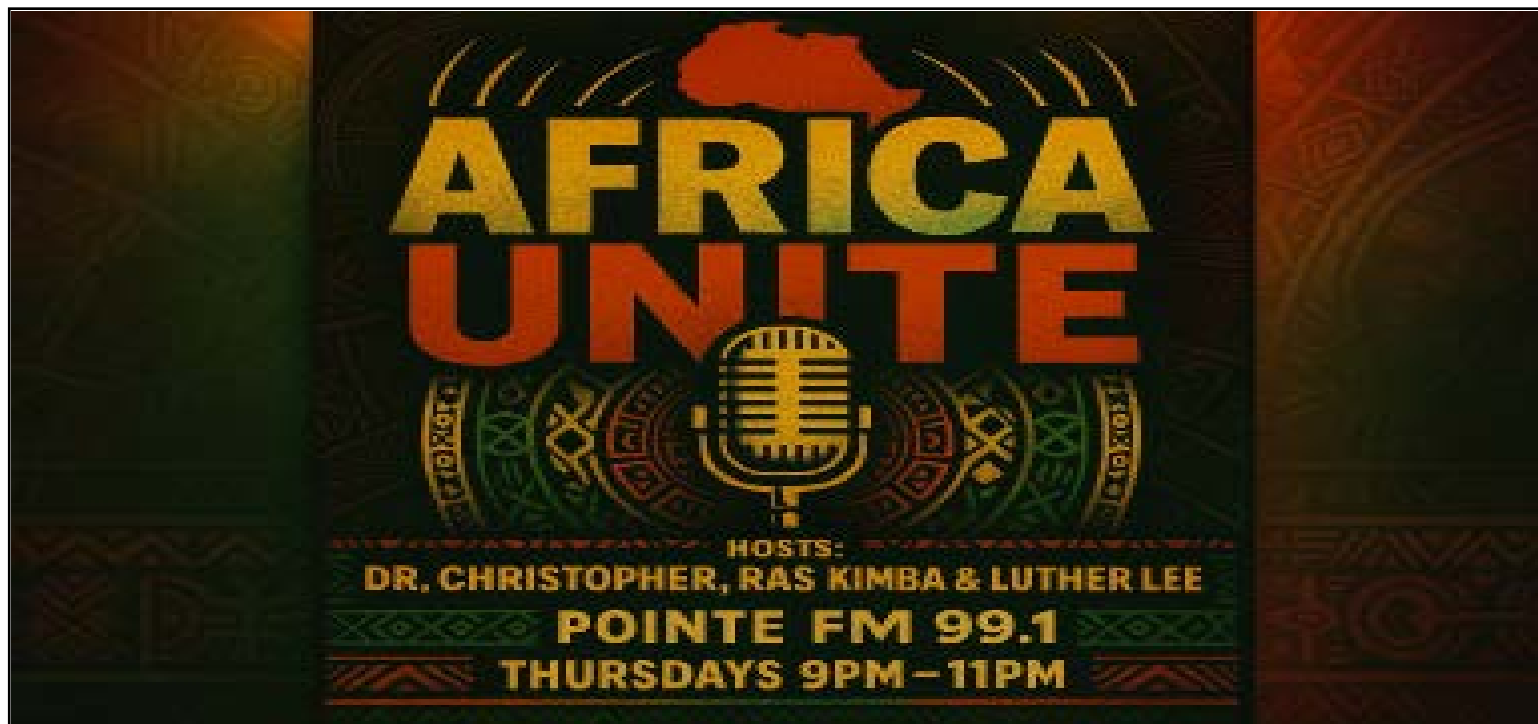
In the spirit of my colleague Prof. Troy Lorde who calls for filling Caricom's missing infrastructure I propose an Endurance Account, a short annual report with a series of public dashboards.

The Endurance Account will measure and publish the costs of coping in the Endurance Economy. The dashboards can report the hours spent in queues and repeat visits, hours of water and electricity interruption, household spending on backup systems and private substitutes and the time between a routine application, claim or repair request and completion.

Can we legislate a statutory duty on agencies to publish their own time tax annually?

Once we know the productive time citizens lost accessing a range of public and private services, or the share of household income spent on private substitutes we can possibly change the political conversation. By making queues more than anecdotes, and power or water outages more than private inconveniences, coping will no longer be mistaken for prosperity and citizens will demand action.

No one is coming to count this cost for us. The first step in dismantling the Endurance Economy is to place the costs on the national ledger and stop sweeping them under the carpet as a series of private irritations. In part 2 of the series, we take a deeper look at customer service in the Endurance Economy.



Robots Are Coming: How Developing Countries and Small Island States Can Join the New Workforce



By Ambassador Dr. Clarence E. Pilgrim

A humanoid robot running faster than Usain Bolt should not be dismissed merely as technological spectacle. It is a signal.

At the World Humanoid Robot Games in Beijing in August 2026, one early headline performance saw China's Tiangong Ultra complete the 100 metres in 9.39 seconds, faster than Bolt's human world record of 9.58 seconds. It later improved to 8.64 seconds. The significance is how rapidly machines are acquiring capabilities once thought beyond their reach.

