

Proudly the largest weekly Caribbean Newspaper in Canada for 45 years

Equality

MAINTAINING THE PERFECT BALANCE

SERVING, CARIBBEAN, EAST ASIANS, GUYANESE, JAMAICANS, TRINIS AND MORE. 416 759 6397

\$1.00

SkyRoute
TRAVEL SERVICES INC.

DIRECT Flights to Guyana on
AIR TRANSAT From Dec.19 2025
SPECIAL FARES *one suitcase at
50Lb. and one carry on*
Call Terry at 416-843-2078
Email: Terry@SkyrouteTravel.Com



VettyvelLaw
Professional Corporation
1-- 203-Markham Rd.
Scarborough Ontario M1B 0E6

• Real Estate Law
(Residential & Commercial)
• Wills & Estates
• Corporate & Commercial Law
Rishani Vettyvel, BBA, LLB, LLM
Barrister & Solicitor
Direct 416 261 1544 Fax. 416 291 1544
rishani@vettyvellaw.com



Thursday October 9 2025. Volume 45, Issue #39 www.equalitynews.ca. For advertising, call 647-1216-2359



New US\$262M Harbour Bridge opens, named for Bharrat Jagdeo

As the day closed on October 5, seven aircrafts of the Guyana Defence Force flew past Guyana's newest bridge as it was commissioned in Demerara, Guyana.

Replacing the Demerara Harbour Bridge which stood above the Demerara River for 47 years, the US\$262M bridge was officially commissioned as the Bharrat Jagdeo Demerara River Bridge. Named after former president and current Vice President, Dr Bharrat Jagdeo, in honour of his years of service and dedication to the uplift-

ment of Guyana and its people.

Speaking at the commissioning, Guyana's President Dr Irfaan Ali said, "As President... It is my honour, my privilege, and indeed my duty, to dedicate this bridge in the name of Bharrat Jagdeo. From this day forward, it shall be called the Bharrat Jagdeo Demerara River Bridge, because great men deserve recognition, because visionaries deserve legacies, and because Guyana never forgets its giants."



**Hesgeth says he has full
authority for boat strikes**

SHARMA

LAW

Catastrophic injury? Car accident?
Slip & fall? Income disability
benefits denied?



sharma@vsharmalaw.ca
vsharmalaw.ca

HURT?
CALL VISHAL'S
DIRECT LINE
647-972-4440



NORMOBARIC
Wellness Centre



For Beauty



For Sport



For Health

**FREE 2 HOUR
SESSION**
NO OBLIGATIONS!
Your First Session is ON US

**Oxygen
Therapy**

416-630-3073 • normobaricwellnesscentre.com • info@normobaricwellnesscentre.com • 500 Champagne Drive, Toronto, Ontario, M3J 2T9

SEAFOOD & MEAT

Parrot Fish
青衣
Reg:\$6.99



\$5.99 LB

Milk Fish
牛奶鱼
Reg:\$4.59



\$3.59 LB

Fresh Tuna Steak
新鲜吞拿鱼扒
Reg:\$5.99



\$4.99 LB

Frozen Fresh B.C Crabs
冰鲜温哥华蟹
Reg:\$5.99



\$4.99 LB

Fresh Beef Flank
新鲜牛腩
Reg:\$8.99



\$7.49 LB

Beef Skin
牛皮
Reg:\$8.99



\$6.99 LB

Fresh Chicken Tenderloin
新鲜鸡柳
Reg:\$4.99



\$3.79 LB

Chicken Gizzard
鸡肾
Reg:\$3.99



\$2.99 LB

PRODUCE

Local Apple
本地苹果
Reg:\$1.79



88¢ LB

Watermelon
西瓜
Reg:\$9.99



\$5.88 EA

Napa
白菜
Reg:\$1.39



68¢ LB

Jamaican Pumpkin
牙买加南瓜
Reg:\$1.99



98¢ LB

BAKERY

LFD broiche slice
布里欧修黄油包
Reg:\$5.99



\$4.99 EA

FV hawaiian roll
夏威夷早餐包
Reg:\$4.99



\$3.99 EA

HTB hardough bread
硬质面包
Reg:\$4.99



\$3.99 EA

Crispy pound cake
水果磅蛋糕
Reg:\$3.99



2/\$5.00

Cedar Pita
阿拉伯皮塔饼
Reg:\$1.79



99¢ EA

Visit Our Website At: www.fusionsupermarket.ca
Check prices on display tags in store in case of discrepancy due to printing errors on this advertisement.
Offers valid while quantities last. Fusion Supermarket reserve the right to limit quantities.
广告如有排版错误时, 则以店内有关标示为准。本广告页之商品均有充足存货, 如因顾客购买热烈而售完, 敬请谅解。本超市保留调整数量之权力。

GROCERY

Bonn Cookies 600g
Reg: \$5.99



\$3.99 EA

Shatu/Kosa Sunflower
Seeds 200g-260g
Reg: \$2.99



\$1.79 EA

Taiqi Eight Treasure
Soup (4 x370g)
Reg: \$7.99



\$4.99 EA

Grace Tropical Rhythms
Fruit Drink 473ml
Reg: \$2.99



2/\$3.00

Grace Festival Mix 270g
Reg: \$2.99



\$1.69 EA

Legendary Organic
Mung Beans 908g
Reg: \$7.99



\$4.59 EA

Ox Head Brand White
Scented Rice 7kg
Reg: \$24.99



\$17.99 EA

OMNI Zoni 100% Pure
Red Palm Oil / OMNI
100% Pure Red Palm
Oil 2L
Reg: \$22.99



\$10.99 EA

Kung-Fu Brand Soy
Sauce 1000ml
Reg: \$4.99



\$3.29 EA

Flying Goose Brand
Sriracha Sauce 730ml
Reg: \$5.99



\$2.99 EA

Knorr Chicken Bouillon
Cubes 400g
Reg: \$18.99



\$5.99 EA

Glade Candle Triple
Wick
Reg: \$8.99



\$4.99 EA

FROZEN & DAIRY

Basa steak
鱼排 600g
Reg: \$3.99



\$2.99 EA

7B chub mackerel
小马鲛鱼 454g
Reg: \$3.99



\$1.99 EA

Coco Glace Coconut
Dessert 椰子甜品 220g
Reg: \$3.99



\$2.99 EA

GoldenSea squid ring
鱿鱼圈 300g
Reg: \$4.99



2/\$7.00

Romero corn tortilla
墨西哥玉米饼 70ct
Reg: \$7.99



\$4.99 EA

Rosan shredded banana
blossom 切丝香蕉花 454g
Reg: \$3.99



2/\$5.00

Tender Juicy hot dog
菲式热狗 340g
Reg: \$9.99



\$7.99 EA

Bulacan&Baguio
tocino 腌猪肉片 375g
Reg: \$5.99



\$3.99 EA

SeafoodLover sliced
whiting 鳕鱼块 750g
Reg: \$8.99



\$6.99 EA

Shana pigeon pea
木豆 300g
Reg: \$3.99



2/\$5.00

SanQuan custard&red
bean bun 三全奶黄包&豆沙包
360g
Reg: \$3.99



2/\$5.00

Edamame in pods
毛豆荚 400g
Reg: \$2.99



\$1.99 EA

Happy Thanksgiving
FUSION SUPERMARKET
嘉禾超市

1150 Morningside Ave., Suite 113
Scarborough, Toronto M1B 3A4
(Sheppard Ave/Morningside Ave)
416 281 1222
Business Hours:
Monday-Sunday 8:30am-9:00pm

Special Effective: From Fri. Oct. 10, 2025 - Thur. Oct. 16, 2025

Carnation Evaporated Milk
354ml
Reg: \$2.99



\$1.78 EA SPECIAL

Aroy-D Coconut Milk 400ml
Reg: \$2.99



\$1.88 EA SPECIAL

Global Choice Chick Peas
4LB
Reg: \$7.99



\$3.38 EA SPECIAL

Almond (Loose)
Reg: \$8.99/LB



\$4.88 LB SPECIAL

DelMonte Orange Juice
橙汁 2.5L
Reg: \$6.99



\$3.99 EA SPECIAL

I can't Believe It's Not Butter
植物黄油 427g
Reg: \$3.99



\$2.99 EA SPECIAL

ThaiGold White Shrimp
虾中之皇白虾 30/40 380g
Reg: \$9.99



\$5.99 EA SPECIAL

Armstrong melts slice
芝士片 450g
Reg: \$4.99



\$3.59 EA SPECIAL

Peru Sweet Tangerine
秘鲁松皮桔
Reg: \$1.99



98¢ LB SPECIAL

Honey Pomelo
老树沙地柚
Reg: \$4.99



2/\$4.98 SPECIAL

Red Pepper
红椒
Reg: \$1.99



98¢ LB SPECIAL

English Cucumber
长青瓜
Reg: \$1.99



2/\$1.98 SPECIAL

Fresh Salmon Steak
新鲜三文鱼扒
Reg: \$6.99



\$4.99 LB SPECIAL

Yellow Edge Grouper
新鲜黄旗斑鱼扒
Reg: \$20.99



\$16.99 LB SPECIAL

Frozen Cow Feet
急冻牛脚
Reg: \$2.99



\$2.29 LB SPECIAL

Fresh Pork Ham Bone-in
新鲜有骨猪腿
Reg: \$2.99



\$1.99 LB SPECIAL

BBQ 烧烤

Royal Oak Charcoal
Lighter Fluid 946ml
Reg: \$6.99



\$3.99 EA

Wang Korea BBQ Sauce
840g
Reg: \$6.99



\$3.99 EA

Strongmor Quality
Aluminum Foil 25ft x 18in
Reg: \$2.99



\$1.59 EA

Royal Oak Hardwood
Lump Charcoal 8.81LB
Reg: \$15.99



\$10.99 EA

AlSafa Halal Beef Burger
清真牛肉饼 800g
Reg: \$12.99



\$8.99 EA

7B squid skewer 580g
7个篮子龙珠串
Reg: \$10.99



\$7.99 EA

Frozen Lamb Shank
急冻羊腿
Reg: \$7.99



\$5.99 LB

Frozen Goat Shoulder
Chop 急冻羊扒
Reg: \$6.99



\$5.99 LB

Mix Sweet Bell Peppers
彩椒 (4pc)
Reg: \$3.99



2/\$4.88

Little Potatoes
迷你烧薯仔
Reg: \$4.99



\$2.88 BAG

Japanese Sweet Potato
日本小番薯
Reg: \$3.99



\$1.68 LB

Buttercup Squash
妈咪瓜
Reg: \$1.59



88¢ LB

RESTAURANT

AJI-NOMOTO
Umami Seasoning
50LB
Reg: \$138.00



\$113.99 EA

Huy Fong Chili
Garlic Sauce 3.5L
Reg: \$31.99



\$22.99 EA

Value Drain-Off
强力清洁剂 1L
Reg: \$7.99



\$5.99 EA

Lee Kum Kee
Hoisin Sauce
1.75L
Reg: \$12.99



\$8.99 EA

Extra Large White
Eggs 180Pcs
Reg: \$70.00



\$57.00 BOX

Bean Sprout
Reg: \$23.99



\$19.98 BUCKET

Chub mackerel
9kg
Reg: \$72.00



\$50.00 BOX

PINOY TASTE FILIPINO KITCHEN

PINOY TASTE Catering Order: 647-608-3130

Pork Embotido
1pc
Reg: \$10.99



\$9.99 EACH

Grilled Mackerel
1pc
Reg: \$10.99



\$9.99 EACH

Pork Spring Roll
1pc
Reg: \$0.70



60¢ EACH

Asian Cuisine 亚洲美食 (Every Day Lunch Special)

Catering Order: 647-410-7668

Fried Chicken 5pcs
Reg: \$9.99



\$8.99 ORDER

Pancit Bihon
Reg: \$15.99



\$14.00 ORDER

Chicken Inasal
Reg: \$4.99



\$4.00 EA

Pork BBQ 1pc
Reg: \$4.00



\$3.50 EA

Vegetable Spring Roll
10pcs
Reg: \$4.00



\$3.49 ORDER

SUSHI

SUSHI Catering Order: 416-281-1222

Sushi Maki Tray
58pcs
Reg: \$36.99



\$34.99 ORDER

California Roll
Reg: \$4.59



\$3.99 ORDER

Sushi Full Menu



QR Code

Oxygen Therapy is good for



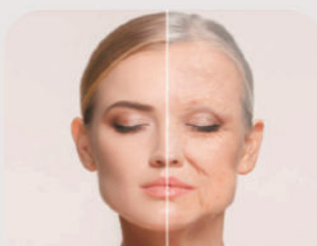
BOOK NOW

FREE
NO OBLIGATIONS!
Your First Session is ON US
2 HOUR
SESSION

**Full regeneration and
revitalization of the body,
thanks to stem cells!**

Therapy in the normobaric chamber accelerates stem cell growth by up to 8 times, which has a key role in regeneration and recovery from an injury or disease. Thanks to stem cells, the body regains its ability to heal itself!


The stem cell is unique because it can transform into any cell. Wandering around the body recognizes damaged tissues, and repairs and heals them. Thanks to this, the body regenerates faster and significantly reduces recovery time.



For Beauty



For Sport



For Health

- ARTHRITIS
- DEMENTIA
- ASTHMA
- BRAIN DAMAGE
- DIABETES
- DEPRESSION
- ALZHEIMER
- MIGRAINES
- ANXIETY
- INSOMNIA
- AUTISM
- ECZEMA
- STRESS
- LUPUS
- CHRONIC PAIN
- ARRHYTHMIA
- OSTEOPOROSIS
- STROKE
- PARKINSON
- PSORIASIS
- CANCER RECOVERY
- INFECTIONS
- TENDINITIS
- AND MANY MORE



Where Comfort Meets Quality

- Sleep Better Tonight

**#1 IN GUYANA
FOR MATTRESSES**



Foam Mattress



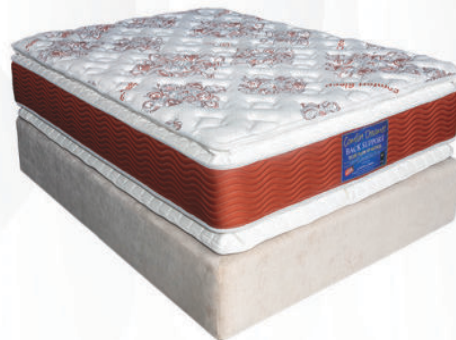
Pink Foam Sheets



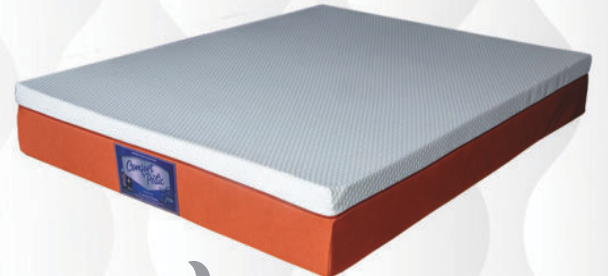
Comfort Night Magic



Super Comfort Quilted



Comfort Dreamer Back Support



Memory Foam



Comfort Custom Euro Top



Comfort Custom Luxury



Comfort Classic Delux



CS
Comfort Sleep Inc.
Sleep on ... Dream on...



