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Successful completion of their overseas visit & participation in the Mississauga International Cricket Festival 2023 saw Trinidad & Tobago's AK Cricket Academy players taking away both the U15 & U19 trophies. In photo, U15 AKCA captain Tyler Ramroop (left), receives the Championship Trophy from Dhruv Beniwal, U15 captain for the Ontario Cricket Academy. At right, Derek Perera, Director of the OCA, looks on at the presentation. See story on Page 15



Despite being partially hidden by a school backpack, the young boy in the front row at right is a picture of excitement, curiosity, & bountiful cuteness, & is perhaps the defining moment in this photo taken on September 3 at the Imdadul Islamic Centre. The captivating moment came after distribution of 90 backpacks filled with school supplies to excited children, & grateful parents. Imdadul has extended its profound thanks to all the donors, & its many volunteers who contributed to bringing the effort to fruition, & for making the distribution possible. In Imdadul's words, it was a blessed & a busy day that also saw the morning devoted to serving hot meals, & later, over 300 hot food hampers with snacks that were distributed to the less fortunate, the homeless, & shelters with refugees. Imdadul's back-to-school school supplies giveaway was later acknowledged, with gratitude, by MPP for York Centre, Michael Kerzner, who thanked the mosque for supporting York Centre families, & for promoting inclusivity & community. More photos on Page 11.

CGCC holds Guyana investor information session



Tamesh Lilmohan

By Romeo Kaseram
LJI Reporter

Toronto – In keeping with one of its mandates to facilitate synergies between businesses in Canada and Guyana, the Canadian Guyana Chamber of Commerce will be holding the first in a series of information sessions, 'Canadians Doing Business in Guyana – Tax Implications' in Toronto on September 9.

The session will take place at the Woodbine Banquet Hall, which is located at 30 Vice Regent Blvd in Toronto. Speaker for the session will be Toronto's eminent lawyer, accountant, and consultant to the government of Guyana, Tameshwar Lilmohan.

Fareed Amin, one of the CGCC's directors, told *Indo-Caribbean World* earlier this week the sign-up response to the session has been quite energised. It was a reassuring reflection of the growing groundswell of investor interest in Guyana's burgeoning economic landscape, he noted.

"We have been receiving a tremendous response from persons who are interested in attending the session. This is looking like it is going to be a sold-out event," he said.

Amin also reaffirmed the CGCC's commitment to leverage the talents, skills, and experience within its membership to the benefit of potential investors interested in Guyana's growing economy.

"The CGCC's intention has always been to offer topical issues that are of interest to the diaspora and

Canadians who are interested in investing in Guyana. This session is the first in a series that will alternate between Canada and Guyana," he said.

Amin also spoke to the growing resonances being felt in Canada by the CGCC that are coming from investors.

"I think there are lots of interest, not only in Canada, but also from further abroad," he revealed.

As Amin noted, he has fielded calls from as far away as the UAE and Sri Lanka.

"We are very excited about it. This is why the CGCC was set up. We are here to guide investors to get involved in Guyana," he stated.

Also, "The CGCC is adequately equipped. We are here to provide that concierge, one-shop-stop to help potential investors. We are well-positioned to deal with investors who are willing to approach the Guyana government with concrete plans. The CGCC is that conduit."

Speaking about the upcoming information session, Amin noted the CGCC has engaged Lilmohan, an eminent lawyer and account, for the event.

Among his qualifications and affiliations, See Page 11: Great responsibility



Fareed Amin

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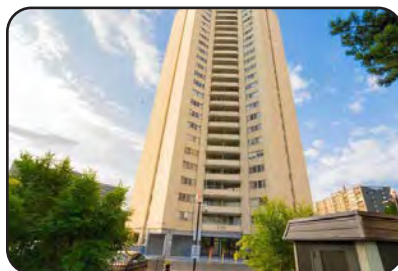
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The Rotary Club of Brampton Flower City recently held its annual golf tournament at the Granite Ridge Golf Club in Milton. It was a successful event with 144 golfers. Funds were raised for three worthy causes: The Brampton Civic Hospital, The Victim Services of Peel, and the Drug Treatment court in Brampton. The golfers had an enjoyable day at this well-organised tournament. At the tournament, President of the Rotary Club of Brampton Flower City Dhaman Kissoon expressed heartfelt gratitude to the community for its continued support. In collaboration and synergy with the Georgetown Rotary Club in Guyana, part of the plan to give back to the community, Brampton Flower City is working on shipping hospital beds to Guyana. Part of the proceeds from the golf tournament will assist in defraying the cost of shipping these beds to Guyana.



Seva4Life Canada supporters, pandits, & well-wishers celebrate completion of 108 homes in Bihar, India

Seva4Life Canada marks Bihar achievement

Toronto – A significant milestone was recently accomplished by Seva4Life Canada with completion of a building project that saw 108 homes constructed in Bihar, India, through fund-raising efforts that started in 2017.

Six years after the effort began, a celebratory Maha Havan Yagna was held on August 19 to mark its successful completion. It took place in Inglewood, Ontario, and was presided over by pandits, swamis, acharyas, donors, and Seva4Life Canada's outstanding team members.

In a release, the group extended special thanks to all devotees worldwide that contributed to building a home, or many homes in Bihar. As it noted, support came from across Canada, the US, Trinidad and Tobago, Guyana, and India.

And as the release further stated, "By way of great leadership, diligence in management, and through the kindness of generous sponsors & donors, we... accomplished our mission!"

Seva4 Life Canada also extended its sincere gratitude to MP Sonia Sidhu from Brampton South; to its Board of Directors; also to Pt Rudranath Maharaj for leading the project; to Bejai

Jairam & Boohit Harnam; and to Executive Members, Danraj, Debbie, Anita, Victoria, Vandevi, Geeta, Deena, Aunty Deokie, Aunty Ivy, Bobby, Camila, Sonny, Leeta, Nanda, Tara, Roop, Rudy, Taramattee, Uma, Dhana, and Pat.

Special thanks were also extended to Pt Joe Jaglall, Pt Neil Dev Persad, and mandir leaders for their time and effort, and for the use of facilities.

Seva4Life Canada was founded in late 2004, and was registered in 2016. The group has made, and continues to make, a positive difference in the lives of less fortunate children and families.

It is led by President Sunildat Roy Sugrim, and currently managed by its team of directors, executives, and volunteers.

Seva4Life Canada established a team of volunteers in Bihar, India, and has since embarked on many projects that include a feeding program for less fortunate children and families; building homes; an agricultural farming program; and providing basic medical necessities, among others. The group can be reached at (416) 451-8681.



Seva4Life Canada devotees at the celebratory Maha Havan Yagna. Ramesh Ramkalawan photos

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Small island nations most vulnerable to climate change

Small island nations in the Caribbean are among the countries in the world most vulnerable to the effects of climate change, an independent American think tank, the Council on Foreign Relations, noted late last month.

Among the vulnerabilities faced by the region are rising sea levels, coastal erosion, and stronger and more frequent hurricanes in the Atlantic hurricane corridor.

While the CFR stated the Caribbean is among the most vulnerable to climate change, it also noted the impact was noticeable on large coastal populations and exposed locations, which are now at the mercy of rising sea levels, stronger storms, and worsening drought conditions.

Meanwhile, increasing temperatures are also threatening the region's unique biodiversity, the CFR stated.

Despite their meagre contributions to global greenhouse gas emissions, the Caribbean's 13 sovereign nations are already bearing the brunt of these climate disruptions. As a result, this is putting many of these tourism-dependent countries deeply in debt, and spurring increased migration across the region, the CFR said.

The CFR also noted scientists are saying that without immediate action, the Caribbean could eventually become nearly uninhabitable.

In the meantime, Caribbean nations as Barbados and Dominica have implemented a range of mitigation and adaptation measures, including increasing public spending on resilient infrastructure, and many have set ambitious targets for emissions reductions. But with the region requiring significantly more help to stave off the worst effects, some Caribbean leaders in particular are pushing for fundamental reforms of global development aid and climate financing.

The United Nations considers the Caribbean to be "ground zero" in the global climate emergency.

Classified as Small Island Developing States along with 26 other countries, Caribbean nations face particular risks due to their exposed location, relative isolation, and small size.

Some of the risks include more pronounced sea-level rise; increased frequency of extreme weather events, such as hurricanes and tropical storms; increased rainfall and flooding; dangerous high temperatures; coastal erosion and saltwater intrusion; and longer dry seasons and shorter wet seasons.



Expanding on what experts are saying that some Caribbean islands could eventually become uninhabitable, the CFR noted a common feature among SIDS – including those in Oceania and the Indian Ocean – is a high coastline-to-land ratio, mean-

ing that any rise in the sea level is likely to have an outsized impact on the agricultural lands, infrastructure, and populations located along a country's coast.

Some of the most at-risk countries include low-lying islands in the Caribbean Basin, such as the Bahamas and Trinidad and Tobago, whose surfaces are only a few meters above sea level.

Several other islands, including Barbados and Dominica, lie inside the so-called "Hurricane Alley" in the Atlantic Ocean. In the nearly two decades between 2000 and 2019, the Bahamas and Haiti ranked among the top ten countries and territories globally that were most affected by extreme weather events.

"The Caribbean islands are essentially a microcosm of the challenges we're all facing," said Stephen E. Flynn, founding director of Northeastern University's Global Resilience Institute.

Compared to the rest of the world, SIDS face unique financial constraints that increase their vulnerability to climate-induced economic shocks.

Their economies are generally smaller and less diversified, characterised by a high dependence on imports, tourism, and remittances, and they often struggle to raise funds for infrastructure development and climate measures.

In many cases, they are forced to take on massive debt to recover from natural disasters, with Caribbean nations among the most highly indebted in the world.

Energy prices in the Caribbean are already among the highest in the world, with several countries depending on imported oil to meet approximately 90 percent of their energy needs. Poor urban planning, substandard housing, and large coastal populations can magnify the impact of these disasters.

The Caribbean is the most tourism-dependent region in the world. In 2021, the travel and tourism sector contributed more than (US) \$39 billion to the region's GDP. However, analysts say that climate effects such as reduced rainfall, prolonged heat waves, and the loss or deterioration of natural attractions are already impacting the Caribbean's tourism industry.

A 2022 study found that sea-level rise alone could result in a 38 to 47 percent reduction in tourism revenue by 2100.

In 2020, the Caribbean had one of the highest emigration rates in the world, with the number of migrants leaving the region more than doubling since 1990. Most head for the US, and others go to Europe and South America.

Children are the lamps that light our lives – Let us kindle the flame in them



Like so many activities over the past 3 years, Covid-19 disrupted the very vibrant & focused classes that were conducted at the Pranav Ashram in the areas of singing, music, Hindi language, Havan, Sandhya, & other Hindu scriptural teachings. Swami Bhajanananda, Spiritual Head of the Ashram, is now inviting registration for children ages 6-12 years to continue these vital activities in the interest of preserving & furthering our Dharma – all are invited without any distinction



Please contact Ashram at 416-741-4335



Deochan's Foursome were among Pranav's many supporters



Terry's team joins the club for a great day of golf

Pranav holds annual golf tournament

Pranav Hindu Mandir Cultural Centre (Bharat Sevashram Sangha Canada Hindu Heritage Inc) held its annual golf tournament on August 26 at the Rolling Hills Gold Club in Warden Avenue, Stouffville, Ontario.

The event was a tremendous success that saw the maximum number of players on the course.

In what was a glorious and sun filled day of golf and camaraderie, the comments after the tournament ended were that the event was well-organised and expertly co-ordinated by volunteers from the Ashram.

by friends and supporters of the Ashram that included a 65" television.

Funds raised from the event are going into the Ashram's infrastructure building maintenance.

Tax deductible donations receipts were given at the registration desk on the same day.

The Pranav Annual Golf was organised by President Sat Purushuttam, with Directors Deochand Bahadur and Dave Sooknanan.

After the game players and volunteers were treated to a sumptuous lunch at the

Island Junction restaurant in Toronto. Pranav Mandir can be reached at 416-741-4335.



Teams ready to head out into a glorious day. Ramesh Ramkalawan photos

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Editorial

Covid-19 preparations

With the arrival of the latest Covid-19 variants in Canada, and with the flu season on the horizon, we reached out to cardiologist and community leader Dr Vivian Rambihar for guidance in the months ahead.

Dr Rambihar is also internationally recognised as a pioneer in diversity and health, and for his studies in immigrant health, particularly among South Asians.

As he notes, our community should not ignore Covid-19, as it is here to stay.

Says Dr Rambihar: “We have had a good summer with little Covid-19, with most people returning closer to life as it was before... But with fall and Winter 2023 coming in Canada, schools reopening, and people spending more time indoors, there is expected to be a resurgence as in previous years.”

And as we are all now aware, the new Covid-19 variants are being tracked internationally by the WHO and scientists here in Canada. Among the new strains is Omicron variant BA.2.86, and others, with accompanying and unknown effects that are yet to be determined.

We need to be prepared for possible outcomes as these new variants make landfall.

As Dr Rambihar notes, “Previous Covid-19 infection and vaccines will offer some protection long term, but much of it wears out within a year. It is very important to still get boosters, especially the vulnerable and elderly.”

He adds, “Then there is Long Covid – long-term effects from previous Covid-19 infections we are learning more about, causing enough problems that we should still try to avoid getting Covid-19 infections or reinfections.”

As Dr Rambihar says, the current recommendations are the same as in the past: “Enjoy your life by doing things that you like, remain connected to your community, and be cautious with respect to Covid-19. Live your life and do things, but protect yourself from Covid-19, and still try to avoid infection.”

Also, he cites the importance of the elderly and vulnerable getting Covid-19 booster shots this fall, which will include some coverage against previous variants, and help with new variants.

Dr Rambihar is also mindful of the impact on communities beyond our own, stating: “The Indian and South Asian community has been particularly vulnerable in the past for chronic medical conditions, social, employment, housing and other reasons, so extra caution is needed.”

As the Canadian National Committee on Immunisation recommends, all Canadians over five years of age who have not acquired immunity via a Covid-19 infection should be vaccinated.

NACI also recommends the new Covid-19 booster in the fall for those persons with a Covid-19 infection, or who were previously vaccinated over six months ago in the following groups: if pregnant; are over 65 years old; or come from specific vulnerable and racialised communities, such as South Asians.

It is also recommended for persons who live in long-term care, or in congregate housing; who work in essential services; and who have chronic medical conditions, including obesity, heart disease, diabetes, mental health disorders, cancer, and other pathologies.

Dr Rambihar also advises those among us who need more information, or are unsure, should discuss it with “your healthcare provider to balance risks and benefits”.

NACI’s fall 2023 recommendations would also indicate that most Indo-Caribbean people, and most South Asians, should receive a booster come the fall of 2023.

Dr Rambihar also notes the importance of our community getting the flu shot, which offers “very important protection for all, especially the elderly and vulnerable, and which can be done at the same time as the Covid-19 vaccination”.

Says Dr Rambihar: “As the years go by, we are affected less and less by Covid-19, and we are getting back closer to a pre-Covid-19 living; but [it] is here to stay, with reinfections and Long Covid effects, so we must still be cautious, prepare, and protect ourselves.”

Understanding the harm from microaggressions

We observed Labour Day earlier this week, a date that originated from the need for unions and labour activists to account for their accomplishments, and the overall benefits of the labour movement. However, the date itself emerged from protests, calls to action responding to the toil and struggle of voiceless workers, and demands for fairness at work.

As we recognised this week the accomplishments of the labour movement, it is important to not lose sight that there are still many workers who still do not enjoy the same rights and privileges that we believe may exist. That even with the progress made, there are still corrosive traits of toxicity that thrive and remain unchecked in workplaces.

A constant and ever-emerging characteristic of this is racism in the workplace.

Even though legislation against racism at work exists, workplace discrimination remains a significant issue that many racialised Canadians face daily – and many of these individuals are from the Caribbean-Canadian community.

Racism experienced in the workplace is not limited to direct and obvious instances. However, it is still very much a problem, with many reports still citing challenges for racialised people in seeking promotions, or to achieving appropriate career opportunities. Racism arrives in a variety of forms, including microaggressions.

Microaggression is the terminology describing verbal, behavioural, or environmental slights, intentional or unintentional, that deliver hostile, derogatory, or negative attitudes toward stigmatised or culturally marginalised groups. The term was first coined in the 1970s by psychiatrist Dr Chester M. Pierce to describe subtle insults and put-downs that African Americans experience on an ongoing basis.

As we have become more sensitive and aware of outright racism as a whole, microaggressions have continued to seep into workplaces of all types, morphing into a formation of cleverly delivering emotions that can only be defined as racist. Some might perceive or defend these as innocent or completely harmless. That in fact is not the case.

In many instances, microaggressions are masked as intended compliments. For example, saying to a person, “You are smart for being an immigrant”; “Your English is good, where are your parents from?”; or, “I wasn’t expecting you to be so articulate”.

Microaggressions are based on a simplistic premise, but are damaging by concept: “Because you are X, you probably are/are not, or like/don’t like Y”.