For developing countries and Small Island Developing States (SIDS), the response should be neither fear nor an expensive attempt to compete with China, the United States or Europe in building sophisticated humanoid robots.

The objective should be more practical: learn how to use robots intelligently.

A robot, in practical terms, is a programmable machine capable of sensing or interacting with its environment and performing physical tasks

with some degree of autonomy. It may resemble a person, but most do not. Robots include autonomous vehicles, robotic arms, underwater machines, agricultural equipment and autonomous or semi-autonomous drones.

That distinction matters. The future of robotics in developing economies will depend less on humanoid machines than on technologies that solve real economic, social and environmental problems.

The next technological divide may separate countries that successfully integrate intelligent machines into their economies from those unable or unwilling to adapt. Developing states will require reliable electricity, connectivity, technical skills and capable institutions.

Their later entry, however, provides something valuable: time to prepare.

Development must remain human-centred. Technology should expand human dignity, productive capacity and opportunity, rather than make societies passive consumers of systems designed elsewhere.

There must therefore be a clear, calculated policy to introduce robotics into the workforce. The first step should not be purchasing fleets of machines, but determining where robotics can genuinely advance national development.

Governments could consider allocating up to approximately 0.1% of annual national expenditure, adjusted to national fiscal circumstances, to a six-month National Robotics Readiness Assessment and limited pilot programme. This figure is not an international benchmark, but a proposed prudent exploratory ceiling before major financial commitments are made.

The approach should be disciplined:

Observe → Analyse → Pilot → Evaluate → Scale.

During those six months, government, labour, business and educational institutions should identify labour shortages, hazardous or repetitive occupations, inefficient public services, transportation weaknesses and environmental pressures. Limited pilots should then test the areas offering the greatest potential benefit, with expansion only where results demonstrate clear economic, social or environmental value.

A useful policy test follows: automate where technology makes work safer, more productive, more environmentally sustainable or fills a genuine labour shortage—not merely where a machine can replace a person.

For most developing economies, the initial objective should therefore be human augmentation rather than labour displacement.

Agriculture is an obvious starting point. Autonomous machines, drones and sensors can assist with irrigation, crop surveillance, spraying and harvesting while helping farmers use water and agricultural inputs more precisely. In fisheries and the blue economy, autonomous systems can inspect reefs, monitor fish stocks and underwater infrastructure, and assist search-and-rescue operations.

Robotics can also become an important instrument of environmental protection. Underwater robots can monitor coral reefs and marine pollution. Drones can survey mangroves, forests and wetlands, monitor erosion and identify illegal dumping. Automated systems can improve recycling and help remove waste from beaches and waterways.

Robots can strengthen climate resilience by inspecting sea walls, drainage systems, bridges and pipelines before minor defects become costly failures. Following hurricanes, floods, volcanic eruptions or earthquakes, aerial and ground machines can assess hazardous areas while reducing risks to emergency personnel.

Properly applied, robotics can help countries produce more while wasting less and protect natural resources while supporting livelihoods.

Tourism also offers opportunities. Robots need not replace the human interaction that defines hospitality. They can transport luggage, clean floors, manage inventories or deliver supplies while employees concentrate on culture, judgement and personalised service. Hospitals could use robots to transport medicines, sterilise facilities and move supplies, leaving healthcare professionals more time for patients. Ports, airports and warehouses could use autonomous vehicles and robotic handling systems to improve logistics.

Public transportation is a particularly natural fit for gradual robotic integration. Buses and shuttles operate on predictable corridors, making them suitable for controlled autonomous systems.

Singapore offers a practical model. Autonomous fixed-route shuttles in Punggol opened to public passengers in April 2026 after extensive testing, and Singapore plans to pilot autonomous public buses on conventional services by the end of 2026.

SIDS need not reproduce Singapore's system wholesale. They can replicate the method: begin with one controlled corridor, retain human safety oversight, measure performance and expand only after reliability is demonstrated. Suitable routes could connect airports with hotel districts, cruise ports with town centres,

hospitals with nearby communities, or operate within university and government campuses.

Existing drivers need not simply disappear. They can be retrained as safety operators, fleet supervisors, technicians and remote vehicle monitors. Where autonomous vehicles are electric, their introduction can also improve reliability, reduce emissions and lessen dependence on imported fuel.

Developing countries must nevertheless resist buying technology merely because it is impressive. Humanoid robots attract headlines; task-specific automation often delivers the better economic return.

The six-month assessment should ultimately inform a national Robotics and Automation Strategy linked to education, labour, transportation, digital development and environmental policy.

National capability must grow with adoption. Major purchases should, where practical, include local training, maintenance capability, software support and knowledge transfer. The objective should be progressive: operate, maintain, adapt and eventually help design solutions suited to local circumstances.

Education must therefore evolve. Technical colleges should expand programmes in mechatronics, robotics maintenance, artificial intelligence, sensors, automation and programming. Apprenticeships can connect young people directly with industries introducing these technologies.

Regional cooperation can lower the cost of transition. Caribbean, Pacific and African island states can share training, research, procurement and specialist maintenance capacity. CARICOM, for example, could consider a Caribbean Centre for Robotics and Applied Artificial Intelligence focused on adapting proven technologies to regional needs rather than

trying to recreate the world's largest laboratories.