49 Eccles Industrial Estate, East Bank Demerara, Guyana, South America

☎ (+592) 233-3013/ 233-2657/ 233-3024 📞 +592-618-1078 ✉ sales@comfortsleep.gy OR info@comfortsleep.gy

🌐 <https://www.com/ComfortSleepGY> 🌐 <https://comfortsleep.gy>

Hegseth says he has every authorisation needed for Caribbean strikes

U.S. Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth said he has every authorisation needed for U.S. military strikes on vessels just off the coast of Venezuela allegedly carrying illegal drugs.

Hegseth was speaking in a Fox News interview broadcast on Sunday.

The United States killed four people in a strike in the Caribbean Sea on Friday, at least the fourth such attack in recent weeks. “We have every authorisation needed. These are designated as foreign terrorist organisations,” Hegseth said in an interview on Fox News’ “The Sunday Briefing.”

He did not provide more details about the authorisation. Washington has cited the U.S. Constitution, war powers, designation of drug cartels as foreign terrorist organisations, the right to self-defense and international law on unlawful combatants as the legal basis for the strikes.

Legal experts and some lawmakers argue that using military force in international waters against alleged criminals’ bypasses due process, violates law enforcement norms, lacks a clear legal foundation under U.S. and international law and is not justified by the cartels’ terrorist designation.

Hegseth and President Donald Trump



One of the small boats hit by US strikes in Caribbean waters

have not provided evidence for claims that the targeted boats were carrying drugs. Trump told Congress last week that he had determined the U.S. to be in “a non-international armed conflict” with drug cartels, without providing any new legal rationale. Critics say the boat strikes are a further effort by Trump to test the scope of his presidential powers. Legal experts have questioned why the military is carrying out these attacks rather than the U.S. Coast Guard, the country’s maritime law agency.

“If you’re in our hemisphere, if you’re in the Caribbean, if you’re north of Venezuela and you want to traffic drugs to the United States, you are a legitimate target of the United States military,” Hegseth said.

Trump on Sunday said the U.S. military buildup in the Caribbean had halted

drug trafficking from South America. “There’s no drugs coming into the water. And we’ll look at what phase two is,” he told reporters at the White House. Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov on Sunday told his Venezuelan counterpart that the country condemns the U.S. strikes and is concerned about the dangers of potential U.S. escalation in the Caribbean.

\$14M to procure seine nets for Corentyne

Sixty-six fisherfolk from Albion and Port Maurant on the Corentyne Coast, received seine nets on Saturday to assist with their operations at sea. This intervention represents an investment of just over \$14 million and follows a commitment made by His Excellency President Dr. Irfaan Ali during a meeting with fisherfolk last May.

Agriculture Minister, Hon. Zulfikar Mustapha, met with the fisherfolk to deliver the seine nets on behalf of the Head of State.

While offering remarks, Minister Mustapha stated that each fisherfolk will receive seven bundles of seine.

“When we met with fisherfolk at the Albion Sports Complex, they said they needed help with nets. We’ve been in constant contact with your representative here, and today, fisherfolk from Albion, and some from Port Maurant, will each receive seven bundles of seine from the government, your government,” he said.

Minister Mustapha also assured the fisherfolk that, over time, they will continue to benefit from additional interventions, as the government increases budgetary allocations to the sector. He noted that a number of other initiatives have already been implemented to support fisherfolk since the government took office in 2020.

“We have been increasing budgetary allocations to the sector every year. We’ve been resuscitating all the fisherfolk organizations. We’ve been procur-



Minister Zulfikar Mustapha handing over one of the seine nets

ing GPS systems so that fishermen can track their boats while at sea. We’ve also been working with partners both around the country and in neighboring countries to ease piracy. I know that the Guyana Police Force has been working diligently to address that. We’ve also removed the taxes placed on fishing inputs and made adjustments to the tax structure, making outboard engines of 1,500 horsepower and under duty-free,” he explained.

Minister Mustapha further stated that the other agencies within the Ministry will work along with fisherfolk to empower them to supplement their income.

“If you look at our 2025 to 2030

manifesto, you will see that we have a lot of plans for the fisheries sector. We don’t want fisherfolk to depend on artisanal fishing alone. We have to diversify the sector. From the ministry’s perspective, we are looking to get you involved into additional activities so

that you can supplement your income. In the coming months, you’ll see officials from the different agencies working along with you to get involved in additional activities so that you can supplement your income.

BILINGUAL IMMIGRATION LAWYER

(English & French)

Refugee Claims | Francophone Immigration Support Program | Francophone Minority Communities Student Pilot.

Contact me today!

pouchelonlaw@gmail.com.

416-759-8389

POUCHELON LAW
PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION





EDITORIAL & OPINIONS

Bridge to Guyana's Future

Editorial from the Guyana Chronicle, October 6, 2025

THE commissioning of the US\$262 million Bharrat Jagdeo Demerara River Bridge reflects the vision that has driven Guyana from economic recovery to significant prosperity.

President, Dr Irfaan Ali's choice to name this impressive structure after Vice-President Dr Bharrat Jagdeo goes beyond a mere ceremony. It acknowledges the person responsible for Guyana's modern development journey.

This bridge is a tangible result of the strategic governance that began during Dr Jagdeo's presidency. Under his leadership, Guyana moved from years of economic stagnation to five straight years of strong growth.

His administration nearly cut external debt in half and tripled reserves,

laying the groundwork for today's oil boom, which is expected to generate significant revenues for Guyana.

The smooth shift from recovery to transformation shows the ongoing vision shared between Jagdeo's foundational work and Ali's current accomplishments.

President Ali's statement that this infrastructure "signals that Guyana is ready to industrialise, modernise, and claim its space in the 21st century" aligns with the reinvestment approach that began during Jagdeo's time.

The bridge operates toll-free and is accessible 24/7. It will save commuters GY\$3.5 billion annually, illustrating how oil revenues are turned into lasting benefits for all Guyanese.

This method reflects Jagdeo's focus on inclusive growth and sustainable economic change.

The timing of this commission-

ing, as Guyana continues to be the world's fastest-growing economy with a 44 per cent GDP growth in 2024, underscores the long-term planning that marked Jagdeo's leadership.

His commitment to investments in social services, housing, and transport infrastructure created the framework that allows today's government to effectively manage oil wealth.

By naming this important bridge after Jagdeo, President Ali has established a lasting symbol of how vision-

ary leadership can connect different periods of development.

The bridge links not only the east and west banks of the Demerara River, but also Guyana's past successes with its vast future potential.

This bridge will stand for a century as a testament to the lasting impact of leaders who recognise that true development needs both immediate support for citizens and long-term investments in national progress.

Send us your letters

Equality welcomes letters to the editor from all of our readers. If you have an issue you would like to air in public, or an opinion to offer, please submit your letter to the editor to Equalitygroup@rogers.com.

Please note that all letters are subjected to be edited for space and to ensure they meet our legal requirements. Letter writers must include contact information, which will be withheld from publication, so we can contact the writer to ensure the authenticity of the contribution.

**By Former President
Donald Ramotar**

The article by Dr. Bertrand Ramcharan in the October 1st, 2025, issue of the Stabroek News is an extremely dangerous piece. It has given justification to the genocide that is presently being conducted against the Palestinian population by the Israeli occupiers.

That article exposed Dr. Ramcharan ideologically as a Zionist-Christian against the Palestinian people.

Dr. Ramcharan is an educated man who reached very senior positions at the United Nations. Yet he writes about things that are totally untrue. The very first paragraph is a total distortion of history. He wrote, "For two thousand plus years Jews, expelled from their ancestral land, Israel... In the meantime, Palestinians made lives on lands where Jews had previously lived." This is an absolute fallacy.

There has never been a country called Israel in the history of the world.

In the early part of the last century

when the United Kingdom was looking for a place for Jews because they were seen to be unwanted in their continent of the birth, Europe, they considered Uganda, British Guiana and Palestine. They eventually settled to establish Israel in Palestine.

However, Dr. Ramcharan, who must know this, chose to repeat that fiction to justify Israel's murder of innocent babies, children, women and indeed the whole population of Palestinians.

Dr. Ramcharan then went on to glorify the crimes of the Israeli, Apartheid, Fascist regime in many parts of the world. Most, if not all, were contrary to international law.

He must know that almost all the time Israel was the aggressor. It is now clear that they were very influential in getting the US to destroy Iraq on the grounds that Iraq had "weapons of mass destruction." At that time Dr. Ramcharan was part of the UN system therefore, he had to be aware of Mr. Hans Blix, then the head of an inspec-

tion team who proved how wrong and unjustified that was. More than a million people were murdered by the US forces acting as proxies of Israel.

He lauded the works of one Cohen a former head of Israel Intelligence arm, Mossad, and quoted him as saying that he wants peace. Clearly that is more nonsense.

It is the Mossad that keeps killing all the persons who have been working for peace. In recent times Israel assassinated Iranians, Palestinians and others in the Middle East who were working for peace.

The US and Israel murdered Qassem Soleiman on January 3, 2020 in Iraq while on a peace mission. Israel assassinated Ismail Haniyeh, the head of Hamas negotiation team in Tehran on 31st July 2024 while he was attending the inauguration of the new Iranian President. They bombed and killed Hassan Nasrallah, the head of Hezbollah of Lebanon while he was at a meeting to discuss peace proposals with his colleagues on 27th September 2024.

More recently they attempted the murder of Hamas negotiating team in Qatar while they were discussion Peace proposals given to them by the US.

This is the regime that Dr. Ramcharan seemingly admires so much.

Clearly Israel has no interest in peace. They want all of Palestine out of their territory and they are ready to kill the whole population in the Gaza and West Bank to achieve those ends. They have also made it clear that they want more, including a large part of Lebanon, parts of Syria, Egypt and Jordan.

It is unfortunate that Bertrand Ramcharan, a Guyanese, whose country principal leader Cheddi Jagan was an uncompromising fighter against colonialism and national oppression and was internationally acclaimed as one of the leading anti-colonial, anti-imperialist fighter, should find himself admiring and promoting an apartheid fascist regime. To do so he had to dabble in historical untruth and distortion.

Dr. Ramcharan Justifies Genocide



Publisher: Bhaskar Sharma

Equalitygroup@rogers.com

Editor: Nishad Sharma

Annual subscription: \$104.00 (including postage)

Funded by the Government of Canada

Canada

Equality News is the largest weekly newspaper serving Guyanese and Caribbean readers in Canada.

Contributors: Niraj Sharma, Freddie Kissoon,

Donald Ramotar, Cliff Rajkumar, Dr Kumar Mahabir, Dr Vishnu Bisram

For advertising in Ontario or nationally, call Marie Sharma 416-281-3333 or 647 -216 2359

View Equality News every week online (ads included)

www.equalitynews.ca

Equality News International is published by Equality News Incorporated.

104-1920 Ellesmere Road - MB# 234, Toronto, Ontario M1H 3G1

Tel: 416-281-3333 , Fax: 416-759-5359, Email: EqualityGroup@rogers.com

Family Remembers Richmond Hill Fire Victim for Her ‘Boundless Love and Light’

By Denise Singh
LJI REPORTER

A 24-year-old woman who died after a devastating house fire in Richmond Hill, ON., is being remembered as a radiant and selfless soul whose compassion and kindness touched everyone she met.

Helya Bahari-Kashani succumbed to her injuries on Sept. 3, two days after an early-morning blaze tore through her family’s Skywood Drive home. The fire, which police say was deliberately set, also claimed the life of her 11-year-old niece, Rosa.

Three other family members — Bahari-Kashani’s parents and sister — were critically injured but are now slowly recovering, relatives said.

“Helya means the sun, and she truly lived up to her name,” her cousin, Melody Yazdi, said.

“She was radiant. Any place she walked into, she just brought so much light and love.”

York Regional Police have confirmed they are treating the Sept. 1 fire as a homicide. No arrests have been made. Yazdi described Bahari-Kashani as “the most selfless, compassionate, and empathetic person” she had ever known.

“She had this incredible gift of making everyone feel seen, heard, and safe,” she said. “She truly was extraordinary.”

Born in Iran, Bahari-Kashani immigrated to Canada with her family as a child and spent most of her life in Richmond Hill.

A graduate of Richmond Hill High



Helya Bahari-Kashani, 24 — organs donated

School, she studied for a year at York University before transferring to UCLA, where she recently completed a pre-med degree in psychology, earning several scholarships and awards.

At UCLA, she worked as a research assistant, volunteered at the

David Geffen School of Medicine, and immersed herself in campus life. This summer, she returned home to study for her medical school entrance exam, planning to continue her studies in the U.S. next year.

“Helya had a deep passion for

medicine — for helping people and saving lives. That’s all she ever wanted to do,” Yazdi said. Though her dream of becoming a doctor was cut short, Bahari-Kashani’s generosity lives on. Her organs were donated to help up to 75 people.

Thieves steal \$85K in booze

Four suspects have been arrested in relation to the theft of more than \$85,000 in alcohol from LCBO stores across the Greater Toronto Area.

Police say the group operated in an organized fashion and are responsible for a total of 54 thefts from LCBO locations since May.

Investigators say that the group also committed thefts at other major retailers, including hardware, dollar, grocery, and thrift stores.

Halton police arrested four suspects in Oakville on Oct. 1 in a joint action with the LCBO’s Resource Protection Unit.

A search of their vehicle resulted in the seizure of a quantity of illicit drugs, including cocaine, MDMA and Hydro-morphon.

Christopher Noel, 39, Crystal King, 40, Philip Young 48, and Marc Martiniello, 33, all of Mississauga, face a total of 24 combined charges.

The charges have not yet been tested in court. Police say that all four suspects were under various release orders pertaining to past theft-related charges at the time of their arrest, including one who was bound by eight separate release orders.

“HRPS emphasize that retail theft is not a victimless crime. The theft of goods from retail stores impacts all Ontarians through increased prices and compromised safety in retail environments. The rise in organized retail crime continues to pose risks to both retail workers and customers,” a news release issued by Halton Regional Police states.