Microaggressions at the workplace are harmful. They are

demeaning, and establish an uncomfortable working environment. Commentary such as these place racialised workers in a different category: that they are unwelcomed, unworthy, or simply should be grateful for their employment that might not have been deservedly earned.

Even workplaces that might self-describe as progressive or accepting environments are not immune from microaggressions. Many of these workplaces can harbour, tolerate, and even support this behaviour. Upholding archaic work culture norms, and allowing such commentary to continue is just as bad as delivering them.

Prejudices expressed as microaggressions are not only witnessed within the context of racism, but could also demean a person’s gender, sexual orientation, heritage, age, or health status.

Workplace discrimination is a persistent concern that can have a significant impact on individuals’ well-being and professional growth. It can demoralise a person, and that feeling of unworthiness can impact productivity and overall welfare.

Most racialised people have probably experienced this at least once in their lives here in Canada. The reality is that racialised persons should not tolerate a toxic work environment.

The more awareness there is about microaggressions, and the deeper the understanding, can lead to efforts to reduce them in the workplace. The most important act is to call it out.

I have not only witnessed microaggressions in the workplace, but I have experienced them firsthand. And the unfortunate thing is that these comments are at times delivered by people who are unaware of their own biases, and cannot conceptualise the true reality of discriminatory and racial remarks.

Unfortunately, as a racialised person traversing professional sectors, it has become commonplace to anticipate that there will be persons who simply do not see you as belonging, and people who will intentionally, or not, make commentary.

It is even commonplace for perpetrators to double down on their microaggressions, accusing the other person of being oversensitive when they are harmed by a microaggression.

Attempts to ensure safe and comfortable work environments have evolved significantly; unfortunately, there is still much more to be done.

It is valid to counter racist commentary of all sorts, especially in the workplace. Part of establishing a safe work environment must not only ensure there are repercussions for those who continually deliver any sort of discrimination, but that leadership constantly seeks methods to improve, reform, and enhance the culture of that work environment to not tolerate any sort of discriminatory or hateful language.



Ryan Singh

Observing unfolding worlds from stationary places

There is a “running” joke I share with the front desk at the gym, and which is deployed on those really cold days when I have to make “haste”, which was my grandmother’s call to action and urgency whenever I lingered during walks.

Arriving breathless at the gym’s scanning station, I would comment that the quick run from the carpark to the front desk, going at “breakneck speed” in my dear grandmother’s words, to escape the sub-zero cold, was already a half-burn of the quota of energy needed for my daily workout.

That all I needed to do now was turn around and dash right back outside into the freezing carpark, and *Viola!* I had met my daily workout objective!

But those are my short bursts; however, looking back on the long haul that is my slower burn, I suspect I was royalty when it came to tarrying, even as my grandmother, whose entire life was spent as a quick burn on both her candle’s ends, hurried along (even as she harried me along) from one chore to the next; one day to the next; and who a number of decades ago finally slowed down enough in this life to enter prepared for the next.

But urgency and speed were not for her dear grandson, whom she called “Rajah”, meaning king, with deliveries that at times utilised different flavours from sugary affection – and for those occasions of reprimand, unpalatable deliveries that she served up suffused with peppery irony.

What was it with me that I would stop during a quick military march, left-right, left-right to our kitchen garden, with *Ma* buzzing quickly along and many strides ahead, to quickly stoop, reach for a nearby stick, and disturb a similarly marching column of ants hauling bits of green leaves like tiny umbrellas over their thickly-armoured heads?

My dear grandmother, walking ahead and calling out orders into the stiff breeze so her words unraveled like a wind-tossed pack of cards, would turn around after receiving no affirmative, just silence from my direction, only to see me crouched in the distance poking at the army of frantic ants, anxiously attempting to undo the disarray I had so insensitively caused by breaking their ruler-straight formation apart.

“Look here, child! Run and catch up with me right now! Make haste, child! Make haste!!”

It was this memory that was recently triggered during my weekly peregrination up our street to the community mailbox. Shuffling along and burdened down with the weight we all bear when approaching the mailbox at month-end, knowing it held a payload of payday for companies requesting payment for services rendered, there it was ahead: and it was not a distracting column of parasol ants.

Instead, newly painted flaming red, and standing like a flamingo in a sunset on its one wooden leg, was a community library, thoughtfully erected by a neighbour.

Enconced within was a stack of books, tightly wedged with the newness of its offering, and yet to be examined by wondering eyes as mine easily distracted by shiny objects that are the laminated covers of a variety of books.

Naturally, since I am hard-wired to explore distractions, anomalies, and the corollary pathways that marching ants take, I stopped, and then stood in my shoes and wondered like that John Keat’s poem about a boy who ran away to Scotland.

Indeed, I stood in my shoes and wondered at the easy availability of books today, recalling its scarcity when I was growing up back home.

Back then, to acquire a book was like having a bird in hand. Cupped in the palms, a new book trembled with timidity, even as its warmth spoke to the fragility of a wholesome life within. Turning a page was like lifting a feather to prevent ruffling – it took a gentle, guiding action in order to activate invisible, highly-lubricated hinges.

I also recalled a classmate during my boyhood bringing to class pages from a book that he claimed his great grandfather had traveled with across the *Kala Pani*. The pages were a dark sepia. Bend a page and it broke with the solidity of a stale water biscuit. I still shudder at the violence of breaking and crumbling the pieces, dust to dust, between our eager, insensible fingers.

Ma slowed down late in life, enough to appreciate her grandson’s love for observing the world from stationary places.



Romeo Kaseram

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Guyana's road accidents now a real public health challenge

Dear Editor,

Mortality salience is the awareness by individuals that their death is inevitable. However, the daily increase in the number of deaths due to road accidents in Guyana has hastened and heightened both the level of awareness and inevitability.

The trend in injuries and death is becoming alarming, with the human factor being the prime contributor. With the construction of more highways to ease congestion, the callous practice of speeding has now become a major bugbear for traffic officers.

Most drivers continue to act like maniacs in a tearing hurry, and error in judgement often leads to major accidents. Reckless driving, speeding, declining to follow traffic rules, and drunken driving are main reasons for road accidents.

The lives of many individuals have been enhanced by motorisation and societies, but the benefits have come with a price. Car users jockey to get in front of others, as all try to carve out their own prime moving road real estate space.

In an interview last year, Guyana's Traffic Chief Dennis Stephen explained that while traffic ranks are deployed to certain highways,



Four Guyanese teens, Daveanand Singh (left to right), Amiesha Jaikaran, Divyanie Narine, & Daniel Tirbeni, met tragic & untimely deaths on the morning of August 27 when their vehicle collided with a parked truck & a concrete fence at Canal #2 Polder, West Bank Demerara in Region Three.

especially the Mandela-Eccles Four Lane highway, the responsibility still stands with those behind the wheel. He noted that too often, drivers tend to lose consideration for the safety of others.

Sadly, this is blatantly obvious based on

current happenings that consideration for the safety of others is certainly not a priority for those behind the wheel.

Driving home this revelation even further is the fact that in 2015, Acting Traffic Chief Dion Moore stated that it is with the five 'Cs', namely Care, Commonsense, Consideration, Courtesy, and Caution that a person moves from point A to point B. There is none so blind as those who cannot see the "common c", let alone the capital "C".

I join with my fellow Guyanese in calling on the Traffic Chief to recognise that the number of fatal and disabling road accidents is a real public health challenge.

The approach to implement the rules and regulations available to prevent road accidents has been ineffective and half-hearted. Awareness creation, strict implementation of traffic rules, harsh deterrent, and scientific

engineering measures are the need of the hour to prevent this public health catastrophe.

This approach should address the traffic system as a whole, and look into interactions among vehicles, road users, and road infrastructure to identify solutions.

Some of the modalities that should be looked at in the prevention should be the condition of the roads, ensuring that they are well-maintained with frequent relaying of road surfaces and markings of road safety signs.

Also, there should be proper well-marked footpaths for pedestrians and pedestrian crossings at intersections. The provision of separate identified lanes for slow-moving and fast-moving vehicles. Roads should be well-lit so that visibility is good.

Parked vehicles, especially trucks, should utilise warning devices such as hazard lights, cones, or reflective signs to alert other drivers of the parked truck. Effective community participation also plays a key role in the prevention of road accidents.

Deterrents of a severe nature should take the form of unprecedented lengthy prison sentences for drivers whose reckless driving caused death, with the number of deaths serving as the factor for an increase in years to be served, moreover if alcohol was also a contributory factor.

Seeing that Care, Consideration, Commonsense, Courtesy and Caution have exited the minds of Guyanese drivers, then they should be joltingly returned using never-before-heard measures in order to ensure the safety of other road users.

If the way in which Guyanese use the roads was the barometer employed to measure its civilisation, then it would be prehistoric to say the least.

We must step into the light and drive right.
Yvonne Sam, Guyana, via email.



The accident vehicle in which four teens perished on August 27

Formulating a roadway risk strategy

Dear Editor,

I expect that worried citizens are relieved and hopeful to read that Guyana's President Dr Irfaan Ali has issued a call for "a collective partnership to curb reckless use of the roads". Especially in the wake of the recent horrific accidents and fatalities.

A framework for government of Guyana policymakers to lower roadway risks and consequences will need to be underpinned by three essential elements: (1) reliable accident data; (2) a whole of government & society collaboration; and (3), combining (1) & (2) to underpin and formulate a holistic strategy.

Unfortunately, none of these elements have been sufficiently demonstrated in previous attempts at improving road safety. These will have to be encouraged and mentored by senior policymakers and other stakeholders.

Good data are critical for a thorough understanding of risk factors. Risk factors should include both contributory road hazard conditions and errant driving behaviours. Everything that contributes to the vulnerabilities of roadway users. Data collection and analysis should be continuous. Tools should include geospatial mapping to pinpoint high-risk points and communities.

It should also include sociological data, including various demographics, to identify and classify high-risk perpetrators, victims, and cultural and societal contributors.

A sociologist should serve on the data management and analysis team, and in policy development, to guide inputs on human behaviours, interactions, and other social and location influences.

Inclusive partnership with the right stakeholders is especially critical today for solving societal problems.

While the Guyana Police Force can be the accountable agency, it should not initially be the lead agency.

To date, the GPF has not shown sufficient understanding on how to leverage the private sector and broader civil society for innovative ways to transform and improve their operations, and their propensity and capacity to deliver improved results.

It is not a reflection of any member of the GPF's leadership. It is just that it (and most public agencies), is not imbued with the culture and structure for collaborative approaches.

Holistic strategies that are formulated on evidence-based data and the appropriate collaborative platforms are critical for success. The right blend of using broader society for identifying the contributing risk factors, developing strategies, and implementation. Transformation of the GPF (and most government agencies), and the broader security sector reform, must include new service provisioning models that are both "inside-out" and "outside-in" driven.

Perhaps the serious and seemingly intractable road safety issue, just one of society's evolving challenges, can be acknowledged as surpassing the capacity of the public sector to address and solve. President Ali has publicly directed the GPF to find solutions.

Hopefully, his policy-making team can envision an opportunity that government agencies can steer and shape the development of public-private platforms in a way that enables businesses and NGOs to pursue their own interests, whilst transforming business-NGO-government interactions, and more generally serving collective interests and public value.

Colonel Brian Chin, Magua Risk Consulting Inc, Guyana, via email.

RE/GUYANA GUYANA PROPERTY MATTERS

Does paying the Land Tax guarantee possession of your Property... Perhaps not!

By Maj Khan

It has been generally understood that one of the best ways to protect your property anywhere in the world is to pay the land taxes. The fact is land taxes must be paid, and in Guyana there is an annual filing requirement with a two percent penalty for failure to do so. The government arm responsible for land taxes is the Guyana Regulatory Authority.

The optics are quite straightforward; however there is *caveat* with far-reaching consequences, of which owners should be aware. Those who are familiar with land disputes strongly advise that taxes must be paid in person. Why? The receipts for paying land taxes are often handwritten on a carbon-copy book.

In fact, property transactions in Guyana including title, valuation, mortgage, and tax compliance receipts are all done on paper. In the age of the Internet, those living abroad are well-versed with the digital world, where access to home ownership is at their fingertips. In Guyana, the government has just implemented an e-service platform that will take time to develop. In the meantime, most land records are written or typed and housed in local offices. It means that remote property owners have to invest a great deal of time and funds to ensure their paperwork is in order.

Currently, most owners living abroad have a 'trusted' family member they rely on to ensure the daily upkeep of their property, including paying the land tax. If that receipt is written in the name of anyone else other than the registered owner, it can create conditions that are favourable for that individual whose name is on the receipt. Translation: that individual is in a position to file for possession of that property. This is especially viable if the owner has not visited the property for years.

Unfortunately, today property disputes are common, with siblings pitted against each other, parents against children, and families at war with each other. The stakes are high, and the price paid heavy – often with a bitter experience fraught with a gamut of emotions, with substantial time and monies invested over decades. And the question is always asked, "What could they have done differently to ensure none of this would come to bear in the first place?"

RE/Guyana is a property services company dedicated to making it easier for overseas property owners to administer, divest, acquire, and develop their real estate assets in Guyana. [Click here to visit RE/Guyana's website.](#)

Wolf at their door now sees elite in T&T responding to crime

Dear Editor,

Anyone paying attention will know that the crime situation has worsened in the past couple years in Trinidad and Tobago. The endless theories suggested for the worsening situation range from the massive incompetence by Minister of National Security Fitzgerald Hinds to Prime Minister Dr Keith Rowley, whom I choose to define as the "plantation manager". Blaming the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service is an exercise in futility, as they too have always been incompetent.

The talking heads have skillfully managed to take a social issue such as crime and turn it into one of "race relations". The political divide along ethnic lines makes reaching an objective analysis on the issue virtually impossible, as red blames yellow and vice versa, while their supporters... follow suit.

One would have also noticed that the newest trend in the crime world is the "home invasion". This came in for much discussion from the talking heads as one advocated "standing your ground and emptying the clip", while the other, as is expected in our adversarial political system, stood against it. Again, that was made out to be an issue in "race".

Sadly, many of the victims of home invasion are of Indo-Trinidadian heritage, while many of those caught are of Afro-Trinidadian heritage. Whether the culprits choose their victims based on ethnicity, geography, or just vulnerability is another topic.

As a sociologist, I have also questioned the absence of home invasions in "PNM-controlled areas" such as Arima, Arouca, Diego Martin, La Brea.

Then, "Lo and behold", we heard about a "home invasion" of



Members of the Police Forensic team process a robbery crime scene in Trinidad

a woman whose husband is in a powerful position in society. (In my professional analysis as someone who has studied criminology at the highest academic levels, it was really a "snatch-and-run" opportunity from the video in circulation.)

A couple days later the Bankers Association of Trinidad and Tobago offered "a (TT) \$10,000 reward for information related to the recent robberies where people who had just withdrawn money from commercial banks were targeted". And just so, Gregory Aboud, head of the Downtown Owners & Merchants Association is "inundated" with calls about the crime situation.

It is now apparent that the wolf has finally reached their doors, as a colleague, Phillip Edward Alexander, and I have been predicting.

How things look are always important to the bigger picture. I recall the words of a law chief who once said, "Justice must not only be done but must manifestly and undoubtedly be seen to be done."

It is sad that it required the assault of a "person of means" to get the bank's attention to act on something that the commoners have been clamouring about for the longest while.

Some of us might recall during the recent "exchange of currency", and how many of our elderly citizens became victims to criminal elements.

The mad rush of currency exchange was carried out under the pretence of "catching drug dealers". Perhaps the Minister of Finance Colm Imbert can tell the nation just how many "drug dealers" were caught? Aside from the million-dollar barber, and the pastor. And how many citizens were victims of robberies exiting the banks after exchanging their hard-earned dollars?

BATT never blinked during that period. It never saw it necessary to put out a reward when the commoners were victims. How many people over the years have suggested that bank employees were providing information to their criminal colleagues? Yet BATT never batted an eye.

I have argued in several spaces, including on social media, that until and unless members of the bourgeoisie are as affected as the rest of society, not one thing is going to change. The overnight decision by BATT affirms my theory.

I cannot help but wonder what would it take for the TTPS to deal with the murders when there is never a motive in the "hotspots?"

Rudy Chato Paul Sr., Trinidad and Tobago, via email.

Craft Guyanese narrative on an equal place for all nationals

Dear Editor,

I have noted some interventions following the apology of the Gladstone family for their role in "slavery and Indentureship".

Unfortunately, rather than using the fortuitous occasion presented by this specific family that owned the plantation on which the 1823 slave rebellion was sparked, and also initiated the introduction of Indentured labourers into Guyana, to look at both institutions as methods of extracting labour as cheaply as possible in the early development of capitalism, emphasis was once again placed on which group "suffered more".

The point of that comparison, of course, has been to argue that the group that "suffered more" has greater claim to the national patrimony. In one of the earlier iterations of this trope, Eusi Kwayana had suggested that we should rather agree that we all "suffered equally" and move on.

In that vein, when asked to speak at the funeral of Ronald Waddell, who to me sadly represented one nihilistic futility of comparing suffering in a plural society, I pointed out that we had all cried when we sat by our Rivers of Guyana and remembered our own Zions.