Financing beyond the exploratory stage should be equally disciplined.

Governments should scale investment only where pilots demonstrate measurable returns. Leasing and Robotics-as-a-Service may allow smaller economies to acquire capability without bearing the full cost of ownership.

Workers affected by automation must have access to retraining, while governments strengthen cybersecurity, safety standards, data protection and liability frameworks.

The greatest danger for developing countries may ultimately not be that robots take their jobs. It may be that countries which use robotics effectively become so productive that those unable or unwilling to adapt become increasingly uncompetitive.

Small states do not need to build the world's fastest robots. They need societies capable of working intelligently with them.

Technology must remain humanity's instrument, never its master. The ultimate measure of progress should not be how fast robots can run, how much wealth they generate or how many people they replace. It should be whether innovation expands opportunity, protects the environment, strengthens human dignity and leaves society better than it found it.

That is the challenge before developing countries, small states and the wider international community: to ensure that the technological revolution is guided not merely by what is possible or profitable, but by what ultimately advances the good of all.

Disclaimer:

The views expressed are those of the writer

CLIMATE CONSCIOUS

RHYME AND RESOLVE: CLIMATE CALLS

Good Humans
268 Inc

BIGGER THAN RECYCLING

One bottle, one can, one piece of glass,
We have to start thinking beyond the trash.
Because what we discard doesn't disappear,
It remains in our environment year after year.

But what if the things that we throw away
Could become something useful another day?
What if the waste that we see on the ground
Could create new opportunities all around?



The mission is bigger than recycling alone,
It's about changing the systems we've always known.
Creating green jobs and opening doors,
Building an island that values its shores.

A job for a person once pushed aside,
A chance to earn with purpose and pride.
For persons with disabilities ready to lead,
Green opportunities can answer a need.

Sorting the bottles, removing each cap,
Changing the thinking behind what we scrap.
Separating materials, learning what's what,

Understanding the value in things we forgot.

Because every can isn't made the same,
Aluminum and steel may carry the name.
They may sit together inside of your bin,
But sorting correctly is where we begin.

And plastics are different, although they may seem
Like one giant family in our recycling dream.
Different materials require different ways,
So education must guide us through changing our days.

Then there is glass that we once called waste,
Discarded bottles we threw out in haste.
But glass can be processed, crushed down to sand,
Another resource that can serve our land.

Imagine an island where everyone knows
Exactly where every discarded thing goes.
Where recycling isn't an occasional trend,
But something we practise from beginning to end.

Imagine three bins becoming the norm,
A waste revolution beginning to form.
Recycling here and composting there,
Other waste separated with greater care.

But bins aren't enough and neither are words,
Change requires action for lessons to be heard.
Infrastructure, education and legislation too,
Government, businesses, communities—you.

Because changing a system requires us all,
From the largest institution to the household small.
From students in classrooms learning each day,
To businesses changing what they throw away.



We need legislation that moves us ahead,
Not simply conversations that eventually go dead.
Policies supporting the future we see,
Where waste becomes part of our economy.

A circular system where materials remain
Useful and valuable again and again.
Where fewer resources are buried each day,
And innovation gives discarded things another way.

It isn't just climate.
It isn't just trash.
It isn't just bottles collected for cash.
It's people and purpose, policy and pride,

It's making sure nobody gets left outside.
It's protecting our beaches, our country, our sea,
While building a future with opportunity.
So when you hold that bottle after your drink,

Before you throw it away, stop and think.
Could this be recycled?
What could it become?
Where will it go when my drinking is done?

Those little questions can eventually create
A community willing to participate.
Because knowledge creates the power to choose,
And when we understand waste, there's less we must lose.

We won't change everything in just one day,
But every small action can help pave the way.

One bottle collected.
One bottle cap saved.
One person employed.
One mindset reshaped.

One student learning.
One business on board.
One policy changed.
One opportunity restored.

That's how movements begin to grow,
One person learning something they didn't know.
Then sharing that knowledge with family and friends,
Until conscious living becomes a new trend.

From recycling and climate to inclusion and jobs,
We're connecting the pieces and joining the dots.

For Antigua and Barbuda, the vision is clear:
A cleaner, more inclusive future is near.

One bottle.
One bag.
One fact.
One rhyme.

One conscious community—
One step at a time.

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Regional News

Cubans and Afghans deported from US arrive in Guyana

Guyana's government said Saturday it has received the first of six deportees from the United States (US) under the Trump administration's third-country deportation programme.

Guyana's Foreign Secretary Robert Persaud said the six nationals from Cuba and Afghanistan arrived in the South American country Friday after being vetted by his administration and found to have no criminal background. He added the group was kicked out of the US primarily because of immigration issues.

Persaud said his administration reached an agreement to host the deportees after months of negotiations. He also told The Associated Press that "the US has not made any further requests".

The arrangement will run for a year and does not constitute permanent resettlement, he said.

Those relocated to Guyana under the Assisted Voluntary Return Program will await the outcome of their immi-



gration status determination while in Guyana. They could ultimately return to their country of origin or be relocated somewhere else.