LCBO stores across the GTA were targeted

‘Guyana ready to claim its place in the 21st century world economy’

SIGNALLING Guyana’s ambition to assert itself as a modern, forward-looking player on the global stage, President, Dr Irfaan Ali has said that this nation is ready to claim its position in a 21st century economy.

The Head of State while addressing thousands of excited Guyanese, government officials and special invitees at the commissioning of the Bharrat Jagdeo Demerara River Bridge on Sunday, noted that deliberate and strategic investments in super structures such as the new bridge will propel the country’s economy.

“Infrastructure is not merely a physical structure. Infrastructure is also a statement. It is a signal to the world that a nation is ready. And this bridge speaks loudly, declaring Guyana is ready! Ready to modernise, ready to industrialise, ready to claim its place in the 21st century world economy,” the President said.

Guyana has been pumping the revenues it has earned from its oil resources, making tangible investments in building new highways, bridges, schools and health facilities.

Aside from the newly commissioned Demerara River crossing, President Ali had announced a few days prior that construction works on a new Berbice River bridge are expected to



A new Kurupukari Bridge will replace the pontoon bridge on the river

commence this year.

In addition to a new Berbice bridge, works on the new Kurupukari Bridge could start soon, and, once completed, it will replace the pontoon crossing for the Kurupukari River along the Linden/Lethem Trail.

Additionally, the President had stated that the ongoing construction of the US\$35 million Mackenzie-Wismar Bridge is just over 72 per cent complete.

The works are being executed by China Railway Construction Corporation Limited and include the construction of a four-lane, 220-metre-long precast concrete bridge outfitted with essential safety features such as lighting and sidewalks.

The bridge will replace the current structure that spans the Demerara River in Region 10 (Upper Demerara-Upper Berbice).

In addition to the foregoing projects, several massive highways are under construction to enhance greater inter-regional linkages.

One notable road project is the expansion of the East Coast road along the railway embankment that is now 77 per cent complete. “Oil revenues, wisely managed, are being converted into structures like this, projects that deliver benefits to every Guyanese. This bridge is proof that our resources are not squandered. They are reinvested into the future, long future of the people of our

country,” President Ali said on Sunday.

During his inauguration speech back in September, he said that the first six weeks of his second term in office will see the groundwork being laid for a sweeping range of infrastructural and economic projects aimed at accelerating national development, job creation and regional integration.

He had stressed then that the country’s economic future depends not only on the ambitions and policies of the government, but also on the private sector, which is ready to drive wealth and job creation. He explained further that collaboration between the private sector and the government will propel shared prosperity.

Guyana, China to continue collaboration on development

CHINA and Guyana are set to deepen their long-standing partnership with China opening its door wider to Guyana, offering new opportunities in infrastructure, manufacturing, telecommunication, and sustainable development, which would accelerate economic growth.

These were sentiments voiced by China’s Ambassador to Guyana, Yang Yang, in an exclusive interview with the Sunday Chronicle. China is signalling a stronger partnership with Guyana as it reaffirms its commitment to a fair and open global trading system, the Ambassador noted.

At the 80th Session of the United Nations General Assembly, China’s Premier, Li Qiang highlighted China’s dedication to multilateralism amid global trade challenges, and he declared that China, as a major developing country, will not seek new special and differential treatment in World Trade Organisation (WTO) negotiations—a move seen as a powerful endorsement of open, rules-based trade.

“China will always stand with other developing countries,” he said, adding: “Our door is open wider than ever for trade and investment cooperation.”

Ambassador Yang reflected on these sentiments and stated, “For Guyana, this represents exciting opportunities. China has become one of the country’s most important trade and economic partners in the Caribbean.

“Both nations are actively exploring collaboration in manufacturing, infrastructure, telecommunications, finance, and green development. The goal is to reduce trade barriers, deepen practical cooperation, and create sustainable growth that benefits both countries.”

Bilateral trade between Guyana and China has expanded significantly in recent years, reaching an all-time high of approximately US\$1.4 billion in 2024.

“The traditional friendship between our two countries has stood the test of time, and continues to grow stronger, with friendly exchanges and cooperation in various fields deepening and yielding solid results. Building a China-Guyana community with a shared future reflects our shared aspiration for a bright future,” she said.

The ambassador described the relationship as “a ship sailing forward”, steered by political trust, anchored in cooperation, and propelled by cultural exchange and multilateralism.

Recent high-level engagements, including a meeting between President Dr. Irfaan Ali and President Xi Jinping in 2023, as well as talks between Foreign Ministers Wang Yi and Hugh Todd earlier this year, have outlined new areas of collaboration.



Brian Tiwarie, OMC, AA - CEO



GROUP OF COMPANIES
Put Guyana First

1 & 2 MUDLOT WATER STREET, KINGSTON, GEORGETOWN, GUYANA. TEL: 592- 226-5513-4 | 226-5314-5 |

226-4113 FAX: 592- 226-5517 | 223-7421

Ford Threatens to Pull Crown Royal from LCBO Shelves Over Planned Plant Closure

By Denise Singh
LJI REPORTER

Ontario Premier Doug Ford is threatening to ban Crown Royal whisky from the province’s liquor stores if its parent company, Diageo, goes ahead with plans to close a nearly century-old bottling plant in Amherstburg, ON.

Speaking at a union rally in Brampton on Saturday, Ford vowed to fight for the roughly 200 workers who stand to lose their jobs when the south-western Ontario facility shuts down next year.

“A message to all the bigwigs at Diageo: I swear to God, those bottles of Crown Royal are coming off the LCBO shelves,” Ford told a cheering crowd. “When the last person walks out that door, we’re going to make sure LCBO takes their brands off the shelves — because we need to stick together.”

Ford’s remarks were his strongest yet on the issue since Diageo announced in August that it would close the Amherstburg facility, which has operated for nearly 100 years.

In early September, Ford made headlines by dumping a bottle of Crown Royal during a press conference, calling Diageo “dumb as a bag of hammers” for its decision.

“You hurt my people, I’m gonna hurt you,” Ford said at the time. “You’re gonna feel the pain in February when these people don’t have a paycheque.”

While Ford stopped short then of promising to pull Crown Royal from the LCBO, his latest comments suggest that option is now firmly on the table — a move long demanded by the union representing the plant’s workers.

Diageo, the U.K.-based multinational behind brands such as Guinness, Smirnoff, and Captain Morgan, has defended its decision as part of a plan “to increase the efficiency and resiliency” of its supply chain. The company says it intends to shift some bottling closer to its U.S. customers but insists that Crown Royal will continue to be mashed, distilled, and aged in Canada “just as it has been since 1939.”

Unifor Local 200 president John D’Agnolo said Monday that the province should act immediately and remove Diageo’s products from store shelves, not wait until the plant’s closure in February.



The Diageo facility in Amherstburg

“I think it’s important that the impact happens quickly — and very costly,” D’Agnolo said. “They’d change their mind. We’ve seen that time and time again.”

He added that he believes Diageo would reopen talks if it started losing revenue in Ontario.

“The amount of money they’d lose within a two- or three-month period would be unbelievable,” he said.

Unifor National President Lana Payne has also urged the government to take strong action, arguing that only a major financial hit will push Diageo to reconsider.

Ford’s office did not clarify whether the LCBO ban would extend to all Diageo products or when it might take effect. A spokesperson for the premier, Hannah Jensen, said only that “unless Diageo reverses their decision to close their Amherstburg plant, all options remain on the table.”

Diageo, for its part, reiterated its earlier statements, saying the decision “was not taken lightly” and that it will work with Unifor to support affected employees.

“We will support all impacted employees through this transition,” the company said in a statement. “We will follow the requirements of our collec-

tive agreement and the law, and engage with the community to find meaningful ways to provide support.”

Suspect wanted in seven shootings around the GTA: cops

Police say that an Innisfil man is facing charges in connection with seven shooting incidents that took place at residences across the Greater Toronto Area and in London this past summer.

The shootings took place between Aug. 18 and Sept. 10 in Brampton, Vaughan and London.

Police say that investigators believe the suspect fired a combined 125 shots during the incidents.

There were no injuries reported as a result of any of the shootings.

The suspect was arrested in the early morning hours of Sept. 10 after police responded to a call for the sounds of gunshots near Bathurst Street and Teston Road in Vaughan.

“Officers responded quickly and attempted to contain the suspect vehicle. After a short foot pursuit, the suspect was arrested with the assistance of the canine unit,” a news release issued on Tuesday morning notes.

Police say that the suspect was initially charged with offences related to the Sept. 10 shooting and has since been “linked” to the other shooting incidents.

Kaejean Isaiah Doman, 23, is now facing an additional six counts of discharging a firearm with intent and an additional six counts of possessing a prohibited or restricted firearm, police say.

Police say that Doman has remained in custody since his Sept. 10 arrest. The charges against him have not been tested in court.

“Investigators are appealing to anyone who have may video surveillance or dash cam footage from the areas at the time of the shootings to please come forward,” police said in the news release.



President, Dr. Irfaan Ali thanked the dedicated staff of the Demerara Harbour Bridge for their years of commitment and service

‘Your jobs are secured’ — President Ali tells staff of old Harbour Bridge

PRESIDENT Dr. Irfaan Ali, on Saturday morning, met with the employees of the old Demerara Harbour Bridge and assured them that they will not be displaced with the new bridge coming into operation on Sunday.

He told the employees: “You are secure, you know this. Your jobs are secured. Your service is secured. Your time is secured, and the opportunities ahead of you will be as any other contributor in the ministry and some of you, based on your skill set, will be offered other opportunities than the ones you have today.”

In a meaningful engagement with the employees, some of whom have over 20 years of experience under their belt, President Ali thanked them for their service to Guyana – even before the ribbon is cut today to usher in the new era of connectivity.

From the welders to the engineers and those who worked the toll booths, the president commended them for their hard work throughout the years to keep the old Demerara Harbour Bridge operational.

“That was no ordinary task... As president and as a government, we appreciate you. We recognise the tremendous work that you have done, and I do not want you to believe that this new bridge displaces your work or your contribution,” he said.

The president assured the employees that they will not lose out on their level of salary or benefits.

“Your service will continue and you will grow with the new opportunities that will come your way.”

Highlighting the government’s sustained investment in national infrastructure, President Ali noted that the

affected employees will continue to play a role in Guyana’s development, with many now contributing in a more permanent capacity.

Meanwhile, Minister of Public Works, Juan Edghill, stated that discussions have already begun and emphasised that the employees possess valuable skills that can be applied across various sectors. He assured that the ministry will continue to operate in full compliance with the law to safeguard the welfare and rights of all workers.

The new Demerara River Bridge is set to be commissioned today, marking another milestone in the country’s infrastructure drive. The new US\$260 million facility was constructed by China Railway Construction Corporation Limited and represents one of the most transformative infrastructure

projects in Guyana’s modern history.

Spanning 2.6 kilometres, it will link Region 3 and Region 4, providing round-the-clock, toll-free access.

The four-lane, cable-stayed structure is designed to last 100 years and accommodate vehicles of all sizes, travelling at up to 80 kilometres per hour. Once operational, it is expected to benefit over 50,000 commuters daily and deliver an estimated \$3.5 billion in annual savings by eliminating toll fees and reducing fuel consumption and travel time.

Beyond its function as a vital transportation artery, the Demerara River Bridge, with its illuminated Cacique Crown of Honour towers, will stand as both a symbol of national pride and a marker of Guyana’s rapid infrastructural transformation.



Three months in...Enmore Regional Hospital already making an impact

ADVANCING access to quality, affordable healthcare is one of the many goals of the Government of Guyana.

In July this year, the President, alongside the Minister of Health, commissioned the Enmore Regional Hospital, with the aim of bringing healthcare closer to those persons in the community who need it and decreasing travel time.

The Enmore Regional Hospital, like the others, provides a first-class experience to its visitors, with 24-hour service in the accident and emergency department, a radiology department that does ultrasounds, x-rays and CT scans, outpatient services, and specialised clinics that are open Monday to Friday, just to name a few. These services and many others are free of cost.

Since its opening in July, the hospital has seen more than 7,000 patients in the outpatient department, and almost 5,000 in the accident and emergency department. Thus far, 85 babies have been delivered at the hospital.

This was stated by the Medical Superintendent at the Hospital, Dr. Tracey Bovell on a recent episode of ‘Health Matters’.

She said: “We have a lot of specialists. We have, as I would have mentioned, all of the different specialties that we have. But we also have midwives. We have for nursing. We have our RNs. We have NAs and PCAs. And we’re growing.”

Because it is a young hospital still, Dr. Bovell said the Enmore facility is partnering with the Georgetown Public Hospital Corporation (GPHC) to train staff, increasing their skills and capacity



The Enmore Regional Hospital

to treat critically ill patients. Additionally, the Enmore Regional Hospital is also partnering with the new Diamond Regional Hospital, Bath Regional Hospital and De Kinderen Regional Hospital.

Speaking on the impact the hospital has had on the community, Dr. Bovell stated, “So the community is welcoming

us with open arms; they are happy to have a specialised hospital so close by. They’re actually coming to the hospital, being provided with care, and they’re getting to know the physicians even better, and checking in with the physicians, even when they don’t even need to check in with the physicians.”

The Enmore Regional Hospital is

part of a bigger vision of a Guyana where every citizen has access to high-quality, modern and people-centred healthcare, President Dr. Irfaan Ali had said.

The hospital was built in collaboration with China’s Sinopharm International, and is part of a broader \$37.2 billion national health transformation across the country.

The World Guyanese Congress (WGC) is a federally incorporated non-partisan global organisation that represents the interests of citizens of Guyanese heritage around the world. The organisation focuses on the successful development of our communities globally with an emphasis on leadership development and collaborative activities in diaspora communities to strengthen the community worldwide.

The organisation is headquartered in Toronto, Ontario, Canada and led by a Chairman and Executive Committee supported by an Advisory Council and various Committees as well as a Board of Governors that acts as ambassadors for the organisation. It has nine national and regional chapters:

Key priorities of the WGC include:

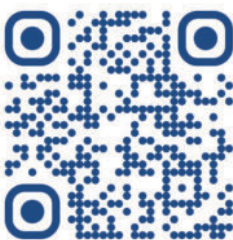
- Build a globally cohesive community with a focus on youth and women in business and civic leadership worldwide.
- Support social entrepreneurship and civic engagement in communities around the world.
- Engage diaspora communities in the social and economic development of Guyana.