I have repeatedly asked interlocutors that our individual group narratives acknowledge the separate historical contingencies, but take cognisance of the implications of odious comparisons.

We must attempt to craft a national Guyanese narrative that is based on the premise that we each have an equal place in this mosaic that forms the Guyanese nation. Take, for instance, the strict dichotomy that is assumed between the descendants of enslaved Africans and Indentured labourers.

One recent interlocutor mentions Portuguese, Indian, and Chinese Indentureds who were introduced after the abolition of slavery, but studiously avoided mentioning the 40,783 Bajans and small islanders along with the 13,355 "liberated Africans" straight out of Africa who also came as Indentureds.

The last group had never been enslaved, and those who chose not to return to Africa brought and practiced their West African cultures. Not subjected to the same intensity of violence from the colonials as had the original enslaved people of African descent prior to 1838, they were living exemplars of African culture. From the records, some of them ended up in the villages across the coast, where we see higher levels of African cultural retention.

When we compare these overall 54,138 Indentureds of African descent to the 82,000 local Africans who had been freed, we would appreciate the significance of African Indentureship.

Especially when we know that of the 82,000 those who had survived the slave regimen continued to suffer a higher mortality rate. Ironically, there were several instances recorded of Indian Indentureds - along with freed enslaved Africans - protesting that the West Indian Indentureds were undercutting their wages!

For several decades after the formation of the Guyana Police Force in 1839, most of the policemen recruited were immigrant Barbadians to ensure that the orders of the White Officers were carried out. In my village of Plantation Uitvlugt, we had a separate "Bajan Quarters" distinct from the old "N-word Yards" Martin Carter wrote about, and in which, ironically, the new Indian and other early Indentureds were housed.

As late as the 1920s, after the much-criticised "Colonisation Scheme" was eventually aborted, 1,729 West Indians of African descent were contracted to work on the plantations, as opposed to 607 Indians. The 100th birthday of one of those Bajans from Uitvlugt will be celebrated next month. Both Forbes Burnham and Desmond Hoyte had Barbadian forbears.

Incidentally, a pernicious falsehood being peddled in one divisive narrative is to claim that the land being titled for our Indigenous Peoples is for "reparations". It is nothing of the sort. The Europeans colonists had treaties with the latter group and Annex C of our Independence Legislation acknowledged their pre-colonial ownership of land occupied.

As I have stressed, it was the working of the systems imposed on us by the British, whether political (imperialism), economic (pre-capitalist), or cultural (cultural hegemony), that kept us all in thrall.

Today, we are still busy blaming each other for our mess, and not questioning whether those bequeathed systems are not still contributing to our problems. And that we should get busy, as a first step, in modifying them to assist in leading to greater equity and justice for all of us.

Colonialism continues as "coloniality", and those narratives that stress greater rights for some citizens over others facilitate its divide and conquer imperative.

Ravi Dev, Guyana, via email.



Charles Gladstone issues his family's apology last month

Remember homeless & make T&T better

Dear Editor,

While visiting the capital city of Port-of-Spain in Trinidad recently, I could not help but notice the homeless and others who continue to seek support. This situation is also the norm on a daily basis in many major international cities.

In my humble opinion, we should try our best to change what is taking place in these situations. It seems that the ball keeps passing from hand to hand among those responsible.

I have heard the argument by someone that if the homeless and indigent are not willing to move, then there is nothing that can be done. I do not know if that is so to any degree, as I am not an expert in this area.

However, the fact remains this is pulling down the city, and if we are speaking of more visitors coming to our shores who do enter the city, then it is not a pleasant sight to behold.

While I am well aware of the social programmes in place, in speaking to some individuals, I discerned there are difficulties in utilising these programmes.

Also, from my observation, looking at the governmental monies disbursed in aid, and comparing it with the cost of living in Trinidad and Tobago, this is like pocket change. I am just being honest and truthful.

One can say to the homeless, "Get a job". I am tired of nationals complaining about being unable to find employment; we see it over and over on the news. What is needed is a massive job-creation drive for all levels of our citizenry.

Many do not like to hear this, but poverty in any nation is one of the causes of crime in that country. And this is not the only thing that is a driving factor when it comes to crime in a country, as there are many other factors.

At this point, I would like to take the opportunity to thank those organisations, NGOs, religious bodies, and individuals that consistently reach out to the unfortunate in our society. We will always have the poor among us but, more importantly, those who can be charitable towards them.

Trinidad and Tobago's population of the needy is growing, and our Creator is looking at our response towards them. Let us continue looking at ways and means by which we can improve on what we are doing. What is even sadder is the fact that children are all in this, going without a proper meal when a new day arrives.

Let us do it together - bettering lives, remembering the less fortunate in our society, and making Trinidad and Tobago a better place for all.

Arnold Gopeensingh, Trinidad and Tobago, via email.

An enviable place: Guyana expects to keep net zero emissions

In spite of calls globally to reduce the use of fossil fuels, governments around the world continue to increase its production and consumption, putting net zero emission goals at risk.

As a major fossil fuel producer, Guyana finds itself in an enviable position. It can continue to expand oil production, but can meet its net zero emission targets from credits earned from forest conservation. It is believed that no other oil producing country in the world can offset its fossil fuel carbon footprint.

In fact, Guyana entered into an arrangement earlier this year to sell up to \$750 million in carbon credits to Hess Corporation by 2030, which clearly shows that it has more carbon credits than it needs to meet net zero emissions goals.

Incidentally, Guyana's net zero strategy is supported by its Low Carbon Development Strategy 2030, which was released last year prior to the United Nations Climate Change Conference held in Glasgow.

While not ignoring the need to reduce carbon emissions, the LCDS cited the overarching reason for continuing to expand oil production, stating: "If Guyana were to prematurely forego oil and gas revenues, it would simply mean a continuation of a *de facto* monopoly where incumbents would meet demand and benefit from the industry which will be worth trillions of dollars for decades to come. It would also mean that Guyana would remain poor and unable to invest in lifting the living standards of its people."

The LCDS 2030 builds on the initial LCDS that was launched in 2009, and subsequently revised in 2013. The 2009 LCDS, the first for a developing country, established a vision for inclusive, sustainable development, while simultaneously maintaining the country's forests in meeting the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).

The LCDS addresses four primary goals: (i) create new incentives for a low carbon economy, involving sustainability planning in forestry, biodiversity, water resources and ocean/marine resources; (ii) protection against climate change and biodiversity loss through adaptation and resilience in areas such as agriculture, coastal infrastructure, restoration and expansion of mangroves; and drought and flood management; (iii) stimulation of future growth in clean energy and low carbon development through adoption of clean and renewable energy, low-carbon transportation; exploiting ocean economy opportunities; and expanding the country's digital infrastructure; and, (iv) ensure alignment with global climate and biodiversity goals.

The LCDS states that Guyana has the second highest percentage of forest cover on earth, and is working with partners to sustain 99.5 percent of that forest, while building the foundation for a new low carbon, ecosystem economy.

This natural occurrence provides the country with a unique opportunity to access a market mechanism for forest climate services, and other ecosystem services, which will enable Guyana to store 19.5 billion tons of carbon dioxide equivalent, the measure used for greenhouse gas emissions.

This, according to the strategy document, can enable Guyana to grow its economy five-fold over 20 years, and keep energy emissions flat; invest in Amerindian, hinterland, and sustainability planning; protect the coast and hinterland from climate change; create jobs; and integrate Guyana's economy with its neighbours.

The LCDS 2030 noted that since its vision to create a model low-carbon economy was first set out in 2009, the country has gained a greater understanding of the outsized contribution that Guyana's ecosystems make to the

world's health and economy, as well as its role as one of the world's most important countries for biodiversity conservation.

It stated that Guyana has maintained the second highest percentage of forest cover on earth, with more than 99.5 of the forest's 18 million hectares remaining. The country's deforestation rates are among the lowest in the world and it is one of only four countries in the world to have been verified to have sustained a High Forest Low Deforestation state.

Incidentally, the Guiana Shield stores around 18 percent of the world's tropical forest carbon, and 20 percent of the world's fresh water. In addition, Guyana has extremely high levels of biological diversity. It is home to approximately four percent of known animal species, and has more bird species than the entire US. The country is also home to 2.4 percent of known plant species, and has unique features that are restricted to its geographical location.

As well, Guyana's ocean area, which is more than half of the country's land mass – offers a new frontier for sustainable development through the expansion of the Ocean/Blue Economy.

The LCDS estimates that Guyana's forests alone provide value that is estimated to range from (US) \$40-\$54 billion annually.

In order to monetise its excess carbon credits, Guyana hopes to access market-based mechanisms for forest climate services that include private, as well as international public sector financing. This will enable a pathway to transition from the existing Guyana-Norway partnership, and increase the value of sustainably managing Guyana's forests.

Incidentally, during the period 2009 to 2015, Guyana earned (US) \$212.52 million in payments from its partnership with Norway, which has created low-carbon jobs, enabled Amerindian villages to receive legal title for communal lands, rehabilitated the Cunha Canal to protect against flooding, and started to equip Amerindian and hinterland communities with renewable energy, digital infrastructure, and sustainable livelihood opportunities.

The Norway partnership, which enabled the establishment of a world-leading forest Monitoring, Reporting and Verification System, serves as a springboard for Guyana to move to the next stage of its LCDS goals.

As Guyana advances its LCDS, the government plans to advocate internationally for strong global carbon pricing and the removal of subsidies on fossil fuel, with the aim of incentivising the lowest carbon, most cost effective oil and gas in the global marketplace.

Incidentally, according to the global consulting firm, McKinsey, the total value of global carbon markets grew by over 20 percent in 2020 – the fourth consecutive year of record growth on the two existing major markets.

The Compliance Carbon Markets, where mandatory national, regional, or international regimes trade and regulate carbon allowances, play an increasingly visible role in efforts to reduce emissions. The Voluntary Carbon Markets, where companies and individuals trade carbon credits on a voluntary basis, play an important role in driving investment in carbon-compensation and neutralisation projects to offset their emissions.

CCMs are the more mature and larger of the two markets, with a value of more than \$100 billion, and an annual trading turnover of more than \$250 billion. Nonetheless, CCMs are small compared with the \$19 trillion of total assets under management by the world's top 100 institutional investors in 2020. VCMs are currently nascent, with a value of only \$300 million in 2020.

Therefore, there is significant scope for Guyana to sell its carbon credits. According to



Dwarka Lakhan



Guyana's pristine forests cover over 18 million hectares

the Guyana government, it has already inked a memorandum with a US-based company to market the country's carbon credits. In addition to countries such as Norway, the US, the UK, several large global corporations, also currently buy carbon credits to meet their climate pledges.

Looking ahead, the government intends to de-couple economic growth from using fossil fuels for electricity by developing low-carbon energy resources, including solar, hydro, wind, biomass, and natural gas to meet rapidly rising domestic demand for energy, while keeping greenhouse gas emissions low – using a phased approach.

In the period 2022 to 2027, a near tripling of electricity demand will be met mainly through a combination of natural gas and the Amaila Falls Hydropower plant, coupled with a major

expansion of solar power, with batteries, on the rural networks. From 2027 to 2032, further increases in electricity demand will be met by expansion of wind and solar power, and the commission of Guyana's second hydro plant, the site of which will be identified before 2025.

Evidently, Guyana's path to a developing sustainable low carbon strategy has been well thought out, though its projections appear to be optimistic.

Dwarka Lakhan, BA, MBA, FCSI, FICB is a Member of the Canadian Association of Journalists, and an accomplished financial writer. His recently published book, **Winning Ways, Real World Strategies to Help You Reimagine Your Practice**, is available on Amazon and on winningways101.com. He can be reached at dlakhan@rogers.com.

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CANADIANS DOING BUSINESS IN GUYANA TAX IMPLICATIONS

PRESENTED BY

Tameshwar Lilmohan

BA, MBA, CPA, LL.M/LL.M

Mr. Lilmohan is an accomplished Lawyer & Accountant
With extensive Private Sector experience, including
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As well as serving as a Consultant to the
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‘With great transformation comes great responsibility’

From Page 1

Lilmohan is a chartered professional accountant, a licenced public accountant, a member of the Council of Petroleum Accountants Society, and a member of the Energy Accountants Society of Canada.

He also has a law degree from the University of London; and York University, from where he graduated with two Master of Laws degrees.

Also a lecturer and researcher, his publications have focused on cross border taxation and incentives by developing countries, and on arbitration and dispute resolution.

Lilmohan spoke with *Indo-Caribbean World* earlier this week. As he stated, he plans to address tax implications to Canadian taxpayers interested in doing business in Guyana.

“I will be speaking about the processes, such as registering a business, and on the preliminary requirements. But mainly on tax consequences, while elaborating on the Canada-Guyana Double Taxation Treaty,” he said.

Lilmohan also touched on the metanarrative that is driving groups as the CGCC, and members of the Guyana diaspora, in seeking to support the homeland as it navigates the optimism and encouragement now evident in its growing economy.

Said Lilmohan: “I feel opportunities come to a country in waves, and I want to catch this wave and make a contribution. Guyana now has a president [Dr Irfaan Ali] with integrity. The nation is on the cusp of transformation, and there is a dire need. I want to be a part of that transformation.”

He also declared that now was the time to get involved, stating, “We need people to contribute and to enhance Guyana’s transformation. If we don’t contribute, not only will Guyana miss out, but we will too. This is an opportunity for me to make my contribution because Guyana is offering the opportunity.”

Also, “We need to take this opportunity very seriously. It needs to be handled in a responsible way because we are dealing with great volumes, and small mistakes can have major repercussions. It is important that we who are abroad invest our skills in this opportunity.”

Lilmohan concluded, stating: “With great transformation comes great responsibility”, while reiterating, “We need to take this transformation very seriously.”



Imdadul Islamic Centre completed its ‘Back to School – School Supplies Giveaway’ on September 3. The event saw distribution of 90 backpacks filled with school supplies. The endeavour also saw MPP for York Centre, Michael Kerzner, thanking Imdadul for its inclusive community work. In photos (above) families display backpacks; below, at left, families at the event; & below, right, MPP Kerzner’s acknowledgement



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OECS looking at regional airline

Kingstown – A document from the Barbados-based Caribbean Development Bank outlining a proposal for the financing and operation of a regional airline is now being studied by the government of St Vincent and the Grenadines, this nation's Prime Minister Dr Ralph Gonsalves has revealed.

The development was reported in the Caribbean by the *Caribbean Media Corporation* last week.

"I have studied very carefully the up-to-date document which I received from the president of the [CBD Dr Hyginus Leon], concerning the re-establishment of a regional airline, and the process by which we will do this," Gonsalves told *CMC*.

He also revealed he could not talk about all the details contained in the document.

However, Gonsalves indicated that the initial owners of the airline could be the governments of the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States, "but we would have to engage the CDB on this exercise, too".

The OECS is made up of Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada, St Lucia, St Vincent and the Grenadines, St Kitts-Nevis, Montserrat, Anguilla, and the British Virgin Islands.

Gonsalves said while the location for a headquarters for the airline has not been discussed, he was "offering" St Vincent and the Grenadines as one of the options.

However, he acknowledged "there is some work still to be done... and we have to meet". He indicated the plan moving forward was to hold discussions with the CDB's Leon "on some clarifications and some next steps".

Gonsalves said there would be a meeting with the OECS leaders and the CDB, "but we are moving seriously and actively in pursuance of an additional option in the air".

He added, "What we have, we have to thank [Caribbean Airlines] for the number of planes they are putting on, more and more they are increasing the number of seats, they are having some challenges as you noticed recently, I am sure they will sort out those internal challenges between management and labour."

Also, "I know one or two private airlines are trying to do that, but we need something which is a core, and to have it evolved in a manner to suit our circumstances and all our requirements, Gonsalves said.

At the same time, he recalled the financial and other challenges faced with the regional airline LIAT (1974) Ltd that entered

into administration in July 2020 following increased debt and the impact of the [Covid-19] pandemic.

LIAT is owned by the governments of Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Dominica and St Vincent and the Grenadines, and while the Barbados and St Lucia governments have made available funds to cover the three-year outstanding debt to the workers in their countries, that has not been the case with employees in the other islands.

Gonsalves said if a poll is taken across the Caribbean region today, "there would be a poll against putting money into LIAT..."

It is a point he has made repeatedly, he stated. "I said to the region, a regional carrier of



Ralph Gonsalves

LIAT type is a marginal financial proposition, but it is absolutely necessary and desirable as a social and economic vehicle for islands, and particularly for islands engaged in the business of tourism," he noted.

Additionally, "We are moving people and we are a mobile people. It was so pellucid to me, so clear that I did not think it broke any serious opposition. Certainly, to make LIAT more efficient... there were big lies being told about it, and every time I went

to the Parliament for money, it was a big song and dance."

As Gonsalves noted, "The opposition, at every turn, attacked it mercilessly, even up to the last time in 2020," he said.

As Gonsalves stated, EC \$2.7 million approved then did not go to the airline as planned.

