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Bolt considered a comeback

JAMAICAN sprint legend, Usain Bolt, recently revealed that he considered coming out of retirement after being offered a lucrative deal by Björn Gulden, the then-CEO of Puma, two years after he hung up his spikes in 2017. The revelation came during an interview ahead of the Soccer Aid 2024 charity match, which took place at Chelsea FC's Stamford Bridge stadium on Sunday, June 9.

Bolt shared that two years after retiring, he was approached with an enticing offer by Adidas' CEO, Björn Gulden, who was the Chief Executive of Puma at the time. Although the idea of returning to the track intrigued him, Bolt's coach was firmly against it. He admitted that he still misses being on the track and believes he could have performed better than some of the current



Border spat goes to second round at ICJ

PRESIDENT of the International Court of Justice (ICJ), Judge Nawaf Salam on Tuesday convened a crucial meeting with representatives of Guyana and Venezuela to discuss the next procedural steps in the ongoing controversy over the Arbitral Award of October 3, 1899.

Leading Guyana's delegation was Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs, Anil Nandlall SC MP; Agent for Guyana at the ICJ, Carl B. Greenidge; Philippe Sands and Pierre D'Argent, Legal Counsel; and Lloyd Gunraj, Chargé d'Affaires at the Embassy of Guyana to the Kingdom of

Samuel Reinaldo Moncada Acosta, the Agent for Venezuela to the ICJ, led the Venezuelan team, which included a delegation and legal advis-

According to a release from Nandlall's Chambers, the focus was on the necessity and timing of a second round of written pleadings, following Venezuela's submission of its CounterMemorial on April 8, 2024.

During the meeting, both nations agreed that additional written pleadings were required to advance the case. Guyana suggested a six-month period from the date of Venezuela's Counter-Memorial submission, setting an initial deadline of October 8, 2024, for its reply.

However, Guyana expressed flexibility in extending this deadline to late October, contingent upon the Court's schedule.



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Guyana's team before the International Court of Justice

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GUYANA'S 58TH INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATIONS FOCUSED ON UPLIFTING EVERY CITIZEN





PPP/C GOVT HAS STRONG TRACK RECORD IN TRANSPARENCY, ACCOUNTABILITY - DR JAGDEO



WEST INDIES SECURE VICTORY IN T20 WORLD CUP OPENER IN GUYANA - PRESIDENT ALI RECEIVES SPECIAL GIFT

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PPP/C GOVT HAS STRONG TRACK RECORD IN RANSPARENCY, ACCOUNTABILITY - DR JAGDEO



President Ali and United States Congressman Jonathan Jackson (Representative of the 1st District of

the People's Progressive to say?" Party (PPP), Dr. Bharrat Jagdeo, has reiterated emphasised the commitment transparency in the wake inclusivity. States Jonathan Jackson.

his At press conference, Dr. Guyana's Parliament and Jagdeo concerns raised by the contrasting this with the opposition APNU+AFC underrepresentation of Coalition regarding the African Americans in Congressman's visit.

"We all visits from international States of America, partners, including African-Americans Congressman are not just a Jackson," Jagdeo stated. dismissed from the opposition as from many areas in predictable, accusing the United States them of resorting to government." familiar tactics.

like other groups who would came from the US... PPP/C They will orchestrate commitment a few people who are fairness and equity their members of for all

General Secretary of **do you expect them**

Jagdeo the government's government's record to of transparency and ake inclusivity. "We of a recent visit by United treat all Guyanese Congressman equally," he declared. He pointed to the weekly diverse racial makeup of addressed government agencies, various sectors of the US **welcome** government.

> "In the United Dr. **minority,"** Dr. Jagdeo He noted. **"They are** criticisms **practically** absent

Dr. Jagdeo insisted "We know that, that a fair assessment reveal government's



Residents at the meeting in Mocha Arcadia

the same lies about all the government," Dr. equally Jagdeo said. "This is nation's nothing new. What and

parliament...and tell He emphasised that benefit citizens from the resources development

programmes.

Congressman Jackson's because the place grateful that you progress and visit was a meeting is fixed now where guys came out and I development," President Mohamed Irfaan Ali watch over them." and his cabinet. This high-level engagement resident who benefited to seeing you real Nevertheless, underscored the ongoing from a government soon." collaboration between contract, shared her Guyana and the United experience: "It has States, with a focus been months since on transparency and I'm a beneficiary ensuring development for all it has been a good Guyanese.

Mocha-Arcadia, job." Albouvstown, and South Georgetown. He expressed was accompanied by appreciation for who outlined ongoing approach: and future community evident development initiatives. PPP/C Residents positive during their interactions **their ethnicity**

out. I don't have to some more time "We have so much A key component of worry about anything with you guys. I am to celebrate... our

equitable of a contract and experience for me. Congressman I want to say thanks Jackson's visit also to the government included meetings with again for looking out residents of various for me and trusting communities, including me to execute the

Jose Francis his the government ministers government's inclusive government shared has been working experiences for the benefit of with these programmes all people despite



Tiffany Greenidge sharing her impactful story with US Congressman, Jonathan Jackson

with the Congressman.

communities expressed the projects, highlighting the West lives.

of Boulevard: "The the engineers who place is so nice that worked along with my kids can now me." come out every afternoon and enjoy Jackson transformed positively the

belief." religious According to Francis, his life has changed tremendously with the quick intervention by the government. Tiffany Greenidge,

another contract recipient, explained in how the programmes Albouystown and other have helped her family: acknowledging global Georgetown "I benefitted from and regional challenges, government Minister their satisfaction with contracts. I was government's tasked to build a community development walkway at the Ruimveldt positive impact on their playground and two bridges and those Latoya Todd, a projects were very young mother, spoke much of benefit to me. about the transformation And I want to thank Independence the government and

Congressman responded to atmosphere so, they residents' stories: "I are safe and have very much like to fun when they come come and spend

Abiola Smith, a and I look forward the

MOCHA ARCADIA THRIVES ON GOVT **INITIATIVES**

our Dr. people can be able to want to thank you for said, "and the way sharing your stories, we are manoeuvring challenges... are] moving along in the way that many of our Guyanese brothers and sisters are proud of."

Concrete examples of this progress include infrastructure upgrades



US Congressman, Jonathan Jackson visiting the $community\ of Albouys town$

During a public engagement at the Mocha Community Minister Centre, within the Office of the Prime Minister with Responsibility for Public Affairs, Kwame McCoy highlighted the positive impact of government interventions on Mocha Arcadia community.

praised He community's the collaborative spirit, stating, "The partnership that has been extended by this village... is one that is truly impressive and continues to enjoy our admiration and support as a government."

McCov residents reassured the government's commitment to sustained development.

like the rehabilitation of the Nelson Street bridge and several community roads. The agricultural sector has also been bolstered "agricultural with input and equipment delivered to enhance preparation land efforts."

Educational opportunities have through expanded programmes like the Board of Industrial Training (BIT), Information and Communications Technology training, and the Guyana Online Academy of Learning (GOAL) scholarship initiative.

Mocha Arcadia has also benefited indirectly from the construction of the Heroes Highway, which has improved transportation connectivity for the community.



Minister within the Office of the Prime Minister with Responsibility for Public Affairs, Kwame McCoy with United States Congressman, Jonathan Jackson in Mocha Arcadia

GUYANA'S 58TH INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATIONS FOCUSED ON UPLIFTING EVERY CITIZEN



President Irfaan Ali addressing the nation at the annual Flag Raising ceremony in Linden

Raising Linden, government's 50,000 commitment to building Affordable Guyanese.

The emphasised investments a reality for more healthcare, housing, and reinforced this vision, infrastructure, all aimed stating, "This is the at creating a Guyana Guyana that we are where every child can building...a

President Irfaan Ali achieve their dreams. addressed the nation He pointed to the at the annual Flag distribution of 30,000 ceremony in house lots since 2020, highlighting with a goal of reaching by 2025. housing a better future for all loans and subsidies on building materials aim President to make homeownership education, Guyanese. President Ali

which aspirations, goals, their dreams system." will be met by the making."

investments modernising healthcare system. with improved facilities and a focus on human resources. Life expectancy has increased, and child and maternal mortality rates have decreased. The President pledged further advancements, aiming for a national life expectancy of 75 by 2030. He added, **"But** we are not satisfied with this. We want overall **expectancy to go to** education. This initiative, management. 72 years by 2025 and along with investments services, to 75 by 2030. That is in data accessibility, biodiversity, future why, we're investing paves the way for a food production. This

their of our healthcare education

Every Guyanese **investments we're** teacher will receive training, and Guyana programme providing Significant is launching the first financial support for highlighted a significant are technologically-driven students. the school online

"Because We Care" grant future conversations.



Part of the audience at the ceremonu

life primary and secondary leading role in forestry

and

their in the modernisation potential national digital positions the nation at the system. forefront of international Educator well-being is discussions and ensures also a priority, with the its voice is heard in

> The President rise in vehicle imports, Guyana is taking a indicating a growing economy and increased disposable income for Guyanese families. The government's policies are demonstrably delivering results. President Ali offered this assurance: "The prosperity we want to build in every home is working and the policies are delivering results."

Ministers, military diplomats, leaders, private and sector representatives joined climate the nation in celebrating Guyana's Independence Day.

REMAINING MEMBERS OF LAW, **CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM COMMISSIONS SWORN IN**

President emphasised the need for a forward-thinking approach during the swearing-in ceremony the remaining members of the Law Reform Commission and Constitutional Reform Commission (CRC).

He stressed the importance of the commissions adapting to a changing society: "Members of these commissions...must be very open, must be able to understand to ceremony at Office of the while President.

President



President Ali flanked by Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs, Anil Nandlall, SC and newly sworn-in members of the Law Reform Commission

the environment in "transformative need for commissioners which the country societal changes that who can assess these is operating ..." said promote Guyana's changes within Guyana's President Ali at the **competitiveness** evolving socioeconomic greater citizens Ali levels of freedom." commended

consider and emphasised the **allowing** landscape.

President for the commissions complexity of the task, commissions, expressing commissioners

groups would bring CRC. "fresh and innovative perspectives" issues.

these young faces Reform legislation: "to will bring the energy and bring that view that is sometimes missing..." President Ali said, highlighting importance incorporating the next generation into decisionmaking.

The newly swornin members of the Law Reform Commission are Everton Singh-Lammy and Dr. Marie Correia, while Timothy Jonas, Ali Kamal Ramkarran, the and Keoma Griffith to

confidence that these complete the 20-member Guyanese

and provide for the current and future rights, duties, liabilities, and obligations of the people." The Law Reform The CRC, chaired Commission, meanwhile, to by Justice Carl Singh, is tasked with ensuring address long-standing has a broad mandate as the country's laws are outlined in the recently updated "in keeping with "We expect that assented Constitutional global legislative trends."

review the constitution



President Ali flanked by Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs, Anil Nandlall, SC and newly highlighted the need He acknowledged the diverse makeup of the are the final three sworn-in members of the Constitutional Reform Commission



Foreign Secretary, Robert Persaud with His Excellency HOSAKA Yasushi, Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan

Secretary, Persaud, Japan's Parliamentary investment. Vice-Minister for Hosaka on May 30.

gratitude for Japan's Nations economic and technical Council,

Deepening assistance, and also their commitment to Guyana and Japan was presence of Japanese global challenges. part of the discussion investors, particularly when Guyana's Foreign in the oil and gas Robert sector, assuring a safe with environment for foreign

countries Both roles as non-permanent supporting

cooperation between the welcomed the growing working together on established diplomatic

friendship with Guyana, technical built on shared values in areas like training, of freedom, democracy, water sanitation, and and the rule of law. disaster management. They Japanese official Guyana is also expected Foreign Affairs, Yasushi highlighted their current expressed interest in to participate in the Guyana expressed members of the United economic development 2025 in Osaka, Japan. Security and exploring new areas emphasising of collaboration.

Guyana and Japan relations in Japan reaffirmed its Japan has provided assistance Guyana's upcoming World Expo

The Arthur Chung Conference Centre (ACCC) bustled with activity as a diverse group of Guyanese citizens gathered for a public day hosted by Vice President Dr. Bharrat The Jagdeo. event provided a platform for residents to discuss their concerns directly with government ministers and technical officers from various ministries.

Dr. Jagdeo assured present that challenges related to housing, agriculture, drainage, irrigation, insurance, employment, and public works would all be carefully addressed. The Department of Information (DPI) documented the



Vice President Dr Bharrat Jagdeo addressing the residents

positive received assurances of **commendable** action.

satisfaction Agriculture to address ministers." trench desilting in

experiences his community. of residents who had praised the initiative, their issues resolved or saying "This is very and we have to thank Delroy Williams, a **the people who are** resident and religious behind it. We're leader, expressed getting full, direct after access to the minister, securing a commitment the vice president from the Minister of and the government

Angelisha Newyear, a

single mother of six from from a minister regarding "I'm glad that I'm programme getting through with proposed. "I just came visit her home to address whatever I came here to get some a 35-year-old land issue. about," she said. "This clarification...So far, The event featured meeting is a very good I am satisfied that he participation

Douncey (only name Henry added. given) reported positive improve on certain my **things,"** she stated.

Colin resident of De Kinderen, yes, I am satisfied," clarification he said. received

Berbice, was grateful the timeline for a Coldingen was thrilled for the opportunity. community development to learn that Ministry of A resident named to get it started," Resources,

one and I could say authorities. "I am here Service, Dr. Ashni Singh the government is to see how best things working, but they can could be for me and reflects the government's least they took my to engage citizens at Henry, a **information...and** the grassroots level and

Farah Ayesha from he Housing officials would

help for many people that are needy." said he's going to fast Ministers of Agriculture, Public Works, Natural Housing and Water, and Local James Forde, a Government progress on her land small contractor who Regional Development and mining issues. "I had been unsuccessful and Senior Minister in came here...and I in bidding for projects, the Office of the President feel very satisfied... felt reassured after with responsibility for It was a positive meeting with relevant Finance and the Public

> This public day company...at ongoing commitment address their needs and priorities.







Residents concerns being addressed by ministers and government officials

Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs, Mohabir Anil Nandlall, SC

General Attorney Mohabir Anil Nandlall is reminding talk show hosts that they share officials. responsibility for the

EMARKS - AG NANDL

when it comes to **offer** potentially inflammatory statements.