World Guyanese Congress
5200 Yonge Street, 2nd Floor
Toronto, Ontario, Canada M2N 5P6



To find out more about World Guyanese Congress and our goals and priorities. Scan the QR code, or visit www.wgc-org.com

If you have any questions feel free to get in touch:
Email: mail@wg-c.org
Telephone: [1-800-317-0804](tel:1-800-317-0804)



Massive hatching-egg production could see Guyana exporting to Caribbean markets

WITH Guyana looking to boost its production of hatching eggs, the country has set its sights on, and is tapping into, Caribbean markets to expand its local reach in not only becoming self-sufficient but meeting the demands of the region.

This was recently disclosed by Agriculture Minister, Zulfikar Mustapha, who, while speaking to reporters on the sidelines of an event, shared that construction works have already begun to clear lands in Pakuri Vil-

lage in Region Four (previously known as St Cuthbert’s Mission) to facilitate tunnel houses.

“We are now moving to do a massive investment with the private sector with hatching-egg production. The tunnel houses that we will be using, there are on the way to Guyana, and the project will be happening in Pakuri. And land clearing has already started,” Minister Mustapha said.

The project would be one of the largest of its kind in the country and will



Agriculture Minister Zulfikar Mustapha

satisfy the demands of the local market and the local poultry producers.

“In a very short space of time you will see massive transformation in that sector. As I am speaking also, we have already continued to expand in terms of hatching eggs that we had before, but as I said, we will be investing in terms of being self-sufficient in Guyana. That is, we are using approximately \$53 million hatching eggs annually. I am hoping with this project that we are about to launch, that we will surpass that and export to the Caribbean markets.”



In 2024 Guyana had tripled its hatching eggs production. Guyana had imported nearly 53 million eggs annually at a cost of over \$350 million.

To reduce this dependency, the country launched a hatching egg production programme in 2023 with a private partnership, resulting in the production of 27,000 eggs last year at the broiler breeder facility on the East Bank corridor. This facility was established to reduce the reliance on imported hatching eggs.

Back in 2022, in response to the large consumption of eggs at the regional level and its constant demand on the market, President Ali had detailed plans for the large-scale poultry hatchery and egg production project at Pakuri Village.

Meanwhile, the country is rapidly increasing its self-sufficiency in producing corn and soya bean, boosting its capability to produce its own livestock feed locally.

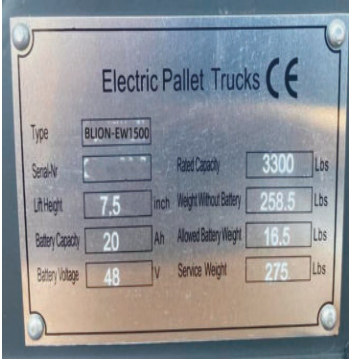

Recently, locally-harvested soybeans were recently transported by vessel, for the first time, from the Tacama drying and storage facility, located approximately 90 miles up the Berbice River, to a processing mill where it will be converted into poultry feed.



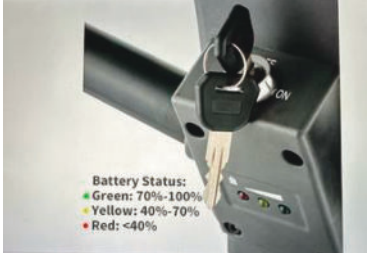

EMAIL: SERVICES@TRADELOGIX.CA

PHONE: 416-938-8779

MODEL# BLION-EW1500






| Electric Pallet Trucks | |
|------------------------|--------------|
| Type | BLION-EW1500 |
| Serial No. | |
| Lift Height | 7.5 inch |
| Battery Capacity | 20 Ah |
| Battery Voltage | 48 V |
| Rated Capacity | 3300 Lbs |
| Weight Without Battery | 258.5 Lbs |
| Allowed Battery Weight | 16.5 Lbs |
| Service Weight | 275 Lbs |



Charging Time: 3HR
Working Time: 6HR
Work Shift: 24HR

Battery Status:
Green: 70%-100%
Yellow: 40%-70%
Red: <40%

• 24 Hours without break just need one extra battery.



Multi-function Control Handle Less Wiring, Easy Service Plug-in Battery Design



Mortgage Financing.
Simple and convenient.

416-819-2874
stenson.arul@bmo.com
bmo.com/ms/stensonarul

Stenson Arul
Mortgage Specialist

“Ask me how I can help.”





Bharrat Jagdeo Demerara River Bridge opens

Minister Edghill urges motorists to embrace ‘Five Cs,’ new driving culture

MINISTER of Public Works, Juan Edghill, has urged motorists to adopt a new culture of road use—one grounded in the “Five Cs”: care, caution, consideration, common sense, and courtesy—to ensure smooth and safe traffic flow on the newly commissioned Bharrat Jagdeo Demerara River Bridge.

Speaking at a media briefing on Monday, Minister Edghill said the opening of the state-of-the-art four-lane bridge marks the end of the old habits associated with the aging Demerara Harbour Bridge, including rushing to cross during “double-lane” hours and early morning bottlenecks.

The minister was joined by Traffic Chief Mahendra Singh, several senior traffic officers, General Manager of the Demerara Harbour Bridge Corporation, Wayne Watson, and engineers from the Ministry of Public Works.

The briefing was convened to address the first day of full traffic operations on the new bridge, which was officially commissioned on Sunday by President Dr. Irfaan Ali.

Minister Edghill emphasised that

the new bridge offers continuous, uninterrupted traffic flow in both directions, eliminating the need for previous practices.

“So, nobody needs to rush out of work or leave home early in the morning unnecessarily to go and join the line to cross the bridge. The days for that are over, and that is why we built what is now known as the Bharrat Jagdeo Demerara River Bridge. Everybody just needs to practise the Five Cs, and everybody will get where they are going.”

Minister Edghill explained that the new Bharrat Jagdeo Demerara River Bridge represents more than just an infrastructure upgrade—it demands a shift in public behaviour.

“We have moved from a two-lane bridge to a four-lane bridge,” he said. “There will be no stoppages in the morning or afternoon, no priority lanes, and no need for panic. Traffic will flow continuously.”

Reiterating that the “old culture” of bridge traffic is now behind Guyanese motorists, the public works minister appealed for co-operation and patience as

the nation adjusts to this landmark development.

He said the new bridge symbolises progress, noting that it is faster, safer, and more efficient. He emphasised that this advancement must be matched by a new driving culture built on patience, discipline, and the Five Cs, adding that the bridge will serve the nation well if everyone plays their part.

He noted that the bridge was built

to safely accommodate vehicles traveling at 80 kilometres per hour, following extensive testing by both engineers and police officials.

Minister Edghill said he drove across the bridge at 80 kilometres per hour and found the journey smooth and comfortable. He noted that it took only about two and a half minutes to travel from one end to the other, highlighting the efficiency of the new facility.

**ADVERTISE
YOUR
BUSINESS
HERE**

SHARMA

LAW

Your Personal Injury Lawyer

A lawyer who gets to know you, so he can represent you. When you're looking for the best possible result, you need an attorney who knows every detail about you and your case. Sharma Law takes the time to get to know each and every client, so we're in the best position to represent you and your family when it matters most. Backed by proven results and experience at Ontario's highest levels of court, Sharma Law specializes in Personal Injury Law.



NO FEES UNLESS WE SETTLE YOUR CLAIM



Personal Injury

Injuries caused by the negligence of others can be physically, emotionally, and financially devastating for victims and their families. If you've been injured, you need a personal injury lawyer who knows how to fight for the compensation you deserve.



Injury Claims

- Motor Vehicle Accident Claims
- At-Fault Accident Claims
- Not At-Fault Accident Claims
- Catastrophic In-jury Claims
- Slip and Falls / Trip and Falls
- Dog Bites
- Long Term Disability / Short Term Disability
- Pedestrian Accidents

OUR COMMITMENT TO YOU

We are committed to achieving successful results for every client and case. We accomplish this by providing exceptional legal advice and strategies based on a thorough understanding of your case and your desired outcomes.

FREE CONSULTATION AND CLAIM REVIEW.

Check out our Google reviews



Available for in-person visits at your home or hospital, anywhere in Ontario. Video Conference and Office meetings available.



Hurt? Call Vishal's direct line 6479724440

sharma@vsharmalaw.ca
www.vsharmalaw.ca



Expanded support for working families to be rolled out -Dr Jagdeo

THE government has outlined a new phase in strengthening Guyana’s social safety net, unveiling incoming reforms to modernise the public assistance system and new measures that will see expanded support for working families, including state-funded childcare facilities.

Vice President, Dr Bharrat Jagdeo made these announcements last week during a press conference at the Arthur Chung Conference Centre (ACCC), where he spoke extensively on improving access to benefits for vulnerable and low-income families.

As he continued to explain some of the incoming reforms to Guyana’s public assistance system—including to the Board of Guardians — he pledged a fairer, faster, and more transparent process for citizens seeking social support.

He said: “In terms of what we fund for the five years in government—social security, people who are eligible for help on public assistance. The complaint has been... through the Board of Guardians... And so clearly, we have to reform the system. And the system is currently being reformed.”

The Ministry of Human Services and Social Security’s Public Assistance programme remains a lifeline for thousands of Guyanese, providing temporary relief to persons with disabilities and those experiencing severe financial hardship.

In August, President, Dr. Irfaan Ali announced that the public assistance given to vulnerable citizens will be increased to a minimum of \$40,000.

This venture, he said, means an additional \$19 billion will be spent annually on vulnerable groups.

Currently, public assistance is \$22,000 and this has injected an additional \$1.4 billion into the pockets of some 40,000 recipients across the country.

Earlier this year, the Government of Guyana demonstrated its commitment to strengthening social safety nets by allocating a substantial \$58.5 billion budget to the ministry for 2025.

Further, the Vice President made it clear that if a citizen is in a low-income bracket, then they should be able to qualify for benefits once they meet certain metrics.

“And those metrics would be clearly identified by the Board of Guardians and then implemented. It’s either you meet the metrics or not—you qualify under those metrics. And once that is done, then the people who are im-

plementing the system cannot capriciously say you’re eligible or not eligible based on their own, maybe, prejudices,” Dr Jagdeo said, adding: “If you’re disabled, then automatically you should be on the system...What I’m conveying is that work is being done on improving this system, so that we can roll it out next year, allowing people to get benefits faster, and for those who are eligible to be able to get onto the database swiftly on the basis of existing criteria, through which they would be qualified. I want to say to people, work is being done on that, too, because that was one of the big complaints we had.”

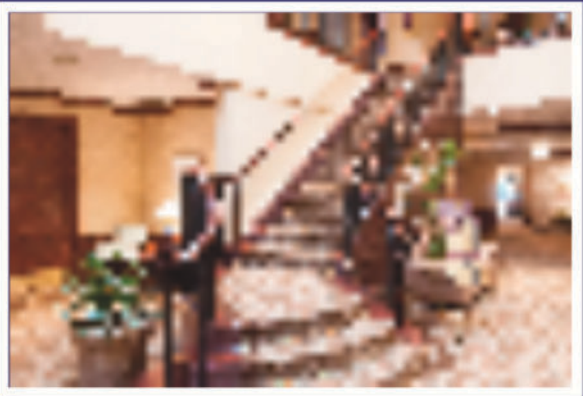


Vice President Dr Bharrat Jagdeo

Our Family Caring for Yours

From the flowers on the front lawn to the paintings on the walls, we at Ogden’s always consider the comfort and needs of the families that we serve first. We offer services and products that are meaningful and fit comfortably within your budget. Just some of the ways that we as a family care for yours.

Family owned and operated since 1948.



416-293-5211

4164 Sheppard Avenue East
Scarborough, Ontario M1S 1T3

www.ogdenfuneralhome.com

DFM

Danforth Food Market

www.danforthfoodmarket.com

We're simply the best West Indian store in town.

**Specials in Effect Thu. Oct.9th
until Wed. Oct.15th 2025**


Maggi Season-Up
All Purpose Seasoning
200 g

399
each



Excelsior
Cream Crackers
225 g

129
each



Cow Brand
Condensed Creamer
300 ml

99¢
each



Cedar
Parboiled Rice
8 kg

1399
each



Grace
Island Soda 355 ml
Kola Champagne ONLY

99¢
each



Pink Ting
Sparkling Grapefruit
Beverage 591 ml

99¢
each



Toppers
Cheese Balls
160 g

249
each



Eclipse
Original Crackers
113 g

69¢
each



Grace
Jerk Seasoning
Hot ONLY 312 g

369
each



Lou & Nicky's
White Vinegar
4 L

199
each



YP Mushroom
Flavored Soy Sauce
500 ml

2/\$3



Benjamins
Vanilla
480 ml

339
each



Grace Jack
Mackerel in Tomato
Sauce 425 g

249
each



Cedar
Whole Kernel Corn
341 ml

99¢
each



P.A.N.
Pre-cooked White
Corn Meal 5 lbs

699
each



Guyanese Pride
Black eye Peas
8 lbs

999
each



Dial
Hand Soap
assorted 385 ml

99¢
each



Dettol
Liquid Antiseptic
750 ml

899
each



Pure Kleen
Powder Cleanser
595 g

139
each



Mystic Power
Blue Soap
250 g

69¢
each

DFM

Five Location To

DANFORTH
FOOD
MARKET

KITCHEN

AUTHENTIC JAMAICAN FOOD!



...AND MORE!
NOW AVAILABLE AT KEELE & ETOBICOKE LOCATION
BRAMPTON COMING SOON

Frozen Premium Grade
Easy Cooked Trimmed
Oxtail



\$9.99
lb
Frozen or Previously Frozen

Frozen Australian
Square Cut
Mutton Meat



\$4.49
lb

Frozen
Goat Tripe



\$3.99
lb

Jamaica's Choice Old
Fashion Smoked
Turkey, Chicken
or Ham



\$3.99
lb
From

Frozen
Turkey Neck



\$2.49
lb

Frozen Fu Yang
31/40 Headless White
Shrimp 500 g



\$9.99
ea

Frozen Fu Yang
Peeled
Shrimps 500 g



\$10.99
each

Frozen Split
Chicken Wings



\$2.49
lb

Frozen
Chicken Drumsticks



\$2.49
5 kg Box

Fresh
Chicken Leg
Quarters



\$7.29
18 kg Box
With Purchase of 2 cases or
More Thursday To Sunday Only

Fresh
Yellow Tail Snappers



\$8.49
lb as is

Fresh
Doctor Fish



\$7.99
lb as is

Fresh
Tilapia Fish



\$3.99
lb as is

Frozen
King Fish Steaks



\$7.99
lb as is

Fresh Atlantic
Whole Salmon



\$5.99
lb as is

YOU'LL LOVE OUR FRESH PRODUCE

Fresh Jamaican
Yellow Yams



5.99
lb

Fresh Eddoes



2.29
lb

Fresh Buttercup
Squash



99¢
lb

Dry Coconut



2.99
ea

Serve You Better

DFM





LOTUS

Funeral and Cremation Centre Inc.