"Because Barbados had shortly thereafter signalled that they can't carry this thing anymore. They are out of it for the reasons which they gave, and I told [Prime Minister Gaston Browne of Antigua and Barbuda] that St Vincent and Grenadines and Antigua and Barbuda can't carry it by ourselves. I had predicted then that though Covid 19... you are not seeing the loss because of Covid 19 when we get back to some normalcy, people will see it and they are seeing it."

As Gonsalves stated, "many, many lessons" were learnt from the demise of LIAT, including that "countries served by this airline should be equity partners, or we should require market support".

He added, "We have to try to make the airline fairly lean in its functioning so as to avoid some of the old legacy issues... and we need also to strengthen the Eastern Caribbean Civil Aviation Authority."

Dominica chooses new Head of State

Roseau – A member of the Dominica's Indigenous population, Sylvanie Burton, is the island's government nominee to become the 11th Head of State since Independence from Britain on November 3, 1978.

The announcement was made last week by Prime Minister Roosevelt Skerrit.

As the *Caribbean Media Corporation* reported, the move puts Dominica in place to elect its first woman Head of State when Parliament meets on September 12. The meeting will see the replacement of President Charles Savarin, whose ten-year-term in office ends in October.

Burton is from the Kaliango Territory, where descendants of the Caribs still reside. She is now a senior public servant.

As Skerrit noted, the Dominica Constitution provides for consultation between the head of government and the opposition leader on the selection of a candidate. Consequently, its leader Jesma Paul Victor was informed by the

government of its plan to nominate Burton.

Said Skerrit: "[We] have set a tentative date for Parliament to meet on [September 12]. I am hoping to hear from her before this date, so that the Speaker can be appropriately informed of whether it is a joint nominee, or there is not a joint nominee. I will allow for some time for her to form her position on the government's nominee, and as I have said to her, whether it is, 'Yes or no', then either one is fine."



Sylvanie Burton

Skerrit's Dominica Labour Party government has a significant majority in the 21-member Parliament. Its nominee is expected to be elected when the Parliament meets.

Said Skerrit: "It is always better to get a joint nominee presented, but that would not hold back the process. I look forward to hearing from her soon, and very importantly for her to say, 'Prime Minister, I agree with the nominee, and I am prepared to sign the joint letter to the Speaker.'"



Ask Jay...

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CO-OWNERSHIP IS BECOMING TRENDY

It is becoming difficult for first-time buyers to own a home, especially when paying high rent. Many families are living on the edge with the high cost of living, so families are buying homes together. On average, a three-bedroom apartment today cost \$3,000 monthly to rent. Two tenants can come together and buy a home instead of paying rent, and that will make them co-owners. Co-ownership can be rewarding, but be cautious since it is a significant undertaking when sharing a home and a mortgage.

There are many advantages of co-ownership. Families can buy a home because they can qualify easier for a mortgage. They can negotiate a lower interest rate because of their combined financial strength. Another advantage is that the co-owners can put a more significant downpayment on the purchase. They can share costs such as repairs, maintenance, improvements, and utilities. Later, the families can use some of the equity to buy another home and reconcile with each other.

There are a few things that we can improve with co-ownership. If one of the co-owners has large debts, poor credit, or a low-paying job, it can affect qualifying for a mortgage. Another problem is that the other owners must carry the shortfall if one party cannot keep up with their share of the financial responsibilities. The next snag is the arrangement to share the home and the duties such as snow removal, grass cutting, and any other maintenance the home may need.

Co-ownership works when all partners carry their weight. Co-ownership is popular among communities where a family will buy a home together. In most cases, siblings will take on an extra job and use the income to pay down their mortgage. At that point, they will buy a second home, and this trend will continue until all the family members own their own home. Co-ownership works best when two partners buy a house together since, with more partners, there is potential for more problems. Each partner should contribute financially towards the downpayment and closing costs. Before buying, the partners should discuss how they will share the accommodation and the cost.

Co-ownership is like a marriage with a prenuptial agreement. The parties must have an exit strategy before buying a home with a partner. What happens if one partner dies? The partners can choose to take title to the property as joint tenants or tenants in common. As joint tenants, if one partner dies, the entire property belongs to the other partner. Joint tenancy is popular among married couples, or when a partner wants to give the partner's portion to the other. Most co-ownership arrangements are made as tenants in common where upon death, their portion of the property's value goes to their estate and not the surviving partner. Unlike joint tenancy, where all the partners have equal ownership, the tenant in common gives a certain percentage of homeownership according to how much each partner invests in the property.

Use a real estate lawyer to draft a co-ownership agreement. Co-owners can have a cohabitant agreement and an independent property agreement. The cohabitant agreement addresses how they will share the property. It describes in detail how the occupant will use the home. When drafting a co-ownership agreement, consider it a rental property, where, for example, one may live in the basement while the other is on the upper floor and divides the rental and utility cost accordingly. The co-occupant can open a joint account and pay their share of the monthly instalment. You can use the money from the joint account to pay for the mortgage and other expenses. It is smart to keep three months of reserve cash in the joint account. The property agreement can address the choice of taking the title, the distribution of shares, and what to do if one owner wants to end the deal. In addition, a property agreement must address what to do if one party cannot live up to their financial responsibility, and how to handle any disagreement.

A great relationship is the hallmark of a flourishing co-ownership. When the connection is strong, parties do not look upon each other to get the job done. Choose a partner with equal strengths, and someone you can trust. If any partners are married, it is essential to know whether the relationship with their spouse is solid or rocky. If it is rocky, it can affect your partner, and ultimately you. Disagreements will happen, but how we resolve the problem is ingenious.

The benefits of co-ownership outweigh the risks. If you add up the amount of rent money you can save, the equity you can build, and the amount of money you can save with shared expenses, co-ownership is a smart choice.

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Adoring Guyanese community celebrates Bollywood actress Tanuja

Popular Bollywood actress Tanuja was honoured late last month by her many Guyanese fans when the star visited Toronto. The event took place at the Kalypso Hut Family Restaurant in Mississauga on August 27. It was organised by Janet Naidu, poet, writer, and community leader.

Naidu met Tanuja in India in 2009. In 2013 Naidu and others organised a dinner and dance to honour the actress during a visit to Toronto. It was a huge success, and saw attendance by 270 Tanuja fans.

And once again, last month during Tanuja's visit, Naidu organised yet another event that saw many Guyanese Canadian fans in attendance who were eager to meet with the star. Now in her 70s, Tanuja is still making Bollywood movies.

Last month's event was designed to celebrate the outstanding contribution that Indian cinema has made on cultural preservation by the descendants of Indians in Guyana and in the diaspora. Many of the attendees who grew up in Guyana today still retain memories of going to the cinema and enjoying Indian films during their early years in the homeland.

Many of them shared these fond memories with Tanuja, recalling her films from the 1960s and 1970s. Among the movies were *Jewel Thief*, *Haathi Mere Saathi*, *Mere Jeevan Saathi*, and *Do Chor*.

In these movies Tanuja performed with actors that included notables such as Sanjeev Kumar, Rajesh Khanna, Dharmendra, and many others.

Tanuja's daughters Kajol and Tanisha now carry on her legacy, and are also successful actresses.

Attendees were delighted to meet Tanuja in person. Also included among the attendees were a few visitors who were present at the 2013 event.

The evening's program was co-hosted by Naidu, along with another community leader, Bejai Jairam. He is also Vice President of the charity group, Seva4Life Inc.

It was an evening of the celebration of Tanuja's many achievements. Many attendees enjoyed taking photographs with her, chatting, reminiscing about having met before, or talking with her about their favourite movies.

During the program, Naidu presented Tanuja with a Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of her long-standing contribution to the Hindi film industry as an Indian film actress. It also recognised her many movies that continue to influence

Guyanese entertainment and the imagination.

In response, Tanuja expressed how much she loves the Guyanese people, and thanked them for the special honour that was given to her.

Tanuja was also recognised by Nina Tangri, MPP for Mississauga-Streetsville. The recognition came from the government of Ontario for Tanuja's decades-long dedication to the Indian film industry, and for her impactful performances that have enthralled audiences both nationally and internationally, and for the indelible mark she has left on cinema.

MPP Tangri also recognised Naidu for exceptional dedication to the Guyanese-Canadian community, and for her leadership as a founder and President of the Guyanese Canadians for Unity organisation.

In response, Naidu stated that GCU is currently engaged in conducting a pilot program of group counselling sessions, to be delivered by a certified counsellor in Toronto, for girls between the ages of 13 to 17 who reside in children's homes in Guyana.

A session of poetry reading was also included in the program that evening. Wearing her poet's hat, Naidu read a poem that was especially composed for the evening.

There were also renditions of songs in a segment of the evening's entertainment that honoured and celebrated Tanuja, with performances by Mala Harriprasad, Yax, and Ganga Persaud. With Mala leading the singing, Yax and Persaud also sang to entertain Tanuja, and the attentive, appreciative audience.

Proceeds from the event will go to the charitable organisation Seva4Life Inc. It is actively involved in supporting the needy, and in the past has helped St Vincent and the Grenadines following its volcanic eruption; Haiti after the devastating earthquake; and Bihar, India, with the building of houses for less fortunate families. The group has also aided Fiji, Trinidad and Tobago, and Guyana.

Attendees thoroughly enjoyed the delicious fare that was provided by Kalypso Hut Family Restaurant, the meal delectable and filled with wholesome Guyanese flavours.

The program was well-attended, with many expressing delight in meeting and greeting the great actress.

In response, Tanuja expressed her gratitude for the love and adoration bestowed upon her. She thanked all for their love and affection, following which the evening culminated with dancing and merriment to the accompaniment of entertaining music.



Tanuja (right) with Naidu



Tanuja (right) with Naidu (left) & admirers



Uni-TNT grateful for ongoing support

The United Trinbago West Indian Association (Uni-TNT) held its annual picnic on August 27 at the Petticoat Creek Conservation Park in Pickering. The successful event saw the group later thanking attendees for their "unwavering support" in its Facebook post.

"As the echoes of laughter and the memories of our recent picnic linger, we wanted to take a moment to express our deepest gratitude to each and every one of you. Your presence, your support, and your contributions have been instrumental in making our journey with [Uni-TNT] so remarkable," the group said.

It added, "To all those who graced us with their presence at the picnic, your smiles and energy filled the day with joy. Your unwavering support over the years has fueled our passion and dedication to our mission. We are humbled by the sense of community that has grown around us, and we are honoured to have you by our side."

Uni-TNT also noted that its growth and accomplishments would not have been possible without "the collective efforts of our incredible community". In photos, attendees enjoy activities during a summer's day filled with warm sunshine and camaraderie.





Niagara Parks' Floral Clock is always a must-see



Eternal mist rises from Niagara Falls



Pals having a good time at Canada's Wonderland



AKCA's coaches Ravindra Maharaj (back row, third from left), & David Lalla (front row, second from right) with team members enjoying the day at Canada's Wonderland



TicketGateway's Tony Chankar (front row right) visited the teams

Not all work & no play for visiting cricketers

By Romeo Kaseram
LJI Reporter

Mississauga – While the visiting U15 and U19 cricketers from Trinidad and Tobago's AK Cricket Academy worked diligently to rise to the top as champions in the recently-concluded Mississauga International Cricket Festival 2023, it was not 'all work and no play', in a manner of speaking, for the hard-working young men.

Speaking with *Indo-Caribbean World* from Trinidad last week, team manager Vido Ramroop noted the many positives that emerged during what was, well, 'a fast-paced' visit by the Trinidad and Tobago cricket academy for the Mississauga championship games.

As Ramroop stated, the exposure abroad with the teams playing outside of Trinidad and Tobago was beneficial for the young and emerging cricket talents on many levels.

"We developed a good relationship with the Ontario Cricket Academy. And for a lot of the guys on our team, it was the first time they traveled to Canada. In fact, it was the first time some of them traveled abroad," Ramroop said.

He added, "But more importantly, the cricketing experience was beneficial in playing in a different country. One of the new experiences was playing out in the field on a cold day. A few of the boys were wearing gloves. The cold was a bit challenging for them."

Speaking on how AKCA and its youthful talents ended up at the 2023 Mississauga International Cricket Festival, Ramroop recalled hosting the OCA in Trinidad and Tobago last year. The AKCA is located in Tunapuna, in east Trinidad.

"The OCA was impressed with our approach to the game, and so we got the invitation to come to Canada. AKCA goes for the passion in our players. We focus on a holistic outcome for all our players, which includes more than just playing cricket," Ramroop stated.

Meantime, while both the U15 and U19 teams were winning matches, volunteers were working assiduously in the background to ensure the time spent by the players away from the cricket pitch was comfortable, relaxing, and enjoyable.

One of the key players working beyond the boundary was Trinidad and Tobago's Acting Consul General, Tracey Ramsubagh-Mannette, who along with many volunteers and donors, ensured that the visitors were comfortable, and of course, well-fed during the visit.

Many comforts from "back home" were generously made available to the visitors by the volunteers in the Trinidad and Tobago community here in Toronto, among which were delectable repasts of breakfast, lunch, and dinner.

And of course, there were many servings of the ubiquitous fare that is Trinidad and Tobago's acclaimed 'doubles'.

Rapid fund-raising was also undertaken for the visitors to make a trip to Niagara Falls, an endeavour that saw the Trinidad and Tobago Consulate reaching out to the diaspora.

And even after the fund-raising target had been met, donors continued to reach out, among them Tony Chankar, whose company TicketGateway generously ensured that all the players had spending money.

"The people were quite welcoming," Ramroop said. Additionally, speaking to the generosity meted out to the team by the community, he extended AKCA's gratitude to the many volunteers, supporters, and donors who pulled together to make the visit a success.

Ramroop particularly singled out one volunteer, Angeline, for her commitment and kindness. Also, Ramsubagh-Mannette, who coordinated the logistics for both teams to attend the Diamond Jubilee Rematch game that took place between Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago.

Ramroop concluded by noting that a final takeaway from what was quite an eventful visit to Canada was AKCA also forging closer ties with the OCA.

"We are now working closely in a symbiotic relationship," he said, adding, "We are looking at inter-training, and perhaps joint tours to locations such as Dubai, India, Sri Lanka."

But meanwhile, there is a title to defend here in Canada, he declared.

Said Ramroop: "Now that we are the titleholders, we have to be back next year!"



Photo by High Life Promos

T&T marks Independence

The two-day Trinbago Toronto Festival celebrated the 61st Anniversary of Trinidad and Tobago's Independence in Toronto last weekend. Both events were held at the Yonge-Dundas Square, and saw thousands in attendance. The events are a celebration of the culture, history, and impact of the Trinidad and Tobago diaspora in Canada, and was presented by Caribbean Airlines.

After the high-octane and energised event, the T&T Consulate in Toronto issued the following statement on its Facebook page: "Although many of you may now call Canada home, we know that you carry Trinidad and Tobago in everything that you do. Thank you for being our day-to-day Ambassadors and for flying Trinidad and Tobago's flag high in every possible field of endeavour. Thank you for your support of the Trinbago Toronto Festival 2023. Onward to 2024!!"



Photo by Anthony Berot



Photo by Anthony Berot

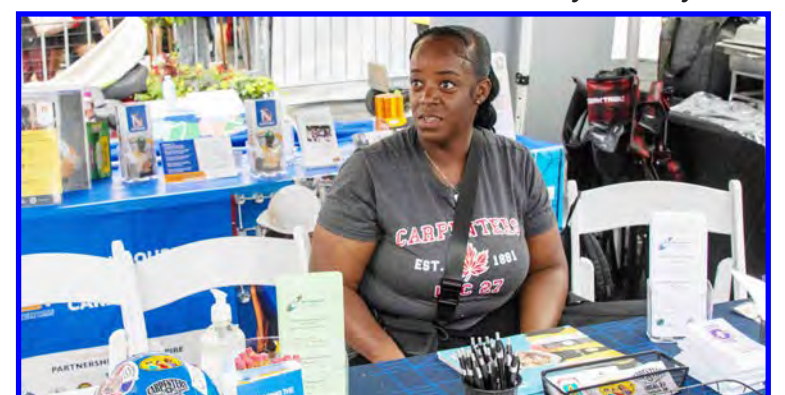


Photo by Anthony Berot

Renaming 131st Street puts T&T on the map in Queens, NY

By Dhanpaul Narine

Trinidadians. Warm, fun-loving, hospitable and caring. One day, everyone will have a Trini story! Mine was in 1978, and it was 33,000 feet in the air. I was leaving Guyana for England. A country boy was going to the London School of Economics to further his studies. The plane had to make a stop in Trinidad for two days before we connected with the flight to London. I was traveling with (Guy) \$15 that nobody wanted, and worse, I did not know anyone in Trinidad.

The family sitting next to me must have sensed my nervousness. We were about to land when the lady turned to me and smiled. "Where will you stay in Trinidad?" she asked.

I hesitated. Where would I stay? The best option was at the airport. But it was for two days. What would I do to pass the time, not to mention the basic things like food and personal hygiene? I made up my mind. I would tough it out at Piarco. I was in the Amazon for two years, and what would two days do to me? I was about to tell the lady. But she had other ideas.

"You can stay with us if you like," she said. "We will take good care of you."