Alliance (WPA) activist **they're** Kidackie Amsterdam Minister following a show where emphasised. a caller made threats against

"You

programmes, especially they say, once you manage their content to shut that call **them that** effectively. platform because, had it not been for strongly

> Minister government stressed that ignorance are Talk show hosts, he participating

The Attorney General **responsibility** comments **your platform**, **they** Amsterdam's handling of come after the arrest **would have not been** the situation. He called also of Working People's able to say what Amsterdam's silence in prominent saying," the face of the caller's for focusing on police of President Nandlall threats "racism" and a protocol while ignoring Ali, Nandlall **ethnic murder.**'

of the law isn't an excuse. that caller; you are stir up racial tensions, at himself. content aired on their responsible, equally argued, need to exercise criminal conduct... members were in the

down, that is your released condemned law," he said.

criticised attorney for in a time when US congress

Guyanese police video **in** footage showing an unidentified Minister Nandlall caller on Amsterdam's a programme advocating the beheading Vice President "failure to act against the threats themself. Bharrat Jagdeo, Senior The Attorney General Minister Ashni Singh, "If you entertain believes this is a tactic to and Minister Nandlall

GUYANA STRENGTHENS INTERNAL AUDITS FOR BOOMING OIL INDUST

prompting government to bolster its Guyana Chapter Inc. internal audit systems, according to Senior are Minister Ashni Singh.

compliance **internal regulations**," other departments. Minister Singh said

Guyana's booming during a training have oil and gas industry seminar for the Institute audit the of Internal Auditors (IIA)

> Internal audits **are** crucial continued Dr. Singh acknowledged government..." with inconsistencies across

[and] some don't," resources, explained. he **ourselves** economy. for **in** government identifying weaknesses considering how we help in bolstering "Guyana's oil and recommending can better deploy oversight and and gas industry improvements within an the internal audit accountability, is driving the need organisation. While the capabilities in the Minister Singh said, for more robust Finance Ministry has a Ministry of Finance "and aligns with the auditing systems to well-established system, across the whole of government's aim to

The "Some ministries internal audit system is maximise the value

an internal vital for the responsible **department**, management of public especially "We with Guyana's growing

"This system will ensure responsible Minister management emphasised that a robust **public resources and**

of Guyana's growing Minister economy."

He further highlighted the importance of information technology (ICT) in managing finances government effectively.

"It is our intention further roll out the internal audit function across the whole of government to ensure that we have comprehensive coverage and to ensure that we maximise on the tremendous value that can be added by internal audit in government,"

Singh concluded.



Senior Minister in the Office of the President with Responsibility for Finance and Public Service, Dr Ashni Singh

PRESIDENT ALI URGES GOAL GRADUATES **TO STAY HUMBLE AND KEEP LEARNING**



President Ali addressing the graduands

President Ali addressed over 1,700 the graduates from the Conference perseverance, continuous alongside their academic He achievements.

Speaking Arthur Chung Centre Guyana Online Academy graduation ceremony, higher of Learning (GOAL), President Ali highlighted make emphasising the how these graduates' superior," he advised. importance of humility, a c c o m p l i s h m e n t s "A Master's degree and contribute to Guyana's doesn't qualify you learning economic stressed their qualifications

to make meaningful automatically

The pointed significant education the 1970s. This, he sustained effort." explained, necessitates stay competitive.

However, President Ali cautioned against at mistaking qualifications for a guaranteed path to success. "Don't let education you feel growth. out of certain jobs. that Humility is key.'

elaborated,

wisdom and a desire that advanced degrees life-long grant He contributions to society. access to top positions. their President "Qualifications are and the **the** foundation," increase he emphasised, "but commitment since hard work

President Ali continuous learning to encouraged graduates to in your future," he needed to capitalise on see their qualifications declared.

should translate into critiquing the mentality as a springboard for dreams reaffirmed the post-secondary success comes from providing opportunities accredited international and and incentives for higher institutions. It equips education.

"You've invested "Your



Over 1700 persons graduated from the GOAL

learning. your reality, and commended vour goals are your determination achievements."

GOAL offers government's Guyanese free access to to tertiary education from graduates with skills and qualifications the growing job market across various sectors.

> The ceremony was attended by dignitaries including Prime Minister Mark Phillips, Senior Minister Ashni Singh, Education Minister Priya Manickchand, Labour Minister Joseph Hamilton, other cabinet members, diplomats, and government officials.

FIRST LADY'S SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAI **EMPOWERS 40 MORE HINTERLAND WOMEN**

regions graduated from Awareness a maritime training Both from the initiative, Authority of Jamaica of women in the Assessment Study, which development bringing the total number trained of women to 60.

The programme aims to equip 100 hinterland women with skills for the workforce by its completion.

The recent graduates, from Regions Seven (Cuyuni/ Mazaruni) and Nine (Upper Takutu/Upper Essequibo), completed a week-long programme at the Atlantic Maritime (MAJ). and Offshore Training

courses Lady. This marks the Department (MARAD) the

Forty women from Basic Safety Training gender disparity in the gas, hinterland (BST) and Ship Security workforce, with women's **shipping**, nated from Awareness Training. participation at around **logistics**," are 50% compared to men's stated. programme funded by accredited by Guyana's 80%."Theprogramme the Office of the First Maritime Administration aims to address the course selection growing competition second group to benefit and the Maritime **underrepresentation** Guyana Skilled Labour to Guyana's economic



A section of the small gathering at the graduation ceremony

First Lady Mrs. specifically

labour Institute (AAMOTI) in Arya Ali highlighted the sectors like oil and women in

She explained that need for additional workers in oil and gas, construction, transportation and

"The and Ship Security this advantage. Awareness Courses... empower you to do Director, Mrs. Miranda **just that – enter these** Thakur-Deen, expressed male-dominated her institution's honour industries force: increase in participation

construction. historically and dominated by men," Mrs. Ali Mrs. Ali said to the graduates.

She emphasised the significant aligns with data from the in the job market due identified a projected potential influx of 53,000 migrant workers. "But, holding these regionally-accredited certificates...places logistics, health, and you ahead of the agriculture over the next curve," Mrs. Ali five years. Ali asserted, urging the **STCW** women to capitalise on

AAMOTI's Managing and in partnering with the the First Lady's office. "The of First Lady continues areas to lead the charge in



First Lady Mrs Arya Ali delivering remarks at the graduation ceremony held at the Baridi Benab, State House

providing access to opportunities for our women, and support development at every level," Mrs. Thakur-Deen said.

Minister of Public Works, Bishop Juan Edghill, congratulated graduates viewed the programme as a testament to the government's efforts in bridging the gap between the hinterland and the coast.



 $Teacher\ and\ student\ engaging\ in\ the\ classroom$

General Secretary of agreement. the People's Progressive expressed

During a recent press Party, Dr. Bharrat Jagdeo conference at Freedom said the government House, Dr. Jagdeo its addressed questions willingness to work with regarding teacher wage teachers on a multi- demands and potential compensation financial constraints.

agreement days. year we had in the past."

round of teacher strikes period 2022 to 2025. that began on May 9, Negotiations to

"We are prepared commenced on May 13 the to work on a multi- and continued for two emphasising its broader massive growth."

going forward," Dr. The Guyana Dr. Jagdeo outlined for Jagdeo stated. **"You** Teachers' Union (GTU) significant increases in of want a multi-year is seeking retroactive public sector wages and regardless of future agreement? Let us compensation increases salaries across central oil prices or revenue **start** with 2024, from 2019 to 2023, along government, statutory streams. **2025**, **2026**...**A three**- with a 20% salary hike bodies, and or five-year multi- before teachers return corporations. year agreement like to work. However, they have indicated a on wages and salaries wages and salaries," This proposal comes willingness to negotiate has grown in response to a second the package for the about \$120 billion "It's the only way to

While

government development agenda. Guyana Dr. Jagdeo outlined for sustainable financing public

in 2020 to \$210 ensure open billion in these three sustainability negotiation, categories," Dr. Jagdeo benefits for Guyana."

is highlighted.

He stressed the need these increases.

"This is complete strategy. "Our expenditure not focused only on long-term

GOVT MONITORS DRAINAGE, REPAIRS BRIDGES AFTER RECENT FLOODING

The Ministry of Agriculture is reporting floodwaters receding across Guyana, crediting combination government initiatives and ongoing monitoring of drainage and irrigation systems. Measures included operational pumps, manual drain cleaning, and canal desilting.

These efforts addressed recent flooding in Regions Four, Five, Six, Seven, Nine and 10.

BRIDGE REPAIRS UNDERWAY IN REGION NINE

The Ministry Public Works is repairing three bridges



Bridge assessment and repairs ongoing in Region Nine

in Region Nine that were affected during the floods. Repairs are already underway on the most critical bridge, with plans to minimise disruptions to traffic flow. wider water discharge nationwide channels will be built to in these areas.

DRAINAGE NEGLECT BLAMED FOR LINDEN FLOODING

While Additionally, government addresses drainage and repairs bridges, prevent future flooding the blame for severe flooding in Linden falls

governmenthas criticised future flooding. municipality neglecting responsibilities, despite recent cleanups.

The Ministry Agriculture plans to release a list of drainage and irrigation works completed in Region Ten to address flooding. This follows ongoing disagreements about who is responsible for flood mitigation. The list will detail projects the undertaken by various government ministries.

Despite local blame on authorities, government has also drainage and irrigation provided assistance in works. These projects

on a neglected drainage Linden and continues include erosion control. system, according to efforts to improve a new dam, and the central authorities. The drainage and prevent rehabilitation of existing

flood control structures.

EQUALITY NEWS



Drainange work being excuted in Region 10

billion over the past four for the years in Region Ten's maintenance.

government Additionally, there is recently highlighted its an annual expenditure placing investment of \$1.595 of over \$200 million manual

GUYANA'S FLOOD RESPONSE BOLSTERED WITH CHINESE DONATION

Guyana's Defence Commission (CDC) received a muchneeded boost to its flood preparedness efforts, thanks to a generous donation from the People's Republic of China which provided two amphibious vehicles, four boats, and outboard engines, valued at US \$100,000.

Prime Minister Brigadier (Ret'd) Mark Phillips received the equipment from China's Ambassador to extremely vulnerable operations Guyana, Guo Haiyan. to climate change," disasters." highlighted significance of donation, especially as



CDC's flood response boosted with vehicles, boats

season.

"We this "and these units will as a key development of disasters.

Guyana enters its rainy significantly aid the flooded villages," he the PM Phillips stated, emphasised China's role dealing with the effects acknowledging

critical equipment to Minister's sentiments, and rescue capabilities.

elaborated of the new equipment. China evacuation He Guyana more resilient in Haiyan

providing echoed the **from** season.

CDC in conducting explained. He expressed is doing preparation outboards, are rescue and medical confidence that this and taking quick them ideal for medical during donation will make action," Ambassador evacuations the potential for flooding Ambassador Haiyan in low-lying areas and

Prime hinterland regions.

Stefan enhance Guyana's search highlighting the growing Managing Director of collaboration between Encore Power Inc., one The Prime Minister the two countries in of the suppliers of the on the disaster preparedness. flood response vehicles applications She pointed out that explained that, "The previously vehicles are eight-"The boats will come supported the CDC by-eight amphibious in handy in times of during the severe dry vehicles so they can go search and rescue, season, and this recent on land and water." **operations** donation addresses the He further specified that and even in medical challenges of the rainy these 950 horsepower vehicles are outfitted "We see that CDC to carry stretchers and making during noted, floods.

Investment Forum (CIF) e n v i r o n m e n t, factors. is gearing up to be a and catalyst for sustainable inclusive economic development for in the region. Slated to He July 10-12 at the Arthur path to a prosperous and with Chung Centre, the forum will Caribbean. prioritise **"embedding** sustainability investments,' Deputy Export, emphasises.

"The

Caribbean **protecting** ensuring **growth** feature the

The collaboration. on as for regional Caribbean manufacturers,

future." addresses and high- to funding sustainable underscored level discussions on development. be held in Guyana from sustainability as "the sustainable investment, President conference opening remarks. A Ramsaroop, **in** promises to be a hotspot ministerial roundtable Chief Director of Caribbean investors, and industry Development investment Naut, leaders will connect with **through Innovative within the region**" potential," Naut said, seeking to establish deeper into practical Guyana's commitment to building partnerships," which a panel discussion titled "Bankable Projects" resilient economies, prioritise environmental, "Revolutionising to attract investment.

the social, and governance investment Finance in the Caribbean for A The forum will **Thriving Future"** will keynote explore new approaches

Guyana, the Dr host nation, sees the Conference equitable future" for the Mohamed Irfaan Ali forum as a significant expected to deliver the opportunity. Dr Peter Investment **"Fostering** Officer, highlights this Executive Decision-makers, global S u s t a i n a b l e as "one of the largest innovators, I n v e s t m e n t and expects to attract and **Strategies** in the "up to 700 investors." He is brimming with service providers, all Caribbean" will delve emphasises showcasing highlighting the forum's "ESG-compliant solutions. Additionally, and the importance of



Executive Director of the Caribbean Export Development Agency, Deodat Mahara, and Head of the Guyana Office for Investment, Dr Peter Ramsaroop

East Bank of Demerara to ancillary stretching from Good safety features. Success to Timehri, is on track to be completed seamlessly Bishop Juan Edghill.

project to finish on commuters. time, within budget, emphasised during a we

project, Bridge kilometres of roadway, to sit and relax and

The US\$75.8 million as well as improvements (EBD) road project, bridges, culverts, and

The project will integrate within its designated with the Soesdyke/ timeframe, according to Linden highway through Public Works Minister, a new roundabout, aiming to create "We expect this smoother transitions for

Highlighting and that the citizens importance of efficiency, **get value for money,"** Minister Edghill made a Minister Edghill clear statement: **"When** [government] stakeholder engagement. say 36 months for 36-month a contract, that's undertaken the end date. If you by China Road and [contractor] can get Corporation it done faster, get it (CRBC), involves the **done faster. It doesn't** rehabilitation of 23.7 mean you are going



A 3D view of the Good Success to Timehri roadway

opportunities that an expiry date." exist right now...So I am urging you let's also can bring us in ahead cooperation,

say you have time. of schedule because We have to use the people's patience has

Minister Edghill emphasised get a work plan that the need for public

stakeholders to adopt a **developments**, such collaborative approach. as the Ituni to Tacama can't approach," he asserted. interconnected

To transparency accountability build phase.

The EBD road transportation.

" E x i s t i n g connectivity. urging infrastructure

have road, are integral obstructionist components of this ensure **network**," Minister and Edghill pointed out.

KEEPING THE DIASPORA INFORMED

Furthermore, throughout the project's the Sheriff Street to lifecycle, an unpriced Mahaica road and bill of quantities will be railway embankment made available on the upgrades, designed to ministry's website upon accommodate growing approval of the design- traffic demands, will also be linked to the project.

These substantial project is a significant infrastructure projects step forward for are part of the Guyana's development. government's strategic It aims to alleviate traffic plan to create trade congestion and establish routes that will bolster vital routes for efficient economic development and enhance nationwide

\mathbf{G}



Drone shot of works on the LindenMabura road project

The critical Linden asphalt. Mabura Road significant progress, commuters face when of 2 kilometres, 28 completed, according usually puts the safety the progress is going Brazil. to Alya Constructora's of travellers as well as well." Operational Director, their goods at risk, the Juarez Miranda.