121 City View Drive
North of Belfield Road, East side of Highway 27
647-547-8188 www.lotusfuneralandcremation.com



Seating for more than 500+ guests!

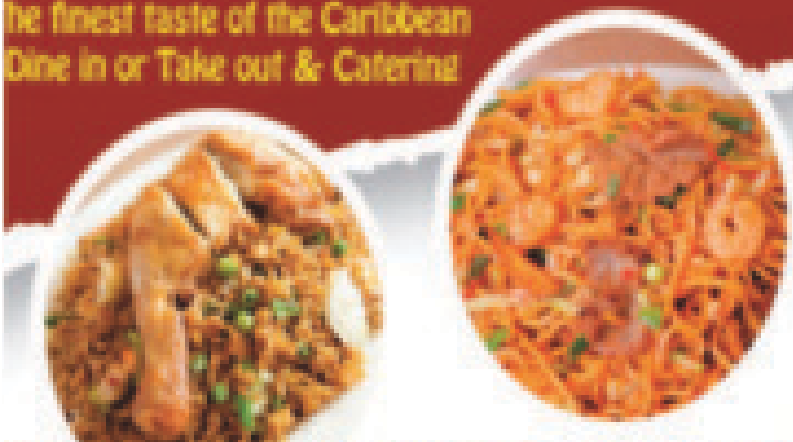
Crematorium inside our building!



CHARLIE'S CATERING SERVICE

Brought to you by Charlie's Caribbean Cuisine
The finest taste of the Caribbean
Dine in or Take out & Catering

For CATERING Inquiries, call:
 905-949-0663



WE CATER FOR ALL OCCASIONS INCLUDING:
• Corporate Events • Weddings and other Social Events

Not sure how much food you'll need?
WE CAN HELP YOU!

We will suggest the right amount of food to maximize the value of your dollar
So you'll have enough food and pay less and have less waste

Full Catering for Hindu religious ceremonies including 7 curry
(Cooked with separate cookware and utensils)

We Guarantee
you'll love our food, that's why we are willing to give a free taste test to prove that our food is great.

WE CATER TO ALL YOUR CARIBBEAN NEEDS.

All meats halal, pork free environment



3055 Hurontario St. Mississauga, L5A 2G9
www.charliescaribbeancuisine.com

Serving the community for over 30 years you can rest assure that your order will made fresh and with the highest quality ingredients possible.

charliescaribbeancuisine@hotmail.com

LAW OFFICE

CHET SHARMA

B.A., B.S.W. (Hons), LL.B.
Barrister, Solicitor & Notary Public

GENERAL PRACTICE

Immigration Law
Criminal Law
Divorce & Family Law

Office: 416-285-1550
Res: 416-284-9191

150 Lawson Road, Toronto
ON M1C 2J4



POINTMENT ONLY

Chet Sharma
B.A., B.S.W. (Hons), LL.B.





Serving the Caribbean Community for Over 40 Years

Weekly Ocean & Air Freight Services

Antigua • Barbados • Guyana • Dominica • Grenada • Jamaica • St. Lucia • St. Vincent • Suriname • Trinidad

Door to Door Service • Returning Residents • Boxes & Crates • Complete Packing & Crating Services • Money Transfer • Courier Service • Empty Barrels (food grade plastic, cardboard & steel)

WE PICK UP IN MONTREAL & OTTAWA

NEW EMPTY BARRELS FOR SALE AT OUR CANADA OFFICE! **\$65CDN**



\$60CDN

MONEY TRANSFER AVAILABLE 



SCAN ME

5250 Finch Ave E, Units 13 & 14, Scarborough, ON M1S 5A5
Tel: (416)292-4370 www.laparkan.com

ADS IN EQUALITY WORK!

SG AUTO WORK

Stanley G. (Owner/Technician)

416-285-5875
sgautowork@hotmail.com

1940 Ellesmere Rd. Unit 14
Scarborough, ON. M1H2V7

AC Services
Brakes
Electrical Systems
Engine Repair
New & Used Tires
Steering
Suspension
Transmission Repair



CHARLEY'S CARIBBEAN CUISINE

For all your catering needs

1158 Morningside Ave, Scarborough
(at Morningside)

(416) 282-8608

Fabulous authentic Guyanese food. We can't make this for these prices. (Grandma is from Berbice Guyana and knows country Guyanese food - even she will eat it!) Try the dhal puri and okra / shrimp.

Actual Review from Yellow Pages

Come savor a savory meal at Charley's Caribbean Cuisine



Not sure how much food you need? We'll help you suggest the right amount of food to minimize your cost.

Pork free halal foods. Catering for Hindu religious events, as well as all Caribbean events.



PARTY TRAYS AVAILABLE!

Discover the power of pre-planning

Complete your own final arrangements now and discover the confidence and comfort of knowing you've better protected your family and your estate.

Get started today with a **FREE Planning Kit**
416-267-4653



Resthaven
Memorial Gardens
by Arbor Memorial

2700 Kingston Road, Scarborough, ON
resthavenmemorial.com

Official
Family
Registry
Important
Please open and complete

Arbor Memorial Inc.



PETE'S
IS IN BUSINESS OVER 40 YEARS

REAL ESTATE

We can sell your property for the best price on the market

- **PROPERTY MANAGEMENT**
- **PROPERTY SALES & RENTALS**
- **REAL ESTATE VALUATION**

A Complete Real Estate Service:

- ✓ **Buying**
- ✓ **Selling**
- ✓ **Rentals**
- ✓ **Tax Compliance**

Contact: 223-6218, 623-7805, 656-5544



Can Mohamed’s take up seat as Opposition leader in National Assembly?

The Vigilant Political Action Committee (VPAC) has issued a strong call for a consensus opposition leader to be named in light of a formal indictment of the We Invest in Nationhood (WIN) Party Leader and Member of Parliament-elect, Azruddin Mohamed, in the United States on serious criminal charges.

According to VPAC, the charges, which have been derived from an extensive investigation by U.S. authorities, have cast a ‘dark shadow’ over the integrity of the country’s parliamentary system and raise significant doubts about Mohamed’s future participation in the National Assembly.

“If it has not already been initiated, we fully expect the United States Government to issue a formal extradition request to the Government of Guyana, which, from all indications, will be granted,” a statement from the party read

“Once extradited, there is serious doubt that he would be granted bond, given the gravity of the charges and the clear interest of US authorities in securing his immediate custody,” VPAC added.

In light of these developments, VPAC is urging the senior leadership of all Opposition parties to urgently convene and determine a consensus candidate for the role of Leader of the Opposition, as well as to decide on who will be nominated as Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly.

“The Opposition cannot afford to stumble out of the gate. The eyes of the country and indeed the world are now on how the Opposition conducts itself in this delicate moment. With WIN holding 16 seats, APNU 12, and the Forward Guyana Movement One, it is not the time for jockeying, grandstanding, or internal rivalries,” VPAC added.

In its statement, VPAC also

stressed that opposition must first demonstrate an ability to lead itself before it can credibly offer leadership to the people of Guyana.

U.S. prosecutors recently unsealed an indictment against Nazar Mohamed and his son, Azruddin Mohamed. The paper trail painted a clear picture of an alleged sophisticated scheme to evade millions in taxes and royalties owed to Guyana while funnelling their wealth through international wires, shipping companies and luxury assets.

A 17-page indictments handed down in the Southern District of Florida sketch a trail of gold and deceit that began in 2017, during the tenure of the APNU+AFC Coalition government and allegedly ran for seven years across flowing from Georgetown to Miami and from Dubai to California, through a system designed to evade taxes and enrich the men behind one of Guyana’s largest gold exporters.

According to U.S. prosecutors, the family business, Mohamed’s Enterprise, paid the Guyana Revenue Authority (2 per cent tax) and Guyana Gold Board (5 per cent royalty) the required taxes and royalties on select gold shipments in order to secure official seals.

Meanwhile, criminal charges have since been instituted against Azruddin under the Customs Act, Chapter 82:01, with hearings ongoing before the Georgetown Magistrates’ Courts.

The junior Mohamed is charged under the Customs Act with knowingly making and subscribing to a false declaration to the GRA on or about December 7, 2020, by declaring the purchase price of a 2020 Lamborghini Roadster SVJ as US\$75,300, while the authority contends the actual value of the vehicle was US\$695,000.



Faiyaz Ali Khan is among the 1,200 recipients of the wasika given to descendants of Awadh royal family

'A legacy worth millions' - India's former royals who draw a meagre pension

In Hussainabad, in the northern Indian state of Uttar Pradesh, 90-year-old Faiyaz Ali Khan makes his way to the Picture Gallery, a 19th Century building that is a relic of the city's royal past.

His hands tremble as he walks, but there is a sparkle in his eyes. He has come to collect his wasika or royal pension.

Wasika, from the Persian word for a written agreement, is a pension granted to the descendants and associates of the rulers of the former Awadh kingdom. Awadh, now the central region of Uttar Pradesh, was ruled by semi-autonomous Muslim rulers - called nawabs - until the British annexed it in 1856.

India no longer has a monarchy, and former royals do not have any titles, privileges or special payments, known as privy purses. However, while their kingdoms and political power have long disappeared, some pension arrangements have continued for descendants of these families in states including Uttar Pradesh, Kerala and Rajasthan.

Roshan Taqui, a historian of Lucknow, where Hussainabad is located, says that in the early 1800s some members of the Awadh royal family lent money to the East India Company - which was then a British trading enterprise - on condition that the interest be paid out as pensions to their families. These loans were perpetual, meaning the Company never had to return the principal amount.

But soon, the British gained power in the region while the nawabs became weaker.

Around that time, Mr Taqui says, several nawabs were also forced to lend money to the Company, which needed it to fight the Afghan war.

Standing outside the Picture Gallery, which was built during the reign of former Awadh ruler Mohammad Ali Shah, Faiyaz Ali Khan says he has come to collect his payment after 13 months.

"We've been receiving this wasika since the time of our great-grandparents. It's so little that I only come once a year to collect it," he said.

The pension amount is meagre, just nine rupees and 70 paise (\$0.11; £0.08) a month, but for his family, it is about honour - their last living link to a once-rich past.

"Even if we get just one paisa, we'll spend a thousand rupees to come and collect it," says his son Shikoh Azad.

Today, around 1,200 people - known as wasikedars - continue to collect these pensions.

However, the payouts are neither fixed nor uniform and decrease with each generation. For instance, if a person received 100 rupees and had two children, the pension would be halved after their death, leaving each with 50 rupees. As descendants grew over time, the share of pensions became even smaller.

The distribution of wasika began in 1817 when Bahu Begum, the wife of Awadh's Nawab Shuja-ud-Daula, gave 40m rupees to the East India Company in two instalments on the condition that her relatives and associates receive monthly pensions, according to Mr Taqui.

Official records show that other people linked to the royal family also gave loans to the Company on similar terms.

After India became independent in 1947, part of the money loaned by Bahu Begum was placed in a bank.

According to Uttar Pradesh's wasika officer SP Tiwari, about 3m rupees was first deposited in the Reserve Bank of Kolkata (formerly Calcutta) and later moved to Kanpur and then Lucknow. Today, the pensions are paid out from the interest earned on around 2.6m rupees deposited in a local bank in the city.

The payments are made by two offices in the Picture Gallery: the Hussainabad Trust, run by Lucknow's district administration, and the Uttar Pradesh government's wasika office. The government now transfers pensions directly into bank accounts, while the Trust pays in cash.

Danish Ansari, Uttar Pradesh's minority welfare minister, says the wasika is given out as per policy and that the practice "dates back to the Nawabs of Awadh".

Critics argue that these allowances are remnants of feudal privilege and should have no role today. But supporters see them as honorary compensations tied to historical promises that cannot be easily brushed aside.

Shahid Ali Khan, a lawyer who is also a beneficiary of the royal pension, points to his own family's legacy. His grandfather was a minister to Nawab Mohammad Ali Shah.



ARIES (March 21 - April 20): Today's full moon in your sign could have you behaving in a rather emotional manner, so keep an eye on yourself and if you seem to losing control just walk away from whatever situation is causing you grief. You don't HAVE to get involved.

TAURUS (April 21 - May 21): You may look fearless to the world at large but you have doubts and anxieties like everyone else and some of them could break through to the surface today. There is no point trying to deny your feelings, so acknowledge them and deal with them.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21): There is such a sense of urgency about you at the moment that you run the risk of pushing ahead too quickly and making a costly mistake. Map out each move you are going to make before you actually get going. You're not on the clock.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23): Have you taken a wrong turning? Maybe, but even if you have you can get back on track a little bit further down the line, so stick at it and don't worry or hurry. The universe will give you a gentle nudge in the right direction.

LEO (July 24 - Aug. 23): If you are planning your next vacation, or even just thinking about a trip you want to take in the future, you must be realistic about how much it will cost. If you know you can afford it that's fine. If not, maybe lower your sights a bit.

VIRGO (Aug. 24 - Sept. 23): You will get conflicting advice today about a business matter of some kind and while the moon is full you would be wise not to take any final decisions. If others try to rush you maybe that's not a good sign. Be cautious.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23): A full moon in the partnership area of your chart warns that some of the people you deal with today could get a bit touchy for no good reason. Promise yourself in advance that not matter how provocative their actions may be you won't react in kind.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 - Dec. 21): Teamwork is always essential but never more so than now. Both at home and at work you must look past your differences with loved ones and colleagues and focus on the things you have in common - a lot more than what keeps you apart.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 20): There is a lot of emotional junk that you need to get rid of and if you start the process today you will see results before the end of the week. Any regrets you may have, and any ill feeling you have for other people, must be left behind.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19):
A loved one's last minute-change of plan will annoy you but there is nothing you can do about it. It may even work in your favor as it gives you an excuse to go it alone, which may be what you wanted to do in the first place.

PISCES (Feb. 20 - Mar. 20): Full moons are always tricky but this one could be costly financially too. If you think you know what's going on then almost certainly you don't, so keep your money in your pocket until you know for sure what is really at stake.

**Our
advertising works!
Try a low cost ad in
Equality News and reap
the benefits of the only
print weekly newspaper.
Call 647-216-2359 for
rates**

Guyana Opposition leader Mohamed indicted in US on fraud charges

Just over a month after leading his newly formed We Invest in Nationhood (WIN) political party to become the main opposition in the Guyana National Assembly, billionaire businessman Azruddin Mohamed has been indicted by a United States grand jury on multiple fraud-related charges.

According to U.S. authorities, Mohamed and his father, businessman Nazar “Shell” Mohamed, have been charged with wire and mail fraud, and conspiracy to commit money laundering. The charges stem from allegations of tax evasion related to gold exports and the importation of a Lamborghini luxury vehicle.