I murmured a thank you rather sheepishly, and before long we stepped into the sunshine. I was in another world. The sights and sounds of Port-of-Spain were incredible, and soon we were in Belmont.

Ms Leah Creque lived with her family in a modest house. But that did not matter. The hospitality shown to me was unforgettable. Her children took a delight in showing me around. I marveled at the little pavements, the flatness and greenery of the Savannah, the wonderful view of The Lookout, and the friendliness of the people.

I was an Indian lad in a Black household, but I fit in as neatly as a glove. I was constantly in and out of the logies of Mother Adela and Mother Hackett in Vergenoegen, Guyana, so I was unbothered by colour.

I left Trinidad with a profound sense of respect for its peoples and immense gratitude to Ms Leah Creque and her wonderful family. The Trinidadian community was scattered in London. Darcus Howe, from the trade union, reminded one of home, while Trevor McDonald, the BBC newscaster, spoke in his polished accent. We huddled at the "The Hummingbird" in Shroud Green Road, next to the Beacon Bookshop.

The LSE was left-wing and radical. Krishendath Maharaj, from Trinidad, was active in the student movement, and we walked over the London Bridge to protest the increase in fees. It did not change the minds of the Senate, but it opened our eyes to student activism.

I completed my studies at the LSE and moved to New York. It was here where diversity jelled into a community. In 1988, Liberty Avenue had only a handful of businesses from the Caribbean.

The biggest population increase in South Queens were from Indo-Caribbeans. Stores, roti shops, and real estate offices were established. The 'A' train took hundreds daily to Manhattan for work, and the community began to grow rapidly.

Soon there were religious institutions, and parades and festivals were celebrated. Additional space was required to accommodate the children in schools. Richmond Hill saw a spike in home ownership and rental occupancy. By 1997, the Buildings Department in Queens was cracking down on 'illegal conversions' that proved to be discriminatory against Indo-Caribbeans.

The Trinidadian community stood firm with its Guyanese brethren in this and other protests. Air travel to Trinidad became more frequent and saw daily communication from New York. There are thousands of Guyanese that live and work in Trinidad. Relationships then between Guyanese and Trinidadians have been intertwined for a long time. The Guyanese community in Queens welcomed Prime Ministers Kamla Bissessar and Basdeo Panday with excitement. Prime Minister Dr Keith Rowley is still to make a visit.

The year 2019 saw an expansion in the business community in Queens. This was particularly evident in Liberty Avenue and the surrounding streets. Then came the pandemic, but Trinidadians, like so many communities, remained resilient and strong. In the years 2020 and 2021 historic landmarks were achieved when the City of New York co-named streets in South Queens to reflect the diversity of the area. There was Punjab Avenue, followed by Little Guyana Avenue, Pandit Ramlall Way, and Dharamacharya Seerattan Way, among others.

It was only fitting then that a street should be co-named 'Trinidad and Tobago Street' in recognition of the sterling contributions of the peoples of the twin islands. The co-naming committee included Anoop Dhanpat, Vijay Ramjattan, Richard David, and Rose Deonarine, while Sherry Algreto from Community Board 9 did wonderful work liaising between the Community Board and the City Council.

August 20, 2023 was historic. There was a sea of red that gathered at 131st Street and Liberty Avenue. There was music and merriment, and tassa and Moko Jumbies to serenade the street-naming.

Councilwoman and Speaker of the City Council, Adrienne Adams, praised the Trinidad community for their hard work. This was echoed by Queens Borough President Donovan Richards, and elected officials David Weprin, Khaleel Anderson, and others. There were speeches from prominent officials, and Trinidad and Tobago's representatives to the US

beamed with pride.

The 'Trinidad and Tobago Street' sign at 131st Street and Liberty Avenue is a testimony to the immense contribution that this community has made in New York, and to the diaspora. It is a cause for celebration because one can seldom find a people



Excitement builds up moments before the street name's unveiling in Liberty Avenue, Queens, NY

that is so friendly and peace-loving. Imagine a dough that is round; it is spread on a *tawaa*, and it becomes bigger than a pizza. It is gently prodded by a paddle. This poetry in motion results in the famous 'buss-up shot', and how about some doubles with slight pepper?

Trinidadians have fed us, and have enriched Queens with their culture. The street-naming is richly deserved.



It is official! 'Trinidad and Tobago Street' is now on NYC's map

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Anthony: Renowned, prolific, & a voice in the anti-colonial discourse

By Romeo Kaseram
LJI Reporter

Michael Anthony was born in Mayaro, Trinidad, on February 10, 1930 to parents Nathaniel Anthony and Eva Jones Lazarus. Nathaniel Anthony passed away after a long illness when Anthony was ten years old. Following his father's death, the next year, which was in 1941, Anthony left Mayaro for what is now the southern city of San Fernando. He lived for a year in San Fernando, the experience foundational for what later became one of his better known novels, *The Year in San Fernando* (1965).

Anthony's early elementary education was acquired at the Mayaro Roman Catholic School. Following his primary schooling, he attended the Junior Technical College as a trainee mechanic in San Fernando after winning a bursary in 1944. Technical training offered the opportunity for him to join the Pointe-à-Pierre oil refinery, where he worked as a molder in the foundry for five years.

Meanwhile, the young Anthony nurtured an ambition to become a journalist, and so endured laborious employment at the foundry, even as he projected his creativity onto athletics while working at the Pointe-à-Pierre operations.

As an indication of his more cerebral inclinations, some of his early poems were published in the *Trinidad Guardian* in 1954, its appearance in print a window into his deeper longing for the writing life. It came to a point where Anthony decided to take his future in hand, with a decision made to further his writing career in the UK. Speaking to Richard Charan in the *Trinidad Express* in 2014, Anthony recalled his dream to write and publish the "short story".

Charan writes: "It was in 1953 that his friend Canute Thomas... got a scholarship from the company (then Trinidad Leaseholders Limited) to go to London. Anthony recalled: 'As soon as he got to England, he wrote me saying: 'Why don't you try to come up here? You are always talking of wanting to be a writer. This is the place to come. Publishers all around. Why don't you try and come?' The next year, Anthony, following his dreams, was on a steamship bound for England."

He arrived in 1954 to employment in factories, the railway, and as a telegraphist; meanwhile, he explored the literary world that was just opening up with the arrival of other notables, who would later go on to establish what is now the definitive, post-colonial Caribbean voice. Anthony contacted the Overseas Section of the *British Broadcasting Corporation*, which at the time was hosting a programme of verse and prose that was broadcast to the Caribbean.

Charan writes: "[The BBC] were just changing their programme producer. The new one was coming from famed Oxford University. His name was Vidia Naipaul, a literary legend who belonged to Trinidad for the first 18 years of his life and... now regarded as one of the finest... writers. Anthony recalled sending Naipaul a short story and two poems for his consideration." As Anthony recalls, "[Naipaul] sent for me and he said, 'Mr Anthony, your short story has possibilities, but promise me you will not write another poem.'"

'Lifeboat techniques' on how to cope with these perilous times

With bad news dominating the headlines daily, one wonders where one can find some good news. What can one do to block out the wildfires, the wars, the viruses, the climate change, the tornadoes, the poverty, the racism, and hard times that affect many of us? The Axis of Evil: Russia, China, North Korea, and Trump and 'Trumpism' in the US, present many with a dark and dismal future.

We, who live in Canada, one of the most blessed countries in the world, now have the misfortune of sleeping next to a giant, the US, where democracy seems to be hanging by a thread, and Civil War in the cards!

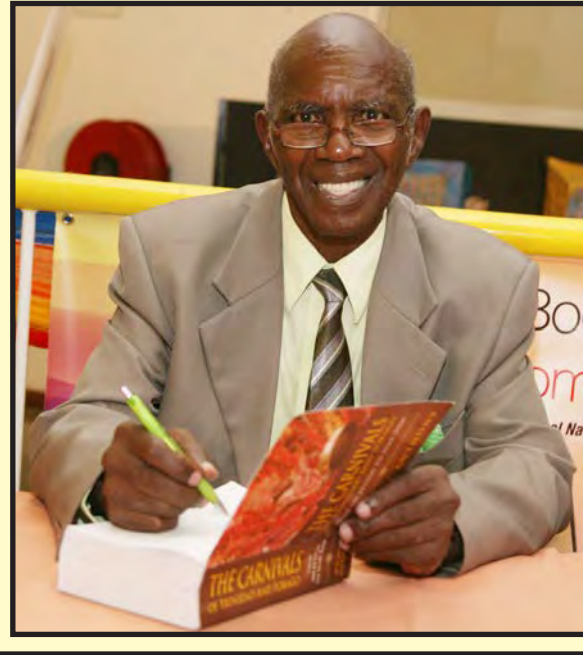
What can the average citizen do to maintain a semblance of health, peace, and well being? We can bury our heads in the sand and pretend that evil does not exist, not realising that most of our misfortunes are brought on by humankind, so it does not solve the problem.

We can depend on what the Greek playwrights called *Deus ex machina*, divine intervention to bail us out. Some say disasters like fire and floods and diseases like Covid-19 and the Great plague are signs of a vengeful God, meant to teach us a lesson on earth.

With renewed interest in outer space, some are looking for an escape to other planets. If a planet is not readily available, the moon will do. India, China, Russia, the US are all looking for real estate on the moon. This is thinking "outside the box". If you have the money, you can go to the moon as a tourist and purchase a spot, hoping for a happy life.

If you wish to start an intergalactic war, as some dictators talk of doing, Star Wars may not be far away. Many of us would not

Michael Anthony (February 10, 1930-August 24, 2023). This study of Trinidad and Tobago author, Michael Anthony, was previously published in *Indo-Caribbean World*. It is part of a series that focused on Caribbean writers, and other writers with Caribbean voices. The article is reproduced in celebration of Anthony's life and works, and has been updated with his latest work.



Anthony left the UK in 1968 for Brazil, where he worked as a cultural officer with the Trinidad and Tobago Embassy. He returned to Trinidad in 1970 with his wife, Yvette Phillip. Back in Trinidad, Anthony worked as a journalist and as a cultural officer in the Education Ministry with the Trinidad and Tobago government.

Anthony's body of writing makes up six novels, numerous short stories, along with historical writings, and as he has indicated, these draw substantially from his personal experiences. Among his works are: *The Year in San Fernando* (1965); *Green Days by the River* (1967); *The Games Were Coming* (1968); *Streets of Conflict* (1976); *All That Glitters* (1981); *Bright Road to El Dorado* (1982); *The Becket Factor* (1990); *In the Heat of the Day* (1996); *Glimpses of Trinidad and Tobago, With a Glance at the West Indies* (1974); *Profile Trinidad: A Historical Survey from the Discovery to 1900* (1975); *The Making of Port-of-Spain 1757-1939* (1978); *First In Trinidad* (1985); and, *Heroes of the People of Trinidad and Tobago* (1986).

Anthony also wrote: *The History of Aviation in Trinidad and Tobago 1913-1962* (1987); *A Better and Brighter Day* (1987); *Towns and Villages of Trinidad and Tobago* (1988); *Parade of the Carnivals of Trinidad 1839-1989* (1989); *The Golden Quest: The Four Voyages of Christopher Columbus* (1992); *Historical Dictionary of Trinidad and Tobago* (1997); and, *Anaparima: The History of San Fernando and Its Environment* (2001); *High Tide*

want to be around to see the fireworks.

Doctors of the mind are suggesting techniques to throw us a lifeboat in these perilous times. How about turning off the TV? Are you not tired of hearing from these "truth" machines?

Cut back on the propaganda and the belief systems of evil doers. If you don't, then you can be making a bed for yourself and others which is disastrous, to say the least.

He who controls the media can control the world. Any dictator with a megaphone can tell you what to believe. You just listen to it a hundred times... or less. Sounds familiar? Develop activities for physical exercise.

The couch is not the best place. Walking, jogging, dancing, sport, and games come to mind. Be sociable, but choose your friends carefully. Every skin teeth is not a laugh as 'old people' say. Your relatives are supportive, but can be a disappointment, to say the least. You choose your friends, but not your relatives.

Pick up a good book. Read like a person possessed. I remember as a child I read just about every book I could find. I seem to have "lived" at the Public Library in New Amsterdam, British Guiana.

When you get old like me, you might want to research and find interesting information, good and bad, about your ancestry. It can perhaps explain a few things.

One finding that I discovered, through research in Madeira, was that a relative on my mother's side who originated in Madeira, was a Dona - wife of a Don, equivalent of a Lord in European aristocracy. My father always thought he had "blue blood" in his veins, but he was hoping it was from England. It never happened.

of *Intrigue* (2001); *Towns and Villages of Trinidad and Tobago* (2001); and *The Sound of Marching Feet* (2020).

Writing in the *Routledge Encyclopedia of Post-Colonial Literatures in English*, Arthur D. Drayton, notes Anthony's body of work falls into two phases, the first "embracing his major fiction, effectively ends with *Streets of Conflict* (1976), though *All That Glitters* (1981) also belongs to it".

He adds: "Characterised by disguised eclectic autobiography, these works focus the developing consciousness of young protagonists, setting them in the landscape, society and ethos of rural Trinidad of the 1930s and 1940s. They offer period portraits that help reconstruct the neglected past, such as that of the selfless elementary schoolteachers so fundamental to the flowering of the country's first crop of intellectuals (projected through the motif of the portrait of the writer as a schoolboy) and the society's emerging ethnic pluriverse."

In what is Anthony's second writing phase, Drayton notes it begins, "with *Profile Trinidad: A Historical Survey from the Discovery to 1900* (1975)", and is made up "mainly of historical and cultural writings". He adds: "Its range includes a re-focused history of country, city, towns and villages, the reclamation of the land's unsung heroes, and a chronicle of carnival. Later works in this area are his *Historical Dictionary of Trinidad and Tobago* (1997) and *Anaparima: The History of San Fernando and Its Environment* (2001)."

Drayton adds of both phases: "This enables the fiction to anticipate the later historical-cultural writings in engendering a potential for elevating national consciousness and pride; the integration of vernacular usages reinforces this. Being essential elements of the decolonisation process, antecedent to and characteristic of the early stages of post-colonial experience, these features establish for Anthony a place in anti-colonial discourse."

However, other critics tend to dismiss "his work as insignificant", and disagree on Anthony's depth, citing what Daryl Cumber Dance describes in *Fifty Caribbean Writers*, as an "apparent lack of concern with the major racial, sociological, political, and economic issues that engage many Caribbean writers".

Among the least caustic of the critics of Anthony's *oeuvre* is Edward Baugh, who Dance quotes as saying: "If one says that [Anthony's] best work has the clarity and luminosity of a shallow stream, this is not to disparage it but only to define its limitations and the nature of its appeal. Anthony attempts nothing grand, and is hardly concerned with 'messages'".

Anthony was twice a resident member of the international writing programme at the University of Iowa in the US. In Trinidad and Tobago, he was honoured in 1979 with the Hummingbird Gold Award; and in 1988 he received the City of Port-of-Spain Award for contributions to history and literature.

Sources for this exploration: Richard Charan - *Trinidad Express*, January 26, 2014; *Routledge Encyclopedia of Post-Colonial Literatures in English, Second Edition*; Daryl Cumber Dance (ed.), *Fifty Caribbean Writers: A Bio-bibliographical Critical Sourcebook*.

Keep busy! No spinning wheels! Learn a new skill. I often thought of myself as having 'ten thumbs' and I believed it. All that has changed after retirement and living in the country. Now I have become 'Mr Fix It'.

With the help of the Internet there is advice on how to fix many things and save lots of money. Plan your day with activity in mind. A couch potato is out of bounds. Your health and body will thank you forever.

Help the planet we live in so that it may continue to exist and flourish. Plant a tree, a garden, some flowers, vegetables, a lawn for games - we have lawn bowling and mini golf, which we enjoy. Remember, the devil finds work for idle hands. The right kind of "wuk" won't kill you; but it might keep you living.

Get a pet: a dog, a cat - you name it. You will make a friend for life, a companion who believes in you, and will bring you joy in good times and bad.

Be sociable. Join a church group, enjoy sports, writing, games, or a dance group. Turn down the noise of the world. We have but one life to live. There is no replay. Silence can be a friend or an enemy.

Learn to play a musical instrument. Music can be food for the soul. When most of the brain is going or gone, music still finds its way in. It is food for the soul. It has brought my wife and I many hours of happiness.

The truth of the matter is that the world can be and still is a beautiful place, in spite of the challenges. It is not wealth that is a blessing as many believe, but more the need for life long health. You look after your body and it will look after you. The cards of life are not handed out equally. We play with the hand we are given. If the creeks don't rise and the sun still shines, I'll be talking to you.

Bernard Heydorn



T&T's CoP claims crime initiatives by TTPS yielding benefits

Port-of-Spain – The crime-fighting strategies deployed by Trinidad and Tobago's Police Service are yielding benefits, Commissioner of Police Erla Harewood-Christopher has said.

Meanwhile, at the time when Harewood-Christopher made the statement, the comparative difference of one murder separated last year's murder toll from the figures this year. When Trinidad and Tobago celebrated its 61st Independence on August 31, there were 391 murders at the time, compared to 392 for the same period last year.