US\$190 million Linden to resurface the road. safety and efficiency by **end.** unpaved surface with works as far as 45 completion by

Recognising

to Mabura Road project Miranda elaborated August after the rainy services between Guyana 121-kilometre. on the project's season concludes. The and northern Brazil. It is a major artery for timeline: "Works are project also benefits Guyanese transporting **being executed in** from an on-site asphalt goods from the coast **stages to complete** and crusher plant to to inland regions. The **70** kilometres of expedite progress. project aims to improve the project by yearsafety and efficiency by **end.**replacing the current **the**Currently, project, signed in **contractor** 2023, is scheduled for **Currently,** project,

GUYANA'S PROCUREMENT LANDSCAPE TRANSFORMED

- THOUSANDS OF SMALL CONTRACTORS BENEFITTING

kilometres..."

government embarked bridges located at the 75 Guyana's deep-water The transformative on this massive project and 87-kilometre marks harbour, facilitating the is expected to begin in movement of goods and

> This historic signed in

2025. It aligns with the He added, "We government's plan to is making the difficulties that have this segment improve connectivity between the coast and with about 25 percent manoeuvring the pavements with two hinterland, ultimately of the work already main dirt road, which layers of asphalt so creating a land link to

The upgraded road Construction on two will also connect to



The General Secretary of Guyana's People's ruling Progressive Party

Small contractors at a contract signing ceremony to undertake critical works in the village of Melanie North, East Coast Demerara

(PPP), Dr Jagdeo, concerns media regarding racial bias in 2020. government contracts. emphasised

opening thousands of new, small this contractors.

Jagdeo "the has created environment This is reflected in the

One a hurdle for procurement landscape, mandatory two percent **concrete roads to the small companies that** accountability.

doors for bid bond. Recognising tune of more than \$1 have been established of this is to say obstacie, tractors.

Jagdeo explained, "We Melanie North on the Dr.
Since the PPP/C removed the bid East Coast Demerara underscored took office in 2020, Dr. bond for contracts saw highlighted, below \$15 million... contracts government that encourages a to small companies an large number of to undertake critical that small nation's blossoming works under \$3 million past **construction sector.**" are now exempt from bid approach. commitment bond requirements.

small **contractors**

Dr. **billion.** Additionally, "millions awarded **contractors** works" last year.

allows small and to be part of it." Dr. Jagdeo pointedly new contractors to Similarly, companies contrasted the current participate in the supplying goods for civil opportunities with the administration's "Under APNU, there was Dr. Jagdeo cited none of that," he Bharrat staggering number of specific examples of stated. He went further, addressed new contractors - 2,000 how this policy shift is alleging that "some of documented since impacting communities. the ministers were In Sophia, Georgetown, trying to shake them significant "around 70 small down." The emphasis are on inclusivity is clear: g o v e r n m e n t 's dramatic change in the contractors was the constructing "We have now 2,000 commitment to broader

because of this.



Small contractors at a contract signing ceremony to undertake critical works in the village of Melanie North, East Coast Demerara

to you [tnat] we Jagdeo are serious about greater the **ensuring** accountability in this **country,"** he declared. A thorough review of the procurement system is underway "to ensure there is compliance with the law and that everyone is treated fairly."

> Dr. Jagdeo concluded by reiterating government's the mission: core government, led by President Dr Mohamed Irfaan Ali, is working for the people so they can be able to realise their dreams and aspirations."

GUYANESE DIASPORA DIGEST

WARD GETS \$338.4M ROAD



Upgraded infrastructural works in Linden, Region Ten

government improve connectivity, (\$12.4 million). accessibility, and quality of life for residents.

underwent million. roads rehabilitation, including:

 Fourth Corner Road: Main Street: Divided by Orin's Supreme million. three

Guyana and tackled by World invested Palm Beach Resort \$338.4milliontoupgrade (\$13.6 million), Green's key roads in Amelia's Desilting (\$14 million), Ward, Region Ten to and Petal Beauty Palace

 Second Corner Main Street: Upgraded by Al Precise Contracting S e v e r a l Enterprise for \$24.4

sections Enterprise for \$38.5

million.

Last **Street Empire Drive:** Cambio and Variety Store by Ray's Infrastructure PPP/C Rehabilitated by R and for \$30.3 million. M Mining Investment Project Inc., for \$47.8 Transformed by RJ Services, million.

Centre North Side Obama

• Henry's Road: & Enterprise and General Duke **Broad Money** Construction for \$25.9



Upgraded infrastructural works in Linden, Region Ten

Street: Upgraded by million. • **Empire Drive** Al Precise Contracting

Community

 Well Road: Improved Enterprise for \$16 Rehabilitated by Cordis Variety for \$47.2 million.

First Left

GROVE RESIDENTS OVERJOYED

Drive: Cross Road: Enhanced by SJ's Constructed in sections align Development, Construction improving R Cabio Construction & flow, Maintenance Services, economic activity, and and MSN Enterprise foster for a combined \$68.3 in communities like million.

These upgrades with government's R commitment to Guyana's Shaun road network, aiming Construction, to smoothen stimulate development Amelia's Ward.



Upgraded infrastructural works in Linden, Region Ten



Completed Road works in Grove, East Bank of Demerara

Grove residents are dilapidated roads. celebrating a much-Works' Special Project said

"The road improvement very much thick, to their community - it's like about four the rehabilitation of inches thick and you years of dealing with the quality of work, conditions.



Floyd Welcome

17 critical roads! The are not seeing any He further highlighted project, undertaken by waves on it or so, so the previous struggles, the Ministry of Public I would say kudos," mentioning that taxi resident Floyd drivers refrained from Unit (SPU), has brought Welcome, expressing operating in the area a wave of relief after his satisfaction with due to the poor road

WITH UPGRADE OF 17 ROADS Sharing sentiment, Fredericks really good. It's been ok." long time...this and now you could appreciation, school well."

> The road conditions extend [when it rains] ...you

the beyond just aesthetics. can't walk." Ronald Resident Cheryle Welch echoed, chimed in, "The road completed time since the roads on this one side, and 2024, yet. Now the road and you know what is commitment

improved the road was bad and

This project, between "It has been a long had a lot of potholes April 19 and May 28, reflects haven't been like this the rainy season in, PPP/C Administration's the place are looking going on. So now we infrastructure development. Safety is another 2024 budget allocated place used to be in major benefit. Padmini a total of \$204.1 billion real bad condition Baldeo expressed her for nationwide road saying, and bridge network see all overlooking "I feel nice because improvements, with a really good. Now the road [was done]. significant \$73.2 billion you could ride and The road is smooth dedicated specifically to children could go to now you could walk upgrading community well because when roads like those in Grove.

concrete works.

Minister of the Ministries of Works to embrace a new and Edghill enhanced approach to road construction and concrete works during training session for ministry staff at the Marriott Hotel, Georgetown.

The training was aimed at equipping engineers with the latest skills and knowledge to

the country's approach significant increase in This is a legacy." to road construction and construction projects, encouraged engineers are built to last. "The Edghill government and **Guyana is committed** responsible Local Government and to delivering value management. Regional Development for money," Minister

Edghill, is calling for a Guyana's recent oil on a project, we want said. significant upgrade in boom has fueled a to be able to build it.

While the oil wealth on and the government provides funding for completion and minimal going to pay for what was Edghill is keen to ensure they these projects, Minister disruption to the public. not done." stressed **of** the importance financial

"We are emphasised. **splurging**, **but we also**



Participant at the training exercise

Works tackle the surge in new "We don't just want to need to be projecting problem for the then inister, Bishop Juan development projects. say we spent money into the future," he Ministry of Public

strong emphasis

"People's patience of has an expiry date. workshop focused on Your number one fostering **priority is to ensure** to identify and address **not that projects are** weaknesses in current **completed on time,** road and within budget," Minister Edghill declared.

improvements made in Minister's since the administration office.

"Overpayment of contracts was a major to

Infrastructure,

The Minister placed Minister Edghill said. "That has significantly timely project changed. We are not

two-day The discussions construction processes.

Permanent Secretary of the Ministry, Vladim He commended the Persaud, echoed the for contract management better communication, current particularly between took engineers and clerks of works.

> "The idea is have more



Minister of Public Works, Bishop Juan Edghill addressing the training session

communication and working with the engineers and the clerk of works... so that in the final design we don't have situations whereby there is always an issue or there must be changes to the design," Persaud explained.

The training covered a wide range of topics including procurement, finance, surveying, road durability, and various pavement systems.

400 SOE



The distribution of the land ownership document

Turn, Kururu, and surrounding areas, farms, mines, and communities finally have legal ownership of their land. President Irfaan Ali distributed the land titles during a ceremony at Base Road, Timehri.

"This is significant step in formalising ownership land contributing and community development, President Ali said.

Regularising communities along the

Over 400 residents Soesdyke Highway has from Base Road, Timehri, proven challenging due Kuru to the mix of residential

> tourist spots. "There



Residents turned out at Timehri Base Road to receive their land titles

world," President Ali President announced. acknowledged. "People but it's complex. communities We are confronting representatives centred."

providing support to the new landowners. cement programme.

"Those of you who the **homes, we will help** ownership.

other land planning you with 900 board area like this in the feet of wood," the developing 1600 lots to Land of Canaan,"

Minister believe this is simple, will also return to the water, roads, and securing financing this complexity in a the Ministry of Housing way that is people- and Water and several Timehri Highway has The government is goal is to assist residents major projects like Silica additional in securing loans.

With This 2300 squatters living is reflected in the surge includes a steel and along the Soesdyke- of land applications over subsidy Timehri stretch, the the past three years. President reaffirmed government's **over** need to build wooden commitment to land applications in the not all settlements can unprecedented feat," be regularised. Those President Ali said. residents will be offered alternative such as housing in transformation government-developed the region, according schemes nearby.

Soesdyke, with plans for an additional 800 lots of this project is four-lane highway!" for new squatters.

"We at Hauraruni and President Ali explained. McCoy will provide schools, "We with value to the lots," from President Ali pledged.

The Soesdykecommercial banks. Their growing potential, with City attracting more roughly people to the area. This

"We've received 15,000 However, last three years - an

This is just the solutions, beginning of a major Hauraruni, Mandela Highway.

underway, extending

are the four-lane road are already to extend the road further, and the



The distribution of the land ownership document

to the President. The Soesdyke-Linden For example, the government's massive Highway project is Ministry of Housing is infrastructure agenda about to be awarded. developing 800 house includes expanding the Imagine the lands that will be opened "The third phase up with a brand new

AG NANDLALL CLEARS THE AIR ON PETER'S HALL PROPERTY ACQUISITION

Attorney Mohabir Anil Nandlall consultations has set the record residents. straight on property October acquisitions in Peter's we Hall needed for the new **several** construction.

Following arose about fairness in **consulting.** That is (CH&PA), acquiring roughly 20 simply an untruth," Greaves. properties.

Minister Nandlall

General emphasising extensive timeframes: have he said.

refuted these claims, were held across several outlined.

with 2022, January 2022, recently in March and or moving had April 2024. Government reimbursement. **public** representatives included why I am going himself, Minister of persons in May 2022, concerns properties but is not and Planning Authority arbitrarily Sherwyn value."

Public consultations options were also clearly Department Property official

October owners could choose to land, land and house, **"From** October 2023, and most monetary compensation, expense

"We wanted Demerara River bridge engagements... And the Attorney General to ensure that the receive bllowing a **through** this? It's Housing and Water market value for their billion contract because I continue Collin Croal, Minister property because that China Railway to hear allegations of Public Works Juan is what the law says Construction that the government Edghill, and the CEO they are entitled to. Limited is acquiring these of the Central Housing So, we didn't impose market Minister Nandlall explained. The Compensation government's Valuation provided valuations,



Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs, Mohabir Anil Nandlall.

further bolstered by a private valuation officer to guarantee fair market prices.

The Attorney General also addressed concerns raised by resident Vashti Fredericks. He asserted that Ms. Fredericks is obstructing the process and spreading divisive rhetoric.

"It is not the objective of the government to fight **people,"** he clarified. **The** government has a power in law and the government is exercising that power. Right now, properties those owned are by the government by an order published under Compulsory the **Acquisition for Public Purposes Act... those** persons living there and who are refusing to move... are now living there illegally."



The meeting with residents of New Forest, East Canje **Berbice**

Residents of New to the electricity grid. Forest. East Canje Berbice, can expect a **to** community of over 30 Forest can access Jagnandan,

"We are going project's be improvement immediately According to the Canefield Berbice households will receive electricity," Minister its first-ever connection Singh said during a on the president's Singh emphasised.

visit to the community. behalf a previous visit by **immediately.**"

President Ali, when Following residents their lack of electricity posts, access.

Explaining timeline, grid. moving Minister Singh stated,

that the

transmission lines will be strung and the connected to the national

"And to "I have brought the Jagnandan will be in their quality of life connect New Forest Zone Manager for pushing aggressively Guyana on this because I to Senior Minister Power Station so Power and Light wouldlike this project Dr. Ashni Singh, the that residents in New Inc., (GPL), Mr to be completed and before the end of July

The new electricity can



Minister Dr Ashni Singh speaking during the meeting

expect This decision follows **posts** are **planted** connection is anticipated comfort in their homes, to bring a multitude improved security, and the of benefits to the the potential to increase highlighted installation of these community. Residents productivity. This, in turn, can contribute the country's

development. Minister Singh further noted that the government intends to expand electricity access to other nearby communities that meet population density requirements and are situated close to the Canefield grid.

OVER 115 MORE LINDEN RESIDENTS CLOSER



Recipient, Melesia Roberts receiving her agreement of sale from CHPA'S CEO, Sherwyn Greaves

Over 115 residents Amelia's They recently signed land ownership. agreements of sale for their house lots in the ceremony, held at the

Ward-Fitz Greaves Linden, Region Hope housing area. This the distribution of the the importance of the squatters would also Ten, are celebrating paves the way for them to documents. Owning a agreement for her next be able to sign their housing alone in milestone process their certificates title brings numerous steps. on their journey to of title, a crucial step benefits, including easier homeownership. towards securing their access to mortgages from acknowledged

The

house lots allocated to exclaimed. over 487 residents in reach for many.

The Chief Officer signing home construction.

Melisia Roberts, who

Watooka Guest House, received her plot two from signifies a significant years ago, shared her this stage because their agreements. Since achievement for the joy. "I am absolutely of some squatting 2020, the government residents and the Central happy because I issues," he explained. has invested heavily in Housing and Planning can now proceed to "We wanted to make developing Region Ten, Authority (CHPA). With start building," she sure that when we with projects including

the area, this initiative resident who has been any hiccups." is bringing the dream of waiting for this moment homeownership within for a long time, expressed Greaves led a team to residents in Fitz Hope, relief. "You have to assess the area after Amelia's CHPA's **get this before you** infrastructural Executive get the mortgage to faced delays due to Sherwyn start building," she squatting. He assured and 2023, we have facilitated emphasised, highlighting that some regularised **spent more**

Greaves, local banks to finance importance of this event similar event last March, for the beneficiaries. where 167 "We were held back from Amelia's

getting reached this stage, drainage Lydia Allen, another **persons wouldn't get** asphaltic roads, land

Just works agreements of sale.

This the ceremony follows a

to Phase Four received networks, preparation, and recently, improved access Wisroc.