If convicted of conspiracy to commit wire and mail fraud, both men—who were sanctioned by the U.S. Treasury Department’s Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) in June 2024—could face up to 20 years in prison on each count, three years of supervised release, and fines of up to US\$250,000 or twice the gross pecuniary gain or loss.

On the charges of wire fraud, Azruddin Mohamed could also face a 20-year prison sentence, three years of supervised release, and fines of up to US\$250,000 or twice the pecuniary gain or loss. For conspiracy to commit money laundering, the grand jury is seeking a maximum of 20 years’ imprisonment, three years of supervised release, and a fine of US\$500,000 or the value of the property involved in the transaction.

The United States government has also requested that, upon conviction, the defendants forfeit to the U.S. “any property, real or personal, which constitutes or is derived from proceeds traceable to such offense.” The property listed for forfeiture includes a shipment containing approximately US\$5.3 mil-



Guyanese Opposition leader Azruddin Mohamed

lion in gold bars exported from Guyana by Mohamed’s Enterprise and seized at Miami International Airport on June 11, 2024.

According to the unsealed indictment, between 2017 and June 2024, the defendants “did knowingly, and with the intent to further the objects of the conspiracy, combine, conspire, confederate, and agree with each other and others, known and unknown to the Grand Jury, to commit offenses against the United States.”

The indictment alleges that the purpose of the conspiracy was for the defendants to unlawfully enrich themselves and defraud the government of Guyana of taxes and royalties owed on gold exports. The U.S. accuses the Mohameds of reusing empty boxes with intact Guyana Revenue Authority (GRA) and Guyana Gold Board (GGB)

seals for shipments of gold, to make it appear as if Mohamed’s Enterprise had paid the required taxes and royalties when, in fact, it had not.

The grand jury further alleges that the Mohameds paid bribes to Guyanese government officials, including customs officers, so they would accept shipments of gold with duplicate paperwork and reused seals. The indictment claims the defendants shipped GRA and GGB seals from Miami to Mohamed’s Enterprise in Guyana to facilitate the alleged scheme.

“Nazar Mohamed and Azruddin Mohamed reused empty boxes with intact GRA and GGB seals for shipments of gold to make it appear that Mohamed’s Enterprise had paid Guyana taxes and royalties on shipments of gold when, in truth and in fact, Mohamed’s Enterprise had not paid them

on those shipments of gold,” the court document states.

The indictment also includes allegations surrounding the purchase and importation of a Lamborghini valued at approximately US\$680,000. The U.S. grand jury alleges that Azruddin Mohamed directed an unnamed individual—referred to as “Individual 1”—to acquire the car in California for his benefit and arrange its shipment from Miami to Guyana.

He allegedly instructed the individual to create a falsified invoice showing the Lamborghini’s value as US\$75,300, far below its actual price, and caused the fake document to be presented to the Guyana Revenue Authority. This alleged act enabled him to evade more than one million dollars in import taxes owed to the Guyanese government.

Child among five dead in Linstead mass shooting

A quiet Sunday evening in the community of Commodore, Linstead, was shattered by gunfire when armed men, posing as police officers, attacked a family yard late Sunday, leaving five people dead and four others injured. Among the dead is a four-year-old child.

The shooting occurred around 8:45 p.m. along Commodore main road when several men, some reportedly wearing police-style vests, entered the premises and opened fire on the occupants.

Assistant Commissioner of Police Christopher Phillips, who heads Area 5, described the attack as “very unfortunate and awful,” noting that Linstead had been relatively calm before the tragedy.

“Nine persons were shot, five persons have so far been confirmed dead,” ACP Phillips told Observer Online. “We are here trying to put together the pieces to determine what really triggered such an awful situation. The community of Linstead has been doing pretty well since this year.”

The deceased have been identified as four-year-old Shannon Gordon, a student of Rosemount Primary and Infant School; Mario Sullivan, 42, of Rosemount District; Jushane Edwards, 19, of Rosemount District; Iysha Washington, 39, a vendor of Rosemount District; and Famous Amos, 22, a security guard of Commodore District.

Police confirmed that six males and three females were shot in the attack; two females and three males succumbed to their injuries.

ACP Phillips said the location was known to the police, having been visited on several occasions due to “long-standing issues and challenges” involving the family.

“The indicators so far are suggesting that this might be a continuation of gang conflict, which comes as a surprise to us because this area has been quiet for a while,” he said. “Unfortunately among the numbers we have a four-year-old who was brutally killed... the community is in shock.”

Senior investigators and multiple police units were deployed to the scene as authorities worked to track down those responsible.

Phillips noted that prior to Sunday night’s attack, the Linstead area had recorded only eight murders this year, compared to more than 20 during the same period in 2024.

“Linstead was doing pretty well and so this really comes as a shocker to us,” he said.

Investigations are ongoing.

Advertising in Equality News works. Just ask any of our clients. 647-216-2359

Trinidad Prime Minister expands portfolio in Cabinet reshuffle

Trinidad and Tobago Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar has taken on additional responsibilities following a reshuffling of ministerial portfolios, which also saw the renaming of two ministries. The adjustments were made by the President on the advice of the Prime Minister, in accordance with section 79(1) of the Constitution.

While Persad-Bissessar has not commented publicly on the changes, Minister of Public Utilities and Minister in the Office of the Prime Minister Barry Padarath told Newsday that the reassignment aims to “harmonise the agencies and state enterprises where there is a natural fit, as well as for better operations and functionality.”

According to a gazette notice published on October 4, Padarath was assigned new responsibilities for Power Generation, Trinidad Generation Unlimited, and Powergen—portfolios that were previously under the purview of Minister of Energy and Energy Industries Dr Roodal Moonilal.

Speaking with Newsday on October 5, Padarath welcomed the additions, noting that the arrangement had existed many years ago and would better align with his current oversight of the Trinidad and Tobago Electricity Commission (T&TEC). He said the changes would allow for a review of existing power purchase agreements, which he claimed were neglected by the previous administration.

“Further, the impact of the excess power on the national grid is something that we are looking at in terms of our partnerships with commercial entities,” Padarath said. “During the PNM administration for the last nine-plus years, very little was addressed in the area of power generation in TT. It is our intention to review the agreements, make them more commercially viable, and explore untapped areas for investment. Of course, this will be done in consultation with all stakeholders as a long-term plan for the sector.”

Dr Moonilal also expressed support for the changes, saying the realignment will enable his ministry to focus on other priorities.

“Realignment of portfolio areas lends itself to better synergies and efficiencies. Our sector is not the same as it was a decade ago,” he said. “I am happy to concentrate more on our regional energy and investment footprint and the key high-hanging fruits, as the country has already witnessed. Our economic future still depends highly on the energy sector and our reemergence as the hemispheric energy hub.”

The reshuffle also expands the Prime Minister’s own responsibilities. Persad-Bissessar will now directly oversee matters relating to Heritage Buildings, Constitutional Reform, the National Trust, National Commission for Self-Help Limited, National Library Services, and the National Library and Information System



Barry Padarath — gets portolio for power generation

Authority. Additionally, she will assume responsibility for the Home Improvement Grants Policy, the Housing and Village Improvement Programme

(HVIP), and the Government-Aided Self-Help Housing Programme (GASHHP), which were previously under the portfolios of Minister of Cul-

ture and Community Development Michelle Benjamin, Minister of Housing David Lee, and Minister of Public Administration Dominic Smith.

US is now Barbados’ top tourist market

Barbados’ tourism sector has recorded a 5.43 per cent increase in stay-over arrivals between January and August 2025, for a total of 503,000 visitors. And for the first time, the United States (US) has surpassed the United Kingdom (UK) as the island’s leading source market.

Barbados Tourism Marketing Inc.’s (BTMI) Chief Executive Officer, Andrea Franklin, said the US led tourist arrivals, followed by the UK and the Caribbean.

“Arrivals from the United States of America stand at 179,753 visitors, making the US now our number one source market this year,” she said on Friday, the final day of the Caribbean Tourism Organisation’s State of the Tourism Industry Conference at the Hilton Barbados Resort. “This is particularly significant because all of you who may know Barbados and the history of tourism in Barbados, you know that the United Kingdom has always been our number one source market.”

“This year, as well, we have the Caribbean performing very well. They

are now our number three market, with 70,984 visitors coming from the region,” she stated.

Franklin credited the BTMI’s focus on airlift expansion for the US becoming the leading source market for the island.

“So, what we did was a real double down on our airlift strategy. And we really went after building airlift to the destination out of the US market. So, in winter 2025, we had in excess of 60,000 additional seats from the US market. So, our airlift strategy was the pivotal point for us in terms of building the capacity to the destination out of the market,” she explained.

“From January to August this year, stayover arrivals in Barbados increased by 5.43 per cent compared to the same period in 2024. That’s an additional 25,000 visitors who chose our island. To put that into perspective, arrivals grew from 477,891 in 2024 to 503,000 in 2025. These numbers tell us that Barbados is not only attracting more visitors but also strengthening its position as a destination of choice in the region.”

Cruise arrivals also showed growth, with 117,776 more passengers visiting the island.

“Cruise performance so far for the year, and our stats are only showing January to July, we’ve welcomed 599,826 cruise passengers, which is a growth of 24 per cent over the same period,” Franklin reported.

She further revealed that the Barbados Port Inc. is enhancing its cruise infrastructure to improve the visitor experience.

“Some of the things that the port are working on are ongoing modernisation and expansion of the facility at the Bridgetown Cruise Terminal, including improving the passenger flow, embarkation and disembarkation services and port aesthetics. Plans are also on the way for greener port operations, including looking at digitalisation and shore power readiness and the introduction of smart port technology to streamline logistics and enhance operational efficiency,” she noted.

Kamla wins People’s Choice Leader Award at Caribbean Global Awards

Trinidad and Tobago Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar received the People’s Choice Leader Award at the 2025 Caribbean Global Awards, held at the Cumberland Hotel in London on September 27.

The award, determined by public vote, saw Persad-Bissessar top a list that included Barbados’ Mia Mottley, St Vincent and the Grenadines’ Ralph Gonsalves, Jamaica’s Andrew Holness, and Guyana’s Dr Mohamed Irfaan Ali. Ralph Gonsalves placed second, Mottley third, and Holness and Ali finished fourth and fifth, respectively.

Addressing the ceremony via video from New York, Persad-Bissessar said, “It is indeed a profound honour to accept the Caribbean Global People’s Choice Leader Award 2025. I do regret not being with you in person. However, my duties at the United Nations General Assembly have called me to New York where I carry the voice of Trinidad and Tobago and of our small island nations, speaking for resilience, fairness and the dignity and future of all people, especially our children.”

She stressed that the award reflects collective achievement. “Yet even as I stand on that world stage, my heart is here with you because this award belongs not to me alone but to all of us who believe that unity is our greatest strength.”

Persad-Bissessar reflected on her upbringing and journey into leadership, saying, “I was born in colonial Trinidad into a poor family in the rural village of Siparia. My late mother Rita sold roti to support our family whilst my father Lalraj worked as a bookkeeper. From those humble beginnings to becoming the first woman Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago, I learned that leadership is not a privilege but a duty to serve.”

Highlighting her achievements in public service, she said, “Throughout four decades of public service, I have sought to turn compassion and equality into action. As Prime Minister from 2010-2015, my Government created the Children’s Life Fund, we advanced universal secondary education, we formed the SEA and we provided laptops for every student, and we also expanded higher learning.”

On her current term, she added, “I continue that mission, revitalising the economy, modernising energy, advancing digital transformation, and ensuring



Kamla Persad-Bissessar

governance that is transparent, inclusive and centred on people’s lives.”

Persad-Bissessar also emphasised the broader purpose of recognition, saying, “Tonight’s celebration is more than an award; it is a reminder that recognition must serve a purpose. Even when progress feels like two steps forward and one back, we must keep faith, choosing evidence over noise, dignity over cynicism, inclusion over indifference and

truth over silence.”

She made a heartfelt call to action for communities and leaders, urging them to “lift up one vulnerable child, show them that they can lead. Open the doors of your classrooms, your workplaces, your creative spaces and let them see what is possible. Share with them the struggles of past generations so they know resilience is our inheritance.”

Persad-Bissessar concluded: “Our

ancestors forged democracies from broken colonial fragments, from stolen lives, from stolen dignity and from stolen heritage, and yet still they endured so that we could rise. In lifting the most vulnerable, we transform talent into leadership, hope into history and ensure the promise of our countries and the survival of our generations to come.”

She also congratulated her fellow honorees.

JA crowned top tourist destination

Jamaica has once again received widespread recognition at the 2025 Caribbean World Travel Awards, further cementing its reputation as a premier tourist destination in the region.

The island was named Caribbean’s Leading Destination for the nineteenth time, a testament to its sustained excellence in hospitality and tourism.

The annual World Travel Awards, often described as the “Oscars of the travel industry,” celebrate outstanding performance across hotels, airlines, destinations, and hospitality services. Jamaica’s multiple accolades this year underscore the nation’s commitment to quality, innovation, and delivering memorable visitor experiences.

“Jamaica continues to punch above its weight by surpassing expectations in its hospitality delivery,” said Hon. Edmund Bartlett, Jamaica’s Minister of Tourism. “These accolades underpin the excellent contribution of our people,

who are at the heart of the sector. We are truly grateful for this recognition and proud as we are on the cusp of welcoming five million visitors to our shores and earning US\$5 billion for our economy.”

Among its top awards, Jamaica was named Caribbean’s Leading Cruise Destination and Caribbean’s Leading Destination, while key partners in airport, cruise, and hotel categories also received recognition for their contributions.

“Our island continues to be top of mind through our authentic tourism experiences, from food to music, and this recognition cements Jamaica as a top-tier destination,” said Donovan White, Jamaica’s Director of Tourism. “Thanks to all our partners who have worked hard to remain consistent and unique.”

The awards highlight the value of ongoing investment in transport infrastructure, visitor convenience, and service excellence.

Sandals to begin design of \$500M Beaches Resort in St. Vincent in 2026

Sandals Resorts International (SRI) CEO Adam Stewart has announced that the company will begin designing a new Beaches resort at Mt Wynne in 2026, marking another major investment in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines’ tourism landscape.

Speaking at a signing ceremony in Buccament Bay on Monday, Stewart said the new project represents a US\$500 million investment and will feature approximately 500 rooms. The planned resort is expected to employ nearly 2,000 Vincentians once fully operational.

“So, prime minister, we are here to sign today an agreement to build at this stage what looks like the vision of a 500-bedroom, \$500 million Beaches resort in this country,” Stewart said ahead of the signing of the confidential documents with Prime Minister Ralph Gonsalves.