Also, on that day in August, there were 55 murders, compared to 68 murders during the same month in 2022.

Harewood-Christopher was speaking at the weekly TTPS media briefing at the time. There she said that while violent crimes continue to be a concern to the public, the police had made several successes in their campaign against criminals.

"In the number of murders, which shows the murders are actually trending down, which shows that the strategies are working, we continue to revise our strategies to ensure that we make that positive impact," Harewood-Christopher said.

She noted too that for the year last week, 65 people had been charged for murder. Out of this number, at least three more suspects were expected to face charges in the Central Division.

Also, out of this figure, 47 persons were charged for murders that were committed this year, while ten were charged for murders



Commissioner of Police Erla Harewood-Christopher during T&T's Independence Day celebrations last week

in 2022. She added that 467 illegal guns and 15,482 rounds of ammunition had also been seized so far this year.

Shortly after being appointed to office earlier this year, Harewood-Christopher promised

a reduction in murders by June. However, she failed to hit that target.

At this time, nationals remain concerned about the growing rate of murders. Last month saw a spike in brazen and violent attacks, a few

of them taking place at public facilities.

Noting the recent spate of murders across Trinidad and Tobago, Harewood-Christopher said while it remained a concern for the public, incidents of crime were not evidence of police inaction.

"I want to assure the community, the national community, that the police are conscious, and we are capable. The work of the police is constant and effective in deterring crime," she maintained.

Additionally, "The fact that some persons succeed in committing crimes is not an indication that the police isn't out there on a moment-by-moment basis, doing what is necessary to deter, detect, and prosecute crimes."

She also reminded the public that it was impossible for the police to be everywhere at once. It was important for co-operation by nationals, which was still critical in any initiative aimed at getting the criminal element off the streets, she stated.

"The reality is that the police cannot be everywhere. It is possible for a crime to be committed, and there are those bent on making an opportunity of that. It is for that reason I appeal to members of the public to continue partnering with the police to combat criminal activities in their communities and in our country," she declared.

Harewood-Christopher said different police units were working to investigate murders, adding that the strategies were continuously being adjusted to meet changes in trends and patterns.

... not so, says Moonilal, Griffith

Port-of-Spain – Trinidad and Tobago's Police Commissioner Erla Harewood-Christopher was last week accused of being disconnected from reality, and for suggesting that violent crime was trending downwards.

The accusations were made by Opposition MP Roodal Moonilal and former CoP Gary Griffith. It came following Harewood-Christopher last week praising the anti-crime initiatives being done by the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service, while declaring that murders were trending downwards.

Harewood-Christopher made the assertion despite the statistics revealing that the homicide toll from last year to this year was a difference of just one killing.

However, she noted that while challenges remain, there was a zero percent increase in the murder rate this year, compared to a ten percent increase for the same period last year.

Also, during his address at Trinidad and Tobago's Independence celebrations last week, and following Harewood-Christopher's earlier speech, Prime Minister Dr Keith Rowley said the figures were encouraging, even as he endorsed the work being done by the TTPS.

Said Rowley: "It is good news to hear that at least on this occasion, we can see some light at the end of the tunnel against the criminal element. If the efforts are sustained... this period of challenge will be a period to be looked upon and say there were times we were challenged, but indeed we did succeed."

However, Moonilal did not buy into the statements made by Harewood-Christopher and Rowley. As he declared, their remarks were "frightening", even as he accused them of being out of touch with reality.

"The ordinary people on the ground are aware that things are indeed getting worse. I think the Prime Minister has been away from Trinidad for too long, he spends time in relatively safe countries and safe communities," Moonilal said.

He added, "He himself is protected by about 20 security morning, noon, and night, so as for him, things are getting better. For him things are getting safer, but for the ordinary people out here on the streets of Trinidad and Tobago, it is a war-zone, and it is horrible the Prime

Minister shows no empathy and no compassion with the victims of crime."

Moonilal also chided Harewood-Christopher for her interpretation of the statistics, adding that her tone was similar to that of someone describing the results of a by-election.

He said such serious concerns should be addressed and conveyed with the necessary sense of urgency to the public and victims of crime.

"This is serious crime and murder, the most heinous of all crimes. I think the Commissioner of Police lacks a certain level of care and compassion in referring to these dead-heat numbers, and claiming some type of victory or some type of positivity coming out of this, while again the Commissioner is aware of the widespread runaway crime of the level of criminality and brutality on this society," he stated.

Griffith also criticised Harewood-Christopher's take on the data, describing her interpretation as "ludicrous". He served as CoP from 2018 to 2021.

Noting that several senior police officers were seen clapping in the background as Harewood-Christopher declared the drop in serious crime, Griffith accused the TTPS of accepting mediocrity as a benchmark.

"It shows the standard we have reached in the [TTPS]. We are accepting mediocrity and we are again on par for 605 murders this year, and if there may be one less than last year with 604 murders, [Harewood-Christopher] and the senior officers who applauded her statement will say we are on the right track, because now there has been a decrease in the increase of crime."

Griffith was also critical of Rowley, noting that his endorsement of Harewood-Christopher's remarks were disheartening. Attitudes as the prime minister's were attributable to poor leadership, and a lack of proper performance measurement, Griffith declared.

"So, [Rowley] likewise, is stating that if there were 605 murders last year, and there may be 604 murders this year, he is seeing that as a success. That is the kind of nonsense this country has to endure because of incompetence, and lack of leadership from the chair of the National Security Council," Griffith stated.



Gary Griffith



Roodal Moonilal

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3D-printed guns & components found by police late last month

3D printed guns discovery worry experts

Port-of-Spain – Concern was expressed last week by criminologist Randy Seepersad following discovery of 3D printed guns by police.

The discovery meant that a new generation of gang members and criminals with more technological savvy have now taken the challenge to local law enforcement up another notch, Seepersad stated.

The 3D printed guns and components were discovered by police during a raid in Caparo, Central Trinidad on August 30.

Seepersad noted there was now a shift in criminality by some criminals, who are now more enabled due to their knowledge of technology. An indicator of this shift was crime statistics are now showing a heavy representation of young people in “that Gen Z age bracket”, who are committing crimes in Trinidad and Tobago, he said.

Additionally, Seepersad said that younger criminals are disenfranchised by government, and are also desensitised to violence. At the same time, they are the most technologically capable, he stated.

“And law enforcement can barely keep pace,” he added.

Seepersad said that while the 3D guns are not as rampant in Trinidad and Tobago as in other countries, it did not mean the trend would not catch on.

However, for the moment, illicit firearms making its way into the country from north and south America are too easily accessible for the 3D firearms to become a major trend.

Said Seepersad: “It is really in the minority. It doesn't seem like something that will

take over the illicit gun market in Trinidad and Tobago, given the availability of regular firearms.”

Seepersad also said that criminals are also converting air rifles to fire smaller calibre ammunition.

“Criminals are getting very creative, and that means that these weapons are becoming more difficult to detect. If someone imports one and you pass it through a scanner, you probably will not pick it up because most of it isn't metal.”

Technology writer Mark Lyndersay said local law enforcement tends to be behind the curve on responding to how tools get used for crime. All police departments take time to figure out how criminals could leverage new technology, he said.

“It took years before any kind of serious consideration was given to how drones are being used, and it has only been [recently] that a hard rule on importing that technology was put in place, requiring licensing approval by a potential user before a drone can be cleared for importation,” he said.

Also, last month Commissioner of Police Erla Harewood-Christopher noted that the proliferation of illegal firearms poses significant risks to safety and law enforcement.

Said Harewood-Christopher: “The lack of control in the production and distribution of these weapons could result in an increase in violent crime, and contribute to the empowerment of criminal organisations.”

Harewood-Christopher promised that specialised units would continue to work to meet the emerging threat.

Driver fouls thieves' KFC bucket grab

Port-of-Spain – It was a case of ‘fowl-play’ fouled last week when bandits crossed the road and attempted to relieve a KFC delivery driver of a bucket of fried chicken.

Instead, the fast-food bandits only succeeded in grabbing the sides of biscuits and fries that accompanied the meal.

According to the police report, Atiba Joseph, a delivery driver for the KFC location at St Margaret's in south Trinidad, was informed by his dispatch operator last Friday night about an order for a 12-piece KFC Mega Meal.

The order came with four biscuits and four portions of fries, and was valued at around (Can) \$25. Its delivery location was in Claxton Bay, approximately five kilometres away.

Joseph left the branch with the order and a co-worker, who sat in the front passenger seat of a white Nissan Tiida. Joseph then made contact with the recipient upon arrival.

However, right afterwards, two men armed with cutlasses, and another with a gun, walked up to the car and announced a robbery.

The birds-of-a-feather bandits quickly plucked the biscuits and fries out of the co-worker's grasp. However, Joseph observing his co-worker under attack, fouled the bandit's best laid plans by quickly driving away.

Consequently, the bandits were left with egg on their faces after being denied the bucket of fried chicken.

Joseph also told the police his vehicle sustained damage during the fracas, after one of the foul-tempered bandits kicked his vehicle, and then chopped the bumper.

According to the police report, a search is now on for the person who made the order, and who is suspected to be at the top of the pecking order in the fried chicken heist that went awry.

And in another but unrelated robbery, bandits with real guns robbed yet another delivery driver, this time of toy guns in north Trinidad.

According to the police report, Mark Sahadeo, a courier who delivers items on behalf of Jay's Toy Box, was accosted in Laventille during a delivery, and relieved of his package by two men, one who was armed with a real gun.

Sahadeo reported that upon arrival, his silver Nissan Navara was approached by the two men. Announcing a robbery, they then relieved him of (TT) \$100 and two packages, each containing four BB gel guns.

The packages were valued at approximately (Can) \$600, with the men escaping via a nearby lane.

Businesses question CoP's crime spin

Port-of-Spain – In the wake of the challenges being faced daily by nationals, President of the Downtown Owners and Merchants Association Gregory Aboud told the Trinidad and Tobago media last week that it remains “rather difficult” to agree with the authorities that the crime situation is improving.

Aboud was commenting on statements made last week by Commissioner of Police Erla Christopher-Harewood that the crime situation was getting better.

If this was so, then it could be that part of the reason for a decline in serious crimes, and a stability in the murder rate could be due to “fewer and fewer” people moving around at night, Aboud said.

“[Therefore]... there are fewer and fewer people to rob and/or kill,” he stated.

Also, Aboud told the *Trinidad Express* that he did not believe, from a managerial, leadership and strategic point of view, that it was wise to characterise a “dangerous situation” such as crime in Trinidad and Tobago as “improving”.

And he stressed that finding and catching criminals was the key to drastically reducing crime.

“One of the most important ways that the Police Service can assist the country's safety coefficient is by creating greater fear among criminals that they will be caught,” Aboud said.

“And the only way to create that fear is to start catching them. At this time, criminals are too free to do what they want and get away. We have tried every initiative possible to create surveillance, and to create CCTV footage and to put evasive measures in place, but the fact is that once the crime has been committed, the perpetrators are of the view that in 90 percent of the cases they are going to go free. And I would like to respectfully suggest that therein lies the heart of the problem,” he added.

Last week Christopher-Harewood reported an 11 percent reduction in serious crimes, and a 67 percent decline in shootings and woundings as of August 31. Also, the police recorded an eight percent increase in illegal firearms seizures.

“Our intelligence machine has served us well. And we've arrested 129 persons in connection with home invasions. TTPS has been

making substantial progress in its crime-fighting initiatives,” she declared.

However, in speaking to the *Trinidad Express*, Aboud said: “The Commissioner's remarks place commentators who want to make constructive contributions in a very difficult place, simply because while we sympathise with [her] need to motivate her forces and to keep the ranks of the service inspired and encouraged, the situation being faced by citizens on a daily basis is not really in keeping with the remarks which were made.”

He added, “In that sense, it is rather difficult to agree that the situation is improving, or that [it] has taken a turn for the better. The fact is that the country's economy and the quality of life of the people are being severely damaged by the fear factor, especially after dark, which is starting to creep everywhere in the country.”

President of the Greater San Fernando Area Chamber of Commerce Kiran Singh also commented on Christopher-Harewood's claim. As Singh noted, the CoP's statements that serious crime is down were welcome news. However, at the same time, he wondered which district she was referring to, since “home invasions haven't decreased in the Southern region as far as we are aware, judging from the media reports... and social media”.

Singh also stated that the South Chamber was hoping there would be no additional murders this year.

Also, “[That] the crime detection tools that they refer to, and technologies that they're using to apprehend the bandits and to fight the crime, we hope that they bear fruit sooner than later, because the society is in a state of extreme frustration where crime is concerned.”

Also speaking with the media was San Juan Business Association Jason Roach, who said there was “certainly some hope” regarding the crime situation. However, there was more work to be done, he declared.

Roach also commended police for its work in uncovering the printing of assault rifles using 3D technology. That the police were paying attention to the latest trends and technology, which can have an impact on crime was commendable, he said.



Gregory Aboud

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The Golden Years of Indian Cinema

Barsaat & Andaz were sensational movies in my boyhood in Guyana

By Vidur Dindayal

Dilip Kumar and Kamini Kaushal made their name in *Shaheed*. They were just two of many new young stars in the post-war Indian movies, like Raj Kapoor, Nargis, Dev Anand, Nimmi, Premnath, Cuckoo, Pran, Jeewan, and Rehman.

Soon Dilip Kumar, Raj Kapoor and Dev Anand became the famous trio. Dilip was the tragedy king; Raj Kapoor the Indian Charlie Chaplin; and Dev Anand, the romantic hero.

Nargis was the new heroine with a modern hairstyle, not the traditional one.

The years after India's Independence saw hyper-creation of movies and countless hits. They filled Guyana's life with excitement and entertainment, happy cinema going, popular movie songs over the radio, and more.

In Berbice, one entrepreneur built a huge, brand new cinema at Port Mourant named Roop Mahal. Later he built another at Canje named Raaj Mahal.

At Mahaicony a new cinema, Gemini, was built. I was a teenager when I went there one evening with my father to attend a reception for the newly-appointed Indian High Commissioner, Anand Mohan Sahay. He was touring the country. Those were the days!

Shaheed with Dilip Kumar and Kamini Kaushal was not the only hit released in 1948. Another with Dilip and Kamini was *Mela*. *Ziddi* was yet another. Then there was *Chandralekha*, produced by Gemini Studios in Madras, a classic of movie making with scenes, everyone of which you could capture and frame. Most spectacular was the dance on huge drums, a joy to watch, with music to suit. I acquired a taste for 'waltz' music in the trapeze swinging in the circus scene.

Mela was a great movie for its music, referred to as Naushad's "Golden jubilee (50 weeks) *Mela*". Memorable for its songs, it is said that Naushad got the best out of singer Shamshad Begum for this film.

With songs like *Dharti Ko Aakash Pukaare* and *Taqdeer Bani Banke Bigdi*. Another popular song was the farewell number, *Gaaye Jaa Geet Milan Ke*, sung by Mukesh, at the time of the heroine's sad departure from home after marriage.

Mohammed Rafi became even more popular as a singer with the song, *Ye Zindgi Ke Mele*.

Ziddi starred Dev Anand and Kamini Kaushal. One of the songs that I liked in the movie was the one sung by Kamini Kaushal, *Chanda Re Jaa Re Jaa Re*. I learnt the song and sang it several times to guests at our home.

The song *Yeh Kaun Aaya Re* was one of the earliest film songs by Kishore Kumar, and is rendered in an earlier Saigal style. I



enjoy listening to it. The song *Chali Pi Ko Milan* by Shamshad Begum is most memorable.

The sensation in those days were the films *Barsaat* and *Andaz*. For me Nimmi in *Barsaat* stole the show. The movie started with a girl singing – "In the breeze flies my red muslin shawl". The scene is open air in the hills of Kashmir, the girl enjoying her run on the open hillside after her sheep.

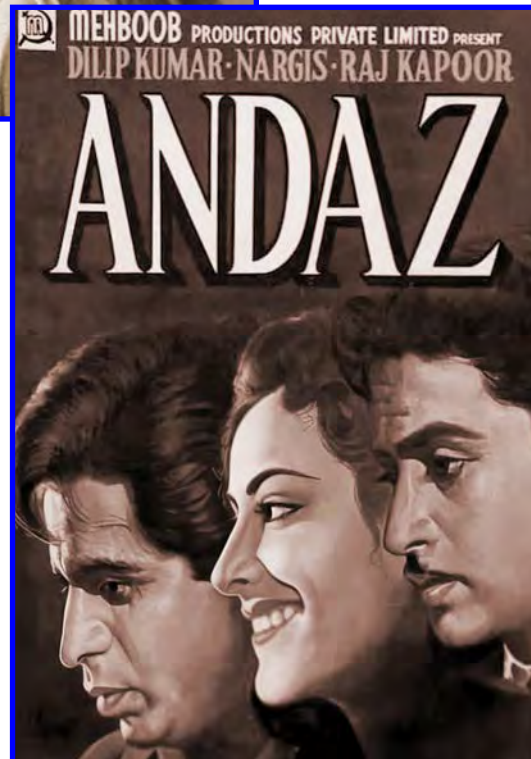
The girl singing is not a famous star, but we know her. She is Bimla Kumari. She acted in the film *Albela* as the young sister of star Bhagwan.