"Between \$1.1 billion infrastructural signing works in these areas." Greaves highlighted.

TWO SINGLE MOTH **RECEIVE NEW HOMES**

(MOM) houses mothers. These homes she turned to MOM for Anil Nandlall, who have faced immense wish. challenges in their lives.

Bibi, a 64-year-old tears, Bibi expressed her a

The Men on Mission single parent and cancer heartfelt gratitude for initiative survivor residing in the new home and the recently celebrated a Mon Repos, East Coast unwavering support she milestone by handing Demerara, tragically received. The Attorney over two newly built losing her home to a General and Minister of single collapse over a year ago, Legal Affairs, Mohabir represent a beacon of help. Her plea found attended the handover hope for Bhagwattie receptive ears, and MOM ceremony, commended Ghirao and Bibi Arjune, stepped in to grant her the initiative. "Men are showcasing their On the verge of talent while making story philanthropic resilience. charitable and contribution towards

> **society,**" he stated. In Belle West (Canal #2) on the West Bank Ali's initiative to provide of Demerara, 47-yearold Bhagwattie Ghirao mothers, she wrote a received the other house. heartfelt letter, which Bhagwattie, a single her daughter delivered. mother of two daughters, Her perseverance paid has endured the loss of off when MOM contacted both her husband and her to build a home. son. With unwavering determination.



These homes represent the collective efforts of men dedicated to uplifting vulnerable women in Guyana

worker to support her ceremony, offered words family. Bhagwattie's of encouragement to exemplifies Bhagwattie. "We are purchased land with her late husband, she the upliftment of our managed to build a fence around it. When she learned about President housing for single

Lieutenant Colonel she Lloyd Souvenir, worked as a domestic speaking at the handover he declared, "the Men on Mission is happy to support you."

These new homes signify a personal triumph for both women and stand as a testament to the collective strength of the initiative. By combating toxic masculinity and fostering a supportive environment, MOM is making a real difference in the lives of vulnerable women in Guyana.



Bibi Arjune, a 64-year-old cancer survivor and domestic worker from Mon Repos, at her new home with Attorney General Mohabir Anil Nandlall SC



Lieutenant Colonel Lloyd Souvenir at the handing over ceremony with 47-year-old Bhagwattie Ghirao

Guyana Cheddi International Airport The (CJIA) to response times in case of emergencies.

This decision follows recent inspection by Minister of Home Affairs, Robeson Benn, and Fire Chief (ag) Gregory Wickham. After finalising the project construction details, will begin at a hangar south of the London Army Base, located near the CJIA's recently expanded runway.

The new outpost will

Fire safety, but will also create Service (GFS) outpost new jobs for firefighters will soon be built at and Emergency Medical Jagan Technicians (EMTs). Home Affairs improve Ministry plans to hold a followed by training for the new positions.

This recruitment drive soon, reflects the government's the airport's expanded commitment to safety infrastructure. It's part



not only benefit airport New Fire Service Outpost to be constructed at CJIA

AIRPORT SAFETY TO BE BOOSTED WITH NEW GUYANA FIRE SERVICE OUTPOST initiative and rescue services for

and ensures robust fire of a larger plan by the ministry to build fire stations in critical areas throughout the country. This year's National

Budget allocated \$4.3 billion to the GFS, with \$505 million dedicated specifically to upgrading and building new fire stations. Fire stations in Leonora, Diamond, and Bartica are all expected to be completed this year.



Minister of Home Affairs Robeson Benn and Fire Chief (ag) Gregory Wickham inspecting facilities at the run

NEW MENTORSHIP PROGRAMME TO HELP VULNERABLE CHILDREN

The Men on Mission academic Empowerment Mentorship Programme residing in Georgetown and communities.

"This will bring together 40 children every day," said President Irfaan Ali, who lauded programme's alignment with the government's strategy of addressing social issues through public-private collaboration.

Children aged 5-14 years will benefit from after-school activities geared towards skill enhancement. on Main Street. School of the Nations They will have access and

A groundbreaking marked ceremony beginning the of construction for a new recreational park that will be located next to the State House in the Pomeroon-Supenaam region.

to be completed within four months. It will boast a range of modern amenities to cater community's the recreational needs.

The park will feature modern amenities including an outdoor gym, free WIFI, benches, decorative facilities, lights, cameras, and a security outpost.

launched the first Youth through supplementary computers," explained and learning programmes.

> The programme

support will have access to upbringing. the President.

aimed at providing offers a well-rounded mentorship's valuable guidance and approach, combining importance, President day or two days. This support to 40 children mandatory counselling Ali expressed hope that is a commitment for motivational the programme would sessions with positive forge lasting bonds **group** activities like yoga and between the children



President Ali interacting with some of the children at the launch of the Mentorship programme

The karate. "They will have and will provide additional to the internet...they supporting the children's have

their mentors. The homework together. who committed time their services resources

"This is not a commitment from Highlighting these guys in the private sector for a years ahead," said the President.

> Similar to the joint Welding Programme with the School of the Nations, the Youth **Empowerment** and Mentorship Programme and able to employ in which prosperity aims to equip youngsters for successful careers. persons," the President we are also building The Welding Programme noted regarding the in this beautiful has seen nearly 1,000 registrants.

"These are persons who would Empowerment have never had that Mentorship Programme concluded President Ali. that will opportunity today, because of communities activities will be held at a nutritious meal. He commended the that certification, will the the One Guyana Kitchen They will do their private sector partners be able to provide highway, as well as in tackles social issues to **everyone.** And we and Nine. the private



The Children Mentorship Programme being hosted by Men on Mission (MoM) and the local private sector at the One Guyana Kitchen on Main Street

sector who are ready this beautiful Guyana all of those 1000 must come to all, Welding Programme's Guyana, impact.

The and expand to for Regions and Three, Six through

'So, as we build community support.

positive citizens...citizens Youth that will make their proud," parents

The Men on Mission, along conceptualised Soesdyke/Linden President Ali in 2022, training, mentorship, and

GROUND BROKEN FOR NEW RECREATIONAL PARK IN ANNA REGINA

effort among Guyana's that we are hoping First Lady, the Ministry to have in every of Public Works, and administrative The park is expected the Sheriff Group of **region**," the First Companies.

> emphasised the park's [recreational parks] inclusivity. "I am so in Regions Three, excited to bring this Four and Six." project to Region Two," she said. "This park project underway. recreational park will be open to Rehabilitation works are **all residents.**" She currently in progress at also urged residents to the children's play area washroom take an active role in its in the National Park, upkeep: "Let's work which will soon feature surveillance together to ensure its the country's first-ever sustainability."

National The This is part of the Beautification Project of National Beautification goes beyond Anna Lonsdale in East Bank Project, a collaborative Regina. "It is one Berbice

Lady revealed. "So far, First Lady Arya Ali we have completed

This isn't the only public park splash pad.

In March, residents Brothers celebrated



The sod turning for the new recreational park in Anna Regina

inauguration of Coast. new parks in along the Corentyne enjoying the Kingston

The National communities. Beautification Project Additionally, a new park extends beyond parks. is planned near the beach Residents and visitors of in Number 63 Village Georgetown have been

Seawall Esplanade since its unveiling in September 2023.

This project reflects government's commitment to creating a more beautiful and vibrant Guyana. The First Lady explained, "The **National** Beautification Project aims enhance the overall country's aesthetics, foster a sense of community among residents, and promote appreciation for the natural environment.'

QATAR LIGHTS UP FOR GUYANA'S INDEPENDENCE DAY



The Embassy of Guyana in the State of Qatar hosted its first Independence Day reception

the colours of Guyana's Protocol hosted Independence The venue, the Sheraton festivities. Hotel, transformed into a vibrant celebration of Ambassador, Guyanese culture.

audience, prominent figures like Justice

The Qatari capital, Bin Ali Al Mohannadi blossomed Doha, shimmered with and Director of MOFA captivating Day and the reception on May 26. diaspora all joined the

Shadood, spoke The event attracted Guyana's journey distinguished independence Oatari economic Minister undertaken by President adventure, Ibrahim Irfaan Ali. The evening the

with cultural Department presentation by Ms. Golden Arrowhead as Ibrahim Yousif Fakhroo. Julia Theresa Kanhai, the Guyanese Embassy Members of the business followed by a traditional dazzling community, diplomats, cake-cutting ceremony Guyanese with the dignitaries.

The Guvanese community in Qatar took G u y a n a 's great pride in showcasing Safraaz their heritage through a of cultural exhibition. But to the true highlight was and the delectable spread of including outlined the social and Guyanese cuisine. Guests initiatives embarked on a culinary savouring national dish,

Pepperpot, alongside other traditional fare. Mr. Chris Persaud of UMAMI offered samples of the unique Guyanese condiment, Caseereep sauce, while Chef Salmah Hack, from the Guyanese generously diaspora, shared her special recipe for Pepperpot.

renowned The calligrapher, Abdul Kareem, added a unique touch with a live performance. His artistic creations, gifted to both the Qatari and Guyanese governments and other guests, served as a beautiful symbol of the strong bond between the two nations.

Guyana, US deepen defence relations with new marine vessel 'GDFS Shahoud'

AS part of the Government of Guyana's ongoing efforts to enhance the capabilities of the Guyana Defence Force (GDF), a new marine vessel, the 'GDFS Shahoud,' was officially commissioned at Coast Guard Headquarters on Tuesday.

The 115 defiant monohull offshore patrol vessel is the army's newest patrol vessel named in honour of Colonel Michael Shahoud. He was one of the GDF officers who perished in the fatal helicopter crash last December.

President, Dr. Irfaan Ali, who commissioned the vessel said that naming the vessel in honour of the late Colonel was fitting, since the task of the vessel embodies his valour, dedication and unwavering service.

He highlighted its significance to the Coast Guard's fleet and Guyana's overall maritime capabilities of the country's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).

In his address, he emphasised the vessel's role in protecting the country's territorial integrity, sovereignty, and the valuable resources within its maritime waters. He noted that the commissioning of the 'GDFS Shahoud' is not just an addition to the fleet, but is also a celebration of the strong bilateral relationship between Guyana and the United States, aimed at integrating and expanding asset ranges and enhancing human-



The GDFS Shahoud, named for a GDF officer who perished in a helicopter crash last year

resource capabilities.

"This asset is not only about the Guyana Defence Force (GDF); we know for a fact that we are losing maybe billions of dollars in our Exclusive Economic Zone with illegal fishing and other activities. We have committed to a coordinated and interagency approach to the defence and safeguarding of our maritime space and territorial integrity," Dr Ali stated. He further expressed that the vessel's addition demonstrates the government's commitment to strengthening the country's defence-response

capabilities. The 'GDFS Shahoud' will be crucial in protecting offshore assets essential to Guyana's economic future, ensuring that maritime waters, which play a critical role in the economy receive greater protection.

United States Ambassador to Guyana, Nicole Theriot, also spoke at the ceremony, marking the commissioning as a significant milestone in the GDF's history and the evolving partnership between Guyana and the United States. "It was truly an honour to attend the commissioning of the Guyana De-

fence Force Ship (GDFS) Shahoud, named after dedicated serviceman Colonel Michael Shahoud. With the arrival of this state-of-the-art vessel, Guyana is not just acquiring a physical asset, but a strategic partner. Metal Shark, the U.S.-based company that manufactured the vessel, will also work with the GDF Coast Guard to operationalise this strategic asset, and the company will continue to play a supporting role in the growth and modernisation of Guyana's Coast Guard," Ambassador Theriot noted.

Enough timber for 20,000 homes

IN 2023, Guyana produced approximately 446,000 cubic meters of timber products, enough to build more than 20,000 homes, based on United States standards.

The forestry sector's contribution to Guyana's economy is undeniable. According to the US National Association of Home Builders and other sources, building one house typically requires about 22 cubic meters of timber.

However, if one applies this production to a Caribbean or Guyana context, where houses are typically smaller, the number of homes that could be built with this amount of timber exceeds 25,000.

This sector contributed greatly to the country's exports, which reached US\$20.5 million. Last year. Timber exports are expected to increase to US\$31.4 million in 2024, marking a significant expected increase of US\$10.9 million, or approximately 53 per cent.

More importantly, in 2023, Guyana's forestry sector generated a gross domestic product of approximately US\$86.32 million. With an expected growth of 3.9 per cent in 2024, the sector's GDP is projected to increase to around US\$89.68 million. This growth is driven by sustainable practices and increased timber produc-



Guyana produced 446,000 cubic metres of timber products in 2023

tion.

The performance of the sector in 2023 was largely driven by increased production of logs, sawn wood, and round wood, outweighing declines in fuel wood and split wood.

This increased production is expected to continue supporting Guyana's construction boom. The country's economic growth, urged by increased oil production, has led to a surge in construction activities, including homes,

industrial properties, and new buildings for businesses, hospitals, hotels, and schools.

Furthermore, the upcoming Gasto-Energy project is expected to significantly boost the sector in 2025 due to the anticipated lower cost of power. With reduced energy costs, production in the forestry sector is expected to increase, particularly in the value-added wood products segment. Lower operational costs will make Guyanese wood

products more competitive.

While forestry is vital for the economy, Guyana's forests are also crucial in the global fight against climate change. More than 99 per cent of Guyana's forests remain intact, storing over 19 billion tons of carbon dioxide equivalent.

The country boasts one of the lowest deforestation rates in the world. From 2010 to 2020, Guyana's average deforestation rate was 0.059 per cent, compared to the global tropical deforestation rate of approximately 0.533 per cent, making Guyana's rate about nine times lower.

Guyana employs numerous sustainable forestry practices to maintain the quality of its forests, based on principles outlined in the Low Carbon Development Strategy (LCDS).

These include exemplary codes of practice for timber harvesting, the implementation of reduced-impact logging techniques, strong forest governance and legality practices, and careful pre- and post-harvesting planning.

Guyana's forestry sector is therefore not just an economic driver, but one that shows the government and its people are conscious of the need for sustainable management at every juncture.



FOR GUYANA'S 5











As Guyana marked Road project and the of the celebration was scheme. the Linden to Mabura the ceremony.

its 58th year of establishment of a new independence, the eve 1,000-home housing of the celebration was scheme. Continuing pulsating with patriotism a recent tradition across the nation's 10 of spreading the regions, marked by national spotlight, the numerous flag-raising government has hosted ceremonies. This year, the Independence however, the mining Anniversary celebrations town of Linden in Region outside of Georgetown Ten took centre stage for the past two years for the country's main (Regions Two and Nine). celebration. This choice Linden's turn solidified reflected the significant this commitment to transformation showcasing Guyana's unfolding in Linden, diverse regions. The a place where a series following images offer a of mega-projects are glimpse into the vibrant breathing new life into festivities in this dynamic the region. Development region, capturing is on the rise from the the spirit of national US\$35 million Wismar pride and unity that to Mackenzie Bridge to resonated throughout







ENTRE STAGE INDEPENDENCE































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Jamaican Pride Pigeon Peas 398 ml

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AMERICAN JOURNALISTS DISCOVER GUYANA'S UNTAMED BEAUTY AND RICH CULTURE

journalists embarked on a press actively stunning global audience.