The UN International Organization for Migration is responsible for implementing the programme, authorities in Guyana said, adding that the government will not bear any housing or supporting costs.

Guyana, a founding member of the 15-nation Caribbean Community, is the latest of several member states to have received small groups of US deportees. Others include St Kitts and Nevis, Belize and St Lucia, which was due to accept its first group this week, officials said. (AP)



DAILY PROGRAMMING




EARLY VIBRATIONS	6AM-10AM MON. - FRI.
WITH GREMSTA	
THE RUSH HOUR SHOW	5PM-7PM MON. - FRI.
WITH ROGER LAKE	6AM-9AM SATURDAYS
TOUCHLINE	7PM-9PM MON. - THURS.
WITH EPILUS	
BAD COMPANY	2PM-6PM THURS. 12PM-4PM SATURDAYS
LIVE FROM THE V.I.	& 1PM-5PM ON SUNDAYS
REGGAE INSPIRATION	9PM-12AM MON. THURS. SUNDAY
WITH SELECTOR KEEGAN	
JAH WADADLI	7PM-9PM FRIDAYS
WITH DJ JAH WADADLI	

Trinidadian man pleads guilty to sex trafficking, admits kidnapping six women in New York

A 33-year-old Trinidadian man and lawful permanent United States resident has pleaded guilty to sex trafficking and admitted to kidnapping six women.

The Department of Justice (DOJ) said that, during a plea hearing, Chad Barclay admitted that on September 13, 2022, he enticed a woman to his residence to engage in commercial sex, where he robbed and sexually assaulted her.

As part of a plea agreement, Barclay “stipulated to kidnapping six additional women between 2022 and 2023”, according to the DOJ.

The department said Barclay was charged in August 2023 in a 20-count superseding indictment involving five victims. The charges included interstate prostitution, Hobbs Act robbery, kidnapping, access device fraud, aggravated identity theft, and witness tampering and obstruction of an official proceeding.

In May 2026, Barclay was charged with sex trafficking involving one of the original five victims, as well as interstate prostitution, Hobbs Act robbery, kidnapping and other related offences involving two additional victims, in a second superseding indictment, the DOJ said.

“Chad Barclay has now admitted that he kidnapped, violently raped, and robbed multiple female victims,” said Assistant Attorney General A Tysen Duva of the Justice Department’s Criminal Division.

“This prosecution demonstrates that we will always seek justice for survivors of trafficking and abuse to prevent more of these heinous crimes,” he added. “This type of exploitation and violence has no place



in our civilised society.”

Joseph Nocella Jr, US Attorney for the Eastern District of New York, described Barclay as “a dangerous predator” who used force and intimidation to sexually assault a victim and admitted to additional conduct, including kidnapping six other women.

“Today’s guilty plea holds him accountable for the devastating harm he inflicted on his victims and sends a clear message that our Office will vigorously prosecute those who use violence, enticement, and coercion to facilitate sex trafficking,” he added.

ed.

“We remain committed to protecting victims of this scourge, pursuing justice on their behalf, and ensuring that perpetrators like Barclay are held responsible for their crimes.”

James Barnacle, assistant director in charge of the Federal Bureau of Investigation’s (FBI) New York Field Office, said Barclay’s “brutal and predatory actions inflicted profound harm on his victims and demonstrated a clear disregard for their safety and humanity.”

“The FBI and NYPD’s (New York Police Department) joint investigation ensured his conduct was exposed and he was brought before the justice system to answer for his crimes,” he said. “We will continue working closely with our partners to protect victims and ensure offenders are held fully accountable for their actions.”

The DOJ said Barclay faces a minimum sentence of 15 years in prison.

The FBI New York Field Office and the NYPD are investigating the case as part of the Child Exploitation and Human Trafficking Task Force, the DOJ said. (CMC)

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Regional News

Dominican Republic builds border fence with Haiti to curb smuggling



The Dominican Republic has begun constructing a 14.5-kilometre section of perimeter fence along its southern border with Haiti as part of efforts to strengthen border security and combat smuggling.

The country's Ministry of Defence on Saturday said the structure, being built in the Hoya de Enriquillo area of Independencia province, will stand 3.9 metres, or 13 feet, high and will include six watchtowers and 35 culverts.

The ministry described the location as one of the most important points along the border. It said authorities have faced decades-long challenges involving the illegal movement of goods through the area.

Independencia is also home to one of the main binational markets. Officials said the fence should help curb smuggling and other illegal activities while promoting safer, more orderly trade conducted in accordance with the law.

The project will include patrol lanes on both sides of the fence, with a combined width of seven metres. The lanes are intended to improve surveillance and military mobility and allow security personnel to respond more quickly to incidents.

The construction forms part of the second phase of the government's "Strong Border" project, which includes similar sections previously built in Jimaní.

The ministry said the initiative combines military deployment, infrastructure, technology, surveillance and coordination among government agencies to maintain effective control of Dominican territory and improve conditions in border communities.

Approximately 55 kilometres of fencing have already been constructed, including 38 kilometres along the northern border and other sections in Elías Piña, Independencia and Pedernales.