Sandals had originally planned to build the Beaches property at Buccament Bay but pivoted after the pandemic to launch a Sandals resort there, which opened in March 2024. “That was our original commitment to the country — to build a Beaches. And of course, we pivoted after COVID to the Sandals,” Stewart explained.

The new Beaches resort will showcase local inspiration, with Stewart noting that the Red Lane Spa will draw on the island’s volcanic minerals and cultural heritage. “This is a volcanic island, and we’re going to use those minerals, all that history, and infuse it into the next generation of Red Lane Spa,” he said.

From cuisine to design, Stewart promised the property would reflect the best of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines. “Gastronomically, we’re



Artist’s concept of the new Sandals Resort in St Vincent

going to go overboard,” he said, referencing Buccan — a Sandals concept restaurant that sources its ingredients from local farmers. “From a water park point of view, we’re going to build something extraordinary.”

Stewart also highlighted the broader economic impact of Sandals’ presence, noting that the company employs over 150 Vincentians across four

Caribbean islands, and 250 more are set to train in Turks and Caicos ahead of the opening of a new Beaches resort there in March 2026.

Praising Prime Minister Gonsalves’ leadership on Caribbean integration, Stewart emphasized the importance of regional self-reliance. “Nobody is coming to rescue this region. It is on the people of this region

to recognise that the almighty created the most beautiful tapestry for us to share with the world,” he said.

He added that Sandals, a proudly Caribbean-born brand, will continue to work with governments across the region “to champion and explain to the world that if they give us that opportunity to come here, we will give them the best holiday that money can buy.:

St. Kitts joins Regional Agricultural Insurance Programme

The St. Kitts and Nevis government has welcomed the inclusion of the twin-island Federation in the Regional Economical Agri-Insurance Programme (REAP), developed by the St. Vincent and the Grenadines-based Lynch Caribbean Brokers Ltd.

The announcement was made during the 19th Caribbean Week of Agriculture (CWA 2025), recently held in St. Kitts. Agriculture, Fisheries and Marine Resources Minister Samal Duggins described the initiative as a vital pillar for national resilience and regional innovation.

“Agriculture and fisheries remain at the heart of our nation’s food security, livelihoods, and economic resilience. Yet, farmers and fishers are increasingly vulnerable to risks beyond their control—climate change, unpredictable weather patterns, natural disasters, pests, and market volatility,” Duggins said.

Under the REAP project, local farmers and fishers will benefit from a regional insurance programme designed to reduce vulnerability to natural disasters, market shocks, and the growing impacts of climate change. The initiative, set to launch soon in partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Marine Resources, offers a flexible multi-peril parametric insurance model tailored for the agriculture and fisheries sectors.

Unlike traditional insurance systems that rely on individual loss assessments, REAP uses advanced index-based data and satellite monitoring to trigger payouts once pre-defined thresholds are met or surpassed. The coverage spans crops, livestock, and fisheries, providing comprehensive protection for producers across the Federation.

The government will cover the insurance premiums for all registered

farmers and fishers. Once a payout index is triggered, beneficiaries are notified within two to three weeks, and payments are distributed directly per policy.

St. Kitts and Nevis is among nine Caribbean Community (CARICOM) countries that have signed onto the programme. St. Lucia officially launched REAP in July 2025.

Lynch Caribbean Brokers Managing Director Damian Bowen said the programme’s design was informed by extensive national consultations. “REAP’s development was the result of careful collaboration with key stakeholders during the first quarter of 2025,” he said. “Together with experts from the Ministry of Agriculture and members of the farming and fishing communities, we created a model tailored to real needs rather than abstract assumptions.”

In a statement, Lynch Caribbean

Brokers Ltd added that “REAP is not a product on a shelf, it is an agri-insurance value chain in motion,” integrating technology, local expertise, and regional cooperation to build agricultural resilience.

Beyond financial protection, REAP will introduce livelihood protection measures, a national enrolment campaign, public education seminars, and digital dashboards aimed at improving transparency and data-driven decision-making across the sector.

Minister Duggins reaffirmed the government’s commitment to building resilience in agriculture and fisheries. “These tools are not luxuries—they are necessities that provide a safety net, ensuring that the men and women who dedicate their lives to feeding our people can recover quickly after shocks and continue their work without being pushed into financial hardship,” he said.

T&T Prisons Chief: over 600 drone drops into Maximum Security Jail

Acting Commissioner of Prisons Hayden Forde says more than 600 drone drops have been detected across Trinidad’s prisons between April and October this year, with the majority occurring at the Maximum Security Prison in Arouca.

Forde, speaking on a local television programme Monday, said the growing use of drones to smuggle contraband has become a serious challenge for prison authorities, adding that some officers are also complicit in the illegal activity.

“The greatest challenge that we face on a daily basis would be drone flights. Drone flights take place every single day,” Forde said. “So, the criminal realise that that’s a weak spot and they are actually using that to their advantage. Despite that we have officers who are intercepting some of those drops, the vast majority, obviously based on the flight patterns... we have not been able to intercept.”

He revealed that between April 4 and October 4, 2025, prison officials recorded 626 drone sightings, most of which occurred over the Maximum Security Prison — home to the largest population of remanded inmates.

Forde said that while officers have managed to recover some of the contraband, the prison system lacks the necessary technology and resources to effectively counter the problem. He also admitted that several officers have been aiding in the smuggling operations.

“We have several rogue officers



The Maximum Security Prison in East Trinidad

who are operating in our system. Despite efforts to weed them out, they are still in our system,” he said. “They are complicit, and I am not going to hide that at all... as far as I am concerned they are gang members, they are part of a criminal network.”

The comments follow a recent joint operation in which police and prison officers arrested two people — including a 13-year-old boy — who allegedly attempted to fly a drone loaded with marijuana, cigarettes, wrapping

paper, and cellphones into the Maximum Security Prison.

Forde said talks are ongoing with Minister of Homeland Security Roger Alexander on possible countermeasures, including anti-drone systems capable of detecting, disabling, or tracking the devices back to their operators.

“What is really needed are anti-drone devices that are in a fixed place, but can cover a certain radius and... detect it, capture it, defuse it,” he said. “It

can send it back to the operator where the police can follow the drone and make an arrest if possible.”

The prison chief also expressed alarm over the involvement of minors in smuggling operations. “It seems as though they are training people to get involved in criminal activities and continue on that line,” Forde said. “That is alarming to us as a society, because basically what they’re doing is succession planning... ensuring that crime is not abated in this country.”



Advertise and survive as the holiday season approaches with a low cost ad in Equality News 647-216-2359

NEXT ROOFING AND HOME SOLUTION

1000 Purpledusk Trail scarborough ON M1E 4C8

LICENSE AND TRADER CONTRACTOR
SPECIALIZES IN ROOFING AND SIDING
ALL OUT SIDE HOMES
AND WSIB AND INSURANCE

Jemal Said
Owner
647-676-6699
onextroofingsulotiin@gmail.com
www.nrsroofing.com

NEXT ROOFING SOLUTION SERVICES:

- Shingles Roof
- Flat Roof
- Metal Roof
- Window Frame
- Gutter Cleaning
- Leaf Screen
- Shelter
- Aluminum
- Eavestrough
- Soffit
- Fascia
- Sliding
- Vinyl Sliding
- Skylight

FREE ESTIMATE

Bernard Julien, World Cup hero, remembered for grace and grit

The West Indies cricket community is mourning the passing of Bernard Julien, one of the region’s most gifted all-rounders and a proud member of the legendary team that captured the inaugural Men’s Cricket World Cup in 1975.

Julien, who combined elegance at the crease with guile and precision as a left-arm seamer, passed away on Saturday night at his home in Valsayn, north-west Trinidad, at the age of 75, a family member confirmed.

The outpouring of tributes from across the Caribbean spoke not only to Julien’s sporting brilliance but to the warmth of his character and the enduring mark he left on generations of players and fans alike.

From Sir Clive Lloyd, his former captain and long-time friend, to Cricket West Indies (CWI) and the West Indies Players’ Association (WIPA), the tributes formed a single chorus of respect for a man whose career embodied both triumph and complexity.

Together, they hailed Julien as a cricketer of rare talent and deep integrity — a man who not only helped shape the West Indies’ early dominance in world cricket but also navigated the sport’s most challenging moral crossroads with humanity and grace.

Leading the tributes, Sir Clive Lloyd remembered Julien as a dependable, selfless teammate and a cornerstone of the World Cup-winning side.

“He always gave you over 100 percent,” Lloyd recalled. “He never



shirked his duties, and I could always rely on him with bat and ball. He gave his all every time ... what a fine cricketer.”

The former West Indies captain also spoke fondly of Julien’s spirit and humility.

“We all had total respect for him. He enjoyed himself and was loved by everyone around. I remember we won the Test match at Lord’s and stood there signing autographs for a long time. He was good for us and was held in high regard everywhere we went.”

CWI: “A quiet legend of the 1975 World Cup”

In a moving statement, Cricket West Indies (CWI) President Dr. Kishore Shallow reflected on Julien’s dual legacy — his cricketing excellence and the social complexities that defined his era.

“The passing of Bernard Julien invites reflection on both the brilliance of his cricketing life and the complex times through which he lived,” Shallow said. “His career reminds us that the story of West Indies cricket is not only about triumphs on the field but about the choices and circumstances that shaped generations of players and the region itself.”

Shallow described Julien as “one of the quiet legends of the 1975 World Cup,” noting that the tournament — half a century ago — brought a sense of Caribbean unity and joy like no other.

“His skill and composure were central to that victory,” Shallow added. “To the family, friends, and loved ones of Bernard Julien, we extend our deepest condolences.”

WIPA: “We honor his lasting contribution”

The West Indies Players’ Association (WIPA) also expressed deep sorrow, extending sympathy to Julien’s family and loved ones.

WIPA president and CEO, Wavell Hinds, said: “WIPA expresses sincere condolences to the friends and family of former West Indies cricketer Bernard Julien. May you find strength and peace amid your grief. We honor Bernard Julien’s lasting contribution to the game we love; may his soul rest in peace.”

A career of brilliance and depth
Born in Carenage, Trinidad, in 1950, Bernard Julien’s cricketing journey began at 18, when he made his first-class debut. By 23, he was wearing the maroon cap for the West Indies



Bernard Julien — died at 75

on their 1973 tour of England — a series in which he announced himself with flair and authority.

At Lord’s, the “Home of Cricket,” he scored a magnificent 121 off 127 balls, sharing a record partnership with Sir Garfield Sobers, who remained unbeaten on 150. It was the kind of innings that signaled the arrival of a player of rare poise and power.

Two years later, Julien’s all-round brilliance shone again on the world stage. During the 1975 World Cup, he delivered match-winning spells of 4 for 20 against Sri Lanka and 4 for 27 against New Zealand in the semi-final at The Oval — performances that propelled the West Indies into the final, where they defeated Australia to lift cricket’s first world crown.

In total, Julien played 24 Test matches, scoring 866 runs at an average of 30.92 and taking 50 wickets at 37.36. In One-Day Internationals, he claimed 18 wickets at 25.72.

A complex chapter and an enduring legacy

Julien’s international career came to an early close following his participation in the 1982–83 rebel tours to South Africa — a decision that resulted in a life ban from West Indies cricket at

the height of the apartheid boycott. Dr. Shallow acknowledged the moral and personal struggles of that period, noting that such choices reflected “the difficult realities of that era and the pressures faced by players navigating competing demands of opportunity, conscience, and circumstance.”

Yet for all the turbulence, Julien’s contributions remain woven into the tapestry of West Indian cricket — his artistry with bat and ball, his quiet dignity, and his place among the pioneers who laid the foundation for future generations.

Remembering a gentleman of the game

For the Caribbean cricket family, Bernard Julien will be remembered as more than a statistic or a scorecard entry. He was part of the West Indies’ coming of age — a cricketer whose performances embodied a people’s pride and whose life mirrored the struggles and triumphs of his time.

As Sir Clive Lloyd put it, “He gave his all every time.”

That spirit — of effort, excellence, and enduring grace — is what will forever define Bernard Julien, one of West Indies cricket’s quiet giants.



We are OPEN during Public Holidays-Thanksgiving Day 公众假期感恩节照常营业



SUPERKING SUPERMARKET

鴻發超市



Special Offers Effective: Friday Oct.10, To Thursday Oct.16, 2025.