This collaborative They effort among the Guyana birdwatching Tourism (GTA), Destinations, Marketing, renowned publications and teeming with diverse like AFAR, Travel Noire, ecosystems. Atlas Obscura, Lonely Planet, and Matador excursions Network. savannah

The to Lethem, a gateway awe-inspiring Kaieteur they learned to prepare at the abundance

A team of American to Guyana's pristine recently wilderness. Here, they participated trip across Guyana, in wildlife research showcasing the country's and caiman tagging at natural Caiman House Field landscapes and vibrant Station, a firsthand cultural heritage to a experience chronicling conservation enjoyed also and Authority wildlife spotting on Emerging the Rupununi River, and followed by a visit to CornerSun Destination Karanambu Lodge, a targeted haven steeped in history

Multiple and week-long provided opportunities journalists adventure began in to encounter Guyana's significant



North American Fam Group at Kaieteur

longest waterfall, left a lasting Bourda Market. impression on the group.

culinary tours in Georgetown.

Waterfall, the world's local dishes using fresh single-drop ingredients sourced from

"For most of the The trip culminated writers...it was our river in a cultural and first time in Guyana," immersion remarked Nicholas The DeRenzo, a contributor toured to Afar magazine. "We Georgetown's historic incredible wildlife, from sites and participated every step of the to Cara Lodge. From there, giant anteaters to black in a cooking workshop way...at the vastness the group ventured caimans. A visit to the at Backyard Cafe, where of the landscape, This

generosity conflicting desire to **Guyanese."** share this hidden gem This with the world while initiative aligns with also wanting to preserve the GTA's mission to its magic and pristine promote beauty.

ties to Guyana, shared By facilitating these a unique perspective: visits, the GTA aims to trip back...is done which empowers local historical were surprised at with the intention communities, safeguards about my heritage. fosters **journey...** efforts. presented me with

of the wildlife, at the opportunity to deliciousness experience a unique of the cuisine, and side of this country... especially at the This was the most and impactful trip I have friendliness of the been on and it heavily people." DeRenzo reinforced the pride went on to express the I have in being a

sustainable tourism and position Makayla Anderson, a Guyana as a leading journalist with personal ecotourism destination. "As a first-generation showcase the positive Guyanese-socio-economic American...each impact of tourism, learn more cultural heritage, and conservation

GUYANA TOURISM AUTHORIT VELOP REGION TEN'S TOURISM POTEN

Authority(GTA) is setting experience. its sights on Region Ten as the next big tourist to see is that in the Kwakwani area Recognising the region's more attractions so, we are looking growing popularity, the are better known at both riverine GTA is prioritising its and well developed communities, as well development this year, in this area," Phillips as the mainland." Candace Phillips.

the tourism potential the

destination in Guyana. another year's time, and along the way according to Product remarked. "We're also Development Manager looking at service dace Phillips. delivery and quality "We are exploring as well."

The GTA is region," collaborating with local

"What we hope also earmarked for create

ELITE KAYAKING AND NATURE **TOURS: A LOCAL** SUCCESS STORY

Phillips told the communities to achieve Elite Kayaking Department of Public this goal. "We have and Nature Tours, Information (DPI). The **begun assessments in** established during the

The Guyana Tourism more diverse tourist explained. "We've got owner, credits the GTA Linden," some assessments with helping his company says. "A lot of people

Anderson unforgettable come to see the blue



Kayaking across the Blue Lake

existing we will continue to of tourism in Region helped to change out into other areas and adventure," offerings to create a **do those**," Phillips Ten. Deon Anderson, the **the perception of and see Linden is a** added.

lot more than just the blue lakes."

Anderson tremendous potential eco-tourism development, given the region's abundance of waterways, lakes, and creeks. "Developing these areas brings economic development and opens up opportunities," he said. Anderson highlights initiatives like swimming and kayaking competitions that leverage the region's waterways to create new attractions. "With the close proximity to the city, it is a convenient focus is on identifying malali, for example, COVID-19 pandemic, experiences for visitors. lakes, but when they location for weekend exemplifies the potential "My business has come they venture getaways for relaxation"

Guyana

Director of the Guyana Tourism Authority (GTA), Kamrul Baksh meeting with tourism members from other countries at the Caribbean Travel Marketplace

Guvana's rainforests, rivers, and culture are making a tourism. splash on the global

lush the country rapidly winding becoming a leader in vibrant nature and sustainable

country's The tourism scene with offerings were recently

GUYANA SOARS AS

the (GTA) participated in the with the marketers." 42nd Caribbean Travel Marketplace (CTM).

international audiences.

"Guyana is well- tapestry. positioned in the tourism market for its nature and the home that sustainable development projects.

on display in Jamaica, type of tourism and that Guyana is what we are here to is undergoing massive flights will be added for Authority do, and to really network in frastructural American Airlines, as

This focus help promote unique prioritise sustainability 1500 rooms." travel experiences to while highlighting the

Recognising ambitions. importance of continuously try to drive actively investing in stronger

on support infrastructure traditional hubs in New rketplace (CTM). sustainable practices is is a process. Baksh British Airways a major selling point for government," Baksh British Airways Over the past explained. "We are also joined the party, for Guyana to connect four years, the GTA has building 10 new branded launching a new route directly with travel introduced nearly 50 new hotels, simultaneously from London Gatwick to professionals who can tourism experiences that which will add another Georgetown via St. Lucia

Improvements in fueling Guvana's tourism additional

"In April this year, Latin America to North America,'

"Currently Guyana Baksh said. "Additional development; tourism- well as JetBlue from our

last year.

The country's rich cultural air connectivity are also is actively exploring connections within adventure products," infrastructure for a we had United Airlines beyond, demonstrating said Kamrul Baksh, thriving tourism sector, add a route from its commitment to Director of the GTA. "We the government is Houston, so we have attracting tourists from connections all corners of the globe.

Canada funds regional agricultural project; Guyana to benefit

GUYANA is among eight Caribbean countries that will benefit from the new CA\$10 million Regional Gender-Responsive Climate-Smart Agriculture and Food Systems in the Caribbean project.

The project, which was recently launched at United Nations House in Barbados, is funded by the Government of Canada, and, over the next four years, it will be implemented by the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) in Belize, the Commonwealth of Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and Suriname.

According to FAO, it is a collaborative effort involving Canada, FAO, and local government and civil society partners.

The project will enhance Caribbean farmers' resilience to climate change and contribute to economic growth in the region.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau first announced the project during the Canada-CARICOM Summit in October 2023. The regional project will contribute to improving the livelihoods of women and youth in climate-resilient agriculture value chains in the Caribbean.

The FAO, according to a press release, will work closely with local Ministries of Agriculture, farmer organisations, gender bureaus, research institutions, and community-based agroprocessing centres to transform and upgrade these value chains ensuring that they are market-driven using relevant data and facilitate public-private sector partnerships.

The project will also increase the use of climate-smart technologies, innovations, and practices by agricultural stakeholders to make more data-driven decisions and advocate for the expansion of more inclusive, gender-responsive climate-resilient value chains.

Speaking at the media launch, High Commissioner of Canada to Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean, Lilian Chatterjee shared that "Canada recognises the disproportionate impact of food and input price inflation, supply chain disruptions, and climate change in the Caribbean, which has exacerbated pre-existing food insecurity.

"Women are powerful agents of change that can actively contribute to achieving sustainable and resilient agrifood systems. Empowering women and closing gender gaps in agri-food systems is key to deliver on the Sustainable Development Goals. This new project will complement Canada's other efforts to strengthen agricultural entrepreneurship and food systems in the region, notably the CA\$19.8 million Sustainable Agriculture in the Caribbean project and our support to Compete Caribbean."

FAO's Sub-Regional Coordinator

for the Caribbean, Dr. Renata Clarke further stated that the organisation has been promoting the use of climate-smart technologies that are adapted to the region, increase efficiency in the use of water, nutrients, and biological control agents, and reduce the use of pesticides.

"Integrating efficient and affordable practices and technologies such as renewable energy for solar pumps for irrigation, and digital agricultural sensors have also been piloted to improve overall crop management. With the impact of climate and weather hazards, we have introduced Anticipatory Action protocols which are integrated with national Agriculture Disaster Risk Management and Climate Information Services."



Guyana is among 8 Caribbean countries to benefit from the fund

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<u>Guyanese diaspora digest</u> KEEPING THE DIASPORA INFORMED

GUYANA ACCELERATES NATURAL GAS MONETISATION EFFORTS - EYES BRAZIL AS POTENTIAL MARKET

The government is pushing that's one option. estimated recoverable March, revealing that want to work on it," he project." forward with plans to We can bring the gas gas reserves within the the Ministry of Natural disclosed. "They have unlock the value of its onshore to a bigger Stabroek Block amount Resources was reviewing selected a company of the gas monetisation natural gas reserves pipeline, not the 12 to 17 trillion cubic feet Expressions of Interest now, the evaluators... plan is the Guyana located in the Stabroek inches, and then use Block offshore. initiative aims to generate cheaper energy generated power, Dr. domestically and create Jagdeo noted, could be opportunities for new strategically marketed products, to Vice President Dr. which currently imports Bharrat Jagdeo, who also energy from Venezuela. serves as the General "That's Secretary of the People's **lucrative** Progressive Party (PPP). he emphasised.

"We we can our gas," Dr. Jagdeo industry, party press conference big use for the gas." in Georgetown. He outlined pathways to achieve government's this goal: "We can to **ship it out to an LNG** gas monetisation

Guyana **floating** This it to generate power."

This natural gasaccording to Northern Brazil, very a venture," "We believe can then use it for monetise [the] petrochemical declared at a recent believe there is [a] (tcf).

President various announced natural expedite in an

platform; January of this year. The selection process in a viable project and we move forward with a



The government's plan to expedite natural gas monetisation in January of this year

announcement, government plan project forward.

Following the (EIOs) for a model to to relinquish," the guide Guyana's gas asset explained solicited monetisation strategy. discussions the proposals to move the "They have had some ExxonMobil. "So, they natural gas (LNG), really good firms with did some studies and ammonia/urea, and blue Dr. Jagdeo provided good credentials that **they said we believe** ammonia/hydrogen.

with ExxonMobil."

acknowledged possibility that other capable document. companies would be interested. "We said, explores if you're not moving monetisation update on the said, 'we believe there is we may be able to

A crucial component that company will Gas Monetisation now have to sit down Strategy. A draft of this bil." strategy was released Jagdeo for public consultation the in October 2023. Dr. that Jagdeo indicated ExxonMobil might not that the Ministry of be able to participate in Natural Resources is the project. However, currently working with a he expressed confidence consultant to finalise the

The draft strategy various options, forward, you got including using natural he gas for power generation regarding and producing products with like methanol, liquefied



A first copy of the book was presented to Mark Phillips, Prime Minister of Guyana, by René van Nes, Guyana's

The Rupununi, a titled region in Guyana known People in the Rupununi.' as the "Land of Giants" has a new champion: Biological a comprehensive book the book chronicles the

has

by

Endorsement of Forest

global environmental,

chain of custody, and

with

commitment

acknowledged

Certification

Certification

standards.

group

(GNFCS)

sustainable

practices

"Wildlife and

Launched for its majestic wildlife, International Day for Diversity,

G u y a n a 's Developed with input to from various groups, forest it ensures responsible been practices throughout the internationally logging process.

the endorsement of with the PEFC label National Forest assures buvers System environmentally the socially Programme for the practices.

Certification verifies (PEFC). adherence to national marketplace. This means timber and and international laws, timber products certified including worker rights designed to be costunder GNFCS will now and anti-child labour effective for all forest be recognised as meeting measures.

social, and economic with regulations like the community EU Timber Regulation, Group The GNFCS uses ensuring legal three key standards: sustainable management, throughout.

Guyana's

dedicated work of the programme Sustainable Management Programme between model 2018 and 2023.

The book offers a sustainable use and local knowledge, with species preservation. 15 chapters dedicated to crucial areas: wildlife contribution is local interactions with wildlife conflict. wildlife, human-wildlife understanding and, most importantly, face conservation initiatives.

throughoutthebookisthe and wildlife conservation. mitigation strategies. Yupukari river turtle management milestone.

demonstrates can to

Another population assessment, chapter on humanwith to support the Guyana Prime Minister." A central message Wildlife Conservation Management copies critical role empowered Commission (GWCMC) key stakeholders, the of communities play in in developing effective publication serves not communities,

community's innovative wasn't just a scientific as a blueprint for future

serves copy was presented to Wildlife as a prime example Guyana's Prime Minister, (SWM) within the book. This Mark Phillips, by René programme van Nes, the European how Union Ambassador Guyana. "We wealth of scientific data go hand-in-hand with have extended this programme because vital it is very successful," the van Nes said during the presentation. "It's one Spanning nearly 300 By of my favourites. I'm pages and adorned with the pleased to present stunning photographs, co-existence strategies, challenges communities one of the very

> With only printed The book's launch achievement, but also the EU. A first conservation efforts.



A total of 100 books have been printed and are currently being distributed to key stakeholders

"Wildlife and People in large first copies of this the Rupununi" stands c o m m u n i t y - l e d carnivores, the book aims beautiful book to the as a testament to a collaborative triumph. 100 It's a testament to the for unwavering dedication Rupununi only as a record of unwavering support of

GUYANA'S FOREST MANAGE **GETS GLOBAL RECOGNITION**

Guyanese timber dating back to the early foreign specialists. 2000s, provides a solid foundation for the complements responsible allows authorities to track timber from its source in the forest to the

GNFCS The operators, from large The system aligns companies to small groups. certification and allows smaller players logging to share costs and expertise. Additionally, robust training local auditors certification. wood tracking system, will reduce reliance on The

GNFCS forestry, like the EU's Agreement and the Low other Forest Law Enforcement, Carbon and GNFCS. This system government initiatives Governance and Trade Strategy.

promoting sustainable Voluntary Partnership Development



PRESIDENT AL

along the Demerara the visit, placing a strong this issue. emphasis on agriculture government infrastructure **conduct** development.

see "We opportunity this utilise land their and President Ali remarked **journey**," he declared. regarding the untapped potential of Susannah's pointed Rust's fertile lands.

and hot peppers were citing \$3.5 million for identified as promising expanding education, ventures, with President \$12.8 million spent on Ali pledging government infrastructure upgrades, recognises support in the form of \$20 million injected into **need to ramp up** the Demerara River. training, protective gear, social services, and \$107 production," President and beehives.

Acknowledging the agriculture sector.