The country's Defence Minister, Carlos Antonio Fernández Onofre, said the project also includes 1,500 solar-powered lights, fibre-optic connections, smart cameras, and a drone network operated from the ministry's control centre.

About 11,000 military personnel and additional surveillance equipment have also been deployed along the country's border defence lines.

The construction comes as the Dominican Government continues an immigration enforcement programme introduced in October 2024, under which authorities have targeted the repatriation of 10,000 Haitians each week.

Official figures show that 250,429 undocumented Haitians were deported between January and July this year amid Haiti's continuing political, security and humanitarian crisis. (Jamaica Observer)

Jamaica to bring slavery reparations petition to King Charles

The Jamaican government will hand a petition to King Charles over slavery reparations on Monday, the country's culture minister Olivia Grange has said.

It will ask the King, who serves as Jamaica's head of state, to refer three questions to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, the country's highest court, over the legality of the enslavement of Africans in Jamaica.

Grange said it could pave the way for a "long outstanding settlement for the hundreds of years of the most horrific abuse that our African ancestors endured".

She will also meet with British Museum officials to discuss the repatriation of artefacts taken during the colonial era.

The three questions which the Jamaican government is asking the King to refer to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council (JCPC) are: whether the enslavement of Africans in Jamaica was legal under English law, whether it broke international law, and whether Britain now has a legal duty to provide redress.

The petition, which is not a demand for payment, will not be served personally on the King, but to the registrar of the JCPC.

King Charles has no personal discretion in deciding whether to make a referral.

Grange said: "Once we get the answers, or once we get a response to those questions, then the next steps will be determined."



Buckingham Palace has been working closely with the Governor General of Jamaica to ensure the petition is correctly lodged.

A Palace spokesperson said: "His Majesty has on many occasions expressed his personal and wholehearted commitment to promoting greater understanding around the issue of slavery and finding ways to address historic wrongs for the benefit of communities today."

When slavery was abolished across most of the empire in 1833, the British government paid £20m to slave owners in compensation. The loans taken out to raise the money were paid off in 2015.

Grange said: "Up to 2015, Britain was paying the slave masters, because we were being considered property."

"The question really should be: if in modern times we're still paying back the slave masters for the property that

was our people, our ancestors, for property that was because of the abolition of slavery, then why shouldn't we be pursuing some remedy at this time?"

Grange will also meet with British Museum officials to "advance discussions on the repatriation of artefacts" taken from Jamaica during the colonial era.

She said: "They are priceless, they are significant to the story of Jamaica and we are working to bring them home."

In 2015, David Cameron, who was prime minister at the time, ruled out making reparations for Britain's role in the historic slave trade, while visiting Jamaica.

Speaking to MPs in Jamaica's parliament, Cameron said slavery was "abhorrent in all its forms". He added that he hoped they could "move on from this painful legacy and continue to build for the future". (BBC)



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Months after Venezuela earthquakes, a family refuses to give up search for their missing relative



Antonella Molina, her nephew Pedro Molina and a group of friends set out at 8:00 a.m. on a recent Saturday, hands full of flyers, walking carefully through the rubble that remains throughout La Guaira after two catastrophic back-to-back earthquakes 10 weeks ago.

Their mission is to find 18-year-old Andrés Molina — Antonella's nephew and Pedro's cousin — who they haven't heard from since the double earthquakes hit Venezuela on June 24.

Andrés is among tens of thousands who remain missing, according to an independent account, far surpassing the government estimate of 1,500.

Weeks before, Antonella and other relatives pulled the bodies of Andrés' mother and brother from the collapsed remains of their 10-storey apartment building that collapsed in La Guaira, the coastal area just north of the capital Caracas that was one of the hardest hit.

The building once housed more than 30 people but there was no sign of Andrés, not even the backpack he always

carried.

Neighbours told the family they have seen Andrés wandering the destruction collecting scrap metal; they hold out hope that he survived.

"There are a lot of things that give us hope," Antonella said. "And one of those is love."

Government figures of 6,500 dead and 1,500 have been widely questioned by people on the ground, although the Venezuelan government has said its response was quick and statistics are "rigorously verified."

With little trust in authorities, Andrés' family and friends are the ones taking charge to get the answers they need.

"We've never had support from the government to help us find the people disappeared. Never," Antonella said.

And they are determined to keep searching on their own until they find him.

In the days after the quakes, neighbours said they saw Andrés wandering around with an apparent head injury. The family called shelters, hospitals

and morgues but there was no news of Andrés.

They turned to putting up flyers around the area with his photo and a number to call. The calls rolled in, reporting sightings at a nearby golf course, park or restaurant. But Andrés was never there when they showed up. When they would ask around, people told them stories of seeing the young man in the photo, often trying to give food to cats, his favorite animal.

Just the day before the search, police told Antonella they saw him collecting scrap material nearby, further fueling their optimism.

On the Saturday of the renewed search, about 15 friends and relatives walked the streets, past the busted windows and collapsed walls as the noise of ongoing construction equipment rumbled in the background.