Barsaat is about two love stories: One, between Pran (Raj Kapoor) and Reshma (Nargis). Pran is a rich young man who met and fell in love with Reshma in a Kashmir valley. They had a few problems, including Reshma's father's opposition to their marriage. Her father married her off to a ruffian from the village. But eventually Pran and Reshma got reunited.

The other love story, between Gopal (Premnath) and Neela (Nimmi) was a tragedy. Gopal was a carefree flirt, not serious, but Neela loved him and pined away when he did not return for her hand after he promised her that he would.

Towards the end of the story, he changed and returned to see Neela, but by then she had died. The movie ended with Gopal lighting Neela's funeral pyre as the rains, *Barsaat*, finally came.

The music of *Barsaat* became famous upon the film's release. The film was the debut for music directors Shankar-Jaikishan and established their careers.



The nightingale Lata Mangeshkar famously sang for both Nargis and Nimmi in *Barsaat*. The song, *Hawa Mein Urta Jaaye*, sung by actress Bimla Kumari, was the popular and unforgettable number at the start of the movie.

The film's sound track was listed at Number One on a list of 100 Greatest Hindi movie sound tracks. I cannot single out any of the 11 songs as best.

I grew up hearing these songs, and enjoyed listening to all of them. Here, Lata Mangeshkar and Mohammed Rafi, in my view, both confirmed their roles as the top playback singers in Indian movies.

Andaz was the celebrated love triangle with Dilip played by Dilip Kumar; Rajan was played by Raj Kapoor; and Neena played by Nargis. Cuckoo, who played the role of Sheila, was Neena's friend.

The love triangle is a simple story of a rich girl Neena, who was riding her horse one day when she fell off the horse. Riding nearby was Dilip who saw her fall and helped her back onto the horse. They became friends and the rich girl Neena entertained her friend Dilip at her house frequently.

On his visits, he would sing songs to entertain her while playing the piano. Being a wealthy girl with western lifestyle, this appealed to her, and she thought nothing more of the relationship.

However, Dilip began to like her, even to love her, but he did not reveal his feelings. Her fiancé, Rajan (Raj Kapoor), returned from London and in no time they got

married. Thereafter trouble started. Dilip loved her, but she never entertained any love for him and tried to tell him of this fact. Rajan did not know what to make of the relationship.

The nine songs in *Andaz* were by music director Naushad. The song, *Tu Kahe Agar* with Dilip singing and playing at the piano, and *Cuckoo* dancing was the all-round super hit. I particularly liked *Hum Aaj Kahin Dil*. A friend visited our house frequently only to play *Jhoom Jhoom Ke Nacho Aaj* on the record player. All the songs and the modern settings captured the imagination of moviegoers.

Barsaat and *Andaz* are classic old entertaining Hindi movies, and the names Dilip Kumar, Nargis, Raj Kapoor, Nimmi, Cuckoo, and Prem Nath will forever bring cheer to my heart.

Legacy of iron-willed nation-builder now a film, Man of Steel - Sadar

The legacy of Late Honourable Shri Vallabhbhai Patel, one of India's most revered leaders and architects of its unity, is set to captivate audiences in a ground-breaking new film. Titled, *Man of Steel - Sardar*, a bilingual masterpiece in Hindi and Gujarati brings to life Sardar Patel's journey through a unique cinematic experience.

The film delves deep into the life and ideologies of Sardar Patel, showcasing his indomitable spirit, unwavering determination, and commitment to national integration.

Born on October 31, 1875 in the village of Nadiad in Gujarat, Sardar Patel's life story takes the audience on an emotive voyage, tracing his evolution from a visionary lawyer to the 'Iron Man of India' who played a pivotal role in unifying the country post-Independence.

The film does not just depict the leader, but also unveils the humane side of Sardar Patel – his humility, his compassion, and his dedication to the people of India.

From the integration of Hyderabad and Junagadh, the film captures the pivotal moments that shaped Sardar Patel's legacy. The story goes on to narrate the struggles and strife of Sardar, be it the Kheda Satyagrah, Satyagrah, or Bardoli Satyagrah. Sardar's personal life and his philosophy are touched upon through various incidents.

Producer of the film, Mayur K. Barot says, "I am honored to

bring to life the incredible journey of Sardar Patel through our film *Man of Steel - Sardar*. This project is a tribute to his unwavering determination and leadership, showcasing the remarkable story of a visionary who played a pivotal role in shaping the destiny of our nation."

Renowned writer and director Mihir Bhuta helms this cinematic marvel.

Speaking about the project, he states: "*Sardar* the film is based on my original Gujarati play by the same name. Made that in 2012 or 2013 with the same main cast. The play, as well as the film, is an attempt to understand Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel as a person as well as a Statesman. It is an enchanting experience to see, and to show the three-dimensional personality of him."

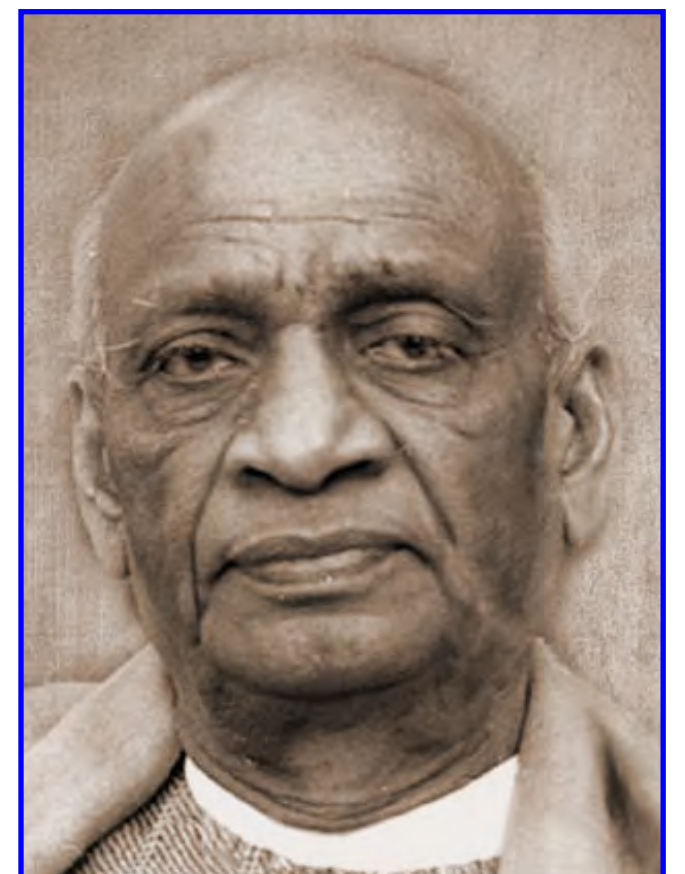
He adds, "The thrust is less on the happenings around him, which are accurate too, but on his actions and reactions. The interpersonal relationships, the clarity of thought, and ingenious problem-solving capacity are some of the things I have tried to understand through

the writing and making of this film. My main endeavor is to explore his changing relationship with Mahatma Gandhi. The film *Sardar...* is one of the best journeys I have taken as a writer."

It is an inspiring tale of unity and ideals explored through the lens of a film which is produced under the prestigious banner of White Measure Entertainment, written and directed by Mihir



Maulana Azad (left to right), Sardar Patel, & Mahatma Gandhi at an All India Congress Committee meeting in Bombay in 1940



Shri Sadar Vallabhbhai Patel

Bhuta; produced by Mayur K. Barot; and starring an ensemble cast of Vedish Zaveri, Ajay Jayram, Chirag Vohra, Jimit Trivedi, Hiten Kumar, and Chetan Dhanani.

Kanchan's career now on a roll

Actress Kanchan Awasthi says that while every actor once wished to play lead roles in films, the game has changed. She emphasises the importance of carving a niche for oneself and being choosy about roles.

Awasthi has multiple projects ready for release, and has worked with senior actors like Nana Patekar and Zeeshan Ayyub.

Also, she is excited about her upcoming projects, including the Telugu film debut and a big project called *Laal Baati*.

On her visit to hometown Lucknow, the *Gun Wali Dhulaniya* (2019) actor says, "Honestly, there is no dearth of work for those who are enterprising enough and know how to carve a niche for themselves."

She added, "There is a lot to do, not just in acting, but in other domains too. We are entertainers, and other than acting assignments I take up brand endorsements, shows, event appearances

along with social media. This is more the reason that over time I have become a little choosy about my roles. I want to grow with every project avoid being repetitive."

Last seen *Runaway Lugai* (2021) and *Bhaiya Ji Smile*, Awasthi has multiple projects ready for release.

"Barring the pandemic phase, I kept on working and have shot for multiple projects

including *Kutub Minar* with Sanjay Mishra, and *Majnu Saloon* with Panchayat-fame actor Chandan Roy in Varanasi," she notes.

Also, "Besides, I've also completed a mini-series *Hansi Toh Phansi* in Punjab along with Kiss Mark that was shot in Noida."

Awasthi has shot for two projects in Lucknow as well.

"I did *Love Hackers* with Priya Prakash

Varrier and Pawan Malhotra immediately after the first wave. This year, I did Prakash's (Jha) *Laal Baati*. Going forward, I have a love track also in the next season. Working with such seniors including Nana Patekar, Sanjay Kapoor, Zeeshan Ayyub, and Neeraj Kabi is a big deal for a newcomer like me."

Happy with her work graph, she adds, "All my work is ready and will be released one after the other. I very excited about *Laal Baati* as it's a very big project. In such series, you get noticed by a

wider audience, which is very important for actors who come from nowhere without any backing. From studying in Arya Kanya Inter College and Bhatkhande Music University to doing plays with Anil Rastogi and late Ravi Nagar, it has been a challenging journey."

The actor has also made her Telugu film debut with *KCPD*, and has two unannounced projects in hand as well.



Kanchan Awasthi



Kalki (left) & ex-husband Anurag now work together & are good friends

Post-divorce sees Kalki & Anurag as good friends

Kalki Koechlin is currently seen in the film *Goldfish*. In an interview, Kalki talked about her current bond with ex-husband Anurag Kashyap, who is presenting *Goldfish* as well. Kalki said that although the initial years after their divorce were hard, they have been good friends since.

In the interview, Kalki said, "It takes time. There is no denying that in the first few years after our divorce, we couldn't be the kind of friends that we are today. We needed that separate time because it hurts to know about the other person's relationship and things like that. So, of course, we took that time, I definitely took a lot of therapy, and now it has been seven, eight years... It has been a long, long time so it's fine; it's great, and we get along as friends."

Kalki and Anurag were married in 2011 and parted ways in 2015. She made her acting debut in Bollywood with Anurag's 2009 romantic dark comedy *Dev D*, where she starred opposite Abhay Deol.

She also worked with Anurag on his 2010 thriller *That Girl In Yellow Boots*, and the 2019

Netflix India Original crime thriller *Sacred Games Season 2*.

Kalki gave birth to a daughter, Sappho, with her partner Guy Hershberg in 2020.

Kalki was recently in *Zoya Akhtar* and Reema Kagti's *Made in Heaven*, where Anurag Kashyap had a special appearance.

Meanwhile, Anurag's last directorial feature was the romantic comedy *Almost Pyaar* with DJ Mohabbat, that released in cinemas earlier this year.

His next directorial is *Kennedy*, a crime thriller starring Rahul Bhat and Sunny Leone. It premiered at the Cannes Film Festival earlier this year.

Anurag will also be seen in the Zee5 web series *Haddi*, starring Nawazuddin Siddiqui.

In *Goldfish*, Kalki portrays a loving daughter struggling with financial problems. Deepti Naval plays the character of her mother suffering from dementia.

The film marks the return of Kalki to the theatres after four years. She was last seen in Zoya Akhtar's *Gully Boy*, which released in 2019.



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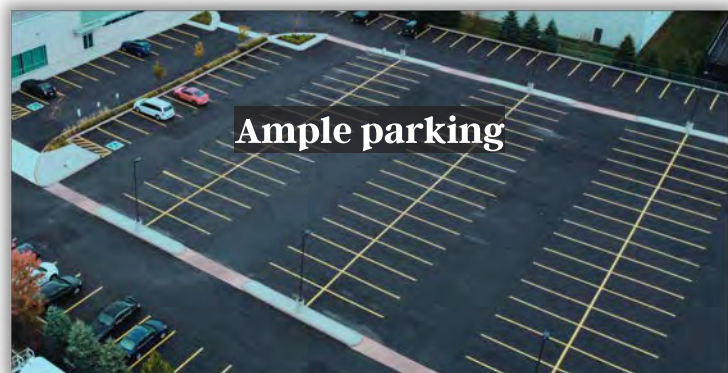


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Pollard sees red, CPL's Russell maintains it is in the cards

Caribbean Premier League CEO Pete Russell remained unfazed by Kieron Pollard's line and length criticism of the new over rate rules and penalties, last week insisting that the strategy is working as intended.

Following a match-winning game last week, Trinbago Knight Riders captain Pollard described the new rule as "absolutely ridiculous". His criticism came after TKR took away a six-wicket win over the St Kitts and Nevis Patriots on August 27.

During that game, TKR was given the first-ever red card in the tournament, the penalty forcing the team to field one player short in the final over of the Patriots innings.

As reported by the *Caribbean Broadcasting Corporation* last week, speaking in Barbados, Russell said the CPL was "disappointed" by Pollard's comments. He added that "emotions run high".

However, Russell remained unapologetic about the new rules.

"I thought it did exactly what I wanted it to do. The reason we have done this is to try and speed up play," he said.

Russell also offered first-hand experience regarding why the rule needed to be in place.

He said, "I sat next to someone in the stands during that [August 27] game, and he had to get a ferry back to Nevis. He had to leave the game early because of the amount of time it took to bowl those last few overs. The last over was bowled in 12 minutes, which is not acceptable, so it has a knock-on effect."

Consequently, Russell insisted that the new rules were in place for the comfort of fans.

"We're doing it for the fans; that is really the reason for doing it," he declared.

Additionally, "I'm certainly not of a mind to change. If you look at the overall timing, each game is 17 minutes quicker than it was last year, so from that point of view it has been successful. It is just unfortunate that Trinidad got caught up in it, but everyone signed up to the rules, so I'm happy with where we're at."

Following the TKR-Patriots' game, Pollard blasted the Red Card penalty for slow over rates, declaring it to be "ridiculous"



After the Red Card was shown by the umpire to Pollard (left), Narine (at centre) was sent off the field during the TKR-Patriots' game last week

following his team's sanction.

The sanction saw TKR left with just ten players for the final over of the innings after falling behind the required over rate for each of their last three overs.

Veteran off-spinner Sunil Narine paid the price by going off, and Pollard then watched as Patriots skipper Sherfane Rutherford blasted 18 runs from the final over to lift his side to 178 for five.

Despite the six-wicket win, Pollard fumed after the match, stating, "Obviously the new rules and the new innovation that have come about cost us about 25 or 30 runs in the end. And to be honest, I think it is going to take away the hard work the guys would have done throughout the innings."

"One minute down, and you have guys coming in and then in the end, three guys are out [of the circle], there's a guy off the field - I think we're just giving away runs ... for stats," he added.

Under the controversial new CPL Red Card rules, if a fielding team is "behind the required over rate at the start of the 18th over, one additional player must enter the fielding circle", resulting in one less fielder in the deep.

If the team is still behind the over rate at the beginning of the

penultimate over, another player has to be pulled into the circle.

Umpires must then issue a Red Card if the over rate is still in arrears at the start of the final over, resulting in the captain selecting a player to go off.

"We just have to continue to play cricket as we know how to play, and if that [new rule] is going to determine matches, and that is what they want to see, well then we just have to go [on]," Pollard continued.

"We're like the pawns in the whole environment here, so we're just going to do what we're told. We're going to try to play cricket to the best of our ability, try to play as fast as we can. But I think being penalised for 30 seconds and 45 seconds and things like that - in a tournament like this - I think is absolutely ridiculous," he maintained.

Under the guidelines governing over rates, CPL organisers stipulate that the fielding side must complete the 17th over by 72 minutes and 15 seconds, the 18th by 76:30 and the penultimate over by 80:45.

The third umpire has been given oversight for over rates, and must liaise with on-field umpires at the end of every over to communicate the relevant information.

"Dispensations will be given for injuries, DRS, and time-wasting by batting side where appropriate," organisers said in a media release prior to the tournament.

Last week Royals all-rounder Jason Holder threw his support behind Pollard over his statements.

India pacer Bumrah returns home for a welcome delivery

Recently returned from a long-standing back injury, and yet to bowl in an ODI in the lead-up to participation in the World Cup next month, India's pacer Jasprit Bumrah returned home last week.

The return of India's top fast bowler was for a good delivery - for the birth of his son. In a September 3 post on X, formerly known as *Twitter*, Bumrah stated, "Our little family has grown & our hearts are fuller than we could ever imagine! This morning we welcomed our little boy, Angad Jasprit Bumrah into the world. We are over the moon and can't wait for everything this new chapter of our lives brings with it - Jasprit and Sanjana."