VEGETABLE & FRUIT

Korean Cabbage 高麗菜 Reg:\$1.29 **79¢ lb**

Pumpkin 大南瓜 Reg:\$1.29 **79¢ lb**

Cucumber 長青瓜 Reg:\$1.79 **1.29 ea**

Celery 西芹 Reg:\$1.99 **1.29 ea**

Green Peppers 青椒 Reg:\$1.99 **1.39 lb**

Taiwan Bok Choy 台灣白 Reg:\$1.99 **1.39 lb**

Nai Yu Miu 奶油苗 Reg:\$1.99 **1.39 lb**

Broccoli 无头西兰花 Reg:\$1.99 **1.59 lb**

Ginger(Organic) 有机薑 Reg:\$1.99 **1.59 lb**

Green Leaf Lettuce 唐生菜 Reg:\$2.99 **1.99 ea**

Bosc Pear 波士啤梨 Reg:\$1.99 **1.29 lb**

Fresh Papaya 新鲜木瓜 Reg:\$1.99 **1.39 lb**

Golden Apple 黄苹果 Reg:\$1.99 **1.59 lb**

Sweet Mandarin 松皮桔 Reg:\$2.59 **1.88 lb**

Small Red Grape 小紅提 Reg:\$3.99 **2.59 lb**

Avocado In Bag 袋裝牛油果 Reg:\$3.99 **2.99 bag**

Vietnam Red Meat Pomelo 越南青柚 Reg:\$4.99 **2.99 ea**

Pineapple 菠蘿 Reg:\$4.99 **3.59 ea**

Watermelon 大西瓜 Reg:\$6.99 **4.99 ea**

RESTAURANT SPECIAL

Cucumber 長青瓜 **13.00 case**

Red Pepper 紅椒(11LB) **13.00 case**

Green Onion 蔥 **22.00 case**

Spanish Onion 大洋葱 **22.00 case**

Chinese Carrot 紅蘿卜 **23.00 case**

Ginger 中國生薑 **26.00 case**

Broccoli 西蘭花 **26.00 case**

Korean Cabbage 高麗菜 **28.00 case**

Green Leaf Lettuce 唐生菜 **42.00 case**

Lemon 黃檸檬 **45.00 case**

Safpro Orange 南非橙 **45.00 case**

Avocado 牛油果 36s **65.00 case**

Frozen Panga Basa Fillet 魚柳 8x3.5LB **65.00 case**

Headless White Shrimp 無頭白蝦 16/20.4X6LB **168.00 case**

AA-1 Galunggong 池魚 20x450g **55.00 case**

Extra Large Egg 箱裝大雞蛋 **60.00 case**

Beef Eye Round 整箱牛肉眼 **7.00 lb**

Beef Small Intestine 牛小腸 30LB **60.00 case**

Lucky Brand Fish Sauce 幸福魚露 12x700ml **12.00 case**

Squid Brand Fish Sauce 箱裝魷魚標魚露 **29.99 case**

Kadoya Pure Sesame Oil 麻油 10x1.65L **225.00 case**

Long Grain White Rice 優質絲苗米 20kg **29.99 bag**

Carnation Evaporated Milk 三花淡奶 48x354ml **90.00 case**

Capri Vegetable/Canola Oil 菜油/芥菜籽油 16L **33.99 case**

AJI-NO-MOTO MSG 味精 22.7kg **110.00 bag**

ADM All Purpose Flour 面粉 20kg **19.99 bag**

Redpath Sugar 白糖 20kg **28.99 bag**

E-Pack Wrap 914 保鮮膜 450mmx600m **20.00 case**

Convenience Rolls 10.5x15 包裝袋 13LB **15.99 case**

Clear Garbage Bags 35x47 X-Strong 100pcs 垃圾袋 **20.99 case**

NG-18 New Gen Eco-Friendly Packaging 一次性餐盒 **19.99 case**

Sekka Medium Grain Rice 雪花圓米 40LB **36.99 bag**

FROZEN

Thai Gold Frozen Shrimp Peeled&Deveind 蝦仁 31/40 380g Reg:\$10.99 **7.99 ea**

AA-1 Squid 400g 魷魚 Reg:\$5.99 **3.99 ea**

SH Basa Fillet 400g 龍利魚柳 Reg:\$2.99/ea **2/\$5.00**

Kababayan Tambakol Skipjack Tuna 吞拿 Reg:\$3.99 **2.99 lb**

Cool Ocean Cooked Peeled Shrimp 400g 熟蝦仁 Reg:\$8.99 **6.99 ea**

AA-1 Bangus Milkfish Belly 牛奶魚腩 400g Reg:\$7.99 **5.99 ea**

Coconut Tree Frozen Chopped Lemongrass 香茅碎 227g Reg:\$2.59 **1.99 ea**

Kababayan Whole Round Moonfish 500g 月光鰻 Reg:\$2.99/ea **2/\$5.00**

White Egg 30pcs 30粒白雞蛋 Reg:\$10.99 **9.99 ea**

La Fe Cassava Manioc Yuca 木薯 5Lb Reg:\$12.99 **9.99 ea**

Black Diamond Slices Cheese Series 410g 芝士片 Reg:\$4.99 **3.99 ea**

Yakult Probiotic Drink 養樂多乳酸菌 400ml Reg:\$7.99 **5.99 ea**

GROCERY

Naya Ajwa Dates 400g 中東棗 Reg:\$7.99 **3.99 ea**

Kubba Pure Vegetable Ghee 1kg Reg:\$5.99 **2.99 ea**

Aurora Panko Chapelure Nature 227g Reg:\$2.99 **1.99 ea**

White King Bibingka Rice Cake Mix 500g 米餅粉 Reg:\$3.99 **2.59 ea**

UFC Spaghetti Sauce 意面醬 1kg Reg:\$4.99 **2.99 ea**

Knorr Tamarind Soup Base 酸子粉 40g Reg:\$0.99/ea **3/\$1.88**

Mr.Goudas Sweetened Condensed Whitener 煉奶 360ml Reg:\$1.79 **99¢ ea**

G7 Strongx2 Coffee Mix 咖啡 24X25g Reg:\$8.99 **5.99 ea**

Jack'n Jill Dewberry 330g 餅乾 Reg:\$4.99 **2.99 ea**

Milano Giant Lady Fingers Biscuits 150g 手指餅 Reg:\$1.79 **99¢ ea**

Nongshim Bowl Instant Noodles 86g 方便麵 Reg:\$1.79 **99¢ ea**

Pepsi Mini Can 6x222ml 飲料 Reg:\$4.99 **3.29 ea**

Y&Y Rice Flour/Glutinous Rice Flour 400g 如意牌粘米粉/糯米粉 Reg:\$1.99 **99¢ ea**

Cock Brand Tapioca Starch 麥粉 400g Reg:\$1.79 **99¢ ea**

Lobo Nam Powder Seasoning Mix 70g 調味粉 Reg:\$1.99 **1.29 ea**

Lee Kum Kee Shrimp Sauce 李錦記幼滑蝦醬 287ml Reg:\$9.99 **6.99 ea**

Sa Giang Shrimp -Crab Chips 蝦蟹餅 200g Reg:\$1.79 **99¢ ea**

KIM TU THAP Tempura Batter Mix 340g 炸粉 Reg:\$2.99 **2.29 ea**

Pork Butt 梅頭 Reg:\$3.99 **2.99 lb**

Beef Sirloin Tip Steak 牛腩肉扒 Reg:\$8.99 **7.99 lb**

Fresh Frozen Beef Short Ribs 冰鮮牛仔骨 Reg:\$6.99 **5.99 lb**

Frozen Whole Rabbit (Without Head And Feet) 冰鮮兔子 Reg:\$6.99 **5.99 lb**

Mature Chicken 半老雞 Reg:\$13.99 **12.99 ea**

SEAFOOD

Live Blue Crab 生猛藍蟹 Reg:\$6.99 **4.99 lb**

Fresh Chinese Yellow Croaker 新鮮大黃花魚 Reg:\$5.99 **4.99 lb**

Fresh Whole Salmon 新鮮整條三文魚 Reg:\$5.99 **3.99 lb**

Frozen Fresh Head-On White Shrimp 冰鮮有頭南美白蝦 Reg:\$5.99 **4.99 lb**

Frozen Fresh Pompano 冰鮮黃立鯧 Reg:\$5.99 **4.99 lb**

Fresh White Bass 新鮮三線魚 Reg:\$4.99 **3.99 lb**

Indian legend Gavaskar delivers blistering rating of WI after rout

Indian cricket icon Sunil Gavaskar has delivered a blistering assessment of the West Indies’ latest Test humiliation, lamenting that the once-feared Caribbean pace battery now resembles a group of “net bowlers” after their innings-and-140-run defeat to India in the opening Test.

The contest, so one-sided it barely rippled the cricketing world, stood in stark contrast to the bygone era when a victory over the West Indies would have been headline news across continents. The team that once embodied swagger, speed, and dominance now appeared a pale shadow of its illustrious past.

“Is this really the West Indies pace attack?”

Writing in his Sportstar column, Gavaskar spared little in his critique of the visitors’ bowling, singling out only Jayden Seales for praise.

“In Ahmedabad, apart from Jayden Seales, the other two were simply trundlers,” Gavaskar observed. “No disrespect intended to them, but to see the first bouncer being bowled after half a dozen overs had been bowled made one ask, ‘Is this really the West Indies pace attack?’”



Indian superstar Sunil Gavaskar

He lamented the absence of intimidation and tactical sharpness — traits that once defined Caribbean fast bowling. Gavaskar emphasized that while the short ball demands considerable effort, it remains an essential “surprise weapon” capable of unsettling even the most accomplished batters.

“It’s not just about raw pace,” he implied, “but about the intent to challenge — to make the batsman think twice.”

The gulf in class between the two sides was glaring, particularly with the bat. India’s line-up — led by KL Rahul, Dhruv Jurel, and Ravindra Jadeja, each registering centuries — piled on a mountain of runs with clinical authority. In response, the West Indies’ effort was timid and fragmented, with only Alick Athanaze (38) and Justin Greaves (32) showing brief signs of resistance.

Gavaskar described the display as dispiriting for fans who remember the Caribbean’s golden era, when batting icons such as Viv Richards, Clive Lloyd, Gordon Greenidge, and Brian Lara struck fear into bowlers worldwide.

“For a team that once boasted of the likes of Viv Richards, Clive Lloyd, Gordon Greenidge, and Brian Lara,” he wrote, “there is simply nobody in this current team who looks like getting a million country miles close to them.”

The West Indies have not won a single Test against India since 2002, a stretch spanning 25 matches, of which India have triumphed in 15.

B HALAL MEAT (BAKSH)

EAST & WEST INDIAN GROCERIES

416-261-8564

FRESH FRUITS & VEGETABLES

FROM THE CARIBBEAN

- * BORA
- * EGGPLANT
- * SAIHE
- * SQUASH
- * PUMPKIN
- * WIRI WIRI PEPPER
- * HOT PEPPERS
- * OKRA
- * MARRIED MAN
- * THYME
- * FROZEN KATAHAR
- * COCONUT CHOKA
- * EDDOES
- * SPIKE MANGO
- * GINEP
- * GOLDEN APPLE
- * AIWARA

FRESH ONTARIO MEAT

LAMB * GOAT * CHICKEN * DUCK

RED HEN * ROOSTER

ALL MEATS ARE 100% HALAL

AND MANY MORE AVAILABLE

FRESH & FROZEN SEAFOOD

GILLBAKA

GREY SNAPPER

CATFISH

BANGAMARY

BUTTERFISH

HASSA

WHITE BELLY SHRIMP

BLACK SHRIMP

CRAB

SMOKE FISH

3160 EGLINTON AVENUE (1 BLOCK WEST OF MARKHAM ROAD)

AN EVENING OF ELEGANCE



The Caribbean Children Foundation

Angel Gala

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25TH, 2025

COCKTAILS 6:00 PM

WOODBINE BANQUET HALL, 30 VICE REGENT BLVD

ETOBICOKE (HWY27, SOUTH OF REXDALE BLVD)

TICKETS: \$75.00

- ☐ LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
- ☐ GRAND BUFFET DINNER
- ☐ RAFFLE PRIZES ☐ CASH BAR
- ☐ FORMAL ATTIRE

Twitter  Hashtag #TCCFAngels

visit tccfangels.com

FOR TICKETS AND INFO CONTACT:

• Jay: 416-418-2745 • Ojha: 905-672-2287 • Vic: 647-280-6712 • Jankie: 905-303-5817 • Kumar: 416-498-9962
• Ray: 416-278-9302 • Amit: 647-703-1283 • Donna: 416-741-4970 • Deeka: 416-281-5525

Enjoy Diwali this year in

Beautiful Guyana

SHUBH Diwali

Join us in the upcoming

Guyana Diwali celebrations

Wanderlust Adventures GY

\$8,000 GYD \$40 USD

Be a part of the celebrations showcasing our diversity in culture and food.

INCLUSIVE OF: TRANSPORTATION AND GUIDE

MEETING POINT: 168 WATERLOO & NEW MARKET STS (OUR OFFICE)

SCHEDULE

FRIDAY OCTOBER 10TH Echoes of Indian Arrival Tour & Deep Jale (Providence National Stadium)

SATURDAY OCTOBER 11TH Hindu Dharmic Sabha's Iconic Motorcade (Providence National Stadium)

SUNDAY OCTOBER 19TH Temples and Traditions Walk & Diwali Motorcade 2025 (Georgetown)

592-231-8618 www.wanderlustgy.com 168 Waterloo & New Market Sts

Happy Diwali

Guyana Hindu Dharmic Sabha

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

5TH - 20TH OCTOBER 2025

5th Rangoli Utsav - Crabwood Creek Shiva Mandir, Corentyne

9th Deep Jale - Indian Heritage Site, Palmyra

10th Inter-School Rangoli Competitions - Guyana National Stadium

10th Deep Jale - Guyana National Stadium

11th Deep Jale - Anna Regina Town Council Lawns, Essequibo

11th East Bank Motorcade - Guyana National Stadium

12th Deep Jale - Logwood Main Road, Enmore, ECD

12th West Coast Berbice Motorcade - Bath Comm. Centre

12th Lower Corentyne Motorcade - Rose Hall Comm. Centre

12th Upper Corentyne Motorcade - Port Mourant Comm. Centre

12th Upper Corentyne Motorcade - Tagore High School Ground

13th Deep Jale - Parika Turn - East Bank Essequibo

14th Inter-School Rangoli Competitions - Rama Krishna School

15th - 18th Deep Jale - Kitty Seawall Roundabout

15th Inter-School Rangoli Competitions - Abram Zuil Secondary

15th Inter-School Rangoli Competitions - Tagore High School

16th Inter-School Rangoli Competitions - Central C'tyne Secondary

16th Inter-School Rangoli Competitions - Berbice High School

16th Inter-School Rangoli Competitions - Hope Secondary School

16th Inter-School Rangoli Competitions - West Dem. Secondary

16th Essequibo Motorcade - Anna Regina Car Park, Essequibo

17th Rangoli Utsav - Kitty Seawall Roundabout

17th West Coast Motorcade - Oceanview Mandir Compound, WCD

19th Grand Motorcade - LBI Community Centre Ground, ECD

20th Diwali - National Holiday

Shubh Deepawali

VISIT GUYANA

Tours & Experiences

Festival of lights Diwali Tour

15-18 OCTOBER

Experience Diwali with Visit Guyana tours! Step into the magic of the Festival of Lights with an unforgettable cultural journey.

✓ Learn all about the festival's history & traditions.

✓ Try delicious traditional sweet meats!

✓ Experience Rangoli art

✓ Decorate your own diyas.

Then head to the Deep Jale Diwali Cultural Show & Expo for dazzling performances, music, food including seven curry, and shopping.

WHATSAPP: 654-5339 TO BOOK YOUR SPOT

TOURING GUYANA

AWESOME ADVENTURES | UNFORGETTABLE MEMORIES

Diwali Heritage Tour

Historic tour of New Amsterdam, from the arrival of the first ship to an evening of cultural explosion

Thursday October 9

Call or Whatsapp 592-700-5252

Touring Guyana

Country and Culture Tour

Tour the countryside and Indian heritage sites and enjoy an evening of Indian culture

October 15-18

Call or Whatsapp 592-700-5252

Touring Guyana

City and Culture Tour

Tour Georgetown and Indian heritage sites and enjoy an evening of Indian culture

October 15-18

Call or Whatsapp 592-700-5252

PACKAGE INCLUSIVE OF:

- Diya Making Masterclass

- Indian Dance Experience

- Indian Food Sampling

- Grand Diwali Motorcade

- Rangoli Displays

- Indian Cultural Shows

HAPPY Diwali

FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

Diwali Tours

Trail Masters Adventure Tours, call +592 620 8687 or email tours@trailmastersadventure.com.

CALL US NOW