Antonella approached neighbors and construction crews with a warm, Venezuelan greeting of "how are you, mi amor?" She explained her hunt for information about her nephew. (AP)

Iran warns of 'faster, heavier, more painful response' to US attacks

Iran's top negotiator has warned of "a faster, heavier, and more painful response" to US attacks, as hostilities between the two sides escalate.

Parliament speaker Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf said on Sunday that Americans must understand "before it is too late" that the "rules of the game have changed", according to a translation of his comments on state media.

His comments come nearly a week into renewed fighting between Iran and the US, and a day after Washington said it struck Iranian oil tankers in response to Tehran attacking American warships in the region's waters.

The BBC has contacted US Central Command (Centcom) for comment.

Iranian state media also reported on Sunday that the country's Navy had attacked an American remote-controlled vessel that was trying to enter the Strait of Hormuz.

The US military has denied the claim.

"The report came from Iranian state media and it's a total lie," said Captain Tim Hawkins, a spokesperson for Centcom, according to the Associated Press.

US Defence Secretary Pete Hegseth has issued his own threats back at Iran, writing on social media on Saturday, "It's simple: if Iran shoots at US ships, we will destroy (and sink) their oil tankers."

A 60-day ceasefire between the US and Iran formally expired last month, and that period of relative calm was shattered when the US resumed attacks last Sunday.

Fighting has continued throughout the week, with the US launching multiple strikes on Iranian targets and Iran retaliating against US tar-



gets in the region, including in the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Kuwait and Jordan.

US President Donald Trump said this week that the renewed fighting would not last "too long", echoing comments both he and his administration have frequently made since the now six-month-long war began in February.

Months of negotiations between the US and Iran have not amounted to lasting peace, and there's little sign of a further diplomatic settlement on the horizon.

The Strait of Hormuz, which is crucial to the world's oil and gas industry, has been effectively closed since the war began, and has become a major source of leverage for Iran.

Tehran has insisted it will not give up some measure of control over the waterway.

But Trump has declared that the strait is "open" and the US military has been helping ships navigate the

southern route.

The conflict in the strait has led to an increase in gas prices globally, and ahead of the US midterm elections in November, Trump is facing pressure over how much the war is costing American consumers.

The average price for one gallon of diesel in the US hit \$5.85 on Friday, compared to an average of \$3.71 a year ago.

US Energy Secretary Chris Wright said on Sunday that an average of 9 million barrels of oil a day were passing through the strait, which could help ease pressure on energy prices.

Wright told CNN with oil also moving through pipelines in the region, "we're probably two-thirds or more of pre-conflict flows".

In an interview with ABC This Week on Sunday, Wright added that gas prices should start to come down for Americans as summer demand begins to wane after Labor Day. (BBC)

Volcano eruption leaves 170,000 passengers stranded in Indonesia



celled fishing trips at sea similarly reporting sore eyes.

One resident, Aldi Candra Prayogi, told the outlet that he felt since Friday evening and it felt like “small grains of sand had gotten into my eyes”, and that he needs to use eye drops to ease the irritation.

The dust is so thick that he has to sweep the front yard of his house every five minutes, he also said.

Around 170,000 passengers have been left stranded after a volcanic eruption forced Indonesian authorities to temporarily suspend operations at eight airports.

Jakarta’s Soekarno-Hatta International Airport was the first to be closed on Sunday morning after ash from Anak Krakatau was detected in airspace near the airport.

The transport ministry said 1,558 flights have been delayed with airports remaining closed until midnight.

The volcano had started erupting late on Friday night, generating continuous seismic activity, lava fountains, and booming sounds across surrounding regions. Two more eruptions happened early on Sunday, authorities said.

The transport ministry said the pause in operations mainly affected flights to and from Singapore, also other international routes including Doha, Sydney and Kuala Lumpur.

Transport Minister Dudy Purwangandhi said the decision to temporarily close more airports was made after tests found that volcanic ash had

spread towards West Java.

He urged airlines to speed up processes for refunding tickets for passengers who have been affected by flight cancellations, and for airlines to provide timely information to those with upcoming flights to avoid overcrowding at airports.

According to Indonesia’s meteorological agency BMKG, ash reached as far as 20,000ft (6,000m) on Java on east of the volcano, and 50,000ft (15,000m) west of the volcano on the Sumatra side.

Authorities have confirmed there is no tsunami warning linked to the recent activity of the volcano, which is in the Sunda Strait between the islands of Java and Sumatra.

The health minister has urged residents in affected areas to stay indoors and wear face masks to protect against respiratory, eye, and skin risks.

According to local newspaper Kompas, several schools cancelled activities on Saturday after students and residents reported eye irritations from the ash, while some fishermen had can-

celled fishing trips at sea similarly reporting sore eyes.

Anak Krakatau, which means Child of Krakatoa, has been sporadically active since it emerged from the sea at the beginning of last century in the caldera formed after the 1883 eruption of Mount Krakatoa.

The volcano - also known as Anak Krakatoa - collapsed in December 2018, triggering a huge tsunami which killed over 400 people, and displaced and injured thousands more on the nearby coastlines of Sumatra and Java.

Scientists found that some of the chunks of rock that slid from the volcano when it collapsed were about 70-90m high.