Ali challenges faced by local River during a recent commitment to tackling revealing over \$240 residents. works an two acres for each production in Sand Hills. announced to farmer to encourage return to encourage production. That's residents to set up the investment we're shade houses to tap making. All we ask is into viable markets your commitment to and increase their produce, work hard, disposable income," and join us on this

President recent government investments Honey production in Susannah's Rust,

"The million already invested will in Dora and announcing transportation **drainage** plans to clear 60 acres were also addressed on village women. and clear of land for agricultural by President Ali, who

S i m i l a r crop, to ease the strain establishing outlined ambitious plans farmers due to flooding, pronouncements were of fluctuating prices, houses on residents' school will see upgrades to revitalise communities President Ali highlighted made in Dora and Sand and provide a more land. The government including the completion government's Hill, with President Ali stable income source for will supply the roofing of teacher's quarters

plans



Residents at one the meeting

million invested in the Ali said. This land will be empower dedicated to a specific President Ali proposed

"The government procure two cargo boats

families,

material and provide furnishing, woes with a particular focus projector.

"We to **calculated earn approximately** health posts. \$700,000 per year," he said.

Highlighting emphasised, "This is how proposed you build prosperity." The Guyana Marketing involved to find buyers River

In Low address and engine in the 2025 regions.

shade budget. Additionally, the Residents 'training for residents, dispensers, fans, and a

> Healthcare **have** improvements were also that promised, with a Health even with a short- Ministry team scheduled term crop... these to visit the community to households stand to assess the needs of the

> Looking beyond agriculture, President acknowledged the Ali importance of disposable the Demerara River's income, President Ali tourism potential and eco-agrobased tourism ventures.

President Corporation will be visit to the Demerara communities for the farmers' produce. serves as a testament Wood, to the government's the to assist farmers along President Ali pledged commitment to fostering student development Looking to further transportation issues by empowering residents allocating funds for a boat across Guyana's diverse

A'S REGIO

a major step towards for becoming a leading distributing, Caribbean with the construction of a US\$14 million regional food hub along the Soesdyke-Linden Highway.

Phase I of the between project, which began in and the 2023 for \$187 million, strengthening bilateral logistics sectors. is nearing completion. trade with Brazil. Phase II construction \$625.2 million.

The facility will act packaging,

primarily from Brazil's food items. Roraima state. This trade, and logistics

will commence this year the terminal will offer for Roraima by offering project's external and with a total budget of crucial services like an alternative route foundation cleaning,

Guyana is taking as a central location and storing products in This will also lead to a aggregating, temperature-controlled significant decrease in and units. This ensures top the cost of fresh and food exporter in the marketing food products, quality and safety for all processed agricultural

> The hub is expected and regional markets. will solidify Guyana's to generate significant position as a key revenue and create with Guyana's goal of transportation, new jobs in Guyana's reducing hub rural and remote areas, food import bill by 25% Roraima particularly in post- by the end of 2025. Caribbean, harvest and agricultural

The project aims to qualified sorting, through Guyana, easing Bidding labelling, logistical challenges. National

products for both local

This initiative aligns CARICOM's

government The currently inviting contractors Upon completion, decrease shipping costs to submit bids for the works. follows the Competitive

2003. All bids must be in Georgetown. submitted by June 27th, 9 am, to the Chairman National the

(NCB) Procurement and Tender procedures outlined in Administration Board at the Procurement Act the Ministry of Finance



Regional food hub works advancing



Amernauth Kariteal

Residents Now-or-Never Number 10 Village in Region Five expressed their appreciation for the government's significant investments and initiatives in the agriculture sector during a community engagement Minister of Agriculture, commended Zulfikar Mustapha.

Mustapha Minister highlighted the government's focus on supporting rice farmers since taking office in 2020. The government's increase crop yield and to the agriculture sector. sector. improve livelihoods.

distribution fertilisers, expansion of had said and what gratitude farmlands, of drying other of high-quality seed "hands-on approach" paddy, and access to new displayed by Minister for everything." markets.

Rice farmer the with Amernauth Kariteal commitment the responsive,

"I don't think you can These efforts include ask for better than echoed Mustapha, reflecting government's another

and

active efforts aim to government's dedication development in the food are getting a lot of resulted in the launch of

REGION FIVE RESIDENTS APPLAUD

GOVT'S INVESTMENTS IN AGRICULTURE

Dolly for improved the government...is Agriculture Ministry's is being done." drainage and irrigation doing for farmers... support: "So far, the systems, establishment This is exceptional in agriculture minister initiatives rying floors, **every area,"** Kariteal **has done a great job...** reducing land rental and critical pillar of Guyana's infrastructural emphasised to the **He has done so much** drainage and irrigation agriculture sector, the developments, provision DPI. He praised the **for this community...** charges, and we are so grateful to substantial

> Nowrang inclusive, changes

Ramphal **area...Thanks to the** variety in October 2023. Kariteal's **minister** and the The adoption of drones of what the minister sentiments, expressing president because and other technologies the everything we ask for is also contributing to

include savings for Region Five non-traditional sectors, Panchu, farmers. Additionally, aiming farmer, collaborative research Guvana's position as a to highlighted the positive with the Inter-American key player in the regional witnessed Institute for Cooperation food supply chain. sustainable in recent years: "We on Agriculture (IICA)

development in this a new zinc-enriched rice advancements in rice The government's production efficiency.

While rice remains a leading government is cost looking to expand into **GUYANESE DIASPORA DIGEST**

KEEPING THE DIASPORA INFORMED

LEADS IN



Advisor to the Minister of Health and Guyana's Ambassador to Switzerland, Dr Leslie Ramsammy speaking on the 'Health Matters' programme

Ramsammy, Ambassador Switzerland, announced CARICOM.

Leslie a major achievement in is attributed to several already Advisor Guyanese healthcare: factors, to the Minister of becoming the leading increased access to also Health and Guyana's country for kidney dialysis within The to transplants

"Guyana **comes** to **kidney** treatment. replacement therapy," Ramsammv on the Ministry of modern technology has "We are adopting must be exposed to Health's Matters" "We have become **transplant country in** efforts to **CARICOM.** In 2024 this progress. the programme and process making it a centre of only excellence."

This accomplishment **persons** treatment. it

has as it provides annually Additionally, regular kidney health...we recently upped its for each person who testing will own game when it is in need of dialysis conducted for high-risk be in every home in

> Furthermore, Dr. the rollout of dialysis moving forward," Dr. early, said centres equipped with Ramsammy declared. with kidney disease "Health significantly contributed **revolutionary** programme. to this success.

Ramsammy Dr. the leading kidney emphasised the ongoing maintain "The we are expanding ministry is in the of not rolling out medications... to who diagnosed including with the disease but implementing within the investment is evident **system**," he explained.

populations.

new approaches to medications."

be want kidney health to this country. We have "So, Guyana is to start medications and modern testing and





government's primary healthcare A dialysis patient receiving the annual \$600,000 subvention from Minister of Health, Dr Frank Anthony

PUBLIC INPUT SOUGHT ON PROPOSED SEXUAL OFFENCES ACT AMENDME

Attorney the Nandlall, is calling for lawmaking. all Guvanese to have their voices heard! The Ministry of Legal Affairs recently released draft amendments to the Sexual Offences Act of 2010, and they're seeking feedback from the public and key stakeholders.

"The draft document was released on May 27, with a 21-day window for receiving recommendations and proposals," Minister Nandlall highlighted. This transparency reflects government's General

The

General, Mohabir Anil commitment to inclusive urged the parliamentary read the bill the night that view, to put



Public feedback is encouraged

specifically process. "Please don't for those who hold practices. Attorney participate in the review **debated in the house and amendments,"** he amendments, and then come with said. half-baked some during a programme.

> within the designated with timeframe.

Minister all feedback will be sexual offence cases. reviewed. "There is a view out there that looked the principal act is legislation harsh...well,

analyse Guyana's sexual OFFENCES%20. He emphasised the offences legislation and importance of well-draft revisions. This encouraged via email considered suggestions involved consultations at judges, enforcement officials,

The review at similar (IDB). in the this Caribbean is the opportunity Commonwealth for best

To learn opposition to actively before it is being forward proposals and access the draft the Ministry of Legal The review process Affairs website: https:// **proposals**," he stressed itself is comprehensive. mola.gov.gy//bills/ televised A consultant was hired to THE%20SEXUAL%20

Public feedback is agchambersmola@ law gmail.com.

This initiative is Nandlall legal professionals and a collaborative effort assured the public that individuals with pending between the government and the Inter-American also Development

LABOUR MINISTRY LAUNCHES NEW APP TO EMPOWER WORKERS, HASTEN DISPUTE RESOLUTION

The Ministry of track Labour has launched a electronically, and access how Guyanese workers rights. address labour disputes.

"The app allows employees the public to submit employers Minister of Labour Officer is crucial for proper them. investigation and resolution."

App Advice employers. submit can

complaints year.

"It and track their convenient, efficient, partners to champion complaints with the and user-friendly workers' rights, and ministry," explained tools, "said Chief Labour recovering over \$150 Joseph Hamilton at Deonarine. He assured from employers the launch ceremony the public that the app less than four years, ministry's complements existing averaging \$75 million Brickdam office. "This services, not replace annually.

coincides with a positive **matter**, **the** Available on both trend – a decrease in **people** Google Play Store and labour complaints. There resolve it for you Store, Labour was a 14% decline in 2023 is the ministry of empowers compared to 2022, and labour," emphasised both employees and the downward trajectory Minister Hamilton. Users continues in 2024 with a and 27% reduction so far this

ministry new mobile app, "Labour a wealth of labour-related attributes this progress Advice", to revolutionise laws to understand their to proactive initiatives, including over 18 **provides** awareness seminars held and nationwide since 2021, with collaboration with social Dhaneshwar million for employees

you have This digital shift a labour relation only who



Minister of Labour, Joseph Hamilton speaking and Chief Labour Officer, Dhaneshwar Deonarine displaying the mobile app

<u>Guyanese diaspora digest</u>

KEEPING THE DIASPORA INFORMED

GOVT PUMPS HALF A BILLION DOLLARS INTO REVIVING AGRICULTURE IN REGION ONE

and

we're

breadfruit...these

IMPROVED

importance

roads

President

infrastructure

going

breadfruit

Ali

of

President Ali has outlined an ambitious vision for agriculture in Region One (Barima-Waini), highlighting its potential to contribute significantly to Guyana's food security.

"The government through the Ministry of Agriculture is making significant investments position the region as a major producer of high-value crops," President Ali said during a recent outreach in the region.

revitalising crops coffee, coconut, and breadfruit.



President Ali addresssing the meeting in Kwebanna

establish a substantial the government in "It's an important want to establish for cultivation. The focus is on plantation, featuring President announced having the market lucrative Arabica and Liberica the development of 500 available, so, we will varieties, to restore acres of land specifically come in and buy the **Region One as a** for cassava cultivation. coffee prominent

10.000-coffee

upon the government's we want to replant previous White facility," facility has instrumental cassareep."

President agricultural pointed out that White producing a substantial access pounds 30,000 However, cassava. emphasised the government's goal of Large-scale achieving even greater



President Alii greeting residents of Waramuri

COFFEE REVIVAL

President stressed the importance of reviving the coffee industry. 'We're working coconut actively identify new opportunities areas for growth," stated, revitalise the to **coffee** He lucrative industry...'

The goal is to farmers

across 242 villages.

carbon credits."

These

producer," he declared.

COCONUT AND CASSAVA **CULTIVATION**

is also planned. The and government intends to introduce 20,000 "aiming Brazilian coconut nuts, President Ali announced. emphasised collaboration work them

Guyana is making a encompass various significant investment sectors like tourism, Amerindian, a griculture, riverine, and remote infrastructure, communities through a traditional crafts, and series of projects funded income generation, all by carbon credits. A total designed to promote of \$4.7 billion is already sustainable livelihoods being used to support for residents. The good over 800 initiatives news doesn't stop there. The upcoming National "We're extremely Toshaos Council (NTC) **pleased with the** Conference will see an **implementation,"** Dr. additional \$2.7 billion Bharrat Jagdeo, General allocated to these Secretary of the People's villages from carbon Progressive Party (PPP), credit revenue. "They said at a recent press will be notified about conference. "The last the new allocation report indicated that for these villages," Jagdeo 811 projects were Dr. being executed in "We are extremely 242 villages, purely pleased about the funded by the sale of allocations."

The Low Carbon projects Development Strategy

coffee plantation: "We identifying suitable areas regional commodity

Further. the to support you by

This initiative builds are long-term crops, investment **5,000** Water. plants in Region One "Late last year, the so you can become an government invested important supplier," **some \$25 million in** he explained. an agro-processing **President** Ali explained. "This TRANSPORTATION been in boosting the village's a cknowledged processing of cassava the

cultivation production levels.

BREADFRUIT PRODUCTION

Breadfruit with production will be urging supported as well. with President Ali remarked,

facilitate transportation **produce,"** he pledged.

Furthermore. the president intention to explore the (NAREI) has possibility of investing in invested heavily, with a cargo boat to facilitate President Alistating, that the transportation of the agency has poured agricultural from the region." This to support farmers to

the of land for cultivation, of President Ali informed the community.

The National revealed, Agricultural Research government's and Extension Institute products almost \$500 million



The meeting in Canal Bank

would be crucial for expand their agriculture expanding Guvana's agricultural economy.

CITRUS REVIVAL

The citrus plantation success. revived, with "We will invest in government already **of** to available some 210 acres

production. The region is poised to become a major spice producer with these additional government initiatives.

Investments for in Santa Rosa is being are not limited to the agriculture. "Billions dollars have Water alone is currently farm-to-market in discussions to make also been injected into improving infrastructure important areas such as education, health, sports and youth as well as social services integral to residents' livelihoods," President Ali highlighted.

The outreach programme included a forum for residents to voice their concerns and engage in discussions with the president.



Resident of White Water and surrounding communities



An \$8M carbon-credit funded sawmill in Karrau Village which has provided employment opportunities

2030, (LCDS) cornerstone of initiative, was developed consultations villages.

agreement with energy alongside giant Hess Corporation, like Presidential Grants which will purchase 30% and the Amerindian of the country's forest Development carbon over a decade, which support capital provides a steady stream projects of income for the LCDS. communities. The sale of the remaining 70% of carbon credits is

a expected to generate this even more resources.

While 15% of LCDS with extensive national funds go directly to and villages, the remaining endorsed by the NTC. 85% supports climate This plan commits 15% of resilience and adaptation all carbon credit revenue efforts. This is further to be directly invested in bolstered by government the economies of these investments in core social services like healthcare, Guyana's multi-year education, and housing, initiatives in these

<u>Guyanese diaspora digest</u> KEEPING THE DIASPORA INFORMED



President Ali visiting the ongoing construction site of the Ogle-Eccles four-lane highway

the ongoing construction with the contractors, site of the Ogle-Eccles Ashok Buildcon Limited, four-lane

President Ali visited during which he met highway Public Works Minister

Edghill, Juan technical officers from the ministry.

President emphasised connectivity as a result The received confirmation Demerara. that U-turns will be

and kilometers.