Bumrah is expected to be back for the Super Fours. He had just returned from the back injury, and has not yet bowled in an ODI. Having made his comeback late last month, he could not bowl as India's match against Pakistan was washed out.

Meanwhile, he played in two T20Is against Ireland, bowling a combined eight overs. The spells saw him taking four wickets across both matches, and was named the Player of the Series.

As the cricket website *ESPNCricinfo* noted, this means Bumrah is under-prepared for the workload in ODIs, where he would not only have to bowl ten overs in each innings since he is at the tip of the spear for India, but he will also be fielding for the remaining 40 overs.

Given his recent return from injury, such a workload could be problematic for Bumrah, which former India batter Sanjay Manjrekar highlighted ahead of the Asia Cup.

The last time Bumrah bowled his entire quota of ten overs in an ODI was in July 2022.

Should India qualify for the Superfours, they are almost certain to face Pakistan in an encounter on September 10, the cricket website *Cricbuzz* reported.

The other fixtures are likely on September 12 and 15, the opposition for which is still not decided. It will be the two emerging teams among Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, and Afghanistan. The final will be on September 17 should India advance.

However, the schedule may undergo some alterations due to the current weather conditions in Colombo, the venue for the Sri Lanka leg of the Super 4 games, and the final.

Colombo is currently experiencing heavy rains, and the weather forecast ahead is not very encouraging.

Last week it was revealed that efforts are being made to consider moving the games to Pallekele or Dambulla, where the weather is likely to be more favourable, *Cricbuzz* reported.



K.L. Rahul

Rahul still behind the wicket with recovery

Still on the road to recovery, K.L. Rahul will be unavailable for the first two games of the 2023 Asia Cup, India's head coach Rahul Dravid stated last week.

Rahul remains off the field in what has been a lengthy layoff due to an injury, the cricket website *Cricbuzz* has reported. As Dravid indicated last week, the right-handed batter/wicket-keeper is progressing well, but will not be flying with the team to Sri Lanka for the group games.

Having been on the sidelines ever since he was injured during the this year's IPL, Rahul did recover in time to get picked in India's squad for the Asia Cup. However, chief selector Ajit Agarkar had hinted earlier that the 31-year-old might skip at least the opening game of the tournament.

Rahul did bat without any visible discomfort in India's skills camp at Alur recently, and had commenced keeping duties as well, but with a cautious approach, *Cricbuzz* noted.

India played Pakistan their first game on September 2, followed by a match in another fixture against Nepal in Pallekele on Monday.

Last week Dravid indicated a decision was to be taken earlier this week on whether Rahul would participate in the Super Fours matches.

Meanwhile, while Ishan Kishan is already in the squad as the

backup wicketkeeper-batter, Sanju Samson is also present as a travelling reserve.

"He has had a really good week with us, really trained well, he is progressing well on the route we want to take, but he will be unavailable for the Kandy leg of the trip," Dravid reiterated of Rahul's fitness for the field.

He added, "The National Cricket Academy will be looking after him for the next few days while we are travelling. We will reassess on September 4, and then take it from there. But the signs are looking good, and he is progressing really well."

Dravid also brushed aside suggestions that Rahul might be under-prepared for the marquee event in October in India.

"The way we are looking at it is actually just two less games that he is going to miss. Both him and Shreyas are in the same boat. He is really batting well, keeping well, he is doing everything, it is just a slightly more cautious approach leading into the World Cup," Dravid stated.

Additionally, "He will have a couple of match simulations over the next few days, which will give him longer time out there in the middle. We are hoping that it is just two games that he misses, and should be available for the latter part of the tour. Also, there is an Australia series as well. I'm not too worried about it. Both him and Shreyas are experienced players."





The government of Guyana extended a warm welcome to the Guyana Amazon Warriors Women last week at a breakfast gathering that saw President Dr Irfaan Ali acting as host of the event. During breakfast, Ali reiterated his government's support for the development of the nation's sports, & for the empowerment of women. He also encouraged the team to strive for excellence, both on and off the field. In reply, captain Stafanie Taylor noted the team was honoured by Ali's reception, adding she was encouraged by the government's focus on sports & on women's empowerment. Taylor also gave the assurance that she, and the team, were committed to making Guyana proud. The Massy Women's Caribbean Premier League started in Barbados on August 31, & ends on September 10 with the final taking place in Trinidad & Tobago. In photo, Ali (centre) with Taylor (fifth from right), & members of the Guyana Amazon Warriors Women.

CPL women's games see higher standards

The Massy Women's Caribbean Premier League is now underway with matches being played in Barbados and Trinidad and Tobago. It is also another three-team competition among Barbados Royals, defending champions Trinidad Knight Riders, and the Guyana Amazon Warriors.

The teams are playing each other twice before the final is contested in Trinidad and Tobago on September 10.

Speaking with the *Barbados Mason and Guest Cricket Radio* program last week, Royals' captain Hayley Matthews said the team was looking forward to the competition.

Additionally, that the presence of more overseas players "adds a lot of depth towards the teams we have this year".

Said Matthews: "[It] could hopefully raise the standard a lot, and help the competition to grow and get better as the years go on... Hoping we can see some really good cricket being played."

Matthews was also looking forward to the additional skills sets from the overseas players.

"They are going to be able to come in and hopefully help

share some knowledge in the dressing room. When it comes to dressing room culture, they are going to have a really good time coming into our culture and experiencing it for the first time," she said.



Hayley Matthews

Additionally, Matthews noted, "[And] our girls have the opportunity to learn a lot from players who are doing it around the world... From my experience, since going around the world, playing all the different leagues definitely helped me, not only as a player, but as an individual as well."

Matthews also indicated it was her hope that this year's series would improve the quality of the competition as a whole, along with the standard of players in the Caribbean.

Said Matthews: "What we want to see is just improvement every year. The biggest thing for us is that the standard continues to rise, and hopefully that will bring about a lot of opportu-

nities for our girls within the region to get better. I think that is the direction it is heading in right now... Hopefully as the years go on, it will continue to get better and better, and maybe we will have some more teams come in at a higher standard as well."

Now women's fees match with England men's

England women's match fees for internationals are now equal to the men's, the English media, among them the *British Broadcasting Corporation* and *The Guardian*, reported late last month.

The change was recommended in the Independent Commission for Equity in Cricket report, which found discrimination to be "widespread" in English and Welsh cricket.

According to the report, women were paid 25 percent of men's fees for white-ball, and 15 percent for Tests by the England and Wales Cricket Board.

England's women's captain Heather Knight said the change was "fantastic to see".

She added, "It is mad when you look back to 2010 when I started, we barely got expenses. To now be in a position to be professional and earn a decent living from the game is obviously really pleasing. It is a reward for what has been a remarkable summer. The Ashes felt like a real watershed moment. This is following on from that and just another progression. It is really pleasing; hopefully there are more things down the line that will continue to improve."

Match fees are paid for each appearance in addition to England players' wider salaries from the ECB, which are not impacted by this change.

The ICEC report, which highlighted racism, sexism, classism, and elitism, found the average salary for England women is 20.6 percent of that for England men, while the England women's captain's allowance is 31 percent of that awarded to the men's

captain.

ECB chief executive Richard Gould told the BBC the standardising of match fees was only the "first step" in a more equal game, adding, "That is what we want."

Also, "That is what society wants. To do that we need to make sure the market also recognises the value of both men's and women's cricket."



Heather Knight

Increasing men's match fees has been mooted as a way to fight off the threat of losing England players to contracts with global franchise leagues.

While admitting there is no current plan to do so, Gould said there is no commitment to increasing the women's fee again if the sum awarded to their male counterparts increases.

"This is the latest stage and people can see from it the intent of what we are trying to do. We have no plans to increase the men's specific match fees, but there will be other ways, whether it is central contracts or other areas. I would never want to restrict our movement in order to retain whatever talent we can."

He added, "But this is a significant investment into the women's game, and we will continue that investment. We are going to make sure by hook or by crook we retain all of our best talent - both men and women."

Gould also said broadcasters had to play their part when bidding for rights covering the women's game, and hinted at increasing revenue through private investment, which has often been suggested as a possibility for The Hundred.

Cricket Schedule

(ALL TIMES LOCAL)

Wednesday September 6, 2023

Asia Cup, 2023A1 vs B2, Super Fours, 1st Match, Gaddafi Stadium, Lahore, 03:00 PM

Thursday September 7, 2023

Australia tour of South Africa, 2023
South Africa vs Australia, 1st ODI, Mangaung Oval, Bloemfontein, 01:00 PM

Friday September 8, 2023

New Zealand tour of England, 2023
England vs New Zealand, 1st ODI, Sophia Gardens, Cardiff, 12:30 PM

Saturday September 9, 2023

Australia tour of South Africa, 2023
South Africa vs Australia, 2nd ODI, Mangaung Oval, Bloemfontein, 1:00 PM

Asia Cup, 2023

B1 vs B2, Super Fours, 2nd Match, R. Premadasa Stadium, Colombo, 2:00 PM

Sunday September 10, 2023

New Zealand tour of England, 2023
England vs New Zealand, 2nd ODI, The Rose Bowl, Southampton, 11:00 AM

Asia Cup, 2023

A1 vs A2, Super Fours, 3rd Match, R. Premadasa Stadium, Colombo, 02:00 PM.

Tuesday September 12, 2023

Australia tour of South Africa, 2023
South Africa vs Australia, 3rd ODI, Senwes Park, Potchefstroom, 1:00 PM

Asia Cup, 2023

A2 vs B1, Super Fours, 4th Match, R. Premadasa Stadium, Colombo, 3:00 PM

Wednesday September 13, 2023

New Zealand tour of England, 2023
England vs New Zealand, 3rd ODI, Kennington Oval, London, 12:30 PM

Thursday September 14, 2023

Asia Cup, 2023

A1 vs B1, Super Fours, 5th Match, R. Premadasa Stadium, Colombo, 3:00 PM

Friday September 15, 2023

Australia tour of South Africa, 2023
South Africa vs Australia, 4th ODI, SuperSport Park, Centurion, 1:00 PM

New Zealand tour of England, 2023

England vs New Zealand, 4th ODI, Lord's, London, 12:30 PM

Asia Cup, 2023

A2 vs B2, Super Fours, 6th Match, R. Premadasa Stadium, Colombo, 3:00 PM

Sunday September 17, 2023

Australia tour of South Africa, 2023
South Africa vs Australia, 5th ODI, The Wanderers Stadium, Johannesburg, 10:00 AM

Asia Cup, 2023

TBC vs TBC, Final, R. Premadasa Stadium, Colombo, 3:00 PM

Wednesday September 20, 2023

Ireland tour of England ODI Series, 2023
Eng. vs Ireland, 1st ODI, Headingley, 12:30 PM

Thursday September 21, 2023

New Zealand tour of Bangladesh, 2023
Bangladesh vs New Zealand, 1st ODI, Shere Bangla National Stadium, Dhaka, 12:00 PM

Friday September 22, 2023

Australia tour of India, 2023, India vs Australia, 1st ODI, Punjab Cricket Association IS Bindra Stadium, Mohali, 01:30 PM

Saturday September 23, 2023

Ireland tour of England ODI Series, 2023
England vs Ireland, 2nd ODI, Trent Bridge, Nottingham, 11:00 AM

New Zealand tour of Bangladesh, 2023
Bangladesh vs New Zealand, 2nd ODI, Shere Bangla National Stadium, Dhaka, 12:00 PM

Sunday September 24, 2023

Australia tour of India, 2023
India vs Australia, 2nd ODI, Holkar Cricket Stadium, Indore, 1:30 PM

Tuesday September 26, 2023

Ireland tour of England ODI Series, 2023
Eng. vs Ire., 3rd ODI, Bristol 12:30 PM
New Zealand tour of Bangladesh, 2023
Bangladesh vs New Zealand, 3rd ODI, Shere Bangla National Stadium, Dhaka, 12:00 PM.



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Mississauga For Sale \$1,588,000

Location!
Location! Pride of ownership move-in ready detached 4+1 spacious bdrms, 4 washrooms on quiet street. Freshly painted, 6 parking spaces, hardwood floors, LED lighting, W/O to an entertaining deck & beautiful landscaped backyard w/exquisite seasonal floral gardening. Sep entrance to newly reno open concept bsmt w/custom kitchen, quartz countertop, potlights, porcelain tiles, vinyl floor & much more. Close to major hwy's & all amenities. Walking distance to Square One.



Oshawa For Sale \$824,900

Location! Location! Location!
Fully reno. 3+1 bdrms, 2 full bthrm (+1 half bthrm) in family friendly neighbourhood in the lakeview area of Oshawa. Main flr has: hardwood floors thru-out, open concept w/upgraded ktchn w/ large eat-in island, granite countertops & all new S/S appls (2022). Open concept lvngrm flows seamlessly to private backyard w/ deck. Bsmt has engineered laminated flooring thru-out, large open concept lvng/rec. area, bdrms w/ private ensuite (2022), sep. laundry area w/brand new washer & dryer (2022). Upper flr has 3 large-sized bdrms w/full bath (2022), close to all amenities; walking distance to schools, parks, trails & shopping. Short drive to the beach. Don't miss opportunity to own one of the few detached homes in this neighbourhood.



CONDO FOR RENT \$2,775 TORONTO

Location! Location! Location! Fantastic new two bedroom suite available at Saturday In Downsview Park. Beautiful finishes & upgrades throughout, custom kitchen with large Island & built-in appliances, spacious balcony to entertain with clear views! Main bedroom features a 3-piece ensuite, walk-in closet & floor-to-ceiling windows! TTC at your door & easy Hwy access. Surrounded by Greenspace, enjoy all of Downsview Park; hike the urban forest/various paths/circuits; check out the orchard or the lookout, lakes, ponds, & more! You will love living here.



Oshawa For Sale \$719,990

Location! Location! Location! Beautiful raised semi in a highly sought after neighbourhood in Oshawa. The main floor features a large living combined w/ dining, 2 large bedrooms & 1 fully upgraded washroom. The kitchen features a large island with quartz countertops throughout. The lower floor features; the laundry room, a large recreation room, 1 full fully upgraded washroom & primary bedroom with lots of light! The washrooms features quartz countertops & upgraded fixtures! Huge driveway able to fit up to 3 cars. Close to all amenities, 401/412/407, shopping, places of worship, walking trails, parks & much more...



Belmont Newcastle Starting @ \$800,000s

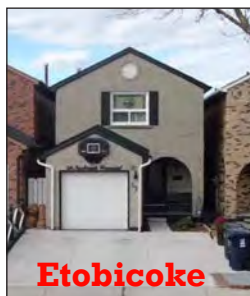
Belmont is a new townhouse & single family home development by Treasure Hill Homes currently in preconstruction at Given Road, Newcastle. Belmont has a total of 288 units. Belmont in Newcastle combines the best of luxury living & country charm. An expertly designed & spacious collection of town & single homes will be coming soon to a fantastic rural location just moments from the city. Newcastle is in the municipality of Clarington in Durham Region. Acclaimed as one of the most attractive small towns in the area, the community continues to develop while preserving its long-rooted history. This master-planned community is comprised of traditional & transitional designs. Experience a quaint village setting with homes constructed with lavish accents & fine details. With Treasure Hill's reputation for building quality homes, there is no other place to be besides right here. Contact us for More Info!!!



For Sale \$999,900

Family Friendly Neighbourhood, Walking Distance To Schools & Parks.

SOLD \$350,100 OVER ASKING PRICE



Etobicoke

CityPointe Heights starting @ High 400s

Located at The Gore Road and Queen St E., CityPointe Heights is a new condominium community connected to three of the GTA's most beloved cities. Your favourite - and soon-to-be favourite - Brampton, Toronto, and Vaughan locations are very close to home. Discover two of the fastest growing cities in the Greater Toronto Area, and why with each passing year, they have more to offer.



SOLD FOR \$160K OVER ASKING!

\$949,000



A Beautiful Open Concept Renovation - 3 bedroom, 4 washrooms, Detached Home in York. Huge Backyard. Conveniently Located Within Walking Distance To amenities and schools. Extremely Close Proximity to Public Transit! A Great Place to Call Home.

Narrative Condos

STARTING FROM LOW \$300s



It all begins at 7437 Kingston Road - a unique project set against the backdrop of both nature and the city. Located on Kingston Road, adjacent to Rouge and Port Union, The Narrative offers the perfect balance of nearby green space, a diverse and welcoming community, nearby amenities, and easy access to the heart of Toronto via the 401.



Essa For Lease \$2,995

Beautiful 4 bedrooms, 4 washrooms, 2 storey home located in the quiet neighbourhood of Angus. Minutes to Barrie. Open concept main floor w/ walkout to fenced backyard. Finished basement with rec room, full washroom & laundry area. Large driveway w/ 4 parking spots. Walking distance to trails & parks. Stainless steel apps, recently upgraded w/ pot-lights & led lighting & much more. All light fixtures, fridge, stove, dishwasher, washer & dryer, central air-conditioning, hot water tank, furnace, & garage door opener.



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