The Pacific Ring of Fire refers to a string of volcanoes, earthquake sites and tectonic plates around the Pacific. It spreads across 40,000km (25,000 miles) from the southern tip of South America all the way to New Zealand.

Roughly 90% of all earthquakes occur along the area and the ring is dotted with 75% of all active volcanoes on Earth, that’s 452 individual active volcanoes. (BBC)

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Sports News

Antiguans start preparations for FIFA World Cup and 8v8 Festival

Antigua and Barbuda's preparation for the FIFA World Cup & 8v8 Festival in Azerbaijan in October officially got underway with the 33-member national Under-15 boys squad taking part in their first training session at the ABFA Technical Center last Thursday.

The inaugural FIFA, which will involve each eight-member team playing 10 40-minute matches, will take place in Baku, Azerbaijan, from October 22 to 31.

The Antigua and Barbuda training squad includes several players of the national team that recently participated in the 2026 Caribbean Football Union (CFU) Boy's Under-14 Challenge Series in the Dominican Republic.

Coach Auchland "Pin Up" Jarvis, who guided Antigua and Barbuda to the semi-finals at this year's CFU Boy's Under-14 Challenge Series, has been chosen as head coach and is overseeing the national Under-15 team's preparation for the FIFA tournament.

The national under-15 players will participate in weekly training sessions on Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays at the ABFA Technical Center.

The inaugural FIFA Under-15 World Cup and Festival is open to boys' youth national teams representing all 211 FIFA member associations.

The second edition in 2027 will be dedicated exclusively to women's teams. The World Cups will be fully funded by FIFA.



Members of the national under-15 boys training squad participate in a session at the ABFA Technical Center on Thursday, September 3, 2026. (ABFA)



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ABFA conducts national referee pre-season course



The Antigua and Barbuda Football Association General Secretary Zorol Bartley, fifth right (front row), and participants at the ABFA National Referee Pre-Season Course at the ABFA Technical Center on Thursday, September 3, 2026. (ABFA)

The Antigua and Barbuda Football Association (ABFA) conducted a National Referee Pre-Season Course at its technical center over the weekend as part of its preparations for the upcoming football season.

The course, which was organized by the ABFA Referee Department, was conducted under the tutorship of MA Technical Instructors Darez Dundas and Ishan Philip, both of whom are CONCACAF Technical Instructors and Assessors.

The course was officially declared open by ABFA General Secretary Zorol Bartley, who encouraged the match officials to continue giving their best at all times.

He emphasized the important role referees play in the game, noting that football cannot be played without their commitment and contribution.

Bartley reaffirmed the Executive Committee's continued support for referee development under the leadership of ABFA President Icford Rob-

erts.

Bartley also took the opportunity to congratulate the match officials who received appointments during the summer, as well as those selected for upcoming CONCACAF Nations League assignments.

The four-day course, which started last Thursday and concluded on Sunday, will provide match officials with important technical and practical preparation ahead of the new ABFA domestic season.



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TKR beat Tridents to keep CPL's playoff qualification hopes alive



Trinbago Knight Riders' captain Nicholas Pooran, right, bats against the Barbados Tridents in their CPL match at the Kensington Oval in Bridgetown, Barbados, on Saturday, September 5, 2026. (CPLT20)

A half-century from captain Nicholas Pooran and a four-wicket haul from spinner Sunil Narine was enough to keep defending champions Trinbago Knight Riders' slim qualification hopes alive with a 35-run victory over the Barbados Tridents in the Republic Bank Caribbean Premier League (CPL) at the Kensington Oval in Barbados on Saturday night.

Pooran slammed 59 off 37 balls, and opener Colin Munro hit 38 off 32 balls to lift the Trinbago Knight Riders to 147 for six off their 20 overs after being sent in to bat.

Narine snapped up four for 12, off-spinner Jyd Goolie claimed three for 20, and pacer Lahiru Kumara bagged two for 30 to dismiss the Barbados Tridents for 112 in 18.3 overs.

Opener Zachary Carter and middle-order batsman Sherfane Rutherford each made 21, all-rounder Daniel Sams got 16, and opener Brandon

King and Shadrack Descarte each scored 16 in a disappointing batting display by the Tridents in their first home match in this year's CPL.

Pooran scored only one run off his first 10 balls and nine from 14 before he struck a trio of sixes off the bowling of Mujeeb ur Rahmann to get his innings going.

That acceleration saw Pooran reach his half-century from just 35 balls as he batted brilliantly against a Tridents attack that struggled to contain him.

The Tridents bowlers were excellent in the opening exchanges, with captain and off-spinner Chris Green conceding just 17 runs in his four overs.

Pooran was patient in the face of this tight bowling as he and Colin Munro put on a second-wicket stand of 68 runs, by far the highest of the match.

Pooran was dropped on 35 off the bowling of debutant left-arm pacer Jakeem Pollard, who finished with

one for 31, and went on to plunder seven sixes and two fours in his innings.

Munro struck three fours and two sixes in his knock, and Kieron Pollard chipped in with 15 from 13 balls, and Joshua Da Silva was not out on 10 off nine balls at the end of the TKR innings.