The significance of enhanced by October of this year. Jagan "On this highway, a median and stretch we will have a lot of from the intersection of development going the Ogle Airstrip Road joined by Minister of on, on both sides," he and the Rupert Craig Agriculture, Zulfikar explained. To facilitate Highway on the East Mustapha, during his easy movement between Coast of Demerara to visit to the construction the two sides of the Haags Bosch in Eccles, site. highway, President Ali on the East Bank of

Upon completion, constructed every 1.5 the new highway will

serve multiple purposes. US\$106.4 It will establish a direct million project began link between the Eugene Ali in June 2022 and is F. Correia International the expected to be completed Airport and the Cheddi International 7.8-kilometer Airport (CJIA) and open of the new road network. highway will feature up new lands for various purposes.

President Ali was



Work ongoing on the Ogle-Eccles four-lane hiahwau

GOVT TAKES CONTROL OF CONVERSATION TREE

The taken action to get the stalled **Guyana."** Conversation Tree Road In a move to address payment for Ministry of agreement with the project's delays. contractor, original Kallco Guyana Inc.

"We have light at inconvenience the **Tree project,"** Edghill explained. announced Minister of To ensure Public Works, Bishop project's Juan Edghill, during a the government has recent inspection of the appointed ongoing works. "I want contractor, to officially announce company, S. Jagmohan **demobilised from the** had

decisive **Government**

The agreement project back on track. includes Kallco receiving focus on expediency, the **contractor** work prolonged delays, the completed, and covering Public outstanding financial Works has reached an obligations related to the

This action comes as Trinidadian company a response to the project significant causing the end of the tunnel residents and impeding when it comes to crucial infrastructural **Conversation** development, Minister

the completion, Guyanese that Kallco has been and Sons. This company

noted.

government contract with the and efficiency in their will hope that we are for of work, Minister Edghill able to get this done and **by the end of August.** throughout the delays. With a renewed **We are pushing, the** government has set a new that he has to work project also includes

their Beyond

knows main roadworks, the of



Ongoing works on the Conversion Tree Road project

completion. want this to be done done." successfully quickly," Minister site. They have settled executed the Eastern Edghill emphasised. "It expressed all of their obligations section of the project, is going to finish long appreciation as it relates to their demonstrating reliability before Christmas... I the

The community Conversation

deadline for the project's day and night and enhancements to the "We we are getting that surrounding area. The ministry has engaged Minister nine small contractors rehabilitate his to to boulevard along Tree,

patience Minister understanding revealed. Works include the construction of a the walkway, installation lighting, landscaping to improve safety, accessibility, and aesthetics along the thoroughfare.

> The Conversation Tree Road project is part of a larger vision for improved traffic flow in Georgetown. "We have plans to extend the road network, linking Conversation **Tree Road to Dennis** Street and eventually to Vlissengen Road," Edghill Minister outlined. This strategic expansion aims enhance connectivity, alleviate traffic congestion, and facilitate the easier navigation.

GOOD SUCCESS TO TIMEHRI ROAD UPGRADE PROJECT

Upgrade Project with major a Stakeholder Meeting and tourism hub. on May 31, 2024. The in Coverden, East Bank national infrastructure consultant from utility companies, local Corentyne River Bridge, CRBC), government, emergency the Palmyra to Crabwood stakeholder community. services, and other key Creek upgrade, a deepstakeholders.

Public Edghill highlighted the Guyana. These projects Road within a 36-month project area.

The Ministry of road's role in connecting the country. Public Works (MoPW) the hinterland to the kicked off the Good coastland and Guyana's the

Minister Works River, and upgrades 23.7-kilometer

The Minister stressed to early completion. importance of Success to Timehri Road vision of becoming a stakeholder involvement construction transportation in ensuring the project anticipated, with efforts Jagan delivers value for money. made to maintain two Edghill He emphasised the lanes of traffic whenever well-attended meeting, placed the project within need for collaboration possible. held at the Prairie Hotel the context of a broader between the MoPW, the brought push. He mentioned Associates Inc.), the on worker safety on the together representatives ongoing and upcoming contractor (China Road job site, and adherence businesses, projects like the new and Bridge Corporation, to road signs and and

The project water port on the Berbice aims to upgrade the is significance. all aim to improve timeframe. The Minister He emphasised the connectivity throughout expressed hope that upgrade project looks

Safety is a top (Sheladia priority, with a focus the instructions for drivers and pedestrians.

project The expected Good create employment Minister, Bishop Juan to major roads across Success to Timehri opportunities within the

> This critical

collaboration could lead to improve traffic flow, Airport and a major safety, and overall route for construction N i g h t t i m e infrastructure along the materials used in other is vital link to the Cheddi development

projects International countrywide.



Stakeholders at the meeting

PRESIDENT ALI CONGRATULATES INDIAN PRIME MINISTER ON RE-ELECTION



President Ali with Prime Minister Narendra Modi

In message, Irfaan Ali and People of Guyana to leadership. Prime Minister Narendra India.

President highlighted Minister Modi's victory, are looking forward continue to build on

heartfelt noting that it is a clear to continuing our President testament to the trust **strong** extended and confidence the as we work towards warm congratulations on Indian people have strengthening behalf of the Government once again placed in his **our**

Expressing his the

friendship relations."

President Modi following his re- optimism for the future, congratulatory message India, looking forward election as the leader of President Aliemphasised underscores the mutual to new opportunities importance of respect and commitment for cooperation and Ali the strong friendship to collaboration shared development the between Guyana and by both nations. As Prime Minister Modi's significance of Prime India. He stated, "We Guyana and India leadership.

their historical ties, this renewed leadership under Prime Minister Modi is expected to further enhance diplomatic and economic partnerships, fostering growth and prosperity for both countries.

The Government and diplomatic People of Guyana remain committed to deepening Ali's their relationship with

Guyana's financing came under **fraud attempts.**". scrutiny by the Caribbean Financial Action Task challenges, Force (CFATF) at its 58th Nandlall emphasised Plenary and Working the Group Meetings held unwavering from June 2 - 7, 2024, in commitment Trinidad and Tobago. strengthening

MP, Attorney General AML/CFT regulatory Minister and Legal Affairs led the **Guyana,"** he declared. Guyanese delegation. He highlighted Guyana's acknowledged Guyana's growing recent economic boom, as particularly in the oil destination, and gas sector, which "Our Government is has put the nation "in determined to accord the spotlight," attracting the highest priority to significant international Guyana becoming as interest.

conceded the challenges gold standards in the Guyana faced during economic, financial the assessment period, and legal realm." "the tail including end of the COVID-19 General also addressed pandemic" "March the

fight 2020 General and money **Regional Elections** laundering and terrorist with alleged electoral

Despite these Minister government's strengthening its AML/ The Hon. Mohabir CFT regime. "We have Nandlall, SC, a vastly improved of **framework** importance investment an compliant as possible Minister Nandlall with international

The Attorney and unique aspects **2nd**, Guyana's context that

GUYANA'S ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING EFFORTS SCRUTINISED BY CFATF



The Guyanese delegation

logistical challenges, farmers. and that the ongoing territorial dispute with outlined geopolitical issue.

out that Guyana is a enforcement capabilities. primarily

influence the society with limited evaluation. He noted use of legal structures that Guyana's population like trusts, and noted about 800,000 the prevalence of copeople spread across a operatives, a unique vast landmass, present legal entity used by small

Minister Nandlall concrete Venezuela is a complex steps the Guyanese government has taken He also pointed to bolster its law cash-based This includes increased

staff and expertise.

collaboration between **not complying is not** investigative and the judiciary was Nandlall also highlighted.

laboratory to enhance and reforms to expedite cause." investigations and highlighted.

frameworks, Measures terrorist financing and Global Network. proliferation financing.

"We recognise that while the cost of

compliance is high, I m p r o v e d the consequences of agencies an option," Minister asserted. He expressed the The establishment government's of a modern forensic "unequivocal unwavering investigations, and legal commitment to this

The **CFATF** prosecutions which are Working Group on also underway were FATF Issues (WGFI) will consider Guyana's Guyana is aiming Draft Mutual Evaluation for positive evaluations Report. Following their in several key areas: recommendations, the Risk mitigation and CFATF Plenary may coordination, Financial adopt the report as the Intelligence Unit (FIU) Fourth Round Mutual operations, Supervisory Evaluation Report of and Guyana, subject against confirmation by

GUYANA AND FRANCE FORGE CLOSER TIES THROUGH FIRST JOINT WORKING GROUP MEETING

crucial for Guyana's development regional cooperation.

of Guyana and France Ramis, the first meeting of the Affairs. Guyana-France Joint

Held virtually, the participated, Secretary,

Governments Persaud, and Michèle regional marked a significant the Americas and the security, infrastructure aiming step towards stronger Caribbean for the French d e v e l o p m e n t , ties between the Cobilateral relations with Ministry of Foreign technology, and tourism. operative Republic of

Working Group on May from various ministries timeline to initiate meeting was co-chaired discussions on potential a follow-up meeting in Guyana and by Guyana's Foreign collaboration in critical the last quarter of 2024 with potential benefits Robert areas like

Director of climate change, food ongoing

Representatives Group established a Republic. agencies programmes in these signifies fostering sectors and scheduled partnership defence, to assess progress. Both in

security, sides committed to engagement, The Joint Working Guyana and the French

development growing between France, sectors



Representatives from various ministries and agencies participating in Guyana



Minister of Health, Dr. Frank Anthony at the 77th WHA Session in Geneva, Switzerland

GUYANA'S HEALTH MINISTER ELECTED FIRST VICE PRESIDENT OF WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY

Guyana has secured on the world stage as concluded on June healthcare access. Geneva, Switzerland.

Frank Anthony, 1, is the supreme

The WHA, which a global commitment for Botswana.

nation's Minister decision-making body of Dr. Anthony's vice health First Vice President of Organization (WHO). by the current WHA assembly. the 77th World Health This year's assembly was President, Dr. Edwin Assembly (WHA) in themed "All for Health, Dikoloti, Minister of brings together health Health for All," reflecting Health and Wellness ministers and esteemed

prestigious position began on May 27 and to achieving equitable appointment positioned countries worldwide to Dr. Anthony as a key address critical health The announcement leader in the global issues, establish policies, of Health, was elected of the World Health presidency was made that took place at the a healthier future for all.

> 77th The WHA

This representatives discussions and chart the course for



New Children's Court and Child-Friendly Room at

General **is** and Minister of Legal all sectors of our Affairs, Anil Nandlall, country," celebrated the opening Nandlall said. "The of a new Children's Court **legal** in Wales, West Bank obviously very much Demerara, calling it a at the forefront of "We many times in our about transforming specifically designed to Guyana, and that handle cases involving transformation children

permeating Minister sector "historic" step forward. benefiting from that speak transformation."

new The **government** funded by UNICEF, is according

justice.

"Our government recognises and as central to the construction society," Nandlall emphasised.

This new court legislation.' reflects the government's

more of our citizens UNICEF's help. and citizens across with the legal system a progressively a

"Our system, the legal transformation operation to identify system, the rule of law that I speak about the applicability itself only in the unearthed and the and in capital type Minister advancement of our projects, but also at explained. Minister the level of policy and at the level of amendments

The Attorney broader plan to create a General also announced more efficient and robust plans to review and criminal justice system. strengthen the Sexual "Theinconvenient Offences Act, originally truth is that more and enacted in 2010 with

"After 14 years, the world engage we are conducting desk review, comparative

to international best **increasing numbers," analysis with similar** creating a registry to practices for juvenile said Minister Nandlall. **legislation across the** track sex offenders and government Commonwealth, and mandatory monitoring that, of course, reviewing of their whereabouts, the judicial and that is why the 14 years of its even internationally. and its enforcement is not manifesting that we would have government's continued of that period and development of our physical structures to address them,"

include

Minister deficiencies Nandlall pledged the during collaboration with the iudiciary to improve the iustice system, Nandlall particularly with a focus on rehabilitation for P r o p o s e d violence-related crimes.



AG Nandlall delivering remarks at the opening ceremony for the Wales Children's Court and Child-Friendly Room

THREE NEW HOUSING SCHEMES FOR SOESDYKE-LINDEN HIGHWAY

The Linden poised for a major is tasked with identifying expansion transformation, suitable locations for Soesdyke within the Office of the Prime Minister with for residents along the Minister Responsibility for Public Affairs, Kwame McCoy. Speaking at a recent land lease distribution ceremony for residents in Timehri, Minister outlined the McCoy government's ambitious highway is plans for the area.

to address squatting along the highway. He explained that this will be expect achieved by establishing improvements new housing schemes.

Highway is and Survey Commission like highway who may need highlighted. to be relocated," Minister McCoy revealed.

of the Soesdyke-Linden industry in the area. Highway extends beyond housing. significant development initiative. This project A key focus of the across multiple sectors," government's plan is Minister McCoy pointed layer of development, out.

Residents transportation.

The Guyana Lands Infrastructure upgrades four-lane the of the Junction according to Minister these new communities. to Timehri road will "This will provide options improve transportation,

government The is also committed to The transformation revitalising the tourism

> Perhaps the most "The significant development seeing project is the Silica City promises yet another in explained.

focus on sustainability. of climate change. It will see the creation in addition to shopping project, which includes commercial centres, complexes. hotels,

Construction

apartment 100 homes for young that condos, professionals, restaurants, already begun.



The Soesdyke-Linden highway

in the form of a modern and other facilities, he significant area, Minister McCoy step towards fostering housing.

The

a vibrant city with a combatting the impacts just housing schemes," Minister McCoy pointed "You will see on out. of 100 residential homes the first phase of the the establishment of facilities enhance will has the highway's assets and be able to create opportunities for more work."

Minister McCoy emphasised the importance of collaboration in achieving these ambitious goals. "The government would resist any attempts to derail the progress in communities,' these he declared. "As our government, and as our country develops, in development every region, we want can urban centre in the elaborated. It is a critical plans go beyond just to be able to develop "There are simultaneously, environmentally friendly many things that you develop in a way that The project envisions living conditions and will see apart from brings about order."



First Lady, Arya Ali addressing the stakeholders

Guyana's Arya Ali, sees immense audience." potential in diversifying its offerings. sports, and avenues for growth.

Speaking annual Awards Dinner Auction of the Tourism international students

and Hospitality Association of Guyana (THAG), the First Lady emphasised the need for adaptability and explore through new opportunities.

is a burgeoning market, hospitality to housing and Guyana is perfectly and car rentals. positioned to capitalise on it. rich multicultural identity," Mrs. Ali to reach \$700 billion tourism noted, "Guyana can by 2028. Guyana, industry is flourishing, showcase its unique according to the First and the First Lady, culture to a global Lady, is well-placed to

She She successful examples highlighted education, in the region, such as Premier health St. Kitts and Nevis, (CPL) tourism as exciting new Jamaica, and Trinidad Tournament and Tobago, where last year serves as a urged stakeholders to economic activity. at the education has become **prime example**," she invest in sports facilities, & product. The influx of event,

HEALTH AS GUYANA'S TOURISM UNTAPPED GEMS spending in various Education tourism sectors, from retail and

The global sports "With its industry is booming, with revenues expected attract sports enthusiasts pointed to and adventure travellers.