Left-arm spinner Gudakesh Motie captured three for 29, and off-spinner Mujeeb Ur Rahman claimed two for 22 for the Tridents.

In reply the Tridents could not get on top of the hugely experienced Knight Riders spin bowlers, who wrought havoc in the opening exchanges

of the chase.

When the Tridents innings got underway, the wickets kept falling with Narine, Goolie, and Akeal Hosein, who finished with one for 25, all picking up victims in the opening exchanges.

Narine claimed three wickets inside the PowerPlay, including the dismissal of both Quinton de Kock and Rivaldo Clarke for ducks.

The Tridents never got over the loss of early wickets and ended up losing in their first home game of the season. By the time Chris Green was dismissed for five by Hosein, the Tridents were reeling on 50 for five and needed a lot of help.

Some lusty blows from Daniel Sams kept the home crowd's hopes alive for a while, but in the end, the web spun by the Knight Riders spin attack was too much for them to overcome.

Knight Riders beat Tridents in Women's CPL opener



Players of the Trinbago Knight Riders women's team celebrate a dismissal against the Barbados Tridents women in their WCPL encounter at the Kensington Oval in Bridgetown, Barbados, Saturday, September 5, 2026. (WCPLT20)

The Trinbago Knight Riders made a statement on the opening day of the 2026 Limacol Women's Caribbean Premier League (WCPL), defeating defending champions Barbados Tridents Women by 21 runs at Kensington Oval in Bridgetown on Saturday.

Sent in to bat after the Tridents won the toss, the Knight Riders overcame an early scare to post a challenging 155 all out off their 20 overs.

A disciplined bowling effort dismissed the three-time defending champions for 134 in 18.4 overs to hand the Knight Riders an emphatic opening victory.

Laura Harris hit 38 off 19 balls, and fellow opener Yastika Bhatia struck 35 off 28 balls as the pair shared a 67-run first-wicket stand.

Middle-order batter Maddie Penna made 27 off 21 balls, and Knight Riders'

captain Deandra Dottin chipped in with 14 off 15 balls. Left-arm spinner Qiana Joseph bagged three for 27, off-spinner Suzie Bates claimed two for 25, and Tridents captain Hayley Matthews took two for 26.

Kiran Navgire top-scored for the Tridents with 28 off 21 balls. Opener Qiana Joseph struck 25 off 21 balls, Maddy Green got 24 off 16 balls, and Hayley Matthews scored 19 off 13 balls.

Fast bowler Shikha Pandey bagged three for 17, off-spinner Samara Ramnath claimed two for 16, and pacer Deandra Dottin picked up two for 24.

The Tridents nearly made the perfect start when seamer Shawnisha Hector appeared to have caught and bowled Bhatia. However, the delivery was called a no-ball, handing Bhatia a crucial reprieve.

The Indian opener made the most of her second chance, combining with Laura Harris to lay the foundation for a strong Knight Riders PowerPlay, racing to 71 runs from their opening six overs.

Barbados made a positive start to the chase, with their top four batters all getting starts.

However, the Knight Riders' pace attack gradually squeezed the life out of the chase. Deandra Dottin and Shikha Pandey combined to claim five wickets, breaking the back of the Tridents' pursuit.

With the pressure mounting, the spinners mopped up the lower order to complete an impressive all-round bowling performance and seal the Knight Riders' victory.



Antiguan netballers prepare for Battle of the Isles Tournament

Over 20 players, who were selected in a training squad by the Antigua and Barbuda Netball Association (ABNA), are currently in training as preparations intensify for the highly anticipated Battle of the Isles Tournament (BOIT) in St. Maarten late next month.

The 10th Battle of the Isle event is scheduled to take place in Phillipsburg from October 28 to November 1.

The players are undergoing an intensive period of training and preparation as they work towards representing Antigua & Barbuda with pride, determination, and excellence on the regional stage.

The tournament will provide an important opportunity for the nation's netballers to test their skills against regional competition while continuing the

development and growth of the sport locally.

The group currently in training comprises a combination of talented and experienced players who have demonstrated their commitment, ability, and potential to represent Antigua & Barbuda.

The players include Ervedine Parker-Barnarde, Rayana Regis, Charmaine Wetherill, Kizzy Hughes, Krizia Duncan, Anayjah Anthony, Joy Shaw, Sanchez Teague, Arielle McDonald, and Rohena Paul.

The rest of the players are Jerissa Adams, Shouzan George, Tanya Green, Xandea Hobson, Latoya Golding, Juvan Richards, Sharifa Simmons, Trevisha Phillip, Tashana Bloomfield, Jonelly Encarnacion, Serenity Colbourne, and

Rochelle Ryan.

A dedicated training staff is in place to oversee the players' preparation, with particular focus on ensuring proper fitness, conditioning, and overall readiness as the team continues its journey towards the tournament.

The Antigua & Barbuda Netball Association is extending congratulations and encouragement to all the players currently in training and commends them for their dedication and commitment to the sport.

The preparation period will focus on strengthening fitness, teamwork, technical skills, and overall performance as the players work towards earning the opportunity to represent the nation in the upcoming tournament in St. Maarten.