"The Caribbean held

the industry to embrace brings economic benefits just 10 matches, into this growing market. affordable medical care increased generated a record By offering immersive further boosting the

FIRST LADY SEES EDUCATION, SPORTS, AND



Stakeholders at the President's Awards Dinner & Auction of the Tourism and Hospitality Association of

League economic impact of sporting T20 over \$20 billion."

The **featuring** event management to tap high-quality

First Lady visitors and stimulate Oneidge Walrond, and

President's a prominent tourism explained. "This single accommodations, and foreign patients seeking Investment, Dr. Peter

economy.

The First Lady's message to the tourism industry was clear: embrace these emerging areas of tourism. They hold immense potential for economic growth, cultural exchange, and national development.

Joining the First Lady at the event were key figures from the tourism sector, including experiences, Minister of Tourism, Guyana can attract Industry and Commerce, Chief Investment Officer Guyana can attract of the Guyana Office for yet Ramsaroop.

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President Ali and President of the EMC Foundation. Shuam Nokta at the launching of the Visual Chronicles of the Mahaica Wetlands and Mangroves book

President Ali has set an ambitious goal leadership for Guyana's tourism alongside industry: to become the efforts to leading tourism product climate change and in the entire region by promote environmental 2030.

and mark my words Guyana's **tourism product in** around these values. this region will come close to Guyana's this brand Guyana We will have the Guyana...The value facilities, we will have in nature carries both the infrastructure," an economic and President Ali confidently **financial weight,"** he stated at the launch remarked. of a new book on the Mahaica Wetlands and highlighted Mangroves at the Umana importance Georgetown.

combat sustainability. President "Makenomistake, Ali emphasised that tourism today, by 2030 no industry will be built

> "We have to build product. and value this brand

> > The

This push for tourism sector, and organisations unified and successful the Mahaica area and comes like the Environmental tourism product.

Guyana's Management

The



An image of what the visual book consists of

President Consultants the Foundation. He stressed Chronicles

(EMC) launched book, "Visual of of the need to "marry Mahaica Wetlands and Yana in Kingston, collaboration between **the goals"** of various Mangroves," showcases the government, private stakeholders to create a the rich biodiversity of

its potential as an ecorecently tourism hotspot.

"The Mahaica waterfront is an ecotourism hotspot," said Founder and Director of the EMC Foundation, Shyam Nokta. is where tourism opportunities abound."

With significant government investment and a focus sustainable practices, Guyana is aiming to become a premier tourist destination in the Caribbean and beyond.

GUYANA PUSHES FOR DEEPER TRADE TIES WITH CANADA AT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Canada-Guyana **relationship** Chamber of Commerce Canada, a bond that (CGCC) held its Annual has General Meeting, since emphasising importance of boosting 1966," Persaud said. the country's projected Guyana's key trade trade and investment ties between the two underscored nations.

highlighted the to significant opportunities disruptions. economic "The continues emphasise importance of its collaboration," that there's room for economic development.

strengthened Guyana's the **independence**

resilience of Foreign Secretary, Guyana and Canada's designed to foster have not optimally Robert Persaud, spoke economies in the face of innovation at the meeting at the global challenges like the job Guyana Bank for Trade COVID-19 pandemic and favourable policies trade and investment and Industry (GBTI) geopolitical conflicts. He being implemented flows between the Recreational Centre, Bel emphasised the need by the Government two Air Park, Georgetown. for greater cooperation of Guyana offer the Persaud remarked. mitigate economic events have provided of both countries to highlighted collaboration in light key learning lessons, foster of Guyana's impressive perhaps the most increase trade, and Guyanese diaspora in growth. **important** government being the need for asserted. to greater solidarity, the cooperation, and relations, Persaud noted crucial for Guyana's

with Persaud stated.

Highlighting in Guyana's potential, the Foreign Canada. in Secretary pointed to Canada is among Persaud growth rate of 33.9% and the and the government's partners, both favourable creation. these ideal environment "These for the private sectors Secretary **innovation**, importance jobs," one create

growth, particularly diversifying economic Guyana's exports to "Although development our policies **business** entities and **exploited** these "The relations to enhance countries,"

Foreign also the of the describing he Canada. it as a rich source of Despite strong trade expertise and resources



Foreign Secretary, **Robert Persaud speaking** at the Canada-Guyana Chamber of Commerce's Annual General Meeting

"To maximise the full potential of the diaspora, further engagement is move needed to beyond remittances and explore opportunities

investment. trade, entrepreneur development, transfer," skills Persaud urged.

Persaud called on the CGCC to intensify its efforts in facilitating trade missions, forging strategic partnerships, leveraging and preferential trade arrangements under the Caribbean-Canada Trade Agreement. He reiterated government's commitment to private development, sector emphasising the role of the private sector in achieving the nation's key priorities of energy, food, and climate security.

FIRST LADY PARTNERS WITH

The Office of the First own businesses. Lady, in collaboration with the Board of offers Industrial Forty-five women from the training. the region will receive be instrumental training in cosmetology helping them turn their over the next four newfound skills into months.

Participants will also receive life skills coaching programme training, them with the tools they Strong Hope, Charity; need to not only excel Onderneeming in cosmetology, but also Pit, Johanna Cecilia, potentially launch their Lima Sands, Richmond,

The programme an exciting Training opportunity for some (BIT), is launching a new participants to receive initiative to empower small business grants women in Region Two. at the completion of various villages across financial support can in thriving businesses.

The training will micro-enterprise cater to women from equipping Grant Success, Grant Sand



First Lady, BIT partner to train 45 Region Two women in cosmetology

Sparta, Aurora, Hampton Court, Better Success, Bush congratulated Reliance.

At Henrietta, ceremony, First Mainstay, Coffee Grove, Lady Mrs. Arya Ali Lot, Cotton Field and women for embracing this opportunity.

She emphasised the benefits, particularly its versatility to versatility, she explained, women earning potential.

Mrs. Ali that cosmetology offers. their cosmetology can provide to overcome without personal obligations.

Beyond economic

the First numerous advantages of Lady underscored the a career in cosmetology, programme's potential promote and ability to cater to a mobility and equity. "By diverse clientele. This **specifically targeting** for translates to greater training initiative," she stated, "we aim also **to dismantle** highlighted the flexibility barriers that impede progress." For women who may Equipping women with have full-time jobs or skills, she believes, family commitments, can empower them a means to generate economic challenges and supplemental income build a brighter future sacrificing for themselves and their families.

WEST INDIES SECURE VICTORY IN T20 WORLD CUP OPENER **IN GUYANA - PRESIDENT ALI RECEIVES SPECIAL GIFT**



President Ali was presented with a personalised West Indies Cricket jersey

The West Indies cricket team got their President ICC Men's T20 World presented Cup campaign defeating Papua New tournament bat, adding Guinea by five wickets a touch of local pride at the Guyana National to the event. President Stadium in Providence.

Before the match, Ali was with off personalised West Indies to a winning start, Cricket jersey and a Ali then enjoyed the

cheering supporters.

fighting 50 from Sese home crowd. Bau. However, West Chase and Andre Russell shone, with Russell taking his 50th T20 international wicket.

The West Indian chase started shaky, with Brandon King and Nicholas Pooran providing crucial contributions before being dismissed. The middle order faltered, leaving the score at a tense 97/5 with just four overs remaining.

Stepping up to the Fans at the game

exciting match alongside challenge, Chase (42* after runs) and Russell (15 "Starting Papua New Guinea runs) steered the team tournament with a set a target of 137 runs, to victory, calming any win is always good. thanks largely to a nerves amongst the I needed to take it

"I'm Indies bowlers Roston pleased," said Chase

match. home for the team, very and I did it."

Papua New Guinea's





Roston Chase hit an unbeaten 42 as West Indies beat Papua New Guinea in the T20 World Сир

captain Assad Vala, though disappointed with the result, remained positive about his team's performance. were very happy with the way we fought we got wickets at key moments," he said.

LEONORA TRACK AND

Athletes in Guyana can look forward to improved training facilities, with significant progress being made on a new multi-purpose indoor complex at the Leonora National Track and Field, Region Three.

"This facility is notable for being the first of its kind outside of Region Four," said Minister of Culture, Youth, and Sport, Charles Ramson, "It aims to provide a climate-controlled environment athletes to practice, eliminating issues



Construction of the Leonora Track and Field multipurpose indoor facility

caused by weather conditions." development

in a recent interview. expected to be completed disciplines. by the end of the year, will offer a much-needed facility will measure **for** space for particularly Guyana's rainy season. various sports including flooring for the facility work on the outdoor suitable for their needs.

harsh This is a welcome the for The new facility, athletes across various providing

The

Ramson elaborated.

is part of a wider effort Minister improve infrastructure Guyana. Similar facilities the exterior, we will are planned for Regions be able to put in that extend beyond just the One, Seven, Eight, and flooring and they will Nine, Minister Ramson do all the markings revealed, government's **sports.**" commitment to Leonora training facilities.

The project training, approximately 120 ft being undertaken with The ministry has issued approval is granted, during by 150 ft and support attention to detail. The tenders for the rehab ensuring the grounds are

Ramson across they are finishing up

athletes indoor facility, nationwide with proper Ministry is also focusing Future users will need on improvements to the to inspect the condition is existing outdoor field. of the facility before

futsal, indoor cricket, has been sourced from field to make it suitable badminton, basketball, the German contracting for hosting matches, and table tennis, Minister firm BSW Regopul and Minister Ramson said. will be installed once Top dressing work is The indoor complex the roof is completed, underway to ensure a flat playing surface, which is sports explained. "So, when expected to be completed within a month.

> These upgrades physical infrastructure. Minister Ramson noted highlighting for all the various that efforts are also being made to enhance the In addition to the managerial systems for the facility usage requests.

Culture, Youth, and the programme's the Sports in Guyana is informative nature and commitment Olympians. More than athletic development. He 200 track and field went on to describe the athletes recently threw coaches as "great and their hats in the ring kind." for a coveted spot in the programme for the 2028 Olympic Games.

day evaluation process, Wright led by a team of local highlighting Regions Four, Six, and their guidance. Public Information (DPI) forth," she added. about his experience. "I've learned a lot of new of

Another athlete, ministry's elite training Jelisa Wright, echoed Austin's enthusiasm. ''We were able to The rigorous three- showcase our skills," explained, the and US-based coaches, opportunity to impress scouted athletes from the coaches and receive Ten. Malachi Austin, one coaches are here to assist of the participants, spoke in getting us prepared with the Department of with our timings and so

> The Culture, things," and Sport,

The Ministry of Austin said, praising Ramson, emphasised building now for the his confidence in the it, this is what we are government's 2028 Olympics." The potential of the athletes. doing," he continued. to programme, according "We believe we have "We are helping you investing in its future its crucial role in his cultivating local talent. to Minister Ramson, gold



Minister of Culture, Youth and Sport Charles Ramson Jr and officials of the National Sports Commission with participants of the programme and coaches

declared during a recent through Charles Field Centre. "We are

"We are doing this for aims to prepare athletes silver

medallists. you," Minister Ramson for international success bronze medallists for mentorship, the Olympics 2028 in Minister address to reporters at top-notch facilities, and track and field," he competitive spirit across Youth the Leonora Track and cutting-edge equipment. stated. "We don't only 12 sports disciplines. Ramson expressed believe it by saying

medallists, to get connected with some of the best people who have the experience track record, and technical foundation that will help to support that environment where you can grow to achieve that."

> This initiative represents a significant step forward for the ministry's **National** Sports Academy, established in 2021. The academy focuses on developing promising athletes and fostering a



A DAY IN VICTORY VALLEY

- PRESIDENT ALI RELIVES CHILDHOOD MEMORIES

President Ali recently visited Victory Valley in Region 10, rekindling cherished childhood memories from his August holidays spent there with his aunt.

His visit was filled with meaningful engagement as he interacted with residents, cooking traditional dishes, sharing stories, and participating in spirited dominoes games.













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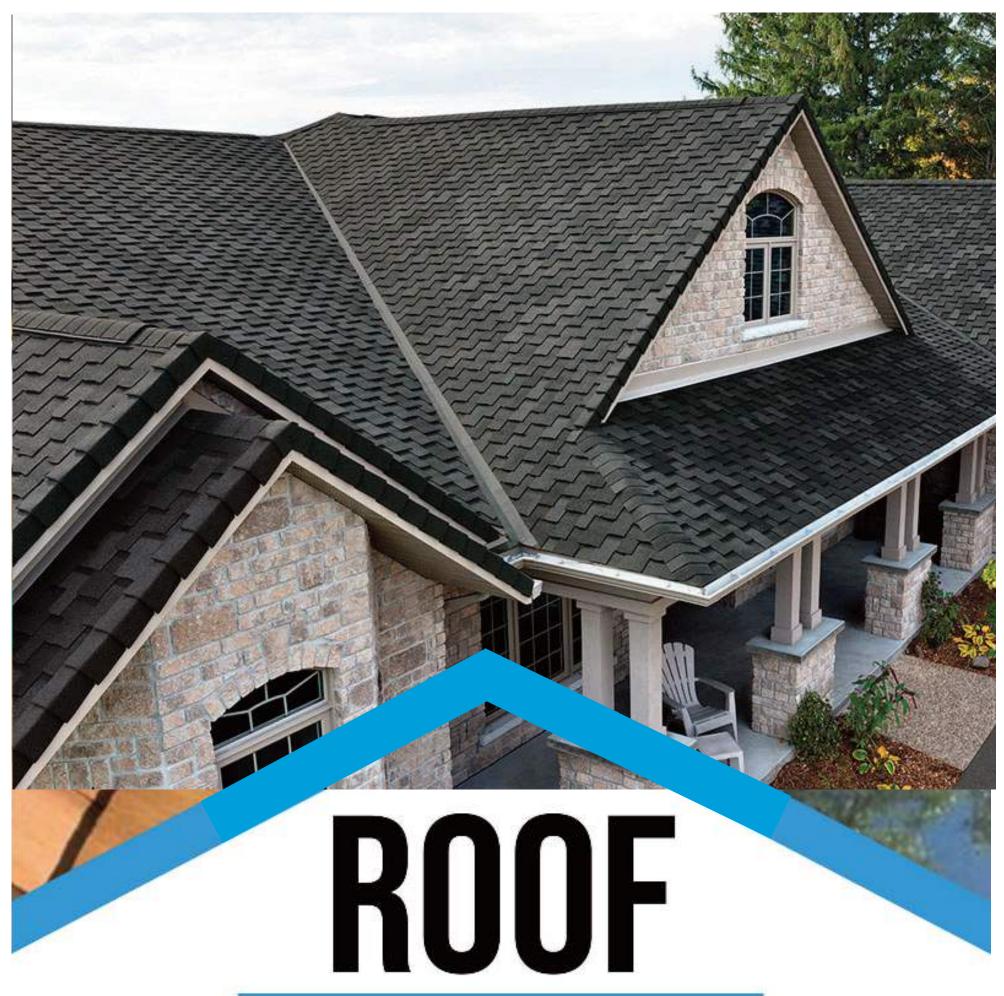
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